HAS 'BRAND EQUITY'

RNI No. TELENG/2018/76469 *Late City Vol. 1 Issue 315

*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable



HYDERABAD, SUNDAY AUGUST 18, 2019; PAGES 16 ₹3 sunday pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

Restrictions eased in **Kashmir**

NEW DELHI: Restrictions have been eased and over 50,000 landline phone connections have been restored in parts of the Kashmir Valley, nearly two weeks after severe restrictions were imposed in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of the government's big move to end special status to the state. The Jammu and Kashmir police said the prohibitory orders, banning large gatherings, have been relaxed in parts of the valley for the time being. Heavy security, however, continue to be in place. In Jammu region, mobile internet connections were restored in five districts.

Jammu and Kashmir has been under an unprecedented security cover and prohibitory orders banning large gatherings since August 4 - a day before the government announced that it was ending special status for the state and said it will bifurcate it into two union territories.

I-T Dept tracking unaccounted **DeMo cash**

NEW DELHI: In a bid to seize illegal cash, the Income Tax Department has issued a 17-point checklist to tax commisioners across the country to track those who deposited unaccounted cash during demonetisation.

In a directive to the Principal Chief Commissioners of Income Tax and Principal Director Generals of Income Tax, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said that in conitinuation of the handling of cases related to demonetisation, a verification checklist of cash deposits has been prepared to assist the assessing officers so that deviant cases can be taken up for further study. The CBDT move is aimed at spreading the department's net wide and deep to catch those who deposited unaccounted cash during demonetisation.

Polavaram reverse tendering starts

VIJAYAWADA: The AP government has issued a notification inviting fresh tenders for Polavaram project works worth Rs 4,900 crore on Saturday. The project includes head works worth Rs 1,800 crore and hydel project works worth Rs 3,100 crore.

The benchmark prices are equivalent to the Transstroy Company rates in 2014, quoted for 14% less and the addition of standard service rates. Full report in Page 4

TODAY

Panchangam

Month & Paksham:

Shravana & Krishna Paksha

Tithi: Tritiya 01:13 am(Next Day)

Nakshatram: Purva Bhadapada 04:55 pm **Time to Avoid:** (Bad time to start

any important work) **Rahukalam:** 05:02 pm – 06:36 pm

Yamagandam: 12:19 pm – 01:54 pm **Varjyam:** 03:41 am - 05:28 am

Gulika: 03:28 pm - 05:02 pm

Good Time: (to start any important work) **Amritakalam:** 07:55 am - 09:43 am Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:54 am - 12:45 pm

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Isolated Thunderstorms Temp: 32/24 Humidity: 76% **Sunrise:** 05.59 **Sunset:** 06.40 Current Weather Conditions

Updated August 17, 2019 5:00 PM

Pak-China bid to internationalise J&K broken 'piece by piece' at UN

The rare closed-door consultations on Kashmir by the UN Security Council ended without any outcome or statement from the powerful 15-nation UN organ, dealing a huge snub to Pakistan and its all-weather ally China to internationalise the issue, which an overwhelming majority stressed is a bilateral matter between New Delhi and Islamabad. The informal consultations, requested for by China, lasted over an hour on Friday after which Beijing's Ambassador to the UN Zhang Jun and Pakistan's UN envoy Maleeha Lodhi made remarks to the media at the UN Security Council stakeout one by one. The two left without taking any question from the reporters.

Sources familiar with the con-



sultations told news agency Press Trust of India that China was pushing for an outcome or a press statement to be delivered after the consultations by Poland, the President of the Security Council for the month of August. The UK also sided with China in calling for a statement

"Pakistan raising Kashmir at the UN doesn't have any traction. This time also it did not get any traction at all. There was no outcome, no statement from Poland, as UNSC President, after the consultations," the sources added. Majority of the 15 members said there should not be any statement or outcome

India isolates Pakistan in diplomatic war

NEW DELHI: On Friday morning, India secured a major diplomatic victory at the UN by reiterating its unequivocal position on Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistan being the cradle of terror. By restating its position on how Pakistan remains a rogue state indulging in unabashed state sponsored terror through proxies, India once again notched up major brownie points with the world community at large. Pakistan's isolation is complete and Imran Khan's last minute attempt to speak to Donald Trump also appears to have failed. The most important part is that the UN Security Council acknowledged India's measures to bring normalcy and development to Kashmir and wants all countries to follow suit. India's diplomatic encirclement of Pakistan has been a success with the primacy of its position over Jammu and Kashmir being undisputed and unchallenged. Barring China, the world has accepted India's position including the Arab world, formerly sponsors and supporters of Pakistan. But it is clear that even they are fed up.

issued after the consultations and statement in its national capactheir will prevailed, leaving ity followed by Pakistan. China to come out and make a

Arun Jaitley on life support; leaders throng AIIMS Dhanoa, the sources said. The

Several politicians including Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, Union minister Piyush Goyal, and Congress leaders Abhishek Singhvi and Jyotiraditya Scindia visited ÁIIMS here on Saturday to enquire

about the health condition of former finance minister Arun Jaitley, who has been put on life support system, sources said. Others who visited the All India Institute of Medical Sciences to enquire about his

health are Union Health

Minister Harsh Vardhan, BJP's

Satish Upadhyay and Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh

today to enquire about the health condition of former finance and defence minister, and senior BJP leader Shri Arun Jaitley. I met his family and consoled them and

66-year-old leader has been

put on life support system and

a multidisciplinary team of

doctors is monitoring his con-

dition, they said. BSP chief

and former Uttar Pradesh chief

minister Mayawati also visited

'I visited AIIMS

the hospital.

prayed to the almighty that he recovers soon," Mayawati tweeted at 01.06 pm on Saturday. Vardhan had said on Friday, "Doctors at AIIMS are doing the best they can."



Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao during his inspection of Yadadri temple works on Saturday. Minister Jagadeesh Reddy,

Slow pace of Yadadri temple works irks CM KCR

Engineering head replaced, new official to take charge tomorrow

PNS YADADRI

Deeply disturbed at the slow pace of Yadadri temple development works, Chief Minister Chandrasekhar Rao on Saturday blasted the officials concerned and demanded to

know whether they needed "another five years" to complete the project. KCR breathed fire at the engineering staff in particular and decided then and there to replace the engineering head of the Yadagirigutta Temple Development Authority

with "a more efficient officer". Official sources later said, the official, Executive Engineer Vasanth Kumar, will be replaced by Chief Engineer Mohan Naik with effect from

Continued on Page 2

Ravindra Jadeja gets Arjuna

PNS NEW DELHI

The 12-member selection committee picked 19 sportspersons for the Arjuna Award, including the likes of cricketers Ravindra Jadeja and Poonam Yadav, track and field stars Tejinder Pal Singh Toor, Mohammed and Anas Swapna Barman, footballer Gurpreet Singh Sandhu, hockey player Chinglensana Singh

Kangujam and shooter

Anjum Moudgil. Jadeja has been an integral part of India's Test and ODI teams in the past few years. He is one of the key members of the Indian

> team that rose to world number one in Tests. Rio Paralympics silver medallist Deepa Malik was on Saturday nominated for the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna, the country's highest sporting honour, joining Asian Commonwealth Games champion wrestler

Bajrang Punia.

Maior fire breaks out in AIIMS

PNS NEW DELHI

A fire broke out on two floors of a building in the AIIMS hospital here, leading to panic among the people in the premier medical institution, officials said on Saturday.

No casualties have been reported so far.

The fire in the PC building, which does not have patients and mainly comprises doctors' rooms, but is situated near the emergency block, has now been brought under control.

suggesting investments in

gold and other precious met-

als amid these uncertain

times as an insurance against

investors have a full allocation

to precious metal investments

"We now recommend all

economic uncertainty.

'The great Gold bull run has begun'

May cross Rs 40,000 per 10 gram by Diwali

PNS MUMBAI

Amid global growth concerns and heightened trade tensions between the US and China, gold prices might cross the Rs 40,000 mark by Diwali, analysts have said. Typically, the demand for

gold reflects the expectations about the future, the prices of the precious metal tends to rise amid uncertain economic situations or political upheaval. Currently the October contract of gold was priced at Rs 37,995 per 10 gram on the Multi-Commodity Exchange (MCX). "Demand for the premarily owing to the decline in global growth rate.

cious metal may slow down



slightly owing to some easing in trade tension between US

and China, but over the trend Brooking.

is negative. We see gold prices around Rs 39,000 to 40,000 per 10 gram by Diwali, " said Anuj Gupta of Angel Gupta explained that the

gold prices were surging pri-

Experts globally are also

in their portfolio," said a Gohring and Rozencwajg report.
"We believe the bear mar-

ket in gold has run its course and a new bull market has begun.' Lower interest rate by cen-

tral banks and the ongoing trade dispute between the two biggest economies, the US and China, were supporting the gain in gold prices.

Onions supply to city disrupted, prices shoot

• Heavy rains in Maha have damaged large quantities of the crop

PNS HYDERABAD

Onion is back at doing what it does best - reduce you to tears even as you pay through your nose. Prices of the commodity in the twin cities have shot up after imports from Maharashtra were affected badly on accounting of heavy rains there. Wholesale prices of onions have risen to Rs 2,500 a quintal, from about Rs 1,600-Rs 1,800 till about two weeks ago. The higher costs

are bound to have an even bigger impact on prices down the retail

Of the total onion imports, 90 per cent are sourced from Maharashtra. Traders in the city said that large quantities of onion crop have been destroyed in Maharashtra because of heavy rains. This has affected exports from the neighbouring state to many places, including the twin cities.





◄he international spotlight is on Jammu & Kashmir more due to suppression of free speech and trampling of human rights in the state than abrogation of Art 370 of the Constitution. Within India, a large majority is convinced that 'One-Índia, one-Constitution' is an idea whose time has come even if a price has to be paid by shutting off all modes of

communication, including

mass media Impartial voices in democracies, which concur with India's line that scrapping Art 370 is an internal matter and does not disturb the international status quo, do not see any conviction in the Government's claim that reasonable restrictions on free speech and freedom of move-

Free speech must be restored in J&K without much ado The Centre shut down all landline and

they feel, could have handled the fall-out differently without infringing on the human rights of the Kashmiris. The Centre shut down all

landline and mobile telephones, prevented newspaper offices from publishing dailies or weeklies, and yanked off cable television and internet. This left people with the Government-run Doordarshan and some satellite channels as the only (oneway) channels of communication with the outside world. In today's world, one would feel like being in jail if his mobile phone and television set are taken away.

As it happens during any such information vacuum (BBC announced Indira Gandhi's death immediately, while Indian media waited for an official announcement till

mobile telephones and yanked off cable television. In today's world, one would feel like being in iail if his mobile phone and television set are taken away

evening), foreign television networks gratefully fill it. This is exactly what BBC TV and Al-Jazeera did on the first Friday after Parliament passed the Bill for revoking Art 370. They telecast two video clips of a procession of demonstrations in Srinagar and crackling sound of gunfire. Separately, there were reports of casualties and images of those who sustained eye injuries in pellet firing by

Sections of the pro-Government channels and social media went into over-

drive to debunk BBC and Al-Jazeera. They contended that the images were fake because the demonstrations were held in Pak-occupied Kashmir. Several flags of Pak-based terrorist outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad could be seen in the crowd. Both networks did not produce proof of the authenticity or identify the source, though BBC said it stood by the report. After J & K Chief Secretary B. V. R. Subramanyam denied that there was even a single civilian casualty, it was his word

against theirs.



S NAGESH KUMAR Former Resident Editor, The Hindu

Could the situation have been handled differently to avoid opprobrium in the western media which influences the foreign policy of those countries? Could the detention three former Chief Ministers and other Kashmiri leaders have been avoided? Do the curbs on media, the com-

munication blackout and curfew-like conditions constitute reasonable restrictions? The answer to all questions would emphatically be NO. We are not a dictatorship like China and North Korea where the solution to every problem flows from the barrel of a gun. At the same time, freedom

of speech cannot be absolute. Akbaruddin Owaisi and Raja Singh, MLAs, cannot be allowed to run amok with hate speeches. Ask anyone living near the borders the kind of havoc that rumour-mongering and fear-mongering can play with their lives. The restrictions may be based on culture (not many developing countries would brook England's tabloid journalism or certain lifestyle magazines of the US) or compulsions of national security.

China is a good example of

what India should not do. Except for allowing international media to cover the protests in Hong Kong against Xi Jin Ping regime's move to extradite suspects to mainland China, large parts of the country like Tibet and Xinjiang Province remain off-bounds. Friendly media and pro-China journalists are escorted to these regions and they write effusive pieces of how happy people there are living. Their credibility takes a nosedive

puff pieces. India needs no lecturing even from democracies, particularly the non-China, non-Russia members of P5 in the UN Security Council, about freedom of speech. How many times did the British media condemn terrorism perpetrated by Pakistan, the nation

because knowledgeable read-

ers can make out that these are

its leaders created? Why, the BBC hardly took notice when Pakistanis hurled eggs and missiles at Indians celebrating Independence Day outside the High Commission in London! When did the White House under President Donald Trump's watch hold its last briefing in the Press Briefing Room

India has to chalk out its own path based on the fact that it is flanked by hostile nations on either side, unlike USA whose nearest enemy is thousands of miles away. It has a distinct culture, a diverse population of 1.3 billion, a history replete with conquests and defeats, and lastly, a bittersweet tryst with democracy. It is two weeks since Article 370 was abrogated. The time has come to scrap all restrictions, particularly those on the media, without much ado.

6 TS districts

get top ranks

in sanitation

Six districts from Telangana found place in the list of Top

Ten districts in the country in

the Swachhta Darpan rank-

ings that were announced by

the Union Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation under the Swachh

Bharath Mission on Saturday.

Darpan Phase III district-

wise rankings, Karimangar,

Warangal, Jagitial, Kamareddy, Peddapalli and Rajanna-

Siricilla were among Top 10

districts which have achieved

the distinction of being Open

In fact, Telangana has per-

formed so well that all these

six districts have shared first

rank with Devbhoomi

Dwarka district in Gujarat

and Rewari district in

The top-ranking districts got a total score of 100. The

score was given to districts based on their performance in terms of ODF efforts, IEC

and capacity building and

Haryana.

Defecation Free (ODF).

According to the Swachhta

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

OFFICIALS FAIL TO RESPOND DESPITE HEAVY INFLUX OF TOURISTS

Nightmare at Sagar: Traffic snarls, poor facilities greet tourists

J DEEPTHI NANDAN REDDY

Although lakhs of people are thronging scenic spots around the Nagarjuna Sagar Project (NSP) areas these days to catch rare glimpses of the Krishna River in spate; traffic snarls en route, official apathy, and lack of facilities at the site are giving jitters to many people.

Considering that NSP has been getting heavy inflows after almost after a decade, forcing officials to open all the spillway gates, the popular project site is attracting tourists in record numbers. With long weekends and holidays in between, many people are eager to make the most of a visit there now.

According to estimates of local people, more than one lakh people have visited the project daily over the last week, with the numbers swelling on weekends and shooting up on the Independence Day. The deluge of tourists is expected to continue for at least the next two weeks, with the numbers going up exponentially on weekends.

Amidst ecstatic tourist interest, there is mounting anger among people due to improp-

er planning and lack of coordination among officials. There are many complaints of massive traffic jams. Even drinking water and toilets are not available for many of the tourists, raising several questions about tourist infrastructure at a popular tourist spot.

While normally it takes just 3 hours to reach Nagarjuna Sagar, we had to go through an arduous journey for more than

Continued from Page 1

On the request of the shocked

officials, the Chief Minister is

likely to appoint an officer of

to supervise the rest of the tem-

During a review at Harita

Hotel here on Saturday, KCR

lost his cool over the delayed

works in areas other than those

relating to the main temple

employees of the temple

authority to pinpoint the date

by which they would complete

The Chief Minister report-

ple-related works.

5 hours when we visited recently. Vehicles were stuck in the traffic iam for kilometers near Nagarjuna Sagar. Unable to drive, we parked our car beside the road and walked to the project site for more than 5 kilometres. There were no police or other officials to regulate or tourists," said Harivardhan Reddy, a tourist

from Hyderabad, complaining

about the utter lack of facilities.

It has been more than a week since the footfalls have multiplied at NSP. Still, neither Tourism Department officials nor police personnel have taken any specific steps to manage the crowds. The district administration and NSP officials too have turned a blind eve to the nettlesome problems. With neither toilets nor drinking water, women and children suffered most.

As on Saturday evening, the Nagarjun Sagar project received inflow of 7.15 lakh cusecs in the last 24 hours, while the outflow was 7.33 lakh cusecs

When The Pioneer contacted M Sivaji, district tourism officer of Nalgonda, he said that he would take stock of the situation and address the traffic problem first. He mentioned that the last time Nagarjuna Sagar witnessed such tourist influx was in 2009. The Tourism Department will assess the tourist influx this season and take appropriate measures, he assured.

As on Saturday evening Nagarjun Sagar received inflow of 7.15 lakh cusecs in the last 24 hours, while the outflow was 7.33 lakh cusecs. Water was at 586 ft against FRL of 590 ft with 300 TMC in the project.

Mining will pollute Krishna water: Revanth

PNS HYDERABAD

TPCC working president and Malkajgiri MP A Revanth Reddy stated that not only Nallamala but the entire Telangana state will be affected with the uranium mining. He said that the rare species, medicinal plants and tribal community would be affected severely with the uranium mining in Nallamala forests. He warned that they will dig crowbar in the hearts of officials, who comes for uranium mining in Nallamala forests.

On Saturday, Revanth Reddy organised a roadshow at Amrabad mandal in Nagarkurnool district in the context of giving permissions to uranium mining in Nallamala forests. Later, Revanth Reddy alleged that Krishna water will be polluted with the nuclear dust which evolves from the uranium min-

Revanth Reddy called upon the people to obstruct the officials who comes for survey. He also called upon the people to boycott the

I will continue my fight on the issue till Chief Minister gives an assurance that the government will not take up uranium mining in Nallamala forests

—REVANTH REDDY

TRS and BJP leaders, who are extending their support to uranium mining, socially till the state and central governments makes clear statement saying that they are withdrawing permissions for uranium survey in Nallamala forests.

He made it clear that he will continue his fight on the issue till Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao

gives an assurance that the government will not take up uranium mining in Amrabad forests. He said that he will stand by the side Nallamala people in this regard. Former Vamshikrishna

and others pre-

other initiatives. Besides these first-ranking districts, seven more districts from Telangana found place

in the Top 100 districts in Swachhata Darpan rankings. While Mahabubnagar district got 19th rank, Wanaparthy district got 20th

Onions supply to city...

Continued from Page 1

Onion imports to main markets in twin cities at the Malakpet wholesale onion Bowenpalli, market, Begumbazar Secunderabad markets has diminished.

The retail price of one kg of onion has risen to Rs 30 against Rs 20 two weeks ago. Every day, about 100-130 lorries carrying onions reach the markets here. During the past two or three days, that number decreased to about 30 lorries, said traders expressing concern over further rise in onion prices.

HYDERABAD **BULLION RATES**







precincts.

Passenger Amenities Committee (PAC) chairman over issues related to cleanliness at the stations.

Krishna Das complimented PM Narendra Modi.

The committee members

Slow pace of Yadadri temple works irks Chief Minister KCR Chief Minister, and the tasks involved in completing the rest of the works, the YTDA and district

Some of them later picked up courage and told KCR that the rank of the Chief Engineer proposals seeking allocation of Rs 473 crore for temple development works were awaiting clearance by the government. He then offered to speak to the Finance Department to get the funds released. KCR later sanctioned Rs 50 crore on the spot to get the temple works edly asked the flustered

> Officials given three months' time

all temple development works. KCR pushed officials to Considering the mood of the complete the remainder of

the works taken up to give facelift to the Yadadri temple in two or three months, considering that works relating to officials remained tight-lipped. the main precincts of the

shrine are almost through. The Chief Minister, who spent over two and half hours atop Yadagirigutta, inspected each and every component of the works planned and gave appropriate instructions to officials on the spot.

Giving break-up of the total expenditure till date, KCR said that Rs 235 crore was spent for giving facelift to the main temple, Rs 109 crore for acquiring land for development of roads and Rs 103 crore for providing basic

amenities. As the government had decided to conduct Maha Sudarsana Yagam in February 2020, the cottages and other amenities should be ready in advance, he suggested. The Maha Sudarshana Yagam will be performed with 3,000 ritwiks, 3,000 Vedic scholars and 3,000 other priests assisting them. The Yagam will be performed by setting up 1,048 yaga kundams.
Elders in Central govern-

ment, CMs of states, Governors and other VIPs would take part in the event. Vedic scholars and priests from 45 countries would be present. With about one lakh people expected from across the country, all arrangements should be in place, he underlined. The CM clarified that there would be no ceremony to throw open the Yadadri temple since the shrine was not being built afresh.

Works inspected

KCR inspected the temple gopurams, queue lines, prasad counters, Dwaja Stamba (flag post), idols of Alwars and those of deities guarding the main entrance to the sanctumsanctorum, Sayana Mandir, internal boundary walls, hundi collection counting area, temple lake, Siva temple, tank where annual Teppotsavam would be held.

hour meeting to review the progress of works, he warned officials not to be lackadaisical in their approach. R and B Minister Prashant Reddy would be visiting Yadadri every week and directly supervise the works, he said.

KCR wanted the development of ring road, construction of presidential suites, cottages, electric sub-station and other related works to be completed in the next two or three months. The temple city should have at least 250 cottages. Corporate firms and donors were ready to give Rs 400 crore for temple development works, he said.

The Gandi tank, located at the foot of Yadadri Hills, should be developed so that the annual float festival could be held there with water drawn from Kaleswaram. There should be separate facilities for men and women to get their heads tonsured, he said.

Since the Baswapur tank region would be developed on the lines of the Brindavan Gardens in Mysuru, state-ofthe-art Harita Cottage and a convention center should be built there, he mentioned.

Ministers Indrakaran Reddy, Jagadish Reddy and Prashant Reddy, Rajya Sabha member Santosh Kumar and others accompanied the CM.

