OPINION 8

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Published From

KANGANA TALKS ABOUT STRONG WILL

NEW DELHI, TUESDAY JULY 3, 2018; PAGES 16 ₹3 the pioneer

ABOUT DISMANTLING NUKES

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Macabre tale of Burari 'pipe' dream SC to speed 11 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 11 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 12 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 13 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 14 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 15 pipes of the claim late 16 pipes of the claim late 17 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 18 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 19 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 19 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 10 pipes of the claim late 10 pipes of the claim late 11 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 12 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 13 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 14 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 15 pipes of the claim late 16 pipes of the claim late 17 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 18 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 19 pipes exiting outer wall substantiate 19 pipes of the claim late 19 pipes of the claim late 19 pipes of the claim late 10 pipes of the claim late 11 pipes of the claim late 12 pipes of the claim late 13 pipes of the claim late 14 pipes of the claim late 15 pipes of the claim late 16 pipes of the claim late 17 pipes of the claim late 18 pipes of the claim late 19 pipes of the claim late 10 pipes of the claim late 11 pipes of the claim late 12 pipes of the claim late 12 pipes of the claim late 13 pipes of the claim late 14 pipes of the cl

father dictated terms in his dreams; police don't rule out tantric's role

PRAMOD KUMAR SINGH

The probe into the mysterious death of 11 members of a family in North Delhi's Burari area on Sunday morning has revealed strange and chilling details pertaining to sorcery and apparition of the late father of the Bhatia family.

The notes recovered by the Delhi Police from the Bhatias' house indicate that Lalit, the 42-year-old male member of the family, was deeply influenced by his departed father's soul as he used to claim to have seen him in his dreams and his father had often guided him to do things. Some of the notes stated that "one will not die" but attain something "great", a police officer said.

Lalit had narrated his dream sequences with his father's soul to his family members and relatives and they had then claimed to have attained success by following the soul's orders. "We are now investigating whether the soul of his father was dictating him to leave this world or he (Lalit) was just hallucinating," said a

Investigators are flum-moxed to find 11 pipes in vicinity protruding from the outer wall of the house even as there is no need for water outlet there. Four of the pipes point straight while other four are bent. One pipe is a little away from the others. Sources said the positioning of pipes on the outer wall does point towards some occult influence over the family. The police are investigating the significance of

the pipes.

Though the police suspect that the deaths were part of a suicide pact carried out in accordance with a superstitious practice, it has not ruled out the involvement of some outsiders or a tantric who could have been present in the house on the fateful Saturday night to guide the family to perform the "saadhna" that the family may have rehearsed early. "We have identified a particular sorcerer who was in touch with the family and could have played a role in the deaths of all the 11 members of Bhatia family," police said.
The Delhi Police is also

probing whether Bhatias had bequeathed their property to someone, say a tantric or an astrologer. Cops are also verifying financial transactions to know whether they had transferred money to any particular account. This will throw some light in identifying the mysterious man who could have cast a spell on the family to do away with the worldly belongings, said the official.



The "mysterious" 11 pipes protruding out of the house where 11 members of the family were found dead in Burari, on Monday

Crime Branch officials said the 16-page handwritten note contains details of a "Badh puja" (a ritual, which means everybody should hang like the branches of a banyan tree"). Everybody should be on board, it was asserted in the note. According to tantric rituals, Badh puja is performed for longevity but the vivid description of this ritual in the note recovered from the house has

left the investigators perplexed. The notes said no one should use phone, so six phones were found together on silent mode.

Senior police officials involved in the probe said they are probing the case from different angles as this is "one of its kind case" where 11 members of a family from 12 years to 77 may entered into some pact to die together. The CCTV footage procured from the



residence in Burari, for cremation at Nigambodh Ghat in Delhi on Monday

neighbour's house showed Lalit entering his house with his pet Labrodor around 11.15 pm on Sunday. There was no movement afterwards, they said. We are also probing the role of a tantric or an astrologer who practiced occult and was inside their house and somehow managed to evade the CCTV installed in the neighbourhood, said the police.

We have scanned the notes written on two registers kept in the house. Writing experts who were roped in to throw some light on the writing patterns have opined that there are chances of the involvement of an outsider whose influence was quite overbearing on the family," the official said.

Handwritten notes and a diary indicate the deaths were planned and that the family followed so-called instructions for "mass salvation"

However, a relative sus-

pects foul play in the incident, saying, "they were educated

people and not superstitious". Ketan Nagpal, whose maternal grandmother was one of the deceased, alleged they were killed and dismissed the police theory that it could be a

case of "suicide pact".

Nagpal contended that even if they had to commit suicide, they would not have cov ered their faces and taped their mouth. Another relative said they had spoken to the family on the fateful night. They sounded "normal" and did not show any signs of depression, he added. "The family did not have enmity with anyone. But we suspect someone killed them," he alleged.

The relatives claimed that there was no "religious angle" linked to the deaths. See P3: □ 2 surviving members

contest suicide theory Mental health experts suggest psychological autopsy

nikah halala

Woman facing eviction from her in-laws' home seeks urgent listing

PNS NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday decided to fasttrack the hearing on petitions challenging Muslim personal law practices of polygamy and nikah halala after one of the petitioners approached the court claiming her in-laws are putting pressure on her to withdraw the petition or face eviction from her matrimonial home.

Reacting to the plea of aggrieved woman Shameena Begum, the SC Bench, headed by Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra, directed the Centre to file its response on the validity of these practices. The CJI indicated a Constitution Bench will be formed to hear the mat-ter. On March 26, a three-judge Bench headed by the CJI had issued notice on a bunch of four petitions, including that of Shameena, and referred the matter to a larger Bench.

Shameena's lawyer told the court her client is under tremendous pressure to withdraw the case against her in-laws and demanded an urgent



somehow got dropped from the Advanced List. The Government will file its response at the earliest, Additional Solicitor General

Tushar Mehta informed the court. The court assured the petitioner that once the Centre files its response, an appropriate Bench will be formed to hear the petitions. The petitioners drew

strength from a recent verdict of the SC that by a 3:2 majority declared instant triple talaq as unconstitutional. Nikah halala is a consequence of instant triple talaq where a Muslim woman intending to remarry her divorced husband needs to marry another man and obtain divorce from him.

Continued on Page 4

Interpol issues notice to find, extradite Nirav

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Accepting the Central Bureau of Investigation's request, the Interpol has issued a red corner notice (RCN) against billionaire diamantaire the ₹13,500 crore Punjab National Bank (PNB) scam.

The Interpol has listed money laundering charges levelled by Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the CBI in the RCN.

In its RCN, the Interpol has asked its 192 member countries to arrest or detain the person if spotted in their countries after which extradition or deportation proceedings can begin. Along with Nirav, Interpol RCN has been issued against his brother Neeshal Modi and close aide Subhash Parab in the PNB scam.

Nirav, along with his wife Ami Modi, a US citizen, brother Nishal, a Belgian citizen, and uncle Mehul Choksi, all accused in the CBI FIRs in the case, had left the country in the first week of January, weeks before country's biggest banking scam surfaced.



RCN is issued to seek the location and arrest of a person wanted by a judicial jurisdiction or an international tribunal with a view to his/her extradition. 'The notice was issued on

June 29 but has been made public on Monday by the International police cooperation agency," said sources, adding that it will make unhin-dered movement of Nirav across border difficult and might lead to his arrest. The Interpol has issued the RCN on the basis of charge sheet filed by the CBI in a special court in Mumbai and the arrest warrant issued by the judge Special JC

16,500 trees in Delhi survive felling till NGT takes call on July 19

SAPNA SINGH NEW DELHI

Das the National Green Tribunal (NGT) stayed felling of 16,500 trees in South Delhi colonies to build residential complex till further hearing.

The NGT on Monday not only directed the National Building Construction Corporation (NBCC) and Central Public Works Development (CPWD) to not cut trees but also served a notices on them and asked Government agencies to submit their replies before next

hearing on July 19. Showing concern about trees felling, the Bench headed by acting Chairperson Justice Jawad Rahim issued notice to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoUD), the Central pollution Control Board (ĈPCB) and other Government agencies and asked them to file their replies Continued on Page 4 | before next hearing, other



agencies served notice are Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), COF Delhi Police, New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) CPWD, Delhi Development Authority (DDA), South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) and NBCC.

The Bench also directed the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF &CC) to submit a

Continued on Page 4

Cong plans dole bait to woo jobless

As Assembly polls inch closer, party tries to cash in on unemployment

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ NEW DELHI

unemployed youths in a big way in the upcoming State Assembly polls. The party is planning to promise job guarantee to educated youths and a "respectable" unemployment allowance similar to that in some European countries if the job is not provided to deserving ones. The idea is to exploit growing resentment among the youth against the Narendra Modi Government for failing to

tackle the unemployment issue. AICC sources said the Youth Congress wing of the party will prepare the "employment charter" and the format required to reach out to the needy.

The party believes that in poll-bound Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan, the party can do well if it targets the young voters in the age group of 18-30 years. The voters in the age group would be

registered and a proof of the same will be handed to them which can be "encashed" for job by the beneficiary if the

party forms Governments.
"Ours will be a promise to be made and not the election jumla," said the AICC source recalling how BJP chief Amit Shah termed 'chunavi jumla' to the party and Prime Minister Modi in the run up to 2014 General Elections. There will also be a

scheme where the administration can think upon to give unemployment allowance to those who have a certain classified degree but somehow not getting jobs But this idea is just in discussion round because how

much assurance of an allowance could be met is being deliberated. We are studying the MNREGA pattern for this," said the AICC leader. With such type of new

schemes to lure voters, the Congress is in fact focusing on the young voters for the 2019 Lok Sabha elections.

A similar exercise to woo young voters was carried out in Karnataka during the elections campaign where the Congress for the first time reached out to



Gandhi too conducted ses-Also, the grand old party has launched a fellowship public policy programme "Future of India" to reach out to stu-

some of them party chief Rahul

dents. The programme is being executed by the party's student body, National Students' Union of India (NSUI).

According to the NSUI, this fellowship will include public administration and management, bridge the 'Bharat Vs India' divide, country's legal system, the fundamentals of democratic countries, electoral management

and conflict management in a

democracy.
"To improve the quality of public discourse by facilitating substantive, issue-based discussions, broad-base the NSUI platform to offer space for multiple forms of political activity and give bright young people an opportunity to engage with the Congress leaders they may otherwise not have access to," said Ruchi Gupta, AICC secretary

incharge of the NSUI. The fellowship will allow anyone - students and professionals under the age of 30 -to interact with Congress leaders, like Sam Pitroda, P Chidambaram, Salman Khurshid, Shashi Tharoor, Jairam Ramesh, Sachin Pilot among others.

Money can't buy happiness, but this period

Delhi CM, the Dalai Lama launch **Happiness Curriculum for Govt** schools from nursery to Class VIII

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

To create cheerful environment for budding nation-Delhi builders, the Government on Monday launched "Happiness Curriculum" for students of Government schools. The curriculum will involve a "Happiness" period of 45 minutes for all students studying in nursery up to class VIII at all the Delhi Government schools. Each class will begin with a five minute meditation practice.

Encouraging young minds on the occasion, spiritual leader the Dalai Lama said India can lead the world by uniting the modern and ancient knowledge and help it overcome

negative emotions.

Congratulating the Delhi Government for its initiative to include "Happiness curriculum" in its schools, the Dalai Lama said, "Only India has the ability to combine modern education with ancient knowledge which is necessary for fulfilment of human emotions."

He said such a combination will pave way for physical and mental well-being, solving troubles caused due to negative and destructive emotions like

anger, hatred and jealousy. The Dalai Lama called for revival of the ancient Indian knowledge in the country of its origin and its subsequent spread across the world, including the countries following Buddhism.







the launch of Happiness Curriculum at Thyagaraj Sports Complex in New Delhi on Monday

"By reviving this ancient Education Minister, Manish knowledge, India can become the modern Guru," he said.

Seeking blessings from the Dalai Lama, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal termed the occasion "historical". Kejriwal termed the 'Happiness curriculum' launched on Monday as the third stage of reforms in education sector initiated by his Government after focusing on infrastructure development and motivation of teachers at the Government schools.

"Education is our topmost priorities. The Centre and other State Governments should give one year, focussing on education at a war-footing," he said.

The Chief Minister said that there was a need to "overhaul" the present education system that has not been able to produce "good human being" and added that "Happiness Curriculum" was a "solid step" towards this aim.

Deputy Chief Minister and

Sisodia, who conceived the curriculum, asserted that the experiment might one day spread across the country and the world as well The effect of this involv-

ing 10 lakh students and around 50,000 teachers can be imagined. It is our belief that the modern day problems like terrorism, corruption and pollution can be solved through schools and a human centric education," Sisodia said.

The Happiness Curriculum, including meditation, value education, and mental exercises, was designed and prepared by a team of 40 Delhi Government teachers, educators and volunteers over a period of six months, he said.

The Ministers of the Delhi Government, besides a large number of teachers and officials of Education directorate of the State Government, attended the function.

CAPSULE

BRAZIL IN QUARTERS WITH 2-0 WIN OVER MEXICO Samara: Neymar and Roberto

Firmino scored the goals as Brazil beat Mexico 2-0 here on Monday to reach the FIFA World Cup quarter-finals, where they will play against Belgium or

46 MALARIA CASES IN DELHI THIS SEASON New Delhi: At least six fresh cases of malaria have been reported during the past week in Delhi, taking the total number of

people affected by the vectorborne disease this season to 46. according to a municipal report released on Monday. **PUNJAB SEEKS DEATH** PENALTY FOR DRUG SELLER

Chandigarh: Faced with criticism from several quarters over alleged spate of deaths due to drug overdose in the State, the Punjab Cabinet on Mondav decided to recommend to the Centre death penalty for drug peddlers and smugglers.

DU admission

Robbers take down portal, students left in lurch

Varsity loses access to internet for hours after miscreants steal internet cable

ABHINAV SINGH NEW DELHI

While admissions to Delhi University (DU) are at its peak, the online process came to halt for hours on Monday morning, this time not because of any "overload" on its server but due to loss of internet network in the university and adjoining areas leaving aspirants in despair.

The network went down as 200 metre of optical fibre cable providing internet connectivity to the university was found missing near Vishwavidyalaya metro station area. According to DU officials the fibre was allegedly stolen by robbers.

Monday being the second day of admission against the third cut-off which was announced on Saturday, quite a good rush was witnessed both for taking admissions and making cancellations.

However, students were left worried as they were not able to download their admis-



Admissions on Monday (Paid) Admissions approved on Monday Admissions Cancelled on Monday 742 Total Admissions till Date *65 percent of DU UG seats are already filled.

sion application form nor were able to pay the fees on the DU portal. The chaos which started in the morning lasted till 1 pm in the afternoon until the issue is resolved and the connection was resumed.

According to Sanjeev Singh, Director, Delhi University Computer Centre (DUCC) only "intranet" worked while the "internet" network went down.

The colleges were able to do the admission and send the data as the intranet which is our internal network was still at work. However, the internet was not working as result students were not able to download admission application form nor

were able to pay the fees as the fee gateway is also outside the purview of university's internal network," said Sanjeev Singh. Only those students who downloaded their form by 4 am were able to take admissions.

Keeping in view the pre-cious loss of time at the peak of admission process the DU has decided to extend the admission process by a day. Thus the admissions against the third cut-off slated to end on Tuesday will now last till Wednesday

The DU has brought the incident to the notice of National Informatics Centre (NIC) and RailTel, said DU

2 of dengue

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

With 12 fresh cases of malaria, the total number of people hit by the disease has reached to 90 this year, according to a data released by the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC) on Monday. While only two fresh cases of dengue were reported in the city between June 23 and 30, taking the total number of cases to 58. The trend reflects that malaria continues to spread faster than dengue in the national Capital.

The report of SDMC the

said domestic breeding checkers have found mosquitobreeding in 42,547 households in the city till June 30. It said 48,521 legal notices have been served for various violations and "3,506 prosecutions have been initiated".

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Baijal on June 28 directed local bodies and other agencies to intensify vector-control measures. Baijal also asked for regular review meetings at the level of district magistrates with all stakeholders to review the situation in their respective districts.

Baijal had directed officials of municipal corporations to intensify vector-control measures by domestic breeding checkers and to distribute



Information Education and Communication (IEC) material for creating public awareness in identified high risk wards and underprivileged areas, unauthorised colonies, JJ clusters, construction sites etc.

Ten people died due to dengue in Delhi last year, according to South Delhi Municipal Corporation. Five of the victims were not Delhi residents, but they died in the city. Overall, the vector-borne disease has affected 9,271 people in the city last year.

The total number of the people affected by dengue was 9,271in 2017 and the numbers of malaria and chikungunya cases recorded in 2017 stood at 1,142 and 940 respectively. Of the 9,271 dengue cases, 4,726 patients were from Delhi, while 4,545 had come to the city from other states for treatment.

Dengue and chikungunya are caused by Aedes Aegypti mosquito, which breeds in clean water. The female Anopheles mosquito, which causes malaria, breeds in both clean and muddy water.

12 fresh cases of Come July 5, Goel to take out march malaria reported, to save havelis of Chandni Chowk

Union Minister says the area has become like Mumbai's slum Dharavi, blames city Govt for the mess

STAFF REPORTER IN NEW DELHI

Das becoming Worse than Dharavi of Mumbai, Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Vijay Goel on Monday said he will march on July 5 demanding Shahjahanabad development board to take prompt action to save the havelis of Chandni Chowk and to prevent the area from illegal construction.

The Chandni Chowk, which should have been included in the UNESCO Heritage List, has become as crappy and dirty like Mumbai's slum Dharavi" said the Minister.

Attacking Delhi Government, he said, "The entire Cabinet of the Delhi Government did not do anything except protest against the Lieutenant Governor. If they protest here in the Chandni Chowk, then at least they could know about the problems.

Goel said 'Shahjahanabad Development Board' of the Delhi Government is responsible for the development of the



area but the Board has only passed the proposals in the

Apart from the Delhi Government, the former BJP president also condemned . Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) officials for not being able to stop illegal con-structions. He said he had complained to the municipal commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner of the area about the rest of the havelis of the Chandni Chowk but no action was being taken.

"The biggest example of corruption in the municipal corporation is the building adjacent to the Town Hall. The building was so weak and a structure on its first floor fell down recently. Now a big casket shaped building has been constructed on it, which looks like the black spot on the beauty of this area," the Minister

Goel said his biggest concern is the destruction of a Havelis every day. In the previous survey of Delhi Government 551 havelis were marked. "These havelis are now being destroyed every day and are turning into a market and the metro has become the saviour of Chandni Chowk. According to the Minister, when he last visited the place, he found that havelis were getting destroyed one by one in 'Kucha Patiram' in Sitaram Bazaar and now the havelis in Balimaran are also being

2 national level players of kabaddi among gang of 10 robbers busted

SP SINGH GHAZIABAD

The Ghaziabad police bust-L ed a gang of 10 robbers, two of them national players of kabaddi (under-19 category), who after robbing passengers in the upper Ganga Canal area, bought whisky and swim in the canal for recreation.

Police have recovered 10 vehicles stolen by the gang and confiscated four mobile phones, fire-arms including an foreign made pistol and seven country made pistols along with live car-tridges and jewelry from the possession of accused. Ghaziabad SSP Vaibhav

Krishna said an all out drive was launched by the Niwari were member of the same gang, were apprehended. According to police, the accused have confessed to their crimes and enabled police to recover 10 motorbikes of different brands, some jewellery

and fire-arms including country made and English pistol along with live cartridges from their possession. The accused are identified

as Ravi Kumar and Harsh Chaudhary of Meerut, Kalkal alias Akash a resident of Modi Nagar, Prashant and Sumit both residents of Sikrod of Ghaziabad and both had participated in the national game of Kabaddi in category under 19.

Vikas Tyagi , Nikhil and Ashu Chaudhary all three residents of Sardhana in Meerut. Nikhil and Ashu were students of BTech and LLB. Harsh a resident of Sikrod and Rahis a resident of Sardhana.

"They confessed that they Ghaziabad in upper Ganges canal area. They used to rob the passengers bought whiskey and enjoyed in swimming in upper Ganges canal. They used to have meal on road side Dhabas" said SSP Vaibhav Krishna.



Mobile connectivity in underground metro to improve as DMRC acts

GAYATHRI MANI | NEW DELHI

fter receiving several com-After receiving several complete plaints from the passengers of very poor mobile connectivity, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has awarded bid for providing mobile network connectivity in all the underground stations of Violet and Magenta line.

The step was taken after a complaint made by consumer activist and advocate Mohit Kumar Gupta. Witnessing the issue daily, Gupta filed a complaint on June 16 at Chirag Dilli Metro Station. But he was disappointed with the reply of the official at the station. "Our network does not work here, complaints. You go network will come tomorrow," the DMRC official replied when Gupta went to file a com-

Gupta made several complaints to the higher officials. DMRC officials got in touch with him. "We would like to inform you that tender for providing mobile network connectivity in all the underground stations of Pink and Magenta line has been awarded and the work of laying infrastructure in tunnels to currently underway and will be completed soon," the communiqué from DMRC read.

However, people have also

PUBLIC NOTICE



complained of poor connection in the heritage corridor (Violet line) from ITO to Kashemere Gate. "It is good that the DMRC is working on to solve the issue but the management should focus on the other stretches also. It's been almost problem in the ITO-Kashemere section is not resolved yet. Even, it connects only after you reach the upper floor. The question is why the management do not complete the work before its opening," said Heena who travels daily in the

The Magenta Line also known as knowledge corridor was inaugurated in May by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It connects to Botanical Garden in Noida from Janakpuri west consisting 25 stations. The pink line has 12 stations connects from Maljis Park to Durgabai Deshmukh South Campus.

Sector-1, Opp. New Ghaziabad Railway Station, Ghaziabad.201002 etter. 1616 /विविध-13/110 dated: 28.06.2018

Construction of 3 nos. Ranneywel

Known to General public that my client Manju Sharma Kvikas Sharma is going to mortage property i.e third floc with roof rights, bearing no. 1817, jo ton 10.5, area 70 s yds, Azad Nagar, Bagh Kare Khan, Padam Naga (Krisnan Ganj) Jebih-110007 with New Habitate Houin Finance Development Ltd. And said Manju Sham uprchased the property from Poonam Kundra an Poonam Kundra purchased the same from Dwarka Dev. And Dwarka Devi became owner of the same widelinquishment deed executed by legal heirs of Shard Ram, Shekharchand, Bharat Bhushan, Ramswaroo Bhardwaj and Omprakash Bhardwaj after death of sai persons. And If any person shard grap destoned the said property in capacity of calaim in respect of the said property in capacity cliegal heris of said Gharda Ram, Shekharchand, Bhara Bhushan, Ramswaroop Shardwaj and Omprakas Bhardwaj and Omprakas Bhardwaj and Omprakas Bhardwaj and Omprakas Bhardwaj and Omprakas de morting of the said property in apacity of the said property in a capacity of the said property in a capacity of real mine said mortingage or in any manner then havy contact the undersign within 15 days of publicatio of this Notice. AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION (M): 9899013918 website www.upjn.org. Rakesh Chandra Kothari

Gurugram admin to crack down on realtors behind illegal colonies PARVESH SHARMA

Tn the wake of complaints Lagainst illegal colonisers duping people of their hard-earned money the District administration said an FIR will be lodged against builders who promote unauthorised colony in Gurugram. District town and country

planning (enforcement) wing will keep a tab on illegal constructions and colonies. Also, the expense of the demolition drive will be charged from the colonizers. Earlier in June the DTCP

had recommended an FIR against 11 persons for carving out an illegal colony in Pataudi colony on April 30, demolishing 54 structures. "All 11 had been accused of

promoting illegal construction without having a valid licence in Pataudi tehsil's Bhora Kalan area. Despite several warning, they had constructed an illegal colony," DTP (enforcement) Rajendra Sharma said. The officials claimed that

the developers did not stop construction work in unauthorised colonies despite the fact that they imposed a ban on registries and also conducted demolition in these areas.

Moreover, buyers will get trapped once they invest money in such illegal colonies where no development will

District town and country planning (enforcement) wing will keep tabs on illegal constructions and colonies

take place in future. 'Developers are not mend-

ing their ways despite several demolition drives so FIR is the last option. The demolition cost will also recover from the colonizers. The action aims at saving people who are duped by such colonizers of lakhs of rupees for purchasing land in such colonies," Deputy Singh, said.

We direct municipal corporations and other agencies to inspect areas under their jurisdictions and file complaints with police wherever unauthorised constructions are found," he said.

Sources in the administration said most of these suspects are private landholders, who in order to cash in on the demand for plots, sell plots or set up colonies without taking approval from the authority.

The matter was raised in a district grievance committee meeting earlier in March, and chief minister Manohar Lal Khattar had directed officials to take strict action.

29 female African nationals found without visas, travel papers in raid

destroyed.

Around 29 female African nationals were allegedly found in suspicious circumstances during a special drive, carried out by the staff of Delhi south district police, with the assistance of the Foreign Regional Registration Office Delhi, according to police sources.

The foreign nationals found could not produce any travel document like their passport or visa. They were also not able to provide proof of identity, even after being given adequate opportunity, following which they were taken to Government hospital for medical examinations. They were Delhi who issued restriction orders against them, according

A senior police official

stated that the raid was conducted from 12 am till 5 am on Monday, after several information and complaints were received about suspicious movements and activities by foreign nationals, in some areas of south district Delhi, in and around Aurobindo Marg and Green Park.

Sources also stated that different teams were formed consisting of police officials and also women staff. The teams were given specified target areas to check and patrol, between AIIMS and Adhchini.

The source also revealed that the female foreign nationals will be given sufficient opportunity to produce their travel documents, failing which parent country. Special drives will further be conducted in certain areas of the South

District, they said.

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVE WORKS, VARANASI - 221 004

Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Maintenance, DLW, Varanasi acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tenders fo the following work: SN.1. Tender No. EL/902/W-1106. Name of Work Provision of ANPR Camera at DLW Gate with 05 Year warranty. Approximate Cost: ₹ 43.58.202.25 (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Two Hundred Two and Twenty Five Paisa only) Completion Period: 06 Months, Tender Cost: ₹ 3,776/- (Rupees Three Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Six Only), Earnest Money ₹ 87,170/- (Rupees Eighty Seven Thousand One Hundred Seventy Only) Tender opening date and time: 31.07.2018 at 15.30 hrs., For details and to participate e-tender visit Indian railways website www.ireps.gov.in. Dy. Chief Electrical Engineer/Maintenan

"Serving Customers with a Smile"



(Two bid tender [Digital Certificate Mandatory]) Tender Fee: ₹ NIL 1700 hrs (IST)

Tenders are invited from reputed firms for onboard Supply of LED LIGHT FITTING for managed vessel MODU SAGAR BHUSHAN. Bids to be submitted online at https://etender.sci.co.in/iri/portal. Interested parties may visit SCI website www.shipindia.com or Govt website www.eprocure.gov.in from 03rd July, 2018 onwards for tender details. المحر السبة الثلثان المحمد المحر

TRANSPORTING GOODS. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform to all concern that Bangali Baboo S/o Late Sh. Gulab Singh R/o 404 Udaigiri Appts

Koshambi Ghaziabad, U.P., who is the original allottee of Res. Flat No. B-350B, Sector-19, Noida (U.P.) had sold the said property on General Power of Attorney basis to the following person(s). General Power of Attorney was executed on 1.1.2003 in favour of Sh. Rakesh Chandra Kothari S/o Sh. Bachi Ram Kothari R/o B-350B, Sector-19, Noida (U.P.) which is registered and the Agreemen to Sell was not registered or not executed Because the Agreement to Sell is not registered or no Agreement to sell executed, so it is informed to all concern that the said Res. Flat No. B-350B, Sector-19, Noida (U.P.) is going to be transferred in favour of Monika Kothari W/o Sh. Rakesh Chandra Kothari R/o B-350B. Sector-19, Noida (U.P.), if any one has/have any objection he/she may file his/her lobiection alongwith the sufficient proof in the Housing Department of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER XVIIIth CIRCLE **UP. JAL NIGAM**

E-TENDER NOTICE E-tender for "Survey, investigation

Cum Pump House, RCC UGR 400kl. 300kl and 300kl with Pump House Cum Chloronome. RCC OHT 2500kl, 2100kl and 2100kl capacity, C.P.Tank 750kl capacity. Rising Main 250mm dia to 700mm dia DI K-7, Feeder Main 200mm dia to 600 mm dia DI Class K-7, Boundary Wall of Ranneywell campus and gate and ground water recharge units including 6 months trial run & defect liability period of 12 months)" works for Ghaziabad (THA) Water Supply Reorganisation Scheme Part-III under AMRUT programme are hereby invited by Jal Nigam, which shall be available at e-procurement website http://etender.up.nic.in from 12.07.2018 at 14:00 hrs onwards upto 25.07.2018 at 16:00 hrs. E-Tender will be opened on dated 26.07.2018 at 16:00 hrs at the office of Superintending Engineer. XVIIIIth Circle, U.P. Jal Nigam, Ghaziabad Detailed information of E-Tender wil be available on U.P. jal Nigan

Open schools in minority populated areas: NCERT **STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

The National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) has recommended opening schools in minority populated areas and giving their culture due representation in curriculum.

It has also suggested that festivals related to religious minorities be celebrated in schools. This all is being done to address various problems like alleged discrimination and harassment of minority community children. Besides some "general

issues of discrimination and harassment faced by children of minorities, minority children go through some other modes of discrimination like a different school and classroom environment, cultural and religious domination", according to a manual drafted for the purpose by the NCERT.



The council has also recommended sensitisation of all

and religious diversity, espe-

cially in relation to religious minorities.

"Children of minorities at times find the prayers in the school assemblies and picture of Gods and Goddesses on the walls alien to them as unfriendly environment.

"Sometimes comments on food habits are found to be offensive by one or the other community. Some of the community members may find different uniform as undesirable," it said. It recommended that due representation of minorities culture in curriculum and pedagogical processes.

should be established in Muslim concentrated areas where the language is likely to be the mother tongue of children, the manual said.

Urdu medium schools

"Ensure option of learning Urdu as a second language and availability of Urdu teachers in such schools," it said.

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Burari death mystery

2 surviving members contest suicide theory

With the Crime branch cops digging their heels to unravel the mystery of the 11 deaths of Bhatia family in Burari area of North Delhi, two of the surviving members of the family, contested the theory that they committed sui-cide. They alleged that the family members were killed.

The Delhi Police are investigating whether the 11 members of one family aged between 15 and 77 killed themselves on Sunday as part of a suicide pact after they found handwritten notes from the house, which indicated a "religious or spiritual angle" to the

The handwritten notes said "the human body is temporary and one can overcome fear by covering their eyes and mouth". Sujata Nagpal — daughter

of the 77-year-old Narayan Devi who was found dead on the floor in the house accused the media of speculating things and circulating suicide theories.

