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Ministry of Defence

Inauguration

by

Narendra Modi Prime Minister



in august presence of

Anandiben Patel

Governor
Uttar Pradesh

Rajnath Singh

Defence Minister
Govt. of India

Yogi Adityanath

Chief Minister
Uttar Pradesh

Shripad Yesso Naik

Minister of State, Defence
Govt. of India

Keshav Prasad Maurya
Dy. Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Dr. Dinesh Sharma
Dy. Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh

Satish Mahana
Minister, Industrial Development, Uttar Pradesh

Date: 05th February, 2020 | Time: 1:00 PM | Venue: Vrindavan Yojana, Sector-15, Lucknow

Welcome



Delegates & Investors from India & Foreign Countries
visiting Lucknow on the occasion of Defence Expo - 2020.



5 लाख रुपए का मुफ्त उपचार दिलाने वाली 'आयुष्मान भारत योजना' दिल्ली में लागू होने नहीं दी
मुफ्त उपचार, अब दिल्ली में भी कर दिखाएंगे
 दिल्लीवासी इस बार कमल का बटन दबाएंगे, भाजपा को जिताएंगे



देश बदला
 अब दिल्ली बदलो



भारतीय जनता पार्टी, दिल्ली बांध, 14, परिषद यत नाम, नई दिल्ली द्वारा गती



MINISTER IN LOK SABHA

Govt puts it on record: No NRC decision yet

Aadhaar for NPR voluntary, give info 'true to best of knowledge': Govt

BUSINESS AS USUAL
By UNNY



DEEPTIMAN TIWARY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

WITH PROTESTS against the Citizenship (Amendment) Act and proposed National Register of Citizens marking two months next week, the government reiterated in Lok Sabha Tuesday that it has not taken any decision on a countrywide NRC.

It also moved to allay fears over personal data being collected for the pre-Census update of the National Population Register (NPR) by making clear that no document will be collected during the exercise – and that providing Aadhaar number would be voluntary.

Replies to a written question on NRC, MoS (Home) CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

EXPLAINED
E Flies in the face of past statements

DOUBTS HAVE persisted given repeated references to NRC, including by Amit Shah. The latest reply in House has formalised PM's assurance, but is this the final word?

Police say Shaheen Bagh gunman had joined AAP, party hits back

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

SETTING OFF A fresh political row four days before the national capital votes, the Delhi Police Tuesday said the man arrested for firing twice in the air at the Shaheen Bagh protest site on February 1 had joined the Aam Aadmi Party last year.

The police claim drew a sharp reaction from the AAP which said Union Home Minister Amit Shah



Delhi police say this photo of AAP's Sanjay Singh with Kapil Baisala (seen right) was found from the latter's phone

was directly behind the "conspiracy". The Delhi Police reports to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The AAP said it plans to approach the Election Commission against CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Mumbai openers take India to U-19 World Cup finals, demolish Pakistan

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 4

ONE SOLD pani-puris on the road not so long ago, the other went to a famous cricket academy. On Tuesday, the lives of these two teenagers converged on a cricket pitch over 7,000 km from their homes in Mumbai. The result: India beat Pakistan by 10 wickets to enter the final of the Under-19 World Cup at Potchefstroom in South Africa.

Yashavji Jaiswal (105 not out) and Divyansh Saxena (59 not out) sealed the deal with 14.4 overs to spare after India's



India beat Pakistan by 10 wickets in the semi-finals in Potchefstroom in South Africa. ICC

bowlers set it up by dismantling Pakistan for 172. Jaiswal did his bit with the ball too, prising out rival opener Haider Ali (56). It was about eight years ago CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

WUHAN SE YAHAN LE AAYE!



3dCunha/AB7683

Lavasas paid Rs 46 lakh cash for house, used help's bank account: I-T

RITIKA CHOPRA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

CASH DEPOSITS amounting to Rs 4.93 lakh after demonetisation; Rs 46.65 lakh paid in cash for construction of a building in Gurgaon; a payment of Rs 9.57 lakh to the builder routed through the bank account of a domestic help — these are the allegations in a report of the Income Tax (I-T) Department on com-

plaints of tax evasion by members of the family of Election Commissioner (EC) Ashok Lavasa.

In the last six months, his wife Novel Singh Lavasa, an CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

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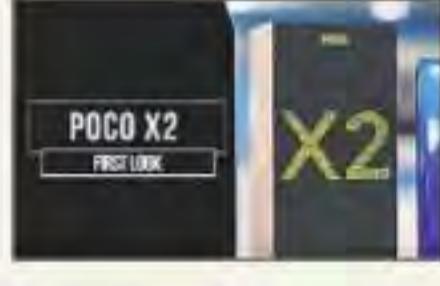
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WEB EXCLUSIVE

IN DWARKA, CONGRESS, AAP CANDIDATES SWITCH SIDES

With nearly two lakh voters, Dwarka constituency, which came into existence in 2008, has been labelled as one of the five most backward constituencies in Delhi.

VIDEO OF THE DAY**POCO X2 FIRST LOOK**

The 120Hz punch-hole screen, clean glass back stand out

EXPLAINED**WHAT WAS THE 2003 SARS EPIDEMIC?**

SARS was also caused by a type of coronavirus (SARS-CoV)

EXPRESS AUDIO

How the new income tax reform will affect savings

NEW EPISODE EVERYDAY

Today on the 3 Things podcast, we look at how the government's move to reform personal income tax will affect savings and impact the economy.

ALLEGATIONS AGAINST SUBODH GUPTA

Instagram user says exploring settlement in defamation suit

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE PERSON using the Instagram handle @herdsceneand, who had anonymously posted sexual harassment allegations against artist Subodh Gupta during #MeToo movement, on Tuesday told the Delhi High Court that an amicable settlement of the dispute was being explored in camera."

The court, in its interim order, had allowed the Instagram user anonymity in the defamation suit filed by Gupta against the user and others, seeking removal of the allegedly defamatory content made against him on the social media platforms.

However, the counsel for @herdsceneand had contended that disclosing the identity of the persons behind the account is likely to cause harm to them and also for which sufficient protection is not available in our legal system.

Bombay HC sets aside trial court order rejecting Areeb Majeed's bail plea

Mumbai: The Bombay High Court Tuesday restored the bail application of Areeb Majeed, a Kalyan-based man who is alleged to have travelled to Iraq and Syria to join the Islamic State, a terrorist organisation, in 2014. A trial court in September last year had rejected the bail application of Majeed, who has been in custody since 2014.

Referring to the "confusion" appearing in paragraphs of the trial court order, the high court has now directed the lower court to hear the matter, while giving it a "fresh consideration".

Majeed had filed a bail ap-

peal before the high court against the trial court's order in October last year. This was his third application.

On Tuesday, Majeed, who argues in person, submitted to the high court that the crucial witnesses relied on by the NIA in their chargesheet had not supported the agency's case during the trial. He also submitted that since his previous bail applications were rejected on the ground that there was prima facie evidence against him it is now a changed circumstance and hence he should be released on bail pending trial.

SADAF MODAK

FROM PAGE ONE**U-19 World Cup**

that Jaiswal, the son of a shop keeper in UP's Bhadohi, left home to pursue his cricket dream in Mumbai. He began by sharing a tent with ground staff at the Azad Maidan and selling pan-puri.

Around the same time, Saxena convinced his father, a nuclear scientist, that his passion was cricket and landed up at former India captain Dilip Vengsarkar's academy in search of guidance.

"Divyansh was good in academics, scoring around 80% in Class 10 and passing with distinction in Class 12. But as a parent, I always gave my children the liberty to decide their own future. There was no proper practice facility where we lived then, so he decided to join Vengsarkar's academy," said Divyansh's father, Ajay Saxena, who works at the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).

Ajay says he doesn't talk much in office about his son playing for India. "I didn't speak to Divyansh either for the last two days as we didn't want to disturb him. He has been telling us that he will come home with the Cup. When he was batting today, there were many goosebump moments for me. Probably, they will talk to me about this tomorrow at the office," said Ajay Saxena, laughing.

When Saxena was sharpening his batting skills, Jaiswal would often go to sleep on an empty stomach. Occasionally, his father would send money but that was never enough. Before boarding the flight to South Africa, his teammates shared a laugh about the numerous bats he was carrying – seven. "People have laughed at me since I was small. They don't know the importance of these bats. I know," he had said.

Back in Bhadohi, Jaiswal's father Bhupendra is thrilled with his son's heroics against Pakistan. "He made all of us proud today. He was batting brilliantly and it was only a matter of time before he got a hundred. He has made our chests swell with pride," he said.

Lavasas

ex-banker, sister Shakuntala Lavasa, a paediatrician, and son Abir Lavasa have been served I-T notices.

As one of the three ECs, Ashok Lavasa, on five occasions, opposed the clean chit given to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former BJP president Amit Shah on charges of violating the Model Code of Conduct during the Lok Sabha elections.

The latest report of the I-T Department was shared with the Department of Revenue in November 2019, The Indian Express has learnt.

P C Mody, chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), did not respond to questions on whether any action has been taken on the allegations in the report. Ashok Lavasa, Novel Lavasa and Abir Lavasa did not respond to questions shared via email.

The report focuses on investments by the Lavasa family in two properties – a four-storied building in Gurgaon owned jointly by Ashok Lavasa, sister Shakuntala, wife Novel, son Abir and daughter Avny; and, a farmhouse near Karnal held by the Election Commissioner, his wife and son.

On August 22, 2019, the I-T Department searched the office and home of Satya Priya Tyagi, proprietor of Rupali Constructions that built the four-storied building in Gurgaon. According to the report, evidence in the shape of handwritten diaries, loose

Home assures House: No decision yet on NRC, no document needed for NPR

Nityanand Rai said: "Till now, the government has not taken any decision to prepare the National Register of Indian Citizens at the national level."

In another reply, this time on the NPR process, Rai said: "No document is to be collected during the updation of NPR... During the exercise of updation of National Population Register, no verification is done to find individuals whose citizenship is doubtful."

Rai's statement is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assurance after the passage of the CAA in Parliament that the government had not discussed the implementation of a nationwide NRC.

On December 22, 2019, Modi had said at the Ramlila Maidan: "Pehe yeh to dekh lijiye, NRC pe kuch hua bhi kya? Jhooth chalayija rahi hai. Meri askar aane ke baad, 2014 se aaj tak, main yeh sachch 130 crore logon ke liye kehna chahta hu, kahin par bhi NRC shabd par koi charha nahin hui hai. Koi baat nahin hui hai (First, see if anything has happened on NRC. Lies are being spread. From the time my government came to power in 2014 till today, I want to tell this truth to 130 crore people of this country, that there has been no discussion on NRC. No talk at all.)"

Tuesday's Question Hour had multiple questions on issues associated with CAA, NRC and NPR. Asked whether the government had made it mandatory to share details of passport, driving licence, Aadhaar and other documents in the NPR, Rai said: "The respondent has to provide the information for National Population Register (NPR) update true to the best of his

knowledge and belief. Aadhaar number is collected voluntarily."

The passage of the CAA in Parliament on December 11 triggered protests and fears that it would lead to a nationwide implementation of the NRC. It led at least eight Opposition-led states to declare that they would not implement the CAA.

Many of these states have also opposed the NPR update move, prompted by concerns that the central government would use the data collected to implement the NRC. The government is currently in discussion with states over the exercise.

The NPR is slated to be updated between April and September, 2020. The Census will be conducted from February 9-28, 2021.

Replies to another question on whether government would release illegal immigrants belonging to Hindu, Sikh, Christian, Jain, Parsi and Buddhist communities held in detention centres, Rai said the CAA came into force on January 10, 2020, and the proceedings against these immigrants could abate only after grant of Indian citizenship.

Those covered by the Act can submit applications for citizenship after rules are notified

by the central government, he said. "No specific instruction has been issued by the central government regarding release of migrants from detention centres after enacting the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019," Rai said.

Also, with Modi having earlier asserted that there were no detention centres for illegal immigrants anywhere in the country, the government told Parliament that the nomenclature of detention centres had been changed to "holding centres".

Following DCP Deo's comments, BJP president J P Nadda tweeted: "I want to make it clear to Kejriwal that this country is bigger than any election, any government, and it will not forgive those who play with its security. Kejriwal and his team have been unmasked. The people of Delhi will give a befitting reply."

At a press conference called Tuesday night, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar, who is BJP's poll in-charge of Delhi, said: "It is not a casual photo. He was joining AAP and Sanjay Singh welcomed him. This shows how AAP instigates the youth and misuses them."

AAP's Sanjay Singh hit back: "BJP and Home Minister Amit Shah are using all kinds of tactics and hatching conspiracies. My photo is being used by them today. There are only three-four days to go for elections. Just watch how many more photos and videos they will share. I am shocked that while the model code of conduct is imposed, wherein the Election Commission is supreme, DCP (Crime Branch) Rajesh Deo says they have found a photo of AAP members and they are investigating the involvement of others. Is Amit Shah making Deo say this? Or is it someone else? On whose direction did he dare to do this?"

"Investigation is incomplete, no enquiry has been made regarding the photo and the involvement of others. Is Amit Shah making Deo say this? Or is it someone else? On whose direction did he dare to do this?"

"We have recovered photos which show that a year ago, Kapil Baisala (the shooter) and his father had joined AAP. Further investigation is on," DCP Deo said. "Photographs were deleted from his phone, but we recovered them with help from technical experts. When we had questioned him initially, he had told us he joined AAP in the first part of 2019. We are trying to establish the exact date. There are photos that establish this and he has agreed to these photos."

Earlier in the day, police sought custody of Kapil in a Delhi court where it did not mention his alleged links with AAP.

Asked why Kapil's political links were being divulged days before the polls, Deo said, "Pictures were not released by us; several media houses had approached me and asked for confirmation, which I gave. I shared details about him during the general briefing and will investigate all facts as it is a very sensitive matter."

Police said the weapon Kapil used had been procured seven years ago for celebratory firing during a wedding.

Kapil's uncle Jogender Nagar told *The Indian Express* that the 25-year-old and his father had joined AAP "for two weeks".

"My elder cousin and Kapil's father, Gaje Singh, had joined AAP in early 2019, and remained in the party for about two weeks. He was looking for a ticket and it seemed it would not work out. Kapil had gone to support his father and did not have any political ambitions. He merely stood there alongside his father and got pictures clicked," his uncle said.

Another relative, Fatesh Singh, told PTI: "I have no idea where these photographs are

25, 2019, she informed the department that Mahto had extended a personal loan of Rs 9.57 lakh to her son Abir.

The report adds that Abir hasn't disclosed this loan in his Income Tax Return (ITR) for any year. The report says that there was sufficient bank balance in Novel and Abir's accounts on the dates when Mahto made payments amounting to Rs 9.57 lakh. "Thus there was no business need to take any loans," the report states.

For the agricultural land near Karnal purchased jointly by Ashok Lavasa, his wife and son in 2011-12 from Ombiri Devi, the I-T Department has said that approximately Rs 35 lakh was paid in cash by the Lavasa family. The report points to statements of Vishesh Tomar (son of Ombiri Devi) and Kanwar Pal Singh Tomar (husband of Ombiri Devi) who have said the land was sold for Rs 35 lakh to 40 lakh per acre and the sale amount was received in cheque and cash. The report concludes the land was sold for Rs 95.5 lakh (at 35 lakh per acre). Since the sale deed shows the registered value of the transaction as Rs 60.5 lakh (paid by cheque), the I-T Department alleges that the difference of approximately Rs 34 lakh was paid in cash from unaccounted sources.

According to the department, bank accounts held jointly by Novel with her son and another with her daughter reflect cumulative deposits of Rs 4.93 lakh during the demonetisation period. In her recorded statement, Novel attributed this to agricultural income and past savings. The I-T Department rejected this, saying that her ITR from 2014-15 to 2018-19 show Rs 5,846 as agricultural income. "Thus she did not have adequate agricultural income to explain deposit of cash in her accounts. She also could not explain any other source/savings to account for cash deposits," the report states.

The report alludes to Abir Lavasa's directorship at Nourish Organic Foods Private Ltd being an "undue benefit" arising out of Ashok Lavasa's posting in Power and Environment ministries from September 2009 to December 2013 and from August 2014 to April 2016, respectively.

The report says Seema Jajodia, who is "connected to the Monnet Ispat Group" that had "interests" in Environment and Power ministries, quit as director from Nourish within two months of Abir's joining, thereby giving him a larger role in the company. Seema Jajodia was married to the promoter of the Monnet Ispat Group Sandeep Jajodia. They were divorced in March 2016.

When contacted Monday, Sandeep Jajodia told *The Indian Express* that he has no connection with Nourish Organic Foods and has "never had any connection (with) them in any capacity".

Seema Jajodia said she hasn't had anything to do with the Monnet Ispat Group for "many years", especially after her divorce in 2016.

"I hired Abir (Lavasa for Nourish Organic Foods) based on his qualifications and talent. I didn't even know whose son he was (then). I met Mr Ashok Lavasa in Nehru Park once while walking, as I have met many many other IAS officers and all who go for a walk in the morning there. I have no knowledge of Mr Lavasa's postings or have anything to do with him," she said.

The report states that in October 2018, Abir was allotted 10,000 shares of Nourish Organic Foods Private Ltd below the market value at Rs 10 per share when he was appointed director in November 2017. Abir, the I-T Department says, accepted that shares were allotted to him below the market price and paid self-assessment tax of Rs 3,94,200 on September 7, 2019. The report alleges that Abir received Rs 50,000 as remuneration in cash every month "over and above the cheque component of Rs 1 lakh" and a director with

Nourish Organic Foods has corroborated this in his statement recorded with the I-T Department.

Shahid Bagh

DCP (Crime Branch) Rajesh Deo who announced the shooter's alleged links to the party.

"We have recovered photos which show that a year ago, Kapil Baisala (the shooter) and his father had joined AAP. Further investigation is on," DCP Deo said. "Photographs were deleted from his phone, but we recovered them with help from technical experts. When we had questioned him initially, he had told us he joined AAP in the first part of 2019. We are trying to establish the exact date. There are photos that establish this and he has agreed to these photos."

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Nourish Organic Foods has been accused of rape and is photographed with the honourable Prime Minister and (UP CM) Yogi Adityanath. Should it be assumed then that they are also involved in his crimes? This is a photograph of Asaram Bapu with the PM. It can't be said that the PM is responsible for his crimes... You are trying to defame AAP before polls on Amit Shah's direction... If someone has committed a crime, strict action must be taken. The police must stop being a puppet in BJP's hands," Singh said.

"Let's come to the photo now. I just want to say that BJP can use all the dirty tricks they can but the people will defeat them on 8th. Their deposits will be lost... Chinmayanand has been accused of rape and is

photographed with the honourable Prime Minister and (UP CM) Yogi Adityanath. Should it be assumed then that they are also involved in his crimes? This is a photograph of Asaram Bapu with the PM. It can't be said that the PM is responsible for his crimes... You are trying to defame AAP before polls on Amit Shah's direction... If someone has committed a crime, strict action must be taken. The police must stop being a puppet in BJP's hands," Singh said.

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Dec 16 case: HC to decide on plea against stay on execution

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE DELHI High Court is likely to pronounce on Wednesday its order on the Centre's plea against stay on execution of the four convicts in the December 16 gangrape-murder case.

Justice Suresh Kumar Kait had on February 2 reserved order on the Centre's plea after holding special hearing on Saturday and Sunday.

The Centre and the Delhi government have challenged the trial court's January 31 order staying "till further orders" the execution of all the four convicts — Mukesh Singh (32), Pawan Gupta (25), Vinay Sharma (26) and Akshay Kumar Singh (31) — who are lodged in Tihar Jail.

Earlier in the day, the victim's parents urged Justice Kait to expeditiously decide on the Centre's plea.

On Saturday, President Ram Nath Kovind rejected the mercy plea of Vinay. The Supreme Court had also dismissed a plea filed by Pawan seeking a review of its order dismissing his juvenility claim.

"As of now, Mukesh has exhausted all his legal remedies including the clemency plea which was dismissed by President on January 17. His appeal against mercy plea rejection was thrown out by the Supreme Court on January 29. The curative petitions of Vinay and Akshay have also been rejected by the apex court. Subsequently, Akshay filed his mercy plea before the President. No decision has been taken on it yet. Pawan has not filed his curative and mercy petitions yet."

Initially, on January 7, 2020, the trial court had issued death warrants for January 22 against the convicts. A second death warrant was issued by the court on January 17 for February 1.

The four were convicted and sentenced to death in September 2013.

Murder convict who managed to flee arrested

Gurgaon: Three days after "8 to 10 people" allegedly opened fire at a police van and shot an Assistant Sub Inspector (ASI) to help flee two murder convicts who were serving their sentences in Bhondsi prison, police said the convict who successfully managed to escape on Saturday was held from the forest near Patia village on Monday. The other convict, who was admitted to hospital after being injured during the chase, has also been discharged and formally arrested.

Kapil and Naresh, who were trying to free the convicts, were arrested on Saturday. ENS

GOVERNMENT OF TAMILNADU

TAMIL NADU INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION (RFQ) FOR EMPANELMENT OF CONSULTANCY FIRMS FOR VARIOUS SECTORS / FUNCTIONAL AREAS

INVITATION FOR EMPANELMENT

1. Government of Tamil Nadu (GoTN) has set up Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board (TNIDB) for faster identification and clearance of major infrastructure projects, with a view to translating the 'Tamil Nadu Vision 2023' document (http://www.tn.gov.in/tnidb/pdfs/TN_Vision_2023.pdf) into action.

2. The Board is a facilitator for infrastructure projects executed in the State of Tamil Nadu. The projects will include both projects that are executed through the Public Sector as well as those implemented through the Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. Details of the process of project development may be seen in the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Act, 2012, Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Rules, 2012 and Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board Regulations, 2013. The procurement process for projects will be governed by the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 and the Rules framed thereunder including the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders (Public Private Partnership Procurement) Rules, 2012.

3. As per Regulation 6(1) of the Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board Regulations, 2013, the TNIDB has been empowered to create a panel of consultants whose services can be availed of by project sponsoring agencies.

4. Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board's Regulation 6(3) specifies that empanelled consultancy firms may be used by TNIDB and/or project sponsoring Departments. This may be done through Financial Bids being called for from the specified empanelled firms. The Terms of Reference and the methodology of selection and the commercial terms will vary with each project and will be decided upon by the concerned project sponsor.

5. In this regard, the Chief Executive Officer, TNIDB, proposes to empanel Consultancy Firms for assisting the various Government Departments and Agencies who may execute infrastructure projects and may need project advisory assistance from TNIDB.

6. The Board reserves the right to empanel nil or any number of consultants under each of the functional areas or sectors as mentioned above.

7. The information and the details received will be evaluated based on the criteria given and qualified consultancy firm(s) will be short-listed for the proposed Sector/Functional Area. The consultancy firms will be shortlisted / selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Tamil Nadu Transparency in Tenders Act, 1998 (Tamil Nadu Act 43 of 1998) and Rules made thereunder.

8. Interested consultancy firm(s) must provide all the relevant information (in English language only) as per the prescribed format.

9. Qualified firms may apply individually or as a Consortium or Joint Venture.

10. The details can be downloaded from the websites: www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tnidb.tn.gov.in and www.tnuiifsl.com.

11. The document must be delivered in the Office of Tamil Nadu Urban Infrastructure Financial Services Limited (TNUIFSL), No.19, T.P. Scheme Road, Raja Annamalaiapuram, Chennai 600028 on or before 15.00 hours on 06-03-2020 and document must be accompanied by Processing Fee (non-refundable) of Rs.15,000/- for the assignment for each Functional area and Sector applied in the form of Demand Draft payable at Chennai drawn in favour of Chief Executive Officer, Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board, Secretariat, Chennai-9.

12. A pre-proposal conference will be held on 18-02-2020 at 3.00 p.m. in the Old Conference Hall, 2nd Floor, Main Building, Secretariat, Chennai 600009 to clarify queries, if any.

13. The bidders may send their queries on this Empanelment addressed to Joint Director, Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board/Deputy Secretary to Government, Finance (Infrastructure Cell) Department, Secretariat, Chennai 600009 at least two days before the pre-proposal conference. Phone No: 044-25672509/25665980.

E-mail id: soinfra.findpt@tn.gov.in and vijay@tnuifsl.com

14. Firms applying for empanelment in more than one Functional Area may please submit the documents in separate covers superscribed as applicable with processing fee.

15. Any change in key dates, minutes of the pre-proposal conference, etc., will be uploaded only in the websites of www.tenders.tn.gov.in, www.tnidb.tn.gov.in and www.tnuiifsl.com.

Chief Executive Officer
Tamil Nadu Infrastructure Development Board

DIPR/ 189 / DISPLAY /2020



ऐसी होगी
हमारी दिल्ली

व्यापारियों के लिए

कांग्रेस ने 15 साल के कार्यकाल में

सही नीतियों से छोटे-मध्यम व्यापारियों का व्यापार बढ़ाया

विदेशी और घरेलू निवेश बढ़ाया

टैक्स टेरिज़िम से मुक्त व्यापारियों के हित में निर्णय हुए

कांग्रेस का संकल्प 2020

दुकानों और प्रतिष्ठानों पर कोई अवैध सीलिंग नहीं

गैर-प्रौद्योगिकी उद्योगों को ₹6 यूनिट की दर से बिजली देना

दुकानों, कार्यालयों को 200 यूनिट निःशुल्क बिजली

दिल्ली की GDP को बढ़ाने के लिए हर संभव प्रयास होगा

विदेशी और घरेलू निवेश दिल्ली में वापस लाने को प्राथमिकता

GST संरचना को सरल और तर्कसंगत बनाने के लिए प्रयास



वादा निभाया था
वादा निभाएंगे

कांग्रेस को वोट दें



India : The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub
DEFEXPO 2020
INDIA 05-08 FEBRUARY 2020 LUCKNOW
Ministry of Defence

11th ASSOCHAM International Conference on

AEROSPACE & DEFENCE

APPLICATION OF CONTEMPORARY TECHNOLOGIES IN STRATEGIC PROGRAMS

(09:30 a.m. to 01:30 p.m.) Wednesday, 5 February 2020, Lucknow



Rajnath Singh
Union Minister of Defence
Government of India



Shripad Yesso Naik
Minister of State for Defence
Government of India



Dr. Ajay Kumar, IAS
Secretary, Ministry of Defence
Government of India



Dr. Niranjan Hiranandani
President, ASSOCHAM



"A strong Indian defence industry will not only make India more secure, it will also make India more prosperous."

Narendra Modi, Hon'ble Prime Minister

"As India's aerospace and defence market attracts global attention this sector provides huge investment & job creation opportunities."

Key Topics

- Industrial Revolution 4.0 - Strategic Importance of Contemporary Technologies
- Strategic Programs in Defence and how will it shape the Manufacturing Ecosystem

Key Speakers

- Apurva Chandra, IAS, Director General (Acquisition) & Additional Secretary Ministry of Defence Government of India
- Lt. Gen. Raj Shukla, YSM, SM, Director General Perspective Planning (DGPP), Indian Army
- Dr. S. Guruprasad, DS & Director General - (PC & SI) Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
- Sanjay Jaju, Joint Secretary (DIP), Ministry of Defence Government of India

- Baba Kalyani, Chairman & MD, Bharat Forge Ltd.
- Neeraj Gupta, Managing Director, MKU Ltd.
- Pascale Sourisse, CEO, Thales International
- Anand E. Stanley, President & MD, Airbus India and South Asia
- Dr. Vivek Lall, Vice President- Strategy Business Development, Lockheed Martin
- Ashish Rajvanshi, CEO, Adani Defence
- Salil Gupte, President, Boeing India
- Dr. Joe Seftle, Vice President & General Manager Weapons System, BAE Systems
- Prof. Gerhard Skoff, Vice President & General Manager Special Purpose Powertrain AVL List GmbH, Austria
- Mal Fraser-Clay, Managing Director Zone Products Australia Pvt. Ltd.
- Kamal Kumar, Country Head, L3 Technologies
- Philip Georgiou, Vice President Industrial Strategy, BAE Systems

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I HEREBY DECLARE



AMANATULLAH KHAN (46)

AAP, Okhla

TOTAL ASSETS (2020)

₹ 3.93 CRORE

MOVEABLE ASSETS

₹ 20.49 LAKH

CASH: ₹ 2.16 L

JEWELLERY: ₹ 16.40 L

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹ 3.73 CRORE

Assets

Agricultural land ₹ 66 L

Non-agricultural land ₹ 2.71 Cr

TOTAL ASSETS (2015)

₹ 1.99 CRORE

MOVEABLE ASSETS

₹ 13.85 LAKH

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹ 1.86 CRORE

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:

Class 12



PARVEZH SHASHMI (65)

Congress, Okhla

TOTAL ASSETS (2020)

₹ 59.99 LAKH

MOVEABLE ASSETS

₹ 2.87 CRORE

CASH: ₹ 4.75 L

JEWELLERY: ₹ 57.32 L

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹ 11.14 CRORE

Assets

Agricultural land ₹ 2.55 Cr

Non-agricultural land ₹ 1 Cr

Houses ₹ 6.59 Cr

Commercial buildings ₹ 1 Cr

TOTAL ASSETS (2015)

₹ 30.22 CRORE

MOVEABLE ASSETS

₹ 14.23 LAKH

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹ 2.88 CRORE

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:

MSc (Chemistry), AMU

BALLOTIN

Will clear Shaheen Bagh once BJP comes to power: Thakur

New Delhi: Union Minister Anurag Thakur said the "process of clearing Shaheen Bagh will begin once the BJP comes to power after the Delhi polls". Thakur was recently banned for campaigning for controversial remarks at a poll rally. ENS

28 KEY PROMISES IN CRISP DOCUMENT

AAP manifesto comes with preamble, builds on *bijli-paani* and education

SOURAV ROY BARMAN

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

FOUR DAYS before the polls, the AAP Tuesday launched its manifesto, a slim seven-page document that promises to uphold the preamble to the Indian Constitution, alongside a list of guarantees and proposals, some new and some old.

At the launch, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said the manifesto lays down a vision to get Delhi to the "next level", and turn it into a world-class city, building on fundamental improvements made over the last five years in education, health, power and water.

"For that, the cooperation of the people of Delhi as well as the Union government is needed," Kejriwal told reporters.

Divided into two broad segments, the manifesto carries 10 guarantees made by the party previously, and 28 pointers covering a range of areas – starting from the Delhi Jan Lokpal Bill to the demand for full statehood.

The party's 2015 manifesto had 70 pointers spread over 12 pages, carrying a lone image of Kejriwal on the cover. The 2020 one, drawn up by a three-member committee, is less text heavy, more colourful, and carries five pictures of the AAP chief.

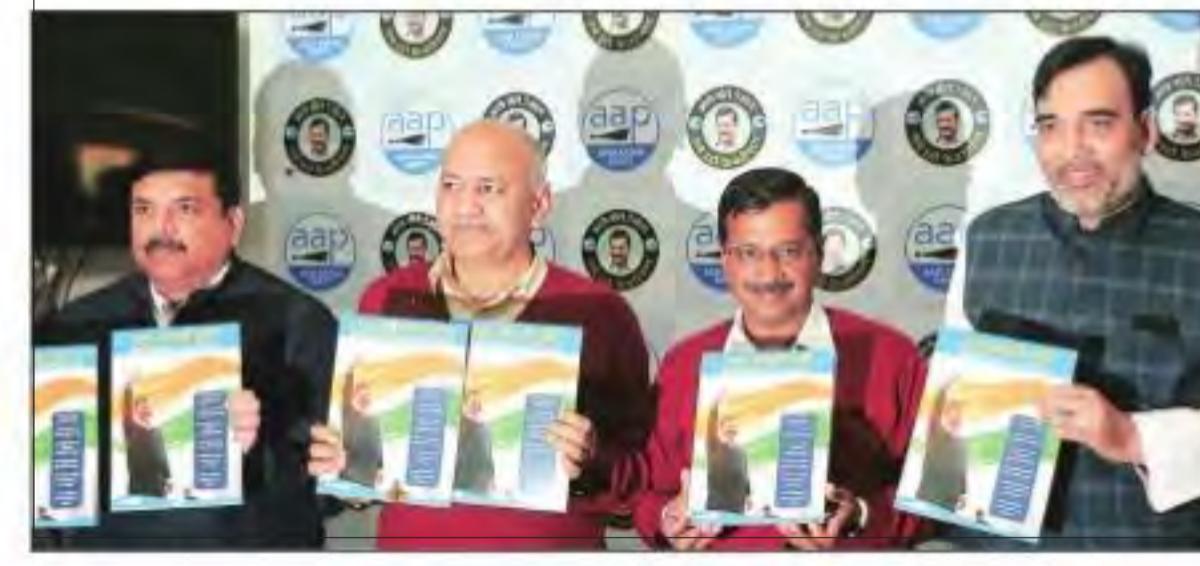
"When every child will get good education, when every person will receive good healthcare, when safety and dignity will raise the confidence of women, when every household will get cheap power and water, when every individual will take the country forward rising above religion and caste, only then will India's Tricolour flutter with pride," says the manifesto's cover page, which Deputy CM Manish Sisodia said was the "preamble".

The next page states, "Aam Aadmi Party makes a commitment to the people of Delhi to serve and uphold Justice, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity enshrined in the Preamble to the Constitution of India as fundamental to our governance model... Having built the foundation, now is the time to accelerate the pace of development of Delhi."

"AAP will not only continue all its pro-people policies such as 200 units of free electricity, 20 kilolitres of free water every months, free bus rides for women, focus on education



2020 DELHI



Sanjay Singh, Manish Sisodia, Arvind Kejriwal and Gopal Rai at the launch of the manifesto, Tuesday. Prem Nath Pandey

MIX OF OLD AND NEW

DESHBHAKTI CURRICULUM

Announced in August 2019, through the curriculum, which will be introduced in Delhi government schools, the AAP aims to teach the "real meaning" of patriotism, to counter BJP's "warped view" on nationalism. The manifesto merely mentions that the curriculum will be introduced building on the successes of the entrepreneurship and happiness curricula.

24x7 MARKETS IN DELHI

Markets in key commercial areas to be established where shops, restaurants can remain open round the clock. This will make Delhi a bustling 24x7 hospitable city and also contribute to tourism and overall economy. The Maharashtra government recently announced a similar move, which is already being implemented in Mumbai.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW SAFAI KARAMCHARIS AND ₹ 1 CRORE FOR DECEASED SAFAI KARAMCHARIS

The party has promised to reassess the required number of safai karamcharis as per the 2011 census. ₹ 1 crore will be paid to the next of kin of those who die while performing cleaning tasks.

ENHANCE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN ECONOMY

Initiatives to be undertaken to connect housewives with job and business opportunities. Women shall be provided cheap capital and requisite skills for this purpose.

and health, but has also drawn a roadmap to make Delhi a truly world class city in the next five years," the manifesto states.

The Prashant Kishor-founded I-PAC, which is advising the AAP, was a key player in the drafting of the manifesto. On its suggestion, the AAP adopted a staggered approach, as part of which it first released a report card, followed by a guarantee card and finally the manifesto.

Critising the AAP for "repeating promises made before", Delhi Congress chief Subhash Chopra said, "AAP's promise to appoint new safai karamcharis is a big joke as not only did their government not regularise the sanitation workers on contract, but also delayed their wages, which resulted in sanitation workers striking work many times to get their salaries."

The BJP called the AAP manifesto a "bundle of lies" while Congress described it as "hollow". It shows that AAP has failed completely in the last five years. This manifesto is again promising to bring Jan Lokpal Bill and Swaraj. It is a copy paste of the 70 promises made in 2015," Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari said.

The Prashant Kishor-founded I-PAC, which is advising the AAP, was a key player in the drafting of the manifesto. On its suggestion, the AAP adopted a staggered approach, as part of which it first released a report card, followed by a guarantee card and finally the manifesto.

But if it was meant to consolidate votes in favour of the party candidates, the election pitch – which seeks to pit Prime Minister Narendra Modi against Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal – might not yield the desired results.

Modi's popularity and acceptance in the city are intact, despite the malaise in the economy and criticism over the Centre's failure to tackle joblessness. Voters laud the Prime Minister for "bold steps" he has taken – from Article 370 to Ram Mandir – but are quick to add that local issues are a bigger concern than national ones when it comes to choosing a government for the state.

Votes apart, criticism of Shaheen Bagh appears to have many takers. De Verma, Azad Kumar, also a cab driver, and almost everyone assembled near a tea stall in Tekhchand village spoke disapprovingly of the anti-CAA protest there. For them, the protest is unnecessary, and the protesters a menace. Some also bought into the BJP's claims that the protest had been organised by the AAP.

"Had Shaheen Bagh not been there, it would have been even better for Kejriwal," said De. Asked Azad: "Would you appreciate some people sitting on dharna in front of your house, blocking people coming to your house?"

Villagers said the protest, which has crossed 50 days, has adversely affected their life, income and peace of mind. "Wo bolte hain shanti se protest kar rahe hain, lekin

ashanti faila rakha hein," said Sachidanand, who drives a van. Azad said authorities ought to deal with them harshly. "We should have a CM like a Yogi ji (Adityanath). Only then will it be controlled."

Amit Kumar, a doctor, said Shaheen Bagh

has changed the campaign, and added that the government should hold discussions with the women sitting on protest.

In conversation after conversation, it is evident that protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act have deepened fault lines across the city.

"Modi ne achcha kiya, inhe bhagaana hai,

saara danga ye log karti hain," Aneesa, who lives in a colony near Bhagwan Valmiki Mandir in New Delhi constituency, said. In

South Delhi's Mehrauli, Vivek, who runs an eatery, said: "What's wrong in asking Muslims to get their citizenship certificates? There are so many troubles because of them."

The BJP campaign has also tried to por-

tray the polls as a battle between "desh bhakti"

and "desh drohi." As a small crowd waits for Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's rally in Mehrauli's Kusum Khatri, speaker after speaker reminds the voters: "The choice is between forces of anarchy and patriots"; "this election is an opportunity for you to support those who protect the nation"; "it's your time to defeat the separatist government in Delhi".

Despite the polarising campaign, work on the ground remains the key factor.

Among 4 new promises, 24x7 markets, more safai karamcharis

SOURAV ROY BARMAN

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE AAP'S 2020 manifesto has four promises which did not find mention in any official document of the Delhi government in the last five years, or in statements by ministers or party leaders. The promises—the launch of 24/7 markets, the appointment of new safai karamcharis, job creation for homemakers and simplification of criteria to obtain OBC certificates – are among the 28 initiatives that form part of the AAP manifesto launched Tuesday.

Of the 28, 13 are carry-overs from 2015 manifesto, which got stalled at various levels, while 11 promises, which were not part of the previous manifesto, have been spoken about in the last few years.

While the proposal to appoint new safai karamcharis is new, the promise to extend compensation to those workers dying while performing their duties is not new. The 2015 manifesto had said, "On the death of a safai karamchari on duty, Rs 50 lakh will be given to the bereaved family." That proposal has not been implemented yet—which families of police, armed forces and fire services personnel who fell in the line of duty benefited from – but AAP has now promised to enhance the compensation to Rs 1 crore per family.

The doorstep delivery of ration proposal—one of the flashpoints of an AAP-government-Centre tussle—also finds mention. Jasmine Shah, one of the three members of AAP's manifesto committee, said the initiative will be rolled out within a year of taking office. "The roll out plan has been worked out and the paperwork is clear," he said.

Sources said the manifesto had several other specifics, especially on health, including a framework for protection of doctors at workplaces, but all that had to be removed to keep the document concise.

Some promises still lack clarity. It is not immediately clear how the AAP plans to appoint safai karamcharis as the municipal corporations do not fall under the elected government's jurisdiction. The promises pertaining to Jan Lokpal Bill, Swaraj Bill and even the proposal related to 24/7 markets will require close coordination and a working relationship with the Centre and police, which was missing for a better part of the last tenure.

Will BJP bet on Shaheen Bagh work? Jury is out



From Prime Minister Modi to UP CM Yogi Adityanath, Shaheen Bagh has featured prominently in the BJP's campaign speeches ahead of the Delhi polls. Tashi Tobgyal

At Gole Market in New Delhi constituency, where Kejriwal is facing Congress' Romesh Sabharwal and BJP's Sunil Yadav, voters said the polls are going to be only on the basis of "work" that has happened in the last five years. For those who live in the colony near Valmiki Mandir on Mandir Marg, the fight is between the AAP and the Congress, whose Sheila Dikshit, a three-time chief minister, held the seat for a while.

"What did Modi do for us? We safai karmcharis will vote for those who worked for us. Kejriwal has done a lot – he gave us good schools, clinics and built sewer lines. He has taken care of the poor. There are more things to do for which he has to return to power," said Kishan.

Kejriwal is an *aam admi*. His daughter works in Gurgaon and goes by bus, I am told. He has reduced our power bills to almost nothing. For the first time, someone has cared for the poor," Kiran, another cleaner, said.

But Mahinder Kumar Tank did not agree: "Kejriwal used our broomstick as his symbol, but he hasn't done enough. So the entire NDMC cleaning staff will stand with the Congress."

Both Kiran and Tank rejected the BJP's "communal politics". "I respect Modi for scrapping Article 370 and paving the way for a Ram Temple. But the party is only interested in dividing people on communal lines," Tank said.

Just two houses away, Mayadevi expressed anger with the BJP for "not creating jobs for the youth". "And the Prime Minister is not even bothered about rising prices," she said.

SADAR BAZAR

All candidates known faces, tough to tell which way wind is blowing



Crowded and broken roads, lack of work and overhead wires are some concerns aired by people in the constituency. Tashi Tobgyal

in their businesses in the last few years, which they attribute to the GST. Some said the sales have fallen by half, and some quoted the figure

to be as much as 75%.

Further away in the constituency, at Bara Hindu Rao, retired mechanic Ziauddin painted a bleak picture of the economic situation. He said, "All other work is meaningful only if people have employment. Here you see that people who labour and work with their hands are not getting work. But what can the state government even do about this situation?"

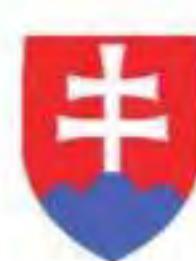
Many residents in the area are migrant labourers from Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, and have not registered as voters in Delhi. They speak of long waits at labour chowks for work to come by.

The cloud of economic uncertainty notwithstanding, residents say the sitting

CONSTITUENCY WATCH

SADAR BAZAR

SADAR



EMBASSY
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
IN NEW DELHI

GOOD
IDEA
SLOVAKIA



1 lakh reasons to visit Slovakia

From medieval castles to the High Tatra mountains, from the Andy Warhol museum to countless galleries, from spas to a day spent at the salaš, Slovakia has something for everyone

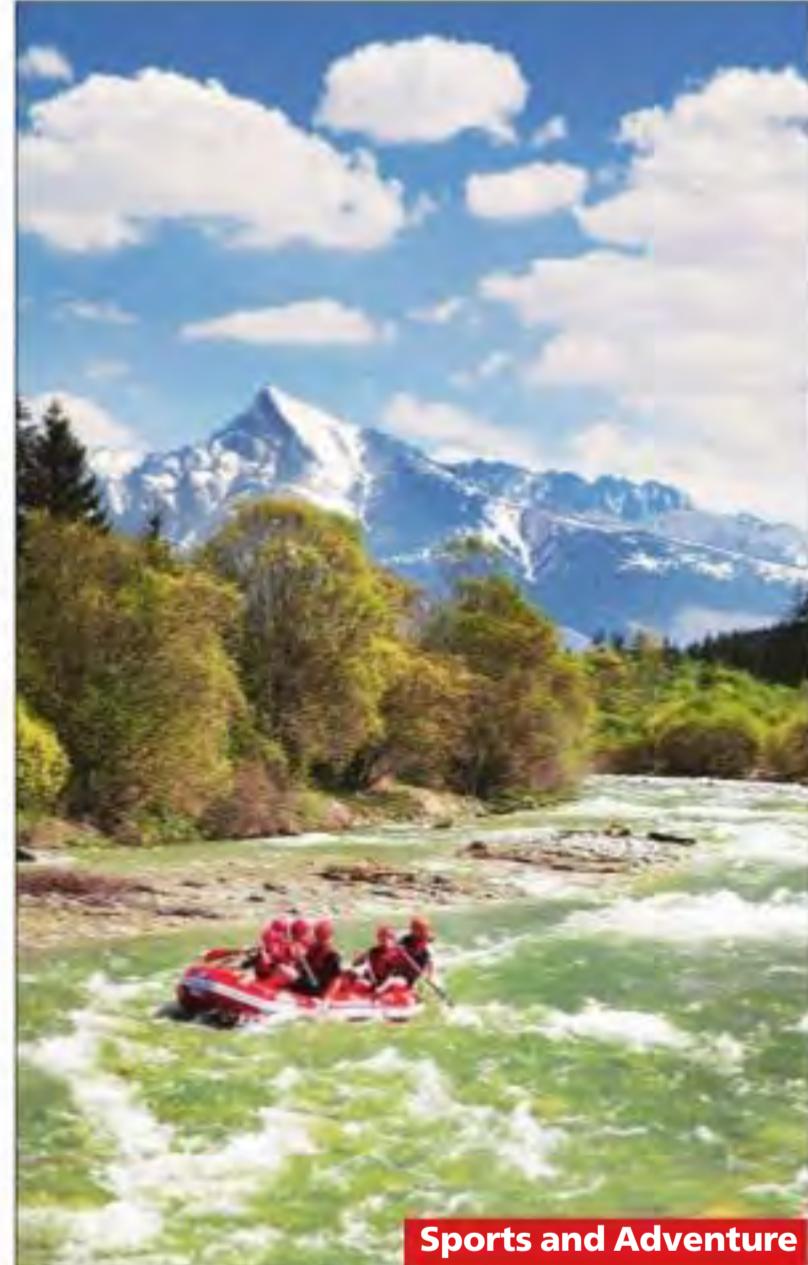


EAR FRIENDS, last year our Embassy had initiated a campaign to spread awareness about tourist attractions and opportunities in our beautiful country. Thanks to these activities, we have already registered an enormous interest among Indian visitors to Slovakia. Moreover, I am pleased that for the very first time, Indian producers and Bollywood megastars Amitabh Bachchan, Emraan Hashmi and many other famous Indian actors have discovered the beauty of Slovakia.

In this regard, today the Embassy of the Slovak Republic in New Delhi, in cooperation with the Outbound Tour Operators Association of India, is organising a promotional event labelled "1 Lakh Reasons to Visit Slovakia" to further demonstrate that thanks to our several heritage sites, lush green forests and beautiful mountains, Indian tourists can find an enormous diversity that will fulfil the expectations of even the most demanding of travellers.

Therefore, I believe, the upcoming tourist season will give us an opportunity to welcome young people looking for urban entertainment or exciting outdoor activities, as well as families wishing to spend time at the cosy mountain resorts, or simply those who want to enjoy the hospitality of our country, taste the finest Slovak wines and some excellent beer.

Ivan Lencaric,
Ambassador of the Slovak Republic



Sports and Adventure



Arts and Culture



Agro-tourism



Spa and Wellness

interested in music and dancing, there are many great festivals to attend, particularly during the summertime.

Agro-tourism

Agro-tourism is becoming more and more popular not only in Slovakia, but all over Europe. In recent years, people are escaping from the rush and bustle of cities and seeking the coziness of the countryside. In this regard, Slovakia offers countless opportunities either a few minutes or a few hours away from the capital – depending on visitors' preferences.

For those who love to enjoy a glass of nice wine among the vineyards with a romantic view of the sunset, they should definitely visit one (or more) of our 149 registered wineries. Moreover, there are over 700 villages with wine traditions registered in Slovakia and each has its own unique charm and a wine cellar. The best time to visit these regions is September/October when it is the wine harvesting season, which is associated with many festivals and wine-tasting events.

For those who prefer to stay in green forests between beautiful mountains, they may visit one of the numerous shepherd chalets in Slovakia called "Salaš" (read: Salash). At "Salaš", one can experience the traditional lives of shepherds and taste the unique local cuisine, including some of the most delicious cheese, drinks and spirits. These places are very popular among families with children, who enjoy playing with little lambs, goats, ponies and other family-friendly activities.

Spa and Wellness

Slovakia is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of per capita drinking water resources. There are 1,645 natural water springs all around the country and 23 of these are naturally enriched with minerals and are considered to have positive effects on the human body. Moreover, 40 of them are natural hot springs with spas and health resorts built in close proximity. It is confirmed that these springs have healing effects on the muscular-skeletal system, skin, digestion and respiratory system.

All these spas and hot springs can be visited throughout the year, especially during the freezing winters, when one may enjoy staying in hot water with temperatures up to 40°C, while looking at snow-covered mountains.

Historical Sites

Slovakia boasts of more than 200 medieval castles and over 400 chateaux and manors, most of them fully renovated. In this regard, it is especially worth mentioning the Spiš Castle, the largest castle in Central Europe, and the Trenčín Castle, unique for its Roman legacy dating as far as the 2nd Century AD. Of course, there are also the Bojnice and Smolenice Castles, two of the most picturesque castles in all of Europe, or the iconic Bratislava Castle that sits atop our capital city.

There are also many other historical buildings and cities that are on the UNESCO Cultural Heritage list. Of particular note is the St Martin's Cathedral in Bratislava, where the many kings and queens were coronated, including the famous Maria Theresa. Then there are eight ancient wooden churches, unique and united in the special feature used in their construction – not a single nail or screw was used, everything is held by wooden joints (each of the churches is listed by UNESCO). Similarly, the world heritage list includes an altar in Levoca Cathedral made of wood and nothing else.

Nature

Slovakia has four seasons. Spring season starts on March 21 when the temperature starts rising to approximately 14°C. Drizzle rains are common and nature is blooming with activity during this time. On June 22, the summer season officially starts and is considered first peak tourist season in Slovakia. During summer, the temperatures rise up to 30-35°C and there are only occasional thunderstorms caused by the heat. September is considered the beginning of autumn and even though the temperatures start falling and rains become more frequent, Slovakia becomes irresistible due to the magical play of colours. And finally, winter makes its way on December 21 (just before the most popular of Slovak holidays, Christmas). Winter is the second peak tourist season due to the countless winter sports opportunities and beautiful sceneries of the snow-covered landscape.

There are nine unique natural parks that offer pleasant walks for all the nature lovers and also challenging treks for those more adventurous. There are more than 1,000 natural caves hidden underneath Slovak soil and 13 of

those are accessible by tourists. Five caves are listed by the UNESCO and if that was not enough, there are two permanent ice caves and an aragonite cave, the only one of its kind in the world.

The true national pride of Slovakia though are the High Tatras mountains, where Bollywood movie *Chehre* (featuring Amitabh Bachchan) was shot last December.