Passengers' body seeks more amenities from SCR

PNS HYDERABAD

PK Krishna Das and members G Premendar Reddy and C Ravindran and Kaku Vijayalaxmi met SCR general manager Gajanan Mallya at Rail Nilayam in Secunderabad

SCR authorities for maintaining high standards of cleanliness at Kacheguda, Hyderabad and Secunderabad railway stations. He said the standard of cleanliness at stations was in keeping with the 'Swachh Bharat' campaign initiated by

suggested that scanners be



installed at Secunderabad Parcel office to ensure safety, baby feeding rooms are set up at Hyderabad railway station and more women constables are appointed to strengthen the

talked of SCR's efforts in providing various passenger-related amenities like more escalators and lifts for goods, raising height of platforms, improving lighting at stations, provision of free Wi-Fi at all stations and mainte-Gajanan Mallya on his part nance of highest cleanliness

and Secunderabad railway stations standards at all places under its

Passenger Amenities Committee

standards of cleanliness at

Kacheguda, Hyderabad

chairman Krishna Das complimented

SCR authorities for maintaining high

The SCR focused on Swachh Rail-Swachh Bharat mission to ensure trains and services are made passenger-friendly. Mallya said that SCR is a 100 per cent LED-lit zone which helps save about Rs 7 crore every year. The zone has provided free Wi-Fi facility at 200-plus stations and is planning to extend it to 700 stations in the current year.

The zone is focusing on new railway line projects and doubling and tripling of tracks to provide more passenger ser-

John Thomas, additional GM, John Prasad, principal chief commercial manager, G M Eswara Rao, principal chief security commissioner, Anand Bhatia, divisional railway manager, Secunderabad Division, among others, participated.

Pak-China bid to internationalise J&K...

Continued from Page 1

India's Permanent Representative to the UN Syed Akbaruddin in his remarks to the media said that he will present New Delhi's national position too, adding "If national statements try to masquerade as the will of the international community," a reference to statements by China and Pakistan.

Further, an "overwhelming" number of UN Security Council members maintained that Kashmir is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan that they need to address themselves, a rebuff to

Islamabad's intention to inter-

nationalise Kashmir, according to sources privy to the internal discussions.

China, a permanent member with veto, had asked for a meeting in the Council. As per UNSC procedures, Council members can ask to bring up any issue for discussion. Everybody will ask for something or the other." For such closed consultations, there are no record, nor any minutes of the meeting.
Sources with knowledge of

the proceedings said that $\bar{i}n$ its discussions with UNSC members, India was able to break down "piece by piece" each of the arguments. India's approach was very clear.

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication for binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements

Printed and published by B Krishna Prasad for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., Phone: 040-23322341, Hyderabad Office: F-502, Diamond Block, Lumbini Rockdale, Somajiguda, Hyderabad - 500 082. Telangana. Printed at Jagathi Publications Ltd, D 75, E 52, Industrial Estate, Balangar, Hyderabad -500 037, Medchal -Malkajgiri District, Telangana. Chief Editor: Chandan Mitra. Resident Editor: B Krishna Prasad, AIR SURCHARGE of Rs 2.00.

Man posing as vigilance officer nabbed

HYDERABAD: A 39-year-old man was nabbed on Saturday by sleuths of Commissioner's Task Force for committing offences by posing as a

vigilance department officer. The accused was identified as Smith Sethi alias Vivek Varma, a native of Jagannath

Accused

Nagar of Smith Seth Bhubaneswar said the police. Police seized Rs 37.000 of swindled money and two mobile phones from him. The accused had approached an ayurvedic clinic on July 30 by posing as a vigilance officer and extorted Rs 17,000 from the practitioner. On August 2, he went to another clinic at Quilla Road in Nizamabad and extorted Rs 20,000 from another person. On Saturday, based on credible information. the Task Force team laid a trap and apprehended the accused following which he was handed over to Marredpally police for further investigation.

Theft in techie's house: Rs 4-lakh jewellery stolen

HYDERABAD: A software employee's house at Telecom Nagar in Gachibowli was burgled during daytime on Friday. Thieves stole gold and silver jewelry worth Rs 4 lakh from the house. The victim, identified as Anand paramashivan, is a 31-year-old software engineer working at Mindspace. According to the police, Anand and his wife left for work at 12.30 pm. When they returned home at 8:30 at night, they noticed that the lock of the kitchen door broken, the steel almirah was broken open and gold and silver jewellery worth Rs 4 lakh was stolen. While checking, police identified that the thieves gained entry into the house through the bathroom ventilator and made good their escape through the kitchen door after burgling the house.

Abducted 5-year-old girl traced

HYDERABAD: A five-year-old girl, who was kidnapped by an unknown person on Monday, was rescued and handed over to her parents by Ramgopalpet police on Friday. The infant, Fatima, is the daughter of Raju and Hajira who live in Yapral. Fatima was kidnapped from the Nallagutta area near Secunderabad by a man who had met the parents moments before. Police said as Fatima had developed a high fever he brought her along with his wife and two other kids to Niloufer Hospital on Sunday. The next day being Bakrid, Raju decided to stay back at Secunderabad Railway station. There, a person later identified as Saleem befriended him. The next day, as Fatima was running fever, Raiu handed over the child to Saleem and asked him to take care of her. When he returned a few hours later, he found Saleem and the child missing, police said. Based on his complaint, police formed 20 teams and tracked down the child to Kishanbagh

New authority to monitor development works in city

Third-party agency will verify works taken up by GHMC, water board, etc. to ensure deadlines and quality norms are met

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

An autonomous third-party agency will be set up and entrusted with the task of monitoring and verifying development works being carried out in Hyderabad. The agency will consist of retired engineers and road-construction experts, who will have powers to not just check various works but also penalise contractors and others that execute the projects in case of irregularities.

The idea of setting up a third-party inspecting authority has been mooted by GHMC Commissioner M Dana Kishore at a meeting in Hyderabad on Saturday.

At the meeting held at Metro Rail office in Begumpet, official said 10 departments which take up the development works in the city -- including GHMC, HMWS&SB, Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL), Roads and Puilding (D&P). Control and Buildings (R&B), Central Power Distribution Company Limited (CPDCL), TS Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC), HMDA, NHAI, Hyderabad Road Development Corporation (HRDCL), and the Transmission Corporation of Гelangana (TSTransco) - will be monitored for following norms related to construction and restoration works during



GHMC Commissioner Dana Kishore with officails at the meeting on Saturday

Project works are taken up but often not completed on time or are just abandoned. This causes trouble to other departments

excavation of roads in the city. These government departments and others regularly execute various works in Hyderabad.

To check whether works are being carried out with proper

PNS HYDERABAD

Bai, 45. The three absconding

accused were identified as

The arrest was made fol-

lowing a complaint pertaining

to their latest crime commit-

ted on July 26 when they

broke into the house of P

Satish Reddy, a resident of

Tarnaka, and stole gold orna-

ments, a diamond ring and

cash of Rs 1.40 lakh,

Commissioner Anjani Kumar

The Investigating Officer in

the case, L Ramesh Naik, and

his team visited the scene of

crime and collected evidence,

verified CCTV footage and

Moukham, all from MP.

Timtim,

Police

Elephants in captivity remain stressed, finds CCMB study

Using them in processions, manned by semi-skilled mahouts also affects their behaviour adversely

Bheemlesh,

Hyderabad

said.

approvals, quality standards, safety measures and time schedule, an agency will be set up that will work independently. This will streamline the development works and ensure quality," said M Dana

All the government bodies which are executing works in Greater Hyderabad limits will allot Rs 10 lakh each for setting up and functioning of the autonomous body.

Kishore.

Most of the time, these corporations take up excavation works but do not complete them on time or just abandon them midway. This causes trouble to other departments, Dana Kishore said.

Officials, therefore, have decided to set up a voluntary special system, a third-party team to oversee all tasks, such as maintenance of work, care, safety compliance, and inspection of the civic works.

"The third-party agency will do a detailed inspection of development works, right from tenders stage to completion. It will mainly focus on works which will impact people's everyday life like laying of roads, water supply, construc-tion of drainages, bus stops and others. A committee consisting of officials from all departments like HMWSSB, HMRL, TRANSCO and others has been constituted to decide on the exact roles, the extent of power and other aspects of the third-party agency," Dana Kishore added.

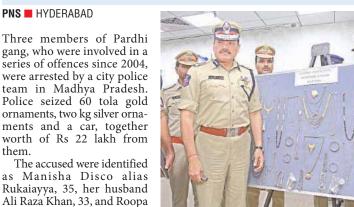


Man jumps off water tank

PNS HYDERABAD

Depressed after his wife deserted him, a man jumped off an overhead water tank at Kadavergu village in Siddipet district on Saturday in a bid to commit suicide. He sustained multiple injuries and was rushed to Gandhi Hospital in Secunderabad.

Police said the man, identified as Kommu Yadagiri, was depressed after his wife refused to return to their house even after repeated pleas. Yadagiri is an alcoholic and had threatened in the past to end his life if his wife did not to return. On Saturday, he climbed on to the overhead tank in the village in an inebriated condition and threatened to jump off even as his parents and other villagers pleaded with him, leaving the entire village in a shock, police said. A video of the episode shot by a village youth spread



Police Commissioner Anjani Kumar with the booty recovered from the accused

Accused confessed to 12 offences and had several cases pending against them

other technical evidence. 'On August 1, the team went to Bhopal in MP and apprehend the gang members on August 4. They were brought to the Osmania University police station and

on August 5. Officials also

recovered the stolen property in the latest case and remanded them to judicial custody. "The accused confessed to committing 12 offences and had cases pending in Hyderabad, Rachakonda, Cyberabad, Warangal Commissionarates and AP state, the commissioner said.

The gang consists of six members, with Manisha Disco being the mastermind. She operates with the help of one or two members of the gang. Usually, they come by train and commit offences in areas near the railway station.

between 1989 and 2003 with an

average of 10 man-slaughters in

The team checked for glu-

cocorticoid metabolites (stress

hormones) levels in 870 fecal

samples of 37 captive elephants

(24 males and 13 females)

from 4 elephant facilities -Mysore Zoo, Mysore Dusshera Camp, Mudumalai elephant camp and Bandhavgarh ele-

phant camp. Elephants involved in public procession

in Mysore Dussehra festival

had significantly elevated stress

hormones compared to their

counterparts at Mysore zoo.

Elephants born in the wild and



Blaze in chemical factory; man suffers serious burns

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A major fire broke out in a chemical factory at Pashamylaram near Muthangi in Patancheru on Saturday morning, engulfing the unit in flames completely. One person was critically injured and property worth Rs 4 crore was gutted in the accident.

The fire that occurred at Nirmala Solvent Enterprises at around 5.15 am was preceded by a loud explosion, which

caused panic among locals. According to the police, an explosion occurred when a worker turned on a switch to release the solvent into a container. "A fire that broke out immediately, spread throughout the factory quickly as the chemicals that were stored in the factory were volatile," said Venugopal Reddy, Inspector of Police, BDL Bhanuru.

One person, identified as 45-year-old Akshay Lal, a native of Bihar working in the factory, was seriously injured in the incident. He is undergoing treatment at Gandhi hospital and his condition is stated to be critical, said the official. Two others, who were

Property worth Rs 4 crore gutted



The cylinders in which the chemicals were stored

injured, were being treated at the Government hospital, Sangareddy.

Seven fire tenders were rushed to the spot from Patancheru. Pashamylaram Industrial area, Sangareddy and Kondapur. The blaze took two hours to control.

The leaping flames quickly spread throughout the factory area due to the chemical present and windy conditions. Two paper factories sharing a compound wall with the chemical factory too got caught up in flames.

Fire officials and the police

suspect that short-circuit to be the cause of the fire. "However the exact cause can only be known once the factories inspector conducts an investi-

gation," said Venugopal Reddy. Eyewitnesses said that the two fire engines that rushed to the scene first quickly ran out of water. This could have led to the flame spreading further

and damaging more property.
Police said that property
worth Rs 3.5 to Rs 4 crore was damaged. An exact figure of though can be ascertained after the investigation is completed. Police registered a case and are investigating.

CCMB scientist bags award

PNS HYDERABAD

Dr K Thangaraj, chief scientist of city-based CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) has been awarded the prestigious JC Bose Fellowship for his scientific contributions in the field of population and medical genomics. The JC Bose fellowship is awarded by Science and Engineering Research Board of the Department of Science & Technology of the Union government to active scientists in recognition for their outstanding performance.



mizing the participation of

elephants in religious activities,

processions, and forest depart-

ment activities. Female ele-

phants between reproductive

age 20 and 55 years should not

be used for stressful activities

to not affect their reproductive

cycles. Adult male elephants

may be used for tourism and

patrolling activities that only

involve 3 to 4 hours a day in the

forests with adequate rest on

"Periodic monitoring of well-

ness and reproductive status by

outside experts should be done.

These with educating the ele-

phant handlers regarding the

alternate days.

Dr K Thangarai

Lights poles to add to

obstacles on footpath

The newly restored footpath alongside Artillery Centre near Mehdipatnam is being dug up to lay new street lights. Whether the precious sidewalk space is the right place to have street lights poles, only time will tell.

The footpath laid on this stretch is uneven -- wide at places and narrow in some other sections. Besides, it is dotted at several places with transformers and electric poles, with street vendors and tents of the homeless also occupying quite space on the footpath, especially near Artillery Centre entrance. The 'obstacles' on the pedestrians' pathway have been increasing

with each passing day. In a recent development, the GHMC is digging up the footpath right in centre of the footpath for laying street lamps. 'We were asked to put up street lights, about 20 along this stretch for there is poor lighting in the area at night," said Parvez, a contract worker with GHMC. "But there is not enough space for people to walk," added Parvez.

A pedestrian, who uses this footpath each day to get to work, said: "It is common to see motorcyclists get onto this pavement when there is traf-

hardly get obstacle-free space here, but it may get even worse fic congestion. There are ven-

Pedestrians in

Mehdipatnam

dors too, transformers and trees right on the pavement. Now they are erecting lamp poles. Where am I supposed to walk?" asked Lalitha.

"On the other side of the road, footpath rules are blatantly violated. The space for walking on that side is severerestricted by vendors and shopping malls and also used as parking space. Almost the entire footpath on the other side is a bane for pedestrians, and so many choose the road to walk upon, which is not safe either," she added.

GHMC officials claim that at all the roads in the city are taken up for periodic maintenance, which includes making sure that walkways have enough width and height, and they are clear of all kinds of obstructions. Despite all such claims, the walkway at Mehdipatnam, already littered with obstacles, is getting a series of poles for lighting.

HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Office of the Executive Engineer BPP Division Budha Purnima Project Building

Tender for the following works in BPP area, Hyderabad are invited SI. No.: 1, Location: Removing and Transporation of remains of Ganesh Idols during Idols immersion along the shore at NTR marg. SI. No.: 2, Location: Supply and Installation of "Grundfos" make Hydo Pneumatic System and CH Pumps at NTR Garden. SI. No.: 3, Location: Supply and Fixing of Retro Reflective Sign Boards at LOVE HYDERABAD, Jalavihar And near Electrical

DIPR No.-164-PP/CL Agency/Advt/1/2019-20

Pole No. 91 & 92 at central median, Necklace Road. The Last date for submission of the bid is on 26.08.2019 upto 3.30 P.M. For Further details visit www.tender.telangana.gov.in

(CCMB) Hyderabad. The study which was pub-

More than 20 percent of Asian elephants live in captivity and are an essential workforce for forest departments across India, eco-tourism companies, and for religious purposes which promote increased use of non-traditional or unskilled and inexperienced mahouts leading to different physical and physiological stresses influence the behaviour on the

elephants. The unskilled mahouts are influencing long-term survival of the captive elephant, it is also inducing stress and influencing fertility rates among the elephant populations across the country," suggests a study led by Dr G Umapathy, Principal Scientist, Laboratory for the Conservation of Endangered Species, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology

lished in a recent issue of the



An elephant decorated with finery walking on the road amid a sea of people

ournal "Animals" suggests that: casualties too.' "Higher violence in the stressed elephants resulted in human has a long tradition of keeping

In the state of Kerala which

manslaughter by captive elephants have been recorded

captive elephants, 274 cases of

different husbandry practices. A previous study by CCMB scientists demonstrated that chronic stress affected female reproductive cycle eventually affected reproduction in ele-

The study suggests mini-

females had significantly highwelfare of elephants is of er stress level when exposed to utmost importance," said Dr G various physical activities and "These findings, through non-invasive techniques, are important in better handling of domesticated animals and min-

imising their discomfort, that we were earlier not even aware of," says Dr Rakesh Mishra, Director, CCMB Hyderabad.

CAPSULE

Warangal lensmen win big in contest

WARANGAL: Six photographers from Warangal bagged best awards at the state-level photography competition held on the eve of World Photography day, which falls on August 19. Gotte Venkat of 'Namasthe Telangana' bagged the top award in the historic monument section, while Sampath of 'Eenadu' bagged the consolation prize in the News pictures section. In the Artisans section, Veeragoni Hareesh of 'Andhra Jyothi' bagged the prize, along with Chethi Srinivas of 'Velugu' newspaper. 'Hans India' lensmen G Shyam also bagged a prize in the culture category.

Indian envoy in US hosts lunch for Jagan

VIJAYAWADA: Indian Ambassador for the USA Harshavardhan Pringla, hosted a luncheon for Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy and his wife. The CM had earlier held a meeting with leaders of various sectors and met foreign affairs diplomats from South Asia. He also held a meeting with Irfan Nuruddin of the Atlantic Council Southern Asia Centre and invited Claudia Lilian, from the renowned pharmaceutical firm Gilid, to have a tie-up with the pharmaceutical firms in Andhra Pradesh, to manufacture medicines for HIV/ AIDS, and Hepatitis B and C. He called upon the Gilid management to make of the facilities available for manufacture of medicines and asked representatives to provide

TTD EO presents silks to Mutt

expertise to the pharma sector.

TIRUPATI: TTD Executive Officer Sri Anil Kumar Singhal offered traditional silks to Sri Raghavendra Swami Mutt at Mantralavam, TTD has been making the traditional offerings as a part of sanatana Hindu since 2006, during the annual Aradhana festivities of Sri Raghavendra swamy. Earlier the TTD EO was given traditional reception at the Mutt entrance and Srivari temple Bokkasam incharge Sri Gururaja Rao also participated in the event

Pending Aarogyasri dues hit poor patients

The Aarogyasri network hospitals suspended treatment under the scheme from the midnight of Thursday citing delay in clearing bills by the government. As a result, several patients who visited the network hospitals for treatment have to shell out money from their pockets to avail the treatment facilities. The hospitals had demand-

ed the State government to clear 70 per cent of dues by August 15. As the government failed to meet the deadline, the out-patient, in-patient and emergency services in the network hospitals have come to a grinding halt for Arogyasri card holders. Some of the patients who visited the network hospitals felt disappointed and went to Osmania, Gandhi and NIMS hospitals, while some others paid the treatment costs as demanded by private hospitals. Patients who are undergoing dialysis, were the most affected because of the decision of the network hospitals.

On an average, around 3,000 receive treatment as in-patients and 10,000 as out-patients per day in over 120 network hospitals, which treat an array of over 940 ailments in cashless transactions. The dues from government to network hospitals piled up to Rs 1,500 crore. When the hospitals protested in November last year, the government made an ad hoc payment of Rs 132 crore and promised to pay the rest soon. As the government failed to keep up its promise, the network hospitals took a serious view of the delay. As discussions with Health Minister Etela Rajender failed, the services remained paralysed on Saturday too.

The fever hospital here received the highest number of patients on Friday - 1,964. This is over and above the normal daily out patients of 900-

Of the 1,964, 76 are being patients have to wait in long



Several patients who visited network hospitals for treatment are shelling out money

Clear pending bills, TPCC tells state government

PNS HYDERABAD

TPCC vice-president Mallu Ravi alleged that TRS government has turned as a curse to the people of Telangana. He alleged that the Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao government is turning away the poor from the corporate treatment under Aarogyasri scheme by not releasing pending bills to the network hospitals.

On Saturday, in a statement, Mallu Ravi alleged the Aarogyasri network hospitals stopped services to the patients under Aarogyasri scheme as the government failed to release the pending bills. The private hospitals warned the state government several times demanding the release of pending bills but the government didn't respond to their warnings, he pointed out.

Ravi said that lakhs of poor patients were facing serious troubles with the

treated as in-patients. As there queues. Most of the patients were no enough number of have been suffering from fever, counters to handle the body-aches. Over and above, unprecedented rush, the the out patients that NIMS handles daily (1500), in all

poor patients.

1,983 visited the hospital on Friday. Most of them are Aarogyasri card holders. The emergency health care department received 160 cases, against the normal 120 per day. Osmania and Gandhi hospitals reported that the emergency cases increased by at least 20-30 per cent.

A dialysis patient of Vardhannapet of Warangal rural district has been undergoing treatment in a private hospital under the Aarogyasri scheme. When he visited the private hospital on Friday for dialysis, his health conditions deteriorated. He was recommended treatment in the ICU. Since the Aarogyasri services have been paralysed, the hospital put the cost of treatment at Rs 30,000 per day forcing relatives to send him to NIMS in Hyderabad.

Wazir Pasha (40) of Hanmakonda on Friday sustained critical injuries in a road accident and he was rushed to a private hospital, which advised surgery putting the cost at Rs 3-4 lakh as Aarogyasri scheme has been suspended. His relative Moĥammad Subhan expressed anguish not knowing how to raise such a huge amount. Because of the decision of network hospitals, road accident victims, dialysis

patients, those undergoing chemo and radio therapy have been hit hard. Those who planned for surgeries had to return out of despair. At some places, in case of medical emergencies, the patients were rushed to government hospi-

In Warangal alone, around 124 patients joined the MGM hospitals. In 96 network government hospitals, 13 corporate hospitals, 224 private hospitals and nursing homes, 50 dental hospitals, daily 1,000 patients register at Arogyasri counters. On the first day on Friday, only 40 per cent of these registered their names at the counters that too in government hospitals.