"I used to speak to my mom every alternate day. Everything was going fine within our family. We are a well educated family and do not believe in babas. It's not a case of suicide. Media has been speculating things and publishing wrong info about my family members committing suicide," she said.

Geeta Thakral, Devi's niece, said she suspect someone from outside the family was involved in the deaths.

Thakral came to know about the incident at 6.30 pm yesterday. She said the family was gearing up for the wedding of Priyanka (33), who was among the deceased, and cel-

month. "They were religious like any other normal family. After hearing about various cases involving babas and tantriks, our family hardly believed in them.

"The family business was going fine. There was no fight within the family. They were busy with wedding preparations. They were all happy. So why would they commit suicide at all," she questioned.

The 11 deceased were identified as Devi, who was

found dead on the floor, her daughter Pratibha (57), her two sons Bhavnesh (50) and Lalit Bhatia (45). Bhavnesh's wife Savita (48) and their three children - Meenu (23), Nidhi (25) and Dhruv (15) were among the deceased. Lalit Bhatia's wife Tina (42) and their 15-year-old son shown were also among those found dead along with Pratibha's daughter Priyanka (33). Except Devi, others were found hanging from an iron-mesh in the ceiling, police said.

Post-mortem report of 8 members reveals no signs of struggle: Police

STAFF REPORTER

The post-mortem examination report of eight of the 11 people, who were found dead at their house in north Delhi's Burari locality, has revealed there were no signs of struggle and all of them died as a result of hanging, a senior police officer said on Monday. The autopsy was performed at Lok Nayak hospital by a med-ical board and was videographed.

Eleven members of a family, including seven women and two children, were found dead under mysterious circumstances at their residence on Sunday morning. The postmortem of eight persons, including the two children and their grandmother Narayan Devi, has been carried out and so far, police have not found any signs of strangulation or scuffle, according

Ten of those dead were found hanging from an ironmesh in the ceiling for ventilation, while the body of 77-yearold Narayan was lying on the floor in another room of the

Earlier, it was suspected that Narayan died due to strangulation. But doctors have said that she had died due to "partial hanging", the officer said, adding that a rope was found hanging near her body. It is being probed who took out the rope from her neck, he said.
"From initial examination

it seems that they all died due to ante-mortem hanging. The final report is awaited," the officer said. Those who were found hanging had their mouth taped and their faces covered with cloth pieces cut from a single bed sheet. Only Narayan's face was not covered. The bodies will be handed over to the family for last rites later in the day, the offi-

Mental health experts suggest psychological autopsy

As the deaths of 11 family members in a North Delhi home remained shrouded in home remained sirouded in mystery, mental health experts said on Monday, victims in mass suicide cases generally "show commonalities" and sug-gested that a "psychological autopsy" be conducted in the case to unravel the puzzle.

The deceased, including seven women and two children, were found hanging from an iron-mesh in the ceiling yes-

The incident has baffled investigators and psychiatrists. Police suspect the deaths were part of a suicide pact after handwritten notes found at the house indicated a "religious or spiritual angle".

But two members of the family today dismissed the suicide pact theory and insisted the 11 people were killed. A senior doctor from the department of psychiatry at AIIMS suggested that a "psychological autopsy" be conducted in the case to get to the bottom of the mystery. "In layman's term, a psy-

chological autopsy would mean interacting with the victims' relatives, friends and acquaintances to see if there was any pattern - like if they were reading the same book or similar themed books or were part of any cult or were influenced by any occultist," he told PTI on the condition of anonymity. The doctor said the cause

of the deaths has not been ascertained yet and therefore a 'suicide pact' remains only a theory at this point of time.



A policeman carries papers of post-mortem reports of the family of 11 members who were found hanging in their house in Burari, outside Maulana Azad Hospita Mortuary in New Delhi on Monday

Asked what are the factors that drive people to commit suicide en masse, he said: "People who are emotionally very unstable, gullible or vulnerable are prone to enter into suicide pacts". Generally there are several commonalities in such cases, whether of age, religion or some other aspect.

"In the Burari case, there is an entire spectrum of age from 15 to 77. And the emotional status of a young person is very different from a middle-aged or old person. Also the number 11 in this case is rather overwhelming for committing such

Ten of those dead were found hanging from the ironmesh, while the body of the 77year-old Narayan Devi was lying on the floor in a room of the house. The deceased had their mouth taped and faces covered with pieces of cloth cut from a single bed-sheet. Only Devi' face was not covered. Bhawna Barmi, senior clin-

ical psychologist at Fortis Escorts Hospital in Okhla, said: "A common theme in majority of suicidal cults is that they believe in an apocalyptic the ology."
"Mass or cult suicides

occur mostly in groups that feel

stuck in their lives and they believe that they are unable to control the consequences of their life. Hence, they often believe that death is the only possible option," she said.

This has occurred in a number of cases in the past. Groups of Jews killed themselves or each another to avoid torture, painful execution or being made a slave, Barmi

Asked what are some of the behaviourial signs these people exhibit before taking an extreme step, she said: "Signs include isolation from any group activity or gathering or avoidance of any social interaction with behavioural changes that can be evident if paid attention to."

Other signs include talking about feeling hopeless or having no purpose; talking about feeling trapped or being in unbearable pain; and talking about being a burden to oth-

"The society around such people should be aware of what is happening around us for our own and other's safety. We should be vigilant and remove the idea of being ignorant just because it is convenient," Barmi said.

Running of pet shops: HC upset with Centre for failing to come up with law PTI NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday was displeased with the Centre for not yet finalising the rules to regulate running of pet shops and warned that it will call the Secretary concerned to appear before it if the situation continues



Justice Gita Mittal and Justice C Hari Shankar said the Central Government's stand, for the last three years, that the file on the rules was under examination "conveys noth-

It further said, "We are on the verge of calling the secretary" and listed the matter for further hearing on July 9. The court was hearing a PIL by animal rights activist Gauri Maulekhi, seeking framing of rules under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act to regulate functioning of pet shops

She has alleged in her plea that animals were subjected to intense cruelty in several pet shops. The high court had earlier also told the central government that it cannot wait "indefinitely" for finalising the pet shop rules.

South civic body to roll back hiked taxes for residential properties

Corporation (SDMC) has decided to roll back the increased rate of taxes for non-residential properties measuring less than 150 Square metre for the financial year 2018-19. The properties in question will henceforth be levied tax as per rate applicable colony i.e. 10, 12 and 15 per cent instead of increased rate of 20 per cent taxes, mentioned in the original schedule of taxes for the financial year 2017-18.

It may be recalled that the rates were increased for the financial year 2018-19 in respect of all shops, offices showrooms and warehouse having covered area of less than 150 Square. SDMC Mayor Narender Chawala said that the new rates will come into force

with immediate effect. Standing SDMC Committee Chairperson Shikha Rai said that the schedule of taxes for the financial vear 2018-19 has been modified in order to provide relief to the owners/occupiers of shops, offices, showrooms, including warehouses from where woods are sold. "The owners of the properties will have to pay property tax for the financial year 2018-19 at the rate of taxes applicable in the financial year 2017-18, hence, there will be no hike in the rate of property tax,"

Rai also said that the excess amount of property tax already paid till date on this account in respect of above properties will be adjusted during financial year 2019-20. She added that around 30000 property owners will be benefited with this liberal decision of SDMC. civic body wanted to give relief to the small commercial prop erty owners with an aim to protect them from any enhanced amount of property tax.

Meanwhile, the East Delhi Municipal Corporation (EDMC) announced a rebate in property tax to neutralise the effect of increased tax rate due to implementation of recommendations of 3rd Municipal Valuation Committee (MVC).

Mayor of East Delhi Bipin Bihari on Monday said that the rebate in property tax is being offered as per the recommendations of 1st Municipal Valuation Committee (MVC-I).

As per the new provisions, commercial and non-residential properties of 139.35 square meters or more will fall under A category and are granted exemption equivalent to preexisting MVC-I, he said.

He further said that the rebate is also available on all industrial properties comes under B category as per the recommendations of MVC-I. SR

AAP's Statehood movement attempt to hide its failures, alleges BJP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Hitting out at the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which plans to launch a "movement" from Tuesday demanding full Statehood status for Delhi, the BJP on Monday accused it of trying to "divert" people's attention from the "failures" of its

"BJP is trying to tell the people that full Statehood demand by Kejriwal Government is aimed at diverting attention of people from its failure to deliver in the areas of water and power supply, transportation, education and health," a statement issued by the Delhi BJP read.

The party also claimed that a survey on social media by a Delhi BJP general secretary has revealed that "95 per cent respondents" believe that the AAP's full statehood demand was an attempt to divert attention from "failures" of its government.

Delhi BJP general secretary Kuljeet Chahal said that his party will "actively" use social media to "expose" the Arvind Kejriwal government. He claimed that in the survey being conducted by him on Twitter, there were 8,600 respondents till 7 pm on

People want Centre to inform HC that no trees felled: AAP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Buoyed by the National Green Tribunal's (NGT) putting stay on felling of trees for redevelopment of colony in South Delhi till further orders, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) asserted that the people want that Centre should inform Delhi High Court that the redesigned so that no tree is

The green panel also directed the project proponents to make a categorical statement and inform it about the exact number of trees proposed to be cut for the redevelopment project for about half a dozen colonies.

"The AAP welcomes the order of the NGT to stall any tree cutting by Central Govt's NBCC redevelopment (sic)," the AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bhardwaj tweeted.

He also accused the Buildings National Construction Corporation (NBCC) of not stating in the tribunal that it is "replanning" the whole project.

"HardeepŚPuri, Ur Dept's Media statement and Court statement r different!! (sic)," Bhardwaj said in another tweet. Union Urban Affairs

Minister Hardeep Singh Puri had on last said no trees would be cut in the process of redevelopment of seven colonies in



South Delhi.

national capital's green cover would not be damaged and steps would be taken to enhance it, while asserting that the NBCC and the CPWD entrusted with the task of executing the redevelopment project have been asked to rework and redesign the plans to avoid tree felling.

In a statement, Bhardwaj said, "The AAP appeals to the Central government that they should officially communicate to the Forest Department, Government of Delhi, about their decision to redesign the project.

"As the matter is coming in the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, the people of Delhi also expect that Central govern-ment should officially state before the High Court of Delhi that they are redesigning the entire project so that no tree is felled," he said.

The AAP has alleged that around 17,000 trees are to be cut for redevelopment of the

Delhi till at least July 7. The NCR will remain mostly dry

and temperatures will rise,"

Kuldeep Srivastava, senior

scientist at IMD, told IANS.

over the next two days, some

parts of Delhi may see driz-

ciency of rains in June in

Delhi but as monsoon rains are expected to catch up by

mid-July, the overall rainfall

would be balanced," Srivastava

added.

He, however, added that

"There had been defi-

Tracking devices with GPS in portable water pumps to tackle waterlogging

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In order to deal with water-logging in the city during monsoon, the Delhi Government has decided to install GPS-enabled tracking devices in portable water pumps. The decision is said to be first of its kind move to lem. The move is aimed at ensuring proper accountability of temporary mobile pumps to drain out stagnant water.

Delhi PWD Minister Satyendar Jain has directed officers that the location of the temporary mobile pumps along with their capacity and specification should be uploaded on the department's website, a senior official said.

"The decision was taken at a recent meeting chaired by the minister. He has directed that the temporary mobile pumps should be fitted with GPS so that the pumps can be monitored properly. The password of the GPS trackers should be given to higher authorities for proper monitoring," the official

The official said the department has started working out modalities for introducing the new system in the national cap-

Every monsoon, people in Delhi face water-logging problem, while the authorities often



blame each other for not dealing with the issue properly.

GPS-enabled trackers would help keep a tab of the location of the pumps and if the need arises following complaints of water-logging, nearby portable water pumps can be shifted

In the meeting, which was chaired by the PWD minister, the officials concerned were also directed that de-silting data, details of pumps, manpower and other relevant data must be regularly updated on the department's website.

Last year, de-silting of drains had become a contentious issue between the AAP government and the bureau-

The Delhi Assembly's Petitions Committee had recommended the chief secretary to divest the then principal secretary Ashwani Kumar of his charge in the Public Works Department and Vigilance Department, and to conduct a "detailed inquiry... to fix responsibility for false claims"

City to remain dry with only drizzle in isolated areas till Saturday

IANS NEW DELHI Even as the Met has declared the arrival of monsoon here, the national Capital and surrounding regions will remain dry with only drizzles in isolated areas

till Saturday. The mercury is set to rise through the week and maximum temperatures may hover around 41 to 42 degrees Celsius by the end of this week, officials at the India Meteorological Department (IMD) told IANS.

According to the private weather forecasting agency Skymet, the National Capital Region (NCR) will see good rainfall from July 9.

"There are hardly any chances of good rains in



Earlier, the weather agencies had predicted the arrival of monsoon and good rainfall in the national capital between June 28 and July 1. The scenario changed due to the meteorological reasons.

The axis of monsoon

trough have shifted to the foothills of Himalayas, so the entire north-west plains will remain dry till at least July 7 to 8. The rainfall will return to Delhi around July 9 to 10," Mahesh Palawat, Director of

He added that while north-western plains will remain dry this week, good rainfall was expected in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, eastern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

Skymet, told IANS.

"During the next 24 hours foothills of Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh and eastern parts of Uttarakhand would observe active to vigorous monsoon conditions that could give moderate to heavy rains, with one or two very heavy spells,"

Skymet said.

of de-silting of drains.

Monsoon will remain active over Konkan, Goa and Coastal Karnataka that would

see moderate to heavy showers.

Delhi saw 24 mm rainfall (pre

So far in June (till June 27),

monsoon activity) which is 49 per cent deficient as the normal rains should have been around 47.5mm, according to IMD. For the country as a whole,

overall rainfall has been registered from June 1 to July 1, according to Skymet.

7 per cent deficiency in the

"Division-wise, South and Northwest India are surplus by 13 per cent and 12 per cent respectively. East, Northeast saw 26 per cent deficiency and Central India remained deficit by 6 per cent," Skymet said.

Give us a time frame

for appointing Lokpal

Punjab proposes death for drug peddlers

In the backdrop of a spate of deaths due to drug overdose in the state, Punjab Čabinet on Monday decided to recommend to the Centre death penalty for drug peddlers and smugglers.

The move was aimed to act as a deterrent to the heinous crime, which was "destroying" the lives of youth in Punjab and many other

The decision was taken at a meeting of the Cabinet, chaired by Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh, which resolved to send a formal recommendation soon to the Union Government to this effect, according to an official

called for the meeting to discuss the issue, particularly in the context of the recent spate of deaths due to alleged drug overdose and adulterated drugs in the state.

Opposition parties including AAP and SAD have been criticising the 15-month old Capt Amarinder Singh led Congress government for allegedly failing to contain drug menace in the state despite promising before assembly polls wiping out drugs within four weeks.

There was a widespread outrage over the deaths of youths in several parts of Punjab because of drug overdose and a campaign against the meeting.

drugs called 'Black week against Chitta' was being observed by some activists in the state starting from July 1 in the wake of drug abuse.
The Cabinet also decided

to constitute a special working group under the chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary (Home) N S Kalsi to review and monitor, on a day-to-day basis, the action being taken to check and control drug

The special working group constituted to review and update the government strategy against drugs will have ACS (Health), DGP (Law & Order), DGP (Intelligence) and ADGP (STF) as members, the spokesperson said after



poration, that the deadline for setting up of the storage facility be extended till April 30,

The bench, however, made this year for the purpose, it clear that no further extension of time shall be granted to the corporation for setting up of the AFR at the nuclear plant in Tamil Nadu.

The apex court had earlier allowed the Centre to operationalise the nuclear plant subject to compliance of various safety measures including the safe storage of the spent

Trainee cop held for taking selfie in judge's chair Umaria: A trainee police con-

stable's enthusiasm for 'selfies' landed him in the police lock up after he took his picture while sitting in a senior judge's chair in a court here, an official said on Monday.

Ram Avtar Rawat, 28, the trainee constable at the police academy in Umaria, was later arrested on charges of tres passing, the official said.

On Saturday, Rawat, who was allegedly in an inebriated condition at that time, passed by the district judge's room in the court premises here, Kotwali police station in-charge R B Soni said. On noticing that the room

was open and empty, he went inside, sat in the district judge's chair and started clicking selfies on his mobile phone, Soni The court peon, Shakti

Singh, saw the trainee constable's act and caught hold of

The peon informed court officials who in-turn called the police and Rawat was arrested, Soni said. The police registered a case

against Rawat under Indian Penal Code section 448 (trespass), he added. He was later granted bail at

the police station itself, investigating officer Sarika Sharma **PTI** | man has not been appointed.

in 10 days: SC to Govt The time has come when the Supreme Court should exerhe Supreme Court on cise its powers under Article 142 The Supreme Court of Monday directed the Centre (related to enforcement of to apprise it within 10 days decrees and orders of the apex about the time frame for steps to court) to appoint the Lokpal till such time the Lokpal is not appointed by the government," be taken to appoint anti-graft ombudsman Lokpal in the coun-

A bench of Justices Ranjan Gogoi and R Banumathi said this after Attorney General K K Venugopal, who placed before it The bench, however, said that before passing any order in the matter, it would like to have an affidavit in this regard by the competent authority in the gov-

> "Before passing any order, we would like the competent authority in the Union of India to place before us on affidavit the details of steps which are likely to be taken for appointment of Lokpal, indicating the time frame during which the steps of appointment would be taken,"

When the Attorney General the bench said. referred to the relevant para-The bench posted the matgraphs of the written instructer for hearing on July 17 and tions, the bench said, "We would asked the Centre to file an affilike the concerned officer to say davit within 10 days.

On May 15, the Centre had told the apex court that senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi has been appointed as an eminent jurist in the selection committee for appointment of Lokpal.

Rohatgi was appointed the Attorney General of India on June 19, 2014, soon after the Narendra Modi government assumed power in May



the written instructions which he

had received from the govern-

ment and said that the Lokpal

selection committee would meet

The apex court asked the Centre to file within 10 days an

affidavit indicating the steps which were likely to be taken for

appointing the Lokpal and also

on affidavit whatever he wants to

say". Senior advocate Shanti

Bhushan, appearing for NGO Common Cause which has filed

a contempt petition raising the issue of non-appointment of

Lokpal despite the apex court's judgement of April 27 last year,

said that even after four-and-a-half years, the anti-graft ombuds-

the time frame.

Over 184 special trains to run | Naxal killed during Jagannath Rath Yatra

special trains to and from Puri will be pressed into service during the nine-day Lord Jagannath's Rath Yatra in Odisha from July 14, official sources said.

The trains will ply from Bhubaneswar, Khurda, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Paradip, Berhampur, Bhawanipatna, Keonjhar, Bangiriposi, Palasa and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, Kharagpur, Shalimar in Kolkata between July 14 and 25, an official of East Coast Railway (ECoR) said on Monday.

Fourteen special trains will run towards Puri. One special train each will start from Visakhapatnam, Kharagpur, Shalimar and Junagarh Road for Puri on July 13.

One each train will start Bangiriposi, Kendujhargarh, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Paradeep, Brahmapur, Palasa and three from Khurda Road for Puri on July 14.

In the reverse direction, 14 special trains will leave from Puri for Visakhapatnam, Kharagpur, Shalimar, Junagarh Road, Bangiriposi, Kendujhargarh, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Paradeep, Brahmapur, Palasa and three towards Khurda Road on the Rath

One pair of special train

Puri and two to Khurda Road.
One special train will ply to Bhubaneswar, said the official.

One special train each from Visakhapatnam, Shalimar and Junagarh Road will leave on July 21 from the originating

one each from Bangiriposi, Kendujhargarh, Bhadrak, Cuttack, Paradeep, Brahmapur, Palasa and three from Khurda Road, will be run to Puri on

special trains will be pressed

A total of 13 special trains will be run to Puri for Suna Besha (golden attire of deities) event. As many as 13 special trains will leave from Puri in the reverse directions .IANS

in encounter with police in Chhattisgarh

PTI ■ RAIPUR

A Naxal was gunned down in An encounter with the police in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district, a senior official said on Monday

The face-off took place late last evening at a forest in Etapal village when a team of the District Reserve Guard (DRG) was out on an anti-Naxal operation, Inspector General of Police (anti-Naxal operations) Sundarraj P told The DRG personnel were cordoning off a forest patch

near Etapal, located about 450 km from Raipur, when a group of rebels started firing at them leading to the gun-battle, he After guns fell silent, the body of a Maoist clad in 'uni-

form' was found at the spot, he said, adding that the deceased was yet to be identified. An Insas rifle and some Naxal-related material were also recovered from the spot,

the official said.

State, Board must protect Vaishno Devi shrine, environment: SC

SC extends time till April

2022 for setting up of

The Supreme Court on Monday directed the

Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd (NPCIL) to set up a

facility for safe storage of radio-active spent nuclear fuel at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant (KKNPP) by April 2022.

earlier granted time till May 30

extended the time for the

NPCIL to set up the 'Away From Reactor Facility' (AFR) to

store the spent nuclear fuel.

A bench comprising Chief

Justice Dipak Misra and

Justices A M Khanwilkar and

D Y Chandrachud considered

the submission of Additional

Solicitor General Tushar

Mehta, appearing for the cor-

The apex court, which had

 $T^{\text{he Supreme Court today}}_{\text{took note of the problem of pollution in the Vaishno Devi}}$ shrine in Jammu and the surrounding areas and made it clear that the Jammu and Kashmir government and the shrine board would have to 'protect and preserve" both.

A bench of Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta also asked them to protect the pony and mule owners, who are operating there for a long time ferrying devotees to and from the shrine, and look into issues of their rehabilitation on "human-

The bench, after perusing some recent pictures of waste dumped in Banganga river near the shrine, observed that if the photographs were true, then there were lot of problems which needed to be looked into.

"It is very clear that you have to preserve and protect the shrine and protect the environment also. You will also have to protect the mule owners. We do not know whether you are looking at it (issue of rehabilitation) on humanitarian grounds," the

Additional Solicitor General Maninder Singh and advocate Shoeb Alam, appearing for Jammu and Kashmir, said the plan for rehabilitation of pony and mule owners was to go before the sub-committee of the Cabinet, but as of now, there was no government in the state which is under Governor's Rule.

"The sub-committee was constituted, but before they could look into the issue of rehabilitation, the government fell in the state," they said. Singh also told the bench

that NGT was also looking into some of the aspects relating to the shrine and has passed several orders. The lawyers for Jammu and Kashmir said that since the apex court was seized of the matter, the NGT should not proceed with the case pending there. The counsel for activist Gauri Maulekhi, who had filed a plea in the NGT seeking removal of horses and mules from the path to the shrine, placed before the bench the recent pictures of Banganga river. and said waste was being dumped into the river causing environmental degra-

People cross a road blocked by a landslide after a heavy rainfall in Shimla on Monday

year. This was her second litter. Maharashtra and Ajay Marathe, Meanwhile in quick a sharp shooter from the spe-

Reddy may return to Cong

■ undivided Andhra Pradesh N Kiran Kumar Reddy is likely to return to the Congress fold in a few days. This is said to be the direct consequence of AICC President Rahul Gandhi telling the rank and file to woo back leaders who left because of the party's role in the bifurcation. Gandhi told the media that leaders who joined the YSR Congress also would be brought

Reddy would meet former Kerala Chief Minister and AICC person incharge of Andhra Pradesh Oommen Chandy in Hyderabad on July 1. Chandy is coming to attend a wedding in the family of

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Rajeshwari Raghav w/o Yashpal Raghav R/o 475, Gali No. 8, 24 Feet Road,

Adarsh Nagar, Ballabgarh, Faridabad

have lost my original GPA bearing no. 507

dated 22-3-1993 registered with Sub

Registrar, Ballabgarh regarding my above

house measuring 100 square yards. Said

GPA is not mortgaged anywhere. Finder

PUBLIC NOTICE

please contact on 9711131112.

Congress leader T Subbarami but it failed to click. Except

last Chief Minister of integrated Andhra Pradesh till 2014 had quit the party in a huff in protest against the party's decision to support the bifurcation

Reddy was keen to end his political hibernation and return to Congress Oommen Chandy, general secretary incharge of Andhra Pradesh affairs met him at his residence in Hyderabad last night and invit-

to Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh had after quitting Congress had launched his own Samaikya Andhra party

'Therefore, even though

we give sufficient time to the

project proponent to file their

replies to the interim relief, but

we are satisfied that a prima

facie case is made out for grant

of ad-interim order in the

nature of protective order so as

to protect environment ... And

cautionary principle, we direct

the Respondent No. 1 and 2 to

maintain status-quo, particu-

larly in the matter relating

felling of the trees and direct

that there shall be no

this tribunal," the Bench said.

Due Date: 26/07/2018.

"Hence applying the pre-

its preservation is essential.

Kiran Reddy, who belongs

and carving of Telangana State. Amid the speculations that

ed him to join the party.

occasional speculations that Reddy remained out of new and away from active politics for the last four years while Congress continues to be marginalized in the state politics despite a handful of party leaders like N Raghuveera Reddy keeping the party flag aloft

16,500 trees in Incidentally, the NBCC of In

After the hour long meeting Kiran Kumar Reddy told the media that he would take a decision at an appropriate time.

Oommen Chandy said that the country was passing through a crucial time and the Congress president Rahul Gandhi had invited all the former Congressmen to return to the party and strengteh it for the sake of the nation.

Incidentally, the NBCC on

the direction of the MoUD had

started chopping of fully grown

old tress in Netaji Nagar, the

matter came in to limelight

when locals objected and glued

themselves with tress marked

served noticed to all twelve

Government agencies State and

Central involved in passing

The green Bench also directed the project team to

mention exact numbers of tress

which are proposed to be cut

for the redevelopment project.

plea by NGO - Society for

Protection of Culture, Heritage,

Environment, Traditions &

Promotion of National

Awareness (SPCHETNA) seek-

ing a stay on the proposed felling of 16,573 trees for redevelopment of the colonies.

environmental clearance has

been granted for seven gener-

al pool residential colonies

without taking into account

possible adverse effect on the

It said the clearance has

The petitioner claimed that

The tribunal was hearing a

proposals to build township.

Interestingly, the Bench

Chipko-II.

Telangana reserve welcomes 3 cubs

L a bad news for the tiger lovers from the Kawal forest range in the erstwhile Adilabad district. The good news is that a tigress has given birth to three cubs bringing cheers to the forest officials at a time when doubts were being raise whether the reserve has any big cat or not.

The bad news was that another tigress in the area was left badly injured by an snare left by the hunters and authorities were making all out efforts to save the injured animal.

The news that the threeyear-old tigress Phalguna has given birth to three cubs was confirmed by the camera trap

Nauroji Nagar through the

NBCC and in Kasturba Nagar,

Thyagraj Nagar, Srinivaspuri

and Mohammadpur through

planting of saplings at another

location as compensatory

afforestation would not reduce

the burden put on the envi-

ronment due to the large-scale

the NGO, said the Centre had

given clearance to the projects

without considering several

factors, such as existing popu-

MoUD Minister made state-

ment in Press that they are

reviewing projects but no such

statement has been made

before the NGT which means

the Ministry is blowing hot

and cold in the same breath.

Sincerity is missing on

ment impact assessment

report for the project around

south Delhi showed that

11,000 trees will be cut in

Sarojini Nagar, 1,465 will be

cut in Nauroji Nagar, 3,033

The plea said an environ-

ground.

Anil Sood, president of

The plea claimed that

the CPWD.

felling of trees.



in Kagznagar forest in Kumaram Asifabad district. Though the photos of the tigress with three cubs were taken in mid June, official believe that the tigress with her home in the forest around Sirpur-Kagaznagar had borne the litter in March or April this

will be chopped off from

Netaji Nagar and another 520

will be cut in Kasturba Nagar,

out of a total of 19,976 trees in

scheme plans to replace exist-

ing flats of Type I to IV with

a built-up area of around 7.49

lakh square metres with Type

II to VI units with built-up

area of around 29.18 lakh sq m

The re-development

4 tigress was injured, Telangana state government has formed a Rapid Response Team to look for her and rescue her life. The animal, reportedly injured by a trap set by hunters was moving around with a wire snare around her lower abdomen in Chennur Forest of Mancherial

Kagaznagar and Chennur in Kawal Reserve. Both Mancherial and Kumaram Bhim Asifabad were

earlier part of Adilabad district. Telangana forest department has sought the help of Ravikant S Kobragade, wild life

expert from Tadoba reserve in

Team also include Chennu Forest Development Officer D Raja Rao and a member of Hyderabad based society for the Tiger Conservation Imran Siddiqui. The force will be assisted by veterinary experts from Hyderabad and Warangal district. Camera trap revealed Naveen Kumar and Praveen that the tigress was moving in Kumar and Development officer, Mancherial Ramalingam. Interestingly the injured

Maharashtra. Rapid Response

tigress is from the first litter of Phalguna. Forest officials say that they were monitoring Phalguna since the direct sighting in December last had confirmed that she was pregnant.

Water Management Authority, chairman of the body Masood Hussain, on Monday said the meeting was held in a very cordial atmosphere with a 'spirit of cooperation". Representatives of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka and Puducherry attended the meeting. According to the

Release 31.24 TMC

water to TN in July: Cauvery Management

Authority to K'taka

Cauvery Water

■ Management Authority,

in its first meeting on Monday,

ordered Karnataka to release

31.24 TMC water to Tamil

Government had on June 30

decide to appeal in the

Supreme Court against the

setting up of the Cauvery

Even as the Karnataka

PTI NEW DELHI

Nadu in July.

minutes of the meeting, the authority directed Karnataka to release 31.24 TMC water to Tamil Nadu in the month of

LASSIFIED S

771A, Block A Sushant Lok 1 Gurugram Haryana hereby declare that Peter Kochin Wu

and Peter Wu belong to same person in future he shall be known as Peter Wu for all pur-I, Pavitra W/O Manoj Singh

Chauhan R/o Village Nangli Wazidpur Noida Gautambudh Nagar (U.P.) have changed my new name Dolly Chauhan for all purposes.

I, Manoj Kumar S/o Late Rana Singh R/o Village Nangli Wazidpur Noida Gautambudh Nagar (U.P.) have changed my new name Manoj Singh Chauhan for all purposes.
PD(8142)A

lation density and the impact of cutting 16,500 trees on the ambient air quality in the area. Sood said, "Though

still continuing.

harassment under IPC Section

Rs 32,835 crore includes main-

develop Government office accommodation of nearly 2.42 lakh sq m in Netaji Nagar. The total estimated project cost of tenance and operation costs for 30 years and will be completed in five years in a phased

ture facilities.

SC to...

From Page 1

The practice of polygamy, on the other hand, allows a Muslim man to have multiple wives with the earlier marriage

Two of the petitioners — Shameena Begum and Nafisa Khan — related their ordeal how their husbands mistreated them and without obtaining divorce, married second time. Sameena got married in 1999 and had two sons from the wedlock. Throughout, her husband tortured her to bring in more dowry or face talaq. She filed a complaint of dowry

498A. Nafisa too met with the same fate. Left without any remedy

due to polygamy and triple talaq getting the legal cover under Muslim personal law, both petitioners demanded to put polygamy, nikah halala, and triple talaq as offence under Sections 498A (dowry harassment), 375 (rape) and 494 (bigamy) of the IPC.