Sports and Adventure

Visitors looking for adrenaline have finally found their match in Slovakia's many sporting events. There are great and enjoyable summer opportunities, such as rafting (for both beginners and the experienced), paragliding, skydiving, balloon riding and even mountain climbing. Likewise, golf is becoming more popular with eight prestigious golf resorts throughout Slovakia. It is important to mention cycling that is slowly, but surely, becoming something of a national sport, in part thanks to the world-famous cyclist Peter Sagan (113 victories and counting).

Let's not forget the winter sports that are even more popular in our country. All together, there are 22 modern and very well-

equipped ski resorts that offer an immersive experience and all-inclusive services. It would be a grave mistake to forget Slovakia's famed ice hockey tradition, as the national team has won quite a few precious metals at world championships, as well as the Olympics.

Arts and Culture

There are 167 museums and 40 galleries all around Slovakia, ranging from classical and folk arts to modern arts. It might surprise you that the world-famous founder of pop art and illustrator of the Campbell's Soup Picture or the Shot Marilyns, Andy Warhol, was born to Slovak parents. There is a museum and a gallery established in his name at his parents' town in Eastern Slovakia, where many of his original artworks as well as artifacts from his life are deposited.

Slovakia is a country of rich culture and proud traditions and so the local arts and folklore are still very much alive, particularly its pottery, wood carvings, embroidery as well as dancing, singing and music. There is also a unique music instrument that is listed by UNESCO – Fujara (read: Fuyara). For those

I HEREBY DECLARE

SHIVAN CHOPRA (40)
Congress, Kalkaji

TOTAL ASSETS (2020)

₹63.30 LAKH

MOVEABLE ASSETS

₹63.30 LAKH

CASH: ₹78,000 L

JEWELLERY: NA

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

NIL

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION

Barrister at law (BVC), Inns of Court School of Law, London.
PGDiploma in Professional and Legal SkillsBRAHMA SINGH (56)
BJP, Okhla

TOTAL ASSETS (2020)*

₹29.64 CRORE

MOVEABLE ASSETS

₹49.39 LAKH

CASH: ₹1.5 L

JEWELLERY: ₹12.39 L

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹29.15 CRORE

Assets

Agricultural land	₹3.13 Cr
Non-agricultural land	₹6.80 Cr
Houses	₹15.32 Cr
Commercial buildings	₹3.90 Cr

TOTAL ASSETS (2015)

₹16 CRORE

MOVEABLE ASSETS

₹28.41 LAKH

IMMOVABLE ASSETS

₹15.72 CRORE

EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:

Turner, ITI, Malviya Nagar

BALLOTIN

No jobs in Delhi for youth: Manmohan

New Delhi: Taking a jibe at the ruling party for being unable to provide employment to the youth, former PM Manmohan Singh claimed the Congress, if it wins, will provide major impetus to jobs. At a public meeting in Rajouri Garden, Singh said: "Despite studying and spending money, the youths are not being able to get jobs. The unemployment rate in Delhi in the last four months was 15%, which is much higher. Congress will work towards bettering the job scenario," said Singh, taking a dig at the ruling party. ENS

1,600 PEOPLE ARRESTED IN 2 MONTHS

Cops keep an eye out for 'muslemen' as poll crimes spike

date voters or give 'freebies'.

Sharat Kumar Sinha, DCP (PCR), said, "The police took action against 7,311 people as part of preventive measures under the Excise Act. More than 967 people were caught in and around Delhi for allegedly carrying illicit liquor. We have seized 87,000 litres of liquor."

Around the 2015 Delhi assembly election, the excise department took action against just 1,065 people, out of which a total of 267 people were arrested for carrying illicit liquor.

Police said that during election, many smugglers are found giving liquor to influence voters in the city.

TALE OF 2 POLLS

	2015	2020
ARMS		
FIR	47	374
People arrested	65	410
Arms seized	48	466
EXCISE		
FIR	272	964
Arrests	267	967
Liquor seized	35,000 l	87,000 l
Cash recovered	₹33.3 L	₹4 cr

Another issue that cops face is defacement of property. Police said any defacement of property related to a political rally or entity violates the model code of conduct.

"Over 40 party workers have been arrested for defacing public property. Many of them are muslemen — 27 people from AAP, six from Congress and three from BJP," said the police.

The police have also caught 508 people for allegedly defacing property. In 2015 elections, only 163 people were caught for defacing public property.

People carrying licensed or illegal arms were also caught for allegedly intimidating

people or carrying arms and ammunition. DCP Sinha said, "We have seized over 466 arms in the last two months and 410 people have been arrested. Over 7,217 licensed arms were also seized or collected by the police. Our picket teams are on the lookout for any offender who might be carrying arms across borders."

During the 2015 polls, the police recovered 48 illegal arms and over 65 people were arrested in such cases.

Talking about rallies and political events, the police said they have recorded 24 cases where parties or candidates didn't seek permission from police before conducting a rally.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the rally in Dwarka, Tuesday. Praveen Khanna

AT DWARKA RALLY

Modi says opponents cry for terrorists, question airstrike

ABHINAV RAJPUT
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Wednesday targeted the Aam Aadmi Party for "stalling" Central government schemes such as Ayushman Bharat, and asked if people fell sick outside of Delhi, will mohalla clinics go to them.

He was speaking at a rally in Dwarka in support of candidates from West and North West Delhi ahead of the February 8 polls. Unlike his speech on Monday, Modi did not mention Shaheen Bagh on Tuesday.

"Ayushman Bharat Yojana has a speciality that will make you understand its benefit... if a person in Delhi, who can be entitled to its benefits, goes to some other state and falls sick, such as Gwalior, Bhopal or Kanpur, will the mohalla clinic go there?" he asked.

Targeting Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, he said: "A person who feels the pain of the poor, will keep them away from government schemes?"

Listing the achievements of the Centre, Modi spoke about building peripheral expressways, giving ownership rights to residents of unauthorised colonies, opening more bank accounts for the poor than the population of the US, and building more houses than

the population of Sri Lanka.

Modi also said that opposition parties were spreading lies and rumours about the Citizenship Amendment Act, and people of Delhi need to understand this.

In his first campaign speech in Delhi on Monday, Modi told a rally in Karkardooma: "Seelampur ho, Jamia ya phir Shaheen Bagh, beete kayi dinon se Citizenship Amendment Bill ko lekar pradarshan hua. Kya ye pradarshan sirf ek sanyog hai? Ji nahi, ye sanyog nahi, ye ek prayog hai. Iske peeche rajneeti ka ek aisa design hoi jo rashtra ke sauhard ko khandit karne ke iraade rakhta hai."

"Be it Seelampur, Jamia or Shaheen Bagh, the past few days have seen protests against the Citizenship Amendment Bill. Are these protests merely a coincidence? No, this is an experiment. Behind this is a political design which intends to destroy the amity of the country."

The national capital goes to the polls on February 8 and the results will be declared on February 11.

ASTHA SAXENA

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

FORMER CONGRESS president Rahul Gandhi and his sister and senior leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra lashed out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi for promoting divisive politics and not addressing real issues like unemployment. Addressing a public gathering at South Delhi's Sangam Vihar, Rahul also blamed the Modi-led government at the Centre and Arvind Kejriwal-led state government for failing to provide jobs to youth.

"Narendra Modi apne aap ko deshbhakt kerte hain lekin apne har bhashan me ek hindustani ko dusre se ladwate hain... Ye kaise deshbhakt hain jo din bar, 24 ghante, hindustan ko baantne ki baat karte hain (Narendra Modi calls himself a nationalist but in every speech he turns Indians against each other... What type of nationalist talks about dividing India)," he said.

Rahul said that countries around the world believe in India's calibre and in the ability of 'Made in India' to beat 'Made in China' products. He also pointed out how countries are eager to invest in India, with an eye on the untapped youth demographic. Alleging that Modi government has handcuffed the youth, he said that till the time they are not set free, no one can defeat China.

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BRIEFLY

SC to hear plea on Shaheen Bagh protest

New Delhi: The Supreme Court will Friday hear a plea citing difficulties to local residents, business and commuters on account of the ongoing protests against the new citizenship law at Shaheen Bagh and the consequent closure of Road No 13A between Mathura Road and Kalindi Kunj by the police. In a related development, the top court asked Delhi BJP leader Nand Kishore Garg, who prayed for urgent listing of his plea highlighting difficulties due to traffic disruptions on account of the Shaheen Bagh protests, to approach its mentioning officer.

2 held for killing tailor

New Delhi: Two men were arrested for allegedly killing a tailor and demanding Rs 15 lakh in ransom in outer Delhi's Mangolpuri, police said on Tuesday. The accused, identified as Pankaj and Saleem, were nabbed following raids at several locations, they said. A Koan, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Outer), said probe revealed that Pushpendra had gone to Saleem's house in Mangolpuri around 8.30 pm on Sunday. Both of them allegedly had some grudge against him, police said. Pankaj hit him on his head with a small gas cylinder at the instance of Saleem, DCP said. PTI

Man kills wife for 'taunt on waking up late'

New Delhi: A 45-year-old man was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly strangulating his wife after she taunted him in front of her sister for waking up late, police said. The accused has been identified as Fazruddin, a resident of Ghaziabad. He had come to Delhi with his wife for her medical treatment. A case of murder has been registered at Neb Sarai police station. PTI

Baby dies of cold, mother says fell ill at the protest

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4



The child's mother, Nazia. ANI

A FOUR-MONTH-OLD infant whose parents have been protesting at Shaheen Bagh died, allegedly due to exposure to the cold, on the night of January 29, with the hospital where he was taken saying a post-mortem report is awaited to ascertain the exact cause of death.

At Jamia Nagar on Tuesday, the child's mother, Nazia (24), said she would continue protesting. Sitting with her two surviving children — a one-year-old boy and a five-year-old girl — near the stage, she claimed the new citizenship law was the reason for her child's death. "I would bring him to the protest to fight for the future. He was only a witness in the fight; he played with his siblings. Protesters gave him a Tricolour

bandana, they loved him."

The woman's husband, Mohammed Arif, used to work at an embroidery shop, but claims he quit after the violence at Jamia last month and has been driving an e-rickshaw ever since.

The parents said the infant, Mohammed Jahaan's, last photo

was taken at the protest, with the same bandana people have given him. Nazia told protesters: "I am not afraid of anyone now. I have already lost a child. I don't mind if the lives of my other two kids are sacrificed for the same cause. My family might not support my decision, but it is for a greater cause."

Recalling the night of the child's death, Arif said: "On January 29, Nazia came home around 10 pm with the kids. She said that Jahaan had a fever. I gave him some milk and we went to sleep. At night, around 2:30 am, he was crying and we decided we would take him to the hospital the next day. But in the morning, we found him dead. He was not responding, there was no pulse."

The parents rushed the baby to Alshifa Hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival. The hospital said an autopsy report is awaited.

'Motive unclear', police get two-day custody of Shaheen Bagh shooter

ANAND MOHAN J
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4



Kapil Baisala, the accused

THREE DAYS after Delhi Police arrested a 25-year-old man for allegedly firing two shots in the air at the protest site in Shaheen Bagh, the investigating agency has not been able to ascertain the motive, they told a Delhi court Tuesday.

Kapil Baisala, the accused, was arrested from Shaheen Bagh Saturday and sent to two-day police custody Sunday. He was produced before Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Gurumohina Kaur Tuesday, where police asked for four-day custody. The court granted police two more days of custody.

In videos shot by eyewitnesses, Kapil can be heard saying "Jai Shri Ram" and "hamare desh mein kisi ki nahi chalegi, sirf Hindun ki chalegi (No one except Hindus will have their way in our country)".

In their return application, police said, "He is to be interrogated to know the exact motive of firing. He is changing his version again and again, and not fully cooperating... His father and brother are deliberately avoiding joining the investigation."

Police said they have so far managed to ascertain that the weapon was procured from

Bihar. They also submitted that Kapil had "purposely deleted his WhatsApp account". However, the account has now been restored, but it couldn't be analysed due to lack of time, police said.

When the court asked what the Crime Branch had done in the last two days, they said that Kapil's motorcycle has been seized, and they have begun interrogating Kapil's friend, who accompanied him to Shaheen Bagh. They were also scrutinising his friend's WhatsApp data.

Police claimed Kapil is "associated with various groups on WhatsApp and he is to be interrogated regarding other members of these groups, keeping in view of a larger conspiracy... He is to be interrogated against several conversations/chats/call recordings, etc., found present in their mobile phones, which are to be thoroughly scrutinised."

Kapil was represented by his lawyers, M S Sodhi and Akhil Rewal, who opposed his further custody, arguing that the alleged weapon and mobile phone have already been recovered, and that the WhatsApp messages were not relevant to the case.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER,
DELHI OLD ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE BUILDING,
KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006

Helpline No.1800-111-400/1950: website: www.ceodelhi.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

Prohibition on display to the public any election matter by means of cinematograph, television or other similar apparatus, and holding public meetings during period of 48 hours ending with hour fixed for conclusion of poll.

Kind attention of general public, all media houses, political parties and all contesting candidates is invited to the Section 126 of the Representation of People Act, 1951 which states that -

(1) No person shall

- (a) Convene, hold, attend, join or address any public meeting or procession in connection with an election; or
- (b) Display to the public any election matter by means of cinematograph, television or other similar other apparatus; or
- (c) propagate any election matter to the public by holding or by arranging the holding of, any musical concert or any theatrical performance or any other entertainment or amusement with a view to attracting the members of the public thereto, **in any polling area during the period of 48 hours ending with the hours fixed for the conclusion of the poll for any election in that polling area.**

It is further informed that as per Sub-Section 2 of Section 126 of the said Act, any person who contravenes of the provisions of the sub-section (1) shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine, or with both.

It is, therefore, informed not to convene, hold or attend or join or address any public meeting or procession in connection with General Election to Legislative Assembly of NCT of Delhi-2020 during the aforesaid period. It is also informed not to telecast or broadcast advertisements of political nature by means mentioned above (**which may include electronic media like radio, television, cable channel, internet, website, social media, bulk SMS and projector, live media etc.**) during the period mentioned

It is further informed that during the aforesaid period, star campaigners and other Political Leaders should refrain from addressing the media by way of press conferences and giving interviews on election matters.

Further, it is informed that the polls in NCT of Delhi for the **General Election to Legislative Assembly of NCT of Delhi-2020 will be held on 08.02.2020 (Saturday) between 08:00 AM to 06:00 PM.**

67 PEOPLE QUESTIONED

Month on, JNU probe stalled, evidence hard to come by

MAHENDER SINGH
MANRAL
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4



Masked men and women went on a rampage in JNU on January 5

FIVE DAYS after around 100 masked persons went on a rampage inside the JNU campus for around four hours on January 5, leaving 36 students, teachers and staff injured, the Delhi Police had released the names of "nine suspects" — all students. But a month later, a special investigation team of the Delhi Police Crime Branch has not been able to identify a single attacker they can arrest with evidence.

An SIT team comprising 20 police personnel is working round-the-clock and has made a camp office inside the admin block of JNU. "The SIT has so far questioned 67 people, including

10 suspects, whose pictures were released by the SIT's chief, DCP Joy Tirkey, during his first press conference. Since then, no briefing has been called by him. The SIT has recorded the statements of injured students, teachers, wardens, security guards and the students against whom allegations were made," a senior police officer said.

Sources said most of the statements given to them had nothing in common — that the "attackers were wearing masks and they don't know anything about them".

Sources said it had come to fore during probe that a back-up of CCTV footage of the campus was available and SIT retrieved

"Some of the injured students have alleged they were beaten up by students who belonged to Left outfits. The same allegations were made by the rival groups. After their questioning, around nine names came and we questioned them too, but we don't have any evidence against them. We are now trying to gather some evidence which will corroborate their involvement in the violence," an officer said.

Sources said it had come to fore during probe that a back-up of CCTV footage of the campus was available and SIT retrieved

the data with the help of experts of Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL). "The footage has been given to FSL. Police have sent a letter to Google, after giving the email addresses of several students and members of the WhatsApp groups 'Unity Against Left' and 'Friends of RSS', to seek details of their messages, pictures and videos. It is learnt that police believe the back-up of these messages may be available with the email account," police sources said.

Earlier, the SIT tried to summon another student, Komal Sharma, whom they served a notice over the phone and asked to join the investigation. However, she has not complied and her phone is switched off.

Police had identified Sharma as the masked woman seen in purported videos of the violence.

Coronavirus: Five China evacuees moved to Safdarjung hospital for observation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

AS MANY as five people — three men and two women — admitted to the ITBP facility in Chhawala Camp have been sent to Safdarjung Hospital for observation. There are 406 people admitted in the quarantine facility.

"All five of them have been sent to the hospital for observa-

tion. It is just a precautionary measure," said Vivek Pandey, spokesperson, ITBP.

Meanwhile, another five persons, who were kept in isolation at the Manesar facility after showing symptoms of cough and cold, have tested negative for the virus.

According to officials, the team of army doctors and officers are interacting with students on a regular basis to know their problems and keep them

motivated. "Residents are provided with TV facilities, carrom boards and cards for indoor recreation. Many of them are also playing volleyball. Laundry is set up in the camp itself with the complete set changed every second day. The linen is dipped in hypochlorite and then washed with hot water and dried in sun. Rooms are fumigated with a strong disinfectant," said an official.

HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LTD.

(A Government of India Enterprises)
CIN No. U74899DL1970GOI005276
Regd. Office: Core-7A, HUDCO Bhawan, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003
Phone: 011-2464 9610-23 Website: www.hudco.org
Regional Office, Patna: 2nd Floor, Block-B2, Maurya Lok Complex, Dak Bungalow Road, Patna-800001. Phone: 0612-2234994, 232679

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
LAST DATE/TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS UP TO 16.03.2020, 04:00 PM/BID IN DATE 18.03.2020

Sale of Immovable property, mortgaged to HUDCO for secured loan of Rs. 98,00,000/- under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act 2002 (No.54 of 2002).

WHEREAS the Authorised Officer of HUDCO had taken possession of the following property on 14.01.2020 pursuant to the notice dated 07.05.2019 issued on behalf of HUDCO under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 in the following loan account with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS AND AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of dues of HUDCO. The sale will be done by the undersigned by e-auction platform.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FOR AUCTION

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgagor & Branch	Description of the Immovable Property	Reserve Price	E-auction Date
			Earliest Money Deposit (EMD)	Timing of E-auction
1.	1. M/s Raja Bricks and Godown (Borrower & Mortgagor). 2. Sh. Raj Kumar Bhagat (Guarantor & Mortgagor). 3. Sh. Roshan Kumar Bhagat (Guarantor & Mortgagor). Address: C/o Vishwanath Bhawan, Alam Nagar, Madhepura-852113 (Bihar).	1. All that part and parcel of land in the name of Shri Raj Kumar Bhagat, S/o Late Bishwanath Bhagat, C.D.No.2, situated at Mauza Almanganar, Thana + Anchal-Almanganar bearing Khata No.1928, Khesra No.6517, Thana No.72/1, Jamabandi No.2817, Sub Registry Office-Uda Kishanganj, Sadar Registry Office-Madhepura, District-Madhepura, Bihar, Area 01 Acre 95 Decimal which is bounded as follows:-North-Jaldhar Jha & Others, South-Jasodhar Jha & Others, East-Road, West-Birjan Mahajar.	₹1,10,00,000/-	18.03.2020
2.	Name & Address of Financial Institution HUDCO, Regional Office Patna: 2nd Floor, Block-B2, Maurya Lok Complex, Dak Bungalow Road,	2. All the part and parcel of land including a building already constructed therein, (which is presently used as house), owned and possessed by Shri Raj Kumar Bhagat, S/o Late Bishwanath Bhagat, situated at Mauza-Bhagipur, Thana + Anchal-Almanganar bearing Khata No.484(Old) 946(New), Khesra No.1726(Old), 2346(New), Thana No.72/1, Taud No.3808/1, Jamabandi No.1616, Sub Registry Office-Uda Kishanganj, Sadar Registry Office-Madhepura, District-Madhepura, Bihar, Area 5 Decimal which is bounded as follows:-North-PWW Road, South-Kama Kishore Jha, East-Niz, West-Parmatama Bhagat.	₹48,00,000/-	18.03.2020
3.		3. Plot of land owned and possessed by Shri Roshan Kumar Bhagat, S/o Shri Raj Kumar Bhagat, situated at Mauza-Bhagipur, Thana + Anchal-Almanganar bearing Khata No.747(New), Khesra No.1334(New), Thana No.140, Sub Registry Office-Uda Kishanganj, Sadar Registry Office-Madhepura, District-Madhepura, Bihar, Area 71 Decimal which is bounded as follows:-North-Khesra-1335, South-Khesra-1349, East-Hal Purchaser-Soni Jaiswal, West-Khesra-1338, 1333, 1351.	₹12,00,000/-	18.03.2020
4.			₹1,20,00,000/-	11:00 AM to 01:30 PM
5.			₹10,00,000/-	16.03.2020

Terms & Conditions:

1. The e-Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS & AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".
2. Property will not be sold below Reserve Price.
3. Persons desirous of participating are required to deposit (a) Earnest Money Deposit by way of RTGS or NEFT in the bank account of HUDCO details of which are given in this notice at the end, (b) Passport Size Photograph and (c) a copy of Photo Identity Card be submitted on e-mail id hudco@tiger.net or in the HUDCO Regional Office at Patna with details of deposit of EMD.
4. Successful bidder will be required to deposit 25% amount of his bid on same day after setting off his Earnest Money Deposit, failing which Earnest Money Deposit shall be forfeited without notice.
5. Earnest Money Deposit of unsuccessful bidders shall be refunded.
6. Within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale, successful bidder will be required to deposit balance 75% of his bid amount and if he fails to deposit the amount, the amount already deposited by him shall be forfeited without notice.
7. The Authorised Officer reserves right (i) to cancel/postpone the auction and (ii) accept or reject any or all of the bids without assigning reasons.
8. Details of property, like photocopy of title deed and other related documents etc., can be obtained from Regional Office of HUDCO on demand on any working day between from 10.00 A.M. to 4.00 P.M. The interested persons desirous of visiting the property may visit the site at their own expenses.
9. Title search of the property may be carried out by the interested persons before bidding, at their own expenses and to their satisfaction and also should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrance, title of property etc. & satisfy themselves.
10. The intended bidder who deposit the EMD etc. and require assistance for creating Login Id & Password, submitting bid, training on e-bidding process etc. may contact following e-auctioneer.

E-AUCTION DETAILS	

MOTION OF THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

'Oppn talks Preamble, forgot to read UCC, cow protection'

ABANTIKA GHOSH

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

ACCUSING OPPOSITION parties of "engineering" the protests against CAA, NRC and NPR at Delhi's Shaheen Bagh, BJP members in Rajya Sabha, speaking during the discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address, on Tuesday said that the Opposition, in its predilection for reading the Preamble of the Constitution, had failed to read Articles that deal with implementation of Uniform Civil Code in the country and the State's obligation of prevent cow slaughter.

Opening speaker, Union minister Bhupendra Yadav's mention of reported comments by Congress MP Kapil Sibal seeking postponement of the Ram Jamaboomi-Babri Masjid title suit on the ground that it would benefit the BJP in elections elicited a strong rebuttal from Sibal, who walked into the House a little later. Sibal threatened to take the matter to the House ethics committee.

Sibal denied strongly that he had ever made that statement. Yadav said he had only quoted newspaper reports that had been cited in the House earlier, too.

Yadav listed achievements of the NDA government over the last six years, which he said tried to "take everyone forward" while the Opposition created an "atmosphere of divisiveness". He said: "You changed the Constitution and implemented Emergency



Bhupendra Yadav with Prakash Javadekar at Parliament House. Renuka Puri

(in 1975), but now you have developed this habit of reading the Preamble. I would urge you to also read Article 44, which deals with Uniform Civil Code, or Article 48 on prevention of cow slaughter. But without doing that you are raising a hue and cry about Article 370 (which provided special status to erstwhile state of J&K), which was a temporary provision.... You profess faith in the Constitution, yet you changed its Preamble..."

The BJP, Yadav said, "kept losing elections from 1950s to 1990s but we never ques-

tioned the electoral process. You raise questions on EVMs the moment you lose."

Citing the presence of Congress leaders such as Digvijaya Singh, Shashi Tharoor and AAP's local MLA Amanullah at Shaheen Bagh, Yadav said: "Clearly you are giving moral, if not other kind of support to the protesters. When a young girl from that stage makes violent statements against the Prime Minister and the Union Home Minister, one can imagine the kind of poison you are injecting into young minds. You are free to go there but did you try to tell them that this (CAA) will not affect them?"

Both Yadav and Sudhanshu Trivedi, who seconded the motion, spoke at length on the resolution of the Ayodhya dispute. Trivedi rued the fact that even "Ramlalla Virajman", who was a party in the case, was asked to prove that it was his birthplace with documents. Referring to the documents in Persian that were submitted in court, he said, referring to the Opposition's criticism of the NRC process, "These are people who asked Ramlalla for documents but decline to furnish their own."

Earlier in the morning, Chairman Venkaiah Naidu held his ground in the House despite disruptions during Zero Hour. His refusal to yield resulted in normal functioning of the House. When some members met him in the chamber seeking opportunity to make Zero Hour submissions, Naidu asked them to first impress upon their leaders to ensure normal functioning of the House, according to a source.

MDMK leader Vaiko moved an amendment regretting the lack of mention of the need to implement recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee for farmers, to "broad-base CAA to confer citizenship to Sri Lankan Tamils", and to review the "discriminatory and communal" law to stop protests across the country.

TMC's Sukhendu Sekhar Roy moved amendments seeking additions at the end of the Motion of Thanks to the President's ad-

Oppn MPs tear into Govt: Don't hide failures with divisive issues

ABANTIKA GHOSH

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

AN UNPRECEDENTED 431 amendments, running into 44 pages, were moved in Rajya Sabha to the Motion of Thanks to the President's address by 12 MPs, including those from the Congress, Trinamool Congress (TMC), Samajwadi Party, DMK, CPI and the CPIM.

Among the amendments are those moved by Congress's Digvijaya Singh and Madhusudan Mistry that regret the fact that the President's address fails to mention the resentment caused by the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, the NRC, and the NPR.

Singh moved one on the lack of mention of the incarceration of former Jammu and Kashmir chief ministers and how "social tensions and economic policies led to lower GDP and loss of employment". Mistry moved an amendment on failure to recognise the plight of Muslims in India and their dismal socio-economic conditions.

MDMK leader Vaiko moved an amendment regretting the lack of mention of the need to implement recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee for farmers, to "broad-base CAA to confer citizenship to Sri Lankan Tamils", and to review the "discriminatory and communal" law to stop protests across the country.

TMC's Sukhendu Sekhar Roy moved amendments seeking additions at the end of the Motion of Thanks to the President's ad-

jected to other forms of torture".

Leader of Opposition in the Upper House, Congress's Ghulam Nabi Azad, accused the government of using "divisive" issues such as CAA, triple talaq law and abrogation of Article 370 to steer public attention away from its "failures" to create 10 crore jobs, bringing back black money, and keeping its promise of giving Rs 15 lakh to every citizen.

Countering BJP MP Bhupendra Yadav's accusation that opposition parties "engineered Shaheen Bagh," Azad said, "It is your creation."

He said: "This government is demolishing institutions and on August 5 last year, it demolished the institution of Parliament by bringing a Bill by stealth; no time was allocated by the Business Advisory Committee, the Bill was not circulated.... Former CMs are (now) in jail. I was here (in Delhi) because of Parliament session, or else I would also have been there (in J&K)," Azad said.

TMC's Roy tore into the government for its changing stance on NRC. He called the government "dashanhan (ten-headed)", which makes "different speeches from its different heads". He said Home Minister Amit Shah had intervened during the Question Hour in Parliament when his junior minister was fielding questions on NRC to emphatically assert that a citizens' register across the country is on its way.

TRS's Keshava Rao said it is not possible to change the Constitution with a law. Elamaram Kareem (CPI-M) said, "The President's address is missing real issues of the country: the economic crisis."

431 amendments: Immaterial, but embarrassing for govt

THESE AMENDMENTS do not make any material difference to the government's functioning. But it is an embarrassment for the government that Rajya Sabha also expresses regret to the President's speech, which was drafted by the government. This is a tool used by the Opposition to express strong differences with the ruling party.

dress regretting its failure to "acknowledge hardships and anxieties of people" as a result of CAA, as also the government's failure to alay people's "fear of a nationwide NRC and NPR". Amendments moved by Roy also regret that the address did not take into account "hardships of peaceful protesters, including students who were illegally detained, denied medical care, lathi-charged, fired at, and sub-

Ghosh makes 'Shikhandi' barb at Trinamool govt, Owaisi asks why is PM afraid of Muslim women

PRADEEP KAUSHAL

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

NATIONALISM, SECULARISM, communalism, CAA, and Shaheen Bagh marked speeches of MPs as the discussion on Motion of Thanks to the President's address continued for the second day in Lok Sabha.

BJP member from Medinipur, West Bengal, Dilip Ghosh said his state suffered the most as anti-CAA protesters burnt trains and dislocated railway tracks.

Using the barb "Shikhandi" — the transgender warrior in "Mahabharat" used by Arjun as a human shield to kill Bhishma in the battle of Kurukshetra — to describe the ruling TMC in Bengal, Ghosh, also the state unit BJP chief, said: "Unfortunately, these shikhandis are in power there. The police did nothing. They did not use their baton, nor did they file an FIR."

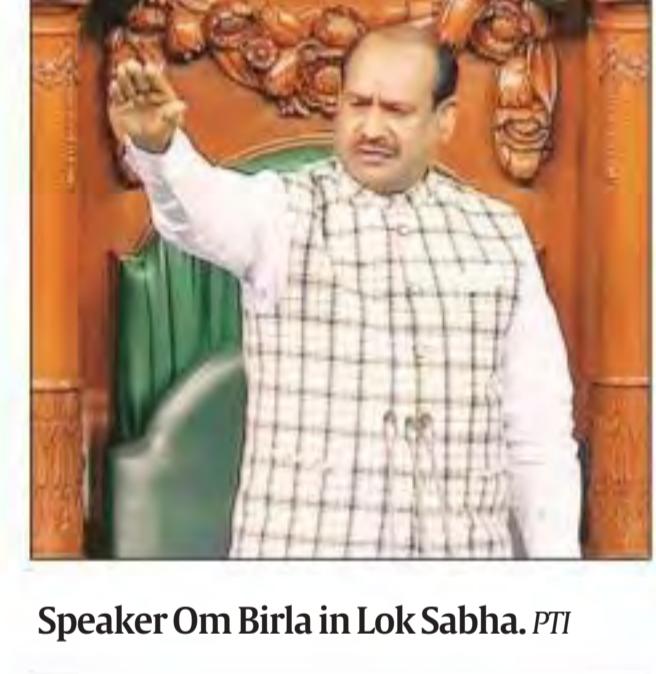
He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi was shown "go back" banners during his Kolkata visit but Rohingya Muslims and "infiltrators from neighbouring countries were welcomed". He alleged that anti-CAA protesters, including those at Shaheen Bagh, are enjoying "biriyani bought with foreign money".

Speaker Om Birla expunged Ghosh's remarks regarding functioning of West Bengal Assembly.

Rajiv Ranjan Singh Lalani, of BJP ally JD(U), accused the Opposition of spreading misinformation on the CAA and said, "Efforts are being made to vitiate the atmosphere for political gains... Yes, we have to contest elections, but not at the cost of playing with the unity of the country."

When TMC's Saugata Roy tried to interrupt him, Singh sought to know how could a state government refuse to implement a law passed by Parliament.

Nama Nageswara Rao (TRS) wondered how the government can make India a \$5-trillion economy in four years when that requires a growth of at least 16 per cent per year. He said the terms of the 15th Finance



Commission were "unjust" to states in south-eastern India.

Taking potshots at the government's purported failures on different fronts, Congress's Shashi Tharoor said it should name its schemes "sit down", "shutdown" and "shut up, India". He accused the government of dividing the country into "Hindus versus Muslims, Us versus Them, and Ramzade versus I won't say".

Tharoor also criticised the government for quoting Mahatma Gandhi for its defence of the "draconian" new citizenship law.

AIMIM's Asaduddin Owaisi said, "I would like to ask Prime Minister Modi if he calls himself a brother to Muslim women, why is he afraid of them now?"

National Conference MP Hasnain Masoodi said, "Abrogation of the special status (of J&K) has been a historical blunder and no less than a misadventure."

D Ravikumar (DMK) regretted that it did not speak about the plight of people belonging to the SC and ST communities.

Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav said the President's address did not mention the Ganga and said the river can be clean only when other rivers, including the Yamuna, are clean.

FROM THE GALLERY

FROM THE CHAIR

RAJYA SABHA

"I am not a lawyer but I listen to them very intently"

HARIVANSH, Deputy Chairman, when Congress leader Anand Sharma referred to him as a lawyer.

LOK SABHA

"Should we vote on this issue? Whatever honourable Mulayam Singhji says, we'll agree."

OM BIRLA, Speaker, on whether the House should take a break for lunch.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You changed the Constitution in 1976 and implemented the Emergency but now you have developed this habit of reading the Preamble. I would urge you to also read Article 44 which deals with Uniform Civil Code or Article 48 on prevention of cow slaughter."

BHUPENDRA YADAV, Union minister, speaking on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address.



PARTY MATTERS

DMK MPs Kanimozi, Dayanidhi Maran, A Raja, and other leaders at Parliament House on Tuesday. Renuka Puri

RS: Slogans stop as Oppn raises issues

MANOJ CG

NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

RAJYA SABHA Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu usually adjourns the House at the first hint of disruption. However, on Tuesday, he allowed the House proceedings to go on, and what followed in the Upper House was an interesting protest, with the opposition Congress and TMC indulging in unusual slogan-shouting tactics.

As Naidu called the first member to raise his Zero hour submission, TMC's Derek O'Brien stood up, saying he had given a notice under Rule 267 seeking a discussion on the CAA-NRC protests. Naidu reminded O'Brien that he had given a ruling on a similar notice on Monday and pointed out that the issues that he wanted to raise can be touched upon during the discussion on the President's Address.

"All these things can be discussed in a peaceful manner, healthy manner," Naidu said. "If you don't want to respect the rules, respect the Chair and then (if you) want to shout and then say something outside, I leave it to your wisdom. I would like to tell the members who ever want to hear... I have already given a



Opposition members protest in the well of Rajya Sabha. RSTV/PTI

ruling yesterday on the same subject... please start the debate. Discuss the issue. And then if you want to criticise it, criticise it. If you want to support it, support it," he said.

The Chairman said the rules regarding Rule 267 are clear and citing his long experience in the House. He argued, "I have experience of some 20 years of what is Rule 267, how many times it was allowed and under what circumstances it was allowed...." He did not adjourn the House and proceeded with Zero Hour. Members of the Congress and the

TMC then rushed to the Well of the House and started shouting slogans.

Five members — Vaiko, Vikas Mahatme, Binoy Viswami, Banda Prakash, Prashanta Nanda — spoke amid the slogan-shouting. The slogans, however, stopped when AAP's Sanjay Singh started speaking on the delay in the execution of the four convicts in the December 16, 2012 gangrape case. After Singh, JD(S)'s D Kupendra Reddy spoke about traffic problems in Bengaluru. Members of the TMC and the Congress did not go back to their seats but stood silent in the Well, listening to Reddy.

The slogan-shouting resumed as soon as the next speaker — BJP's Kirodi Lal Meena — spoke about the locust attacks on crops in Rajasthan, Gujarat and Punjab. BJP members like Union Minister Parshottam Rupala questioned the tactical slogan-shouting by the opposition. From then on, the slogan shouting stopped whenever opposition members stood up to speak, and resumed as soon as others rose.

The courtesy was not extended to A Navaneethakrishnan, Prasanna Acharya and V Vijayasai Reddy, the floor leaders of the AIADMK, BJD and the YSRCP, respectively.

Look at what (Union minister) Anurag Thakur said. He exhorts people to shoot!

These are our *daadis*, our children. Are they terrorists? Also look at the appallingly poor taste, the brazenness of fielding somebody (BJP MP Parvesh Verma) who is banned for 96 hours by the EC to open the debate in Lok Sabha when that time is not even over. This is sticking a finger in the eye of every Indian.

But don't you think the repeated references to Shaheen Bagh are benefitting BJP in the Delhi elections?

This is not about the Delhi Assembly elections. Every day they are destroying every single thing that this country is built upon. It is lies and suppression of facts when it comes to issues such as the economy and jobs. On the other side is the stoking of fear in the name of religion. Shaheen Bagh is just a manifestation of the anger. They should remem-

ber that greater mandates than their 303 have been reduced to zero by the people.

But, as the government repeatedly points out, the Citizenship Amendment Act that the opposition is protesting against now, has been passed by Parliament.

They have the numbers, they have the majority. They can do what they want. Tomorrow if they want to put 356 and divide Darjeeling, we can only watch. It's a question of moral authority. You have the rope, you decide whether you use it to hang people or to draw water from a well.

Is your party in touch with other Opposition parties for the passage of the amendments?

That I cannot say. My party leaders will talk about that.

5 QUESTIONS

'BJP destroying every single thing this country is built upon'



Mahua Moitra on Monday targeted the government over fielding BJP MP Parvesh Verma to speak first in the Lok Sabha.

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

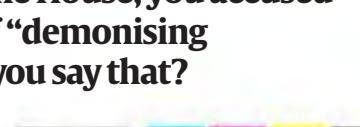
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

GOVERNMENT ON Tuesday told the Lok Sabha that there was nothing called "Love Jihad" under the existing laws in the country and that the Constitution gave everyone the freedom to practice and propagate any religion.

In reply to a written question on whether the government was aware of Kerala High Court saying there was nothing called Love Jihad, Union Minister of State for Home G Kishan Reddy said: "The term 'Love Jihad' is not defined under the extant laws. No such case of 'Love Jihad' has been reported by any of the central agencies."

The minister, however, said two cases from Kerala involving inter-faith marriage have been probed by the National Investigation Agency (NIA). It is understood the minister was referring to the Hadiya case where the court had directed the central agency to probe alleged links of her husband with Islamic State and if she had been converted before marriage forcibly. The central agency was also probing another case related to the issue in Kerala.

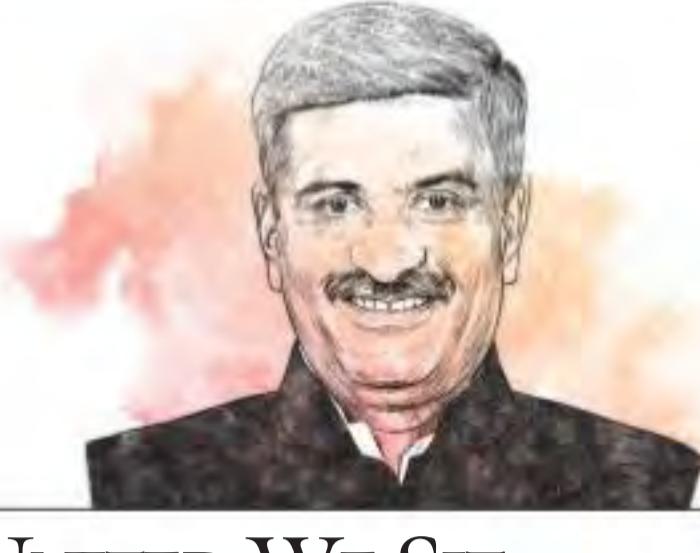
In your speech in the House, you accused the government of "demonising dissent". Why did you say that?



GOVT & POLITICS



DELHI CONFIDENTIAL



UNITED WE SIT

AT PRIME Minister Narendra Modi's election rally in Dwarka on Tuesday, Union minister Gajendra Shekhawat surprised BJP workers with his friendly gestures. Given charge of party candidates from constituencies in South Delhi, Shekhawat, who oversaw all preparations for Modi's rally, did not take the seat meant for him on the dais. Instead, he sat with party workers in the audience. He was seen giving instructions and tips to party workers throughout. When Modi began his speech, Shekhawat pointed out important points that they have to take to the voters.

OFFICER'S CHOICE

A SENIOR IPS officer with a paramilitary force in J&K was recently repatriated to his cadre. The officer apparently tried to stall his transfer first and did not leave for a good two months after the orders were issued. Once he did, he left some of his household stuff and his dog behind. Later, to get his dog out of the Valley safely, the officer ensured a convoy of six vehicles transported it to Jammu, from where it was taken to his home.

BUDGETING AIM

AT A consultative meeting of the National Confederation of Dalit and Adivasi Organisation, an umbrella organisation of SC, ST and OBC groups, Raja Sabha MP from the Congress PL Punia slammed the Budget and said unequal allocation of funds has been made to these groups despite their numbers, and that the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry is the only department to make dedicated allocations for these groups. Punia said despite total funds being spread across 40-odd departments in different ministries, it was not spent for the benefit of the backward classes, nor was there any mechanism in place to monitor them.

CJI to decide on plea for live-stream of proceedings, says SC

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

CJI Sharad Arvind Bobde

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday referred an application seeking implementation of its earlier order on live-streaming of proceedings in nationally important cases to Chief Justice of India SA Bobde for a decision on the administrative side.

A bench headed by Justice Arun Mishra told advocate Indira Jaising, who had moved the plea, that it is for the CJI to take a call on the September 2018 judgment of the court, which had favoured live-streaming and that no compulsion directions can be given.

Justice Mishra said the administrative side cannot be compelled to frame rules by way of a judicial order. The court noted that what was okayed by the court in 2018 was a pilot project. "Let's see if the pilot project works...but not like this. You can't compel us to enforce anything."

Attorney General K K Venugopal suggested that the matter be referred to the full court reference, but the court reiterated that it is for the administrative side to do whatever required.

Jaising's plea referred to the

DISQUALIFICATION OF 11 AIADMK MLAs

Top court seeks TN Speaker response on DMK plea

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE SUPREME Court on Tuesday sought information from the Tamil Nadu Assembly Speaker regarding the status of a disqualification petition moved against 11 AIADMK members for voting against CM E Palaniswami during a confidence vote in 2017.

The SC had in the Manipur matter said that Speakers of the Lok Sabha and assemblies should decide such disqualification within a "reasonable period" of maximum three months. Sibal contended that the Speaker was yet to even issue notice on the plea.

The court will now hear the matter on February 14.

moved in March 2017.

The 11 MLAs include Deputy Chief Minister O Panneerselvam.

"Tell us whether you are going to take action. If yes, then when and how," the court said and referred to the recent judgment in the disqualification case of a Manipur minister.

Yediyurappa has announced he will induct 13 ministers on Thursday. Of these, 10 portfolios are earmarked for Congress and JD(S) rebels who helped BJP form the government last July, and subsequently won the bypolls for BJP, while three posts will go to BJP veterans, he has said.

Three posts are likely to remain vacant.

While there is a general ac-

Air defence, peninsular, logistics commands on the table: Gen Rawat

Pointing to soaring pension bill, Chief of Defence Staff suggests raising retirement age of soldiers

SUSHANT SINGH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

OUTLINING THE roadmap for joint/integrated theatre commands of the armed forces which will start this year with the creation of a joint Air Defence Command, General Bipin Rawat, Chief of Defence Staff, Tuesday said informal discussions on creation of other integrated theatre commands have been mooted, and these commands will be created within three years but will initially be assigned to the services chiefs.

He expressed concern over the rate at which the bill for defence pensions is increasing every year, although he believes that retired soldiers, particularly from combat arms, need to be looked after once they hang their uniform. Responding to criticism of the Budget allocation for defence, he said it is "more of a management issue than a funding issue".

"The amount for defence pensions this year is around Rs 1.33 lakh crore (Rs 133,825 crore), and last year it was somewhere around Rs 1.10 lakh crore (Rs 117,810.44 crore). This is a very sharp jump. If this is the way the jump keeps happening, tell me it is sustainable?", he said.

He said the solutions lie in increasing the retirement age of soldiers to 58 in roles which do not need them to be young and robust, subject to medical fitness, and taking the soldiers of combat arms who retire at a young age into the Defence Service Corps (DSC). By increasing the retire-



CDS General Bipin Rawat with Army Chief General M M Naravane and Defense Secretary Ajay Kumar during a meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. PTI

ment age, he expects at least one-third of the Army to serve till that age, thereby reducing the ratio of pensioners to serving military personnel.

A study to decide on increasing the retirement age has been ordered which is expected to come later this year, and a decision on the subject can be expected by the end of the year. But he said that as far as retired soldiers are concerned, "we need to care for men who matter and give their youth in service of the nation".

General Rawat said that the

other answer is "increasing TAisation", i.e., create more battalions of Territorial Army for civilians who can be mobilised for two months every year for specific duties, such as truck drivers being used to drive military trucks in summer months for winter stocking in high altitude areas.

"As far as the defence budget is concerned, if it is not sufficient, how is every service chief saying that they are ready? It is about the management of your budget, where you buy whatever is available with money in hand and are

EXPLAINED
E The CDS & the big picture

INDIA'S FIRST CDS has his task cut out. As principal military adviser to the Defence minister on the three services, and head of the Department of Military Affairs, he will oversee the process of creation of joint/integrated theatre commands. While creating synergy, he has to provide the big picture to the government to help it with its policies on defence.

very serious about what you want and buy it," he said.

He said that priority in procurement is extremely important as "deficiencies really matter in getting some modern equipment and some ammunition". He also highlighted the need to focus on creating indigenous capacities for production of ammunition, as a lack of surge capacity during periods of urgent requirement are an area of weakness.

General Rawat praised the Director General of Border Roads Organisation for getting Rs 4500 crore from other users for construction and maintenance of roads.

He said innovative models for getting constructed family accommodation in lieu of defence land in certain areas will have to be explored to release more funds for modernisation.

On the issue of Navy getting a third aircraft carrier, General Rawat did not sound hopeful when he said "look at our priority, what will be its effect on the Air Force and the Army. we have to look at the how the economy develops and how the other two services are developing, we have to see the impact of the third aircraft carrier".

He laid out the roadmap for integrated theatre commands, ruling out the US and Chinese models in favour of a unique model suited to Indian conditions. He said "we will have to look at our own system and there is a way on which we can go for jointness. We have to study our threats and priorities and based on this, we need to resolve a theatre. But we will retain the flexibility for inter-theatre and intra-theatre commands".

Describing it as a "low hanging fruit", General Rawat said the creation of an Air Defence Command this year. The other integrated theatre commands will be created in 2021 and 2022. He said the proposal is for a Peninsular Command for the eastern and western coastlines, a joint training command, and a joint logistics command wherein some informal discussions have been held with the three services but no formal interaction has happened so far.

He said the creation of theatre commands for the borders with China and Pakistan will be based on the bigger picture" where "re-sourcing has to be seen".

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com



Anantkumar Hegde

Hegde replies to BJP notice: Never named Gandhi, reports on remarks incorrect

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

KARNATAKA BJP MP Anantkumar Hegde, who has sparked a controversy with his alleged comments on Mahatma Gandhi and the non-cooperation movement during the freedom struggle, has told the party leadership that he did not mention Gandhi or Quit India Movement in his speech, and that the controversial remarks attributed to him were "incorrect", it is learnt.

Sources in the BJP said Hegde, a former Union Minister, sent a reply to party president J P Nadda and the party's disciplinary committee following the party's showcase notice to him on Monday.

Sources said the party leadership will study his reply and decide on further action, if any.

There is a view in the party that what Hegde said might be in bad taste but the content was distorted in some media reports, a senior BJP leader said.

In his explanation, Hegde is learnt to have claimed that he did not use words like "nau-tanki" or "drama" to describe the freedom struggle led by Gandhi. He is learnt to have informed the party that he had said non-cooperation movement was not the only form of struggle that got India freedom.

Addressing a public event in Bengaluru on Saturday, the Lok Sabha MP from Uttara Kannada constituency was quoted as saying, "Some people keep saying we got Independence because someone sat on satyagraha. The British gave Independence out of sheer frustration. On reading history books, my blood boils. Such people are termed 'Mahatma' in our country."

Hegde, who has over time drawn criticism for his controversial comments, including one praising Nathuram Godse, also purportedly said on Saturday that the freedom movement was "one big drama." He was quoted as saying: "None of these 'leaders' were beaten up by the police even once. The freedom movement by itself was one big drama. It was staged with the approval of the British."

Goa Speaker disallowed starred question on Sanatan Sanstha: Cong

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
PANJIM, FEBRUARY 4

GOA ASSEMBLY Speaker Rajesh Patnekar on Tuesday disallowed "without explanation" a starred question posed by Congress MLA Aleixo Reginaldo Lourenco on the workings of the Sanatan Sanstha, the legislator claimed.

Lourenco said, "There were serious questions to be asked and it (my question) was listed. I had pointed to the functioning of the Sanatan Sanstha. The organisation's name has come in the murder cases of both (activist Govind) Pansare and (rationalist Narendra) Dabholkar, and even in the murder probe of (journalist) Gauri Lankesh. The lawyer for the organisation is also being probed and weapons have been found on them. How is all this not valid question?"

According to the MLA, the question was put forward in the Monsoon Session but didn't make it to the board. It was later listed as a "Postponed" and "Starred question" and was listed for Tuesday's House hours.

"I will write to the Chief Minister. This is Goa, and the neighbouring states of Maharashtra and Karnataka are probing them. How then should the MLAs in the state not discuss or know what is shaping inside this organisation?" he said.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with BJP president J P Nadda and party leaders Nitin Gadkari, Harsh Vardhan and others in New Delhi on Tuesday. Renuka Puri

Best Budget under current global economic scenario: PM to party MPs

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

PRIME MINISTER Narendra Modi on Tuesday lauded the Union Budget presented by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman as the "best Budget under the current global economic scenario" and said that even critics are coming around to this view despite attempts by many to "mislead" people on it, sources said.

According to sources, Modi told the party's parliamentarians that this has been the outcome of the persistent efforts of his government, as it did in curbing Maoist rebellion and boosting development in areas hit by Maoist violence.

States in the Northeast used to see frequent blockades and bandhs, bringing life to a standstill for days, but things have now changed for the better, Modi is reported to have said in

the meeting. In the meeting, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Health Minister Harsh Vardhan gave a presentation on novel coronavirus, and how their respective ministry is dealing with the situation.

Addressing party MPs for the first time after he took over as the BJP national president, J P Nadda asked the members to campaign in Delhi, where the BJP is fighting a fierce battle to dislodge the AAP government. Nadda said the party has drafted a plan to get 240 BJP MPs to campaign in Delhi localities populated mostly by the poor for the February 8 election.

Modi and other senior leaders felicitated Nadda on his new role.

DEC 16 GANGRAPE

People restive over delay in execution, says Venkaiah Naidu

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

Venkaiah Naidu in Rajya Sabha. PTI

ON A day the parents of the December 16, 2012 gangrape victim urged the Delhi High Court to expeditiously decide the Centre's plea challenging the stay on execution of the four convicts, Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu said people are becoming "restive" because of the repeated postponement, and asked "all concerned" to see to it that the judgment is implemented at the earliest.

Naidu's remarks came after AAP MP Sanjay Singh demanded the intervention of the President or the Chief Justice of India in the matter.