AP govt opts for reverse tendering, ignores PPA's advice

The CEO of Polavaram Project Authority (PPA), RK Jain, has written to Adityanadh Das, the special chief secretary to department of irrigation, advising the government of Andhra Pradesh going against the reverse tender process. However, the Ministry of Water Resources issued a notification calling for tenders again to execute works worth Rs 4,900 crore sticking to the decision to go in for reverse tendering of the Polavaram project works.

The letter created sensation among the political circles. Quoting the decisions arrived at the crucial August 13 meeting, the 10th emergency meeting of the Polavaram Project Authority held in Delhi, Jain advised the government of AP against opting for reverse tender to ensure quick completion of the project. The crucial meeting reviewed the contracts in force and the scope of retendering the remainder of the project works.

The letter asked Adityanadh Das to keep in mind the adverse impact of cancelling existing contractors before their deadline and going in for retendering of works. It felt that there was no basis for cancellation of contracts and calling for tenders again for the balance of works, Jain said quoting what transpired at the meeting.
He felt that the undesirable

practices like these would affect the future of the project and delay its execution further. It could lead to socio-economic adverse consequences. The benefits from the project would be delayed even further, he analysed.

Advising the state government to desist from taking drastic measures on the Polavaram project, he advised the state government to at a decision. Meanwhile, the state government did not bow an inch on its much-proclaimed stand on reverse tendering of the Polavaram project, setting aside the decision of the PPA.

The Andhra Pradesh government on Saturday issued a notification on the reverse tendering of the Polaaram project. The notification has been placed in the Ministry for Water Resources website. The notification called for reverse tenders pertaining to Rs 4,900 crore - to execute remainder of headworks work valued at Rs 1,800 crore and to execute Rs 3,100 crore hydel project

TRS leading by example in corruption: Laxman

BJP state president Dr. K Laxman came down heavily on Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao on Saturday and alleged that the TRS government is leading by example in corruption. He further alleged that the State government has increased the project cost of the Kaleshwaram Project from Rs 30,000 crore to nearly Rs 1,00,000 crore.

Addressing the media persons here in Karimnagar, the BJP state president said, "the State government wants to spend Rs 500 crore for building new secretariat, but is not ready to clear the pending bills of Aarogyasri network hospi-The resources in Karimnagar are being plundered in the name of Granite



Dr. K Laxman

industry by the KCR rule," he further said.

The family of Chief Minister is trying to take the advantage of the power for its vested interest and it is banking on scams in every scheme, he alleged and added that the state government was not keen on securing the national sta-tus for the Kaleshwaram pro-

Floodwaters enter Bhavani island

PNS VIJAYAWADA

The picturesque tourist spot of Vijayawada-Bhavani Islands - has come under the sheet of floodwaters.

The floodwater has entered the island on Saturday where there are 16 cottages, four tree top cottages and river houses for the benefit of tourists. All these are surrounded by floodwater and the gushing water entered the restaurants damaging them.

Robotic Park, which was a new addition has come under water. Along with tourism department manager's office, gardens, gaming zones are inundated.

Recently, the AP Tourism Development Corporation spent crores of rupees for the development of the island.

TS, AP lock horns over Pothireddypadu water

The Telangana engineer in chief has lodged a complaint with the Krishna River Management Board against the Andhra Pradesh government stating that the latter is drawing more water than allo-cated from Pothireddypadu head regulatory. The Telangana engineer in

chief, in his complaint, also alleged that the Andhra Pradesh officials are not allowing the joint team to visit Pothireddypadu. The Board will not have reliability in the case it fails to initiate action against Andhra Pradesh state, he said in his complaint. Reacting on the complaint lodged by the Telangana engineer in chief with Krishna Board, CPI Andhra Pradesh state secretary Ramakrishna addressed an open letter to the Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao on Saturday. Ramakrishna asked Chandrashekhar Rao to tell why the Telangana engineer in



chief lodged a complaint with the Krishna Board when the Andhra Pradesh state is giving water to Rayalaseema through Pothireddypadu head regulatory. "Will lodging a com-plaint with Krishna Board makes Rayalaseema as Rathnalaseema?", he questioned KCR.

The political circles are speculating that as to which angle the issue will turn. Already, officials of both the states took a different path in the meeting of Krishna Board at Hyderabad few days ago. The political experts are stating that the relations between the two states will not be spoiled with such small things as it will be solved easily.

Another section of political experts are stating that the Pothireddypadu issue played a key role during Telangana movement and it may stir hornets' nest once again as it was not correct on the part of Andhra Pradesh to deny the

Prof Tripathi urged the stu-

He also suggested them to

TS Engineer-in-Chief said that the AP officials are not allowing the joint team to visit **Pothireddypadu** reservoir

stoppage of Arogyasri ser

vices in private hospitals

across the state. "The gov-

ernment is least bothered

about it", he lamented. Ravi

questioned the state govern-

ment to tell as to what it was

doing all the funds instead of

clearing the bills of important

The TRS government made

Telangana, which was a sur-

plus state when it was creat-

ed, as a debt Telangana now

while borrowing lakhs of

crores of rupees, he slammed.

ernment to clear the pending

bills of Arogyasri network hospitals to do justice to the

He demanded the state gov-

issues like health sector.

entry of joint team to Pothireddypadu head regulatory spot. They also opined that water is plenty in Krishna River as of now and nobody will object if Andhra officials informed the same to the Telangana officials.

Not allowing officials to the Pothireddypadu head regulatory sounds awkward to the Telangana officials, an official from Telangana on condition of anonymity said. "Andhra officials have to be clear what they are doing. Why they are not allowing Telangana officials if they are fair enough?", he

'Stop drone monitoring, help people'

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Jana Sena President Pawan Kaylan on Saturday requested both the YSRCP and TDP to stop drone politics and work for the welfare of the people suffering from the aftermath of the floods. Lashing out at YSRCP

leaders who were hovering around houses on Karakatta, especially the house of former Minister Chief Chandrababu Naidu, Pawan advised them to concentrate on flood-affected areas where people were suffering owing

to the water deluge. The Ministers and MLAs were more worried about flood water entering the house of Naidu. They want to politicize the issue and belittle their arch-rivals. The basic duty of these leaders while the State is in crisis is to be with the poor people," he stat-

1,528 students graduate from NIT-Warangal

Cop assaults 80-year-old in Wanaparthy, leaves him hurt

In an incident that smacks of police high-handedness, an SI misbehaved with an 80-yearold cattle grazer when the buffaloes, he was taking to graze them, did not give way to the SI's car leading to the police official behaving rudely towards the old man. The official, identified as Vijaya Kumar was working as SI of Peddamadadi police station in the district.

The incident occurred when the SI was on his way to Peddamandadi in his car. When the buffaloes did not give way to the car, the SI, in a fit of rage came out, abused the cattle



The incident occurred when the Sub-Inspector was on his wav to Peddamandadi in his car

grazer, and pushed him onto the road. As a result, the victim sustained a critical injury on his kneecap. Immediately, his family members came to his rescue and got him treated at a hospi-

According to his family

members, the victim, identified as Madhava Reddy of Munigilla village, was hard of hearing in one of the ears. The family members have been breathing fire on the SI for attacking him without considering the victim's

senior citizen status.

Rajavardhan Reddy to join BJP today

Senior Congress leader Rajavardhan Reddy on Saturday resigned from the Congress and felt that the BJP is the only alternative to the TRS in the state. He announced to join the BJP formally in the presence of BJP working president JP Nadda on Sunday.

The Congress is reeling under severe problems on account of one leader after the other deserting it for saffron pastures. Levelling allegations against the party leaders on the eve of his joining the BJP, the senior leader accused Ramachandra Kuntia, incharge for Congress affairs in Telangana, N Uttam Kumar attention to groupism in the Reddy, TPCC president, of being in cohorts with TRS president K Chandrashekhar are going to join the saffron Rao and deliberately delayed party on Sunday.

He said the Congress has a bleak future in Telangana

issue of tickets to party candidates. Further, he said that the duo has been taking decisions to hurt the sentiments of

Moreover, the Congress high command paid no attention to MLAs quitting the party one after the other, he criticised and predicted bleak future for the party in the state. The party high command, in spite of complaining it to N party. He said that hundreds of Congress leaders and activists

to meet the cutthroat industry challenges in the present day world. He was delivering the convocation address at the the Congress activists. 17th convocation of NIT

Warangal here on Saturday. dents to serve the mankind without any prejudice of religion or cultural biases as we all are believer of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam". He asked the younger generation to follow the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi- "Skill, Speed, and Scale". adapt to new technologies such as blockchain, data science

Prof Nitin Kumar Tripathi, Director of Special Degree Programmes and Professor of Geoinformatics at Asian Institute of Technology Pathumthani, Thailand exhorted the engineering graduates to attain expertise in their domain

Students celebrate after the convocation ceremony at NIT-W on Saturday

and Artificial Intelligence (AI) as the economic landscape is growing at fast pace. Concluding his remarks, Prof Nitin Kumar advised the students to have optimistic and positive attitude to move ahead in the future and wished them a great career and happiness.

The chief guest congratulated the students on their splendid success and admired NIT Warangal for imparting exceptional knowledge to students,

enabling them to lead professionally rewarding life. Recalling his own experiences way back in 1980, he shared his memories as an NIT-W (REC Warangal then) student and how NIT-W became a torchbearer in the advancement of science and technology in this green landscape.

In his welcome address, the Director, Prof N V Ramana Rao, presented a report on the achievements of NIT Warangal

The chief guest for the convocation, **Prof Nitin Kumar Tripathi** congratulated the students on their success and praised NIT- Warangal for imparting exceptional knowledge to students

since the last convocation. The report captured the essence of nostalgia and fond memories of the Diamond Jubilee Year. He briefly mentioned some of the highlights of the report, which includes a series of open houses and lectures by eminent personalities, international conferences and workshops,

and establishment of new Labs. He said, this year, 35 research projects worth Rs 2,087.43 lakhs have been sanctioned by SERB/DST to various departments. He insisted NIT Warangal as conducted 51 Global Initiative of Academic Networks (GIAN) courses

which is the highest among all the NITs in the country. He mentioned that NIT Warangal secured 10 Research projects worth Rs.5.5 crore, with international collaboration under the Scheme for Promotion of Academic and Research Collaboration (SPARC). T-Works of Telangana government has come forward to

establish a full-fledged Makers space at Innovation centre in PPP (Public Private Partnership) model with an estimated funding of Rs 60 lakhs. The convocation ceremony progressed with the distribution of degrees to the stu-

dents by Prof N V Ramana Rao, Director, NIT Warangal. Following the conferring of degrees, S Goverdhan Rao, Registrar, NIT Waragal announced the roll of Honour Gold Medal Winners and name of Institute Gold Medal Winner. A record number of 1,528

candidates were awarded degrees. Out of those, 76 are Ph.D. egree awardees, 555are M. Tech. and other Post Graduate Degree awardees and 897 are B. Tech. Degree awardees. In each branch of Engineering, topper of the B. Tech. class is awarded Roll of Honour Gold Medal and the topper of all branches put together is awarded Institute Gold Medal. Ms. Y.Sahiti of Science Computer

&Engineering received Institute Gold Medal in the convocation for being the student with the highest CGPA among all the branches of

Disqualified AAP MLA Kapil,

women's wing chief join BJP

Disqualified Aam Aadmi Party

legislator Kapil Mishra and party women's wing chief Richa Pandey joined the BJP

Speculations about Mishra

joining the Bharatiya Janata

Party were doing the rounds

since he started criticising

AAP supremo and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal after

being removed as a minister in

May 2017. He grew close to many Delhi BJP leaders and

often shared stage with them.

the BJP at the party office here

in the presence of vice-presi-

dent Shyam Jaju and Delhi unit

chief Manoj Tiwari, former

Union minister Vijay Goel

and leader of Opposition in the

Mishra accused the AAP of

taking a U-turn from its prin-

ciples and anti-corruption

stand of the 'India Against

Corruption' movement, from

"I was feeling helpless for the past few years due to the mur-

der of the anti corruption

movement, lies and manipu-

lations of the party I was in," Mishra said. "Joining the BJP,

I feel like a man who has final-

Welcoming Mishra and Pandey into the BJP fold, Tiwari said: "I hope they will

serve Delhi by following the

policies of Prime Minister

ly reached the shore."

which it was born.

Assembly Vijender Gupta. Terming the occasion an "emotional moment" for him,

Mishra and Pandey joined

on Saturday.

SHORT READS

HP: Rohtang-Manali road blocked after heavy rain

SHIMLA: Vehicular traffic on the Rohtang-Manali road has been blocked following heavy rain on Saturday, the police said. The road was blocked after the water level in a nullah near Koksar police post in Kullu district rose instantly, Kullu Superintendent of Police (SP) Gauray Singh said, Several vehicles are stranded due to the road block but no loss of life or property has been reported, he

Man arrested for raping minor in **Odisha**

JAJPUR (ODISHA): A 51-yearold man has been arrested for allegedly raping a minor in Bari area of Odisha's Jajpur district, police said on Saturday. The accused, a neighbour of the nine-year-old girl, lured her with chocolates before taking her to his house in Ratnagiri area under Bari block on Thursday, a police officer said. "The man took her to his house where he raped her," said Chakrabarty Kanhar, Inspector In-Charge of Bari police station The girl, who had become unsonscious for a shortwhile. returned home and narrated the incident to family members, who then took the minor to the District Headquarters Hospital here. Based on a complaint lodged by her family members. Bari police conducted a raid on the house of the accused and apprehended him on Friday, they said. The man was arrested under different sections of the IPC and the POCSO Act.

Threat of economic recession looming over country: Mayawati

LUCKNOW: Expressing concern over the prevailing economic condition in the country, BSP chief Mayawati on Saturday said threat of an "economic recession" is looming over the country. "In the midst of serious issues like widespread unemployment, poverty, price rise, illiteracy, health, tensions/violence, the threat of an economic recession is looming over the country," she tweeted. "The trader community is dejected and worried. After job cuts, they are forced to commit suicide. The Centre must take

Modi leaves for Bhutan on two-day visit

this seriously," she added.

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday left for Bhutan on a two-day state visit to promote the "timetested friendship" between the two countries. In his departure statement issued on Friday, the prime minister said his visit to the Himalayan nation in the beginning of the current term reflects the high importance his government attaches to New Delhi's relations with Bhutan-a "trusted friend and neighbour". He expressed confidence that his visit will promote India's "time-tested and valued friendship" with Bhutan and consolidate it further for the prosperous future and progress of the

Eunuchs rob pregnant woman. her husband

people of both the countries.

GURGAON: A group of eunuchs robbed a pregnant woman and her husband on Friday when they visited their home in the upscale Sector 46 area of the city on the pretext of offering them blessings, police said. A case has been registered at Sector 50 police station and a special team has been formed to probe the incident, the police said. "We have registered an FIR of robbery under relevant sections of the IPC and investigation is underway," said Station House Officer Shahid Ahmed. In the police complaint the woman said that three eunuchs visited her house and demanded money. She said her husband offered them Rs 2,100 but they demanded Rs 2,1000. When they were negotiating. one of the eunuchs allegedly snatched the wallet, containing Rs 10,000, from her husband and fled. Another one of them tried to allegedly snatch the woman's gold chain but she managed to thawrt it and raised an alarm, she said. Fearing hey may be caught by locals, the eunuchs fled from the spot in a

'Don't know if Rane joining Cong was mistake or blunder'

PNS MUMBA

NCP chief Sharad Pawar has said that he cannot tell whether former Shiv Sena leader Narayan Rane's move of joining the Congress in 2005 was a mistake or a blunder.

He was speaking at the launch of Rane's autobiography here on Friday.
Pawar said that Rane had

two options- either to join the Congress or the NCP.

"He chose the Congress. I can't say whether it was a mistake or a blunder," Pawar said.

The NCP chief said that he had told Rane on the issue of being promised the post of chief minister by the Congress then, that the grand old party does not function on the basis of assurances.

"Congress doesn't function like this. I know since I have spent major part of my life there," Pawar said.

Rane, who has pockets of influence in the Konkan region of Maharashtra, was handpicked by Bal Thackeray as chief minister when he decid-



ed to remove the genial Manohar Joshi ahead of the 1999 Assembly elections.

However, Rane was expelled by Bal Thackeray after he voiced displeasure over Uddhav Thackeray gaining

prominence in the party.
Union minister Nitin Gadkari, who was also present on the occasion, said in 1995, during the first Shiv Sena-BJP government, Rane was the Ánimal Husbandry Minister.

"When he would put forth his views in the cabinet meetings, we understood that this man was different. We came close when both of us became

was the Leader of Opposition in the state Legislative Assembly as a Shiv Sena leader, while Gadkari was the Leader of Opposition in the Council

Before joining the Congress, Rane

leaders of the opposition," he said. Before joining the Congress, Rane was the Leader of Opposition in the state Legislative Assembly as a Shiv Sena leader, while Gadkari was the Leader of Opposition in the Council.

Gadkari said he had advised Rane against joining the Congress.

'But Rane had tears in his eves and said he had no other option. Had Rane not joined the Congress, the political scene in the state would have been different," he said.

Gadkari said late Bal Thackeray would tell him to induct some Shiv Sena leaders into the BJP and would also ask him to join the Shiv Sena.

"You are not right in the BJP,

join the Shiv Sena," Gadkari recalled Thackeray as saying. Speaking on the occasion, Rane thanked Gadkari for taking time out to attend the function.

"BJP leaders and state ministers Vinod Tawde and Ashish Shelar came on one phone call. NCP leader Sunil Tatkare alsocame. But Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis did not give his time," he said.

Speaking about the book, Rane said he had written it cautiously.

"When I became an MLA, I wanted to become a minister and when I became a minister, I wanted to become the chief minister. I did become...Now I am an MP, but not out of will,' he said.

Gehlot orders fresh probe into Pehlu lynching case PNS

PNS ■ JAIPUR

Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Friday ordered a fresh investigation into the 2017 Pehlu Khan lynching case and decided to follow it up with an appeal against the acquittal of all six accused in the case by an Alwar court two days ago.

The chief minister also set up a Special Investigation Team under the supervision of state's additional director general of police (Crime) and decided to hire the services of a senior lawyer to guide the probe, besides preparing grounds for appeal in the case.

The chief minister took the

decision in a high-level review meeting held for examining the shortcomings in the probe and the findings of the court, said an official statement.

The review meeting, chaired

Odisha government has decid-

ed to set up a Maritime Board

for development of ports and

inland water transport in the

The cabinet has approved

the proposal to establish the

statutory body in view of the

future requirement of indus-

tries in the state, Chief

Maritime Board will be estab-

lished for overall maritime

development of the state," he

told reporters after the meet-

, The board will provide "pol-

icy guidelines and directions

for the integrated develop-

The proposed Odisha

Secretary AP Padhi said.

state, an official said.



Ashok Gehlot

Secretary (Home) Rajeeva Swarup, Director General of Police Bhupendra Singh, Principal Secretary (Law) Mahavir Prasad Sharma and Additional Director General of Police (Crime) B L Soni.

The SIT, set up on the chief minister's order, will submit its report within 15 days, the statement added. The chief minister's decision

followed two days after an by the chief minister, was attended by Additional Chief persons, accused of leading a

Odisha to set up Maritime Board for ports

mob of suspected cow vigilantes to attack and lynch 55year-old Pehlu Khan, a dairy farmer from Nuh district of Haryana. Khan was lynched near Alwar while returning to his home town in Haryana after buying cattle from Rajasthan. The Alwar court on

Wednesday acquitted all six adult accused in the case, giving them the benefit of doubt. Three other juveniles allegedly involved in the case are still facing enquiry by a Juvenile Justice Board.

The government statement said the SIT will also identify errors and irregularities in the investigation and fix the responsibility for botched up investigation on individual officers.

The SIT will also gather important oral and documentary evidence, left out or ignored in earlier probe, it

Normlacy returning to rain-hit areas

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

As normalcy was slowly returning to rain-battered Kerala, people have started moving to their homes from relief camps, even as the toll climbed to 113 on Saturday, with more bodies being retrived from the landslide hit districts of Malappuram and Wayanad.

As per the 9 AM update, 50 people have so far lost their lives in Malappuram and 12 in Wayanad, the two northern districts, where 28 people are still missing.
Search operations are

continuing at Kavalappara in Malappuram and Puthumala in Wayanad, the two areas which were the worst hit in the second spell of South West Monsoon rains since August 8, where massives landslides had wiped out two villages.

operation of all non-major

ports in the state either direct-

ly or through public-private

He said the Chief Secretary

will be the chairperson of the

proposed 12-member board

comprising stakeholders, rep-

resentatives from the related

state departments and the cen-

tre. Though a Bill in regard to

formation of the Maritime

Board was passed in 2011, it

was later withdrawn to incor-

porate additional points in it,

cabinet has decided to imple-

ment the recommendations of

Justice BP Das Commission for

the safety and security of pil-

In another decision, the state

partnership mode.

sources said.

Narendra Modi and philosophy of Deendayal Upadhyaya and Syama Prasad Mookerjee." **Kit to raise**

about abuse PNS NEW DELHI

awareness

among kids

The apex child rights body in collaboration with the IIT Kanpur has developed a kit to spread awareness about sexual abuse among children by using interactive means to teach them about personal safety, respecting their body and overcoming guilt.

The kit is a set of cards, posters, short animation clips and games, which can be used by teachers or an NGO to conduct an interactive workshop for children about sexual-abuse awareness, according to the minutes of the 38th statutory meeting of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).

Noting that an unaware child may easily fall trap to sexual abuse without realising that he or she is wronged, the commission said the kit would help in spreading awareness as any kind of physical or psychological abuse could scar a child's life forever.

"Through the workshop, children learn about personal safety, respecting their body and overcoming guilt," it said. "It also gets children to talk about this issue with their peers and understand that they need to speak up, which many kids don't."

