

**OPINION 8**  
#METOO MOVEMENT:  
A SPARK OR FIRE?

**WORLD 12**  
ROCKET TO SPACE  
FAILS, CREW SAFE

**SPORT 15**  
FEDERER, NOVAK ADVANCE  
IN SHANGHAI MASTERS

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AGAINST  
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13 VIVACITY

## Rafale exposé stokes fire

Dassault rejects coercion charge, claims 'freely chose partner'; Cong, BJP lock horns

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Fresh firework has erupted in the Rafale deal after a French investigative website Mediapart quoted an internal Dassault Aviation document revealing that the fighter jet manufacturer had no option but to enter into a joint venture with Anil Ambani's Reliance Defence as it was presented as "mandatory" and a "trade-off" if the French company had to bag the 36 Rafale jets deal.

However, Dassault, in a Press release on Thursday, claimed it "has freely chosen to make a partnership with India's Reliance Group" and added that the decision was taken under no duress.

Latching on the revelation, Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Thursday called for an investigation, declaring that Prime Minister Narendra Modi "is corrupt." Also, he demanded Modi's resignation and sought a probe into the role of the PM in the deal.

The BJP rubbished the charges and termed Rahul a "clown Prince" who has acquired mastery in levelling false allegations.

The fresh revelation in the Rafale came days after former French President Francois Hollande indicated that the Indian Government nudged France to have an offset deal with Reliance.

Mediapart, which first reported Hollande's remarks, said the Dassault management had told its trade unions it was

- Mediapart reports that the fighter jet manufacturer had no option but to enter into a joint venture with Anil Ambani's Reliance Defence as it was presented as "mandatory"
- Dassault claims Dassault Aviation has freely chosen to make a partnership with India's Reliance Group
- The Mediapart report came out on a day when Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman left for Paris on a three-day visit to hold bilateral talks with her French counterpart
- Rahul seeks Modi's resignation and sought for an investigation into the role of the PM in the deal



Why has suddenly the Defence Minister rushed to France? What is the emergency?

Ex-President of France (Francois Hollande), no less, has said India's PM is corrupt, now the company which got the contract, its senior executive is saying that India's PM is corrupt

RAHUL GANDHI

Rahul Gandhi has learnt a new mantra. He has been taught that tell a lie...in high voice...so that it appears true. But he has not been taught properly. A lie is always a lie and it never turns into truth

PRAKASH JAVADEKAR



Rahul Gandhi is repeatedly lying. He is making a mockery of the national security. The entire Gandhi family is corrupt and they are pointing fingers at others?

SAMBIT PATRA

"imperative and mandatory" for the company to choose Reliance as an offsets partner. Incidentally, the report came out on a day when Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman left for Paris to hold bilateral talks with her French counterpart Florence Parly.

Quoting an internal document of the aviation giant, the news report said Deputy Chief Executive officer of Dassault, during a presentation to workers' representatives, said the joint venture with Reliance for setting up a plant at Nagpur

was "counterpartie."

The report said, "At Dassault Aviation, according to a document obtained by Mediapart, the alliance with Ambani was indeed presented as a 'counterpart' to the Rafale sales contract. 'Dassault Aviation's deputy chief executive officer Loik Segalen made this clear on May 11, 2017 during a presentation of the Nagpur Dassault Reliance Aerospace joint venture to the staff representatives: 'It was imperative and mandatory for Dassault Aviation to accept this counterpart, in order to get the

export contract from India,' said the no.2 (of) the group, according to elected staff," the report added.

The joint venture is known as DRAL.

The Dassault was transferring its assembly line to produce the Falcon business jets at the DRAL facility being built in Nagpur, and had to explain to its workers why it was not creating jobs for French labourers. The company identified Reliance as "counterpart," the news report said.

The Mediapart article said the document suggested the

Dassault official had explained to its staff that the joint venture was a "trade-off."

The French aviation company, however, denied the report and said it "has freely chosen to make a partnership with India's Reliance Group." "This joint-venture, Dassault Reliance Aerospace Ltd (DRAL), was created February 10, 2017. Other partnerships have been signed with other companies such as BTSL, DEF-SYS, Kinetic, Mahindra, Maini, SAMTEL.... Other negotiations are ongoing with a hundred-odd other potential partners," Dassault said in a press release.

The statement said within the framework of the September 2016 Inter-Government Agreement between France and India, Dassault Aviation has sold 36 Rafale aircraft to India. In compliance with the Indian regulations (Defence Procurement Procedure) and as frequent with such a contract, Dassault Aviation has committed to offset in India worth 50 per cent value of the purchase.

The deal is worth over ₹58,000 crore and the offsets come to about ₹30,000 crore.

Continuing his broadside against the Prime Minister, Rahul alleged that Modi helped his industrialist friend Anil Ambani pocket ₹30,000 crore in the purchase of 36 aircraft.

The Congress president also described Sitharaman's visit to France as part of a "great cover-up."

## MeToo snowballs, Akbar faces ouster

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Pressure mounted on Union Minister MJ Akbar to resign after the RSS indicated its support to the "victimised" women journalists even as Textile Minister Smriti Irani backed the #MeToo movement and said Akbar should speak for himself.

Giving clear hints on Sangh's stand on the allegation of sexual attempts made against them by Akbar and others, RSS joint general secretary Dattatreya Hosabale shared a post by Facebook executive Ankh Das, which said, "You needn't have a #MeToo moment to support the women journalists who have narrated their victimisation. You needn't even be a woman. You just need to have a sensibility of what is right and what is wrong."

Tweeting the Facebook Executive's post, Hosabale also commented, "I liked it. She has articulated what I was feeling."

Hosabale's tweet in support of female journalists who have made complaint of sexual harassment at their workplace is seen significant as the social media is gunning for the alleged "predator".

Close to the Sangh leader's tweet, Smriti Irani expressed her solidarity with the women who are speaking out and said that "the gentleman (Akbar) concerned would be better positioned to speak on this issue."

RSS No 3 Hosabale's insinuating FB post makes it insurmountable for MoS to get off the hook



Smriti Irani expressed her solidarity with the women who are speaking out and said "the gentleman (Akbar) concerned would be better positioned to speak on this issue"

the support, so they can speak out. "I feel there are enough instruments in our judicial and police systems to deliver justice and I am hopeful that all these ladies who are speaking out get, due to due process, the justice that they deserve," Irani said.

Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj had earlier chosen to keep mum on the issue when she was repeatedly asked to comment on the allegations against her junior ministerial colleague.

Meanwhile, days after terming the #MeToo movement raging in the country a "wrong practice", BJP lawmaker Udit Raj on Thursday again questioned what if complaints coming out for allegedly sexually harassing women proved wrong and the prestige of a man was destroyed.

Taking action or seeking resignation of an accused merely on a complaint of sexual exploitation means there is no need of police or the judicial system, he said.

"Considering oral or written complaint of the victim of sexual exploitation as a judgment and taking action or seeking resignation means there is no need of police or judicial system. What if the matter proves wrong and can the soiled prestige of a man be restored?" The BJP MP from North-east Delhi tweeted.

### CAPSULE

**SAVE GANGA ACTIVIST DIES AFTER LONG FAST**  
Rishikesh: Environmental activist GD Agarwal died in hospital here on Thursday, a pollution-free Ganga. He was 86.

MARKETS	
SENSEX	34,001.15 (-759.74)
NIFTY	10,234.65 (-225.45)
GOLD	31,697.00 (+316.00)
SILVER	38,841.00 (+356.00)

WEATHER	
MAX	30.0°C
MIN	15.0°C
Mainly Clear Sky	
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## Rampal held guilty of murder

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Self-styled godman Rampal was on Thursday found guilty by a Hisar court in two separate cases of murder and other offences.

Hisar Additional District and Sessions Judge DR Chaliya held controversial godman Rampal along with 26 of his followers guilty of two murders and other offences, including wrongful confinement of his victims at his Satlok Ashram at Barwala in Hisar.

The quantum of punishment would be announced on October 16 and 17.

Rampal has been in prison since November 2014. A special court was set up inside Hisar's Central Jail to pro-

nounce the judgment via video-conference.

Rampal and 27 of his followers were booked on charges of murder and wrongful confinement after four women and a child were found dead in his Satlok Ashram on November 19, 2014. Another case was also registered against Rampal and his followers after a woman was found dead in his ashram on November 18.

The two cases against Rampal and his followers were lodged at Barwala police station on November 19, 2014. Besides the murder charges, the Barwala police had also invoked offences of wrongful confinement in the two FIRs. Thousands of his follow-



ers had clashed with police when they had come to arrest him following directions of the Punjab and Haryana High Court over contempt of court in 2014.

## Karti's ₹54 cr assets in India, abroad attached

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday attached assets worth Rs 54 crore of Karti Chidambaram and his company Advantage Strategic Consulting Pvt Ltd. (ASCPL) in INX Media money laundering case. The attached assets include immovable properties in India, UK and Spain besides deposits in banks.

The ED probe has revealed that then INX promoters Peter and Indrani Mukerjee met then Finance Minister P Chidambaram to expedite their application for FIPB approval.



"The ED identified payments of Rs 3.09 crore by Peter Mukerjee to ASCPL and associated entities controlled by Karti through manipulated debit notes. During investigation, it was admitted that debit notes were raised on the directions of Karti to show some transaction which in fact did not occur," the ED said in a statement.

## Amrapali chiefs' phones seized, contempt begins

SC orders CMD, 2 directors to live under police watch till papers retrieved

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In yet another big setback to three directors, including Chairman & Managing Director of beleaguered Amrapali Group Anil Kumar Sharma, the Supreme Court on Thursday initiated contempt proceedings against them and directed that they be placed under police surveillance for the next 15 days.

The SC clarified on Thursday that the Amrapali CMD and directors Shiv Priya and Ajay Kumar will not be kept in police lockup for the night and instead be taken to a hotel in Noida, where their phones will be seized. The top court had on October 9, directed that the CMD and two directors be taken into police custody till they hand over all the documents of the group's 46 firms.

The three directors were released on Wednesday night



from police custody after nine properties of Amrapali Group, where bulky documents of group companies are stashed, were sealed in compliance with the SC's order.

A Bench of Justices UU Lalit and DY Chandrachud allowed the three directors to stay in their home for Thursday night but asked them to present themselves before Station House Officer (SHO) of Noida Sector 58 on Friday before 8 AM.

The top court fixed a 15-day limit for forensic auditors to collect, collate and catalogue the documents from 2008 till now with regard to the 46 companies of the group from the nine properties situated in Noida, Greater Noida of Delhi-NCR and Rajgir and Buxar district in Bihar.

## Titli kills 8 in AP, ravages Odisha

PTI ■ AMARAVATI/BHUBANESWAR

A very severe cyclonic storm packing winds of up to 150 kmph and widespread rain hit eastern India on Thursday, killing eight people in Andhra Pradesh and damaging homes, uprooting trees and power lines in the State and in Odisha.

Cyclone 'Titli' made landfall on the eastern coast early on Thursday wreaking havoc mainly in Srikakulam and Vizianagaram districts of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha's Gajapati and Ganjam districts.

Traffic on the Chennai-Kolkata National Highway was hit after the uprooted trees

blocked some sections of the road, according to officials.

The South Central Railway as well as East Coast Railway cancelled several trains while some were terminated midway, officials said, adding a few express trains were also diverted. Train services between Khurda Road in Odisha and Vizianagaram in Andhra Pradesh also remained suspended since 10 pm on Wednesday.

While no loss of lives was reported in Odisha, "very severe" cyclonic storm left a trail of destruction uprooting trees, electric poles and damaging hutments. The cyclonic

storm system is now moving northeastwards towards Gangetic West Bengal across Odisha and will weaken gradually, the IMD said.

According to the India Meteorological Department, Cyclone 'Titli' made its landfall near Palasa in Srikakulam district, south west of Gopalpur in Odisha with an estimated maximum sustained surface wind speed of 140-150 km per hour gusting to 165 km per hour between 4.30 am and 5.30 am.

## Sensex crashes over 750 pts; Nifty ends below 10,300 on global rout

Mumbai: The BSE Sensex slumped over 750 points to end at a six-month low and NSE Nifty ended below the 10,300 mark on Thursday as global indices witnessed across-the-board losses after investor sentiment was hit by heavy sell-off in world markets.

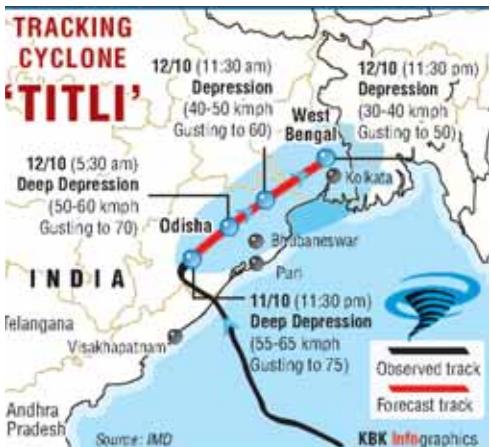
The 30-share index, which commenced with a gap down opening, cracked over 1,000

points, breaching the 34,000-mark and hit a low of 33,723.53, before staging a partial recovery to touch a high of 34,325.09 in afternoon trade. The gauge finally ended 759.74 points, or 2.19%, lower at 34,001.15. This is the lowest closing since April 11. It had gained 461.42 points on Wednesday.

Similarly, the NSE Nifty settled at 10,234.65, down

225.45 points, or 2.16%. It moved between 10,138.60 and 10,335.95 in day trade. "The reason for Thursday's fall is clearly global after President Trump's acerbic comments against the Federal Reserve and the consequent sharp fall witnessed in all the major Asian markets," said Dheeraj Singh, Head of Investments - Taurus AMC.

Detailed report on P10



People relocate to safer places as Cyclone Titli hits Barua village in Srikakulam on Thursday

## Sanand dies after 110 days of fasting for protection of Ganga

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

The crusader for the cause of Ganga, Swami Gyan Swaroop Sanand breathed his last at AIIMS Rishikesh after undertaking a fast for 110 days on Thursday. Notably, the scientist-turned ascetic had been forcefully lifted from the site of his fasting stir at Matri Sadan by a team of the district administration and police and had been admitted at AIIMS Rishikesh on Wednesday. He was 86. As per the release issued by the AIIMS Rishikesh, he died of heart failure. Sanand had embarked on the fasting while restricting himself to just

## Ascetic had been demanding measures for preserving Ganga from mining, large dams

lemon juice, on June 22 on the occasion of Ganga Dussehra. He had, however, given up water too on Tuesday evening after the efforts of the former Chief Minister and Haridwar MP Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' to end his fast through a positive assurance from the Centre had proved futile.

Terming the death of Sanand as 'murder' as part of a joint conspiracy hatched by the Centre, the district administration and AIIMS, Matri Sadan said that they would continue with the crusade for Ganga. Speaking to The Pioneer,



Brahmachari Dayanand of Matri Sadan said, "This is clearly a murder case. Around 2 pm, our ashram caretaker Prem Narayan, who was with Swami Sanand, informed us that the doctors had decided to refer him to higher medical centre, given his critical condition."

However, Prem Narain found Sanand in good health in the morning. How could his health have taken such a critical turn in a few hours?" he asked. He further said that in accordance with the ascetic's body donation declaration on death, they had requested the authorities to take him to Delhi AIIMS. "But our request was turned down," he said.



# Edu dept issues warning to schools on NCERT books



**No reply to notice received from 33 out of 181 schools**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Taking a stern note of some schools not caring to even reply to the order of the State Education Department on the fulfillment of Uttarakhand High Court (HC) directive on National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) books, the Director General (DG) school education Captain Alok Shekhar Tiwari has issued notices to such schools.

Tiwari said that the department had sent show-cause notices to 181 schools while acting on the HC order and the State Government order on the mandatory implementation of NCERT books. He said that explanations of 133 schools have been received by the department while notices to 15 more schools are being again sent by the offices of the Chief Education Officers (CEO) at their mailing addresses were wrong. He said that remaining 33 schools have not submitted any reply to the notice. The DG, further, said

that the department is now convinced that these schools are not inclined to put forward their explanation. "This is why a warning is being issued to them in which it would be clearly mentioned that they would be responsible for the consequences of their non-compliance," he added.

Mention worthy, Uttarakhand HC, in an order dated April 13 this year, had said that all the schools affiliated by CBSE and Uttarakhand board should implement NCERT books. The court had, further, stated in the order that the schools can recommend reference books while ensuring that they cannot be foisted on the students and their quality and price should be compatible with those of NCERT books.

On the order of HC, the Education Department had conducted an inquiry in the districts of Dehradun, Haridwar, Udham Singh Nagar and Nainital. On the basis of the findings of the inquiry, the department on September 18 had issued notices to 181 schools in these districts. In the notice, the department had warned such schools of the cancellation of their no-objection certificate (NOC) issued to them.

# Comprehensive review, efforts needed to ensure elephant's survival

PNS ■ HALDWANI

The Wildlife Week concluded recently but the issues focused upon during the week are too important to be considered only during a week. One of the days during the wildlife week-Elephant Day was dedicated to pachyderms and raising awareness on their importance and other aspects.

According to the forest department's western circle conservator of forests Parag Madhukar Dhakate, "Such celebrations are necessary to remind ourselves and our children that this earth belongs not just to humans but to the animal and plant world too.

Elephants are the Gajraj of our Sanatan Dharma. Humans, elephants and dolphins are the only conscious animals—meaning that they recognise themselves in a mirror. They have a sense of 'self' and are highly intelligent. We humans have always respected elephant in the form of Ganapati throughout the ages.

The elephant is the largest land mammal and its requirements regarding habitat and food/water reflect this. Large tracts of undisturbed forests with several species of edible tree foliage, fruits, tree bark and grasses are necessary habitat. One elephant requires upto 150 kilograms of food per day along with about 200 litres of clean drinking water per animal.

This is a long lived species of upto 75 years and they have long memories. Their traditional migratory pathways and jungles are part of their herd memory of thousands of years passed on as they teach their

young. The social dynamics of the group are highly evolved and the calves and young elephants love playing in rivers and in the mud.

Ecologically, the elephant performs several functions in the ecosystem most importantly, seed dispersal of plants. The enormous food that the elephant eats also contains seeds which then pass through their digestive tract and out through the faeces.

Considering their ecological significance and their habitat requirements these animals are facing enormous challenges in this modern world. Reduction of critical elephant habitats due to anthropogenic activities. They are facing impacts of degradation of habitat along their traditional long distance migratory pathways/corridors.



Members of the industrial fraternity and officials of TVS Srichakra were also among those present on the occasion.

## The regional provident fund commissioner Ashish Kumar Sharma presided over the meeting along with officials of the employees provident fund organisation

tions to the problems, Sharma said that the Haldwani EPFO office is efficient in redressing issues related to PF.

Even then if issues remain unresolved, the people can communicate the same on the departmental email at sro.haldwani@epfoindia.gov.in.

## Thundershower causes mercury to dip in Dehradun

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Thundershower lashed Dehradun in the morning on Thursday, resulting in a dip in the mercury. The sky was overcast since early morning. The rain accompanied with gusty winds which continued for some hours was followed by a feel of cold as the mercury dipped considerably. The people were seen with woollens. The Meteorological department said that there is little chance of rain in Dehradun on Friday. The climate would be generally dry in the State on the day though it might rain or

ally show them our evil side of burning them with chillis, fire-crackers, fire etc, we are teaching them and their future generations that humans are the enemy.

This human behaviour will trigger even more violent behaviour from the elephant and they will change from 'gentle giants' to 'avenging furies'.

A comprehensive review and coordinated efforts of all the stake holders including the elephant is now essential for ensuring the long term survival of this charismatic species on this earth.

We need to think of them as equals and not as just dumb animals. Empathy and kindness is the need of the day. We, humans, need to find common ground and convert the situation from conflict to co-existence.

Let us act now before the Gajraj also goes the way of the mammoth leaving our future generations only with specimens in natural history museums or depictions in our puja ghars," he said.

# HDU inaugurated at Ramakrishna Mission Sewashram at Kankhal



## Claimed to be first of its kind in Haridwar district

PNS ■ HARIDWAR

The inauguration of the high dependency unit (HDU) at Ramakrishna Mission Sewashram at Kankhal has brought relief to the people living in the city as well as those who come from far-flung areas of Uttarakhand for treatment. Now, the patients would get quality treatment at half of what they shell out at ICU of other facilities. The Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Haridwar Dr Prem Lal inaugurated the unit which is claimed to be the first of its kind in Haridwar district. The deputy chief medical officer Dr Shakra was also present during the inauguration.

Speaking on the occasion, CMO said that Ramakrishna Math and Sewashram have

remained engaged in the service to humanity over the past 117 years. "The doctors in the hospital and the sants associated with the mission who work to serve humanity while doing spiritual practices have proved that the noblest religion in the world is serving humanity as embodiment of God. Those who are serving the hospital run by the mission are fortunate," he said.

Lauding the efforts of the general secretary of the mission, Swami Nityashuddhanand, CMO said that he has remained the principal force behind the running of the hospital.

Coordinating the programme, Swami Dayadippanand said that with the inauguration of the HDU, a new chapter has been added to the glorious history of the hospital which was started on the instruction of Swami Vivekananda to serve the ailing saints as well as the common people.

## SEWS holds seminar on PF issues

PNS ■ PANTNAGAR

The SIIDCUL Entrepreneur Welfare Society (SEWS) organised a seminar regarding amendment of Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1952. The regional provident fund commissioner Ashish Kumar Sharma presided over the meeting along with officials of the employees provident fund organisation.

Speaking on the occasion, Sharma spoke of the provident



fund rules and the issues faced in this regard. He also spoke of the solution to these issues. About 106 persons present in the meet spoke of the issues they were facing regarding provident fund.

Clarifying the doubts raised and suggesting solu-

# TedX Talk Held in Dehradun at Welham Boys' School

ANUPMA KHANNA ■ DEHRADUN

The spirit of sharing knowledge and experiences made the TedX Youth Talks organised by Welham Boys' School enriching not only for the students but also for the adult guests who attended the

programme late on Wednesday evening.

TED is a reputed international nonprofit devoted to spreading ideas, usually in the form of short talks. TedX are independently run events that bring the spirit of TED's mission of ideas worth spreading to local communities around

the globe.

The TedX Youth hosted by Welham Boys' School had a diverse lineup of speakers. It featured former vice-chancellor of the University of Delhi and Padma Shri awardee Dinesh Singh, media personality Roshan Abbas, head of Christie's in India, Sonal Singh, filmmaker and author Shiv Kunal Verma, a team from Teach for India and young native musicians Ankit Chamoli and

Suraj Singh Rawat.

Abbas has achieved fame as a radio jockey, theatre actor, TV anchor, impresario, event manager and director. While narrating his story, Abbas impressed upon how important it is to grow up in a culture of learning, to be curious to know and to take every opportunity seriously even if it is a small one.

Relating how he built his career never saying no to any challenge and how one small

step led to another bigger outcome, he stressed that at the very foundation of success is this insatiable curiosity to know and that one should never hesitate to ask questions. Abbas' affable, honest and realistic talk left the audience motivated and set the tone for the rest of the evening.

Noted mathematician Dinesh Singh gave a powerful talk on how modelling oneself on Gandhi's adherence to truth brings success even in contemporary times. With his



knowledge of Gandhian philosophy, eloquence and intellect Singh succeeded in bringing out as to how Gandhi's principles are still very relevant. "Success is not to be measured with the yardstick of money or fame but if it is the voice of your conscience. If what you do resonates with the inner drumbeat of your heart, you are successful. Adherence to the truth takes courage but always brings success like it did to Gandhi," he said.

Bringing fresh perspective on the realm of art was Sonal Singh who talked crisply on the global art scenario and India's place in it. She utilised her experience of heading Christie's in

India and working closely for Asian modern and contemporary art development to encourage the audience to discover the beauty of art in daily life. "My mother was a painter and during my childhood I would play with her colours just to enjoy. And that eventually became my passion in life," she said.

Shiv Kunal Verma recounted the making of 'The Long Road to Siachen' and 'The Northeast Trilogy'. He also shared his idea of the need for alternative education and about his ambitious project of developing a module to bring military history into the educational ambit in India.

India propounded the idea of how feminism is not restricted to women but that it symbolises the universal idea of equality and persuaded young boys to take up the cause to become change makers. The TedX Youth talk concluded with a performance by Chamoli and Rawat who staged their original hip-hop compositions in Hindi and 'pahadi' language against social ills like rape, gender bias and rural-urban migration.

Chairman of the board of governors of Welham Boys' School, Darshan Singh, principal Gunmeet Bindra and vice-principal Mahesh Kandpal also attended the talk.

**भारतीय स्टेट बैंक**  
State Bank of India  
Branch : DOIWALA

**AUCTION SALE NOTICE**  
SALE OF MOVABLE & ASSETS CHARGED TO THE BANK UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002.

The undersigned as Authorized Officer of State Bank of India has taken over possession of the following properties u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI Act. Public at large is informed that auction (under SARFAESI Act, 2002) of the charged property/ies in the below mentioned cases for realisation of Bank's dues will be held on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS AND AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".

Name of the Vehicle Holders	Branch	Date & Time of Auction	Amount in Rs.	Description of Vehicle
<b>Borrowers:-</b> Mr. DEVENDRA SINGH S/O SWAROOP SINGH VILL- BULLAWALA, NEAR TENT HOUSE, P.O- DOIWALA, DEHRADUN	Doiwala	18.10.2018 3:00 PM	Rs. 1,20,000/- (Rupees One Lac) Twenty Thousand Only)	VEHICLE- TATA ACE-TON VRN (Reg. No. UK07CA8109) (Reg. No. K 07 CA8109) Dated 19.03.2014 Chasis No. MAT483139DYN37085 Engine No. 4751DT18LWYSM6437

1. Sale is subject to the conditions prescribed in SARF AESI Act/Rules 2002 and the terms and conditions mentioned hereunder as also subject to conditions in the offer/old documents to be submitted by the intending/participating bidders.  
2. The sale process of above properties shall be conducted through auction only, on the said date i.e. 18.10.2018 (T ime 3:00 pm) by the Banks.  
3. EMD @10% is to be paid by way of Pay order/Demand Draft in favour of SBI DOIWALA.  
4. Bids shall be submitted in the prescribed format with relevant details.  
5. The intending bidders should submit the duly filled in Bid form (format available in the Bank website) along with the DD/No. towards EM D in a sealed cover addressed to the Authorised Officer SBI Doiwala so as to reach the same before 17.10.2018 (last date of submission of bid). The sealed cover should be super scribed with "Bid for participating in Auction Sale - in the A/c Mr.Devendra Singh.  
6. No claim of whatsoever nature regarding the property put for sale, charges/encumbrances over the property or on any other matter etc will be entertained after submission of the bid/confirmation of sale.  
7. For all Query assistant Please call at branch Mob.9456594214,9958060974  
Place : Doiwala Date: 08.10.2018 Authorised Officer, State Bank of India

**केनरा बैंक** Canara Bank  
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

CANARA BANK, REGIONAL OFFICE, 29 ANEKANT PALACE RAIPUR ROAD, DEHRADUN, Ph. No. 0135-2650610

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Auction Notice is hereby given to the effect that Secured Creditor/Canara Bank, has taken the possession of the under mentioned vehicles and will be sold by holding Public Auction by inviting bids. The Last Date for sealed bid & document submission is 15.11.2018 till 12.00 pm and the bid will be opened at 4.00 pm on the same day. The details are as follows:

Sl. No.	Borrower/ Branch	Vehicles details	Total liabilities as on 26.09.2018	Reserve Price EMD Amount in Rs.	Branch /Account No for EMD
1.	Sri Mukesh Kumar S/o Sri Durga Dass B/o Clement Town Dehradun	ZEST Silver colour 2014 Model; Reg No. UK07-BH-8500, Registered owner- Sri Durga Dass; Engine No. 101A20000531580 Chassis No. MA1624051ELK23765, Version- XT QUET Date of reg. 22/01/2015	Rs. 6,07,147.00 + interest & other expenses - Recoveries (if any)	Rs. 3,10,000/-	Canara Bank, Clement Town Dehradun A/c - 244295000001 IFSC-CNR80002444 Phone No. 0135-2640878 Mob. No. 9456591041
2.	Sri Tushar S/o Sri Yogendra Singh, B/o Shilpa Bye Pass Dehradun	ALTO 800 LX white colour 2012 Model; Reg No. UK07BJ4822 Registered owner- Shri Yogendra Singh; Engine No. FB0N5217419 Chassis No. MA5EUA61500431517	Rs. 1,97,319.00 + interest & other expenses - Recoveries (if any)	Rs. 1,25,000/-	Canara Bank, Shimla Bye Pass A/c - 5314296000001 IFSC-CNR80005314 Phone No. 0135-2645856 Mob. No. 9456591126

**Other terms and conditions:** 1. The Vehicle will be sold in "AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" (The possession of the vehicle already lies with the Bank) including encumbrances, if any (There is no encumbrance to the knowledge of the bank). 2. The Vehicle can be inspected on 12.11.2018 between 11.00 AM to 5.00 PM above Respective Branches. 3. The Vehicle shall not be sold below reserve price & EMD shall be deposited by way of DD to the Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, Clement Town, Dehradun OR Canara Bank, Shimla Bye Pass, Dehradun through online (RTGS/NEFT/QUID) transfer to credit of account number as mentioned against the Vehicle, on or before 15.11.2018 by 12.00 PM. 5. Bids shall be submitted off line in the prescribed format with relevant details (formats may be obtained from concerned branches) & A Copy of the bid form along with the enclosure submitted shall be forwarded to the Authorised Officer, Canara Bank, Clement Town, Dehradun OR Canara Bank, Shimla Bye Pass, Dehradun. 7. The Bids shall be opened at Regional Office Dehradun on 15.11.2018 between 4 pm to 5 pm under the chairmanship of Authorised Officer, respective branch in charges and 2 independent members from general public. 8. Sale shall be confirmed in favour of the highest bidder who shall be declared as "successful bidder", subject to confirmation of the same by secured creditor. 9. EMD of the unsuccessful bidders shall be returned on the next business day. 10. The successful bidder shall deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD already paid), immediately on declaring him/herself as the successful bidder and the balance within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. If the successful bidder fails to pay the sale price within the period as stated above, the deposit made by him/herself shall be forfeited and the secured assets shall be put forth on sale again. 11 All Charges for conveyance, taxes and registration charges etc., as applicable shall be borne by the successful bidders only. 12. Authorised Officer reserves the right to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and conditions of the tender without assigning any reason thereof. 13. The intending bidders shall also attach a copy of the PAN card issued the Income Tax Department and his/her identity proof and the proof of residence such as copy of the Passport, Driving License, etc., 14. All disputes are subject to Dehradun Jurisdiction only. Date: 11.10.2018, Place: Dehradun Authorised Officer, Canara Bank



# CM expresses grief at Sanand's demise

**Govt made all attempts to save his life, says Rawat**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat has expressed grief at the demise of Gyan Swaroop Sanand. In his condolence message, the Chief Minister said that he was deeply saddened by the demise of Sanand who had been protesting on various issues related to the Ganga river. His main demands were that a separate Act be made for the Ganga and that all hydro power projects in the State be cancelled. "Studying such tasks and drafting plan for the same takes some time. Our Government and the Central Government were regularly in contact with him. Union Potable Water Minister Uma Bharti had also had a talk with him. After that the Union

## Centre and State Govt responsible for Sanand's death: Congress

**BJP's commitment to Ganga hollow, say Congress leaders**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Launching a blistering attack on the Centre and the State Government on the death of the Ganga crusader Gyan Swaroop Sanand, the State Congress leaders said that they both were responsible for the death of the ascetic. Lauding Sanand as a son of Mother Ganga, the State Congress chief Pritam Singh said that his death is an irreparable loss to the country, the State and the cause of

the holy river. "He was on the fasting for 110 days, but the insensitive BJP Government was sleeping on it. When he gave up water they sat up in alarm and had him admitted at a hospital," he said.