Naidu said the matter was "very sensitive and serious", and argued the court judgment must be implemented at the earliest. He said people across the country are concerned and agitated over the delay in execution of the court order.

"Whatever be the reason, I don't want to take names, I don't want to mention about any institution, but it is very important that those are concerned with this should fulfil this responsibility at the right time," he said.

Raising the issue, Singh said that while the entire country was on the streets following the gangrape in 2012, the culprits have been able to get a new date every time to delay the execution.

Meanwhile, Union Minister Prakash Javadekar blamed the Delhi government for the delay in executing the punishment.

"We cannot allow this sort of thing to go on in the country because people have been given every available legal opportunity. After getting all those avenues and opportunities exhausted, on some pretext or other, if things are getting postponed, people are becoming restive. This has to be understood by one and all. And all concerned my see to it that the judgment is implemented at the earliest," he said.

Gowda also opposed the plans to make Yogeshwara a minister. He said, "Yogeshwara lost the elections. His community (Volkalgas) are already represented in the Cabinet. If you continue to give representation for the same regions how will our regions develop?"

The BJP is believed to be pushing the case for Yogeshwara's induction to help gain foothold in rural Bengaluru,



BS Yeddyurappa

ticing the rebels to join BJP — said after meeting Yeddyurappa: "All of us, MLAs from Hyderabad-Karnataka region, met the CM and asked him to give representation to our region. Some regions are over-represented in the Cabinet. Our request is for representation for the regions of Hyderab-Karnataka, coastal, and Mysuru-Karnataka."

Gowda also opposed the

regions of south Karnataka.

Yogeshwara, a former actor and real estate businessman, was recently at the forefront of a campaign led by RSS leader Kalladka Prabhakar Bhat to stop installation of a giant Christ statue in Kanakapura region, where Congress's D K Shivakumar enjoys massive popularity.

There has also been lobbying by two rebels who lost the bypolls on BJP ticket: MTB Nagaraj (former Congress MLA) and H Vishwanath (formerly JD).

With terms of several Members of Legislative Council slated to end in June, Yeddyurappa has reportedly assured rebels who lost the bypolls that they will be elected to the Upper House and subsequently be given ministerial berths.

"I will write to the Chief Minister. This is Goa, and the neighbouring states of Maharashtra and Karnataka are probing them. How then should the MLAs in the state not discuss or know what is shaping inside this organisation?" he said.



NORTH UP: 4 arrested for rape bid on Dalit woman

Muzaffarnagar: Four people were arrested for allegedly abducting and trying to rape a Dalit woman in Uttar Pradesh's Shamli district, police said on Tuesday. Manzur, Israt, Mukarram and Manzur abducted the 30-year-old woman from her house in Thana Bhawan town on Monday, Circle Officer (CO)



The mangled remains of a passenger bus at Dhupdhara in Assam's Goalpara district. At least six people were killed in the mishap. PTI

EAST IS suspect throws shoe at judge, strikes NIA counsel

Kolkata: An alleged member of the Islamic State, who is being tried under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, on Tuesday hurled his shoe at a sessions court judge in Kolkata. The shoe, however, missed judge Prasenjit Biswas and instead hit NIA counsel Tamal Mukherjee. The accused, Abu Musa, was arrested in 2016 for

his alleged role over a blast in Burdwan in 2014. He is suspected to have links with ISIS and Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh and is in judicial remand. Before throwing his footwear, Musa shouted that he did not believe in man-made laws. "The shoe missed the target and hit a lawyer who was present in the court," said a police officer. ENS

WEST Teacher held for molesting minor students in Nanded

Aurangabad: A 30-year-old teacher was arrested for allegedly molesting students at a primary school in Maharashtra's Nanded city, police said on Tuesday. The police on Monday arrested the teacher for allegedly showing pornographic video clips to 10-year-old girl students at a primary school and molesting them.

An official said. On Monday, parents reached the school and beat up the teacher, following which he was handed over to the police, the official added. A case under relevant sections of the IPC and POCSO Act has been registered against the accused, upper superintendent of police Dattaram Rathod said. PTI

SOUTH Techie kills mother, attacks brother in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: A 33-year old techie allegedly stabbed her mother to death and made a murderous assault on her younger brother before fleeing their home here, police said on Tuesday. According to police, the woman fatally stabbed her mother using a knife and attacked the brother early on Monday. The injured brother has been hospitalised here. A search was on for the techie and the motive for her action under investigation, police said. The woman, employed as a software engineer with a company here, earlier had told her mother and 30-year old brother that she has been transferred to Hyderabad and she may have to relocate.

PTI

Woman strangled in UP restaurant, uncle suspect

AMIL BHATNAGAR
NOIDA, FEBRUARY 4

A 25-YEAR-OLD man allegedly strangled his relative at a restaurant in Uttar Pradesh's Hathras after the family refused to allow him to marry her. Police said the 19-year-old victim was being pursued by her uncle, despite their family's disapproval.

According to police, the woman and the man had entered the restaurant at around 3.30 pm. The hotel staff told police that after the man ordered food, he approached the waiter and said he will be back in "ten minutes". The accused then walked out of the restaurant, police said.

"We received information that the body of a woman had been found in a restaurant

within Kotwali Police Station jurisdiction. The hotel staff told us that the woman had been earlier spotted with a man who soon left. The woman was later found lying motionless next to the table. After she was identified, the family told us that she had gone for lunch with her relative, and they suspect him. A case has been filed for murder and investigation is pending," said Hathras SP Gaurav Banswal.

The family told police that the man had been insisting on marrying the 19-year-old, but the family had refused since they were blood relatives.

While the post-mortem is being conducted, the police found marks on the woman's neck suggesting a strangulation.

The hotel staff is also being questioned and the CCTV footage will be examined.

EXPRESS NETWORK

CORONAVIRUS FEARS

India cancels all visas to Chinese nationals

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

DAYS AFTER it evacuated 647 Indians from Hubei province of China, New Delhi on Tuesday cancelled all existing valid visas for Chinese and foreigners who visited the country in the last two weeks.

On February 2, India had temporarily suspended e-visa facility for Chinese travellers and foreigners residing in China in view of the novel coronavirus outbreak in Wuhan.

In its announcement on Tuesday, the Indian Embassy in Beijing said, "All those who are already in India (with regular or e-visa) and had travelled from China after January 15 are requested to contact the hotline number of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of Government of India (+91-11-23978046 and email: ncv2019@gmail.com.)"

On the validity of the visas, it said: "Embassy of India and our Consulates have been receiving several queries from Chinese citizens as well as other foreign nationals, who are based out of China or visited China in the last two weeks, as to whether they can use their valid single/multiple entry visas to travel to India... It is clarified that existing visas are no longer valid. Intending visitors to India should contact the Indian Embassy in Beijing (visa2.beijing@mea.gov.in) or the Consulates in Shanghai (Ccons.shanghai@mea.gov.in) and Guangzhou (Visa.guangzhou@mea.gov.in) to apply afresh for an Indian visa. Indian Visa Application Centres (www.blisindia-china.com) in these cities may also be contacted in this regard."

The visa section of the Embassy/Consulates of India in China can be contacted to ascertain the validity of visa before un-

dertaking any visit to India, it said.

Meanwhile, Chinese health authorities said on Tuesday that the death toll has risen to 425, with 64 deaths on Monday, and the number of those infected has touched 20,438.

The virus has spread to over 25 countries – India has reported three cases so far. All the three patients from Kerala recently returned from Wuhan.

Currently, 647 Indians and seven Maldivians, who were evacuated, have been quarantined at a medical camp in Manesar, near Delhi.

Earlier, India had asked its citizens to "refrain" from travelling to China, and had suspended travel on e-visas for those with Chinese passports and others residing in China.

As New Delhi evacuated Indians, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar spoke to Chinese State Councillor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi, China's Ambassador to India, Sun Weidong, had quoted Wang as telling Jaishankar during the phone conversation that "all should play a constructive role. We don't think it is helpful for a certain country to hype up the situation, or even create panic".

Sun had quoted Jaishankar as saying that "it is important to evaluate the outbreak in an objective and rational manner and not take action that may complicate the situation".

"At yesterday's briefing on the novel coronavirus outbreak, the WHO does not recommend travel or trade restrictions against China. We believe that India and other countries will respect this important recommendation, Wang Yi said," the Chinese envoy had said on February 1.

EXPLAINED

WUHAN EVACUATION
PAGE 16



At the Kochi Medical College on Tuesday. PTI

Two Kerala students from Wuhan under home quarantine go to Saudi Arabia

SHAJU PHILIP
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM, FEBRUARY 4

January 15. While they did not have any symptoms of the infection, they had been quarantined. They left the country two days ago.

"We have informed the state control room," Jayasree told PTI. "Our request to those under surveillance is that they should remain in isolation at home during the incubation period of 28 days, even if they do not have any symptoms, particularly those who have come from China," she said.

State Health Minister K K Shailaja said the students would be brought back immediately.

No new cases have been reported. All those who are under isolation, including the three confirmed cases, are stable. Surveillance has been stepped up at all airports in Kerala, and health staff have been given training," said the minister.

As the number of persons under observation in Kerala for suspected exposure to the virus rose to 2,421 on Tuesday, the state health department sent text messages to them: "Kerala is proud of you. You are the brave warriors who sacrifice your freedom for the protection of society. We have each one of you in our hearts and souls. Let us join hands for a corona-free state."

Officials said 191 counsellors have been deployed across the state to provide psychological support to the affected families. Of those under observation, at least 100 are in isolation at various hospitals across the state.

Meanwhile, a day after the Kerala government declared the outbreak as a state calamity, the neighbouring states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu began screening all passengers from the state.

Air India to suspend Delhi-Hong Kong flights from Feb 8

New Delhi: Air India Tuesday said it is suspending its Delhi-Hong Kong flight from February 8, after authorities there confirmed the death of a patient with coronavirus.

"In view of the coronavirus issue Air India is suspending its flights to Hong Kong after flying AI314 on the 7th of February 2020," said Air India chairman and managing director Ashwani Lohani on Twitter. PTI

Chinese envoy meets Health Secy over coronavirus

ABANTIKA GHOSH
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

government on the need to extend the leaves of some of the Indian students who are currently home from various Chinese universities in view of the nCoV 2019 situation in that country. In that connection the Chinese Ambassador met the Health Secretary. He also shared with her updates of what is happening in China and the kind of steps that are being taken there to prevent spread of the virus. She also thanked him for the Chinese government's cooperation for evacuation of close to 650 Indians from Wuhan in two



Sun Weidong

meeting with state health secretaries and senior officials from the ministries of Shipping, Tourism, External Affairs and Home Affairs via video conferencing, in which she told them that the Prime Minister's Office is monitoring the novel coronavirus "closely and regularly".

Sudan asked states to take necessary steps for contact tracing and adequate surveillance management.

She also said that in order to meet with the increasing demand of additional manpower to undertake screening at airports, states should pro-

vide required health workforce and other logistic supports to APHOs.

It has also been decided that earmarked aero bridges will be used at seven international airports – Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, Cochin, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Chennai – at dedicated gates to screen passengers so as to ensure effective prevention.

The Ministry of Tourism is coordinating with the Hotels Associations for wider self-reporting by travellers visiting religious and other tourist places in states.

Govt working towards developing India as defence manufacturing hub: Rajnath

MAULSHREE SETH
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 4

DEFENCE MINISTER Rajnath Singh on Tuesday said the Union government is working to develop India as a "defence manufacturing hub", adding that the country cannot be dependent on imported arms for a long time, and thus the target is to create a world-class domestic industry.

Speaking on the eve of the DefExpo 2020 in Lucknow, Singh said the government aims to become the third-largest economy in the world by the end of the decade.

Stating that the DefExpo 2020 is the biggest such exposition in the country as the stature of the country has increased across the world, and entire world takes India seriously," Singh said. "We are developing India as a defence manufacturing hub."

The family told police that the man had been insisting on marrying the 19-year-old, but the family had refused since they were blood relatives.

While the post-mortem is being conducted, the police found marks on the woman's neck suggesting a strangulation.

The hotel staff is also being questioned and the CCTV footage will be examined.



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh with Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath in Lucknow. Vishal Srivastav

US envoy: Opportunity to see talent of India's defence industry

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 4

US AMBASSADOR Kenneth I Juster, who is leading the US delegation at the DefExpo 2020, here, said Tuesday that it was a "great opportunity to see the talent and innovation of India's defence industry."

The theme of DefExpo 2020 is "Digital Transformation of Defence". Defence exhibitions such as these demonstrate that industry in the US and India, along with our respective governments, share a common understanding regarding the nature of the modern battlefield, Juster said.

"We share the belief that, in order for India to ensure its defence and work with like-minded nations in pursuit of common security objectives, it is critical that India moves toward systems – not just weapons – that are effective, agile, and resilient. In addition, we believe that India must ultimately move toward systems that are interoperable with the equipment and networks of its security partners," Juster said.

the minutes of the meeting.

He added that one has to be prepared for water, electricity and disaster management for all seasons.

"So, for all these reasons and to ferry tourists during monsoon, a tunnel should be built.. The public works department should gather information and submit a report on it in the next meeting," Mete said.

He further asked for details about the safest sea route to reach the memorial site, types of boats and permissions required from Maharashtra Maritime Board, Mumbai Port Trust and Navy.

According to government estimates, around 10,000 tourists are expected to visit the memorial site daily after completion of the work.

The proposed memorial – 212 m in height, including a 123.2-m equestrian statue standing atop an 88.8-m pedestal – was the flagship project of the previous Devendra Fadnavis government. It is expected to cost Rs 3600 crore. Questions had been raised about the economic feasibility of the memorial, which is to be built over 1.5 km inside the sea. The construction of the sea tunnel, a first in India, is likely to escalate the cost further.

Currently, work on the project is stalled.



Screening at Delhi airport. Courtesy: Twitter

89,500
passengers screened

From 777 Across 21 flights airports

454
samples tested
with 451 samples negative

3,935
passengers under community surveillance

As of Tuesday

PROTEST WATCH

WEST BENGAL



Members of the All India Lawyers Union at a protest rally against CAA, NPR and NRC in front of the Calcutta High Court on Tuesday. Express

UTTAR PRADESH

Lectures delivered as protest enters Day 19

Lucknow: The protest at Ghantaghar in old Lucknow continued on Tuesday, completing 19 days of the agitation. TV and film actor Imran Khan visited the protest site. Lectures were also delivered on the spot with former Lucknow University Vice-Chancellor Roopkatha Verma and other activists and lawyers speaking about the new citizenship law. Praising the women protesters, Imran Khan said, "This fight is not of a religion, but it is to save the Constitution from the law which is against it. The CAA is against the Constitution... The Constitution gives equal rights to all." Seven cases have been registered in Lucknow against those involved in protests against CAA and NRC. While four FIRs were earlier registered at Thakurganj police station against the protesters at Ghantaghar, two were filed over demonstrations in Gomti Nagar and Mohanlalganj.

ENS

MAHARASHTRA



A protest against the new citizenship law in Govandi area of Mumbai on Tuesday. Prashant Nadkar

GUJARAT

Women hit the streets against CAA, NRC, NPR

Modasa: Thousands of women agitated against the CAA, the proposed NRC and NPR, by staging a sit-in at Modasa town in Aravalli on Tuesday. Waiving the Tricolour, the protesters assembled at Ghoshiya ground in Modasa and shouted slogans in protest of the CAA, the NRC and the NPR, referring to the three as "black Act and draconian exercises". Many of the protesters were draped in Tricolour-themed Hijabs. "I am a computer engineer and a homemaker and still, I have

ENS

Don't glorify Maoists... terrorists have links with them: Kerala CM to Cong



Pinarayi Vijayan

Fazal and Suhail, students of journalism and law, respectively, and the CPI(M)'s branch committee members were arrested in Kozhikode with the action drawing widespread criticism in the Left-ruled state.

In his reply, Vijayan asked the opposition not to justify Maoists just because they (UDF) oppose the Left. "There is no need to justify the Maoists just because you are politically opposing the Left Democratic Front (LDF). We all know what the Maoists are doing," he said. He said "some terrorists operating in the state have some connection with the Maoists".

Chennithala mocked at Vijayan's reply to the notice and said he felt as if he was listening to Shah in the Lok Sabha. He said those who became Maoists were from the Left parties. "The police claimed that Alan scribbled Maoism Sindabad on the school wall when he was in the ninth standard. What are they saying," Chennithala said, adding the chief minister failed to explain why the two were arrested.

Meerut cops cite youth's killing to block bail to riot accused

KAUNAIN SHERIFF M
MEERUT, FEBRUARY 4

ON DECEMBER 20, 26-year-old Mohsin sustained bullet injuries during an anti-CAA protest in Meerut. He was declared brought dead at a hospital the same day. His grieving family protested when they were denied the post-mortem report.

The Meerut police are now flagging the findings of the post-mortem report, linking Mohsin's death caused by a firearm injury to the rioting that took place. In fact, police used this to oppose the bail plea of a man booked in a case of rioting and attempt to murder which was registered at the Brahmputri police station in Meerut – five persons were killed during the protests in Meerut and families of the victims alleged excessive police action.

The FIR stated: "At around 3.30 pm, near Hapur adda, there were 400-500 people armed with sticks, country-made pistol and pistols. The police explained

to the crowd that prohibitory orders under Section 144 CrPC have been imposed... however, with intention to kill the policemen, they started pelting stones at the police vehicles. The police arrested four people – Aasif, Samir, Mohammed Ikrar and Shehzad – from the spot. They were arrested from the Lisadi gate at 6.10 pm."

Ikrar's bail application was rejected on January 1 with sessions judge Gurpreet Singh Bawa recording in his order: "The prosecution has argued that police officials were injured after all the accused attacked them sticks, bricks, rods, stones and petrol bombs... the case diary shows that police officials Imran, Satendra, Udharm Singh, Manoj Kumar, Ajay Kumar, Nazim Khan, Adhesh Pundir, Sudhir, Jitender Saxena, Dhanveer, Shabab, Santosh, Veerpal, Satish Chandra, Ajay Kumar, Bijendra Singh, Pinku, Raghuraj Singh, Mahaveer Singh and Raj Singh were medically examined and found to have red contusion and

red abrasion. In case of Sudhir and Jitendra Saxena, the doctor recommended them for an X-ray examination. The examination reveals that there was no fracture of any bone."

"The prosecution has also submitted that during the incident Mohsin suffered firearm injury. The post mortem report has been placed, which confirms that cause of Mohsin's death was due to the injuries caused by the firearm... The allegations are serious in nature. Considering the serious nature of offence and the role of the accused – and without making any observations on the merits of the case, the bail plea is rejected," the order stated.

Court records show that while police submitted the case diary giving details of injuries caused to police personnel and Mohsin's post-mortem report to indicate that the protesters used weapons, they made no mention of any weapon being seized from the arrested accused – only the recovery of bullet shells, glasses and sticks were mentioned.

"There was firing reported at Tayuwell junction. And bullet shell and other things were recovered. The forensic team was also informed. Sticks and glass pieces that were lying on the road was also seized," the court said while recording the police submission.

While rejected the bail application, the court recorded a key defence argument based on CCTV footage, which points out that the arrests were made even before the incident took place.

"The defense has argued... that on December 20, 2019, at around 10 am, the police took him into custody. He has said that the police has falsely implicated him. It is argued that time of arrest can be verified by the CCTV installed near the house. The accused has also placed a copy of the CCTV footage of the arrest. The accused has also stated that the FIR has been registered at 3.30 pm. There are also news report that the arrest took place on December 20," the court said.

AMU proctor quits citing 'personal reasons'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 4



Mamata Banerjee addresses an anti-CAA rally in Bangaon in North 24 Parganas district on Tuesday. Express

CONTINUING HER attack on the Narendra Modi government over the controversial citizenship law and the National Register of Citizens (NRC), Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Tuesday said the BJP is "a party of Dushasanas" and urged people to unite to save the Constitution.

"The NRC, NRC and CAA are like black magic. TMC is not a party of Dushasanas like the BJP. They (BJP) are descendants of Muhammad bin Tughlaq and people must unite to save the country from them," she said. According to Hindu epic Mahabharata, Dushasana, the younger brother of Kaurav prince Duryodhana, tried to disrobe Draupadi after the Pandava brothers lost a bet. Tughlaq, who ruled Delhi sultanate between 1325 and 1351, undertook many administrative reforms which came a cropper.

The Chief Minister, one of the

staunchest critics of the citizenship law, addressed two anti-CAA rallies in Ranaghat in Nadia district and Bangaon in North 24 Parganas.

She attacked BJP leaders for branding anti-CAA protesters as "anti-nationals" and extended her support to Shaheen Bagh protesters in Delhi. She blamed BJP leaders for the firing inci-

dents at Shaheen Bagh and Jamia Millia Islamia in Delhi. "It is because BJP leaders are instigating people. These are attempts to terrorise the protesters. They (BJP leaders) are saying 'goli maro' (shoot them). How can you shoot at protesters for peaceful agitation? Is this acceptable in a democracy?"

The NRC exercise was conducted in Assam on the directions of the Supreme Court.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi last month said his government has never discussed the NRC since coming to power for the first time in 2014 and it was done only in Assam.

Introduced by Indian American City Council member Kshama Sawant, the resolution urges the Parliament of India to uphold the Indian Constitution by repealing the CAA, and to stop the National Register of Citizens, and take steps towards helping refugees by ratifying various UN treaties on refugees.

Seattle City Council passes resolution against CAA, NRC

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
WASHINGTON, FEBRUARY 4

THE SEATTLE City Council, one of the most powerful city councils in the US, on Monday unanimously passed a resolution condemning CAA and the proposed NRC.

The new citizenship law passed by Parliament in December 2019 offers citizenship to non-Muslim minorities from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

Reaffirming Seattle as a welcoming city and expressing solidarity with the city's South

Asian community regardless of religion and caste, the resolution "resolves that the Seattle City Council opposes the National Register of Citizens and the Citizenship Amendment Act in India, and finds these policies to be discriminatory to Muslims, oppressed castes, women, indigenous, and LGBT people".

The Indian government has maintained that the CAA, which was passed by the Indian Parliament last month, is an internal matter of the country and stressed that the goal is to protect the oppressed minorities of neighbouring countries.

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The Nehru Memorial Museum and Library cordially invites you to a Public Lecture

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by

Prof. Ken Jimbo

Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University

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Contact us on: ccs2nmml@gmail.com

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All are Welcome

NID postpones convocation after inviting Sarabhai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
AHMEDABAD, FEBRUARY 4

THE NATIONAL Institute of Design (NID) has postponed its annual convocation ceremony, where danseuse Mallika Sarabhai, who criticised the Narendra Modi government over the new citizenship law, was invited as the chief guest, citing "unforeseen circumstances".

Sarabhai has received a letter from the institute informing that its 40th convocation scheduled to be held on Friday has been postponed. Responding over e-mail on reports that the event was postponed because of objections to Sarabhai as its guest, the danseuse said, "The Chair Jamshyd Godrej (Managing Director and Chairman of Godrej & Boyce) invited me about four months ago through a letter and I readily accepted. I have been associated with NID and have served in their Board."

The NID, though an autonomous institute set up in 1961 by the Centre with assistance from the Ford Foundation and the Sarabhai family, is under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry. "I was informed about the cancellation through a letter that went to everyone. I have not spoken to anyone nor asked. No one



has said I won't be their guest, Sarabhai added.

The institute, in a message to its graduating students, stated that the "40th convocation scheduled on Friday, February 7, stands postponed due to unforeseen circumstances". The message added that the convocation was postponed, not cancelled, and that "a new date will be communicated in due course".

NID's spokesperson said, "Attempts are being made to hold the convocation on the scheduled date. An official statement on its status is likely to be issued on Wednesday."

Sarabhai, daughter of noted dancer Mrinalini Sarabhai and Vikram Sarabhai, who is known as the father of India's space programme, has been a vocal critic of PM Modi since he was the chief minister of Gujarat. She had also joined protests against the controversial CAA in Ahmedabad.

Bring nationwide NRC: BJP MP in Parliament

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

WHILE HOME Ministry on Tuesday said there was no plan for a nationwide NRC as yet, BJP MP from Jharkhand Nishikant Dubey demanded NRC across the country. Speaking during Zero Hour, Dubey said, "Illegal immigration is a huge problem in my state. The issues of CAA, NRC and NPR are very important... I request you to implement NRC across the country."

An FIR had been registered against student leaders Hamza Sufyan, Nadeem Ansari and six unidentified persons at Civil Lines police station on January 21 after the students allegedly misbehaved with Afifullah Khan. The FIR was lodged in connection with an incident on January 17 when a shoe was thrown at the proctor in protest against the varsity administration. The varsity administration had filed a complaint alleging misbehaviour by some students, led by Sufyan and Ansari.

A former AMU Students' Union president said, "This is the beginning of the battle for us students... We have been protesting since December 15 demanding the resignation of proctor and other officials for their failure on December 15. The other officials such as V-C, Dean of Students' Welfare, will also have to resign. And our protest against NRC and CAA will continue."

The Muslims ruled this country between 800 AD and 1857 AD. So Islam was not in danger. So today, when nationalist forces have come forward, there is conspiracy to grant citizenship to Muslims from Pakistan, Afghanistan and

Bangladesh for votebank politics. ... Please save the country from partition and implement NRC across the country," Dubey said even as opposition benches interrupted him.

Earlier, the House had to be adjourned about five minutes after assembly as opposition benches tried to create a ruckus over issues of CAA-NRC and statement of BJP MP Anantkumar Hegde who purportedly questioned the contribution of Mahatma Gandhi in the freedom struggle.

When the House reassembled at noon, Congress Leader of the House Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury raised the issue. "There are peaceful protests going on against CAA-NRC across the country inspired by Mahatma Gandhi... such words are being spoken about him? Sir, it's disrespect to the worshipper of Ram," Chowdhury said.

DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA
Election Related Public Notice
Objectionable Messages

There are instances when objectionable messages & other social media messages which violate the Election Laws, Model Code of Conduct and Election Commission's directions are shared during Elections. Recipients of such objectionable messages can complain to Shri Anyesh Roy, DCP/Cyber Crime Unit, CyPAD, who has been appointed as Nodal Officer in Delhi Police for this specific purpose.

The complainant can forward such objectionable message(s) or links to the Nodal Officer on **8130099105** along with the phone number or account from which they have received such message(s).

They can also send their complaints on E-mail ID: **acp-cybercell-dl@nic.in** and on Fax Nos: **011-28031130** besides forwarding the messages if they so desire.

THE PROTEST TEST

It is not the protests that threaten to divide, their demonisation does that

FINALLY, THE PRIME Minister of India broke his silence on the ongoing protests against a discriminatory citizenship law at Shaheen Bagh among other places but only to sound off key. It is no "sanyog (coincidence)" that protesters have gathered at Selampur, Jamia or Shaheen Bagh, PM Narendra Modi said, but a "prayog (experiment)" — "iske preechi rajneeti ka ek aisa design hai jo rashtra ke sauhard ko khandit karne ke iraade rakhta hai", there is a design that aims to destroy amity in the country. That statement is problematic because it seeks to frame the democratic expression of opposition to a law passed by government as something sinister. It also appears to underline that the unseemly and downright inflammatory campaigning by the BJP ahead of the Delhi elections in the last few days and weeks is sanctioned and even encouraged by the party's very top. If the prime minister, no less, frames the election as one between the BJP and conspirators against the nation, then Messrs Anurag Thakur, Yogi Adityanath, and Parvesh Sahib Singh Verma, who was fielded in Parliament by his party soon after being banned from campaigning for hate speech by the Election Commission, must not be seen as transgressors. They are loyal footsoldiers in a concerted assault on the norms of political civility.

The BJP has fought nasty election campaigns before and even the PM himself has gone low in the past. In the Haryana campaign last year in October, he spoke of the main political opponent's "chemistry" with Pakistan. In the Gujarat assembly election in 2017, he had alleged that a conspiracy was hatched with Pakistan, involving former PM Manmohan Singh, to defeat the BJP. And yet, the labelling and vilification of the protests against the CAA in the course of the campaign for Delhi is different, and worse. Here, the BJP and the PM are not just aiming barbs at their political rivals but also, and more, at the people. The anti-CAA protests that have erupted in Delhi and across the country and that are overwhelmingly peaceful and evidently leader-less are being relentlessly baited and targeted by the ruling party — instead of being listened to or engaged with. By painting Shaheen Bagh as the den of "pro-Pakistan" "anti-nationals", "jihadis" and "urban Naxals", the BJP and its government are not just breaching democratic etiquette but also denying agency to all those who have questions about a law that has stoked widespread concerns that go to the heart of Indian identity, equality and citizenship.

It may be that the BJP's rhetoric will lose its harsh edge once Delhi has been won and lost. It may be that the moderating impulse that compelled the PM to take a step back from a nation-wide NRC in another speech that launched the BJP's Delhi campaign will return. Meanwhile, this systematic trashing of the protest raises questions on the government's willingness and ability to talk to its own people without calling them names. It is not the protests that threaten amity, it is their demonisation which does that.

DISINCENTIVE TO SAVE

Budget should have focused on creating a pool of domestic savings to finance long-term investments in infrastructure

IN AN ATTEMPT to prop up a sagging economy, the Union Budget 2020-21 has unveiled an alternate income tax regime hoping that it will increase household disposable income and provide the much-needed fillip to consumption. The government has provided taxpayers the option of shifting to the new regime with lower tax rates, provided they forego all their exemptions and deductions. As tax payers tend to take advantage of exemptions and deductions to channel part of their income towards physical and financial savings, however, this measure, while meant to incentivise consumption in the short run, may end up reducing household savings and thus the domestically available investible surplus in the economy. Considering the fall in the savings rate in the economy, it is surprising that the budget has chosen not to incentivise domestic savings.

In an economy, savings form the pool of investible surplus. In India, the surplus savings of households are absorbed by the government and the private corporate sector. As per the 12th Finance Commission, the total transferable savings of the household sector were around 10 per cent of GDP, which combined with a current account deficit of 1.5 per cent, would be enough to finance the government (Centre and states) fiscal deficit of 6 per cent of GDP, fulfilling the funding requirement of the private corporate sector of around 4 per cent, and of non-departmental public enterprises to the tune of 1.5 per cent. But, over the past years, household savings in the economy have been falling, as with sluggish income growth, they have been dipped into for financing consumption, and borrowings have also increased — incremental financial liabilities of households have in fact risen from Rs 3.8 lakh crore to Rs 7.65 lakh crore in 2018-19. Latest data also shows a decline in both gross and net (excluding financial liabilities) household financial savings in 2018-19.

In this context, it is surprising that the budget chose not to incentivise household savings which could have been used for financing long-term projects. Perhaps the government is hopeful that the decline in domestic savings will be offset by the flow of savings from the rest of the world. The budget has raised the limits for foreign investment, and has offered incentives to sovereign wealth for investing in India. But the focus should have been to create a pool of domestic savings to finance long-term investments in infrastructure, especially at a time when the government has unveiled an ambitious infrastructure pipeline.

BABEL'S INTERPRETER

With the death of George Steiner, the world has lost one of the few academics who range across disciplines and cultures

FOR WANT OF a word with a broader intellectual ambit, let us call George Steiner a philologist. The French-American critic and teacher of comparative literature who has died aged 90 was both admired as a polyglot polymath, and occasionally criticised for failing to see the trees for the wood. Now, one of the last Renaissance men is gone, and a world that has taken to fetishising specialisation is the poorer for it. Steiner taught in four languages in Princeton, Cambridge and Geneva, and believed that no one who was proficient in only one language could possibly know it very well. A prolific reviewer and critic, he also found time to write fiction, in which he sometimes opposed this own thesis, perhaps to see where the synthesis would fall.

Steiner will be best remembered for *After Babel* (1975), one of the most seminal yet accessible works on translation and its centrality in human understanding, and in relations between cultures. He saw all communications as a form of translation, and his ideas remained at the cutting edge until the publication of Umberto Eco's *Mouse or Rat* almost 30 years later, which viewed translation as a process of negotiation.

But Steiner's influence extended far beyond language, because it is the bearer of culture. The investigation of culture and its politics is the domain of the critic, and Steiner brought to the subject the wide-angle vision of an academic who read *Ulysses* in English and the *Odyssey* in Homeric Greek with equal facility. Regrettably, his geographical domain was largely restricted to the West and as a Jewish survivor of Hitler's Germany, he was extraordinarily focused on the Holocaust as an endpoint of European culture. Nevertheless, the world will remember him as one of the last Renaissance men, who addressed the deepest question: What makes us human?



P VAIDYANATHAN IYER

AHEAD OF THE Budget, Prime Minister Narendra Modi had met a range of people — economists, analysts and industrialists — to understand why the economy was choking and the plumbing it required. He was told, by some who dared to, that a hard landing of the Indian economy has already happened: In just six quarters, the growth rate had almost halved — from 8.1 per cent in January-March 2018 to 4.5 per cent in July-September 2019.

The slowing cycle, of course, started way back in the last two years of the UPA government. But India Inc's confidence was at its lowest ebb now, companies were sitting on piles of idle cash, suffering substantial capacity under-utilisation, and not planning any fresh investment in the near-to-midterm. So, the least that was expected when Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman rose to present the Budget for 2020-21, was to give solid positive impulses to the economy.

Let us, for once, set aside the argument about the nature of the prolonged economic slowdown — cyclical or structural. There are reasons to suggest there is a strong structural element to the slowdown — and that more strategic thinking and hard reforms are required to catapult India back into a high-growth orbit. Of course, these will yield results only in the medium-to-long term, but in the very short-run, play a critical role in reviving confidence in the market place. But the government has lulled itself into imagining the slowdown is cyclical, and counter-cyclical policies — fiscal and monetary — can reverse the growth path. That be so, but has the government moved with conviction to pursue such policies?

In the Economic Survey for 2019-20 — the period when the economy slid sharply — Chief Economic Adviser Krishnamurthy Subramanian advocated a counter-cyclical fiscal policy by creating additional headroom for increased expenditure. But what actually happened in 2019-20, as revealed by the revised estimates for the year, offers

No risk, no gain

Budget was expected to give positive impulses to the economy. It took no bold steps

some guidance on what to expect next year. Staring at a shortfall of a massive Rs 3 lakh crore in gross tax receipts in 2019-20, the government slashed current expenditure by 0.4 per cent of GDP for the year, and also reduced the transfer to states by 0.8 per cent of GDP. This despite the fact that it dipped into RBI reserves to realise an extra Rs 58,000 crore.

Cutting transfers to states certainly hurts growth more now than ever before. Over the last seven years, states' spending, as a percentage of GDP, has increased significantly from just 14 per cent of GDP to about 18 per cent. Lower transfer to states mean lower spending by them, and reduced contribution to the country's economic growth.

The sharp cuts in expenditure by the Centre, and a one-time windfall from the RBI notwithstanding, the government couldn't meet its fiscal deficit target. The target was breached by a good 0.5 percentage points to 3.8 per cent of GDP for 2019-20. Given the projections of a subdued real growth rate of under 6 per cent for 2020-21, the government, in its wisdom, also decided to stick to a fiscal consolidation plan, and pare the deficit to 3.5 per cent of GDP in the coming year. This probably is the prime minister's imprint on the Budget — the big political call that spending more to impart a positive fiscal impulse to the economy is not worth the risk of a rating downgrade. The Budget, thus, ruled out a counter-cyclical fiscal push, as is reflected in the funds allocated for major sectors and flagship programmes, including the National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

In the last year or so, much of the counter-cyclical monetary push has also yielded no dividend to the economy. The mess in the financial sector has festered long enough — 15 months, if not more. But the government has refused to address the elephant in the room — a frozen credit market. Triggered by the falling of IL&FS, the non-banking finance sector faced one cri-

sis after another. The heavy lifting by NBFCs, in terms of funding small businesses and retail consumers, suffered with no banks willing to lend to them following the crisis of confidence in the NBFC sector. Banks were as it is saddled with bad loans, and bankers cringed in fear, not willing to lend. To top it all, policy rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India meant little to nothing, since banks were not transmitting its benefits to companies and individuals.

This continued logjam needed a solution long ago. The finance minister did take a number of small measures through the year, but it meant nothing. The credit market remains frozen. The markets are unable to distinguish between the good and the bad amongst NBFCs. It is critical to assess the asset quality of NBFCs to understand the extent of mess in individual companies, and look for solutions then. They could be provided capital to help turn around. Not all apples are rotten in the basket. The good ones are to be salvaged. This requires a political intervention. For all the big risks the prime minister has shown appetite for in the realm of society and politics, he chose not to risk anything for the economy.

The government has turned more risk-averse than before since Rahul Gandhi's "suit boot ki sarkaar" jibe. To reach a \$5-trillion size by 2024-25, India needs to grow in double digits over the next five years. But forget that. Low growth is less jobs for the millions entering the workforce, and job losses too. It doesn't take much time for the resulting unrest to spill onto the streets.

Post script: To the punishment the stock markets meted out to a lacklustre Budget, which neither offered a coherent growth strategy nor any innovation, a senior government official wryly remarked: "The Sensex failed to appreciate things could have been worse."

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H G S DHALIWAL

IT IS EVERY man's business to see that justice is done. But, it is also true that the course of justice often prevents it. The long delay in hanging the convicts in the December 16 rape and murder case stands in stark contrast to the encounter killing of four rapists of a veterinary doctor in Telangana.

The chasm between people's perception of justice and the actual majesty of law as it unravels over trial, conviction and executions has been widening with each passing day of long-drawn trials and eventual implementation of the verdict. This is one of the biggest causative factors for the lynch mob and justice-at-hand mentality, even in minor accident offences involving transport vehicles.

Post the December 16 and Telangana cases, there are no easy answers and solutions to tackle the root cause of the malaise of sexual assaults, which manifests first as a crime that essentially is not only an assault on an individual victim but also the psyche of all women. The massive support and adulation for the Telangana police personnel responsible for the encounter has to be seen against this backdrop. The delayed trials and the insensitivity of the criminal justice system leaves the victims and their families hapless and helpless. Often, for victims, the trauma of trial is more painful than the actual crime.

In the age of social media, even those

FOR WHOM THE BELL TOLLS

Infirmities and delays in criminal justice system strengthen the case for jury trials

With the modern tools of Artificial Intelligence, Smart Algorithms and the availability of Big Data, especially due to widespread adoption of the common platform of Aadhaar across the country, all these challenges, which are primarily relating to jury formation, can easily be overcome. The jury trials can also have the added benefit of sharing the workload of an already overburdened judicial system.

unaffected by the crime are equally outraged by the infirmities of the criminal justice system. This outrage portends well. Perhaps, this is the right moment for the state to negate the shortcomings in the criminal justice system — which are resulting in widespread popular anger, often testing the limitations of state response — and make common people participants once again in justice dispersals through the jury trial system. Jury trials have been quite popular and widely accepted in many other common law countries like the US, despite its criticism in well-known cases such as Scottsboro Boys, Emmett Till and Rodney King.

The original provisions of the Indian Penal Code, 1861 and Code of Criminal Procedure, 1882 had a provision for jury trial. It was given a burial with the new Code of Criminal Procedure that came into force in 1974. The famous Nanavati case of 1959 hastened the demise of the jury trial system in India. However, the acute shortcomings of the conventional criminal justice system, evident in cases such as the December 16 rape and murder, call for revisiting the merits of the jury trial system.

In a multicultural and a multiracial country like India, with its motley of castes, ethnicities and interest groups, jury trials can have their own challenges, especially relating to composition of jury members.

Sometimes, a jury trial can be akin to riding a ship into a storm. However, with the modern tools of artificial intelligence, smart algorithms and the availability of big data, especially due to widespread adoption of the common platform of Aadhaar across the country, all these challenges, which primarily relate to jury formation, can easily be overcome. The jury trials can also have the added benefit of sharing the workload of an already overburdened judicial system.

These challenging times, when the entire edifice of criminal justice system is shaken and is being questioned by citizens for its lack of speed and sensitivity, call for a paradigm shift. This is the moment when the country wants to be judge, jury and executioner. A democracy based on the rule of law cannot allow the public to be the judge or executioner. However, people drawn from a diverse pool, who qualify on a set of well-defined parameters, including education, vocation, age, experience and other relevant criteria, can be members of the jury in "public interest" cases like the December 16 rape and murder and Telangana rape and murder.

If there ever could be, this truly is the moment for the jury to decide for whom the bell tolls.

The writer, a 1997 batch IPS officer, is currently IGP, Arunachal Pradesh



FEBRUARY 5, 1980, FORTY YEARS AGO

DETENTION BILL

THE GOVERNMENT MANAGED to have the Prevention of Blackmarketing and Maintenance of Supplies Bill passed to the Rajya Sabha by mustering the crucial support of some non-Congress (I) members to defeat an Opposition-sponsored amendment suggesting reference of the Bill to a select committee of the House. The amendment, tabled by V B Raju, A G Kulkarni and Purabi Mukherjee of the Congress, was lost when 101 of the 188 members present opposed it. The absence of several Congress members as well as the AIADMK's support helped the government stave off another embarrassment in the House in which the

ruling party is in minority.

ALI VERSUS CARTER

MUHAMMAD ALI, STUNG by criticism of his mission to urge a Moscow Olympics boycott, accused US President Jimmy Carter of "sending me around the world to take the whipping" from black Africans opposed to US dealings with South Africa. Ali told reporters he probably would not have undertaken his presidential assignment if he had known beforehand "the whole history of America and Africa and South Africa".

PROSECUTING DEVI
FORMER PRIME MINISTER Charan Singh

asked Home minister Zail Singh to directly file a prosecution in a court of law against his wife, Gayatri Devi, on the basis of the findings of the one-man commission of Justice Vaidilingam. Singh said in a letter to Zail Singh that the whole issue be sorted out at the earliest because "it is a question of my wife's honour and integrity which I regard as my most valuable possession". The former PM said that Vaidilingam had "travelled far beyond his brief terms of reference." He said that Vaidilingam was entitled "only to go into the allegations against my wife which had been made in a letter alleged to have been written by an MLA of UP to the then Prime Minister".

THE IDEAS PAGE

The budget India missed

It has no immediate measures to stimulate the economy, address the slowdown. It harks back to protectionism and contains provisions that will increase bureaucratic control



NAUSHAD FORBES

FINANCE MINISTER NIRMALA Sitharaman had an unenviable task on February 1. The Indian economy is now growing at its lowest rate in years. Employment is more stressed now than in decades. The need for a stimulus has been overtaken by a ballooning deficit.

When companies are in trouble, they tend to flail around and do too much. This is almost always disastrous. Instead, a stressed company should do less. Doing less requires focus — using one's resources for only a few essential things, leaving the rest for happier times. This need to focus also helps concentrate the limited management bandwidth. So, we end up with a multiplier effect — directed resources with better implementation.

Getting out of trouble by doing less was not in evidence in this year's Union Budget. A marathon speech was tiring enough to listen to — and, visibly exhausting to deliver. Part A rambled around three themes, each with three subjects, each of which have up to 16 points. The first point was useful: Incentivise states to implement the three model agricultural laws passed by the Union government over the last three years. So was the last: List the Life Insurance Corporation on the stock exchange. The rest, in my view, could have been left for happier times.

Part B, on the tax changes, was more focused and useful — this includes the section on simplifying personal income tax by lowering rates and removing exemptions; reducing one level of the triple taxation of dividends; extending tax concessions for employee share purchases and attempting to reduce tax litigation. So the Budget had some positives, but it was not the Budget we needed. There are four reasons for this criticism.

First, and most importantly, the seriousness of the current slowdown needed to be addressed directly. In private meetings with industrialists, the finance minister and prime minister have shown strong awareness of the current economic crisis and an openness to hear inputs on what can be done. That was not apparent in the Budget speech. Perhaps the government believes its own Economic Survey — that the slowdown is only cyclical, the corner has been turned, and things will get better on their own from now on. Or, it believes that a public recognition of our economic stress will spoil the narrative of a vibrant Indian economy. A clear public recognition of the current economic distress would have been a huge enabler of radical steps to set things right. That should have been the message of the first few of the 160 minutes of the finance minister's speech.

Second, the Budget should have focused on two immediate measures to stimulate the economy. To contain the official deficit, the government has delayed paying its dues. The Union government owes some Rs 3,00,000 crore (1.5 per cent of GDP) to private and public enterprises, beneficiaries of social sector schemes (MGNREGA beneficiaries for example), and state governments. Recognising these liabilities, letting the deficit expand by this amount through extra borrowing, and paying them in full would have pumped liquidity into the economy and been a stimulus like no other. Besides, this is money the government will have to pay at some point; paying it in this financial year will make containing next year's deficit simple.

The other immediate challenge in the economy pertains to Non-Bank Financial Companies (NBFCs) and is directly connected with the real-estate sector. Rampant



unfinished and unsold inventory is choking the wider economy, and NBFC woes are affecting consumption more generally. Some action has been taken, but it is too little and too tentative to keep the wider economy from dragging down.

Third, this Budget comprises some genuinely bad things. Chief among them is a further increase in protectionism. Import tariffs on many items have been increased. Imports under the purview of FTAs are to be reviewed for adherence to the rules of origin — with the threat of higher duties. In order to protect products made by MSMEs, which are of "good quality", import tariffs have been increased. This may seem logical, but it is not. Who will decide if the quality is good? How will such products be selected? Who will judge adherence to rules of origin? The authors of the Budget seem to have not read their own Economic Survey, which makes a strong case for free trade and shows that India has clearly benefited from FTAs. Every major exporter is a major importer. We should learn from our own history since 1991 — engaging with the world leads to a bright future. After progressively opening up from 1991 to 2016, we appear to have decisively reversed course. The Budget continues this retrograde direction.

Fourth, the Budget's arithmetic rests on doubling the budgeted revenue from disinvestment from Rs 1 lakh crore to Rs 2 lakh crore. Half of this is to come from "strategic sales" — we still hesitate to use the word privatisation. Listing LIC could also raise a big part of the target — and, this will probably happen. But at the end of 10 months

Perhaps the government believes its own Economic Survey — that the slowdown is only cyclical, the corner has been turned, and things will get better on their own from now on. Or, it believes that a public recognition of our economic stress will spoil the narrative of a vibrant Indian economy. A clear public recognition of the current economic distress would have been a huge enabler of radical steps to set things right. That should have been the message of the first few of the 160 minutes of the finance minister's speech.

rattled many who wanted to showcase national flags and national anthem to cover up the radical narrative that was being played out in the name of CAA protest," the editorial says.

It said Imam's actions depict "a classic communo-jihadi mindset" that is being perpetrated in the name of opposing CAA. "Invoking the 'Tariikh' — history from the Muslim point of view — is nothing but what Dr Ambedkar had analysed in his book on Pakistan — the invasion to make entire country Islamic. Women and children getting trapped in this narrative is... dangerous for the future unity and harmony of this country. The Sharjeel mindset should be understood and countered... Mere State response on the ground of reason will not work in such case, but a creative and constructive societal response is needed to deal with the people infected with the Sharjeel virus," it says.

PROJECT ARAB SPRING

IN ANOTHER ARTICLE, *Organiser* has drawn parallels between the Shaheen Bagh protests and the Arab Spring. "Is there an uncanny similarity between how things developed in Arab Spring in West Asia and how things are shaping up in the name of anti-CAA protest in India? Is there a veiled attempt to create a

civil war kind of situation in India in the name of opposition to an Act passed by Parliament? Are some trying to create a Syria kind of devastation in India? The answers to these questions are chillingly an YES," the article asserts.

It has gone on to record the upheaval unleashed by the Arab Spring in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), and how it led to Islamist forces appropriating power in the region.

"Many of the countries where Arab Spring originated have been devastated in never-ending civil wars, became testing grounds for global powers to wage their proxy wars and have witnessed violent rise of radical Islamist extremist organisations. The rise of violent Islamic terror organisations like ISIS would not have reached such cataclysmic level had there not been an Arab Spring in the MENA region which created the perfect fertile soil of chaos, anarchy and social turmoil for foreign intelligence backed extremist groups to sneak in and corrode states from within," it says.

DELHI'S DECLINE

ORGANSIER HAS ALSO given space to the upcoming Delhi polls and argued in an article that the city's infrastructure and gov-

ernance has actually declined under the Arvind Kejriwal government. It argues that the foundation of Delhi — as a world-class city in terms of transport infrastructure — was laid by the Vajpayee government.

"The last five years, however, have been the exact opposite as we fail to find any new tangible development projects by the Aam Aadmi Party-led government which insists on going back to age-old model of freebies... The defeat of AAP in the MCD elections and then in Lok Sabha elections of 2019, mark an underlying silent trend of disenchantment. This disenchantment is partly because of their failure at governance and partly because of them discarding their agenda," the article says.

The article attempts to empirically examine the delivery of promises made by the Kejriwal government, and their claims on issues such as education and healthcare. However, while concluding, it arbitrarily tries to toe the BJP campaign line for Delhi: "The Delhi of 2020 will have to make a choice — whether to go with AAP, a party that supports those who want to break India and is involved in relentless minority appeasement, or to go with a party that will put the focus back on the development of the national capital."

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WHAT THE OTHERS SAY

"For many Britons, the long and bitter debate (over Brexit) had been less about economics and politics than about identity." — THE NEW YORK TIMES

In defence of a shared vision

Both France and India are committed to strategic autonomy. To this end, France supports Make in India in defence



EMMANUEL LENAIN

I RECENTLY RECEIVED an Indian visitor who was surprised to see a bust of General Charles de Gaulle in my office. I chose it because this 20th-century French political figure theorised about the strategic autonomy of France. A country with the independence to make its own strategic choices. And that's a vision we have shared with India since its Independence.

It is thus with great satisfaction that I am visiting Lucknow today for the inauguration of DefExpo — an exhibition as old as France and India's strategic partnership — which will again see a strong French representation in 2020. France's seven biggest defence companies (Airbus, Dassault, MBDA, Naval Group, Nexter, Safran and Thales) will be present, and around 15 SMEs will showcase their know-how of naval, land and air defence technologies, either at the French stand or with their Indian partners.

Apart from the expertise of the French arms industry, this presence also marks France's full commitment to supporting the Indian government's Make in India programme in the defence sector. This is not a new-found commitment nor one of convenience, but is part of our longstanding bilateral relations. It is also in line with a certain idea that India and France have of themselves and their way of carrying weight in global matters — that of building their strategic autonomy.

The defence cooperation between our two countries can be traced back to the first few years following India's Independence. As early as 1953, the Indian Air Force was equipped with a hundred Tofan fighter jets from Dassault, then the Mystère IV, which defended India in tough times. This marked the first page in the history of our cooperation in military aviation, which also recorded the supply of 60 Mirage 2000s in the 1980s — whose performance continues at superlative levels; and, of course, the ongoing delivery of 36 Rafales on schedule. The first batch of aircraft, currently being used to train Indian pilots, will land at Air Force Station Ambala within a few months.