The kit also features game cards as an intervention to assess the learning acquired



Terming the occasion an "emotional

AAP of taking a U-turn from its

the 'India Against Corruption'

the Delhi BJP, said Mishra

had expressed his desire to join

the party when Kejriwal sought

'evidence" of the surgical

Taking a dig at the chief

minister, Mishra said the AAP

chief was seen with Congress

leaders like P Chidambaram,

Kapil Sibal and NCP's Sharad

Pawar, against whom party

volunteers once faced police

The former minister said he

would work to end the "nega-

tivity" in Delhi by helping the

BJP win the assembly polls due

Earlier this month,

Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas

Goel had disqualified Mishra

under the anti-defection law

after he campaigned for the

lathis while protesting.

strikes.

next year.

moment" for him, Mishra accused the

principles and anti-corruption stand of

Jaju, who is the incharge of BJP the during Lok Sabha

election. Mishra, who was

elected from Karawal Nagar,

has challenged his disqualifi-

AAP's women's wing and was a spokesperson, said the AAP

born out of search of "alterna-

politics I was seeking was not

there at the Rouse Avenue

(AAP headquarters), but it is

here in the BJP," she said.

'Aam Aadmi Party has become

a 'khas' (special) party of 'khas'

Pandey said she had spoken

against the BJP and its leaders

as an AAP leader, adding that

now she felt like a "wayward

person who has managed to

reach back home".

"I realised the alternative

Pandey, who headed the

cation in the high court.

tive politics".

people.'

movement, from which it was born

ED attaches Rs 261 cr assets of Haryana firm

crore in connection with its money laundering probe against a Haryana-based multi-level marketing group that allegedly perpetrated ponzi schemes and cheated investors.

It said a provisional order, under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), for attachment of residential plots, agricultural lands and residential units belonging to Hisar-based Future Maker Life Care Private Limited and its two Directors Radheshyam and Bansilal, their family members and associates has been issued.

The 16 immovable properties that have been attached are located in Hisar, Adampur, Kulam, Delhi and Chandigarh apart from bank balances worth Rs 252 crore kept in 34 accounts.

Directorate (ED) said it filed The Enforcement Directorate a PMLA case in March this on Saturday said it has year after taking cognisance attached assets worth Rs 261 of FIRs registered against the group by the Telangana police for cheating common public by propagating a false theme of "a life turning opportunity to earn income of Rs 20,000 to Rs 10 lakhs per

> It said the group invited gullible people to become members of their ponzi pyramid scheme "in the guise of" multi-level marketing by selling products like suit length and edible items. 'They (promoters of the

month".

roup) extensively advertised their commission model in which very high commissions were paid for enrolment of new members in the down links of the pyramid," the ED

It alleged funds were fraudulently collected from subscribers as deposit towards membership in the scheme through a chain of agents spread across India.

grims at Puri's Jagannath temple. The total value of the attachment of ports and inland water in mines, mineral, metal, oil, waterways The body will facilitate contransport keeping in view the refinery and other sectors in by children. ment is Rs 261 crore, it said.

Responding to a question, he said

Nehru-Gandhi family has 'brand equity': Adhir Chowdhury

ing on Friday

The leader of the Congress in Lok Sabha, Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, has said it will be tough for any leader from outside the Gandhi-Nehru family to run the party, as it has "brand equity"

He also said the revival of the Congress largely depended on the weakening of regional parties that lack ideology, and claimed that the country was headed for "bipolar politics".

Chowdhury said only a party like the Congress, with its "strong" ideological mooring, and pan-India presence, can counter the "communal juggernaut" of the BJP.

"The way regional parties are functioning, they will lose their importance in the days to come. Their losing importance means the nation will head towards bipolar politics.

"When there is bipolar politics, we would again come back to power. So, the future of



country's security and defence-

The requirement of the

Odisha Maritime Board was

felt in the wake of development

related concerns", he said.

Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury

the Congress is bright," Chowdhury told PTI.

Responding to a question, he said regional parties lack ideological motivation and mass support a national party like the Congress has.

He said Sonia Gandhi was reluctant to helm the party once again, but yielded to the request of senior Congress functionaries when the organisation was facing a "crisis" after Rahul Gandhi's resignation.

"Sonia Gandhi has led the party in times of crisis. It was due to her leadership in diffi-

regional parties lack ideological motivation and mass support a national party like the Congress has cult times that the Congress was able to form the govern-

the state, he said adding that

the body is to deal with admin-

istration, control and man-

agement of non-major ports

and non-nationalised inland

ment twice in 2004 and 2009," Chowdhury said. The Congress leader from

West Bengal said while Sonia Gandhi heads the party as interim chief, efforts are underway to elect a new party pres-

Chowdhury, a member of the Congress Working Committee (CWC) - the highest decision-making body of the party - however, noted it would be tough for someone from outside the Gandhi family to run the party.
"It would indeed be difficult

for someone from outside the Gandhi family to run the party. In politics, too, there is brand

equity. If you look at the present BJP, without Narendra Modi and Amit Shah, will it function smoothly? The

answer is no. "In our Congress party, too, the Gandhi family is our brand equity. There is no harm in it. No one else in our party has the charisma which they have. It is a hard reality," he said.

Sonia Gandhi, 72, was appointed the interim Congress president barely 20 months after she had voluntarily relinquished the post in favour of son Rahul, who refused to continue as the party chief after the humiliating 2019 general election

Chowdhury lauded Rahul

Gandhi's decision of owning responsibility for the party's defeat, and said the "noble step" was worth emulating by other leaders.

He said the result could have been different had Rahul Gandhi been declared the joint opposition candidate for prime ministership, as the BJP had

turned the general election

into a presidential-style contest. While speaking about the alleged tussle between the Congress's old guard and the young leadership represented by Rahul Gandhi, he said, the current party leadership was a mix of the old and the new.

The party's old guard was said to have prevailed upon the new in bringing Sonia Gandhi back to the helm, while Rahul Gandhi insisted on a young leader for the post.

"The mixture of old and the new is good for the party. There may be difference of ideas but the goal is the same,"

Chowdhury, a five-tme MP from the Beharampore Lok Sabha seat in West Bengal, however, conceded that the party needed to undertake measures for increased public

acceptability.

He said the political narrative, currently driven by the BJP's "communal agenda", will

'We need to increase our acceptance. It is the Congress which is fighting against the BJP, both ideologically and politically. Right now the narrative of communal politics may seem dominant, but it won't be permanent. Things will change. There are more pressing issues like jobs, food,

and livelihood," he said. Chowdhury said abrogation of provisions of Article 370 granting special status to Jammu and Kashmir has set a 'dangerous example", and will lead to "greater interference by the Centre" in governance of

Stopped from marrying again, 75-yr-old man ends life

PNS BAREILLY

A 75-year-old man committed suicide miffed after his children stopped him from getting married for the second time, police said on Saturday. Arshad was found hanging

from a ceiling fan at his home in Kanshiram Colony on Friday morning, a police officer said, adding that his first wife had passed away. According to police, when

Arshad's children got to know about their father's intention of getting married again, they tried to dissuade him arguing that it will harm the family's reputation.

An adamant Arshad refused to budge which lead to a heated argument between him and his children on Thursday, police said.

ANNA BHAGYA SCHEME

Siddaramaiah warns of protests if rice quantity is cut

sunday pioneer

Senior Congress leader Siddaramaiah on Saturday warned of protests by his party if the BJP-led government in Karnataka meddled with the 'Anna Bhagya scheme of offering free rice to the poor.

Claiming that there was a proposal to cut down the quantity of rice given under the pro-poor scheme, he wanted the state government not to tamper with it. "Poor people will not tolerate this move. Our party will also protest against this decision. We will fight against it inside and outside the assembly," the former Chief

".. I learnt that the amount of rice given under Anna Bhagya scheme will be curtailed and funds wil be diverted to the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Scheme... This decision is anti-poor," Siddaramaiah told reporters here. In 2013, the "Anna Bhagya" scheme was unveiled by then Chief Minister Siddaramaiah. Its an ambitious initiative to supply 30 kg of rice at Re one to nearly one crore poor families across the state. Slamming the BJP government for not releasing funds for the Indira Canteens in Bengaluru, the former Chief Minister said, "I have learnt



. I learnt that the amount of rice given under Anna Bhagya scheme will be curtailed and funds wil be diverted to the Prime Minister Kisan Samman Scheme... This decision is anti-poor

- SIDDARAMAIAH, Senior Congress leader

that the government is not providing funds for the Indira Canteen, which is around Rs 200 crore per annum." "The state government wants BBMP to run it, which is not good. The state should fund it," he said. Earlier, the BJP government had hinted that it would review the Anna Bhagya scheme to check its misuse. Pointing out that 1.12 crore families are covered underAnnaBhagya scheme, Minister

Yediyurappa had said on August 2 that there was large scale "misuse" of this scheme though only the needy should avail the benefit of it.

"According to my estimate in each district there are over a lakh of them who are misusing it, which has to be stopped to benefit the poor.

Because we are purchasing the rice at a market price and distributing, we are paying Rs 32-33 per kg," the chief minister had said.

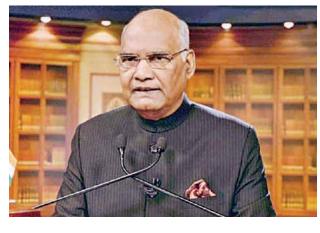
HEALTH KEY CHALLENGE IN INDIA'S GROWTH: KOVIND

President Ram Nath Kovind on Saturday said health remains a key challenge in India's development, but the Centre was committed to tackle it through its various programmes. He said lack of access to health services, malnutrition and neglected tropical diseases put severe constraints on the country. Kovind was addressing a gathering on the occasion of the golden jubilee celebrations of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (MGIMS) here.

"As a country with 18 per cent of world population, we carry 20 per cent of the prevalence of global diseases. We are challenged by the triple burden of communicable, non-communicable and new and emerging diseases," the President said.

"Health remains a key development challenge for India. Lack of access to health services, malnutrition and neglected tropical diseases place severe constraints on us. Our government remains committed to tackle these through the flagship Ayushman Bharat programme and other health missions.

"Our problems are complex and intertwined with our larg-



As a country with 18 per cent of world population, we carry 20 per cent of the prevalence of global diseases. We are challenged by the triple burden of communicable, non-communicable and new and emerging

- RAM NATH KOVIND, President

er socio-economic challenges," he said. Kovind said the institution in the last 50 years has made a stellar contribution to the nation's progress, earning immense appreciation and respect for its academic excellence and as much for its service to people. An institution inspired by the life and teachings of Mahatma Gandhi could have

he added. On the occasion, he condoled the deaths of people in the devastating floods in various parts of the country, including Maharashtra.

"My prayers are with the families who lost their near and dear ones. I hope and wish that those affected are able to get back to normal life soon. I commend the services of the central government only prospered in the manner, and respective state govern-

flood-affected areas...," the President said. Earlier, Kovind visited the Sevagram Ashram here, where Maȟatma Gandhi had stayed for over a decade.

The four walls of the humble hermitage have much to teach and inspire us. As I walked through its courtyard, my mind ran through Gandhiji's struggles and his sacrifice, trying to fathom how much we as a nation owe him. Sevagram Ashram was the centre of many of his experiments with satya, ahimsa and emancipation of humanity," he said. "The place has a deep imprint of his attachment to cleanliness and health. He began his leprosy programme at the ashram," the President said. "It was here that he pioneered community work on sanitation, an idea that continues to inspire us as we work for Swachh Bharat and for open defecation free India," Kovind added.

Sevagram, Wardha and Vidarbha have had a glorious past. It was in these surroundings that Acharya Vinoba Bhave ignited his Bhoodan Andolan. And not far from here, Baba Amte anchored his social reform movement to provide care to leprosy patients and hope to the underprivileged, he said.



Plea in High Court against Fadnavis for 'misuse of power'

NAGPUR: A petition has been filed in the Bombay High Court against the Maharashtra government's alleged move to transfer accounts of police staff and beneficiaries of various schemes from nationalised banks to Axis Bank, in which Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis's wife holds a senior nosition Petitioner Mohanish Jabalpure, in his plea filed last week, said the state government, through a circular on May 11, 2017, effected transfer of the bank accounts of police officials and beneficiaries of Sanjay Gandhi Niradhar Yojana to the private bank. The petition alleged the chief minister misused his power and promoted Axis Bank, causing losses to nationalised banks. The petition is likely to come up for hearing in the Nagpur bench of the high court by the end of this month. Jabalpure has prayed for the high court's direction for revocation of the government circular and all approvals, agreements, permissions and actions taken in pursuance of it

Rain batters Kolkata, cripples normal life

KOLKATA: Life was thrown out

of gear in most parts of the metropolis on Saturday, following torrential rain that led to waterlogging in low-lying areas and snapped road links at several places. The city received 186.1 mm rainfall in the past 24 hours till around noon on Saturday, the Regional Meteorological Centre here said. The Met office has forecast heavy rain for the day. Commuters were seen wading through knee-deep waters in key thoroughfares, including Central Avenue, College Street, Shakespeare Sarani and Behala Vehicular traffic was disrupted in several areas of central, south and north Kolkata, resulting in traffic snarls. Flight operations were also affected, as take-off and landing was delayed, said a senior official of the Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport. Eastern Railway CPRO Nikhil K Chakraborty said circular ailway services were cancelled from 10.40 am onwards, due to waterlogging.

Art 370 had become shield for terrorists: Prasad

PNS ■ NAGPUR

Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said on Saturday that Article 370, which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir, had become a platform to "shield" terrorists and their patrons.

"The government's decision on Article 370 was taken in the interest of the nation as well as the common people of Jammu and Kashmir," Prasad told reporters on the sidelines of the inauguration of the 17th all India meet of state legal services authorities in Nagpur, Maharashtra.

"We should understand that it was a temporary provision and removed in the interest of



the country," Prasad said. "We always strive for protection of the country and for the people of Jammu and Kashmir. We want Jammu and Kashmir to progress." The Centre had on

August 5 announced abrogation of provisions of Article 370 and decided to bifurcate the state into Union territories — Jammu and Kashmir, and

The government's decision on Article 370 was taken in the interest of the nation as well as the common people of Jammu and Kashmir

— RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD Union Law Minister

was placed under a total clam-

Article 370 had become a platform to shield terrorists and their patrons, but we finished this. It is for the development of Kashmir," Prasad said. The Prevention of Corruption Act, Prohibition of Ĉhild Marriage Act and law to stop manual scavenging were not ter asked. Prasad said the administration in the state would take a call on further measures after taking into account the situation. On a query over Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's statement that India is preparing for a Balakot-like strike in Pakistanoccupied Kashmir, Prasad said: We don't have to take notice of what they are saying."
"But a strong reply will be

applicable there. Which Kashmir was this?" the minis-

given if any action is taken by Pakistan. Under the leader-ship of (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi, India is alert about its protection and appropriate reply will given to any terror activities," he added.



Sri Lanka wooing Indian tourists in a big way

PNS KOCHI

The Sri Lankan government has launched an ambitious tourism promotion programme here aiming to give a boost to the key revenue-generating sector of the island nation by attracting more Indian tourists.

Sri Lanka Tourism Minister John Amaratunga presented a Ramayana Tourism Circuit at the Sri Lanka Tourism Roadshow organised here on Friday by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce (FICCI), along with the Sri Lankan Tourism Promotion Bureau. The Minister said a ferry service would be launched from Thalaimannar in Sri Lanka to Rameshwaram in Tamil Nadu as part of the promotion of the Ramayana Tourism circuit.

The Tamil Nadu government has given the green signal for this, Amaratunga was quoted as saying in a FICCI press release here. The Minister said the ferry service was expected to start this year-end after completing the procedures with the government of India. Amaratunga said Sri Lanka was trying to attract more tourists from South India.

Fromthis month, tourists visiting Sri Lanka would be provided free visas. With effect from August 1, tourists were offered a 50 per cent discount said.

The Minister said the ferry service was expected to start this year-end atter completing the procedures with the Government of India. Amaratunga said Sri Lanka was trying to attract more tourists from **South India**

on hotel packages this season. Ground-handling charges in airports have beensubstantially reduced.

Sri Lanka today has the highest number of concessions for its guests, the release quoted the Minister as saying.
"The highest number of

tourists visiting Sri Lanka are from India. Sri Lanka's revenues from tourism were US \$4.3 billion last year", the Minister said. He said the free visa programmes and other facilities have been announced to

encourage tourists from India. "Due to some internal problems, Sri Lanka has not been more important to tourists from South India for some time. But the situation has changed. Now our country is a safe destination," Amaratunga Man held for raping 3-yr-old girl in Surat SURAT: A man was arrested on

Saturday for allegedly raping a three-year-old girl living in his neighbourhood here, police said. The accused. Aiit Vishwakarma (20), a resident of Hirabaug locality in Surat was arrested from his house, where he had sexually assaulted the girl on Thursday, police said."On August 15 evening, the accused lured the girl to his house on the pretext of giving a chocolate to her and after she went to his place, he raped her there." inspector of Kapodra police station, M K Gurjar, said. The girl's mother later came to know about the sexual assault on her daughter and lodged a complaint against Vishwakarma, police said. The accused, who is a native of Bihar, worked as a welder. He was on the run after the incident, but was held from his flat on Saturday, Gurjar added. He was booked under IPC sections 376 (rape) and various sections of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, the officer said.

DGCA examining introduction of multi-crew pilot licence system

PNS NEW DELHI

Aviation watchdog DGCA is looking at the option of introducing a new pilots training programme that will focus more on competitive assessment rather than just fixed flying hours. The introduction of (MPL) programme — which is in place in many European countries — could be an alternate mode that would be more efficient and quicker, a senior DGCA official said.

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has constituted a committee to look into the "pros and cons of MPL", as per an order issued by expected to examine the implithe regulator. The MPL programme shifts the focus from prescriptive flying hours requirements to competencybased training and assessment", it said. As per a document from the global airlines' grouping IATA, MPL is a state-of-the-art



The MPL training is dynamic, rather than hours-prescriptive (the traditional ab-initio commercial pilot license training approach), according to the document. "The committee is cation of adoption or otherwise of MPL and submit its recommendations by September 16, 2019 for further action," the order stated. In case the MPL programme is introduced in the country, it would be as an

programme, seamlessly integrated with an airline type rating, with continuous multicrew focus.

Multi-Crew Pilot License ab-initio airline pilot training

10 patients complain of blurred vision after cataract surgery

PNS ■ INDORE

Ten persons complained of blurred vision following a cataract surgery conducted on them at a private hospital here last week, prompting the government to order a probe into Indore Eye Hospital, where the surgery was conducted on August 8, has been sealed following the complaints, officials said on Saturday. They said the patients suffered from blurred vision possibly a result of some infection after the surgery. "Total 13 patients underwent cataract surgery on August 8 under the National Blindness at Indore Eye 85, the officer said.



it. The operation theatre of the Hospital. Of them, 10 people complained of blurred vision, while three others were discharged," Chief Medical and Health Officer Praveen Jadiya said. "It appears that an infection has harmed the eyesight of these 10 people. The reason behind this infection is being probed and we are mulling to revoke the licence of the hospital," Jadiya said. The victims Programme for Control of are in the age group of 45 and

Forum directs builder to refund Rs 15 lakh to flat buyer

PNS MUMBAI

A consumer forum here has ordered a construction firm to refund over Rs 15 lakh to a buyer for failing to hand over a flat in suburban Kandivali on time. In its ruling passed recently in favour of the complainants- Amit Monterio and Francis Monterio, the State Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum told the construction firm, Vijaykamal Properties, that the flat buyers cannot be held responsible for pending litigations. The duo had booked a flat in a building located in Kandivali (W) Mumbai in 2014. They had made an initial payment of Rs 15,51,168 to Vijaykamal Properties for the flat costing Rs 77,55,840.

As per the agreement, the duo was supposed to get the possession by June 2017. However, the builder failed

to hand over the property and did not even complete the construction, the complainants said. They said that the construction firm did not respond

her back home.

Franciscan

Sister Lucy Kalappura, who

took part in a protest against

former bishop of Jalandhar

diocese in connection with a

rape case was expelled by the

Congregation early this month

for 'failing to give a satisfactory

explanation' for her lifestyle "in

violation of the proper law of the FCC." "I have filed an

Clarist

to the legal notice sent by them. Following which they approached the consumer forum, seeking refund of the amount paid. In the reply before the forum, the builder

argued that he could not hand over possession of the flat due to multiple litigations pending against the property.

He further submitted that Origin Realtors LLP was also introduced as a co-promoter in the project, which was then revised and registered with the Maharashtra Real Estate Regulatory Authority (MahaRERA) and as per the

ter back to home from the

convent in Karackamala (in

Wayanad). In her letter to the

nun's mother dated August 10,

new plan, the project was expected to be completed by December 31, 2023.

The forum, however, said, "Due to multiple litigations the opponent could not give possession of the flat to the complainants. However, for these litigations complainants cannot be held responsible."

The forum also said that after the project was revised, no fresh agreement were executed with the complainants. Therefore, the buyers should have got possession of the flat by June 2017 as per the deed executed earlier.



former bishop of Jalandhar dioecese

accused sister Lucy Kalappura of publishing poems, purchasing a car and taking part in a protest against a rape accused former bishop of

"proper canonical warnings", but didnot show the needed

The Congregation had remorse. In its August 5 letter to her, head of the Aluva based congregation, Ann Joseph had said "you are hereby dismissed from the Franciscan Clarist Congregation as you failed to

> for your lifestyle in violation of the proper law of the FCC". The "unanimous decision" to dismiss the nun was taken

through the Nuntiature in New Delhi. In its notice to the nun early in January, the congregation had termed as "grave violations", Sister Lucy possessing a driving licence, buying a car, taking a loan for it and publishing a book and spending money without the permission and knowledge of ĥer superiors. Sister Ľucy Kalappura had dismissed some 14 charges levelled give a satisfactory explanation against her by the congregation, saying many of them were a "deliberate attempt" to paint her in "bad light".

appeal. An email was sent to Vatican yesterday (Friday). I A Kerala nun Saturday said have also sent via post today she has filed an appeal before (Saturday) to Vatican as well as the Vatican against Franciscan their representatives in New Clarist Congregation's deci-Delhi," the expelled nun told sion to expel her from it even reporters here. as the congregation tightened its stance by issuing a letter to the her elderly mother to take The nun said the Congregation has sent a letter to her mother on August 10 asking her to take her daugh-

FCC's Provincial Superior in Mananthavady said the nun should leave the convent if she failed to make "recourse against the decree" within 10 days from the day on which she receives the communicachallenging it's decision.

