



Babul Marandi's JVM(P) to merge with BJP on February 17
page 12



Coronavirus toll in China crosses 1,000, as WHO sees 'grave threat'
page 14



The economy is not in trouble, says Nirmala Sitharaman
page 16



de Grandhomme, Guptill and Nicholls help NZ whitewash India
page 19

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NEARBY



CBI gives clean chit to Rakesh Asthana

NEW DELHI
The CBI on Tuesday filed a chargesheet in a case of alleged bribery against its former second-in-command Rakesh Asthana and others, giving a clean chit to him and another official. "The investigation has not revealed any role of public servants," said a CBI official.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 12

Supreme Court to hear Omar sister's plea today

NEW DELHI
A petition filed by Sara Abdullah Pilot, the sister of former J&K Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, will be heard by a three-judge Bench of the Supreme Court, led by Justice N.V. Ramana, on February 12. She has approached the court against the government's move to charge him under the Public Safety Act.

NEWS ▶ PAGE 12

Kafeel Khan released from Mathura jail on bail

GAZIABAD
Kafeel Khan, the paediatrician who was arrested on January 29 from Mumbai for making an inflammatory speech at Aligarh Muslim University against the CAA, was released from Mathura jail on Tuesday after being granted bail by an Aligarh court.

NORTH ▶ PAGE 2

HC seeks Centre's reply on Jamia violence plea

NEW DELHI
The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought the Centre's response on a petition seeking a court-monitored probe by a committee into the police crackdown at Jamia Millia Islamia on December 15 last year.

CITY ▶ PAGE 3

OPPORTUNITIES ▶ PAGE 15

AAP sweeps Delhi with 62 seats, BJP trounced

■ AAP gets 53.6%, marginally below its 54.2% share in 2015

■ BJP wins 8 seats, 5 more than 2015, with 38.5 % vote share

■ Congress candidates likely to lose deposits in 63 seats

JAIDEEP DEO BHANJATIN ANAND
NEW DELHI

Arvind Kejriwal and his Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) were voted back to power with a massive mandate in the Delhi Assembly election as the party won 62 seats in the 70-member House.

The party dropped just five seats and less than a percentage point in vote share from its stellar 2015 showing.

Despite a hard-fought and bitter campaign that saw big guns, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah address rallies, the BJP managed to win only eight seats, up five from its 2015 tally. The Congress, yet again, failed to open its account – the party's candidates looked set to forfeit their deposits on 63 of the 66 seats contested.

Speaking after the victory, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said, "The people of Delhi have given birth to a new kind of politics – the politics of work. This is a vote for those who build schools, who provide electricity and healthcare. This augurs well for the country."

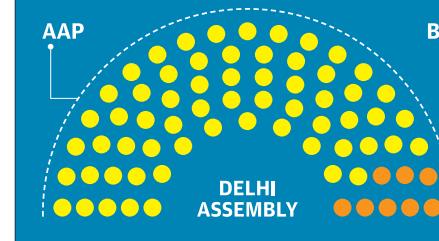
Ministers post wins
The AAP secured 53.57 % of the vote share, while the BJP got 38.5% and the Congress 4.3%. Though three of the AAP's incumbent Ministers – Manish Sisodia, Kailash Gehlot and Satyendar Jain – were trailing after the first few rounds of counting, they went on to retain their seats.

Raghav Chadha, Atishi Marlena and Dilip Pandey from the AAP, who lost in the 2019 Lok Sabha election, strode into the Assembly.

On the other hand, former AAP Minister Kapil Mishra,

Back on top

The Aam Aadmi Party surged back to power in Delhi, winning 62 out of the 70 seats. The BJP managed to add only five seats to its tally of 2015 for a total of eight, while the Congress drew a blank again. The BJP improved its vote share by 5.8 percentage points, while AAP's vote share dipped by 0.7 percentage points



Party	Seats won	Vote share (%)
AAP	62	53.57
BJP	8	38.51
Congress	0	4.26
Others	0	3.66



All smiles: AAP workers celebrating their party's victory in the Assembly election at the party headquarters on Tuesday. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

A referendum on BJP politics'

Congratulating Arvind Kejriwal for his resounding victory, Opposition parties said the BJP's defeat showed that politics of polarisation didn't pay dividends. West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee, in a tweet, said, "Leaders playing on faith through hate speech and divisive politics should take a cue, as only those who deliver on their promises are rewarded." ▶ PAGE 13

who left the party and fought on a BJP ticket, was defeated. Anil Bajpai, also a former AAP legislator, however, retained his Gandhi Nagar seat.

Delhi BJP chief Manoj Ti-

Nitish gets a reason to smile

The Delhi Assembly election results could provide a reason for Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar to smile, say political analysts. The BJP-led NDA's crushing defeat at the hands of the AAP would now embolden the Janata Dal (United) chief to drive a harder bargain for seats with the BJP, in the upcoming Assembly election in the State, they say. ▶ PAGE 13

wari, while accepting responsibility for the dismal performance, argued that the party had been able to increase its vote share. "I congratulate Arvind Kejriwal... In comparison to 2015, the

BJP's vote share has registered an increase, which is the result of the hard work put in by its workers... these results also seem to herald the dawn of a new political era in the city, which has been

Politics of hatred rejected

Aam Aadmi Party legislator and Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Harpal Cheema on Tuesday said the party's victory in Delhi was a clear message that politics of hatred is not accepted by people as they have voted for development. AAP, he said, would replicate the Delhi model in Punjab in the 2022 Assembly election.

▶ PAGE 2

Lack of local narrative

The BJP's sixth consecutive loss in an Assembly poll – although the party managed to form a government in Haryana – points to a very real problem for the party. The State-level narrative of the party has not been as appealing as that of PM Modi at the national level, so much so that even Mr. Modi's campaign did not manage to lift the party's fortunes. ▶ PAGE 13

come bipolar instead of triangular," he said.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

WINNING FORMULA ▶ EDITORIAL

ELECTORAL DICHOTOMY ▶ DATA POINT



Ram Niwas Goel

aged to hold on and won by a margin of 3,207 votes.

Similarly, Speaker Goel trailed in the first 11 rounds of counting in the Shahdara constituency before the trend reversed and he managed to win by a margin of 5,294 votes.

Health Minister Satyendra Jain more than doubled his margin of victory, retaining the Shakur Basti constituency with a margin of 7,592 votes over the BJP's candidate S.C. Vats.

Transport Minister Gehlot, who won from the Najafgarh constituency, was the biggest gainer in terms of vote share, improving on his previous victory by 15.6 percentage points.

In Seemepuri, Minister of Tourism Rajendra Pal Gautam won by the largest vote share of 4.31 percentage points from 2015, won after a neck-and-neck battle with the BJP's Ravinder Singh Negi in the Patparganj constituency. Mr. Sisodia, who had won by a margin of 28,791 votes in 2015, looked to be losing the seat as Mr. Negi maintained a lead in the first 10 rounds of counting. However, once he overtook his rival in round 11 in the afternoon, he managed to win by a margin of 33,062.

U.S. President Trump confirms India visit on February 24, 25

He and wife Melania will travel to Ahmedabad and Delhi



Office of the Press Secretary said.

Confirming the visit, the Ministry of External Affairs in statement on Tuesday said, "During the visit, President Trump and the First Lady will attend official engagements in New Delhi and Ahmedabad, Gujarat, and interact with a wide cross section of Indian society."

Prime Minister Modi and Mr. Trump had spoken over the weekend, the White House said.

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

TRUMP SHOW ▶ PAGE 12

Thakur, 11 others get life term in shelter home case

6 others sentenced up to 7 years in jail

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

A special court here on Tuesday sentenced Brajesh Thakur and 11 others, including three women, to life imprisonment for the sexual and physical assault of girl inmates of a shelter home in Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

Additional sessions judge Saurabh Kulshreshtha also imposed a fine of ₹32 lakh on Thakur.

Six others were sentenced up to seven years in jail. Rosy Rani, who was sentenced to six months' imprisonment, has already served the term. Therefore, she has

CONTINUED ON ▶ PAGE 12

Gargi College students boycott classes

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Students of Gargi College staged a strike and boycotted classes for the second consecutive day on Tuesday in protest against the February 6 incident when they were al-

legedly harassed and sexually assaulted on campus during a college festival.

Several students and teachers from different departments held a meeting to constitute a fact-finding committee. Ashna, a final-year

student, said, "A general body meeting [of students and teachers] was held to constitute a committee which would investigate the events that happened during the fest."

DETAILS ON ▶ PAGE 3

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Government can seek fresh execution dates, says SC

Solicitor General calls for separate executions of Nirbhaya case convicts

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday allowed the Union government to approach the trial court for issuance of a fresh date for the execution of the death sentence of the Nirbhaya gang rape convicts.

Appearing before a three-judge Bench led by Justice R. Banumathi, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta said the Nirbhaya convicts were trying the patience of the nation.

Mr. Mehta made a chilling reference to how policemen who gunned down the four gang rape and murder accused in Hyderabad were cheered by people, calling



Steel will: The parents of the Nirbhaya rape case victim outside the Supreme Court in New Delhi in December. ■ PTI

the incident a symptom of people losing faith in the process of law.

"This case [Nirbhaya] is of 2012 and I am still struggling to execute the death sentence. They [convicts] are acting in tandem to misuse the law by filing one petition after the other... People will stop having faith in the judicial system... It is in situations like this that people celebrate encounter killings," Mr. Mehta submitted.

The Solicitor General said convicts Mukesh, Vinay and Akshay have seemingly ex-

hausted remedies. The fourth, Pawan Gupta, is yet to file a mercy petition.

As indicated, within a few hours of the hearing, Vinay moved the Supreme Court challenging the rejection of his mercy petition by the President.

Mr. Mehta stressed that the Supreme court should instead focus on the government's appeal to allow the four convicts to be separately executed. The court issued notice to the four convicts on this point and scheduled a hearing for February 13.

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Politics of hatred not acceptable, says Punjab AAP on Delhi win

The party will replicate the model in State Assembly polls in 2022: Harpal Cheema



AAP workers offering sweets to each other in Amritsar on Tuesday, after the party's win in the Delhi Assembly election.

* AFP

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
CHANDIGARH
Aam Aadmi Party MLA and Leader of the Opposition in the Punjab Assembly Harpal Cheema on Tuesday said the party's victory in Delhi was a clear message that politics of hatred is not accepted by people as they have voted for development.

AAP, he said, would replicate the Delhi model in Punjab in the 2022 Assembly election.

Development agenda
“People have rejected the politics of hatred peddled by the Bharatiya Janata Party and voted for the Kejriwal government’s development agenda,” he said here.

“The unprecedented victory of the party has sent out a message loud and clear across the country that the elected governments would have to work harder for betterment of education, health care, cheaper electricity, safety and security of women,” he said.

Collective wisdom
Sikh radical outfit Dal Khalsa’s spokesperson Kanwarpal Singh said the people of Delhi in their collective wisdom have defeated the BJP’s Hindutva agenda by reposing faith in AAP. “The rejection of the BJP government’s decisive, bully and fascist policies is a severe blow to Modi-Shah duo,” he said in a statement.

Kafeel Khan released from jail on bail

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GHAZIABAD

Kafeel Khan, the paediatrician who first came into the spotlight as a whistleblower in the case of deaths of several infants at the BRD Hospital in Gorakhpur, was released from Mathura jail on Tuesday after being granted bail by an Aligarh court.

Dr. Khan was arrested on January 29 from Mumbai for making an inflammatory speech at Aligarh Muslim University against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Chief Judicial Magistrate Karuna Singh granted him bail on a bond of ₹60,000 to ensure the offence was not repeated.

Teacher claims threat for visiting Shaheen Bagh

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
GHAZIABAD

A teacher in Saharanpur on Tuesday claimed threat to her life after nearly 200 residents entered the school campus and protested against her visiting Shaheen Bagh in Delhi where women are protesting against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Nahid Zaidi, who teaches English at Asha Modern School, told reporters that she was suspended from the school for visiting Shaheen Bagh on January 19 and speaking to the media. “I said many things but only selective footage was shown by the media. Some people who don’t like me put it on social media and created a false opinion against me,” she said, adding the suspen-

sion was revoked only when the police intervened.

Ms. Zaidi said she had taught at many schools and never made a difference between Hindu and Muslim students. “I have taught almost half of the city but still I am being targeted.” She said she lived alone and there was a “threat” to her life. On Monday, she said, around 200 residents entered the campus and raised slogans against her.

Vineet Bhatnagar, Superintendent of Police (City), Saharanpur, told *The Hindu*, “We have spoken to both the school administration and the teacher. She was not suspended. An explanation was sought about her comments. There is no threat to her security.”

Rajasthan Assembly witnesses noisy scenes over *Chhapaak*

BJP members boycott Question Hour as queries were not allowed

MOHAMMED IQBAL

JAIPUR

The Rajasthan Assembly witnessed noisy scenes during the budget session on Tuesday, when the Opposition BJP members first questioned the government about the revenue loss after Deepika Padukone-starrer movie *Chhapaak* was declared tax-free and later boycotted the Question Hour on their supplementary questions not being allowed.

BJP MLA from Beawar Shankar Singh Rawat asked a written question about the film, but he was not satisfied with the reply of Parliamentary Affairs Minister Shanti Dhariwal. When Mr. Dhariwal said that declaring

Chhapaak tax-free was a “policy decision” in view of the movie’s message to the society in support of acid attack survivors, Mr. Rawat alleged that the decision was taken because of Ms. Padukone’s “political inclinations”.

Speaker C.P. Joshi expunged Mr. Rawat’s supplementary question and said he would not allow any query which had no connection with the original question and pertained to the Department of Culture. Any new question should be asked separately through the proper procedure, he ruled.

Mr. Dhariwal told the House that the tax calcula-

tion to find out the revenue loss could only be done after February 20. The BJP members entered the well and raised slogans, while Leader of the Opposition Gulab Chand Kataria tried to speak on the issue, but the Speaker did not allow him.

Ms. Padukone’s visit to Jawaharlal Nehru University in Delhi to express solidarity with the students attacked by some masked persons on the campus on January 5 had led to a controversy.

After the uproar, the BJP members demanded that their right to ask questions should be protected by the Speaker and staged a walkout, boycotting the Question Hour.

Protest against CAA-NRC spreads to Saharanpur town

Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind secretary praises women protesters

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

GHAZIABAD

After Deoband, the protest against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and National Register of Citizens has spread to Gangoh town of Saharanpur. Addressing hundreds of protesters, Maulana Mahmood Madani, secretary, Jamiat Ulema-e-Hind, said the government had let the Constitution down by making a law that differentiated among religions.

“Instead of speaking the language of arrogance, the government should introspect,” he said.

Praising the women who are protesting against the

I am standing at a place where Hazrat Rasheed Ahmad Gangohi had said that they would provide the British rulers with youth who would happily kiss the noose.

In Deoband, social activist Uzma Naheed addressed the women protesting against the CAA on Monday night. “I am surprised and happy that Muslim women who remained quiet for centuries have spoken out to save the Constitution,” she said. She said her forefathers had several opportunities to go to Pakistan or somewhere else, but her grandfather said they should work to strengthen India.

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Society must help conserve water: expert

With govt’s support, waterbodies can be protected: Rajendra Singh

STAFF REPORTER

BHOPAL

Water conservationist Rajendra Singh on Tuesday said unless society took it upon itself to conserve water and take ownership of resources, revival of rivers and streams was not possible.

Draft Bill

Speaking at the National Water Right Convention to discuss the draft of the Right to Water Bill in Madhya Pradesh, he said, “Until now, activists been working alone. But with the government’s support, on the one hand waterbodies could be protected, and on the other water use could be made judicious.”

Mr. Singh, known as the ‘Waterman of India’, who is advising the government on the proposed law, said, “Ownership of water bodies among masses has led to the

revival of several rivers in a parched State like Rajasthan. With such laws, the model could be replicated across the country.”

Mr. Nath said new technologies must be leveraged in devising strategies to conserve water. “Technologies such as producing water from air could be useful. But those valid 20 years ago, aren’t relevant any more. So there is an imminent need to figure out where new tech-

nologies could be used,” he said.

Stating that his political life was inextricably linked to water, Mr. Nath related an anecdote from 1979 in Chhindwara district. “I started my political career due to water problems. One night as I walked on the road, I met 15-20 women carrying earthen lamps and plates, pointing to the waning water resources in the State, Chief Minister Kamal Nath said, “Eleven of the Municipal Corporations and Councils get water once in four days, 50 get once in three days and 117 get once in two days. It’s a big challenge.”

Despite rain, streams and rivers were drying up owing to negligence. “As many as 65 dams in the State have dried up due to unavailability of water and 164 reservoirs have met the same fate. Instead of moving ahead, we are going back.”

Mr. Nath said new technologies must be leveraged in devising strategies to conserve water. “Technologies such as producing water from air could be useful. But those valid 20 years ago, aren’t relevant any more. So there is an imminent need to figure out where new tech-

Differently abled couples tie the knot at mass wedding

Thirty couples were given vocational training by NGO Narayan Seva Sansthan

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

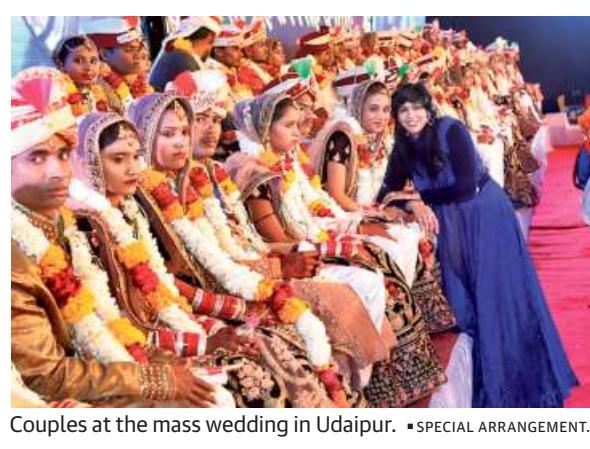
JAIPUR

Forty-seven differently abled and underprivileged couples tied the knot at a mass wedding ceremony and took a pledge against the dowry system in Udaipur. Narayan Seva Sansthan, a philanthropic institution, organised the ceremony on Sunday for persons whom it has helped out through corrective surgery.

Thirty of the married couples were skilled through the Sansthan’s vocational training programmes. The institution has also recruited a few couples by offering them jobs which fit their capacities, making them financially independent and employable.

During the ceremony, the couples were given household items and saris.

Narayan Seva Sansthan



Couples at the mass wedding in Udaipur. ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

to find their soul mates who would support them in their struggle,” he said.

Mr. Agarwal said the objectives of mass weddings were social inclusion, accessible atmosphere and accountability of every differently abled person in order to help the couples lead a normal life and become a

part of mainstream society. Ramu Kumari and Ganpat from Pratapgarh, both of whom suffered from polio and had lost their fathers, were hopeful that their marriage would initiate a new phase of their lives. Arvind and Sonam from Barabanki took a pledge not to take dowry and generate public opinion against the social evil.

The Narayan Seva Sansthan has taken up activities such as artificial limb distribution, corrective surgery, skill education, health care support, free food offering and talent nurturing along with mass wedding ceremonies for the differently abled to bring them to the mainstream. Mr. Agarwal said the Sansthan had launched the World of Humanity Foundation for nurturing their skills.

ENTERPRISE CONNECT

SCOPE holds Strategic Meet on Scientific Social Responsibility



SCOPE (Standing Conference of Public Enterprises) organized a strategic meet of Senior Management of Central Public Sector Enterprises with Shri Ajit Seth, IAS (Retd.), Distinguished Fellow, Office of Principal Scientific Adviser and Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, Secretary, Department of Science & Technology at SCOPE Convention Centre, New Delhi. Shri Atul Sotgi, DG, SCOPE also addressed the meet. The participants deliberated on ways PSEs can contribute in inculcating Scientific Social Responsibility and developing linkages between science and society by providing technical and scientific solutions. CMDs and Directors of major PSEs attended the meeting.

REC commits financial assistance for ensuring development of underprivileged children



REC Ltd. committed financial assistance of Rs. 95.62 lakhs through its CSR arm, REC Foundation to Parivaar Education Society for the construction of boys hostel (second floor) for tribal children in Sandalpur Village, Dewas district, Madhya Pradesh. The financial assistance will also be used for providing support for studies, food and other basic necessities to 150 residential girls at Parivaar Bengal Residential Institution in Barkalikapur village, 24 Parganas district, West Bengal. The main objective of the project is to set up and run safe residential education institutions for children from impoverished and vulnerable backgrounds while ensuring their overall development.

Punjab & Sind Bank declares Financial Results for the Quarter ended 31.12.2019

The Bank has reduced Net Loss for the quarter ended 31.12.2019 to Rs 255 crore as compared to net loss of Rs.468 crore for the quarter ended 30.09.2019. The Operating Profit has also reduced from Rs.251 crore during the quarter ended 30.09.2019 to Rs.147 crore during the quarter ended on 31.12.2019. Consequently, the Return of Assets (ROA) has improved to (-) 0.93% during quarter ended 31.12.2019 from (-) 1.70% during quarter ended 30.09.2019.

IndianOil to team up with Phinergy of Israel for manufacture of metal-air batteries

In its quest to embrace emerging energy alternatives and to firm up viable, customer-convenient automobile battery technology options, Indian Oil Corporation (IndianOil) has firmed up its equity participation in Phinergy, Israel, for production of metal-air batteries.

Phinergy specialises in aluminium-air (Al-Air) and zinc-air battery systems that have great potential applications in electric mobility and stationary applications. Aluminium is naturally available in India and their extraction and recycling technologies are also very well established. IndianOil’s collaboration with Phinergy in the field of Al-Air will help in reducing import dependence of the country and isolates the country’s energy requirements from global geopolitical and currency risks.

NHPC's net profit jumps 122% in the Q3 of the current fiscal

NHPC has reported total revenue of Rs. 1860 crore for the quarter ended December 31st, 2019 as against Rs.1691 crore during the previous corresponding period registering a growth of 10%. The revenue of the company stands at Rs. 7473 crore during the nine months ended December 31, 2019 as against Rs. 6900 crore during the previous corresponding period of nine months ended December 31, 2018 resulting into growth of 8%.

NTPC - 9M FY20 Profit After Tax up by 19.74%

The Country's largest power

NTPC Ltd. declares financial results for the third quarter and nine-month ended 31 December 2019

generator- NTPC Ltd. with a group installed capacity of 58156 MW, declared the financial results for the third quarter and nine-month ended 31 December 2019.

For 9M FY20, NTPC generated 191.35 Billion Units. Coal stations achieved a Plant Load Factor of 67.13% as against National Average of 55.84%.

For 9M FY20, the Total Income was ₹ 72,199.66 crore as against ₹ 69,633.95 crore in 9M FY19, registering an increase of 3.68%.

For Q3 FY20, Total income was ₹ 24,022.62 crore as against ₹ 24,308.01 crore in Q3 FY19.

NBCC receives rajbhasha implementation award



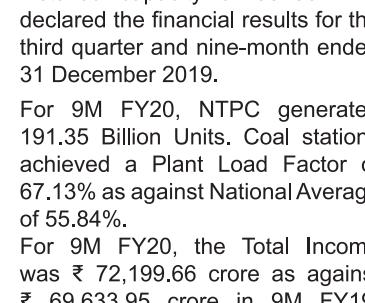
NBCC (India) Ltd., a Navratna CPSE under the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), has been conferred with ‘First Prize’ for its excellent work in implementation of Rajbhasha. The recognition has been bestowed by Town Official Language Implementation Committee (TOLIC) of the Ministry of Home Affairs, in its half yearly Meeting and Distribution ceremony held in New Delhi. Also, ‘Nirman Bharati’, half yearly Newsletter of NBCC has been awarded ‘First Prize’ in the category of Best Magazine. The awards were received by Shri Manas Kaviraj, Executive Director (HRM), NBCC accompanied by senior officials.

BIF appoints new Director General

Broadband India Forum (BIF), the leading independent Think-Tank and Policy Forum for Digital Communications in the country, today announced the appointment of Mr. Rajat Mukarji as the new Director General of the institution. An industry veteran with more than 25 years of experience in the sector, Rajat will be responsible for heading the Directorate functions of BIF.

Narayan Seva Sansthan

Water Rejuvenation



M.P. Chief Minister Kamal Nath addressing the National Water Convention in Bhopal on Tuesday.

* A.M. FAROOQI

revival of several rivers in a parched State like Rajasthan. With such laws, the model could be replicated across the country.”

Mr. Singh, known as the ‘Waterman of India’, who is advising the government on the proposed law, said, “Ownership of water bodies among masses has led to the

undermining of the environment. With such laws, the model could be replicated across the country.”

Under the law, he added, streams, rivers and other wa-

terbodies would be identified, panchayats roped in,

people would take the lead

and an effort would be made</

Gargi students boycott classes for second day

Fact-finding panel formed to probe events during fest

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

Students of Gargi College staged a strike and boycotted classes on Tuesday in protest against the February 6 incident when they were allegedly harassed and sexually assaulted on campus during a college festival.

Several students and teachers from different departments held a meeting on Tuesday to constitute a fact-finding committee. They also demanded that an Internal Complaints Committee be set up in the college.

Ashna, a final-year student, said, "A general body meeting [of students and teachers] was held to constitute a committee which would investigate the events prior to the fest, events which happened during the fest and specific complaints against the college administration."