Defence cooperation has been one of the fundamentals of the bilateral relationship, which enabled us to develop a close and ambitious strategic partnership for over 20 years. Today, that partnership has been deployed in the maritime domain, in support of our joint strategic vision for the maintenance of stability and security in the Indo-Pacific. As far as naval equipment is concerned, the Indian Navy has already commissioned two of the six submarines built in Mumbai as part of an industrial partnership between Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and Naval Group. French companies will, of course, continue to be there to contribute to meeting needs for additional capabilities for the

Indian Navy or the Indian Coast Guard.

As for industrial cooperation, the French approach has always been, whenever possible, to offer partial indigenous production in India. France was largely a precursor with regard to Make in India, with HAL manufacturing the light helicopters Cheetah and Chetak, and BDL's Milan anti-tank missile in India in the 1960s. It continues this policy today. The plant built under the Dassault Aviation and Reliance joint venture will enable, for example, the complete production of the Falcon 2000 business jet here in India by 2022. After the delivery of the first two Scorpene submarines, transfers of technology provided by the Naval Group enabled MDL to be solely in charge of building the next four submarines: The design of these submarines has thus become a largely Indian know-how. Safran will soon inaugurate an aircraft wiring systems factory in Hyderabad and also build another major facility to manufacture LEAP turbofan engine components. Thales is investing massively in engineering works in Bengaluru. MBDA is building a plant in Coimbatore and French aeronautical equipment manufacturer Latecoere recently inaugurated a factory in Belgaum. Over 7,000 people, including 1,500 engineers, are currently employed in Airbus projects across the country. I could continue giving more such examples that show how Make in India has been and is a practice for French aeronautical and defence firms, both yesterday and today.

I am convinced that these concrete industrial partnerships benefiting both our countries are the future of our defence relations. So is our industry. The French aerospace industries association, GIFAS, and GICAN, the French Marine Industry Group, are organising a seminar focused on this subject during DefExpo. Along with the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM), they are exploring opportunities for developing Indo-French industrial partnerships at all stages of the production chain. This long-term bet by France is illustrated by the roots set down by our industries in India: GIFAS opened a permanent office in Delhi in 2018 and 60 of its members are in India through 75 organisations, 20 joint ventures and more than 25 production plants. Further, more than 15 French companies from the naval sector are present in India to work on ongoing projects.

India can count on France being by its side for its Make in India enterprise. We share the same vision for a new balanced multipolar world, which must be based on the rule of law. We also share the same vision on the main challenges of our times, be they security developments in Asia and the Indo-Pacific, or combating international terrorism. But it is by possessing the capability of ensuring our national security and making our strategic choices that we most efficiently defend our shared principles and visions.

It is first and foremost because we are convinced that our joint action must rest on a network of solid cooperation as well as the principle of autonomy that France and India are such strategic partners today.

The writer is France's ambassador to India

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SILENCE IS NOT PEACE

THIS REFERS TO article, 'Yearning for change' (IE, February 4). The aspirational youth of J&K do want a new narrative. But this vision has to be a democratic and rooted in local realities. Communication/internet services are restricted.

. Such forced silence should not be mistaken as peace. Hope and redemption is possible only when peoples' voices are heard.

Anurag Ekka, Ranchi

AN ARCHAIC LAW

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'School sedition arrests: Nine-year old waits for mother to be freed, police seize slippers, question children' (IE, February 4). What could be possibly subversive about a play pertaining to a topical issue, staged by some harmless school students? Policing a theatre group smacks of despotism. This incident should remind us all of the threat that the archaic law still poses to the freedom of speech and expression.

Varun Das, Zirakpur

COARSE CAMPAIGN

THIS REFERS TO the report, 'Behind Shaheen Bagh, Jamia protests, design to divide India, says PM' (IE, February 4). Three incidents of shootings and violent speech, more suitable to civil war than electoral contest, form the backdrop to the election in Delhi. The city

LETTER OF THE WEEK AWARD

To encourage quality reader intervention, The Indian Express offers the Letter of the Week award. The letter adjudged the best for the week is published every Saturday. Letters may be e-mailed to editpage@expressindia.com or sent to The Indian Express, B-1/B, Sector 10, Noida-UP 201301.

has become the stage for every pitched battle about identity to have jolted India this year.

Sanjay Chopra, Mohali

WOMEN AT FRONT

THIS REFERS TO the article, 'Mother India' (IE, February 4). It would be wrong to reduce the protests against NRC/CAA to a movement of Muslim women. Women from other communities have also participated in these protests. However, women from Shaheen Bagh have been pioneers of sorts. Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has mooted talks with the Shaheen Bagh protesters. Hope the government works out an amicable solution.

Tapomoy Ghosh, Burdwan

VIEW FROM THE RIGHT

SHARJEE MINDSET

THE LATEST ISSUE of RSS mouthpiece *Organiser* has once again focused on nationwide protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act and the National Register of Citizens. On its cover, it has a picture of Sharjeel Imam who is under arrest on charges of sedition for allegedly suggesting in a speech that Assam could be cut off from India.

In an editorial titled, 'Decoding the Sharjeel mindset', the weekly has argued that Imam's speech has exposed how CAA-NRC protests are part of a sinister design to establish an Islamic State.

Finally, the veil of democratic, peaceful protest against Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) at Shaheen Bagh and other similar places has fallen and the real face is exposed. The video of Sharjeel Imam, the IIT-turned-JNU activist, and his subsequent arrest has



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TELLING NUMBERS

Lung cancer most common type globally, breast cancer in India

ON WORLD Cancer Day, the World Health Organization (WHO) released two reports that stated, among various figures, that 1 in 10 Indians will develop cancer during their lifetime, and 1 in 15 Indians would die of cancer (*The Indian Express*, February 4).

India had an estimated 1.16 million new cancer cases, 7,84,000 deaths and 2.26 million five-year prevalent cases in 2018. Globally in 2018, there were 9.6 million cancer deaths, out of which the most were due to lung cancer at 18.4%, followed by colorectal cancer (9.2%), stomach cancer (8.2%), liver (8.2%), breast (6.6%) and cancer of the oesophagus (5.3%). In India, the six most common cancer types are breast, at 1,62,000, followed by oral (1,20,000), cervical (97,000), lung (68,000) and stomach and colorectal, at 57,000 each. These accounted for 49% of all new cancer cases. Among 5,70,000 new cancer cases in men, oral cancer incidence was the highest at 92,000 followed by lung cancer at 49,000. For women, of the 5,87,000 new cancer cases, breast cancer incidence was the highest at 1,62,000, followed by cervical at 97,000. The report said that cancer patterns in India are dominated by a high burden of tobacco-related head and neck cancers.

Globally, if the present trends continue, there will be a 60% increase in cancer cases over the next two decades, WHO said.

Global burden of cancer

2008	12.6 million
2018	18.1 million
2040	29.4 million

Prevalence by type, 2018

Lung	11.6%
Breast	11.6%
Colorectal	10.2%
Prostate	7.1%
Stomach	5.7%
Liver	4.7%

Cancer mortality, 2018

Lung	18.4%
Colorectal	9.2%
Stomach	8.2%
Liver	8.2%
Breast	6.6%

Most common cancer types in India, 2018

Breast cancer	1,62,500
Oral cancer	1,20,000
Cervical cancer	97,000
Lung cancer	68,000
Stomach cancer	57,000
Colorectal cancer	57,000

THIS WORD MEANS

SOTU ADDRESS

When the US President speaks to the American people



Trump delivers his 2019 SOTU Address. *Erin Schaff/The New York Times*

AT 9 PM ET on Tuesday — 7.30 am in India on Wednesday — President Donald Trump will begin the annual State of the Union (SOTU) Address to a joint Session of the US Congress in Washington DC.

CONTEXT:

The President's SOTU Address is coming in the middle of his impeachment trial in the Senate. He will be speaking in the House of Representatives, the same chamber in which he was impeached for high crimes and misdemeanour less than two months ago. The House impeachment managers have argued that he has corrupted the institution of the presidency, and American interests would be at risk unless the Senate removes him from office. But there is virtually no chance of that happening — and Trump will use his Address to set the terms for the remainder of his term, and to possibly directly address his political showdownd with the Democrats.

This will be Trump's third SOTU address and fourth speech to a joint session of Congress in the House chamber.

ORIGINS: The SOTU address is the American President's annual report to the people, and fulfills his constitutional obligation to give to Congress "from time to time... information of the State of the Union, and recommend to their Consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient". (Art. II, Section 3, Clause 1)

From 1790, when President George Washington delivered the first of these

messages, to 1946, the address was formally known as the Annual Message. Between 1942 and 1946, it was informally called the "state of the Union" message/address; since 1947, when President Harry S Truman gave his message to Congress (January 6), it has been officially known as the State of the Union Address.

WHERE, WHEN: Modern SOTU addresses have been delivered in the House Chamber. Prior to the move of the Capitol to Washington, DC, the Annual Message was often delivered in the Senate Chamber. A House concurrent resolution sets aside the day and time for a Joint Session to receive the communication. Until 1934, the Annual Message was delivered every December; since then, the Annual Message/SOTU has been delivered every January or February.

Trump's Address on Wednesday will be the 97th in-person Address/Annual Message in United States history.

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Why government has lifted a duty that polyester makers paid on a chemical

PRABHA RAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

DURING HER Budget speech on Saturday, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said the government was abolishing "in public interest" an anti-dumping duty that was levied on imports of a chemical called PTA. Domestic manufacturers of polyester have called the move a huge relief for the industry, claiming they had been fighting to remove the duty for four-and-a-half years.

What is PTA?

Purified Terephthalic Acid (PTA) is a crucial raw material used to make various products, including polyester fabrics. PTA makes up for around 70-80% of a polyester product and is, therefore, important to those involved in the manufacture of man-made

fabrics or their components, according to industry executives.

This includes products like polyester staple fibre and spun yarn. Our cushions and sofas may have polyester staple fibre fillings. Some sportswear, swimsuits, dresses, trousers, curtains, sofa covers, jackets, car seat covers and bed sheets have a certain proportion of polyester in them.

What led to the government decision?

As Sitharaman explained on Sunday: "That particular product (PTA) is a raw material for many of the industries. There has been persistent demand that they should be allowed to source that particular product at an affordable rate, even if it means importing it." She had said easy availability of this "critical input" at competitive prices was desirable to unlock "immense" potential in the textile sector, seen as a "signifi-

cant" employment generator.

The duty had meant importers were paying an extra \$27-\$160 for every 1,000 kg of PTA that they wanted to import from countries like China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Indonesia, Iran, Korea and Thailand. Removing the duty will allow PTA users to source from international markets and may make it as much as \$30 per 1,000 kg cheaper than now, according to industry executives.

Why was it imposed in the first place?

The anti-dumping duty on PTA was imposed after two domestic manufacturers, MCC PTA India Corp Pvt Ltd and Reliance Industries Ltd, approached the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) in October 2013. The companies, which submitted that they accounted for over 50% of the domestic PTA industry, had argued that some countries had been exporting the

product to India at prices lower than its value in their own domestic markets. This dumping of PTA into the Indian market had a "significant" adverse impact on the domestic industry, they argued.

Following an investigation, DGTR agreed with MCC PTA and RIL's claims, and imposed anti-dumping duties on PTA imported from South Korea and Thailand in 2014 and 2015, and from China, Indonesia, Taiwan, Iran and Malaysia in 2015 and 2016.

Why was the move controversial?

Companies using PTA to manufacture polyester products claimed that the move went against the government's vision of making the textiles sector a globally competitive industry. According to them, the move left them with limited domestic suppliers of PTA. The companies had alleged that the product's cost had become more

expensive domestically, which made their own products pricier and less attractive for their domestic and international buyers. This had led to a drop in exports of some of these products during 2014-16, and an increase in imports of the products they had been producing, as there was no safeguard against imports of cheaper versions of these downstream polyester-based products.

On top of this, the domestic industry had argued that domestic PTA producers had not only been unable to ramp up capacity to cater to demand for the product, shutdowns of their manufacturing facilities once a year for maintenance purposes had also led to shortages of the raw material. PTA users claim that they had not been manufacturing as much polyester as they were capable of, operating at 70% of their capacity at any given time.

Are there other raw materials in line for

a similar move?

Mono Ethylene Glycol (MEG), another raw material used in the manufacturing of polyester, is currently the subject of another anti-dumping duty investigation initiated by DGTR recently.

This investigation was initiated after RIL, supported by another company (India Glycols Ltd) had argued that top MEG exporters like Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Singapore and the United Arab Emirates had been dumping the product and that the domestic industry was suffering "material" injury as a result.

An association representing textile companies like Indo Rama Synthetics India Ltd, Filatex India Ltd and Bombay Dyeing has approached DGTR against the move, arguing that anti-dumping duties on MEG would adversely impact the textile industry the way the duty on PTA allegedly did.

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If there are questions of current or contemporary relevance that you would like explained, please write to explained@indianexpress.com

SIMPLY PUT

Inside the Wuhan evacuation

What did it take for India to evacuate over 650 people from the epicentre of the coronavirus outbreak? *The Indian Express* spoke to officials who played key roles in India's effort, to piece together the story

SHUBHAJIT ROY
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE EVACUATION over the weekend of 654 individuals — 647 Indians and seven Maldivians — on two Air India flights from Wuhan, ground zero of the novel coronavirus outbreak, marked the culmination of a complex 96-hour operation mounted by New Delhi that involved engaging with Beijing at multiple levels. Besides the obvious health risks, there were logistic challenges to be overcome and diplomatic sensitivities to be negotiated.

Early concerns

The embassy in Beijing took note of the first reports of the infection around January 2-3. But it was only around January 20, when it became national news in the Chinese media, that the scale of the outbreak became apparent.

On January 22, with 571 cases and 17 deaths confirmed, Vikram Misri, India's ambassador to China, told his team that Indians in Hubei province may be affected, and "Let's start preparing". The following day, an embassy reception to celebrate Republic Day was attended by Vice Foreign Minister Luo Zhaohui, a former ambassador to New Delhi, among other Chinese dignitaries. There was some concerned chatter at the gathering, said sources who were present.

Locating the Indians

The big challenge before a possible evacuation attempt was to establish how many Indians there were in Hubei — and where. Some 50 million people live in the province, and Indians in China are not required to register with the embassy.

Over the next few days, the Indian mission announced helpline numbers on social media. Its reach, however, was likely to be restricted because both Facebook and Twitter are blocked in China. Some younger diplomats used WeChat, the popular Chinese messaging and social media app, to try to connect to Indians in Hubei. In a WeChat group, the embassy assured that "help was on the way".

Since many Indians were young, excited, and sometimes angry, "the idea was to give them some psychological support, apart from asking about their welfare, in terms of food, water, and medicines," an Indian diplomat said.

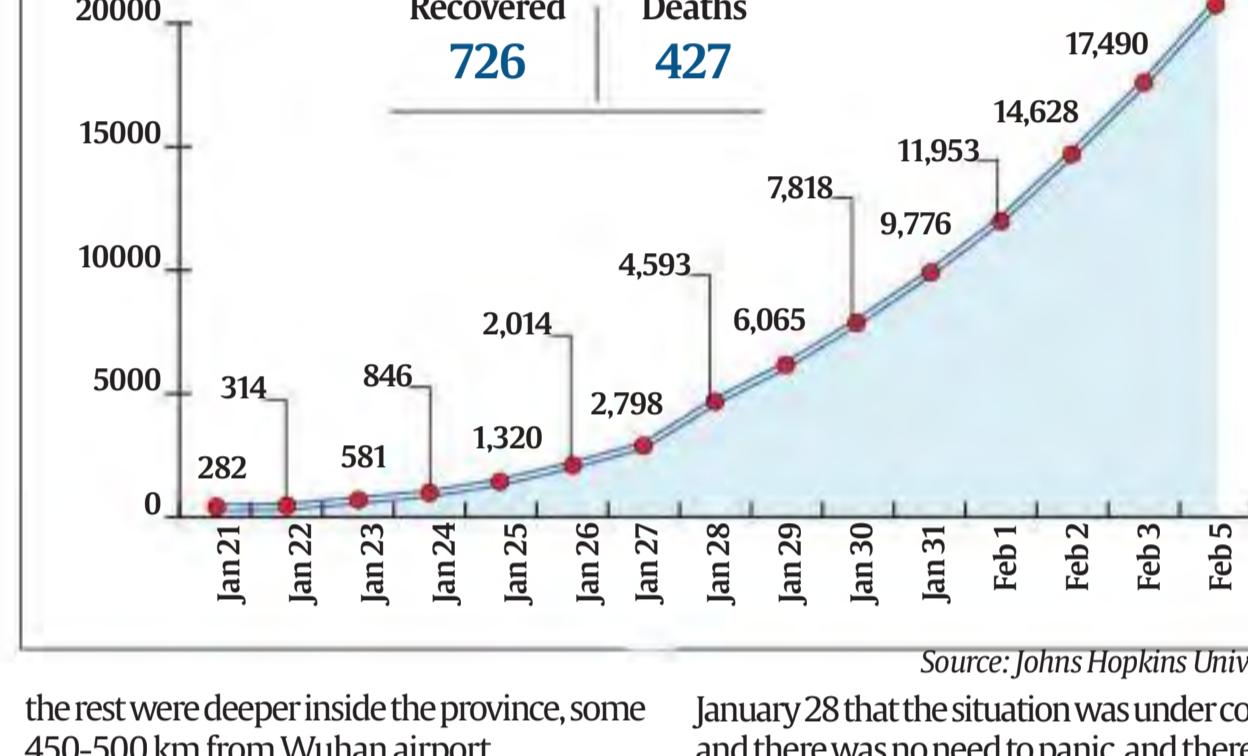
By January 26, confirmed cases had crossed 2,000 globally and the prognosis was grim. After several rounds of consultations in the embassy and in New Delhi, a decision was taken to evacuate.

By then, the control room in the embassy had collected enough data to be able to plot the location of Indians in Hubei on a map. They knew there were 750-odd Indians in Hubei — a half of them lived in Wuhan and its outskirts;



The first batch of Indian evacuees at Wuhan airport. ANI

CONFIRMED CASES (CUMULATIVE, GLOBAL)



Source: Johns Hopkins University

the rest were deeper inside the province, some 450-500 km from Wuhan airport.

Getting to the airport

The affected area was under lockdown, with severe restrictions on the movement of people and vehicles. The big question before the officials was: how to get people to the airport? Not being allowed to move freely meant they could not be expected to assemble at a particular point in Wuhan city, or to reach the airport on their own. The embassy tapped contacts in private transportation companies, who said they needed special permission to ferry these Indians to the airport from various places in the province.

Rly's cadre merger plan shot down by most panels

AVISHEK G DASTIDAR
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

MERGER OF all Railway services into one cadre would neither be feasible nor be in the best interest of the organisation, Indian Railways had replied to a question in Lok Sabha in 1996, citing expert committee reports on the subject.

On December 24 last year, the government cited various expert committee reports, including the ones in the mid-1990s, to justify the decision to merge the existing eight Group-A cadres into one Indian Railway Management Service (IRMS) and bring about other restructuring moves.

"Unification of services has been recommended by various committees for reforming Railways, including Prakash Tandon Committee (1994), Rakesh Mohan Committee (2001), Sam Pitroda Committee (2012) and Bibek Debroy Committee (2015)," the official statement after the Cabinet briefing stated.

Records, however, show that the Prakash Tandon committee had actually recommended setting up of various committees or task forces to consider the implementability of its own recommendations.

The Gupta-Narain committee ruled out a merger and, after consultations with UPSC, said that recruiting engineers and non-engineers through the Civil Services examination to feed technical and non-technical requirements of Indian Railways was not possible.

This report was not made public. *The Indian Express* has

EXPLAINED
EIdea
problematic,
experts
noted

SEVERAL GOVERNMENT-APPOINTED committees appear to have processed the question of reform in Indian Railways and unification of cadres as a means to end "departmentalism". Almost all the committees appear to have held that unification of cadres and creation of a single service was a problematic proposition. Most committees had outright rejected the idea.

committee, headed by J P Gupta, a former Railway Board chairman and former UPSC chairman, and comprising Prakash Narain, another former Railway Board chairman. This committee had, in fact, rejected the Tandon committee's recommendations.

The Gupta-Narain committee ruled out a merger and, after consultations with UPSC, said that recruiting engineers and non-engineers through the Civil Services examination to feed technical and non-technical requirements of Indian Railways was not possible.

This report was not made public. *The Indian Express* has

now reviewed the whole report.

"This will lead to a dangerous erosion in professionalism, efficiency and safety of operations," the report said about merging specialisations. It said these "large-scale cross-disciplinary postings" will be "damaging to the safety and efficiency of railway working".

The government has decided that from 2021 UPSC will hold a separate exam for candidates of the Civil Services exam to join IRMS, like the Indian Forest Service does.

After evaluating the Tandon committee recommendation to this effect, the Gupta-Narain panel noted that holding such an examination would bring down the quality of recruitment to the Railways. It said, "...as the best talents appear for the Civil Services Examination (due to inclusion of IAS and IFS) and Engineering Services Examination. Both of these (exams) offer wider choices to candidates. Many bright persons do not wish to appear for too many examinations, specially as each examination to some extent affects the preparation for other examinations."

About the concept of reorganising the Railways on ex-cadre lines, wherein an officer from any discipline can be a Board member pertaining to any other discipline - as the plan now - the panel had noted that it would cause "havoc" at the cost of specialisation.

FULL REPORT ON
www.indianexpress.com

3-yr-old falls into hot curry vessel in UP govt school, dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
LUCKNOW, FEBRUARY 4

A THREE-YEAR-OLD GIRL died after she fell into a vessel of hot curry that was prepared for mid-day meal at a government-run primary school in Mirzapur's Rampur Attri village Monday.

Six cooks at the school - all women - were arrested Tuesday and produced before a local court while the headmaster was suspended. Four 'shiksha mitras' and an assistant teacher were served showcase notice by the district administration and their salary for February has been withheld, officials said.

Police identified the deceased as Anchal. Mirzapur SP Dharmveer Singh said in a statement, "In Rampur Attri village, under Lalgarh police station, Anchal, 3, had gone to study. Although she is not enrolled in the school, she used to go there to study with her

brothers. When the mid-day meal was being distributed, she fell into a food container. She died during treatment. Six cooks have been booked under IPC section 304-A (causing death by negligence)... We are helping the family members in all possible ways."

Police force has been deployed in the village, said Lalgarh SHO Shyam Bihari.

The case was registered based on a complaint from Mirzapur Basic Shiksha Adhikari VK Singh. He said the headmaster, Santosh Kumar Yadav, was suspended because he was not present at the school when the incident happened. "He was absent without leave and we have suspended him and are probing the matter," he said.

The school is on the same premises as a junior school and a combined total of 289 students are enrolled. "There are 117 students at the junior high school and 172 children at the primary school," he said.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH Ansari Nagar, New Delhi

Walk-in-Interview shall be conducted by the Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi from 8th to 11th February, 2020 for selection of Candidates for appointment to the regular posts of Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professors in the Bhopal Memorial Hospital & Research Centre (BMHRC), Bhopal. Details in regard to number of posts, pay scales in the pay matrix as per the VII Central Pay Commission, educational qualification, experience etc. may be accessed at www.icmr.nic.in/www.bmhrc.org.in. Eligible and willing candidates may appear for the interview at Indian Council of Medical Research, V.Ramalingam Bhawan, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi with necessary documents on the date and time as detailed at the websites mentioned above. The candidates may please note that in respect of the posts notified for reserved categories, only the candidates belonging to the concerned category will be eligible to appear for Walk-in Interview. dadv 1715/21/0028/1920

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, DELHI

OLD ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE BUILDING,
KASHMERE GATE, DELHI-110006
Helpline No. 1800-111-400/1950:
website: www.ceodelhi.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pre-Certification of political advertisement in Print Media on the day of Poll & One day prior to poll.

Kind attention of general public, all media houses, political parties and all contesting candidates is invited towards Election Commission of India letter No. 491/MCMC /2020/Communication dated 29.01.2020, which states that- No Political Party or candidate or any other organization or person shall publish any Advertisement in the print media on Poll Day & one day prior to Poll Day (7th & 8th February, 2020) unless the contents of Political advertisement proposed to be published by political parties, candidates etc. are got Pre-Certified by them from the Media Certification and Monitoring Committee (MCMC) at the State Level/ District Level as the case may be.

Further, it is informed that the polls for General Election to legislative Assembly of NCT of Delhi-2020 will be held on 08.02.2020 (Saturday) between 08.00 AM to 06.00 PM.

This is issued for information, guidance and compliance of all concerned.

Sd/-
SATNAM SINGH
SPL. CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER

DIP/Shabdarth/1343/19-20

Bengal govt to provide chopper to Dhankar

Kolkata: In what can be seen as a sign of reconciliation between the state administration and the Raj Bhavan, the Mamata Banerjee government has decided to provide Governor Jagdeep Dhankar with a helicopter for his travel to Santiniketan on Thursday.

"We had sought a chopper for the Governor to travel to Santiniketan, Domkal and Farakka. PTI

gramme. It was approved," a Raj Bhavan official said.

A senior TMC leader said the development is an indication of both the Raj Bhavan and the state government softening their stance. On several occasions last year, the state government had rejected Dhankar's request for a chopper to travel to Santiniketan, Domkal and Farakka. PTI

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that the undersigned are the Executors and Trustees under the Last Will and Testament of the Late Shri Jayantaprabha Aparnath Sharma. Under his said Last Will and Testament, the Late Shri Jayantaprabha Aparnath Sharma has made a pecuniary Bequest to / in favour of Shri Mittal. Despite efforts made by us, we have been unable to locate or contact the said Shri Mittal. We are therefore issuing this Notice to call upon the said Shri Mittal or any person who has any knowledge of her whereabouts to contact us at the earliest at the Address / Mobile / Telephone Number mentioned below so as to enable us to pay and hand over such Bequest made in her favour.

Dated this 5 day of February, 2020.
[COL.BANARSI LAL SHARMA (RETD.)]
Mobile No.709173999
[SHRI.RAJIV VISHWESH PATEL]
Executors and Trustees

Flat No 25, United Apartments, 2407 East Street, Pune 411001.
Office No.02026359111/02026356789

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ELECTORAL OFFICER, DELHI OLD ST. STEPHENS COLLEGE BUILDING, KASHMERE GATE DELHI-110006 Helpline No.1800-111-400/1950: website: www.ceodelhi.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

BAN ON EXIT/OPINION POLLS ETC.

ATTENTION: NEWS BUREAUS, MEDIA HOUSES, RADIO & TELEVISION CHANNELS, etc.

Attention of General Public especially news bureaus, media houses, radio and television channels and social media etc. is drawn towards the Election Commission of India's Notification No. 576/Exit/2020/SDR/Vol.1 dated 24th January, 2020 regarding BAN on EXIT POLLS, results of any OPINION POLL/ ANY OTHER POLL SURVEY in print or electronic media or dissemination in any other manner whatsoever. The notification is reproduced below for information and compliance of all concerned.

- Whereas, the schedule for the General Election to the Legislative Assembly or NCT of Delhi was announced by the Commission vide Press Note bearing No. ECI/PN/4/2020, dated 6th January, 2020.
- And whereas, as per the provisions of Section 126A of The Representation of the People Act, 1951 (in short R.P. Act, 1951) there shall be restrictions on conduct of any exit poll and publication and dissemination of result of such exit poll during such period, as may be notified by the Election Commission in this regard;
- Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers under sub-Section (1) of Section 126A of the R.P. Act, 1951, the Election Commission, having regard to the provisions of sub-Section (2) of the said Section, hereby notifies the period between 8.00 A.M and 6:30 PM on 8th February, 2020 (Saturday) as the period during which conducting any exit poll and publishing or publicizing by means of the print or electronic media or dissemination in any other manner whatsoever, the result of any exit poll in connection with the above mentioned General Election to the State Legislative Assembly of NCT of Delhi, 2020 shall be prohibited.
- It is further clarified that under Section 126(1)(b) of the R.P. Act, 1951, displaying any election matter including results of any opinion poll or any other poll survey, in any electronic media, would be prohibited during the period of 48 hours ending with the hours fixed for conclusion of poll in the respective polling areas in connection with aforesaid General Election.

Sd/-

(SATNAM SINGH)

Spl. Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi

DIP/Shabdarth/1342/19-20

Gujarat riots: SC fixes April 14 for hearing Zakia Jafri plea

New Delhi: Saying the matter had been adjourned many times and it will have to hear it someday, the Supreme Court on Tuesday fixed April 14 for hearing a plea by Zakia Jafri, wife of slain MP Ehsan Jafri, challenging the SIT's clean chit to then Gujarat chief minister Narendra Modi in the 2002 riots. A bench comprising

Justices A M Khanwilkar and Dinesh Maheshwari posted the matter for hearing in April after Zakia's counsel sought an adjournment and urged the court to post it after the Holi vacation. When advocate Aparna Bhat, appearing for Zakia, told the court that the issue in the matter is contentious, the bench said, "It has

been adjourned so many times, whatever it is, we will have to hear it someday. Take one date and make sure you all are available."

Zakia filed the petition in 2018 challenging the Gujarat High Court's 2017 order rejecting her plea against the decision of the Special Investigation Team. PTI

DIRECTOR GENERALS' ASSAM RIFLES CONCLAVE

Lt Gen Sukhdeep Sangwan, AVSM, SM**, Director General & All Offrs Assam Rifles, invite all Offrs & their spouses who have served in, or are associated with Assam Rifles, to a Cultural Evening & Handicrafts Exhibition at 6:00 PM on 15 Feb followed by Dinner at Manekshaw Centre, Delhi Cantt.

Dress: National Dress/ Lounge Suit

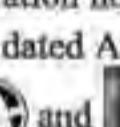
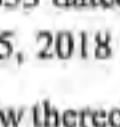
Offrs are requested to confirm attendance by 12th Feb.

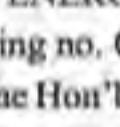
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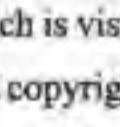
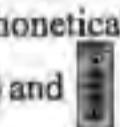
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CAUTION NOTICE

Our Client, Hell Energy Magyarorszag Kft. of the address Trade Register No. 01-09-729429, 1075, Budapest, Karoly krt No. 1.1/2, Hungary, is engaged in the business of production and sale of energy drinks under the brand name HELL. Our client is the registered proprietor of the trademark HELL, vide registration no. 3618853 dated August 23, 2017 and trade mark  having IRDI no. 4044952 dated August 15, 2018 in class 32 in India and owner of copyright in the artistic labels  and  In view thereof, our client has the exclusive right to use the said trademark and copyright. No other entity is allowed to use the same without our client's explicit permission and authorization. In India, our client's products are available through its authorised distributors only.

It has come to our client's notice that despite termination of exclusive distributorship agreement with Jes & Ben Groupo Pvt. Ltd. on March 25, 2019, it is making false representations on its own website www.jbgroupo.com and on www.indiamart.com, to mislead the general public into believing that it is the wholesale trader of HELL ENERGY DRINKS, which compelled our client to file a trademark infringement suit bearing no. CS (COMM) 4/2020 against Jes and Ben Groupo Pvt. Ltd. and its Directors before the Hon'ble Delhi High Court. The Hon'ble Court, vide order January 08, 2020, was pleased to pass an ex-parte ad-interim injunction restraining Jes and Ben Groupo Pvt. Ltd. and their Directors, partners, proprietors, etc., from using our client's registered trademarks HELL,  and variations thereof, till the next date of hearing.

The public is hereby cautioned not to be deceived and misled by such false representations made by such unscrupulous traders. The public and traders are further cautioned that use of any name or mark which is visually, phonetically or deceptively similar to our client's trade mark HELL,  and copyright  would amount to infringement of our client's trade mark and copyright rights and our client shall take appropriate civil and criminal legal action as best advised.

Hell Energy Magyarorszag Kft.
By their Attorneys Vikrant Rana, S.S. Rana & Co.
317, Lawyers Chambers, Delhi High Court, New Delhi 110003
Phone: +91-11-4012-3000; Fax: +91-11-4012-3010 | Email: info@ssrana.com

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

(A STATUTORY BODY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)
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PUBLIC NOTICE FOR APPROVAL PROCESS 2020-21

AICTE invites applications for approval from all the existing and new Technical Institutions for conducting Technical Programmes/ Courses for the academic session 2020-21. Details are available at www.aictc-india.org

All applicants are requested to read carefully and thoroughly the AICTE Approval Process Hand Book 2020-21 and All India Council for Technical Education (Grant of approval for Technical Institution) Regulations, 2020 which are available at www.aictc-india.org before submitting online applications on AICTE Web Portal for the Academic Session 2020-21.

Submission of online applications for the session 2020-21 shall begin on 6th February, 2020 and end on 29th February, 2020. The last date for submission of online applications with penalty for Extension of Approval based on self-disclosure for existing Institutions is permitted up to 5th March, 2020. It may be noted that there shall be no further extension of date.

Note: All the Institutions are requested to visit AICTE Website at "www.aictc-india.org > Approval Process 2020-21 Quick link" regularly for all General Notifications, Updated Information and Official Communications related to Approval Process 2020-21. There will not be any other individual communication to the Institutions.

AICTE is also organizing Stakeholder's Workshops appraising the changes in Approval Process Handbook 2020-21 as per the following Schedule. Interested stakeholders can register on the portal for the same.

10th February 2020 - 10:00 AM
Sardar Patel College of Engineering, Andheri, Mumbai
12th February 2020 - 10:00 AM
AICTE Auditorium, New Delhi
13th February 2020 - 10:00 AM
JNTU Auditorium

HARYANA GOVERNMENT

Tender Notice

SR. NO.	NAME OF BOARD/CORP/AUTH	NAME OF WORK NOTICE TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE (TIME)	AMOUNT/EMD (APPROX.) IN RUPEES	WEBSITE OF THE BOARD CORP/AUTH	NODAL OFFICER/CONTACT DETAILS/EMAIL
1.	J.C. BOSE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, YMCA, FARIDABAD SECTOR-6	RENOVATION OF HAS STAFF ROOM, MBA BLOCK, ADMINISTRATIVE BLOCK AND OTHER LOCATION - PROVIDING & FIXING CLASSROOM BENCHES FOR SCIENCE / ACADEMIC BLOCK BUILDING & RENOVATION OF READING ROOM AND DIGITAL SECTION OF THE CENTRAL LIBRARY (RUSA) AT J.C. BOSE UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, YMCA, FARIDABAD.	04.01.2020 25.02.2020	87.72 LACS	www.jboseust.ac.in / https://etenders.hry.nic.in	9416374943 eeymca1@gmail.com
2.	MAHARSHI DAYANAND UNIVERSITY ROHTAK	PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENTS FOR GENETICS DEPARTMENT	31.01.2020 22.02.2020	10 LACS	www.mdu.ac.in	01262-393058 hod.genetics@mdurohtak.ac.in
3.	HSPV DIVISION ROHTAK	SPECIAL REPAIR/RENOVATION OF GYMKHANA CLUB IN SECTOR-4 (EXT.), ROHTAK. "PROVIDING AND FIXING OF VITRIFIED TILES, CERAMIC TILES, ALUMINUM DOOR, WINDOW, CHOWKHAT, SANITARY ITEMS & PAINTING WORKS AND ALL OTHER WORKS CONTINGENT THERETO"	CLOSING DATE 18.02.2020	30.05 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in/nicgep/app	01262-266161 xenrohtak@gmail.com
4.	SHRI VISHWAKARMA SKILL UNIVERSITY	SELECTION OF REPUTED TOUR & TRAVEL AGENCY/COMPANY FOR HIRING OF VEHICLES, CARS, BUSES, TEMPS ETC. FOR THE USE OF SHRI VISHWAKARMA SKILL UNIVERSITY	30.01.2020 17.02.2020	25000/-	www.svstu.ac.in	0124-2746600 register@svstu.ac.in
5.	GMDA GURUGRAM	MAINTENANCE OF SEWERAGE LINES SUB CITY-I , GURUGRAM.	29.01.2020 12.02.2020	12400/-	https://www.gmda.gov.in	xen4infr2.gmda@gov.in
6.	GMDA GURUGRAM	OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF 50 MLSDT BEHRAMPUR, GURUGRAM.	04.02.2020 13.02.2020	14260/-	https://www.gmda.gov.in	xen4infr2.gmda@gov.in
7.	HSPV DIVISION ROHTAK	A/MTS OF SPORTS COMPLEX SECTOR- 6, ROHTAK. "RENOVATION OF PUMP HOUSE & U.G.W.T. CAPACITY 30000 LITTERS (DRINKING WATER) AREA IN SPORTS COMPLEX IN SECTOR - 6, ROHTAK."	CLOSING DATE 11.02.2020	8.75 LACS	https://etenders.hry.nic.in/nicgep/app	01262-266161 xenrohtak@gmail.com

79732/HRY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I, DELHI

4 FLOOR, JEEVAN TARA BUILDING, PARLIAMENT STREET, NEW DELHI-110001

Case No.762/2019

UCO BANK Applicant

Versus

SHRI VIJAY NAGPAL Defendants

To, (1) AVJ DEVELOPERS (INDIA) PVT. LTD. Through Its

Directors having registered office at AVJ Business Park, Plot

No.C, First Floor, Community Centre, Anand Vihar, Delhi-92.

Whereas the above named applicant has instituted a case for recovery of Rs.1,00,05,997.48 (Rupees One Crore Five Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety Seven and Forty Eight Paise Only) against you and whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the Tribunal that it is not possible to serve you in the ordinary way. Therefore, this notice is given by advertisement directing you to make appearance before Lt. Registrar on 28.03.2020 at 10:30 A.M. Take notice that in case of your failure to appear on the above mentioned day before this Tribunal, the case will be heard and decided in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Tribunal on this 22nd Day of January of 2020.

By Order of this Tribunal

For Registrar

MODERN COACH FACTORY, RAEBARELI

On behalf of President of India Dy. Chief Mechanical Engineer/Bogie & Wheel, MCF/RBL is invited open tender based on Single packet system with Tender Notice No. - MCF/RBL/Tender/Completed assembly work on 50T hyd. M/c/2019-20/C/137 dt. 01.02.2020 through IREPS portal www.reps.gov.in for the following work:-

Description of work Approx. Value (₹) EMD (₹)

Complete assembly operation on 50 Ton hydraulic press machine 27,10,957.98 54,200.00

Cost of tender document : ₹ 3,000.00 only

Quantity of work : 24/24 Coach Set.

Completion period of work : 12 months or earlier.

Period of submission of tender document : From 10.02.2020 to 24.02.2020

Date & time of closing of Tender : 24.02.2020 at 11:45 hrs. • Date & time of opening of Tender : 24.02.2020 at 12:00 hrs. • Detailed Tender Notice, Eligibility criteria, Terms & conditions are available IREPS website : www.reps.gov.in in tender document!

By Chief Mechanical Engineer/Bogie & Wheel

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

VIBHUTI KHANO, GOMTI NAGAR, LUCKNOW-226 019

Phones : 0522-4918502, 4918510, Fax : 0522-4918506 ; Website : www.drlmlms.ac.in

Ref. No. RMLMS/MSM/eq/2019-20/5634/

Date : 04.02.2020

RE-TENDER/E-TENDER NOTICE

On line offers are invited through e-tender from Manufacturer/ Direct Importers / Authorized distributors for the supply of various items. The offers submitted earlier for the listed items by the bidders against Tendered/Re-Tendered advertisement no. RMLMS / MM(eq)/2019-20/1706/2876/165/5143/4572/4456/4248/1474/4833, dated 30.07.2019 / 03.10.2019/08.01.2020/10.01.2020/05.12.2019/30.11.2019/17.07.2019/21.12.2019 will be accepted as cancelled. Therefore, those who have already submitted their offer against above advertisement are also required to submit again and they are required to deposit tender fee and EMD afresh and enclose its proof in technical bid as per tender terms & conditions, along with their complete offer. Earlier EMD deposited against the above mentioned cancelled tenders will be refunded to the bidder on their request.

For detailed information like Name of Equipments, Date of submission, tender fee and opening of tenders etc., you may please visit the e-tender portal www.stender.up.nic.in. The offer will be accepted on line only on e-tender portal with terms and conditions as mentioned in tender document. Any amendment will be uploaded only on the e-tender portal www.stender.up.nic.in. Details are also available in our website www.drlmlms.ac.in for reference only.

Director

GUJARAT MEDICAL SERVICES CORPORATION LIMITED

(A Government of Gujarat Undertaking)

Regd. Office : Block No. 14/1, Dr. Jivraj Mehta Bhavan, Sector-10, Gandhinagar

Ph : 079-23250767, 23250766, 23257698

TENDER NOTICE-D-11/2019-2020

Tenders are invited online from reputed Manufacturers/formulators /direct importers for purchase of Tablets & Capsules, Injectables, Miscellaneous, Surgical Items on rate contract basis and details of specification, quantity is available on www.gmsc.gujarat.gov.in and www.statetenders.com. All tender documents can be downloaded free on the website: www.gmsc.nprocure.com & Tender Notice. Interested bidders are requested to submit the tender through e-tender process.

Duration of Downloading of tender document (online) :-

03/02/2020 to 24/02/2020 up to 15.55 Hrs.

Last date for Submission (online) : 24/02/2020 upto 16:00 HRS.

Last date for Submission of Physical document : 25/02/2020 upto 16:00 HRS

Opening of Technical Bid Date (online) : 26/02/2020 At 15:00 HRS.

INF/2015/19-20 MANAGING DIRECTOR

Gujarat Knowledge Society

C/o Directorate of Technical Education

3rd floor, Block No.2, Karmayogi Bhavan, Gandhinagar-382010

E-tender ID: 396282, 396283, 396286, 396289

TENDER NOTICE

Student Startup and Innovation Policy (SSIP) Cell under Education Department, Government of Gujarat is inviting online bids (techno-commercial) for providing items for establishment of Emerging Technologies laboratories in the areas of i) Artificial Intelligence/Machine Learning, ii) Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality, iii) Robotics, and iv) Internet of Things/Blockchain. All details are given in tender document which can be downloaded and submitted online at www.nprocure.com from 31/01/2020 up to 15:00 hrs.

Last date for submission of Tender fees, EMD and related documents in Physical form

25/02/2020 up to 15:00 hrs

Online technical bid opening

29/02/2020 11:05 hrs.

Right to accept or reject any tender in full or part thereof without assigning any reason whatsoever is reserved. For more details please visit www.nprocure.com or contact this office at above address.

INF/2220/19-20 Chief Executive Office, GKS

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER,

BALANGIR (R&B) CIRCLE: BALANGIR

e-Procurement Notice

BID IDENTIFICATION NO: SE(R&B) BGR/06/2019-20

No. 269 // Dtd. 28.01.2020

1. The Superintending Engineer, Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE for the construction of works detailed in the table below from B/ A/ Special/ Super Class Contractors registered with the State Governments and contractors of equivalent Grade/ Class registered with Central Government/ MES/ Railways for execution of Civil works. The proof of registration from the appropriate authority shall be enclosed along with the bid.

2. Nature of Work : Road/ Bridges work

3. No. of tender : Road : 08 Nos. and Bridge : 02 Nos.

4. Tender Cost : Rs. 10,000/-

5. Class of Contractor : B/ A/ Special/ Super Class.

6. Date & Time of sale & Receipt : Dt. 25.02.2020, 10.00 A.M. to 25.02.2020 up to 05.00 P.M.

7. Date of opening Bid : Dt. 26.02.2020 at 11.00 A.M.

8. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website: <http://tenderodisha.gov.in>. All future corrigendum will be available on ONLINE MODE only.

Sd/-

Superintendent Engineer,

Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir

34131/11/0008/1920

Sr/-

Superintendent Engineer,

Balangir (R&B) Circle, Balangir

9732/HRY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in9732/HRY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT: www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in or www.etenders.hry.nic.in

9732/HRY. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VIS



AFRICA

Kenya's former president Daniel Arap Moi dies

Nairobi: Former Kenyan president Daniel Arap Moi, who kept his country on a relatively stable footing during his tenure but was less successful at reining in poverty and corruption, died on Tuesday, the office of the president and his family said. He was 95. There was no immediate information on the cause of Moi's death but he had been in and out of hospital with breathing problems in recent months. "Our nation and our continent were immensely blessed by the dedication and service of the late ... Moi; who spent almost his entire adult life serving Kenya and Africa," President Uhuru Kenyatta said in a statement.

USA

Seattle City Council passes resolution against CAA and NRC

Washington: The Seattle City Council, one of the most powerful city councils in the US, on Monday unanimously passed a resolution condemning India's recently-enacted Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the proposed National Register of Citizens (NRC). Reaffirming Seattle as a welcoming city and expressing solidarity with the city's South Asian community regardless of religion and caste, the resolution "resolves that the Seattle City Council opposes the National Register of Citizens and the Citizenship Amendment Act in India, and finds these policies to be discriminatory to Muslims, oppressed castes, women, indigenous, and LGBT people".

PAKISTAN

Suspension of Musharraf death sentence: Pak lawyer moves SC

Islamabad: A Pakistani lawyer has appealed to the Supreme Court to set aside the verdict of a high court that annulled the death sentence of self-exiled former president Pervez Musharraf. On January 13, Musharraf's trial in the high treason case was declared as "unconstitutional" by the Lahore High Court (LHC), leading to the annulment of the death sentence against the former president. Advocate Taufiq Asif requested the apex court to set aside the LHC verdict.

The EU, which often takes time to respond to international developments because of a need for unanimity among its 27 members, had said last week that it needed to study the Trump plan before it would give its verdict.

It made its conclusions public on Tuesday in a statement

TINY BRITISH TERRITORY IN THE CARIBBEAN CASHES IN ON ITS '.AI' DOMAIN NAME, WHICH IS A FAVOURITE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FIRMS

Anguilla has tropical breezes, pristine beaches and a domain name to die for

THE LUXURY resorts along serene white-sand beaches have long propped up the economy of Anguilla, a tiny British territory in the Caribbean.

But the island is also the lucky financial beneficiary of two hot trends in technology: artificial intelligence and vanity internet addresses.

Anguilla is the landlord for internet addresses that end in ".ai" — a suddenly valuable slice of online real estate. Every time

THE WORLD



MEANWHILE

LESOOTHO FIRST LADY TO BE CHARGED WITH MURDER

The first lady of Lesotho is set to be charged with murder in connection with the 2017 killing of the prime minister's former wife, police said Tuesday. Maesaiah Thabane, who had fled the country to escape arrest, returned on Tuesday. Prime Minister Thomas Thabane's former wife, Lipolelo, was killed two years after a court ruled that she was the lawful first lady and entitled to benefits.

Party blames inconsistencies in data; just like they ran the country, says Trump

What the debacle means for top candidates

JOSEPH AX &
GINGER GIBSON
DES MOINES, FEBRUARY 4

THE DEMOCRATIC Party's bid to choose a candidate to take on Donald Trump at the Nov 3 US presidential election was in disarray on Tuesday, after technical problems delayed vote counting in Iowa to the dismay of the party faithful and the delight of the Republican President.

There was still no winner on Tuesday morning from Monday's Iowa caucuses voting, with officials blaming "inconsistencies" related to a new mobile app used for vote counting in the state that traditionally kicks off a US presidential election year.

It was a clumsy start to 2020 voting, after a bad-tempered presidential campaign four years ago that produced a surprise winner in Trump and led to a two-year federal investigation into election interference by Russia.

The head of Iowa's Democratic Party promised to release results "as soon as possible" on Tuesday but said the top priority was ensuring the integrity of the process and accuracy of the results.

"Every second that passes undermines the process a little bit," said Roger Lau, campaign manager for US Senator Elizabeth Warren.

Trump mocked the Democrats, calling the caucus confusion an "unmitigated disaster" in a Twitter post on Tuesday.

Democratic candidate Pete Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, expressed frustration with the delayed results on Tuesday, after having said at a late-night rally he was going to the next early voting state of New Hampshire victorious. "I don't think there's a person in the country more impatient than I am" to get official results, he said.

Buttigieg and front-runner

Bernie Sanders



Ahead of the caucuses, polls had shown Bernie Sanders leading in Iowa.

After the results were delayed, Sanders' campaign released their own data showing he had won. However, the delay in the official results comes as a setback for Sanders who had hoped to go into New Hampshire, where the next primary will be held, by giving a primetime victory speech from Iowa which could have given him momentum in the race to become the Democratic nominee.

EXPLAINED E

Pete Buttigieg



Buttigieg's campaign has also released their own numbers that show the former mayor as having won the caucuses. Even the Sanders campaign's numbers show Buttigieg doing better than more senior rivals Joe Biden and Elizabeth Warren. With the campaign in New Hampshire already underway, Buttigieg has aggressively pushed the narrative that he was victorious in Iowa. This could give him unexpected early momentum in the primaries.

Joe Biden



The delay in the announcement of the Iowa results could be a blessing for Joe Biden, who is seen as one of the strongest contenders to claim the Democratic nomination. Unofficial numbers and polls had shown, however, that Biden did poorly in Iowa, likely coming in fourth place after Sanders, Buttigieg and Warren. But with no official results declared, Biden goes into the New Hampshire campaign relatively unscathed after what could have been a damaging night in Iowa.

Elizabeth Warren

Warren had surged in polls ahead of the Iowa caucuses, but unofficial numbers showed that she had not done as well as Sanders or Buttigieg. The delay in the results is likely to lead to an agonising wait for the senator as she seeks to figure out where she stands at the beginning of the race and what strategy she should adopt going forward.

Bernie Sanders, a US senator, released their campaign's own count of the Iowa vote which showed them having done well.

Iowa Democratic Party Chairman Troy Price said the mobile app was recording data accurately but only partial data. The coding problem was fixed and state officials are verifying the data from the app with required paper documentation, he said.

Trump took a swipe at the Democrats, 11 of whom are contenders in the state-by-state battle to face him in Nov. "Nothing works, just like they ran the country." He also said the delay was not Iowa's fault and pledged that Republicans would continue to uphold the tradition of early Iowa caucuses. REUTERS



Caucus participants arrive to register in Des Moines, Iowa. AP

EU rejects Trump's Middle East peace plan, annexation

REUTERS
BRUSSELS, FEBRUARY 4



EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell. Reuters

from EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell.

"To build a just and lasting peace, the unresolved final status issues must be decided through direct negotiations between both parties," Borrell said, noting the issues of the borders of a Palestinian state and the final status of Jerusalem were among those still in dispute.

"The US initiative, as presented on 28 January, departs from these internationally agreed parameters," Borrell said.

Pak to buy more Malaysian palm oil to 'compensate' after row with India, says Imran

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KUALA LUMPUR, FEBRUARY 4



Imran Khan with his Malaysian counterpart Mahathir Mohamad in Putrajaya, Malaysia, Tuesday. AP

Indonesia produces 43 million tonnes, according to trade data.

India, the world's largest importer of vegetable oils, buys nearly 15 million tonnes annually. Pakistan bought 1.08 million tonnes of palm oil from Malaysia in 2019, while India bought 4.4 million tonnes, according to the Malaysian Palm Oil Council.