Sister Kalappura said legally the congregation could not ask her to leave the convent since she has filed the appeal

Jalandhar dioecese. The congregation, under the Roman Catholic Church, had said the nun was issued

Rival rallies as Hong Kong's divisions deepen

Hong Kong democracy activists kicked off a weekend of fresh rallies on Saturday in a major test for the movement following criticism over an airport protest earlier this week - and as concerns mount over Beijing's next

The new marches came as thousands of pro-government supporters — many waving Chinese flags — gathered in a park to condemn their opponents and support the police, a stark illustration of the polarisation now coursing through

Ten weeks of demonstrations have plunged the international finance hub into crisis, with communist-ruled mainland China taking an increasingly hardline tone, including labelling the more violent protester actions "terrorist-like".

Democracy activists are billing the weekend rallies as a way to show Beijing and the city's unelected leaders that their movement still enjoys broad public support, despite

GLOBE TROTTING

NINE KILLED IN UKRAINE HOTEL FIRE

Kiev: Nine people were killed in

a hotel fire in Ukraine's port city of Odessa on Saturday, leading authorities to launch a country-

wide inspection of safety

regulations in holiday resorts

1:34 am (2234 GMT) in the

southern city's Tokyo

and hotels. The fire broke out at

SENIOR BALOCHISTAN POLITICIAN SHOT DEAD

shot dead along with his minor

Pakistan's restive Balochistan

7 KILLED IN INDONESIA FERRY ACCIDENT

people, including two children,

Kendari (Indonesia): Seven

were killed and four others

missing after a ferry carrying

dozens of passengers caught

fire off Indonesia's Sulawesi

island early on Saturday, police

Southeast Sulawesi to an island

in Central Sulawesi, caught fire

shortly after midnight.

said. The ferry, heading from

grandson and two security

guards on Saturday in



Protesters use laser pointers beam at policemen during the anti-extradition Bill protest in Hong Kong on Saturday

increasingly violent tactics deployed by a minority of hardcore protesters that have cast a shadow.

On Tuesday, protesters blocked passengers from boarding flights at the city's airport and later assaulted two men they accused of being The images damaged a movement that until then had largely only targeted the police or government institutions, prompted some soul-

searching among protesters. China's propaganda apparatus seized on the violence, with state media churning out a deluge of damning articles,

pictures and videos. State media also ran images

of military personnel and armoured personnel carriers across the border in Shenzhen, prompting the United States to warn Beijing against sending in troops, which analysts say would be a reputational and economic disaster for China.

EU calls for 'inclusive dialogue' over HK tensions AFP BRUSSELS

The European Union on Saturday called for "inclusive dialogue" to calm tensions in Hong Kong, where ten

weeks of protests have plunged

the city into crisis and prompt-

ed mainland China to take a more hardline tone. "It is crucial that restraint be exercised, violence rejected, and urgent steps taken to deescalate the situation," EU

diplomatic chief Federica

Mogherini said in a statement. "Engagement in a process of broad-based and inclusive dialogue, involving all key stakeholders, is essential."

The statement came as Hong Kong democracy activists kicked off new round of protests that began over a plan to allow extraditions to mainland China.

the central government in Beijing said the protests were beginning to show the "sprouts of terrorism." From a distance, police could be seen conducting drills

in military fatigues, using shields, poles and other riot-control gear. In one exercise, two groups marched in formation with those in front raising shields as if to protect ing shields as if to protect themselves from projectiles. Others behind held red flags and banners. The words "the law" and "prosecuted" could be seen on one.

AP ■ SHENZHEN (CHINA)

across from Hong Kong in

what some interpreted as a

threat against pro-democracy protesters in the semi-

boots and synchronized shouts

echoed from the grounds on

Friday. Officers in green cam-

ouflage stood guard at closed

entrances. A stadium security

guard said "it wasn't clear"

when the paramilitary police

only said that the Shenzhen

exercises were planned earlier

and were not directly related to

the unrest in Hong Kong,

though they came shortly after

Chinese state media have

would leave the grounds.

The sound of marching

autonomous territory.

Outside, dozens of armoured carriers and trucks sat in the parking lot of the Shenzhen Bay Stadium, close to a bridge linking mainland China to Hong Kong.

Asked if Hong Kong police could maintain order or if mainland Chinese intervention

Kong amid more weekend rallies Members of China's para-military People's Armed Police marched and practised crowd control tactics at a sports complex in Shenzhen

China flexes muscle near Hong

Pro-democracy protesters gather for a march in Hong Kong

is becoming inevitable, Hong Kong police commander Yeung Man-pun said that

Germany, meanwhile, said it considers China to be a while they face tremendous responsible actor that will pressure, "I can tell you we're respect Hong Kong laws guarresponsible actor that will anteeing freedom of speech

HK protest tensions heat up in Australia

AFP ■ SYDNEY

Hundreds of pro-China demonstrators marched through Sydney on Saturday in response to a growing number of rallies in support of the Hong Kong democracy protests as tensions between the two groups increasingly flare in Australia.

confident the police have the

capability to maintain law and

They marched through the city chanting "One China", waving the Chinese flag and holding placards saying "Stop riots end violence in Hong

Kong".

"There has been a lot of live and protests." violence and violent protests in Hong Kong," Sydney-based lawyer and rally organiser who asked only to be called Zhao told AFP.

"And Hong Kong people have suffered from that and we want to voice our call for peace and order."

Police had to escort a lone pro-democracy supporter from the Sydney event after he was set upon by a mob of angry demonstrators.

Iranian tanker to leave Gibraltar soon despite US pressure

AP ■ GIBRALTAR

The shipping agent for an Iranian supertanker caught in a diplomatic standoff says the vessel is ready to depart Gibraltar on Sunday or Monday, as the US made a lastminute effort to seize it again.

The head of the company sorting paperwork and procuring for the Grace 1 oil tanker in the British overseas territory said the vessel could be sailing away in the next "24 to 48 hours," once new crews dispatched to the territory take over command of the ship.

"The vessel is ongoing some logistical changes and requirements that have delayed the departure," Astralship managing director Richard De la Rosa told The Associated Press.

De la Rosa's comments came a day after the US obtained a warrant to seize the

vessel over violations of US sanctions on Iran.

It was unclear if that could happen within a 24-hour time frame as Gibraltar officials have said any request to seize the vessel would have to make its way through the territory's courts. He said the new crews were Indian and Ukrainian nationals hired by the Indian managers of the ship and that his company had not been informed about the supertanker's next destination.

The tanker, which carries 2.1 million tons of Iranian light crude oil, had been detained for over a month in Gibraltar for allegedly attempting to breach European Union sanctions on Syria.

The arrest fueled tension between London and Tehran, which seized a British-flagged tanker in the Strait of Hormuz in apparent retaliation.

Trump meets top advisers to discuss progress of **Afghan peace deal**

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Us President Donald Trump chaired a meeting on the Afghanistan peace deal with his national security team that, the White House said, went "very well" and negotiations are proceeding. The talks, attended by Vice-President Mike Pence, Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and National Security Adviser John Bolton among others, were held at Trump's golf resort in Bedminster, New Jersey, on Friday.

Soon after the meeting, the president tweeted: "Many on the opposite side of this 19year war, and us, are looking to make a deal - if possible!"

According to the White
House, discussions centred

around ongoing negotiations and eventual peace and reconciliation agreement with the Taliban and the government of Afghanistan. The meeting went very well and negotiations are proceeding, it said.

After briefing the president on the progress of the negotiations in the war-torn country, Pompeo issued a statement, saying, "Led by the president, we are working diligently on the path forward in Afghanistan."

"In continued close cooperation with the government of Afghanistan, we remain committed to achieving a comprehensive peace agreement, including a reduction in violence and a ceasefire, ensuring that Afghan soil is never again used to threaten the United States or her allies, and bringing Afghans together to work towards peace," the secretary of state said.

The meeting was also attended by Defense Secretary Mark Esper, Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation Khalilzad, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joseph Dunford and CIA Director Gina Haspel.

Regd. Office: ICICI Bank Tower, Chakli Circle, Old Padra Road, Vadodara, Gujarat- 390007. Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra- Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai- 400051.

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. Videocon Tower, Jhandewalan, New Delhi-110055

PUBLIC NOTICE - TENDER CUM AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

[See proviso to rule 8 (6)] Notice for sale of immovable asset

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Asset under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financia Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Ltd. will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Sr. Io.	Name of Borrower(s) /Co- Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No. (B)	Details of the Secured assets with known encumbrances, if any (C)	Amount Outstanding (In ₹)	Reserve Price (In ₹)	Earnest Money Deposit (In ₹) (F)	Date of Property Inspection and Time (G)	Date & Time of Auction (H)
	(Borrower) Manish Dubey(CoBorrower) - LBDEL00001855075	Flat No. S- 2, Second Floor, Plot No. I- 22 & 23, Block I, Laxmi Nagar, Delhi- 110092, Admeasuring Area- 990 sq.ft	Rs. 98,79,109/- as onJuly 25,2019.	Rs. 45,00, 000/-	Rs. 4,50, 000/-	Aug 20, 2019, From 02:00 PM to 03:00 PM	Sep 26, 2019, From 11:00 AM Onwards

The online auction will take place on the website of auction agency Shriram Automall India Ltd. (URL Link-"https://eauctions.samil.in"). The Mortgagors/ Noticee are given last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till Sep 25, 2019, before 5:00 P.M failing which, this/these secured asset/s will be sold as per

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit their offer along with aforesaid earnest money deposit (as referred in column No. (F) in a sealed envelope superscribed "offer for purchase of property" so as to reach at ICICI Bank Limited, 2nd Floor Videocon Tower, Block E-1, Jhandewalan Extension, Rani Jhansi Road. Delhi-110055 or our marketing agents Shriram Automall India Ltd having their office at 2nd Floor, Best Sky Tower, Netaji Subhash Place, Pitampura, New Delhi- 110034 on or before Sep 25, 2019 before 5:00 P.M. The marketing agency has also been engaged as auctioneer for proper conduct of auction. EMD DD / PO

should be from a Nationalised /Scheduled Bank favouring "ICICI Bank Limited" payable at Delhi.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact on Mobile no. 9599281817/9650193259 of ICICI Bank Limited or 9910453434 of Shriram Automall India Ltd. The tenders which are acknowledged by the Bank/e-auction vendor official and registered before the cut off time with complete details shall only be considered for auction. The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any reasons thereof. For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit ICICI Bank Ltd website at

https://www.icicibank.com/notice-board/properties-for-sale/properties.page?

Date : August 17, 2019 Place : Delhi/ NCR

Sd/-Authorised Officer ICICI Bank Limited.

Kim expresses 'great satisfaction' | Coroner rules that | Pakistan Army 'fully prepared over North Korea weapons tests

AP ■ SEOUL

North Korea on Saturday said leader Kim Jong Un supervised another test-firing of an unspecified new weapon, seen as an attempt to pressure Washington and Seoul over slow nuclear negotiations and their joint military exercises.

Pyongyang's Korean Central News Agency said that following Friday's launches, Kim expressed "great satisfaction" over his military's "mysterious and amazing success rates" in recent testing activity and vowed to build up "invincible military capabilities no one dare provoke." The report did not mention any specific comment on the United States or South Korea. The launches were North

Korea's sixth round of tests the system.



since late July that revealed developments of a new rocket artillery system and two separate short-range mobile ballistic missile systems that experts say would expand its ability to strike targets throughout South Korea, including US bases

KCNA did not describe what Friday's weapons were or how they performed, but it said that the tests were successful and strengthened the military's confidence in the reliability of

Rodong Sinmun newspaper published photos that showed what appeared to be a missile soaring from a launcher installed on a vehicle and striking what appeared to be a coastal target. Kim is seen jubilantly raising his fist while celebrating with military offi-

"(Kim) said everyone should remember that it is the (ruling) party's core plan and unwavering determination to build a powerful force strong enough to discourage any forces from daring to provoke us and to leave any opponent defenceless against our Juche weapons of absolute power even in situations of physical clashes," the agency said, referring to the North's national ideology of self-reliance.

Jeffrey Epstein hanged himself AFP NEW YORK

An autopsy on disgraced US financier Jeffrey Epstein — who was found dead in his jail cell — has concluded that he committed suicide by hanging, a coroner said Friday, answering one of the questions surrounding his

The ruling comes six days after the 66-year-old, who was accused of trafficking girls as young as 14 for sex, was discovered dead in New York's high-security Metropolitan Correctional Center.

New York's chief medical examiner Barbara Sampson said in a statement emailed to AFP that "after careful review of all investigative information, including complete autopsy findings" it was determined that Epstein killed himself.

Army spokesman PTI ■ ISLAMABAD Upping the ante, Pakistan said on Saturday that its army was "fully prepared" to

'fully prepared' to

face any challenge:

face any challenge posed by India in the wake of current tensions between the two countries over Kashmir. Addressing a joint press

conference with Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi following a meeting of the country's top brass on the situation in Kashmir, Army spokesman Major Gen Asif Ghafoor said it was possible India could launch an attack to divert the world's attention from Kashmir.

"We have apprehension that India can launch attack to divert attention but we are fully prepared to deal with any misadventure," he said.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA ENTRA-ORDINARY APPELLATE AURISDICTION SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) No. 719 OF 2018 WITH PRAYER FOR INTERIM RELIEF WITH 22500/2019-APPLICATION FOR SUBSTITUTED SERVICE RAHUL SHARMA AND ANOTHER VERSUS

NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY LTD. & OTHERS

MANOJ KUMAR S/O SH. SANRAM PRASAD IL NO. 3244, GALI NO. 4, RAGIIUBARPURA-2, SHAHDARA DISTRICT-NEW DELHI. SLP(C) No. 719/2018 (See XIV)

WHEREAS the Petition for Special Leave to Appeal with prayer for interim relief along with application for SUBSTITUTED SERVICE above membraned (copy enclosed) filed in he Registry by Mr. VINOD SHARMA, Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above maned as listed for hearing before this Court on 31st January, 2018, when the Court was pleased to

"Issue notice."

AND WHITREAS, the matter above-mentioned was listed before 1.d. Registrar's Court in 19th July, 2019. When the following order was passed:

"Interlocutory Application for substituted service in respect of Respondent No.2 is

allowed. List again on 29.11.2019."

NOW THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above petition with prayer for interim telief will be posted for hearing before this Court in due cause and you may enter appearance before this Court either this Court of the courted of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf within 30 days from the date of service of notice. You may thereafter show cause

o the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why Special Leave Petition and interfinitelief as prayed be not against and the result on appeal be not allowed.

Take Further Notice that the prayer for interior relief after notice will also be "isted before the Court in due course.

You want for a pour offshirtly to specification that partion is provided under Rufa 1010 or Court in due course.

You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Rufe [4(1) of Order XXI; S.C.R.2013 within 30 days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than 2 weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the SLPs and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court Fribanal against whose order the SLP is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not, granting interim order or for preciping interim pedic filed adversariar interim pedic filed and shall also set out the grounds for not, granting interim order or for the state of the slight production of the state of the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not, granting interim order or for the state of the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not, granting interim order or for the state of the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not are stated as the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting interim order or for the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting interim order or for the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting interim order or for the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting the slight pedicarder and the grounds for not granting the gra

ucaring interim order if already granted.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you Fail to enter appearance as aforesaid, no furthe tice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultan peal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.

Dated 30th July, 2019

Wildlife summit mulls trade rules to counter 'unprecedented' species declines

AFP ■ GENEVA

onservationists warned of C"unprecedented" species declines Saturday as countries met in Geneva to tighten rules on trade in elephant ivory and products from other endangered animal and plants.

Thousands of conservationists and policymakers from more than 180 countries will meet for 12 days to evaluate regulations and species protection listings under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES).

"Business as usual is no longer an option," CITES Secretary General Ivonne Higuero said at the start of the meeting, warning that "nature's dangerous decline is unprece-



The treaty, created more than four decades ago, regulates trade in over 35,000 species of plants and animals and contains mechanisms to help crack down on illegal trade and sanction countries that break the

The sense of urgency was palpable at the conference, which will evaluate 56 proposed changes to protection listings, for species of large mammals like elephants, rhinos and giraffes, but also otters, lizards, sharks, and tree and plant species.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE FICICI Bank

Registered Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara 390007 Corporate Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai – 400051 Branch Office: ICICI BANK LTD. Videocon Tower, Block E-1, Jhandewalan Extension, Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi- 110055

the said notices.

A housing loan facility was granted pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between ICICI Bank Limited ("Secured Creditor, which term shall include its successors and assigns) and the borrower & co-borrower mentioned below ("Borrower(s)", which term shall include his/ its/ their respective [successors, assigns, heirs]. The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Secured Creditor ("Authorized Officer") under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 ("Act" and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interes (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, ('Rules") has issued demand notices under Section 13(2) of the Act calling upon the borrowers' / co borrowers mentioned below to repay the amount payable pursuant to the loan agreement and as specifically mentioned in the said respective demand notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of

The borrowers / co-borrower, having failed and neglected to repay the amount as claimed in the said demand notices, notice is hereby given to the borrowers / co-borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13 (4) of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Rules. The details including date of symbolic possession of the properties are as mentioned below

	Sr. No.		Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch				
		Jha/	Flat No. G-3, Ground Floor Plot No. 4/416, Sector-4 Residential Colony Vaishali Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad Uttar Pradesh / Aug 13, 2019	April 03, 2019/ Rs. 15,28,941/-	Delhi/ Nor				
ı	Th	Parameter (a) Co. harmous as a patient and the public in appeal in large basely acutioned act to deal with							

The Borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers in particular and the public in general is/ are hereby cautioned not to deal with the Secured Property and any dealings with the Secured Property will be subject to the charge of the Secured Creditor for the amounts mentioned in the demand notices and further interest & cost thereon. Please note that no further notice will be issued

Date: 17-08-2019 Place: Delhi/ NCR Authorized Officer



A software engineer from Bengaluru, a chemistry graduate from Nashik who worked for LIC and a tailor from Patiala, all have one thing in common — are all artists par excellence having won many awards. SHALINI SAKSENA spends time with them to bring you a report

Best foot forward

SACHIN SANGHE, CHALK-LEAD SCULPTOR, BENGALURU

ers would make him write Lon the blackboard. His handwriting was good so he was made to write news headlines and notes that the teachers wanted to be written on the board. Besides having a good handwriting, it was the fact that it was legible, clear and in a straight line that introduced him to play with chalk. Meet Sachin Sanghe, a techie who hails from Mudigere, 80 km from Bengaluru, who is mesmerising people with his miniature pieces of art carved out of chalk and pencil lead.

He tells you that even as a child, he used to crave out just anything and everything on the pieces of chalk with the help of a compass that was always in

his Geometry box. "Drawing and craving things out of chalk was something that I loved and it was more of an hobby and I carved things till I was in school. I was good in sports as well. But my passion lay in engineering and hence pursued it. My hobby turned into full-time passion and somewhat of a profession only after I completed my engineering and was working with HCL. It was then that I decided to take up where I had left off to pass time when I was in Chennai," Sanghe says who has presented his work to Prime Minister Narendra Modi art pieces of chalk with the PM in various yoga poses and one

with his mother. The reason why he has not turned his hobby into a career path is because there are still some risks involved. He tells you that he would have make it his profession if what he does was a recognised and established art form. "Another obstacle is that I need a team. I alone can't do much to make enough money. But this doesn't mean that I am not looking at ways to turn it into a full-time career," Sanghe explains who had tried to get his work registered with Guinness World Record. Sadly, he couldn't find a category under which he

could put his work. "I explored the possibility but found that the categories were tallest, shortest and



Chalk sculpture of Ma Durga made from three pieces of chalk; Lead sculpture of various Lord Shiva

biggest. It was all related to magnitude. There was no place under which I could place my work. I got dejected and gave up," Sanghe says and tells you that the chalk that he use for his pieces are dust-free.

The more elaborate pieces are also made from three-four piece of chalk — three to four inches in height. The only difference is that he attaches the other pieces with glue to bigger pieces of art. But he explains that in photos it looks bigger than they really are. The actual height of the art pieces are not more then a couple of inches. The tools that he uses are also not expensive.

"People ask me if the tools that I use are expensive or special. The truth is that my most trusted tool is a dissection knife that you find in the surgical box that one buys when you are in school. It was a knife that I used to dissect cockroaches with back in school. Another tool that I regularly use which I accidentally found was left behind by a senior in my room. It is a tool that dentists use — an excavator. I also use the blade from the sharpener. Then there is the screwdriver that one uses to open hard to reach places. Basically, small tools," Sanghe says and tells you even though the art pieces that he carves are miniatures, there isn't much strain on the eyes since he doesn't spend more than four hours at one sitting.

"I don't use any lens under





working full-time with Cisco

His work with pencil lead is something that Sanghe started in 2013. He tells you that there are certain advantages and disadvantages of working with pencil lead sculpting. The advantage is that there is no dust while carving. Chalk is brittle, lead is not. The disadvantage is that the lead is thin as compared to chalk. Because lead is so thin, I use surgical scalpel to carve figures. For example, if one were to carve something on lead and the same on chalk, one might need to look at the art piece more closely to figure out what it is

as lead is small in comparison

to chalk. While, I don't need to draw what I want to carve in a paper, I do keep a picture for reference since the lead sculpting is in 3-D," Sanghe says who uses 6B or 8B pencil. To carve letters, he uses carpenter pen-

To buy a lead or chalk figurine, Sanghe tells you that usually people contact him via social media. "Nowhere have I mentioned that I am in the profession of selling my art. People who are interested contact me through Instagram or Facebook. The cost also depends on the piece that they want, but it varies between ₹4,000 to ₹12,000. A lot of people want a Lord Ganesh or even Lord Krishna. The complexities happen when people want a portrait. The face has to look like the person. A wrong cut and the face changes. So I need to be more careful. One has to be very patient," Sanghe

'Creativity can't be taught'

ANANT KHAIRNAR, COTTON SCULPTOR,

Soul within human body with connection to the super soul, creates cotton sculpture. Human body is medium of creativity — Anant Khairnar

Born in 1966, in a small town Jawhar, (Palghar district of Maharashtra), Anant Khairnar even as a child was interested in drawing and painting. He used to gather just any material lying around to create art. However, it was not till he was in college, while pursuing his bachelor's degree in Science from Pune University that his full potential was realised.