They argued that giving recognition to talaq-e-bidat, nikah halala and polygamy as a valid form of divorce interferes with the Muslim women's right to profess and practice her religion under Article 25. It also treated women unequal as polygamy is not permitted for married Muslim women.

Interpol issues notice with supporting infrastructo find The projects will also extradite Nirav

From Page 1 "In the RCN, Interpol has

given details of all the five passports of Nirav, issued between May 2008 and May 2017, including that these passports have been cancelled by the Government yet he has managed to travel on the basis of revoked and cancelled passports", CBI officials said.

In a bid to track down Niray, the CBI has also written several times to the UK, United States, United Arab Emirates, Belgium and Singapore. In response to a diffusion notice, the agency said, the Interpol's Manchester office had earlier informed it about his movements till March 31.

Nishal and Parab have also been charge sheeted by the CBI along with Nirav and Mehul Choksi for alleged corruption and cheating. Nirav and his uncle Mehul have refused to return India to join probe citing business and health reasons among others.

CHANGE OF NAME I, Peter Wu S/o Kochin Wu R/o

PUBLIC NOTICE BETKNOWN TO ALL THAT MY CLIENTS SH. OM PRAKASH YADAV SIO LATE SHRI BASANT SINGH YADAV AND SMT. BIMLA DEVI WIO SH. OM PRAKASH YADAV, BOTH RIOH.NO. 94-A, GALINO. 5, DEEPAK VIHAR, NAJAFGARH, NEW DELHI-110043, HAS DEBARRED AND DISINHERITED THEIR SON NAMELY VINAY KUMAR, FROM ALL THEIR PROPERTIES, BOTH MOVABLE AND IMMOVABLE AS MY CLIENTS HAS NO CONTROL OVER HIM AND HAS SEVEARED ALL THEIR RELETIONS WITH HIM, ANY PERSON (S) DEALING WITH HIM WILL BE DOING SO AT HISTHERTHEIR OWN COSTS & RISKS. SUBBASH DIVILAD/OCATE felling/cutting/destruction of SUBHASH DIXIT-ADVOCATE the trees till further order by The Shipping Corporation Of India Ltd. (A Government of India Enterprise) **TENDER NOTICE**

Ref: MDS/GIR/SBH/ENGG/MARINE/E-65

hipping House', 12th Floor, Technical & Offshore Division, 245, Madame Cama Road, Mumbai - 400 021 • Website: www.shipindia.com • Twitter: @shippingcorp • CIN-No: L63030MH1950G01008033

Tenders are invited from reputed firms for onboard Supply & Installation o SCR PACKAGE AC UNITS – 2 Nos. for managed vessel MODU SAGAF BHUSHAN. Bids to be submitted online at https://etender.sci.co.in/irj/portal

www.eprocure.gov.in from 03rdJuly, 2018 onwards for tender details TRANSPORTING GOODS. TRANSFORMING LIVES.

been granted for colonies in Sarojini Nagar, Netaji Nagar,

As many as 24 special trains will run to and from Puri between July 15 and 20.

will run between Bangiriposi and Puri during the period. Three special trains from Khurda Road will ply towards

Besides, eight special trains will run for Sandhyadarshan on July 21 while 13 special trains will move to Puri for Bahuda Yatra (return journey of the

Ten special trains, include

In the return directions, 13

Congress divided over NIACL scam: CBI books broker, firms, officials **Govt formation in J&K**

The Congress seems to be divided over formation of Government in Jammu and Kashmir with a section of its leaders calling for an early election while another section wants to exploit the political situation.

The Congress' core group on Jammu and Kashmir met at the residence of former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on Monday to discuss the political situation in the State.

The group includes senior Congress leaders Karan Singh, P Chidambaram, Congress general secretary in charge of the State Ambika Soni and J & K chief Ghulam Ahmed Mir. After the meet, Soni said the party wanted early polls in the State. The party will hold a meeting of its legislators in the State in Srinagar this week and discuss the way forward. The Congress is in a wait and watch mode in the State, which is under Governor's JK ASSEMBLY: 89

BJP: Cong: CPIM: 1 JKPDF:

Rule after the BJP pulled out of its alliance with the PDP. There are reports of the National Conference and the PDP approaching the Congress for Government formation in the State and a section of leader pondering to form the Government in the interest of the party.

However, senior Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad has ruled out that the party will form a Government with the PDP.

any alliance with the PDP, which lost power in the State after the BJP withdrew support from the coalition Government.

"There is no question, for now or in the future, of forging an alliance with the PDP," Azad had said while denying having met any PDP leader. Mir on his part claimed that the BJP is making "desperate attempts" to "explore possibilities" to return to power in the state, days after pulling the plug on its alliance government with the PDP.

The speculation are abuzz about a possible meeting congress leadership and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti who reached Delhi on the weekend. The PDP has 28 seats and the Congress has 12 in the 87member state Assembly. A simple majority of 44 seats is required to form the government and some PDP members have been trying to seek the support of the CPI (M) and independent

KUMAR/MADHUSUDHAN er), Dharam Sharma private SAHOO ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered an FIR against an insurance broker, two insurance brokerage firms and three senior

officials of New India Assurance for criminal conspiracy, cheating and criminal misconduct.

According to CBI's First Information Report (FIR), a copy of which has been accessed by *The Pioneer*, New India Assurance Company Limited (NIACL) was cheated by the accused by paying a commission to the brokers without producing a written mandate as per IRDA guidelines. " A total brokerage of Rs 45,16,572 was paid fraudulently to Salaskar BS Insurance Brokers Pvt Ltd and Prudent Broker Pvt Ltd in this manner," the FIR said. New India Assurance, a public sector concern, had issued policies to Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd, which was being probed for its alleged role in the 2G scam.

CBI FIR said NIACL deputy manager Pallavi Sinha, Suresh Prafulkar and Gyam

person and broker, Salaskar Insurance Brokers Private Limited and Prudent Brokers Private Limited have entered into criminal conspiracy by abusing their officials position and cheat the insurance company without producing the written mandate of the insured. .

"The NIACL issued policies to M/s Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd. covering the fire, public liability and Burglary and the premiums were booked under the broker's codes. Further it revealed that no insurance broker was appointed for Cellular Network Package Policy (Package with BTS, Office Burgalry, Office Fire & Public Liability) for insured sum of Rs. 1967.59 Crores (Premium Rs.24,26,041/-) during the period from April 1, 2013 to September 30, 2016. Total brokerage of Rs. 45,16,572 was paid fraudulently to two broker firms by NIACL, Powai Branch through its disburseaccount 910020011082950," CBI FIR



CBI officials said that Dharma Sharma, Manager of M/s Salaskar Brokers Pvt. Ltd. had made correspondence by private mail ID only with Pallavi Sinha, Branch Manager, NIACL, Powai Branch for placing the above said business but not submitted the written Mandate of

Further, in 2013, he left the company and joined M/s Prudent Broker Pvt. Ltd and transferred the whole policy business to the new broker company from July 2013 to September 2016 without written mandate of changing the broker from client. According to CBI, Pallavi Sinha, had herself issued, accepted and approved these policies six times during her tenure without obtaining written Mandate from insured M/s Etisalat DB Telecom Pvt. Ltd. and without approval of the policies from Head Office, NIACL.

of the said policy, she had sent these policies to Regional Office, NIACL for the period October 01, 2014 to December 30, 2014 for further proceeding of approval. Subsequently, after trans-

Further, on next renewal

fer of Pallavi Sinha, Suresh

Branch Manager, NIACL.

He also recommended and sent the policies for the period January 2015 to March 2015 to Brundawan Mallik, Senior DM for approval. Mallik had recommended for issuance of the policy and again did not sent them to Regional Office NIACL for

approval. Furthermore, he issued the said policies four times during the period from January, 2015 to March, 2016 based on which brokerage was released.

According to CBI, Gyan Ranjan who was appointed as an officiating branch incharge after Prafulkar's retirement, issued an accepted the policy renewal from the period from April 2016 to September 2016 which was not within his delegated powers. Further, he had also sent these policies for approval to Mallik, Sr. DM. Divisional Office, NIACL.

Further Mallik recommended those policy and sent to Regional Office, Mumbai for approval. Further, Dilip Sonawane, had approved these policies on March 2016.

Apex court seeks Yogi Govt's response over encounters in last 1 yr

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court on Monday sought response of the Yogi Adityanath Government over the encounter deaths in Uttar Pradesh over the A public interest litigation

(PIL) filed by NGO Peoples Union for Civil Liberties brought the spotlight on the rising number of encounters and alleged criminals being eliminated by the state police as part of a statesponsored plan to enforce law and order.

Arguing the PIL, advocate Sanjay Parikh submitted to a bench headed by Chief Justice Dipak Misra that as per facts available, about 1100 encounters took place in the last one year killing 49 persons and injuring 370. On a latest count, Parikh claimed that 58 persons were eliminated as part of this action



plan of which several were allegedly fake encounters.

The bench, also comprising Justices AM Khanwilkar and DY Chandrachud, asked the petitioner to serve a copy of the PIL to UP government. The petition stated that since the state government endorsed the encounters, there would be no probe into the killings. It demanded a fair probe by Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in addition to monitoring by a Committee headed by a former Supreme Court judge into excesses committed by police officials.

India can play a major role in unstable world to achieve peace: PM Modi

ndia can play a major role in I the present "unstable world" to achieve global peace and prosperity, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday told the country's heads of missions in foreign countries at a conference here.

The Prime Minister addressed the envoys on the last day of the three-day conference during which the country's foreign policy priorities were deliberated upon.

External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj, at the session, said, "India's global profile and prestige have gone up significantly" since Prime Minister Modi has assumed

"'India can play a major role in today's unstable world to achieve global peace & prosperity': Inspiring address by PM @narendramodi — his 4th - at the 9th Heads of Mission Conference," Ministry External Affairs Spokesperson Raveesh Kumar

Swaraj, ministers of state for external affairs V K Singh and M J Akbar, senior officials, and heads of missions were present at the event. The envoys had yesterday

deliberated upon the country's foreign policy priorities, including the role of India's soft power in achieving its objectives.

President Ram Nath Kovind has also met the envoys at the Rashtrapati Bhavan. The President had told them that the litmus test of India's engagement with the external world is what it is able to do to propel domestic growth and development.

Indian envoys in multilateral forums also attended the

Military Services engineer held in graft case

PNS NEW DELHI

The CBI has arrested a Kochi-based chief engineer of the Military Engineering Services (MES) and five others and recovered an alleged bribe of Rs 1.21 crore. According to CBI, searches were conducted in 20 locations, including the home of Rakesh Kumar Garg, who is posted as chief engineer (naval works) MES in Kochi. The raids, which began on Sunday , covered several cities, including Delhi, Kochi, Ajmer, Rohtak, Hisar and Kolkata.

During the searches, an additional recovery of Rs 3.97 crore and six kilograms of gold biscuits was made by the agency, the sources said. According to CBI, incriminating documents recovered during searches are being scrutinised for further investiga-The searches were made

after the agency received inputs that Garg was "collecting and demanding illegal gratification of 1 per cent of contract amount from the contractors

for issuing various civil contracts in the Kochi naval base", officials said.

It was alleged that the Garg was demanding and collecting illegal gratification from the contractors for issuing various civil contracts in Naval Base Kochi. It was also alleged that the accused was receiving bribe amount through his conduit and others through hawala route/direct payment by private contractors and their associates. It is learnt that the bribe money is usually handed over to Kanav Khanna through hawala route and through direct payment by private contractors.

CBI alleged that the accused persons have entered into criminal conspiracy with each other in Delhi and Kochi while commission of offences. 'Sanjeev Kumar Agarwal who is the brother of Rakesh Kumar Garg, retired Executive Engineer from Haryana State Public Works Department. He was staying at No. 106, Sector-4, HUDA, Near Skytech Mall, Rohtak. The corrupt money was initially parked in the residence of Kanav Khanna and

later it is transferred to the residence of his brother Sanjeev Kumar Agarwal. The amount is normally carried by Kanav Khanna himself or his associates," the FIR said.

The office of Chief Engineer (Naval Works) Kochi had called for quotation for constructing provision of deficient married accommodation for sailors at Mundamveli, Kochi in the month of April 2018. Last week the tender was opened and it was decided to award the contract for an amount of Rs. 177.33 crores to two contractors on sharing basis-Pushkarra Constructions Pvt. Ltd., and Jain Builders based in Ajmer. Pushkar Bhasin, who was one of the Directors of M/s Pushkarraj Constructions Pvt. Ltd., is looking after the affairs of the company at Naval Base Kochi whereas Praful Jain is looking after the affairs of Jain Builders at Kochi. It was alleged that Garg demanded an amount of Rs. 83 lakhs from Bhasin and Rs. 89 lakhs from Jain, which they agreed to pay. They were asked to hand over

the bribe amount to Kanav Khanna in Delhi.

The MES functions under the control of the Engineer in-Chief of Ministry of Defence. They are responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of all infrastructure assets of armed forces. Garg was working as Chief Engineer (Naval Works) in Kochi since January 2017. He was the head of office in Kochi.

The agency has booked Rakesh Kumar Garg, Chief Engineer (Naval Works), Military Engineer Services (MES), Kathari Bagh Naval Base, Pushkar Bhasin, Director of M/s Pushkarraj Constructions Pvt. Ltd, Praful Jain, M/s Jain Builders, based in Ajmer, Kanav Khanna and Sanjeev Khanna (private persons), Subodh Jain from Ajmer, Chanchal Jain from Delhi and others under section 120 B of Indian Penal Code and sections 7, 8, 10 & 12 of Prevention of Corruption Act on the allegations of demanding and collecting illegal gratification etc from the

No final decision on shifting funds-sanctioning power: HRD

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $H^{
m RD}$ Ministry on Monday clarified that a final decision on transferring the power to sanction funds to ĥigher educational institutes to itself, following the scrapping of the UGC, was yet to be taken. The Ministry had last week announced its decision to replace the University Grants Commission (UGC) with the Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) by repealing the UGC Act,

According to a draft, which has been placed in the public domain by the minîstry to seek feedback from the stakeholders, the new commission will solely focus on the academic matters and monetary grants would be under the purview of the ministry.

The decision has not gone down well with a section of academicians, who have ques-



"The grant-giving process shall be purely merit-based and online — an objective system that guarantees transparency and efficiency

with the least human interface. We promise that if there is a successor to the current grant-giving system of the UGC, it will be operated in the most unbiased and impartial manner"

tioned the move saying politicians should not be involved

in academic matters. 'Apprehensions regarding the recommended shift of

to the ministry under the academic quality, powers to purely misplaced. No final decision has been taken to shift the grant-related functions to the ministry, even though the recommendation to separate the regulator and the grant-giving entity was made by several expert committees in the past and is rooted in the sound principles of governance," a HRD Ministry spokesperson said.

"The grant-giving process shall be purely merit-based and online -- an objective system that guarantees trans-parency and efficiency with the least human interface. We promise that if there is a successor to the current grant-giving system of the UGC, it will be operated in the most unbiased and impartial manner," he added.

According to the draft, less government and more governance, separation of the grant-related functions, end the grant-related functions of the inspection raj, focus on

academic quality standards and to order closure of substandard and bogus institutions are some of the highlights of the new Act -- the Education Commission of India Act, 2018 (Repeal of the University Grants Commission Act). The new Act is likely to be tabled in Parliament during the Monsoon Session, which begins on July 18. The government was earlier mulling to have a single regulator for technical education, national council teachers training and

However, it has been decided to strengthen the higher education regulator as it was felt that the UGC remained preoccupied with disbursing funds to institutes and was unable to concentrate on other key areas such as mentoring the institutes, focussing on research to be



Devotees cheer as they leave for Amarnath Yatra in Pahalgam on Monday

SC breather for CVC, Vigilance Commissioner

Refusing to replace the decision of the Committee with its own merely on basis of certain allegations, the Bench dismissed the PILs and observed, "We are nowadays in the scenario that such complaints cannot be taken on face value. Even against

he Supreme Court on The Supreme Control ed in June 2015.

A bench of Justices Arun

Mishra and Mohan M Refusing to replace the decision Shantanagouder was satisfied that the complaints against the of the Committee with its own two officers were probed by the merely on basis of certain alle-Selection Committee which gations, the bench dismissed the found the allegations baseless. PILs and observed, "We are



nowadays in the scenario that such complaints cannot be taken on face value. against very honest persons,

The PILs were filed by NGOs Common Cause and Center for Integrity Governance and Training in Vigilance Adminstration. It was alleged that Chowdary's investigation was found wanting in the con-troversial Niira Radia phone tapping case.

The bench said that earlier when complaints were filed against persons occupying important officers, it would be taken as serious aspersion on individual's integrity. But with time, the Court felt that even honest persons can be subjected to any complaint and hence the need to take it with a pinch

Discussion on feasibility of simultaneous polls None of the political parties had responded to the Law Commission's "working paper" on holding simultaneous The Law Commission is set

-LAW COMMISSION CONSULTATION—

■ to hold consultations with

all major political parties on July 7 and 8 to discuss the feasibility of conducting simultaneous Lok Sabha and State Assembly elections.

PNS NEW DELHI

The Congress on Monday confirmed that they had received the note from the Law Commission but it did not disclose whether its representatives will attend the meeting. The Commission's previous attempt to seek the views of the political parties on the issue had evoked no response.

None of the political parties had responded to the Law Commission's "working paper" on holding simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly polls. Lok Sabha and Assembly polls. The proposal is being pushed by the Central Government working paper has recommended holding the Lok Sabha The proposal is being pushed amended by a simple majori-

by the Central Government.

BJP, Congress, CPI, CPI(M), TMC, BSP and NCP are the national parties recognised by the Election Commission. Recently, Chief Election Commissioner Om Prakash Rawat had a word of caution on simultaneous polls. He said the legal framework required for holding the two elections together will take a lot of time to get ready.

Seeking to give shape to the government's concept of "one nation, one election", the Law Commission's internal

and assembly polls simultaneously but in two phases beginning 2019. The second phase of simultaneous polls can take place in 2024, the document states. States which will come under phase-II are Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Delhi and Punjab. To hold elections in these states along with LS polls, the terms of the

assemblies have to be extend-"Some provisions of the Representation of the People Act would also have to be

ty in Parliament", it said. The document has proposed amending the Constitution (Articles 83 (2) and 172 (1) dealing with tenures of the Lok Sabha and the state Assemblies) and Representation of the People Act to extend the terms of state legislative Assemblies to effect the move. It suggests that in case a government falls midterm, the new government would be elected for the remaining period of that term, and not for a fresh five-year

very honest persons, allegations can be made" PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

the appointment of Central Vigilance Commissioner KV Chowdary and Vigilance Commissioner TM Bhasin after a set of PILs alleged that the duo did not possess a clean track record. The two were appoint-

SFI activist stabbed to death in Kerala Church sex scandal: 4 priests booked

VR JAYARAJ | KOCHI

20-year-old activist of pro- A^{20} year old activities A^{20} (M) student outfit SFI, Abhimanyu, was stabbed to death in the famous Maharaja's College in Kochi Sunday midnight allegedly by Islamists belonging to the Campus Front of India and SDPI, student and political wings respectively of the Popular Front of India.

Two other students, also belonging to the SFI, were injured in the Islamists' attack and the condition of one of them, Arjun from Kottayam, was stated to be serious. Three Campus Front-SDPI activists were taken into custody on Monday morning itself, according to the police. Abhimanyu was also a member of the SFI's Idukki district committee.

Abhimanyu, a second-year degree student from a poor family in Vattavada in Idukki district, was stabbed to death by a gang of 20 Islamists, majority of whom were outsiders who invaded the campus, following a dispute over sticking posters on college walls for welcoming new students to the college on Monday, the first day of the new academic year.

The incident triggered protests across the State against turning campuses into killing fields. Chief Minister Pinarayi Viiavan, who also holds the Home portfolio, said preliminary inquiries had confirmed that people of extremist orientation were behind Abhimanyu's killing and that



stringent action would be taken against the culprits.

Those taken into custody were identified as Bilal of Kottayam, Farooq from Pathanamthitta and Riyas of Fort Kochi. The police indicated that the remaining culprits including Muhammad, the person who had invited the gang of Islamists to the college, might have left Kochi. The

other members of the gang. Eyewitness Ananthu, a student of the college and also an SFI activist, said there were around 20 men in the gang that had invaded the campus Sunday midnight and stabbed Abhimanyu to death. He also said that only one in the gang Campus Front over the latter's

police have also identified ten

was a student of Maharaja's and that the gang had come prepared to attack the pro-CPI(M)

gates at midnight and wanted to enter the campus but we opposed it. Amidst the dispute, someone from the gang took out a knife and waved it at us forcing us to disperse. One member of the gang chased Abhimanyu and stabbed him," Ananthu said, adding that he did not think a small dispute could develop into such a gruesome incident.

Students of the college said that tension had been prevailing for the past few days between the SFI and the TWO OTHER STUDENTS. ALSO BELONGING TO THE SFI, WERE INJURED IN THE ISLAMISTS' ATTACK AND THE CONDITION OF ONE OF THEM, ARJUN FROM KOTTAYAM, WAS STATED TO BE SERIOUS

efforts to gain a foothold in the college which is seen as one of the strongest fortresses of the SFI in Kerala. They said the gang had come well-prepared with weapons and their attack was obviously preplanned.

Stating that the attack was preplanned, the Chief Minister said the secular society should unite against religious extremism. State CPI(M) secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan said that the murder of the SFI activist was part of a wellplanned bid by extremist forces that had been swept away from the campuses to establish their domination over students by terrorizing them.

Finance Minister TM Thomas Isaac, a former student of Maharaja's College, said, "The Campus Front has been on a provocative campaign in the college for some time. We will confront these forces of communalism politically." College principal KN Krishnakumar said enforcing a code of conduct for students would have to be considered in the context of the incident.

VR JAYARAJ
KOCHI

The Kerala Police's Crime I Branch has booked four priests of the influential Malankara Orthodox Syrian Church in the sensational case pertaining to the sexual abuse of a young married woman by blackmailing her using her confession secrets.

The four priests – Abraham Varghese (Sony), Jais K George, Job Mathew and Johnson V Mathew, as per reports - were charged with rape and outrag-ing the modesty of woman. The Crime Branch registered the case after recording the statement of the woman whose husband had earlier petitioned the Church leadership about the sexual exploitation.

Though the complaint was originally against five priests and the woman had identified all of them, the FIR has been registered only against four of them. A Crime Branch official said though there were reports earlier about the involvement of five priests, the woman had mentioned only four of them.

He said the Crime Branch would now approach a court in Thiruvalla, Pathanamthitta for recording the statement of the woman under Section 164 of the CrPC. The police might not for the time being arrest the four accused as there were "formalities and procedures to be completed", he added.

The four priests had

reportedly gone into hiding immediately after the news of the registration of the case

against them came despite the fact one of them had told the media the other day that he was ready to cooperate with any kind of probe, even for a polygraph examination. The priests were said to be preparing to move the High Court for anticipatory bail.

With the registration of the case against the four priests, the inquiry initiated by the commissions appointed in three dioceses by the Church's leadership on May 15 – Niranam, Thumpamon and Delhi - to which the five priests belonged on the basis of a complaint lodged by the woman's husband, a native of Anikkad in Pathanamthitta district, on May 7 has lost its relevance.

After receiving the complaint from the woman's husband, the Church leadership had instructed the five accused priests to stay away from performing priestly duties. A three-member Crime Branch headed

Superintendent of Police Sabu Mathew had the other day recorded the statement of the woman and her husband.

The Crime Branch took up the probe into the scandal that has stunned not just the Orthodox Church but other Churches of Kerala as well as per instructions issued by the tate police chief, DGP Loknath Behera, on the basis of a letter written to him by for-mer chief minister VS Achuthanandan demanding a

police probe. The scandal had erupted a

few days ago after an audio clip containing a purported conversation between the young woman's husband and an official of the Orthodox Church in

which he alleged sexual abuse of his wife by the priests came out through social media. The man alleged that the priests had sexually abused his wife by blackmailing her using her

secret confession.

In the audio-clip, the woman's husband was heard saying that she had been abused by a priest before mar-riage. "She had confessed the matter later to a priest in her confession but he exploited her sexually by threatening to reveal the confession secret to me," he said. Three other priests also had allegedly abused her by blackmailing her with the confession secret.

Reports quoted the woman as saying in a statement that Fr Abraham Varghese, who was a neighbour, had exploited her sexually when she was only 16 and this had continued even after her marriage. She had cited this in 2009 in her confession heard by Fr Job Mathew, who allegedly exploited her sexually by blackmailing her with this confession secret.

It is said that the other priests who exploited her using the confession secret to blackmail her had come to know of it from Fr Job. She reportedly said that Fr Jais K George had exploited her sexually using threats and force. Fr Jais had abused her sexually at a star hotel in Kochi several times, according to her.

Dissension in PDP; former Min hits out at Mehbooba

erful Shia dynasty holding sway

on a section of minority

Muslims in Srinagar and

Baramulla districts. He inher-

ited the leadership from his father Molvi Iftikhar Hussain

Ansari who died in 2014 and

was one of the most prominent

leaders of the PDP. Like PDP

founder Mufti Muhammad

Sayeed, Ansari had quit the

Congress to contribute in the

making a vital regional party,

which reached the echelons of

power twice in last 20 years.

father's pocket borough Pattan

in north Kashmir while his

uncle Abid Ansari was elected

from Zadibal constituency of

Srinagar. The dissention of

Ansari said that Mehbooba

not only failed the PDP as a

party but also knocked down the

hopes and the dreams of her

own father and the PDP founder

pulling the government down

only for the sake of power was

rubbish and that it was instead

He said that blaming BJP for

Mufti Mohammad Sayeed.

loss to PDP, say observers.

Imran was elected from his

KHURSHEED WANI ■ SRINAGAR

ess than two weeks after from Chief Minister's post following withdrawal of support from the BJP, her People's Democratic Party (PDP) suffered first bout of dissension on Monday after a senior leader heralded rebellion against the party leadership.

Former Minister and legislator from Pattan constituency of north Kashmir Imran Reza Ansari on Monday accused Mehbooba of being 'incompetent' that led to the collapse of her Government. Ansari said the coalition partner BJP lent every support to the government including 'magnanimous central funding' but Mehbooba was incompetent enough to throw it down the drain.

Sartaj Madni described Ansari's allegations as "unfounded and illogical." The PDP-BJP coalition fell on June 19 when the BJP pulled out of the alliance citing the national interest. The state came under Governor's rule on the next day.

Ansari, 44, was Youth Services and Sports Minister in Mehbooba's cabinet and had voiced his displeasure over Mehbooba's failure to lead the allocation of an insignificant government efficiently. portfolio several times during He said that BJP supporthis tenure. He is scion of a pow-

ed the coalition government wholeheartedly and it was because of their endeavors that such a huge chunk of money was released to state for various developmental activities.

Ansari said the PDP and the government had off late been reduced to a family opera where the relatives would play protagonist and to continue with such a party was not only useless but a humiliation too.

The former IT minister said that he has now decided to distance himself from the party where the opinion of the senior leaders doesn't carry any meaning. He however added that he has not resigned as a legislator or from the basic membership of the party as of now, but clarified that being called the leader of such a party was itself meaningless.

Reacting Ansari's diatribe Sartaj Madni said that it was the sweet choice of Ansari to choose whatever path he may like. He said a political party founded by late Mufti Sayeed, has a well-defined unambiguous pro-people political vision and agenda for J&K.

Owaisi holds BJP responsible for trolling of Sushma Swaraj

OMER FAROOQ ■ HYDERABAD

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen President and Member of Parliament from Hyderabad Asaduddin Owaisi has strongly condemned the hateful attacks on country's External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj and said that the IT Cell of her own party BJP was behind the vicious campaign.

He was responding to a question about the attacks in social media on Sushma Swaraj. He said more than the attacks by the hateful trolls, the silence of the Prime Minister Narendar Modi and other Ministers and BJP leaders was shocking and reprehensible.

"This is part of their strategy that whoever slightly deviates from their path become target of their hateful and vicious campaign", he said. ing and encouraging such campaigns against the opponents of the party. But now they have turned against their own Minister and no BJP leader has come to her defence".

He expressed shock that when the hate campaign forced Sushma Swaraj to conduct a poll in twitter 43% respondent justified attacks on her. "This



itself is evidence that the BJP was behind these attacks and it was encouraging such elements", he added.

Sushma Swaraj was under sustained attack by the trolls ev r since her ministry issued passport to an inter faith couple and transferred an official of Lucknow passport office Vikas Sharma who had earlier reportedly unsuited the couple

While many of the trolls were demanding her removal from Modi cabinet some of them have used unprintable and filthy language against her. Sushma in her part has retweeted some of those messages to highlight her victimisation.

one of the trolls has even asked her husband to beat her

Pradesh Congress faces dilemma: To be or not to be with Mamata

Cong high command summons Bengal leaders to Delhi

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

The Congress high command has summoned Bengal party leaders to Delhi apparently to discuss the system of alliances in the election year following reports of division in the Pradesh Congress on whether to realign with the Trinamool Congress or to follow a confrontationist approach with Mamata Banerjee who has allegedly engineered defection in the parent party and hijacked its leaders. The meeting is likely to take place on July 6, insiders

According to sources the Bengal, Gaurav Gogoi have reported to the high command about the prevailing division in the WBPCC over its Trinamool Congress policy. A majority of Bengal Congress leaders have told Gogoi about the prevailing anger in the rank and file against Mamata Banerjee in which case they have requested the leadership to follow an

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Known for his unending controversies, former test

cricketer Vinod Kambli was at

it again. This time around, he

allegedly manhandled a 59-

year-old man in a Mumbai mall

handled is Raj Kumar Tiwari,

the father of singer Ankit

Tiwari and Ankur Tiwari, after

the senior Tiwari had alleged-

ly misbehaved with his wife

the CCTV camera of the

InOrbit Mall at Malad in north

brushed me inappropriately," Andrea alleged. Her husband

Kambli asked: "How anyone

Bangur nagar police station at

the Goregaon suburbs of

Mumbai. However, no concrete

action had been initiated by the

gation (made by Kambli's wife

girlfriend had accused him of

rape and his brother of threat-

'We will not take the alle

police till Monday evening.

The matter reached the

could tolerate such a thing?"

The incident was caught in

"The man touched and

Kambli reportedly man-

on Sunday.

Ándrea Hewitt.