The Indian government has

imposed restrictions on imports of refined palm oil, a move which could discourage the inbound shipment of the commodity from Malaysia.

The move came after the Malaysian PM repeatedly criticised India's policy on Kashmir and the new citizenship law. Mahathir had also raised the Kashmir issue in the UN General Assembly session in September.

Road Bay in Anguilla. The yearly fees for Anguilla's domain name, which go mostly to the government's treasury, added up to \$2.9 million in 2018. NYT



Road Bay in Anguilla. The yearly fees for Anguilla's domain name, which go mostly to the government's treasury, added up to \$2.9 million in 2018. NYT

found at compound.finance.

The marketplace for internet addresses has become attractive even to big investors. A private equity firm in 2018 bought Donuts Inc., a company with the rights to more than 240 newer domain names, like ".technology" and ".engineering." Another private equity firm has bid for the rights to ".org" — used by most nonprofits — offering more than \$1 billion and setting off a controversy over whether the domain should be controlled by a profit-driven company. And Berkshire Hathaway, led by Warren E. Buffett, is the largest

shareholder in Verisign, the registry that manages ".com."

"The Domain Name System is an important part of the plumbing of the internet, and it's become a big business," said Matthew Zook, a professor at the University of Kentucky who has studied the industry for years.

Annual registration and renewal fees alone, he estimates, total almost \$4 billion.

To some degree, search engines like Google, social networks like Facebook and mobile apps like Uber have diminished the role of domain names as the way people navigate online.

CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK HITS SUPPLY CHAINS

Hong Kong records first virus death, 2nd fatality outside mainland China

Death toll 427; in China, toll increases by record 64 in a day

FARAH MASTER & RYAN WOO
HONG KONG, BEIJING, FEB 4

HONG KONG reported its first coronavirus death on Tuesday, the second outside mainland China from a fast-spreading outbreak that has killed 427 people and threatened economic supply chains around the world.

But after Shanghai's main market lost nearly \$400 billion the previous day, global and Chinese markets bounced, with both Europe and metals enjoying their best sessions of the year.

On the ground, bad news was relentless.

Chinese-ruled Macau, the world's biggest gambling hub, asked casino operators to close for two weeks to help curb the virus.

And in the latest major corporate hit, Hyundai Motor said it would gradually suspend production at South Korean factories because of supply chain disruptions.

Hong Kong's first fatality was a 39-year-old man with an underlying illness who had visited China's Wuhan city, the quarantined epicentre of the outbreak.

China, meanwhile, reported a record daily jump in deaths of 64 to 425. The only other death outside mainland China was a man who died in the Philippines last week after visiting Wuhan.

Total infections in mainland China rose to 20,438, and there have been nearly 200 cases elsewhere across 24 countries and China's special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau.

Thailand's tally of infections jumped to 25, the highest outside China, while Singapore's rose to 24. The World Health Organization has declared the flu-like virus a global emergency and experts say much is still unknown. REUTERS



Medical workers strike in Hong Kong, calling for its borders with China to be closed. Reuters

Chinese lockdowns approach Shanghai

AGENCIES
BEIJING, FEBRUARY 4

MORE CHINESE cities, including

one just 175 kilometres from Shanghai, were put under lockdown on Tuesday, as the impact of a deadly new virus spread further from its epicentre.

Landlords were also forbidden from renting property to people from "severely affected areas such as Hubei" if they have travelled to their hometowns recently, it added.

In Hangzhou districts, additional measures included mandatory mask-wearing and compulsory ID and temperature checks. On Monday, Hangzhou's Yuhang district also said it would suspend buses, taxis, shuttle buses, and airport lines until further notice.

In Taizhou, 850 km from the epicentre in Hubei province — will also suspend 95 train services

Cross-examination drives key Weinstein accuser to tears

ASSOCIATED PRESS
NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 4

A KEY accuser in the New York City rape trial of Harvey Weinstein broke down in tears on the witness stand during an exhaustive cross-examination over the nature of her relationship with the once-powerful movie mogul.

The incident, which prompted the judge to send the jury home about an hour earlier than usual, came as the defense on Monday sought to paint the 34-year-old woman as an opportunistic manipulator who took advantage of Weinstein while pursuing an acting career, even after he allegedly raped her.

The woman said she tried to make Weinstein "my pseudo father" after a rough upbringing. She said she sent him flattering emails and kept seeing him because "I wanted him to believe I wasn't a threat". "I was afraid of his unpredictable anger," she testified.

She became emotional while

reading an email passage about being abused earlier in her life. It was part of a lengthy confessional email she sent to her then-boyfriend in May 2014 about her relationship with Weinstein.

She was weeping as she left the courtroom, and her cries could be heard from a nearby witness room. She returned after about a 10-minute break, but continued to weep loudly, resting her head on the witness stand and blotting tears with a tissue.



Harvey Weinstein at court in New York. Reuters

Classifieds

PERSONAL

- I, khushal Chand S/O Late Shri Shanker Lal R/O 16/354-H,Gali No.5,Arya Samaj Road, Bapa Nagar,Karol Bagh New Delhi-5, Have Changed My Son's Name from Lavanya Kundra to Laksh Kundra For all Future purposes. 0040530197-1**
- I, Shekhar Maria Joseph,S/o Viswasam,R/o-D-3,New Zealand High Commission,Nyaya Marg Chanakya New Delhi-110021,have changed my name to Maria Susai Shekhar in my children birth certificate. 0040530308-1**
- I, Rubina Mumtaz w/o Sachin Chaudhary R/o-Flat-No-02-LGF, Tower-5,Palm Valley,Sector-1,Greater Noida West,Uttar Pradesh-201306,have changed my name Rubina Khan for all purpose. 0040530258-1**
- I, Ramesh Chandar Singh/Ramesh Chandra Singh/S/o-Sh.Narayan Singh,R/o-B-1/A,East Vinod Nagar,Delhi-110091,have changed my name to Ramesh Chandar Singh for all,future purposes. 0040530258-4**
- I, Khushi Alang D/o Jasbir Singh R/o-B-1/35 Third-Floor, Model-town-2 Delhi-110009, I want to Add my Sir Name Kaur in My Name. Khushi Alang to Khushi kaur Alang for Passport. 0040530278-8**
- I, Jitu Bhai Devilal Khattri S/o,Khatri Devilal Achalaji R/o-C-002, Sector-15,Part-II, Rail-Vihar, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001 have changed my name to Jitu Devilal Khattri. 0040530256-10**
- I, Gulshan Arora S/O Mulk Raj R/O-4/C-Tagore Garden Extension, Delhi-110027. Changed My Name To Gulshan Kumar. 0040530256-5**
- I, Anjali D/o Kanhiya Ram R/o-H.No.-35, Surajpur-2,Gautambudh Nagar,U.P.,have changed my name to Anjali Sebastian for all future purposes. 0040530258-3**
- I, Vipin Kumar S/O Trilok Chand R/O-B-1/301,Shivapuri, Dd-block, Pitampura, Delhi-110034. Changed My Name To Vipin Kumar Agarwal. 0040530256-4**
- I, Vinod Girdhar S/o Har Bhagwan R/o-G-26/265, Sector-3, Rohini, Delhi-110085, have changed my name to Vinod Kumar. 0040530289-7**
- I, Vandana Sharma W/o Anil Kumar Sharma R/o-92-E, Pocket-V, Mayur Vihar-I, Delhi-110091 have changed my name to Baby Sharma, permanently. 0040530289-3**
- I, Tarsem Singh,S/o Kehar Singh R/o-C/80, Guru-Nanak Dev-Colony, Bhalawas Dairy, Outer North Delhi-110042 have changed my name from Tarsem Singh Kalsi to Tarsem Singh, for all future purposes,& my Actual Date of Birth 29.08.1967 0040530278-9**
- I, Tajveer Singh Kutthi S/o Gaddu Singh R/o-B-7/8, Gali No.7, Raja Puri, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Kalam Singh Kutthi for all purposes. 0040530187-1**
- I, Sindori Devi, wife of No.1406975F Rank L/NK Name Late Pitambar Datt, resident of Lansdowne, District-Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand have changed my name from Sindori Devi, DOB:15-July-1930 to Gayatri Devi, DOB:12-July-1939 vide affidavit dated 03-Feb-2020 before the Hon'ble Court Lansdowne. 0040530168-1**
- I, Shikha Gautam W/O Harpreet Singh R/O-A-340, Gharoli Dairy Farm Delhi-110096, Changed My Name To Shikha Kaur Gautam. 0040530289-9**
- I, Sanjeev Kumar S/o Yash Pal Gupta R/o-B-93, 2nd-Floor, Shivalik, Malviya Nagar, N.Delhi-110017,have changed my name to Sanjeev Gupta, permanently. 0040530256-2**
- I, Samiksha D/o Ajay Malhotra R/o-H-154, Karampura New Delhi-15, have changed my name from Samiksha to Samiksha Malhotra, permanently. 0040530289-1**
- I, Sachin Kumar Bansal S/O Naresh Chand Bansal R/O-1092, Wardno. 25, Mohan Nagar, Jhajjar-Road, Bahadurgarh,Jhajjar-124507. Changed my Name to Sachin Bansal. 0040530256-7**
- I, S.M.Yasir Rehman S/o Syed Saidur Rehman R/o-B-8,Block-2,DDA Flats,Sarai Khalif,Sadar Bazar,Delhi-110006,will be known as Syed Mohd Yasin Rehman for all purposes. 0040530258-2**
- I, Rooma Kailash Malhotra W/o Suresh Malhotra R/o-J-5, 3rd Floor, Lajpat Nagar-III, Delhi-110024 have changed my name to Rooma Malhotra for all purposes. 0040530169-1**
- I, No. 15177001K, Mukesh Kumar Singh, S/o-S. Vijay Kumar Singh,R/O-AP 628 Sata C/O-56 -APD. In my service records D o B of my son namely Aryan Raj has been wrongly mentioned as 05-12-2013 instead 05-01-2013. It needs correction. Objections are filed to concerned authorities within seven days. 0020401854-1**
- I, Rita Malhotra S/O Chaman Lal Malhotra R/O-15/11, Sector-8, Rohini, Delhi-110085, Have Changed My Name To Reeta Malhotra. 0040530256-6**
- I, Neha Rani D/o Surender Singh H.no-454, VPO-Atterna, Sonipat, Haryana-131023, have changed my name from Neha Rani to Neha Chauhan, permanently. 0040530256-3**
- I, Neha Nehra R/o D-201, Bestech Sonipat View Spa Next, Sector-67, Gurgaon, Haryana have changed my minor son's name from Abhi veer Mahant to ABHINEET SINGH for updating records in army. 0040530283-8**
- I, Neetu Kakkar W/O Deepak Khurana R/O-13/313 Block-13 Geeta Colony Gandhi Nagar Delhi-110031. Have Changed My Name To Veenu Khurana. 0040530289-8**
- I, Navdeep Singh S/O Hardip Singh R/O-Village-Basti, Godibindpur, P.O-Bhanwanpur, Kapurthala, Punjab-144601 Declare that my Given name is Navdeep and my Surname is Singh. 0040530256-1**
- I, Nafisha W/o Mehboob R/o F-68 Shaheed Nagar Sahibabad, Ghaziabad UP-201006, have changed my name to Nafeesa, for all purposes. 0040530278-7**
- I, Nadem S/O Naeem Akhtar R/O C-398, Street No-19, Old Mustafabad Delhi-94, Changed My Name To Nadeem Akhtar. 0040530278-4**
- I, Mumtaz Parveen W/o Mukim Ahmed R/o-C-227 Ground Floor Gali No.10 Cut Gali No.5/2 Chauhan-Banger Garhi-Mendu Delhi-110053 changed my name to Mumtaz Begum. 00405303201-20**
- I, Mangla Devi D/o Sh. Sarwan Singh R/o-E-455, Gali No-77, Mahavir Enclave, Part-3, Delhi-110059 have changed my name after marriage Madhu W/o Sanjay Kumar for all purposes. 0040530195-1**
- I, Mahesh Kumar S/O Hardayal R/O-35d, Mil Flats Sheik Sarai Phase-1 New Delhi-110017 Changed My Name To Mahesh Kumar Sharma. 0040530278-3**
- I, Mahboob Ali S/o Ishak R/o-F-68 Shaheed Nagar Sahibabad, Ghaziabad UP-201006, have changed my name to Mohboob for all purposes. 0040530265-10**
- I, Abdul Shahab @ Shahab Khan S/o Abdul Hafiz Khan R/o 3746, Churiwala Chawri Bazar Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohd Shahab Khan. 0040530222-2**
- I, ALSINA A HABIB D/o Mr. Arif Habib R/o.H No. 233/234, 2nd Floor Mustafa Lodge, Ghaffar Manzil, Okhla, New Delhi-110025 have changed my name from Alseena Arif Habib to ALSINA A HABIB for all future purposes. 0040530165-1**
- I, Nitiprakash Datta W/o Prabir Datta R/o Tower-E-1, Flat No.1904, Radicon Vedantam, Sector-16C, Greater Noida West(U.P.),have changed my name to Nitiprakash Datta for all future purposes. 0040530242-1**
- I, Khattri Manjulaben Devilal w/o Khatri Devilal Achalaji R/o-F-24/314, Utsav-Apartment opp-Bhavasar Hostel-Nava Wadaj-Ahmadabad City Ahmadabad Gujarat-380013. have changed my name to Khatri Manjulaben Devilal. 0040530265-6**
- I, Khattri Devilla Achalaji s/o Achalaji R/o-F-24/314, Utsav-Apartment opp-Bhavasar Hostel-Nava Wadaj-Ahmadabad City Ahmadabad Gujarat-380013. have changed my name to Khatri Devilal Achalaji. 0040530265-7**
- I, Khaleel Ahmed S/o Abdul Sattar, R/o 739, Gali Rajawali Qasab Pura Sadar Bazar, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohammad Khalil for all purposes. 0040530164-1**
- I, Kajol D/o Kishore Kumar Datta R/o-43 Maurya-Enclave Pitampura, Delhi-110034 have changed my name to Riya Dua. 0040530289-6**
- I, Jameel Ahmad S/o Mohd Ahmed R/o 3230, 1st Floor Kucha Syed Jalal Bakhari, Darya Ganj, New Delhi-110002 have changed my name to Jamil Ahmed. 0040530222-1**
- I, Jaiwanthi W/O Laxman Basandani R/o-B/9-92, Sector-18, Rohini, Delhi-110089. Changed My Name To Megha Basandani. 0040530256-8**
- I, Inderjeet Singh S/o Hardit Singh R/o-52, Sukh Vihar, Krishna Nagar, Delhi-110059 have changed my name to Inderjeet Singh Chawla. 0040530175-1**
- I, Hemlata D/o Shyam Lal W/o Sanjay Kumar H.No.20, main-Road, Chaterpur Gaon Delhi-110074, have changed my name to Seema. 0040530289-4**
- I, Ghurfan Ahmed S/o Noor Ahmed R/o-2348, Galli Ambiya, Kucha Daryan, Darya Ganj, Delhi-110002 have changed my name to Ghurfan Ahmed for all purposes. 0040530182-1**
- I, Geeta Devi Alias Neetu Devi W/o Jitlal R/o-Nainaha, Dhanapur, Amethi-U.P.-27407 Presently at Delhi,Myc**
- I, Policy-No.332971336, My name Mentioned is Neetu Devi,Geeta Devi and Neetu Devi Same and one person. 0040530159-1**
- I, Deep Narayan Mahto S/o Ram Dev Mahto R/o/943, Extn. Village Poth Kalan, Rohini, Delhi-110086, have changed my name to Deep Narain Prasad. 0040530222-3**
- I, Anuj Kumar Gautam S/o Rajender Gautam R/o/3502, Gali No.6 Ram Nagar Extension, Delhi-110032 have changed my name to Anuj Gautam for all purposes. 0040530171-1**
- I, Chanderpati Devi W/o-Late Ramnivas R/o-H.No.546-8,Gali.No.1,Behind Baba Cinema,Adarsh Nagar,Sonipat, Haryana-131001,have changed my name to Chanderpati For all future purposes.Correct Date Of-Birth is 01.01.1943. 0040530242-1**
- I, Prabha W/O. Kehar Singh, R/O D 244, Sehrala (5), Palwal, Haryana - 121002 DOB: 23/11/1980 Have Changed My Name From Prabha To Prbha For All Purposes 0070696298-1**
- I, Piyush S/o Pyare Lal Maurya R/o 85 DDA SFS Flats, Pocket-3, Sec-11, Dwarka, New Delhi-110029 have changed my name to Piyush Maurya for all purposes 0040530270-1**
- I, Bhagwant Singh f/o Abhit Singh r/o VPO-Mavi Kalan, Teh-Samana, Distt-Patiala-147102 have changed my minor son's name from Abhit Singh to ABHINEET SINGH for updating records in army. 0040530285-8**
- I, Tom Prakash Bajaj S/o Gyan Chand R/o-B-17-2nd-Floor Manek-Vihar Tihar-Village Delhi-110018, Changed My Name To Om Parkash Bajaj. 0040530278-1**
- I, Nitikhil Chanji S/o Sh.Tilak Raj R/H.O.38-39, First Floor, Pocket-19, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi-85, have changed my Name Nikhil to Nikhil Chanji for all purpose. 0040530163-1**
- I, Munuren Guria W/O Anuj Barla R/o J-258, Neplai Camp Huts Vasant Vihar Delhi-110057, Changed My Name To Munuren. 0040530299-2**
- I, Mohammad Aasim alias Babar Abbas S/o Shamim Abbas R/o 960/3, Mohalla Krishan Ganj, Near Masjid Imli Wali, Telwara, Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Babar Abbas for all purposes. 0040530289-5**
- I, Aryan Datal S/O Surender Haque R/o-751/15, Indera-Enclave, Block-A, Phase-I, Village-Kirari Suleiman-Nagar, Delhi-86, declare that my father name has been wrongly mentioned as Hafiz Anwar in my passport bearing No.R317303. My father's correct name is Anwarul Haque. 0040530278-2**
- I, Anju Alias Anjali Chhana D/O Surinder Kumar Puri W/O Rajesh Chhana R/O/HO No.79-B, New Deol Nager Ext, s.p. Prime School, New Deol Nager, Jalandhar-1, Jalandhar, Punjab-144003 Have Changed My Name And Shall Hereafter Be Known As Anjali Chhana. 0070696326-1**
- I, Anil Kumar S/o O'm Prakash r/o BN-27, West Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088 have changed my name to ANIL JAIN permanently. 0040530170-1**
- I, Anil Kumar S/O-Brahma Dutt Jangid R/O-RZD-2/7, Gali No.3, Mahavir-Enclave, New Delhi-110045 have changed my name to Anil Kumar Jangid. 0040530278-6**
- I, Ajay Kumar S/O Ganesh Dutt Sharma R/O-D-14, Vijay Vihar Phase-2, Sector-4, Rohini, Delhi-110085, Changed My Name To Ajay Sharma. 0040530256-9**
- I, Abdul Shahab @ Shahab Khan S/o Abdul Hafiz Khan R/o 3746, Churiwala Chawri Bazar Delhi-110006 have changed my name to Mohd Shahab Khan. 0040530222-2**
- I, Taranjeet Singh Sandhu S/O Charan Singh Sandhu R/O-49 Rameshwari-Nagar, Adzipur-Delhi-110033, Have Change My Name To Inder Jeet Singh. 0040530278-5**
- I, Ghulam Hussain Roomi S/O Atisham Ali R/O RZC-187, Nihal Vihar, Nangloi, New Delhi-110041 declare that my name is written in some documents as Ghulam Hussain Roomi, Ghulam Hasan Roomi, Gulam Hussain Roomi, Gulam Hasan Roomi and GH Roomi. I sworn before Tehsildar that my correct and real name is Ghulam Hussain Roomi 0040530179-1**
- I, Gulshan Kumar S/o Late Sh.Tilak Raj R/o 313/73/F, Plot No.67, Anand Nagar, Inder Lok, Delhi-110035 have changed the name of my minor son from Hitesh alias Konark to Konark Kapoor for all purposes. 0040530160-2**
- I, Anisha D/O Gyan Singh Add-Staff Quarter, 2, Teer Murti Lane, New Delhi-110011, changed my name to Anisha chauhan. 0040530265-4**
- I, Anil Sharma S/S/o Subhash Sharma R/o Ward No-11, Sawa, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan-330334, have changed my name to Anil Sharma. 0070696324-1**
- I, Anil Kumar S/O, Bahadur Chand R/o T 76 Vishnu Garden New Delhi-110018 have changed my name to Anil Kumar Arora for all purposes. 0040530299-1**
- I, Sukhjinder Singh S/o Saroop Singh R/o-WZ-283/101 (F.F.)Maddi Wali Gali-4 No.4, Vishnu-Garden New Delhi. have changed my name to Sukhwinder Singh. 0040530265-2**
- I, Talka alias Alka Mulwani alias Sanya Matreja D/o Late Sh.Hari Chand W/o Sh.Ravi Matreja R/o A-2/58, Sector-3, Rohini Sector-7, Delhi-110085 have changed my name to Sanya Matreja for all purposes. 0040530160-1**
- I, Iadiba Ali W/O Abdus Samad H.No-G-77, Second-Floor Nizamuddin West-Hazrat Nizamuddin Delhi-110013, Changed My Name To Adeeba Ali. 0040530172-1**
- I, Pradip Kumar Dinda S/o Late Sudhanshu Shekhar Dinda hereby solemnly affirm and declare that correct name my son is Sourav Dinda (DOB 13 Sep 1993). Due to oversight his name is recorded as Sourabh Kumar Dinda (DOB 13 Sep 1995) in my Service Documents. I swear this affidavit for correction of my son's name from Sourabh Kumar Dinda (DOB 13 Sep 1995) to Sourav Dinda (DOB 13 Sep 1993) in my Service Document.**
- I, chanchal D/o satish kumar R/o E3/84 st.no-4 pusta-4 soniavihar delhi-94 have lost original/certificate class-10th(2014) Rollno-8634340 class-12th(2016) Rollno-962839 CBSE-Delhi. 0040530299-6**
- I, Sandeep Kumar S/O Kuldeep Chander R/o-G-128/1, Second Floor Mohammadpur New Delhi-110066, changed my name to Sandeep Kumar Batia. 0040530289-1**
- I, Rohini W/O Sujesh Kumar R/o 194, 3rd Floor, Sector-4, Gurgaon Haryana-122007 Have Changed My Name to Rohini Gautam. 0040530289-2**
- I, Ridol Topo S/O Hendarush Topo R/o E-4/5, VTC, Vasant Vihar, Delhi-110057 Have Changed my Name to Ridol Topo. 0040530256-1**
- I, Raj Kumar R/o- H118 Gali No-26 Molarband Badarpur New Delhi-110044 have changed my name to Raju Kumar Singh. 0040530299-7**
- I, Seema Grover D/o Sh.Madan Gopal Ailawadi R/o E-114, East of Kailash, New Delhi has lost original Perpetual Lease Deed, Allotment Letter, Payment Receipt, Possession Slip, C Form, D Form, Sanction Letter, Map Plan etc. of above said property. Finders may contact at Mobile No.931277875. 0040530160-4**
- I, PUBLIC NOTICE**
- I, Inderjeet Singh Johar, would like to inform the general public that I have misplaced Original of -Perpetual Lease Deed dated 24.01.1961 bearing Doc. No.813, registered in the SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 621, on pages 10 to 12, on 01.02.1961; Relinquishment Deed dated 19.07.1999 bearing Doc. No. 3127, registered in the SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. II, Vol. No. 1629, on pages 104 to 106 on 12.10.1999; Will and Testament dated 24.06.1988; Letter No. L&D/O-PS/1300 dated 28.02.2000; Conveyance Deed dated 19.07.2000 bearing Doc. No. 7727, registered in SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 1101, on pages 147 to 150, on 16.08.2000; Allotment cum demand letter of the above flat has been lost. FIR to this effect has been lodged in Police Station - Crime Branch, Delhi.**
- I, Inderjeet Singh Johar, will like to inform the general public that I have misplaced Original of -Perpetual Lease Deed dated 24.01.1961 bearing Doc. No.813, registered in the SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 621, on pages 104 to 106 on 12.10.1999; Will and Testament dated 24.06.1988; Letter No. L&D/O-PS/1300 dated 28.02.2000; Conveyance Deed dated 19.07.2000 bearing Doc. No. 7727, registered in SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 1101, on pages 147 to 150, on 16.08.2000; Allotment cum demand letter of the above flat has been lost. FIR to this effect has been lodged in Police Station - Crime Branch, Delhi.**
- I, Inderjeet Singh Johar, will like to inform the general public that I have misplaced Original of -Perpetual Lease Deed dated 24.01.1961 bearing Doc. No.813, registered in the SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 621, on pages 104 to 106 on 12.10.1999; Will and Testament dated 24.06.1988; Letter No. L&D/O-PS/1300 dated 28.02.2000; Conveyance Deed dated 19.07.2000 bearing Doc. No. 7727, registered in SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 1101, on pages 147 to 150, on 16.08.2000; Allotment cum demand letter of the above flat has been lost. FIR to this effect has been lodged in Police Station - Crime Branch, Delhi.**
- I, Inderjeet Singh Johar, will like to inform the general public that I have misplaced Original of -Perpetual Lease Deed dated 24.01.1961 bearing Doc. No.813, registered in the SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 621, on pages 104 to 106 on 12.10.1999; Will and Testament dated 24.06.1988; Letter No. L&D/O-PS/1300 dated 28.02.2000; Conveyance Deed dated 19.07.2000 bearing Doc. No. 7727, registered in SRO, New Delhi in Addl. Book No. I, Vol. No. 1101, on pages 147 to 150, on 16.08.2000; Allotment cum demand letter of the above flat has been lost. FIR to this effect has been lodged in Police Station - Crime Branch, Delhi.**
- I, Inderjeet Singh Johar, will**

SENSEX: 40,789.38 ▲ 917.07 NIFTY: 11,979.65 ▲ 271.75 NIKKEI: 23,084.59 ▲ 112.65 HANG SENG: 26,675.98 ▲ 319.00 FTSE: 7,417.06 ▲ 90.75 DAX: 13,201.61 ▲ 156.42



GOLD

₹41,270



RUPEE

₹71.27



OIL

\$58.02



SILVER

₹47,080

*Indian basket as on January 31, 2020

*International market data till 1900 IST

SECTOR WATCH

TELECOM

AGR dues: Oil India, GAIL, other PSUs face payouts nearly double of net worth

AASHISH KARYAN
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE IMPACT of the Supreme Court's (SC) direction on the telecom sector with respect to the pending adjusted gross revenue (AGR) dues pales in comparison to the payout confronting the non-telecom companies, which face the prospect of shelling out over twice the amount that telecom companies are required to pay.

At Rs 3 lakh crore, the demand from non-telecom companies – nearly all of which are public sector units (PSUs) such as Gail India Ltd, Power Grid Corporation India Ltd, Rail Tel, Oil India Ltd, and Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) – is also between two and three times their average revenue for the past five years.

The total demand raised by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) against state-owned gas transporter GAIL is Rs 1.72 lakh crore – nearly four times its net worth at Rs 44,092 crore, and nearly three times its average annual revenue over the past five years.

The AGR demanded from electricity transmission major Power Grid is nearly Rs 22,170 crore – nearly equivalent to its average annual revenue over the five years at Rs 25,513 crore and over three times the company's average net profit over the past five years.

In case of Oil India, on November 22, the DoT sent the oil exploration company a demand notice to pay Rs 40,108 crore as part of its pending AGR dues. The amount sought from the oil exploration company is nearly one-and-a-half times its net worth as of March 2019 and nearly 20 times its average net profit over the past five years.

This is despite companies such as GAIL, Oil India, and others having maintained that while most of the bandwidth bought by them in the mid-2000s is for captive use, "any additional bandwidth capacity available with them is leased out by them to telecom operators" for optimal use of the spectrum. The clarifications by these PSUs notwithstanding, DoT officials are of the view that they have to pay the AGR dues as they failed to "live off the unit using the spectrum" into a separate unit, as per the SC's directions in 2011.

The high pending payout amounts against all licences, DoT officials further explained, is on account of compounding of dues which include principal amount payable, interest on pending AGR dues, the penalty levied due to faulty self-assessment by companies, and the interest on penalties.

In its October 24, 2019 judgment, the SC upheld the

The SC directive to the telecom sector with respect to the AGR dues pales in comparison to the payout confronting the non-telcos, which face the prospect of shelling out over twice the amount that telcos are required to pay

DoT's definition of AGR and said since the licences had agreed to the migration packages, they were liable to pay the dues, the penalty on dues, and the interest on penalty due to delay in payments.

Since 2011, when the case first came to the apex court, the central government has maintained that since all the license holders had "unconditionally accepted the migration package and having taken the benefit of the same are bound by the terms and conditions of the license agreement and cannot be permitted to resile from the same".

"The 2011 Supreme Court judgment clearly mentions that if they wanted to avoid the burden, they should have hived off those units into a separate unit and maintained separate accounts," a senior DoT official said.

Non-telecom PSUs, which now face the burden of shelling out the amounts had, however remained conspicuous by their absence during which the SC heard the arguments for and against upholding the DoT's AGR definition. These PSUs started mounting their defenses nearly three months after the October 24 SC judgment, and only to contest the notices sent to them by DoT asking them to pay their AGR dues.

The first to move the apex court with a modification plea in November was GAIL, which had received the demand notice of Rs 1.72 lakh crore from the DoT. GAIL was followed by others including Oil India, DMRC, Power Grid and others. GAIL, DMRC and Oil India did not respond to queries by *The Indian Express* on why the companies took nearly three months to challenge the SC ruling on AGR.

Incidentally, GAIL and Oil India, alongside PGCIL and others, approached the apex court on January 24 seeking an early hearing in their modification plea exactly a day after Oil Minister Dharmendra Pradhan had said that DoT seeking AGR dues from non-telecom PSUs was a result of a "communication gap" and that these firms did not owe any such amounts.

INDEX CLOSES AT 40,789.38 ON STRONG INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Sensex rallies 917 pts on global cues; back at pre-Budget level

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 4

STOCK MARKETS on Tuesday bounced back to the pre-Budget level after crude oil prices fell to a 13-month low on Monday as the coronavirus outbreak curtailed Chinese demand and the global markets recovered even as India's manufacturing activity showed signs of comeback.

Despite concerns over fiscal slippage and rising coronavirus fears, the Sensex soared 917.07 points, or 2.30 per cent, to 40,789.38, while NSE benchmark Nifty50 gained 271.75 points, or 2.32 per cent, to 11,979.65 on strong institutional support. With this, the key indices have now recouped the losses suffered on the Budget say. The Sensex had plunged 988 points on Saturday after the budget announcement, but recovered by 136 points on Monday amid heavy buying by domestic institutions.

Further, latest data points show that the economy is showing signs of a revival with India's manufacturing sector activity climbing to a near eight-year high in January, driven by sharp rise in new business orders amid a rebound in demand conditions, leading to a rise in production and hiring activity.

Analysts said the rally in global markets boosted Indian markets, prompting investors to step in with buy orders.

Shanghai Composite ended up 1.3 per cent on Tuesday and the Shenzhen Component Index closed 3.2 per cent higher.

Monday marked that index's biggest single-day percentage drop since 2007. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index rose 1.2 per

EXPLAINED

Street mood turns positive on strong macro data

LATEST DATA show that the economy is showing signs of a revival with India's PMI manufacturing index climbing to a near eight-year high in January, driven by a sharp rise in new business orders, amid a rebound in demand conditions, leading to a rise in production and hiring activity.

Further, steps to contain the deadly coronavirus and any significant drop in global crude oil prices will improve investor sentiment.

in January, its highest level in just under eight years

The rupee, on the other hand, appreciated by 11 paise to close at 71.27 against the US dollar, tracking heavy buying in domestic equities and easing crude prices. The Reserve Bank of India's monetary policy outcome could be the next trigger for the rupee as its comments on inflation and growth forecast will be followed closely by the investors.

Analysts said the rally in global markets boosted Indian markets, prompting investors to step in with buy orders. Shanghai Composite ended up 1.3 per cent on Tuesday and the Shenzhen Component Index closed 3.2 per cent higher. Monday marked that index's biggest single-day percentage drop since 2007. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index rose 1.2 per

cent, while South Korea's Kospi rose 1.8 per cent. Japan's Nikkei 225 edged up 0.5 per cent. Stock exchanges in Europe, too, opened on a positive note.

"Steps to contain the deadly coronavirus and a significant drop in global crude oil prices in recent days helped improve investor sentiment," said an analyst.

The market is keenly awaiting the RBI monetary policy and quarterly results of the remaining companies, he said.

S Ranganathan, head of research at LKP Securities, said, "A global rally in equities post a correction due to the coronavirus had positive rub off in India as well today with the BSE Sensex gaining more than 900 points with all sectoral indices ending in green. With the budget fully digested, the drop in oil prices is a big positive for India and with expectations of

MSCI flows we witnessed short covering and buying in heavy weights".

However, foreign investors were sellers since February 1 and pulled out stocks worth Rs 2,525 crore in three sessions. "The recovery was amply supported by domestic institutions which went on a buying spree," said veteran BSE brokers Pawan Dharnidharka.

Vinod Nair, head of research, Geojit Financial Services, said, "Markets witnessed a V shape recovery post the overreaction on the budget day, as the expectation was too high. These are typical tendency of the market to over and under estimate given its volatile trading pattern. Markets are focusing on the earnings growth and global trend, Q3 has provided a positive trend to earnings while global market is positive."

As the Budget failed to provide any short-term relief, the market experienced a massive carnage. "This was a knee jerk reaction but as investors realized that the budget will aid in the long-term growth of the economy, the market picked up. With the budget overhang gone, investors are breathing a sigh of relief and are back to make fresh calls. Additionally, January auto sales numbers were comparatively decent and with no other negative news, the Indian bourses saw a sudden rally today," said Umesh Mehta, head of research, Samco Securities.



Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman at a BJP parliamentary party meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. Renuka Puri

FM to Corporate India: 'Expect you to be equally the engine to pull economy forward'

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

URGING THE industry to be equal partners in pushing growth engine of the country, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Tuesday said only government spending cannot push India's growth story and the industry needs to come out of its self-doubt and hesitation mode.

"...the approach has been we shall spend on asset creation and it is the cascading effect of this spend which is going to help the industry. So, we expect you to be equally the engine to pull the economy forward. I don't think in today's conditions, it can be just the government spending which can pull this economy towards that growth which all of us want. I strongly believe industry today will have to come out of that hesitation, which you held and rightly in your mind, but I think it's time now to come out of the hesitation. I called it self-doubt sometimes back. That hesitation is something which I want the industry to come out of," Sitharaman said at a post-Budget interaction held by CII.

The Finance Minister further said that the government has done whatever little it could do and it's not closing the doors and is ready to do even more. "But I want it to be a meaningful intervention from the government rather than rush to do something which may not be necessary at all for the government. From our side we have definitely done like cutting down on the rates, removing MAT and post that now taking the burden of DDT. So I think it is now time for all of us to pull our weight along, make sure that the economy has support of each one of us, where each one will have to become the engine for pulling this economy

up. After all, the spirit of enterprise is yours, we are here to facilitate," she said. On the Budget announcement to impose a health cess of 5 per cent over and above the customs duty, and whether it's a protectionist move, Sitharaman said if there are medical devices being made in India, there shouldn't be a flood of imports and the additional import and the revenue generated will be directed towards medical infrastructure creation in the aspirational districts where there are not enough hospitals that could be empanelled under Ayushman Bharat. She said she would be meeting stakeholders in three metros beginning February 7, adding: "This group will be coming with me in the next few days to at least three cities – Mumbai, Chennai and Kolkata – in India, to interact with industry, economists, trade bodies, traders, farmers and farmers' group".

With respect to fiscal deficit, she said the situation right now is in contrast to what had happened in response to the 2008-09 economic crisis since the government has only used the escape clause of the FRBM Act. "I am clearly indicating that I am going to clearly lay a glide path so that treatment to the economy which is now so demanded and justifiably demanded will be given clear monitoring. We are not going to leave it unendingly as though there's never going to be an end and the treatment has to continue forever. If the economy shows clear improvement, we shall focus our attention to something else. That's the difference between 2009 treatment and now. And because it was left without an end, the splurging continued. And between 2014 to 2019, we had to sort that mess out which resulted in the twin balance sheet problem," she said.

FDI at \$34.90 billion till Nov of FY20

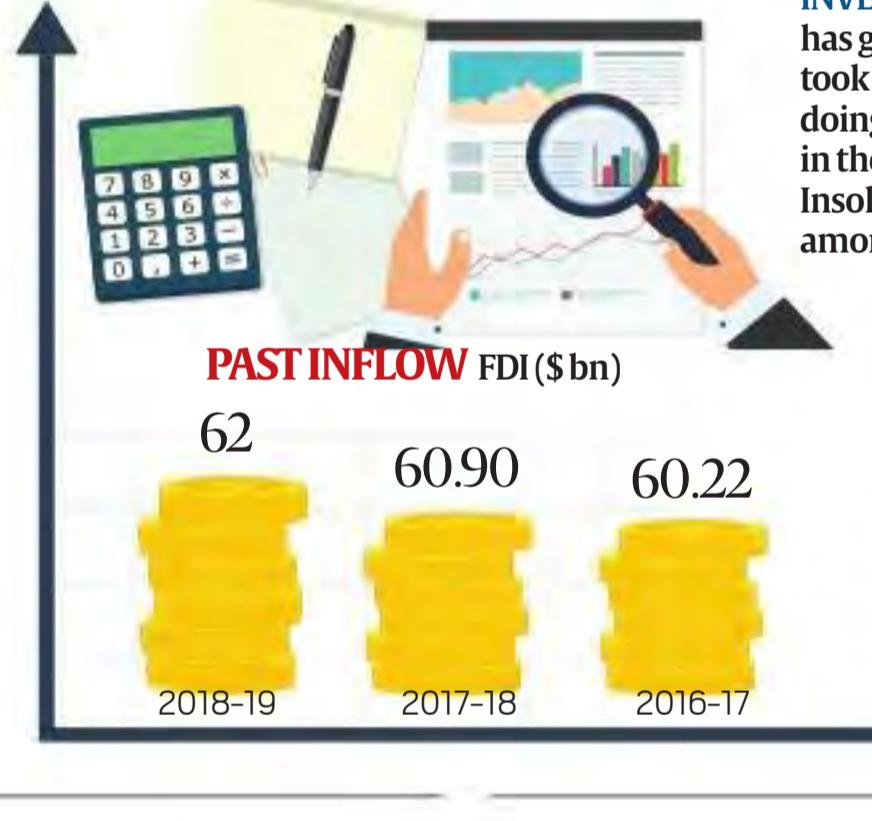
Foreign direct investment (FDI) in India has been increasing on an annual basis and was at \$34.90 billion till November of this fiscal, Minister of State for Finance Anurag Thakur informed Parliament on Tuesday

2.37% of GDP

Despite a global contraction in FDI inflows, FDI into India have improved over the past decade to \$62 billion, which accounts for 2.37 percent of GDP in 2018-19 fiscal

9TH

As per the World Investment Report (WIR), 2019, India rose from twenty fifth position in 2018 and featured at ninth place with FDI contribution of 3.23 per cent, he added



INVESTOR CONFIDENCE
has gone up after the government took measures to improve ease of doing business, comprehensive reforms in the FDI policy and introduction of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 among others, he said.

GOVT MEASURES TO BE A BIG BOOST

The success of various initiatives is reflected in the increased inflow of FDI and increase in Gross Fixed Capital formation, he said, adding several measures taken by the government will further boost FDI in all sectors

Source: PTI

Feel this is a fair deal: CBDT chief on direct tax amnesty scheme

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE CENTRAL Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) Chairman, PC Mody, on Tuesday said the direct tax dispute resolution scheme offers a fair deal to taxpayers to settle pending tax disputes. Under the scheme if a taxpayer is not able to pay within the March 31 deadline, he gets a further time till June 30, but in that case he would have to pay 10 per cent more on the tax, Mody said.

"I feel this is a fair deal and I would urge people to rethink about the pending issues, and

come forward and avail of the scheme," Mody said speaking at an Assocham post-Budget interaction here. After a dispute resolution scheme for indirect taxes, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman Saturday announced a direct tax amnesty scheme called "Vivad Se Vishwas" in the Budget 2020-21 with a nearly 60-day window to clear all pending dues without paying interest and penalty. Through the new scheme, the government aims to resolve disputes with taxpayers in nearly 4,83,000 direct tax cases pending at various legal and quasi-legal bodies.

Under the scheme, any taxpayer currently in dispute with the government over the pending dues will be allowed to pay just the principal amount. There will

"Time has come for a relook and revisit of the entire system, and I think the younger people and people who have not got used to the deductions and exemptions will find it attractive to go for the lower rate"

PC MODY

CBDT CHAIRMAN

be a complete waiver of interest and penalty, provided the taxpayer pays such amount by March 31 and the scheme would remain open till June 30. In the budget for last fiscal, Sitharaman had announced the legacy dispute resolution scheme for indirect tax disputes, to "allow quick closure" of the litigation pertaining to the pre Goods and Services Tax regime. Under the indirect tax amnesty scheme, nearly 73 per cent of the total eligible taxpayers had committed to pay tax dues of Rs 30,627 crore under the scheme.

On the new tax structure which provides taxpayers an option of lower T-Tate by giving up certain

exemptions and deductions, Mody said the intention behind this was to make the tax system simple.

"All this while, we have been used to incentives in the form of exemptions and deductions. We are consciously trying to move away from all that only to make the tax structure simple, as straight as possible so that the taxpayer feels comfortable complying with it," Mody said.

"Time has come for a relook and revisit of the entire system, and I think the younger people and people who have not got used to the deductions and exemptions will find it attractive to go for the lower rate," he added.

With 20% intraday jump, Tesla shares march toward \$1K

REUTERS
TOKYO, FEBRUARY 4

SHARES OF Tesla Inc surged 20 per cent on Tuesday to hit \$940, extending a stunning rally that has more than doubled the company's market value since the start of the year as more investors bet on Chief Executive Elon Musk's vision. The latest surge was partly fuelled by Panasonic Corp saying on Monday its automotive battery venture with Tesla was in the black for the first time.

"Investors are now starting to believe that Tesla can make mass-volume electric vehicles, and automakers, battery makers and suppliers can make money from EVs," said Cho Hyun-yul, analyst at Samsung Securities.

Some analysts have attributed the rally to short covering as well. Short interest in Tesla stood at 13.8 per cent as of January 30, according to Refinitiv data.

Shares of heavily shorted companies can at times get pushed higher as traders rush to buy stock to cover their short bets, triggering what is known as a "short squeeze". Tesla's surge on Tuesday valued the company at nearly \$170 billion. Tesla last week reported a second consecutive quarterly profit.

It reported revenue of \$24.6 billion in 2019.

COMPANY SAYS ITS CLOUD COMPUTING SERVICES TOOK IN \$2.6 BN IN REVENUE LAST QUARTER</

India's growth projections ambitious, says Moody's

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

MOODY'S INVESTORS Service on Tuesday said economic growth projections made by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget for 2020-21 appear ambitious given the structural and cyclical challenges facing the Indian economy.

The Budget expects nominal GDP growth of 10 per cent in 2020-21, followed by 12.6 per cent and 12.8 per cent in FY2022 and 2023. But, Moody's saw GDP growth rising to around 8.7 per cent in the next financial year beginning April 1 from about 7.5 per cent in the current fiscal.

Stating that growth outlook will remain weak, it has put real GDP growth during the current fiscal ending March 31 at 4.9 per cent, slightly below the government's forecast of 5 per cent.

"Growth has remained relatively weak as a prolonged deleveraging cycle and ongoing stress among non-banking financial institutions (NBFI), which has constrained the financial system's overall provision of credit, weigh on consumption and investment," it said.

Ads claiming to make you fair, prevent ageing may soon be punishable

PRABHARAGHAVAN
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

COMPANIES ADVERTISING medicines and products purported to make a person fairer, improve their height and memory or cure issues like hair loss or greying and premature ageing, among several others, may soon attract more stringent fines and jail time.

The new draft of the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) (Amendment) Bill, 2020, proposes a fine of up to Rs 10 lakh and up to two years' imprisonment in cases of a first-time offence. In the case of a subsequent conviction, imprisonment may extend to five years and the fine, up to Rs 50 lakh.

The previous version of this Act, dated 1954, had kept penalties for a first-time conviction at up to six months, with or without a fine, and imprisonment of up to one year for a second time conviction. The amendments also propose to expand the definition of an advertisement to "any audio or visual publicity, representation, endorsement or pronouncement made by means of light, sound, smoke, gas, print, electronic media, internet or website and in-

Health Ministry has sought comments on a proposal to make punishment for 'objectionable' ads more stringent

cludes any notice, circular, label, wrapper, invoice, banner, poster or such other documents."

The Act prohibits persons from taking "any part" in the publication of ads referring to any drug in terms which suggest or are "calculated to lead to" the use of that drug for uses like inducing miscarriages or preventing pregnancies, among others. The amended Act also prohibits advertisements that purport the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment or prevention of "any" of the 78 diseases, disorders or conditions it has specified, including AIDS, bronchial asthma, certain types of cancers, change of the foetal sex and sexual impotence, premature ejaculation and spermatorrhoea. The previous Act listed 54 such diseases, disorders and conditions. The Health Ministry has sought suggestions, comments or objections to these amendments within 45 days.

Coronavirus shadow on Auto Expo: Chinese executives to stay away from exhibit areas

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

INDUSTRY BODY SIAM on Tuesday said all Chinese companies participating at India's flagship automobile show Auto Expo have confirmed that their exhibit areas would be manned by their Indian employees in the wake of coronavirus outbreak.

The biennial automobile show kicks off on Wednesday with media presentations, and will be officially inaugurated on Thursday. The expo will be open to public from February 7-12.

In a statement, Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) President Rajan Wadhra said, "None of these stalls would be manned by anybody who has come to India recently from China."

He further said, "As all arrivals from China have now been stopped, there will be no visitors/delegations from China at the Motor Show 2020."

India on Sunday announced temporary suspension of e-visa facility for Chinese travellers and foreigners residing in the neighbouring country and issued a fresh advisory saying anyone with travel history to China since January 15 can be quarantined.

In addition, auto component makers body ACMA said Chinese participants at the components

SIAM on Tuesday said all Chinese companies participating at the expo have confirmed that their exhibit area would be manned by their Indian staff

show of Auto Expo are unable to travel to India due to the outbreak of coronavirus in China, even as around 30 companies from there have confirmed that their stand would be managed by their Indian counterparts in their absence.

All Chinese companies participating at the Auto Expo – The Motor Show 2020 have confirmed that their exhibit area would be manned by their Indian employees/representatives," Wadhra said.

He further said despite no coronavirus threat directly at Auto Expo, the organisers are taking measures to make people aware of symptoms and prevention actions.

Chinese firms led by the likes of Great Wall Motor, First Automotive Works (FAW) and electric bus and battery maker BYD have booked around 20 per cent of the total space of around 40,000 square metres at the expo.

'NBFCs' wholesale book under severe stress'

Crisil has warned of potentially high stress in non-banking lenders' wholesale book well above the reported bad loan numbers by March, indicating rising risks to their retail book

3.3% The reported NPAs in the realty segment is estimated to have risen to 3.3 per cent as of September 2019, from 1.8 per cent as of March 2019. About 40 per cent of the book, including lease rental discounting, was still under moratorium as of September 2019

REASONS

■ Financial flexibility of many underlying operating companies in this space and realtors have been impacted due to the overall slowdown

■ A major chunk of the loan book is under moratorium, which means NPAs could jump when loans come out of it

IL&FS' COLLAPSE

Almost all NBFCs have been under severe liquidity stress since the fall of industry major IL&FS in September 2018

THE SPIKE in bad loans is being driven by the realty books, which has almost trebled as of the September 2019 quarter to 10%

OUTLOOK

■ It is not the traditional segments-retail books where the material concerns lie. It is the wholesale loan book where more significant slippages are expected to manifest as portfolios come out of moratorium

■ The crisis in the wholesale books will be led more by real estate and structured credit, which comprise only 16 per cent of the total assets of NBFCs at Rs 3.8 lakh crore as of March 2019

RETAIL LOAN BOOK UNDER PRESSURE

The "slowdown hasn't spared retail loans either as non-performing assets, measured as 90+ days past due for NBFCs are expected to continue to rise by another 30 to 150 bps by March 2020, depending on the asset class. This is on the back of 20 to 150 bps increase seen in the first half of fiscal 2020"

Source: Crisil/PTI

Insurance on bank deposits raised to ₹5L from Tuesday

New Delhi: Insurance cover on bank deposits has been increased to Rs 5 lakh from Rs 1 lakh effective Tuesday, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said in a statement.

The cover is provided by the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the RBL.

This, the RBI said, has been done with a view to providing a greater measure of protection to depositors. On Saturday, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had made the announcement regarding increasing insurance cover to Rs 5 lakh in her Budget speech.

"Certainly, I can say that the economy remains robust and more than meets the requirement of investment grade and above," he said. Asked if he is apprehensive about rating downgrade following relaxation in the fiscal deficit target, he said, "No, not at all. Since I see the numbers much more closely, I am strongly confident of the inherent robustness of the economy. It is far too robust than our numbers reflect."

This is the economy that has

'FinMin to assuage concerns of rating agencies; economy remains robust'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

THE FINANCE Ministry has said it will try to assuage concerns of rating agencies on opting for higher deficit and other Budget numbers while stressing that fundamentals of the economy are strong.

Economic Affairs Secretary Atanu Chakraborty said the Indian economy remains robust and more than meets the requirement of investment grade and above.

"Certainly, I can say that the economy remains robust and more than meets the requirement of investment grade and above," he said. Asked if he is apprehensive about rating downgrade following relaxation in the fiscal deficit target, he said, "No, not at all. Since I see the numbers much more closely, I am strongly confident of the inherent robustness of the economy. It is far too robust than our numbers reflect."

This is the economy that has

Q3: ARPU AT ₹135 ON TARIFF HIKE IN DECEMBER

Bharti Airtel loss at ₹1,035 cr

Exceptional charge of ₹1,050 cr, mainly on account of interest on provision of licence fee and spectrum usage charges recorded in Sept 2019 quarter

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

BHARTI AIRTEL'S consolidated net loss during the October-December quarter stood at Rs 1,035 crore. The net loss during the preceding quarter was the highest in its history at Rs 23,045 crore on the back of provisions for the licence fee and spectrum usage charge based on the definition of the Supreme Court of what constitutes adjusted gross revenue.

Net loss of Rs 1,035 crore was on the back of an exceptional charge of Rs 1,050 crore which comprises a charge on account of interest on the provision of licence fee and spectrum usage charges recorded in the quarter ended September 2019 of Rs 1,048.1 crore.