The committee will submit its final report by February 15, she added.

"One student and a faculty member from each of the 17 departments



Students burn an effigy of Gargi College principal outside Arts Faculty on Tuesday. ■ BIBEK CHETTRI

were elected to the committee. We want safer educational spaces. Look at what happened in Jawaharlal Nehru University and Jamia Millia Islamia and now on our campus. When the principal was approached, she said that if we don't feel safe we should not attend the fest. How can one turn the tables on students? Is it not the administration's responsibility to protect students?"

Asked about the probe into the case, a police officer said that investigation is underway and CCTV footage is being scanned for clues on the suspects.

Several students recounted events which unfolded after a group of men entered the campus and began molesting and harassing them.

Preeti, another stu-

Hegde's petition untenable: Twitter

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court was on Tuesday informed by Twitter that the petition by senior advocate Sanjay Hegde in relation to the suspension of his account was not maintainable.

Senior advocate Sajan Poovaya, appearing for Twitter, sought time to submit its response on the issue. Justice Navin Chawla allowed Twitter to submit its note within two weeks.

Mr. Hegde's lawyer urged that the Twitter account data of his client must not be deleted. The court did not pass any order, but said the data should not be deleted, if it hasn't been done so already.

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JMI violence: HC seeks Centre's reply on plea

Court-monitored probe sought

STAFF REPORTER

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought the Centre's response on a petition seeking a court-monitored probe by a committee into the police crackdown at Jamia Millia Islamia on December 15 last year.

A Bench of Chief Justice D.N. Patel and Justice C. Hari Shankar also issued notice to Delhi government and police seeking their stand on the petition filed by a Jamia student who lost vision in his

one eye in the violence and is battling to save sight in the other.

Md Minhajuddin, in his petition, has also sought compensation commensurate with his qualifications for the injury suffered by him and also the registration of an FIR against police personnel involved in the incident. He has also sought directions to the authorities to bear expenses of his treatment and to provide him a permanent job commensurate with his qualifications.

IN BRIEF

Settled dispute amicably, Subodh Gupta tells HC

NEW DELHI Artist Subodh Gupta, who had posted sexual harassment allegations made by several women against him, informed the High Court on Tuesday that they have settled their dispute amicably. Mr. Gupta had filed a defamation suit against Instagram handle following publication of anonymous sexual harassment allegations against him.

Air quality of Delhi-NCR

Delhi	323	Gurugram	282
Ghaziabad	345	Faridabad	274
Noida	337	Greater Noida	338
Good 0-50	51-100	Moderate 101-200	
Poor 201-300	301-400	Very poor >401	

AIR QUALITY INDEX AT 4 P.M. YESTERDAY (AVERAGE OF PAST 24 HOURS) ■ SOURCE: CPCB

'Loss due to road blockade not assessed'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The Home Ministry said on Tuesday that two roads in Delhi – one at Shaheen Bagh and the other at Chand Bagh – have been blocked by protesters, but no assessment has been made about the loss incurred to the general public due to the blockade.

"Appropriate steps are taken by Delhi Police to maintain public order. No assessment has been done about the loss incurred to public due to blocking of road," Union Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy said in Lok Sabha.

DELHI TODAY

Talk: Seminar on Sino-Indian Competition in the Indian Ocean: The Scope for Small State Agency by Dr. Pradeep Taneja, Deputy Head, The School of Social & Political Sciences, University of Melbourne, at Seminar Room, Institute of Chinese Studies (ICS), Civil Lines, 3 p.m.

Exhibition: "Colourful Harmony", a group show of painting by Anamika, Prakash Aneundi and Shashi Lata at Convention Centre Foyer, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m.- 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Mapping Memories", a show of paintings and silk-screen prints by Madan Meena at Triveni Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Exhibition: "Aarambh", a group show of sculptures and painting at Alturaash Art Gallery, 147, DLF South Court, Saket, 11 a.m.- 7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Trails of Materials", a group show of paintings and sculptures by Satish Sharma, Anju Kaushik and Rubikrat Vohra at Shridharani Gallery, Triveni Kala Sangam, 205, Tansen Marg, 11 a.m.- 8 p.m.

Screening: The Testament, a multi-lingual film, will be screened at The Stein Auditorium, IHC, 7 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column to cityeditor@thehindu.co.in)

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6 UNITS SMALL GROUP LEARNING	SHARED WHITEBOARD DIGITAL CLASSROOMS	MODULE BASED TEACHING	CBD (CASE BASED DISCUSSION) AND PBL (PROBLEM BASED LEARNING)
OSCE (OBJECTIVE STRUCTURED CLINICAL EXAMINATION)	INTER-DISCIPLINARY JOURNAL DISCUSSION	IMPORTED ADVANCED SIMULATION LAB FOR UG & PG	STAR SUMMIT UG - RESEARCH WEEK
MULTIPLE MINOR SPECIALISATIONS	STEM CELL TRAINING FOR UG'S	SEMESTER ABROAD PROGRAMME	CO CURRICULAR CREDITS
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National leaders best wishes & congratulations to Mr Kejriwal and the AAP on winning the Delhi Assembly elections.

— RAHUL GANDHI
Congress senior leader



I congratulate @ArvindKejriwal and @AamAdmiParty for forming government yet again in Delhi on a massive mandate. This is clear vindication that development trumps communal politics. Federal rights and regional aspirations must be strengthened in the interest of our country.

— M.K. STALIN, DMK chief

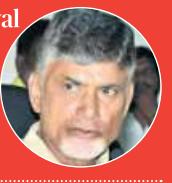
On winning the Delhi Assembly elections, I congratulate Shri Arvind Kejriwal and his party.

— RAJNATH SINGH
Union Minister



Heartfelt congratulations to Sri @ArvindKejriwal Ji on winning the #DelhiPolls2020. I am sure you will continue to serve the people of Delhi with the same dedication as earlier.

— N. CHANDRABABU NAIDU
Former A.P. Chief Minister



Congratulations to Shri. Arvind Kejriwal ji and Aam Admi Party workers for achieving a 'Sweeping Victory' in the Delhi Assembly Polls!

SHARAD PAWAR
Senior NCP leader



Poll finish

TOTAL SEATS
70



'This is the birth of *kaam ki rajneeti*'

Delhiites have trusted their son for a third time, says AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

"This is a victory of all Delhiites... they have given birth to a new form of politics: *kaam ki rajneeti* [politics of work]," declared Aam Aadmi Party national convener Arvind Kejriwal from a makeshift stage at the AAP headquarters as his party hurtled toward a stellar win in the Delhi Assembly polls on Tuesday.

"People of Delhi, you have done wonders... I love you," the AAP chief said while blowing a kiss to hundreds of cheering supporters.

In a six-minute address, Mr. Kejriwal said: "I want to thank the people of Delhi, they have trusted their son for the third time. This is not my win, it is a victory of all Delhiites, it is the victory of all those families of Delhi who considered me their son and gave us this huge mandate.



AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal (centre) with his wife Sunita and senior party leader Manish Sisodia offers prayers at the Hanuman Mandir in Connaught Place on Tuesday. ■ PTI

This is the victory of all those families who are getting 24 hours of electricity, whose children are getting good education, who are getting good treatment at hospitals in Delhi," he said.

"The people of Delhi have given birth to a new type of politics: *kaam ki rajneeti* [poli-

tics of work]," he added.

The party's campaign had focused on the work done by AAP in the past five years.

"The people of Delhi have sent a message that only people who build schools, give 24-hour electricity, build mohalla clinics, and give water to every house will get votes,"

Mr. Kejriwal said, adding:

"This is not just a victory of the people of Delhi, this is a victory of Bharat Mata and the entire country."

The AAP chief said Hanuman has blessed the people of Delhi. "Today is Tuesday, it is Hanuman's day, Hanuman has blessed Delhi today, ma-

ny thanks to Hanuman. We the people of Delhi request God to show us the path over the next five years, give us strength so that the two crore people of Delhi can together make the Capital a good and beautiful city," he said.

"I thank the people of Delhi... and all volunteers who worked day and night... and my family who also worked hard and supported me. Today is my wife's birthday. I have eaten the cake, I will serve you people also," he said, putting a hand around his wife Sunita Kejriwal.

He was joined at the stage by his two children as well as AAP leaders Sanjay Singh and Gopal Rai, among others.

"The people of Delhi, with great hope, have given us these many seats and now we have to work hard for the next five years," he said, adding: "We will work together, I cannot do it alone. Are you ready?"

Delhi proved Kejriwal not a terrorist, says Sanjay Singh

Oppn. had claimed election was a Hindustan-Pakistan match

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

Referring to BJP leaders calling AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal a "terrorist" during the election campaigning, AAP MP Sanjay Singh on Tuesday said: "Your son Arvind Kejriwal was called a terrorist. Mr. Kejriwal had said on [February] 11 our two crore-strong family will say that their son Kejriwal is not a terrorist but a strong nationalist."

Alluding to the BJP, Mr. Singh, also the Delhi Assembly elections in charge, said: "they had termed the election as a Hindustan-Pakistan match and now Hindustan has won". He added: "They had said it was a Hindustan-Pakistan match. Hindustan has won, Hindustan has won."

Senior party leader Manish Sisodia after defeating his BJP rival from Patparganj seat tweeted: "Being in government and providing quality education is real patriotism." He told reporters: "I am happy to have won the Patparganj seat again. The

BJP indulged in politics of hate. But I thank the people of Patparganj. Today, Delhi's people have chosen a government that works for them. They have explained the true meaning of nationalism through their mandate."

He also thanked the people of Delhi on Twitter.

Addressing volunteers, party leader Raghav Chadha said "on a Tuesday, Bajrangbali has taught the BJP a lesson".

(With PTI inputs)

'Attack on MLAs' convoy'

AAP says one person has died

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

The AAP on Tuesday said that one person died in an attack at Mehruali AAP MLA Naresh Yadav's convoy. The incident happened near Vasant Kunj.

The party added that the MLA is safe. "Mr. Yadav's con-

voy was attacked. Ashok Mann has been killed. Mr. Yadav was on his way back from visiting a temple," tweeted AAP MP Sanjay Singh.

"They were in a jeep and shots were fired at them. One person died and another person has suffered injuries," an AAP worker told *The Hindu*.

AAP looks to scale up

We need to bring change to India, says Rai

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

As the Aam Aadmi Party swept the Delhi Assembly elections on Tuesday, the party's future course was evident from the posters at its headquarters which read: "Join AAP to build the nation", even as AAP Delhi incharge Gopal Rai urged party workers across the country to gear up to "bring change to the whole of India".

Addressing volunteers at the party headquarters, Mr. Rai said the end to "hate-spreading" politics of the BJP has started from Delhi. "The fight has only begun. I want to

tell you and the volunteers across the country: gear up, not just Delhi, the whole country needs change... make preparations, what Delhi can do, the whole country can do. For this, do work in your village, mohalla, city and along with Arvind Kejriwal, take this storm of change to the rest of the country," he said.

Calling party chief Arvind Kejriwal "Delhi's nayak", Mr. Rai added that the "politics of love has won... The brigade that does hatred-spreading politics in the country, Amit Shah and his supporters, has been defeated," he said.

At AAP HQ, 'Chhota Kejriwal' holds court

People queue up to click selfies with one-year-old Avyaan

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

At 6 p.m. on Monday, 34-year-old Meenakshi Tomar put her one-year-old son Avyaan Tomar to bed early only to wake him up in the small hours of Tuesday. Ms. Tomar drew Avyaan a moustache using kajal and made him wear a black muffler, a pair of spectacles without glasses and an AAP topi.

The Tomars left their Mayur Vihar house at 5 a.m. for Chief Minister's residence in Civil Lines. From there, they headed towards the party office at ITO. People gathered inside the office premises started addressing the toddler as "chhota [young] Kejriwal" and he soon became the centre of attraction with many queuing up to click selfies with him as he played with balloons. "Our daughter had dressed up as little Kejriwal when the AAP national convener [Arvind Kejriwal] had won the election in 2015," the toddler's father Rahul told *The Hindu*. "We are using the same muffler for our son," he



Youngest cheerleader: Avyaan being held up in the crowd at AAP headquarters on Tuesday. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

added.

"It is up to them to decide what to become but if my children can do 10% of the social work that Kejriwal does, then it will be great. I will be happy," Mr. Tomar said.

When asked about the idea behind dressing up his children as Kejriwal, he said: "When they understand that their parents have a role model, then they will also be interested in it." By 4 p.m., Avyaan, was tired and started

crying. His mother said: "The security guards had told us that 'sir [CM] wants to meet him' and we are waiting for it. My son is very tired and will now start crying."

By 4.50 pm, after some failed attempts to meet Mr. Kejriwal, the family decides to leave the party office. "We have been waiting from 2 p.m. to meet him. They should have told us earlier," Mr. Tomar said before leaving the office.

Celebrations inside AAP office began early morning

Police block traffic outside party office

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

As early as 7 a.m. on Tuesday, even before the counting began, supporters of the Aam Aadmi Party started getting ready for celebrations at the party headquarters as the exit poll had shown a clear victory for them.

Space crunch

As the results started to trickle in, the crowd at the party office started increasing from a few dozen to hundreds of supporters to a point where there was no space inside the premises for any more people.

As the volunteers spilled over onto the roads, the police had to block vehicular movement outside the party office leading to ITO.

The party had set up a temporary stage on the office terrace and as trends started showing a clear win for the party, its leaders addressed the hundreds of volunteers,

who had gathered at the office by 12 p.m. A 28-year-old AAP volunteer since 2012, Babita from Madanpur Kadar JJ Colony said the party won only on the basis of the work done. "My two daughters are studying in the 'school of excellence' run by the Delhi government in our slum," Ms. Babita, an Anganwadi worker, said.

Many AAP supporters were dancing to the tune of "Lage raho Kejriwal" — AAP's election song — with party's flags and brooms in their hands.

CM addresses volunteers

Amid loud cheers of AAP supporters, party convener Arvind Kejriwal addressed the volunteers at 3.30 p.m. from the terrace before leaving for Hanuman Temple in Connaught Place at 5 p.m.

Multiple MLA elects also took out separate victory processions in their respective Assembly constituencies.

We are again decimated in Delhi. Enough of introspection, time for action now. Inordinate delay in decision making at the top, lack of strategy & unity at state level, demotivated workers, no grassroots connect-all are factors. Being part of the system, I too take my share of responsibility



— SHARMISTHA MUKHERJEE
Senior INC leader

Congratulations @AamAadmiParty for a well deserved victory in the face of dirty tricks of the regime and a docile EC. Congratulations to people of Delhi for defeating the most vitriolic campaign of communal hatred in recent times and stopping it from becoming a national template

— YOGENDRA YADAV, National Chief Swaraj India



I accept the results but not defeat. Hindu-Muslim votes were polarised. With fresh faces, Congress needs to prepare for a new fight and a long struggle for people of Delhi. If we fight today we will win tomorrow

— ALKA LAMBA, Senior Congress leader



Congratulations to @ArvindKejriwal on returning as the Chief Minister of Delhi and all the winning MLAs. I want to assure him that development of Delhi and welfare of citizens will be the top priority for everyone

— GAUTAM GAMBHIR, Senior BJP leader



Thank you Delhi for standing up to protect the soul of India

— PRASHANT KISHOR, Indian Political Action Committee head



Congress' performance is not surprising. We were nowhere there. We tried to showcase the work done by Sheila ji but it was done really late because Subhash Chopra ji was given the responsibility late. Some leaders only insulted Sheila ji...

— SANDEEP DIKSHIT, Senior INC leader

Why Kejriwal's AAP was able to retain Delhi

The Chief Minister has been the face of the party, with focus on its performance

AMIT BARUAH
NEW DELHI

In the end, Shaheen Bagh could not swing the Delhi Assembly elections in favour of the BJP. Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his campaign stressing the many achievements of his government did the trick for his Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

The poll results is a setback for Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who made it his mission to ensure that Mr. Kejriwal was denied a third term in office.

Union Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur was banned from campaigning for 72 hours for raising the slogan of "death to traitors" on January 30, while he was earlier removed from the list of the BJP's star campaigners.

Mr. Shah repeatedly said Delhi's voters should press the "lotus" button on the electronic voting machine so that the "current" was felt in Shaheen Bagh, where thousands of people are peacefully protesting against the CAA-NRC-NPR regime.

Mr. Shah personally addressed 52 public meetings, roadshows and street corner



AAP workers celebrating the huge victory in the Delhi Assembly elections, at the party's headquarters in New Delhi on Tuesday. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

meetings, U.P. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath addressed 12 public meetings in Delhi and Prime Minister Narendra Modi spoke at three public meetings, including one on Ramila grounds.

At one time, it appeared that the firing incidents in Jamia and the entry of masked hoodlums in JNU on January

5 (no arrests have been made by the Delhi Police in the matter so far) could lead to more violence. The Election Commission of India only intervened to remove the DCP in charge of the Jamia Millia Islamia area.

In an interview to *The Hindu* before the poll, Mr. Kejriwal only spoke of his

work and the fact that he was going to the people on the basis of his performance. He was critical of Mr. Shah on Delhi's deteriorating law and order situation but did not directly criticise Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He was perhaps conscious of the fact that those who voted for Mr. Modi at the Centre said

time and again they would back Mr. Kejriwal in Delhi.

For the BJP, the defeat in Delhi comes close on the heels of the loss in Jharkhand, where again it stressed on CAA-NRC and Ram mandir. In Delhi too, Mr. Shah promised at several public meetings that a Ram temple would be constructed in Ayodhya in four months.

NEWS ANALYSIS

It's evident that what worked for the BJP in the Lok Sabha election did not work for it in Delhi or Jharkhand. The voter clearly has different interests and objectives in national and Assembly elections.

Though the BJP succeeded in raising its vote share by about seven percentage points to around 39% in the current polls (counting was on at the time of writing), the AAP lost barely a percentage point from its 2015 tally.

The gap between the AAP and the BJP is more than 12 percentage points and the Congress too has lost nearly 5% of the vote since 2015.

Interestingly, in 2013, when the BJP got 33.07% of

the total votes cast, it won 31 seats, while in 2015, with 32.19% votes, it managed only three. In 2013, the Congress too got a healthy 24.55% of the vote and eight seats, while in 2015 it could not open its account, with just under 10% of the vote.

A three-cornered contest in Delhi could have helped the BJP, but the Congress did a massive favour to the AAP by not campaigning.

Like in 2015, the Congress voter turned out in large numbers for the AAP while the party under Sheila Dikshit came second in the 2019 Lok Sabha poll, pushing the AAP to third position.

Finally, Mr. Kejriwal was the face of the AAP and its governance.

The BJP failed to settle for any leader in Delhi, chastened perhaps with its projection of Kiran Bedi ahead of the 2015 poll. It's somewhat of a mystery why a powerful, organised and wealthy party like the BJP could not build up a younger leadership in Delhi.

Meanwhile, it is celebration all the way at the AAP's headquarters in Rouse Avenue in New Delhi.

'BJP campaign failed on many fronts'

Local issues got buried: party sources

JATIN ANAND
NEW DELHI

Failing to project a Chief Ministerial face, failing to counter the Aam Aadmi Party's power and water subsidies, using a local election as a "launch pad" for national issues, and star campaigners "overshadowing" local candidates were some of the problems made by some star campaigners such as Anurag Thakur and Parvesh Sahib Singh," said a party source.

"The events of senior leaders ended up becoming platforms to push the BJP's national agenda... local issues found brief or no mention at all," said another party source.



Aam Aadmi Party workers hold up a poster during victory celebrations on Tuesday. ■ R.V. MOORTHY

AAP conquers eight seats by margins of over 40,000 votes

Burari candidate wins by largest margin of 88,158 votes

STAFF REPORTER
NEW DELHI

In eight constituencies, all of which were won by the Aam Aadmi Party, the margin of victory was above 40,000 votes. On the other hand, seven of the BJP's eight winning candidates could secure only a margin of less than 17,000 votes.

The largest margin of victory was seen in Burari where AAP's Sanjeev Jha retained his seat with 88,158 votes. Mr. Jha improved upon his 2015 results when he won by a margin of 67,950 votes.

The second largest margin of victory was seen in Okhla, dominated by members of the Muslim community and has been a site of indefinite protests against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act.

Here, AAP's Amanatullah Khan won by a margin of 71,827 votes compared to a

Capital votes

PARTY	2013		2015		2020	
	VOTE SHARE	SEATS	VOTE SHARE	SEATS	VOTE SHARE	SEATS
AAP	29.49%	28	54.34%	67	53.57	62
BJP	33.07%	31	32.19%	3	38.51	8
INC	24.55%	8	9.65%	0	4.26	0

SOURCE: ELECTION COMMISSION

margin of 64,532 in the previous elections.

In Matia Mahal, also a Muslim majority constituency, Shoaib Iqbal won by a margin of 50,241 votes, compared to the margin of 26,096 votes by AAP's Asim Ahmed Khan in the previous elections.

Minister Rajendra Pal Gautam won with a comfortable margin of 56,108 votes in the reserved constituency of Seemapuri, improving on the vote margin of 42,058 votes, in Deoli the victory margin was 40,173.

48,821.

In Sangam Vihar, said to be the largest unauthorised colony in the city, AAP's Dinesh Mohanji defeated the BJP candidate by a margin of 42,522 votes, a small dip in the victory margin of 43,988 in 2015.

In Sultanpur Majra, Mukesh Kumar, won by a margin of 48,052 votes. While in Vikaspuri, the party candidate won by a margin of 42,058 votes, in Deoli the victory margin was 40,173.

Mr. Sharma was elected from the constituency in

The least margin recorded was on the Bijwasan seat where AAP's Bhupinder Singh Joon defeated BJP's Sat Prakash Rana by 753 votes.

The Laxmi Nagar seat also saw a close fight with BJP's Abhay Verma defeating AAP's Nitin Tyagi by 880 votes. In Adarsh Nagar constituency, AAP candidate Parwan Sharma won by a margin of 1,589 votes against BJP's Raj Kumar Bhatia.

Senior AAP leader Manish Sisodia got re-elected from Patparganj by a margin of

20,741 votes.

The Kasturba Nagar constituency saw AAP's Madan Lal defeat BJP's Ravinder Choudhary by a margin of 3,165 votes. In the last election, Mr. Lal had won by a margin of over 15,800 votes.

Rahul Gandhi's four elec-

3,207 votes by defeating BJP's Ravinder Singh Negi.

Mr. Sisodia had won by a margin of 28,791 votes in the 2015 elections.

BJP's Rekha Gupta from the Shalimar Bagh lost out to AAP's Bandana Kumari by a margin of 3,440 votes.

The 2015 elections had seen Ms. Kumari win the seat by 10,978 votes.

Chhatarpur AAP candidate Kartar Singh Tanwar defeated BJP candidate Brahm Singh Tanwar by a margin of 3,720 votes; in the previous elections the former had won by a margin of 22,240 votes.

2015 too but had won by a margin of 20,741 votes.

The Kasturba Nagar constituency saw AAP's Madan Lal defeat BJP's Anil Goyal – an improvement from his 2015 election result where he had won by a margin of 2,277 votes.

The Badarpur seat saw BJP's Ramvir Singh Bidhu defeat AAP's Ram Singh Netaji by 3,719 votes.

The outlier

In Krishna Nagar, S.K. Bagga of AAP won by a margin of 3,995 votes by defeating BJP's Anil Goyal – an improvement from his 2015 election result where he had won by a margin of 2,277 votes.

The Badarpur seat saw BJP's Ramvir Singh Bidhu defeat AAP's Ram Singh Netaji by 3,719 votes.

Rahul Gandhi's four elec-

63 out of 66 Congress candidates lose deposit

Party's pitch failed to win over voters

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

In a repeat of 2015, the Congress was decimated in the Delhi Assembly elections on Tuesday with its vote share falling from 9.7% to 4.27%. A total of 63 out of 66 Congress candidates forfeited their deposit this time.

Arvinder Singh Lovely from Gandhi Nagar, Devender Yadav from Badli and Abhishek Dutt from Kasturba Nagar were the only ones who managed to save their deposits.

Even sitting Chandni Chowk MLA Alka Lamba who switched from the Aam Aadmi Party to the Congress lost her deposit.

The party's strategy of promising voters a throwback to a "Congress wali dilli" and highlighting achievements during the 15-year tenure of Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit failed to strike a chord with voters.

Rahul Gandhi's four elec-

tions rallies in which he pushed the party's plans to generate employment for the youth failed to garner support from the voters.

Delhi Congress chief Subhash Chopra took responsibility for the defeat and said that the party would need to introspect on what went wrong. He blamed politics of polarisation for the party's fall in vote share.

The Congress contested the elections this time in alliance with the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), fighting on 66 seats and leaving four for its ally.



Anti-CAA protesters at Shaheen Bagh on Tuesday. ■ PTI

The victory of the Shaheen Bagh women

The silent contribution of the peaceful protesters went missing in high-decibel commentaries on the election results

PRADIP KUMAR DATTA

Buried in countless discussions on the failure of hate campaign against Shaheen Bagh and the victory of the Aam Aadmi Party's politics of "kaam" has been the actual role of the women of Shaheen Bagh. The Union Home Minister's exhortation to deliver "electric current" to Shaheen Bagh, the chanting of "goli maro" and the actual attacks by stray shooters, crafting sedition charges against individuals, have contrasted singularly with the pictures of rows of women sitting with children, waving the flag and copies of the Constitution and most of all, dedicated to peaceful protest. The importance of this cannot be underestimated.