Another, yet the smaller

group has reportedly told Gogoi that going against Banerjee would further ruin the organisation, particularly in the areas like Murshidabad, Malda and Raiganj where the Congress had a traditional stronghold. These minority dominated

districts that account for all the four MPs of Congress from Bengal have in the recent past seen a mass migration towards the Trinamool Congress apparently out of sheer fear of a rising BJP. A number of MLAs have already joined the Trinamool while some others including an MP and an MLA from Malda were likely to join it on July 21, the Trinamool Congress Martyrs' Day, the high command have been informed.

the Congress has wondered whether it would be possible to retain or win seats from Murshidabad by going against the TMC, particularly at a time when Banerjee has managed to establish itself as the messiah of the minorities. Besides the parallel group is also not sure about a decaying Left Front's plans which is

itself divided over its future course of actions vis a vis the Congress. This, particularly in the wake of Forward Bloc State secretary and former Minister Naren Dey going on record saying his party would not by swayed by the CPI(M)'s views on the Congress. "If the Front

tries to ally with the Congress then the Bloc will come out of

it," Dey said. "A whole lot of issues will be discussed in Delhi," a PCC leader said reminding in Lok Sabha elections the minority community will vote to strengthen the hands of the hands of Mamata Banerjee who is planning to divide the anti-BJP vote bank to pursue her own interests. "In that case it will be difficult for the Trinamool to ignore the Congress or defeat it in its strongholds. Hence the high command will keep these things in view before coming to

Cong alleges ₹1,767 cr land scam in Mumbai

BJP denies charge

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Seeking to "expose" a ₹1,767 crore land scam involving the state-run the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO), the Mumbai Congress on Monday charged that Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis had allotted a prime plot of land at Navi Mumbai to a builder for a

measly sum. Addressing a joint news conference, Mumbai Congress chief Sanjay Nirupam and party's national spokesperson Ranjeet Singh Surjewala alleged that Fadnavis-led saffron alliance Government had transferred 24 acres of land worth ₹1767 crores, to Paradise Builders, for a mere sum of ₹3.60 crore.

They alleged that the plot of land belong4ed to the CIDCO and it was reportedly meant to rehabilitate projectaffected persons and farmers of the Koyna dam project.

Within hours after the Congress' news conference, Maharashtra's BJP spokesperson Madhav Bhandrai dismissed all the allegations terming them as "false and baseless", while party's legislator and a Fadnavis' associate Prasad Lad threatened to file a ₹500-crore defamation against Nirupam and the Congress.

"Getting photographed with chief minister Devendra Fadnavis is no proof for the scam. There is no truth in the allegations made by Nirupam. I have had close relations with many political leaders and builders over the years," Lad said, at a news conference held later in the evening.

'Causing loss to the public exchequer and betraying the poor in order to shower the rich crony friends is deeply intrinsic character of the BJP. The 'suit-boot' governments at the centre and in BJP-ruled states seek to outbid each other in benefitting their handful of crony friends," Nirupam

Nirupam charged that Fadnavis had doled largesse to the builder in his capacity as the Minister in charge of the Urban Development portfo-

According to Nirupam, Paradise Builders had in 2017 sought land in Navi Mumbai close to the proposed interna-tional airport and "the officials allegedly identified gullible farmers ousted in the Koyna Dam project to getting CIDCO land allotted and then transferring it to the realtor".

In February 2018, Nirupam said Raigad collector allotted the 24 acres of land in Survey Nos. 180/0, Village Ranjanpada to eight ousted farmer families of Koyna Dam



"The Paradise Buildes had already entered into an agreement to transfer this land for ₹15 lakh per acres with the farmers. The CIDCO and Development Urban Department headed by Fadnavis gave their NOC to denotify the land so it could be transferred to the builder," Nirupam alleged.

Nirupam also alleged that all other formalities were completed speedily and the builder was given the possession of the land last month, at a pittance of Rs.15 lakh per acre, when CIDCO had sold the adjoining plots of lands for a staggering ₹184,000 per square metre.

Dubbing the Navi Mumbai land deal as a mega-scam, Nirupam and Surjewala have demanded a committee of two

sitting judges of the Bombay High Court.

Among the questions they posed to the Maharashtra government were: who were the eight project-affected farmers, how were they identified, how were they allotted prime CIDCO lands instead of agricultural land, how did the builder make the agreements of sale with the farmers and why did the famers sell immediately the CIDCO land, after the allotment and that to for a pittance compared to the market value.
They wanted to know what

was the relationship between CIDCO-UDD and the Paradise Builders, and why they secured Fadnavis' blessings for a 'sweetheart deal' at a pittance of ₹3.60 crore for prime land worth around ₹1,767 crore.

Congress conducts exams for media panelists

PNS LUCKNOW

The Congress brass conducted a written exam and interview to select media panelists, despite large scale criti-

cism by senior leaders. Till Monday evening, the last date for filing of applications to appear in the second round of exams, about 250 leaders submitted their biodata which will now be scrutinised by a team from Delhi before callingthem to appearfor the exam which was to take place in the national

Last week, a written test and interview was conducted to constitute the new media team in the state unit of Congress.

Party sources confirmed that unlike selecting the best amongst 65 aspirants last Thursday, senior leaders already gave a list of half dozen leaders, who were spokesman before UPCC chief Raj Babbar disbanded the Media Cell last month.

It now remains to be seen whether their names would figure in the new team to be announced later this week. Amongst those who submitted fresh applications, a

selected for media team in

Andrea Hewitt) lying down. The allegations are baseless," Sr Tiwari said. He also threatened to file a defamation suit against the Kambli and his wife. It may be recalled that in majority of leaders will be May 2014, Ankit Tiwari's exening. Though in April 2017, both the brothers were acquitted of all charges by the

assaulting 59-year-old man at Mumbai mall

Cricketer Vinod Kambli faces charge of

Mumbai Sessions Court. Kambli – who played 17 Tests and scored 1084 runs at an impressive average of 54.20 and piled up 2477 runs in 104 ODIs (at an average of 32.59), played his last international match in 2000 and retired from first class cricket in 2011 has had more his share of controversies over the years.

In July 2014, Kambli had landed in real trouble when he and wife were declared as "defaulters" by a local co-operative bank through a newspaper advertisement after they failed to return arrears amounting to the tune of Rs 50 against a loan taken by the bank's Mumbai branch' more than

five years ago. In November 2013, the Managing Committee of Jewel Cooperative Society, a housing society where he lives with several former Mumbai cricketers at Bandra in north-west Mumbai, had decided to move the state-run Maharashtra Housing and Area Development Authority

10 lakh in dues from Kambli. Around the same time, the stylist left handed batsman was in the news for having gone to town expressing his disappointment at not having

(MHADA) for recovery of Rs



found a mention in Sachin Tendulkar's farewell speech delivered after the latter 200th Test match at Wankhede stadium.

Kambli has had health issues over the years. Having undergone an angioplasty on two of his blocked arteries in July, 2012 at Lilavati Hospital, the yesteryear cricketer survived a minor heart attack on November 29, 2013, after a circumspect women traffic police officer rushed him to Lilavati Hospital at Bandra in northwest Mumbai just in time.

Kambli was driving a white Pajero from Chembur in north-east Mumbai to his Bandra residence, when he developed massive chest pain and pulled up his vehicle by the roadside at Sion on the Eastern Express Highway.

Cong slams Tejashwi's 'alliance doors shut for Nitish' remark

to shut door on Nitish and how

the RJD declared former

Deputy CM as CM face in 2020

without consulting its allies.

controversy in the grand alliance

and some more Congress lead-

ers like Tauseef Alam and

Sudarshan Kumar came in open

supporting the entry of Nitish in

the alliance if he wished to quit

NDA at any stage. "Congress will welcome him," said Alam.

fore differences between

Congress and RJD over the

leadership issue. Tejashwi in a

statement had ignored the local

Congress leaders and claimed

he was in touch with AICC

with RJD president Lalu Prasad

on political matters and not

Tejashwi." He said the former

Deputy CM wanted Congress

to play second fiddle to RJD

Khan said, "We interact

president Rahul Gandhi.

The controversy brought to

The statement triggered a



PNS PATNA

Some Congress leaders have strongly disapproved the statement of RJD leader Tejashwi Prasad Yadav who had said that the doors of the Mahagathbandhan were shut on Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and that he would not yield to any pressure in favour of JD(U) president. Later on, his elder brother Tej Pratap Yadav said he would install a board on their official residence, 10 Circular Road, prohibiting the entry of Nitish.

Calling these off-the-cuff remarks by Lalu's sons as childish, the Congress lawmakers said their party favoured that all secular leaders and like minded parties should come together and make a strong front against communal forces.

After senior Congress leader and AICC secretary Shakil Ahmad Khan slammed

Even as AICC Bihar incharge Shakti Sinh Gohil asked the partymen not to make public statement on party matters, BPCC acting president Kaukab Qadri said the debate was meaningless. He said, "It is up to Nitish Kumar to declare which way he wanted to move and which alliance he wished to join." It was Gohil who had first extended an invitation to Nitish to quit NDA and return back to grand alliance which caused ripples in the political circles.

Meanwhile, on Monday former Minister and MP Monazir Hasan joined JD(U) after a gap of four years. Hasan had quit JD(U) in 2014 after the party broke alliance with the BJP and joined hands with Lalu's party. Later on he joined the BJP. He said he was not feeling comfortable after quitting

Another person whose joining the JD(U) raised many eyebrows was Dr Asma Parveen who is employed in a Government hospital.

She is a daughter of Iliyas Hussain, senior leader of RJD and its MLA from Chenari as well as Lalu's closest confident. Parveen's decision to join a political party despite being a Government servant was ignored by the JD(U) and she claimed there was no such bar.

My Facebook account was hacked, says Tej Pratap

PNS PATNA

A few hours after reported-ly accusing his mother and former CM Rabri Devi as well as some aides and politi-cians for defaming him, Tej Pratap Yadav clarified late on Monday night that his Facebook account was hacked by JDU and BJP and a fake

post was posted.

The FB post created a furore in political circles which was highly critical of the family and the party and even talked of his quitting the party.

As per earlier report, former Health Minister Tej Pratap Yadav was so furious on Monday that he decided to quit politics. He even accused his mother of not listening to him and instead chided him.

Visibly very angry over being touted as "mad" and a "hen pecked husband" by the aides of the family namely Om Prakash Yadav and RJD MLC Subodh Rai of his constituency Mahua, Yadav said he was informed by his well wishers in his constituency about the mischivious campaign.

He said he could have crushed such elements but was unable to do anything because of people in the family stopping

23 held in Dhule lynching; ₹5 L to each victim's family

s many as 23 persons were Aarrested on Monday for allegedly lynching five persons on suspicion of being child lifters at Rainpada village in Sakri tehsil of Dhule district of remanded them till July 6. north Maharashtra on Sunday, even as the State Government announced an ex-gratia of ₹5 lakh each to the families of the victims in the incident.

After initial protests that saw them demand ₹25 lakh each, a government job and a pucca house as compensation, the family members accepted the bodies of those killed in the tragic incident on Monday evening and transported them to their native district of Solapur in western Maharashtra.

The five lynching victims were identified as Dadarao Shankar Bhosale, Bharat Shankar Bhosale, Raju Bhosale and Bharat Malve of Khave village and Anagu Ingole of Manewadi village – both of which are located in Mangalvede tehsil of Solapur district.

The victims' final rites will be performed on Tuesday.

Under intense pressure from various quarters, the local police took into custody 23 persons in connection with the lynching incident.

The arrested accused, many of whom hail from Rainipada village and are in the age group of 20 to 30 years, were on Monday produced before a local court which

Confirming the arrests in the lynching incident, Dhule's Additional Superintendent of Police Vivek Pansare said: "We have arrested 23 persons in connection with the incident. After producing them before a local court, we have sought their remand till Pansare said that the rel-

atives, who had earlier insisted that they would not accept the bodies of those killed in the tragic incident unless their various demands including a hefty cash compensation, had accepted the bodies from a nearby government hospital where they had earlier been sent to for a post-

Talking to media persons, Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis described the Rainpada lynching incident as "unfortunate". "It is rather unfortunate that five persons came to be lynched on suspicion of being child lifters. We have already made arrests in the incidents. All those behind the incident will be dealt with sternly.. We have meanwhile announced a compensation of Rs 5 lakh to each of the families 'This is a very serious inci-

dent. We will go to the root of the issue," Minister of State for Home Deepak Kesarkar said. The initial investigations by

the police have revealed that

the victims belonged to the Nath Gosavi nomadic tribe and they moved from village to village for alms. The victims who were part of a larger group that had come to Dhule from Solapur and set

up their camps in the outskirts of Pimpalner, a nearby village The victims arrived at Rainpada in a tempo after they came to know of a tent-bazaar there. As soon as they alighted from the tempo, a group of vil-

lagers - suspecting them to be child lifters --attacked with sticks, stones and bricks. The villagers forcibly dragged the victims near Gram Panchayat, where they assaulted the five visitors to death in a room located next to the Panchayat's

Sunday's was not the first lynching incident witnessed in the state. Sometime last month, two persons were killed in Aurangabad district after people suspected them to be robbers. There have been reports of lynching of persons from Nandurbar, Malegaon, Latur and Parbhani, where the vic-

Smart tech would be a game changer: **Gujarat CM**

PNS GANDHINAGAR

Usage of Smart technology would be a game changer for the development of smart Cities in urban governance sector of Gujarat and India, said Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani after his visit to Command and Control Centre in Tel Aviv, the capital city of

Rupani reviewed how technology is being used along with analytics to handle various problems of the city of Tel Aviv including security concerns. During the meeting he said that 100 cities are being developed in India as Smart Cities where the use of technology for solving problem and citizen engagement are going to be a game changer in urban gover-

Rupani mentioned that six cities of Gujarat -Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Dahod and Gandhinagar- are being developed as smart cities where technologies are being integrated with artificial intelligence to develop smart solutions for issues of urban management.

He said that mutual learnings between Israel and Gujarat can always create better syner-gies and better outcomes for both the parties.

UP Govt to hold cleanliness competition for **Swachchhata**

PNS LUCKNOW

 $\mathbf{I}^{ ext{n}}$ order to promote competition among districts over 'Swacchatta Mission', the State Government has announced to start a cleanliness competition among districts to know which was the cleanest in the State.

"A state-level survey for cleanliness drive will create competition among urban local bodies and this will help to keep the spirit of cleanliness alive. The survey will be done just before the national survey in November-December, 2018. Urban Development Minister Suresh Khanna said in Lucknow on Monday.

The State had fared poorly and was on the bottom of national Swacchatta Mission survey, the result of which were declared last month State was in the top 100.

"We can perform better in the Swacchatta Survey by making cities clean but effort was required from officials, social organisations and the people for making their cities clean and beautiful," Khanna said.

The Minister also announced that all houses in urban local bodies would be numbered so that it would be easy to collect revenue.

There will be an increase in the revenue which in turn would help in meeting the expenses of cleanness drive in their areas.

"The Government has already asked urban local bodies to set up committees of social organisations to carry out cleanness drive in their area. They have also been asked to appoint a nodal officer in each ward to monitor cleanness," Khanna said adding that the government would fete two such committees in each district for their performance.

The Minister also exhorted officials to gear up to meet the challenge and make the entire state ODF by October 2 next.

"We have got three months time and we should meet the target," he stressed. Khanna also said that the government has decided to construct shelter houses for stray animals. He also asked officials to monitor rain water harvesting schemes. "Make use of the monsoon and plant trees in a big way," he advised.

PARADIP PORT TRUST e-Tender Call Notice

Name of the work: "Supply, installation, commissioning annual maintenance contract of 3 nos. of Electronics In-motion Rail Weighbridges for 5 years". Estimated cost Rs.1,14,45,250/-. Last Date & time of submission of bid 19/07/2018 upto 17:00 Hrs. For details please refer our Website https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app

Traffic Manage PPT/PR/175/18-19 Dt-29/06/2018

Lalu's elder son to hit silver screen soon, looking for a 'new' girl for his reel life FAIZAN AHMAD PATNA

fter the hunt for a bride After the num for a small which ended happily with his wedding to Aishwarya Rai, RJD chief Lalu Prasad's elder son Tej Pratap Yadav is in search of another girl for his reel life. The Mahua MLA and former Health Minister Yadav is deeply involved in making a feature film, a kind of biopic named "Rudra: The Avatar". He

is looking for a girl to play the lead role against the hero of the film Tej Pratap.

to bring Refusing Aishwarya Rai, his wife of two months, on big screen, Yadav wants to look like Sanju (Sanjay Dutt) is searching for a new face to play heroine against him. He will prefer a Bihari girl and entire shooting will take place in Bihar, said Yadav and added that all preparations have been made and the proposed film will go on sets very soon. But he claimed the film will be released across the country by the end of the year.

The disclosure was made by Lalu and Rabri Devi's elder son himself by posting on social media and poster of the film which said "comming soon (sic)". He will be the hero but there is no mention who

who is producer and director. admitted, "I want to look like Yadav refused to divulge but hints are that he will be the producer and the financer. The poster showed him wearing sunglasses and tees.

Before the shooting starts, Yadav is spending quite good time in the gym and working out and shedding sweat apart from horse riding and swimming practice. After all he wants to look like Sanju. He

Sanjay Dutt. He is my favourite actor since my childhood and I like his physical features and macho personality." Without disclosing much about the film, he said the theme of the film revolves around social issues with a messageon how to improve things for a better

"Lalu Prasad is my hero in

Narendra Modi is as good as villain," Yadav chuckled and added he did not see any actor as his icon. He said Rudra was synonymous of Lord Shiva, the protector, and in the film Asked if he would take the newly married Yadav will take up challenges and bring reforms in the society. He is also an ardent devotee of Lord Shiva and spends good time

role in a Bhojpuri film titled 'Apharan Udyog' in 2016 when he was a Minister in Nitish Kumar Government but the film did not see light of the day.

sanyas (retirement) from political life after working in film, Yadav said, "I am an all-rounder. am multi-talented with the blessings of my parents. I will continue working in films and will remain in politics."

25 IAS officers shifted in UP; new commissioners in 5 divisions



PNS LUCKNOW

day after taking over as the Anew Chief Secretary of UP, Anup Chandra Pandey ordered the transfer of 25 Indian Administrative Services (IAS) officers on late Sunday. As per the new orders, Yamuna Expressway Authority chairman and Divisional Commissioner of Meerut Prabhat Kumar is posted as Agriculture Production Commissioner (APC) replacing RP Singh who has taken voluntary retirement.

Kumar will also hold the additional charge of Basic department. Education Additional Chief Secretary and Social Welfare Commissioner Chandra Prakash has been posted as chairman of State Vigilance Commission. Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue, Chanchal Kumar Tiwari is posted as Director General of Deen Dayal Upadhaya State Rural Development Institute. Similarly, Additional Chief Secretary, Employment, IT and Electronics, Sanjiv Saran is posted as chairman of UP State Road Transport Corporation.

All three officers are senior to the present Chief Secretary and hence have been posted outside the Secretariat. Additional Chief Secretary, Appointment and Personnel, Deepak Trivedi is shifted to Employment and Programme Implementation department

while Additional Chief Secretary, Handloom and Silk, Mukul Singhal has been shift-ed to the Appointment and

Personnel department.
Divisional Commissioner, Moradabad, Rajesh Kumar Singh has been posted as Principal Secretary, Industrial Development, with additional charge of Handloom and Silk and MD of UP State Industrial Development Corporation.

Principal Secretary, Excise,

Kalpana Awasthi was given the additional charge of Forest and Environment department. Additional Chief Secretary, Women Welfare, Renuka Kumar is given the additional charge of Revenue department. Additional Chief Secretary, Commercial Taxes, Alok Sinha is given the additional charge of IT and Electronics while Secretary, Child Welfare and Nutrition, Anita C Meshram is made the new Divisional Commissioner of Meerut. Principal Secretary, Minor Irrigation, Minority Welfare department, Monika S Garg is assigned the additional charge of Child Welfare and Nutrition department.

Anil Raj Kumar, waiting for posting, was posted as Divisional Commissioner of Moradabad. Divisional Commissioner of Azamgarh, SVS Ranga Rao was posted as Secretary, Sports and Youth Welfare replacing Sharad Kumar Singh, who goes as

Commissioner of Chitrakoot

division.

Secretary, Culture Affairs Jagatraj was posted as Commissioner of Azamgarh division while Director. Women Welfare Alka Tandon Bhatnagar was posted as Commissioner of Basti division. Special Secretary and Staff Officer of Chief Secretary Mohammad Shafakat Kamal was posted as Vice-chairman of Bulandshahr-Khurja Development Authority Special Secretary, Tourism and MD, UP Tourism Development Corporation, Gaurav Dayal was posted as Staff Officer of Chief Secretary.

Principal Secretary, Social Welfare, Manoj Singh was given additional charge of Minority Welfare and Muslim Waqf. Principal Secretary of Tourism, Aradhana Shukla was relieved from the additional charge of Officer on Special Duty, Noida. Principal Secretary, Genera Administration, Jitendra Kumar is given the additional charge of Cultural Affairs department, while Principal Secretary, National Integration, Anita Singh is shifted to Minor Irrigation department. MD UPSIDC, Kanpur, Ranvir Prasad is posted as Secretary

Urban Development while

Special Secretary, Industrial

Development and MD of

PICUP Pramod Kumar Pandey

is made the joint managing

director of UPSIDC, Kanpur.

PM to lay foundation stone for Poorvanchal Expressway in mid July

Pradesh in mid-July to lay the Samajwadi Party regime. The tious Poorvanchal Expressway

This would be the Prime Minister's second visit to UP within a fortnight after his Maghar trip on June 28, where he participated at a function held on Nirvan Diwas of Sant

Officials said that the date of his visit was not yet fixed but was likely between July 14 and 16. "We have sought permission from the PMO for the date even as all preparations for the laying of the foundation stone have been completed. By that date, the Government will also complete the process of selecting companies, who could construct the 340-km Expressway between Lucknow and

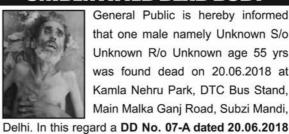
Ghazipur," the official said. This would be the second

foundation stone laying of the Expressway, with the first Prime Minister Narendra one being done about a year-and-a-half back during the Samajwadi Expressway but the present Government rechristened it as Poorvanchal Expressway.

Tenders Poorvanchal Expressway would be opened on July 6, and by July 10, all processes to award tenders to private builders would be completed. The Expressway would be constructed in eight clusters in 36 months. The state government is expected to spend around ₹11,800 crore for the project.

A Government official claimed that 93 per cent of the proposed land has been acquired. In some districts like Azamgarh and Lucknow, the acquisition process has been slow and DMs of these districts have been asked to expedite the process.

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY



General Public is hereby informed that one male namely Unknown S/o Unknown R/o Unknown age 55 yrs was found dead on 20.06.2018 at Kamla Nehru Park, DTC Bus Stand, Main Malka Ganj Road, Subzi Mandi,

has been lodged at P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi. The description of the dead person is as under:- Age: 55 yrs., Sex: Male, Height: 5'9", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: White and Brown Checkdhar Pajama. If anyone having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned. P.S. Subzi Mandi, Delhi DP/8886/N/18

Subject:- e-NIT No.03 of 2018-19 Dated. 25-06-2018 due on 10-07-2018 In the above referred e-NIT, Please read name of work, "Partial repairs to rotor & state of 450HP, 6.6kv, 3-Phase, Slip ring Type (BHEL Make) H.T motor of unit No.04 at LIS _akhanpur" instead of "Partial repairs to rotor & stator of 450HP, 6.6kv, 3-Phase, Slip ing Type (BHEL Make) H.T motor of unit No.10 at LIS Lakhanpur All other items shall remain same as already advertised.

No. DIP/J-1469-P/18

Sd/- Executive Engineer Mechanical Division, R.T.I.C. Kathu

Ph.: 011-23823161, 8750870126

every day at Shiva temple. Earlier too Yadav played a



General public is hereby informed that this person Named: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Age: 35 years, Sex: Male, Height: 5 feet 6 inch., Complexion: Wheatish, Wearing: Black colour shirt, has been found from the area of P.S. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi. He was admitted in Hindu Rao Hospital and During

the treatment doctor declared him dead on dated 14.06.2018. In this regard a DD No. 06-A, dated 14-06-2018 has been

registered at PS. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi.

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out information about this person but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this person may kindly inform to the following.

DP/8884/N/18

PS. Sarai Rohilla, Delhi Ph.: 011-23693611, 8750870131

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General public is hereby informed that an unknown male person was found dead at Near DDA Park Wall, Near Parmanand Hospital, Yamuna Bazar, Kashmere Gate, Delhi on Dated 25.06.2018. In this regard a DD No. 22-B Dated 25.06.2018 has been lodged at P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi. The description of the dead body is given as under Name: Unknown S/o: Unknown R/o Unknown Age: 40 years, Height: 5'5". Complexion: Sallow, Wearing:



Sky Blue Colour Shirt & Dark Blue Colour Pant and Bare Footed

Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

P.S. Kashmere Gate, Delhi Ph.: 011-23967889 8750870123

DP/8889/N/18

HDFC BANK
We understand your world

Department for Special Operations, IInd floor, Indian Express Building
9-10, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110002 POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)

(As per Appendix IV read with rule 8(1) of the Security Interest Enforcement Rules, 2002 Whereas the Authorised Officer of HDFC Bank Ltd. under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 ssued a demand notice calling upon the following borrower/co-borrowers/guarantors/mortgago to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice being within 60 days from the date of receip of the said notice. The borrower/co-borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors having failed to repay the mount, notice is hereby given to the borrower/co-borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors and the ublic in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein elow in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, 2002 read with rule 8 of the said rules for and on behalf of HDFC Bank Ltd. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the ecured assets. The borrower/co-borrowers/guarantors/mortgagors in particular and the public n general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of HDFC Bank Ltd for an amount of dues outstanding together with nterest thereon with costs and charges

Name of Borrower/ Description of property Guarantor date of possession / amount Due

Guarantor

Borrower:- M/s. Nikunj Residential property Demand notice dated: 26-Feb-2018 Industries through its Partners Mortgagors / Guarantors:- Mr. Rajeshwar Goyal, Mr. Satish Goyal, Mr. Sat joyal, Majesar, Golony Six Hundred rony Five and raisa rong buarantors: -Mrs. Kamlesh known as DLF's Model Three Only) along with future interest Joyal, Mr. Anil Kumar Goyal, Town, Sector 11, Tehsil thereon @18 % PA from 27-Feb-2018 Mrs. Neelam Goyal, Ms. Ekta Joyal & Mrs. Ramwati Devi

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

ote: The above notice be also considered as 30 days' notice for sale under rule 8 and 9 of the Act

For HDFC Bank Ltd

www.dailypioneer.com

PAPER WITH PASSION_ Two cheers

Sure, Mercs and milk can't have the same rate under GST; but is the 'Good and Simple Tax' all that it's claimed to be?

rhere is no doubt that the Goods and Services Tax brought in a new age of indirect taxes to India. After years in the making, the new tax system ostensibly simplified India's maze of separate State taxes on a range on items easing inter-State commerce. The old joke that India was an amalgamation of 29 separate tax codes, and thus 29 separate countries, vanished overnight. However, confusion over tax rates, refunds and the inevitable teething issues have meant that the heartburn over GST persists.

When the Prime Minister pointed out that there cannot be a single tax slab for a bottle of milk and a Mercedes car, he inadvertently made a reference to the one industry for which GST rates have brought immense amounts of needless confusion; that is the automotive industry. While the Government is right to promote small, fuel-efficient cars, taxes on passenger vehicles are needlessly confusing and do not, peculiarly enough, encourage fuel efficiency. They leave far too many loopholes and lacunae, with six to eight different rates for cars. In fact, when GST started, rates for cars were simpler and set off a higher demand for more expensive cars but rates were quickly amended upwards and fuel-efficient, emission-friendly hybrids were punished. That, in a nutshell, describes GST's multiple rate confusion. While Rahul Gandhi has promised one universal rate under GST, that is too simplistic as well. All GST-like systems across the world do impact lower income groups disproportionately and differential rates for essential items and non-essential items will therefor have to be maintained.

In a growing economy with more and more consumers, rates have to be balanced to ensure domestic consumption keeps growing. We cannot risk killing the golden goose. On this front, the Government has been less than successful; for example, by classifying some products like air-conditioners as 'luxury items' whereas in a country with a growing middle-class these are far from luxury items. Also, more thought has to be put in to the GST system for cars, where taxes should not be determined solely by size, but as has happened in the West, by emissions as well. This would encourage people to buy more fuel-efficient hybrids and possibly zero-emission vehicles as well, reducing our fuel import bill. Indeed, the GST system has been successful in bringing in thousands of smaller and medium businesses that for years dodged taxes and collections are up even for personal income tax. Combined with the power of artificial intelligence running on the tax departments servers, which can analyse millions of data points in seconds, red flags are being raised on all sorts of anomalies allowing tax officials to act. But, at the same time the Government should understand that delays in GST refunds and the high rate of GST for certain products run the risk of alienating the salaried and trading classes and while it is out promoting social sector schemes. If India is to grow even faster, tax rates have to come down. Sure, milk and Mercs can't be at the same rate. But that is missing the point about the problems with GST.

50WORDEDIT Pilgrims' progress



Despite the muddy tracks, inclement weather and constant threat of terror attacks, pilgrims on the Amarnath Yatra have embarked upon the most difficult part of the trek between the two base camps, climbing up to an altitude of 11,000 feet. Devotion such as this, whatever one's religious beliefs, is awe-inspiring. Faith, truly, can move mountains.

Tech tree

Learning from the Himachal Pradesh forest department's initiative to save trees is essential

o finally, the forestry division of Himachal Pradesh, spurred on by the High Court's tough talk and the unprecedented water crisis that hit Shimla during peak tourist season, has begun using technology to save receding forests. Much like radio-collaring and sensor cameras that are put in place to monitor tiger species, forest officers are tagging each tree with numbers and implanting sensor chips that would trigger an alarm the moment the unfamiliar sounds of tree-cutters or fire come within striking distance of destruction. Beside these sensors, whose GPS signals will be available on mobile phones, an aerial army of drones will keep monitoring the density of pine forests. Shimla has been denuded over time due to over-felling, frequent change of land use patterns, a forest fire, some of which is surreptitiously man-made to clear a patch for encroachment or felling by timber mafia. And while foolproof monitoring and conservation of botanical reserves is a tall physical order in the Himalayas, technological devices can help be the hawk's eye. Particularly at a time when climate is challenging the priorities of how we live and, more importantly, how we provision for our continuity as a species. While satellite images can give us a broad perspective of the larger forest cover, geospatial technology is key to an objective assessment of changes at the local and micro levels. For example, if there is a change in the health of existing old species with new invasive varieties destroying the soil balance and even changing the topographical character, it would have a huge impact on arboreal life and supporting wildlife. Chip implants and camera traps can go a long way in mapping the potential causes of a depleting forest cover.

Shimla pilot will gradually be extended to the rest of Himachal, Delhi, too, can use some tracking devices to regrow and maintain its urban forests. Delhi could also follow the tree bond model, where developers deposit a huge security amount with the authorities while ensuring that no tree gets scratched or impaled during construction. The money is given back only after a survey of the completed project certifies that the greens are intact. Meanwhile, our tree-hugging citizens can introduce a new form of bhagidari by tracking the minutest change in their vicinity and sharing it with apps and online communities. This database can be used by the Government, which then will have no choice but to be accountable.