The noteworthy point is the sequential jump of 5.3 per cent in average revenue per user (Arpu) at Rs 135. This is largely on the back of tariff hike the company effected during December 2019, the full impact of which would accrue during

CONSOLIDATED REVENUE AT ₹21,947 CRORE

■ Consolidated revenue during the quarter at Rs 21,947 crore was up 3.86 per cent sequentially, while Ebitda at Rs 9,350 crore was up 4.6 per cent

■ Margin expanded 30 bps on a sequential basis to 42.6 per cent driven by the December tariff hikes

the January-March quarter. The Arpu was higher than competitor Reliance Jio whose Arpu during the same quarter was at Rs 128.

"While tariff revision undertaken in December 2019 is a welcome step towards repairing the financial health of industry, we believe tariffs must go up further for enabling the industry to invest in emerging technologies," said Gopal Vittal, MD and CEO, Bharti Airtel (India and South Asia).

Consolidated revenue during the quarter at Rs 21,947 crore

strengthen its balance sheet. Pursuant to the infusion of fresh equity and long-term financing via convertible bonds subsequent to the reporting period ended December 31, 2019, and available liquidity/facilities with the Group, the management has concluded that the previously reported material uncertainty on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern no longer exists," Bharti Airtel said in a statement.

During the quarter, the company's India mobile services revenues grew 1.7 per cent compared to the preceding quarter at Rs 11,165 crore. India business revenue grew 2.83 per cent quarter-on-quarter at Rs 15,797 crore.

Apart from Arpu, on other key operating metrics also Bharti performed well during the quarter. Its total voice traffic on the network increased 5.9 per cent sequentially at 758,897 million minutes. Minutes of usage per month, per user increased 5.8 per cent to 898 minutes. This is higher than Jio's 760 minutes during the same quarter. FE

NII AT ₹4,355.05 CR IN Q3

PNB posts ₹492-cr loss as provisions swell

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 4

(₹ cr) Q3FY19 Q3FY20 ▲ Chg (%)
Provisions 2,566 4,445 73

Net profit/loss 247 -492

Source: Company data

to harmonise provisioning done by banks.

Net interest income of the bank rose marginally by 1.5 per cent y-o-y to Rs 4,355.05 crore in the December quarter. Domestic net interest margin fell by 28 basis points (bps) sequentially to 2.36 per cent. Non-interest income increased 32.2 per cent y-o-y at Rs 2,404.8 crore. The bank recovered Rs 1,194 crore in written-off accounts during the quarter.

Provisions were high on account of divergence in asset classification and harmonisation among banks. "The reason for provision of Rs 4,445 crore is the divergence declared by RBI of Rs 2,200 crore, (for which) we have done the provision. Related to the harmonisation of provisioning among three banks, we have done the provision of around Rs 1,500 crore," MD & CEO CH SS Mallikarjun Rao told a press conference.

FE had in December reported that the central bank was looking

at the net profit of Rs 246.51 crore in the comparable quarter last year. The provisions on account of non-performing assets (NPA) for the December quarter stood at Rs 4,445.36 crore, compared with Rs 2,565.77 crore a year ago.

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Total deposits for the December quarter grew 8.9 per cent y-o-y to Rs 7,08 lakh crore, of which domestic deposits stood at Rs 6.89 lakh crore.

Current-account-savings-account deposits, which accounts for 43.74 per cent of domestic deposits, grew 10.2 per cent y-o-y to Rs 3,01 lakh crore. FE

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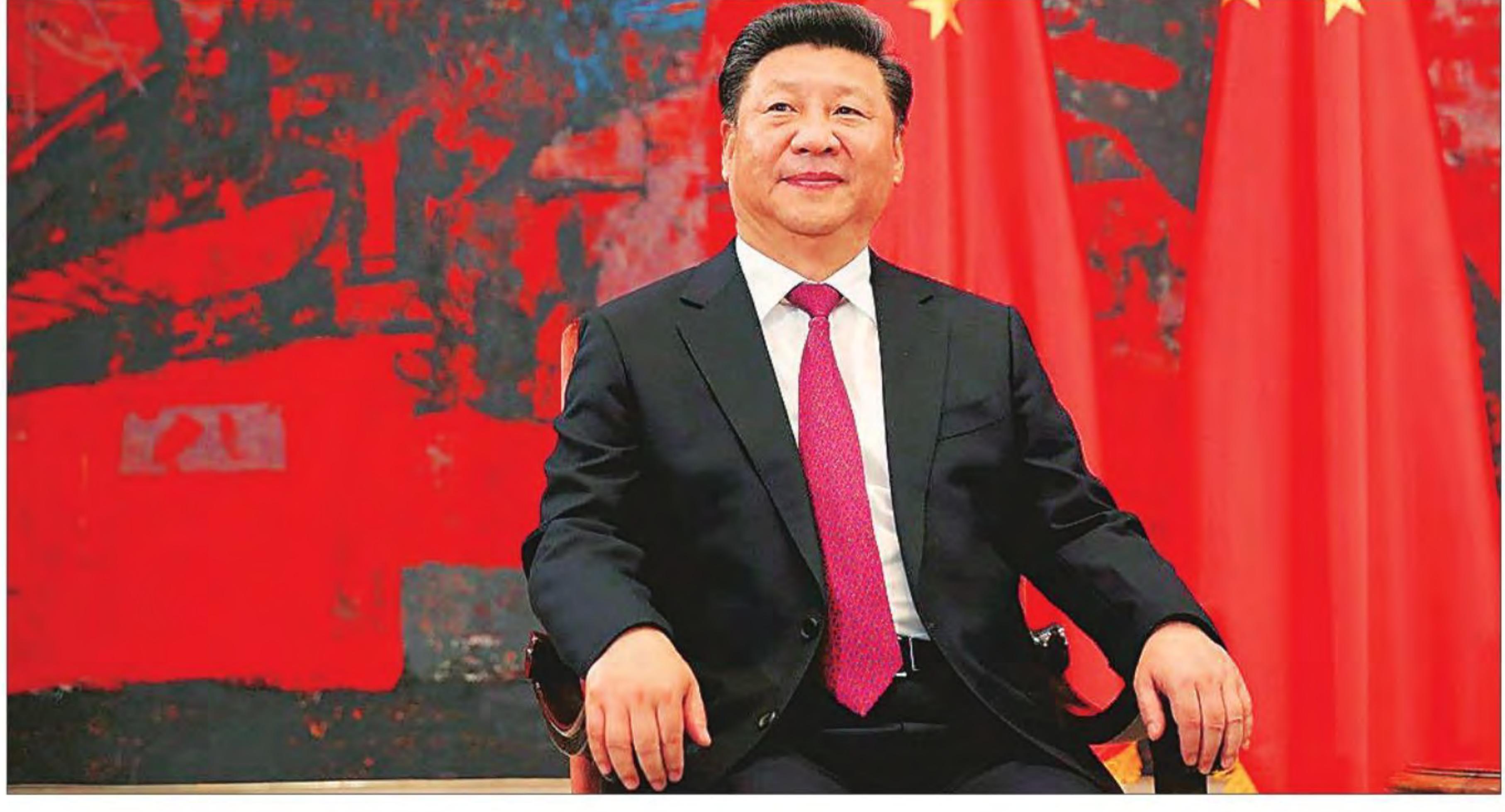
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CHAGUAN

The politics of pandemics

Xi Jinping wants to be both feared and loved by China's people



Every day, state media credit Xi Jinping with personally guiding China to ever-greater prosperity, modernity and global clout. *Reuters*

IF CENSORS in Communist-led regimes are good for anything, it is spurring creativity. With a new coronavirus stalking China, netizens have been heaping praise on "Chernobyl", an American-made television drama about the Soviet Union's worst nuclear disaster. Their aim is to sneak discussion of the outbreak onto China's tightly policed internet. In less hectic times censors would swiftly stamp out such impertinence. For the parallels with the reactor explosion in 1986, and the official cover-up that followed, are painful for China's Communist Party bosses, whose system of government was cribbed from Soviet designs. But pointed comparisons keep popping up on China's social media. One urges Chinese viewers to learn from "Chernobyl" that a free flow of information offers more security than aircraft-carriers, Moon landings and other signs of superpower might. Another contrasts a soothing interview granted to state television by the governor of Hubei, the province where the epidemic began, with a speech by the hero of "Chernobyl", a Soviet scientist, about the costs of official lies.

Parallels are likely to continue in the real world. Back in the 1980s, Kremlin

leaders scapegoated local officials and engineers, coolly blaming them for the disaster and denying a wider cover-up. In recent days, Chinese state media have dropped heavy hints that the mayor of Wuhan, the industrial city where the virus was first detected, will lose his job. When Li Keqiang, China's prime minister, was appointed to oversee virus-control work, cynics suggested that his role was to take the fall should the outbreak spark a pandemic—in effect, to protect President Xi Jinping.

As it happens, censors should be relieved that Chinese netizens are focusing on the ills of Soviet collective leadership. It would be more dangerous if online critics were to start exploring a historical parallel closer to home, namely the way that in Chinese history natural disasters undermined an emperor's claim to rule. More than one dynasty fell after catastrophes signalled that Heaven had withdrawn its favour. It was not only seen as ineptitude when a ruler was unable to protect his people from floods or famine—or, as in the second century during the Han dynasty, from repeated outbreaks of disease (probably smallpox and measles) that killed perhaps a third of the population. Such bungling showed that

the emperor lacked virtue and deserved to be overthrown, people said.

Modern-day Chinese may not believe that a rampaging coronavirus signals divine anger with Mr Xi. Still, the party chief has a great deal at stake in this crisis, precisely because large claims are made about his wisdom, which is now taught in schools and studied by party members as Xi Jinping Thought. Every day, state media credit Mr Xi with personally guiding China to ever-greater prosperity, modernity and global clout. No leader has amassed such individual power since Mao Zedong, or been so lavishly praised. Chinese intellectuals accuse Mr Xi of claiming the mantle of an emperor. They point to Mr Xi's speeches praising traditional Chinese culture, and lauding codes of morality and deference

to imperial authority, as handed down by Confucius and other sages.

The result is an awkward hybrid. On the one hand, officials make claims about the efficiency of collective party leadership that would be familiar to any Soviet apparatchik. To them, populist insurgencies sweeping the West are proof that multiparty elections, a free press and other forms of democratic accountability are sources of chaos and dysfunction. As they describe it, China's system is a meritocracy that selects highly competent experts to run the country, with a track record of correcting their own mistakes. Yet at the same time, the party's propagandists lay claim to a very different form of legitimacy, involving the people's love for and trust in one man, Mr Xi. So sweeping is their praise of him that it

leaves essentially no room for the idea that Mr Xi could make a serious mistake.

This convoluted claim to legitimacy can be heard in the context of the current coronavirus outbreak, as leaders insist that their system of government is ideally suited to tackling the disease. On January 28th Chinese leaders hosted the head of the World Health Organisation (WHO), a UN body that played an invaluable role in demanding transparency in 2003 after China's initial cover-up of the extent of an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), which led to many avoidable deaths. Wang Yi, the foreign minister, assured the WHO's boss, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, that China would be more resolute this time thanks to "the strong leadership of the party Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping as the core and the strong advantages of the socialist system", as well as its experience of SARS.

Unaccountable, even to Heaven

It is too simplistic to assume that all bad things that happen in China must harm Mr Xi. The virus outbreak could end swiftly, amid worldwide praise for the

bravery of China's doctors and nurses, the self-discipline of the public and the resolve of Chinese leaders, albeit after a slow start. If the crisis does not end well, scapegoats will be found, and underlings punished. That alone would not have to shake Mr Xi's authority, which can always be shored up with repression, still greater ideological discipline and nationalist propaganda. But a botched response to the virus would lay bare tensions inherent in the party's hybrid claims to legitimacy. Mr Xi's China is two things at once. It is a secretive, technico-authoritarian one-party state, ruled by grey men in unaccountable councils and secretive committees. It also claims to be a nation-sized family headed by a patriarch of unique wisdom and virtue, in a secular, 21st-century version of the mandate of Heaven. If forced to choose between those competing models, bet on cold, bureaucratic control to win out. For Mr Xi and his team learned their own lesson from the Soviet Union's fall, five years after the Chernobyl disaster. Expressions of public love for Mr Xi, the "People's Leader", are all very well. But keeping power is what counts.

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IRAQI POLITICS

Sadder and Sadr

Muqtada al-Sadr, Iraq's most volatile cleric, stakes his claim to power

THE HENCHMEN of Muqtada al-Sadr, Iraq's most capricious—and perhaps most powerful—cleric, not only participated in the anti-government protests that have rocked Baghdad and other cities for months, they defended them. Others who joined the demonstrations stood a good chance of being frisked by Mr Sadr's men, who looked out for troublemakers. Together with the mainly Shia crowds they demanded a new political system, one not dominated by a small elite, and a fairer distribution of the country's oil wealth.

But on January 25th Mr Sadr ordered his followers to withdraw, blaming the hostile behaviour of the protesters towards his men. A crackdown on the protesters who remained appeared imminent. Over 600 people have been killed since the unrest began in October. As expected, the police cleared the streets in some cities. The protesters, though, have not gone home. There are more now.

With Mr Sadr throwing his weight behind the establishment, Iraq's battle lines are clearly defined. The politicians and clerics who champion Shia political Islam, and who are backed by Iran, face protesters calling for a secular, non-sectarian government free of Iranian influence. The result is stalemate and stagnation. Adel Abdul-Mahdi, the prime minister, resigned last year, but he carries on as a caretaker (unconstitutionally, say some).

Ever since America toppled the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein in 2003, the cleric has sought power. He styles himself a local hero who endured American sanctions and Saddam, while other elites lived the high life abroad. That has given him clout on the street, which he occasionally cashes in for a seat at the table

The ruling parties have mulled many possible successors. Each name elicits guffaws from the crowds in the street.

Mr Sadr hopes to fill the post with a loyalist. Ever since America toppled the dictatorship of Saddam Hussein in 2003, the cleric has sought power. He styles himself a local hero who endured American sanctions and Saddam, while other elites lived the high life abroad. That has given him clout on the street, which he occasionally cashes in for a seat at the table. In 2016 he led a large rabble that occupied parliament. Last year the political bloc

that he leads, called Sairoun, won the most seats in parliamentary elections.

Mr Sadr is also eyeing two other important positions. The commander of the Popular Mobilisation Force (PMF), Abu Mahdi al-Mohandis, was killed in the American drone strike on Qassem Suleimani, Iran's top commander, on January 3rd. The PMF co-ordinates Iraq's powerful Shia armed groups; Mr Sadr would like to control it. He has been meeting PMF commanders. Last month he made a show of his strength by recalling his Mahdi Army.

But the post he most covets is head of Iraq's clergy. Currently Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, a respected 89-year-old, sits atop the clerical establishment. Mr Sadr, half his age, has had a go at him before. The Mahdi Army seized the holy city of Najaf, the seat of Mr Sistani, in 2004—until America's army forced it out. Today followers of Mr Sadr predict he could mount a theological challenge. Though just a *hujjat al-islam*, or junior cleric, he has spent over a decade in the cloisters of Qom, Iran's clerical capital, improving his scholastic credentials and ties with Iran's rulers.

Mr Sadr may hope to become Iraq's version of a supreme leader. But it will be a bumpy ride to the top. Some in his ranks see the betrayal of the protesters. Sheikh Asaad al-Nasari, a close associate, declared he



Muqtada al-Sadr ordered his followers to withdraw, blaming the hostile behaviour of the protesters towards his men. *Reuters*

will remain on the street. The protesters, for their part, detect disarray in the governing ranks. They sound emboldened. "Without Suleimani the militias are sheep without a shepherd," says Faiq al-Sheikh Ali, a liberal parliamentarian who claims to be the protesters' choice for prime minister. He wants American forces to stay in Iraq to keep Iran out.

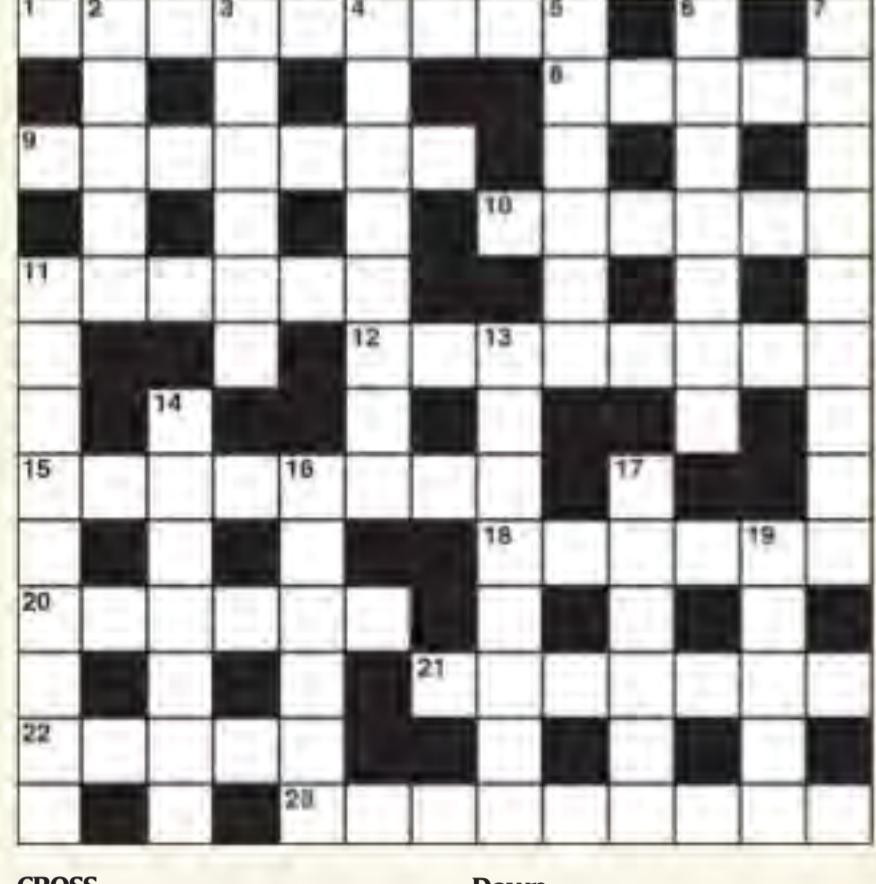
Both sides hope to exhaust the other, but

they might end up exhausting ordinary Iraqis. Business is grinding to a halt. With oil prices low, the budget deficit is widening. Fears are mounting about the government's ability to pay salaries. Meanwhile, President Donald Trump threatens to seize Iraq's foreign assets and impose sanctions if the government persists with its request for American troops to leave. He has allowed Iraq to bypass American

sanctions on Iran and buy its gas and electricity. The waiver expires in mid-February. It might not be renewed, particularly if militias continue to lob rockets at America's embassy in Baghdad, as they did on January 26th. Iraq is desperate for some calm. But continued unrest is more likely.

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CROSSWORD 4033



CROSS	Down
1 Permissive play? (9)	2 A noted drama (5)
8 Foals are frisky after a tonic, perhaps (3-2)	3 It may be said to be highly complimentary (6)
9 Is splitting the country but facing the facts (7)	4 Drink from the basin (8)
10 Left in carriage and pair (6)	5 Company guard (6)
11 A space not occupied by anything impressive (6)	6 How time flies! (7)
12 They secure temporary accommodation (4,4)	7 Not a standing invitation (4,4)
15 Sent about ten cents as a deposit (8)	11 He takes note (9)
18 Communicate devilish skill (6)	13 If done it might be reported (8)
20 One old disoriented fool (6)	14 Meets Sid and Joan when out (7)
21 Freedom a driver needs (7)	16 Lost form in the heat (6)
22 Irene upsets him (5)	17 The charm of a quiet carillon (6)
23 I landed awkwardly on a plant (9)	19 Vicar doesn't finish the right-hand page (5)

Solutions Crossword 4032 Across: 1 Slicker, 4 Cakes, 7 Leek, 8 Evensong, 10 Opening bid, 12 Engage, 13 Merged, 15 Vindicates, 18 Rehearse, 19 Otto, 20 Wince, 21 Nomadic. Down: 1 Salvo, 2 Icebergs, 3 Ravage, 4 Confidence, 5 Knot, 6 Sighted, 9 Pilgrimage, 11 Agitated, 12 Eyebrow, 14 Edison, 16 Stoic, 17 When.

JUMBLE WORDS

Below are four jumbled words. Solve the jumbles to make proper words and move them to the respective squares below. Select the letters in the shaded squares and jumble them to get the answer for the given quiz.

Quiz: **GOLF** = **spoiled** - Mark Twain (4,4)

GLWAO

EELRDG

EEOPO

HISYKW

Answers: **AGLOW** = **LOPEE-LEBGER-WHISKY**

OVER THE HEDGE by Michael Fry & T Lewis



CALVIN & HOBBS by Bill Watterson



MARVIN by Tom Armstrong



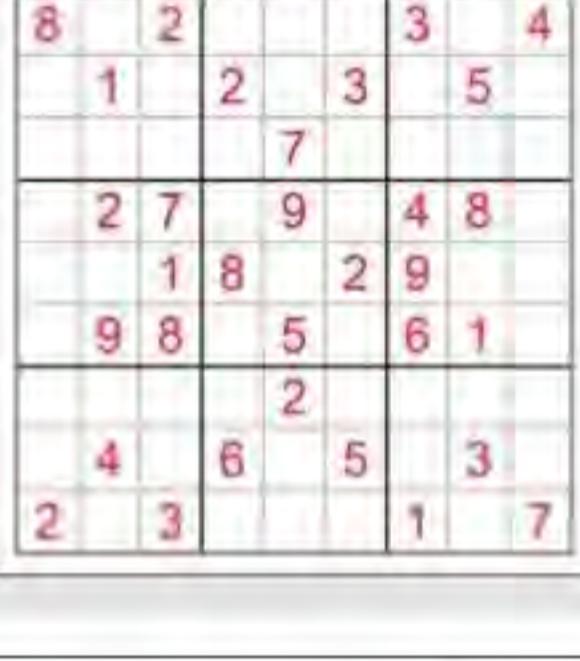
Difficulty Level 2s

Instructions

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from 1 to 9 must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Difficulty Level

1s = Very easy; 2s = Easy; 3s = Medium; 4s = Hard; 5s = Very Hard; 6s = Genius



SOLUTION SUDOKU 4110



SALUTE THE SOLDIER

GRENADIER CHAMPA LAL GEEL, SENA MEDAL (28 AUG 1995 - 05 FEB 1998)

ON THIS DAY WE SALUTE AND PAY HOMAGE TO THIS GALLANT SOLDIER WHO LAID DOWN HIS LIFE FOR THE NATION WHILE FIGHTING AGAINST TERRORISTS IN KASHMIR IN THE FINEST TRADITIONS OF THE INDIAN ARMY AND MADE THE 'TRIUMPHANT THIRD' PROUD.

MAY YOUR SOUL ATTAIN MOKSHA.

COMMANDING OFFICER AND ALL RANKS 3 GRENADIERS



HARYANA IRRIGATION & WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT CORRIGENDUM NOTICE

The E-tender were invited vide this Office NIT No. 237-57/2-A Dated 07.01.2020 to be opened on 07.02.2020 is hereby postponed on Technical/Administrative ground and the same will be opened on 17.02.2020 at 3.00 P.M. The tender can be downloaded from 07.02.2020 to 15.02.2020 and physical documents to be submitted upto 2.00 hrs. on 17.02.2020. All other terms and conditions will remain unchanged.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Water Services Division,
Bahadurgarh.

80155/HRY

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LTD. (A State Government Undertaking) "CORRIGENDUM-II"

The date of sale, submission and opening of tender for "Construction of 2 Nos. 132 KV Double Circuit Transmission Line Bays for Power Evacuation of 25 MW, KU Hydro Power Pvt. Ltd. HEP, Lambaibad at 132 KV Switchyard of 66 MW Bassi Power House, Jogiandernagar District-Mandi (HP)". From experienced erection contractors who regularly execute the jobs/work covered under the Scope of Supply and services in Tender Specification No. HPSEBL/SE(E)/D/UHL-III/132 KV SYARD BASSI/2019-3, which was scheduled to be opened on 03.02.2020, is hereby further **EXTENDED** and shall be as per the following schedule.

- Request for online tender documents From 12.12.2019 (11.00 Hrs.) to 24.02.2020 (17.00 Hrs.)
- Issue of online tender documents (bid sheets) From 16.12.2019 (11.00 Hrs.) to 24.02.2020 (17.00 Hrs.)
- Date of pre bid meeting 26.02.2020 (11.00 Hrs.)
- Last date of submission of online tender & Bid security alongwith hard copy: Up to 02.03.2020 (17.00 Hrs.)
- Date of Opening of Tender 03.03.2020 (11.00 Hrs.)
- Total Estimated cost Rs. 2.087 crore
- Cost of Tender Specification Document Rs. 5000/-+GST@12% =Rs. 5600/-
- Earnest Money Deposit Rs. 5,21,700/-

The detailed tender notification and above corrigendum-II can be viewed/downloaded free of cost from website www.tenderwizard.com/HPSEB and tender document can be had after making prescribed payment. Any clarification/ amendment shall be uploaded on the above web site. For other details on e-tendering, please contact on **Mobile Nos. :- 82619 22200, 70181 88656, 82610 33300 and 96250 33300**. All other terms and conditions will remain same.

-sd/-
Superintending Engineer,
Electrical (Design), UHL-III, HPSEB Ltd.,
Sundernagar, Distt. Mandi (HP)-175019

Address of the Office & Website particulars: Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering), Western Railway, Kathi Compound, Rajkot-360 001. Website: www.wires.gov.in

Like us on [Facebook](https://facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: [@twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

Date: 27-02-2020. 15.00 Hrs.

0.07.01.2020 Date & Time of Opening of Tender: 27-02-2020. 15.00 Hrs.

Short E-Tender Notice for Annual Rate Contract

Director, IISER Mohali invites Sealed Bids in TWO BID SYSTEM for the Annual Rate Contract for Refilling of various Analytical Gases invited from reputed agencies/contractor along with EMD money by DD/Banker Cheque/FDR/Bank guarantee for Rs. 50,00/- and tender fee of Rs. 50/- (through DD non-refundable) in favour of the Registrar, IISER Mohali, payable at Mohali/Chandigarh so as to reach us latest by 20th February 2020 before 11 am and will be opened on the same day at 3pm For complete details, please visit the website www.iisermohali.ac.in. Assistant Registrar, (S&P)

WESTERN RAILWAY - RAJKOT DIVISION

VARIOUS ENGINEERING WORKS

E-Tender Notice No. 40 Of 2019-20 Date : 29-01-2020

Sr. e-Tender No. Name of work Approximate NIT Cost (₹) EMD Cost (₹)

01 DRM-RJT-19-E-55R2 Rajkot Division - Certification of land plans and recasting 54,75,525.80 1,09,500.00

missing land plans of Jamnagar District under Assistant Divisional Engineer (East) Jamnagar's Jurisdiction. Date & Time of Opening of Tender: 27-02-2020. 15.00 Hrs.

02 DRM-RJT-19-E-92 Executive of various track works under Divisional Engineer (West) 36,48,604.65 73,000.00

Rajkot's Jurisdiction. Date & Time of Opening of Tender: 27-02-2020, 15.00 Hrs.

03 DRM-RJT-19-E-93 Outsourcing of track maintenance activities under Senior Section 69,62,081.48 1,39,300.00

Engineer (P.Way) Morhi's section. Date & Time of Opening of Tender: 27-02-2020, 15.00 Hrs.

Address of the Office & Website particulars: Divisional Railway Manager (Engineering), Western Railway, Kathi Compound, Rajkot-360 001. Website: www.wires.gov.in

Like us on [Facebook](https://facebook.com/WesternRly) Follow us on: [@twitter.com/WesternRly](https://twitter.com/WesternRly)

Date: 29-01-2020

0.07.01.2020 Date & Time of Opening of Tender: 31.01.2020

E-Tender Notice No. 61/PWSSD/Bathinda Div. No. -2/2020/04 Date: 31.01.2020

On the behalf of Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board, Chandigarh, The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board Division-2, Bathinda invites online bids from eligible bidders for the project/work detailed in the following table. The bidder may submit bids for any of all the following Project/Works.

Sr. No. Name of Work Earnest Money (Rs. in lacs) Cost of document/ Tendering processing Fee (Rs.) Period of Completion Approx. value of the Project/ work (In lacs)

1. DNIIT for Operation and Maintenance of Sewage Treatment Plant of 7.5 MLD Capacity (MBBR Technology) at Rampura Phul for 36 Months Period 01.04.2020 to 31.03.2020. 1.60 Lacs 100/- + 5900/- 36 Months Lump Sum

Important Dates:-

1. Period of availability of tender online shall be : 01.02.2020 at 03.00 P.M.

2. Last date and time for online submission of bid shall be : 24.02.2020 at 03.00 P.M.

3. Date and time of opening of Technical bid : 25.02.2020 at 11.00 A.M.

* For terms and conditions refer to website: <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>.

Note: Corrigendum if any will be issued on website only.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Division-2, Bathinda.

D-8536/Pb.

Date: 01.02.2020

No. 407 Date: 31.01.2020

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD

E-Tender Notice No. 61/PWSSD/Bathinda Div. No. -2/2020/04 Date: 31.01.2020

On the behalf of Chief Executive Officer, Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board, Chandigarh, The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply & Sewerage Board Division-2, Bathinda invites online bids from eligible bidders for the project/work detailed in the following table. The bidder may submit bids for any of all the following Project/Works.

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Sd/- Executive Engineer, Pb. W/S & Sew. Division-2, Bathinda.

D-8536/Pb.

Date: 01.02.2020

No. 407 Date: 31.01.2020

PUNJAB WATER SUPPLY & SEWERAGE BOARD

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SNAP SHOTS



Vocalist Shubha Mudgal performing in Shaheen Bagh on Tuesday *Gajendra Yadav*



Web Debut

DEEPTI NAVAL will star with actor Mahesh Manjrekar in a new web series titled *Pawan and Pooja*, to be directed by Shaad Ali, Siddharth P Malhotra and Ajay Bhayan. Naval and Manjrekar will play the lead in this relationship drama that explores the lives of three couples belonging to different generations – coincidentally, they are all named Pawan and Pooja. The show will also feature Sharman Joshi, Gul Panag, Taaruk Raina and Natasha Bharadwaj. Malhotra, director of *Hichki*, has conceptualised and created the series along with Ali and Bhayan. It will premiere on February 14 on MX Player.



Before and After

PHOTOGRAPHER G VENKET RAM has turned to celebrated 19th century artist Raja Ravi Varma for his 2020 calendar. The cover photograph for each month recreates a famous Ravi Varma work. The calendar features, among others, actors Shruti Haasan, Samantha Ruth Prabhu and Ramya Krishnan, and Bharatnatyam dancers Shobana and Priyadarshini Govind. The calendar is an initiative of Naam, a trust founded by Mani Ratnam's wife Suhasini Maniratnam. Haasan and Prabhu took to social media to share their calendar looks and juxtapose them with the original Ravi Varma artwork.



From Their Home

AUCTION HOUSE Christie's will bring under the hammer works from the collection of husband and wife duo Kito De Boer and Jane Gowers. To take place on March 18 in New York, the sale will be part of the "South Asian Modern + Contemporary Art" auction. Well known collectors of Indian art, the couple owns over 1,000 works, dating from the late 19th century to the present day, covering major art movements, particularly the Bengal school. The auction will see prominent works, including Akbar Padamsee's *Paysage Urbain*, Rameshwar Broota's *The Last Chapter* and Ganesh Pyne's *The Animal* (pictured).

Santa Under Threat

MARIANNE JEAN-BAPTISTE (pictured), known for her role in movies such as *Secrets & Lies* and *In Fabric*, has joined Mel Gibson for the upcoming film *Fatman*. The film is being directed by Ian and Eshom Nelms, who are also writing the script. The story follows Gibson, who is a rowdy and unorthodox Santa Claus and is a fighting a declining business. A 12-year-old puts out a hit on him after receiving a lump of coal in his stockings for Christmas. The film also stars Walton Goggins, who will play the hitman.



'I never force anything on my work'

Multimedia artist Marcel Dzama on the influence of cinema, animals in his art and why he put family and friends behind a mask

VANDANA KALRA

KNOWN FOR his intricate and surreal works, New York-based artist Marcel Dzama draws from varied influences, from Dadaism to childhood fantasies, folk traditions and the present times. The multimedia artist's works are in major collections – including Museum of Modern Art (New York), Tate Gallery (London), and Guggenheim Museum (New York) – and homes of actors like Brad Pitt and Jim Carrey. He was in Delhi at the recently-concluded India Art Fair (IAF) with a set of works inspired by Bollywood. Also attracting attention was a wall painted with swirling winds in blue and creatures that were part of Dzama's early works. Excerpts from an email interview with the artist:

Your recent show in Hong Kong referenced the country's horse racing culture. Tell us about that. Also, do you feel it is important to borrow local elements for an exhibition?

I had visited Hong Kong before my first show there, so I knew a little bit about the city and the culture. I also purchased a lot of older records of Chinese garage rock from the '60s, the titles of which I used for some of the works in the exhibition. I don't know if it's crucial to incorporate the culture of the city, but if it brings me inspiration, I like to use it. I never force anything on my work.

Your works at the IAF, which are made for India, feature Hindi cinema dancers and regional wildlife. Do you follow Bollywood?

Bollywood has endlessly inspired my films and drawings. In this series for India, I referenced some of the films I have seen

over the years, lobby cards I had purchased long ago and a book of Bollywood movie posters from the 1960s. I've always loved the choreography, costumes and music in those films. My favourite soundtracks are by artists like Mohammad Rafi and Kishore Kumar.

Being dyslexic, in school, you would sketch incessantly. Was art a means to express yourself?

I was drawing before I started school, and it was something I was drawn to (no pun intended). I think because I had dyslexia, I lost interest in school. I had no backup plan other than becoming an artist. I wrote poetry and still do, but drawing comes more naturally.

After you moved to New York in 2004, your work became more vibrant. What changed? In a 2008 diorama you had riflemen shooting characters that had populated your works – bats, birds and giant human heads – was that somewhat of a declaration?

Animals have been in my work from the very start. Growing up in Canada, I encountered animals almost everywhere. I viewed them as metaphors for body armour, inside which would be a small man or woman.

When I first moved to New York, I found that my drawings were getting more and more claustrophobic, and I wanted to put some order back into them. So I started putting the characters in dancing positions,

which led to my interest in ballet, which then led to my collaboration with the New York City Ballet. I spent half a year in Guadalajara (Mexico) working on ceramic dioramas, and one of them was based on a drawing that I made as a declaration of some



Armand Feffer
Artist Marcel Dzama at the India Art Fair (above); his works inspired by India

tended). I think because I had dyslexia, I lost interest in school. I had no backup plan other than becoming an artist. I wrote poetry and still do, but drawing comes more naturally.

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FROM STAGE TO THE SCREEN
Disney is bringing multiple award-winning musical *Hamilton* to the big screen. The deal, which was reportedly signed for 75 million dollars, will bring the musical to theatres in 2021. To be directed by Thomas Kail, it will feature the original cast.

I've always had the feeling that if you don't learn from the past then your future will be shallow

MARCEL DZAMA
ARTIST

kind of new, darker chapter. This work showed hunters shooting cartoon animal characters that used to appear in my (early) work in Winnipeg.

Masks have been omnipresent in your works since the beginning. How have they evolved?

I like the idea of the character showing what it represents with the mask – yet, underneath, there is still a mystery. In my first few films, the characters were masked because the actors were my parents or my siblings, and they would smile and laugh when I filmed them, so I made masks out of papier-mâché for them to wear to ensure they would not break the character.

How important are collaborations for you as an artist? You have had several – with Arcade Fire, Kim Gordon, Spike Jonze, Raymond Pettibon, and the New York City Ballet.

I collaborated with the New York City Ballet in 2016, which was a dream come true. I always wanted to design costumes and work on stage design for a ballet production. Doing the artist series at the same time made it even more exciting, because I was able to make a book of all the costume designs, display the originals costume drawings and some other ballet inspired drawings and dioramas of possible alternative stage designs. On top of that, I also had a collaborative show with Raymond Pettibon at David Zwirner in New York, and made a short film – all within two months.

Tell us about the influence of Dadaism and Marcel Duchamp on your work.

I was asked by the Toronto Film Festival to make a short film in honour of David Cronenberg. When making the film, I decided to also honour some of the artists I loved, so I recreated artworks by Duchamp, Picabia, Beuys and Goya. I based the whole story on a love affair that Duchamp had with Maria Martins.

How important is it for an artist to comment on politics? You did a series after Trump was elected.

I only get political after I've listened to the news and need to exorcise it from my mind so that I can sleep at night. Goya's *Disasters of War* and writings of William Blake have influenced so many of my works. I've always had the feeling that if you don't learn from the past then your future will be shallow.

Stories of a Land

Writer-anthropologist Onaiza Drabu retells popular folk tales from Kashmir in her new book

SURBHIGUPTA

FOR MANY, the story of Himal and Nagrai is a memory of being tucked beside their grandmothers, taking in the warmth of the kangri on a cold, winter night, as it snowed outside. Soon, they are transported to another world where Saddaram, who lived in Shopian, longed for a child and feared the wrath of his displeased wife. Till one day, while resting near a naag, he bagged a serpent who turned into a beautiful boy, who was in fact Nagrai, the king of serpents. He grows up to fall in love with Himal, the daughter of king Balaveer.

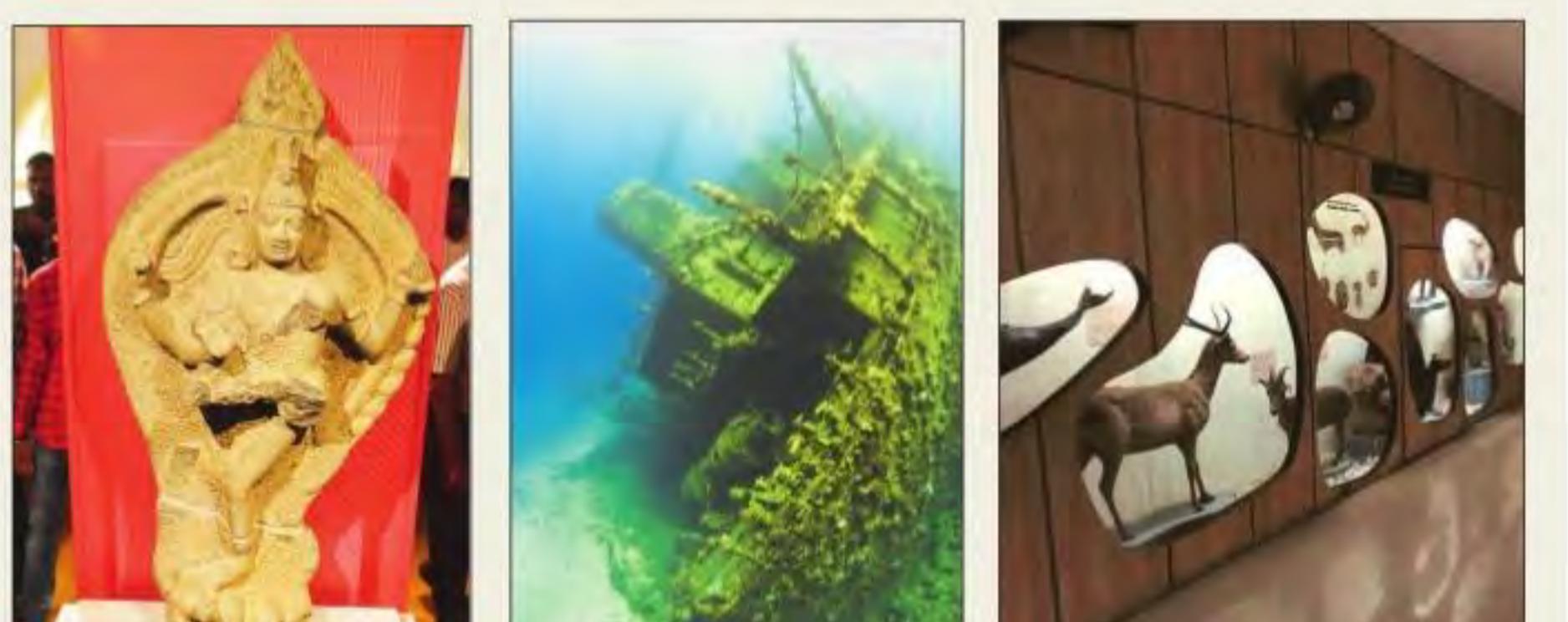
The story that is full of romance, drama, conspiracy and sacrifice, and has caught the imagination of generations in Kashmir, is being retold, alongside many other folk tales, by writer-anthropologist Onaiza Drabu, in the book *The Legend of Himal and Nagrai: Greatest Kashmiri Folk Tales (Speaking Tiger; Rs 350)*. "These stories have been a part of the nightlife in Kashmir, especially when the nights are long and cold. They are traditionally the oldest form of entertainment. I have many memories of them being told over and over again," says Drabu.

In the 29 stories that make the book, there is one of a shikaslad (pauper) on his way to wake up his luck, which is deep in slumber and lives in Kamini Zuh, a place of trials and tribulations; another one of Shishrum Nag and his daughter's broom, which turns everything golden, and the story of ishq between a shepherd girl and a wan mohniyu, a human-like creature with a thick layer of fur on his body, who has long been used to create fear among women. There are stories that explain many popular phrases and idioms in Kashmir, like *hapat yaraz*, which literally means a bear's friendship, and is used to describe a friend who does more harm than good, or *harmukh gosain*, the ascetic of Harmukh, which is invoked for some-

one who has terrible memory. "Kashmir is a culture that is full of stories. It has great storytellers, and the way they talk is full of metaphor, theatrics and exaggeration. The language is rich and full of visuals. I've always been interested in knowing the fantasy, the folklore, and what it is trying to tell us," says Drabu, who studied anthropology at University of Oxford, and runs an online newsletter called *Daak*, on South Asian literature and art. Her book, *Okus Bokus*, which released last year, familiarises children with different aspects of Kashmiri culture.

The folk tales in the book, also give an insight into the cultural potpourri that Kashmiri is, debunking the one-dimensional view that it is seen with nowadays. "There is so much mythology around Kashmir, it's very syncretic, with Sanskritic traditions and Persian *dashtans* that are enmeshed together, or tales from the *Panchatantra* told in a Kashmiri context. The folklore has legends from the Buddhist times, Hindu period, and the Persian and Afghan rules. So it was a larger element of nostalgia, of understanding the language better and seeing these different traditions alive that got me interested in folk tales," says Drabu. The collection also gains relevance as "it is a reminder of the magic that exists in Kashmir, its layered past and is also an exercise in documentation".

However, a lot gets lost in the process of translating these oral tales from Kosher into the written word in English. "I don't think much was found, except a hope for posterity. The only purpose English serves is that it gives the new generation of Kashmiris and a wider audience access to these stories. But a lot is lost in writing them down. There is a certain interaction that takes place between the teller and the audience, which cannot be replicated in writing down the tale," says Drabu, who has used many Kashmiri words and phrases to recreate how the stories would have sounded originally in Kosher.



(From left) An artefact that will be displayed at the Antiquities Museum; the Maritime Museum will exhibit objects rescued from shipwrecks; exhibits at the Museum of Natural History

Past Continuous

The year will see the inauguration of new museums across India

DIVYAA

IN HER Budget speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced a series of steps to set up and renovate museums across the country to promote tourism. As part of this, she announced an allocation of Rs 3,150 crore for the Maritime Museum coming up at Lothal in Gujarat. Also, it was announced that on-site museums would be developed at five archaeological sites – Rakhigarhi (Haryana), Hastinapur (Uttar Pradesh) Shivsagar (Assam), Dholavira (Gujarat) and Adichanallur (Tamil Nadu), besides setting up a tribal museum in Ranchi, Jharkhand. We look at some of the new museums that will open their doors to the public this year.

Antiquities Museum

PURANA QILA, DELHI

A new museum at the Purana Qila complex, where antiquities discovered from across the country during various excavations will be displayed, opens in April 2020. The facility will be set up in the arched cells that are currently under renovation, and will cost Rs 2 crore. An Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) offi-

cial said that over a thousand rare relics from the prehistoric period to the post-independence era, recovered from different sites, will be displayed at the museum. These include tools, pottery, terracotta items, semi-precious stones, sculptures and architectural fragments stored at the Central Antiquity Collection (CAC) section in Purana Qila. "There are over two lakh excavated antiquities in the CAC, which have never been seen by the public. Of these, we will display around 1,000 items at the new museum," says an ASI official.

Three galleries have been planned for the new museum: the first will include objects from the lower Paleolithic to Neolithic period; the second will have objects from the Harappan period till 1000 BC; and the third will include antiquities from the 6th century BC to the medieval era.

Museum of Natural History

BHAIRON MARG, DELHI

It was in 2016 that the National Museum of Natural History lost its address at Delhi's Tansen Marg to a blaze, which also destroyed many of its rare artefacts. The museum was established in 1972, and is known for its collection of

stuffed big cats and a fossil from a 160-million-year old sauropod dinosaur. Large collections of mammals and birds were lost, but some important exhibits on the first floor of the museum, which include the museum's most valuable specimens, were spared. A few months ago, the government awarded the Rs 500 crore project to NBCC (India) to rebuild the museum at a new address: opposite National Science Museum and Pragati Maidan and adjacent to Old Fort and National Zoo. The museum is slated to open later this year.

Maritime Museum

LOTHAL, GUJARAT

The Prime Minister had laid the foundation stone for the maritime museum at Lothal in March 2019. The project is being implemented by the Ministry of Shipping through its Sagarmala programme, with help from the ASI, Indian Navy and Gujarat government. India has partnered with Portugal for the project and the Portuguese Navy will provide assistance, having executed a similar project in Lisbon recently. Lothal had one of the oldest ports in India, dating back to the Bronze Age. The Museum will display salvaged material from shipwreck sites in the Indian Ocean waters. According to UNESCO, an estimated three million undiscovered shipwrecks are still lying on the ocean floor. Reportedly, many of the shipwrecks between 1824-1962 were in the Indian coastal waters. The museum is expected to have a soft launch by the end of 2020.

SCORECARD >
Ind U19 vs Pak U19

Semifinal | Potchefstroom | Toss: Pakistan

PAK U19 172 IN 43.1 OVS
H Ali c Bishnoi b Jaiswal 56 (77b, 9x4)
Md Huraira c Saxena b Mishra 4 (6b, 1x4)
F Munir c Ankolekar b Bishnoi 0 (16b)
R Nazir (c) t c Varma b Mishra 62 (102b 6x4)
Q Akram run out 9 (16b, 1x4)
Md Haris c Saxena b Ankolekar 21 (15b, 1x4, 1x6)
I Khan b K Tyagi 3 (9b)
A Afridi lbw b R Bishnoi 2 (3b)
T Hussain c Jurel, b Tyagi 2 (10b)
A Ali c Veer b Mishra 1 (6b)
Md Amir Khan not out 0
Extras: (lb 1nb, w10) 12
Fall of wickets: 1-9 (Mohammad Huraira, 1.6 ov), 2-34 (Fahad Munir, 8.5 ov), 3-96 (Haider Ali, 25.3 ov), 4-118 (Qasim Akram, 30.3 ov), 5-146 (Mohammad Haris, 34.4 ov), 6-156 (Irfan Khan, 37.2 ov), 7-163 (Abbas Afridi, 38.1 ov), 8-169 (Rohail Nazir, 41.4 ov), 9-172 (Tahir Hussain, 42.6 ov), 10-172 (Aamir Ali, 43.1 ov)

Bowling:
Kartik Tyagi 8-0-32-2
S Mishra 8.1-0-28-3
Ravi Bishnoi 10-0-46-2
Akash Singh 7-0-25-0
A Ankolekar 7-0-29-1
Y Jaiswal 3-0-11-1
IND U19 176/0 IN 35.2 OVS
Y Jaiswal not out 105 (113b, 8x4, 4x6)
D Saxena not out 59 (99b, 6x4)
Extras: (2lb, 10w) 12
Bowling:
T Hussain 6-1-17-0
Q Akram 8-0-37-0
Md Amir Khan 5-1-20-0
A Afridi 7-0-50-0
A Ali 5.2-0-38-0
Fahad Munir 4-0-12-0
Ind won by 10 wickets



Opener Divyaansh Saxena remained unbeaten on 59 off 99. ICC

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 4

IN LATE night conversations that the young centurion Yashasvi Jaiswal often had with his local coach Jwala Singh, the boy would pick his brains on what he needed to do differently and if he saw any technical flaws in his batting. Singh always offered diplomatically: "Just enjoy your game."

But deep down, Jwala wasn't too happy. Yashasvi was getting starts but not converting those into big runs. He had made it to the India U19 team on the back of a double hundred for Mumbai seniors in a List A tournament. But in the ongoing World Cup, twice in four innings he walked back after getting those familiar starts while two other times he remained unbeaten. Jwala insisted the world hadn't seen Yashasvi's real game yet.

On Tuesday, against Pakistan, Yashasvi batted with composure to make an unbeaten 105 off 113 balls. His opening partner Divyaansh Saxena (59 not out off 99) was solid at the other end. The opening stand was worth 176 and India won by 10 wickets in 43.1 overs. Jaiswal also made a crucial breakthrough with the ball when he dismissed Pakistan opener Haider Ali to break the third wicket partnership.

For a student who maintained a high standard for himself, a big hundred was needed to please his coach. When it comes against archrivals Pakistan in a knock-out match of a World Cup, it becomes even more special. "He (Yashasvi) got selected for the India U19 World Cup and asked me if I was happy. I said you are playing for India U19s for the past one year now, so there is no reason to get excited. Just be calm, U19 WC comes every two years and in those two years we see new talent come and go," Jwala said.

The seasoned coach has seen stars being made and broken from close quarters. In fact, he too had been a promising bowler who went to the MRF pace foundation in Chennai, but never reached the heights he aspired to.

In those conversations following the batting drills, Yashasvi always received a heavy dose of wisdom by the end of the day where Jwala threw some hard realities of life at him. Having come up the hard way, Yashasvi too understood the importance of long-term goals. It's here that Jwala saw merit in introducing Yashasvi to former India opener Wasim Jaffer, the marathon man of domestic cricket. Jaffer too advised Yashasvi that the key to bigger innings was to stay at the crease for long periods. "I told him exactly how many players went on to play for India and within that how many players lasted for 10 years. I told him those will be few in number. Playing for India for one or two matches has no meaning. He should be there for the long run," Jaffer recalls.

Jwala also felt that by now Yashasvi ought to have struck his own terror into the hearts of bowlers, like Sachin Tendulkar and Virat Kohli did. "Bowlers should fear bowling to you, *aisa batsman banna zaroori hai* (you should be such a batsman). It will happen, the process is on. I still feel people haven't seen his best," he points out.