Training his gun on the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his unfulfilled promise on Ganga, he said that he has been pontificating on the imperative of maintaining the sanctity of Ganga over the past four years. "But the reality is that the holy river remains polluted despite the humungous sum of ₹20,000 crore being pumped into cleaning Ganga projects," Singh said.

Expressing grief at the demise of Swami Gyan Swaroop Sanand, the leader of

opposition in the Assembly, Indira Hridayesh has said that the State Government is responsible for his death. Talking to media persons, she said that the Government should have acted on time and admitted him in the hospital.

She said that the demise was a result of major negligence of the State Government. He had undertaken a protest fast during the term of the Congress Government too but at that times the Government had acceded to his demands. His demise has also sent a wrong message to the religious fraternity, she added.

Commenting on the death of the ascetic, the State Congress vice-president

Surya Kant Dhasmana said that Sanand had sacrificed his life for the cause of the sacred river. "The State Government did nothing to save the life of Sanand," he said.

He, further, said that Nigamanand and Sanand had launched fast unto death for Ganga during BJP regime and both had died while on the fast. "This is significant," he said. He said that BJP's commitment to Ganga and Cow is mere flippancy. "They just milk these emotive issues for political interests," he added.

Suspecting foul play in the death of Sanand, senior Congress leader Dharendra Pratap has demanded a probe by a sitting judge of the High Court.

this issue. Government representatives were in regular contact with him. The Haridwar MP Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' had also gone to talk to him. The Government was attempting to somehow save his life. But despite all attempts, he had refused to break his protest fast.

As soon as he gave up drinking water on October 9, he was immediately admitted to AIIMS in Rishikesh. The doctors in AIIMS, Rishikesh, also made all attempts to save his life, added the Chief Minister.

Meanwhile, the Bharatiya Janata Party State president Ajay Bhatt also condoled the demise of the ascetic.

**As soon as he gave up drinking water on October 9, he was immediately admitted to AIIMS in Rishikesh**

Water Resources and Ganga Rejuvenation Minister Nitin

Gadkari had also had a telephonic conversation with him,"

the CM stated. Rawat, further, said that the

State Government too had shown complete sensitivity on



**Candid notes**  
Gajendra Singh Negi

### TRIVENDRA'S TRIUMPH

The success of the Destination Uttarakhand-Investors summit where entrepreneurs inked MoUs of more than 1.20 lakh crore with State Government has not only highlighted the State among business fraternity but has also strengthened the position of Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat within the saffron party. The mega event was more of a one man show of TSR as he reached out to the industry captains from both within and outside the country, held road shows and singlehandedly drove the mega event to its conclusion. The event managers of the show were careful only to highlight TSR with banners, posters and advertisements carrying pictures of CM only.

To the delight of foot-soldiers of CM's camp, PM Modi patted the back of TSR and heaped accolades over him in his inaugural speech of summit. With opposition Congress playing role of a friendly opposition and detractors of CM going into hibernation mode on sensing mood of Modi, things were never so good for TSR in the Himalayan State.

### BEWILDERED BABU

Adept in the art of deceiving Netas most of whom in Uttarakhand are ignoramuses, a bureaucrat was left flummoxed when his attempt to play time tested technique of creating delusion by verbosity failed before a Union Minister who also happens to be an acclaimed lawyer. The Minister who was in Dehradun to attend the Investors Summit quickly called the bluff of the Babu and reprimanded him severely for not talking in a factual manner. He was even heard castigating the now sweating Babu that his department should have at least sent some proposals to his ministry so that he could have come prepared to make some positive announcements for Uttarakhand in the summit for which CM had been working very hard for the past two months.

### AUDIT WOES

Announcement of conducting a thorough audit of all schemes of National Health Mission (NHM) being operated in the State, the mission director NHM, Yugal Kishore Pant has set up a cat among pigeons and those associated with this cash rich union Government funded project are having sleepless nights. Those who understand the nitty gritty of the system of NHM know that the project is a money spinning machine and officials vie among themselves to get seated on the plum postings to steer various schemes of NHM.

Notably, instead of going through the practiced system of internal audit where the task is entrusted on those who are part of the corrupt system, the MD has hired a special agency, Uttarakhand Social Audit Accountability and Transparency Agency (USAATA) mandated for social audit both the government and court. Skeletons are likely to fall out of closet when USAATA people would wade through the files and take accounts of general public about the schemes of NHM whose annual budget in the Uttarakhand is in excess of ₹500 crores.

## Adani video an embarrassment for U'khnad Govt

**Congress says its stand has been vindicated**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

A video-purportedly showing the industrialist Gautam Adani giving a pep talk to Uttarakhand Government officials in the presence of the Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat on the poor infrastructural facilities in the State-having gone viral has landed the State Government in embarrassment. This is in view of the fact that the State Government has been basking in the glory of the success of the recently concluded Destination Uttarakhand-Investors Summit-2018 during which memorandum of understanding (MoU) worth ₹1.20 lakh crore are believed to have been signed with several industrial houses.

The video is said to have been shot on September 26-the day on which the chairman and Managing Director (MD) of Adani Group Gautam Adani met Uttarakhand CM at the latter's residence to discuss investment possibilities in the State. Notably, determined to make the summit a huge success, the Uttarakhand Government had

highlighted Adani's visit at the time as an achievement. In the video, Adani is heard saying that the entrepreneurs are coming to the State on the pressure of the Government despite being aware of the poor infrastructure of the State.

The video having gone viral, the Opposition Congress has lost no time to latch on to the matter to tear into the Government. The State party vice-president Surya Kant Dhasmana said, "Adani's video has clearly vindicated the Congress's stand on the Investors Summit. From the day one, we have been saying that the State has very poor infrastructure for industries."

Taking a dig at the State Government on the issue, the congress leader said that the road network in the State is pathetic. "Besides, SIIDCUL is left with only 900 acres of land for setting up industries," he said.

Taking a barb at the State Government over its claim of having clinched MoUs worth over ₹1.2 lakh crore, he said that desperate to flaunt it to catch the fancy of the people, they are ignoring the reality of the poor infrastructure and dearth of other facilities required for industrial development in the State.

## Activists question circumstances surrounding Sanand's demise

**Ganga rejuvenation issues to be raised with more vigour**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Environmentalists and activists have raised questions at the circumstances leading to the demise of Swami Gyan Swaroop Sanand with some of them demanding lodging of cases against the Union Ministers who had delayed action on his demands. Others have stressed that the demands he was supporting for conservation of the Ganga river will be worked upon with much more vigour now.

Noted environmentalist Sunderlal Bahuguna said that the Ganga river continues to face various problems. Large dams and mining pose a serious threat to the river and its ecology, he said.

Mallika Bhanot of Ganga Ahvahan questioned the Government's response to the demands raised by Sanand. The Government showed a complete lack of sensitivity towards the issue and situation.



"The authorities should not think that the issue of Ganga rejuvenation he fought for would be suppressed with his demise. The issue will be raised now with much more vigour," she stressed.

Vimal Bhai of Matu Jansangathan alleged that Sanand's death was a murder perpetrated by the Government. Prima facie, a case should be lodged against the Union Ministers who deferred taking any action on his demands. "Those like the Prime Minister claiming to be

the son of Ganga and Union Ministers claiming to be devotees of the Ganga did nothing while Sanand fasted for more than 100 days seeking concrete measures for saving the Ganga," he added.

Suresh Bhai of Nadi Bachao Abhiyan said that Sanand's life had been sacrificed at a time when crores of rupees are being spent in the name of Namami Ganga. His demise comes as a jolt to efforts for saving the Ganga. "He was demanding an Act for saving the Ganga but politicians claiming to be devo-

## IITians for Holy Ganga express shock at Sanand's demise

**Seek PM's & Gadkari's intervention to accede to his three major demands**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The IITians for Holy Ganga, a forum constituted to preserve heritage and ecology of the Ganga river by alumni of all IITs across the country has expressed deep shock and disbelief at the demise of Swami Gyan Swaroop Sanand who was formerly a professor at IIT.

In a statement issued to the media, the forum stated that on several occasions, he had written and appealed to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Water

Resources Minister Nitin Gadkari to immediately issue orders to suspend work on all on going Hydro Electric Power (HEP) and tunnelling projects in Uttarakhand and implement recommendations made by IIT consortium of River Ganga basin to allow Ganga to flow in natural form.

"Swami Gyan Swaroop was earlier a Professor at IIT Kanpur. The PhD holder in environmental engineering from the University of California at Berkeley had also served as a Member-Secretary of the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

An environmental activist for decades, he formally became a swami in 2011 at the age of 79 years. Even before that he had undertaken a number of fasts for environmental causes, the most

notable being the 2009 fast demanding to stop the construction of dams on the Bhagirathi River," said president of IITians for Holy Ganga president Yatinder Pal Singh Suri.

"We, the IITians, urge Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Water Resources Minister Nitin Gadkari to intervene and accede to three major demands of late swami including stopping of work on Vishnugad Pipalkoti, Singoli Bhawari and Phata Byung Hydro electric projects, passing of the draft Ganga protection act drafted by Girdhar Malviya headed committee in Parliament and creation of a National Ganga follower committee whose permission will be necessary before taking any decision about Ganga," said Suri.

tees of the river did not like his demand. Sanand's sacrifice will not go in vain," he added.

## BJP accuses Congress of politicising Sanand's demise

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party has criticised Congress leaders for politicising the demise of Gyan Swaroop Sanand.

The BJP State media in-charge Devendra Bhasin said that at a time when the BJP leaders and all sensitive persons are grieving at the demise, what the Congress leaders are doing is condemnable. "Even his last rites have not been conducted yet but Congress leaders have started making baseless statements and levelling illogical allegations at the BJP State Government and the party.

The Prime Minister, Chief Minister, Vidhan Sabha Speakers and BJP state president have expressed grief at the demise but Congress leaders are busy in despicable politics. The BJP does not intend to indulge in politics at such a time and neither should the Congress," he

added.

**THE PRIME MINISTER, CHIEF MINISTER, VIDHAN SABHA SPEAKERS AND BJP STATE PRESIDENT HAVE EXPRESSED GRIEF AT THE DEMISE BUT CONGRESS LEADERS ARE BUSY IN DESPICABLE POLITICS**

**PM condoles Sanand's demise**



PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed grief at the demise of Gyan Swaroop Sanand (GD Agarwal) on Twitter. The PM Tweeted, "Saddened by the demise of Shri GD Agarwal Ji. His passion towards learning, education, saving the environment, particularly Ganga cleaning will always be remembered. My condolences."

## Activist purportedly issued statement prior to demise

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

On the day that he expired, Gyan Swaroop Sanand (GD Agarwal) purportedly issued a hand written Press release from AIIMS talking about his condition. In the release reportedly written at 6:45 AM, he wrote, "Yesterday (October 10) at around 1 PM, Haridwar administration forcibly lifted me from Matri Sadan and got me admitted to AIIMS Rishikesh.

The doctors at AIIMS were very supportive of my cause and my Tapasya for conservation and rejuvenation of mother Ganga.

However, as a professional institution for medical treatment they said that they had only three options: forced feeding-oral or nasal, forced IV or no hospitalisation. Detailed tests and investigations revealed critical shortage of



potassium in my blood (only 1.7 against minimum of 3.5) and initial set up of dehydration.

On persuasion, I have agreed to accept potassium being

**Supportive docs at AIIMS**

administered to me both orally and 500 ml/day IV. I heartily thank AIIMS for their support to my cause and Tapasya."

## 51 new dengue cases surface, taking the count to 440

**Official blames people for the spread of the disease**

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The menace of dengue continues to loom over Uttarakhand as the dengue count crossed the 400-mark on Thursday with 51 new cases being reported by the health department on the day. As per the health department officers, the count has gone up to 440 in the State.

on the day while 14 patients afflicted with the disease have been reported from Tehri district. Haridwar has recorded seven cases while one case each has been reported from Nainital, Udham Singh Nagar and Almora districts.

The district vector-borne diseases officer Dehradun Subhash Joshi said the department has undertaken intensive door to door survey of the city while informing the people about preventive measures they should take to check its spread. He, further, claimed that the teams of the health department are visiting the areas from where the dengue patients are

being reported. Interestingly, Joshi has held the people responsible for the spurt in the number of dengue cases. "We have done door to door survey and distributed five lakh pamphlets meant to create awareness among the people on the disease.

The fact that the number is still surging points to the people not taking the preventive measures to keep it at bay," he said.

He, further, informed that that people should ensure that the breeding places of mosquitoes inside their homes and vicinity are destroyed. "Aedes mosquitoes-the vector of

dengue-are capable to lay their eggs in one spoonful of water. It is thus imperative to decant pots, vases, water bottles and coolers regularly. Besides, as Aedes mosquito bites during the day time the people are being advised to wear full sleeves to reduce exposure of their body for the mosquito to bite," he said.

### Ways to prevent dengue

- 1 Don't allow water to get collect in and near houses.
- 2 Regularly decant fridges, coolers, pots or cans.
- 3 Spread kerosene or other oils on small water bodies which is effective to destroy the larvae of Aedes mosquito.
- 4 Inform the district health authorities for fogging to kill mosquitoes.
- 5 Aedes strikes during day time and flies near ground level, so wear full sleeved



clothes at work places.

6 Immediately seek medical advice when someone develops fever.



# Cyclone Titli: 'No death, devastation in JSpur'

**DIST RECEIVES 918 MM RAIN**  
KAHNU NANDA ■ JAGATSINGHPUR

Cyclonic storm Titli has had no impact in Jagatsinghpur district after its landfall on Thursday wee hours at Gopalpur.

No loss of life was reported from any part of the district; only a few trees and electric poles, including hutments in coastal areas, were damaged, said district Collector Yamini Sarangi.

The cyclone, however, triggered heavy rainfall in the district. A total of 918 mm total rainfall was recorded till Thursday.

Moreover, Erasama block experienced heavy rainfall of 210 mm, followed by Balikuda

(136 mm), Raghunathpur (129mm), Kujanga (94mm), Naugaon (90 mm) and Birci block lowest (68 mm), the Collector informed.

About 13,923 people were evacuated from low-lying areas of Erasama and Balikuda blocks and were kept at multi-purpose cyclone shelters.

Dry and cooked foods and relief stuffs were distributed to as many as 8,781 people.

They were to return home, after rainfall abated. Meanwhile, about 18 pregnant women spotted in different coastal villages were admitted in different hospitals including the District Headquarters Hospital for treatment during pre-cyclone preparatory measures.

Power supply and road communication were partially disrupted in interior pockets of

Eurasia block. Efforts were on to clear roads and restore power supply in affected areas at the earliest, the Collector said.

The NDRF and ODRAF teams were positioned in a few vulnerable points in the coast, including Paradip, under supervision of the civil administration and police on Wednesday.

The Civil Supply Department officials raided market places in Kujanga and Tirtol blocks and checked prices of essential commodities to check hoarding, black marketing and abnormal hiking of prices.

ADM Sachidananda Sahoo, Sub Collector MP Mohanty, Emergency Officer Manorama Jali and DIPRO Kaminiranjana Patnaik were present.

## HOLIDAYS DUE TO TITLI IN W ODISHA

# Teachers find day dreary sans students

**After higher-ups ask them to join**

PNS ■ SAMBALPUR

The teachers of Sambalpur district and rest parts of western region had a dreary day with no students in their schools on Thursday.

Although the Met Department made earlier forecast that the impact of Titli would not be that much aggressive in western Odisha, the State Government on Wednesday, as a precautionary measure, had declared all the schools and Anganwadi Centres to remain closed for two days. But towards late night of the same day, the headmasters/headmistresses got phone calls from their seniors -BEOs and DEOs that

the holiday was only for students and not for the teachers.

Hence, the teachers were asked to go to their schools, but there was no work.

"There was no justification for declaring holiday for schools in western Odisha as the impact of Titli was declared to be 'no dangerous'. Still the Government declared holiday as precautionary point of view. But we failed to understand why they called us to come to school for no specific works," said a headmaster of the school of the town.

"Really life in school without students is totally monotonous as the student-teacher relationship can't be described in words. We have to spend an idle day today. And it will continue tomorrow i.e. on Friday and we don't know how to spend another day," he added.

# Balangir ACTO in Vig net

PNS ■ CUTTACK

The Vigilance police on Thursday conducted simultaneous raids of Balangir district Assistant Commercial Tax Officer (ACTO) Dhirendranath Mishra's residence and office on the allegations of acquisition of assets disproportionate to his known source of income.

Mishra's triple storied building at Maha Laxmi Nagar in Balangir district and office chamber at Kantabanji were searched and Rs 93, 04, 853 including one triple storied building, one asbestos roofed house, four homestead plots, gold ornaments, two two-wheelers, bank and insurance deposits, cash Rs 4,71,000 and costly household articles were detected. Further inquiry was in progress.

## INBRIEF

### SHARP FELICITATES NEWLY-APPOINTED JAWANS

**Narsinghpur:** The Sharp in association with the Ekalabya Training Centre felicitated 12 newly-appointed Jawans in the Indian Army and Odisha Police here on Thursday. Transport Commissioner Sanjeeb Panda attended as guest in the meeting presided over by Sharp advisor Prof Kulamani Barik. Among others, Sharp secretary Bijay Kumar Panda, Ashok Nayak, Sugan Dalua, Tapan Panda, Nath Behera and Dr Prafulla Kumar Sahu were present.



### 1ST DEATH ANNIV OF AMIYA JENA OBSERVED

**Jajpur Road:** The first death anniversary of Dr Amiya Kumar Jena was observed here under the chairmanship of Dushmanta Rout. Dr Jena was a poet, a politician, co-editor of 'Udayabata' and associated with many social works and organisations after his retirement from Government service. Among others, Jajpur District Wildlife Warden Kailash Chandra Sasmal, Dr Akshaya Panda, Er Kamal Lochan Sahoo, Niranjan Ghadai, Arun Das, scribe Biswa Ranjan Patnaik, Santosh Rath, Bidyutprava Ray, Basant Patra, Mission Modi State working president Susil Mallick and Upendra Mohanty attended the meeting. Abhay Lochan Nayak gave a vote of thanks.

### MENTAL HEALTH DAY OBSERVED AT NIMAPARA

**Nimapara:** The Pingalaki Public Welfare Organisation (PPWO) here observed the World Mental Health Day on Wednesday. A rally was taken out by PPWO special school students. Block Social Security Officer Sukhdev Moharana, advocate Dilip Mohanty, Dr Narayan Baral, PPWO Principal Gaganbihari Das, Gajendra Pradhan and Lecturer Jamirul Islam were present at a meeting held in PPWO premises. Padmalochan Mohanty, Basudev Das, Pramod Senapati and Tezraj Seth coordinated the programme. Hundreds of students and parents were also present.



### HEARING FOR S'GARH MINE PROJECT HELD

**Rourkela:** A public hearing meeting was organised at Nadikasira village of Sundargarh district for expansion of the Nadidih Iron and Manganese Mines of Bonal Industrial Co. As many as 1,000 stakeholders from nearby areas participated and gave their consent in favour of the project. Sundargarh ADM BC Turuk and State Pollution Control Board, Rourkela Regional Officer HN Nayak heard the public views.

### 'AJIRA ODISHA DARABAR' HOLDS UTKALMANI BIRTHDAY

**Brahmapur:** Fortnightly newspaper 'Ajira Odisha Darabar' observed the birthday of Utkalmani Gopabandhu here under the guidance of its editor Raindra Kumar Moharana. Litterateur Dr Chandramani Swain, educationist Jitendra Nath Patnaik, social activist Prasant Kumar Mohapatra, writer Padmini Mishra, newspaper managing editor Manoj Kumar Moharana, artist Basudev Moharana, 'Rushikulya' editor Dr Siddhartha Patanjoshi and senior journalist Prakash Chandra Mishra were present, among others. Earlier, they had garlanded statue of the Utkalmani located at Giri Road in the city.

### ADANI FOUNDATION DISTRIBUTES SAPPLINGS

**Dhamra:** The Adani Foundation distributed fruit bearing and nutritional plants in nearby villages under the Sustainable livelihood programme in a public programme held here on Thursday. The saplings were distributed to the villages by representative of ZP Member, Dhamra Port Chandbali Zone CSR head along with departmental staffs. A total of 211 family members were chosen as beneficiary under the initiative. The villagers applauded the untiring and noble effort and took oath to protect and grow them to generate income from the plants for a better future.



# 150 AP fishermen caught in storm at Gopalpur

PNS ■ BRAHMAMAPUR

The Odisha police rescued many fishermen of Andhra Pradesh who had been caught in the storm while catching fishing in the sea off Gopalpur on Wednesday night.

"About 150 fishermen along with 35 trawlers stayed in the sea near Gopalpur. In spite of persuasion, they did not come to the shore. When cyclonic storm 'Titli' intensified, they requested the police for their rescue. A team began an operation in the midnight and rescued 26 of them. The

operation was on for safe evacuation of other fishermen," said an official release.

DIGP, district Collector and SP of Ganjam rushed to the spot in the midnight to rescue them.

However, they were stuck for some time as the road was blocked due to a broken tree. As they reached, NDRF and ODRAF teams under the leadership of Coast Guard started rescue operation in the midnight. By morning, 26 fishermen were rescued and the operation was on for safe evacuation of rest of the fishermen.

# IN GANJAM Six missing as houses swept away in floodwaters

PNS ■ BRAHMAMAPUR

Six persons, including four of a family, went missing after their houses got swept away by floodwaters of the Adangi river following heavy rains triggered by the Cyclone 'Titli' in a village of Ganjam district on Thursday.

The shocking incident was reported from Bhutapanakal village under Gajalabadi panchayat of Sorada block in the district.

Reports said six persons including four of a family, a couple and their son and daughter-in-law along with two other persons had taken shelter on the roof of the house

**The shocking incident was reported from Bhutapanakal village under Gajalabadi panchayat of Sorada block in the district**

when the tragedy occurred. All of them went missing after the house constructed under Indira Awas scheme got swept away in flood waters of Adangi river following heavy rainfall in the area.

Later, Ganjam Collector Vijay Amruta Kulange immediately swung into action and directed officials for rescue operations. However, the ongoing rescue operations were affected due to inclement weather and heavy rains in the area.

# Extension of 3 trains to B'pur demanded

**Bhartiya Bikash sends memo to PM, CM**



PNS ■ BRAHMAMAPUR

The Bhartiya Bikash Parishad has urged the Railways to fulfil its various demands, including extension of three important trains and construction of new railway lines, at the earliest.

Addressing a Press meet recently, Parishad members criticised the Railway authorities for neglecting south Odisha's main city Brahmapur for long.

Parishad president Surendra Panigrahi said people of Brahmapur have been demanding for extending trains like Rajdhani Express, Sampark Kranti Express and Lokmanya Tilak Express to Brahmapur, but in vain.

"The Railway authorities have taken a plea that these trains can't be extended as water facility is unavailable at Brahmapur station for washing of trains. While Bhubaneswar-bound trains are being washed at nearby the Mancheswar railway station, the trains, when extended, can be washed at nearby Sorada Road or Jagannathpur or Golanthara stations," argued Panigrahi.

The Parishad also demanded a stoppage for Howrah-Pondichery weekly train at Brahmapur and introduction of new train from Brhampur to Ahmadabad in

**Parishad president Surendra Panigrahi said people of Brahmapur have been demanding for extending trains like Rajdhani Express, Sampark Kranti Express and Lokmanya Tilak Express to Brahmapur, but in vain**

view of large number of labourers from Ganjam working in Surat.

Other demands included making Brahmapur a railway division, construction of a new railway line from Gopalpur to Balangir and from Brahmapur to Digapahandi, Mohana and Rayagada and construction of night shelters and public convenience outside the Brahmapur railway station.

Panigrahi informed that memorandums have already been sent to the Prime Minister and the Chief Minister for fulfillment of the above demands.

Among others, lawyer Dr Siva Prasad Mishra, Sarat Chandra Behera, Trinath Moharana, Manas Ranjan Patro, Sukanta Panda and Surjya Narayan Behera were present.

# 'Poor toilet building leads to low use in Ganjam'

**Survey conducted by YSD**

PNS ■ BRAHMAMAPUR

Delay in payment of incentive leads to discontinuation of toilet construction by the beneficiaries under the Government scheme in Ganjam district. Quality of toilet construction, where contactors/NGOs are hired to build, is poor. Consequently, there is low level of usage and beneficiaries dissatisfaction.

This was stated in a district level workshop on citizen report card on rural sanitation (Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin) was organised by Project Director DRDA Ganjam at Chhatrapur on September 30.

The Youth for Social Development conducted a survey using Citizen Report Card for assessment of access, quality, reliability, staff responsiveness, corruption, satisfaction level and suggestions from the beneficiaries, perspectives from the service providers and the physical verification of 'rural sanitation' including IHHL, sanitation in school, anganwadi centre, healthcare institutions and other public institu-



tions under the Swachh Bharat Mission-Gramin.

The survey covered 10 blocks, 20 Gram Panchayats and 1,969 households and physical verification conducted of 61 schools (primary, UP, high schools), 77 Anganwadi Centres, 15 healthcare institutions (PHC, CHC and sub-centre) and 22 Gram Panchayat offices.

It revealed that the beneficiaries pay extra money to arrange materials due to absence of 'Rural Sanitary Mart' or materials being more expensive there. Low level of toilet usage due to poor awareness on KAP (knowledge, attitude and

practice) makes target of 'open defecation free' village/GP tough, clarified the survey.

It agains told that overall 37 per cent beneficiaries are dissatisfied with SBM-Gramin School Sanitation. Households, officials and observations confirm high availability of toilets in schools, separate toilets for girls too and very few schools have separate toilets for teachers.

The reasons for not using toilet are lack of water, lack of separate toilets for boys and girls and blocked toilets.

As many as 15 per cent HHs children not allowed to use toilets in the schools and 80

per cent reported that the school toilets were maintained clean. More than 75% HHs say hand washing facilities in schools are functional and accessible to children of all age groups.

Only little more than half the Anganwadi Centres have toilets and availability of water in toilets is very low. Hand washing facility is low too.

Officials say there are no toilets accessible for children with special needs.

Besides, it said toilets are available in over 70 per cent of the health centres but availability is much lower in PHCs and sub-centres.