COMMENT

Clearly, as strategy, it has had its uses. The BJP vote share in the 2020 Delhi elections has been reasonable enough. But it failed to produce a cutting edge precisely because the strategy did not extend beyond the rhetoric of incitement. It was the deliberate commitment to peaceful protest by the women satyagrahis - ordinary mothers, homemakers, youth - that staved off any violent counter-response. Counterfactually speaking, if there had been the slightest hint of violent response, the spiral of violence and com-

munity polarisation would have been uncontrollable. The strategy of hate would then have been unstoppable. It would have upended the politics of "kaam".

It may be recalled that the women have carried on despite no acts of solidarity from AAP; instead, they have con-

tinuously faced the fear of violent ejection by the police. It is the silent contribution of the Shaheen Bagh women that remains unremarked upon in the high-decibel commentaries on the election results. It raises a difficult question for the BJP now. It delib-

erately nationalised the elections. Beginning with the Prime Minister, organised and co-ordinated by the Home Minister and deploying a phalanx of Chief Ministers and over 200 MPs, the BJP campaign has been one of the most communal vituperative ever in the history of

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Lecturer burning case: charge sheet within two weeks, assure police

Accused in police remand till February 20

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NAGPUR

The Special Investigation Team, probing the case where a 25-year-old woman lecturer was burned to death by a stalker at Hinganghat in Wardha district last week, would file a charge sheet within two weeks, a senior official said on Tuesday.

The victim, Ankita Pisudde, a resident of Hinganghat town, was set afire allegedly by her stalker Vishesh Nagale (27) on February 3. She died on Monday in a Nagpur hospital, where



Members of the women's wing of the BJP taking out a silent march in Pune on Tuesday to condole the death of the young lecturer in Wardha on Monday. ■ MANDAR TANNU

had been undergoing treatment.

The SIT headed by Wardha Deputy Superintendent

six witnesses have been recorded and evidences from the crime spot have also been recovered.

The charge sheet would be filed within two weeks, she said. "The accused is in police remand till February 20 and we will file the charge sheet before the end of that period," Ms. Jadhav said.

She also dismissed reports in a section of the media that the accused was accompanied by a couple of persons at the time of crime.

According to information gathered by the probe team, the accused executed the crime alone and was not accompanied by any person, the official said.

The State government on Monday appointed re-

nowned lawyer Ujjwal Nikam as the special public prosecutor in the case.

Making the announcement in Mumbai, Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray assured that the case, which has triggered widespread public anger and outrage, will be tried in a fast track court to ensure speedy justice to the victim.

During his decades-long career, Mr. Nikam (66) has handled several high-profile cases like the 1993 Mumbai serial bomb blasts and film producer Gulshan Kumar's murder case.

The woman was set on fire by the accused, who was later arrested, while she was on way to her college on February 3, police earlier said.

Delhi voters may have fallen for freebies, says Goa CM

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
PANAJI

With the Aam Aadmi Party scoring another landslide victory in Delhi Assembly polls, Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Tuesday said voters may have fallen for freebies announced before the elections by the Arvind Kejriwal government.

The BJP leader said that the AAP government in Delhi failed to provide pollution-free air and clean drinking water, which are basic necessities.

"We accept people's verdict. May be, people wanted a government that gives freebies from their own taxes," Mr. Sawant told reporters in Ponda town of North Goa district.

Mr. Sawant, who campaigned in Delhi for the



Aam Aadmi Party workers celebrate the Delhi results in front of the party office in Nagpur on Tuesday. ■ SUDARSHAN

Assembly polls, said the Kejriwal government failed to provide clean air and water to citizens of the national capital.

Goa Forward Party (GFP) chief Vijai Sardesai said Delhites have rejected "divisive" issues. "Congratulations to #Delhi's local party

HC summons to Rohit Pawar on Assembly win

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
AURANGABAD

The Bombay High Court on Tuesday issued summons to NCP leader Rohit Pawar, grand-nephew of NCP chief Sharad Pawar, seeking his response to an election petition alleging malpractices and corruption on his part during last year's State Assembly polls.

A single Bench of Justice S.M. Gavhane of Aurangabad Bench of the High Court was hearing a petition filed by former MLA Ramdas

Observe 'parents' day' on Feb. 14: HJS

PRESSTRUST OF INDIA
PANAJI

Right-wing organisation Hindu Janajagruti Samiti (HJS) on Tuesday appealed to the youth to celebrate February 14 as "parents' day", instead of Valentine's Day. It also submitted a memorandum to the additional collector of North Goa and officials from the State administration.

"This distorted version of love is being made popular among youth to gain some business, and as a result, the young generation is drawn towards sensuality and immorality," the organisation stated.

Incidents of teasing, have been reported on Valentine's Day, the outfit said. There is a rise in "malpractices" such as consuming alcohol, drugs, and smoking. Even sale of contraceptives goes up, it claimed.

Ministry of Earth Sciences may go in for decadal forecast system

System based on need for long-term predictions; will begin as research

+ SHOUMOJIT BANERJEE
PUNE

The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is planning a 'decadal forecast' system along the lines of the United Kingdom's Met Office to ensure better predictability in the climate time scale, said Dr. M. Rajeevan, Secretary, MoES recently.

Speaking on the sidelines of the 6th International Conference on Climate Services being held at the Pune-based Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Dr. Rajeevan said the system, based on a coupled climate model, would first be taking shape in the form of a research programme and would be operational only after its merits had been evaluated.

"This is a new idea with more relevance to present climate forecasting needs. So, given the need for longer-range prediction for 10 or 20 years, we will be starting a

new programme in the country using a coupled climate model by utilising signals emanating from deep oceans to predict decadal climate changes," he said.

Refusing to elaborate on the operational aspects of the programme, Dr. Rajeevan said the system would be explored as a research programme to be taken up by IITM along with collaboration from the India Meteorological Department and other entities.

"The operational part will be discussed later. First, we will have to conduct significant research and determine the system's effectiveness," he said.

The World Meteorological Organization has set up global producing centres, coordinated by the U.K. Met Office, for annual to decadal projections that are already providing global-scale information.

"As there is a lot fundamental work [on the decadal forecasting system] that has already been done, we feel India should not lag behind," Dr. Rajeevan said.

Once the system was established, it would initially function for long-range forecasting at the national level and the model, if successful, would later be down-scaled to the state or even district-level, he said.

Dr. Rajeevan said there were a number of gaps in the understanding of regional climate variability and its connections to global phenomena like Indian Ocean Dipole. Indian forecasters, he said, faced a challenge in maintaining the quality of climate observations, and there is a need on the part of researchers to develop applications for specific sectors based on the available climate forecast.

Pak. national arrested for entering India illegally

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BHUJ

A Pakistani national has been apprehended by the Border Security Force (BSF) for illegally entering Kutch district after crossing the India-Pakistan border, an official said on Tuesday. The accused, Shoaib Ahmed (38), a resident of Shah Nawaz Bhutto colony in Karachi town of Pakistan's Sindh province, appeared to be a drug addict, he said.

Some Pakistani currency, an identity card and 150 grams of a "sniffing powder" were seized from his possession, the BSF said in a release. "The Pakistani national was apprehended when he tried to enter India near Dholavira on Monday night. He was held from near border pillar number 1024 by the BSF patrolling team. He appears to be a drug addict," Inspector General, BSF, Gujarat Frontier, G.S. Malik said. He was handed over to the local police on Tuesday morning, the official said.

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Sr. No.: 1, LETTER/MEMO. No. & DATE:- Ch-29/NIT No 282/Bid No. B-625/JICA/SNP/DD-II dated: 05.02.2020, NAME OF DEPT./BOARD/CORP/AUTH:- UHBVN, OLD REFERENCE/NIT/TENDER NO.- NIT No 282/Bid No. B-625/JICA/SNP/DD-II, NATURE OF CORRIGENDUM:- CORRIGENDUM-II Bifurcation / trifurcation of 44 Nos. overloaded 11 KV feeders under OP Circle Sonepat- JICA Project, Closing Date: 24.02.2020, Opening date: 24.02.2020, WEBSITE OF THE DEPT./BOARD/CORP/AUTH:- www.uhbvn.org.in, NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL:- XEN/DD-II, UHBVN, Panchkula, Tel. No. 01723019143, email: xendd2@uhbvni.org.in
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NOTIFICATION

No. B2/100/2019/H.Edn Dated 06/02/2020.

The Chancellor, University of Calicut had, vide Notification No. GS3-1120/2019 dated 16/07/2019, appointed a Committee to make recommendations for the appointment of the Vice Chancellor, University of Calicut. However, due to technical reasons, the recommendations could not be made within the due time.

Now in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 10 (1) of the Calicut University Act, 1975, the Chancellor has issued fresh Notification forming a Selection Committee to make recommendations for appointment of the Vice-Chancellor, University of Calicut.

Applications are invited by the Search-cum-Selection Committee for the selection of Vice-Chancellor, University of Calicut from eligible candidates. Qualification and experience are as prescribed in the UGC Notification dated 18.07.2018, clause 7.3 (i) and (ii). Preference will be given to candidates having Ph.D. The selection will be subject to the age limit of 60 years of age as on the date of Notification as provided in Section 10 (5) of Calicut University Act, 1975.

Application in hard copy and soft copy with bio-data, proof of experience, qualification, etc. in the proforma prescribed by UGC, should reach the Principal Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department, Govt. Secretariat (Annexe II) Thiruvananthapuram - 695 001 and to the email id : highereducationbdepartment@gmail.com on or before 5 PM on 28.02.2020. Applications without soft copies will be summarily rejected.

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4	PWD B&R,SONEPAT	CONSTRUCTION OF PROPOSED KABADDI HALL AT VILLAGE RINDHANA IN SONEPAT DISTT. (C.M. ANNOUNCEMENT CODE NO. 17726 DATED 10.12.2016) + 1 OTHER WORK	CLOSING DATE 27.02.2020	183.47 LACS	http://etenders.hry.nic.in	0130-2244690 pwd-eed1-sonepat@hry.nic.in
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IN BRIEF



Sri Lankan PM worships at Tirumala

TIRUMALA
Sri Lankan Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa on Tuesday took part in the *Astadala Padapadmaradhana seva*, a weekly ritual, at the hill temple of Lord Venkateswara along with his son Yoshita Rajapaksa and other dignitaries on Tuesday. A team of TTD officials, led by executive officer Anil Kumar Singhal, accorded him a traditional reception. Mr. Rajapaksa was presented with a memento and 'laddu prasadam'.

Eight held for raping woman in Telangana

WARANGAL
A 24-year-old woman was allegedly raped by nine people at Mahabubabad in Telangana. Eight of them were arrested on Monday. Three days ago, the woman had arrived at the Mahabubabad railway station. As she didn't have enough money to go to her village, she phoned an acquaintance seeking help. He asked her to meet him some distance away. She took an autorickshaw to the spot, where she was raped by her acquaintance, an auto driver, and his friends. PTI

Kerala tribal man wins ₹12 crore lottery

KANNUR
A member of the Kurichiya tribal community in Kannur has won the ₹12 crore Kerala Christmas New Year Bumper lottery of the State government. The winner, Porunnan Rajan, 52, who resides at Puralimala, told *The Hindu* that he was in dire need of money. He was in debt after borrowing money for the marriage of his daughter and other purposes. Mr. Rajan, who has two daughters and a son, wants to pay off his loans and build a new house.

Yediyurappa placates new Ministers with portfolio rejig

They had met him to express anguish over not getting 'prominent' berths

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
BENGALURU

Within 24 hours of allocating portfolios to newly-inducted Ministers, Karnataka Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa modified some of them on Tuesday, to placate those who were upset over not getting "prominent" subjects, including new entrants to the Bharatiya Janata Party.

BJP sources said the changes came after most of the new Ministers met the Chief Minister in Bengaluru on Monday night, and protested the "raw deal" meted out to them. Some told Mr. Yediyurappa that they would rather continue as just MLAs.

Only three of the 10 newly-inducted Ministers had got prominent portfolios as of B.C. Patil, who was given Agriculture as against Forest



"Though the Chief Minister did not yield to pressure for portfolios of their choice, he agreed to make modifications," a senior BJP leader explained.

Patil gets agriculture

The major change was that of B.C. Patil, who was given Agriculture as against Forest

that was allocated on Monday. In fact, Agriculture had been taken away from Deputy Chief Minister Laxman Savadi and given to Home Minister Basavaraj Bommai additionally only on Monday.

Small Scale Industries and Sugar allotted to K. Gopalaiyah were withdrawn and he was allotted Food and Civil Supplies, which was given to Anand Singh on Monday. Mr. Singh has now been given Forest, Ecology and Environment Department, earlier given to C.C. Patil who also holds Mines and Geology.

Shivaram Hebbar, who had been allotted Labour, has got Sugar also now. Shrimant Balasaheb Patil has been given the additional portfolio of Minority Welfare, which was earlier with

Animal Husbandry Minister Prabhu Chauhan.

Urban Development Minister Byrathi Basavaraj, too, has something to cheer about as his portfolio has now been strengthened by adding Karnataka Urban Water Supply and Drainage Board and Karnataka Urban Infrastructure Development and Finance Corporation.

The Chief Minister has kept Small Scale Industries with him, along with other key departments.

Four new Ministers were kept out of the rejig. Major Water Resources Minister Ramesh Jarkiholi concluded that the constructions were in violation of the Mysore Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act of 1961.

SC backs move to demolish restaurants near Hampi site

It says constructions were in violation of Mysore Act, 1961

KRISHNADAS RAJAGOPAL
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday confirmed the Karnataka government authorities' decision to demolish restaurants, hotels, guest houses and other buildings constructed in Virupapura Gaddi, an oval islet formed by Tungabhadra river and located west of the Hampi World Heritage site.

Spelling relief for conservationists and a victory for the State government, a Bench of Justices Mohan M. Shantanagoudar and R. Subhash Reddy concluded that the constructions were in violation of the Mysore Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act of 1961.

Agreeing with the Karna-

taka High Court decision that the Hampi World Heritage Area Management Authority was empowered to order the demolition of the illegal buildings, the court ordered the authorities to proceed with their demolition work within a month of this judgment.

"It is incumbent upon the authority not to turn a blind eye," Justice Shantanagoudar, who authored the verdict, held.

The court upheld the validity of a 1988 State notification that "clearly indicates the entire village of Virupapura Gaddi as a protected zone". It said a place need not necessarily boast a monument to be protected.

"It is possible for certain areas to be protected independent of the existence of

monuments, if there is a reasonable belief that they contain ruins or relics of historical or archaeological importance," the court observed.

Historical importance
The court further noted how the Archaeological Survey of India had itself recognised the historical importance of Virupapura Gaddi.

"It appears that the government had considered the comprehensive geographical entity of the area, including attributes like its landscape, prehistoric vestiges and water systems. Thus, the 1988 notification issued under Section 19(3) of the 1961 Act declaring Virupapura Gaddi as a protected monument to be withstood," the court said.

Suspecting nCoV attack, man kills self

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
TIRUPATI

A 50-year-old man, who feared that he had contracted novel coronavirus (nCoV), allegedly committed suicide near Srikalasati town in A.P. on Tuesday.

Balakrishna had been admitted to a hospital in Tirupati for fever and doctors suggested that he wear a mask to prevent the spread of the viral infection. This made him suspect that he had contracted the virus. Apprehensive of infecting others, he kept away from his family. He left his house on Monday night and allegedly hanged himself from a tree. (Those in distress can call 100.)

Benefits of post-lunch nap at work rated highly by study

Adults in Chennai have strikingly low quantity and quality of sleep relative to typical guidelines, says U.S.-based group

RAMYA KANNAN
CHENNAI

nowledges "generous funding and support" from the government of Tamil Nadu and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology-based Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab, among others. "Adults in Chennai have strikingly low quantity and quality of sleep relative to typical guidelines: despite spending eight hours in bed, they achieve only 5.6 hours per night of sleep, with 32 awakenings per night," the paper states.

Sleep efficiency

"Sleep efficiency is calculated by dividing the sleep you are getting by the time spent in bed, expressed as a percentage," explains Dr. N. Ra-

makrishnan, senior consultant, sleep management, Apollo Hospitals, here. Just over five hours out of eight hours in bed is not good sleep efficiency, he adds. That means sleep efficiency was only 70% in the sample, which, the authors argue, was "much lower than in U.S. populations or even those with disorders such as sleep apnea".

As part of the study, the subjects were recruited for a full-time data-entry job for one month. The researchers then cross-randomised the sample into two types of interventions to increase sleep: night sleep treatments, and a nap treatment that gave them, daily, an opportunity

to take a half-hour nap in the afternoon in a quiet space in the office.

The night-sleep interventions increased sleep by an average of 27 minutes per night, but this increase in time asleep was entirely driven by greater time spent in bed – on average 38 addi-

tional minutes per night – rather than improved sleep efficiency. Naps were effective at increasing sleep – 88% of individuals fell asleep at some point during their allotted nap time, yielding an average of 13 minutes of nap sleep per day. This was of a higher quality than night sleep, the NBER records.

Productivity up

Increased night sleep did not have any measurable positive impacts on a range of outcomes. Naps, on the other hand, increased work productivity by 2.3%, boosted a measure of attention, and improved psychological well-being. It also emerged that naps increased patience, and

actually resulted in 14% higher deposits in a savings account, says the paper.

"There is no doubt that both quality of sleep and the hours you get are important. But, lying in bed is not equal to sleep," Dr. Ramakrishnan explains. "In this particular study, the environments might have contributed a great deal to the benefits derived from the nap." In a low income group, he argues, the environments in which people get their night's sleep may not be ideal for a disruption-free sleep. In contrast, when they were allowed to rest in a disruption-free environment at the workplace, they might have derived greater benefits from it.



PROCLAMATION REQUIRING THE APPEARANCE OF PERSON ACCUSED

See Section 82 Cr. PC

Whereas complaint has been made before me that accused person namely Amit S/o Sh. Sonu, R/o E-55/47, Deepak Colony, Kalander Colony, Delhi. has committed (or is suspected to have committed) the Offence in case FIR No. 260/19 u/s 356/379/411/34 IPC at PS. Pahar Ganj, Delhi, and it has been returned to a warrant of arrest thereupon issued that the said Amit cannot be found and whereas it has been shown to my satisfaction that the said Amit has absconded (or is concealing himself to avoid the service of the said warrant). Proclamation u/s 82 CrPC is hereby made that the said Amit of FIR No. 260/19 u/s 356/379/411/34 IPC PS. Pahar Ganj is required to appear before this court to answer the said complaint on or before 26.03.2020.

By Order
Ms. Shefali Sharma
(Court Matter) Addl. Chief Metropolitan Magistrate-01
Central Distt., Room No. 366, Tis Hazari Court, Delhi

JHARKHAND BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED

(CIN No. U40108JH2013SGC001702)
ELECTRIC SUPPLY AREA, HAZARIBAG

JULU PARK, HAZARIBAG PIN - 825301

e-mail id: general.manager12@gmail.com /

Phone/FAX : 06546-226949/ 272570

Tender Cancellation Notice

Due to some unavoidable circumstances NIT No- 143/ 145/ 146/ 147/ 148/ 149/ 150/ 151/ PR/JBVNL/2019-20 is here by canceled.

TENDER CANCELLATION NOTICE

Sl. No.	NIT NO.	DESCRIPTION
1	143/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	Package-1: Maintenance Contract for 33/11 KV PSS & 33 KV Lines at Circle Level.
2	144/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	
3	145/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	
4	146/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	
5	147/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	
6	148/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	Package-2: Maintenance Contract for 11 KV Lines, 11.04 KV DSS, LT.
7	149/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	
8	150/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	
9	151/PR/JBVNL/2019-20	

लकड़ियां एवं छालबिंदी में उच्च दरों का फैलाव। कृपया अपनी विक्रयता

को टोके पौधे के 1800 345 8570 पर जरूर करें।

Sd/-
General Manager-cum-Chief Engineer
ESA, Hazaribag

PR.225125 Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd(19-20):D

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. - SG/DE/ETOT/16/19. 1.Name of work with its location : S&T work in connection with construction of ROB in lieu of LC Gate No. 42 Sp/1 at Km. 365/11-13 between JPL-HDN in BD section of Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Division, 2, Approx. Cost of the work : ₹65,14,072,69. (Rs. Sixty five lakh fourteen thousand seventy two and sixty nine paise only) 3. Earnest money to be deposited : ₹1,30,300/- (Rs. One lakh thirty thousand three hundred only) 4. Closing date & time for Submission of e-tender : 03.03.2020 up to 12.30 Hrs. 5. Website particulars where complete details of tender can be seen etc.: www.reps.gov.in Sr. Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer (Co-ord.) ECR/Deen Dayal Upadhyaya PR/2207/DDU/S&T/T/19-20/24

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

E-Tender Notice

01. Name of work with its location : Provision of additional loop line at Dubaha Station. 02. Approx. cost of the works (₹) : ₹ 49,44,114/- 03. Earnest Money to be deposited (₹) : ₹ 98,900/- Cost of tender forms (₹) : ₹ 3,000.00/- 4. Date & time for submission of e-tender and opening of e-tender : Submission of e-tenders : on 06.03.2020 till 13.00 hrs. Opening of e-tenders : on 06.03.2020 at 13.00 hrs. in the office of the Sr. Div. Electrical Engineer (TRD), DRM Office, E.C. Railway, Sonpur. 05. Website particulars and notice board location where complete details of e-tender can be seen : WEBSITE : http://www.reps.gov.in NOTICE BOARD : DRM Office Campus, E.C. Railway, Sonpur. Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer/TRD East Central Railway/ Sonpur PR/02202/SEE/ELEC/T/19-20/28

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY

Mech. Dept., Kota Divn.

TENDER NOTICE
Sr.DME(Co), Kota, acting for & on behalf of The President of India, invites E-Tender against Tender No. SRDME-WCR-KOTA-19-2019-20, due on 09.03.2020 at 15.00 Hrs. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender and any such manual offer received will be ignored. Tender No.: SRDME-WCR-KOTA-19-2019-20, Date 05.02.2020. Name of work: Kota - Pest and Rodent Control in passenger coaches maintained at Kota depot and Rodent control in coaching depot yards and premises for 3 years. Approx. cost of the work: ₹ 12,83,744.94. Earnest Money: ₹ 25,700/- Last Date & Time of submission of tender: 15.00 Hrs. on 09.03.2020. The tender can be viewed at website www.reps.gov.in. The tender/bidders must have Class-III Digital Signature Certificate & must be registered on IRPS portal. Only registered tenderer/bidders can participate on E-Tendering. All relevant paper must be uploaded at the time of participating in E-Tendering. रेल यात्रा के साथ सिविल इंजीनियर हैं 138 पर एस चुर्चा हैं 182 पर संपर्क करें।

Corrigendum
Some modification/correction has been done with reference to the tender notice of different packages issued vide this office letter No. 17094-17103 on dated 18.01.2020 published in different newspapers on dated 20.01.2020 to 20.01.2020.

Sr. No. **Read as** **Instead of**

1. L145-Construction upgradation of road from Kuru Nallah Magarwari Bami Ki Bainsk Bajhao Gharlaach road at 0/0 to 6/000 under PMGSY Stage-II. (SH-2) Removal of formation deficiency, C/o Retaining structure, M/T, C.D. work & C/o RCC Slab culverts, 4.00 mtrs span, V-Shape side drain, PCC Parapets, P/F Logo, sign boards i/c 5 yrs routine and AMP after completion of 5years routine maintenance under PMGSY Batch-I).

Package No. HP-11-102

(a) Construction Cost = 552.76 Lacs

(b) Maintenance cost = 33.46 lacs

(c) Uploading date = 15.02.2020

(d) Opening date = 19.03.2020

IN BRIEF



Bedi holds consultations with fiscal policy experts

PUDUCHERRY

Lt. Governor Kiran Bedi held consultations with fiscal policy experts deputed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to take stock of the stressed financial situation in the Union Territory. Concerns over loss-making PSUs were raised.

Father of rape victim shot dead in U.P.

FIROZABAD

The father of a rape victim was shot dead in Firozabad district of Uttar Pradesh and the family suspected the accused in the rape case to be behind the killing, police said. His daughter was raped six months ago and a man identified as Achaman Upadhyaya was made the accused in the case, SSP Sachin Patel said. PTI

Driver of bus involved in mishap at Ganjam held

BERHAMPUR

The driver of the bus that touched an 11 kv live wire in Odisha's Ganjam district on February 9, causing the death of 10 persons, was arrested by the police on Tuesday. The arrested driver had jumped out of the bus to escape when he found that the top of its goods carriage had come into contact with a high voltage power cable.

HC seeks govt. stand on plea to ban acid sale

NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Tuesday sought the State government's stand on a plea by an acid attack survivor, who has alleged that the chemical was easily available despite the Supreme Court's directions to regulate its sale. She also alleged that the statutory rules which regulate the sale of acid were not being implemented by the authorities. PTI

Agri zone may not affect ongoing T.N. projects

Officials say government only intends to bar fresh attempts at exploration of gas, minerals

DENNIS S. JESUDASAN

CHENNAI

Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami's announcement on Sunday last that the Cauvery delta region would be declared 'Protected Special Agricultural Zone' (PSAZ) may not affect various ongoing projects in the districts, including hydrocarbon exploration. Mr Palaniswami had said no "new projects such as the hydrocarbon project" would be allowed in delta districts.