For a boy who sold pani-puri at Azad Maidan and lived in tents, life has always thrown challenges at him but one thing which Yashasvi has maintained is his discipline and ethics towards the game. He was invited by his Dadar Union Club for a felicitation recently where he reached late as he had a session pending at the gym. On the day of the IPL auctions Yashasvi was batting in the nets. While boarding the flight to South Africa, Yashasvi Jaiswal had a request for his coach: "Don't come to South Africa or I will get nervous."

Singh knew where this anxiety stemmed from but his coach had his own plans. On the eve of the semi-finals, Jwala was in the stands. He would meet Yashasvi and then quietly fly back soon after.

What was going in your mind before the game?
 I wanted to keep myself calm and to follow process, which I have been following. When we got to know that we are playing Pakistan, I was telling myself 'bus acha karna hai'. Since past five to six days, I was only thinking of staying long at the crease. I had spoken to Wasim (Jaffer) bhai also, he said not to get carried away and live in the present.

How did you and team control the anticipation and excitement before the semi-final match?

Credit should go to the coach and support staff for this. Paras Mhambre sir ensured

Attaboy!

World Cup semi-final | Pakistan | Match-winning unbeaten hundred



Opener Yashasvi Jaiswal top scored with an unbeaten 105 as India cantered to a 10-wicket win over Pakistan to enter the U19 World Cup final. ICC

'I had this feeling that it would be my day'

DEVENDRA PANDEY
MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 4

OPENER YASHASWI Jaiswal's unbeaten hundred was a vital knock as the India Under-19 team beat Pakistan by 10 wickets in the semi-final of the World Cup. Jaiswal feels the job is not yet done with a final on Sunday looming, against either New Zealand or Bangladesh. Jaiswal spoke to *The Indian Express*. Excerpts:

What was going in your mind before the game?

I wanted to keep myself calm and to follow process, which I have been following. When we got to know that we are playing Pakistan, I was telling myself 'bus acha karna hai'. Since past five to six days, I was only thinking of staying long at the crease. I had spoken to Wasim (Jaffer) bhai also, he said not to get carried away and live in the present.

How did you and team control the anticipation and excitement before the semi-final match?

Credit should go to the coach and support staff for this. Paras Mhambre sir ensured

that everyone took this as any other game. We watched a short video from Rahul (Dravid) sir who motivated us and his words helped us a lot. He said, 'remember that cricket is played in those 22 yards. Just take it like any other game and keep our focus'.

The century against Pakistan must be satisfying?

Am happy but my job is not yet done. We have one more game to go. This was the first time I experienced what an India versus Pakistan game means. The atmosphere was amazing, people chanting and screaming 'India, India'. It was a totally different experience. Twice during the tournament I got out after being set, so I told myself that today I will play over by over. (Divyaansh) Saxena was batting well at other end and it helped ease the pressure off me.

How tough it is not to get carried away in such a high pressure game?

I had this feeling before the game that it would be my day. I had mentally prepared myself. That's what the process is, try to do same thing again and again. I played each ball on merit. I had spoken to coaches here along with captain Priyam Garg and Wasim (Jaffer)

bhai. They all said when I feel under pressure, just play out the next few overs. *Maiden jaye toh bhi chalega* (even if it is a maiden it is fine). Drink water, take singles. If you watched me batting, you will see that between 50 to 60 I took only singles. And the moment I felt *ab confidence aagaya hai* (I am confident now), I played my shots.

You also made an important breakthrough with the ball?

That's what my role has been. During the Sri Lanka game also, I got a wicket when things weren't going in our way. Today also, they were putting together a good partnership when I was asked to bowl.

What was running in your mind before the chase?

The pitch had dried up before the second innings. We had to ensure that we did not lose early wickets. Once we got a good start, we knew things will become easy as the pressure was on them.

You don't use social media. How tough is it to stay away?

I feel that it could be a distraction. So I stay away.



VVS LAXMAN

So wonderful to see the composure of young Yashaswi Jaiswal and the relentlessness of the bowlers to just not let the opposition get away. A very easy win for India and a 3rd Successive World Cup Final appearance. Best wishes to the boys for the big finals

MOHAMMAD KAIF

Five straight wins over Pakistan U19 since 2014! A 10-wicket win in the semis is some way to storm into the Finals!

IND VS NZ ODI SERIES

Prithvi eyes a new opening after going through many twists and turns

SHAMIK CHAKRABARTY

JANUARY 2

ABOUT A couple of months ago, as the Indian team had been preparing for an ODI against the West Indies at Vizag, Prithvi Shaw was called up to join the training session. The team management wanted to assess his fitness. Also present at the National Cricket Academy (NCA) that day was Jasprit Bumrah, returning post his injury rehab. While the fast bowler went full tilt at the nets, Shaw was having a fitness session with the Indian team conditioning coach Nick Webb.

The batsman didn't even have the team kit. In a printed shirt, he was the odd man out. And he appeared to be struggling a little, going for the high catches that tested his agility. Then, during Mumbai's Ranji Trophy match against Karnataka, he suffered a "rotator cuff and labrum injury" to his left shoulder and was ruled out of India A team's first two practice games in New Zealand. Things have changed quickly for the better for Shaw. On Wednesday at Hamilton, as India and New Zealand play the first ODI of a three-match series, Shaw is set to make his debut in the 50-over format.

Shikhar Dhawan's left shoulder injury was a reason why Shaw got into the ODI side. He edged Mayank Agarwal, who was part of

the squad during the home ODIs. During an informal conversation a few days ago, a selector had explained the thought process behind Shaw's inclusion. "He (Shaw) and Shubman Gill are the future of Indian batting. The talent they have. They have the ability to dominate bowling," he had said. The only concern was about Shaw's match fitness and once that was OK, the selection committee had no hesitation in picking the youngster, with an eye to the future.

Agarwal has now joined the squad as the injured Rohit Sharma's replacement and as Virat Kohli said at the pre-match press conference, he would be pairing up with Shaw at the top in the first ODI. Agarwal, too, is set to make his ODI debut.

As for Shaw, this could be a new beginning. Circa 2019 was the year of upheaval for the 20-year-old. He was handed a doping ban for "inadvertently" ingesting the banned Terbutaline, commonly found in cough syrups. By his own admission, Shaw took the cough syrup while playing for Mumbai in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy in February last year. He had just recovered from a foot injury that ruled him out of the Australia tour a few months previously. Agarwal replaced him and took to Test opening like a duck to water.

Shaw somehow divides opinion. Nobody questions his talent. But a section in the



Prithvi Shaw last played for India in October 2018. File

Indian cricket fraternity questions his discipline. After he received a doping ban, a former BCCI official lambasted Shaw for not following the protocol. "Why on earth an India cricketer would take an over-the-counter cough syrup? He should have the list of all banned substances," the official had said.

Then, on his comeback in this season's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, Shaw imitated Kohli's celebration - bat is doing the talking - after reaching his half-century against Assam at Wankhede. A lot of fans didn't take kindly to it and social media trolling followed. Bottom line, however, was that he finished

the tournament with 240 runs from five matches with a strike-rate of 170. Then, in the Ranji Trophy, he hammered 332 runs in three matches including a century and a half-century. Chief selector MSK Prasad was thoroughly impressed. Shaw's return to the Indian team fold looked just a matter of time. The youngster earned it by dint of his performance in domestic cricket.

A 100-ball 150 for India A against New Zealand XI in a List A fixture at Lincoln last month was a carry forward of his good form. Replacing Rohit is a hard act, but Shaw's ability makes him an impact player at the top, someone who can take the game away from the opposition.

And he is not new to opening in high-intensity white-ball cricket. Shaw's IPL career strike-rate is 141-plus.

On the match eve, Kohli confirmed that Shaw and Agarwal would open the innings, with KL Rahul coming down the order. "Prithvi is definitely going to start and whoever the replacement is, we will ask for an opener (which has already been decided with Agarwal replacing Rohit). KL will bat in the middle-order. We want him to get accustomed to that role and keep as well," the skipper said.

With Shikhar Dhawan suffering from inconsistency of late, this is a big opportunity for Shaw to make an impact. "Rohit's injury

is unfortunate but someone who steps in, it's a chance for that guy to experience this kind of pressure and expectation, and for us to see who are the guys that cope with it. So someone who gets the chance, it will be an opportunity for the team to see how he copes with that pressure. I see it that way. I see it as an opportunity for others rather than looking at it negatively," Kohli said.

Maybe, Shaw can take a leaf out of Ben Stokes's book – the way the England all-rounder has redeemed himself after the af-ray incident.

"Under the unfortunate circumstances (injury in Australia) he (Shaw) had to go out of the Indian team. He played his first Test against the West Indies like a seasoned pro, the way he got his hundred. Subsequently he had a series of issues which didn't help him. Otherwise, he would have been experienced by another 10-12 Tests by now and maybe would have already made his ODI debut," the outgoing chief selector, Prasad, told The Indian Express.

He hoped for a brighter future. "Now that he got over all that, I'm sure the tough time has helped him understand himself as a person and what is needed at this level. This should be the beginning of his emergence as a player at this level across formats."

Live: 1st ODI, 7:30 am, on Star Sports

Mirabai Chanu lifts 203kg to better her own national record

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
KOLKATA, FEBRUARY 4

INDIA'S ONLY Olympic medal hopeful weightlifter, Mirabai Chanu's main aim is to stay injury-free in the build-up to the final round of the qualifications in April where she targets to lift a personal best of 210 kilograms.

Having recovered fully from a back injury that forced her out of the 2018 Asian Games, the 2017 world champion has progressed gradually from a total of 199kg to 201kg, and in the Senior Nationals here on Tuesday, she improved it to 203kg, thereby bettering her own national record.

"I tried 207kg today but lost balance but I'm confident that I will be able to lift 210kg at the Asian Championships," Mirabai said after winning the women's 49kg category gold. "But the most important thing is to stay free from injury which is very common in our sport. So, I got to be watchful. It's also about staying relaxed when there's no training. I love to listen to music to relax. I also take sauna and steam bath three times a week for better performance," she said.

Mirabai is also keeping a close watch on her diet so that she keeps her weight in check ahead of the Asian Championships in Nuru-Sultan from April 16 to 25, the final Olympic qualification. "I eat boiled food and more of red meat. I stay away from oil and spicy food. Pressure is always there when whole of India is expecting a medal. But I am happy that I have the chance to do something for India, so I will put my best foot forward," Mirabai, who had a disappointing campaign at the 2016 Rio Olympics, said.

She is currently ranked fourth in the world behind the Chinese duo of Huihua Jiang (212kg) and Zhibei Hou (211kg), and Korean Ri Song Gum (209kg). A total of 13 lifters will make the cut for Tokyo Olympics in every category after the Kazakhstan event. Training at NIS Patiala national camp meant that Mirabai has not gone home to Manipur for long and she misses her favourite dish Iromba, a curry made with fermented fish as an ingredient. "I miss it but at the end of the day we are here to achieve something for our country and that's the priority. I will visit my home once I achieve something big," Mirabai signed off.

National coach Vijay Sharma said his ward is on the right track for Tokyo Olympics. "We missed two lifts, if she had cleared one (either in snatch or clean and jerk), we could have achieved the target here. Our target here was between 203-205kg," Sharma said. "She was not at her peak from. It's the pre-competition period. Our target was this only. We wanted to give a check and I think she is on right track."

Mirabai's next target is to achieve 210kg in the Asian Championships. "We have planned our journey as per our limits. We don't want to rush things, keeping injuries in mind. But I'm strongly hopeful we can make it," Sharma said.

On the Chinese challenge, he said: "They have been doing 210kg-plus for last four years. But we have gradually improved from 194kg and reached 203kg today."

The Chinese may have achieved 211kg-212kg in other competitions but at Olympic level, I think a gold will come in range of 207kg-210kg," he said, strongly hoping that Mirabai will win India's first gold in weightlifting since Karnam Malleswari's bronze in Sydney 2000. "It's about making some minor adjustments and focus strongly on the fitness and power-strengthening ahead of the qualifying meet," Sharma said.

I tried 207kg today but lost balance but I'm confident that I will be able to lift 210kg at the Asian Championships. But the most important thing is to stay free from injury which is very common in our sport."

MIRABAI CHANU

AFTER SETTING NATIONAL RECORD

RANJI TROPHY 2019-20



PLAY STOPPED BECAUSE OF PASSING CARS

Cars drive past the sight screen at Chandigarh's Mahajan Cricket Ground during a Ranji Trophy match on Tuesday. Nitin Sharma

Day of the comeback boys

Himmat, Bidhuri strike half-centuries to rescue Delhi from a precarious position against Gujarat

VISHAL MENON
NEW DELHI, FEBRUARY 4

WHEN KUNWAR Bidhuri scored the match-winning knock of 104 for Delhi at the CK Nayudu Trophy fixture against Gujarat in Surat, little did he realise that it would translate into a Ranji Trophy call-up. The following day, he and his team-mates had just landed in Ranchi for their upcoming duel against Jharkhand, when Bidhuri received a phone call from a selector, who asked him to return to Delhi that evening.

Three days later, he made his first-class debut against Punjab at the Feroz Shah Kotla. The all-rounder gave a good account of himself on his debut, top-scoring with 27, even as others struggled against Siddharth Kaul's superlative exhibition of swing and seam bowling. Delhi lost that match by 10 wickets, but the 23-year-old was dropped after just a solitary appearance. After a fleeting stint with Ranji Trophy, he was drafted back into the U-23 squad for the rest of the season.

Like Bhiduri, Himmat Singh is another player who has made sporadic appearances for the Delhi senior team. Back in 2012, Himmat was billed as the next big thing in junior cricket, scorching his way through junior age-group cricket and peeling off humongous three-digit scores with ridiculous ease. A product of Tarak Sinha's academy, he had graduated to the senior squad in 2017.

Since then, he has featured in 12 first-class matches, continuously shuttled between Ranji Trophy and the U-23 level. More than his poor batting form, it's the finicky nature of Delhi's selectors that's the reason for his travails. Bolstered by his 145 in his recent U-23 match against Madhya Pradesh at the St. Stephen's Ground, Himmat was once again summoned to beef up the senior team's fragile middle-order.

On Tuesday, Himmat and Bidhuri struck splendid half-centuries that rescued their team from a precarious position on Day 1 of their penultimate league encounter against Gujarat at the Feroz Shah Kotla. Delhi were in strife at 136/5, having lost opener Hiten Dalal for a well compiled 69 and the rest of their top order just after the lunch interval. This was when Himmat was joined by Bidhuri.

The duo's 134-run fifth wicket alliance took Delhi to a respectable score of 270/6, when stumps were drawn on the opening day. Bhiduri was unbeaten on 78, while

Himmat was dismissed for 56 on the final delivery of the day to Axar Patel. Their stellar acts of resurrection provided a throw-back to their U-19 days, when they had forged a similar stand against Gujarat five seasons ago. "I was looking to get a single in that final over, but that was the first delivery (from Axar) that drifted away and instead of just nudging it, I managed to nick it to the first slip," Himmat said at the end of the day's play.

Despite the rare moment of indiscretion, he displayed tremendous fortitude in this knock that was punctuated with eight boundaries and a six. On the other hand, it was Bidhuri's maiden half-century in his sixth match. During their stint, the Kotla track was bereft of the early morning moisture, making it conducive for stroke-play.

Bidhuri was the aggressor, and the manner in which he took on Gujarat's spinners over the mid-wicket region was an absolute treat to watch.

"The pitch was hardly doing anything when we were batting. Their fast bowlers were not getting any movement off the surface and our plan was to bat out the day. But sadly, that did not happen," Himmat explained, before adding that making the constant shifts from junior cricket to Ranji Trophy was an arduous task. "Obviously, it's never easy when you're making the shift from U-23 level to first-class cricket. But I cannot complain its part of the game."

Himmat may not be complaining, but the lack of sustained run at Ranji Trophy had had an effect on his not-so-flattering stats. These are still early days in his career, but in 12 first-class games, he has managed to accrue 545 runs with six half-centuries to his name, a highest score of 99 and an average of just a shade less than 33.

In his limited game time so far, Himmat has mostly batted at No.6, a position that usually sees him batting with the tail. The tempo of the game changes when you're batting with the tail. Your chances of getting boundaries are negated as opposition captain stations fielders on the boundary. So singles becomes your only scoring option," he opined. Himmat will be ruing the fact that he has missed out on a possible three-figure score in his comeback game. Nevertheless, he will be buoyed by the manner in which he and his good friend have bailed Delhi out of trouble.

BRIEF SCORES: Delhi 1st Innings 270/6 (Kunwar Bidhuri 78, Hiten Dalal 69, Himmat Singh 56) vs Gujarat.



Delhi found the going tough on Day 1 against Gujarat. Praveen Khanna

RANJI ROUNDUP

Sarfraz, Mulani rescue Mumbai

Continuing his rich vein of form, Sarfraz Khan smashed a counter-attacking 78 against Saurashtra in Rajkot.

Brief scores: Mumbai 249/8 (S Khan 78, S Mulani 59*; D Jadeja 5/90)

Punjab nose ahead after Kaul's hat-trick

Siddharth Kaul ran through Andhra's line-up, bagging five wickets including a hat-trick.

Brief scores: Andhra Pradesh 97 (B Sumanth 22; Kaul 5-24) & 31-4 (Pranith 13; Vinay 3-11) vs Punjab 108 (Mandeep Singh 23; Ashish 5-50, Shaob 5-46)

Haryana take the lead against Assam

Haryana have taken a 101-run lead after bundling out its opponents for 97.

Brief scores: Assam 97 in 37 overs (Rajakuddin Ahmed 35 not out; Tinu Kundu 5/35, Harshal Patel 4/32) vs Haryana 198 for 9 in 46.3 overs (R P Sharma 59; Ranjeet Mali 3/34, Mukhtar Hussain 3/38)

Openers put Tamil Nadu in command

Openers Abhinav Mukund (73 not out) and L Suryaprakash (61 not out) took Tamil Nadu to 135/0 at stumps on Day 1.

Brief scores: Baroda 174 (A Sheth 53; M. Mohammed 7/68) lead TN 135/0 (A Mukund 73*, L. Suryaprakash 61*) by 39 runs

Samarth roars back into form for Karnataka

R. Samarth, who has been struggling for runs this season, struck an unbeaten 105 against Madhya Pradesh in Shivamogga.

Brief scores: Karnataka 233/3 (R Samarth 105, Siddharth KV 62 not out)

Mukesh Kumar runs through Rajasthan

Bengal pacer Mukesh Kumar picked up six wickets to restrict Rajasthan to a fairly middling score of 241. In reply Bengal finished the day's play at 41/1.

Brief scores: Rajasthan 241 (M. Lomror 52, Mukesh Kumar 6/62) vs Bengal 41/1

At Chandigarh's 'MCG', vehicles drive past sightscreen

NITIN SHARMA
CHANDIGARH, FEBRUARY 4

FLOUTING RULES and match referee Rajib Debbarma's guidelines, two cars entered the Mahajan Cricket Ground, venue of the Ranji Trophy plate group match between Chandigarh and Mizoram, during play on Tuesday. With two overs remaining on Day 1 of the tie, and with Chandigarh batsmen Uday Kaul and Raman Bishnoi in the middle, the two cars crossed the kutch road between the boundary rope and sight screen, with off-field ball boys seated roughly six feet away.

The guards at the entry gate initially stopped the two cars. However, they were given approval by officials of the Union Territory Cricket Association (UTCA), the governing body of Chandigarh cricket. The cars eventually drove towards the parking area behind the pavilion.

Chandigarh's previous four home matches were all played at the Sector 16 Stadium, including Chandigarh's last week tie against Puducherry. However, this game was shifted to the Mahajan ground to give groundsmen time to maintain the outfield and tend to the pitches at the Sector 16 Stadium.

In the past, the Mahajan Cricket Ground has hosted two Col CK Nayudu Trophy games and one Vijay Merchant Trophy. However, the venue, which is owned by former UTCA secretary Subhash Mahajan, is hosting its maiden first-class match.

The ground is situated inside a farm house and is not too far from former athlete Milkha Singh's place. A narrow road separates the boundary ropes and sight screen, and it is the only way to reach the parking spot.

UTCA secretary Deepak Khanna said the vehicles 'must be carrying' important match-related material. "I am not aware of the matter yet. It's a new ground and the vehicles must be carrying some important material required during the conduct of the match. Since the mud track is the only way to parking and dressing room, the cars must have crossed the road to reach the parking," said Khanna told *The Indian Express*. "Sector 16 Stadium has hosted four matches and the ground and pitches need time to be in right shape after conducting the matches. Hence it was decided to conduct the match at Mahajan Cricket ground," said Khanna.

Chandigarh were 193 for 3 at end of day's play, with Bishnoi batting on 73 runs and Kaul on 62 after Mizoram were bundled out for 109 runs in 41.2 overs.

BRIEF SCORES: Mizoram : First Innings : 109 all out in 41.2 overs (Taruwar Kohli 77; Gurinder Singh 4/18, Jagjit Sandhu 3/34, Jaskardeep Singh 2/26) vs Chandigarh : 193 for 3 in 40 overs (Raman Bishnoi 73 no, Uday Kaul 62 no, H Ralte 2/46)

Goa make strong start

Sovima: Group leaders Goa frittered away a strong start to be 260 for five against Nagaland in their Ranji Plate fixture here on Tuesday. Opener Vaibhav Govekar (71) and number three Smit Patel (66) struck half centuries but the home side clawed their way back in the second session with Shrikant Mundhe (3/36) and Imliwati Lemtur (2/77) sharing five wickets between them.

Electing to bat, Goa made steady progress but Mundhe broke the opening stand for 98 by trapping Sumiran Amonkar lbw for 33. In five overs, Govekar departed failing to convert his start after being bowled by Imliwati Lemtur, while skipper Amit Verma (2) followed suit in the space of eight balls to leave Goa in disarray at 127/3. Wicketkeeper batsman Smit Patel then took charge of the proceedings with a quickfire 66 from 98 balls (7x4, 2x6) before being dismissed by Lemtur.

Suyash Prabhudessai (36) and Darshan Misal (18) were at the crease at stumps on day one.

PTI

ISL: FC Goa take on Hyderabad

FC Goa will begin life without Sergio Lobera on Wednesday when they take on Hyderabad at the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Margao. The Gaurs will look to keep the momentum in order to not lose out in the race for the top spot which guarantees a berth in the AFC Champions League group stages. The management took the decision to part ways with Lobera and instead have appointed Clifford Miranda as the interim coach with Derrick Pereira as the technical director. Hyderabad FC have six points from 15 matches and need another four to avoid having the worst points tally after 18 matches in an ISL season.

Real Kashmir sign two players on loan

Real Kashmir FC on Tuesday roped in striker Robin Singh and wing-back Lalhmann-gaisanga Ralte on loan from Indian Super League club Hyderabad FC to strengthen themselves in the rest of I-League campaign. Robin made his ISL debut with Delhi Dynamos in 2015 and moved to Hyderabad FC last year. Lalhmann-gaisanga Ralte, popularly known as Salte, began with Royal Woking of Meghalaya and helped his team earn promotion to the top division in 2013-14. Real Kashmir are lying at sixth spot in the I-League standings with 12 points from eight matches.



Sai Praneeth defeated Parupalli Kashyap 15-14, 14-15, 15-14.

Sai Praneeth beats Kashyap in a thriller

World Championships bronze medallist Sai Praneeth of Bengaluru Raptors held his nerves to beat Mumbai Rockets' Parupalli Kashyap to help the defending champions remain in contention for the semi-finals of the Premier Badminton League. In a thrilling match, Sai Praneeth edged the 2014 Commonwealth Games champion 15-14, 14-15, 15-14. In a clash of youth and experience in Women's singles, Mumbai's Shriyantha Pardeshi began well against world No. 2 Tai Tzu Ying to have a slender lead of 4-3 before the Raptors ace stormed back to inch ahead 8-6. Having wrested the momentum, Tai Tzu did not waste any time to pocket the opener 15-8. Tai Tzu opened up a 4-0 lead in the second game and raced away to 8-3 lead. Pardeshi, however, showed excellent retrieving skills to engage Tai Tzu to a 28-shot rally and get to within two points of the former world No. 1 at 7-9. But the Chinese Taipei ace was soon able to regroup and steer her way to a 15-8, 15-12 win to remain unbeaten this season.

AFC Cup: Bengaluru FC face Bhutan's Paro

Indian Super League champions Bengaluru FC will start as favourites when it takes on Paro FC of Bhutan in preliminary round match of the AFC Cup in Thimphu on Wednesday. Bengaluru FC has been a regular feature in the AFC Cup knockout rounds between 2015 and 2018 and, having missed out of the continent's second tier club competition last year, it is eyeing a return with a bang. The first leg of the preliminary round 2 will be played at the Changlimithang Stadium. The second leg will be played on February 12 in Bengaluru.

WADA asks CAS for public hearing on Russia

The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) said it has asked the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) for a public hearing on its case for Russia's exclusion from international sporting competitions. At stake in the hearing will be the fate of Russian athletes hoping to compete in such events as this year's Tokyo Olympics and the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics and 2022 football World Cup. WADA director general Olivier Niggli said his group made the formal request for a public forum to resolve the dispute would ensure the world hears the case from both sides and understands how punishment, if any, is administered.



Barcelona's Dembele out with torn hamstring

Sports too bitten by the Bug

The following is a list of international sports events affected by the coronavirus, which has killed over 420 people and infected more than 20,000 in China so far.

ATHLETICS

The World Athletics Indoor Championships had been scheduled for Nanjing from March 13-15, were postponed until next year. World Athletics is working with organisers to settle on a date to host the biennial event in 2021.

■ The Asian Athletics Association cancelled its Feb. 12-13 indoor championships in Hangzhou.

FOOTBALL

Asian Champions League matches involving Chinese clubs Guangzhou Evergrande, Shanghai Shenhua and Shanghai SIPG have been postponed. Guangzhou and the two Shanghai clubs will now join the competition in April, with their group matches due to be played by the end of May.

■ A four-team women's Olympic soccer qualifying tournament involving China, Australia, Taiwan and Thailand was moved from Wuhan and rearranged to be held in Australia by the AFC. Organisers were also forced to change the match schedule after China's team, which arrived in Australia on Jan. 29, was placed in quarantine in Brisbane until after Feb. 5.

TENNIS

The ITF moved the Fed Cup Asia/Oceania Group I event featuring China, Taiwan, Indonesia, South Korea and Uzbekistan out of Dongguan to Nur-Sultan (formerly Astana) in Kazakhstan. But the Feb. 4-8 event was later postponed after Kazakhstan declined to serve as substitute hosts.

BADMINTON

The Feb. 25 to March 1 China Masters tournament in Hainan was postponed after several players withdrew. The BWF said it hoped the flagship Badminton Asia C'ships could still go ahead in Wuhan from April 21-26.



Medical officers spray Indonesian nationals with antiseptic after they arrived from Wuhan. Reuters

BOXING

The IOC announced Jordan as hosts of the boxing qualifiers for Asia and Oceania after an event in Wuhan was cancelled. It will now take place in Amman from March 3 to 11.

BASKETBALL

The IBF moved the Feb. 6-9 Tokyo Olympics qualifiers to be held in Foshan to Belgrade.

GOLF

■ The elite women's LPGA golf tour cancelled the March 5-8 Blue Bay tournament to be held on Hainan. The Hong Kong Ladies Open, scheduled to take place from Feb. 28-March 1, was postponed to May 8-10.

ALPINE SKIING

■ Skiing's governing body cancelled the Feb. 15-16 World Cup in Yanqing.

X-GAMES

■ The first winter X-Games scheduled to be held in China, in Hebei province from Feb. 21-23, was postponed.

FUTSAL

■ The AFC Futsal C'ship that was scheduled to be held in Turkmenistan between Feb. 26 to March 8 has been postponed, with new dates to be announced later.

REUTERS

Ruthless Prajnesh goes for the skill

India's top singles player records first-ever ATP main draw win at home; Paes-Ebden in second round

SHAHID JUDGE
PUNE, FEBRUARY 4

A HIGH ball toss, knees bent, then the spring-like leap upwards to meet the ball with the full face of his racquet. On the day, Prajnesh Gunneswaran's serve was effortlessly crossing the 190 kmph mark. It's one of his two biggest weapons. And in the early exchanges in the opening set of his match against Germany's Yannick Maden, at the Tata Open Maharashtra, it was near flawless.

But as the set went on at the Balewadi Tennis Stadium in Pune, at the most crucial of stages, that serve deserted him. He was serving for the set at 5-3, when two double faults helped the German break back – the second double fault coming when Prajnesh was facing break points.

Later at 5-5, he faced another break point. And that's when it was time for his other weapon, the forehand, to take over. An inside-out forehand drive found the German unable to put the ball back in play. That's how Prajnesh went on with his game, when the serve dwindled, the big left-handed forehand kicked in to win the point.

After an hour and 39 minutes of play, India's highest ranked singles player wrapped up the match with a 7-6(4), 7-6(5) win – his first ever main draw win at an ATP-level event in India.

The 30-year-old's performance was a stark contrast to the way he played the last time he was on court, in the first round loss at the Australian Open, against the world no 146 Tatsuma Ito. A wrist injury had already been nagging him before that match, but early in his Australian sojourn, the elbow too took a blow.

"That was really just because I hadn't played so much tennis. I was resting my wrist. I just hadn't been serving so much," he had said on Sunday. "And then when I started to sort of go after the serve in the match, just tweaked something."

The serve was hampered, and the wrist injury forced him to play much flatter than he usually likes to – resulting in a high percentage of forehand errors. But all the machinery in his left playing arm was on sound on Tuesday.



Prajnesh Gunneswaran made the most of his big left-handed forehands during his 7-6(4), 7-6(5) win over Germany's Yannick Maden. Daniel Stephen

"I held up quite well with my wrist and elbow. Served well, used my forehand well," he says after his match. "It was much closer to my regular style. I am happy. I played a good match. I should have held serve at 5-3. It was my first bad game. Two double faults. The first was okay, but the second was bad. Shouldn't have happened."

But the weapons kicked in at the right time, and it was crucial that they did in the tiebreakers.

In the first set breaker, Prajnesh was down 3-0 but then won the next seven of eight points. In the second set breaker, Prajnesh entered a 20-plus shot rally with the score at 2-2 on Maden's serve. The world no 122 stayed

The 30-year-old's performance was a stark contrast to the way he played the last time he was on court, in the first round loss at the Australian Open, against the world no 146 Tatsuma Ito.

on top, using the forehands to drill the ball into corners, playing a few backhands to keep in play, and then striking another forehand cross court that ended with the German scrambling a backhand slice into the net to concede the mini-break. A few shots later, a forehand winner – his 28th off both flanks in the match – secured the match.

The first time Prajnesh competed at the Indian ATP was back in the qualifying rounds of the Chennai Open in 2012. His second entry was again in the qualifiers in 2016, and he started at the same stage for the next two years. Last year he lost to American Michael Mmoh after getting a wild card to the main draw.

This time, though courtesy of a depleted foreign field, he made the main draw cut on merit. At the Australian Open he was guilty of wasting the chance of getting into the main draw as a lucky loser, and then losing to a lower ranked opponent.

But on Tuesday, he took full advantage of the opportunity.

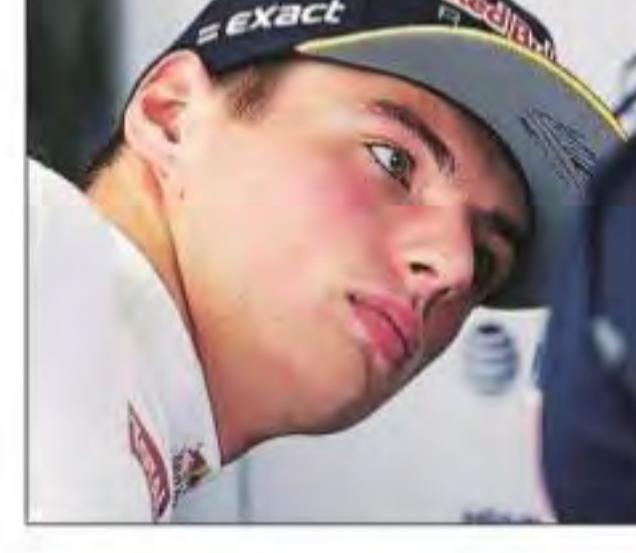
Paes-Ebden beat Sharpen-Sitak in first round

Leander Paes, in his farewell season, paired up with Australian Matthew Ebden for the first time in his career. And on the day that the 46-year-old played his first round match at India's only ATP tour, against Divij Sharan and Artem Sitak, it was the 32-year-old Australian who made the difference – helping his side win 6-2, 7-6.

Paes too had his moments at the net, but his most crucial contribution to the match was striking a 168kmph ace up the T, at 3-2 in the tiebreaker.

At 6-5 in the tiebreaker, he hit another well-angled serve straight to draw a weak return, that Ebden smashed to seal the match.

He's not God: Verstappen wants to dethrone Hamilton



Max Verstappen finished third in the championship behind Hamilton and his teammate Bottas last season.

REUTERS

FEBRUARY 4

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR coach Jose Mourinho wants Premier League referees to use pitchside monitors to make more key decisions, but conceded on Tuesday that watching the same replays himself can push him over the edge.

A clip of Mourinho running to confront the fourth official after a video assistant referee (VAR) decision in Spurs' 2-0 win over Manchester City on Sunday has gone viral on social media, and the Portuguese said emotion got the best of him.

"I think the fact that now it is allowed to have the screen in front of us is not good for our emotions," Mourinho told a news conference ahead of Wednesday's FA Cup fourth-round replay against Southampton.

"We watch exactly the same (thing) as the VAR and... the referees don't see it as well as we can. My reaction was just based on being able to watch everything on the screen... but okay, I went viral for the wrong reasons."

Mourinho was unhappy when Raheem Sterling was shown a yellow card instead of a red for a foul on Dele Alli and was further frustrated when the City forward escaped a second booking for simulation after City had missed a VAR-awarded penalty.

"I was immediately very upset that Sterling didn't get the red card and then that situation happened again and in one minute I was laughing and the next minute fuming," he said.

Mourinho said on-field referee Mike Dean should have taken the call on the penalty himself and that Sterling escaping the second booking after going down under slight contact from goalkeeper Hugo Lloris was another unacceptable VAR mistake."

"In this moment, the referees that are in the pitch are not making the most important decisions of the game," he added. "I don't accept the mistakes by the video referee."

"When I play PlayStation I don't make mistakes, I only make mistakes when I'm on the touchline. The referee... can make mistakes and I have full respect for them because it is very difficult."

"When they have time on the VAR it is more difficult to accept and we are being punished, very punished by decisions of the VAR."

We watch exactly the same (thing) as the VAR and... the referees don't see it as well as we can. My reaction was just based on being able to watch everything on the screen... but okay, I went viral for the wrong reasons."

JOSE MOURINHO

ON HIS VIRAL TOUCHLINE CLIP

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

SEOUL, FEBRUARY 4

A SOUTH Korean court ordered a local promoter Tuesday to compensate fans for Cristiano Ronaldo's no-show at a friendly match in Seoul last year.

The Juventus star stayed on the bench throughout a 3-3 draw with a K-League all-stars team at the Seoul World Cup Stadium in July, despite rounds of appeals from a sell-out crowd of 65,000.

Match promoter The Fasta had run ads heavily featuring the Portuguese striker.

Tickets – priced from 30,000 won (\$25) to 400,000 won – sold out in less than three

minutes, with many eager to see the 34-year-old superstar in action.

Two fans sued The Fasta, accusing it of false advertising, and the Incheon District Court ruled the promoter should pay them 371,000 won each, the South's Yonhap news agency reported.

No order was made against Ronaldo or his club, South Korean fans' frustration has led to the coining of an online phrase, "acting like Ronaldo", to criticise someone who only seeks benefits without fulfilling promised action.

"If he had played just for 10 minutes, everyone would have walked home happy," one user wrote on the country's largest portal site Naver.

Ron's no-show to pinch Korean promoter

AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE

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Government of Karnataka
KARNATAKA EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY
Sampige Road, 18th Cross, Malleshwaram, Bangalore-560 012 Phone: 080-23460460 (5 lines)
Fax: 080-23461576 e-mail: keautho-ka@nic.in Website: http://kea.kar.nic.in Date: 04.02.2020

NOTIFICATION

CET - 2020 - ADMISSION TO PROFESSIONAL COURSES IN THE STATE OF KARNATAKA FOR THE YEAR 2020-21

- As per Rule 3, Rule 6(3) & Rule 7 of Karnataka Selection of Candidates for Admission to Government seats in Professional Educational Institutions Rules 2006 (Amendments) and pursuant to the directions of the Government, Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) is inviting applications from the eligible Karnataka Candidates including the ward/s of Jammu & Kashmir migrants for conduct of "Common Entrance Test-2020" as per the following time table for the purpose of determining the eligibility / merit, for admission to the First year or First semester of full time courses for Government share of seats in Engineering, Technology, Naturopathy & Yoga, B.Pharma, 2nd year B.Pharma, Pharma-D, Agriculture courses (Farm Science) and Veterinary courses, in Government / University / Private Aided / Private Un-Aided Professional Educational Institutions in the State of Karnataka for the academic year 2020-21 as per the seat matrix to be notified by Government.
- In order to obtain admission to above professional courses through KEA, a candidate must apply and appear for the Common Entrance Test-2020 conducted by KEA, Bangalore.
- The candidates who wish to seek admission to Medical or Dental or Ayurveda or Unani or Homoeopathy courses must compulsorily qualify in the UGNEET - 2020 (National Eligibility cum Entrance Test) exam conducted by the National Testing Agency; and For admission to Architecture course candidate should compulsorily qualify in NATA (National Aptitude Test in Architecture) conducted by the Council of Architecture or JEE Paper-2 examination.
- Eligibility:** As per Rule 5(1) of Karnataka Selection of Candidates for Admission to Government seats in Professional Educational Institutions Rules 2006 (Amendments), No candidate shall be eligible for admission to Government Seats unless he is a citizen of India and satisfies any one of the eligibility conditions hosted on the KEA Website. The candidates who do not satisfy any of the Clauses / Eligibility Criteria are not eligible for admission to professional courses under Government quota seats through KEA.
- Information with regard to Mode of submission of application through online, eligibility conditions and UGCET-2020-Information Bulletin is hosted on the KEA Website, candidates can download the same.

01 Filling of Application Online for CET-2020	From 11:00 am on 05.02.2020 to 02.03.2020 up to 5:30 pm
02 Last date to pay the application fees - online	06.03.2020
03 Provision for corrections, if any (The candidates can change / modify the information furnished in the online application as per their eligibility) only for fee paid candidates	From 11:00 am on 19.03.2020 to 25.03.2020 up to 5:30 pm
04 Date of downloading of Admission Tickets by all the eligible candidates	From 11:00 a.m. on 10.04.2020

Common Entrance Test - 2020 Time Table

Date	Day	Timings	Subject	Marks
22.04.2020	Wednesday	10:30 am - 11:50 am	Biology	60
		02:30 pm - 03:50 pm	Mathematics	60
23.04.2020	Thursday	10:30 am - 11:50 am	Physics	60
		02:30 pm - 03:50 pm	Chemistry	60
24.04.2020	Friday	11:30 am to		



Transforming Indian defence digitally

India's armed forces have begun to focus on emerging technologies in warfare, especially digital technologies

NDIA will focus on 'Digital Transformation of Defence' at the DefExpo 2020 that begins today in Lucknow and this year's signature event of the Indian defence sector has smashed records in terms of participation.

In his media interactions since taking over as Indian Army chief, General Manoj Mukund Naravane has highlighted the nature and character of future war. "Future conflicts are to be more violent and unpredictable and battle spaces severely contested, seamlessly connected, and constrained by indeterminable factors. Technology will become the key driver of future wars. The spectrum of conflict having broadened, has brought almost all the organs of the state within the ambit of conflict. The response, therefore, will have to be planned and integrated at the apex level," General Naravane has said.

Especially, the senior most army officer pointed out that cyberspace is likely to be fiercely contested in future with threats of cyber-attacks to critical national infrastructure. Non-kinetic, non-contact means are likely to see more engagements. Battle of narratives, climate change leading to mass migrations and competition for natural resources, ideologically driven radicalised 'proxies' are likely to enhance the operating space.



"The armed forces would need to be conscious about the dynamic and rapid technological advancements in space, its militarisation and increasing integration of space capabilities with future war fighting. Need to protect the nation's security interests will increase and hence, geo-strategic imperatives dictate possession of commensurate capabilities," he said.

He has also noted that artificial intelli-

gence, machine learning, quantum computing, big data analytics, drones and robotics would all form part of the future warfare and Indian Army needs to be prepared for the same. The Indian Army has just a couple of years ago begun to take a serious look at the impact these emerging technologies could have on India's war fighting capabilities and the nature and character of future wars that it may have to contest in the coming years.

This is a transition and a transformation that the army and the other two armed forces — air force and the navy — are also looking at. All the three forces have already tasked their men to look at these aspects of warfare.

BIGGEST EVER MILITARY SHOW

Over 1,000 companies, including 165 from abroad, will gather in Lucknow to participate in the biggest ever 11th biennial

DefExpo till February 9. In the DefExpo 2018, held in Chennai, 702 companies had participated. The number of participating foreign companies has also increased to 165 from the previous figure of 160. Thus, it has become by far the biggest ever DefExpo to be held in India.

The booked exhibition space by exhibitors for DefExpo 2020 has gone up by 60 per cent to over 42,800 square metres, compared to around 26,774 during the last edition. Defence Ministers and Service Chiefs of 35 countries have confirmed their participation for the DefExpo. A substantial number of Memoranda of understanding (MoUs) are expected to be inked during the expo, resulting in forging of new business collaborations.

The theme of the Expo is 'India: The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub'. The aim is to bring the leading technologies in the defence sector under one roof and provide a myriad of opportunities for the government, private manufacturers and startups. The event will cover the entire spectrum of the country's aerospace, defence and security interests.

The sub-theme of the exhibition is 'Digital Transformation of Defence', which aligns with the concept of the

Continued on Page 2 >>>



DEFENCE SECTOR OVERVIEW QUICK FACTS

5th largest defence budget in the world (USD 42.2 billion)

India contributes 3.7% to the global military expenditure

Overall defence production in India has increased from USD 6.4Bn in 2013-2014 to USD 11.4Bn in 2018-2019

2nd largest armed forces in the world (1.3 million active personnel)

USD 1.4 Bn worth of exports in 2018-19; military exports to 18 major countries (2017-18)

USD 14.56 Bn allocated for capital expenditure (2019-20)

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Indian Army's focus now on integrated battle groups to fight its war

The forces will be equipped with specialist weapons based on terrain and task assigned



KEPPING in tune with its new land warfare doctrine against nuclear rivals Pakistan and China, the Indian Army plans to fully raise a dozen or more 'Integrated Battle Groups' (IBGs) with about 5,000 soldiers each within a year from now. These IBGs, which are theatre-based formations for fighting a quick, short war to achieve strategic objectives, will be equipped with specialist weapons and platforms to meet each of their unique requirements based on the terrain of operations. The IBGs will cover the entire expanse of India's borders with both its western and northern adversaries.

The Mountain Strike Corps' subordinate formations, raised in 2013 to focus on an offensive operation against China, will be converted into an IBG with about 10,000 troopers in each of these smaller formations to provide it agility and technological edge, even as the existing brigades and divisions will get leaner. Accordingly, there would be four IBGs each in the western and northern sectors focusing on Pakistan and China respectively, while northeastern sector would have up to six IBGs carved out of the Mountain Strike Corps.

The changes to the structure of the army's fighting formations have been effected to meet the changing nature of warfare, though the character of warfare itself will remain the same.

IBGs were first proposed in one of the four studies regarding the reorganising of the Army. These IBGs were field-tested in 2019 with exercises being carried out in the Rajasthan desert and the Punjab plains focusing Pakistan, and the mountains in the entire stretch of Line of Actual Control with China under an exercise named 'Him Vijay'.

Last year, the Army also signed a fresh contract worth Rs 20,000 crore with the state-run Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) to licence-build 464 additional T-90S main battle tanks for the Indian Army. The indent for the 464 of these tanks were issued to the OFB in May. The new deal comes at a time when the 1.3-million strong Indian Army is also re-formatting its entire war-fighting machinery and the 'Cold Start' or 'Pro-Active Strategy', which envisages fast mobilisation to strike hard across the border with multiple offensive thrusts.

This task will primarily be carried out by restructured and agile Integrated Battle Groups (IBGs) centred around the T-90S tanks, along with a mix of infantry, artillery, air defence, signals and engineers, backed by attack helicopters.

The Army's new Land Warfare Doctrine itself notes that the "response along the western front will be sharp and swift, with the aim to destroy the adversary's centre of gravity and secure spatial gains".

Army chief General Manoj Mukund Naravane has indicated that the first IBG would be raised in the Yol Cantonment-based 9 Corps in Himachal Pradesh followed by the 17 Corps with headquarters at Panagarh in West Bengal. While

the 9 Corps is operationally controlled by the Chandigarh-based Western Army Command and focuses specifically as a holding corps against Pakistan in the western sector, the 17 Corps has troops and units posted all along the 4,058-km long Line of Actual Control with China.

While the 9 Corps, which has at least three Divisions posted all across the Punjab Plains, will have to dismantle some of its organisational structures to convert into an IBG, the 17 Corps, which is currently under restructuring, will have its units raised as IBGs, thus enabling faster operational readiness. Once these two formations are converted into IBGs, then the Indian Army's entire focus along the land borders would be to get IBGs raised with specific tasks to meet the twin challenge from its adversarial neighbours.

The restructuring also means that Indian Army will be looking at equipping the new formations with specialist equipment. For example, the IBGs for the western border would have the offensive air element in Apache helicopters, six of which the army is working towards procuring from Boeing in a follow-on deal to the 22 already bought by the IAF. The Apache will provide the much-needed air support to the battle tanks and infantry combat vehicles on the ground from the enemy artillery fire and against the adversary's battle tanks and infantry vehicles.

Similarly, the mountain-based IBGs would get the support of Boeing's Chinook helicopters that have a 10-tonne load carrying capacity and has the capability to fly the BAE Systems' M777 ultralight howitzers to the inaccessible hilly terrain bordering China. The M777 guns, Apaches and Chinooks were bought by the Indian armed forces in the recent years and their roles are now being clearly defined in India's preparations to fight future conventional wars, including one where a two-front collusive battle may be fought by India's rivals China and Pakistan in the future.

The IBGs would also easily fit into the theaterisation of the Indian armed forces that the newly appointed Chief of Defence Staff has been tasked to work on in the next three years. What this means is that the resources, equipment and energy of the three forces — army, navy and air force — would under a single unified command that will enable the best use of these capabilities and capacities to win wars.

The IBGs are the signs of things to come in the Indian Army, as it restructures its organisation, fighting forces, as also the headquarters under four studios that it carried out a few years ago and began implementing the recommendations during the tenure of former Army chief and present Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat. The Army of the future would be less manpower intensive but would compensate that with high technology equipment that is suitable for a digitised battlefield.

The IBGs were field-tested earlier this year with exercises being carried out in the desert in Rajasthan and the plains of Punjab close to Pakistan, and the mountains in the entire stretch of the Line of Actual Control with China under an exercise named 'Him Vijay'



Transforming Indian defence digitally

future battlefield. Manufacturing for the aerospace and defence sector through application of newer technologies will also be focused upon.

In addition to exhibiting products and technologies and live demonstrations by the armed forces, the Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs) and the Indian and foreign industry will showcase the land, naval, air and internal security systems. The 'India Pavilion' will exclusively showcase the jointness between the public and private sector, including Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)/Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and innovation eco-system, which is the key to the way forward.

There will be a sizeable Uttar Pradesh Pavilion at the DefExpo venue. Apart from displaying industrial prowess and huge potential for the investors, the UP government will organise several cultural programmes showcasing rich cultural heritage of the northern state. A unique experience for the visitors is planned at the Tent City, which is being especially erected at the venue.

The Central government has set up Defence Industrial Corridor in Uttar Pradesh with identification of six nodes. A Defence Planning Committee has also been formed. In this regard, the Government of UP has planned to build a defence manufacturing corridor along with the proposed Bundelkhand Expressway, which will help in making India self-reliant in the field of defence production. The DefExpo will play the role of a catalyst in attracting not only investments but also cutting-edge technologies to the region.

The DefExpo 2020 is expected to see participation from over 70 countries and will be in line with the biggest of the international defence exhibitions. The show will be marked with numerous attractions such as:

- Live demonstrations of the services, DPSUs and industry showing the land, naval, air and internal security systems in action. Live demonstration will be held at two locations — one at the exhibition site and the other at the Gomati river front. There will be no damage to the environment during the Gomati River Front display.

- Business seminars are being organised by both international and Indian Industry chambers such as the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), SYNERGIA, Directorate of Standardisation (DOS)/Department of Defence Production (DDP), US-India Busi-

ness Council (USIBC), and US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF). The seminar topics are futuristic and include discussions on artificial intelligence, robotics, Internet of Things (IoTs), drones, and wired warrior.

For this exposition, technology has been used as an enabler and for the first time the DefExpo app was released by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on December 27, 2019, which is available on Apple App Store and Android Play Store. The main features of the app are to 'inform, engage and feedback'. It provides detailed information about the day-to-day events; participating exhibitors; DPSUs, guest speakers of seminars/webinars; publications i.e., electronic brochures and e-books; maps and directions of the venues and city weather.

At this year's expo, the Indian state-run Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) will showcase indigenously developed military systems and

This is a transition and transformation that the Army and the other two services — Air Force and Navy — are looking at. All the three forces have already tasked their men to look at these aspects of warfare

technologies. The display will bring alive the spirit of self-reliance and national pride. The participation of DRDO at the expo is marked with the live demonstration of Advanced Towed Artillery Gun System (ATAGS), Main Battle Tank (MBT) Arjun MK IA, Wheeled Armoured Platform (WhAP), Counter Mine Flail, 15m Advanced Composite Modular Bridging System (ACMBS) and modular bridge.

The DRDO will exhibit more than 500 products from all technology clusters in the five-day mega expo in line with the sub-theme of the event 'Digital Transformation of Defence'. DRDO will showcase over 23 products in the India Pavilion, which has been set up to showcase the combined strength of DRDO, public and private sectors in defence manufacturing.

BAE Systems to Highlight Depth of Partnership in India and Showcase Make in India M777 Ultra Light Howitzers at DefExpo



Two BAE Systems M777 Ultra Lightweight Howitzer (ULH) gun systems will take centre stage at the 11th edition of DefExpo in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. The two M777 ULH systems signify the 145-gun agreement between the US and Indian governments to strengthen India's artillery capabilities. Under the agreement, 120 ULH systems are being assembled, integrated and tested in India by Mahindra Defence Systems Ltd. (MDSL), as part of the Make in India programme. To date, BAE Systems has produced and delivered 25 guns to the Indian Army, with another 70-plus planned for 2020.