# 'Mo Sabuja Odisha' to stabilise climate change effects

NADIYA CHAND KANUNGO

There should be proper measures against theft of timber,

running of illegal saw mills, poaching of wild animals, and

violation of laws related to forest and environment. The growing of trees helps in carbon assimilation process and prevents disastrous situations created by nature also. The atmospheric humidity is also retained.

So, the general citizens are to be prompted to plant trees in their private as well as their communal land. The Timber Transit Rules of the Orissa Forest Act 1972 have to be simplified so that the tenants can easily remove their trees from their own fields for private uses and dispose of them.

Out of the total forestland of the State, 33 per cent of land is bamboo forest; which comes to 18,000 sqkm. Besides Government forests, there are also private land, where various plantations are made, including bamboo. Bamboo is known as very good timber of poor men. It is widely used in different farms in household matters in

urban as well as in rural areas. The bamboo clump is also known as very good assimilator of carbons as it has good crown coverage.

Hence, it acts as very good carbon sink. Bamboo yields very good paper pulp having long fibre. It is a grass. Another long fibre pulp rope in Mayurbhanj district is Sabai grass. This grass is procured by different paper mills for pulp. Now, the State Government is planning to manufacture timber and the products of timber from bamboos.

Not only the pulp of bamboos but also the pulp of all waste wood, all types of grasses, sugarcane waste etc can be used as pulp out of which the flat-sheets can be prepared. The timber plates can be manufactured from such pulp-sheets.

The bamboo pulp-sheets can be the substitute of timber. Again, bamboos can be sliced

into thin pieces and can be woven into desired articles as good as wood furniture. The bamboo can be harvested over a very short period of 4 to 5 years. This is definitely a very good mission of the State Government. Bamboo is such a species, which can come right from seashore to 1,500 meter altitude.

So the propagation of bamboo for economy and ecological purposes is welcome. The forest fire damages a lot of bamboo forests, which needs intensive care and silvicultural treatments. Again bamboo has peculiar biological behaviour. Bamboo forests flower gregariously in an interval of 10 to 12 years.

The JK Paper Mill at Rayagada made a bamboo arboretum, where a number of varieties of bamboos from different parts of India is collected and grown. The science of grow-

ing bamboo is very simple. Our people in the rural level know well to grow bamboos for their domestic uses.

The writer has seen personally at Soro of Bhadrak district 150 feet long Sundarkania bamboo in the coastal plain of northern Odisha. Similarly, we gather vast quantity of straws of paddy every year after main harvest of such crop. The husks of paddy also go waste in huge quantity every crop year. These wastes can be utilised for various of initiatives under the 'My Green Odisha' campaign. Straw board, chipboard and husk board can be prepared of paddy waste; which can be the substitutes of timber in domestic uses. Again paddy waste can be utilised for preparation of organic compost. We have vast waste materials of organic products, which are not utilised for constructive purposes; such things, including the everyday domes-

tic waste, can be utilised for preparation of organic manure.

Now, the climate change has become major problems not only for Odisha or India, but also for entire globe. The reasons of climate change are many. Man is primarily responsible for nature's furies. Ecological restoration programme is now going on in Odisha. The rehabilitation of degraded forests is going on throughout the State and a vast fund is spent on the programme.

The degraded forests, bold hillocks, open forests, eroded catchment areas, watershed land etc need proper rest, soil and moisture conservation practices and inter planting of indigenous plant species. Such operations are known as rehabilitations of degraded forests. Beat-wise operations should be carried out in collaboration with the concerned villagers who are supposed to be the stakeholders.

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# 80% mental patients do not seek treatment in India, says report

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

## KEY FACTS

With 8,00,000 people killing themselves every year, suicide is the second leading cause of death globally among 15-29 year olds while half of all mental illness begins by the tender age of 14. However, what is a matter of concern, as per the World Health Organisation (WHO), is that mental health is yet to become a priority for Governments given that the sector currently receives less than 1 per cent of global aid.

Ringed alarm bells, the WHO has warned that while presently mental health conditions cost the world US \$ 2.5 trillion a year, the figure is expected to balloon to US \$ 6 trillion by 2030 if timely steps are not taken to check mental health disorders.

In India, mental health disorders and illness are on increase mainly due to changing social dynamics, taboos, unawareness and lack of timely and adequate treatment. As many as 80 per cent of people with any form of mental or substance do not seek treatment in India, a new report on mental health released by Lancet Commission has said.

The earlier reports published in Lancet too have pointed out that the burden of the disease in India increased from 3 per cent in 1990 to 6 per cent in 2013, whereas in China mental, neurological and sub-

- ◆ **Mental disorders include: depression, bipolar affective disorder, schizophrenia and other psychoses, dementia, intellectual disabilities and developmental disorders including autism**
- ◆ **There are effective strategies for preventing mental disorders such as depression**
- ◆ **There are effective treatments for mental disorders and ways to alleviate the suffering caused by them**
- ◆ **Access to health care and social services capable of providing treatment and social support is key**

stance-use disorders, accounted for 7 per cent of disability-adjusted life years in 1990 and the percentage increased to 11 per cent by 2013.

Though the report acknowledged India's efforts to get in place the landmark

mental health care bill in 2017 entitling people with mental disorders to access comprehensive medical and social care services in community settings, it said the quality of care continues to be poor for mental health patients.

There is a severe shortage of specialists in India: just 4000 psychiatrists, 3500 psychologists, and 3500 mental health social workers. This is too low given that 150 million Indians need mental health care. Just 30 million are seeking care.

The Lancet report says that "even when treatment is sought, its quality is poor - the World Mental Health Surveys reported that one in five people with depressive disorder received minimally adequate treatment in high-income countries, dropping to just one in 27 in LMICs (low and middle income countries)."

We must work towards reducing the stigma and increasing awareness through media. Also, we need to encourage people to come out and talk about it, said Dr Smitha Deshpande, head of the department of psychiatry at Delhi-based Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital.

According to 2015-16 National Mental Health Survey (NMHS) survey, every sixth person in India needs mental health help of some sort. Of all the age groups, it is the adolescents who need most help with mental health issues.

# Guidelines to deal with urban flooding soon

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Concerned with the rise in instances of urban flooding in the country, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) is bringing guidelines on how cities should deal with such a situation. The Ministry has asked the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) to prepare guidelines to prevent urban flooding.

The comprehensive assessment of losses by the Government during the period between 1953 and 2017 states that overall 256.150 million hectares of crops worth Rs 1.09 lakh crore and over 8 crore houses worth Rs 53,576 crore were damaged while over 6 crore cattle and 1 crore lives were lost during the six-and-a-half decades. In all, the floods have affected over 20 crore people so far.

According to Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, there has been an increasing trend of urban flood disasters in the country in the past few years and the ministry has asked the NIUA (National Institute of Urban Affairs) to put together facts on the recent floods, be it in Kerala or Kashmir, and



**Recommendations to be drawn up to tackle flooding will be based on categories such as early warning for natural disaster, preparedness for emergency and planning for disaster reduction**

hold talks with experts to look at the causation.

"During Kerala floods, the urban flooding issues were raised again on whether we are prepared sufficiently to deal with situation," Puri said after attending a workshop on 'Urban Flood Resilience' where experts suggested a number of ways to tackle the issue. The workshop was organised by the NIUA.

The minister said that there is need to devise a system to anticipate natural disaster

and make preparations accordingly to deal with it. As per primary estimate, Kerala flood caused damage of assets over Rs 20,000 crore.

According to the ministry, recommendations to be drawn up to tackle urban flooding will be based on categories such as early warning for natural disaster, preparedness for emergency and planning for disaster reduction.

An official of the NIUA said once the recommendations are drawn up, they will be sent

to states. NIUA Director Jagan Shah stressed on the need for better coordination between different departments in states during natural disaster.

The government data shows that on an average, over 1,600 people die every year due to floods, affecting nearly 32 million people. More than 92,000 cattle are lost every year, seven million hectares of land is affected (16 per cent of the total flood prone area), and damage is over Rs 5,600 crore. Floods resulted in loss of 0.86 per cent of the total GDP in the 1970s and 1980s.

Officials of MoHUA said that the NDMA (national disaster management authority) panel, set up in the wake of the 2005 Mumbai floods, held that urban flooding is a phenomenon distinct from rural flooding. Hence, the panel said, it needs to be dealt with by the ministry in charge of urban affairs through an urban flooding unit headed by an officer at the level of joint secretary.

In July 2012, the Ministry of Home Affairs had issued orders designating the urban affairs ministry as the nodal ministry for urban flooding, but since then there has been no movement to make it operational.

# Apex court issues contempt notice to 3 Amrapali directors

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday issued contempt notice against three directors, including the CMD, of Amrapali group for defying various court orders and sought their reply in four weeks.

A bench of Justices UU Lalit and DY Chandrachud asked the three Amrapali directors — Anil Kumar Sharma, Shiv Priya and Ajay Kumar to present themselves before SHO of Noida Sector 62 tomorrow before 8 AM.

It directed the Noida police to take them to the sealed properties where the documents of the group's 46 companies will be catalogued.

The apex court also directed Noida SSP to take the three directors to hotel Park Ascent after 6 pm where their cell-phones will be seized and they shall spend nights in the hotel for the next 15 days, instead of police lock up.

The top court said they will remain under police surveillance confined to the hotel. It also said that the sealed

properties of Amrapali group in Noida and Greater Noida will be open from 8 AM to 6 PM for cataloguing of documents for next 15 days.

The bench asked the two forensic auditors Ravi Bhatia and Pawan Kumar Aggarwal complete the task of auditing the balance sheet and affairs of 46 Amrapali group companies in next ten weeks time.

Earlier in the day the group had informed the apex court that its nine properties in Noida, Greater Noida as also Rajgir and Buxar in Bihar have been sealed in compliance with the court's order.

The apex court had yesterday ordered the sealing of nine properties of the embattled real estate company after the three directors, who are in police custody, said the documents related to the group's 46 firms were stored there.

The three directors had moved an application before the court stating that they were willing to hand over all documents but the police was unaware about which one needed to be seized.

# Jailed MLA DP Yadav to undergo spinal surgery

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday was apprised by a super-specialty hospital here that Uttar Pradesh politician DP Yadav, facing life term in the MLA murder case, would undergo spinal surgery on October 19.

Yadav was awarded life imprisonment by a Dehradun CBI court in 2015 for his role in the murder of Mahendra Singh Bhati, an MLA from Ghaziabad's Dadri area. The lawmaker was shot dead at Dadri railway crossing in December 1992.

Yashoda Superspecialty Hospital at Ghaziabad, in its medical report filed in pursuance of an earlier order, told a bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi that Yadav's viral fever has gone now and he would be operated upon by using local anaesthesia on October 19.

The bench, also comprising Justices S K Kaul and K M Joseph, considered the report and extended the interim bail of the controversial politician for undergoing the surgery. It

also directed the hospital to furnish a fresh report on October 22 and fixed the matter for hearing a day after.

After perusing the report, the court today said the surgery, which was said to be a complicated one, can be done through laparoscopic method by using local anaesthesia.

Earlier, the apex court had directed the hospital to furnish a report whether Yadav was fit to undergo spinal surgery and had cautioned him against taking any "undue advantage".

The bench, which had earlier granted an interim bail for 15 days to Yadav for undergoing pre-operation tests, had taken strong note of the fact that the tests have not been done on the ground that he was having viral fever and had warned that it would send him back to jail.

Yadav, whose appeal in the Uttarakhand High Court against the 2015 trial court verdict is pending, had moved the top court for grant of bail for undergoing the surgery.

The High Court, on June 14 this year, had rejected the bail plea of Yadav.

# UNDER 'LAND POOLING POLICY'

## Delhiites would soon get 17L new houses: Puri

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi will soon get 17 lakh new houses that will be able to accommodate 76 lakh people. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has finally approved the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) ambitious plan 'land pooling policy'.

Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Hardeep Singh Puri on Thursday announced that he has signed the land pooling policy. The policy has been hanging fire for five years. The policy covers urbanizable areas of urban extensions in 95 villages. Formulated with an aim to provide affordable housing in Delhi, the policy is also expected to trigger economic development and generate one lakh jobs.

As part of the policy, DDA will act as a facilitator and planner and the process of pooling and development will be taken up by developer entities or consortiums. Sources said that DDA has received 734 suggestions on



land pooling policy. According to MoHUA officials, the policy has been simplified further and DDA will now act as facilitator, regulator and planner and for the uniform distribution of land to respective landowners; DDA prepares draft policy and regulations.

"A minimum two hectares of land will be required by developer entity to apply for this policy. Each entity or land owner should have valid and lawful owner of the land parcel proposed for pooling," the policy said.

Several farmers who have made consortium to get bene-

fit from land pooling policy, is now worried with this new regulation which makes them impossible to avail the benefit.

The policy further states that differential land return in two categories has been replaced with uniform division of land on 60:40 basis. The policy covers greenfield areas in five zones, including J, K-1, L, N and P-II, which come under the Master Plan of Delhi-2021 (MPD).

DDA has, however, reduced the earlier floor area ratio (FAR) of 400 to 200 in view availability of water, requirement of land for physical and social infrastructure and impact on environment. As a result, instead of the projected 24 lakh dwelling units, DDA now expects 17 lakh dwelling units to come up in areas developed under the land pooling policy.

The land pooling policy was notified by the MoHUA in September 2013 while the regulations for operationalisation of the policy were approved in May 2015 by the Ministry.

# INSHORT

## SC TO HEAR WB'S MOVE TO FUND PUJA BODIES

**New Delhi:** The Supreme Court will hear Friday the petition challenging the West Bengal Government's decision to dole out ₹28 crore to 28,000 puja committees in the State for Durga Puja celebrations. A bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi was apprised that on Wednesday the Calcutta High Court had refused to interfere with the Mamata Banerjee Government's decision to grant ₹10,000 each to 28,000 Durga puja committees in the State as devotees get ready to celebrate the festival.

## K'TAKA'S DASHBOARD MODEL TO BE STUDIED

**New Delhi:** The Agriculture Ministry has decided to study Karnataka's latest agri-dashboard model that indicates if mandi prices of crops are ruling below the minimum support price (MSP), so that the government can make timely intervention to protect interest of farmers. The agri-price analysis dashboard, which the Karnataka government launched in July known as KRIPA, provides analysis of whether spot prices are ruling below MSP and also forecasts rates for next three months.

# Embargoes won't deter defence deals: Russia

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

US sanctions will not be an impediment to Indo-Russia defence deals, and New Delhi and Moscow could soon sign agreements on frigates and Kalashnikov assault rifles, Russian Ambassador to India Nikolay Kudashev said Thursday.

Describing the recently inked USD 5.4 billion S-400 missile defence system deal as the "largest contract" in the history of Indo-Russia ties, he said it was one of the "speediest" agreements to be signed between the two countries and there were no protracted negotiations.

The implementation of the



**NIKOLAY KUDASHEV** could soon have a deal on the Kalashnikov assault rifles

"In the coming months, you can expect more deals. Talks are on, this is the normal process. We hope that within two-three months... We could soon have a deal on frigates, it is very much on the agenda of the two sides, and we could soon have a deal on the Kalashnikov assault rifles"

contract, signed during President Vladimir Putin's visit from October 4-5, would start in 2020 and would last for five years, he said.

"In the coming months,

you can expect more deals. Talks are on, this is the normal process. We hope that within two-three months... We could soon have a deal on frigates, it is very much on the agenda of

the two sides, and we could soon have a deal on the Kalashnikov assault rifles," the envoy told a select group of journalists here.

"Yes," Kudashev said emphatically, when asked whether it would be right to state that Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act or CAATSA would not put pressure on India and Russia for further defence deals.

His remarks come just a day after US President Donald Trump said India would soon "find out" if the punitive CAATSA sanctions apply to it over its USD 5 billion deal with Russia to purchase the S-400 Triumf air defence system.



Union Minister of State for Defence Subhash Ramrao Bhamre and Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa during the IAF Commanders' conference at Air headquarters in New Delhi on Thursday

# Union Ministry, NTPC agree to set up AYUSH centres in five cities

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Ayush Ministry's bid to rope in Public Sector Units (PSUs) to open hospitals exclusively providing traditional systems of medicine including Ayurveda across the country has started delivering results.

In a first, and what can be called as a shot in the arm for the Ministry, the Government's Navratna, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) has agreed to set up Ayush centres in five cities — Kayamkulam in Alappuzha district of Kerala, Koldam (Bilaspur in Himachal Pradesh), Tapovan (Rishikesh in Uttarakhand), Vindhyanchal and Farakka in Bengal.

"The nitty-gritty is being finalized," a senior official from the Ministry said adding that talks are on with other PSUs too in this direction.

He said that efforts are on to persuade the PSUs to set up the Ayush Centres in the remote areas where medical facilities

Ayush centres to be formed in Kayamkulam in Alappuzha district of Kerala, Koldam (Bilaspur in Himachal Pradesh), Tapovan (Rishikesh in Uttarakhand), Vindhyanchal and Farakka in Bengal

are almost nil or inaccessible. "There has been demand for the traditional systems of medicines as these are playing vital role in providing health care to large section of population, especially in developing countries like India.

"This is because of the affordability of people to buy Ayurvedic medicines that are of low cost, compared to that of Allopathy," the official added.

He attributed growing demand for alternative medicines also to the increasing awareness among the public regarding the efficacy of Ayush, availability of scientifically validated ayush medicines like anti-diabetes drug BGR-34 (developed by CSIR)

and Ayush Ministry's emphasis on good manufacturing practices in the sector.

The Ministry is also pushing for programmes such as training of trainers for orientation of ASHAs/ANMs to the potential of AYUSH with respect to general wellness and preventive health care including prevention of common ailments like diabetes and popularizing common ayurveda and yoga remedies/practices for the management of such illnesses.

Last year, the Centre had approved proposals for setting up of 100 Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha, and Homeopathy (AYUSH) hospitals across the country. During the last three years, the Government had also approved posting of 4000 AYUSH doctors in primary health centres across the country.

In fact, the National Health Policy, 2017 has also envisaged the integration of the Ayush system in the NHP and contribution in larger aspect including the Non-Communicable Diseases, the official added.

# 150th Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary: 900 prisoners to be freed under general amnesty

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

More than 900 prisoners have been released from jails across India under an amnesty scheme announced as part of the year-long celebration to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi beginning October 2, the Home Ministry said Thursday.

Women convicts aged 55 years and above and male convicts of 60 years or more, who have served half of their sentence, and a few other categories of prisoners were eligible for the amnesty scheme announced by the Narendra Modi government.

In the week-long first phase of special remission to prisoners, the states and Union territories, after obtaining the approval of the competent

Special remission scheme is not available to prisoners who have been convicted for an offence for which the sentence awarded is death or where death sentence has been commuted to life imprisonment, cases of convicts involved in serious and heinous crimes like dowry death, rape, human trafficking and convicted under POTA, UAPA, TADA, FICN, POCSO Act, Money Laundering, FEMA, NDPS, Prevention of Corruption Act, etc

authority in their jurisdictions, have released more than 900 prisoners, a home ministry statement said.

In the second and third phase, prisoners will be released on April 6, 2019 and October 2, 2019 respectively.

The following categories of prisoners are eligible for special remission: women convicts of 55 years of age and above, who have completed half of their

actual sentence period, transgender convicts of 55 years of age and above, who have served half of their actual sentence period, male convicts of 60 years of age and above, who have completed 50 per cent of their actual sentence period.

Physically challenged or disabled convicts with 70 per cent disability and more who have completed 50 per cent of their actual sentence period, ter-

minally-ill convicts, convicted prisoners who have completed two-third (66 per cent) of their actual sentence period are also eligible under the scheme.

Special remission scheme is not available to prisoners who have been convicted for an offence for which the sentence awarded is death or where death sentence has been commuted to life imprisonment, cases of convicts involved in serious and heinous crimes like dowry death, rape, human trafficking and convicted under POTA, UAPA, TADA, FICN, POCSO Act, Money Laundering, FEMA, NDPS, Prevention of Corruption Act, etc.

While releasing the prisoners, they will be gifted books relating to Mahatma Gandhi and will be provided suitable counselling.



# FIR lodged against Nana, 3 others in sexual harassment case

TN RAHGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Having registered a First Information Report (FIR) against senior actor Nana Patekar and three others based on a complaint of sexual harassment lodged by actress Tanushree Dutta, the Oshiwara police on Thursday began investigations into the 10-year-old case.

Ahead of summoning Patekar and three others accused — choreographer Ganesh Acharya, producer Samee Siddiqui and director Rakesh Sarang — for questioning, the police will record the statements of witnesses in the case in the coming days on the incident that took place on the sets of a film on March 26, 2008.

"Before summoning Patekar and other accused in the case for questioning, we will first record the statements of the witnesses in the case," a senior police officer investigating the case said.

Accompanied by her lawyer Nitin Satpute, Tanushree visited the Oshiwara police station on Wednesday night and recorded her statement in continuation of a written complaint that she had lodged with the same police station on October 6.

After she recorded her statement, the Oshiwara police formally registered an FIR against Patekar and three others under sections 354 (Assault or criminal force to women



with intent to outrage her modesty), 354-A (Assault or use of criminal force with intent to disrobe her) and section 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of Indian Penal Code.

In a related development, the Oshiwara police are looking into the complaint lodged against Patekar by Tanushree on October 6 under sections 354 (Assault or criminal force to women with intent to outrage her modesty), 354-A (Assault or use of criminal force with intent to disrobe her) and section 509 (word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman) of Indian Penal Code.

Talking to media persons after actress-client recorded her statement, Satpute said: "After our insistence, the police recorded my client's statement in English instead of Marathi. We wanted the police to record her statement in English as we did not want a repeat of what

happened ten years ago". In 2008, Tanushree's father Tapan Kumar Dutta had filed a complaint with the Oshiwara police and nothing much had been done on the complaint then.

On behalf of Tanushree, her lawyer also submitted a 40-page statement on the incident to the police and also the Maharashtra State Women's Commission (MSWC).

In her complaint lodged with the police on October 6, Tanushree has alleged that the incident took place on March 26, 2008 during the shooting of a song in the film "Horn Ok Pleaseee". The entire was to be picturised on the actress, while Patekar had only line in the song. She said that before the shoot, she had made it clear to the producer and director that she would not enact or perform any lewd, vulgar or uncomfortable steps in the particular song.

"On the 4th day of the shoot, 26th March 2008, while shooting was going on, Nana

Patekar's behaviour was inappropriate towards me. He was on the set despite his work in the song being over and he was grabbing me by the arms and pushing me around on the pretext of teaching me how to dance. When he was teaching indecently and unnecessarily, then I felt very uncomfortable because of his behaviour and I felt he has outraged my modesty," Tanushree alleged.

"He (Patekar) told the choreographer and other junior artists to back away so that he could teach me the dance steps through he was not a choreographer and he was not required during the choreography as per my previous rehearsals," the actress added.

"After the incident, I was under tremendous shock, I suffered psychological trauma, was unable to take up work, suffered huge monetary losses in crores and therefore I decided to take action through film industry by lodging a written complaint with the Cine and TV Artists Association. The Association decided the matter and passed the order without considering my complaint for apology," Tanushree stated in her police complaint.

In her complaint, Tanushree had also named choreographer Ganesh Acharya, producer Samee Siddiqui, director Rakesh Sarang and some MNS workers who allegedly damaged her car and pulled her out of her car, as co-accused.

## No woman should ever be subjected to any kind of misbehaviour, says Big B

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Days after he dismissed lightly and chose not to comment on the Tanushree Dutta-Nana Patekar row, senior Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan on Thursday broke his silence on the ongoing "Me Too" movement, by saying that "no woman should ever be subjected to any kind of misbehaviour or disorderly conduct, especially at her work place".

As he turned 76, Bachchan posted an interview on his twitter handle in which he said: "No woman should ever be subjected to any kind of misbehaviour, or disorderly conduct, especially at her work place. Such acts should immediately be brought to the notice of concerned authorities, and corrective measures be taken, either through filing complaints or a recourse to law".

"Discipline and civic, social and moral curriculums, should be adopted at a very early educational level. Women children and the weaker sections of our society are the most vulnerable. They need to be under special protective care," Big B said, in reply to a question.

"It has been most heartening to see women representations in most work vocations, on the increase in our country. It would be an irreparable blemish if we are not able to provide them the welcome they deserve and the dignity of the security of their presence," the senior actor said.

It may be recalled that Bachchan had come in for severe criticism after he made light of a question on the allegations of sexual harassment made by Tanushree Dutta against Nana Patekar, by saying: "Neither is my name Tanushree nor is it Nana Patekar so how can I answer your question?".

Early this week, Bachchan's daughter-in-law and actress Aishwarya Rai Bachchan had voiced her opinion on the "MeToo" movement at an event. "I have always spoken out, I spoke in the past, I am speaking now, and I will continue to speak. When it comes to helping women find their voice, find the strength, feel confident about sharing their stories, it's not about the current time. This has been going on since a lot of time and I am glad it has found a certain momentum today," Aishwarya had said.

## Some people keep wives as trophies: Kangana on Hrithik

TN RAHGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Revisiting her old spat with Hrithik Roshan, actress Kangana Ranaut on Thursday slammed her ex-boyfriend-actor by saying that "people who keep wives as trophies and young girls as mistresses should be boycotted".

"There are men who make false promises of love and marriage to a girl to get them into a relationship that is also a type of harassment. There are married men who keep their wives as trophies and keep young girls as their mistresses like Hrithik... They lure young beautiful girls with the promise of marriage and later try to prove them mad. Nobody should work with such people. They should be boycotted," Kangana told a news television channel.

Justifying the treatment being meted out to film maker Vikas Bahl, a former member of the now dissolved Phantom Films who has been accused of sexual harassment by a couple of actresses, Kangana said: "There are many people like Vikas Bahl, he is not the only one. We still have a lot of work to do so, we should not start the

celebrations as yet. We have a long way to go. We have to make this place (world) absolutely safe for woman".

Kangana's comments against Hrithik came three days after the 44-year-old actor tweeted: "It is impossible for me to work with any person if he/she is guilty of such grave misconduct. I am away and have access to only sporadic information. I have requested the producers of Super 30 to take stock of the apparent facts and take a harsh stand if need be. This is not to be hushed or brushed under the carpet. All proven offenders must be punished and all exploited people must be empowered and given strength to speak up."

Hrithik's comment came in respect of Bahl, who is the director of Super 30, a biopic on the life of mathematician Anand Kumar and his educational programme Super 30.

Incidentally, Kangana's Queen co-star Nayani Dixit had accused Bahl of sexual misconduct. After a reported affair between the two during the filming of Krishi 3, Kangana and Hrithik have been engaged in a legal war.

## ISRO centre to come up in Jammu

Jammu: The Indian Space Research Organisation will set up a centre at the Central University Jammu (CUJ) to expand its presence to the northernmost State of India.

ISRO Chairman K Sivan signed memorandums of understanding with CUJ Vice Chancellor Ashok Aima and officials of Central Space Instruments Organisation (CSIR-CSIO) to set up the centre on Thursday.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh was present during the signing of the MoUs at CUJ campus in Samba.

The centre, named Satish Dhawan Center for Space Science, is proposed to be spread on an area of about 1,150 square metres.

The area of space application is of particular interest to Jammu & Kashmir as its economy and human lives are affected by vegetation cover, forest area, snow, landslides, avalanches, ground water, cloud cover, which can be monitored from space through remote-sensing.

Also, considering the recurring natural calamities, requirement of strengthening ground-based observational capabilities of this region for weather and atmospheric research is of utmost importance.

The centre will take care of the emerging geospatial and space technology requirements for the development of the region.

Union Minister Singh said the collaboration between ISRO and CUJ was a landmark achievement for Jammu & Kashmir.

Saying that ISRO would become a pan-India organisation with the establishment of the centre, he urged the youth to develop scientific temper and interest in space research.

# Slipper misses target Nitish

PNS ■ PATNA

A slipper was thrown at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Thursday when he was attending a JD(U) students wing programme Chhatra Sangam at Babu Sabhagar here. The slipper thrown by a youth, however, did not reach the target and fell on the ground below the podium.

The incident created a sensation as it happened despite presence of a crowd of party workers, youths and students. This is the first time that such incident took place with the CM in Patna.

The youth was in no time pinned down by the party workers and security personnel and taken to police station but after a good thrashing by the party workers. He was identified as Chandan from Aurangabad and he reported-



Police detain an unidentified man who threw a slipper at Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar during Virat Chhatra Sangam in Patna on Thursday

ly told the police that he was in favour of reservation to upper castes and supported Swarn agitation.

The chappal was thrown soon after the CM with other dignitaries sat on the podium. Bihar JD(U) president Bashistha Narain Singh and

Energy Minister Bijendra Prasad Yadav were sitting on his either side but at that moment both were looking other side. Only Nitish who was setting his hairs, which were disturbed following garlanding, with the fingers of his both hands. He looked at the

flying chappal and its fall but continued with what he was doing.

Neither the CM nor any other leader mentioned this incident. Nitish in his speech told the students that knowledge of politics during student life is must because they have to do politics at state or national level. But, he added, it did not mean that they should quit studies and pursue only politics.