"It was in 1987, last year of college, when there was a lot of discussion to create something new, never seen before idol for Ganesh Festival. Since I always thought of myself as an artist rather than a Science student, I was asked to give my suggestions.

After much deliberation that took me three-four days, I suggested that we should create an idol of Lord Ganesh using cotton wool. This proved to be a turning point in my life," the 52-year-old cotton sculptor says who worked in the private sector for three years before he spent his next 28

years working for LIC. Creativity, spirituality, sensibility and captivity are the qualities of the soul with-in he tells you. "I am a God gifted artist. But all through my career I never gave up my passion to create. Art can be taught, but creativity is inborn. Nature has bestowed me with this unique art. I never worked under any master to learn the art. My knowledge comes from within. A divine power always directs me whenever I hit a roadblock," Khairnar says.

To begin with he would need a base (like a wooden structure and paper) before he would start making a cotton sculpture. But, three decades down, with the technique that Khairnar has perfected, the entire sculpture that he makes today are made from a special grade of surgical

When I made the first cotton sculpture I used cotton wool. I also needed to create a rough body before I could give the idol the final look. But with time, I have perfected my art form. Today, I don't need a base. As long as I have a reference picture in front me, I am good to go. Also, cotton wool has been replaced with a special kind of gauge. There were two steps involved while making these sculptors. First, involves using a special combination of chemicals. Second, at the same time, pieces of surgical gauge are used to give shape to the sculpture. These chemicals play a vital role in my sculptures. They not only give shape but have sticking quality as well. The good part is that they are not volatile, hence they evaporate quickly. But weather plays spoilsport. Sometimes, I have



Anant Khairnar adds finshing touches to the Swami Vivekananda sculpture

Nature has bestowed me with this unique art. I never worked under any master to learn this art form. My knowledge of cotton sculpting comes from within. A divine power directs me whenever I hit a roadblock

to wait for up to a day for the liquid to dry," Khairnar explains who has taken up his passion full-time, now that he has retired.

Over the years, Khairnar has own many awards. Limca Book of Records — 1997; Guinness Book of World Records — 1999; Outstanding Young Indian Award —

1999; Adarsh Nagrik Puraskar, Jalgaon — 2000; Thane GauravAward, Thane -2009 and Samaj Seva purskar, Chennai — 2015 to name a few.

His sculpture of Mahatma Gandhi which is seven-and-a-half feet tall has won him an award. He also made a sculpture of Shri Ram (12 feet tall for the Khumbh Mela) which posed some challenge to begin with due to it's height. But he overcame that. Today, going big and tall is no longer a challenge for Khairnar who

charges ₹15,000 per foot for his work. Though, there are a few Indian clients as well, most of his clients are foreigners. 'Over the years, people have come to know about me and my work. I have a website where I share my work from time to time. I get orders as well. Since my art form is unique, only my family is involved. My son is pursuing his MS in the US. He also looks after the marketing side of my work. I see to the creative side. It takes around amonth-and-a-half to create one piece because I spend only four hours a day. Making these sculptures need a lot of patience," Khairnar says who is now busy giving finishing the few orders that he has of Lord Ganesh idols for Ganesh Chaturthi.

ARUN KUMAR BAJAJ, SEWING MACHINE PAINTER, PATIALA

visit to darzi gali in Patiala will throw up a surprise. Not because there are so many tailors but because there is a man who creates beautiful works of art using thread. He makes paintings using his trusted sewing machine. Yes, you read that right. Meet the self-proclaimed Needle Man from Patiala— Arun Kumar Bajaj.

The 36-year-old artist who is a tailor by profession tells you that he hated working in his father's tailor shop. "I was 12 when my father said that I should accompany him to the shop and learn the trade. I hated it. At that age I wanted to go something different, something unique. I learnt embroidery. I have made so many clothes for celebrity singers over the years. All the embroidery on their clothes was done by me. Back then, I was still exploring other avenues when my father passed away in 2000. I had to shoulder the responsibility. I was only a teenager. But, I didn't shirk from what I had to do," Bajaj recounts.

It was fated that Bajaj got the recogni-

Needle man paints gossamer dreams

tion that was due to him. When he was around 20, he dreamt that he was painting a portrait of Guru Nanakji using a sewing machine. The dream was so real that Bajaj could clearly see the completed painting in front of his eyes. When he got up he was surprised that there was no such painting in front of him. But it got him thinking was it possible to make a painting using dif-

ferent threads and a sewing machine? When I woke up, I thought to myself can I realise my dream? Or is it just something that my subconscious mind had thrown up since I wanted to be different from others and do things that nobody had done before. I thought about it and decided to give it a try. I went to my shop. I had a portrait of Guru Nanakji; I traced that on a piece of paper and then on a piece of cloth. I bought different coloured threads and began. It took me a week to complete it. Due to God's grace my first attempt was





Arun Kumar Bajaj putting together a thread painting, Lord Krishna paintinig that has won two awards

a success. From there, there was no turning back" Bajaj recalls who has painted over brilliant than the last.

2,000 paintings. Each more beautiful and

The beauty of these portraits lie in the shading that Bajaj has incorporated. To achieve this was no mean task, "Unlike a 24, 2016. His other popular works include painting when one can give shading by painting over it, giving shading using threads was a challenge. Nobody had done this kind of work before me. I didn't have a template that I could follow. It took many trials and errors before I perfected the art of shading. Take for example the painting of a tiger that took me over two years to complete. The moss on the cave floor has so many shades that had to be incorporated to give the painting a feel that it has been made using paints and not thread," Bajaj explains and says that usually a small portrait takes up 10-15 days to make. However, a big one may take as long

as six months. The six feet by four feet Lord Krishna portrait was made in three years using 28.36 lakh m long thread has won him the India the Unique World Records on September 24, 2016. His other popular works include a portrait of Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Jesus Christ and even that of Prime Minister Narendra Modi whom he presented the painting in person.

He tells you that his recently finished thread painting of Maharaja Ranjit Singh's darbar (4x2 feet) fetched him ₹11 lakh. Most of his thread paintings are in the range of ₹60,000 to ₹4 lakh. The first thread painting that he sold was that of an old man, he tells you and adds that he has already applied for Guinness World Record.

"Almost all the formalities are over. I have submitted all the paperwork that is required. Now, they have to cross-check and see that the sewing machine that I use is not computer operated. I hope that I will get this coveted record this year," Bajaj says.

the pioneer HVCLETADACI

Follow us on

@TheDailyPioneer facebook.com/

dailypioneer

Sunday August 18, 2019



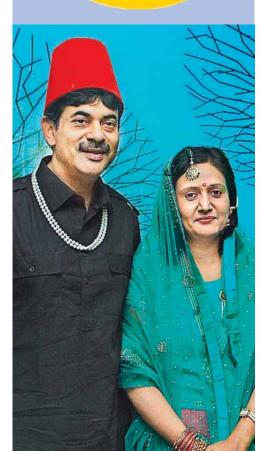
AS A PARENT...

Cince I am an only child and appreciated the fact of being one, I got complete attention of parents. Not that they pamper me and I know that they are extremely attached to me and have the sense of protection, bonding is very strong. I felt that I wasn't deprived in anyway. So we also decided to have one child and are very happy that it is a girl. My parents have been very non-intrusive to me. They never put any clauses. I want to emulate the same for my daughter. I took a late decision that studying in US is a possibility. Now it is very common to go to the US. Children are already talking if they have to pursue an undergrad abroad. There may be many occasions where she will need to make



got married to Ruchi Ranjan after a classmates in Delhi University in first year while I was the topper, she was the second ranker. She was bright in studies and good looking and we were roughly from the same community. After the results came, IAS officers were in much demand and my parents were getting proposals. Something which I appreciate in my wife, she said, 'Now that you are an IAS, your status has changed, if you want to look for someone else vou can'. But I ridiculed her for that. I can't do these things to people and I stuck to her. We have been together for 25 years and had a simple marriage with

no gifts also.



worked near Rampachodavaram, in my second posting where there were PWG

activities. Just before I went about 7 IAS

officers were kidnapped. While I didn't want an

escort as it attracted unnecessary attention, I

promised officials that I will keep my schedule

But this one time, I was invited to a school

function and the word had spread. As we were

My driver also wouldn't know where to head.

CRICKETER JAYESH



MAY WRITE A BOOK...

 \boldsymbol{S} elf goals are to remain illness free and prolong whatever good that is happening for the last few years. Professionally, whatever assignments and job demands, I want to continue to do well. My daughter will soon be at a stage where she needs to decide about her career. Being available for her in a non-intrusive way is another thing I look forward to. I have also started dabbling in social development. Because of the experience I when the first night shelter started. I may write a book someday, but I speak and lecture often. I have spoken about 50 times on my work in



AN OFFICER OF MANY FIRSTS

In a bare-all interview, Jayesh Ranjan, the Principal Secretary of Industries, Telangana, talks to Naveena Ghanate about his career, wife, daughter and everything in between

Omnipresent administrator

ot confined to his role as principal secretary of industries, Jayesh Ranjan comes across as someone who is omnipresent. You could find him at a serious industry event, an erudite literary fest or sports championship or even a fashion show.
The Pioneer got hold of him at a
Hyderabad Open Badminton
Championship in Gachibowli stadium for a freewheeling interview. A topper of Civil Service Exam 1992 batch, recalls that he was pitted against Zombies when preparing for IAS. While his stint as Kadapa collector gave him satisfaction, he terms his transfer to HUDA as a funny incident. While one sees Jayesh as a person connecting well with urban folks, he reminisces that he always loved rural postings. Young Jayesh who couldn't get hold of the career initially but became an IAS effortlessly, says that 'having such easy passage, I always remain grounded with no sense of entitlement'...

as a single child...

My personality has been defined by a very important factor that 'I am a single child. Single children develop lots of inner resources because with siblings you would have shared activities. I was good in studies, played 4-5 types of sports and read a lot. Both my parents are professionals and there was no pressure to study or pursue a particu-I grew up in Lucknow and studied in

Taluqdar school, equivalent to HPS. Unlike conventional homes, where parents raise a fit if their child picked social sciences, my father was very happy that I picked it. I did my graduation from Lucknow University and Masters in Psychology in Delhi University.

Pitted against Zombies...

Initially, at my first Civils attempt, the paper got leaked and was cancelled. Later, I took the exam again and when the results were out in 1992, I had to take a 2-hour cycle ride, auto rickshaw and then a bus to check my result at Press Information Bureau in Esplanade. When I reached, there was already someone checking the results and since it was all in a string, I began to check it from the last page. The more pages I flipped, the more sure I was that I had missed the bus. Thereafter, I started searching for my friends Aditya Bihari and Nilesh Hundekar's names. I couldn't find their names or mine, but, when I saw my name on the top of the first page, I felt very excited. It is something that I did not imagine and to recollect that moment makes me

In Delhi I had seen people struggle a lot and look like zombies in state of daze. I was scared when I was preparing that I am pitting against all the zombies. Apart from studying a lot at night

Dad wanted IFS, i picked **IAS for Mom**

Uttar Pradesh being my home state was going through a bad turmoil when I got selected especially - the Babri masjid and mandal commission issue. My father who was very confident that I would get through wanted me to opt for foreign services, because being a journalist he saw politicians and bureaucracy. He felt that I would just not be able to

While my dad wanted me to pick IFS, my mother wouldn't be happy to see her son go away. So I picked IAS and opted out of home state. For last 26 years I have been working in AP and now in Telangana. Many batchmates of mine have all worked in Delhi but I am one of those exceptions who has never gone

The going has been so good for me. In erstwhile AP and now in TS, I always got long postings that I really enjoyed doing. The present assignment I am in is crossing 4 years. A bigger credit goes to K T Rama Rao garu. Typically ministers are important as they give sense of responsibility to investors. The team that I have, we have been able to execute his promises and words.

First father-son duo to study in IIM Calcutta

I was selected for Dartmouth University, but my mother was hesitant to send me abroad, after seeing that her cousin who went to the US for his studies ended up settling there. I wrote my MBA entrance exams and got into IIM Calcutta like my father. We became the first father-son duo to go to the same college.

During my summer internship at ICICI Limited, there were a few things that disturbed me, like when I noticed that if one person stays back, everyone else stayed back, so that the said person doesn't get extra attention. And my project was diagnosis of poor performance of the company wherein I had to talk to lot of employees. I realised it is kind of rat race which was very unhealthy and put me off. This caused me anxiety as I gave up my PhD at Dartmouth and did not intend to make a career. I wanted to be a faculty member or academician. But it was long drawn thing as I saw professors around me not really progressing.

Bowler like Malinga...

I play five sports - cricket, hockey, volleyball, football and badminton. I played for my school and was part of league cricket in Lucknow representing the state. I am a bowler and I generate good pace. The speed I generate scares people. People say my action is like Malinga, but my way of bowling developed 20 years before the Sri Lankan cricketer started his career.

I couldn't further pursue the passion for the sport mainly due to competition as there were elite players at that time. I still often play at Secunderabad Club.

A night owl...

To be a Jack of all trades, delegation of work is important. I built a good team around me and maintain a supportive supervision. This gets a lot of things done quickly by encouraging them.

I clear files and reply to work e-mails

going inside, there was a power cut and 2-3 scooters crossed us. When I reached, the school the principal who invited me, said, "The news is not good, please go away

Later I got to know that a teacher was in contact with Annalu and knew that they were asked this particular teacher to go to nearest place to get petromax laterns and he came across me. He reversed and went back before we came and informed the headmaster about the Annalus. It was a spilt-second thing, but I could have been kidnapped. I remember one

incident where a tribal woman was beaten up badly by the Greyhound battalion, under the pretext that she was an informer. I took her in my own gypsy to the hospital. There were times when someone would suddenly come to my office, leave some paper with important information and rush off.

after 11 pm, when all the four women calmness and serenity and keeps you happy. I love reading books and borrow (mother, wife, daughter and mother-inlaw) are fast asleep. It is a lively place with so many women at home and post 11 pm from libraries. When the British Council asked me to take part in the Hyderabad my work clock ticks and it typically takes about 2 hours. Even before becoming an Literary Fest, I said I would like to borrow books from them. I also watch a lot of movies and this IAS officer, I was a night owl. Now, I gave me an opportunity to become the wake up at 5:45 am and go for a walk to KBR park for an hour. After coming back president of a movie club. I developed a rest for two hours. That way I get 6 taste for cultural art events in my early

A movie buff and a bookworm

hours of sleep and I do it in two spells.

beacon from car... Socialising When I became a district collector, the is an imporfirst thing that I did was remove the red beacon from my car. Now it is a law, but tant part of when I was the Kadapa collector, I removed it. alone is not life. Kadapa was witnessing factions and the SP suggested that I keep it. In Kadapa, we had a Praja Vani on Monday and I Doing things outside of work

will help

abilities. It

push your

remember there were many days when the last person left only at 1.30 am. I was in Kadapa for 3 years. It is not that I have solved all issues, but the very fact that I talked to them and explained all possibilities, brought more people's problems out. After IAS selections, I spent time in Mussorie, and until now, one strong value that is guiding me is that I am

First IAS to remove red

in this position not as matter of right or entitlement. It is turn of the dice and god has been with

Funny incident with YS Jagan

Almost one year nine months, into the YSR regime, I was Kadapa collector when a funny incident happened. Present CM Y S Jagan one day called me up seeking a sanction of borewell in some village and informed me of transferring me to Hyderabad to HUDA.

ly, because I had no clue of urban areas as I was always posted in rural areas. After a month or so, local news came, about the being collector changed and one day it came in a big Telugu daily. Next day early in morning at 6 am, YSR who was in Delhi then to meet PM wanted to speak to me. He tells me, "I was told

I protested strong-

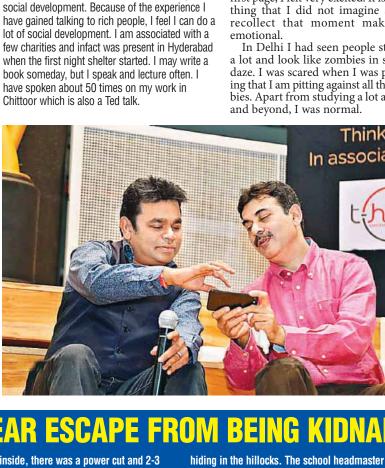
that some news item which came in Eenadu upset you. Then he said, 'answer one question. Who runs the government? Eenadu or I? said 'you'. He then said that there was no such issue and you will continue as collector. Exactly one month later, there were 30 transfers and I was posted to HUDA (laughs). By then I had done 3 years, so I had no regrets. I have been in Hyderabad for the

Egalitarian views of father...

last 12 years.

My mother told me clearly that irrespective of being an IAS, if you take even a rupee of dowry or gifts (lena dena), your father and I will not attend your wedding.

My father was a very educated man and was in the first batch of IIM Calcutta, but for some reason his corporate career didn't work out. He was frequently seen as a person siding with workers rather than with the corporates. Business environment in 60s-70s was different wherein the management was elite and my father tried to bridge the gap. So he was not liked by the management and was pushed out. My mother is a doctor – a gynaecologist. Both my mother and father imbibed and lived very strong values. There was no concept of having a lavish lifestyle. At no point of time did they have the feeling of being superior, and everyone is the same. Egalitarianism and helping others, these values became very important for me.





Mahindra's first automotive assembly opens in Sri Lanka

NEW DELHI: Auto major Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) on Saturday announced the inauguration of its local automotive assembly plant near Colombo, Sri Lanka. "Christened Mahindra Ideal Lanka Pvt. Ltd. this assembly plant is in collaboration with Ideal Motors of Sri Lanka. The assembly plant today rolled out its first product, the compact SUV, KUV100 and will roll out a slew of products over the next 3 years," the company said in a statement. "Inauguration of this automotive assembly plant is a significant milestone for Mahindra's foray into the Sri Lanka market. Sri Lanka is a key strategic market for us and we are now fully equipped to deliver products customised to local needs, on time," Mahindra & Mahindra Managing Director Pawan



IICT signs agreement with Sun Pharma towards out-licensing

HYDERABAD: The CSIR-Indian

Chemical Technology here said on Friday that it has signed an agreement withpharma major SunPharma for "out-licensing of patents on a New Chemical Entity for multiple therapeutic indications". When new compounds are sought to be used as drug candidates, they are named as NCEs, IICT sources said. As per the agreement, CSIR-IICT will get payments totaling Rs 240 crore, including upfront, development and regulatory and other payments, IICT said in a release. "Further, the institute will also get payments fromSunPharma through royalties on net sales on commercialization of the products developed using these patents," the release

BHAGWAT BATS FOR SMEs, Trump says Apple will spend 'vast sums' in US FINANCIAL FREEDOM

Small and medium scale industries can make people financial independent and not the big corporations, RSS supremo Mohan Bhagwat said here on Friday.

Big corporations "cannot do justice" to entrepreneurship which can provide such selfsufficiency, he said, addressing all-India convention of `Laghu

Udyog Bharti' here. Laghu Udyog Bharti is an RSS-linked organisation which works in the small and medium enterprises (SME) sector.

The first condition for attaining financial freedom for all is that every person should become self-sufficient. Those who are not self-sufficient do not have freedom," he said.

'And it is entrepreneurship which can make more and more people financially self-



sufficient. Big corporations cannot do justice to such entrepreneurship but small and medium scale industry can give impetus to financial self-

Across the world, the wealth is distributed among few big sufficiency," the RSS chief said. corporations and 24-25 per-"The more the small and sons (who own them),

iustice" to entrepreneurship which can provide such self-sufficiency, he said, addressing all-India convention of `Laghu Udyog Bharti' in Nagpur

Big corporations

"cannot do

Bhagwat said.

The present trend in the industry is reduction of manpower due to automation, but the entrepreneurs related to the Laghu Udyog Bharti do not resort to retrenchments as they consider workers as family, he

Donald Trump said Friday that tech giant Apple would be spending "vast sums" of money in the US in a tweet ahead of a dinner meeting with its CEO Tim Cook.

The men have had several informal meetings before, including at Bedminster, New Jersey, where Trump is reportedly on a working holiday at his golf course. "Having dinner tonight with

Tim Cook of Apple. They will be spending vast sums of money in the U.S. Great!" he tweeted at around 7 pm local time. The meeting follows Thursday's announcement from Apple that it has invested roughly \$60 billion in the US, and currently employs some 90,000 people in the country.

Many of the tech giant's products are assembled in China and the company



opposes incoming tariffs -- an issue Trump is fixated on -- of 10 percent on goods manufactured in China, due to come into force on September 1.

Trump has rejected Apple's calls for an exemption on its products, tweeting in July the company should, "Make them in the USA, No Tariffs!" But his administration announced Thursday tariffs on some goods would be delayed until

Apple did not immediately respond to comment about the dinner, and Trump did not tweet again about the meeting, or what was discussed.

The president's latest missive comes after a gaffe in March when he referred to Cook as Tim Apple".

Trump later claimed the naming was deliberate and a "time saving" measure.

V-Bazaar aims Rs 750 cr turnover by 2021, to have 120 stores

Fashion and apparels retailer V-Bazaar is looking at an over three-fold rise in its turnover at Rs 750 crore by 2021 on account of sales network expansion, the company said in a statement on Friday. V-Bazaar aims to add

around 60-65 more stores as part of its expansion strategy, taking the total count to over 120 in the next two years.

The company, which operates in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh, has plans to enter new states like Odisha, Delhi NCR, Uttrakhand and Assam. We would add around 60-

65 more stores by 2021 and take our stores count to nearly 120 by the end of FY 2020-2021," said V-Bazaar Retail Chairman and Managing Director Hemant Agarwal.

The company had a revenue of Rs 220 crore in FY 2018-2019, the statement said.

The store expansion would be funded majorly through its



internal accruals and infusion of funds from the promoters, it added.