The primary intention of the government is to prohibit any "fresh" attempts at exploration of gas and minerals in the Cauvery delta re-



A file picture of an exploratory well near Neduvilasal.

gion, senior bureaucrats indicated. "This is wet-land ecology and such explorations would affect agricul-

ture severely. Moreover, such explorations would also lead to seawater intrusion."

Since the ongoing projects

in the Cauvery delta have already obtained necessary permission from the authorities concerned, they may not be affected by the announcement," informed sources said.

The proposed ₹50,000 crore investment in Cuddalore by Haldia Petrochemicals would be allowed since "the unit is outside" the Cauvery delta core region. Besides, it is only replacing another private player.

CM yet to clarify
The Chief Minister has so far not clarified about the fate of the ongoing projects in the region. The proposed PSAZ

would cover the entire Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur and Thanjavur districts.

The remaining five districts would be covered only partially.

The declaration was to primarily to stop "local exploitation of underground minerals and gas." That way, refineries could be allowed since they would only use imported oil, officials explained.

Though the contours of the policy are yet to be outlined, sources hinted that infrastructure projects such as laying of roads and railways and construction of bridges would not be affected.

Cleaning of drains & septic tanks claims 110 lives in 2019

DAMINI NATH

NEW DELHI

The number of people who died while cleaning sewers and septic tanks in the country increased by almost 62% from 68 in 2018 to 110 in 2019, according to a reply given by the Social Justice and Empowerment (SJE) Ministry to the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

National survey
SJE Minister of State Ramdas Athawale replied to the question asked by Bharatiya Janata Party MPs Anil Firojya, Mohanbhai Kalyanjibhai Kundariya and Lallu Singh about the incidents of manual scavenging, which is banned under the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013.

The reply said a total of 14,559 manual scavengers

Raising a stink

No. of deaths while cleaning sewers and septic tanks in the last five years

2015	57
2016	48
2017	93
2018	68
2019	110

*SOURCE: SOCIAL JUSTICE MINISTRY IN THE LOK SABHA ON FEBRUARY 11, 2020



had been identified by Municipalities and Gram Panchayats in 13 States from 2013-2014 till January 31, 2020. Apart from that, a national survey was conducted in 194 districts in 18 States where 48,345 manual scavengers were identified till January 31, taking the total to 62,904.

While saying "there have been no reports regarding

death of persons due to manual scavenging", the Minister's reply stated that the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis had received reports about the death of people cleaning sewers and septic tanks.

These cases were reported from 18 States and Union Territories, while 13 States and UTs submitted "nil reports".

SC's order on quota in promotions challenged

Bhim Army chief seeks review

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Bhim Army chief Chandra Shekhar Aazad on Tuesday moved the Supreme Court for a review of its February 7 judgment reiterating the settled law that an individual cannot claim reservation in promotion as a fundamental right.

The judgment by a Bench led by Justice L. Nageswara Rao is based on a series of Constitution Bench verdicts, from the Indira Sawney case in 1992 to M. Nagaraj judgment in mid-2000s.

However, Mr. Aazad has argued in his review petition that the February judgment would "act as a tool in the hands of the oppressors to further oppress and exploit the SC, ST, OBC and the economically weaker sections, causing further

marginalisation within society, thereby defeating the endeavour to bring equality between the citizens of this country by the framers of our Constitution particularly those of Babasaheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar."

'Not a mandamus'

The Supreme Court had observed that State governments were not bound to make reservations. Even the courts cannot issue a mandamus directing the States to provide reservations.

"There is no fundamental

right which inheres in an individual to claim reservation in promotions. No mandamus can be issued by the court directing the State government to provide reservations," the Court had observed in its February 7 verdict.

WEATHER WATCH

RAINFALL, TEMPERATURE & AIR QUALITY IN SELECT METROS YESTERDAY



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

Forecast for Wednesday: Thunderstorm accompanied with lightning likely at isolated places over Jammu. Heavy rain/snow likely at isolated places over Kashmir.

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	...-28.2...	10.5		Kozhikode	...-35.5...	23.8	
Ahmedabad	...-31.0...	15.5		Kurnool	...-32.7...	20.2	
Aizawl	...-17.9...			Lucknow	...-24.1...	7.1	
Altahabad	...-26.7...	8.0		Madurai	...-35.0...	22.5	
Bengaluru	...-30.4...	16.4		Mangaluru	...-36.4...	21.9	
Bhopal	...-29.8...	6.0		Mumbai	...-22.0...	22.9	
Bhubaneswar	...-28.4...	12.9		Mysuru	...-30.0...	18.8	
Chandigarh	...-22.0...	7.3		New Delhi	...-23.0...	5.9	
Chennai	...-31.6...	22.6		Patna	...-25.4...	9.3	
Coimbatore	...-31.9...	21.9		Port Blair	...-31.6...	25.7	
Dehradun	...-23.6...	6.0		Puducherry	1.0...	31.7...	22.3
Gangtok	...-14.6...	5.7		Pune	...-29.8...	17.6	
Goa	...-35.2...	21.4		Raipur	...-28.0...	12.8	
Guwahati	...-28.2...	11.2		Ranchi	...-25.5...	7.5	
Hubballi	...-31.0...	6.6		Shillong	...-15.6...	5.0	
Hyderabad	...-28.3...	20.0		Shimla	...-15.9...	4.1	
Imphal	...-22.9...	4.9		Srinagar	...-7.5...	-0.2	
Jaipur	...-25.1...	10.4		Thiruvananthapuram	...-34.4...	23.4	
Kochi	...-33.6...	25.2		Tiruchi	...-34.5...	22.4	
Kohima	...-16.4...	6.6		Vijayawada	0.4...	30.8...	22.4
Kolkata	...-27.0...	13.5		Visakhapatnam	...-28.8...	22.8	

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

Yesterday

CITIES	SO ₂	CO	PM _{2.5}	PM ₁₀	CODE
Ahmedabad	57	69	36	174	132
Bengaluru	...-42	67	50	78	■■■
Chennai	...-70	17	71	...-71	■■■
Delhi	33	83	63	395	357
Hyderabad	...-2.64	33	99	6.6	■■■
Kolkata	12	80	24	266	243
Lucknow	...-7.7	106	319	...-108	■■■
Mumbai	14	30	40	98	113
Pune	61	18	71	74	■■■
Visakhapatnam	10	30	46	95	95

In observation made at 4:00 pm, Balasore, Orissa recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 396 indicating a hazardous level of pollution. In contrast, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh recorded a healthy AQI score of 43

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

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

NO: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

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

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

APPOINTMENT



Rajbir - District Nalanda - 803 116 - Bihar - India

No NU / Librarian / 2019-20

Recruitment Notice

Nalanda University, an avant - garde international university under the aegis of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India invites application for the post of Librarian on contract basis for a term of 03 years. The prospective candidate should have hands - on experience in E library and resource management using digital technology for information storage, retrieval, dissemination and network access in libraries with digital + physical holdings. The last date of submission of application is February 26, 2020 For qualification, experience and other details please visit the web site www.nalandauniv.edu.in

ANDHRA PRADESH POWER GENERATION CORPORATION LIMITED VIDYU SOUDHA :: VIJAYAWADA TENDER NOTICE							
NIT No.RFX-610000615/APGENCO/2020-21							
APGENCO invites Open Tenders for the work of "DR.NTPPS-Providing man power to carryout different types of regular maintenance works in various divisions of Civil/Environment for the period from 01.04.2							



Winning formula

AAP won on its governance record, but its tactics do not undermine the BJP's politics

The spectacular victory of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) in the Delhi Assembly election is matched in its intensity by the resounding defeat of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Having been in power for the last five years, AAP's second consecutive victory is not an electoral enchantment of a start-up, but an endorsement of its track record. Along the way, its founder and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal has perfected a political cocktail that turned out to be the most potent counter to the toxic religious polarisation that the BJP has come to champion. His governance brought succour to Delhi's poorest and the most vulnerable in the form of better and accessible education, health care and water in particular. It is clear that they voted with their feet, and reinvested their faith in the maverick politician. On a strong footing on the administrative front, Mr. Kejriwal deployed his characteristic dexterity to sidestep the BJP's landmines with their aim of communal polarisation. In the process, he narrowed politics to an efficient delivery of public services and either skirted around all contemporary issues of wider import, or tacitly sided with the majoritarian sentiments on them. Devoid of a governance story, the BJP dragged electioneering to a new low to marginally improve from its 2015 tally. To that extent, the Delhi outcome exposes the limits of divisive politics and incentivises sensitive governance.

To read the Delhi result as a setback to Hindutva politics and a celebration of good governance emptied of all politics, however, will be a misleading exaggeration. True, Delhi is the latest in a series of blows against the BJP since its 2019 parliamentary victory, but it must be flattered by the manner in which its strongest opponent did not directly take it on. AAP did not contest the BJP on questions it framed. AAP's success has not been in defeating the politics of the BJP, but in skirting it altogether. Nevertheless, the lesson that the BJP is likely to learn from Delhi is that hyperventilating on nationalist causes is not a sufficient condition for victory, particularly in State elections, and governance does count. Repeated electoral upsets might spur some voices of dissent in the BJP, hitherto muffled. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah may have to rework their political idiom in order to hold sway. They might even borrow from the AAP playbook, but it will be the non-BJP parties including the Congress that drew a blank for the second time in Delhi, that will be dissecting the results for clues to a winnable non-BJP plank. But it would be a mistake to conclude that taking on majoritarianism by the horns is a poor strategy. The lesson is that any effective opposition to the BJP will have to develop an alternative politics that centrestages people's everyday concerns, and their hopes and expectations about life and livelihood.

First call

India and Sri Lanka share close ties, but distrust and differences remain

By making New Delhi their first stop abroad, Sri Lanka's new President Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who visited in November, and Prime Minister Mahinda Rajapaksa, after a five-day tour, have signalled hope of beginning a new India-Sri Lanka chapter. Contrary to their last stint which ended in 2015, when Mahinda Rajapaksa was President, and his younger brother Gotabaya was Defence Secretary, and ties underwent a strain for several reasons, New Delhi too has indicated that it would like to make a fresh start, working on development projects, including a joint India-Japan proposal for the East Container Terminal at Colombo. Mahinda Rajapaksa has also discussed extending the \$400-million Line of Credit and India's further assistance for nationwide housing. Air connectivity to Sri Lanka's north and east is already being improved – there is a flight from India to Jaffna, and another one being proposed for Batticaloa. On security, Mr. Rajapaksa and Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussed intelligence sharing, training and the utilisation of a special \$50-million Line of Credit extended by India after last year's Easter Sunday bombings. India, Sri Lanka and the Maldives are expected to revive their trilateral on security, including joint maritime security talks and anti-terror cooperation. Finally, Mr. Rajapaksa reaffirmed his belief that among Sri Lanka's friendships, India is seen as a "relative", given their history and culture.

The bonhomie is palpable, but the faultlines were also visible. Prime Minister Modi said India hopes that the "expectations of the Tamil people for equality, justice, peace, and respect" would be realised and that devolution of powers according to the 13th amendment would be taken forward. Mr. Rajapaksa has given no commitment on this and said, in an interview to *The Hindu*, that he favoured the 13A but not solutions that were "unacceptable to the majority [Sinhala] community". India's case for the special status for the North and East also comes across as contrary to the Modi government's strong stand about removal of the special status for Jammu and Kashmir. Mr. Rajapaksa has ruled out taking forward the MoU signed by his predecessor Ranil Wickremesinghe allowing Indian participation in energy and infrastructure projects in Trincomalee; an Indian stake in "Mattala airport" is not on the cards either. However, of note is his appeal for India to help Sri Lanka deal with its debt crisis – nearly \$60-billion outstanding in foreign and domestic, and about \$5-billion a year in repayments. New Delhi must consider his request for a three-year moratorium and be upfront about its response, in contrast to the past when New Delhi did not take up an offer to develop Hambantota port, and ceded space to China. Ignoring or rebuffing the new request could damage bilateral ties far more.

The other Delhi is distant yet

The Delhi elections have only underlined the vast gulf between the national power centre and the regional State



SATISH DESHPANDE

Being both the symbolic space that holds the reins of power over the nation-state and a geographical place that hosts millions of everyday lives, Delhi is politically split. Local elections in Delhi are neither simply provincial nor straightforwardly national. The Sufi saint Nizamuddin Auliya's famous words, "Hunooz Dilli door ast" (Delhi is distant yet), apply to the city itself. Though they co-exist in the same city, the different avatars of Delhi can be quite far from each other. The elections to the Delhi State Assembly have underlined as never before the vast gulf between the national power centre and the regional State.

Study in contrasts

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) contested the Delhi election as though it was an extension of the 2019 Lok Sabha campaign. The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) fought the election as though it was about municipal matters such as water and electricity and nothing else. The Indian National Congress (INC) pretended that it was not pretending to fight the election. These contrasting styles of campaigning point to the larger challenges facing not just our polity but the very idea of India today. But before looking at the reasons why this is so, a quick look at the result.

AAP won 62 of 70 Assembly seats, with the BJP bagging 8,

while the INC experienced an even more emphatic whitewash than in 2015. But do these results support the swift and sure conclusions that are already being drawn by the pundits? Has achieving a second landslide win truly vindicated the AAP strategy of presenting itself as a non-ideological management consultancy that refuses to engage with the burning political issues of the day?

Does a second successive defeat in its Lok Sabha stronghold – where it won all seven seats in the past two general elections – mean that the BJP's politics of hate has finally failed? And does a repeat rout in a State that it ruled for 15 years imply that the INC must now be issued a political death certificate? Though the details will become clear only later, it does look like the immediate answer to each of these questions must be a qualified no.

Even before the results were declared, it was clear that this was an election where the manner in which BJP conducted its campaign was more important – almost – than the outcome. It is hard to come up with another State election where electioneering has been so full of shrill, hate-filled aggression designed to incite violence.

In fact, the BJP tried its hardest to make this election into an anti-minority vendetta centred on the protests at Shaheen Bagh. Its formidable media resources were deployed to paint all opposition to the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019, or CAA, 2019, and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) as anti-national, terrorist-inspired, and based on paid protesters. The public language of politics was made to plumb new depths as se-



nior leaders repeatedly said and did things that violated every norm of basic decency. The eventual outcome of this contest seemed to pale into insignificance in the face of the new norms of political engagement that were being enforced.

But the defeat of the BJP in Delhi does not necessarily mean that these tactics have backfired, or even that they have failed. It only means that they did not succeed in this place at this time. The big bonus for the BJP is that its strongest opponent did not oppose these tactics. In fact, AAP often seemed as if it was playing a different kind of dog whistle politics that was saying, in effect, "Don't worry, we have no problem with communal politics, but please don't ask us to say it openly."

Now that it has won big, this policy of non-engagement is being presented as an astute strategy. But its short-term electoral gains need to be compared to its medium-term political costs. The BJP has been so successful in redrawing the terms of political discourse that not only AAP but most other political parties have been forced to take a few steps in the same di-

rection to polish their majoritarian credentials.

Regional versus national

The consequences of this play-it-electorally-safe strategy are visible in the impasses of a polity split between the regional and national levels. A party with local roots strong enough to sweep two Assembly elections could not even get to second place in the parliamentary elections – AAP placed third in the Lok Sabha polls, behind the INC. On the other hand, despite having lost several State elections, the BJP continues to have an iron grip on the national polity and enjoys an unchallenged monopoly over agenda-setting at this level. In the past, our psephologist pundits nodded wisely at this emerging split in our electoral system and told us that it showed the shrewdness of the Indian voter who was pursuing different priorities at the two levels. Today, when all our institutions are being undermined and a pervasive climate of impunity for bigotry is being established, this interpretation seems not just unhelpful but dangerous in its complacency.

The irony is that the last two months have witnessed the emergence of a remarkable political effervescence that defies all the usual frameworks of definition. It cannot be called a movement for that word suggests something coordinated and planned. Nor are its objectives classifiable in the usual terms. Having crystallised around opposition to the CAA and NRC, this new energy and socially-rooted resolve is visible not only in named places such as Shaheen Bagh but also in numerous unfamiliar locations in campuses, neighbourhoods, towns and cities

across India. This amazing political effervescence is raising questions about politics with a capital P, reminding us that the bedrock of citizenship is a shared sovereignty that we all inherit from the founding moment of our republic. Because it has successfully mobilised this hitherto untouched yet priceless political capital, this moment demands engagement in terms far more serious than those allowed by pragmatic self-preserving electoralism.

Congress's options

This remarkable moment is also one which ought to encourage the INC to take more risks, since it is now a party with little left to lose. Its tale is perhaps without precedent in modern world history – a party which could effortlessly command a 25% voteshare in the world's largest electorate, is now on the verge of political irrelevance. If it is able to draw energy from this moment to remake itself, it may reclaim its rightful place in our polity.

If they want to remain relevant in the India of tomorrow, all the non-BJP parties have to remind themselves that politics has to be about more than winning the next election, however important that may be as an immediate goal. Formulas that win elections may not ensure long-term relevance. After all, fascists can also make trains run on time and provide regular supplies of water and power. So, as we celebrate the well-deserved victory of the AAP, we must remind ourselves that the other Delhi is still far away.

Satish Deshpande teaches Sociology at Delhi University. The views expressed are personal

Celebration of a pivotal achievement

In trying to set the Delhi poll discourse to be based on its record, AAP provided the Delhi voter a clear choice



SRINIVASAN RAMANI

One of the more difficult things to do in any election since 2014 is to foreground electoral issues related to what they are supposed to be actually about – the ability of the contending party to govern effectively. It has been relatively less cumbersome for opposing parties to make a mark in States where the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has to stand on its record, but far more difficult for parties that are already in power to retain them. Only the Biju Janata Dal in Odisha, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) in West Bengal and the Telangana Rashtra Samiti and All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (in States where the BJP is weak) have managed to retain power and even these parties, barring the TMC, had shied away from taking a strong oppositional position to the BJP.

Poll strategies

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which has been a bugbear of the BJP, not only retained power winning 62 of the 70 seats in the Delhi Assembly election, but also man-

aged to nearly emulate its strong performance in 2015 when it won 67 seats. This is a credit not only to its governance record but also its ability to turn the election into a referendum on its tenure. The BJP's strongest point in recent elections has been to set the terrain of political discourse in the run-up to the polls and force its opponent to contest on those grounds. Aiding this strategy has been the BJP's machine that provides it an organisational superiority which is buttressed by financial power unmatched by other parties.

The run-up to the Delhi election featured a no-holds barred campaign by the BJP that sought to foreground the cultural jingoist narrative of the Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), the dilution of Article 370, and the demonisation of the protests against the CAA and the National Register of Citizens embodied in the Shaheen Bagh sit-in. The campaign strategy was based on a calculus that had worked before. The BJP had, only in May 2019, managed to win 56.6% of the votes in Delhi, harping on the government's decisive action following the Pulwama terror attacks. In recent Assembly elections, the deft use of Backward Class politics had been combined with the virulent use of the "Hindutva" card and this had more often than not, worked in the BJP's

favour. AAP, on the other hand, had tried to position itself as a party that was evasive or malleable with respect to ideology. Delhi Chief Minister and AAP founder Arvind Kejriwal has indeed articulated the importance of taking on the politics of hatred and communal differentiation, but his party's emphasis has largely been on his government's record on delivering basic services to an urban electorate without recourse to identitarian biases. While doing so, AAP did not seek to actively engage with the BJP's focal issues such as the CAA/NRC and the nature of the protests against this amendment. Meanwhile the desperate and reactive attempt by the BJP to resort to calumny against AAP's leadership only backfired.

In trying to set the discourse

during the elections to be based on its governance record, AAP provided the Delhi voter a clear choice – would they endorse the steps taken by the regime or would they judge it in terms set by the BJP and its communal discourse? This



was a pivotal achievement by the AAP and sets the party's victory as one achieved in much more difficult circumstances compared to its triumph in 2015 or its strong foray into electoral politics in 2013, graduating from a civil society led movement against corruption.

Party trump cards

In 2015, AAP had managed to sway the Delhi electorate and build a multi-class coalitional support base – of the urban poor and the middle class with its promises of delivering on a corruption and patronage free governance that would reduce costs of basic services such as water supply and electricity.

In 2020, it managed to retain the support of this coalition through actual delivery, by devoting a significant portion of its budget allocations to education, health, water supply and sanitation. The government's emphasis in bringing particular greater equity in primary education through the ramping up of infrastructure and better learning outcomes in government schools, bringing basic primary health care to colonies where the urban poor lived in the form of "mohalla clinics" and measures for affordable and safe public transport paid great dividends. This can indeed be a model for other urban centres in the country, provided the administra-

tion in these cities are empowered to allocate resources that would address glaring needs for the cities.

Yet, the lack of an ideological core or even an attempt to take positions on various national and international issues has disabled the party's ambition to grow beyond the metropolitan borders of India's National Capital Territory region and which has resulted in its decline in the only State where it made a mark beyond Delhi – in Punjab. The party started as a coalition of technocrats/managers who promised good governance and social movement-oriented ideologues who sought to resuscitate a flailing social democratic space in the Indian polity. But the split in 2015, that led to activists like Yogendra Yadav and Prashant Bhushan leaving the party, reduced it only to the former who had to make the best of the limited space in government in the Union Territory in order to survive. To the credit of Mr. Kejriwal and his colleagues, their governance has helped them retain public support within Delhi, but there is still time for the party to evolve if it needs to expand beyond the capital region and capture the imagination of other progressive and liberal minded people in the rest of the country.

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any endorsement, good or bad. Insulting national leaders should be made punishable in law.
H.N. RAMAKRISHNA,
Bengaluru

Asia and the Oscars
It is heartwarming that South Korea's *Parasite*, became the first foreign film to win the best picture and international feature category in the Oscars ('Life' page, February 1). It is a recognition to Asian films also, which lay more emphasis on familial bonds. The changing trend of Hollywood to include more actors from other countries and then award an Oscar is proof that the world is truly becoming a village. Indian film-makers should understand that though cinema is a mass entertainer, quality is important. Our audience too has matured. We also have a rich culture and fine actors.

T. ANAND RAJ,
Chennai

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.

The Delhi result

Has the Indian voter attained maturity? I am confident that this is happening if one is to go by recent trends in State elections. It was only recently that the ruling party at the Centre consolidated its position with a massive majority. But the opposite seems to be happening with the State polls: the voter appears to be closing the door on the ruling party. Is there a realisation that the top leadership of the ruling party is only full of rhetoric and there is no coordination between what they say and what happens? The peace and tranquillity of the country have been disturbed by whimsical policies. It would not be an exaggeration to say that there is confusion and an air of uncertainty. There does not seem to be any visible effects of developmental programmes. Following the Delhi result, the Central

government should stop its strategy of igniting passions. The Indian National Congress should pull up its socks and work with zeal and enthusiasm to inform the electorate that it is the only alternative that can take the BJP head on.

ANAND RAO MUKKALA,
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

■ AAP's refreshing approach to campaigning – purely based on civics, completely bereft of anything to do with identity, religion or caste – is unheard of in modern India, even in Kerala, a State considered progressive. Indeed, the AAP's biggest unsaid contribution could just be restoring faith in politics, a profession often associated with gangsters and sycophants. Another most fascinating aspect of the victory shown is simmering anger and a palpable distancing of the younger generation from the BJP's medieval outlook. The party's greed for power is now so unbridled and its ambition so audacious that it

deliberately invoked the most dangerous mantras to befuddle people and create hatred where none existed, at least not in any significant form. Delhi is not just another State or city. It is the heart of the country. Let us hope that the men who matter in this country will hear the heartbeats.

JAVADIL LAKSHMANA RAO,
Visakhapatnam

■ Democracy is still alive. Delhi is a miniature India with diverse cultural and cosmopolitan groups drawn from all States of India. The rejection of the BJP's electioneering gives those who are genuinely interested in the nation's welfare hope. Social and religious tolerance has become a practical necessity. The Delhi election results have also established emphatically the long cherished ideas of cultural pluralism in which a wide variety of cultural forms and religions coexist.

G. STANLEY JEVASINGH,
Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu

■ The people of Delhi have given a befitting reply to the divisive politics employed by the ruling party at the Centre. Will the leadership now understand that the politics of hate and religion does not cut ice especially in an environment of unemployment and economic doom? Delhi shows that elections can still be fought and won on the agenda of development despite many provocations. This should also serve as a benchmark for future election campaigns and show the mirror to parties that indulge in hate mongering. The next test is Bihar.

MAQSOOD HAIDER,
Noida

■ AAP may have much to be happy about but what cannot be lost sight of is that it has lost seats; the BJP has improved its tally which shows that its national policies have still been welcomed by the electorate. The Congress has come a cropper and has been almost

written off as a political party. The absence of a promising leader, the absence of constructive and positive work and the inability to reconstruct the party as there are no grassroot level workers are all evident.