"The standard of today's politics has badly fallen and degraded. Politics without ideology is a social sin. Without principled politics country could not be run on path of progress," said Nitish while hailing the philosophies of Gandhi, Lohia, Jaya Prakash Narayan and Karpoori Thakur. The programme was organised to mark the birth anniversary of JP.



A woman labourer plucks tea leaves at a tea garden in Assam on Thursday

## Rahul Gandhi's HAL meet in Bengaluru cancelled

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

A rally to highlight the plight of the defence PSU Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) in view of the controversy over HAL missing the contract to produce Rafale fighter jet by the State Congress Party has been cancelled. The State Congress had announced that on his visit to Bengaluru on Saturday Congress president Rahul Gandhi will visit HAL and address the employees. However Gopal Sutar, Chief of Media Communications, HAL told reporters on Thursday, "There is no communication on Rahul Gandhi's meeting with the HAL employees in Bengaluru."

Rahul was slated to meet HAL employees in Bengaluru on 13 October. Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee president Dinesh Gundu Rao had said Rahul will talk to the employees of the HAL about the controversial deal and also address a rally in Bengaluru. However on Thursday Dinesh Gundu Rao denied Rahul Gandhi is coming to meet HAL employees but said he will hold

a discussion. He said "Event is being held by some people to hold a discussion on Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd's contribution to India, anyone can participate in it including HAL employees. He's not coming to meet HAL employees."

Rahul Gandhi had ridiculed union Government's flagship Skill India campaign as "S-Kill India" and alleged ₹30,000 crore was "stolen" from HAL in the Rafale deal and given to a man with "no skills" to make an aircraft. The Congress has been accusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi of snatching jobs of the people of Karnataka by taking away the contract from HAL. Rahul had been saying that had HAL been selected in place of Reliance Defence it could have generated employment to scores of unemployed youth in the State.

The BJP has dismissed all allegations as false. Modi had announced the procurement of 36 Rafale fighters after holding talks with then French president Francois Hollande on 10 April, 2015, in Paris.

## 'Lalu Leela' may ruffle many political feathers in Bihar

FAIZAN AHMAD ■ PATNA

The much publicised book *Lalu Leela* authored by Deputy CM Sushil Kumar Modi was released on Thursday on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Loknayak Jaya Prakash Narayan. Incidentally, both Lalu and Modi were disciples of JP and product of his anti-corruption movement.

But the book has documented "corrupt" practices of Lalu and amassing of huge wealth and assets by him and his family. Lalu and his wife Rabri Devi remained Chief Minister uninterrupted for 15 years. Later on Lalu was Railway Minister in UPA 1 under Manmohan Singh for five years.

"Lalu Pariwar is a Ghotala pariwar. He continued with his corrupt practices despite going to jail and convicted in fodder scam. He implicated his entire family in corruption. Tejaswini



Prasad Yadav was just a kid when all these corruptions took place," said Modi at the book launching function where several senior BJP leaders and Union Ministers were present. The BJP is also likely to use this book in next election against main rival RJD.

Modi has alleged that for making Ministers, MPs and legislators Lalu asked his partymen

to donate him acres of land. Those who complied included Raghunath Jha and Kanti Singh, both former Union Ministers, said Modi with documentary evidences. In order make black money white Lalu coerced Lalan Choudhary, a BPL person, railway khalasi Hridayanand Choudhary and landless persons Prabhunath Yadav, Chandrakanta Devi and Subhash Choudhary. The documents showed these people gifted their precious lands in the name of Lalu's kin, said the BJP leader.

Modi further said that to amass benami land, Lalu misused his family as well as the families of his married daughters and transferred the landed properties through them after himself purchasing the plots in their name and later transferred in the name of his kin.

"Lalu left behind Robert Wadra in using shell companies

for grabbing properties. He amassed properties not only for wife, next and daughters but their next three generations. Lalu is the name of the greed for amassing more and more assets," said Modi.

Hours before the release of the book the Government intensified security of Sushil Modi. Both Nitish and Modi were present at another function and the CM was seen calling the Senior SP and DM of Patna and gave them necessary directives.

There was no reaction from Lalu family on this book. Leader of Opposition Tejaswini Yadav who has a knack of tweeting on every issue also remained silent. Bihar RJD president Ram Chandra Purbe said the book was a bunch of lies. "Modi is using name of Lalu only to remain in the limelight. The world knows that Lalu is the man always ready to take on RSS and BJP," he said.

# Cong alleges Guj Dy CM opposing migrant students

NAYAN DAVE ■ GANDHINAGAR

Due to the episode of attacks on migrant labourers following rape of an infant allegedly by a Bihari worker, 'politics over migrants' has begun in Gujarat as Congress and its allied organisations are now making allegations on Deputy Chief Minister Nitin Patel for opposing migrant students.

Right from the first attack on Hindi-speaking workers, the ruling BJP is blaming on Congress party and its MLA from Radhanpur constituency Alpesh Thakor for provoking locals to spread terror among the migrant labourers. Some provocative speeches of Thakor have also become viral in which he has been seen spitting venom against the migrants for taking jobs of Gujaratis.

Over the past one week, Alpesh was on explaining mode, but now his sup-



porters belonging to 'OBC, ST, SC Extra Manch' have come on retaliation mode over the migrants issue alleging that in the past Gujarat's Deputy Chief Minister

Nitin Patel had opposed for giving admission to students of other states in Gujarat's medical colleges.

"If Patel could oppose students from

other States, he can also go against migrant workers. He is spreading the poison of regionalism in order to become Chief Minister," claimed vice-president of OBC Ekta Manch Mukesh Bhavard, adding that the attacks on migrants are nothing but outcome of internal conflicts in Gujarat BJP. The Ekta manch is headed by Thakor.

Congress MLA from Bayad in North Gujarat Dhavalsinh Zala said that Gujarat Government could have started helpline when migrants were being attacked apart from relief camp in order to stop their exodus. Gujarat Pradesh Congress Committee (GPCC) spokesman Jayrajsinh Parmar alleged that in the year 2015 Nitin Patel had stated that poverty in the State increased due to those people who migrated from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. "This mentality of Patel clearly indicates that he is anti-migrants," he added.

## Repentant Alpesh on Sadbhavana fast

PNS: After inciting violence by his provocative speech against migrant labourers, repentant Congress MLA on Wednesday initiated Sadbhavana fast. Alpesh Thakor has also invited Chief Ministers of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to join him saying that Gujarat's image is being tarnished and hence he decided to go on Sadbhavana fast. He also claimed that there was no attack on migrant labourers but some people are creating panic using social media. "Neither me nor the social organisations in which I am associated would ever support regionalism," said Alpesh.

## Allegation on Dy CM baseless: Chudasama

PNS: Reacting fast on allegations made against Dy CM Patel, Gujarat's senior Minister Bhupendrasinh Chudasama said that all the allegation made against Patel were baseless as Nitinbhai is leader of everyone residing in Gujarat.

"From the beginning Congress is known for divisive politics. Everyone in Gujarat knows that who is provoking violence against migrants as the names revealed in crimes against labourers either associated from Congress or Alpesh led organisations," said Chudasama, alleging that Congress MLA Alpesh Thakor is trying to disturb peaceful environment of the state as his anti-migrants speech provoked people to attack on Hindi-speaking workers. According to him any citizen of India has right to work in Gujarat along with the local employees as per their eligibility and skills.

# Terrorist who was Geology scholar shot in Kashmir

KHURSHED WANI ■ SRINAGAR

Security forces on Thursday shot dead a top-ranking Hizbul Mujahideen terrorist Mannan Bashir Wani along with an associate in north Kashmir's Kupwara district while unknown gunmen shot dead a separatist activist in southern Shopian district.

Wani was emerging as a popular terrorist across the Valley for his educational background and scholarly discourses he had recently engaged himself in.

The separatists have called for a shutdown across the valley on Friday to mourn Wani's killing while several mainstream leaders including former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti have regretted his death.

Sources said Wani and his associate were trapped in a residential house in Shatgund Bala village in Mawar belt of north Kashmir's Kupwara district early on Thursday. The area was cordoned off by troops of 30 Rashtriya Rifles and counterinsurgency police on a specific input that led to exchange of fire.

Police said two terrorists were killed in the shootout and one of them was identified as Mannan Bashir Wani, who joined the terrorist ranks last year after quitting his doctoral research in geology department of Aligarh Muslim University. Wani had written two articles in past three months explaining his decision to quit studies and joining the separatist movement in Kashmir.

The authorities filed a case against a news gathering agency that published



his first article on website. The agency later pulled the article down. Wani circulated his second article through social media, which became an instant hit.

Soon after the news about the death of two terrorists spread, violent clashes erupted in parts of Kupwara and Handwara.

The authorities announced closure of schools and colleges in north Kashmir parts and several restive pockets of south Kashmir.

Wani's associate who died in the gunfight was identified as Ashiq Hussain Zargar, a resident of Tulwari village in Langate.

Sources said that tens of thousands of people joined the funeral prayers of the slain terrorist who was ranked among the most-wanted cadre of Hizbul Mujahideen outfit.

The Joint Resistance Leadership (JRL), a grouping of separatist leaders Syed Ali Geelani, Mirwais Umar Farooq and Yasin Malik called for a valley-wide shutdown on Friday to mourn Mannan

Wani's death. "Alas! heard the tragic news of #MananWani's Martyrdom and of his associates! Deeply pained that we lost a budding intellectual and writer like him, fighting for the cause of self-determination. JRL appeals to people to observe a complete #Shutdown tomorrow to pay homage to him," Mirwais wrote on twitter.

Former Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti termed the killing as "loss" and urged to resolve the Kashmir issue through dialogue with all stakeholders including Pakistan.

"Today a PhD scholar chose death over life & was killed in an encounter. His death is entirely our loss as we are losing young educated boys every day," she said.

"It is high time that all the political parties in the country realise the gravity of this situation and try to facilitate a solution through dialogue with all the stakeholders including Pakistan to end this bloodshed," Mehbooba wrote in another tweet. Wani took up arms during Mehbooba led PDP-BJP coalition in the state.

Legislator Sheikh Rashid said the killing of Mannan Wani negates Governor Satya Paul Malik's claim that we should focus on eliminating militancy rather killing terrorists. Rashid represents Langate constituency where the encounter took place.

"Rather celebrating the killing and using bullets and pellets to disperse thousands of protesters at the encounter site, the Government should introspect as to what forces masses to play with their lives," he said.

# TMC keeping close watch on BJP Yatra preparations

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

Aware of the saffron outfit's alleged "nuisance value" the Trinamool Congress Government is keeping close watch on the preparations for the proposed BJP Rath Yatras in December. According to the ruling party sources local leaders to the panchayat level have been alerted about the kinds of mischief that can take place during the Yatras.

Though the BJP will not be able to derive any special mileage from such yatras in Bengal, "our workers have been asked to keep a close vigil because this is an election year," State Minister Firhad Hakim has said.

Party leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sukhendu Shekhar Roy has also said that the Yatra would be a failure in a politically seasoned State like Bengal.

"Earlier yatras were take out under the leadership LK Advani. But it was not successful in Bengal. This time also it will fail here as the people of Bengal do not like communal politics," Roy said.

Another leader and Minister Sadhan Pandey said Bengal still cherished its renaissance values and would never allow outlandish philosophy to make home in State politics. "Bengal is a different ball game; that they will soon understand. People of this State will just reject such communal gimmicks," Pandey said.

When asked whether the Government was keeping watch on elements who might try to ignite communal flare, a senior leader and Minister said "no mischief will be tolerated and those who commit them will be shown their places."

With the 2019 general elections less than a year away the BJP has decided to take out three Rath Yatras in the State. These Yatras will be led by top BJP leaders including party president Amit Shah, Assam Chief Minister Sarwananda Sonowal and his UP counterpart Yogi Adityanath.

While Shah will lead his Yatra from Birbhum, the UP Chief Minister will start his Yatra from Ganga Sagar Islands. The third Yatra will start from Coochbehar in Northernmost Bengal bordering Assam and will be led by the Chief Minister of the neighbouring State.

"The Yatras will be taken out in protest against Trinamool Congress' reign of terror, its appeasement policy and continuing infiltration through Bangladesh border," BJP State leader Samik Bhattacharya said.

The Yatras will end up in Kolkata and eventually culminate into the proposed mega rally scheduled to be held at the historic Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata. The date of the rally which will be addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has however not been given by the party.

# Kiran Bedi vows to desilt entire irrigation channel network

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

While V Narayanasamy, the Chief Minister of Puducherry is campaigning against her day in and day out alleging that Kiran Bedi, the Lieutenant Governor is not cooperating with the Government in implementing welfare measures, the under-terred Bedi is going around the Union Territory making sure that the infrastructure works are implemented and the entire region is maintained neat and clean.

A day after Narayanasamy went public over Bedi's refusal to increase the age limit to 24 of police constables under clause 3 of the Police Recruitment Rules, the Lieutenant Governor launched a massive programme with the assistance of a corporate group to desilt the entire irrigation channels in Puducherry.

The project named "Mission Puducherry Water Rich" will ensure that the cleaning and desilting of all the 23 irrigation channels would be implemented with the active cooperation of donors.

"This will save the Government crores of rupees while the donors will be honoured with Swachchhta Hi



Sewa Awards on this year's Diwali Eve," said a release from Bedi's office.

Desilting the 11.3 km long Sellangal Feeder Canal at a cost of ₹7 lakh would revitalize six villages and 900 acres of farm lands would get irrigation potential. This will also improve the ground water table for agriculture sector as well as the industrial hub.

The Lt Governor launched the desilting works on Thursday by performing the traditional Bhumi Puja and asked the donors to make sure that the desilting works be completed before the commencement of the monsoon.

She also asked the engineering authorities of Tamil Nadu Government who were present during the function to extend cooperation to their counterparts in the union territory for the speedy completion of the works

# K'taka Minister N Mahesh resigns

KESTUR VASUKI ■ BENGALURU

The coalition Government of JD(S) and Congress in Karnataka suffered a major jolt on Thursday as primary and Higher education Minister N Mahesh has resigned from HD Kumaraswamy Cabinet.

N Mahesh is the only BSP MLA from Kollegala constituency and became Minister in HD Kumaraswamy's Cabinet. Just four months after formation of a fragile coalition Government of JD(S) and Congress led by HD Kumaraswamy, Mahesh resigned giving personal reason. The formation of coalition Government in Karnataka also became a short-lived Opposition unity called

Mahaghatbandhan which fizzled out later as both BSP supreme Mayawati and SP came out against the Congress. After his resignation he also said he would continue to support JD(S) and not the Congress.

According to sources Mahesh resigned from the Cabinet after Mayawati asked him to resign as it was against BSP's principal to be part of any power with the congress. Mahesh had a meeting with Mayawati on Tuesday and it was much anticipated. According to sources he would be contesting from Chamarajanagara reserve constituency against Congress in the ensuing general elections in 2019.

In political circles the news is abuzz that it was a political

plot created by Devegowda to control the warring congress and its leader Siddaramaiah.

Sources close to Chief Minister Kumaraswamy said Mayawati asked him to drop Mahesh, as he'd made unwanted comments that it's because of him that the BSP won a seat in Karnataka. The CM didn't act on that. Today, she instructed Mahesh to step down.

In another development former Prime Minister and Janata Dal (S) National President HD Devegowda has said the Opposition parties joining hands against the BJP had begun in Karnataka, BJP formation of a grand alliance against the saffron party at the national level was highly doubtful.

# Rape accused should be burnt alive: Woman Cong MLA from Guj

AHMEDABAD: In the wake of the alleged rape of a 14-month old girl in Gujarat two weeks back, State Congress MLA Geniben Thakor has said that rape accused should be burnt alive instead of being handed over to police.

A video in which the woman legislator is purportedly seen telling this to a group of women went viral on Thursday. However, Thakor clarified that she was just trying to pacify the women as they were anguished over the rape of the 14-month old girl from Thakor community.

Thakor represents Vav seat of Banaskantha district. In the video captured on a mobile phone inside a house yesterday, the MLA is seen surrounded by some agitated women.

"In India, everyone has to pass through the process of law (to get justice). But, whenever such incidents happen, 50-150 persons should come together and burn him (rape accused) alive on the same day.

Finish him, don't hand him over to police," Thakor is seen telling the women.

In her explanation, Thakor said she was only trying to calm down the women, who were moved by the rape of the toddler near Himmatnagar town of Sabarkantha district on September 28.

The accused, a native of Bihar was arrested by police on the same day. "The video was shot inside my residence. That was not a public rally or a press conference. I said those words in order to pacify some 100 women visitors, who were upset due to the rape incident. There was no other intention," said Thakor.

# Guv wins applause at TN event

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ CHENNAI

Banwarilal Purohit, Governor of Tamil Nadu, literally left the rationalists and atheists Dravidian politicians in the State spellbound on Thursday by participating in the Thamarabarani Mahapushkaram, a religious event held once in every 144 years.

Governor Purohit who was the chief guest of the inaugural event of the rare festival described it as one of the great historical and cultural events in the country. He also emphasised the importance commanded by the rivers across the country because they are the ones which stress the cultural unity of India.

"Thamarabarani River is inextricably linked with the history of Tamil language, Tamil culture and the history of Indian sub continent from time immemorial. Throughout the history of mankind, rivers have played the central role in sustenance. We see the rivers not only as a source of water but rever them as Gods. The celebration of Pushkaram covers the holy rivers of Sindhu and Saraswati in Western India to Brahmaputra in Eastern India to Ganges and Yamuna in Northern India to Narmada, Godavari and Tunga-Badra in Central India and to Kaveri and Thamarabarani in South India. These pushkarams have been happening from time immemorial stressing the cultural unity

of our country over thousands of years," said the Governor.

Driving home the relation between the pushkaram and astronomical changes, Purohit pointed out that it was connected to the transit of the planet Guru to various Rasi (zodiac signs). "The Pushkaram festival takes place on 12 major holy rivers, corresponding to the Hindu zodiac signs, during the transit of Guru Bhagavan from one Rasi to another, every year," said Purohit. He also demolished

the claim of the Dravidian parties that the south India is a separate entity with distinct culture, literature and history. "Sage Agasthya was the first one to create grammar for Tamil followed by his disciple Tholkappiar. So it may be apt to describe the age of Tamil is same as that of the age of Thamiarparani. We also find references of Thamiarabarani in Ramayana, Mahabharata, Kalidasa's Raghuvamsa, works of Varahamihira and in Sangam literature," said Purohit.



An elderly woman during a visit to Durga Puja pandal in Kolkata on Thursday

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**DGM (Materials)-AR**  
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NB : Any updates / amendment / extension of NIT will only be hosted in above websites.

# Girl students in Bihar's Saharsa face eve-teasing

Panchayat order: Won't go to school unless safety is ensured

Saharsa (Bihar): A village panchayat in the district has ordered no girls would go to schools or colleges unless their safety is ensured, after three girls were allegedly harassed on their way to their coaching classes, police said on Thursday.

Two persons have been arrested in connection with the alleged misbehaviour with the girls, in a second instance of harassment of female students reported from the State within a week.

Saharsa Superintendent of Police Rakesh Kumar said the incident was reported at Ekpadha village where a group of men allegedly misbehaved with girls who were going to their coaching classes on their bicycle.

When two brothers of one of the girls tried to put up a resistance, they were also beaten up by the accused, the district police chief said.

Following the incident, which took place on October 4, the village panchayat decreed that unless and until adequate security measures were taken, girls would not be allowed to attend colleges and coaching classes, the SP said.

"So far two of the accused have been arrested while a

search was on for two others," Kumar said.

He also said as many as 17 college girls from the village are said to have been affected by the panchayat decree and the police and district administration were trying to convince their guardians to allow them to resume studies.

Earlier last week, in the adjoining district of Supaul, 30 girl students of a school were thrashed by villagers when they objected to some boys scribbling obscenities on the wall.

Nine persons, including three women, were arrested in connection with the assault on the girls who had landed in a hospital and are said to be still in a state of shock and averse to resume school.

PTI

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General public is hereby informed that a body of male namely Laxman, S/o: Sh. Ram Khilawan, R/o: Unknown, was found unconscious on 23.09.2018 at 08:38 AM Safdarjung Hospital, where during the treatment Doctors declared him dead on 03.10.2018. In this regard DD No.7A, dated 03.10.2018 has been lodged at Police Station, South Campus, Delhi. Identification of dead body of male is as under:

**Name: Laxman, Age: 75 Years, Height: 5'5", Complexion: Wheatish, Hair: Black & White, Injury: Injured, Identification: Mole on right side on neck, Wearing: Red Colour T-Shirt and Blue Colour Jeans.**  
If anyone have any information or clue about this male deceased may kindly be inform undersigned.

SHO  
Police Station, South Campus, Delhi  
Ph.: 011-26177179, 7065036223  
DP/6604/SW/18

**Uttar Pradesh New and Renewable Energy Development Agency, (UPNEDA)**  
(Deptt. of Additional Sources of Energy, Govt. of U.P.)  
Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow-226010  
Mob. No. 91-9415609909, Tel.Fax: 0522-2720779 & 2720829  
Website: [www.upneda.org.in](http://www.upneda.org.in), E-Mail: [upseca.upnsda@gmail.com](mailto:upseca.upnsda@gmail.com)

**Uttar Pradesh State Energy Conservation Award-2018**  
To promote Energy Conservation activities in State of Uttar Pradesh; UPSDA (Govt. of UP) have declared Energy Conservation award 2018 for sectors mentioned below. Organizations/industries, who have achieved reduction in Energy Consumption during 2017-18 in comparison with 2016-17, by adopting Energy Efficiency measures, can participate for the award in their respective sector.

- The Energy Conservation Awards are open for following sectors:
1. Industries General Category (having connected load 1MW and above, except Thermal Power plant, Sugar and Fertilizer)
  2. Industries General Category (having connected load less than 1MW)
  3. Thermal Power Plant
  4. Fertilizer
  5. Sugar Industries
  6. Private Buildings (Shopping Malls/ Plazas/Corporate Offices etc. excluding hotels/hospitals)
  7. Government Buildings (Central/ State Government offices, Government Agencies/Corporation etc. excluding Govt. hotels /Govt. hospitals)
  8. Hospital (having connected load 100 KW and above)
  9. Hotel (having connected load 100 KW and above)
  10. Educational Institutions
  11. Banks (Financial Institutions)
  12. Architects

Architects, who have designed energy efficient buildings, can participate in Architect Sector. Banks, who have financed Energy Efficiency/ Conservation projects, can participate in Bank Sector.  
For further detail regarding Sectors, Awards, Eligibility Criteria; Information Brochure & the application form can be downloaded directly from website [www.upneda.org.in](http://www.upneda.org.in). Last date for submission of award questionnaires-2018 through email is 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018. All Participants are also requested to join Energy Saving Campaign on [www.upsavesenergy.com](http://www.upsavesenergy.com). Director, UPNEDA (UPSDA)

## UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one male namely Unknown S/o Unknown R/o Unknown age 40-45 yrs approx. was found dead at Haiderpur Water Treatment Plant, Rohini, Delhi on 20.09.2018. In this regard a DD No.

24-A dated 20.09.2018 has been lodged at PS K. N. Katju Marg, Delhi. The description of the dead male is as under:- Age: Approx. 40-45 yrs., Sex: Male, Height: About 5'8", Wearing: Grey Colour Underwear. If anyone having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO  
PS K. N. Katju Marg, Delhi  
DP/2254/RD/18 Ph.: 011-27571162, 8750870327

## APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION

General Public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of Male Age: 25 to 30 years, Height: 5'6", Complexion: Shallow, Hair: Black, Injury Mark: Injured, ID Mark: "PV and" Tattoo on right hand, Wearing: Cream coloured stripped shirt and grey coloured capri, was found dead on 30-09-2018 at towards Domestic Airport red light Palam. In this regard a FIR No. 230/18 u/s 279/304A IPC dated 01.10.2018 has been lodged at P.S. Delhi Cantt., Delhi.

If any one having any clue about the deceased male may kindly inform the undersigned and contact on following numbers.

SHO  
P.S. Delhi Cantt., Delhi  
Ph. No.: 011-25694444, 25963161  
Mob. No.: 7065036229  
DP/6603/SW/18

**GURU GOBIND SINGH INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY**  
(Established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi)  
Sector-16 C, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110 078  
Website: [www.ipu.ac.in](http://www.ipu.ac.in)

## NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

The Executive Engineer, University Works Division, GGSIPU, Sector 16 C, Dwarka invites on behalf of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University item rate tenders for following work(s):

**Name of Work : A/A GGSIP University, Dwarka Campus, New Delhi**  
**Sub Head : Covering of Open storm water Drains in University**  
**NIT No. : 19/EE/UWD/Civil/2018-19 (Second Call)**  
**Estimated Cost : Rs.5,70,577/-**  
**Time of completion : 30 days,**  
**EMD : Rs. 11,412/-**

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in> and [www.ipu.ac.in](http://www.ipu.ac.in). Last date of submission of bids is 26/10/2018.

EE/UWD



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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Rafale blows over

Supreme Court's request to Government for details on the Rafale deal sans price and technicals deflates the row

The Supreme Court yesterday asked the Government to reveal how it selected the Dassault Rafale as India's next frontline fighter jet. But by not insisting on the process of the aircraft's technical and price evaluation, it has effectively given the Government a pass on the allegations of a scam in the process. Of course, the Opposition is still using a document released by an obscure French journal to buttress its claim that there was impropriety in the selection of the Anil Ambani-led Reliance Defence to be the main offset partner, and how Hindustan Aerocon Limited (HAL), the Government's defence public sector unit (DPSU), was ignored, there has been a failure to acknowledge that all these 36 aircraft will in essence come to India in flyaway condition. It is also now becoming a sight concern whether other fighter-jet manufacturers, which were jilted at the selection stage, are egging on the Opposition in order to get the contract cancelled.

Thankfully, training for Indian Air Force pilots, who will fly the Indian Rafales, have started in earnest in France. Despite the Prime Minister praising the abilities of the Indian Air Force in a recent episode of *Mann Ki Baat*, the fact is that India's Air Defence and aerial offensive capabilities are a horrendous patchwork of antiquated systems and insufficient aircraft. The Rafale will not be the panacea that some expect it to be, and we need to purchase many more aircraft. As for the charges that the Government has not given HAL work, this Government has to its credit pushed harder for the indigenous Tejas light combat aircraft than any Government in the recent past. As for 'arming' work out to the private sector instead of DPSUs like HAL, it should also be remembered that India is still the world's largest arms importer, and has until recently failed pretty badly in building a defence domestic arms industry. It could be sensibly argued that India's massive arms imports are a leading cause of India's trade deficit and a contributor to the fall of the rupee.

Of course, that does not preclude the fact that there are questions that the Government needs to answer on why one particular private contractor was preferred over others. The Government's defence of the deal has been haphazard and ill-tempered and the bickering between Government Ministers and Rahul Gandhi on the deal has been downright juvenile most of the time. Will the Supreme Court's decision to take a look at Government papers change all that? One hopes so, but it will certainly have a dramatic political fallout one way or another, but as it stands right now, the Opposition's single point agenda on Rafale is crippled and might not have a leg to stand on shortly. Maybe now the country can look at more important issues like the state of the economy.

**50 WORD EDIT** A stitch in time  
India's weather warning system may not be as bad as one would have thought. Thanks to the IMD's warning, Odisha as well as neighbouring States are well-prepared and bracing for Cyclone. Note given that administrations had proper advance notice thanks to the IMD. Of course authorities must check, re-check and double-check measures.

## Haley's orbit

Indian-origin US politician Nikki Haley is thought to be seriously considering running for President; at some point

With the first Indian-American to hold a Cabinet position in the US as well as the first Indian-American to be named as the United Nations high commissioner (she is to depart office by the end of the year), a star out of the Republican Party and of the Donald Trump administration is political orbit. And nobody seems to know which path her future political orbit will take. While some seem to have put dropped bread crumbs that she is looking at lucrative private sector assignments come the new year, speculation persists that it is her political career which remains her abiding passion and focus. While Haley seemed to put speculation to rest that she would challenge Trump for the Republican nomination for President in the next election in her resignation letter, iterating that she would "not be a candidate for any office in 2020", the murmurs are resurfacing to die down around the political plans of the former Governor of South Carolina.

Haley is a backstory that grass-roots Republicans are enthralled with — the child of Indian Sikh immigrants from Stateside who integrated completely with the American mainstream while retaining pride in her cultural roots. She made her way up the political ladder on her own steam. First marked out as a rising star by Republican elders when she served as a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives, she was the second Indian-American to take office as Governor of the State after fellow Republican Bobby Jindal. Her big moment and coast-to-coast media exposure, however, came when she was chosen to deliver the official response of her party to then President Barack Obama's State of the Union Address in January 2016. When Trump swept to a shock victory in the November 2016 US Presidential poll, she was a sho-in for an important Cabinet post. Her stand on issues — a strong supporter of America first, a proponent of an integratorist model of multiculturalism including a nod to the US' Judeo-Christian heritage albeit fuelled by waves of immigration and known to be uncompromisingly known for her tough stand on America's trade disputes as well as strategic issues not excluding the use of force such as in the stand-off with North Korea in 2017 — is a much better fit with that of the Republican establishment than Trump's. The fact that Haley quit just ahead of crucial mid-term elections, though she was effusive in her praise of the President, is also being seen, though desire not to be associated with the Trump legacy and style of politics. Which begs the obvious question — why? Our guess is she may run for President in 2020 anyway but will definitely do so if Trump decides not to run for a second term or is blocked by traditional Republicans from doing so. Otherwise, there are always 2024; Haley is only 46 years old.