"For growth, as a strategy we are focusing on only tier-II and III places. Soon we would have stores in tier-IV places also," said Agarwal.

As per management a new store has an investment of nearly Rs 1.75 to 2 crore.

At present, 40 per cent of the V-Bazaar Retail revenue comes from men apparel, 23 per cent from ladies apparel, 25 per cent from kids apparel and 12 per cent from general merchandise.

Airtel shareholders approve move on excess pay to Mittal

medium scale industries grow,

people will become more finan-

cially independent," he said.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bharti Airtel shareholders have approved a proposal allowing chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal and CEO Gopal Vittal to retain excess remuneration paid in 2018-19, according to a regulatory fil-

Over 88 per cent of share-holders at the annual gener-al meeting (AGM) held on August 14 voted in favour of the special resolution for waiver of recovery of excess managerial remuneration paid to Mittal during FY19, while 11.7 per cent voted against it.

'Therefore the resolution...has been approved with requisite majority," it added.

However, when seen category-wise, all of promoter group votes were cast in favour of the proposal, although within the public institutions category only 52 per cent of voters supported the proposal. In the public non-institu-

tions category 99.9 per cent were in favour of the pro-

POST SALE OF BENGALURU TECH PARK

Coffee Day Enterprises' says debt to fall to Rs 1,000 cr

Cafe chain operator Coffee Day Enterprises on Saturday said its total debt is expected to reduce to around Rs 1,000 crore after adjusting the proceeds from sale of its Global Village Tech Park in Bengaluru to Blackstone.

"The company has already announced the divestment of Global Village Tech Park held by its subsidiary Tanglin Developments Ltd for an aggregate consideration of Rs 2,600-3,000 crore. On receipt of the consider-

ation for the sale of Global Village after payment of required Statutory payments, the debt position of Coffee Day Group will reduce around by Rs 2,400 crore," Coffee Day Enterprises said in a regulatory filing.
The debt position of Coffee

Day Group post repayment of debt out of proceeds from sale of Global Village is expected to be around Rs 1,000 crore in the next 45 days, it added.

As per the filing, total debt of Coffee Day Enterprises as on



The company said its arm Sical Logistics has also been working on divestment of certain assets. 'The proceeds from the

divestment is expected to significantly reduce the debt in Sical," Coffee Day Enterprises added. Total debt of Sical Logistics

is Rs 1,488 crore, it added. The company said it is confident that the ongoing divest-

ments will significantly reduce the debt position of Coffee Day Group. The financial position and

asset base of the Coffee Day July 31, 2019 was Rs 3,472 Group will be comfortable to ty investor, among other issues.

service the debt obligations of the entire group in full. We reiterate that the debt obliga-tions of the Coffee Day Group will be honoured. We request all the lenders and creditors to give sufficient time to honour the commitments and to unlock the true potential value of the assets," it said.

Last month, Coffee Day

Enterprises founder V G Siddhartha allegedly committed suicide. In a letter purportedly written by him, Siddhartha mentioned "serious liquidity crunch" and "tremendous pressure" from lenders and an unnamed private equi-



IL&FS company secretary quits

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

IL&FS Engineering and Construction Company, part of the troubled IL&FS group, on Saturday said its company secretary and compliance officer Saheli Banerjee has resigned.

"Saheli Banerjee has tendered her resignation from the post of company secretary and compliance officer of the company from the close of business hours on August 16, 2019," IL&FS Engineering and Construction Company said in a BSE filing.

IL&FS Engineering and Construction Company, however, did not elaborate on the reason behind the resignation.

IL&FS Group owes more than Rs 95,000 crore to lenders and filed for bankruptcy last October.

Punjab & Sind Bank cuts MCLR by up to 20 basis points

Bank (PSB) on Saturday said it has lowered its marbased lending rate (MCLR) by up to 0.20 per cent for various

"Our bank has

reviewed the marginal cost of fund based lending rate (MCLR) for different tenors and the same will be effective from 16.08.2019," Punjab & Sind Bank (PSB) said in a regulatory filing.

The public sector bank has

lowered the benchmark oneyear MCLR to 8.50 per cent from 8.70 per cent earlier. Most of the consumer loans

such as personal, auto and home are priced on the basis State-owned Punjab & Sind of the one-year MCLR. PSB has lowered MCLR on

overnight, onemonth, threemonth and sixmonth duration loans by 0.15 per cent to 8.20 per cent, 8.30 per

cent and 8.50 per cent, respectively. It also reduced MCLR on three-year tenor loans by 0.5 per cent to 9.20 per cent.

cent, 8.40 per

The rate cut follows an MCLR cut by the country's largest lender SBI post the RBI's decision to reduce the key interest rate (repo) by 0.35 percentage point to a nine-year low of 5.40 per cent.

Emami aims at 15pc revenue growth in haircare segment

PTI NEW DELHI

FMCG major Emami Ltd on Friday said it is aiming at a 15-per cent revenue growth in the haircare segment in the 2019-20 fiscal.

The company's haircare portfolio -- Kesh King, Navratna and 7 Oils in One -- is worth Rs 1,220 crore andaccounts for 25-30 per cent of its topline.

"As per industry estimates, light hair oil is the fastest growing segment with a CAGR of 25 per cent in the last five years. As a brand, we have taken a keen interest in the segment," Emami Director Priti A Sureka told

reporters here. "In 2019-20, we hope to garner a revenue of around Rs100 crore from '7 Oils in One', and in the next three years, the target is to reach Rs 200 crore," she said.

US home building fell 4 per cent in July, slowing housing market

PTI WASHINGTON

The pace of US home construction fell a sharp 4 per cent in July despite strong demand from would-be buyers, held back by a shortage of skilled labor and affordable land.

The Commerce Department said Friday that housing starts slipped last month to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1.19 million units. So far this year, housing starts have

Though there was a slight 1.3 per cent uptick in the construction of single-family homes last month, the gain was offset by a 17.2 per cent plunge in the apartment category. The construction slowdown,

ened sales. The slowdown in construcdeclined 3.1 per cent.

The Smart Dragon-1 (SD-1), developed

by the China Rocket Company

affiliated to the China Academy of

Launch Vehicle Technology (CALVT),

blasted off from the Jiuquan Satellite

Launch Centre in northwest China at

which has persisted all year, is thwarting prospective home-buyers. The solid job market and falling mortgage rates have boosted interest among

people seeking homes, yet the shortage of available homes and rising prices have damp-

tion, which in turn contributes to the scarcity of available housing, may contribute to a weakening of the overall econ-

Robert Frick, corporate economist at the Navy Federal Credit Union said that July's report showed that low mortgage rates were not enough to pull the US homebuilding market out of its slump.

The average rate on a 30-

year fixed mortgage is just 3.6 per cent, according to Freddie Mac, its lowest level since November 2016.

"A dearth of cheap lots and persistent labour shortages are constraining builders, especially for homes costing less than USD 300,000, which have the greatest demand," Frick

In July, home construction fell across the Northeast, Midwest and South. It rose 1.3 per cent in the West, where home construction has fallen by 12.3 per cent this year.

Friday's construction report suggests that homebuilders may begin focusing more on the rental market.

Applications for housing permits, an indicator of future construction, rose 8.4 per cent, and apartment complexes accounted for most of the increase.

The border city a world away from Hong Kong

The southern Chinese metropolis of Shenzhen borders the semi-autonomous territory of Hong Kong, but calls for greater freedom from protesters in the Asian financial hub meet with short shrift among their mainland neigh-

In the sprawling mainland city known for its high-tech market, many Shenzhen residents tell AFP they do not support the protests in Hong Kong, which has seen 10 weeks of pro-democracy ral-

"They're just ruining themselves," said one taxi driver, who did not want to give his name due to the sensitivity of

"What can they do when their economy goes and no travellers want to visit?" Crossing between the cities is not straightforward for mainlanders, who need to get an entry-exit permit and face limits on the number of times they can travel to Hong Kong, which enjoys rights unseen in mainland China.

Shenzhen was dragged into the unrest after Chinese staterun media reported that elements of the People's Armed Police were assembling there.

In recent days state media have broadcast images of Chinese military forces and armoured personnel carriers in the city -- raising fears of a possible military intervention by Beijing.

operates under a "one country,

The former British colony of Hong Kong returned to Chinese rule 22 years ago, and



two systems" framework which gives citizens the right to protest and enjoy freedom of speech.

the topic

own narrative.

Across the border, Shenzhen sits behind the "Great Firewall" that restricts access to news and information and allows the government to censor and push its

argued their rights are being eroded by an increasingly assertive Beijing -- but these views find little support on the streets of Shenzhen. "The Communist Party isn't

Hong Kong protestors have

afraid when things are stirred up," said one resident surnamed Chen. "Young people don't really

think, they've had it good," says another, speaking on condition of anonymity.

China launches new rocket for commercial use

China's new carrier rocket, designed for commercial use, made its maiden flight on Saturday, sending three satellites into planned orbit.

The Smart Dragon-1 (SD-1), developed by the China Rocket Company affiliated to the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology (CALVT), blasted off from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in northwest China at 12:11 pm local time.

The three satellites, developed by three separate Beijing-based companies, will be used for remote sensing services, communication and Internet of Things (IoT), state-run Xinhua news agency reported.



Different from the previous ket demand of launching small carrier rockets of the Long commercial satellites, CALVT March family, the new Dragon chief Wang Xiaojun said. series is developed in a com-

The SD-1 -- with a total mercial mode to meet the mar-

length of 19.5 metres, a diam-

eter of 1.2 metres and a takeoff weight of about 23.1 tonnes -- is a small-scale solid-propellant carrier rocket capable of sending 200 kg payloads to the solar synchronous orbit at an altitude of 500 km.

12:11 pm local time

"It has the highest carrying efficiency among China's current commercial solid-propellant rockets," Gong Min, tech-

nical manager of the SD-1 It took less than 18 months

to develop SD-1, which is the shortest period to develop a new type of carrier rocket in China, the report said.

The designers of SD-1 have made efforts to lower the costs and improve the efficiency and reliability of the rocket, China duced in six months after busi-

Rocket Company Ltd president Tang Yagang said. One such rocket can be proness agreements are signed with customers. After the rocket is transported to the launching centre, the launch can be realized within 24 hours. The rocket can be used for launching either single satellite or multiple satellites at a time, according to Tang.

Tang said the company

mainly relies on social financing to develop SD-1 to lower its cost through competition. "Commercial launching will

have a vast market in the fields such as low-Earth orbit Internet mobile communication and remote sensing," Tang

I wanted to just surround myself with people who I think are better than I am, whether they're actors or directors or producers, so that I could learn from them



Krishna has played a significant role in shaping India, besides his other roles as emotional and spiritual guide



A child must be guided with love, which in turn, will tempt him to make efforts to prove himself right

With online revenues expected to hit ₹11,900 cr by 2023 and targets touching 10 million users by the end of this financial year, the fantasy gaming industry is witnessing a boom in India. But how does the format work and what are the challenges faced? Industry insider SUMESH MENON demystifies the trend

antasies brim right through us when one talks of thrilling games. The rush of adrenaline drives us to believe in the virtual world and offers a much-needed break to destress ourselves. Fantasy sports has been popular amongst the Indian audience for quite a while now. The popular platforms such as FanMojo, MPL, Dream11 amongst others are capturing the imagination of people across the urban and rural belt of our country, with men below 30 years age bracket forming the core of the player base.

Surveys reveal that up to 85 per cent of the users from significant cities play fantasy sports one to three times a week. Predictably, cricket remains the front runner in India with 90 per cent of the users playing a fantasy version of the sport, followed by 45 per cent playing kabaddi and another 30 per cent on

A GROWING TREND

Indian fantasy sports platforms have over 80 million registered users and are expected to hit 100 million by the end of 2020. The number of fantasy sports platforms has also grown from 10 to over 70 in the last two to three years. The advent and rising popularity of sports premier leagues in the field of cricket, kabaddi, football, hockey, table tennis, etc. has not only increased the popularity of sports but also has given fantasy sports players more chances to engage with their cus-

Various fantasy game platforms have hosted plenty number of games in the past few years across multiple sports categories. Indian Federation of Sports Gaming (IFSG) is a self-regulating body for Indian fantasy sports providers who help regulate the players in the industry. Daily fantasy sports is a vast and well-regulated market in more prominent countries and continents like the USA and

With the introduction of IPL in the country, the fantasy gaming industry also witnessed a boom in the sector. Along with the ICC World Cup stepping in right after the IPL, the statistics have hitched exponentially for fantasy sports. Guests selecting their own players, based upon the current match scenario seemed to intrigue the audience and hence a significant contributing factor in making the concept a success.

INDIAN FANTASY

SPORTS PLATFORMS HAVE OVER 80 MILLION REGISTERED **USERS AND ARE EXPECTED TO HIT 100** MILLION BY THE END OF 2020. THE NUMBER OF FANTASY SPORTS PLATFORMS HAS ALSO GROWN FROM 10 TO OVER 70 IN THE LAST TWO TO THREE YEARS

Acknowledging the advancement in the game sector, one can witness the continual growth of overall sports as well. The sports that were less prominent earlier caught fame and recognition after the concept of fantasy sports was brought into the light. For instance, women teams in sports were usually not given much attention or credit; however, after the debut of fantasy gaming, people started getting aware of various games as well as players, irrespective of the gender or how prevalent the sport was formerly considered

HOW DOES IT WORK

A fantasy sports venture allows its users to handpick their players, use their skill to play games, compete and win prize money. Most platforms cover popular sports in India cricket, kabaddi and football. To get going, users have to select a match they wish to participate in and then make a team of their choice by selecting 11 players playing the game. As the live game progresses, players from the team are awarded points, and user team with the highest points wins the respective cash prize assigned against the match. Users can participate with entry fees as small as ₹27 and increase their stake to as high as ₹5,000 per game.

The platform is generally focused on the simplicity of the user experience while playing a game and has many built-in features to support the quick creation of the user team. To ease the addition of money, the platforms offer leading payment options from net banking, UPI, wallets, cred-it and debit card. Like any other fantasy sports player, the platform makes money in

the form of commission earned on the capital invested in the game, so more the investment,

higher is the commission revenue earned.

For those looking to crack the game, each platform indicates certain patterns than a gamer learns to master and use to his advantage over time. For instance, one important tip that most of

FanMojo users follow is making the team once toss for the match is done and the playing 11 from both the sides is declared. FanMojo shares a list on its platform as to which players are playing for them (the users) to make a more informed choice while build-

GAMING VERSUS BETTING

ing a team.

Since this form of sport is a fairly new phenomenon, there exist misconceptions about the gaming concepts — one of them being that fantasy gaming is fancy betting. But is it really? Is it betting and is there any defined term of the bet being "too much"? Well, fantasy gaming is primarily a game of skill, which allows users to apply their knowledge of the game, players, teams, weather conditions, to judge and pick their best playing 11 players while making the team. This skill allows a more informed player to win more often than not moving the fantasy sports towards a game of skill and not a game of chance where users despite their experience and knowledge will have equal chances of

Betting, on the other hand, is done on the game of chance only — how many runs in an over will a batsman score, how many wickets will go in this over... This is just pure guesswork, and users with limited knowledge can guess correctly as well. The bids placed in fantasy sports are reasonable and reassur-

ingly legal. The players are picked based upon their values, where the international bids hike comparatively higher than the bids for national

ones. However, the game makes it a point to prove itself as a sport and not an immeasurable, untamed and illegal Besides pro-

viding entertainment, fantasy leagues over time have enabled players to participate in the game, where they can make active decisions. With the advent of fantasy sports, non-cricket sports now get the opportunity to grow in prevalence and drive engagement for their teams. Among all the

HYD × DEL

emerging games, kabaddi has gained significant traction over the past couple of years as these sports are associated with fantasy league platforms, which further engages the audience and maintains a grip on them.

INDUSTRY CHALLENGES

Fantasy industry as a whole faces a lot of challenges in terms of setting clear regulations and support system for the industry. The industry is a part of IFSG — which is a federation for fantasy sports players in India. IFSG is helping the industry set up regulations to be followed as a standard practice.

As smooth as the process sounds, it isn't really a cakewalk. The challenges associated with fantasy gaming include various prospects, one of which being dealing with the Tech Bots. The Tech Bots represent the advancement in technology and aid the industry to experiment, innovate and create better applications. However, when one develops fantasy gaming portals, the Tech Bots take their time to learn the game and the in-built strategies etc. It takes Artificial Intelligence quite a significant deal of mental aptitude and development to imbibe the aspects of fantasy gaming and its entire process.

Another challenge standing in the way of success for fantasy game development seems to be the extensive data and information of the players involved in the fantasy game. Data integration and filtration have to be dealt with carefully before the fantasy sport goes live or hits a success mark in the industry. These struggles have to be taken care of to maintain the CAC (customer acquisition) to LTV (lifetime value) ratio. Fantasy sports category allows less room for innovation in the basic product structure due to legal restrictions of the industry. Therefore the fantasy sports platforms are presenting new endeavours with every passing day to smoothen the

process for end users, ensuring their comfort. Fantasy sports remain a highly regulated body, which is changing the entire game of the sports sector. It is growing into a big industry with online gaming revenue expected to be ₹11,900 cr by 2023, further targeting 10 million users by the end of this financial year. Opening the doors to various possibilities, fantasy gaming is taking the market by storm.

 The author is an industry insider and co-founder, Ú2opia Global

Hyderabad, August 18, 2019

KRISHNA, THE NATION BUILDER

Shri Krishna scores over other great personalities in history because of his power to influence the thought process and lives of the Indians even to this day, writes DR. ASHA GOSWAMI



hri Krishna has played a significant role as the builder of Indian nation, along with his other roles — as an emotion-al guide and spiritual preacher (vide Gita) — the threefold characteristics that are upheld as traits of the great men of world history.

In this role, he excels the other great men of history because of his power to influence the thought process and lives of the Indians — a power he continues to wield even today and perhaps in the ages to come. The sole reason behind this is that he inspires the various aspects of life for an individual. As goes the saying: "In Krishna breathes the soul of India." It is he who represents the heart and soul of people, as he encompasses the multifarious phases of the nation's histo-

It would be no exaggeration to say that he is a cherished leader of Indian nation, one who shaped its destiny. For, he was the chief of Yadavas; the great hero of Mahabharata war; the god incarnated teacher of Arjuna. As many great men of the world history, he is assigned with large number of victories in battles. It is said that there was no limit to his strength, power

Born in the pastoral Yadava clan, he started very young when he dis-played his great youthful energy through his various adventures, including slaying deadly enemies (like Kansa and his associates, who are referred to as demons); Putana and others, who were sent to kill him and his people. The role he played at Vrindavana and Mathura as well as at Dwarka only establishes his influence

By killing his maternal uncle, Kansa, he brought peace not only to his clan, the Yadavas, but also the people of the surrounding regions such as Gokula, Vraja and Vrindavana. Further, by defeating Jarasamdha when he attacked Mathura along with his ally Kalayavan, a Greek king, he succeeded in restoring peace in the area. He followed this by shifting his people from Mathura to a new king-

IN KRISHNA **BREATHES THE** SOUL OF INDIA. HE REPRESENTS THE HEART AND SOUL OF PEOPLE, AS HE ENCOMPASSES THE **MULTIFARIOUS** PHASES OF THE NATION'S HISTORY

dom of Dwarka which he had established in far off place in the sea.
According to Krishna saga, India during his times, was divided into small kingdoms and their rulers and kings often aligned with one or against someone. Such conditions provided Krishna with the ample opportunity to exert himself as a Nation-builder by proving his superiority by siding with the worthy neighbouring kings.

It is also said that during Krishna's times, the Aryans had entered his territory near Yamuna-valley. He made peace with them and later, at Dwarka by encouraging Arjuna to abduct Subhadra, Krishna cunningly forged an alliance between the two mighty clans of the era — the Yadavas and the

This move ultimately proved beneficial for the country that emerged as one strong nation under the rule of the Pandavas. As a preacher of Gita, Krishna further played the role of an unrefuted leader as he not only addressed the despondency of Arjuna,

urging him to discharge his duty as a Kshatriya king, but also became instrumental in the Pandavas winning the battle of Mahabharata.

This restored peace in major parts of India under the rule of Yudhishthira at Hastinapore. Krishna then went on to build his own king-dom of Dwarka as safe and free from the opponents. Dwarka nagri, established by Krishna, was said to be surrounded by sea on all sides. Its location proved almost insurmountable to the enemy kings, with whom he had to fight. These kings included Bana, Shalva, Naraka, who were said to be the rulers of Shontipura, Kashi and Assam, respectively.

Further, by overpowering these hostile kings, he spread peace in those regions and also brought them in alliance either with the Yadavas or the Pandavas. For instance, by killing Bana and Naraka who were rulers of the far-off regions, he succeeded winning over large number of kings and princes to his side whose daughters or sisters numbering sixteen thousand one hundred had been kidnapped and held captive by the evil king, Naraka.

Among his several feats, which provide evidence to his strong Nation-building trait, one is the importation of the heavenly plant called Parijat from king Indras kingdom (which sounds like some foreign land) to Dwarka. The second refers to a peculiar type of dance mixed with water sports which was enunciated by Krishna at Dwarka for the recreation of his people. He had accomplished the feat with the help of divine women known as Apasaras (which again sounds like artistes from a foreign land). And finally, his role in the famous Syamantak-Gem episode wherein he succeeded in setting right the vile conspiracy prevailing in his own people for the possession of the

Finally, recapitulating Krishna's role as nation-builder, let us recount that he has discharged this role throughout his life within his all *lee-las* at Vrindavana. Mathura-Dwarka whereby at each step, he ushered in a new era with a new scenario. The killing of Kamsa and his associates to restore peace at Mathura and in the region. Next, his encounters at Dwarka and at Hastinapore during the Mahabharata war, too reveal his many-sided involvement for the preservation of the countrymen by destroying all those who stood against his mission. All his feats establish him as a wise man, a sharp statesman and good administrator — all qualities of a true leader.