World over, technology has been used to revitalise forests. While the

Ignoring its icons will cost Congress

It is only a matter of time before the BJP appropriates Narasimha Rao just as it did Sardar Patel and other Congress leaders. The Grand Old Party of India will only have itself to blame for it



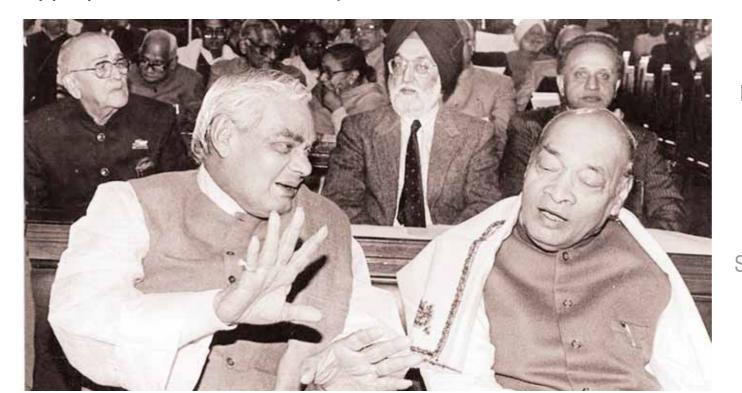
riends and admirers from across the country paid rich tributes to former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao on his 97th birth anniversary last week and recalled his sagacity and statesmanship in pulling India out of the economic crisis of 1991 and for stamping out terrorism and secessionism in Punjab. Prime Minister Narendra Modi was first off-the-mark with a glowing tribute to his predecessor on Twitter. Modi said, "Remembering our former Prime Minister Shri PV Narasimha Rao on his birth anniversary. Shri Rao is widely respected as a statesman who provided valuable leadership during a critical period of India's history. Blessed with immense wisdom, he made a mark as a distinguished scholar as well".

The Telangana Rashtra Samithi Government in Telangana observed the day by holding events to remind the people of Rao's Shekhar had mortgaged gold to raise foreign

judicious and philosophical leadership at a critical moment in India's history and took immense pride in the fact that Rao was not just a Telugu Bidda but also a Telangana Bidda. Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao said that "the people will remember forever and ever" the great services rendered by Rao. The Chief Minister had earlier urged the Union Government to confer the Bharat Ratna on Rao.

On the other hand, the Congress, the party o which Rao owed allegiance all through his life, was not so enthused. It seemed to be dragging its feet when it put out a Tweet hours later nbering Rao for pushing through legisla tive measures in Parliament although he headed a minority Government. The party under played the fact that he had courageously opened up the economy, retrieved Punjab from the clutches of hardcore terrorists and laid the foundation for a new India. This is in line with its policy of underplaying the contribution of party leaders not belonging to the Nehru-

Rao became the Prime Minister at a very critical time, soon after the assassination of Rajiv Gandhi. When he took oath as the Prime Minister, the country's foreign exchange reserves were perilously low at ₹2,100 crore; just enough to pay bills for a fortnight. The predecessor Government headed by Chandra



THE PARTY THAT RULED THE COUNTRY FOR 55 YEARS AFTER SYSTEMATICALLY TRIED TO WIPE OUT SARDAR PATEL SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE, AMBEDKAR YAMA PRASAD AND LEADERS FROM THE NATIONAL PSYCHE

exchange of \$200 million. Rao realised that India's economy would go into a spiral if he continued with the moth-eaten socialism of the Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi variety. The country could emerge out of its economic crisis only if he opened up the economy, dismantled the licence-permit raj and encouraged foreign direct investment.

He chose Manmohan Singh as his Finance Minister and backed him to the hilt to push through economic reforms. He shielded Singh from attacks from within the Congress and from the communists. Many Left-leaning Congress leaders targeted Singh and accused him of being a lackey of America, but Rao stood by him and retained him as the Finance Minister all through his five-year tenure. The Rao-Singh combine slowly and effectively opened up various sectors from telecom to infrastructure to global investors and lifted many restrictions that had impeded the domestic investor and entrepreneur. Things started to look up within a couple of years and Indians began to feel that they could compete with the is well known. The new India that we see today rest of the world. In short, Rao enabled Indians to transit from hopelessness to hope. Although Rao was an outstanding Prime

Minister who put the country on a new growth trajectory, the Congress has always been reluctant to remember him and to acknowledge

has generally kept Rao out of its posters and pretended as if he was never part of the nation's history. This is in keeping with the attitude of the party towards outstanding national leaders who did not belong to the Nehru-Gandhi family. Starting from the days of Jawaharlal Nehru, the party that ruled the country for 55 years after Independence and uninterruptedly from 1947 to 1977, has systematically tried to wipe out Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Subhas Chandra Bose, BR Ambedkar, Syama Prasad Mukherjee It is now too late for the Congress to retrieve and a host of other leaders from the national one of its most valuable treasures. Slowly but psyche. Over the years, every party statement ind document has eulogised Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi and Rajiv Gandhi and general-

This is most unfortunate because the contribution of each of these leaders is phenomenal. The political map of India would never be what it is but for Sardar Patel and Ambedkar's contribution to the drafting of the Constitution would never have been possible if Rao had not had the gumption to discard the policies of the Nehru-Gandhis and to put the country on a new growth trajectory. The country's foreign exchange reserves stood at \$140 billion when he died in 2004

The BJP has cashed in the reluctance of the

y ignored the work of others, including that of

asimha Rao, who was one of India's best

Congress to acknowledge the immense contribution of its own leaders and has almost effort lessly appropriated them. The first was Sardar Patel. This process began some time ago when Atal Bihari Vajpayee and LK Advani were at the helm of the party. Prime Minister Modi stepped up the efforts to accord due recognition to Patel by launching a major project in Gujarat to remember the Sardar which includes erecting the tallest statue in the world.

surely the party has allowed one of its icons to slip out of its hands. Ambedkar is the icon of the BSP and he also finds pride of place in the BJP's scheme of things. Both these leaders have virtually been snatched away from the Congress theon and India's oldest party is finding it difficult to shake off the image of belonging to just one parivar — the Nehru-Gandhi family. Rao is yet another icon which the family centric Congress has virtually discarded. Never

to miss out on an opportunity, the BJP, in recent years, has made it a point to remind the nation of the stellar contribution of Rao. Going by the alacrity of Prime Minister Modi on Rao's recent birth anniversary and the warmth and respect that he has displayed for his predecessor, it is only a matter of time before the BJP wrests this Congress icon as well.

(The writer is Chairman, Prasar Bharati)

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

entry for uncle Nitish Kumar here, at my -RJD leader



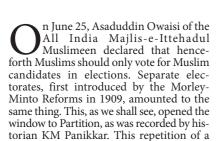


Their's is a house that is frequently raided by CBI, IT-Department and the Enforcement Directorate. Who would like to enter it? —JD(U) spokesman

Separate electorates redux?

By asking Muslims to vote only for co-religionists in elections, Owaisi has renewed an old debate which has the potential to lead to a national crisis





tial for a national crisis. The Indian National Congress was onceived by a British retired bureaucrat, Allan Octavian Hume and was, hence, inaugurated in 1885 with non-communal intenions. There were no elections and no vote banks in those days. It was, therefore, possible to meet, discuss public problems and generally compliment the British Government. The first tremor was felt when Badruddin Tyabji became the Congress chief (1887) and Syed Ahmad Khan cautioned the Muslims to not join the Congress as it was essentially a Hindu party. He went on to reiterate what he had declared at Lucknow and a year later in 1888 at Meerut that the Hindus and Muslims were separate nations. Sir Syed's articulations had two effects. The Congress became sensitive to the two communities being distinct; religion began ceasing to be essentially a personal matter. It also had a public significance. Second, a quiet ferment began among the upper echelons of Muslims which eventually led 35 eminences led by Sir Aga

Khan in October 1906, to call on Viceroy

Lord Minto with a petition of three

demands. One, that Muslims should be

given reservations in Government jobs.

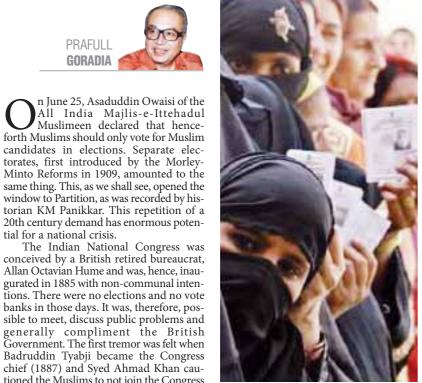
there should be separate electorates. Third,

the Aligarh Muslim University should be

recognised as an Islamic institution,

although incidentally, the land was donat-

Two, in any elections, local or Provincial,



This last demand was rejected while the first two were implemented in the Government of India Act of 1909. In December 1906, the All India Muslim League was set up at Dacca. There was no sound and fury nor any great public reaction but nevertheless, the divide had been sown, making it gradually difficult for politicians to remain blindly neutral between the Muslim pull and the Hindu non-pull. The Congress initially tried to remain indifferent but inevitably, before long, began to respond to the Muslim sensitivity to maintain its national posture. The Hindus began meeting in groups and soon a Punjab Hindu Sabha was formed in 1907 which expanded into the Hindu Mahasabha in 1915. This was followed by the establishment of a Hindu Sangathan in 1921-1922. The Rashtriya Swayamsevak ed by a Hindu Raja, Mahendra Pratap and Sangh (RSS) was founded in 1925 by Dr all expenses were met by the Government. Keshav Baliram Hedgewar. These were the

reactions to the Muslim League coming into being and the implicit sympathy it received from the British rulers.

The League was purely a religious-political party which caused anxiety among Hindus especially because Mahatma Gandhi declared on his visit to riot-hit Malabar that the Moplas were doing their duty by Islam. n 1919, the Khilafat movement was nunched to retain the Sultan of Turkey as the Caliph of Sunni Islam. It was exclusively a Muslim-Sunni cause; Muhammad Ali jinnah did not support it but Gandhiji head-

In 1921, he launched the non-cooper tion movement against the British and told the Muslim community that success against the foreign rulers would also result in the Caliph attaining victory. This mix-up created a great deal of confusion amongst common Muslims. Soon, upon the violence at Chauri Chaura in Uttar Pradesh, he called off the agitation against the British. The incilental message to the Muslims was that Khilafat would also be lost. All hell broke oose in the Malabar in 1921; it was the Mopla genocide which in-turn led to riots in many parts of the country for years to come. Again, as a reaction, the RSS was Dr BR Ambedkar, in his book

Thoughts On Pakistan (Thacker & Co), commented lucidly that the Congress had failed to realise two things. First, it failed to realise was that there is a difference between appearement and settlement; and that the erence is a significant one. Appeasement means buying off the aggressor by conniving in his acts of murder, rape, arson, and loot against innocent people who, for the moment, happen to be the victims of his displeasure. On the other hand, settlement means laying down the bounds which neither party to it can transgress. Little wonder, the next 25 years witnessed a virtual civil war between Hindus and Muslims. The medium of this war was intermittent rioting. The second thing the Congress failed to realise was that the policy of concessions increased Muslim aggressiveness and, worse, many Muslims interpreted these concessions as a sign of defeatism on the part

> columnist and an author) (To be continued)

an eyelid. The Cabinet 'met' at 6 a.m.,

on electoral malpractice indulged in by the Prime Minister to win her Lok Sabha seat in the 1971 General Election was delivered on 12 June, 1975, by Justice Jagmohan Lal Sinha of Allahabad High Court. they always have a defence: We are It had the potential to reveal the not policy-makers but impleinner strength of Indian democramenters. While Justice Sinha and cy to the world. Everyone, except a also Justice Iyer kept the flag of the few, experienced a sense of pride in the autonomy of the judiciary and the vision contained in the five-Judge Bench of the apex court Constitution. But the sense of elation examined what is known as the ADM Jabalnur Indira Gandhi did not submit her resignation in the wake of her conviction, nor even even after humiliating and debilitating restrictions were imposed on her on 24 June by Justice Krishna Iyer of the Supreme Court. What followed next was a sordid saga of unashamed mutilation of the Constitutional provisions by a coterie around Indira Gandhi. The Emergency lasted for 21 months starting June 25, 1975, to March 21, 1977. India was converted into a state ruled by a couple of persons who could incarcerate anyone with-

out caring for the rule of law. Though apparently everyone was scared, uncertain and apprehensive, slowly stories of heroic action by young and old alike began to emerge. India had tasted democracy, internalised it; and even an illiterate Indian was aware of his/her rights for which the leaders of the freedom struggle had made every possible sacrifice. The Emergency was imposed at a time when traditional respect for political leaders had begun to fade; those in power had become self-centred and drifted away from the welfare of the people. For the informed Indian, the manner the Emergency was declared was shocking.

The Prime Minister was in such a terrible hurry that she had no time for even a formal Cabinet Meeting before going to the President. And what a supportive President, who was supposed to be the defender of

Emergency had been proclaimed. And it is said that the Cabinet consists of Ministers in which the Prime Minister is only the first amongst equals. One wonders why all or even one of them did not protest. They just meekly acquiesced. All three major organs of democracy were under test by Indira Gandhi. The Legislature emerged in poor light. The judiciary could not emerge as the defender of law and the Constitution. Not much was expected from the bureaucracy as

judiciary flying, there was too much of disappointment in store when a analysis of the Emergency in the volume, Emergency: Indian Democracy's Darkest Hour, veteran journalist A Surya Prakash writes: "The case was decided on 28 April 1978. Four Judges - AN Ray, MH Beg, YV Chandrachud and PN Bhagwati held that no citizen had the right to move a writ of habeas corpus in light of the presidential order of 27 June 1975 or to challenge detention as illegal." Of the three judges, Justice Beg went so far as to praise the 'maternal' attitude of the Government. He said: "We understand that the care and concern bestowed by the state authorities upon the welfare of the detenus, who were all well-fed and well-treated, is almost maternal. Even parents have to take appropriate preventive action against those children who threaten to burn down the house they live in." This probably was the biggest joke inflicted on the people of India and their Constitutional rights and will be read with profound sadness even when other details about the dreaded

Emergency are forgotten. Here too, however, there was a ray of hope for the future. The fifth judge on the Bench, Justice HR Khanna, was the only one who dissented as he found no merit in the case as presented by the Government. This was courage personified in the days when every Indian, irrespective of his station in life, was unsafe under a tyrannical dispensation. Justice Sinha was the the Constitution! He accepted the original hero. Justice Khanna the cementing presence of JP. He

GST has been successful but loopholes remain

num of two or three slabs.



FRONT, NONE

SHOULD FORGET

HOW AN

UNDERGROUND

MOVEMENT WAS

ORGANISED BY

THE YOUNG

THROUGHOU?

Learning from Emergency

The Emergency is the darkest chapter in Independent India's history. The very description of democracy in textbooks would remain deficient if the learner is not educated through its example

the young in the judiciary and in the become the CJI. When superseded he did the most dignified thing: He tendered his resignation. His contribution in sustaining the dignity of the judiciary shall be remembered with respect and admiration. On the people's front, none

should forget how an underground movement was organised by the young throughout India. Several leaders went underground, forgot their political differences and organised the younger lot successfully, as well as educated the masses in what was at stake if the mutilators of democracy were not thrown out of power. The media was fully gagged by Sanjay Gandhi and Vidya Charan Shukla, people had evolved their own systems to gather information. Who could forget the courage and sufferings of Ramnath Goenka and others who stood like rocks against

The manner in which the censors did their work during that period will remain a dreaded memory to all this and the coterie behind it recommendation without blinking brought hope to the masses, inspired was the trusted leader of the peo-

ple, he became courage incarnate. A life lived in selfless service of the motherland, he shall continue to inspire young generations in times to come. He followed Gandhian ideals in letter and spirit. Unfortunately, those who learnt their politics at his feet were swept away by power and perks. They did not learn the lesson that the Emergency taught us. But lessons must be learnt. Indira Gandhi's return to power cannot justify her imposition of the Emergency. India cannot ignore the darkest period of its democracy. It cannot forget how the offspring of the Prime Minister could become a power centre without accountability. Dynasties have debilitating, destructive tendencies.

democracies Some would not like any mention of the Emergency in textbooks. That indeed is an amazing view of history and the lessons it offers for future generations. Why should young Indians not know how the implications of suspension of fundamental rights, including the right to life, were interpreted by the then Attorney General Niren De before a Bench of the Supreme Court? Justice Khanna wrote in his autobi-

We must not forget that it is only

These have no place in dynamic

ography that his colleagues — norally very vocal about human rights were sitting tongue-tied listening De. Justice Khanna asked hir what the remedy was "If a police officer because of personal enmity killed another man?" The Attorney General's response shall remain an eye-opener for the Indian judiciary: There would be no judicial remely in such a case so long the

Emergency lasts". Can anyone ignore, forget and not learn from it? Before June 25, 1975, teachers hroughout the country were artic ulating the principles of democracy and the salient features of the Constitution with a sense of pride. Students were rehearsing to participate in 'mock Parliaments'. But Indira Gandhi's coterie was rewritng the principles of democracy for the "person, family and the dynasty". India will never allow a repeat.

nost of them unaware of why they

were there. Within days of the Emergency, people gathered that the and the year of Pacific ceasefire (1945), also decreased for the first time. Now, compare the yearly increase of 13,40,000 which ended in 1974 with country was being run by Sanjay Gandhi and a couple of people around him. Stories of citizens eing forced to undergo sterilisation became the talk of the town. A sense of fear gripped practically every household. At a rough estimate, victims of the 'Sanjay Sterilisation Effect' could be more than 70 lakh men. Imagine what a devastating impact it would have created on the person himself, at least five immediate family members and a further 10-15 close relatives. Think of families in which young unmarried perpressure on the Japanese economy sons were also forcibly subjected to this cruelty. In addition to these victims, the number of persons detained during Emergency under MISA and the Defence of India Act reached a staggering 1,11,000. Officials were given instructions to complete the quota of arrests and sterilisations 'anyhow', and no one was in a state of mind not to obey. No Indian should suffer such igno minies in future and, hence, must know everything about the dark days of Emergency. The description

(The writer is the Indian Representative on the Executive Board of UNESCO)

of democracy in Indian textbooks

would always remain deficient if the

learner is not educated through the

example of Emergency on how a

functional democracy is to be sus

tained and strengthened against dia-

Demographic myth and reality

not be at fault for asking newlyweds in his country to raise at least three children. New Delhi and Moscow too have demographic concerns



eality revealed: Last year, 941,000 children were born in Japan, the low-Hest since the national survey began in 1899, thereby showing an alarming decline in birth rate in that country. In this context, can Kanji Kato, a '2-year-old MP of Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), be at fault when he said: "Newly-weds should raise at least three children"? Was he not expressing concern for Japan's rapidly declining population? However, one does not wish to make any comment on his supplementary statement, to wit: "Young women, if they do not get married and have offspring, will end up in care homes run on taxes of other people's children." Unsurprisingly, this created controversy as critics latched on to the addenda to his statement and lashed out at him for this avoidable public utterance

Let us. however, analyze calmly what could have been the thought-process f the beleaguered Japanese MP leading to a statement so serious and pertaining to the demography of Japanese society. This writer believes that Japan has been one of the most consistent Asian partners in India's economics and bilateral relations. So. let's explore what is at stake for Japan. Kanii Kato's first part pertaining to the request to "raise three children" is spot on. Why? Because the symptoms surfaced 44 years ago, in 1974, when Japan's population showed this, the population of Tokyo too, which had been continuously increasing since the Tokugawa period except in the year of the Great Kanto earthquake of 1923

that of a population increase of 9,41,000 last year. One gets an answer as to why and what made the Japanese MP say what he said. To this extent, I do feel that Kato was stressing on a point for the future of his country. Fast forward from 1974 to the year 2000 — one finds that the population of Japan is 12,6900,000 with a projected assessment of reduced populace of 12,4200,000 y 2020. Although 2020 is still two years away, figures of 2014 showed that the Japanese head count was at 12.70 crore (an increase of one lakh only between 2000 and 2014) with a reduced population projection of 12,700,000 by 2030. And if that does happen, Japan will definitely face a crisis of sorts which can be explained in economic terms. If the percentage of the productive population drops and the percentage of non-productive population rises (in Japan's case, owing to low birth rate and high death rate), surely the ratio dependent population to productive population would rise, thereby, putting

Broadly, three factors must have crossed Kato's mind. First, Japan today has one of the slowest growing populations with -0.2 per cent average annual change from 2015-2020. Second. Tokyo's average number of children per woman for 2015-2020 is projected at 1.5, which again is one of the lowest growths in the world. And third, its percentage of elderly population aged 65 years and above (which is 26.3 per cent of the total population) is very high, Japan, however, is not the only country in the world that faces a potential crisis in its demography. There are others too which are economically advanced but collectively face nottoo-bright a prospect in human resources development. Migration, immigration and refugee movement, as seen in Europe, America and Asia, constitute the real-time threat compelling several countries in the world to face the stark possibility that the wars between states and the terror attacks of non-state actors could emerge as two main sources of proliferating world conflict.

Thus, a cursory glance reveals that there are almost 50 countries which face slow-growing populations the average annual percentage of which for 2015-2020, ranges between 0.3 per cent to -0.8 per cent. Japan stands at the 17th position with -0.2 per cent average annual percentage change for 2015-2020 between Greece -0.2 per cent (16) and Moldova -0.2 per cent (18). Whereas, Greece and Moldova have comparatively small populations and even smaller economies, Japan stands in the top league as its demographic make-up is crucial for its economy. In fact, the nearest rival of Japan in matters of demogra phy loss can only be Russia. Once the mighty USSR contained 28,7800,000 people and spanned over a land of 2,240,0000 square kilometers. With the 1991 collapse striking Moscow hard, today's Russian population is on the wane. With 14.25 crore people on a shrunken 1,710,0000 square kilometers when compared to the USSR, Russia is a shadow of its Cold War past notwithstanding its ninth position in the list of world populations. The US, on other hand, is ranked third with a 32 crore 60 lakh populace without any loss of land.

However, what may soon become a matter of concern for Russia is that, like Japan, it has a shrinking demography. The position, gleaned from credible sources, reveals that the present 14,250,0000 number is projected to become 13.500,0000 by 2030. And here, unlike Japan, Russia's worries will multiply due to its vast resource-rich and sparsely populated Euro-Asian land mass. Security thereof will definitely become a major challenge.

As for India, well, unlike Japan and Russia, the average yearly addition of Indian heads is more than 1.50.00000. And there doesn't appear to be any brake in sight. So, here we are, in a highly 'polarised' and grim 21st century of two extremes of 'surplus' and 'deficit' demography in a fixed geography. Seen in this light, while Kato could be faulted for being blunt, both Moscow and Delhi may soon be cursing themselves for their inability to think the way Kato had thought for his country; though for different causes of action. Deficit is Moscow's looming problem and surplus New Delhi's.

(The writer is an alumnus, National Defence College)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir — This refers to the article, "Attacks on Army camps and other "Malicious UNHRC report" by places are resulting in deaths of hun-Bhopinder Singh (June 29). India is a dreds of innocent people besides causdemocratic country that is governed by ing widespread destruction. It is also 5.5 per cent earlier, has now been brackthe rule of law. Unlike in communist known that youths are used as human eted under 18 per cent of the Goods and authoritarian regimes, chances of shields to prevent security forces from and Services Tax (GST). As a result, violation of human rights in Kashmir, completing their operations. India has plastic recyclers drastically slashed the as reported by the United Nations all the sovereign rights to contain and price of waste plastic. Human Rights Council (UNHRC), neutralise these extremist elements.

are remote and unthinkable. ists from across the border as well as tion without tenable evidence. and separatists in the region are unleashing unrest and violence in the

Vitriolic, vicious and virulent

UNHRC's report is, therefore, mislead-

It is an undisputed fact that terror- ing and is based on factitious concoc- reduction. This has sharply reduced the Nimai Charan Swain an adverse effect on the rate of recycling

For instance, the price of empty milk packets suffered a 50 per cent income of rag pickers. It can also have Bhubaneswar and ultimately, on the environment

but expected that the Goods and Services Tax (GST), the single biggest tax reform in the history of India, last year, was bound to attract criticism and face more than a few teething problems. But it is to the credit of the GST Council that to this dav. GST has been more than accommo-

dating to market and industry demands.

Ideally, however, there should be a max-

At present, there are five tax slabs.

his refers to the article. "One year of



However, the need is to get petrol and net. With e-way Bill and invoice matching, diesel under the ambit of the new indirect — it will be difficult for them to evade tax. tax regime. This, in its true sense, will transform the Indian economy as it will Council must now focus on making the simplify the way petrol and diesel are entire process of filing returns cumberpriced. It will, hence, directly impact inflation and the economy in a positive way. and medium enterprises. As the GST To recall, the idea behind GST was to enters into the second year, we hope that ot only formalise the economy, but also the tax structure too is simplified. make the tax net wider. This has been **Bal Govind** chieved to some extent. Many non-tax-

The Government as well as the GST

India could achieve the highest polyethylene terephthalate recycling rate in

best way to manage waste plastic menput in the five per cent GST category pickers are made stakeholders in recy-poor remains the same. cling, India can achieve 100 per cent PET recycling rates and end the marginalisation of rag pickers.

the world. Recycling is undoubtedly the community and the public in general. ace. Thus, recyclable plastic needs to be can at the very least conclude that there in order to protect rag pickers and the it is the Government that has been netenvironment. Moreover, if adult rag ting crores every month. The fate of the

because of four million rag pickers that Sir — One year on, the GST has been draconian at least for the trading

Though it is too early to conclude, one has been little change. To the contrary,

Send your feedback to:

Chennai letterstopioneer@gmail.com



India will be able to restrict the fiscal deficit below the budgeted level of 3.3 per cent of GDP in 2018-19, which has hit 55 per cent of the annual target in the first two months of the financial

Piyush Goyal, Finance Minister

BUSINESS BUZZ **GOVT**

The Government has done what it had to with 'utmost sincerity' for Air India and emphasised the need to differentiate between lack of response to one sale offer and a policy decision. The **Government has cleared sale of Air India** and several other loss-making public sector companies but that they are yet to be sold is the result of timing and process **Prime Minister Narendra Modi**



Anil Agarwal to delist Vedanta Resources from LSE

Offers \$1 bn to buy out minority shareholders

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Mining mogul Anil Agarwal plans to delist his flagship firm Vedanta Resources Plc from the London Stock Exchange after buying out 33.5 per cent of non-promoter shareholders for about USD 1 billion

Agarwal's Investments Ltd, which currently holds 66.53 per cent of Vedanta, made a cash offer for 825 pence a share, a 14 per cent premium to company's threemonth volume weighted aver-

age price. Vedanta Resources in a statement said it will recommend acceptance of the offer by the shareholders, who would also be entitled to a previously announced dividend of USD

0.41 per share.
The company no longer

sees the London listing as nec-essary to access capital and the deal will simplify Vedanta's corporate structure, it said.

The move comes weeks after the killing of 13 protesters in police firing at the firm's copper smelter plant in Tamil Nadu last month that led to political opposition to the company in the UK and drop in its

Volcan is a holding company wholly owned by the Anil Agarwal discretionary trust. Agarwal is also Anglo American's biggest shareholder with a nearly 20 per cent stake through Volcan.

After delisting of Vedanta Resources, Agarwal would have just two listed companies in India - Vedanta Ltd which houses his sprawling copper, silver, lead, iron ore, power, aluminum mining and oil and gas, and Hindustan Zinc Ltd.

Vedanta Resources owns

50.1 per cent of Vedanta Ltd and has near 65 per cent holding in Hindustan Zinc. It also owns 79.4 per cent of Konkona



Copper Mines in Zambia, Africa.

The delisting will take 2-3 months as it will have to make a firm offer in 28 days.

Vedanta said an independent committee, formed to review and evaluate the proposal, has indicated to Volcan Investments that it supports the offer and intends to recommend a firm offer to the shareholders. Agarwal said Vedanta was the first Indian company to be listed on the London Stock Exchange in 2003.

"The London listing has served us extremely well since that time. However, given the subsequent growth of our underlying businesses and the maturity of the Indian capital markets, together with related feedback from our shareholders and other stakeholders, we have concluded that a separate London listing is no longer necessary to achieve the Vedanta Group's strategic objectives.

"In taking this important step towards greater group simplification, we wanted to ensure that the independent shareholders of Vedanta Resources Plc were provided with the opportunity to exit on attractive terms, and I believe this possible offer will deliver on that objective," he said.

Vedanta said the offer price of 825 pence per share values the company at 2.324 billion pounds and is 27.6 per cent higher than Friday's closing price of 647 pence a share.

Volcan believes that the "offer price represents an attractive premium when considered on a relative basis compared to the recent share price of Vedanta and in the context of relevant precedent minority

buy-out transactions in the United Kingdom".

Also, the offer of cash provides an immediate and certain premium. "Simplification of the corporate structure of Vedanta and its subsidiaries has been a key ongoing objective for the Vedanta Group, examples of which over the past several years include the merger of various Indian subsidiaries to create Vedanta Ltd, and the merger of Cairn India Ltd into Vedanta Ltd.

"Volcan believes that now is the right time to take another important step in simplifying the structure of the Vedanta Group by removing a duplicative stock exchange listing, which it believes to be in the best interests of all stakeholders," the statement said.

Vedanta Resources was created to provide a platform to access a deeper pool of equity and debt capital in the United Kingdom and global markets, when predecessor entities were smaller and less liquid, and the Indian capital markets were less

mature.

"Volcan believes that the original rationale for Vedanta is now less compelling, given the increased maturity of the Indian capital markets, together with Vedanta Limited's significant growth," it said.

The offer is subject to

Volcan receiving any necessary external approvals for its financing structure and receiving satisfactory confirmations from Vedanta's principal lenders that they do not object to the delisting of company's

Commenting on the possible offer, Deepak Parekh, Senior Independent Director of Vedanta, said: "Since being approached, the independent directors of Vedanta Resources Plc have evaluated the possible offer and have negotiated its terms. We are now pleased to confirm our intention to recommend the possible offer to Vedanta's independent shareholders if and when it is formally made in the terms announced today.'

ONGC board gives nod to explore group restructuring options

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The board of state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) has given in-principle approval for exploring options for a restructuring of the group firms including the merger of subsidiaries MRPL and HPCL.

The India's largest oil and gas producer, ONGC has several subsidiaries and joint ventures including two in refining sector — Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd and Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd and two petrochemical units — ONGC Petro additions Ltd (OPaL) and ONGC Mangalore Petrochemicals Ltd. It also has an overseas investment arm in ONGC Videsh

"The board of directors of ONGC, at the 308th meeting held on June 29, accorded its in-principle approval for exploring options for the restructuring of ONGC group companies," the company said

in a regulatory filing.
While ONGC did not provide details of the proposed restructuring, sources in the company said an advisor would be appointed to suggest possible options. The board of the company will take a call on the options suggested by the advisor.