# #MeToo movement: A spark or fire?

The outpouring of testimony from women who have undergone harassment and abuse has been powerful. But this must not be the end of it all. The MeToo campaign must lead to structural change

whose response to the movement is. Why now? The fact is that this power dynamic mismatch that all probably did not let women come forward as their aggressors would get away, this is why some possible reasons. It could be many other reasons, such as trauma caused to the victim etc.

As someone who is not a victim of this form of harassment, it will be unfair of me to comment on the #MeToo movement. However, it could be in any case, what we must remember is that it should be absolutely irrelevant why we should wait this long to come forward. But we should be glad that women now do feel as if their stories of horror. They have had to stay silent for much too long, but now that they have come forward, the least we can do is listen. As empowering as the #MeToo movement is, it is not a silver bullet. It is a spark rather than a fire that moulds lasting change. I am aware that these are depressing words and while I am completely in support of the movement, my hope is that the #MeToo movement can be a catalyst for change, but not the end of the story. While I may not be able to personally identify with the agony of the victims, sexual



harassment, like a number of social evils, is a state and hope to offer some insights on how it can be better tackled.

For starters, actions are classified as crimes when there is adequate social pressure to deter people from committing such acts. In the case of harassment and sexual assault, the amount of pressure and attention that is given to tackling these acts is a decent indicator as to how these social evils are viewed by our society. With respect to crimes against the body and the untabooed increase in the frequency of such crimes, it is obvious that our society does not treat these acts with the degree of seriousness that a decent society should.

There is a stigma that is attached to the victim, which in turn discourages reporting of such cases. Therefore, since the society itself is not at a stage where these crimes are treated as a crime, it is important to have structures that enable serious examination of crimes against women.

One way in which this can be done is to create a safe space for women to report such crimes. While the police force is the primary agency for the registration of FIRs, this would help in two ways. First, it

daily important because most forms of sexual harassment are known to the women, which means there is a high probability of such instances occurring at work.

It is also important for employers to be aware of the legal implications of their actions. For example, a rapist would in all probability have molested many women before attempting to rape them. Private organisations, therefore, can help check their employees' conduct. This could serve as a deterrent to the offender.

To conclude, it is imperative to use this momentum of #MeToo so as to encourage structural change. In this regard, I read this article and was struck by the following points:

In response to this, the person tweeted that the person who was harassed should talk about how there are instances where men are being unfairly targeted in some cases under the #MeToo movement.

It is important to have a more systematic and transparent process of reporting such incidents. However, based on my discussions with people, employees are often unaware of such a committee being in existence in an organisation. It is important for employers to take the initiative to set up such a committee and sexual harassment at work and encouraging greater conversation on this issue. This is especially important for women who are in a leadership position. (The writer is *Harshvard PCC, President, former MP and IIS officer. Views are personal*)

## Parenting our future generations

It's about time we encouraged our children to dream big and aspire. Only then can we hope to see the rise of the next generation of leaders.

It is about time we encouraged our children to dream big and aspire. Only then can we hope to see the rise of the next generation of leaders. The writer is a senior journalist.

## Happy feet, Jaipur style

The Jaipur Foot has not only changed the prospects for millions of disabled people across the world but has also improved people connectivity and helped India project its soft power

Jaipur Foot's life-changing abilities... The Jaipur Foot has not only changed the prospects for millions of disabled people across the world but has also improved people connectivity and helped India project its soft power.



Plaster of Paris and equipment like grinders, cutters, pipes and ovens. This helps fit the amputee within hours of being measured.

Not only has it earned India a global reputation, it has also become a case study in South-South cooperation. The Jaipur Foot has not only changed the prospects for millions of disabled people across the world but has also improved people connectivity and helped India project its soft power.

## NOT ONLY HAS IT EARNED INDIA GOODWILL GLOBALLY, IT HAS ALSO BECOME A CASE STUDY IN SOUTH-SOUTH COOPERATION

Having seen the change among the seven men, who had fitted by the Jaipur Foot in 2017, BMVSS, and its partner, Spark Minda Foundation (SMF) to help the poor and disabled people of India and normally holds about 50 fitment camps in a year in different districts and remote areas of the country. It provides more than 6000 prosthetic feet every year. The Jaipur Foot has not only changed the prospects for millions of disabled people across the world but has also improved people connectivity and helped India project its soft power.

It began in 2017, when the Jaipur Foot saw the plight of the disabled people of the Hattingha villages along the Line of Control, who had lost their legs in landmine explosions or firing by Pakistan. Having heard about the

## Uganda's 'Ghetto President' has won many hearts

Museveni who is in the saddle for the last 32 years, has won many hearts across the world. He is a leader who has won the hearts of many people.



Yoweri Museveni, the 37th President of Uganda, has won many hearts across the world.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**NATURE'S BLESSING**  
Sir — Yet another cyclone, Till, the strongest to have formed over the Bay of Bengal, has hit Odisha and its neighbouring States at a time when the dear and loss of thousands of lives in Karnataka has passed into oblivion. The most fearful fact about Till is that it is power-packed with a wind speed of 145-165 kmph, which means it is a super-cyclone. It has already been along its trail. Though high alert has been sounded, and precautionary measures have been put in place, there

**TIME-BOUND COMPLAINT**  
Sir — There can be no denial to the fact that working women usually face sexual harassment at their workplace. It is also a bitter reality that women generally do not have the courage to report such incidents to the authorities. The MeToo campaign has given them the courage to speak, though its too late.

**SHADAB CHETANI**  
Send your feedback to: [letterstopioneer@gmail.com](mailto:letterstopioneer@gmail.com)

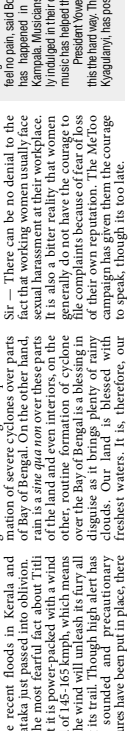
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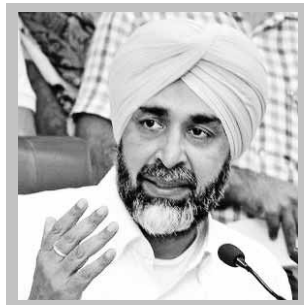
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**There are 161 countries where GST has become law. But the way India designed its GST, I would actually give it 2 out of 10. I am part of the GST Council and ever since the rates were discussed, my own feeling is the model which India is following is actually the most complex in the world. Similarly, growth has also not picked up. Obviously there is something wrong**  
**Manpreet Singh Badal,**  
**Finance Minister, Punjab**

## BUZZ FROM GOVT

**India was not independent when the first and second industrial revolution happened. When third industrial revolution happened, India was struggling with challenges of just attained independence. Emerging fields, including artificial intelligence, machine learning, internet of things, blockchain, and big data can take India to new heights of development, and improve the quality of life of its citizens**  
**Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India**



# Sensex sinks over 750 pts; Nifty below 10,300

## GLOBAL MARKET TUMBLES AFTER TRUMP'S FED REMARK

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The BSE Sensex slumped over 750 points to end at a six-month low and NSE Nifty ended below the 10,300 mark Thursday as global indices witnessed across-the-board losses after investor sentiment was hit by heavy sell-off in world markets.

The 30-share index, which commenced with a gap down opening, cracked over 1,000 points, breaching the 34,000-mark and hit a low of 33,723.53, before staging a partial recovery to touch a high of 34,325.09 in afternoon trade.

The gauge finally ended 759.74 points, or 2.19 per cent, lower at 34,001.15. This is the lowest closing since April 11.

It had gained 461.42 points Wednesday.

Similarly, the NSE Nifty settled at 10,234.65, down 225.45 points, or 2.16 per cent.

It moved between 10,138.60 and 10,335.95 in day trade.

"This sell-off is part of the global sell-off triggered by the sharp cut in the mother market US," said VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist at Geojit Financial Services.

This is leading to capital outflows from emerging markets (EMs) like India. Apart from the rising bond yield in the US and EM currency woes, there are global trade skirmishes impacting the sentiment, he added.

"While most of the earlier fall could be attributed largely to domestic factors, the reason for Thursday's fall is clearly global with the US markets falling sharply after President Trump's acerbic comments against the Federal Reserve and the consequent sharp fall witnessed in all the major Asian markets," said Dheeraj Singh, Head of Investments - Taurus AMC.

In an unprecedented criticism by a serving US President, Trump said the Federal Reserve had gone crazy after the Dow Jones Industrial Average in New York tumbled by over 800 points on Wednesday, the biggest decline in more than seven months.

Among the Sensex pack,

state-run lender SBI was the biggest loser, plunging by 5.74 per cent, followed by Tata Steel 4.60 per cent.

Stocks of IT bellwether TCS fell 3.10 per cent ahead of September quarter earnings to be released later on Thursday.

Other laggards included Vedanta, M&M, Infosys, Adani Ports, Bharti Airtel, Tata Motors, HDFC, IndusInd Bank, Sun Pharma, Bajaj Auto, ICICI Bank, L&T, Kotak Bank, Maruti Suzuki, Hero MotoCorp, Coal India and ITC, falling up to 4.45 per cent.

Axis Bank, HDC Bank, RIL, Wipro, NTPC, Asian Paint, PowerGrid and HUL also retreated up to 1.45 per cent.

In contrast, ONGC was the top gainer in the Sensex kitty, rising 2.86 per cent, while Yes Bank gained 2.54 per cent.

Stocks of oil marketing companies were in a better shape on falling global crude oil prices. HCLPL, BPCL, ONGC and IOC ended up to 14.70 per cent higher.

Airline stocks continued their rising streak for the second day after the government on Wednesday cut excise duty on jet fuel to 11 per cent to give relief to the aviation industry.

# 4th Industrial Revolution to change nature of jobs, says PM Modi

## IN 2014, 59 PANCHAYATS WERE CONNECTED WITH OPTIC FIBRE, PRESENTLY 1 LAKH ARE CONNECTED

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday allayed fears of job loss due to technological development, saying the '4th Industrial Revolution' will change the nature of jobs and provide more opportunities.

Speaking at the launch of the World Economic Forum (WEF) Centre for the Fourth Industrial Revolution, he said his government is open to policy changes to help reap benefits of the fourth industrial revolution.

"Our diversity, our demographic potential, fast-growing market size and digital infrastructure has potential to make India a global hub for research and implementation," he said.

While the previous indus-

trial revolutions eluded the country, India's contribution to the 4th Industrial Revolution would be astonishing, he said.

"India was not independent when the first and second industrial revolution happened. When third industrial revolution happened, India was struggling with challenges of just attained independence," he said.

Artificial intelligence, machine learning, Internet of Things, blockchain and big data hold potential to take India to new heights, the Prime Minister said.

Reeling out the achievements of his Government, Modi said telephony has increased to 93 per cent and nearly 50 crore Indians now have mobiles.

India is the largest mobile data consuming country in the world and also the one with the cheapest data rates, he said, adding mobile data consumption has increased 30 times in four years.

Over 120 crore Indians have Aadhaar, he said, adding work to connect all the 2.5 lakh village panchayats with optic fibre would be completed soon.

In 2014, only 59 panchayats were connected with optic fibre while presently 1 lakh are connected, Modi said.

# 'Govt will not ask OMCs to further subsidise petrol, diesel prices'

## SUBSIDIARY ON OIL PRICES WAS ONE TIME THING: OFFICIAL

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Allying concerns about the return of fuel subsidy regime, a top Finance Ministry official on Thursday said the Government asking oil PSUs to subsidise petrol and diesel prices by ₹1 per litre was a "one-time thing" and it does not intend to ask them to do it again.

While oil marketing companies will continue to enjoy marketing freedom, upstream oil producers like ONGC would not be asked to share fuel subsidy burden, he said.

Just last week, the Government had cut excise duty on petrol and diesel by ₹1.50 per litre and asked state-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) to subsidise the two fuels by another ₹1 a litre.

But most of the ₹2.50 per litre reduction in rates effected from October 5 has been lost in increases in selling prices on subsequent days, giving rise to the suspicion that the Government may again ask OMCs to subsidise fuel.

"The ₹1 absorption by

OMCs in their pricing was a one-time thing," the official said.

The Government, he said, has no intention of asking them to do that again.

Following the comments, shares of OMCs surged by as much as 19 per cent intra-day, defying the broader market trends. Shares of HPCL surged 19 per cent to hit a high of ₹215.40, BPCL jumped 7 per cent to ₹284.80 and IOC gained nearly 8 per cent to ₹134 in intra-day trade.

The benchmark BSE Sensex fell 759.74 points to close at 34,001.

The cut in excise duty and OMCs absorbing some prices had led to a drop in the price of petrol from a record high of ₹84 per litre to ₹81.50 in Delhi and that of diesel from an all-time high of ₹75.45 to ₹72.95 a litre on October 5. But rate hikes on subsequent days have pushed prices up.

Petrol has risen by 86 paise per litre since then and diesel by ₹1.67, negating the entire excise duty reduction in less than a week. Petrol price in Delhi on Thursday stood at ₹82.36 per cent while diesel was priced at ₹74.62.

The official said the Government is also not looking at bringing back the subsidy sharing mechanism where upstream firms like ONGC subsidised cooking fuels LPG and kerosene by giving dis-

counts on crude oil they sold to refiners.

Oil and Natural Gas Corp (ONGC) shares surged to ₹159.60 during intra-day trade on the BSE before ending at ₹152.90, up 2.86 per cent.

Oil producers ONGC and Oil India Ltd had till June 2015 made good as much as 40 per cent of the under-recoveries or subsidy arising out of selling fuel at below market price. It was speculated that the same subsidy sharing in some form may be brought back.

According to Moody's Investors Service, share prices of state-owned oil companies have declined around 20 per cent on average since the government on October 4 announced a reduction in the country's fuel prices.

The aggregate market capitalisation of the six largest listed Government owned/linked oil companies had fallen by 1.2 lakh crore since then, it said.

"The share price decline is credit negative for the oil companies because of the high level of cross-shareholdings in one another. The market values of their respective investments have declined, reducing their financial flexibility," it said in a report on Thursday. Shares of HPCL closed up 14.70 per cent at ₹207.15. BPCL was up 5.11 per cent at ₹278.65 and IOC ended 5.39 per cent higher at ₹131 on the BSE.

# 15TH ANNUAL SPORTS MEET 2018 OF IP UNIVERSITY OPENS

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The 15th Annual Inter Collegiate Sports Meet - 2018 of IP University was opened at the main sports ground of the campus by renowned athlete of the country Padmashri Gurubachan Singh Randhawa here on Thursday. He is the first Indian athlete of the country to be honoured with prestigious Arjuna Award.

Addressing the august gathering on the occasion as a chief guest, he said the

University has come a long way in the field of sports despite being a technical institution. This culture of sports in the University must be continued, he further said.

In the March Past event, Army Institute of Management and Technology was adjudged as winner.

Registrar of the University, Satnam Singh, Director - Students Welfare CS Rai, Proctor Anup Singh Beniwal and other senior officers and faculty members were present on the occasion.

# Mahindra signs strategic partnership agreement with Castrol India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Mahindra & Mahindra, part of Mahindra Group and Castrol India, an automotive and industrial lubricant manufacturing company in the country, on Tuesday signed a new strategic partnership agreement. Under the aegis of this agreement, Mahindra will endorse a range of Castrol products which include aftermarket engine oils and transmission fluids for Mahindra tractors under the brand, "Mileage Ka Master" (MKM).

The agreement was signed by Hemant Sikka, President & Chief Purchase Officer, Powerol & Spares Business, Mahindra & Mahindra Limited and Omer Dorman, Managing Director, Castrol India Limited at a ceremony held in Mumbai.

Commenting on the partnership at the signing event, Hemant Sikka President & Chief Purchase Officer, Powerol & Spares Business, Mahindra & Mahindra Limited said, "We are pleased to join hands with Castrol, the leading lubricants brand in India. Both the companies are considered market leaders in their respective sectors - having constantly delivered innovative and pioneering technology to provide unique and differentiated offerings to customers and consumers. We look forward to partnering with Castrol and benefitting from their strong reputation, high quality products and wide-spread distribution network pan India through its over 1 lakh strong retail outlets. Objective is to capture unmet need of customers to use recommended fluids by OEMs".

# Nokia launches 3.1 Plus & Reloaded Nokia 8110 mobile phones

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

HMD Global, the home of Nokia phones, on Thursday announced the Nokia 3.1 Plus in India, a smartphone which goes big on content experiences thanks to its 6-inch HD+ display and a weekend busting two-day battery life. Nokia 3.1 Plus is the most affordable Nokia smartphone with a dual-camera and is the latest device to join the Android One family, delivering the best of Google with monthly security patches.

The company also launched the Nokia 8110, which will now be available in India. Reloading the legendary Nokia 8110, this 4G feature phone comes complete with the elegantly curved slider design, giving you the knowledge that all your smartphone essentials are there when you need them, yet you are switched off, have fun and relax.

With a familiar and easy to use interface, the Nokia 8110 features intuitive tactile mechanics, with slide to answer and end calls, as well as an addictive helicopter-style spin on its axis.

# IT Min gets over 400 responses on draft personal data protection Bill

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The IT Ministry has received more than 400 responses from companies, industry bodies and Government departments on the draft personal data protection Bill, and will take stock of suggestions before its proposed introduction in Parliament, according to a senior official. The deadline to submit suggestions on the government's draft personal data protection bill closed on Wednesday.

An official, who did not wish to be named, said the IT Ministry will start systematically analysing and crystallising the responses now, following which, it will further consult related stakeholders and certain ministries like Law and Justice.

The official said some of the responses talk of how the language of the draft bill can be tightened to avoid its multiple interpretation in the future, and added that some suggestions were around the costs surrounding mandatory localisation or storage of data, that the bill proposes.

Many global industry bod-

ies have contended that data localisation proposed in the draft bill could have "significant negative effects" on the ability of companies to do business in India.

The ministry hopes to take stock of all the feedback over the next 1.5 months and give final touches to the draft by November-end, for its subsequent introduction in Parliament.

Parliament is expected to convene for the winter session in November-December.

The official said that a number of ministries and departments, including Corporate Affairs, Social Justice and Women and Child Development, and Youth Affairs have also sent in their feedback.

The draft personal data protection bill was crafted by a high-level panel headed by Justice BN Srikrishna, and was submitted to IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad in July-end.

The draft bill moots "explicit consent" for processing 'sensitive personal information' like religious or political beliefs, sexual orientation and biometric details.

# IL&FS default shows ABS servicer continuity risk: Fitch

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Recent defaults by Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS) have highlighted the continuity risks of the country's asset-backed security (ABS) servicers, Fitch said in its report on Thursday.

It further said the failure of IL&FS has significantly undermined market sentiment towards the country's non-bank financial institution (NBFI) sector and their ABS issuance.

Transaction flow has stalled and there is a rise in yields on the securitisation notes of NBFIs, it added.

IL&FS and its subsidiaries are facing liquidity crisis and have defaulted on several debt repayments recently.

According to the rating agency, IL&FS was not itself a counterparty to any internationally rated ABS notes, but NBFIs act as the originators and servicers for most Indian ABS transactions.

**Govt. of Bihar**  
**Department of Art, culture & Youth**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Vikas Bhavan (New Secretariat)**  
**Patna - 800 015**  
**Bihar Museum Society, Patna**

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING SECURITY SERVICES (Ex-Army Personnel only for BIHAR MUSEUM SOCIETY, PATNA.**

Sealed tenders are invited from reputed agencies under "Two-bid" system - Technical Bid (un-priced) and Financial Bid (priced) to provide SECURITY SERVICES (Ex-Army Personnel only) for Bihar Museum Society, Patna (An Autonomous Organization under the Department of Art, Culture & Youth, Govt. of Bihar, Registered under Societies Registration Act, 21, 1860).

Detailed information of the Tender Document can be downloaded from the website <http://yac.bih.nic.in> or <http://prdbihar.gov.in>. The bidder has to submit non-refundable tender processing fee of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees five thousand five hundred only) and Bid Security Fee of Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Only) through demand draft in favour of BIHAR MUSEUM SOCIETY, PATNA, payable at Patna along with the Technical Bid. Bid Security money will be returned to the all unsuccessful Agencies after 30 days of finalization of the tender. Tender Document complete in all respects in a sealed envelope is to be submitted by Speed Post/Registered Post only at the Office of the Director, Bihar Museum, Bailey Road, Patna - 800001. **No tender will be accepted by courier or by hand.** The tenders received late/tenders without Processing Fee/Conditional tenders/Incomplete Tenders in any respect would be rejected. The Director, Bihar Museum, Patna reserves the right to accept or reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason.

**Important Dates for the selection process:**

(i) Date for pre-bid conference - 23/10/2018 at 3.00 p.m.

(ii) Last date for submission of Tender - 20/11/2018 up to 03.00 p.m.

(iii) Date of opening Technical Bid - 22/11/2018 at 04.00 p.m.

(iv) Date of opening Financial Bid - Will be informed.

**Venue for pre-bid Conference:** Pre-bid Conference for appointment of Agency for providing Security Services (Ex-Army Personnel only) for Bihar Museum Society will be held at the office of the Director, Bihar Museum, Bailey Road, Patna-800001.

**(Yusuf) Director Bihar Museum**  
 PR.9996 (Art & Culture) 2018-19

आओ सब मिलकर बात करें, बद हो देखें, शुरूआत करें।

**हरियाणा सरकार**

**TENDER NOTICE**

SR. NO.	NAME OF DEPARTMENT	NAME OF WORK/NOTICE/TENDER	OPENING DATE CLOSING DATE	AMOUNT (APPROX.)	WEBSITE
1	PWD B&R, NARNAUL 01282-251267 pwd-eeepd-narnaul@hry.nic.in	CONSTRUCTION OF ANTYODYA BHAWAN AT NARNAUL IN MOHINDERGARH DISTRICT.	21.10.2018	11.07 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
2	PWD B&R, HISAR 01662-225651 pwd-eeepd-hisar@hry.nic.in xenelect.pwd.hisar@gmail.com	RENOVATION AND ALTERATION OF SCIENCE MUSEUM BUILDING FOR ANTYODYA BHAWAN IN DISTT SIRSA	12.10.2018 22.10.2018	4.93 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
3	PWD B&R, KARNAL 9996016545 pwd-sekarnal@hry.nic.in	CONSTRUCTION OF ADDITIONAL TWO LANE HL BRIDGES PARALLEL TO EXISTING BRIDGES OVER W/OH KARNAL.	09.10.2018 29.10.2018	969.36 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
4	PWD B&R, YAMUNA NAGAR	RE-INVITE WIDENING FROM LADWA MUSTAFABAD ROAD TO MAHMOODPUR VIA JANKALPUR	12.10.2018 28.10.2018	113.68 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
5	CIVIL SURGEON, SONEPAT 0130-2218407, 9466393725	PROVIDING SUPPORT SERVICES, ADDITIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES & SECURITY SERVICES AT COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER GANAUR	09.10.2018 20.10.2018	5.20 CRORE	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>
6	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, NARNAUL	DETAILED ESTIMATE FOR LAYING OF C.I. D/F PIPELINE IN LIEU OF EXISTING D.I PIPELINE WHICH COME ACROSS THE PROPOSED RUB AND ROB AT LC-53 ON NIZAMPUR- NANGAL CHOUHDARY ROAD + 4 OTHER WORKS	12-10-2018 23-10-2018	37.86 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
7	PUBLIC HEALTH ENGG, AMBALA CANTT., 0171-2531402 cemambala@phedharyana.gov.in	PROVIDING & INSTALLING OF 2 NOS. OF DEEP TUBEWELL AT VARIOUS FLUORIDE AFFECTED VILLAGES AT NIRJAN AND BUDHA KHERA OF DISTT. JIND.	09.10.2018 19.10.2018	19.75 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
8	PANCHAYATI RAJ, KATHAL	CONSTRUCTION OF ANGANWARI CENTRE + 5 OTHER WORKS	09.10.2018 29.10.2018	47.79 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
9	PANCHAYATI RAJ, AMBALA 9467870724, 0171-2580510 prexenglec.amb@hry.nic.in	PGD. E.I. WORK IN COMMUNITY CENTRE AT VILLAGE SHYAMTOO DISTT. PANCHKULA +1 OTHER WORK	11.10.2018 23.10.2018	1.79 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
10	PANCHAYATI RAJ, NARNAUL 9812711163, 01282-260296 prexeng.nri@gmail.com	CONST. OF I.L.P.B. STREET	12.10.2018 01.11.2018	64.27 LACS	<a href="https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in">https://haryanaeprocurement.gov.in</a>
11	IRRIGATION DEPTT, HARYANA, NARNAUL	SUPPLY, ERECTION & COMMISSIONING OF 15 TON CAPACITY EOT CRANE MAIN HOISTING COMPLETE GEAR BOX ASSEMBLY AT PUMP HOUSE MC-4 OF M/GARRH CANAL + 2 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 22.10.2018	12.03 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>
12	IRRIGATION DEPTT, HARYANA, AMBALA 0171-2520259	REHABILITATION OF V.T. PUMPS MOTORS STARTER & L.T. PANELS AGAINST OLD PUMPS OFF TAKES OF KANWALA DISTY + 3 OTHER WORKS	CLOSING DATE 25.10.2018 & 17.10.2018	197.29 LACS	<a href="https://etenders.hry.nic.in">https://etenders.hry.nic.in</a>

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION KINDLY VISIT : [www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in](http://www.haryanaeprocurement.gov.in) or [www.etenders.hry.nic.in](http://www.etenders.hry.nic.in) | R.O. No. 72757 Dt. 11-10-2018



# TCS net profit up 22.6% to ₹7,901 crore in Q2

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The country's largest software exporter TCS on Thursday reported a 22.6 per cent jump in consolidated net profit at ₹7,901 crore in the July-September 2018 quarter, buoyed by strong demand for digital services.

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) had posted a net profit of ₹6,446 crore in the same period last fiscal, the company said in a statement.

The Tata group company saw a revenue growth of 20.7 per cent at ₹36,854 crore in the September quarter, up from ₹30,541 crore a year ago. Its earnings per share for the quarter was at ₹20.66.

TCS CEO and MD Rajesh Gopinathan said, "We are very

pleased with our all-round strong performance in Q2. Revenue growth was driven by expanding demand for digital transformation across verticals, and continued acceleration in banking, financial services and insurance (BFSI) and retail."

N Ganapathy Subramaniam, chief operating officer and executive director at TCS, termed the September quarter as a "good" one and said there was a strong demand in areas like analytics, cloud and automation.

The company has declared a dividend of ₹4 per share.

The net employee addition in September 2018 quarter was at 10,227 professionals, highest in 12 quarters, the company said. Total employees strength

at the end of Q2 stood at 4,11,102 on a consolidated basis.

IT services attrition rate was steady at 10.9 per cent on last 12 months basis.

Shares of TCS fell by over 3 per cent on Thursday ahead of its second quarter earnings to be announced later in the day.

The stock declined 3.10 per cent to close at ₹1,979.75 on BSE. During the day, it slumped 4.89 per cent to ₹1,943.05.

At NSE, shares of the company went down 2.37 per cent to end at ₹1,995.

In terms of equity volume, 3.58 lakh shares of the company were traded on BSE and over 47 lakh shares changed hands at NSE during the day.

# Recoveri enters India with USD 10 million investment

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

South Africa-based micro tag Smaker Recoveri on Thursday announced entry in India with investment of USD 10 million by next year.

The company is mainly targeting automobile segment for tagging four and two-wheelers with microdots — 1 millimetre square grain size dots which carry unique number code linked to chassis of vehicle — Recoveri CEO Philip Opperman told reporters here.

The company sprays 15,000 microdots on critical components inside vehicle which can be traced with help of an ultra-violet torch and the number can be read with the help of a magnifier.

"We have earmarked over-

all investment of USD 10 million which will be done in India over a period of next one year. Major part of it will be used in setting up a microdot production factory in Manesar (Haryana)," Opperman said.

The company has partnered with Delhi-based firm Falcon to market its product in the country.

"We have had discussion with automotive component makers body ACMA for a pilot project that will commence in a fortnight. Component makers are keen to use microdots to check sale of duplicate products," Opperman said.

He said the government was working on draft regulation to prevent theft of vehicles, which once finalised would boost business of the company.

# GMR Infra arm signs pact with APGDC for piped natural gas supply

New Delhi (PTI): GMR Infrastructure on Thursday said its arm Kakinada SEZ had inked a pact with Andhra Pradesh Gas Development Corporation (APGDC) for supply of piped natural gas.