V. LAKSHMANAN,
Tirupur, Tamil Nadu

■ The leader denigration It is unfortunate that leaders make such unsavoury comments about people who fought for the freedom of the country (OpEd page, "The calumny against Gandhi", February 1). After critiquing Nehru, it now seems to be the tragic fate of the Father of the Nation to suffer such taunts. The freedom struggle was neither an "adjustment" nor a favour done by the colonial masters to India. Millions of freedom fighters did

The Delhi model of education

The AAP government believes that quality education is a necessity, not a luxury



SHAILENDRA SHARMA

Mahatma Gandhi secured the participation of thousands of households in the freedom struggle when he launched the civil disobedience movement. For every household today, rich or poor, education has the same relevance as salt did in 1930. This is seen in the resounding verdict given by the Delhi electorate in the Assembly election to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which built its governance model around education.

In the last five years, the Delhi model of education has caught the attention of people in Delhi and beyond. For too long, there have been two kinds of education models in the country: one for the classes and another for the masses. The AAP government in Delhi sought to bridge this gap. Its approach stems from the belief that quality education is a necessity, not a luxury. Hence, it built a model which essentially has five major components and is supported by nearly 25% of the State Budget. The validation of this model now creates a pathway for the next set of reforms.

Key components of the model

The first component of the education model is the transformation of school infrastructure. Dilapidated school buildings that lack basic facilities not only indicate the apathy of the government, but also significantly lower the motivation of teachers and the enthusiasm of students. The AAP government sought to change this by building new, aesthetically designed classrooms equipped with furniture, smart boards, staff rooms, auditoriums, laboratories, libraries, sports facilities and so on.

The second component is the training of teachers and principals. Apart from the fact that a forum was created to encourage peer learning among them, several opportunities were given to teachers for their professional growth. They visited Cambridge University; the National Institute of Education, Singapore; IIM Ahmedabad; and other models of excellence in India. The exposure to new pedagogy and leadership training enabled Delhi to gra-



RAMESH SHARMA
dually move away from a uniform training model for all to learning from the best practices in India and abroad.

The third component involved engaging with the community by reconstituting school management committees (SMC). The annual budget of each SMC is ₹5-7 lakh. The SMCs can spend this money on any material or activity, such as even hiring teachers on a short-term basis. Regular dialogue between teachers and parents was initiated through mega parent-teacher meetings. Guidelines are provided on how to engage with parents. Invitations for meetings are sent through FM radio, newspaper advertisements, etc.

Four, there have been major curricular reforms in teaching learning. In 2016, the AAP government noted that there was a nearly 50% failure rate in Class 9 and admitted that the poor foundational skills of children could be the reason for it. Special initiatives to ensure that all children learn to read, write and do basic mathematics was launched and made part of regular teaching learning activities in schools. Similarly, a 'happiness curriculum' was introduced for all children between nursery and Class 8 for their emotional well-being. Further, an 'entrepreneurship mindset curriculum' was introduced to develop the problem-solving and critical thinking abilities of children in Classes 9 to 12. Apart from these new curricular initiatives, the focus on existing subjects too ensured better performance in Board examinations by Classes 10 and 12.

Fifth, there was no fee increase in private schools. While the first four components impacted nearly 34% of children in Delhi's government schools, arbitrary fee hikes earlier impacted about 40% of children who go to private schools. In the past, almost all the

schools increased their fee 8-15% annually. The AAP government not only ensured the refund of about ₹32 crore to parents which was excessively charged by private schools, it also ensured that any fee hike proposal was examined by authorised chartered accountants. Thus, for two years no school was allowed to raise its fee.

Agenda 2.0

In the words of Manish Sisodia, the leader of the Delhi education model, "having built the foundation of education", the focus now will shift to "education as foundation". Going forward, there will be three key areas of reform apart from consolidating the gains of the past. First, the syllabus of Classes 1 to 8 will be reviewed to emphasise foundational learning skills, the 'happiness curriculum' and the 'deshbhakti' curriculum. Thus, apart from ensuring that all children can fluently read, write and do mathematics, the focus will be to build emotional resilience in children and ensure that they internalise our core constitutional values by the time they complete eight years of schooling. Apart from that early childhood care and education will be deepened further through Anganwadis. There will also be nurseries in all government schools.

Second, a Delhi Education Board will be set up to promote learning that encourages critical thinking, problem solving and application of knowledge among children. This will prepare them to tackle the challenges of the 21st century with an entrepreneurial mindset.

Additionally, for those who have graduated from Delhi schools in the recent past, programmes like spoken English, soft skills and so on will be initiated to raise their employability opportunities. Third, specialised schools will be created in each of the 29 zones of Delhi to nurture the aptitude and talent of children in the areas of science and technology, literature and language, visual and performing arts, and sports.

Now that Delhi has decisively acknowledged education as a top agenda of governance, the natural expectation from the government would be to ensure that all children get education that passes the test of quality, opportunity and equity.

Shailendra Sharma is Principal Advisor to Director Education at Directorate of Education, Government of NCT Delhi

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Six years on, Lokpal is a non-starter

The necessary rules, regulations and machinery are still not in place



ANJALI BHARDWAJ & AMRITA JOHRI

The massive public campaign in 2011 demanding an independent anti-corruption ombudsman resulted in the passage of the Lokpal law. The political dividend of the agitation was reaped at the national level by the BJP, which vociferously supported the demand for an effective Lokpal and rode to power in 2014 on the plank of anti-corruption.

More than six years after the Lokpal law received the President's assent, the institution of the Lokpal is yet to play any significant role in tackling corruption in the country. The manner in which the Lokpal has been emasculated by the current regime closely mirrors the undermining of other institutions of oversight and accountability.

The preamble of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013 notes that the law has been enacted to ensure prompt and fair investigation and prosecution in cases of corruption against public servants. The Lokpal was envisioned to be independent. It was accorded a high stature and given extensive powers including the power to inquire, investigate and prosecute acts of corruption.

Delay in appointments

For more than five years, the chairperson and members of the Lokpal were not appointed. The government claimed that since no one could be recognised as the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) after the 2014 general election, the committee responsible for selecting members of the Lokpal could not be constituted. This malady could have been easily remedied by either recognising the leader of the single largest party in Opposition in the Lok Sabha as the LoP, or by amending the Lokpal law to allow the leader of the largest Opposition party to be a member of the committee in the absence of a recognised LoP (this was done for the selection committee of the CBI Director).

However, neither recourse was taken.

The chairperson and members of the Lokpal were appointed only in March 2019 after a contempt petition was filed in the Supreme Court following the failure of the government to comply with the 2017 ruling of the court to initiate the process of making appointments.

A truncated selection committee, without the LoP, was set up. The Prime Minister, Speaker, and the then Chief Justice of India appointed Mukul Rohatgi, who had earlier served as Attorney General of India during the BJP regime, as the eminent jurist on the selection panel. The leader of the largest Opposition party in the Lok Sabha was invited for meetings of the selection committee as a 'special invitee', which he declined on grounds that it was mere tokenism.

The four-member selection committee, having a preponderance of representatives of the ruling party with an inherent bias towards recommending candidates favoured by the government, selected the Chair and members of the Lokpal. The manner in which the appointments were made raised doubts about the independence of the Lokpal even before it became operational.

Despite the fracas over appointments, many had hoped that once constituted, the Lokpal would nevertheless be a significant oversight body to check corruption and the arbitrary use of power by the government. More than 10 months later, however, evidence suggests that the Lokpal is a non-starter. Till date, the government has not made rules prescribing the form for filing complaints to the Lokpal. The Central government has also failed to formulate rules regarding asset disclosure by public servants.

In order to ensure independent and credible action on allegations of corruption, the Lokpal was empowered under the law to set up its own inquiry wing headed by a Director of Inquiry and its own prosecution wing headed

by a Director of Prosecution. However, information accessed under the Right to Information Act has confirmed that the inquiry and prosecution wings of the anti-corruption ombudsman are yet to be set up. The Lokpal has also not appointed the Director of Inquiry or Prosecution. Further, regulations which the Lokpal was obligated to make under the law are yet to be made, including those specifying the manner and procedure of conducting preliminary inquiry and investigation.

The website of the Lokpal states that it scrutinised 1,065 complaints received till September 30, 2019 and disposed of 1,000. Since necessary procedures to operationalise the law are yet to be put in place, the legal veracity of the decisions of the Lokpal could potentially be challenged in a court of law.

Failure to meet expectations
Without the requisite rules, regulations and machinery in place, it is not surprising that the Lokpal has failed to meet expectations. In recent times, the only reason for the Lokpal being in the news has been the resignation of its judicial member, Justice Dilip B. Bhosale, for undisclosed reasons.

The failure to operationalise the Lokpal in an effective manner lays bare the lack of political will of the BJP government. It took nearly half a century for the Lokpal law to be enacted from the time the need for the oversight institution was first articulated. It is anybody's guess how much longer it will take before India has an effective, independent and empowered Lokpal.

Anjali Bhardwaj and Amrita Johri are transparency and anti-corruption activists associated with the National Campaign for Peoples' Right to Information

A new approach on investment

For India and the U.S., this will be critical to sustain momentum coming out of a first trade deal

MARK LINSCOTT

When Prime Minister Narendra Modi welcomes U.S. President Donald Trump to India this month, the most memorable images may well extend beyond bear-hugging and a 'Howdy Trump' rally. The two leaders are expected to sign a first-ever trade agreement. On substance, the agreement will not be a big one but that is beside the point. A U.S.-India trade deal will have historic significance, especially if it ushers in a period of strong collaboration to advance a shared bilateral trade agenda and effectively resolves troubles as they arise.

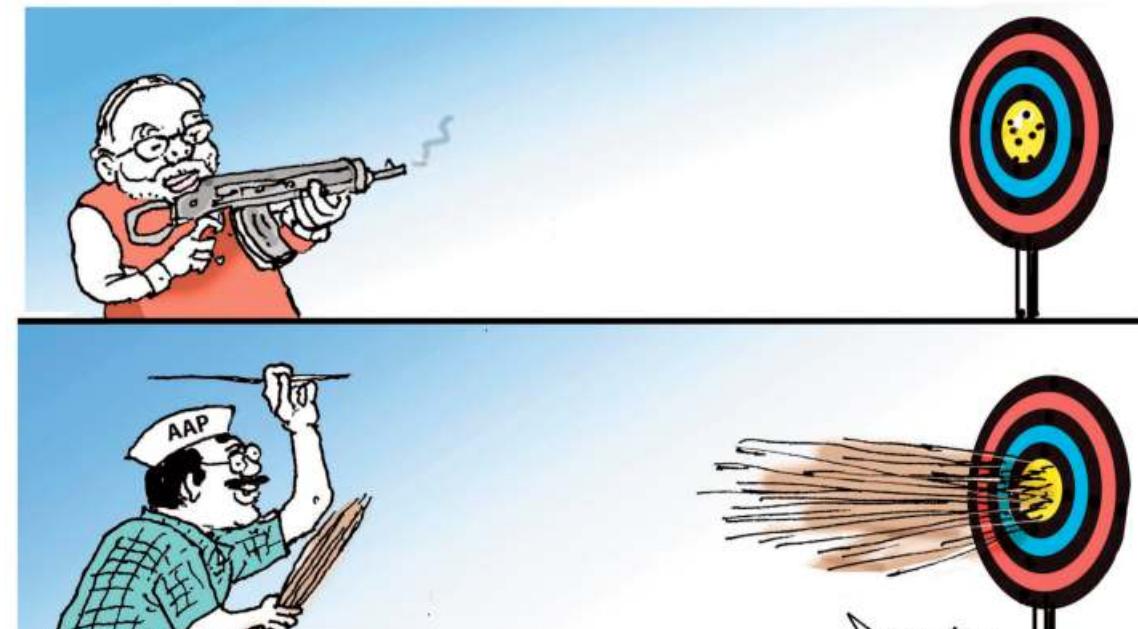
The restoration of India's Generalised System of Preferences benefits, pricing of medical devices, and agriculture trade are all important, but they are just the tip of the iceberg. If the two sides continue efforts to achieve incremental outcomes, the start of negotiations on a comprehensive free trade agreement (FTA) could even be a credible scenario. Presently, this is not the case.

Incremental outcomes

What might initial incremental outcomes be? The most obvious candidates are intellectual property rights (IPR), digital trade, and investment. Ideally there should be room to seriously consider better ways to encourage skilled professionals to work in the other's economy.

None of these areas will be easy. That said, there are already some shared interests. For example, India invests in the U.S. and continues to seek U.S. investment in India. Both are grappling with the appropriate scope and approach for regulating electronic commerce issues in this digital age. IPR has historically been an area of contention between the two, but discussions on IPR have progressed well in recent years.

With respect to investment issues, specifically foreign direct investment (FDI), this is an important moment to do more to encourage it than simply welcoming it. Ideally, the two sides should move ahead to negotiate an agreement on investment matters that can provide greater transparency, predictability, and regulatory certainty to investors from the other country. But it appears that the traditional approach through which countries pursue commitments on FDI,



DATA POINT

Electoral dichotomy

Even as the BJP's tally in the 2020 Delhi Assembly election increased compared to the 2015 polls, the party's vote share fell well short of the support it received in Delhi in the 2019 Lok Sabha election. A look at the BJP's performance in 13 recent Assembly elections shows that the party has been underperforming compared to the support it garnered during the 2019 national election. By The Hindu Data Team

Before Lok Sabha polls '19

In comparison to its performance in States that went to polls in November-December 2018, the BJP's vote share in the 2019 Lok Sabha election was much higher

State	No of constituencies in which BJP contested	% vote share in Assembly election	% vote share in general election	Vote share difference in the two elections (in % points)
Chhattisgarh	90	32.97	51.42	-18.45
Madhya Pradesh	230	41.02	58.51	-17.5
Mizoram	39	8.29	5.83	2.46
Rajasthan	191	38.97	61.34	-22.37
Telangana	118	7.07	19.75	-12.68

Lok Sabha & Assembly polls

Moreover, though in four States the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections were held on the same day, the BJP registered fewer votes in the Assembly elections than it did in the same constituencies in the Lok Sabha election

State	No of constituencies in which BJP contested	% vote share in Assembly election	% vote share in general election	Vote share difference in the two elections (in % points)
Andhra Pradesh	167	0.86	1	-0.15
Arunachal Pradesh	57	50.86	57.51	-6.66
Odisha	146	32.49	38.74	-6.25
Sikkim	12	4.06	5.56	-1.5

After Lok Sabha polls

The trend continued in the four Assembly elections after the BJP's return to power in the Centre — the party witnessed a dip in its vote share compared to its performance in the 2019 Lok Sabha election

State	No of constituencies in which BJP contested	% vote share in Assembly election	% vote share in general election	Vote share difference in the two elections (in % points)
Haryana	90	36.49	58.14	-21.64
Maharashtra	100	44.46	54.1	-9.63
Jharkhand	73	34.62	55.59	-20.97
Delhi	67	38.51	56.87	-18.36

Mark Linscott is a Senior Fellow with the South Asia Program at the Atlantic Council; a Senior Adviser with The Asia Group; and a former Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for South and Central Asian Affairs

The Hindu

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEB. 12, 1970

Kenya girl's odyssey ends

FROM PAGE ONE

Trump confirms India visit on Feb. 24 and 25

"During a phone call over the weekend, President Trump and Prime Minister Modi agreed the trip will further strengthen the United States-India strategic partnership and highlight the strong and enduring bonds between the American and Indian people."

The Hindu has learned that India's newly appointed Ambassador to the U.S., Tarun Singh Sandhu, who presented his credentials to Mr. Trump last week, also handed over an official invitation to the President to visit India. (The White House had waited for this prior to announcing the visit officially.) Preparations are under way in India. American security teams with scanners and equipment arrived in India last week.

The Indian and U.S. sides are trying to put together a

limited trade deal which Mr. Modi and Mr. Trump will sign during the visit. The two leaders could not sign on the dotted line when they met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in September, and talks had continued since then.

Sources close to the negotiations told The Hindu last week that while they were "hopeful" a deal would be reached before Mr. Trump's visit, it was not a given, as there were gaps in the negotiating positions of the two sides.

A defence deal is also reportedly on the cards. India is preparing to approve a \$2.6 billion deal for 24 MH-60 Seahawk helicopters from Lockheed Martin, according to a Reuters report.

(With inputs from Suhasi ni Haidar in New Delhi)

Thakur, 11 others get life term in shelter home case

One accused, Vicky, was acquitted. Among those convicted were Dillip Kumar Verma, then chairman of the Child Welfare Committee in Muzaffarpur, its then member Vikas Kumar and Child Protection Officer Ravi Roshan. Two others, Rama Shankar Singh and Ashwani, were convicted of criminal conspiracy and abetting

rape. Thakur's accomplice Shaista Praveen, Indu Kumari, Manju Devi, Minu Devi, Chanda Devi, Hema Masih, Neha Kumari and Kiran Kumari were also found guilty of abetting rape and allied offences.

The shelter home was run by a non-governmental organisation, "Sewa Sankalp Eam Vikas Samiti".

AAP sweeps Delhi with 62 seats, BJP trounced

BJP sources, however, blamed the party's strategy of not projecting a chief ministerial face against Mr. Kejriwal, not being able to counter the AAP's power and water subsidy schemes and "unwarranted comments" against Mr. Kejriwal by senior party leaders – in-

cluding Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur – for the results.

"All that these star campaigners ended up doing was overshadowing the local candidate; they also took the focus away from local issues," a BJP insider said.

Marandi-led JVM(P) to merge with BJP on February 17

Amit Shah and party president J.P. Nadda will attend event

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

PATNA

The Jharkhand Vikas Morcha (Prajatantri), led by Babulal Marandi, will merge with the BJP in Ranchi on February 17. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president J.P. Nadda will attend the function to be held at Prabhat Tara Maidan.

"A meeting of the party's central committee has unanimously approved the merger with the BJP," Mr. Marandi, the party's president, told journalists in Ranchi on Tuesday.

Mr. Marandi has been the first tribal Chief Minister of Jharkhand after the State was created from Bihar in November 2000. But he left the BJP in 2006 and had



Babulal Marandi was the first tribal Chief Minister of Jharkhand.

floated the JVM(P).

Earlier, Mr. Marandi expelled MLAs Pradip Yadav and Bandhu Turkey from the party for "anti-party activities". Mr. Yadav recently met Congress leaders Sonia and Rahul Gandhi in New Delhi.

Centre not to detain children left out of NRC

Government clarifies in Lok Sabha

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The government has decided not to send to detention children who were excluded from the NRC in Assam but whose parents were included, the Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday.

Union Minister of State for Home Nitayana Rai said the approved standard operating procedures for disposal of claims and objections had a specific provision for children left out of the NRC, while their parents had been included.

The Attorney-General stated on January 6, 2020, before the Supreme Court that the children of parents

included in the NRC, Assam, will not be separated from their parents and sent to a detention centre, pending decision on the application," he said in a written reply to a question.

The NRC was carried out in Assam under the supervision of the Supreme Court, and around 19 lakh people were left out of the final list published in August 2019.

Those excluded could challenge the decision before the Foreigners' Tribunals.

The State NRC Coordinator is yet to issue certified copies of exclusion to the applicants and the process of challenging the order is yet to begin.

Bill to include more tribes in ST category

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Tuesday passed the Constitution (Scheduled Tribes) Order (Amendment) Bill by voice vote. It seeks to include the Parivar and Talawara communities in the ST category.

The Siddi tribes of Belagavi and Dharwad in Karnataka would also be included in the category, apart from those living in Uttara Kannada.

Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun Munda assured the members that the government would take cognizance of their demands for inclusion of communities from their States.

1.25 lakh to attend 'Kem chho Trump' show

U.S. President's two-day visit will begin in Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad

MAHESH LANGA

AHMEDABAD

U.S. President Donald Trump's maiden visit to India will start on February 24 at the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad and the inauguration of the new Sardar Vallabh Patel Stadium, the largest cricket stadium in the world.

Mr. Trump and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold the "Kem chho Trump" (Howdy Trump) event at the stadium with approximately 1.25 lakh people witnessing the special programme aimed at showcasing the Modi-Trump bonhomie.

Mr. Trump will be accompanied by First Lady Melania Trump. According to senior officials in Gandhinagar, Mr. Trump will fly directly to Ahmedabad where Mr. Modi will receive him at the airport. They will then visit the Sabarmati Ashram where the Prime Minister will take the President and the First Lady around in the sprawling Ashram, including Hriday Kunji, Gandhiji's house, where they will operate a spinning wheel (charkha).

During their visit to the Ashram, Mahatma Gandhi's favourite hymn, "Vaishnav Jan to" will be played in the background music.

From the Ashram, the



Getting ready: Workers giving finishing touches to the Sardar Patel Stadium at Motera in Ahmedabad. ■ VIJAY SONEJI

Prime Minister will accompany the President and the First Lady to the main event at the stadium in the evening.

The event includes a series of cultural pieces curated by high-profile agencies and artistes.

Insiders told The Hindu that the event will be on the lines of the "Howdy Modi!" public reception accorded to Mr. Modi in Houston during his visit to the U.S. last Sep-

tember. Mr. Trump participated in the event attended by around 50,000 people, mostly Indian-Americans.

City gears up

Preparations have been under way in Ahmedabad for the last two weeks with different agencies assigned tasks, including decorating the areas near the Sabarmati Ashram and the cricket stadium, sprucing up roads. The Home Department is making elaborate security arrangements for the VIP event.

As per the instructions from the PMO, the Gujarat government has directed its departments and agencies to ensure that a crowd of 1.25 lakh is organised for the event. The stadium's seating capacity is 1.10 lakh; 15,000

people will be seated on the ground in front of the stage.

"People from across the country, including top business executives, will be attending the event," a senior official overseeing the preparations told The Hindu.

In the last one week, teams from U.S. Embassy and different agencies of the Central government, including the Ministry of External Affairs, have visited Ahmedabad to oversee preparations.

Since Mr. Modi became Prime Minister in 2014, Ahmedabad has emerged as the preferred venue to host foreign dignitaries, including President Xi Jinping of China, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan and Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel.

IN BRIEF



SPG only secures PM and CRPF 56 VIPs

NEW DELHI The Special Protection Group (SPG) only has the Prime Minister under its cover, while the CRPF secures 56 important people in the country, the government informed Parliament on Tuesday. Without naming Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy said in a written reply that the SPG protects only one person.

According to a recent amendment to the SPG Act, the force now protects the Prime Minister and members of his immediate family residing with him at his official residence.

No bar on Indians visiting J&K: Home Ministry

NEW DELHI There are no restrictions on any Indian citizen visiting the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the government informed Parliament on Tuesday. In response to a question on when the government proposed to allow Indian delegates to visit Jammu and Kashmir, Minister of State for Home G. Kishan Reddy told the Lok Sabha that there is no bar on any Indian citizen visiting the Union Territory. He said a visit of the heads of 15 foreign missions to Jammu and Kashmir was organised on January 9 and 10 because of a request from them.

Educomp case: CBI conducts searches

NEW DELHI The CBI on Tuesday conducted searches in connection with the case against Educomp Solutions Limited (ESL) and others for allegedly cheating an SBI-led consortium of 13 banks of ₹1,955 crore. Those named in the case are the company, its managing director Shantanu Prakash, guarantor Jagdish Prakash, subsidiary Edu Smart Services Private Limited and directors Vijay Kumar Choudhary and Vinod Kumar Dandona. "The searches were carried out at eight places in Delhi, Dehradun and Gurugram," a CBI official said.

CBI gives clean chit to Rakesh Asthana in case of bribery

FIR lodged in October 2018 amid his turf war with CBI chief

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The CBI on Tuesday filed a chargesheet in a case of alleged bribery against its former second-in-command Rakesh Asthana and others, giving a clean chit to him and another official.

"The chargesheet has been filed against accused Manoj Prasad. The investigation has not revealed any role of public servants. Responses to the letters rogatory sent overseas are still awaited," said a CBI official.

"At 3.41 p.m. on Sunday, the police were called to an address in Falmer where a 20-year-old man was found dead in a bedroom," the police said. "There were no suspicious circumstances. The coroner for Brighton and Hove has been informed," they said.

The coroner will now open an inquest.



Rakesh Asthana was the CBI's second-in-command when the case was filed.

week deadline for submission of the chargesheet in the lower court.

The FIR was lodged in October 2018 amid a turf war between the then CBI chief, Alok Kumar Verma, and his deputy that saw both of

them accusing each other of corruption and misconduct. Both were shunted by the government following a Central Vigilance Commission recommendation.

The FIR named Mr. Asthana; the then CBI Deputy Superintendent of Police, Devender Kumar; Dubai-based investment banker Manoj Prasad, as accused. It was alleged that Hyderabad-based businessman Sana Sathish Babu had paid over ₹3 crore in bribe to get relief in a case against meat exporter Moin Qureshi. The CBI, which arrested Manoj on October 16, 2018, got Mr. Babu's statement recorded before a magistrate, alleging bribes were paid in five instalments.

Received privilege motion against Minister: Speaker

Cong. moved the motion for his statement on quota issue

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Tuesday informed the House that he had received the notice of privilege motion moved by the Congress against Social Justice Minister Thawar Chand Gehlot for his statement on the Supreme Court order on the issue of reservation in promotion for the SCs/STs and the OBCs.

"The issue is under my consideration," he said after Congress leader Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury raised the matter.

On Monday, the Congress

not a party to the case.

Stating that it was a misleading argument, Congress MPs not only moved a privilege motion but Mr. Chowdhury also read out the names of advocates who represented the BJP government in the Supreme Court. However, the Speaker cut him short, stating that the motion was under his consideration.