ONGC is looking at trimming down the structure by merging some of the subsidiaries.While MRPL operates a 15 million tonnes a year refinery at Mangalore in Karnataka, HPCL has two refineries at Mumbai and Vizag. OPaL has built at Rs 32,000 crore petrochemical complex at Dahej in Gujarat, while ONGC Tripura Power Co Ltd (OTPC) operates a 726 MW power plant at Palatana in Tripura.

It also has two SEZ companies — Dahej SEZ Ltd and Mangalore SEZ Ltd. Also, it has a pipeline company in Petronet MHB Ltd and a stake in helicopter service operator, Pawan Hans Ltd as well as Petronet LNG Ltd. Sources said while there is certainly a case for merger of MRPL with HPCL for not just business synergies but also help avoid penalties from market regulator SEBI for not meeting public float requirement in case of

Core sector growth dips to 10-month low of 3.6%

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

rowth of eight infrastruc-Gture industries dropped to a 10-month low of 3.6 per cent in May due to a decline in production of crude oil and natural gas.

The eight sectors, which also include coal, refinery products, fertilisers, steel and cement, had expanded by 3.9 per cent in May 2017, according to the data released by the commerce and industry ministry on Monday.

This is the lowest growth rate since July 2017 when infra-structure industries had expanded by 2.9 per cent. The growth rate in April was 4.6 per

Crude oil and natural gas registered a negative growth of 2.9 per cent and 1.4 per cent respectively in May compared to the year-ago period.

work as mentioned below:

Job No. 280:

cost)

Job No. 281:

Name of Work

Replacement of Tubelight

Sodium Light / Halogen Light

with energy efficient LED bulbs & tube lights in Conventional

Hall cum Exhibition Hall in City

Centre Sec-12, Faridabad.

(Including three years defect

liability and mtc. period free of

Supply & replacement of old

lights with energy efficient LED

light fittings in HSVP Office

Building, Open Air Theater, War

Memorial Sector-12, Faridabad

(Including 3 years defect liability

& maintenance free of cost).

Retail inflation for factory workers at 3.96 pc in May

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Retail inflation for industri-al workers remained flat at 3.96 per cent in May compared to 3.97 per cent in April this year, a Labour Ministry statement said on Monday.

According to the state-ment, the food inflation based on CPI-IW (Consumer Price Index-Industrial Workers) stood at 1.66 per cent in May against 1.33 per cent in the previous month and (-) 1.63 per cent during May 2017.

"The year-on-year inflation based on CPI-IW stood at 3.96 per cent for May, 2018 as compared to 3.97 per cent for

The growth rate of refinery products, steel and electricity

EMD

Time

Limit

Rs.

30200/-

01 Month

Rs.

43600/-

01 Month

A/Cost

Bid

Document

Cost

Rs. 15.10

Lacs

Rs.500/ -

Rs. 21.80

Rs.1000/ -

YANA SHAHARI VIKAS PRADHIKARAN

TENDER NOTICE

On behalf of Haryana Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran Online

bids on the website: https://etenders.hry.nic.in are

hereby invited from the contractors/firms / enlisted in

appropriate class/category on the approved list of HSVP,

and who are possessing valid license issued by the C.E.I

Haryana Chandigarh in case required for the execution

of following works and Financial Bid will be opened by

Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, HSVP,

Faridabad in his office on 10-07-2018 at 10.00 A.M. in

the presence of tenderers or their authorized

representatives who may wish like to be present for the

and 1.09 per cent during the corresponding month (May) of 2017," it said. The maximum upward pressure to the change in current index came from food group contributing (+)

0.68 percentage points to the

total change. Rice, groundnut oil, fish fresh, poultry (chicken), eggs (hen), milk, pure ghee, chillies green, onion, brinjal, cabbage, carrot, french bean, green corian-der leaves, spinach, potato, radish, are responsible for the rise in index. However, the surge was checked by a decline in prices of wheat, wheat atta, mustard oil, chillies dry, lady's finger,

declined to 4.9 per cent, 0.5 per cent and 3.5 per cent in May from 5.4 per cent, 3.8 per cent May 2017.

However, output of coal and fertiliser grew by 12.1 per cent and 8.4 per cent, respectively, in May over the yearago month.

During April-May this fiscal, the eight core industries recorded a growth of 4.1 per cent as against 3.3 per cent in the same period last year.

India has agreed to provide tariff concessions on 3,142

products to Asia Pacific Trade

Agreement (APTA) members,

including Bangladesh and Sri

Lanka, from July 1, the com-

zech Republic based car-

mango (ripe), ridge gourd etc. The all-India CPI-IW for May, 2018 increased by 1 point and pegged at 289. On 1-month percentage change, it increased by (+) 0.35 per cent between April and May, 2018 when compared with the increase of

(+) 0.36 per cent between the

Sholapur and Bhilai reported the maximum increase of 6 points each followed by Pune, Kodarma and Godavarikhani (5 points each). Among others, 4 points increase was observed in 2 centres, 3 points in 6 centres, 2 points in 18 centres and corresponding months of the 1 point in 15 centres.

Markets slump as trade tensions weigh; telecom, metal shares skid

 $B^{\text{enchmark indices finished}}_{\text{lower on Monday as}}$ investors scrambled to unwind bets amid global trade tensions and unabated foreign capital outflows.

159 points to end at 35,264.41, while the broader NSE Nifty finished below the crucial 10,700-mark. Asian markets went into a tailspin on weak Chinese factory data ahead of the expected imposition of US tariffs this week.

Back home, profit-booking in recent gainers and a

India to provide tariff concessions

on 3,142 items to APTA members

merce ministry said on Monday. However, these duty

concessions will be more for

least developed countries

(LDCs) and less for developing

the United Nations Economic

APTA is an initiative under

Skoda unveils Volkswagen Group's 'India 2.0' plan

nations.

The BSE Telecom index was the biggest casualty, sinking 2.61 per cent, followed by metal and power indices.

The 30-share Sensex, after a positive opening, rose to 35,578.24 on buying by investors, but soon came under selling pressure.

It finally ended at 35,264.41, down 159.07 points, or 0.45 per cent.

Likewise, the 50-stock NSE barometer Nifty ended at 10,657.30, showing a loss of 57 points, or 0.53 per cent. Intraday, it shuttled between weak rupee took their toll, 10,736.15 and 10,604.65.

and Social Commission for

Asia and the Pacific (UN

ESCAP) for trade expansion

through exchange of tariff con-

cessions among developing

country members of the Asia

Pacific Region. It is in place

Govt has done what it had to with 'utmost sincerity' for Air India: PM

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has said the Government has done what it had to with "utmost sincerity" for Air India and emphasised the need to differentiate between lack of response to one sale offer and a policy decision. The Government has

cleared sale of Air India and several other loss-making public sector companies but that they are yet to be sold is the "result of timing and process, Modi said. His remarks come against the backdrop of the government's proposal for strategic disinvestment of debtladen Air India failing to attract any bidders. "As for Air India, the Government has done what ty. You have to differentiate between the lack of response to one sale offer and a policy decision," Modi said in an interview to 'Swarajya' magazine.

This is also the first time that the prime minister has commented on Air India after the disinvestment proposal failed to take off in May.

Responding to queries that the government does not seem too keen on privatisation, Modi also said that "at the Cabinet level, we have cleared the sale of not only Air India but several other (loss-making) public sector units". "This itself is historical in many ways; that they are yet to be sold is the result of timing and process. We don't want to make a sale where we will be accused of selling something for X amount when we could have got more. But the policy decisions for strategic sales have already been taken".

to industry observers reaffirms

the group's belief in the Indian

market particularly at a time

where it has been suffering the

repercussions of the 'Dieselgate'

emissions-cheating scandal in

Europe and the United States

that has severely impacted its

bottomline. However, internal

jostling within the group in

India where Skoda Auto and

Volkswagen competed at the

same price point and where

both brands suffered from

Business Corner

NORTHERN RAILWAY'S AMBALA DIVISION BEGINS TRIAL



Ambala Division of Northern Railways have started trial for elimination of traditional GUARD LINE BOX by replacing it with GAURD WHEELED LINE BRIEFCASE which can be carried by Guard himself. The essential guard-kit to be carried by guard has been redesigned to be lighter/smaller so that it's easy to carry. A preloaded Tablet has been replaced in it for all Rule Books and

Working Time Tables (WTTs). Yesterday a Guard from Ambala Division Sh. P.L. Meena went on duty with line briefcase in train no.14553/12058 between Ambala-Amb Andaura-Ambala.

PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AUSHADHI INAUGURATED

National Doctors celebrated in **NLCIL** Hospital on 02.07.2018 in great remembrance Dr.Bidhan Chandra Roy the legendary physician turned

Chief Minister of

who has immortalized himself through larger than life contribution for the health and social upliftment of scores of people who did not have access to quality health care. More than 80 doctors participated in this celebration which was inaugurated by Dr S.K.Achaarya, CMD, NLCIL, to reinvent their role as doctors with shift of dominant mind set from seeing patients as problem to accepting them as opportunity to build a robust community capable of improving economic performance

AAI & MADC SIGN AGREEMENT FOR SKYBOOKS360 Airports Authority of India (AAI)

PNS NEW DELHI

∪maker, Śkoda Auto which is part of the German Volkswagen Group has been given the responsibility for the group's further expansion in India. Announcing this on Monday, Skoda Auto Chief Executive, Bernhard Maier said that Volkswagen Group would invest an additional 1 Billion Euro into the Indian market to build a new research, design and development centre in Pune as well as expand production facilities at the existing Skoda Auto facilities in Aurangabad. India-specific models will be created under the 'MQB A0' platform and will be created for Skoda as well as Volkswagen. Incidentally, Skoda Auto was the first brand under the Volkswagen Group to enter

India in late-2001.

One key element of the

plan for the group is to garner a five percent market-share of

the market by 2025 according to Maier, adding that the group has made mistakes in India in the past. To rectify these mistakes, he added that there will be three major factors that will determine the success of the "India 2.0" plan which would be to improve customer experiences, bring down cost levels through increased localisation and to time launches correctly. Gurpratap Boparai, the newly appointed managing director for Skoda Auto's Indian operations highlighted that

getting a localisation right was the key to future success.

Maier added that Skoda's increased investment in India dovetailed into Narendra Modi's "Make In India' philosophy and would allow the Volkswagen Group to use India as a manufacturing base for other fast-growing economies. The investment, would he reckoned, create over 4000-5000 new jobs directly and indirectly. However, he did point out that the first car from this new plan, a Sports Utility Vehicle would only appear in the market in late-2020 and the group would need to endure a degree of hardship over the next two years. "After that we will launch two new products every year for each brand", claiming that a five percent market share in India which by 2025 will be, according to estimates a five million unit a year market is a modest target.

The investment, according

poor customer service led to them becoming just part players in a market dominated by east Asian companies. Industry observers believe that by giving Skoda Auto the lead role in the group's expansion in India, it could help quell internal dissent and arguments, allowing Germany's largest company the leverage to compete more effectively in India with a potential Maruti-Suzuki and Toyota merger looming in the coming years.

has signed an agreement with Maharashtra Airport **Development Company** Ltd.(MADC) for providing SKYB00KS360 - a comprehensive e-business accounting solution for MADC and the Airports in the state of Maharashtra.

The agreement was signed by Sh. Chandra Shekhar Tewari, AGM (BD), AAI and Smt. Shwetali Thakare, CFO, MADC in a ceremony held at Multi-modal International Hub Airport at Nagpur (MIHAN) Headquarters, Nagpur on 29 th June, 2018 in the presence of Sh. S. Suresh, Member (Finance), AAI and Sh. Suresh Kakani, Vice Chairman & Managing Director, MADC and Chairman & Director for MIHAN.

NADELLA NAGA TAKES CHARGES AS DIRECTOR Nadella Naga Maheswar Rao, aged 57

years, is a Graduate in Electrical & amp Electronics Engineering. He holds a Post Graduate Degree (M.Tech) in Power Generation Technology from IIT, Delhi and also Master's Degree in Business Administration. Nadella Naga Maheswar Rao has assumed the charge as Director (Planning & Director); Projects) in NLC India Ltd..w.e.f 29.06.2018.



Tenders should be submitted online on the prescribed form / Template which can be downloaded and submitted from the website https://etenders.hry.nic.in w.e.f. 22-06-2018 to 07-07-2018. Full details including the tender documents are available

on the website https://etenders.hry.nic.in besides being available for reference in the office of undersigned. For & on behalf of HSVP

Email: xenelectfbd@gmail.com

(Ashwani Gaur) **Executive Engineer,** Elect. Div. HSVP Fbd. Ph. No. 0129-4002962

RO NO. 67973 Dt. 02-07-2018

Mid-life crisis

According to a Health Foundation thinktank, millennials could have worse health in middle age than their parents. People in their 20s & 30s will have a higher risk of cancer, diabetes and heart diseases due to employment troubles, bad relationships and housing issues



DOCYARD

DR ASHUTOSH UPADHYAY

SENIOR FIELD APPLICATION SCIENTIST PREMAS LIFE SCIENCES PVT LTD





Check your blood pressure regularly

ypertension is a vital risk factor for cardiovascular disease in women but is often underestimated and undiagnosed. Hypertension seems to claim more women lives than any other diseases. Elevated blood pressure (BP) >140/90 mm Hg is associated with a shorter life expectancy overall. Although hypertension more commonly occurs in older people of age 50 and above, the number of women under age 35 being diagnosed with hypertension is on rising. As per a report published in Harvard Women's Health Watch, hypertension affects 13 per cent of women under age 44, nearly half of women in their 60s, and 80 per cent or more of those over age 75. In many studies conducted on women with hypertension, it has been found that oral contraceptive tends to cause hypertension in many of the women who rely on this method of contraception.

WHAT IS HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE OR HYPERTENSION High blood pressure indicates how hard the heart has to

pump blood in order to get it flowing through the body. While 120/80 mm Hg indicates the normal blood pressure, anything above 140/90 indicates the occurrence of hypertension. An untreated hypertension can double the chance of getting a stroke and a heart attack while affecting the kidneys as well.

CAUSES OF HYPERTENSION

■ Diet: An unhealthy diet high in salt, fat, and cholesterol leads to obesity and puts women at the risk of developing high blood pressure. According to a recent report by the American Association of kidney patients, the high intake of sodium through food can also increase the fluid volume being filtered by kidney putting an extra pressure on their functioning. Therefore, women, who have a family history of obesity and hypertension, should closely monitor their salt, cholesterol and the fat intake. ■ Drugs/ contraceptive pills: Many legal and unpopular drugs, as well as various beverages, can contribute to hypertension in women. Tobacco, alco-

Pain management drugs, anti-depressants, caffeine, cold medicines, herbal supplements, immunosuppressants and

stimulants can contribute majourly to hypertension

hol and birth control pills have shown to increase blood pressure by contributing to increased body weight, water retention and thinning of the control pills have one or the other form of progesterone hormone which has been shown to elevate blood pressure in women.

Drugs such as ibuprofen and acetaminophen can increase the body's fluid retention and therefore, severely

impact the functionality of the kidneys. Pain management drugs, antidepressants, caffeine, cold medicines (decongestants), herbal supplements, immunosuppressants, and stimulants may contribute severely to hypertension.

■ Pregnancy: Pregnant women are at high risk of developing gestational hypertension. While it is a temporary condition and goes away after pregnancy but in some women, it may prevail for a lifetime. Moreover, gestational hypertension not only increases risk and complication for the expectant mother but for the fetus as well. There are few blood-pressures regulating drugs which are available upon prescription for pregnant women which has been shown to have the minimum deleterious effect on the baby and the mother during pregnancy.

HYPERTENSION MANAGEMENT

Some of the steps to manage hypertension includes weight reduction, physical activity, dietary sodium reduction and moderation of caffeine and alcohol consumption. A diet rich in fruits, vegetables and low-fat dairy products, and with reduced saturated and total fat, helps in lowering the blood pressure. If women develop high blood pressure due to oral contraceptives, they should stop the contraceptive and switch to a different form of

Better education and information on treating hypertension is needed and more studies on the interaction between gender and response to antihypertensive drugs are of interest. There is not enough awareness about hypertension in women, but they, in fact, are very prone to develop high blood pressure at all ages. Furthermore, acknowledgment of risk factors that are unique for women could help to prevent the great number of hyper-

SUMMERCOO

PEACHES: The fruit is a rich provider of Vitamin A and beta-carotene. They are also a good source of Vitamin E (alpha-tocopherol), Vitamin K, Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B-6, folate and pantothenic acid. With 2.6 gm of fibre, 1.5 gm of protein, no fat or cholesterol and 68 calories, a large peach fills you up and helps you maintain vour weight.

The fruit also helps maintain blood pressure. It boosts cardiac health, Peaches contain ascorbic acid and zinc which helps in boosting immunity and has anti-aging properties. Since, it is also a rich source of Vitamin C. it keeps the skin and eye healthy. It contains phosphorus and zinc which helps in strengthening bones and teeth. It is also beneficial in detoxifying the body by flushing out toxins

from the body.



Get monsoon ready

This monsoon, keep waterborne diseases at bay by building up your immunity by eating right and following smart workouts at home, says PAYAL KOTHARI

Tith the arrival of mon-soon season in North India, start gearing up to build your immune system to protect yourself from deadly water born diseases like malaria, dengue, typhoid, cholera, diarrhoea, gastroenteritis, viruses, flus and many other illnesses. Now is the time to prep your immunity just before the nonsoons so you can enjoy the season without getting sick. Avoiding a few foods during this season can help you steer off many health problems. Here is what you can avoid and incorporate in your meal:

FOODS TO AVOID

■ Raw leafy greens: Avoid eating raw leafy and green vegetables like cauliflower, broccoli, and spinach especially in restaurants. They are home to many harmful germs in this weather. If you have to use them for their nutrients then make sure they are thoroughly washed and cooked.

■ Previously peeled or cut fruit: Never eat a peeled fruit or previously cut fruit as flies are carrier of many viruses and infectious dis-

■ No seafood: Monsoon is a breeding season for seafood. So avoid eating seafood to prevent yourself from any kind of infecions and allergies.

■ Outside water: Carry your filtered boiled water around. If you must drink outside water then make sure it's a clean reliable source and the glasses are also washed well and bone dry.

FOODS TO FIGHT ALLERGIES ■ Ginger & turmeric warm tea:

The antiseptic anti-inflammatory properties of ginger and turmeric anytime during the day can keep your immunity strong and keep the sniffles at bay.

■ Traditional badaam ka sheera: Enjoy traditional sheera made in pure desi ghee as it is easily digested than other heavy oils. One tablespoon a day is just right.

■ Monsoon fruit: Make sure you eat seasonal hydrating fruits which have ascorbic acid (vitamin C) and retinol to keep your immunity high. Eat freshly cut papaya,

Are the monsoons whetting your appetite for fried and heavy

mouthwatering instead. Indulge in

easy to whip up monsoon delights

and don't forget to pre-order your

ingredients. Try out this healthy

VEGETABLE PHAD THAI

■1½ tbsp sova sauce

Red crushed chilli flakes

■¼ fresh lime juice

■½ packet flat wide rice noodles

meals? Make your meals

nourishing, healthy and

recipe at home:

Ingredients

to build up your stamina.

WORK OUT REGULARLY

■1½ tbsp vegetable oil

1 bowl grated cabbage

cup bean

clove

■1 grated turnip (shal-

■½ tsp jaggery

1 carrot grated

2 tsp roasted

chopped garlic

semi-firm tofu

■½ cup diced

½ cup broccoli

Salt as per taste

sprouts

peanuts

Along with foods, workouts can also be restrictive. Commuting to the gym or reaching a park could be challenging because of flooding and traffic jams. So a smart workout at home on your own floor or a quick run followed by some yoga asanas and stretches in your garden are smarter ways to get your workout in place. A fun high-intensity inter-

HEALTHY

prising of burpees, jumping jacks, on the spot jogging and mountain climber could be effective without getting stuck in traffic or floods. Make sure you use a firm slip proof mat to work-

> than sitting by your window peacefully sipping a warm cuppa, listening to the pitter patter of the rains giving off that

Nothing feels better

soons can be enjoyed to the fullest only if you are fit and healthy and your immunity is at its peak to protect you from dreadful diseases. So be healthy and wise this mon-

soon. Make sure you enjoy the view and are able to smell the wet muddy fragrance feeling fit and healthy without sniffing on tissues or disdainfully from a hospital bed window.

The writer is Integrative Nutritionist and

Method ■ Boil the oodles as per the instructions on the packet

Heat oil in a pan, add garlic and grated vegetables and cook on high heat till the veggies turn slightly soft. Add soya sauce, jaggery, salt

■ Toss in the noodles and sprinkle the peanut powder, chilli flakes and tofu and toss

again gently without breaking the tofu. Eniov your home-made warm

Serves: Two people

Phad-Thai

and lime juice.

DRIVE TO END ELEPHANTIASIS

MUSKAAN JAIN NEW DELHI

An accelerated plan for the elimination of Lymphatic Filariasis was launched at the recent Global Alliance to Eliminate Lymphatic Filariasis (GAELF) summit held in Delhi. This aims to eliminate the disease in India by 2020. This global initiative, on track for 20 years, has delivered treatments to more than 6.7 billion patients across 67 nations and cured 97 million cases.

WHAT'S LYMPHATIC FILARIASIS

Lymphatic Filariasis (LF), commonly known as Elephantiasis, is a disease which causes excessive swelling in a person's legs, arms, breasts or genitals. It causes pain, disability and disfigurement. It causes severe harm to the body and the immune system. Nematode worms form nests in the lymphatic system. It spreads mainly through carrier mosquitoes.

As per a report presented at the summit, India accounts for 40 per cent of the global burden of Filariasis. The biggest challenge is stopping the transmission which happens when the microfilaria parasite is released into the blood of a person through a mosquito bite," Dr Pranab Kumar Sen, director, National Vector-borne Diseases Control Programme, explains.

Multi-drug administration (MDA) is needed for treating this disease. Diethylcarbamazine Citrate and Albendazole are used for prevention and treatment. "The two pillars of preventive therapy are through a single annual dose of MDA to interrupt the cycle of transmission and take care of Filariasis patients. Through this twin approach the disease has been eliminated in 100 districts in India. But in the rest of the 156 districts, LF eradication is yet to be achieved, probably because of low coverage and compliance among the public," says Dr Promila Gupta, Director General of Health Services.

NEW TRIPLE DRUG THERAPY

The new Triple Drug Therapy, also known as IDA (Ivermectin, Diethylcarbamazine and Albendazole) has been tested glob-

ally and shown a success rate of 96 per cent. In this therapy, Ivermectin has been introduced along with the old ones.

'The triple drug combination is better and even one round can bring down the LF parasite count to negligible levels. So, two rounds should be good enough to eliminate it. An extra dose doesn't harm. We need to ensure high coverage which requires awareness and involvement of local district administrations in this pro-



gramme," Dr Soumya Swaminathan, WHO Deputy Director General of the programme, tells you.

Talking about the impact of IDA, Dr Sen says: "There was no drug to kill an adult worm. With those drugs, they stopped producing microfilaria for some years, but was false hope that eliminate the disease. Adding Ivermectin has solved the problem as it kills the adult worms too. Before putting IDA in all districts, it is being tested in Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Bihar."

In the accelerated plan, new initiatives are being launched to increase compliance of MDA intake and

CHALLENGES

The drugs can't be given to children and pregnant women. Though the bridging for children is happening but pregnant women will have to wait until the child-

While China and Korea were the first countries to eradicate the disease, GAELF honoured nations that successfully interrupted transmission of Filariasis. The awards were given by Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda to 11 out of 73 endemic countries, namely, Cambodia, Cook Islands, Maldives, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Niue, Togo, Egypt, Tonga, Vanuatu and Marshall Islands.

Dadi KaKehna

Nausea, constipation or indigestion are common when you eat out during monsoons. *Here are a few home remedies* that can one follow to feel better without medicines, says



solution. Believe it or not, ginger is a cure for almost

feeling as well as diarrhoea.

daily to get rid of stomach ache and or diar-Dahi is just as good a cure for an upset tummy. Eat two to three katoris of yogurt daily until you

Another great home remedy to get rid of an upset stomach is fenugreek seeds. Swallow one teaspoon of fenugreek seeds powder followed by one tablespoon of yogurt two to three times a day for instant relief.

TIPTOP: NATURAL IS IN

GURBANI SINGH NEW DELHI

Natural beauty treatments have picked picking up rapidly. You often hear words like rejuvenation, oxygenation and hydration, all of these terms are now used by many beauty brands to sell skin care product to consumers.

from grand-parental home remedies has been a big generational move. However, commercial cosmetics are good for the skin only to a point and they might not suffice to prevent damage from pollution and the scorching sun. Thus, natural beauty Chantal Nardo

products made of aloe vera,

shea butter or rose are now in demand. To take it to the next level, Olivier Claire, a French skincare brand, has part-

Nature and pleasure. The use of sea fennel in their products makes them extra special. One of the most popular facial treatments - Soin Majeur de Beaute — includes pinpointed techniques and potent ingredients that can restructure the skin.

"Organic products are proven to have better effects on the skin," says Dr Marie Switching to commercial cosmetics Hélène Abbo, director, Divine Virgins Pvt Ltd. She adds: "Chemicals

can be very harmful to our body whereas products that come from plants are gentle on the skin. The key is for them to be active." The 'nomake-up' trend came from this concept and has been the go-to do for most

celebrities. Chantal Nardo, aesthetic expert at Olivier Clair, says it is all about the attitude while giving the treatment and everything, including the hand and body movements, count. The treatment is available for ₹10,000, plus taxes.

rheumatoid arthritis (RA), a chronic inflammatory disorder affecting many joints. Common symptoms of RA are painful joints, warm, tender and swollen joints as well as stiffness in joints, especially in the mornings and after inactivity. Rheumatoid Arthritis initially affects smaller joints in hands and feet.

As the disease advances, other joints like wrists, knees, ankles, elbows, hips shoulders are also affected — usually it affects same joints of both sides. Rheumatoid arthritis may also affect other organs such as eyes, skin, lungs, heart, kidneys, salivary glands, nervous tissue, blood vessels, etc. Patients may have fatigue, fever, weight

STUDYCENTRE A recent research has

found that the immune cells called natural killer (NK) cells may be used to develop future malaria vaccines. The NK cells are found among people living in areas where the parasite is common. The team identified a molecule that was essential for

activation of NK cells in response to malaria-infected blood cells. PfEMP1 is crucial for activating NK cells in a manner dependent on antibodies. More than 90% of India's population is at the risk of a malaria infection, as compared to Bangladesh at 11% and Nepal at 48%. According to the National Vector

Borne Disease Control Programme, last year, there were 840, 838 cases of malaria in India, while 103 people died due to the disease. Some tips: ■ Malaria mosquitoes grow in fresh water. It is therefore important to not let water stagnate in your house and the sur-

rounding areas. ■ Mosquitoes can lay eggs in money plant pots or in water tanks on the terrace if they are not properly covered. If the water pots for birds kept on terraces are not cleaned every week, then mosquitoes can lay eggs

in them. ■ Using mosquito nets/repellents in the night may not prevent malaria because these mosquitoes bite during the day time.

Wearing full sleeves shirt and trousers can prevent mosquito bites. Mosquito repellent can be helpful during the day.

Courtesy: Heart Care Foundation of India

nered with Roseate Hotels to bring a range of unique skin treatments that combine get relief from an **SLIM**LINE = upset stomach. You can also add banana to add to the effectivendian women are more susceptible to

Trump: N Korea serious about dismantling nukes

 $N^{\text{orth Korea is "very serious"}}$ about dismantling its nuclear weapons, US President Donald Trump said on Monday, dismissing reports that Pyongyang does not intend to fully surrender its nuclear stockpiles.

North Korean leader Kim Jong-un had pledged to work towards "complete denuclearisation" during a historic meeting with Trump in Singapore on June 12 in return for security guarantees from the US. The Washington Post

reported yesterday that North Korea was considering ways to conceal its nuclear weapons and secret production facilities.

Responding to the report, Trump said, "I think they (North Koreans) are very serious about it (denuclearisation). I think they want to do -- we had a very good chemistry.

"I made a deal with him. I shook hands with him. I really believe he means it," Trump told Fox news.

The daily, citing intelligence officials, said that the US intelligence officials have concluded that North Korea does not intend to fully surrender its nuclear stockpiles.

Appearing on a different

Kremlin: Putin, Trump will not discuss Crimea

Moscow: The Kremlin on Monday said Vladimir Putin and Donald Trump can discuss "all other issues" except Crimea, the peninsula Moscow annexed from Ukraine in 2014, at their first summit this month. Putin has "repeatedly stated and explained that Crimea cannot be and will never be on the agenda because it is an inseparable part of Russia. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"All other issues are ones of consensus, discussion and finding possible points of contact." he added.

Peskov also said while Moscow and Washington "differ" on "many" issues, "political will has prevailed and understanding is growing." On Saturday, Trump refused to rule out accepting Russia's annexation of Crimea when he meets Putin for a first one-on-one summit of the two leaders in Helsinki on July 16.

Sunday talk show on CBS News, his National Security Advisor John Bolton said that the US has developed a programme to dismantle North rea's nuclear weapons.

Secretary of State Mike Pompeo will be discussing with the North Koreans in the near future about really how to dismantle all of their weapons of mass destruction and ballistic missile programs in a year, he

"If they have the strategic decision already made to do that, and they're cooperative, we can move very quickly. It's to North Korea's advantage to see these programmes dismantled

very quickly, because then the elimination of sanctions, aid by South Korea and Japan and others can all begin to flow.

"We would be able to dismantle the overwhelming bulk of their programmes within a year," Bolton said.

Noting that the US is very well aware of North Korea's pattern of behaviour over decades of negotiating with the US, he said that the Trump adminis-tration knows exactly what the risks are of them using negotiations to drag out the length of time they have to continue their nuclear, chemical, biological weapon programmes and ballistic missiles

Afghan Prez mourns killing of 19 citizens, including 17 Sikhs

Afghanistan President Ashraf Ghani on Monday mourned the deaths of 19 Afghans, including 17 Sikhs, in a targeted suicide attack by an Islamic State bomber in the eastern city of Jalalabad that also killed the only candidate of the Afghan parliament election from the minority com-

munity.

"We mourn their deaths as a nation and remind their loved ones that we are there for them. I offer our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends as we grieve together," President Ghani tweeted.

The victims when on their way to meet the president when a suicide bomber targeted their convoy in Jalalabad yesterday, killing 19 people, including 17 Sikhs.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility for the attack, saying the strike targeting a group of "polytheists" was carried out by its Khorasan

Avtar Singh Khalsa, a long-time leader of the Sikh community who had planned to run in the parliamentary elections set for October, was

TERROR ATTACK ON SIKHS. HINDUS IN AFGHANISTAN

Islamabad: Pakistan has strongly condemned a suicide attack in Afghanistan's Jalalabad city that killed at least 19 people, mostly Sikhs and Hindus, the Foreign Office said on Monday "We are distressed and grieved at the loss of precious human lives," the Foreign Office said in a

statement here.