"Kakinada SEZ, a subsidiary of GMR Infra, signed a MoU with APGDC to get access to piped domestic natural gas for its upcoming 10,500-acre zone," the company said in a filing to BSE.

With this development, Kakinada SEZ would be the first zone on the eastern coast of India to provide piped natural gas to all its industrial units.

The zone, which is located on the Vizag-Chennai Industrial Corridor, offers 8,521 acre of industrial land with another 1,879 acre earmarked for a Greenfield commercial port.

"This unique development will be a boon for gas dependent industries like ceramics, glass, fertilisers and chemicals in this region. Since gas constitutes a major portion of their costs, a 30-40 per cent saving on gas price will yield significant competitive advantage.

"This is expected to attract significant overseas and domestic investments, giving a boost to 'Make in India' and 'Sunrise Andhra Pradesh' initiatives," Kakinada SEZ CEO Challa Prasanna said.

# QUICK TAKES

## TVS MOTOR LAUNCHES UPDATED VERSION OF ITS SCOOTER WEGO

New Delhi: TVS Motor Company on Thursday launched a refreshed version of its scooter Wego priced at ₹53,027 (ex-showroom Delhi). The new version comes with new features including a 20-litre utility box, sporty wheel-rim stickers, pass-by switch and a maintenance free battery. "At TVS Motor Company, we have brought in interventions across our product portfolio based on evolving customer requirements. TVS WEGO is inspired by the youthful lifestyle of our target audience," Aniruddha Haldar, vice-president, marketing, commuter motorcycles, scooters and corporate brand, TVS Motor Company, said. The company is confident that this refreshed version of TVS Wego would resonate with the customers, he added. The 110-cc scooter comes with full metal body, advanced digital speedometer, among other features.

## FUTURE GROUP PARTNERS WITH VARDHMAN TO CO-DEVELOP PRODUCTS FOR APPAREL BIZ

New Delhi: Future Group has partnered with fabric brand Vardhman to co-develop products for its apparel business and plans to launch 6-7 products every year. Future Group will use Vardhman's fabric for products being sold across its formats such as FBB, Central and Brand Factory. "Apparel is a very important business for us and it is growing rapidly. We have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Vardhman Group to co-develop products for our apparel business. This strategic partnership will enable us to make quality fashion more affordable," Future Retail Joint Managing Director Rakesh Biyani said and added, "we plan to launch 7-6 products every year. Initially, the products will be for our value fashion format FBB. Later, we will launch these co-developed apparels at other Future Group apparel formats," he added. Biyani, however, did not disclose the financial details of the agreement. FBB had said it planned to invest ₹350 crore to open about 140 exclusive outlets as it aimed to double its turnover in the next two years. At present, FBB retails its products through 385 points of sales in Big Bazaar stores, including 62 exclusive outlets.

## ELI LILLY ENTERS AUTOIMMUNE SEGMENT IN INDIA WITH LAUNCH OF OLUMIANT

New Delhi: Drug firm Eli Lilly and Company on Thursday said it had entered the autoimmune segment in India with launch of Olumiant, a new once-daily oral therapy for treatment of rheumatoid arthritis. Olumiant is approved in more than 50 countries across the world, it said.

# India Ratings maintains stable outlook on cement sector

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) on Thursday maintained a stable outlook on the domestic cement sector for the remaining period of this fiscal.

The agency said it expected the overall demand conditions to remain stable for the

growth forecast across end-markets such as affordable housing, roads and irrigation sector, which would help in sustaining strong volumes. However, the growth in EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation) could be partially offset by rising input costs."

Over the last few quarters,

cement prices have remained stagnant despite a constant increase in fuel prices, Ind-Ra noted. With modest capacity additions of 4.2 mtpa (million tonne per annum) in ongoing fiscal, the utilisation is expected to improve.

It further said that with a minimum capacity addition in northern region and a stable

demand, the utilisation would remain constant.

Capacity utilisation in central region is expected to increase over the medium term on account of receding impact of sand mining issues, election season in central region states and improving utilisation level of Jaypee Associates Ltd's assets.

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## NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
HINDPETRO	177.35	216.4	176.15	210	29.3
IOC	122.9	133.95	120.5	131.15	7.15
BPCL	262	284.5	259.2	278.25	12.85
GAIL	328	352.7	327	350	13.65
YESBANK	222	268.95	216.65	241	7.1
ONGC	146.1	159.6	146.1	152.65	4.05
INFRAEEL	252.7	262.65	252	262.5	4.25
ZEE	448	479	434.65	463.95	4.15
HINDUNILVR	1,490.00	1,540.00	1,477.20	1,537.10	9.45
ASIANPAINT	1,201.00	1,221.50	1,190.45	1,220.00	-5.95
TECH	680	702.05	677.65	695.5	-3.8
POWERGRID	185.95	188.5	184.05	185.75	-1.4
WIPRO	308	315.45	304.85	313.5	-2.45
NTPC	162	165.7	161.3	162.85	-1.5
DRREDDY	2,412.05	2,516.00	2,408.00	2,458.40	-26.2
TITAN	764	798	754.55	780	-5.55
RELIANCE	1,064.00	1,114.75	1,043.00	1,090.00	-12.1
AXISBANK	555	585.8	550.1	582.3	-4.9
HDFCBANK	1,925.00	1,948.30	1,917.60	1,941.00	-26.15
HEROMOTOCO	2,877.00	2,934.90	2,846.40	2,879.95	-40.15
EICHERMOT	21,300.00	22,600.00	21,182.45	22,269.00	-313.35
MARUTI	6,800.00	6,950.00	6,705.20	6,886.00	-99.85
COALINDIA	268	274.5	265.05	268.45	-1.9
KOTAKBANK	1,100.00	1,120.00	1,107.95	1,117.95	-4.8
ITC	265	269.3	263.65	262.25	-4.85
L1	1,230.00	1,237.00	1,220.10	1,222.05	-8.6
TCS	1,985.00	2,013.00	1,941.00	1,995.00	-48.6
BAJAJ-AUTO	2,540.00	2,555.90	2,505.45	2,520.00	-61.8
INDUSINDBK	1,610.00	1,610.00	1,581.40	1,597.90	-40.05
ICICIBANK	310	315.45	304	312	-7.85
SUNPHARMA	590	603.25	582.7	598	-14.95
ULTRACEMCO	3,715.00	3,739.90	3,631.20	3,683.45	-94.55
UPL	609	622.4	590.2	606	-16.45
HDFC	1,690.00	1,724.10	1,675.70	1,684.00	-62.95
TATAMOTORS	180.65	187.75	178	182.5	-6.25
BHARTIARTL	289.95	294.8	282.25	285.25	-9.65
GRASIM	889	899	860	878	-31.85
CYFLA	627.5	633.8	613.05	617	-22.05
INFY	685	692.9	663.3	675.4	-25.6
HCLTECH	1,025.50	1,025.50	998	1,012.90	-38.9
ADANIPORTS	320	324.85	311.1	314	-31.3
JSWSTEEL	370	372.75	354.85	360.9	-15.9
BAJFINANCE	2,100.00	2,230.00	2,060.00	2,173.00	-97.95
VEDL	208	217.75	200	208.75	-9.4
M&M	747	756.5	715	730	-34.1
HINDALCO	216.9	221.6	211.1	216.4	-10.5
TATASTEEL	557	564	549.05	554.5	-29.15
SBI	268	271.5	260.6	261.7	-16.95
BAJAJFINSV	5,685.00	5,775.00	5,551.00	5,592.00	-369.5
IBULHSGFIN	919	935.5	860.65	889	-89.25

## BSE 500

SCRIP	Price	Abs Change	% Change	CGPOWER	39.3	-1.65	-4.03
CHAMBLFERT	137.75	-2.2	-1.57	CHAMBLFERT	137.75	-2.2	-1.57
CHEMNPETRO	246.5	8.75	3.68	CHEMNPETRO	246.5	8.75	3.68
CHOLAFIN	1112.4	-67.45	-4.91	CHOLAFIN	1112.4	-67.45	-4.91
CIPLA	617.75	-20.1	-3.15	CIPLA	617.75	-20.1	-3.15
COALINDIA	266.6	-5	-1.84	COALINDIA	266.6	-5	-1.84
COCHINSHIP	379.2	10.2	2.76	COCHINSHIP	379.2	10.2	2.76
COFFFEEDAY	248.1	-9.95	-3.86	COFFFEEDAY	248.1	-9.95	-3.86
COPAL	1099.1	46.45	4.41	COPAL	1099.1	46.45	4.41
CONCOR	593.7	-19.15	-3.12	CONCOR	593.7	-19.15	-3.12
COROMANDEL	382.15	-0.4	-0.1	COROMANDEL	382.15	-0.4	-0.1
CORPBANK	22.85	-0.1	-0.44	CORPBANK	22.85	-0.1	-0.44
COSKINGS	189.55	-4.5	-2.32	COSKINGS	189.55	-4.5	-2.32
CRISIL	1618.6	-0.8	-0.05	CRISIL	1618.6	-0.8	-0.05
CROMPTON	199.65	-3.1	-1.53	CROMPTON	199.65	-3.1	-1.53
CUMMINS	170.05	-1.55	-0.9	CUMMINS	170.05	-1.55	-0.9
CUNBIND	668.15	-18.85	-2.74	CUNBIND	668.15	-18.85	-2.74
CYIENT	636	-43.15	-6.35	CYIENT	636	-43.15	-6.35
DABUR	393.4	-12.35	-3.04	DABUR	393.4	-12.35	-3.04
DALMIABHA	2053.9	-81	-3.79	DALMIABHA	2053.9	-81	-3.79
DBCORP	186.35	-4.85	-2.54	DBCORP	186.35	-4.85	-2.54
DBL	525.35	-26.1	-4.73	DBL	525.35	-26.1	-4.73
DCBANK	151.7	1.35	0.9	DCBANK	151.7	1.35	0.9
DEEPAKFER	187.85	-0.7	-0.37	DEEPAKFER	187.85	-0.7	-0.37
DEVPANKI	248.45	-5.5	-2.17	DEVPANKI	248.45	-5.5	-2.17
DELTAACORP	211.25	-6.45	-2.96	DELTAACORP	211.25	-6.45	-2.96
DNABANK	14.3	-0.4	-2.72	DNABANK	14.3	-0.4	-2.72
DHANUKA	412.6	0.7	0.17	DHANUKA	412.6	0.7	0.17
HEIDELBERG	307.05	-3.85	-1.23	HEIDELBERG	307.05	-3.85	-1.23
HERITAGE	505.75	-0.7	-0.14	HERITAGE	505.75	-0.7	-0.14
HEROMOTOCO	2866.75	-47.65	-1.63	HEROMOTOCO	2866.75	-47.65	-1.63
KEI	394.5	-19.55	-4.84	KEI	394.5	-19.55	-4.84
KANSAAR	19.25	-0.4	-2.04	KANSAAR	19.25	-0.4	-2.04
KIRCON	229.75	-11.05	-4.59	KIRCON	229.75	-11.05	-4.59
KOTAKBANK	216.8	-10.35	-4.56	KOTAKBANK	216.8	-10.35	-4.56
KRIP	51.85	4.2	8.81	KRIP	51.85	4.2	8.81
KPRMILL	207.15	26.55	14.7	KPRMILL	207.15	26.55	14.7
KRBL	1008.35	-42	-4	KRBL	1008.35	-42	-4
KSC	108.35	-2.9	-2.6	KSC	108.35	-2.9	-2.6
KTKBANK	497.15	-15.9	-3.1	KTKBANK	497.15	-15.9	-3.1
KWALITY	128.3	-0.63	-4.98	KWALITY	128.3	-0.63	-4.98
L&TFH	12.01	-6	-44.7	L&TFH	12.01	-6	-44.7
LAKSHVILAS	79.65	-1.15	-1.42	LAKSHVILAS	79.65	-1.15	-1.42
LALPATHLAB	962.8	-5.8	-0.6	LALPATHLAB	962.8	-5.8	-0.6
LAOPALA	212.05	-5.15	-2.37	LAOPALA	212.05	-5.15	-2.37
LAURUSLABS	419.45	2.9	0.7	LAURUSLABS	419.45	2.9	0.7
LAXMIMACH	5688.75	-203.75	-3.46	LAXMIMACH	5688.75	-203.75	-3.46
LICHSGFIN	411.05	-17.85	-4.16	LICHSGFIN	411.05	-17.85	-4.16
LICHINDIA	419.6	-2.25	-0.53	LICHINDIA	419.6	-2.25	-0.53
LTI	1226.2	-26.15	-2.09	LTI	1226.2	-26.15	-2.09
LTTTS	1708.45	-87.2	-4.86	LTTTS	1708.45	-87.2	-4.86
LUPIN	837.75	-21.6	-2.51	LUPIN	837.75	-21.6	-2.51
LUXIND	1503.6	-9.5	-0.63	LUXIND	1503.6	-9.5	-0.63
M&M	730.2	-33.95	-4.44	M&M	730.2	-33.95	-4.44
M&MFIN	373.2	-32.9	-8.1	M&MFIN	373.2	-32.9	-8.1
MAGMA	108	-1.85	-1.7	MAGMA	108	-1.85	-1.7
MAHABANK	10.84	-0.28	-2.52	MAHABANK	10.84	-0.28	-2.52
MAHINDCIE	265.15	13.15	5.22	MAHINDCIE	265.15	13.15	5.22
MAHILE	410.75	-13.65	-3.22	MAHILE	410.75	-13.65	-3.22
MANAPPURAM	73.95	-0.15	-0.2	MANAPPURAM	73.95	-0.15	-0.2
MANPANSAND	96	-2.9	-2.93	MANPANSAND	96	-2.9	-2.93
MARICO	305.95	3.6	1.19	MARICO	305.95	3.6	1.19
MARUTI	6878.1	-133.05	-1.9	MARUTI	6878.1	-133.05	-1.9
M&MINDIA	70.45	1	1.44	M&MINDIA	70.45	1	1.44
MCX	745.65	48.25	6.92	MCX	745.65	48.25	6.92
MEGH	74.75	-1.4	-1.84	MEGH	74.75	-1.4	-1.84
MFSL	366.5	-11.9	-3.14	MFSL	366.5	-11.9	-3.14
MGL	789.3	1.45	0.18	MGL	789.3	1.45	0.18
MHRIL	199.85	-0.25	-0.12	MHRIL	199.85	-0.25	-0.12
MINDACORP	119.5	0.05	0.04	MINDACORP	119.5	0.05	0.04
MINDDAIND	303.3	-8.4	-2.69	MINDDAIND	303.3	-8.4	-2.69
MINDTREE	981.1	-26.05	-2.59	MINDTREE	981.1	-26.05	-2.59
MOIL	164.95	-3.75	-2.22	MOIL	164.95	-3.75	-2.22
MONSANTO	2613.25	34.6	1.34	MONSANTO	2613.25	34.6	1.34
MOTHERSUMI	229.3	-2.9					



# Rocket to space fails, crew safe



US astronaut Nick Hague and Russian cosmonaut Alexey Ovchinin

AP ■ BAIKONUR, KAZAKHSTAN

A booster rocket failed less than two minutes after launching an American and a Russian toward the International Space Station on Thursday, forcing their emergency — but safe — landing on the steppes of Kazakhstan. It was latest in recent series of failures for the troubled Russian space programme, which is used by the US to carry its astronauts to station. NASA astronaut Nick Hague and Roscosmos' Alexei Ovchinin were subjected to heavy gravitational forces as their capsule automatically jettisoned from the Soyuz booster rocket and fell back to Earth at a sharper-than-normal angle and landed about 20 kilometres east of the city of Dzhezkazgan in Kazakhstan. "Thank God the crew is alive," said Dmitry Peskov, the spokesman for Russian President Vladimir Putin, when it became clear that they had landed safely. He added that the president is receiving regular updates about the situation. NASA Administrator Jim Bridenstine, who watched the launch at the Russian-leased Baikonur cosmodrome along with his Russian counterpart, tweeted that Hague and Ovchinin are in good condi-

tion. He added that a "thorough investigation into the cause of the incident will be conducted." Hague and Ovchinin lifted off as scheduled at 2.40 pm on Thursday from Baikonur. The astronauts were to dock at the International Space Station six hours after the launch and join an American, a Russian and a German currently aboard the station. But the three-stage Soyuz booster suffered an unspecified failure of its second stage about two minutes after launching. Search and rescue teams were immediately scrambled to recover the crew, and para- troopers were dropped from a plane to reach the site quickly. While the Russian space program has been dogged by a string of launch failures and other incidents in recent years, Thursday's mishap marked the program's first manned launch failure since September 1983, when a Soyuz exploded on the launch pad. It was to be the first space mission for Hague, who joined NASA's astronaut corps in 2013. Ovchinin spent six months on the orbiting outpost in 2016. The astronauts were flown by helicopter to Dzhezkazgan and then by plane to Baikonur. Russian officials said they may spend the night in Baikonur before

being flown to Star City, Russia's space training center outside Moscow, the Tass news agency said. NASA posted pictures of Hague and Ovchinin undergoing a medical check-up at Dzhezkazgan's airport. One of the pictures showed Hague smiling and another had him sitting next to Russia's space agency chief Dmitry Rogozin. Flight controllers kept the three space station residents abreast of the situation after Thursday's aborted launch. "The boys have landed," Mission Control assured the International Space Station crew. Russian controllers told the space station astronauts that Hague and Ovchinin endured 6.7 times the force of gravity during their entry. There was no immediate word on whether the space station crew might need to extend its own six-month mission. Two spacewalks planned for later this month were off indefinitely, Hague was supposed to be one of the spacewalkers. Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Borisov said all manned launches will be suspended pending an investigation into the cause of the failure. He added that Russia will fully share all relevant information with the US.

# US investigators looking into missing Saudi writer: Trump

AP ■ WASHINGTON

President Donald Trump said on Thursday the United States is being "very tough" as it looks into a Saudi writer missing and feared murdered in Istanbul, adding "we have investigators over there and we're working with Turkey" and with Saudi Arabia. Trump spoke on "Fox & Friends" about Jamal Khashoggi, 59, a government critic who disappeared a week ago after entering a Saudi consulate in Turkey. The wealthy former government insider wrote columns for *The Washington Post*, including some critical of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman. He'd been living in the United States in self-imposed exile. Turkish officials say they fear Saudi Arabia killed and dismembered Khashoggi but offered no evidence. Saudi royal guards, intelligence officers, soldiers and an autopsy expert were part of a 15-member team from the kingdom that targeted Khashoggi, Turkish media reported Thursday. "We want to find out what happened," Trump said. "He went in, and it doesn't look like

he came out. It certainly doesn't look like he's around." The president did not provide details on a U.S. investigation. Asked about a Washington Post report that U.S. intelligence intercepts outlined a Saudi plan to detain Khashoggi, Trump said, "It would be a very sad thing and we will probably know in the very short future." The Post, citing anonymous U.S. officials familiar with the intelligence, said Prince Mohammed ordered an operation to lure Khashoggi from his home in Virginia to Saudi Arabia and then detain him. Saudi Arabia has called the allegation it abducted or harmed Khashoggi "baseless." It has offered no evidence to support its claim the writer simply walked out of its consulate and vanished despite his fiancée waiting outside for him. Decades of close U.S.-Saudi relations, which have only intensified under Trump, appeared in jeopardy by the suggestion of a carefully plotted murder of a government critic. Trump on Thursday described the relationship as "excellent."

# GLOBE TROTTER

## TRUMP MOCKS #METOO MOVEMENT

Washington: US President Donald Trump has mocked the #MeToo movement, saying that the campaign made it improper to use the phrase "the person who got away". Trump's claim that #MeToo prevents him from using the phrase is his latest volley against the movement, which became a force after sexual assault allegations against Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein surfaced last year.

## THAI TO DEPORT 70 PAK ASYLUM SEEKERS

Bangkok: Thai authorities convicted 70 Pakistani asylum seekers of staying illegally in Thailand despite their protestations they face persecution if they are sent home, as police intensify a crackdown on illegal immigration.

## ASIA TOPS WB RANKING ON SUPPORT FOR KIDS

Nusa Dua: Asian nations got the highest marks in a World Bank ranking launched names and shames countries on how much they invest in their own children, saying neglect was dooming millions to sub-par lives.

## MELANIA: I MIGHT BE 'MOST BULLIED PERSON'

Washington: First lady Melania Trump says she could be "the most bullied person" in the world. She made the remark during a television interview in which she promoted her Be Best initiatives, which take on online bullying.

## TRUMP'S UK VISIT USED 10,000 OFFICERS

London: British police chiefs say security for US President Donald Trump's visit in July involved almost 10,000 officers and cost nearly \$24 million, making it the biggest police operation since riots swept England in 2011.

## US SEEKS TO 'DISTURB' XINJIANG POLICIES: CHINA

Beijing: China accused the US of seeking to "disturb" its security policies after a US congressional report said Beijing's mass internment of Muslim minorities may constitute "crimes against humanity".

# Return to Pak, there are good docs here: SC CJ to Musharraf

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

There are good doctors in Pakistan, Supreme Court Chief Justice Saqib Nisar told Pervez Musharraf on Thursday as he directed the Dubai-based former dictator to appear before the apex court to record his statement in the treason case against him. General (ret'd) Musharraf, 75, who has been living in Dubai since 2016, is facing the treason case for suspending the Constitution in 2007. The former army chief left for Dubai in March 2016 for medical treatment and has not returned since, citing security and health reasons. The chief justice's cryptic remarks came as he headed a bench hearing the case related to National Reconciliation Ordinance (NRO), passed by Musharraf in 2007.

# Trump praises Haley, says she will make money

Washington: Describing Indian-American Nikki Haley as an "extraordinary person", President Donald Trump has said the outgoing US ambassador to the UN is "going to make a lot of money" in the private sector, which she intends to join. Haley, 46, the first Indian-American to hold a Cabinet-ranking position in any US presidential administration, tendered her resignation Tuesday, which Trump accepted. She had hinted in her resignation letter that she is headed to the private sector after two years at the UN and, before that, six years as South Carolina's governor. She is likely to stay in the position till the year-end so that her successor could be nominated and confirmed by the Senate. Trump exuded confidence that Haley would return to his administration in some capacity at some point.

# We will take care of countries that will continue to buy oil from Iran after Nov 4: Trump

Washington: The US "will take care" of countries which defy its directive to bring their oil imports from Iran to zero by November 4, President Donald Trump has warned, days after India announced that two of its firms have placed orders to import crude from the Gulf nation. Trump in May pulled the US out of the 2015 nuclear accord, saying it had "failed to achieve the fundamental objective of blocking all paths to an Iranian nuclear bomb" and did not deal with Tehran's "malign activities, including its ballistic missile programme and its support for terrorism". In an attempt to compel Iran to agree to a new accord, Trump reinstated sanctions that targeted the Iranian government's purchase of US dollars, Iran's trade in gold and other precious metals, and its automotive sector.

# Pak extremists: Don't free Christian woman on death row

Lahore: A Pakistani extremist Islamist party is demanding the country's Supreme Court uphold the death sentence for a Christian woman convicted of blasphemy. Asia Bibi has appealed her sentence and the court earlier this week postponed ruling on the final appeal. Her lawyers say she was falsely accused. The Tehreek-e-Labbaik party said on Wednesday that if the court's three-judge panel frees Bibi, the judges will face "consequences". The party also says its supporters will rally on Friday to demand death for Bibi. The charge against Bibi dates back to a hot day in 2009 when she went to get water for fellow farm workers. Two Muslim women refused to drink from a container used by a Christian. Bibi was later accused of insulting Islam's prophet, a charge which carries the death penalty.

# Report: Young women facing constant harassment, abuse worldwide

Melbourne: Girls feel there is little point in reporting sexual harassment to authorities since there is hardly any action, according to a report which shows that young women suffer relentless abuse in cities worldwide, including Delhi. The report from child rights organisation Plan International, based on more than 21,000 testimonials of girls and young women living in Delhi, Kampala, Lima, Madrid and Sydney, found that in all five cities, boys and men grope, chase, stalk, leer at, verbally insult, and flash girls and young women. While such behaviour is condoned by society, bystanders and authorities rarely take action, according to the report by researchers including those from Monash University in Australia. This forces girls to adjust their behaviour to protect themselves. CEO of Plan International Australia, Susanne Legena, said the research provides a previously unseen glimpse of the impact of harassment and abuse on the lives of girls and young women. "Constant harassment and abuse is frightening and draining, and leaves young women feeling completely disempowered. This indifference and inaction leads many girls and young women to blame themselves for abuse and harassment," Legena said. "What's more, by forcing girls and women to constantly adjust their behaviour to stay safe, society is denying them the benefits and opportunities of city life," she said.

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# Chinese official extradited to US to face espionage charges

Washington/Beijing: For the first time, a Chinese intelligence official has been extradited to the US to face espionage charges for conspiring and attempting to steal trade secrets from multiple American aviation and aerospace companies, the Department of Justice has said. Yanjun Xu, aka Qu Hui, aka Zhang Hui, a Chinese Ministry of State Security (MSS) operative, was extradited to the US on Tuesday, following which the charges were unsealed on Wednesday. Arrested in Belgium on April 1, Xu was indicted on four counts of conspiring and attempting to commit espionage and theft of trade secrets.

# GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA Public Works Division Jalna E-Tender Notice No. (19) 2018-19 (II-Call)

Online tender (e-tenders) following works are invited by the Executive Engineer Public Works Division Jalna (PH-02482-230143) in B2-1 & B Tender (Online) for the 04 works in Jalna Dist. The contractors registered with the Government of Maharashtra in appropriate class shall be issued by the Executive Engineer Public Works Division Jalna. 1. All the details regarding e-tendering procedure and tender documents are available on e-tendering portal of PWD Department of Government of Maharashtra https://pwd.maharashtra.etenders.in and http://www.mahapwd.com 2. In case any changes in the Tenders / Tender Notice, the same shall informed through the abovementioned web Portals 3. All the rights to accept or reject the tenders are reserved with Executive Engineer, Public Works Division, Jalna. Conditional tenders shall be summarily rejected Sd/ Executive Engineer Public Works Divisions Jalna DGIPR/2018/2019/3599

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Table with 8 columns: S.I. No., Name of Item, Tender Specification No., Tender Qty., Estimated cost (in ₹), Average yearly Turn Over of preceding Three Financial Years i.e. 2015-2016, 2016-2017 & 2017-2018 (in ₹), Earnest Money (in ₹), Cost of tender document including GST (in ₹), Last date of online request for Tender and Submission of tender in online & Offline mode, Date of opening of bid Part-I in online and offline mode.

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#METOO  
Skeletons

FIR against Nana

A case was registered against Bollywood actor **NANA PATEKAR** over allegations of sexual harassment made by **TANUSHREE DUTTA**, his costar in a 2008 film at Mumbai's Oshiwara Police Station. Besides Patekar, FIRs have also been lodged against director Rakesh Sarang, producer Sami Siddiqui and choreographer Ganesh Acharya, who were part of the film. Tanushree's list of witnesses also included the then assistant choreographer of the film, **DAISY SHAH**. The actor had stated that Daisy had witnessed Nana trying to touch her during the rehearsals of the steps.



**'No woman should ever be subjected to any kind of misbehaviour, or disorderly conduct, especially at her workplace. Such acts should be immediately brought to the notice of concerned authorities, and corrective measures be taken, either through filing complaints or a recourse to law.'**  
—Amitabh Bachchan



Actress **SUSHMITA SEN** said that more women should be 'encouraged' to speak out. 'Overlooking' the much-needed movement is not an option at all, she added. "Though the movement is copied from the West, it doesn't mean we will overlook it. It feels great that women are coming out and speaking about the harassment. As a part of society, people should listen to their stories and not judge them," quoted Sen "Instead of ignoring them, we should encourage them. This movement will work only if we start listening to the victims."



Diana is proud of the movement

Actress **DIANA PENTY** has come out in support of women who are speaking about their sexual harassment experiences, saying she is proud of today's women for their courage to talk about such issues. "I am proud that the #MeToo movement has kick-started. It is commendable that women are coming out and bringing light to the issues which they went through in the past. It takes a lot of courage," said Diana. Sharing her own harassment experience, Diana said, "I went to school and college via train, so there were many instances that happened with me, which I don't even have a count of. At some stage in life, we all have gone through some kind of harassment — be it at a work place or somewhere else, we all have dealt with such fear in our life. But we need not be afraid."



'Elements of tradition are essential'

After his association with Jean Paul Gaultier, **ATSUSHI NAKASHIMA** values classic designs more than his younger self did.  
By **ASMITA SARKAR**

Like quintessential Japanese design, Atsushi Nakashima's works reflect minimalism, which is also a part of his personal style. Dressed in a white T-shirt, black pants and black and white-striped sneakers, the artist is a canvas of his own art. Soft-spoken and detached, the designer, who was once the head of design of the diffusion line at Jean Paul Gaultier, preferred answering through a translator despite being able to speak good English, I was told.

The East and the West meets in a confluence in his designs. He grew up in Japan after the country had already modernised and as a result his work leaned towards the contemporary. But his association with Jean Paul Gaultier taught him to value traditions and his designs now have elements of Japan.