In addition, the BAE Systems stands at DefExpo 2020 (R32, Hall 7, UK Pavilion) will exhibit an array of the state-of-the-art capabilities, including towed and self-propelled artillery, naval gun systems and ships, ammunition, unmanned autonomous systems and precision munitions.

Dave Armstrong, Group Business Development Director, BAE Systems, said, "India is a strategic market for BAE Systems, and DefExpo 2020 will provide the company with the ideal platform to showcase the deep collaboration and commitment that exist with the Indian government and across industry, highlighted best by the ongoing success of the M777 ULH programme."

THE TWO M777 ULH SYSTEMS SIGNIFY THE 145-GUN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE US AND INDIAN GOVERNMENTS TO STRENGTHEN INDIA'S ARTILLERY CAPABILITIES

Nik Khanna, Managing Director India, BAE Systems, added, "BAE Systems is proud to be a founding partner of defence manufacturing in India, and DefExpo 2020 will be a great occasion to engage further with our key Indian stakeholders — strengthening existing partnerships and exploring avenues for new ones, particularly around the MK45 naval gun. The team also looks forward to using this opportunity to discuss the continuing development of BAE Systems' in-country supply chain, which the company is committed to expanding."

At DefExpo 2020, BAE Systems will exhibit a 3-dimensional video of its Mk45 Mod 4 naval gun, the

lightest, most compact, fully automatic 127mm naval gun in the world. With a dozen customers globally, including the US and UK, the 62-calibre MK45 naval gun can provide a firing range of 13 nautical miles with conventional munitions. Building on continued interest in India and highlighting its expertise in warship design, BAE Systems will showcase a model of the Queen Elizabeth Class Aircraft Carrier on its stand at DefExpo 2020. A model of the Make in India Hawk advanced jet trainer, which is in service with the Indian Air Force and the Indian Navy, will also be on display.

An array of munitions will be exhibited by BAE Systems at DefExpo 2020, including the 57mm and 40mm programmable 3P Ammo, BONUS 155mm sensor-fused ammunition, and 120mm tank ammunition, CT40 cannon. Also on the stand will be the low-cost, combat-proven APKWS guidance kit transforms standard 2.75-inch (70-mm) rockets into precision munitions that reduce collateral damage. The guidance kits are compatible with existing and new inventories of rocket motors, warheads, and launchers; are easy to install; and require minimal training to use. With APKWS, rockets have achieved over a 93 percent hit rate in combat, have been fired from more than 20 different platforms, and are available to allied nations via Foreign Military Sale from the US government.

The changing landscape of Space Defence



VIKAS MANRAL

Space Defence were inevitable to secure India's regional and territorial interests and the safety of its space infrastructure. This is a good start but a lot is to be done for accelerating the progress to establish India as a global power in Space Defence.

ENHANCED PARTICIPATION OF PRIVATE INDUSTRY

Indian government's push for policy reforms has undoubtedly created a positive impact to build a conducive environment for FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) but the next level of challenge is to build capability & capacity in the private sector to deliver "End-to-End" solutions for complex and critical projects/ systems. Also there is a need to build an industry structure with Public & Private sector "co-existing together" to derive value for national interest.

Traditionally, the Indian Space Programme were majorly aimed at providing benefit to society and development of nation. Our assets in space today are approximately valued \$2.5 billion in the orbit and around \$40 billion if ground-based assets and value added services are to be included. With this gigantic infrastructure in outer space and our reliance on them, the security of these assets have become critical.

Also there is a need for the country to take a strong stance in the global front for providing a transparent regime in order to utilise space, considering its security challenges including the internal ones like surveillance of the vast coastline, sensitive borders and insurgency.

Considering these factors, the incremental steps taken towards

SYNERGIZING CAPABILITIES

Indian organisations, particularly, government-owned establishments have been the backbone of Indian

defence & space industry so far but co-development, learning and sharing amongst these organisations is required to create a difference. Government must come with initiatives and incentives for individuals and organisations to co-operate. Strong communication channels are required to be built in order to facilitate swift learning processes and experience sharing to synergize capabilities between end users (armed forces) need, multiple government intermediaries and design establishments in space and defence arena.

SPACE DEFENCE POLICY

A clear Space Defence Doctrine must be formulated on priority. The doctrine should stipulate the conditions of offensive & defensive positions of the country under different circumstances. The policy must avoid "Rat Race for Arms" with competing nations resulting into non-optimum use of funds & dearth of global support but at the same time be "Minimal Offensive" to secure our space assets and demonstrate capabilities to the world (partners or adversaries).

While Russia (former Soviet Union) and the US have been in space defence since 1960s, China came into foray in 2006-07. The question still remains unanswered on how India, despite being a late entrant, will be able to take a leadership position in next two decades that is poised to witness a global arms race in space, culminating in a sophisticated weapons system being placed in orbit.

The author is Aerospace & Defence expert.

The changing contours of India's evolving defence ecosystem



AS565MBe Panther Helicopter



H225M

HE Indian armed forces have been undergoing a transformation in the last few years. India is increasingly focusing on indigenous manufacturing of military equipment, with 'Strategic Independence' being a key goal of the government, under its 'Make in India' initiative. DefExpo will provide a boost to this endeavour, with global Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) showcasing their offerings and exploring potential collaboration with their Indian counterparts.

Airbus has responded to the Request for Expression of Interest (REoI) by the Indian Navy for 111 Naval Utility Helicopters (NUH) under the Strategic Partnership model, by offering its highly capable AS565 MBe Panther and the H145M. Additionally, for the navy's requirement of 123 Naval Multi-Role Helicopters (NMRH), Airbus has proposed the H225M. The AS565 MBe Panther is an all-weather, multi-role medium rotorcraft that is designed for operation from ship decks, off-

shore locations and land-based sites. Combat-proven, the Panther also has maritime surveillance, search and rescue, casualty evacuation, counter terrorism and anti-submarine warfare capabilities. Meanwhile, the H145M is a versatile helicopter that can be equipped with a large range of equipment, providing increased flexibility and agility. The H225M is a globally recognised military helicopter, capable of carrying multiple combat proven armaments for maritime or land based military operations. These highly effective and adaptable helicopters are being used by some of the leading defence forces in the world and can greatly bolster the capabilities of the Indian Navy.

Airbus has a long-standing relationship with the Indian defence sector, having signed an initial license agreement with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for the manufacture of the Chetak and Cheetah helicopters in 1962. It has partnered with Mahindra Defence under the government's 'Make in India'

programme, to manufacture the Panther indigenously. The government has opened up the defence sector and is promoting foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to enter into strategic partnership with Indian companies. Airbus' partnership has the potential to further spur the defence industry in India. Additionally, the Final Assembly Lines (FALs) will be used by Airbus for its export port hub.

The Indian defence industry has been growing at a rapid clip and is expected to become a \$26 billion industry by 2025. This robust growth can happen on the back of collaboration, as more and more global players partner with Indian manufacturers, facilitating knowledge exchange and introducing global standards. The Indian defence ecosystem is primed for rapid evolution in the coming years, with "Make in India" and the ongoing modernisation being the key drivers for this growth.

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Next-generation submarine programme race begins between MDL and L&T

India's submarine building plans have received a boost with the downselect of two Indian shipyards to compete for building six vessels under Project 75(I). This programme will add to the existing 14 conventional submarines in the Indian Navy

NDIA'S state-run Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) and private firm Larsen & Toubro have been chosen to battle it out for a Rs 45,000-crore tender for building six next generation conventional submarines for the Indian Navy.

Five Original Equipment Manufacturers — French Naval Group, Spanish Navantia, Russian Central Design Bureau Rubin, South Korea's Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering and German ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems — are the foreign shipyards that have been chosen to offer their advanced submarine technology to the selected Indian Strategic Partner (SP) shipyard for Project 75(I). Swedish firm SAAB had not responded to the Indian government's invitation, as it felt that the project was not viable under the existing strategic partnership policy.

The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) meeting, chaired by Minister of Defence Rajnath Singh, on January 21, took the decision on the shortlisted companies that will compete to become the Indian Strategic Partner to build the six submarines that will come with advanced Air Independent Propulsion system, stealth and more modern weapon systems. It also chose the five foreign OEM contestants from whom will be chosen the partner for providing the technology to either of the chosen Indian strategic partner to build the submarines.

However, a joint bid by Gujarat-based Adani Group and Visakhapatnam-based Hindustan Shipyard Limited, a state-run unit, was not chosen, after the empowered committee felt that the combined offering was not qualified to compete to be an Indian Strategic Partner company.

This was the first meeting of the DAC in 2020 and after the appointment of the first ever Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat and it considered for approval a number of new and ongoing proposals for procuring critically needed platforms and equipment for the armed forces.

As mentioned earlier, the most significant decision was the approval for shortlisting of Indian SPs and the potential OEMs that would collabora-



rate with SPs to construct six conventional submarines in India. This programme is being progressed under the 'Strategic Partnership' model, promulgated in 2017 to give a major boost to 'Make in India' in the defence sector.

The Strategic Partner is expected to play a transformational role in building an eco-system in the country, comprising development entities, specialised vendors and suppliers; especially those from the MSME (micro, small, medium enterprises) sector.

The SP model also aims at promoting India as a manufacturing hub for defence equipment, in addition to establishing an industrial and research and development ecosystem capable of meeting the future requirements of the armed forces besides giving boost to exports.

The decision is also in keeping with the mandate given to the CDS and the newly constituted Department of Military Affairs (DMA) to promote use of indigenous hardware by the Services.

The Indian Navy's submarine building plan is already 20 years old. It was in the year 2000 that the then Vajpayee government had approved the construction 24 submarines in a 30-year period till 2030. However, this plan had gone haywire after the delay in the first programme for building six diesel-electric submarines for the navy.

The Project 75, as this first programme was called, has been delayed by at least five years now, as only the first two of the six submarines under this project has yet been delivered to the Indian Navy. Under Project 75, India had chosen the French Naval Group (erstwhile DCNS) to help

the state-run Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited with the technology to construct the Scorpene submarines there.

The Project 75(I) is the second set of six conventional submarines under the 30-year plan and the project has been under works for over seven years now. The government was unable to take a decision on which of the Indian shipyard will qualify to bid for the project and the final decision came only now. But the project itself will take another couple of years to finally be a done deal, as the winner of this contest is yet to be chosen between the MDL and L&T.

India is pursuing the Project 75(I) under the Strategic Partnership Model under which only a private sector company could be a strategic partner. However, a special exemption seems to have

been given to MDL, as it is the only shipyard to have experience and expertise to build a submarine. L&T, on the other hand, has a massive shipyard in Katupalli, north of Chennai along with Hazira in Gujarat, and has gained experience by helping MDL in its submarine building project. While MDL has the capacity to build two submarines at its dry docks simultaneously, the L&T's two shipyards have capability for modular construction of submarines and warships.

The Indian Navy had begun the process for selecting the likely Indian Strategic Partners for the Project 75(I) in 2019 through an Expression of Interest, along with one for selecting the foreign Original Equipment Manufacturers for the technology. Four Indian firms had responded: L&T, Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Reliance Naval & Engineering, and Hindustan Shipyard (HSL) with Adani Group. Based on a study and analysis of financial strength and facilities of various shipyards in the country, an empowered committee of the Navy had shortlisted Mazagon Dock and private sector giant L&T as possible partners and had rejected the proposals from Reliance and Adani-HSL.

With the Project 75 and 75(I), the Indian Navy will only be able to cover up for 12 of the 24 submarines under the 30-year plan. Of the rest 12, Indian government had in 2015 decided to build six nuclear-armed submarines to build on the INS Arihant construction done by India and to build a series of submarines to increase the nuclear-armed submarine fleet to nine. The last set of six submarines would be followed up in the next few years as conventional submarine programme of the future, which could be decided before 2030.

Along with the first two Scorpene submarines that Indian Navy has inducted till date, the total number of conventional submarines in the fleet stands at 14. India currently operates a nuclear-powered submarine, INS Chakra, loaned by Russia for 10 years till 2022. India is already in talks with Russia to lease one more nuclear-powered submarine after the current term of the lease for INS Chakra ends.

Lockheed Martin to put up its portfolio on display in DefExpo, exemplifying commitment to advancing India's strategic security

The company plans to showcase its expansive portfolio, including aircraft platforms, precision weapons and missile systems



William Blair
VP & Chief Executive
Lockheed Martin India



LOCKHEED Martin is showcasing its robust and diverse portfolio of defence and civil capabilities at DEFEXPO India-2020.

"We're proud to participate in DEFEXPO 2020, where we can showcase our commitment to 'Make in India' directly to the largest gathering of defence and aerospace partners in the country," said William (Bill) Blair, vice-president and chief executive of Lockheed Martin India. "Lockheed Martin continues to build upon its more than three-decades of partnership with India, expand collaborations with local industry to support the evolution of indigenous defence manufacturing ecosystem, and further advance India's strategic security and industrial capabilities."

Mr Blair added that Lockheed Martin's goals at the show include building on the company's existing foundation in India by identifying additional strategic partners from across the country, to include companies of all sizes — large, micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and start-ups. "For the past decade, we have

supported the growth and development of India's innovation and start-up ecosystem and look forward to strengthening those partnerships to support the advancement of India's defence industry well into the future," Mr Blair said.

The F-21 fighter aircraft, which is on offer to the Indian Air Force, takes center-stage at Lockheed Martin's display. The F-21 demonstrates Lockheed Martin's

The MH-60R is the world's most advanced maritime helicopter and will bring vital anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare capabilities to the Indo-Pacific region.

Boosting Lockheed Martin's presence at the show is the C-130J Super Hercules and the S-92® multi-role helicopter, both of which represent a strong legacy of partnership with India and the Indian defence industry. The joint venture, Tata Lockheed Martin Aerostructures Limited, has the distinction of being the single-global source of all C-130J empennage assemblies included on all new Super Hercules aircraft. All C-130Js now built have major components manufactured in India.

On prominent display is the Javelin Anti-Tank Guided Missile system. This versatile and effective one-man-portable and platform-employed anti-tank and multi-target precision weapon system provides capability to defeat a broad spectrum of close combat threats on the modern battlefield.

Also highlighted is the Modernized Target Acquisition Designation Sight/Pilot Night Vision Sensor (M-TADS/PNVS), the advanced electro-optical fire control system used by AH-64D/E Apache helicopter pilots for long-range precision engagement and pilotage capabilities in day, night and adverse-weather missions; and precision guided munitions.

Lockheed Martin has currently integrated more than 70 Indian suppliers including Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) into our global supply chain. As a part of its larger commitment to enhance the growth and development of India's innovation, Lockheed Martin has sponsored and supported the India Innovation Growth Program (IIGP) since 2007 with the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

Thales: Trusted technology partner in India's growth



Emmanuel de Roquefeuil
VP and Country Director
Thales, India

WIT substantial progress and business reforms over the past few years, India as a country provides tremendous opportunities for business partnerships and bilateral investment projects across sectors. According to the latest World Bank's Ease of Doing Business report 2020, India jumped to 63rd position vis-a-vis 77th rank in the previous year. This clearly indicates the favourable prospects India offers to foreign OEMs like us to explore business opportunities and form new relationships with local partners in the country. The ecosystem created by government not only facilitates ease of doing business but also attracts foreign investors and creates job opportunities.

Over the years, Thales has played a major role in strengthening the industrial and defence base of the country through the government's 'Make in India' programme. By offering its expertise and strengths in defence, transport, aeronautics, and digital identity and security markets, Thales has been a perfect match for India's various ambitious objectives. The organisation today has over 1,600 employees currently working with Thales and its joint ventures (JVs) in India.

Reinforcing its presence in the country, Thales with over 65 years of strong legacy, continues here to contribute towards make in India as well as export from India. The

company has formed various co-operative partnerships with public and private sector industries, bringing in its expertise in delivering high-end technology solutions. Thales has been working closely with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for over five decades and has successful JVs with Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) dedicated to military avionics and Reliance Aerostructure Limited for electronic warfare and radar. Currently, it is working with over 75 local supply chain partners in the country, engaged in its global supply chain across defence and civil markets.

Aiming to go beyond production and support innovation, the company is now operating two engineering competence centers located in National Capital Region (Gurugram and Noida) and Bengaluru. The Bengaluru engineering competence centre specialises in defence, aerospace and transportation, and the one in Noida and Gurugram is focused on Digital Identity and Security including cyber security, IoT, biometric as well as big data analytics solutions. Going forward, Thales seeks to continue developing capabilities for local engineering, procurement from India and strengthen its local partnerships.

Thales is enthusiastic about its participation at DefExpo India 2020 — the biennial India's premiere defence exhibition. This mega event supports innovative solutions and offers a platform for stakeholders to foster partnerships and raise the level of technology in the country. In alignment with DefExpo 2020's focus — 'Digital Transformation of Defence', Thales is showcasing defence technologies that are digitally driven and future focused.

With the display of such unique digitally driven technologies across four categories — Land, Naval and Air defence, Digital Transformation and Security, Thales will not only reiterate its commitment towards "Make in India" but will also showcase its upcoming plans towards the development and modernisation of the Indian armed forces.

As a global technology leader, Thales remains committed to India and helping its customers prepare for tomorrow, today. The company stays driven to offer cutting edge technology solutions to help customers master their decisive moments in an increasingly complex world.

Gripen E for Indian Air Force



MATS PALMBERG
Vice President, Industrial Partnerships
and Head of Gripen India Campaign

THE OFFER FOR INDIA

We have provided a comprehensive response to the Request for Information for fighter aircraft to the Indian Air Force. The Saab response delivers the perfect fighter for India's current and future needs. It furthermore supports India's ambition for stronger indigenous capabilities with latest technologies for development and production of future fighters, like the AMCA.

Saab's offer will enable Indian companies to take part in the industrial process of the world's most advanced fighter by absorbing the state-of-the-art capabilities and technologies with applications in both the military and civilian sectors. Through the 'Make in India' initiative, a generational shift in full spectrum fighter capabilities will accelerate the defence and industrial ambitions.

The offer consists of the most comprehensive Transfer of Capability packages focused on building indigenous capabilities to design, develop, produce and maintain a modern state of the art fighter system platform.

The build-up of those capabilities will require substantial investments from the Indian as well as from the international partners. Investments will need to be made in facilities, training, machinery etc. Those investments will also serve as a baseline to create thousands of job opportunities for skilled workers as well as for engineers and technicians.

The spill-over effect will be substantial and also DPSUs will be able to benefit significantly from Transfer of Technology or Transfer of Capabilities.

The overall aim is to build an eco-system that in the execution phase can support with local manufacturing of parts for ourselves as well as for our system partners/suppliers. We have already undertaken surveys for aerostructures parts, such as sub-assemblies, machine parts and sheet metal parts and are now continuing on that process, together with our system partners, in order to find the right partners for our partners need to reach optimum localisation.

GRIPEN E is the most modern multi-role fighter aircraft in the world, developed to counter and defeat the most advanced threats in a modern battlespace. Its unique architecture makes it an intelligent fighter system that continuously evolves by rapidly embracing new technology and tactics in a way that will always keep IAF one step ahead.

Gripen E has been sold to Brazil and Sweden and deliveries have started to both nations. Gripen E is the most modern fighter in the ongoing MRFA acquisition and together with the weaponry, including Meteor, the BVR (Beyond Visual Range) missile, Gripen E will give India an edge against all its adversaries.

The latest high performance sensors such as AESA radar, IRST system, advanced datalinks and AI-enabled decision support gives the pilot superior situational awareness and ability to see first-act first. The low visual and electronic signatures and a fully integrated onboard self-defence and ECM suit with 360 degree spherical coverage, together with the suite of latest most advanced weapons available, secures mission success and brings the pilot home safe.

With its combat performance and power projection capability, Gripen E will provide the IAF with a deterrence power in the region.

MQ-9B: Multi-mission aircraft brings new capabilities to RPA

AT THE forefront of the unmanned revolution, General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc. (GA-ASI) continues to grow and develop new 'game-changing' capabilities for its Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS). GA-ASI is the world's pre-eminent manufacturer of innovative RPAS that provides connected solutions over land, sea, space and cyber domains.

The MQ-9B SkyGuardian and SeaGuardian (maritime version) are next-generation RPAS designed with civil airspace integration in mind, not to mention its multi-mission capabilities built upon GA-ASI's distinguished legacy of RPAS.

Demand for MQ-9B throughout the world is growing. The Protector RG MK1 is being delivered to the UK Royal Air Force in the early 2020s, while the Government of Belgium has approved Belgian Defense to negotiate the acquisition of MQ-9B to meet the nation's RPAS requirements. More recently the Australian Defence Force selected the MQ-9B RPA System for their Project Air 7003.

As the scope of the HALE RPAS Project under the Indian Ministry of Defence (MoD) has been expanded to include the Indian Army and Air Force, this will ensure maximum interoperability and seamless mission networking capability across the three domains of land, air and water. This acquisition will allow the already low cost of the unmanned platform to be maximised by economies of scale.

Sources say the procurement of the MQ-9B aircraft will accelerate the sale of the GA-ASI jet powered Avenger, bringing yet another 'game-changing' capability to India.

The MoD's decision will also allow for the Services to customise the aircraft to suit their particular requirements. MQ-9B is a highly modular aircraft and is rapidly configurable with a variety of payloads and weapons. With the signing of COMCASA in 2018, the aircraft will also include US communication systems that will allow the Indian Armed Services to be truly interoperable.

MQ-9B provides persistent situational awareness across vast land, open ocean and littoral domains without putting aircrew at risk and more cost effectively than manned aircraft alternatives. Interoperable with NATO, coalition and US forces, the MQ-9B's multi-mission capability makes it a valued asset in all scenarios — from environmental pro-



SeaGuardian is the maritime variant of MQ-9B



GA-ASI's Certifiable Ground Control Station (CGCS) will be used to fly the MQ-9B. In October 2018, the CGCS completed its first flight

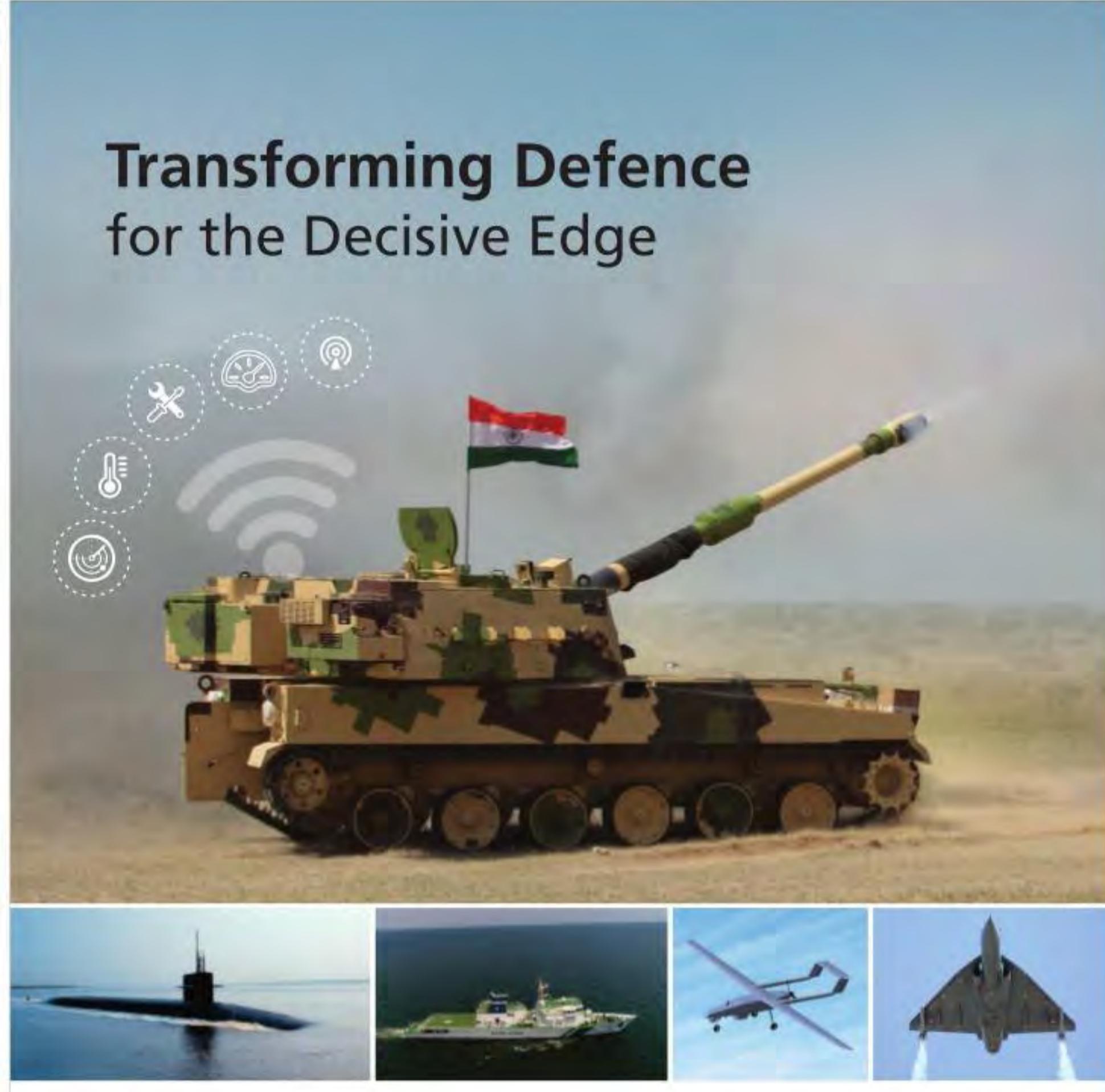


The GA-ASI-developed Detect and Avoid (DAA) system is made up of an Air-to-Air Radar, TCAS II, ADS-B IN/OUT and a Conflict Prediction and Display System. The DAA system provides pilots with real time situational awareness about proximate traffic and real time guidance to 'remain well clear'

tection, disaster relief, combat search and rescue, close-in support to ground troops, multi-spectrum domain awareness to armed military surveillance and targeting.

SeaGuardian features a multi-mode maritime search radar, an Inverse Synthetic Aperture Radar (ISAR), and an Automatic Identification System (AIS) detection capability that provides a true Maritime Wide Area Search (MWAS) that allows for the identification and interdiction of maritime targets. These

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Soldier modernisation picks up pace with rifles and body armour procurement

The Army's efforts to modernise soldiers with advanced weapons and protective gear have seen some success in recent years

NDIA will soon begin induction of a new assault rifle from the American firm SiG Sauer's stable as part of its soldier modernisation, almost 15 years after it first began a search for new infantry weapons to replace the indigenous INSAS rifles. The Indian Army had ordered for 66,400 of these rifles from the US under a fast-track procurement mode, of which 10,000 have been received by the soldiers as the first consignment. The new longer-range SiG716 7.62X51mm calibre rifles have a 500-metre range and the deliveries will be completed in the first quarter of 2020.

The SiG-716 procurement is only to meet the immediate exigencies, whereas the government will continue with its plan to produce 7,45,000 Kalashnikov Concern JSC AK-203 rifles, a variant of the iconic AK-47 rifles with a 300-metre range, under a technology transfer from Russia through a joint venture project at India's Korwa ordnance factory in Uttar Pradesh.

India began a search for new assault rifles in 2005, along with other infantry weapon systems such as 4,58,000 of the close-quarter battle carbines for its 382 infantry battalions, each having a fighting strength of 850 troopers. However, bad technical requirements parameters had led to the cancellation of the tendering process for the infantry weapons repeatedly in the last 14 years. Among the recent emergency purchases by the army for modernisation of its

soldiers include the Beretta's .338 Lapua Magnum Scorpio TGT and Berrett's .50 calibre M95 guns having an effective kill range of 1.5 km to 1.8 km. All these weapons are for deployment along the western border with Pakistan and northern border with China.

Meanwhile, India has been forced to reduce its requirement to just 1,800 sniper rifles and 2.7-million ammunition — just about 30 per cent of its army's total need — driven by budgetary pressures and the need to fast-track the purchase for counter-insurgency troopers. The 1.3 million-strong Indian Army has had to prune its original requirement of 5,720 sniper rifles and 10.2-million ammunition, so that it could prioritise arms purchases and get more modern weapons for its troopers.

The Indian Army has on November 11 last issued a Request for Information (RFI) indicating its search for buying the lowered quantity of 8.6mm sniper rifles and .338 Lapua Magnum ammunition in one year. The Indian armed forces have 4,50,000 infantry soldiers, of whom only half go into ground battle and a very small number of them use the sniper rifle to take out specific enemy targets through precision firing.

The earlier effort by the Army to buy 5,720 sniper rifles in process that began in February 2018 through an RFI and a Request for Proposal in September 2018 was scrapped in July this year after four vendors — US-based Barrett and MSA Global, Indonesia's Pindad PT and Russia's Rosoboronexport — failed to



INDIA BEGAN A SEARCH FOR NEW ASSAULT RIFLES IN 2005, ALONG WITH OTHER INFANTRY WEAPON SYSTEMS SUCH AS 4,58,000 OF THE CLOSE-QUARTER BATTLE CARBINES FOR ITS 382 INFANTRY BATTALIONS, EACH HAVING A FIGHTING STRENGTH OF 850 TROOPERS

meet technical requirements, including technology transfer for manufacturing the ammunition by a local industry.

This was the third time India had scrapped a tender for sniper rifles in the last 10 years. The first RFP issued in 2009-10 under the fast-track procurement procedure had to be retracted because of complaints over the yardsticks adopted for the trials of two vendors, who were down selected. This

was followed by another RFP in 2012-13, but that too was withdrawn over difficult General Staff Qualitative Requirements (GSQRs) formulated by the infantry directorate at the army headquarters. The current requirement for modern sniper rifles envisages a range of 1.2 km and a service life of 10 years or 5,000 rounds, whichever is earlier. The new sniper rifles should not weigh more than 9 kg along with bipod,

empty magazine and telescopic sight.

As far as soldier protection goes, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) of the Government of India had cleared a proposal in October 2009 for capital procurement of 3,53,765 bulletproof jackets. As per the Acceptance of Necessity, the Army was to procure 1,86,138 bulletproof jackets in the 11th plan period in the period 2007-12. During the 12th plan period from 2012 to 2017,

the Army was to procure a further 1,67,597 units of bulletproof jackets.

However, the Army is yet to fulfil its requirement of the 11th plan period. In the 47th report of the Standing Committee on Defence, which was tabled in Parliament in January 2019, the Defence Ministry has noted that delivery of 1,86,138 jackets for which a contract has been signed with a private firm in April 2018 is yet to be completed while 50,000 jackets have been procured through the revenue route to meet immediate requirements.

Acquisition of bulletproof jackets for armed forces personnel continues to remain a challenge for the government even as technology continues to increasingly dominate modern warfare thereby necessitating the state-of-the-art arms and protective gear for soldiers. Lengthy procedures involved in capital procurement for defence forces have resulted in lack of adequate protective gear for soldiers posted in conflict zones and high-risk areas who remain exposed to enemies' bullets.

However, the Army has claimed this year to have indigenously developed the world's lightest full-body bulletproof suit at the College of Military Engineering in Pune. The suit has the capability to withstand 9-mm bullets fired using MP9 carbine from a distance of five metres, sniper bullets fired from a distance of 10 metres, burst rounds of MP9 carbine and grenade splinters of 2 to 4 mm diameter from point blank range.

Sagar Defence Engineering: pioneering indigenous autonomous unmanned systems



Sagar Defence Engineering is a highly skilled start-up, founded in May 2015, with headquarters in Mumbai, striving to meet the never-ending needs of technological competency in the Maritime and Aviation sector. Our areas of expertise include Unmanned Marine Surface Vehicles (UMSV), Unmanned Aerial vehicles (UAV), and Autopilot technology which will revolutionise the future at your fingertips. These vehicles help save lives at sea along with providing actionable insights to make informed decisions in mission-critical scenarios. These vehicles are beneficial for applications including Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR), Mine Counter Measures (MCM), Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Search & Rescue, data gathering

and integration with Satcom and weapon systems. We are one of the leading companies working in the field of Autonomous Unmanned Systems with repeat orders from Indian Armed forces. SDE Retrofittable unmanned Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based command control system for new and existing marine vessels size 1.5 meters to 30 meters and above. It allows smooth integration of existing vessel tonnage into the age of overall safe autonomous shipping, adaptable to all weathers ready to be integrated with state of the art sensors, weapons and satcom. SDE Autonomous systems work closely with a human operator, by utilising levels of "managed autonomy". This allows the operator to focus on the work at hand rather than directly navigating

MDL: Building Indian Navy's fleet

MAZAGON Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) was established nearly over 250 years ago. In 1774, a small dry dock was built to service ships of the British East India Company. With the passage of around 250 years, the yard has grown from a single unit repair establishment into a multi-functional, state-of-the-art shipyard, building various types of warships for the Indian Navy.

It passed through various ownerships like the P&O lines and the British India Steam Navigation Company, till it was taken over by the Government of India and established as a Public Sector Undertaking under the Ministry of Defence in 1960. It is today the country's premier and lead warship building yard.

Today, MDL is the premier shipbuilding yard in the country, producing world class, state-of-the-art ships and submarines. Over the last six decades, MDL has delivered over 796 ships/submarines/platforms to various customers both in India and abroad. Out of which 43 have been delivered to the Indian Navy, which form a formidable part of the fleet of the Navy. The range of platforms delivered to various customers range from Destroyers, Stealth Frigates, Submarines, Missile Boats, Corvettes to Offshore Patrol Vessels, Multipurpose Support Vessels, Offshore Supply Vessels, Dredgers, Tugs and Cargo-cum-Passenger Vessels. The main customer for MDL is the Indian Navy. Presently, MDL is involved in building four Stealth Destroyers, four Frigates and four Scorpene class submarines for the Indian Navy. These ships/submarines are slated to be delivered in a staggered manner over the next 6-8 years.

MDL is the only shipyard with a proven track record of constructing conventional submarines and destroyers. The key capabilities with which MDL has achieved and sustained the reputation of being the premier ship building yard includes:

- Integrating Weapon Systems.
- Fabricating three types of Pressure Hull
- Series production capability
- State-of-the-art Shore Integration Facility (SIF) created for complete Combat system integration prior installation. This is the first of its kind in India.



Vice Admiral Narayan Prasad
Chairman and Managing Director, MDL



Launching of Nilgiri on Sep 28, 2019, at Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited

The current order book status consist of four P15B Missile Destroyers, four P17A Stealth Frigates, six Scorpene Submarines and order for Medium Refit and Life Certification (MRLC) of INS Shishumar. Besides, MDL is bidding for P75-I Submarines and refits of warships for the Indian Navy/MoD.

MDL has been continuously striving to enhance the indigenous content in the successive deliveries of ships and submarines. A Make-in-India cell is active in MDL since May 2015 and to further boost and strengthen the indigenisation effort, a dedicated Indigenisation Department has been established in MDL. The yard's efforts and commitment towards indigenisation are evident from the fact that the percentage of indigenisation of surface ships has gone up to 75% approximately.

MDL currently operate from one location in Mumbai, which limits its expansion programme. However, the transfer of title of Nhava Yard to MDL has opened up avenues for growth and expansion. Nhava yard is spread over 37 acres with a 141m long jetty.

MDL is planning to develop the Nhava Yard, a greenfield shipyard to carry out ship building and ship repair activities.

Over the years, the shipyard has created facilities that can handle complex shipbuilding projects. MDL is equipped with the state-of-the-art infrastructure and processes, which include a world class design facility with a futuristic virtual reality centre and sophisticated 3D software.

To keep up with changing times, Mazagon Dock has modernised its facilities to undertake modular construction by investing in a 300 ton Goliath crane, Module Shop with a retractable roof, a second wet basin, a Training Centre and a Submarine Assembly Workshop for a second line of submarines.

With the enhanced infrastructure, now, MDL has the capacity to simultaneously construct 10 warships and 11 submarines.

MDL Stall- Hall 5, S31

The game changer

L&T is turning 'Make in India' into a game changer by developing cutting-edge transformational defence solutions



An Offshore Patrol Vessel



Pinaka Multi Rocket Launcher

TWO years ago, in the spring of 2018, L&T unleashed a thunder in the Indian defence industry by displaying the 1st K9 Vajra self-propelled Howitzer Gun at the DefExpo in Chennai.

Manufactured by L&T Defence to empower the Indian Army, K9 Vajra was the prime attraction in the Make in India Pavilion. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had himself climbed up and posed with it.

Now, two years later, on the back of Defence Minister Rajnath Singh flagging off the 51st K9 Vajra from L&T's Armoured Systems Complex (ASC) in Gujarat on 16 January, L&T is again set to trigger a buzz with its bouquet of capabilities on display at the DefExpo 2020 in Lucknow.

L&T's bouquet of multiple transfor-



Anti-submarine warfare — Indigenous Rocket Launcher

mational defence solutions is topped by wirefed 3D Printing which it is using for manufacturing some critical parts for the defence apparatuses.

This is a crucial element for a host of defence solutions and cutting-edge technologies that L&T Defence has either developed or is developing by leveraging digitalisation, Industry 4.0, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and Augmented Reality/Virtual Reality.

Warfare, these days, is emerging to be dominated by unmanned as well as stand-off capabilities. L&T Defence has developed AI-based image fusion for surveillance, saboteur, and Internet of Things (IoT)-based health monitoring of weapon systems, warships, etc.

At the DefExpo in Lucknow, prototypes or simulations of many of these will be on display at the L&T stall.

It will include unmanned aerial vehicles, unmanned battle tanks and autonomous ground vehicles, autonomous underwater vehicles and many more.

Tricky questions remain for Indian Navy's carrier-borne combat jet

At present, INS Vikramaditya is the only operational aircraft carrier.

INS Vikrant is still under construction at the Cochin Shipyard and could take two years or more to become operational



INS Vikramaditya

THE Indian Navy's plans to have a new carrier-borne combat jet to operate off its current and future aircraft carriers is in a state of flux. The Indian Navy has already rejected the use of the Light Combat Aircraft's naval variant from its existing aircraft carrier, INS Vikramaditya, or its near future one, Vikrant.

At present, the Russian-origin INS Vikramaditya is the only operational aircraft carrier in Indian Navy's service. Vikrant is still under construction at the Cochin Shipyard and could take another two years or more to be ready for operational commissioning as an Indian Navy Ship. The Vikramaditya operates the Russian-origin MiG-29K and has a strength of two squadrons on board.

Previously, until three years ago, the LCA-Navy was considered to be the complement to MiG-29K on board the INS Vikramaditya and Vikrant. The then Navy chief Admiral Sunil Lanba punctured that balloon by rejecting the LCA-Navy on the grounds that it is way too heavier to be operating off the flight deck of Vikramaditya and Vikrant.

However, the Indian Navy has continued to invest in the LCA-Navy so that the technologies that the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) works on under this programme could be of use in the future. The LCA-Navy will only be a technology demonstrator. To show the viability of an indigenously built combat jet operating off the aircraft carrier, the DRDO, with the help of naval test pilots, flew the LCA-Navy and carried out successful arrested landing and take-off from the ski jump ramp of INS Vikramaditya on January 11 and 12 this year.

Accordingly, the Navy and its present chief Admiral Karambir Singh have made it clear that the force will now invest its money and energies on a futuristic twin-engine carrier-borne combat jet that the DRDO has just taken up to work on.

The twin-engine jet — let us tentatively call it the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft-Navy (AMCA-Navy) — will be the future combat jet to operate from the Indigenous Aircraft Carriers and this could take around 10 years or more to become a reality. The DRDO has, however, offered to get it ready in another six to seven years, that's by 2026. If the AMCA-Navy is ready on time and according to the qualitative requirements that are projected, then the Navy assured the DRDO that it will certainly take the jet and operationalise it on the future IACs.

The Navy has also indicated that its Request for Information for a carrier-based fighter aircraft requirement is being pursued, after all the major aircraft manufacturers have responded to the request. Under that procurement programme, India is looking for



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INTERVIEW | Dr Deepak Kumar Hota, CMD, BEML

What are your expectations from the DefExpo 2020?

At the DEFEXPO 2020, we will be showcasing BEML's capability, promote our defence products, interact with probable customers to understand their requirements for supplying of specific products. We also look forward to meeting with foreign delegates to explore collaboration and joint ventures with foreign companies. Moreover, it is also an opportunity to network with MSME and start-ups for maximising localisation / indigenisation.



What technologies and platforms do you hope Indian agencies would be interested (benefit) in future?

The theme of this year's DEFEXPO is 'Digital Transformation' and the Indian agencies will be looking for Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based equipment and armoured vehicles in future.

Will BEML be looking to build strategic alliances at DefExpo 2020? What kind of partnerships is BEML currently interested in?

BEML are looking at having a JV with technology partner for manufacturing of defence spare parts in one of the defence corridors of India in order to reduce import burden and develop manufacturing

ecosystem amongst MSMEs.

In addition to this, BEML is also signing MoUs and NDA with strategic OEMs for introducing new products under 'Make in India' initiative during DEFEXPO 2020.

What will BEML be showcasing at DefExpo 2020? What are the latest developments with regard to defence machinery at BEML?

Our main focus at DefExpo 2020 is to showcase BEML's capability, promote our Defence products, interact with probable customers to understand their requirements for supplying of specific products. We also look forward to meeting with foreign delegates to explore collaboration

and joint ventures with foreign companies. Moreover, it is also an opportunity to network with MSME and start-ups for maximising localisation / indigenisation.

In line with theme of 'Digital Transformation', BEML is launching AI-based Mobile health care diagnosis system to address the medical needs of the Armed forces. Further, the BEML has initiated development of autonomous ground vehicle to meet MoD's requirement. BEML is planning to implement Industry 4.0 across its divisions in a phased manner.

Further, BEML is also showcasing new crew protected vehicles like Medium Bullet Proof Vehicles and Armoured Troop Carriers, Bulldozer with Hydrostatic Transmission drive technology (BD50HST) and 20T class heavy transportation vehicles in its outdoor stall.

BEML has ventured into crew protected vehicle segment like Medium Bullet Proof Vehicles and Armoured Troop Carriers. Apart from this, BEML is in the process of manufacturing truck mounted excavators, high capacity engine to DRDO, Artificial Intelligence base mobile medical health & diagnostic systems & autonomous ground vehicles (tracked & wheeled), Mounted Gun Systems in association with OFB, indigenously developed Infrared Signature Suppression systems for Indian Navy etc.

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India puts in place mechanisms to raise cyber, space, special operations command

In these three critical assets, personnel from the Army, Navy and Air Force would be pooled in to achieve oneness in various operations carried out by the armed forces. They will report to the newly appointed Chief of Defence Staff



WITH approvals from the Narendra Modi government, India's armed forces have begun raising three key agencies that will secure India from inimical attacks on its critical cyber and space assets, apart from one for special operations such as the surgical strike carried out by the army in September 2016 deep inside Pakistan territory.

While the Defence Cyber Agency (DCA) will be spearheaded by the Indian Navy, the Defence Space Agency (DSA) will be under the leadership of the Indian Air Force and the Armed Forces Special Operations Division (AFSOD) under the Indian Army. The raising of the three agencies began two years ago. While DCA and DSA are based in New Delhi, AFSOD will be in Agra.

However, all these three critical assets for both defensive and offensive capabilities for the Indian armed forces would be tri-services units, where personnel from the army, navy and air force would be pooled in to achieve jointness in the respective agency's operations. The three agencies will report to the newly appointed Chief of Defence Staff, General Bipin Rawat.

The three agencies are a precursor to the end state of having independent tri-services military commands, on the lines of the Andaman and Nicobar Command in Port Blair or the Strategic Forces Command in New Delhi.

While the three agencies are looking at a battalion-strength of around 1,000 personnel to raise initially and begin working jointly for a common cause and goal, these would be larger formations when the envisaged end state of optimal capabilities are achieved. The three agencies will ultimately become separate command-level formations headed by a three-star General Officer or equivalents in the navy and the air force, having appointments as commanders-in-chief.

The three agencies, in particular the cyber agency, should become a national asset for both defensive and offensive cyber operations to protect Indian systems from attacks, especially from adversaries such as China. India should both save its assets as well as neutralise attacks on its assets for which offensive capability is to be developed as a deterrent.

The cyber agency team is going through training with the National Technical Research Organisation (NTRO), a spying unit, under the Cabinet Secretariat. The current focus of the cyber agency is to create assets for both defensive and offensive capability.

India had in November 2019 faced a cyber-attack on its nuclear facility in Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu. While India has an Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT), an office within the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, to tackle cyber-attacks on civilian assets, the Defence Cyber Agency, as the name suggests, is for the armed forces.

The Indian testing of an anti-satellite weapon came earlier this year, over 12 years after China had demonstrated its capabilities in this regard in 2007. This development

The three agencies will ultimately become separate command-level formations headed by a three-star General or equivalents in the Navy and Air Force. These agencies should become a national asset for defensive and offensive cyber operations

opment in the neighbourhood had disturbed the military balance in the Asian continent, with India later focusing on building its space-based military capability. The Defence Space Agency is an outcome of the concern that India had against the Chinese ASAT capability.

The 26/11 Mumbai terror attack and the bitter experience of the special forces, both civilian and military, in coordinating their anti-terrorist operations during these crucial 72 hours had led to the realisation of jointness and the consequence of that experience is the AFSOD. That 2008 operations, along with the imperative that special operations are truly specialist military activity, has led to the creation of the AFSOD.

While the three agencies currently have battalion-sized force of around 1,000 personnel each, when these finally become Commands, their force level would not necessarily have an accretion to match the Indian Army's Command size of around 90,000 troopers. In the army's organisational structure, a Battalion comprises of around 1,000 soldiers, a Brigade has around 3,500 soldiers, a Division around 10,000 and a Corps around 30,000 troopers.

The final size of the Cyber, Space and Special Operations Commands will be firmed up according to requirement envisaged when the stage comes for the Command level ramping up of the formation. Thus, the Indian military planners have made a wise decision to come up with three new tri-services formations that will report to the CDS in the command structure yet will be national sword arms in the respective spheres of national and military activities.

The appointment of Chief of Defence Staff has only increased the possibility of more such tri-services organisations coming up in the near future, as the government has given only three years to General Bipin Rawat to achieve jointness in operations, procurement and training among the army, navy and air force.

As such, General Rawat has already kicked off by asking the Integrated Defence Staff headquarter to prepare a blueprint for the creation of a joint Air Defence Command where elements of the three armed forces that handle air defence duties be combined.

That apart, the CDS is also tasked with the theaterisation of the armed forces, which means there would be single command in place having elements of the three services, such as in the Andaman and Nicobar Command currently. Already, there is talk of the creation of a China-focused command to manage the affairs along the 4,058-km long Line of Actual Control and having headquarters at a location in Uttar Pradesh.

Another similar proposal is to have a Peninsular Command comprising the territories of states falling below the Vindhyas such as Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra that will be responsible for the defence of South India abutting the Indian Ocean, Bay of Bengal and the Arabian Sea coastal areas too.

All these reforms by the government in the defence set up is expected to change the organisational structure of the armed forces of India to become a lean and mean war-fighting machine in the years to come.



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BRAHMOS Galvanizing India's military might

INDIA'S comprehensive military modernisation drive in a rapidly shifting world order has received an unprecedented fillip by the successful operationalisation of a new-age precision strike weapon BrahMos, which has emphatically established its credence as the "world's best and deadliest" cruise missile system having the capability to be launched from land, sea, sub-sea and air platforms to precisely strike down and completely obliterate strategic enemy positions on ground or sea within no time.

BrahMos, deployed with the Indian Armed Forces for more than 15 years, has charted a highly successful trajectory and carved a niche for itself since its maiden successful test firing in June 2001. The supersonic cruise missile has been tested for over 70 times from ground, sea/sub-sea and air platforms since then — a world record in itself, and proved its mettle time and again.

BrahMos has been deployed with the Indian Navy since 2005, and with the Indian Army since 2007. The Indian Air Force has also raised land-attack BrahMos squadron. Having the versatility to be launched from multiple platforms for multi-role missions, the formidable missile has established itself as an "ultimate force multiplier" for network-centric warfare operations.

BrahMos Aerospace, the Joint Venture (JV) enterprise between India's DRDO and Russia's NPOM responsible for the design, development, production, testing, delivery and marketing of BrahMos Weapon System, has achieved glorious milestones in taking the "world-class" missile programme to newer heights. The successful development, integration and flight testing of the highly advanced BrahMos ALCM was formally inducted into the Indian Air Force on January 20, 2020, with the commissioning of the formidable "Tiger-sharks" squadron of Su-30MKI armed with the powerful air-to-ground weapon at the Thanjavur Air Base in Tamil Nadu to keep a 'strategic eye' over the Indian Ocean Region ensuring peace, tranquillity and prosperity.



Dr Sudhir K Mishra, DG (BrahMos), DRDO & CEO & MD of BrahMos Aerospace



supersonic cruise missile triad.

Being the heaviest and most powerful "stand-off" weapon to be deployed onto the supersonic super-maneuvrable Su-30MKI fighter aircraft, BrahMos has added an unparalleled edge to the IAF's capability to carry out modern air combat operations from large ranges in day and night and all-weather conditions.

After undergoing a series of successful test firings from the Su-30MKI fighter aircraft against sea and ground targets in 2017 and 2019 and validating its deadly precision strike capability, BrahMos ALCM was formally inducted into the Indian Air Force on January 20, 2020, with the commissioning of the formidable "Tiger-sharks" squadron of Su-30MKI armed with the powerful air-to-ground weapon at the Thanjavur Air Base in Tamil Nadu to keep a 'strategic eye' over the Indian Ocean Region ensuring peace, tranquillity and prosperity.

"BrahMos is a very well-proven weapon

system which has been adopted by the Indian Armed Forces. It is one such unique missile which can be used for land, sea as well as air operations, thus ensuring a decisive outcome in an integrated, highly complex battlefield situation," says Dr Sudhir K Mishra, DG (BrahMos), DRDO & CEO & MD of BrahMos Aerospace.

DRDO has steadfastly driven forth India's defence indigenisation efforts by steadily increasing the domestically-built components in the weapon system. Successful test firings of the missile's land-attack variant in 2019 involving major indigenous parts, including guidance system, power supply system, airframe, etc., among other critical components, have reinforced BrahMos's commitment to the government's flagship "Make-In-India" programme. With the contribution of DRDO scientists and BrahMos engineers along with the support of its major industry partners, BrahMos has also realised the nose cap and canister technology for the missile. Additionally, all launcher systems, ground support equipment, and test equipment for the weapon are also being manufactured domestically since the programme's inception.

With a "Mind to Market" concept, the formidable BrahMos has swiftly marched ahead in its illustrious journey and has become a much sought-after weapon worldwide today. Many countries across continents have expressed strong interest in acquiring the powerful missile for their armed forces. Any decision to export BrahMos to responsible, friendly nations would be jointly taken by the governments of India and Russia.

BrahMos Aerospace, meanwhile, has made itself fully geared up and ready to fulfil all export related deliveries if any decision is taken on this front. Once cleared for export, BrahMos would establish India as a major weapon exporting nation in the world.

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