"We express our deepest sympathies and heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have lost their lives and pray for early It said Pakistan reiterates its condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. PT

killed in the attack. Prominent Afghan social activist Rawail Singh was also among the vic-

"Our hearts are broken for the families of our fellow Afghans who were lost in the Jalalabad attack. I am saddened at the loss of our proud and resilient Sikh Afghans. I had the honour of interacting with some of them many times in the past," Ghani said.

Un CHIEF @ ROHINGYA CAMPS Gutteres hears of

'unimaginable' atrocities



AFP KUTUPALONG

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said he heard "unimaginable" accounts of atrocities during a visit on Monday to vast camps in Bangladesh that are home to a million Rohingya refugees who fled violence in Myanmar.

Guterres described the situation for the persecuted Muslim minority as "a humanitarian and human rights nightmare", as he prepared to tour makeshift shelters crammed with people who escaped a huge Myanmar army operation last year that the UN has

likened to ethnic cleansing. "In Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, I've just heard unimaginable accounts of killing and rape from Rohingya refugees who recently fled Myanmar. They want justice and a safe return

home," Guterres said on Twitter.
"The Rohingya are one of the most discriminated against and vulnerable communities on Earth," he said in tweet before his visit to the camps in southern Bangladesh.

Accompanied by the head of the World Bank, Jim Yong Kim, he called it a "mission of solidarity with Rohingya refugees and the communities supporting them. The compassion & generosity of the Bangladeshi people shows the best of humanity and saved many thousands of lives".

The bulk of the Rohingya in Bangladesh, or some 700,000 people, flooded across the border last August to escape the violence. They are loathed by many in Myanmar, where they were stripped of citizenship and branded illegal immigrants from Bangladesh, despite calling Rakhine their homeland.

A UN Security Council delegation visited Myanmar and Rakhine state in early May, meeting refugees who gave detailed accounts of killings, rape and villages torched at the hands of Myanmar's military.

sickness in Nepal after returning from Kailash Manasarovar pilgrimage in Tibet, according to

has died of high altitude

INDIAN WOMAN DIES OF ALTITUDE SICKNESS

BP LAUNCHES \$28BN AZERBAIJAN GAS PIPELINE Baku: British petroleum giant BP has started operating a \$28billion pipeline in Azerbaijan to

supply gas to Turkey and

elsewhere in Europe, the

company said on Monday. BILAWAL BHUTTO'S CONVOY ATTACKED

Karachi: Angry protesters attacked the convoy of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) chairman Bilawal Bhutto in the party's traditional stronghold Lyari, leaving two people injured and vehicles damaged, police said.

2.7L DISPLACED BY SOUTH SYRIA FIGHTING: UN Amman: A regime offensive in southern Syria has forced more than 270,000 people from their homes, the United Nations said

SWRAJ PAUL COMES TO LONDON ZOO RESCUE

London: Leading NRI industrialist Lord Swraj Paul has come to the rescue of London 700 once again and will provide a substantial financial donation for the world-famous zoo's

Leftist 'AMLO' sweeps to Mexican presidency

Mexico City: Anti-establishment leftist Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador swept to victory in Mexico's presidential election on Monday, in a political sea change driven by voters' anger over endemic corruption and brutal violence.

According to exit polls, the sharp-tongued, silver-haired politician known as "AMLO" won by a large margin over his two main rivals, who both conceded defeat shortly after the polls closed -- laying to rest concerns that a deeply divided country could face prolonged uncertainty over the winner. Thousands of ecstatic supporters flooded central Mexico City's Zocalo square and Alameda park, celebrating to the sounds of mariachi music as Lopez Obrador slowly made his way there from his campaign headquarters in a motorcade, swarmed by huge crowds.

"The government was failsaid one elated supporter, Jose

Runner-up Ricardo Anaya

TRUMP CONGRATULATES

Trump has congratulated Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador on his vote, saying he looks "very much forward to working" with the antiestablishment leftist

"There is much to be done that wil benefit both the United States and Mexico!" tweeted the US Republican leader, whose anti-trade anti-immigration policies have plunged bilateral ties between the neighbours to a historic low.

of the conservative National history when he takes office on

NEW MEXICO LEADER

Washington: US President Donald

Action Party (PAN) and thirdplace candidate Jose Antonio Meade of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) both congratulated Lopez Obrador and wished him success. It is a major shift in Mexican politics: the PRI and PAN have governed for nearly a century, and Lopez first leftist president in recent

on Duterte's 'narco list' slain by 'sniper'

Philippine mayor

AFP MANILA

APhilippine mayor on President Rodrigo Rodrigo Duterte's list of allegedly narcotics-linked officials was shot dead on Monday by a "sniper" in a broad daylight attack at a town ceremony, police said. Antonio Halili was hit in

the chest by a single shot fired from a distance, unleashing chaotic scenes during the weekly flag raising ceremony at the town hall in Tanauan, south of Manila. In the moments that fol-

lowed, terrified onlookers screamed and the mayor's security details opened fire, video of the scene showed. However, the shooter

managed to escape and Halili was pronounced dead at hos-Town police chief Renato Mercado told AFP the shot

metres (490 feet) away.

"The distance from the

could not be done by an ordinary person. His skill can be compared to a trained sniper, he told AFP.

The controversial Halili had compared himself to Duterte as he publicly shared the president's hardline position against crime and illegal

But in 2017, Halili's name surfaced on a "narco-list" presented by Duterte, of officials allegedly linked to narcotics. Halili was stripped of control of the police following the

publication of the list, but he denied any ties to drugs. Though the Philippines

sees occasional slayings of local politicians, the brazen nature of the killing and links to Duterte's drug war drew immediate outrage. "This is clearly another case of EJK (extra-judicial

killing) resulting from the socalled drug war launched the government," opposition leader Senator Francis position was extraordinary. It Pangilinan said in a statement.

Yemeni reporter who criticised coalition arrested

AP ■ SANAA (YEMEN)

Yemeni officials say a jour-nalist who was critical of the Saudi-led coalition has been arrested. The officials say Fathy bin

Lazrq, the editor-in-chief of Aden *Al Ghad* newspaper, was arrested in the southern city of Aden today, and that his whereabouts are unknown. They spoke on condition of

anonymity because they were not authorised to brief the media. The coalition has been at war with Yemen's Houthi rebels since March 2015 on behalf of the internationally recognized government.

Coalition forces are based in Aden, while the rebels control the capital, Sanaa.

On Facebook, bin Lazrq had accused the coalition of failing to provide basic services that the coalition provides millions of dollars in aid.

The UN considers wartorn Yemen the world's worst humanitarian crisis.

Iranian President flies to Europe to rally support

President Hassan Rouhani departed Iran on Monday for a trip to Europe billed as of "prime importance" after the US pulled out of the 2015 nuclear deal between Tehran and world powers.

Rouhani was set to visit Switzerland and Austria as part of Tehran's ongoing efforts to secure Europe's continued support for the landmark agreement. The Iranian president left

Tehran on an early afternoon flight and was due to land in Zurich in the mid-afternoon, Iranian state media reported. His delegation will travel on

to Vienna Wednesday, according to authorities in Austria, where the historic nuclear deal was signed in July 2015. The trip will be an "oppor-

tunity to talk about the future of the (nuclear) agreement," Tehran's Mehrabad Airport will be of "prime importance" before boarding his flight, state television showed.

Minister Foreign



Swiss Federal President Alain Berset welcomes Iranian President Hassan Rohan during his visit to Switzerland at the Zurich airport in Kloten on Monday

scheduled to hold talks with Swiss officials in Bern. The visit comes nearly two months after US President Donald Trump unilaterally pulled out of the agreement, to the ire of the other signatories — China, France, Germany, Britain and Russia -which along with the EU have continued to back the accord.

as it could "provide a more precise picture of cooperation between Iran and Europe," Mohammad Javad Zarif is also Iranian foreign ministry

spokesman Bahram Ghassemi said in comments carried by the semi-official ISNA news

agency on Saturday. Austria today took over the European Union's six-month rotating presidency, while Switzerland represents US interests in Iran owing to the absence of diplomatic relations between where the deal was signed, is also the home of the United Nations' nuclear watchdog, the IAEA, which monitors Iran's compli-

SEARCH FOR MISSING GIRL



one girl namely Rukhsar D/o Md. Khalil R/o 1770, Katra Khawaspura, Pataudi House, Daryaganj, Delhi. Age: 15 Yrs., Height: 5' 2", Sallow Complexion, Medium Build & Long Face. Wearing pink colour suit-salwar & ladies chappal in feet is missing since 26.06.2018 from Rukhsar

In this regard a case FIR No. 109/18 U/s 363 IPC dated: 27.06.2018 has been registered at PS Chandni Mahal, Delhi. Any person having any information or clue about this missing girl may kindly inform to the following.

E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Fax: 011-24368639 Ph.: 011-24368638

S.H.O. P.S., Chandni Mahal, Delhi 011-24368641 Ph.: 011-23271751, 23279338 DP/5588/CD/18

PUBLIC NOTICE

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Near Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara- 390007, Gujarat.

Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400051

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020

CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

A notice is hereby given that the following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest

of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non Performing

Assets (NPA). The notice dated were issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act-2002 on their last known addresses

as provided to the bank by them, that in addition thereto for the purposes of information of the said borrowers enumerated below, the said borrowers are being informed by way of this public notice.

Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to

be Enforced

Flat No 635/E On 6th Floor Madhurisha Heights

Phase III Block A At Pragati Nagar Mouja Risali

Pc No 19 (65) Kh No 295/2, 299/2, 300/1-2,

301, 303, 304 District Durg Chhattisgarh Bhila

- 491003, Admeasuring An Area Of 2067.58

The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (where ever applicable) are advised to make the

payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s. 13 (2), failing

which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of issuance of notice U/s. 13 (2) dated mentioned above as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets

ICICI Bank

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unknown dead body was found at Platform No. 9 Old Delhi Railway Station, Shahdara Side, Delhi, Dated 01.07.2018. In this regard a DD No. 9-A, dated 01.07.2018, has been lodged at P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi.

The Description of the dead body is given

Name: Unknown, S/o: Unknown, R/o: Unknown, Sex: Male, Age: 50-55 years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Shallow, Wearing: No Cloths.

Sincere efforts have been made by local Police to trace out the dead person but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone having any information about this dead person, please inform undersigned.

P.S. Old Delhi Railway Station, Delhi Ph: 011-23961522, 08750871302 DP/3274/RLY/18

龍 BMSICL

Bihar Medical Services & Infrastructure Corporation Limited 4th floor State Building Construction Corporation Limited. Hospital Road, Shastri Nagar, Patna 800023 Phone/Fax: +91612 2283287,+ 91612 2283288

Dated:-29-06-2018

RE-TENDER NOTICE

Govt. of Bihar

Re-Tender for rate contract and supply of Drugs for different healthcare facilities of state of Bihar

Notice Inviting Tender Ref No.:- BMSIC/DRUGS/18-05

(Only through E- Tender on website:-www.eproc.bihar.gov.in) Bihar Medical Services and Infrastructure Corporation Limited (BMSICL) invites E-Bids from the interested parties for "Re-Tender for rate contract and supply of Drugs for different healthcare facilities of State of Bihar", vide Notice Inviting Tender No.-BMSIC/DRUGS/18-05.

Detailed tender document containing eligibility criteria, selection mechanism, other terms and conditions are available on the website www.eproc.bihar.gov.in.

Re-Tender Schedule BMSIC/DRUGS/18-05 Tender Reference No. 7th July 2018 from 10:00 Hrs. to 23rd July Date and time for downloading of bid 2018 till 1500 Hrs. document 13th July 2018 at 14:30 Hrs. in Conference Date of Pre-Bid Meeting hall BMSICL, 4th Floor, BSBCCL, Hospital Road, Shastri Nagar Last date and time of submission of 25th July 2018 by 18:00 Hrs. online bids Last date and time for submission of 27th July 2018 till 14:00 Hrs. original bid documents with EMD and Tender Fees Date, Time and Place of opening of 27th July 2018 (at 15:00 Hrs.) on the Technical Bid website of www.eproc.bihar.gov.in in the

PUBLIC NOTICE office of BMSICL Date and time of opening of Financial To be announced later on www.bmsicl.gov.in and www.eproc.bihar.gov.in Validity of Tender 180 Days Cost of the tender document Rs. 10000/- (Ten Thousand only) Nonrefundable

> विस्तृत जानकारी के लिए www.prdbihar.gov.in पर सम्पर्क करें PR.4515 (Ni Ni) 2018-19) आओ सब मिलकर बात करें, बंद हो दहेज, शुरूआत करें।

Bid Processing Fee

Rs 1180/-(One thousand one hundred eighty only) Non-refundable. GM (Procurement) **BMSICL**

Pak Army chief confirms death sentences to 12 'hardcore terrorists'

ance with the accord.

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistan Army chief General Qamar Javed Pajwa on Monday confirmed the death sentences awarded to 12 "hardcore terrorists" who were involved in the killing of civilians, Shia minorities and security personnel.

These terrorists include those who planned and executed an attack on Markazi Imam Bargah Parachinar that killed 22 Shia members, the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR), the army's media wing, said in a statement.

'On the whole, they were involved in killing of 34 persons including 26 civilians, 8 Armed Forces/Frontier Constabulary personnel and injuring 133 others. Arms and explosives were also recovered from their possession," it said.

Portugal wants more migrants

AFP ■ LISBON

Unlike most European nations, who are trying to reduce the influx of migrants, Portugal is bucking the trend by looking to immigration as a way to counter its declining population. "We need more immigration and we won't

tolerate any xenophobic rhetoric," Prime Minister Antonio Costa told activists at a party conference in May, drawing resounding applause. Demonstrating this openness, Portugal was

one of the first that volunteered to take in some of the migrants on board the Lifeline, a rescue ship which had been stranded at sea since June 21 after Italy refused it safe harbour.

And as European leaders struggled to reach a deal at a summit last week over who should take in migrants rescued off the coast of North Africa, Portugal's socialist government was already taking steps to make itself a more attractive destination.

and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Date: 03-July- 2018 Place: Delhi

Name of the Borrower/

Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/

Number) & Address

Ground Floor Sector 16

Rohini North West Delhi

Rahul Mittal/ Chand

Gupta / No C 1 225

LBBLI00003278191

110089 /

31/3/2018

Outstanding as on Date of Notice

28-05-2018 /

PUBLIC NOTICE

al Garg, is the owner of Property No. 48-B Area Measuring 143 Square Yards, Khasra No 44/23, Mohan Garden, Village Hastsal, Uttam Nagar, Delhi and its original GPA (Registration No. 1742, Book No. 4, Dated 26.02.2007) and lotarized GPA dated 12.08.2001, has been los Mr. Bajrang Lal Garg is going to sell Flat Secon Floor to Sunil Kumar & Renu. The same is financed by Aavas Financiers Ltd, Noida, Delhi If any person is having objection against the sai roperty, contact to undersigned along wit supporting documents within 7 days from the late of publication of this notice and or the some

to the undersigned if found by any one. Naveen Kumar Verma, Advocate, 23, Lawyer's Chambers, Supreme Cour of India, New Delhi-110001

Seneral Public is hereby informed that Rajbala Shati is owner of Plot area measuring 42 Square Yards, Khasra No. 55/1, Dundaher haziabad, and it Original Sale (Registration o. 3988, Book no. 1, Jild No. 6603, Page No 31 to 94, Dated 03.05,2006 with Sub-Registr Ghaziabad) has been lost. Rajbala Bhati i oing take loan against the said Plot. The me is financed by Shriram Housing Finance Ltd. Noida.

Fany person is having objection against the said property, contact to undersigned along with supporting documents within 7 days from the ate of publication of this notice and or the so the undersigned if found by any one Naveen Kumar Verma, Advocate 23, Lawyer's Chambers, Supreme Cou of India, New Delhi-110001



Actor RANBIR KAPOOR starrer Sanju beats Salman Khan starrer Race 3 to become the highest grossing film of the year. The film collected ₹120.06 crore in its first week of opening. With

a spectacular opening of ₹ 34.75 crore on day 1, ₹ 38.60 crore on day 2 and ₹ 46.71 crore on day 3, director Rajkumar INDEN Hirani's film has also recorded the highest single day collection at the box office beating the single day collection of *Baahubali* on day 3, which was ₹ 46.50 crore. The film also stars Sonam Kapoor, Dia Mirza, Paresh Rawal, Anushka Sharma,



Jim Sarbh.

Manisha Koirala,

Vicky Kaushal and

"I am not trying to be modest when I say that its faults are solely mine and all its

merits genuinely belong to others. I just swam blindly through the wonderful current of energies, and somehow accidentally managed to reach the shore of success.This is the actual truth of Satya." — Ram Gopal Verma

Actress KANGANA RANAUT, who will be seen in a never seen before avatar in new video campaign for a fitness brand, says that a strong will and tough mind can make anything possible "Shooting for this video was physically challenging but with a strong will and tough mind anything is possible. It is all about training the mind to succeed and overcome fears. The idea was to deliver my best," she said.

Who is Ant-Man's man crush?

When actor PAUL RUDD was asked who his man crush is, he said, "Seems like everybody's got a crush on Chris Hemsworth. He is 6'4 and is the strongest of the Avengers." By his statement, it looks like Chris has one more name added to his humongous fan following. The excitement for the release of the sequel of Marvel's ant-sized superhero is on the high. This time Paul is on a new mission fighting alongside the Wasp. The film releases on July 13 in India. After the success of Avengers Infinity War, Marvel Studios is gearing up for the much-awaited superhero sequel. Ant-man and The Wasp will release in English, Hindi, Tamil and Telugu

Scion of a hospitality chain KESHAV SURI has been a champion of LGBTQ+ rights for sometime. DIVYA GIRI catches up with the man who is ready to take on the world for love

otelier Keshav Suri, 33, who returned to India I from Paris recently after marrying his decade-long part-ner, Cyril Feuillebois, said that he wished for a big, fat Indian wedding but celebrations were not possible because the law of the land didn't favour such a do. He has been a frontrunner in seeking decriminalisation of samesex relationships and providing support for his LGBTQ+ staff and the larger community through various policies at the Lalit Hotels, of which he is the

In April 2018, he also challenged Section 377 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), a British era law that prohibited "unnatural sex" and is still followed. The appeal was bunched together school, where he was once stopped with those of other celebrities from wearing a saree while por-

and has been brought to a Constitution Bench.

But for all his status and powers of argument, all Suri could do was announce his big moment on social media. "Ten years of being miserable together, I loved every second of it. Lead the way for the next 10 years babe, am sure it will be torture but I am a sucker for punishment," he wrote while addressing his long-time partner, who runs a skincare brand in India.

Fresh off the boat from conjugal bliss, all he could do was spend an evening at the Lalit in New Delhi furthering his campaign towards raising awareness about the community. He spoke about the hardships he faced while studying at an all-boys Catholic

traying the role of a woman. Later, he pretended to be heterosexual while studying at the University of Warwick, fearing persecution. Through his story and those of others, who have faced acid attacks for transitioning, he wanted to point out the emotional and physical trauma the members of the

LGBTQ+ community faces due to

intolerance.

The hotelier also spoke of the guilt he faced when his father, Lalit Suri, died of heart attack. For the longest time, he believed that he was the cause of his death since he had "come out" before his family. "Even when I say husband, it's difficult since I am forcing people to face this fact slowly but I am not going to stop because no law can define the legality of my relationship with my husband. I'm lucky that my husband is French and in his

'I WANTED A BIG, FAT INDIAN WEDDING BUT IT IS NOT LEGAL IN INDIA FOR ME TO BE MARRIED TO A MAN. I'M LUCKY MY HUSBAND IS FRENCH AND IN HIS COUNTRY OUR MARRIAGE IS

LEGAL'

country both of us are considered legal. I will not move there because I want to be here and make sure that people like me can get the freedom," said Keshav.

Apart from being public about his sexual orientation, he has also teamed up with an insurance company to benefit his LGBTQ+ staff, their partners and children. Kitty Su, the hip bar, is another LGBTQ+ friendly space at the hotel in New Delhi where drag queens' performances and parties

for the community are held without the fear of persecution.

Lalit has been at the forefront of initiatives for the LGBT community are held without the fear of persecution. munity. It opened CU Next Thursday, the country's first inclusive night for the LGBTQ+ community. It has popularised drag shows in India. RuPaul's drag race winners like Violet and Alaska

Thunderfuck 5000; and Derrick Barry performed at Kitty Su. This also created a performance platform for local drag queens. Indian drag queens like Rani Ko-HE-Nur, Maya-the Drag Queen, Kushboo and Betta Naan Stop now regularly at Kitty Su and

their talent is being nurtured.

Lalit has an Equality & Diversity Policy" and Prevention of Sexual Harassment and has not only hired people from the community but also held sensitization training sessions on LGBTQ+ community.

The mediclaim policy offered by the Group also includes same Sex Couples, Single Parents and Children Born through Surrogacy. The Group negotiated aggressively with the insurance company to include the LGBTQ+ members and their partners under its mediclaim policy.



It is not often that you could experience sitting in one of the best bars in the world without flying for thousands of miles, but if you were in Delhi's Ek Bar recently you could have done just that. Asmita Sarkar catches up with the co-bar captains of 28 HONG KONG STREET to find out how they make their magic

The idea of pop-ups is not new in India but what was new about 28 Hong Kong Street's (28HKS), a Singapore-based hotspot, is that they brought their bar, kitchen and ambient props for the first time to Delhi. So not only could you experience their unique take on mixology but sample their bites and their uber atmospherics while sitting in Delhi.

"As with most international took on this collaboration with Ek Bar because of close personal relationships with the people behind the venue. We're always open to opportunities for cultural exchange and exposure. We rarely say no to friends as long as our schedules back home allow for our team to travel," said Lukas Kauffman and Charmaine Thio, co-bar captains at 28HKS. Their latest collaborationg was with Ek Bar, a Defence Colony bar with a classic look, which was newly renovated. The young duo has had success in Singapore with their venture, which has become one of the must-visit locations on the list of tourists who want to experience the night life of the city state. However, currently they have no plans to expand outside of Singapore. "Although perhaps we might consider if somewhere in India there exists a quaint street called Hong Kong Street as well," they said jokingly.

Like other mixologists around the world, they too are concerned over inculcating sustainable methods. "Sustainability has been the word on everyone's lips and that's something we think is pertinent to everyone working in this industry. One thing we were particularly impressed by is that in Delhi,



businesses use as little plastic as able long-term practices," they possible. If you order food, all of it is wrapped in paper packaging. As Delhi has a population of 20 million people, limiting plastic use does huge favours for the environment. We hope that more F&B venues continue to adopt sustain-

based liquer), lime juice, ginger honey and Hoegaarden; and Fernet about Dre, Fernet Branca (a bitter Italian amaro), Bacardi Black Rum, simple syrup and orange bitters. Each cocktail featured garnishes with a flourish and balanced ingredients that were all house-made. It is not easy to maintain highlevel standards in a cut-throat

industry, where everyone is looking for the next new trend and trying to one-up each other. For the Singapore-based bar, which was named among one of the world's 50 best bars in 2017, there acclaim can be attributed to their unique brand of service and hospitality, and the team that delivers it. "Most of the work that goes into maintaining standards goes into staff training and welfare. We have training sessions every week where we cover anything from bar, floor, kitchen SOPs, spirits and cocktail knowledge, bartending techniques, cooking techniques etc, to ensure that our team members are equipped with the tools they need to grow and succeed in this industry," they

They also make efforts to make sure that senior members take ownership over maintaining foundations, reinforcing the essential pillars that make 28HKS unique but also passing them down to every new team member to ensure consistency and continuity.



A study disputes a long-held belief that women delay maternity because of goals

ack of a stable relationship Lcould be the reason why young women are increasingly opting to freeze their eggs, contrary to the popular belief of delaying child-bearing due to pursuing education or career, says a study.

The findings showed that 85 per cent who chose to freeze their eggs, were without partners, and reflected six different life circumstances being single, divorced or divorcing, broken up from a relationship, working over-seas, single mother by choice or circumstance, and career planning.

Among these, career planning was found as the least common reason. Moreover, those with partners had circumstances such as a man not ready to have children, in a relationship too new or uncertain, with a partner who refuses to have children, or with a partner with his own multiple partners.

"Most of the women had already pursued and completed their educational and career goals but by their late 30s had been unable to find a

lasting reproductive relationship with a stable partner. This is why they turned to egg freezing," said Marcia Inhorn from the Yale University in

"The medical literature and media coverage of oocyte cryopreservation - egg freezing - usually suggest that elective egg freezing is being used to defer or delay childbearing among women pursuing education and careers. Our study, however, suggests that the lack of a stable part-ner is the primary motivation," Inhorn said.

For the study, presented at the 34th Annual Meeting of ESHRE in Barcelona, the team conducted in-depth interviews with 150 women who had chosen to freeze their eggs at fertility clinics and had completed at least one cycle of ocyte cryopreservation.

"Clinicians must be aware of the role partnership 'troubles' play in the lives of egg freezing patients and make patient-centred care for single women a high priority," Inhorn said.

IANS

Thirty elephants are parading the world to raise awareness about their survival and habitat. Take a look at the beautiful display in London





Indian artists and designers have become the latest crusaders to join a band of creative talent from across the world in a collective mission to save Asian elephants. The elephant parade — the world's biggest touring public elephant art exposition is an initiative of Ruth Ganesh, Trustee of Elephant Family, the UKbased charity that organised the initiative, and is on display in London currently. Designers like JJ Valya, Rohit Bal, Varun Bahl, Gaurav Gupta, and others contributed to the cause, meant to save elephant corridors. The London chapter will wrap in an auction and the proceeds would go towards conserving the spaces inhabited by elephants.

They mixed some signature

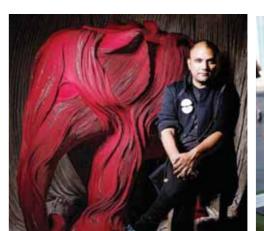
cocktails paired with their most

popular bar snacks. There was 93

Til Infinity, a twist with Encanto

Pisco Grand and Noble (a Peruvian

pisco), lemon juice, pineapple cor-





(Left) Gaurav Gupta and (Right) Rohit Bal's works for the Elephant Parade

Should age or skill matter?

AMAAN and AYAAN ALI KHAN refuse to accept the under-40 Yuva music award of Sangeet Natak Akademi, saying they cannot be judged as cubs after 25 years of recitals. By Shailaja Khanna

wards are, of course, always a matter of discussion and differing opinions and the Sangeet Natak Akademi awards for 2017, which were announced recently, were no different. Sarod players Amaan and Ayaan Ali Khan refused to accept the Bismillah Khan Yuva award, which is given every year to artists up to 40 years old, saying they had more years of experience. they had more years of experience, implying they were mainstream beyond their age and not greenhorns waiting to make their mark.

The Yuva awards are usually given to those "who have shown/demonstrated conspicuous talent in the fields of music." This year's awards for North Indian music were given to vocalists Aditya Khandve and Sawani Shende, tabla player Rimpa Siva and Amaan and Ayaan Ali Khan. The latter refused to accept the awards with Ayaan saying, "After serving the world of music for over 25 years, and receiving many awards, we are very surprised at the members of the general council of the SNA at their thought of nominating us for this award at this stage of our lives, especially since we have been sharing the same concert platforms for over 15 years with them. It's height of insensitivity. I wish they had taken our consent before making a public announcement. There should be some clarity on what makes a 'yuva' and what doesn't." His urbane elder brother Amaan shared that in the West, before nomination of awards, the awardee is informed and his consent taken.

Akademi chairman Shekhar Sen



HOW CAN WE POSSIBLY ASK EACH NOMINEE BEFOREHAND? AN **AWARD IS** ANNOUNCED, NOT GIVEN. IT'S THÉ RIGHT OF THE ARTIST TO REFUSE. FOR ME ALL ARTISTS ARE BLESSED SOULS AND ARE DOING GOOD WORK, NOT GETTING AN AWARD DOES NOT MATTER TO AN ARTIST. — SHEKHAR SEN, AKADEMI CHAIRMAN



countered by asking, "How can we possibly ask each nominee beforehand? An award is announced, not given. It's the right of the artist to refuse. For me all artists are blessed souls and are doing good work, not getting an award does not matter to an artist."

Truly, the 72 members of the General Council selection committee have a tough task of choosing eight musicians from a list of over 800 selected nominees in both mainstream and youth categories. The board members include doyens like Pt Shiv Kumar Sharma, Vidwan Karaikudi Mani, Dr Yella Venkateshwara Rao, Vidushi Aruna Sairam, Pt Vishwamohan Bhatt, Pt Ajoy

Chakravorty, Ustad Wasifuddin Dagar, Dr Bombay Jayashri and Kalapini Komkali among others.

Perhaps, the esteemed panel needs to work on an alternative when an award is refused, like it has happened this year. A worthy artist has been denied an award, as there is no provision for encouraging another aspirant.

another aspirant.

The North Indian music awardees for 2017 are Vidushi Lalith Rao (Agra gharana), joint awardees Dagarvani Dhrupad vocalists Pt Umakant and Ramakant Gundecha, Pt Yogesh Shamsi, Punjab *gharana* tabla and Pt Rajendra Prasanna, Banaras gharana flautist. Each of these artists is undoubtedly meritorious and has achieved distinction in his respective field. The relative youth of Pt Yogesh Shamsi, at 49 years, merits special mention. As the son of the erudite vocalist late Pt Dinkar Kaikini, Yogesh is an unusual musician. Despite his own rich musical legacy, he is today one of the torch bearers of the Punjab gharana, whose "khal*ifa*" is none other than the incomparable Ústad Zakir Hussain Khan. With such a gurubhai, to still carve out a niche for himself in the world of tabla and to add to his repertoire of rare compositions from many great unknown repositories, is truly commendable. Pt Shamsi is rightly regarded as a musician's musician. Said he, "I am extremely heartened to receive this award; I was not expecting it so soon in my life and did not think the committee would find me so deserving. I have always taken art for art's sake, not for its rewards. I take this award as a

satkar (felicitation) of the parampara (tradition) to which I belong, a parampara which my Ustad Allah Rakha Khan got which my Ustad Allah Rakha Khan got from Punjab. It is a tribute to all my gurus; most importantly my father Pt Dinkar Kaikani, and my mother Smt Shashikala Kaikini, a great vocalist. My elder brother Rajesh and sister Aditi Upadhyay helped me so much. I can never forget how my brother used to help me notate the tabla *bols* in Devnagari script, which my guru taught me, that I was too young then to write myself. In fact, the interaction with my *gurubhais* and other percussionists from whom I learnt so percussionists from whom I learnt so much; the entire fraternity has contributed to my being felicitated. The guru shakti of generations of musicians in my lineage has blessed me; I shall try to keep this great tradition alive, the award is just one more stepping stone in this journey."

This was the second year in a row with no awardee for sitar or sarod, (last year's winners were violinist Kala . Ramnath and veteran tabla player Pt Arvind Mulgaonkar).