"When I was younger, my sensibility was more modern Japanese, in which you rebuild and reinvent but what changed, especially after my association with Jean Paul Gaultier, was I learnt how to value classic and traditional design. The French believe in preserving their heritage. So old buildings are preserved and taken care of unlike in Tokyo. While Kyoto still has a lot of traditional temples, Tokyo is entirely rebuilt and modernised. What I learnt is that we must value classic traditions and the beauty they bring. After that experience, I find that I appreciate my origins and are rooted to them," said Nakashima.

He is showcasing the same Fall-Winter 2018 collection that he presented at the Milan Fashion Week last month. His collection celebrates his country, while presenting a global outlook. His collection is replete with circles that represent the sun. Fish motifs, knee-length jackets and dresses dominate the collection apart from oversized pants and

layers of jackets.

He was inspired by 1960s' music like funk, soul and disco to build the collection but using that era's designs as it would be placing them out of context. So he has given a modern twist to them along with using Japanese motifs, especially the ones that can be seen in traditional Japanese kimonos. The kimono itself, he said, has a simple structure but layers are added based on the material and motifs. Something that is seen in his collection as well, clean structure with layers. He believes that the world is becoming smaller and global but a "dash of Japan" finds its way into all his work.

The designer doesn't believe that there is much difference between the East and West since by the time he was in high school American casuals were the "de facto uniform" of the young. But he reiterates that a global outlook with elements of Japan is what defines him.

The 40-year-old knew by the time he was in high school that he wanted to be a fashion designer. Even though his parents worked in the corporate sector, he believes that he carries the DNA of his great grandfather who was a painter.

He brings with him a sense of nostalgia like the loose-on jacket, which he has reinvented and replanted. "I use geometric prints that are linear in nature and the clothing is kimono-esque. Part of my Japanese identity is represented by my designs," he said.

He's interested in Indian hand-embroidery and is keen to explore how he can interpret traditional embroidery from India into the motifs he has in his mind.



KUSHAN MITRA



SHARK TALES

The new Mahindra Marazzo is a pretty impressive vehicle and one that genuinely surprises you

designers thought the same. Shaping a van like a Great White would be rather impractical but the Marazzo does look like a Basking Shark with its mouth agape. As I said, it is a large, multi-person van. It is not supposed to be good-looking. But you know what, the Marazzo is not ugly. In fact, it looks fairly reasonable. Sure, the marketers would always try and make it macho, but they should not have, as I will go on to explain.

Frankly, the last time I drove a Mahindra vehicle, I was left awfully disappointed with the KUV100. With the Marazzo, boy was I surprised. First, the Marazzo looks far better proportioned than the Xylo, and while it is a big van, in the burgundy red colour I got the tester, it looks quite smart.

The real surprises are not so much in

its looks though but the way it drives.

The Marazzo may not be perfect and I will get to that later, but it is fabulous when it comes to Noise, Vibration and Harshness (NVH). It really does feel very comfortable and quiet to be inside the cabin, quite unlike any other Mahindra ever before. The other thing is that the Marazzo is on the whole a very sedate car to drive. The engine, which is a highly turbo-charged 1.5 litre diesel unit, does take some time to get up to speed and the first few times you drive the car you might stall it, starting up from a red light. But the power comes on relatively quickly once you get the hang of it, a n d

despite having 121 horsepower in a pretty large car, it does not feel massively underpowered, although you would not really want to push it past the highway speed limit.

Now, one issue I did have is that the Marazzo, partially because of its size, is not the most adept handler. Of course, throwing a large people carrier into a corner is never a recommended course of action, but one has to do these things in a road test, but that said, body roll characteristics are far superior to the Xylo and the XUV500. One strange problem I encountered while cornering hard was that the car would warn me that my bonnet was open. I put that down to the centrifugal force opening the circuit, but

a strange warning nonetheless and I hope it was peculiar to the vehicle I had. Over three days and 250 km on city roads and some highway stretches, I got a creditable 15 km per litre.

Interiors, I was driving the top-end M8 six-seater with the captain seats in the second row and rear-legroom was pretty decent. As for the third row, well, third-rows are not very comfortable for adults in most vehicles. The Marazzo is also a little shorter than the Innova, so it is a bit cramped, but it is a bigger third row than the Ertiga. The few issues I have were with the fact that I am not a fan of hard-plastic steering wheels, the fact that the third row does not fold flush to the floor and the start-up of the infotainment system, which takes a while and is a particular pain if you want to start reversing immediately. I really can't imagine getting this car without a reversing camera system because it is very long.

Honestly though, the issues were few and far between. I can imagine someone buying the Marazzo as a comfortable long-distance family cruiser. Also, for those who need a vehicle to transport a lot of stuff or pets, you can remove the third-row completely. Sure, calling it a competitor to the Innova is a bit of a stretch, but then again at under ₹14 lakh for the top-of-the-line M8 six-seater, it is incredible value, cheaper than even a second-hand Innova from 2014-15. Personally, I like the Marazzo and hopefully it signifies the start of some excitement from Mahindra, the new XUV700 (a Ssangyong Rexton with a Mahindra badge) is on its way later this month and I hope the company can keep its momentum going.

If you have any questions, queries or generally want car advice, or just to chat about cars, do reach out to @kushanmitra on Twitter.

An all-black runway

Designers **ASHISH N SONI, RAJESH PRATAP SINGH** and **ROHIT GANDHI + RAHUL KHANNA** ace the monochrome game. By **CHAHAK MITTAL**

gave chills around the hall. With the colour palette that ranged from all shades of black and white, Singh's design collection combined style and travel with its winter collection. The atmosphere turned really cold and chilly as the background resembled the heavy sleet in

Rallying the fashion troops through an all-black theme, the first day of the Lotus Make-Up India Fashion Week ended with the showcase of a range of designs and dresses in black by creators Ashish N Soni, Rajesh Pratap Singh, and Rohit Gandhi + Rahul Khanna.

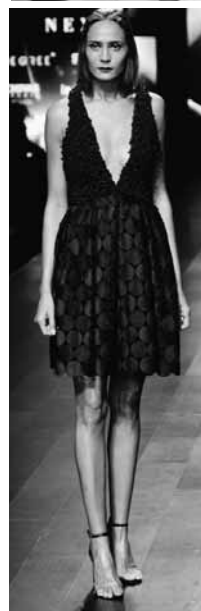
Bringing into fore a range of formal wear collection, Ashish N Soni's designs were all about relevance, professionalism, functionalism and grace.

With extreme simplicity, as his designs are known for, there were full dress uniforms, embellished dinner jackets, frock coats, knee-length asymmetrical cut short men's trousers, half pants, skirts, formal trousers, uncuffed, with stripes or leg seams, plain-fronted shirt with wing collars, cuff links and shirt studs, pique or marcella coats, waistcoats, tuxedos for men, jumpsuits for women, pant suits, evening capes and coats and so on. While models did slay in various backless formal dresses, model Lakshmi Rana's outfit was one of those challenging the young global formal fashion. Her skirt-cum-trouser was half trouser and half skirt with a short frock blazer, that did stand out amongst all the other day-today formals — completely a jaw-dropping look.

The collection celebrates the black colour in all its hues paying a tribute to our signature brand as well. I have used 30 different textured black fabrics to avoid giving a dull, boring and repetitive look. It is more about bringing out the simplicity yet the elegance of black," said Ashish.

As the dresses give a three-dimensional look, Ashish added that "the fabrics are either all hand-crafted and worked upon, or are in tone on tone-engineered jacquards." The collection indeed set an example of brilliant craftsmanship as the embellishments were made with great intricacy and "a disciplined approach to stay true to the core values of the brand," said the designer. The inspiration behind the all-black collection is about understanding construction, design, technique and technology.

As the first of the three showcases gave out the message of strength and boldness, the following by designer Rajesh Pratap Singh



the mountains. Inspired by author and naturalist John Muir's famous saying, "The mountains are calling and I must go," the collection represented the mystique of Indian mountains and the challenges they hold, and to discover oneself it is imperative to accept those challenges and discover these mountains as well.

With rugged, rocky asymmetric silhouettes, deconstructed shapes with inside-out seams, the collection honoured Indian *pahadi* roots. Fabrics used comprise wool-linen blends, weaves that are made on hand looms and *ikats*. With knee-length and long woollen coats, there were hand-crafted shoes and gloves to accessorise the look. The blazers brought back the checks and stripes, taking one back to the typical winter collection woollens garments full of red, black and white checks. Singh's collection was a tribute to adventure, travel, the roaming spirit and the exploration of the physical and beyond.

The third in line was Rohit Gandhi + Rahul Khanna's curated collection titled *Twilight*, following the monochromatic black theme. However, why only black?

Rahul's answer to it was, "Well, we like when the sun goes down. This was all to celebrate the colours of car brand Nexa." While the monochrome did spread its elegance, there were also certain accentuated glistening silver elements as "they add shine to every garment amalgamating metallic hues along with modern edgy elements" through long festive wear gowns, backless dresses and top jackets. The showstopper, actress Sonakshi Sinha set the ramp on fire with her blue eye-shadow and long-sleeved black gown with sparkling black crystals.

Rohit talked about the hand-crafted techniques "amplifying and highlighting every detail of the garments in the form of appliqué work and hand beading. Black crystals have been utilised in order to give the collection a sense of luxury. With lustrous satin and twisted crepe, there is intricate metal work on the silhouettes with matte and gloss textures," that defined unusual patterns and gave an impression of pure indulgence.

Photo: Pankaj Kumar

LONGLIST FOR DSC ANNOUNCED

Sixteen novels including four translated works are in the race for winning the prize in November

The much anticipated longlist for the US \$25,000 DSC Prize for South Asian Literature 2018 was announced by eminent historian and academic Rudrangshu Mukherjee, who is the chair of the jury panel for the distinguished prize.

The longlist of 16 novels which was unveiled at the Oxford Bookstore in New Delhi includes four translated works from Assamese, Kannada, Tamil and Hindi. The longlist features six women authors and three women translators. Two outstanding debut novels also find place alongside the works of several established writers.

The longlist represents the best of South Asian fiction writing of the last year and includes submissions from a diverse mix of publishers and authors of different backgrounds writing on a wide range of issues and themes.

The novels include stunning portrayals of migration, war and the pain of displacement, poignant love stories, the exploration of new found relationships and identities, and vivification of the personal struggles, hopes and aspirations that symbolize the urgent and divisive realities of contemporary South Asian life.

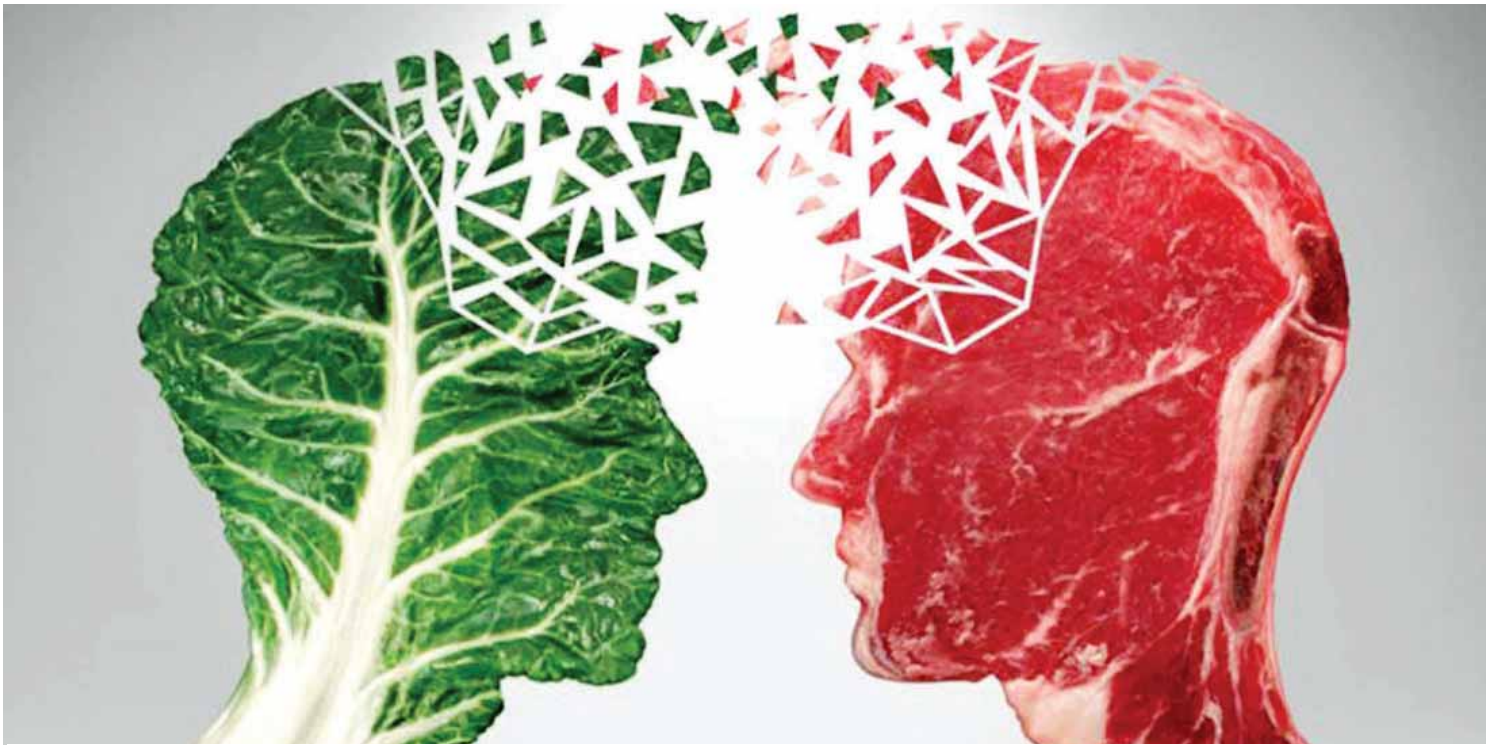
This year the DSC Prize, administered by the South Asian Literature Prize & Events Trust, received 88 eligible entries and the five member international jury panel diligently went through these entries to arrive at this year's longlist of 16 novels which they feel represent the best works of fiction related to the South Asian region.

Speaking on the occasion, Mukherjee, Chair of the jury commented, "It gives me enormous pleasure to announce this longlist of 16 works of fiction for the DSC Prize for South Asian Literature 2018. My fellow jurors and I read through over 80 works of fiction and then arrived at this list of 16 which we will further prune to prepare a shortlist and then finally a winner."

The jury will now deliberate on the longlist over the next month and the shortlist of five or six books for the DSC Prize 2018 will be announced on November 14 at the London School of Economics & Political Science (LSE) in London. Thereafter the jury would meet once again to arrive at the final winner that would be announced at a special Award Ceremony to be hosted in a South Asian city.







# MUSING ON PLANE CRASH, STARVATION, VEGETARIANISM



*Bhagawati Saraswati*

A few years ago I was traveling from Lisbon, Portugal, to Tenerife (in the Canary Islands) via Madrid. Tragically on that day, a Span Air plane had crashed at the Madrid airport, killing nearly all on board. Approximately 150 people had died and the Madrid airport was closed for many hours. Our flight was, of course, cancelled and we reached Tenerife nearly 24 hours after the originally scheduled time. Upon arrival in Tenerife we found that there was a pervasive state of bereavement amongst all of the people due to the plane crash. Wherever we went, people would request Pujya Swamiji (Swami Chidanand Saraswati) to say prayers for the departed souls, to have moments of silence before and after each program. Questions in the satsangs inevitably revolved around issues of karma, death, destiny and tragedy. The plane which had crashed was destined for Gran Canaria, the largest of the Canary islands. No one spoke with or who was present in any of the functions had actually known anyone on the flight; yet the state of anxiety, numbness and despair were textbook responses to great loss, even verging on PTSD in several circumstances. "I haven't slept in for three nights. I can't eat. I can't get pictures of the plane crash out of my mind."

The crash was a tragedy. One hundred fifty families lost a mother, father, child, spouse or sibling. Countless thousands lost a loved one. The mirage of safety and invincibility we feel upon a major airliner flying to a vacation destination had faded. Yet, after two days of prayer upon prayer, puja upon puja, explanation upon explanation of death and karma and the afterlife, I found a small volcano of despair within myself beginning to grow and threatening to rupture. My volcano of anguish, though, was not for the 150 who had died in the plane crash, although I certainly shed tears as I watched the news stories of the wreckage from the Lisbon airport lounge with interviews of those whose loved ones had died. No, my deep anguish, separate from the sadness at the loss of life in the crash, was due to a divide, a dichotomy, a chasm I could not bridge. Finally, able to contain it no longer, on the 3rd day I found myself at Pujya Swamiji's feet exclaiming, "How is it possible that these people can cry day after day for 150 people who died whom they didn't know and whose deaths they couldn't possibly have prevented, and still go out and eat meat, the practice of which causes the death of tens of thousands of children of starvation EVERY DAY?" "Why is it," I wailed, "that the death of 150 well-to-do vacationers is worthy of silence, prayer, puja and tears, while the death of impoverished, starving children in third world countries is not?" On a spiritual path that teaches non-judgment, I struggled rather unsuccessfully within myself with the judgment I felt for those who cried for the dead vacationers and then went out and caused the death of impoverished children without giving

it a second thought. Clearly they are compassionate and loving people. Here they are mourning the death of people they didn't even know. So, how could that compassion and love vanish the moment they held a menu or shopping cart in their hands? Was it merely ignorance? If they knew the devastation wrought upon our world by the meat industry, would they become vegetarian? I am not sure about them, as in the midst of the aftermath of the plane crash I did not raise this issue; however, as I have traveled the world and spoken to innumerable audiences on vegetarianism I have found a great divide. It seems that those who are like us, who possibly could have been us or our loved ones, elicit our compassion and empathy. Those who are not like us, who couldn't possibly be us or our loved one, tend not to elicit such feelings. They may elicit sympathy—such as when we see news stories of famines in African nations or AIDS orphans. We may send a check to Save the Children or Oxfam or Amnesty International. But, derail our lives, consume our thoughts, render us insomniacs? It seems that only tragedies which hit at the core of the safety we personally feel have the power to affect such powerful responses. A fatal crash of a plane they took last week or were planning to take next week or take regularly, a bomb that rocks through our favorite coffee shop or hotel or our local airport—these are the events that shake us to our core despite statistics telling us we have a MUCH greater chance of being struck by lightning than dying in a terrorist attack. The tens of thousands of children who died yesterday, and the day before, and who will die again today, and tomorrow and the day after—they don't have a chance at all of seeing another

lightening storm, let alone being struck by one. And their deaths are preventable. Preventable by us, by our choices, by our decisions. Their deaths are, rather, caused by us, by our choices and decisions. As we mourn the deaths of those we could not prevent, we cause the deaths of others. One pound of grain can be turned into one pound of bread, or one pound of pasta or one pound of rice or corn. However, in order to produce one pound of meat, sixteen pounds of grain are required. The reason is that the grain is fed daily to the animals who live, several miserable years, until they are slaughtered to become hamburgers or hotdogs. By the time the animal is killed and the flesh is turned into packaged meals, 16 pounds of grain have gone into the production of each pound of meat. That means, every time we eat a meal of meat, we are eating the grain of 15 other people. We are eating for 16. If my one pound of meat requires 16 pounds of grain, rather than my pound of pasta requiring only a pound of grain, then every time I choose meat I am consuming the grain of 15 others. The food supply on planet Earth is tragically limited. Food shortages and famines are prevalent and pervasive across the world. Can we really afford to make choices that take the food out of the mouths of starving children with nearly every meal? The United States alone produces enough grain every day to give each and every person on Earth two loaves of bread a day. No one would go hungry, let alone starve, on two loaves of bread. The problem is they are not getting the bread, for the grain is not being used for humans. Rather the grain is used as feed for the cows, pigs and chickens which become our breakfast sausage, our

lunchtime turkey sandwich or hamburger and our evening roast chicken or steak. So we get fatter, our cholesterol rises, and they die. The production of a pound of meat takes approximately 2600 gallons (approximately 10,000 liters) of water. This is due to the exorbitant amount of water used to grow the food for the livestock, the water they drink and are bathed in and then the water used to try to wash the blood, urine and feces out of the flesh to be sold in grocery stores. Tens of thousands of farmers across the "developing" world are collapsing on their desiccated fields. There is no water for their parched mouths or withered crops. Many commit suicide, unable to face the prospect of a tomorrow with no means to feed themselves and their families. Many others are taken, unwillingly, by sickness and death. Others abandon the fields of their ancestors and flood the already overpopulated cities to wreak out a meager existence in a slum on the muddy outskirts of a third-world metropolis. And a typical family consumes the equivalent of 2600 gallons of water during one meal of hamburgers. The world of the 21st century cannot live in a vacuum. We don't have to be quantum physicists to understand the way that our personal choices and actions directly impact the rest of the planet. What I purchase, use and eat today in Rishikesh or Delhi or London or Paris or Los Angeles is having a direct effect on the lives of my brothers and sisters in other countries. Every pound of meat that I don't eat frees up sixteen pounds of grain and 2500 gallons of water for other purposes. (The writer is the president of Divine Shakti Foundation, Rishikesh. She left America in 1996 and settled in Rishikesh. Views expressed here are personal.)

## From Bunch of Thoughts by Madhav Sadashiv Golwalkar, the former Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh chief

We, Hindus, have a solution to offer. But our solution is not based on materialism. All the attempts and experiments made so far were based on theories or 'isms' stemming from materialism. And materialism has no answer to the very salient and fundamental question "Why at all should people aspire for world unity and human welfare? Why should they at all feel pained at the sight of man set against man? Why should we at all love each other?" From the materialist point of view, we are all gross entities, each separate and exclusive in itself, who can have no bonds of mutual affinity or affection. There can also be no inner restraint in such beings, which can make them control their selfishness from running amuck, in the interest of the humanity as a whole. After all, any arrangement evolved for achieving world welfare can be fruitful only to the extent the men behind it are inspired by real love for mankind which will enable them to mould their individual and national conduct in tune with the welfare of humanity. Without that supreme urge, any scheme, however good its purpose may be, will only provide one more alluring mask for the aggrandizement of power-drunk nations. That has been the uniform verdict of history right up to the present times. Our ancient Hindu philosophers, therefore, had turned their gaze to a plane higher than materialism. They delved deep into the mysteries of the human soul, well beyond the reach of material science, and discovered the Ultimate Reality, which pervades all Creation, the one great common principle present in all beings, whatever the name we may give it—Soul, God, Truth, Reality or Nothingness. It is the occasional realisation of this common entity that inspires us to strive for the happiness of others. The 'I' in me, being the same as the 'I' in the other beings, makes me react to the joys and sorrows of my fellow living beings just as I react to my own. This genuine feeling of identity born out of the community of the inner entity is the real driving force behind our natural urge for human unity and brotherhood. Thus it is evident, that world unity and human welfare can be made real, only to the extent mankind realises this common Inner Bond, which alone can subdue the passions and discords stemming from materialism, broaden the horizon of the human mind and harmonise the individual and national aspirations with the welfare of mankind. Now, we come to the second question. How will that One Common Substratum manifest itself in the complicated organism of human society? Will it result in eliminating all distinctive features of nations and roll them all into one uniform pattern? Or will it make the various groups of people come together in a spirit of comradeship realising the innate oneness of mankind while preserving their individual nationalities? Here again, our philosophers have unmistakably pointed out the path of real human happiness. Just as an individual, a nation - an aggregate of individuals - too has an individuality all its own. Individuals and nations in all parts of the globe have distinctive traits and features, each of them having its own place in the scheme of the universe. The different human groups are marching forward, all towards the same goal, each in its own way and in keeping with its own characteristic genius. The destruction of the special characteristics, whether of an individual, or of a group, will therefore not only destroy the natural beauty of harmony but also its joy of self-expression. Evolution of human life also, which is a multifaceted one, is retarded thereby. For, it is a matter of common experience that it is only by developing one's unique characteristic that man rises to his full stature and enjoys bliss and happiness. So, to seek harmony among the various characteristics has been our special contribution to the world thought. The oft-quoted feature of our racial genius, that is, of recognising unity amidst diversity, stems from this deep appreciation of the principles that water the roots of human unity, human happiness and evolution. Thus, in short, we stand for a harmonious synthesis among nations and not their obliteration. Needless to say, the idea of creating a stateless condition of levelling all human beings to one particular plane of physical existence, erasing their individual and group traits, is foreign to us. The World State of our concept will, therefore, evolve out of a federation of autonomous and self-constrained nations under a common centre linking them all.

# Realising spirituality through compassion



*Neeraj Kumar Pande*

Spirituality is always a journey from 'without' to 'within', deep inside one's own consciousness, layer through layer. Contemplation while calming one's own senses on way to a meditative state is integral to any spiritual quest. Contemplation generates an opportunity to engage in meditation and meditation fills one's mind with stability and peace. For, the meditative state brings down stress and anxiety, thereby developing positive thinking. In clinical psychology, emotions basically mean recognising whatever is being experienced through senses. Emotions govern individual's internal universe and there is empirical evidence to link one kind of feeling with another. Dr Robert Plutchik, the well-known American psychologist, has developed emotions

and feelings chart (wheel of emotions). It displays in details how eight primary emotions give birth to several other complex feelings. Analysis of his work leads to the conclusion that the emotions of peace and calmness in turn lead to the feelings of compassion and generosity in individuals. There is little doubt that it is while on the journey to spirituality that one can combat the negative emotions like fear, hatred and sadness in the mind. However, the question is—is the happiness which spirituality generates only linked with one's own self? Is spirituality a concept which has to do with self-growth, self-realisation and self-fulfillment alone? The reality is in fact very different. For, the true happiness and satisfaction can never really be attained without engagement with others, without universalizing one's self and identifying with all in the cosmos and beyond, in an Oneness, indivisible and invincible. Scientific analysis has generated compelling data which says that act of giving is a powerful way to achieve personal growth and to



ensure enduring happiness. The act of giving stimulates the portions of the brain which are associated with healthy feelings,

expansion and deep tranquility and love, a state which ultimately consummates into what the Upanishads term as Ananda,

inalienable though indescribable. As the modern individual is living an individualistic and cloistered existence, absorbed in self

and oblivious of others around, the importance of giving and sharing within the community keeps fading into insignificance. However, it is at the same time robbing humanity of the values like kindness, compassion and self-giving, the fulcrum of true life. While most people find themselves unable to understand the very concept of spirituality, the African communities have actually given a new meaning to it. The beautiful philosophy of "ubuntu", a South African tradition, which in the local language means "I am because we are", is a humanist philosophy known to have its cultural roots since the mid-nineteenth century. It is a belief strongly embedded in the subconscious of the local people. In these communities, no one eats food even if a single individual goes hungry. All the resources are shared equally among the members of the village and there is no economic inequality between anyone. This unshakable belief in the unity of mankind leads to a social structure where the satisfaction quotient of the people is

very high. Happiness and positivity conceived and nourished in this manner results in healthy body and mind which lead to a morally and spiritually fulfilled life. Spirituality typically is a process of self-transformation which enables an individual to discover the true meaning in life and connect with a higher universal order. By practising the core values of humanity, one can rediscover his purpose of existence, lost in the wasteland of narcissism, self-love. A life immersed in love for others and service to others is the best way to discover true spirituality. Self-denial and self-giving leads to self-fulfillment, something which helps one to go for the deeper and deeper layer of self-discovery. No religious conduct or specific practices can yield the same internal peace as a life of giving and sharing can. In the words of Swami Vivekananda: "You have to grow from the inside out. None can teach you, none can make you spiritual. There is no other teacher but your own soul. They alone live who live for others". (The writer is a former officer of Government of Uttarakhanda)



# Federer battles, Djoker cruises in Shanghai

Roger, Novak and Zverev sails into Shanghai quarter-finals; del Potro crashes out

AFP ■ SHANGHAI

Roger Federer said that he did not want to lose in front of his young family as he was pushed all the way for the second match in a row at the Shanghai Masters on Thursday.

The reigning champion squeezed into the quarter-finals after eventually defeating the 28th-ranked Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

The top seed will play Japan's eighth seed Kei Nishikori, while Novak Djokovic and Alexander Zverev are also through, albeit with far less hassle.

The 37-year-old Swiss great was forced to fight in his opening match on Wednesday against Russia's Daniil Medvedev.

Normal order appeared to have been restored when the 20-time Grand Slam champion comfortably claimed the first set against Bautista Agut.

But the Spaniard earned a piece of personal history after that, winning the second set — the first time he had taken a set against the Swiss maestro.

The 30-year-old Bautista Agut had the whiff of an upset in his nostrils and the prospect of a first victory over the Swiss at the eighth attempt.

But in the ninth game of the deciding set, Federer made the breakthrough on his opponent's serve, pumping his fist as another hard-won victory loomed into view.

Federer's wife Mirka and their four children were in the arena and he said afterwards: "I'm not sure if they give me more courage fighting on court, but they were here today."

"I was telling myself, particularly tonight I cannot do this (lose) because they were there, but I don't know how much I draw from that, quite honestly."