The Lok Sabha also elected Mahua Moitra of the Trinamool Congress and Manish Tewari of the Congress to the Joint Committee of two Houses on the Personal Data Protection Bill.



Thawar Chand Gehlot

accused Mr. Gehlot of misleading the House by stating that the case pertained to a decision of the Uttarakhand government in 2012 when the Congress was in power. The Minister had also informed that the Centre was

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The government has decided not to send to detention children who were excluded from the NRC in Assam but whose parents were included, the Lok Sabha was informed on Tuesday.

Union Minister of State for Home Nitayana Rai said the approved standard operating procedures for disposal of claims and objections had a specific provision for children left out of the NRC, while their parents had been included.

The Attorney-General stated on January 6, 2020, before the Supreme Court that the children of parents

Delhi, Dhaka for speedy return of Rohingya

Number of illegal migrants not known

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The issue of repatriation of Rohingya migrants has been discussed with Bangladesh at the highest level and both countries have agreed on the need to "expedite their safe, speedy and sustainable repatriation to their homes in Myanmar", Minister of State for Home Nitayana Rai informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday.

The Rohingya belong to Rakhine State in Myanmar but more than a million have taken refuge in Bangladesh and some in India following a campaign of violence against them.

In a written reply, Mr. Rai

said there were reports of some Rohingya migrants indulging in illegal activities.

The Minister said the Centre had issued periodic instructions to the States to ask the law enforcement and intelligence agencies to identify illegal migrants and restrict them to specified locations as per provisions of law.

In response to a question on the number of Rohingya living in India, Mr. Rai said, "Since illegal migrants enter the country without valid documents..., the data on the number of such illegal migrants living in the country is not maintained centrally."

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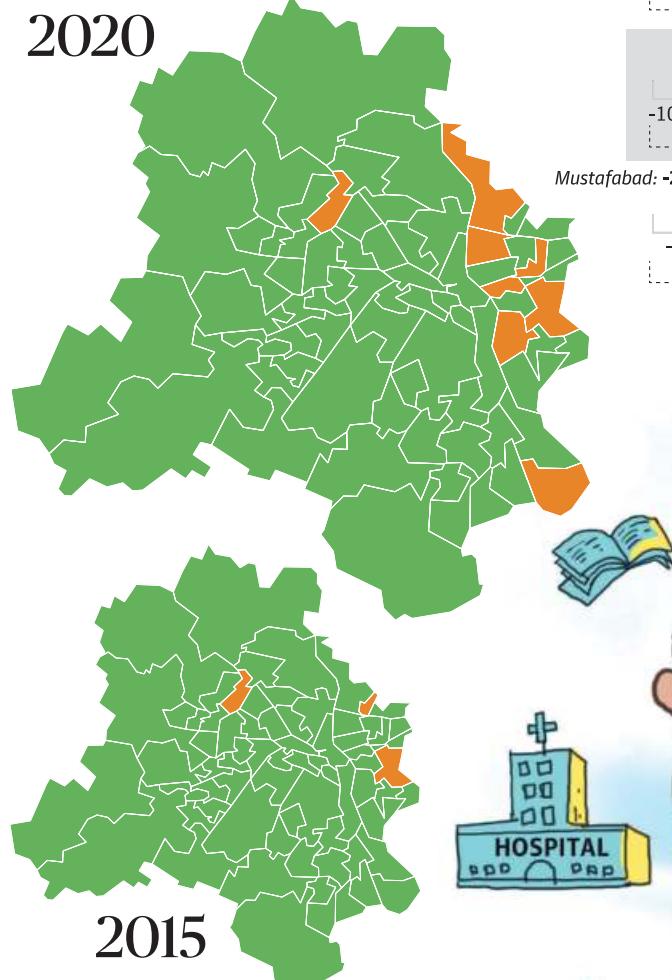
AAP holds fort but chinks in armour show

The Aam Aadmi Party continued its dominant run in Delhi by winning the Assembly election with a comfortable margin both in terms of seat and vote shares. While it continued to post dominant victories, the margins have dropped significantly in comparison to the 2015 poll. By **The Hindu Data Team**

Mapping the wins

Maps show winners in the 2020 and 2015 Assembly election. AAP's wins are indicated as ●, and the Bharatiya Janata Party's wins are indicated as ○. While AAP maintained its dominance across Delhi, BJP increased its seat share in the eastern and north eastern parts of the national capital

2020



2015

Assembly segments won/led			
Party	2015	2019	2020
AAP	67	0	62
BJP+	3	70	8
INC+	0	0	0

Party	2015	2019	2020
AAP	54.34	16.32	53.57
BJP+	32.69	50.88	38.51
INC+	9.65	20.28	4.26

Overcoming anti-incumbency
The ruling party managed to hold on to its vote base with only a marginal drop of 0.76% points. The Congress' vote share decreased by around 5% points, while the BJP's increased by a similar margin

Change in vote share | Despite AAP's big win, its vote share decreased in a majority of seats, compared to 2015. Graph shows the increase or decrease in vote share of the AAP, the BJP and the Congress in 2019 compared to 2015 for all the 70 seats. Each circle ● corresponds to a constituency. To the left, seats where vote share decreased are depicted and those which recorded increase are on the right

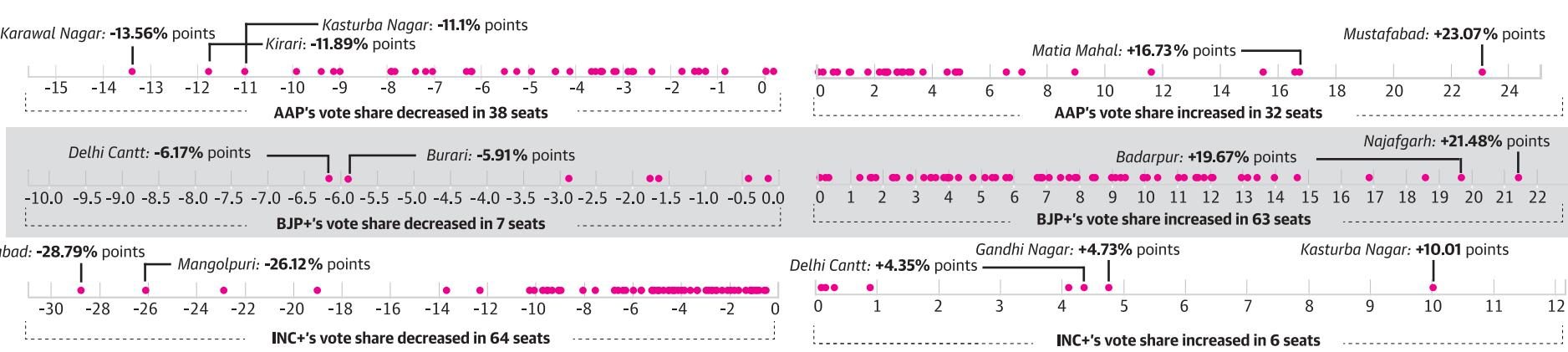
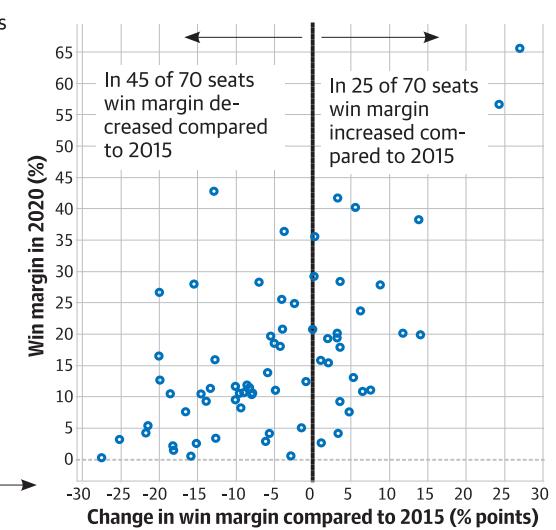


ILLUSTRATION: DEEPAK HARICHANDAN

Narrower wins | 2015 saw AAP winning many seats by a huge margin. In 2020, the margins have come down. Of the 61 seats the AAP managed to retain in 2020, in 41 the win margin decreased

Seat retained/lost by parties	Seats with increase in win margin	Seats with decrease in win margin
Retained by AAP	20	41
BJP to AAP	1	0
Retained by BJP	2	0
AAP To BJP	2	4

Table shows the overall split. Graph shows constituency wise win margins (%) in 2020 and the change from 2015 (% points)



Vote share ranges

ranges | While the AAP continued to secure a high vote %, its win margins were not so decisive as the BJP benefited from INC's drop in share of seats with a higher vote %

Vote share ranges	AAP	BJP+	INC+			
2015	2020	2015	2020	2015	2020	
0% to 15%	0	0	2	0	61	65
16% to 30%	0	0	21	10	8	5
31% to 45%	5	6	43	45	1	0
46% to 60%	54	50	4	15	0	0
>60%	11	14	0	0	0	0

Class-wise vote

vote | The BJP continued to do well in seats where wealth level was higher. The AAP again achieved high vote % among the poorer sections*

Class-wise split	AAP % vote	BJP+ % vote	INC+ % vote			
2015	2020	2015	2020	2015	2020	
Poorest	58.9	56.5	35.8	38.7	8.5	3.1
Poor	55.2	53.7	31.4	39.2	6.6	3.1
Middle	50.0	51.9	36.7	40.0	12.5	6.9
Rich	48.7	49.2	36.2	43.3	10.5	6.0

BJP's losses point to lack of local narrative

The party continues to rely on Prime Minister Modi and national issues for its campaigns

NISTULA HEBBAR
NEW DELHI

The Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) sixth consecutive loss in an Assembly poll – although the party managed to form a government in Haryana – points now to a very real problem for the party in upcoming Assembly polls.

Whether in a direct fight with the Congress or a regional player like the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the BJP's performance in State elections has been sub par as per its own previous records. The Indian voter across States seems to be making a very clear distinction between State and national-level elections, as made clear even by the Assembly polls in Odisha, where the Biju Jana-Dal's (BJD) Naveen Patnaik won a record fifth term in the midst of a Modi wave.



Downbeat mood: The BJP office in New Delhi wore a quiet look on Tuesday. ■ SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

One reason put forward

number of Poorvanchali votes, it was the old Punjabi leadership of the BJP that prevailed. "Even when issues are addressed, it has been cosmetic," said a source.

NEWS ANALYSIS

According to political analyst Rahul Verma, the BJP going into polls without Mr. Modi's strong presence is a problem for the party. "Prime Minister Modi is the most charismatic face that the BJP has and has a proven record of affecting the vote, but when it comes to faces in the State level, the Opposition has an advantage, which is going to be the case in the upcoming elections too," he said.

The most important point, apart from the lack of

a strong face in States, is also the lack of a local narrative for the BJP, making it rely on national issues time and again.

"Every election has one narrative that dominates over another and in the last few elections, the Opposition's narrative has been strong both in terms of aspiration and performance," said a senior BJP leader.

While the national narrative of the BJP is in no peril, State elections are just as important if the BJP wants to dominate Indian politics. For that, Mr. Nadda may well have to dip into the playbook of the old BJP led by late Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and senior BJP leader L.K. Advani, when the last crop of strong regional leadership was cultivated by the party.

Rajya Sabha floor leader of the Biju Janata Dal Prafulla Acharya said, "The BJP claims to be the biggest political party of the world. And it has been defeated by the smallest party in the country. This shows the beauty of Indian democracy and maturity of Indian voters."

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress President Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday called Delhi Chief Minister and national convener of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Arvind Kejriwal and congratulated him for his party's outstanding show in the Delhi Assembly elections.

She also took the opportunity to target the BJP, saying those "playing on faith through hate speech and divisive politics should take a cue" from the poll results.

Speaking to journalists in Kolkata before leaving for Bankura, the Chief Minister said she maintained good relations with Mr. Kejriwal. "Despite much religious fanaticism and narrow

Delhi poll result may work in JD(U)'s favour

Nitish could seek more seats in Bihar

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
PATNA

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's Janata Dal (United) lost the two seats of Burari and Sangam Vihar that the party had contested in alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party in the Delhi Assembly election, but the overall result is likely to provide a reason for Mr. Kumar to smile.

The BJP-led NDA's crushing defeat in Delhi would now embolden the JD(U) to drive a harder bargain for seats with its alliance partner, the BJP, in the upcoming Assembly polls in Bihar, political analysts say.

"With the recent poll debacles for BJP, first in Jharkhand and now in Delhi, Nitish Kumar would be in a stronger position to bargain for more seats in the upcoming State Assembly elec-



Nitish Kumar

tions," said political analyst Ajay Kumar.

When the results emerged on Tuesday, Mr. Kumar reacted with just three words: "Janata malik hai (the public is supreme)". Naval Kishore Chaudhury, another political observer, said, "In the present scenario, after the Jharkhand and Delhi poll results, Nitish Kumar could pitch for more seats than the BJP, and the BJP will have no option but to concede to his demands."

Mamata hails Kejriwal's big win in Delhi elections

Bengal CM says people have rejected narrow, divisive politics

SHIV SAHAY SINGH
KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday called Delhi Chief Minister and national convener of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Arvind Kejriwal and congratulated him for his party's outstanding show in the Delhi Assembly elections.

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Speaking to journalists in Kolkata before leaving for Bankura, the Chief Minister said she maintained good relations with Mr. Kejriwal. "Despite much religious fanaticism and narrow

people want roti, kapda, makan (food, clothing and shelter), people want development," she said.

Ms. Banerjee described the Delhi poll results as a "victory of democracy" and said that politics should be for peace, development and welfare of the country.

'Drop CAA, NRC'
Later in the day, addressing a public rally at Bankura, Ms. Banerjee said the BJP is a stateless entity" and added that in 2021, Bengal will drive the last nail into its coffin.

She urged the BJP to withdraw the Citizenship (Amendment) Act. "The BJP should now roll back the CAA and drop plans for carrying out a nationwide NRC," she said.

Rashtriya Janata Dal,

which fought four seats in

Oppn. views results as a referendum on BJP's 'politics of polarisation'

Kejriwal gets praise from all quarters

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI

The Opposition parties in unison congratulated Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) convener Arvind Kejriwal for his resounding victory in the Delhi Assembly elections. They said the BJP's defeat in the elections showed that politics of polarisation and division didn't pay dividends.

Rajya Sabha floor leader of the Biju Janata Dal Prafulla Acharya said, "The BJP claims to be the biggest political party of the world. And it has been defeated by the smallest party in the country. This shows the beauty of Indian democracy and maturity of Indian voters."

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Congratulations to AAP and Shri @ArvindKejriwal ji for the victory in the Delhi Assembly Elections. Wishing them the very best in fulfilling the aspirations of the people of Delhi NARENDRA MODI Prime Minister



The Delhi vote is close to an All India vote than to a State-specific vote. Because Delhi is a mini India. Remember, when Delhi voted, millions of Malayalees, Tamils, Telugus, Bengalis, Gujaratis and people who came from other States of India voted.

ELSEWHERE



Sudan agrees to hand over Bashir to ICC

KHARTOUM
Sudan has agreed to hand over ousted autocrat Omar al-Bashir and others to the International Criminal Court (ICC) for alleged war crimes in Darfur, a top official of the new ruling body has said. Bashir's lawyer said the ex-President refused to have any dealings with the ICC because it was a "political court". AFP

Iran celebrates 1979 Islamic Revolution

TEHRAN
Hundreds of thousands across Iran marked the anniversary of its 1979 Islamic Revolution on Tuesday amid growing tensions between Tehran and the U.S. "It is unbearable for the U.S. to accept the victory of a great nation and that a superpower has been driven out of this land," President Hassan Rouhani told the gathering. AP

Iraqi commander killed in U.S. strike remembered

BAGHDAD
Iraqi officials on Tuesday commemorated Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, the senior commander killed in last month's U.S. drone strike that targeted powerful Iranian general Qasem Soleimani. Muhandis was the deputy head of the Hashid al-Shaabi, a loose network of paramilitary groups. AFP

15 Rohingya refugees die after boat capsizes

DHAKA
At least 15 Rohingya refugees died and many more were missing after a vessel packed with people trying to reach Malaysia capsized in the Bay of Bengal, a Bangladesh coast guard official said on Tuesday. About 70 people have been rescued alive, said Hamidul Islam, the official. REUTERS

Coronavirus poses 'very grave' threat to the world, says WHO

'Number of cases in China falling, epidemic may be over by April; over 1,000 dead

REUTERS
GUANGZHOU/GENEVA

The coronavirus outbreak in China may be over by April, the country's senior medical adviser said on Tuesday, but deaths surpassed 1,000 and the World Health Organization (WHO) warned of a global threat potentially worse than terrorism.

The world must "wake up and consider this enemy virus as public enemy number one," WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters.

As the epidemic squeezed the world's second-biggest economy, Chinese firms struggled to get back to work after the extended Lunar New Year holiday, hundreds of them saying they would need loans running into billions of dollars to stay afloat.

Company layoffs were beginning despite assurances by President Xi Jinping that widespread sackings would be avoided, as supply chains for global firms from car manufacturers to smartphone makers ruptured.

China's foremost medical adviser on the outbreak, Zhong Nanshan, told Reuters that the number of new cases was falling in some provinces and forecast the epidemic would peak this month.

"I hope this outbreak or this event may be over in something like April," added Mr. Zhong, 83, an epidemiologist who won fame for his role in combating an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome in 2003.

World stocks resumed rising towards record highs on Mr. Zhong's comments.

The World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday 1,017 people had died in



Fighting back: A researcher working on a vaccine for COVID-19, at the Imperial College School of Medicine, London. • AFP

China, where there were 42,708 cases. Only 319 cases have been confirmed in 24 other countries and territories outside mainland China, with two deaths: one in Hong Kong and the other in the Philippines.

Mr. Tedros was less sanguine, saying the coronavirus should be regarded as akin to a terrorist attack.

Renamed COVID-19

"With 99% of cases in China, this remains very much an emergency for that country, but one that holds a very grave threat for the rest of the world," he said.

The first vaccine was 18 months away, said the WHO boss, urging global unity to prevent "far more cases and far higher costs" from the disease - now officially named COVID-19 by the WHO.

Mr. Tedros said that "co" stands for "corona", "vi" for "virus" and "d" for "disease", while "19" was for the year, as the outbreak was first identified on December 31, 2019.

Infected mother in China gives birth to healthy baby

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
BEIJING

A 33-year-old Chinese woman infected with coronavirus has given birth to a healthy baby girl with no infection in northwest China's Shaanxi Province, state media reported on Tuesday.

Indian national infected with coronavirus in UAE

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
DUBAI

An Indian national has been diagnosed with the novel coronavirus in the UAE, bringing the total number of confirmed infection cases to eight, the country's Health Ministry has said.

The UAE Ministry of Health and Prevention

U.K. team tests vaccine on mice

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
LONDON

A team of U.K. scientists believe they are among the first to start animal testing of a vaccine for the new coronavirus.

Researchers at Imperial College London said their goal was to find a way to halt the spread of virus. "At the moment we have just put the vaccine that we've generated from these bacteria into mice".

China denies role in cybertheft following Equifax accusations

U.S. 'indicted' four military hackers for personal data theft

ASSOCIATED PRESS
BEIJING

China denied involvement in any hacking activities on Tuesday after the U.S. indicted four members of the Chinese military for allegedly breaking into the computer networks of the Equifax credit reporting agency and stealing the personal information of tens of millions of people.

The Justice Department accused Beijing on Monday of engineering one of the biggest hacks in history targeting consumer data of some 145 million Americans.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said China was committed to "firmly oppose and combat cyberattacks of any kind," adding that it is a staunch defender of cybersecurity and its institutions "never engage in cybertheft of trade secrets."

"China is also a victim of this," Mr. Geng said. The accusation is the latest against Chinese suspect of breaching the computer networks of American corporations, including steel manufacturers, a hotel chain



Data breach: U.S. accused China of stealing consumer data of some 145 million Americans. • REUTERS

and a health insurer. It comes as the Trump administration has warned against what it sees as the growing political and economic influence of China, and efforts by Beijing to collect data for financial and intelligence purposes and to steal research and innovation.

Experts and officials say the theft represents Beijing's interest in accumulating as much information about Americans as possible.

Govt. seeks 7 to 9 years in jail for Trump ally Roger Stone

He faced charges in Mueller's probe into 2016 presidential poll

REUTERS
WASHINGTON

Prosecutors on Monday sought U.S. President Donald Trump's longtime adviser Roger Stone to serve a sentence between seven and nine years in prison.

Stone is due to face sentencing by U.S. District Court Judge Amy Berman Jackson on February 20, after a jury in November found the self-proclaimed trickster guilty on se

ven counts of lying to Congress, obstruction and witness tampering.

The government said that under U.S. sentencing guidelines, he faces a range of seven years and three months to up to nine years, and told Jackson he "should be punished in accord" with those.

Mr. Stone is one of several people close to Mr. Trump who faced charges stemming from then-Special Counsel Robert Mueller's in

vestigation into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential election.

During the trial, prosecutors pressed their case that Stone lied to lawmakers about his outreach to WikiLeaks – the website that disclosed many hacked Democratic emails ahead of the 2016 election that proved embarrassing to Democratic rival Hillary Clinton – to protect Mr. Trump from looking bad.

+ Arab village in Israel vandalised by suspected Jewish extremists

Car tyres were punctured, slogans scrawled on mosque



Hate crime: A building on which slogans were sprayed overnight in the northern Israeli Arab village of Jish. • AFP

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
JISH
Dozens of cars in an Israeli Arab village were vandalised overnight, police said on Tuesday, with slogans sprayed on a mosque indicating the involvement of Jewish extremists.

The slogans "Jews awaken" and "Stop assimilating" were scrawled on a mosque and another building in Jish, a small village in the Galilee just south of Israel's border with Lebanon.

Police said they were investigating the incident.

The tyres of over 150 cars were punctured, Jish council head Elias Elias said, adding

that it was not the first time the mixed Muslim and Christian village had been targeted.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "firmly con-

demned" the Jish vandalism and slogans, vowing to "find the outlaws and bring them to justice. "We won't tolerate any attacks on our citizens," he said in a statement.

According to the petition,

Pak. court accepts Saeed's plea to club 6 terror financing cases

Verdict delayed even as trial concluded in two cases

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
LAHORE

An anti-terrorism court in Pakistan on Tuesday accepted a plea by Mumbai attack mastermind and Jamat-ud-Dawa chief (JuD) Hafiz Saeed to club all six terror financing cases against him and his aides, and announce the verdict on completion of the trial.

The anti-terrorism court or ATC had indicted Saeed and others on December 11 in terror financing case in day-to-day hearings.

The anti-terrorism court of Lahore accepted the plea of Saeed and his close aides seeking delay in the verdict

in two concluded terror financing cases against them till the trial in other four such pending cases is complete," a court official said.

According to the petition, four other terror financing

cases against Saeed, Zafar Iqbal, Yahya Aziz, Abdul Rehman Makki are pending before the same ATC. "As evidence has been in progress, the court may announce the verdict in six cases, including the ones already concluded once the trial is completed," it said.

The deputy prosecutor general opposed Saeed's plea and argued that the trial in two cases against him and others has already been completed and under the law the court may announce the verdict. He requested the court to reject Saeed's plea and announce the verdict.

The government had already promised tougher rules on terrorism after another former convict killed two people and wounded three before being shot dead by police near

U.K. unveils laws to stop early release of terrorists

Bill comes after recent London attacks

REUTERS
LONDON

Britain will end the automatic early release of convicted terrorists under new fast-tracked legislation to be introduced to Parliament on Tuesday.

The new Bill follows an attack earlier this month by an Islamist militant just days after he was set free halfway through his jail term, despite authorities believing he still posed a threat to the public.

The government had already promised tougher rules on terrorism after another former convict killed two people and wounded three before being shot dead by police near

London Bridge in November.

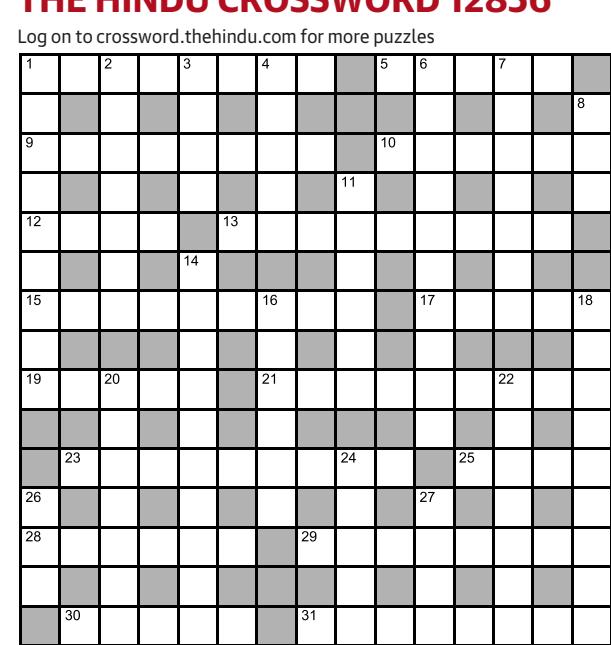
The emergency measures, which the government wants to become law by the end of the month, will mean convicted terrorists cannot be released before the end of their sentence without an assessment of whether they are still a risk. They will have to serve at least two-thirds of their sentence before being assessed.

The government said around 50 people currently in jail would see their release blocked as a result of the change to the law.