The venue of the decision-making process was in Imphal. "We must get away from this big city obsession. Why should everything always be in Delhi or Mumbai? When we go to Imphal, in faraway Northeast, we meet the artists, watch their performances. There is inter-action between artists and a cross-polli-nation of ideas which is useful," said Sen.

One looks forward to watch each awardee perform when they are formally acknowledged at a ceremony, which usually takes place at Rashtrapati Bhawan.

REMEMBERING RAZA

Whether he created simple elemental strokes or a conjunction of universal opposites, the small showing at Shridharani Gallery tells us how to look at a master, says UMA NAIR

The Shridharani Gallery at Triveni is one of the finest spaces in the capital. Little wonder then that the Raza Foundation's tribute to its founder and the abstract master Syed Haider Raza through 55 works cherishes his memory as well as his journey. Uttar Raag, cal nuance, bringing as it does to mind Raza's love for music and his subtle works that were a testimony of geometry and symbol-

"In this show we have works that have been created by Raza sa'ab during the last few years of his life," says Sanjiv Choube of the Raza Foundation. This is a good time to go back to his beginnings.

Raza was a founding member of the revolutionary Bombay Progressive Artists' group formed in 1947. He first got recognition in Paris in the late 1950s and 60s. In his many conversations with this author he would reflect on his 60 years and say: "I am grateful that I could come to certain recognition in the art world in France and the rest of the world. But I was not satisfied with any of that success of learning at the École de Paris. It was not everything as I often asked myself questions about my Indian background. I started coming more and more regular-



ly to India and would visit my hometown Mandla in Madhya Pradesh. I was constantly filled with the nostalgia of the land I left behind when I settled in Paris. So the landscapes I did in those years were born of memory; they were rhapsodic and were abstractions born of nature. Mandla and the forests became a confluence of colours."

The works on display were roughly painted between 2011 and 2016. In these last years, confined to a wheelchair because he had become very frail and weak, he would spend the entire day painting. And what he painted was from his memory. Between the geometry of the exquisite *bindu* and the resonance of brisk strokes, we see a duality of the universe, his love for nature and the primordial essence of man's connection to Prakriti.



The strokes in crimson and black remind us of Raza's early career and expressionist strokes. In the works of the concentric rippled bindus, we are reminded of how he came full circle and began to integrate vital elements of his Indian childhood and cultural heritage into his paint-

'The deep forests of **Barbaria**, the nights with their sounds...everything was ingrained in me' ings. "The deep forests of Barbaria, the nights with their sounds and glinting lights... everything was ingrained in me, sometimes I would think of the rivers, the hills and the sparkling streams. The time spent as a child, in Barbaria, Madhya Pradesh, where my father was a

forest ranger, were impactful. I would roam the Kanha thickets, my regular haunt. I was soaking in every single feature of that unforgettable landscape."

We can recall Raza's mastery of landscape, expressionistic use of colour and spiritual and symbolic engagement with the notion of creation and the bindu. Aabha and Arun Vasant invoke a deep reverence of sunrise and sunset by fusing abstract, representational and symbolic forms into a powerful and mystic expression of the mood and atmosphere of the Indian landscape.

Then you look at the black

bindu-tinted *Tanmay* that brings together the past and the present. It is rooted in Raza's childhood memories of densely forested land along which the river Narmada flowed. This work, that was created in the summer of 2015, exemplifies the finest in an evocative holistic expression of all that is rich and strong and sensory. It is inherent in the pensive poise of the bindu and its rippled splendour even as you one part of the black dot.

Raza's Tree is an evocative echo of his love for nature, because it is a pictorial metaphor: this work celebrates a summation of his memories and associations. The forest, the river, the ravines, the blinding sunlight and the parched earth. When you look again at his rippled bindus, you can imagine that for Raza, the sun was magnified a hundred times and he wanted to translate on canvas how it exploded with energy and

dynamism as the sole luminary. Whether he created simple elemental strokes or created his conjunction of universal opposites, this small showing tells us how to look at a master. And you must recall his words from the past: "The notion of tama suna – the dark bindu. Dark nothingness, but yet charged. Radiating energy in terms of colour that move from black to grey and going in space towards white. That is

exactly the theme of my work." (The author is an art critic)



Catwoman bows out

Choreographer GILLIAN LYNNE of the famous musical dies at 92

horeographer Gillian Lynne, who worked close-Webber on some of his most famous works, has died in London. She was 92.

Her husband, the actor Peter Land, said on Twitter that she died Sunday evening at the Princess Grace Hospital. He said she "leaves behind a huge legacy and is adored by many." Land said he was "heartbroken" at the loss of the woman who had been his friend and his love for 40 years.

Lynne's many credits included the phenomenally successful Cats and Phantom of the Opera. Last month, Lloyd Webber renamed his New London Theatre as The Gillian Lynne Theatre, making it the first in London's theatre district named after a woman. After hearing of her death, he tweeted: "Three

Lynne's career began with dancing as a leading soloist with Sadler's Wells Ballet in 1944 and continued for decades as she moved into directing and choreography. She directed many productions in London's West End and on Broadway in New York.

generations of the British musical owe so much to you."

She worked on TV specials for performers from a variety of musical genres, including Ray Charles, Perry Como and Petula Clark. She told the BBC that her longevity was due to her love for her job. Lynne also said she had no musical talent of her own, and had stopped taking piano lessons when she was a girl because a mean piano teacher smacked her for playing poorly. Lynne received many honours for her decades of theatrical work and was made a dame in

ne of India's premier cultural institutions, the One of India's premier contain measurement of India International Centre, brings you the mustsee solo painting exhibition — Homecoming — by the award-winning artist from Manipur, Oinam Dilip The solo exhibition will showcase over 15 works by Oinam from recent years which recount the artist's honest internalisation of experiences that are rooted in his identity and the culture of North East India. Homecoming traverses the philosophical domains that fuelled the artist's hunger and eagerness for experimentation. WHEN: July 4 to 10 WHERE: Art Gallery, IIC Annexe



rtReach India and Ojas Art are conducting an Aexhibition of works by children of Salaam Baalak Trust who were participants of Artreach's Teaching Fellowship Programme 2017-18, led by artist Sonam Chaturvedi. Along with her, 19 young artists' talent will be on display as well. WHEN: July 1 to 20 WHERE: Ojas Art Gallery, 1AQ Qutab Minar

over 30,000 people in Mumbai, Disney's Aladdin is all set to spread its magic in Delhi and take the audience to a whole new world. The show has been re-imagined for the Indian stage and the fable will come to life with 450 costumes and 14 locations depicted on stage by 50 performers. The entertaining musical has foot-tapping music, dazzling

choreography and

stellar performances transporting the audience through a myriad of emotions. The talented actors, who will bring to life this iconic tale on stage, include Siddharth Menon (Aladdin), Taaruk Raina (Aladdin), Kira Narayanan (Jasmine), Mantra (Genie), and Vikrant Chaturvedi (Jafar) When: July 6 Where: JLN Indoor

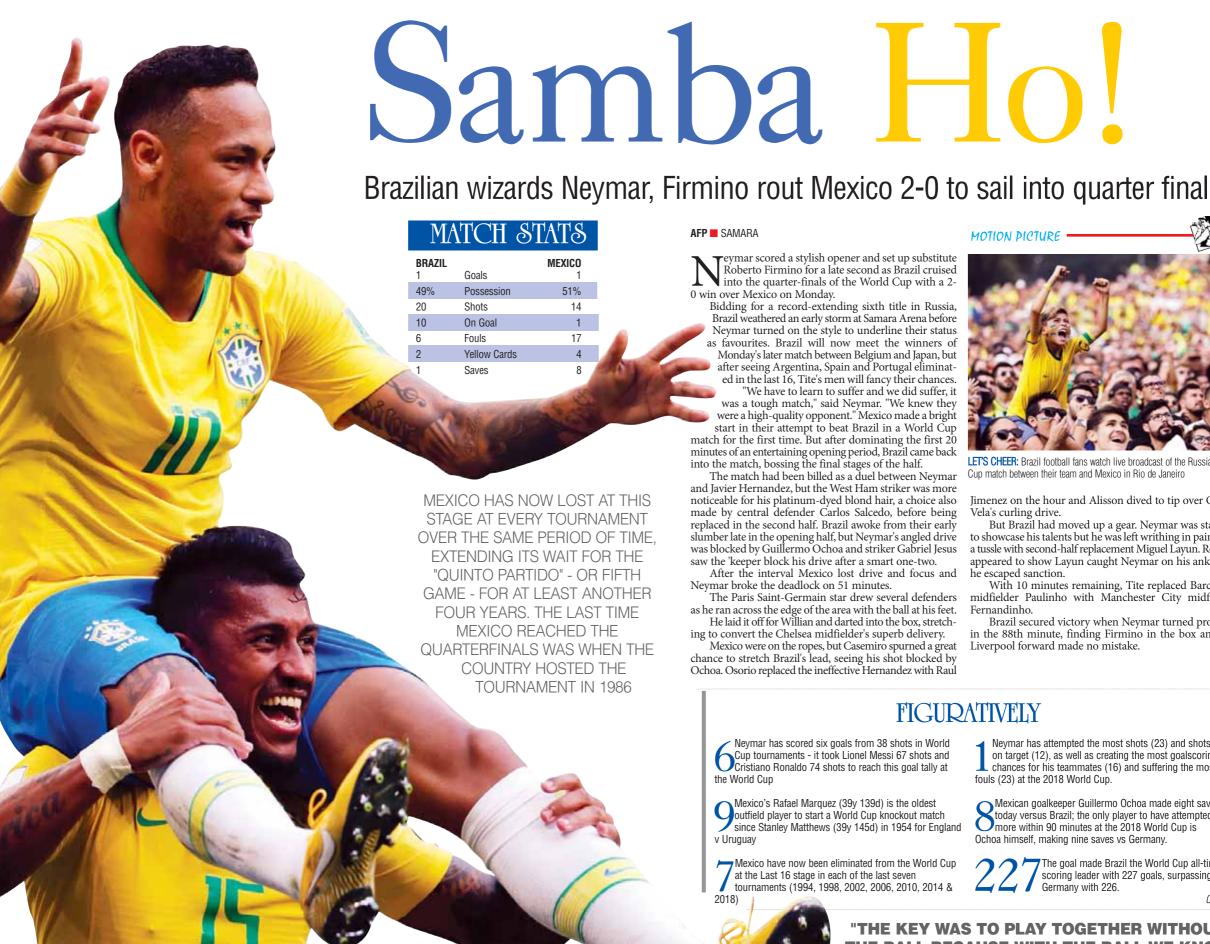
 $W^{\mbox{\scriptsize ari Jalsa}}$ is a celebration of an initiative which provides a platform for the lost art of live narration of folk tales. Curated by Nicky Chandam, Kaalchakra is about a curious and humorous tale of the unpredictable path trodden by the wheel of time — of priorities, of fortune and misfortune and a refreshing new perspective on both. WHERE: The Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre





Beyond Colors 2 Art exhibition is a five-day exhibition by Amrita Prakash and other emerging artists. The group show brings various types of thinking on the canvas. The exhibition will witness folk art, murden art, realistic patching and other paintings as well. WHEN: Till July 3 WHERE: Visual Art Gallery, India Habitat Centre.





eymar scored a stylish opener and set up substitute Roberto Firmino for a late second as Brazil cruised into the quarter-finals of the World Cup with a 2-

Brazil weathered an early storm at Samara Arena before Neymar turned on the style to underline their status as favourites. Brazil will now meet the winners of Monday's later match between Belgium and Japan, but after seeing Argentina, Spain and Portugal eliminated in the last 16, Tite's men will fancy their chances. "We have to learn to suffer and we did suffer, it

was a tough match," said Neymar. "We knew they were a high-quality opponent." Mexico made a bright start in their attempt to beat Brazil in a World Cup match for the first time. But after dominating the first 20 minutes of an entertaining opening period, Brazil came back into the match, bossing the final stages of the half.

The match had been billed as a duel between Neymar

and Javier Hernandez, but the West Ham striker was more noticeable for his platinum-dyed blond hair, a choice also made by central defender Carlos Salcedo, before being replaced in the second half. Brazil awoke from their early slumber late in the opening half, but Neymar's angled drive was blocked by Guillermo Ochoa and striker Gabriel Jesus saw the 'keeper block his drive after a smart one-two.

After the interval Mexico lost drive and focus and Neymar broke the deadlock on 51 minutes.

The Paris Saint-Germain star drew several defenders as he ran across the edge of the area with the ball at his feet. He laid it off for Willian and darted into the box, stretching to convert the Chelsea midfielder's superb delivery.

Mexico were on the ropes, but Casemiro spurned a great chance to stretch Brazil's lead, seeing his shot blocked by Ochoa. Osorio replaced the ineffective Hernandez with Raul

MOTION PICTURE



LET'S CHEER: Brazil football fans watch live broadcast of the Russia World Cup match between their team and Mexico in Rio de Janeiro

Jimenez on the hour and Alisson dived to tip over Carlos Vela's curling drive.

But Brazil had moved up a gear. Neymar was starting to showcase his talents but he was left writhing in pain after a tussle with second-half replacement Miguel Layun. Replays appeared to show Layun caught Neymar on his ankle but he escaped sanction.

With 10 minutes remaining, Tite replaced Barcelona midfielder Paulinho with Manchester City midfielder

Brazil secured victory when Neymar turned provider in the 88th minute, finding Firmino in the box and the Liverpool forward made no mistake.

FIGURATIVELY

Neymar has scored six goals from 38 shots in World Cup tournaments - it took Lionel Messi 67 shots and Cristiano Ronaldo 74 shots to reach this goal tally at

Mexico's Rafael Marquez (39y 139d) is the oldest outfield player to start a World Cup knockout match since Stanley Matthews (39y 145d) in 1954 for England

Mexico have now been eliminated from the World Cup at the Last 16 stage in each of the last seven tournaments (1994, 1998, 2002, 2006, 2010

Neymar has attempted the most shots (23) and shots on target (12), as well as creating the most goalscoring chances for his teammates (16) and suffering the most fouls (23) at the 2018 World Cup.

Mexican goalkeeper Guillermo Ochoa made eight saves today versus Brazil; the only player to have attempted more within 90 minutes at the 2018 World Cup is Ochoa himself, making nine saves vs Germany.

The goal made Brazil the World Cup all-time scoring leader with 227 goals, surpassing

"THE KEY WAS TO PLAY TOGETHER WITHOUT THE BALL BECAUSE WITH THE BALL WE KNOW THE QUALITY OF THE TEAM. WE KNOW WE HAVE PLAYERS THAT CAN DECIDE THE GAME. I'M VERY HAPPY WITH MY PERFORMANCE BUT **EVEN MORE SO WITH THE TEAM'S VICTORY" —WILLIAN**

"WE WASTED A LOT OF TIME BECAUSE OF ONE SINGLE PLAYER. I THINK THIS IS A REAL SHAME FOR FOOTBALL, **ESPECIALLY FOR KIDS WHO ARE WATCHING BECAUSE THIS** HAS TO BE A SPORT OF VIRILITY, OF DETERMINATION, A MAN'S SPORT, LIKE OTHER GAMES, AND NOT A CHARADE" **—JUAN CARLOS OSORIO**



AFP ■ NIZHNIY NOVGOROD

oalkeeper Danijel Subasic was the hero as Croatia squeezed into the World Cup quarter-finals with penalty shoot-out victory over Denmark here on Sunday.

On a night of late, late drama, Ivan Rakitic stroked home the decisive spotkick to ensure the Croats advanced to a last eight meeting with Russia after the two sides finished locked at 1-1 following extra-time.

The Barcelona midfielder's winner came after Milan Badelj and Josip Pivaric saw their penalties saved by Danish goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel, who also saved an extra time penalty from Luka Modric.

But Danes Christian Eriksen, Lasse Schone and Nicolai Jorgensen were thwarted by Subasic in the shootout to ensure Croatia won 3-2 and advanced to their first quarter-finals since the 1998 World Cup in France.

The dramatic ending followed early excitement - but little in between. In an astonishing start to the match,

both teams scored within four minutes via their first attacks.

First, Mathias Jorgensen turned home in the second minute after Croatia failed to clear a long throw-in from Jonas Knudsen, the defender's shot creeping under Subasic to give Denmark the per-

DATS CELEBRATE DANISH DESPAIR



Crotian goalkeeper Danijel Subasic makes a save during the Round of 16 game against Denmark on Sunday AP

"WE HAVE TO LEARN TO

SUFFER. IT WAS A VERY **DIFFICULT MATCH, WE KNEW**

THE QUALITY OF OUR

OPPONENTS"

—NEYMAR

into fellow Dane Andreas Christensen and the ball fell obligingly in the penalty area to Mario Mandzukic who scored. The explosive start - both sides hit the

back of the net within three minutes and thirty seven seconds - was officially the quickest two teams have ever scored in a World Cup finals match.

The following 116 minutes though largely failed to live up to the first four,

Daniiel Subasic has tied a World Cup Mathias Jorgensen's goal just under record with his three saves in the penalty a minute was Denmark's fastest World shootout. Subasic joins former Portugal Cup goal ever. The match entered rarer goalkeeper Ricardo as the only man to territory moments later when Mario save three shots in a single World Cup Mandzukic evened things for Croatia, shootout. Ricardo did it in the 2006 iust the third time the tournament has World Cup quarterfinal against England. seen two goals in the first four minutes.

fect start. But any hopes they could hold fireworks giving way to a damp squib of onto their lead vanished within 90 secan encounter as the game edged inexorably towards extra time and penalties.

With the Nizhny Novgorod stadium Billed as a clash between the opposstill rocking from the frantic start, ing number 10s, Modric and Eriksen, it Croatia went upfield and promptly instead became increasingly attritional equalised. and tactical, with both playmakers unable Again, the goal owed more than a litto find any space. Instead the player who tle to bad defending when a Sime Vrsaljko created most chances was Knudsen with cross was hammered by Henrik Dalsgaard his long throws. Few clear chances were created by either side until Modric's late penalty miss. That came after Ante Rebic

> Modric stepped up but side-footed weakly and Schmeichel made the first of his three penalty saves on the night, all in vain, as his legendary goalkeeping father Peter punched the air in delight as he watched on in the stands.

was fouled in the 116th minute Mathias

Jorgensen, with the goal at his mercy.

FIGURATIVELY

This was only the second ever day in which two World Cup games were ✓ both decided by a penalty shootout the other was on June 21st 1986 (France v Brazil and Mexico v Germany)

Croatia have qualified for their first World Cup quarter-final since 1998, when they went on to finish third in the

Croatia v Denmark is only the second match in World Cup history to see both teams score inside four minutes, after Argentina v Nigeria in June 2014.

Mathias Jørgensen's goal was the quickest in a World Cup game since June 2014, when Clint Dempsey scored against Ghana after 29 seconds

Croatia have won all three of their games so far at the 2018 World Cup, which is their longest ever streak of victories in the competition.

FANGS OUT, THE LIONS COME

England look to overcome painful past in knockouts against resurgent Colombia

IANS MOSCOW

ngland will try and overcome the weight of history of knockout heartbreaks in recent past when they face Colombia in the last 16 of the FIFA World Cup here on Tuesday while the South American outfit will attempt to secure a place in the quarter-finals for the second time in succession.

England changed nine of their outfield players as they lost to Belgium in their last group game. Coach Gareth Southgate will know if that was the right policy as he looks to lead England to their first win in the knockout stage of a major tournament since World Cup 2006.

Southgate has all his squad available except for Fabian Delph, who flew back to the UK on Friday for the birth of his third child, with Dele Ali expected to replace Ruben Loftus-Cheek in midfield after a calf strain saw him sidelined against Panama and Belgium.

John Stones should have no problems playing in defence after he was seen with an ice-bag on his calf after being substituted at half time against Belgium with Southgate saying that had always been his intention.

Harry Maguire and Kyle Walker will partner Jones in a three-man defence, while Kieran Trippier has adjusted his role well as a wing-back, putting in a good shift in defending and joining the attack

Jordan Henderson has been operating well in shielding the defence. With the Liverpool defensive midfielder also having improved his passing game, England are creating a lot of chances.

Harry Kane will be England's main danger with the leader of the race for the 2018 Golden Boot looking to add to the five goals he scored in the first two match-

In attack, he will have the support of Raheem Sterling while attacking midfielders like Ali and Jesse Lingard are

good enough to trouble any opposition. England have shown themselves to be a huge threat from set pieces with six of the eight goals they have scored in Russia scored from dead-ball situations.

Colombia will look to big central defender Yerry Mina and Davinson Sanchez to counteract that threat. The Barcelona stopper has scored two goals himself following set pieces taken by Juan

L task cut out against a vastly improved England in the opening T20 International

in what will be a defining summer for Virat

While India has been a consistent lim-

PTI MANCHESTER

Kohli and his team.

ited overs side during the past decade, England have

INDIA GEAR UP



England players in recreative warm ups during training on the eve of their last-16 match against Colombia

England defeated Colombia 2-0 in the

Colombia's last two meetings with

finals have ended in 3-0 wins -

against Poland at the current

at Lens on June 26,1998.

only match played in World Cup finals

European opponents in the World Cup

tournament and against Greece four

All 23 members of England's squad are

based at English clubs. Colombia have

just three home-based players in their

match at a major championship since

Santiago Arias and Johan Mojica are

guarantees at right-back and left-back,

while Carlos Sanchez may be picked to

play in a midfield of three, alongside

India vs England

ive from 10:00pm IST

SONY TEN NETWORK

Jefferson Lerma

R ENGLISH TEST

Their supremacy in shorter formats is redoubtable but India will have their

England have not won a knockout

they beat Colombia's neighbours

- Ecuador 1-0 in 2006
- Colombia coach Jose Pekerman fielded 45 different players during his team's 18-match qualifying campaign.
- Radamel Falcao is Colombia's all-time leading scorer with 30 goals. He is playing at his first World Cup at the age of 32 and scored his first goal in the finals against Poland.
- Jose Pekerman is coaching in the World Cup finls for the third time and reached the quarter-finals on both previous occasions - with his native Argentina in 2006 and with Colombia

with Juan Cuadrado, could find himself

tasked with providing Colombia's creative

play if James Rodriguez is unfit, with vet-

eran Radamel Falcao leading their

Faisel Features

HEAD TO HEAD Matches: England won:

COLOMBIA VS ENGLAND

11:30pm

petition and

ĥad to be

replaced after

just 30 minutes

in Colombia's

against Senegal

and his loss

would be a

major blow to

Americans.

game

South

last

thé

Colombia won: Draws: **GOAL SCORED** England: Colombia:

Hopes are high among the English and even more so with a possible quarter-final against Sweden or Switzerland but to reach the quarter-finals they need first to get past Colombia ... and 12 years of disappointment.

Post-Zlatan Sweden eye emergence against Swiss

HEAD TO HEAD

Switzerland won: 11

28

10

46

Matches:

Draws:

Sweden:

Sweden won:

GOAL SCORED

AP ST PETERSBURG

S weden is doing just fine at the World Cup without Zlatan Ibrahimovic.

Even the man himself thinks so. "Listen, whoever plays against Sweden will have a hard time. That's for sure and I think everybody knows it," Ibrahimovic said in a video

club, LA Galaxy.

If coach Janne Andersson's team is to go any further in Russia, it will be at the expense of No 6-ranked Switzerland, as two of Europe's less decorated soccer nations meet Tuesday in St Petersburg

posted by his current

Switzerland: in the round of 16. Both sides have **SWEDEN VS SWITZERLAND** been waiting a long time for a trip to the World Cup quarterfi

nals. The last time Switzerland went that deep into the tournament was in 1954. Sweden hasn't won a round-of-16 match since finishing third in the United States in 1994.

Switzerland have worked hard to get this far, putting in a gritty defensive performance to hold Brazil to a 1-1 draw in its opening match and coming from a goal down to beat Serbia 2-1 in a match overshadowed by politically charged goal celebrations from Xherdan Shaqiri and Granit Xhaka that referenced their Kosovo

A 2-2 draw against Costa Rica sealed Switzerland's place in the knockout stage, but it also cost the team the heart of its defence. Captain Stephan Lichtsteiner and fellow defender Fabian Schaer are suspended after both got yellow cards for the second time in the tournament against Costa Rica. Sweden are without Sebastian Larsson after he also was booked twice in group stage play. Sweden started their campaign in Russia

with a narrow victory over South Korea. Then surrendered a 1-0 lead to lose to Germany thanks to Toni Kroos' winner deep in stoppage time.

In their final group match, Sweden moved up a gear to beat Mexico 3-0 and finish atop their

group. Sweden have adapted well to life after



This will be first meeting between Sweden and Switzerland in World Cup finals. Sweden have won three and Switzerland two in five

matches played in World Cup qualifying.

- Switzerland's two draws and one win in Group E was the first time the team have gone unbeaten in the group stages of a World Cup since 2006.
- Group F winners Sweden have now progressed to the last 16 in all of their World Cup appearances since 1990. Sweden's 3-0 win over Mexico was their
- biggest World Cup victory since their 4-0 trouncing of Bulgaria in 1994.
- Swiss duo Stephan Lichtsteiner and Fabian Schar are both suspended, while Sweden will be without injured midfielder Sebastian
- Switzerland have lost just one of their last 25 matches, a 2-0 defeat by Portugal in October last vear... Faisel Features

Ibrahimovic, who retired from international soccer after a disappointing 2016 European Championship that saw Sweden finish last in their group.
In his absence, Sweden notched a win over

France in their World Cup qualification group and beat Italy in a two-leg playoff to reach Russia with. An emphasis on strong team play has replaced their prior reliance on the larger-than-"I took over the world," Ibrahimovic said.

"Now Sweden is taking over the world.

OTHER SPORTS

IPL has helped us break barriers with England players: Kohli

PTI ■ MANCHESTER

erson Lerma. James has been struggling with a The 25-year-old Quintero, along muscle problem all through the com-

the participation of English The participation of English increased the "warmth" among rival players but on field, India skipper Virat Kohli expects a high intensity battle between both teams during the long tour beginning here on Tuesday.

While Jos Buttler stood out

amongst the England players in the IPL, Kohli said the league helped them break the ice and know their rivals better.

"It (the IPL) is going to make relations between the two teams even better. I think because England haven't played so much IPL cricket, there was never that familiarity or that sort of warmth



between the two teams as much known about his ability in the past as we have with the other teams, said Kohli on eve of the first T20 of the three-match series.

'Purely because we didn't know the guys enough to be able to have conversations with them. I think this season has broken that barrier to a great extent. I heard lot of people are keen to go and play and they should. Why not, it's a great league to play in. As Jos has been saying for months now, it has done great things to his mindset and he's taking that on in every format," Kohli was all praise of the England batsman.

Kohli is not all surprised with Buttler's recent success.

"I am not surprised the way Jos has played. I mean we've all

as well. It is just that he's got more opportunity to play for Rajasthan Royals in this season to show his skillset, and he's certainly enjoying that role at the top of the order. "It was lovely to watch him play because when you gain momentum in this format, and you continue for that long, it always feels good to watch. From that point of view, I really enjoyed watching him bat. Apart from that, Chris Woakes and Moeen Ali were in our team (Royal Challengers Bangalore) as well. We had a great time together," said Kohli.

India had it easy against Ireland but England will be a tough side to beat.

Federer starts title defence with domination

AFP ■ LONDON

 $D^{\text{efending champion Roger Federer}}_{\text{marked the start of his 20th successive}}$ Wimbledon with a new look and a comfortable 6-1 6-3 6-4 win over Serbia's Dusan Lajovic here on Monday. Top seed Federer marched out on Centre

Court dressed for the first time in gear designed by Japanese giant Uniqlo in a deal reported to be worth USD 300 million after a two-decade association with Nike.

But everything else was familiar for the 36-year-old eight-time champion as the Swiss cruised past world number 57 Lajovic in just 79 minutes.

It was the second successive year that Federer had knocked out the Serb at

After just 20 minutes to complete the first set, Federer went on to fire 35 winners past Lajovic, breaking serve five times, setting up a second round encounter against either Lukas Lacko of Slovakia or French qualifier Benjamin Bonzi.

SERENA THROUGH TO RD 2

Serena Williams needed six match points to finish off a 7-5, 6-3 win over Arantxa Rus of the Netherlands and reach the second



Roger Federer celebrates his win on Monday

round of Wimbledon.

Williams broke for a 5-3 lead in the second set and led 40-15 when serving for the match, but Rus saved the first two match points and then another three after reaching deuce. However, Rus finally sent a shot into the net to give Williams a winning return to the All England Club.

The seven-time champion missed last year's tournament while pregnant.

CILIC ADVANCES

Third seed Cilic enjoyed a 6-1, 6-4, 6-4 win over Japan's Yoshihito Nishioka. Cilic, who won the Wimbledon warm-up event at Queen's Club last month, fired 21 aces and

44 winners past his 259th-ranked opponent. He will face either Australian qualifier Jason Kubler or Guido Pella or Argentina for a place in the last 32.

SLOANE SLIPS

US Open champion and fourth seed Sloane Stephens became the tournament's first big name casualty when she slumped to a 6-1 6-3 loss to Croatia's world 55 Donna

For Stephens, fresh from making the French Open final last month, it was her second successive first round loss at the tour-

WAWRINKA BEATS DIMITROV

Stan Wawrinka defeated sixth-seeded Grigor Dimitrov 1-6, 7-6 (3), 7-6 (5), 6-4 to claim just his second Grand Slam victory since last year's Wimbledon.

The three-time Grand Slam champion missed the second half of 2017 after knee surgery and has struggled to regain form since returning at the Australian Open in

Having been forced to take another three-month break at the end of February, Wawrinka's ranking had fallen to 225 coming into Wimbledon.



Jason Roy and Ben Stokes. India are coming into the series with two facile victories over Ireland -- by 72 and 143 runs respectively. While, England are brimming up with confidence on the back of 6-0 drubbing of Australia with Buttler, Jason Roy, Jonny Bairstow in fan-For the Men in Blue, the Irish tour was nothing more than a glorified warm-up

where all the top order batsmen save Virat Kohli got runs while wrist spinners Kuldeep Yadav and Yuzvendra Chahal were again among wickets. However Jasprit

tastic form.

Bumrah's thumb injury will be a concern as he has played a big role with his death overs bowling. With Hardik Pandya

slotting in as the sole allrounder, his brother Krunal and Chahar will have to wait for their turns.

too many changes. The skipper himself, Raina and MS Dhoni are the backbone of the batting line-up, while Manish Pandey is in running for the fourth spot on account of his good run in international T20 cricket. England, meanwhile, made a few strategic changes after their poor showing in the tri-series. Assistant coach Paul Farbrace was put in charge of the T20 team for Australia and India series, while head coach Trevor Bayliss took to domes-

tic cricket scouting at the same time. One of the first moves of the new regime was to promote Jos Buttler as opener and it worked in fine fashion as he struck the quickest T20I half-century for an English batsman as Australia were beaten by 28 runs at Edgbaston.