Federer said that two stern encounters had set him up nicely for Nishikori on Friday.

"I hope it's going to help me that I played against Medvedev and also Bautista Agut,



Roger Federer hits a return shot to Roberto Bautista Agut during their men's singles match of the Shanghai Masters; (right) Novak Djokovic hits a return shot to Marco Cecchinato during their men's singles match of the Shanghai Masters



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two really good baseliners.

"From that standpoint, I feel like I found a rhythm."

## DELPO INJURY WOE

One player who will not be in the quarter-finals is Juan Martin del Potro after he hobbled out of the tournament.

The Argentine world number four, who had already been suffering with a virus, lost

his footing at 5-5 in the first set against Croatia's Borna Coric.

The 30-year-old Del Potro had lengthy treatment and strapping put on his knee, but conceded the match after losing the first set 7-5.

Coric, the 13th seed, faces Australia's unseeded Matthew Ebden next

Second seed Djokovic enjoyed a measure of revenge as he booked his spot in the

quarter-finals with a 6-4, 6-0 demolition of Marco Cecchinato.

The Serbian was stunned by the Italian — ranked 72 in the world at the time — in the French Open quarter-finals earlier this year.

It was part of a wretched run of form Djokovic suffered after elbow surgery in February.

But he exploded back to life mid-sea-

son, winning Wimbledon, the Cincinnati Masters and US Open.

The 31-year-old says he is back close to the kind of blistering form that has brought him 14 Grand Slams.

Djokovic will play South Africa's seventh seed Kevin Anderson and said he was arrowing in on Rafael Nadal's top ranking. The Spaniard is not in Shanghai due to injury.

"Obviously, I'm going to try to do everything I can to get to number one," said Djokovic.

"That's one of the — probably the — biggest goal of the end of the season."

Rising star Zverev was similarly emphatic as he brushed aside Australian teenager Alex de Minaur, 6-1, 6-4.

The German fourth seed will next play 11th seed Kyle Edmund.

## SINGLES

### SV SUNIL IN DOUBT FOR HOCKEY WORLD CUP

**BHUBANESWAR:** In a major setback for the Indian hockey team, star striker S V Sunil has been all but ruled out of next month's World Cup after suffering a knee injury. Sunil suffered the ligament injury on his left knee on October 4 during India's ongoing preparatory camp here. He will require four to five weeks to recover from the injury, which virtually shuts the door on him for the World Cup to be held here from November 28 to December 16. "I suffered the injury while diving for a ball during training on October 4. I have consulted specialists here and the MRI revealed it is an Lateral Collateral Ligament injury (LCL) injury," Sunil said at the Bhubaneswar airport. Sunil is flying to Delhi on Thursday to consult Hockey India's official doctor B K Nayak after which his availability for the World Cup will be known.

### SHUBHANKAR MAKES SOLID START AT CIMB

**KUALA LAMPUR:** Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma sunk in five birdies on the back-nine to card a five-under 67, making a solid start at the CIMB Classic here. The 22-year-old, who was recently bestowed with the Arjuna Award, was in tied 14th place, four shots behind the surprise leader Bronson Burgoon (63) of USA. A record four Indians are taking part in the only PGA Tour event in Southeast Asia. Fiji International champion Gaganjeet Bhullar was the next best placed Indian — tied 26th at three-under 69. Anirban Lahiri, who has a good record at TPC Kuala Lumpur in the past, also started well and was three-under par at the turn, but two double bogeys on the back nine saw him finish the day at a disappointing even-par 72 while Rahul Gangjee finished on five-over 77.

### CHENNAI TO HOST T20 INT'L AGAINST WEST INDIES

**HYDERABAD:** The third T20 International between India and West Indies, scheduled in Chennai on November 4, will be held as per schedule after the Committee of Administrators accepted the Tamil Nadu Cricket Association's request of sticking to the old formula on complimentary tickets. "We are awaiting a confirmation mail from the BCCI and I can tell you that match will be happening in Chennai. There had been extensive discussions and COA has understood our rationale behind sticking to the old formula of membership passes. It's a great news for cricket lovers in Chennai," a TNCA official told PTI Thursday. Madhya Pradesh Cricket Association gave up their hosting rights before the second ODI, on October 24, was shifted from Indore to Visakhapatnam.

### BAJRANG SEEDED THIRD AT WORLD C'SHIP

**NEW DELHI:** CWG and Asian Games Gold medalist Bajrang Punia is the only Indian wrestler from a strong 30-member squad to get a seeding at the upcoming World Championships as he has been seeded third in the 65kg category in men's freestyle competition. Going by his form, Bajrang will be a strong medal contender at the World Wrestling Championships, scheduled to be held in Budapest, Hungary, from October 20 to 28. The United World Wrestling (UWW) has introduced the ranking-points based seeding system for the first time for the World Championships. Bajrang has 45 points in the ranking list released by the world body. In the past, wrestlers were pulled into the brackets via a random draw of lots. Recent ranking tournaments such as Tbilisi Grand Prix in Georgia and Yasar Dogu International in Istanbul have been used to determine the ranking points for the World Championship.

### VIPASHA SHOCKS BHAKTI AT FENESTA NATIONALS

**NEW DELHI:** In a giant-killing effort, Vipasha Mehra knocked out top seed Bhakti Parwani 0-6, 6-0, 6-4 to move to the semifinals of the girls under-16 event at the Fenesta Open Junior National Tennis Championship on Thursday. It was a remarkable turn around by Vipasha who had struggled to get on board in the opening set. Also advancing to the last-four was fourth seed Sunskriti Damera, who eased past Bela Tamhankar 6-2, 6-2. Sanjana Sirimala rallied past Rutuja Chaphalkar 7-6(4), 6-3. In the last quarter-final, Gargi Parwar was tested in the first set before she thumped Kashish Bhatia 7-6 (5), 6-1. In another tough match, Denim Yadav outgunned Sushant Dabas 6-3, 2-6, 6-4.

Agencies

# Sharad Kumar clinches Gold

PTI ■ JAKARTA

India took over the podium in men's high jump T42/63 category, claiming all the medals up for grabs with defending champion Sharad Kumar smashing two records to snare a second successive Gold in the Asian Para Games here on Thursday.

The 26-year-old world championships Silver-medallist bettered the Asian as well as the Games record with a jump of 1.90m to claim the top honours. The T42/63 covers lower limb deficiency, leg length difference, impaired muscle power and impaired range of movement.

The silver was claimed by Rio Paralympic Bronze-medallist Varun Bhati (1.82m) and the Bronze went to the Rio Gold-medallist Thangavelu Mariyappan (1.67m). Bhati's jump was his season's best effort.

Sharad, who hails from Bihar, suffered paralysis in his left leg at the age of two after being administered a spurious polio medicine at the local eradication drive. He has been a former world number one.

Earlier, Indian javelin thrower Sundar Singh Gurjar won a Silver medal in the men's F46 category where two-time Paralympic Gold-medallist Devendra Jhajharia finished fourth.

In the same event, Rinku picked up a Bronze medal to make it an India-dominated podium. The F46 category of disability covers upper limb deficiency, impaired muscle power or impaired range of movement.

India also logged a Bronze in the men's 400m T13 category with Avnil Kumar



Sharad Kumar poses for a photo after winning Gold in Asian Para Games

AP

claiming the third position. The T13 classification deals with visual impairment.

In javelin throw, Gurjar notched up his silver with an effort of 61.33m in his fifth attempt. Gurjar trained for 22 days in Finland before the Games, an exercise that was backed by the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

However, it was disappointment for Jhajharia, a Silver-winner in the in the last Asian Para Games in Incheon.

In the men's 400m race, Avnil Kumar clocked 52sec to fetch a Bronze. The Gold in this event was won by Iran's Omid Zarihsanayi, who took 51.41sec to complete the race, while Thailand's Songwut Lamsan.

Medals tumbled in for India in other track-and-field events as well with Anandan Gunasekram claiming the men's 400m Silver in the T44, 62/64 classification,

while Vinay Kumar settled for a Bronze.

In the T45/46/47 classification for men's 400m, Sandeep Maan fetched a Bronze medal.

Jayanti Behera clinched the women's 400m Silver in the T45/46/47 classification.

In the women's 400m classification that deals with visual impairment (T12), Radha Venkatesh took the Bronze medal.

In swimming, India fetched a bronze with Swapnil Patil finishing third in the men's 400m freestyle S10.

India remained on the ninth place in the overall tally with eight Gold, 17 Silver and 25 Bronze medals. The country added 13 podiums to its tally Thursday for a total of 50 medals.

China continued to dominate with 137 Gold, 69 Silver and 49 Bronze, followed by South Korea.

# A medal less day for India at Youth Olympics

PTI ■ BUENOS AIRES

India endured a medal-less outing at the Youth Olympics after the Gold rush of the previous three days as the women's hockey team lost to Argentina and rising table tennis player Archana Kamath went down in the Bronze medal match here.

Kamath, who became the first Indian paddler to enter the semifinals of Youth Olympics, gave her all against Romania's Andreea Dragoman before losing 11-8, 11-13, 9-11, 5-11, 9-11 in the semifinal played on Wednesday night (wee hours of Thursday in India).

The Indian under-18 women's hockey team suffered its first loss of the Youth Olympics' five-a-side competition, going down 2-5 to hosts Argentina.

After three successive wins, India lost the toughest match they played in the event.

Argentina opened the scoring with a seventh minute goal through Celina Di Santo. India's Mumtaz Khan equalised soon after in the eighth minute but the hosts regained the lead in the 10th minute with a field goal by Sofia Ramallo.

The second period, however, was totally dominated by Argentina as they showcased brilliant attack that helped them score back-to-back in the 12th, 17th and 19th minute through Sofia,



Indian hockey players in action

Hockey India

Josefina Rubenacker and Gianella Palet respectively.

The Indian team will face South Africa in its fifth match of the competition.

A little later in the day, the men's hockey team too did not get the result it wanted, losing 3-4 to Australia in a keenly contested contest. Davis Miles, James Collins, Alistair Murray, Bradley Marais scored for Australia while India struck through Vivek Sagar Prasad, who found the net twice, and Shivam Anand.

On Thursday morning, swimmer Advait Page disappointed in Heat 3, finishing seventh. The medal-less day for India came after it won three historic Gold medals in as many days.

Another medal could be assured if rising badminton star Lakshya Sen wins his semifinal against Japan's Kodai Naraoka later on Thursday.

# Ukraine hold Italy 1-1 We have to do lot of defending: Chhetri

AFP ■ GENOA, ITALY

Ruslan Malinovskyi cancelled out Federico Bernardeschi's second half strike as Italy were held 1-1 by Ukraine in an international friendly in Genoa on Wednesday during which the victims of the bridge collapse in the city were remembered.

Bernardeschi's low strike beat Ukraine goalkeeper Andriy Pyatov after 55 minutes, but seven minutes later Malinovskyi volleyed in for the visitors.

Italy coach Roberto Mancini spent most of his playing career in Genoa, at Sampdoria, and the friendly at the Stadio Luigi Ferraris was organised to raise money for those affected by the collapse of the Morandi bridge on August 14.

Mancini, 53, was the most capped player in Sampdoria's history and also the Genoa club's top scorer winning a Serie A, four Italian Cup and a European Cup Winners Cup with the club.

For Italy the game was a warm-up ahead of the weekend's Nations League game against Poland, with the Ukraine playing the Czech Republic on Tuesday. Paris St Germain midfielder Marco Veratti returned after a long lay-off with Cagliari midfielder Nicolò Barella, 21, making his senior Italy debut.

Pyatov has made a number of fine saves, clearing a low



Players in action during the match

AP

Bernardeschi curling shot after five minutes and a Leonardo Bonucci volley.

There was a double chance just before half-time, as Lorenzo Insigne's effort was beaten away by Pyatov and a Barella volley deflected over.

But Bernardeschi finally got the better of Pyatov after 55 minutes before being replaced by Lazio's Ciro Immobile.

Federico Chiesa missed a chance to close down the game for the Italians, and moments later Mykyta Burda headed down for Malinovskyi to volley in.

The Ukraine play the Czech Republic at home in Kharkiv on Tuesday.

PTI ■ SHUZHOU

Keen to see India improve their away record, national football team captain Sunil Chhetri Thursday said defense will be the key when they play an international friendly against China after 21 years on Saturday.

"We have to defend really well. By the look and feel, I believe we have to do a lot of defending. We should not afford them much space. At the same time, whenever we find a little room of opportunity, we have to construct the moves and counter them," said Chhetri.

"To sum it up, it's a game where we must be at the top of our game in every single department. If we are not being able to combine well and operate as a team, then they'll make us struggle a lot," he said.

Chhetri said India have not done well away from our home and it's time to better "our records".

"It's the time to do so. I just hope we can utilise this opportunity to go back and give a good account of ourselves. We have to convince



Sunil Chhetri, right, and Yumnam Mangang, second right, fight for the ball

AP

ourselves first that yes, we are improving. Come January, it will be very difficult for us and we have to be ready for that."

"I'm happy that we are playing a team like China. It's strange that we are playing them after so long. We should have played them more often. I'm very excited because they are a quality opponent and they have always been a respected side in Asia."

Chhetri missed out on India's last away fixture against the Kyrgyzstan due to an injury.

He is keen to make his presence count but will not take pressure.

"I don't take too much pressure on myself. I'm happy that I'm back to the team once again, that too for an away fixture. It's very difficult but it's something where I want to be. Thank God, everyone seems to be fit, I'm fit too. I can't just wait to go out there and give our best on Saturday."

The charismatic captain said he was more focussed on the team doing well than personal accomplishments.

"If you focus on personal goals, then you'll go in a different direction where you don't actually want to head. We are a team and that's the most important thing. I'm one of the senior players, actually, the senior most player and I have my responsibility towards the team. What we achieve individually is important but it's never ever more than the team does."

China are being coached by World Cup-winning Italian Marcelo Lippi but Chhetri said every team playing at home is dangerous.

"Forget about China — any team who's not as fancy as China are always threatening at their home. China are one of the Asian teams who are doing really great in Football of late. The League has gone from strength to strength and the National team has benefitted from that under a respectable coach like Marcelo Lippi."

"That's going to be the perfect challenge that we need to assess ourselves. We have done really well in the last couple of years but now it'll help us gauge ourselves before the Asian Cup."





West Indies cricket captain Jason Holder (C) with his teammates during a practice session ahead of second India-West Indies test match

PREVIOUS TESTS AT RAJIV GANDHI STADIUM:	
Year	Result
2010	India draw with New Zealand
2012	India beat New Zealand by an innings and 115 runs
2013	India beat Australia by an innings and 135 runs
2017	India beat Bangladesh by 208 runs

Faisal Features

## Give Prithvi space to grow as cricketer: Kohli

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Stop the comparisons and let Prithvi Shaw be -- Indian captain Virat Kohli on Thursday demanded "some space" for the teenage sensation, whose batting has drawn parallels with the likes of Sachin Tendulkar and Virender Sehwag.

Hailed as a child prodigy, Shaw had a cracking Test debut against the West Indies team, hitting 134 off 154 balls in the first Test against Rajkot. The knock led to a media frenzy and a series of comments on how he is destined for greatness.

On the eve of the second Test here, the skipper, who tasted stardom quite early himself, took queries on the 18-year-old and called for some space.

"I don't think he should be rushed into anything yet because you need to give a youngster a space to grow, in his own abilities. This guy is supremely talented and he has got great ability as everyone saw," the skipper said at the pre-match press conference.

"We definitely think he (Shaw) has it in him to play at the highest level and he can repeat what he did in the first game. He is a very keen learner, a sharp guy. He understands situations well. We are all very happy for him," he added.

Kohli echoed India opener Gautam Gambhir, who



Wednesday said that people should stop comparing him to the great Virender Sehwag.

"We shouldn't compare him to anyone yet. We shouldn't put him in a space where he feels pressure of any kind and he should be left in a space where he enjoys his cricket and slowly grows into a player we all believe in."

Tournaments like the IPL, the A tours, live coverage of the U-19 tournaments put youngsters under instant spotlight and Kohli agreed that they are more equipped to handle pressure situations.

"Definitely it could be one of the reasons (early exposure) because they are already exposed to the environment that the international game would replicate. But there's always pressure of playing for the country."

"When you get that cap in the morning of the game, there's always butterflies in the stomach and I am sure everyone feels that pressure."

"But I am sure it is not as intense as 10-15 years back, when you didn't have any exposure in this kind of cricket and suddenly you are put out there in a Test match making your debut for India - the highest or toughest thing there could be."

IPL is one of the tournaments that had helped youngsters not get overawed by top flight cricket.

"So I agree with the fact that they have played in situations in the IPL where they play in front of so many people that they are not nervous anymore at the big stage."

"...I think they are not overawed by the scenario and I think that's always going to be an advantage because the guys coming in can start doing the job from game one which both these young guys have done that and Hanuma (Vihari) as well. They are supremely confident guys, those who are coming up (the ranks)."

The skipper scored his 24th hundred in Rajkot where he ran nearly 100 runs (99) in singles and doubles.

# INDIA AIM TO BE RUTHLESS, WI SEEK REDEMPTION

India ready to take on hosts in the second Test on Friday after sailing through an easy win in the first Test

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

India's ruthless home run is unlikely to be challenged when the team takes on a below-par West Indies in the second Test Friday in what threatens to be another lopsided contest.

After the hosts won the first Test by a record innings and 272 runs, there are hardly any signs that there will be a change in the script as the second Test promises to be another run-feast.

Add to it, skipper Jason Holder is still not 100 per cent fit and their only fast bowler of repute Shannon Gabriel is a doubtful starter for the encounter. India, on the other hand, have not made any changes to the squad that won the first game inside three days in Rajkot.

The lop-sided matches are hardly the kind of preparation the Indian team would have wanted before the big-ticket series against Australia starting December.

In fact, Virat Kohli's team might not be able to escape a sense of déjà vu as it goes into the second Test.

In 2011, India dominated West Indies 2-0 in a one-sided series before crashing to a 0-4 defeat against Australia Down Under.

Similarly, in 2013 when India won both Test matches well inside three days, the next tour of South Africa didn't pan out well as they lost the series.

It is just an indicator that the West

Indies Test teams over the years have not been competitive enough to challenge the Indian team, which is anyway formidable on home turf.

In contests like these, the focus is on challenging one's own self which skipper Virat Kohli did in the first Test where he scored 139 off 230 balls.

While 18-year-old Prithvi Shaw expectedly hogged the limelight with a smashing ton on debut, Kohli's innings was a master-class of how to set a different challenge for oneself as a batsman.

The West Indies bowling, which at best can be compared to a lower rung first-class side in India, could have been taken to the cleaners but the Indian skipper hit only 10 fours in his knock -- significantly less than Shaw's 19 boundaries and Cheteshwar Pujara's 14 hits.

The bulk of the runs - 99 of them came in singles and doubles. Perhaps, he was trying to check if he curbs certain strokes, how his game will shape up. He showed a different facet to his batsmanship during



## UNHAPPY WITH SG, KOHLI WANTS DUKES TO BE USED FOR ALL TEST MATCHES

HYDERABAD: India captain Virat Kohli on Thursday said that Test cricket across the globe should be played with the England-made Duke balls, expressing his displeasure at the poor quality of the SG balls that India use at home. "The Dukes ball, I think, is the most suited ball for Test cricket. If there's a situation I would vouch for that to be used all over the world because of the consistency of the ball and how the bowlers are in the game at any stage, even the spinners, because the seam is so hard and upright," Kohli said on the eve of the second Test against the West Indies.

Currently, there are no ICC specific guidelines and different countries use different balls. While India use their home-made 'SG Test' from early '90s (Sonnex was the ball before that) manufactured by Meerut-based Sanspareils Greenlands, England and West Indies use the UK's Dukes with the most pronounced seam. Australia, Pakistan and Sri Lanka use

the Kookaburra. Before Kohli, senior off-spinner Ravichandran Ashwin has also spoken about how he felt better bowling with the Kookaburra than 'SG Test'.

"A Dukes ball is still good quality, Kookaburra is still good quality. Whatever limitations a Kookaburra might have (seam goes flat), the quality is never compromised," Kohli explained. "The seamers as well are benefitted if the ball is hard, you can get that extra pace but if the ball goes so soft in 10-12 overs, then your effort comes down by 20 per cent. I think the quality of the ball has to be maintained, there's no doubt about that."

Kookaburra balls are machine-made and have low seam, while the India-made SG balls are handmade and have a wide seam. Duke balls are manufactured in England and are handmade. They darker in colour compared to SG and Kookaburras due to the coating of lacquer.

India vs West Indies  
Live from 9:30am IST  
STAR SPORTS 1

the 24th Test hundred.

The only area of concern for India will be vice-captain Ajinkya Rahane's form, who was touted as the best player in overseas conditions back in 2013-14 season, when he scored 96 at

Durban, 118 at Wellington, 103 at the Lord's and 145 at Melbourne.

Rahane has gone without a Test hundred for nearly 14 months (last hundred came against Sri Lanka in August 2017).

His career has tapered off a bit in the last couple of years. And the second Test would be last shot to get back into a good frame of mind before the Australia series, which could be make

or break for him.

The Indian team has decided against any experiments with Mayank Agarwal failing to find a place in the XI for this game.

Bowling coach Bharath Arun put up a strong argument for the out-of-form KL Rahul (14 failures in 16 knocks this year).

The decision to play him for this Test is a fair enough indication that India will be looking at the Rahul-Shaw combination going into that first Test against Australia in Adelaide on December 6.

Shardul Thakur continues to be the 12th man as a 2-0 series win is paramount for the home team at this point of time.

Mohammed Shami and Umesh Yadav will also like to use this opportunity well as they are unlikely to feature in the ODI series.

For West Indies, the aim will be at least put up some fight unlike the Rajkot game where they didn't even last 100 overs across both innings.

Kieran Powell's 83 and Roston Chase's 53 were the only notable contributions from the Caribbean batting line-up in the first game.

In the second innings, it looked as if the batsmen were in a tearing hurry to hit every ball where the need of the hour was to show patience.

The West Indies' slide in Test is a combination of both lack of application and technique needed to compete at the highest level.

They would love to redeem themselves, which looks highly unlikely as of now.

## We have plans in place for Shaw: Chase

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

West Indies all-rounder Roston Chase says they are better-prepared to tackle young Indian batsman Prithvi Shaw, whose initial onslaught had set the tone for their embarrassing defeat in the first Test.

Young Shaw scored a century on debut, playing a key role in India's big win in the series-opener.

"I am sure our guys would have learnt quickly from what happened in the first Test and we will know some of the strengths of the young Shaw, who really took us apart early in the game. I am sure we will learn from our mistakes in the first game and move on smartly in the second game," Chase said on the eve of the second Test.

While there is a plan in place for Shaw, Chase didn't want to divulge.

"We had a long chat after the first Test and came up with some plans. We discussed how we are looking to bowl at him in the second Test along with some of the other batters. I can't obviously discuss our plans in the conference. I think we have a better idea of what we are looking to do against him."

One of the positives going into the second Test is the presence of senior-most pacer Kemar Roach and captain Jason Holder.

"It's always good to have the captain back. I am not sure what the line-up will be for the next match. Can't really say who is playing but it's really good to have Kemar Roach back, a very senior player and brings a lot of experience to the team. So yeah, it's good to have both of them back."

Chase also explained the reasons for his team's batting debacle in the first Test.

"India scoring 600-odd runs. It was always going to be a hard task for us to comeback and surpass that score. I thought that on the first afternoon that we batted, guys were a bit tired having fielded so many overs. But after that, I thought we didn't really apply ourselves on the pitch."

## 'Joe Root could be world's best if freed from captaincy'

AFP ■ LONDON

Shane Warne believes England should seriously consider replacing Joe Root with Jos Buttler as Test captain to allow Root to focus on becoming the world's best batsman.

Australia spin great Warne says the Yorkshire star could dominate the global game with the bat and feels Buttler would make a "very, very good" Test skipper. Warne worked with Buttler in his role as mentor for Indian Premier League team Rajasthan Royals and is convinced the Lancashire player has credible Test leadership skills.

"I've worked with Jos a bit this year, and I think he's someone who would make an excellent captain," said Warne. "I really enjoyed working with him, I'd like to think I helped him out a little bit." Warne, who is promoting his autobiography, said Root is England's best player but would be disappointed with his conversion rate when it came to hundreds.

"He'd love to have more hundreds to be as Virat Kohli and Steve Smith," he said.



Joe Root in action during the match

"Maybe England could think about their best player having the shackles off, not having the responsibility of captaincy, and give it to someone like Jos Buttler," he added.

"If he (Root) totally 100 per cent concentrates on his cricket, his batting and nothing else, then maybe we might see Joe Root become the best batsman in the world," Warne said. "He's got the talent to do it."

## Pant breaks into Indian ODI team

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Dashing keeper-batsman Rishabh Pant forced his way into the Indian ODI set-up for the first time as the national selection committee got down to put in place a succession plan for the legendary Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

Pant, who had scored 114 and 92 in his previous two Test appearances, has been a prolific white ball player who replaced the inconsistent Dinesh Karthik as Dhoni's cover.

The southpaw is expected to be one of the missing links in the Indian ODI team's middle order jigsaw puzzle.

Asked if Pant will be playing purely as batsman, chairman of selectors MSK Prasad said: "Yes, definitely but if need arises he will be the back-up keeper."

While Dhoni remains the first-choice keeper till the World Cup, Prasad indicated that young Pant is a long-term investment.

"It is no brainer who is our No 1 wicketkeeper. In search of second



Rishabh Pant plays during a practice session

wicketkeeper, we have given opportunities to DK and right now we are giving opportunity to Rishabh Pant. At an appropriate time, we will take a call as to who is the best among the two."

Prasad indicated that they have

now zeroed in on a couple of names for the two middle-order slots.

Another interesting inclusion was of Mohammed Shami, who last played an ODI in September last year. He will be looked at as a potential third seamer option.

"I have been telling this for a quite some time that we are just 18 ODIs away from now before we play first game of the World Cup and so we need to figure out our fast bowlers and in this process we have picked Shami," said Prasad.

It is learnt that skipper Virat Kohli, who was rested for the Asia Cup, returns to play all five ODIs while Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Jasprit Bumrah are set to comeback during the second phase of the series.

The chairman of selectors also said that Dhoni will take part in the Vijay Hazare Trophy knock-out phase, representing Jharkhand.

On Kedar Jadhav, it was learnt that he will be available for the last three ODIs as he is still recovering from a hamstring injury.

## Khawaja, Paine star as Aus pull off dramatic draw

AP ■ DUBAI

Australia hung on for a sensational draw in the first test against Pakistan after opening batsman Usman Khawaja scored a patient century on the last day Thursday.

Needing an improbable 462 runs for victory, Australia batted for a draw and survived a testing last hour eight wickets down.

After legspinner Yasir Shah snared Khawaja, Mitchell Starc, and Peter Siddle within eight balls, Australia captain Tim Paine, 61 not out, and No. 10 batsman Nathan Lyon, 5 not out, held out against Pakistan.

Australia finished on 362-8, its longest fourth innings for a

draw, after 202 in the first innings.

Pakistan scored 482 and 181-6 declared.

All of Khawaja's 8 1/2-hour toil in which he scored 141 off 302 balls seemed to have gone in vain when Shah claimed him and two other quick wickets to give back Pakistan a big sniff of victory.

But Paine and Lyon thwarted Pakistan bowlers over the last 12 overs to pull off a remarkable draw.

Khawaja and Paine seemed to be carrying Australia to safety in their sixth-wicket stand lasting 36 overs.

But just after the left-handed Khawaja made the highest



Pakistan players shake hands with Australian batsmen after the match

score by any visiting batsman in Asia, passing Daniel Vettori's 140 in 2009 in Colombo, he was out. He missed a sweep shot off Shah's

delivery around the wicket and was plumb leg before wicket.

Starc was brilliantly snapped up on 1 close to the wicket by

Babar Azam, and Siddle fell lbw for zero off a sharp Shah delivery.

But Paine and Lyon batted resolutely against Shah (4-114), seamer Mohammad Abbas (3-56), and offspinner Bilal Asif, who took six wickets in the first innings but none in the second.

Earlier, Pakistan had to wait until after lunch to get the day's first breakthrough when Mohammad Hafeez had Travis Head (72) lbw off the very first ball with the second new ball.

This ended a brilliant 132-run, fourth-wicket stand as Head dug in on a wearing pitch in his debut Test. He hit five fours in his 175-ball knock.

Khawaja completed his century off 224 balls with 10 fours.

Then Shah claimed his first wicket of the match by snaring Marnus Labuschagne (13) lbw off a quicker legbreak.

Pakistan came close to dismissing Khawaja on 109, but Azhar Ali's throw from long off missed the stumps at the non-striker's end with the batsman way out of his crease.

Australia resumed the day on 136-3, needing an unlikely 326 more runs to win.

Khawaja and Head added 79 runs together in the first session, and Khawaja led them in gathering 74 more in the second session. Khawaja departed an hour into the last session, but he'd given his teammates a blueprint on how to defend.