The government plans to boost deradicalisation measures in prison.

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 12856

Log on to crossword.thehindu.com for more puzzles



ACROSS

- Chaps from Belgium mislead top army officer about setter (8)
- Capital – the way it's fixed (5)
- Fancies limits over Asian staple (8)
- Fakir disturbed about hot cropping season (6)
- Scoff at no female barbarian (4)

(set by Gridman)

- Suffering Syd in France very hardy in extremity with disease (9)
- Bagels Dad stuffed into carryall (9)
- Wise person leaves one kind (5)
- Saint's assistant is sober (5)
- Cleaning woman takes one runaway flirt suspiciously in ski lift (9)
- Practice that makes pupils see more clearly (9)
- Note: Memsaib left sahib out (4)
- Still green, aunt griped no end repeatedly (6)
- Friend bumped into all but top of plant (8)
- Gangleader's real, withering angry look (5)
- Stand still – by the way, an insect is extremely agreeable surrounding (8)
- Confines treacherous allies and head of squad holding commanding officer back (9)
- Former poet to give a full account (7)

SUDOKU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

Solution to puzzle 12855

F	A	T	A	L	I	T	M	E	D	A	L	S
O	A	E	I	E	S	R	E					
R	I	B	C	A	G	E	P	R	O	S	A	I
E	L	V	R	I	T	L	U					
S	W	E	D	U	S	S	O					
J	I	A	S	A	C	R	E					
U	H	O</td										

The power of an irresistible introduction

Resume-writing is becoming a more specialised skill, thanks to the demands of the digital world

LIFFY THOMAS

As first impressions go, this one is about making those impressions with a degree of anonymity. It is called "the written resume".

From a piece of paper, usually an A3-size sheet or a couple of them, the resume has come a long way. Now, there is often the option of presenting it in a digital format. However, technology has not detracted from the challenge of writing one. If anything, it has become more challenging than ever, as resumes navigating the digital waters have to be a lot crisper and more to the point, given the shrinking attention spans.

Though it can't be verbose, it has to give the prospective employer a sense of what the candidate has achieved through his career – the longer the career, the more challenging the write. However, most experienced and top-level professionals choose to grapple with the task themselves, one reason being that they are likely to be known in their industry circles and also likely to receive recommendations from peers.

The professional touch

Fresh, early-career and mid-level professionals usually need that powerful introduction, and they are said to be likely to seek the services of professional resume-writers.

Freshersworld.com, a Team Lease company that offers resume writing services, gets close to 50,000 registrations on its portal every day, and a majority of them are from freshers.

"In a day, nearly 1,000 people seek this service on our portal. In this group, 60% opt for the paid service," says Kaushik Banerjee, vice-president and business head, Teamlease and Freshersworld.

Many engineering colleges, he says, engage us for bulk writing of resumes. Usually, in this case, projects undertaken by students have to be presented in an impressive manner.

Social media boost



ILLUSTRATION: SEBASTIAN FRANCIS

Unlike in the past, the resume today is multi-layered. Social media profiles of candidates have to be factored in, while writing resumes for them.

"As hiring managers want the LinkedIn profile as part of the application, we offer services like writing the summary for the page and also providing a covering letter," says Neena Mody, resume consultant at Step-it-Up Resumes.

Sharper focus

While presenting their credentials to prospective clients, some companies usually have professionally-written resumes of their key employees, as part of the "pitch-package".

Here is a classic example.

Amrita Kolay, a certified resume writer, had a recent assignment where the company that had opted for the resume-writing ser-

vice, was bidding for a tender.

"The CVs of nearly 100 employees with the company had to be improved, and the work had to be carried out in a short span of time; these employees were going to be part of the project and the company wanted the skill-sets they brought to the table to be showcased prominently," says Amrita.

The career journey

On LinkedIn, she says, there would be companies that would want resume writers to write the career journey of their executives.

"Sometime we visit them to understand their work culture or the information is provided to us through email," she says.

Staffing companies, recruitment agencies and those offering returning mothers a platform to make a career comeback,

In contrast,

engage resume writers either to have workshops done for their clients, or to promote their profiles.

"A resume writer's primary role is to highlight the candidate's brand value – this is usually done by listing out the results they have achieved and the challenges they have overcome," says Amrita.

Another challenge faced by resume writers is having to tweak resumes of highly experienced professionals to bring certain skills they possess into sharper focus.

"Reverse chronological resume is the most sought-after format. Here, a job seeker's work history and accomplishments are presented in reverse chronological order, with the most recent work experience and achievement listed first. The candidate's responsibilities and accomplishments are listed employer-wise. In contrast,

Artificial intelligence, he

the functional format is about grouping achievements based on skills," says Neena.

ATS optimisation

In this day and age when resumes "pop up" on screens more often than land on the table in a physical form, a resume can't have a winning edge unless it is ATS-optimised.

An applicant tracking system (ATS) helps to filter resumes based on certain skill-sets that an employer is looking for.

Vikramjit Singh Sahayee, founder and CEO, Hiring-Plug, says it's tough to beat an ATS and his advice is to keep the resume simple and to the point.

"Most applicant tracking systems only read data and keywords, and so don't be over-creative or strive to present your skills in a different light," says Sahayee.

Artificial intelligence, he

Points to ponder

- Make sure your resume is ATS-friendly as it is the first "critic" a candidate will face after he has submitted his resume. The choice of keywords and the way in which the skills are presented are among the major factors ensuring ATS-friendliness.
- When one has had a long career and therefore the list of achievements is bound to be lengthy, the candidate has to consciously focus on writing an extremely crisp resume. For, without this rudder, the candidate is likely to dwell at length on a majority of achievements, and thereby run the risk of sounding long-winded. The best of the achievements should be highlighted, the second- and third-best touched upon, and the rest ignored.

- Resumes set in the reverse-chronological format usually work best, as they come with a sense of immediacy, presenting the latest achievements first. This format achieves immense value in today's corporate word, as technological shifts happen more quickly than ever before.

- Against this backdrop, listing the latest achievement involving a more current technological skill first assumes significance.

- Data speaks a lot; and so if you are handling a project, mention its size and value.

Calling for nominations to 'Best Companies for Women in India'

An annual exercise that is sustained by Avtar Group and Working Mother, it is in its fifth edition now

Avtar Group is inviting nominations for the fifth edition of 'Best Companies for Women in India' (BCWI).

As in the previous years, it is associated with Working Mother, a United States-based global gender parity champion, to list and showcase 100 best companies with a special spotlight on the Top 10 Best Companies.

According to a press release, every edition of the study has had over 300 companies participating in this "comprehensive gender analytics exercise with millions of data points and hundreds of benchmarking reports."

Last year, Most Inclusive Companies Index (MICI) was introduced for companies that participated in BCWI to offer insights on organisa-

tions' inclusiveness encompassing other strands of diversity – PWD, LGBTQIA and Generation.

The application form has close to 300 questions, and requires applicants to provide data of high-order granularity on their practices, programmes and policies to ensure gender inclusion at their workplaces.

A company that has its operations in India with a minimum of 500 employees in its Indian operations (men, women and third gender included) can register to participate in the study.

The last date for submitting applications is May 31, added the release.

For details, visit <http://www.avtarinc.com/bcwi.html>

NEWS BYTES

Conference on volunteering

Volcon, a national conference on volunteering organised by iVolunteer in association with Bhumi, is based on the theme 'Volunteer engagement as a social change multiplier'.

The event is aimed at companies, non-profits, intermediaries and others who engage with at least 1,000 volunteers every year or have the ability to significantly increase the number of volunteers in the country.

The two-day conference is being held from February 14 in Chennai and more than 100 organisations are expected to participate in it, says a release.

Ways of integrating volunteering into the organisational culture; building leadership through social change; and tracking employee volunteer engagement will be among the discussion points for corporates, said a release.

For details, visit www.volcon.in.

Celebrating women professionals

Safejob, a training, skill-ing and consulting firm, has launched a campaign, 'Dhasu Woman', to celebrate Women's Day. Launched in association with the Women Entrepreneurship Platform, a NITI Aayog initiative, it invites women from all age groups to participate in it.

According to a release, Dhasu Woman is an initiative aimed at celebrating women professionals who have not only made a mark but also contributed significantly to the progress of their respective specialisations. Around 30 best stories will be selected and woven into a music video that will be released on Women's Day.

Participants have to click a selfie, register their names on www.dhaansuwoman.com and share their picture on Sa-ducate website/Facebook page/Instagram page with the hashtag #DhasuWoman.

The last date for submitting entries is February 20.

Can the gig economy address the issue of gender pay gap?

A 'Global Freelancer Income Report' seems to suggest that it can

While gender pay gap is considered an issue plaguing most industries, there are indications that in the gig economy, this gap is much smaller. As per a report, the participation of women in the freelance workforce has been gaining momentum. Equally significant is the finding that the average wage for women in the freelance workforce is higher than the overall average.

These are among the key findings of a Global Freelancer Income Report brought out by Payoneer.

On an average, women freelancers earn 84% of men's earnings across all fields, and while there is room for improvement, the gap is much smaller than the 64% average for all workers reported by the World Economic Forum, says the report.

However, there are industry-specific nuances involved, and there are fields where the gender gap remains pronounced, including finance and project

management fields. Women earn more than men in marketing and web and graphic design, says the report.

Over 7,000 freelancers from 150 countries were part of the survey, which provides new insights into the world of freelancers, their motivations and how the workforce empowers collaboration by connecting top talent with businesses.

The popularity of freelancing is attributed to the potential for greater job opportunity, independence, higher incomes and a promising move in the direction of wage equality.

A growing market

In India, Government schemes like Startup India, Skill India and Digital India encourage young individuals to start their own businesses and work as freelancers.

As per the report, one in every five Indian freelancers is a woman. While 83% of the freelancers work from home, 17% work from

coffee shops, co-working spaces, libraries and private offices.

Most of the women in India engage themselves in online marketplaces with a major chunk of the clients based in the United States with the average working hours ranging between 2 and 2.5 hours. Web and graphic design (25% respondents), IT (20%) and programming (15%) are the top three categories of domains for Indian freelancers.

Young workforce

The freelance workforce is young, with nearly 70% of the freelancers surveyed being under the age of 35; and 21% under 25. This youth movement is even more pronounced in Asia where 82% of the respondents are under 35, compared to North America where the number is still high but closer to 47%.

Workers at the beginning and end of their careers are also benefiting by being able to source top-talent without concern for location or overhead costs.

ers command high pay, that gap could close in the future as freelance opportunities provide those with less years of experience the ability to sharpen and hone their skills.

Additionally, education does not necessarily correlate with high earnings for freelancers, as those with a bachelor's degree do not demand higher salaries than those without, indicating that the future of work values reviews, references and a rich portfolio as much as traditional educational achievements.

Average hourly rate

The worldwide average hourly rate charged by freelancers is \$21, higher than the \$19 average rate reported in Payoneer's 2018 survey and significantly higher than the average salaries in many of the countries surveyed, says the report.

While freelancers are earning more, businesses are also benefiting by being able to source top-talent without concern for location or overhead costs.

GENERAL

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MANDI
SOUTH CAMPUS, KAMAND-175075 DISTRICT - MANDI, HIMACHAL PRADESH, INDIA

Date: 05.02.2020

Recruitment Teaching

Applications are invited in various School/Department for Associate Professor, Assistant Professor Grade – I & II. The requisite details regarding eligibility conditions and application form are available on the Institute website www.iitmandi.ac.in. The last date of receipt of completed application form is 08.03.2020.

Registrar, IIT Mandi



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For detailed advertisement & submission of online application, please visit [Careers section of our website www.petronetlng.com](http://www.petronetlng.com)

from 7th Feb, 2020, 09:00 hrs.

to 27th Feb. 2020, 23:59 hrs.

Addendum(s)/Corrigendum(s), if any, shall be notified in above website only.

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Qualification: Candidates should be from premier institutes with doctorate and publications in ABCD/Scopus Index. Candidates must hold PG/CA/CS/CIMA/CMA/ACCA or equivalent professional qualification with minimum of one year teaching experience in professional courses.

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Nursing College: Assistant Professors and Tutors (Qualification & Experience: As per MCI Requirement)

Non-Teaching - Requirements

MARKET WATCH

	11-02-2020	% CHANGE
Sensex	41,216	-0.58
US Dollar	71.28	0.03
Gold	41,269	-0.27
Brent oil	54.30	0.84

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Ports	374.20	5.95
Asian Paints	1878.10	8.60
Axis Bank	749.95	8.85
Bajaj Auto.	3145.45	42.15
Bajaj Finance	9731.60	104.60
Bharti Airtel	534.30	-4.40
BPCL	481.00	-4.45
Britannia Ind	3134.70	-20.90
Cipla	450.60	5.85
Coal India	179.35	0.50
Dr Reddy's Lab	3191.20	42.10
Eicher Motors	19009.25	-48.00
GAIL (India)	129.15	7.35
Grafix Ind	759.30	1.75
HCL Tech	610.65	5.75
HDFC	2435.15	20.85
HDFC Bank	1240.60	0.30
Hero MotoCorp	2396.45	10.75
Hindalco	193.65	2.80
Hind Unilever	2152.65	-6.65
ICICI Bank	539.75	5.80
IndusInd Bank	1292.65	17.70
Bharti InfraNet	248.80	9.00
Infosys	773.55	0.35
Indian Oil Corp	116.05	0.25
ITC	212.60	2.05
JSW Steel	288.75	10.85
Kotak Bank	1677.45	8.15
L&T	1286.90	1.60
M&M	524.05	-4.35
Maruti Suzuki	7033.75	140.85
Nestle India Ltd.	15997.15	-175.05
NTPC	116.85	3.35
ONGC	106.80	0.60
PowerGrid Corp	189.50	2.90
Reliance Ind	1452.75	17.15
State Bank	324.35	5.85
Sun Pharma	418.55	-1.75
Tata Motors	169.75	0.85
Tata Steel	444.10	0.30
TCS	2153.40	-8.55
Tech Mahindra	819.95	6.30
Titan	1270.70	13.50
UltraTech Cement	4466.45	52.70
UPL	576.65	2.55
Vedanta	140.75	0.45
Wipro	241.25	0.35
YES Bank	36.85	-0.70
Zee Entertainment	231.30	0.85

EXCHANGE RATES

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	71.08	71.40
Euro	77.57	77.92
British Pound	91.88	92.29
Japanese Yen (100)	64.70	65.00
Chinese Yuan	10.19	10.24
Swiss Franc	72.69	73.02
Singapore Dollar	51.23	51.47
Canadian Dollar	53.48	53.73
Malaysian Ringgit	17.19	17.28

Source: Indian Bank

BULLION RATES CHENNAI

February 11 rates in rupees with previous rates in parentheses

Retail Silver (1g)	50...	(50.1)
22 ct gold (1 g)	3872	(3891)

Source: Indian Bank

IN BRIEF



Infosys to buy Simplus for \$250 million

BENGALURU

Infosys has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Simplus, a Salesforce Platinum Partner that offers services such as cloud consulting, implementation, data integration, change management. The \$250-million acquisition is expected to close during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2020, subject to closing conditions. Simplus brings to Infosys Salesforce expertise, industry knowledge, solution assets, deep ecosystem relationships and a broad clientele.

Moody's downgrades IndusInd Bank

MUMBAI

Concerns over a further deterioration in asset quality have led Moody's Investors Service to revise down its outlook on IndusInd Bank to 'negative' from 'stable'. The private sector bank's rating has been affirmed at the earlier one of 'Baa-3/P-3'; the agency said. Baa3 denotes lowest rating in investment grade on long-term corporate obligation which carries moderate risks, the agency said, adding the bank had a high exposure of 8% to the troubled realty sector. PTI

TVS Srichakra profit skids on slowdown

CHENNAI TVS Srichakra Ltd. reported a 43.22% drop in standalone net profit for the third quarter ended December 2019 to ₹13.40 crore due to lower volumes on account of economic slowdown. During the period, revenue from operations declined 13.77% to ₹500.75 crore compared with the corresponding year-earlier period. The company was able to bring down the cost of materials consumed by 30% to ₹283.46 crore and financial costs by 17% to ₹8 crore.

Economy not in trouble, asserts FM

Points to 'green shoots' in IIP growth, GST collections and higher FDI; slams UPA's 'faulty remedies'

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

The economy is not in trouble, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told the Lok Sabha in her response to the debate on the Union Budget on Tuesday, highlighting seven macro-economic indicators as signs of revival.

These 'green shoots' included higher foreign investment, improvement in industrial output and GST collections, all-time high forex reserves and an upbeat stock market.

Defending her government's handling of the economy, Ms. Sitharaman lashed out at former finance minister and Congress MP P. Chidambaram, saying she had nothing to learn from the 'competent doctors' who gave 'faulty remedies', resulting in a mountain of non-performing assets (NPAs) and double-digit inflation.

In both Houses of Parliament, the Finance Minister cited data to show improvements in foreign direct investment (FDI) flows and net foreign portfolio investment (FPI), growth registered by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP) after several months of contraction, healthy forex reserves, a rise in gross GST collections and a 5% growth in market cap of the BSE Sensex.

In the Lok Sabha, she also outlined details of the government's initiatives to drive the four engines of growth, public and private investment, public consumption, and exports.

In the Rajya Sabha, however, she embarked on a stinging attack against Mr. Chidambaram and the UPA government's economic record.

"I heard former Finance Minister's speech with great



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman speaks in Lok Sabha in the response to the debate on the Budget on Tuesday. ■PTI

intent and keenness. There was more sarcasm than content," she said, adding that her government would not "repeat the faulty remedies" prescribed by UPA government during the economic crisis of 2008-09.

She said the UPA govern-

ment's actions then had led to the twin balance sheet crisis faced by banks, mounting non-performing assets and fleeing defaulters. There was a flight of capital and foreign investment in 2012-13, she said.

Rebutting charges of fudg-

ing accounts, she instead accused the UPA of shifting the burden of oil bonds onto the books of oil marketing companies.

Ms. Sitharaman, however, refused to answer a question by Congress leader Anand Sharma. "The hon'ble minister said that in 2019-20 fiscal deficit was 3.8% (of GDP) and revenue deficit was 2.4%. Out of the borrowed money, the capital expenditure was 1.4%. This time, she has reduced the fiscal deficit to 3.5%. The revenue deficit is pegged at 2.8%. That leaves only 0.9% for the capital expenditure. Can you clarify?" Mr. Sharma asked.

Reacting to Ms. Sitharaman's speech, Mr. Chidambaram said that her unwillingness, or inability, to answer a straightforward question spoke volumes about the FM as well as the government.

States given ₹81,043 cr. as GST compensation for April-Sept.: Thakur

Cess collection up since October

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

NEW DELHI

The Centre has released ₹81,043 crore as GST compensation to States for April-September 2019, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Singh Thakur said on Tuesday.

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, he said GST compensation cess collection had shown an upward trend since October 2019.

GST compensation cess of ₹7,607 crore was collected in October, ₹7,727 crore in November, ₹8,331 crore in December and ₹8,637 crore in January.

For 2019-20, the amount targeted to be collected from cess in GST was ₹1.09 lakh crore. Of this, ₹70,534 crore has been collected between April-December 2019.

The amount of GST compensation released to States for April-September 2019 stood at ₹81,043 crore, Mr. Thakur said.

Fraudulent claims
As many as 634 cases of fraudulent GST refund claim by exporters amounting ₹1,912 crore had been detected by the central tax authorities between July 2017 and January 2020, Parliament was informed on Tuesday.

In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, Mr. Thakur said of this, ₹238.97 crore had been recovered by the Central GST authorities from the entities which claimed the fraudulent refunds.

A total of 35 persons had been arrested by the CGST authorities, he added.

"The government has taken measures to use data analytics to identify risky taxpayers and verify them before sanction of refunds," Mr. Thakur added.

M&M Korean arm draws up ₹3,000-cr. turnaround plan

SsangYong Motor Company faces steep headwinds, hopes to regain profitability by 2022 with strategy

LALATENDU MISHRA

MUMBAI

Korean automaker SsangYong Motor Company, a subsidiary of Mahindra & Mahindra, which is currently facing steep headwinds and losses in its domestic market and worsened by the coronavirus syndrome now, has drawn up a three-year turnaround plan to get back to profitability by 2022.

The plan includes ways to reduce capex, considering synergies between SsangYong Motor Company and Ford Motors and developing new markets in Russia and Vietnam to increase export volumes, Pawan Goenka, MD of Mahindra & Mahindra and chairman of SsangYong Motor Company said.

He said the company ex-



Revving up: Pawan Goenka, M&M MD, and V.S. Parthasarathy, CFO, at a press meet in Mumbai on Tuesday. ■ PAUL NORONHA

pected a funding of 450 to 500 billion Korean Won (up to ₹3,000 crore), through a combination of equity and borrowing for a full recovery.

"We do hope that this funding would be arranged by March end. The three-year recovery plan has been

approved by the company board," Dr. Goenka said. SsangYong is in talks with the Korea Development Bank (KDB) to raise the funds. However, a clear picture on the approval of the funding is yet to emerge.

Mr. Goenka said consider-

ing the current market situation it would be untenable for a full recovery for SsangYong during calendar year 2020, but a full recovery could be expected in 2022.

"Material cost reduction would fetch the company ₹90 billion Won in two years which should help achieve an improvement of 2-3% in SsangYong's operating margins," Mr. Goenka said. Going forward, SsangYong is also expected to work closely as part of the alliance with Ford to develop two SUVs – codenamed CSUV and the BSUV – on all new platforms.

The Mahindra-Ford partnership has just received the Competition Commission of India's (CCI) clearance for the joint venture.

On the domestic market,

Mr. Goenka said the spread of coronavirus may have some impact since some parts are imported from China. If the production normalises in the next few days, things would start returning to normalcy, he said. "Else, it may be a challenge to deliver BS-VI vehicles on time."

He said while the situation currently was one of 'wait and watch', automakers may have to look at alternate sourcing markets if the supply situation worsened.

For faster and cost effective roll-out of electric vehicles in India, Mr. Goenka has offered all Indian OEMs, namely Tata Motors and Ashok Leyland, to 'co-own' Mahindra Electric, which has acquired considerable expertise in this field.

IDBI Bank again posts loss

Lender takes ₹6,273 cr.-hit for choosing lower tax option

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI

IDBI Bank posted a net loss of ₹5,763 crore for the quarter ended December 31, 2019 on account of a one-time hit of ₹6,273 crore for exercising the option for lower tax, compared with a loss of ₹4,185 crore reported during the same period of the previous year.

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Sketches from an extraordinary life
(Clockwise from right)
Manohar and Mahema Devadoss; oil painting
of the raft on Buckingham Canal;
sketch of American College, Madurai; the artist ■ SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT



Drawn to LOVE

Artist Manohar Devadoss, recently awarded the Padma Shri, on how his loss of vision, deep affection for his wife and the kindness of strangers inspired a lifetime of art

FABIOLA JACOB

Artist. Writer. Musician. Scientist. Raconteur – there are multiple facets to Manohar Devadoss. "In fact, the official who called to tell me that I have been awarded the Padma Shri said the awards committee was in a dilemma about which category to put me in, before they settled for 'Art!'" he chuckles.

At 83 years, with several books and awards behind him, I ask the self-taught artist who gradually lost his vision to retinitis pigmentosa and a cataract, what the Padma Shri – the fourth highest civilian award in India – means to him. "The affection and love that I enjoy from so many people (my friends from Aravind Eye Hospital, Shankara Nethralaya and institutions like my alma mater – the American College, Madurai and of course, my church in San Thome) are rewards in themselves, now this is an additional one. However, I do miss my dear wife Mahema at this time..."

He says he particularly cherishes a letter of commendation from the Prime Minister which reads, "The collective contributions of your late wife and you are indeed a matter of

pride..." What a team they were: an inspiration to all, in love and in art.

"Just three days after our ninth wedding anniversary in 1972, Mahema became a quadriplegic, in a car accident," recalls Devadoss. "Around two years after that, my vision began to fade. But we never gave up. In fact, we grew closer in our trials."

Overcoming adversity

"During that difficult time, it was the love showered on us by countless people that kept us going" says Devadoss. "Starting with the doctor couple who rescued us from the accident site, the team at JIPMER Pondicherry, the young medics at CMC Vellore who literally partied in our room, cheering us up through rehabilitation, the steady stream of visitors from Oberlin College, U.S., where we with our daughter Suja had spent two extremely happy years," he says all rallied around them for support.

There were also the members of the youth fellowship at CSI St. Thomas English Church who visited frequently. "They even drove us to picnics and movies – it is because of every act of kindness that we tri-

umphed. My mother cared for Mahema as her own daughter."

Age of innocence

I ask him the secret to his ever-cheerful disposition, and he looks back to his happy boyhood in Madurai – captured so well in his book *Green Well Years* that he started writing when he had almost completely lost his vision in 1983.

"If you hadn't had cataract, you would not have a book. You would have spent all your time drawing..." Mahema would often say, and this helped him see the brighter side of things. "When my vision was partially restored after surgery, I went on an overdrive, producing so many artworks, that I even had an art exhibition," he says.

Devadoss started sketching trees and everyday objects at the age of five. He transitioned to copying great works of art like Michelangelo's David and Bertel Thorvaldsen's

Christus from books, experimenting with watercolours.

The first milestone in his artistic journey was the intricate pen-and-ink sketch of the Jubilee Chapel in The American College, during his final year in 1956, as a 19-year-old. "This drawing evoked far greater enthusiasm from the students than even the ones I did of the college beauty, Bhavani," recalls Devadoss in his book *Multiple Facets of My Madurai*. It was printed on the cover of the college magazine and came to be his signature style.

But it is love that brought out the artist in him. When he met Mahema through a mutual cousin, Devadoss put his talent to good use by illustrating almost every letter he wrote to her.

Mahema, a gold medallist in Fine Arts, was the perfect impetus to his artistic genius. "In 1966, we did a greeting card with my oil painting of a 120-ft long country raft on the

watercolours.

Devadoss' sketches and drawings have been exhibited across the globe, including at the British Museum and the Louvre in Paris.

His artwork has been featured in numerous publications and books, including the *Madras Inked* series.

Devadoss continues to paint and draw, sharing his story and inspiring others.

Manohar Devadoss' life is a testament to the power of love, resilience, and the human spirit.

—FABIOLA JACOB

Photographs: S. MUTHU

Illustrations: M. S. SURESH

Design: A. S. SURESH

Photograph: S. MUTHU

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AUTO EXPO 2020

Stars at the show

Aprilia SXR

An important two-wheeler that made its debut at the Expo was the Aprilia SXR maxi-scooter. Set to launch this September, the maxi-scooter gets a larger footboard and bigger seat than conventional scooters, which should appeal to comfort-oriented buyers. The SR will be available in two variants - the SXR125 and the SXR160 - and is expected to be positioned between the Vespa and the Aprilia SR range.



We take a look at some of the concepts, production cars and bikes from the expo in Greater Noida

JAIVEER MEHRA AND FIROZE IRANI



Tata HBX concept

Maruti's futuristic concept previews a Creta-rivalling SUV. A deviation from the carmaker's design language, the Futuro-e's design mixes upright traditional SUV-like design elements with sportier touches like full-width light clusters at the front and back, and a sharply-raked coupé roof-line.



Tata had two concepts - the reborn Sierra, and the HBX concept. Based on Tata's ALFA platform, the HBX is near-production evolution of the H2X concept that made its debut at the 2019 Geneva motor show. Styling remains quite close to the H2X concept, but with a number of design details toned down for a more production car look. The HBX previews a production petrol-only micro-SUV to sit below the Nexon.

Hyundai Creta

One of the biggest reveals at the Expo was the all-new Creta. The second-gen model features a radical new design, replete with squared-out wheel arches, a split headlight set-up flanking Hyundai's trademark 'cascading' grille, a split tail-lamp design, and flashy alloy wheels. While the interior is yet to be officially revealed, expect the car to be well-equipped with a panoramic sunroof and BlueLink connectivity tech. Engine options are expected to be shared with the Seltos.



Skoda Vision IN, VW Taigun concepts

Skoda and sister brand VW showcased their upcoming mid-size SUVs, underpinned by the shared, India-specific MQB A0 IN platform. The Vision IN concept from Skoda (in photo) had the look of a proper concept, replete with an illuminated grille and badge, a glass roof, 4-seat cabin and more. The Taigun, on the other hand, looked more close to production. Both models will arrive in production form next year and will be powered by the brand's TSI turbo-petrol engines.

Kia Sonet concept

Kia will be looking to emulate the success of the Seltos with the Sonet compact SUV that'll launch later this year. While it is based on the same underpinnings as the Hyundai Venue, the Sonet gets a unique design with a lot of what you see expected to make it to the production car. Kia didn't reveal the interior but we can tell you a 10.25-inch touchscreen (segment-largest) will be part of the package.

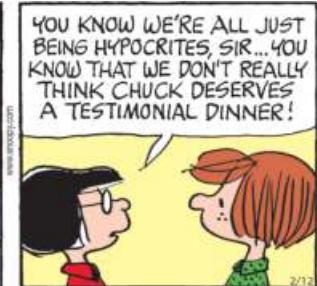


Hero Electric AE-47 e-bike

The electric two-wheeler that garnered most interest at the show was Hero Electric's AE-47 e-bike. The AE-47 is powered by a 6kW motor, with the company claiming a top speed of 100kph, and a 0-60kph time of 9sec. It also has an impressive claimed range of 85km in Power mode, and 160km in Eco mode. Full charge to 100 percent is said to take just four hours. Expect a launch later this year, with prices upwards of ₹1.2 lakh.



PEANUTS

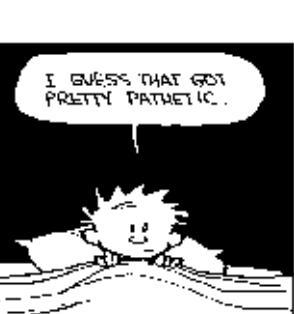
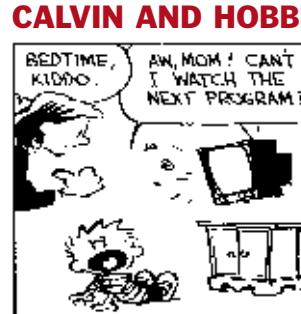


Hormazd Sorabjee is the editor of Autocar India. Mail your feedback and queries to roadshow@thehindu.co.in

POOCH CAFE



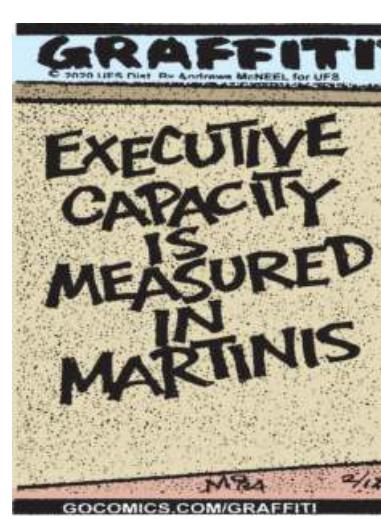
CALVIN AND HOBBES



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



TIGER



THE GUARDIAN QUICK CROSSWORD-13300

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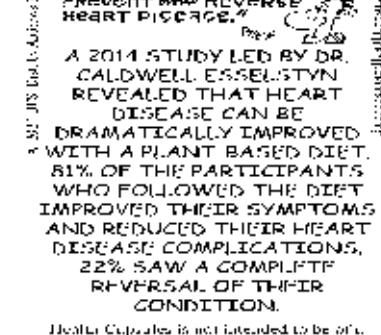
To play The Guardian Quick Crossword, The Hindu Cryptic crossword, Sudoku & other puzzles online, scan the QR code.

- 4 Passage (7)
- 5 Once more (5)
- 6 Illustrious (7)
- 7 Countenance (4)
- 11 Virago - rain hard (anag) (8)
- 13 Author of Our Mutual Friend, d. 1870 (7)
- 14 Stare with the power to harm? (4,3)
- 16 Light colour between red and green (5)
- 17 Earth (anag) - compassion (5)
- 18 Amphetamine taken as a stimulant (4)

The solution will appear on February 13, 2020.

Solution No. 13299

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE



- Across
- 1 Anything could now happen! (3,4,3,3)
- 8 The Thames at Oxford (4)
- 9 If absolutely necessary (2,1,5)
- 10 ESP (5,5)
- 11 Self-appointed expert (6)
- 12 Ancillaries (6)
- 13 Early instrument like piano - rich oval CD (anag) (10)
- 14 Possess some similarity to (8)
- 20 Right-hand man/woman (4)
- 21 Lake in Hyde Park (3,10)
- 22 Juicy (8)
- 3 Surround and harass (5)

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

M ND-NDE

A sweep for a sweep, Kiwis exact sweet revenge

First blanking for India in a full ODI series in New Zealand; Rahul's century goes in vain

INDIA IN NZ

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MT. MAUNGANUI

In a stunning reversal of fortunes, New Zealand inflicted an One-Day International series whitewash (3-0) on India with a five-wicket victory in the third and final match on Tuesday.

Flying start

Henry Nicholls scored 80 off 103 balls and Martin Guptill made 66 off 46 as the host scored 300 for five in 47.1 overs. Colin de Grandhomme smacked 58 not out off 28 balls at the end to help seal the win with 17 balls to spare.

Earlier, India had scored 296 for seven after being put in, thanks to K.L. Rahul's (112) fourth ODI hundred.

New Zealand got off to a flying start as Guptill and Nicholls put on 50 off just 40 balls. Overall, they scored 106 for the first wicket.

Guptill smacked six 4s and four 6s as the Indian new-ball bowlers faced an onslaught. Shardul Thakur and Navdeep Saini struggled to find their rhythm and were taken for runs, while Jasprit Bumrah finished the series wicketless. Yuzvendra Chahal (3-47) provided the breakthrough, bowling Guptill in the 17th over. Nicholls scored a half-century off 72 balls.

He added 53 runs with Kane Williamson, but Chahal struck twice and Ravindra Jadeja removed the in-form Ross Taylor cheaply. New Zealand was reduced to 189 for four in the 33rd over.

de Grandhomme then smashed a half-century off only 21 balls. His knock included six 4s and three 6s, as his 31-run fifth-wicket partnership with Jimmy Neesham (19) came off only 31 balls.

Earlier, Rahul's first hundred at No. 5 helped anchor India's innings. He hit



The despatcher: Colin de Grandhomme's onslaught sealed the match for New Zealand. ■ AFP

nine 4s and two 6s, and rescued India from 62 for three.

He put on 100 with Shreyas Iyer (62, 63b) for the fourth wicket, and 107 with Manish Pandey (42, 48b) for the fifth. Hamish Bennett finished with four for 64.

India made another poor start. Kyle Jamieson bowled Mayank Agarwal, who has suffered a torrid tour thus far.

The big blow came when Virat Kohli was out in the seventh over. Prithvi Shaw provided the initial flourish with 40 off 42 balls, but he was run-out going for a second run in the 13th over.

Shreyas then batted steadily and reached his half-centu-

ry off 52 balls, his third 50-plus score in this series. But he couldn't carry on.

Onus on Rahul

It was down to Rahul then, who crossed 50 off 66 balls. His stand with Pandey progressed well as India reached 250 in the 45th over.

Rahul's hundred came off 104 balls, and he perished in a bid to accelerate. This is where India's innings fell apart, as Pandey also holed out off Bennett shortly afterwards.

Taylor was adjudged Player-of-the-Series for his 194 runs in three innings and being dismissed only once.

SCOREBOARD

INDIA

Prithvi Shaw run out 40 (42b, 3x4, 2x6), Mayank Agarwal b Jamieson 1 (3b), Virat Kohli c Jamieson b Bennett 9 (12b, 1x6), Shreyas Iyer c de Grandhomme b Neesham 62 (63b, 9x4), K.L. Rahul c Jamieson b Bennett 112 (113b, 9x4, 2x6), Manish Pandey c Santner b Bennett 42 (48b, 2x4), Ravindra Jadeja (not out) 8 (7b, 1x4), Shardul Thakur c de Grandhomme b Bennett 7 (6b, 1x4), Navdeep Saini (not out) 8 (6b, 2x4); Extras (b-1, w-6): 7. Total (for 7 wkts. in 50 overs): 296.

FALL OF WICKETS

1-8 (Agarwal, 1.6 overs), 2-32 (Kohli, 6.4), 3-62 (Shaw, 12.1),

STAT SPHERE

1 This is the first time India has not taken a wicket in the first 10 overs of an ODI series

NZ after the first PowerPlay

1st ODI: 52/0 | 2nd ODI: 54/0

3rd ODI: 65/0

3 Kohli has now gone three consecutive ODI series

without a hundred (vs WI, Aus and NZ). The last time this happened was in 2012-13 (vs Pak, Eng and Champions Trophy)

4 India suffered its fourth whitewash in bilateral series in ODIs (minimum 3 matches). The visitors had lost 2-0 to the Kiwis in New Zealand in 1981

1983 vs West Indies 5-0
(in India)

1989 vs West Indies 5-0 (WI)

1997 vs Sri Lanka 3-0* (SL)

2020 vs New Zealand 3-0 (NZ)

* The third ODI was a 'No Result' and was replayed on the reserve day

4 Rahul registered his fourth ODI hundred, each one of them coming in a different country. Yuvraj is the only other Indian to score his first four centuries in different countries

1 Guptill (6178) has scored the most runs as opener for New Zealand in ODIs, eclipsing Astle (6176)

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We didn't deserve to win, says Kohli

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

MT. MAUNGANUI

India captain Virat Kohli on Tuesday berated his bowlers for their mediocre performance as he tried to explain the team's first ODI series whitewash in over three decades, saying the visitors lacked composure all through.

The five-wicket defeat here meant India lost the series 0-3 to an injury-plagued New Zealand that had been deflated by a 0-5 whitewash of its own in the T20 format.

Missed chances

"The games were not as bad as the scoreline suggests. It boils down to those chances that we didn't grab," Kohli said.

"With the ball, we were not able to make breakthroughs, we were not at all good on the field. We haven't played so badly but when you don't grab those chances, you don't deserve to win," he said.

The ineffectiveness of the

bowlers can be gauged from the fact that the team's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah finished the series without a wicket and the attack couldn't dismiss the complete rival line-up even once.

Kohli lauded New Zealand for bouncing back after the T20 hammering. "New Zealand played with a lot more intensity," he said.

He is looking forward to the Test series, which begins on February 21. "I think because of the Test Championship, every match has that much more importance. We have a really balanced Test team and we feel we can win the series," he said.

Kane Williamson, who missed the first two games due to injury, was lavish in his praise for his team's grit.

RANJI FINAL ROUND FIXTURES**GROUP A**

Delhi v Rajasthan (New Delhi); Gujarat v Andhra (Nadiad); Hyderabad v Vidarbha (Hyderabad); Punjab v Bengal (Patiala).

GROUP B

Karnataka v Baroda (Bengaluru); Mumbai v Madhya Pradesh (Mumbai); Saurashtra v Tamil Nadu (Rajkot); Uttar Pradesh v Himachal (Lucknow).

GROUP C

Chhattisgarh v Services (Raipur); Jammu & Kashmir v Haryana (Jammu); Maharashtra v Uttarakhand (Baramati); Odisha v Jharkhand (Cuttack); Assam v Tripura (Guwahati).

PLATE

Mizoram v Goa (Barasat); Pondicherry v Nagaland (Puducherry); Manipur v Chandigarh (Kolkata); Arunachal Pradesh v Meghalaya (Dibrugarh); Sikkim v Bihar (Cuttack).

TV PICKS

NBA: Sony Ten 1 (SD & HD), 5.30 a.m.

Women's T20I tri-series final: Australia vs India, Sony Six (SD & HD), 8.10 a.m.

Ranji Trophy: Uttar Pradesh vs Himachal Pradesh, Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 9.30 a.m.

ISL: Star Sports 2 (SD & HD), 7.30 p.m.

South Africa vs England: 1st T20I, Sony Six (SD & HD), 9.30 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Pascal shines as Raptors extend winning streak

LONESOME

Pascal Siakam scored 34 points as Toronto Raptors shrugged off their injury problems to extend their winning streak to 15 games on Monday with a 137-126 defeat of Minnesota Timberwolves.

The results: Hornets 87 bt Pistons 76; Nets 106 bt Pacers 105; Magic 135 bt Hawks 126; Raptors 137 bt Timberwolves 126; Bucks 123 bt Kings 111; Jazz 123 bt Mavericks 119; Nuggets 127 bt Spurs 120; Heat 113 bt Warriors 101; Lakers 125 bt Suns 100. AGENCIES

Kanoute helps Aizawl beat TRAU

AIZAWL

Abdoulaye Kanoute's brace (75th & 87th) powered Aizawl to a 2-0 win over TRAU in their I-League match on Tuesday. With the match heading for a draw, Kanoute stepped in and swung the contest Aizawl's way. At Imphal, Indian Arrows held host Neroca to a goalless draw. PTI

Chawla is poll officer

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI

Delhi and District Cricket Association ombudsman Justice (Retd) Deepak Verma on Tuesday appointed former chief Election Commissioner Navin Chawla as electoral officer for the election of president, treasurer and other posts.

DDCA president Rajat Sharma had resigned in November while (BJP MLA) Om Prakash Sharma was disqualified as treasurer according to Lodha Committee Recommendations for holding public office.

Chandni advances

GURUGRAM: Chandni Srinivasan overcame stiff resistance from Sahiba Singh for a 6-3, 6-7(4), 6-2 victory in the girls pre-quarterfinals of the Asian under-14 tennis tournament at Balia on Tuesday.

The results: Tamanna Takorova bt Raja Sarvagnya 6-0, 6-2; Samiksha Dabas bt Janvi Asawa 6-0, 6-0; Shruti Ahlawat bt Shagun Kumari 6-1, 6-1; Sauminya Ronde bt Sanjana Devineni 5-7, 6-2, 6-1; Ridhi Choudhary bt Jeetesh Kumari 6-7(2), 6-0, 7-5; Jo Leen Saw (Mas) bt Sahiba Taneja 6-0, 6-1; Chandni Srinivasan bt Sahiba Singh 6-3, 6-7(4), 6-2.

Delhi, Rajasthan look to finish on a high

Neither team has a realistic chance of making the quarterfinals

RANJI TROPHY

RAKESH RAO

NEW DELHI

On the eve of the final round of Ranji Trophy league match against Rajasthan, Delhi is not even looking at an almost improbable mathematical possibility of making the quarterfinals.

Having collected just 18 points and placed tied-ninth with defending champion Vidarbha, Delhi has more uncontrollable factors to deal with than the controllable ones in its path to the knockout stage.

In all, there are five quarterfinal spots for 18 teams divided into two Elite groups.

The requirements

First of all, Delhi needs to beat Rajasthan (16 points) with a bonus point and keep up a quotient higher than Karnataka (25).

It has to then hope that Punjab (24) and Karnataka lose, Uttar Pradesh (20) and Tamil Nadu (19) are locked in drawn encounters and Vidarbha does not gain a bonus.



Change: Delhi will bring in spinner Shivank Vashishtha for left-arm seamer Kulwant Khejroliya in its clash against Rajasthan. ■ FILE PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

In short, far too many results have to favour Delhi to help its qualification.

In any case, barring a few

matches, Delhi has dished out too many ordinary performances to merit a place in the last-eight. Injuries to its

pace bowlers hurt the side throughout the season.

Delhi's top-order batting has failed more often than

not. Two matches where Delhi rose to the occasion, and won, came at home against Hyderabad and Vidarbha.

Rajasthan, on the other hand, is out of the reckoning for a place in the last-eight stage, with four defeats in seven matches.

Consolation

Now, much like Delhi, it is looking for a consolation of finishing on a high.

Delhi has made a change in the squad with spinner Shivank Vashishtha coming in for left-arm seamer Kulwant Khejroliya. Since the pitch is likely to assist the spinners, Delhi's decision looks justified.

For Rajasthan, Ashok Meheria (512 runs), Rituraj Singh (22 wickets), Tanveer Ul-Haq (21) and S. K. Sharma (19) have been major contributors to the team's limited success this season.

It is much like Delhi, for which Nitish Rana (477 runs) and Simarjeet Singh (26 wickets) have stood out in the midst of some inconsistent performers.

Five u-19 players handed suspension points

Akash, Bishnoi, Hridoy, Shamim and Rakibul found guilty

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA

DUBAI

of breaching Article 2.5," the ICC said in a statement.

"Bishnoi accepted a level 1 charge of breaching Article 2.5 for a separate incident during the match, where he used language, actions or gestures which disparage or which could provoke an aggressive reaction from a batter," said the ICC.

"For this he received a further two demerit points meaning seven demerit points will remain on his record for the next two years."

One suspension point means a player will be ineligible for one ODI or T20I, U-19 or A-team match.

They will be applied for the forthcoming international matches the players are most likely to participate in either at the senior or under-19 level.

Steyn sets sights on WC

AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE
EAST LONDON



Still got it: Dale Steyn says he can't see himself doing anything else at the moment. ■ GETTY IMAGES

them and outsmart them and that kind of stuff, if I can do that I'm going to continue to do that," he said.

Steyn was selected for the 2019 Cricket World Cup in England and Wales but didn't play a game before returning home with a shoulder injury.

"I love playing cricket," he said. "I wake up every day and I can't see myself doing anything else right now." Steyn said he had discussed some options for life after cricket but that was something for the future. As long as that drive is still there to play at the highest level, to get batters out, fox

India greats 'shocked' by youngsters' conduct

You can't cross the line of decency in the name of being competitive: Kapil

VIJAY LOKAPALLY

NEW DELHI

Sledging may have been Australia's 'gift' to cricket, but the behaviour of players from India and Bangladesh during and after the ICC Under-19 World Cup final on Sunday has left a few India greats and administrators shocked.

The West Indians never had to sledge. "That look, eyebrows raised, hands on hips, and a vicious bouncer past your nose would give the message," remembered Kapil Dev, who admitted he was shocked at the manner in which the Indian and Bangladesh juniors conducted themselves.

Control the aggression
"I welcome aggression. Nothing wrong in it. But it has to be controlled aggression. You can't cross the line of decency in the name of

being competitive. Personally, I would say it was unacceptable that youngsters put up such obnoxious display on the cricket field," he noted.

Mohammad Azharuddin, who led India in 47 Tests, was also critical of both the teams. "How can you do this? You just keep abusing the opponent, right through the game, in the name of playing hard. Australians played hard always but without getting personal. We had fast bowlers who did not believe in using cuss words to pump themselves up or upset the batsmen."

Unpleasant sight
Kapil, one of the greatest the game has known, wanted the youngsters to remember that they represent the country and have to set examples. "You all can lip read what they were uttering. I don't



Kapil Dev.

■ FILE PHOTO: M. VEDHAN



Mohd. Azharuddin.

■ FILE PHOTO: V.V. SUBRAHMANYAM

want to take names but it was unpleasant to see. The boys were wasting their energy by indulging in needless sledging."

Another great, Sunil Gavaskar, has always been critical of the poor behaviour on the field by modern cricketers. He would never fail to question the act of bowler

abusing the batsman on getting his wicket.

Kapil also held similar views. "When you have got the batsman out what is the need of cursing him. Haven't you won your battle by getting him out?" he asked.

Kapil and Azharuddin wanted the Board and the coaches to act fast. "I would

like to see the Board to take some strict action to set an example. Cricket is not about abusing the opponent. I am sure there is enough reason for these youngsters to be dealt with firmly," said Kapil.

Azharuddin hoped the support staff was asked to explain. "I would take action against the errant players but also want to know what role has the support staff played in educating the youngsters. Act before it is too late. These youngsters are the future of Indian cricket. They have to be disciplined."

Chauhan, four others elected unopposed

AICF ELECTIONS

...the proposed election scheduled on 23.02.2020 cannot take place and the same is declared as such

timate outcome of the Election process for the Office Bearers of All India Chess Federation (AICF) for the period 2020-2023, the proposed election scheduled on 23.02.2020 cannot take place and the same is declared as such."

In his order under "Proceedings of the Returning Officer", the former judge of Supreme Court stated, "Form-6 in respect of the posts of president, honorary secretary and treasurer consists of a single candidate only for the three posts. The number of posts to be filled indisputably for each of the above three posts is one post only. The

number of contesting candidates in Form-6 for the posts of president, honorary secretary and treasurer being equal, all such contesting candidates should be deemed to be duly elected unopposed to those posts as per para 9 (i) of the National Sports Development Code, 2011.

There, it has become unnecessary to take a poll for election to such posts.

"In respect of the posts of vice-president and joint-secretaries, here again the arrangement in Form-6 reveals that as against six posts of vice-president and six posts of joint-secretary, the name of only one candidate each respectively alone could be arranged. Therefore, there is no scope for a poll for election to the said posts of vice-president and joint-secretary also."

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Sharan and Sitak stun top seeds

INDIANS ABROAD

SPORTS BUREAU

NEW YORK

Divij Sharan and Artem Sitak of New Zealand caused a flutter, shocking top seeds Austin Krajicek and Frank Skugor (Cro) 7-6(3), 6-3.

\$275,000 WTA, Hua Hin, Thailand: Katarzyna Kawa (Pol) bt Ankita Raina 3-6, 6-0, 6-1.

\$15,000 ITF men, Sharq El Sheikh, Egypt: Piotr Matuszewski (Pol) & David Poljak (Cze) bt Mehulli Don Ayanda Sibanda (Zim) & Aryan Goaveas 7-5, 4-6, [10-2].

\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Rishab Agarwal bt Sebastian Prechtel (Ger) 6-3, 6-2.

The results: First round:

\$804,180 ATP, New York, USA: Artem Sitak (Nzl) & Divij Sharan bt Austin Krajicek (US) & Frank Skugor (Cro) 7-6(3), 6-3.

\$275,000 WTA, Hua Hin, Thailand: Katarzyna Kawa (Pol) bt Ankita Raina 3-6, 6-0, 6-1.

\$15,000 ITF men, Sharq El Sheikh, Egypt: Piotr Matuszewski (Pol) & David Poljak (Cze) bt Mehulli Don Ayanda Sibanda (Zim) & Aryan Goaveas 7-5, 4-6, [10-2].

\$15,000 ITF men, Monastir, Tunisia: Rishab Agarwal bt Sebastian Prechtel (Ger) 6-3, 6-2.

\$15,000 ITF women, Monastir, Tunisia: Katarzyna Kawa (Pol) bt Ankita Raina 3-6, 6-0, 6-1.

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