> The writer is a noted Indologist and authority on Krishnaite Studies



HIDDENSOULS PRAMOD PATHAK

The quest for justice



ustice delayed is justice denied, goes the popular saying. But the question is why is justice delayed? As the Chief Justice of India expresses concern that over the 1,000 cases that are pending for 50 years in courts across the country and over two lakh for 25 years, it certainly needs to be figured why. Statistics are rather mindboggling. There are over 90 lakh civil cases and 2.1 crore criminal cases that are waiting justice in India. Details, if sought may prove to be revealing, because as per the Chief Justice, the total pendency in criminal cases at the summoning stage is more than one crore. The responsibility for summoning lies solely with the executive. That there is "a growing trend of belligerent and reckless behaviour on the part of some individuals and groups" in the society, is the unfortunate side of this story. There is a need to think seriously about what is to be done. The public faith and confidence in the institution is still intact, as evident from the promptness with which people seek legal recourse when they are dissatisfied with the executive action. What is worrying is that executive intransigence and callousness coupled with delay in judicial redressal may someday leave people in a state of hopelessness. That certainly would be a severe blow to a democratic state. It is the balance of power between the executive, legislature and judiciary and an independent fourth state that keeps a democracy ticking. And with judiciary being the final arbiter, the populace has a belief that in the end truth does prevail. Lately, there have been disturbing portends as attempts to discredit institutions on which public faith rests are on the rise. How do we face this challenge? Some of the suggestions made by the Chief Justice himself would certainly help. But there is a need to do more. There are certain weaknesses in the legal system that must be addressed. It must be realised that the executive ego is a major reason for creating litigious people. If the executive decisions are reason driven rather than ego driven, things would be much smoother. To curb such tendencies on the part of the executive, the law of Torts needs to be strengthened. It is ironical that the executive fights the public with public fund, whereas the public is forced to pay from their hard earned money. If the executive is made to understand that in case their actions do not stand the scrutiny of law, they may be made liable for the costs that have been incurred on the part of the system and the victim, who is litigant. When the point of law gets adjudicated, there is hardly any need to drag the matter further. Maximum number of pendency in the civil matters are due to this tendency to drag and delay matters. From one court to another, from single bench to double bench to a larger bench and so on. Yes, it is a legal right to seek such redressals. Only, if the executive is found deliberately delaying the matter, the order as to costs in case of the litigant getting matter adjudicated in his or her favour must be given and liability must be fixed. Feeding personal ego at public cost is just not fair.

Pathak is a professor of management, writer, and an acclaimed

public speaker. He can be reached at ppathak.ism@gmail.com

Happiness in digital world

We must learn to have control over the digital media rather than allowing it to control us, says DR AWDHESH SINGH, as he suggests tips to counter stress



f numbers are to be believed, almost 3 billion people in the world today have the access of internet and more than 2 billion people use Facebook alone. The rise of digital world has helped people to instantly connect with any person in the world and you can access all types of information from across the world using Google and watch the lessons on virtually any topic from the experts by tuning on to their YouTube Channel. There is no need today to stand in queue to buy tickets, pay your bills, or transfer money as you can do everything online by a click of button on your mobile phone.

We have become so used to, rather addicted to, social media that the first thing we do when we get up in the morning is to check the messages or notification on our mobile phone. We are more concerned today about the Facebook likes and comments on our posts by our virtual friends than being liked by our friends, parents, sib-

However, despite the digitisation of the

world, this generation seems to be less happier, satisfied or social than the previous ones. The internet may have made things easier in terms of access but hasn't necessaricreated better relationships.

The digital world comes with its own set of problems and we still don't know how to handle it. No sooner you post your views on the social media platform, particularly on political or religious matters, you are trolled ruthlessly. You can be branded anti-national for just having a difference of opinion. Young people are unable to focus on their studies because of the constant beep of the notifications on their mobile phones. Billions of people are wasting hours in the virtual world, rather than focussing on the real. The personal life of billions of people is now open to the world and privacy is virtu-

It is, however, futile to blame the digital world alone for our unhappiness. The internet, social media, or mobile phones are just tools and we carry the responsibility of using

them to make our life better. We can indeed make their best use and achieve happiness in the modern digital world, if only we follow

For one, we must learn to have control over the digital media rather than allowing it to control us. It is important to manage time intelligently in the digital world. The first step thus is to turn off the notifications from your apps so that they stop disturbing you. You can see them when you are free or you wish to divert your mind.

It is better to avoid posting your opinions on controversial issues like politics, religion, reservation which almost always invite counter-opinions and hate mails. You must avoid displaying your personal life and affection to your loved ones on social platform. What is sacred must be kept secret to main-

One must be careful while making friends on social media platforms. It is better to carefully go through the profile before accepting a friend request. If you don't agree with someone's views, it is better to unfriend them rather than bearing their hate messages on your feed. You must also not hesitate to block and report the hate mongers, professional trollers and IT cell members, if they try to harass you.

We must avoid learning from the Facebook and WhatsApp University where most news and information is either fake or unreliable. It is better to always check the veracity of the claim before trusting it. You must also avoid spreading fake news and hate messages by sharing or forwarding the same. Digital world and social media is there to stay. It is better to accept them as conveniences and use them intelligently to make our life happier. We must never lose touch with the real world and real people because the virtual world can never substitute the living.

Singh is the author of 31 ways of Happiness

Faith does more than heal

While hope generated by material gains is lost easily, faith makes one mentally stable over a period of time, says AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

It is a known fact that faith heals. Even scientists accept that faith does wonders. Whenever they cannot explain how a patient suffering from a serious disease got cured, they give credit to faith. Yes, faith is a reality in our lives and it does much more than heal. I am a beneficiary of faith as it strengthened in me over the years.

Faith gave me hope. The feelings of helplessness and sadness slowly left me. I am sure everyone has experienced such a feeling when something good happened to them, even if momentarily. This could be due to some material gain. Faith does much more; it gives a lasting feeling. Hope generated due to material gains is lost as easily as it comes when there is some setback. Faith is not that fickle; it makes one mentally stable over a period of time. Because faith is reinforced with each new realisation/

experience. Earlier, I used to get depressed when some sickness struck me or my near and dear one. Now I pray to God for guidance and help. And guidance and help arrives. No longer is there a dark feeling of something sinister waiting to happen. I am engaged in positive acts with hope that things will work out. When I compare my present attitude to when I was not so faithful, I am amazed by the change. Now, God — the omniscient is in the picture. Not only does God give the right intuitions but He helps also by arranging help, which arrives mysteriously. No longer can I treat it as mere coincidence, because that cannot happen every time.

Painful mood swings ail a modern man, who expects quick solutions. One is given to extreme emotions. And it hurts. It is no wonder that Lord Krishna has spoken about equanimity so extensively in the Geeta. God wants us to develop this quality, and it can be



done with the help of faith in a very lasting manner. Gone will be the days of extreme emotions or severe ups and downs in the mood. Certainly, there would be changes in the mood because we are human, but such variations would be small and tolerable. Peace will come gradually. And this peace can not come without God consciousness. How can we be assured of our future unless God is involved? Can we ensure our future happenings? No we cannot; we are too small to do that. Faith will help.

This is not all; faith propels us towards goodness. This is natural. Those linked with God are dominated by the mode of goodness. Faith helps them to overcome the two lower modes of passion and darkness. Remember, these three modes are always vying with one another for supremacy inside us. Under the influence of the mode of goodness one is attracted to acts in goodness like eating foods in goodness, seeing what is good like natural scenery, hearing what is beneficial, etc. Similarly,

one will be naturally inclined to follow dharma; faith has that power. Not only that, one will be dutiful because dharma and dutifulness go together. One will be mindful of what his or her duties are. One will have duties uppermost in his or her mind while deciding on choice of activities. Such following of dharma and being dutiful brings enormous rewards in one's life.

Faith makes one feel fortunate. Gone will be the days when one felt that he or she was not so lucky. God gets into the act and things begin to pan out differently. Faith helps secrete the right chemicals in our brains. After all, our moods are mostly controlled by the chemicals that we are producing in ourselves. I can go on because the advantages which accrue to a faithful person are endless. We just need to get started on the spiritual journey. No one can then detract us from that path.

Bishnoi is a spiritual writer and can be reached at spiritual@ajitbishnoi.com



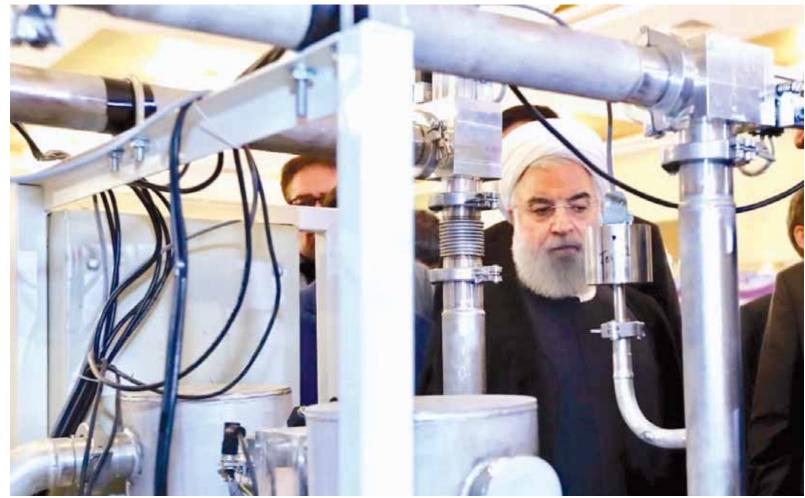
Iran nuclear quandary: Who's superior?

Nuclear power makes or mars humanity, but they are a kosher instrument of both wartime and peace-time deterrence. Still, the nuke related kill potential and aggressive Joe behaviour is here to stay! Iran intends to utilise its nuke kill potential with an objective to mitigate the Occident, particularly the United States, at the Strait of Hormuz.

An instance has been the catching of the British oil tanker, Impera. The downing of each other's drones and the ugly transactional quid pro quo has become part of the tertiary diplomacy, along with the primal sphere of nuclear diplomacy. The moment of sending packing away the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) by US President Donald Trump has been analysed by a section of international relations observers and experts as being indicative of moving out of the disarmament and the non-proliferation regime in the larger construct in West Asia, without ruling out nations of the order of Saudi Arabia and Israel.

Though the US has moved out of the JCPOA, the other nations remain part of the multilateral treaty and the JCPOA remains in force despite the tertiary deliberations on the entire Iranian narrative. Dan Smith writes in Inter Press Service, "This makes it clear that, rather than an evidence-based technical objection to the agreement or its implementation, the US decision to withdraw from the JCPOA was a political measure aimed against Iran. The timelimited nature of the JCPOA is by no means unique — the major US-Russian strategic arms control agreement, for example, expires in 2021. It is normal in such cases to find an appropriate opportunity to dis-

cuss extending the agreement." In a manner, the global security architecture remains undone as the US has sashayed out of the entire JCPOA and raises questions and pertinent posers concerning the nom de plume of multilateral diplo-



macy but still such hiccups are part of international negotiations, but definitely it's here that multilateralism takes a grave beating. International institutions such as the United Nations Security Council promulgated the UNSC resolution in order to sustain and sublimate the idiom of nuclear disarmament, but the infringement of the multilateral treaty makes the institutional understanding, largely peripheral and questionable.

The political story arrives in the text with President Ronald Reagan terming the Iranian nation as the "indomitable satan", which had to be collectively resisted at any cost after the Iran hostage crisis as before the American Embassy was run down by the local protesters, the United States was an able supporter of the Shah of Iran. It was the Iran hostage crisis which initiated the "vile context" of the relationship between Washington and Tehran which was further buttressed by the American support to dictator Saddam Hussein in Iraq in the near neighborhood of Iran.

Tehran has made it pretty clear that if the Americans want the way of diplomacy, then sanctions have to be lifted over Iran, and Javad Zarif has contended that the US sanctions pinpoint towards a grandiloquent "failure" of multilateralism and the larger tenet of the praxis of diplomacy.

Still, it needs to be reiterated that the "political" complex will always catch on with the leaders, heads of states and their respective populations once the dice of international politics has been rolled

in the dark and light coloured strategic squares.

Bloomberg reports about the Iran's nuclear programme. It contends, "Iran's nuclear capabilities have been the subject of global hand-wringing for more than two decades. While Iran's leaders long insisted the country was not building nuclear weapons, its enrichment of uranium and history of deception created deep mistrust." It's not exactly a quest for security but it's a historical security dilemma which the region suffers from. The US and Tehran have been talking for long years and Iran and the great powers at the high table intended to settle the dispute between the West and the rest by entering into a much expected nuclear deal with a civilisationally high brow Iran.

It can be safely surmised

back which kicked off a kind of cold war between Tel Aviv and Iran has breached the 300 KG limit set up by the Iran US Nuclear Deal in 2015. Iran has always maintained that it be allowed to carry on the uranium enrichment process before

that Iran has been foretold and

warned that to prevent its econ-

omy from getting strangulated,

it needs to cap its nuclear pro-

gramme. But, once the die has been cast by President Trump

moving out from the JCPOA,

the call becomes one associat-

ed with the tenets and the call-

ing of real politique with Israel's

Primer Benjamin drawing the

"thin red line" for Iran's nuclear

Ahmadinejad who was on the verge of declaring a battle with Tel Aviv at the slightest hint of a provocation. But, with the ushering in of Hassan Rouhani, the developments and the exchanges began to call off tense vibes, between Tehran and Washington and went beyond the "satanic discourse" between both the nations.

Iran was also quick to challenge the European nations in heft and experiments at one of the United Nations General May 2019 and went ahead with its uranium enrichment. Assembly session a few years Iran apparently draws its lessons from national pride and nations in the region such as Saudi Arabia, and Israel have contended that the empowering of Tehran, which is primarily theocratic, is despicable which engages Tehran with Saudi Arabia in a perenthe idiom of concessions can be nial tiff to lead the larger and the global Islamic world. The referred to. It was Mahmoud

yes sayers contend that nations such as Brazil, South Africa and Japan have been made to be open to charges of enriching uranium and utilising the fuel for a strategic weaponisation programme. The history of confronta-

tion leads us to the staid but still stolid saga of wars premised upon civilisation differences. The manner in which the Persian King Xerxes somehow managed to crush the hundred Spartans reflects the perennially recorded and often commented upon historical schism between the Iran and the West, especially the emblematic Greek city states.

Who can but forget the swift destruction of Persian quick moving vessels pitted against the Greek motley crew! Thus, historicity too leaves intact the much deliberated upon BOT, balance of terror, between nations such as the United States and the Persian Empire of the yonder years.

Coming back to the contemporary context of the JCPOA, and the Iran's habit of doing nuclear activities from eighties onwards till 2003, it has been alleged that Iran too was in more ways than one involved in the violations of the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty of 1968. Iran's import of U-6 from the Chinese was never reported to the International Atomic Energy Agency in the post 2003 phase. The Kalaye centrifuge facilities were also unreported by Tehran to IAEA. The laser isotope separation activities carried on by Iran were also relegated to the dark side of the moon with the IAEA being kept ignorant about them. Iran does not permit IAEA snoops to sites . Thus, in a way before the abacus of the international community, the erstwhile Persian Empire has been unrelenting and seamlessly confrontationist akin to its adversary, the

(The writer teaches International Relations at Indian Institute of Public Administration, Delhi)

United States of America.

Tehran has made it pretty clear that if the Americans want the way of diplomacy, then sanctions have to be lifted over Iran, and Javad Zarif has contended that the US sanctions pinpoint towards a grandiloquent 'failure' of multilateralism and the larger tenet of the praxis of diplomacy



MANAN DWIVEDI

PERSPECTIVE

Hope for dyslexic kids: Need to widen DALI's ambit

Srinivasa. His parents scolded and nagged him for his failure to cope with the stress in class, and for his inability to read and write in English and in his mother tongue Kannada. As his classmates laughed at his mistakes, he kept away from them. Teachers felt he was being deliberately obtuse.

But today the 11-year-old, Srinivasa, happily attends his school, can read and write, but of course with the help of special educators in school.

Using DALI (Dyslexia Assessment for Languages of India), a screening and assessment tool in four Indian regional languages, teachers and psychologists assessed Srinivasa's sound awareness, skill acquisition capability in reading, writing and numbers, communication, motor coordination, behaviour and memo-

Pinpointing his areas of difficulty, the test helped them realise the child was not thick-

Experts say early diagnosis of dyslexia — Srinivasa's disability — can go a long way in helping children with specific learning disability, which is neurobiological in origin. The inability to achieve adequate reading skills despite normal intelligence, equal opportunity and adequate classroom instruction is termed as dyslexia. It has a biological basis and occurs because of differences in

"If not addressed, we stand

from future productive workforce of the country. In fact, in the absence of tests in different languages and writing systems, dyslexia assessment is often restricted to English, leading to inappropriate and incorrect assessment of the child," pointed out Professor Nandini Chatterjee Singh, who along with her team, developed the tool under a project supported by the Government's Department of Science and Technology

DALI is the only standardised test currently available in India in four languages to detect the learning disorder in which people find it difficult to spell and process verbal and written instructions.

Developed and tested at the country's only neuroscience and research institute National Brain Research Centre, Haryana, an autonomous body funded by the Department of Biotechnology in 2015, DALI is now seen as a new hope for children who speak in regional languages, besides English.

Professor Singh said, "DALI has been standardised and validated across nearly 4,000 children from Class 1 to V in various schools. It is currently available in Hindi, Marathi, Kannada and English and work is underway to extend it to Tamil, Telugu and Bengali. Importantly, it is not curriculum based, thus facilitating its use across the coun-

try in bilingual children." The tool was standardised

Until two years ago, the olose out on a significant and validated in various chunk of the literate population schools at five centres namely Orkids Centre for Learning Disabilities, Delhi; Centre of Behavioural and Cognitive Sciences, University of Allahabad; Allahabad, Maharashtra Dyslexia Association, Mumbai; Dr. Shanta Vaidya Memorial Foundation, Pune; and All India Institute of Speech and Hearing, Mysore. While DALI has not

gained ground in India as the Government is yet to notify it for use across schools in the country as a part of a national policy, this multi-lingual screening and assessment tool has already generated a lot of interest among neighbouring countries like Nepal, Afghanistan and Bangladesh, to name a few.

In fact, realising its potential, the UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development (MGIEP) has decided to scale it up further. UNESCO-MGIEP brought Professor Singh on it board to take it further to neighbouring countries, like Afghanistan and Bangladesh where awareness about the dyslexia is even lower, although the problem is

prevalent. Professor Singh, now working on DALI extension at UNESCO-MGEIP, said, "I have already conducted two awareness programmes in Nepal and Bangladesh, and more are

being planned." On its part, UNESCO-MGIEP has been holding many such workshops in Delhi and in different parts of the country to reach out to children with learning disability. "UNESCO-MGIEP aims to extend the DALI test to all other regional languages in India and the Asia Pacific region for early detection and diagnosis of learning difficulties," said an official from the UN body.

The research is clear that approximately 10 per cent of the global population has dyslexia. Although there is no definitive study, around 10-15 per cent Indian children are afflicted with dyslexia that is equal to nearly 35 million children.

Various Delhi schools private and those run by the State Government have found DALI useful in screening such problems. "They have approached us for extending the test to higher education classes because teachers have been identifying children who are not able to read even in the eighth or even higher classes. The State Government wants to know how many kids have learning disability and how many have not been taught by the teachers," said Professor

Psychologist and specialneeds (children) educator Geet Oberoi has been using DALI in her Orkid centres across the country. "I find it very useful. However, since so far, the tool is validated just for Class III to V. We are waiting for the tools for higher classes. It may happen within next six months."

Other Indian assessments for learning disabilities include DST (Dyslexia Screening Test) and Bangaluru-based National Institute of Mental Health and Allied Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) Index for SLD and Behavior Checklist for Screening the Learning Disabled developed by Swarup and Mehta (1991), abbreviated

as "NIMHANS battery". Presently, the "NIMHANS battery" is the only test notified by the Government for screening and certifying children with dyslexia. This "battery", consisting mostly of Western and English language-based tests, was developed over three decades ago. Developed as part of a small sample for a PhD thesis at Bangaluru and never developed or tested further, it is the only tool accepted for certifying dyslexia as a disabil-

However, Professor Singh argued the NIMHANS battery is not for non-English speakers. It is also curriculum based, and results are often subjective.

Since the Government has not notified DALI, psychologists cannot use it for issuing disability certificates under the Rights of Persons with Disability Act, 2016, which brought dyslexia under the umbrella of disability.

It is now time to audit the NIMHANS battery or look for other tools. A senior NIMHANS' psychologist agreed. On the condition of anonymity, she said the NIMHANS battery was developed keeping in mind needs at the earliest."

"However, a large number of children who come to us for screening, we are able to get the answer for the question through the NIMHANS battery. The problem comes when it's about the higher-class kids where we too are in a fix as to how to decide their learning

disability," said Professor Singh. She felt that it was high time that NIMHANS battery, which is just for English language, test is relooked and modified with the changing needs and increasing awareness about the condition.

Centre of Excellence in Mental Health, Dr Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital Delhi, has already started a project comparing the two tools: DALI and Nimhans Battery. Professor Smita N Deshpande, heading the project, said, "We need to help these children in every possible way. To that end, we are now trying to compare DALI and NIMHANS battery as part of a larger scientific project as well as extending DALI for adults, because children with such disabilities have a special quota in college admissions as well as in Government

Due to lack of awareness, their department has been facing demands for dyslexia certification for people as old as 22-23 years. "Moreover", she said, "Children with dyslexia see the world differently and this has valuable implications for the future of human development. We must help them at

When contacted, KVS Rao, a senior official from the Union Social Welfare Ministry said it is the prerogative of the Union Health Ministry as to which tool should be notified. "We are just an implementing body," he

pointed out. The Indian Psychiatric Society (IPS), currently excluded from certifying childhood disability although its psychiatrists are trained and willing to do so, has already written to the Ministry about these lacunae, said an office bearer of the

Geet pointed out, properly or the child is having "Children in India receive education at school in at least two languages. It is necessary that the assessment of dyslexia be carried out in all languages that the child is exposed to. In India, the diagnosis of dyslexia has been incomplete because of the absence of standardised, validated assessment tools in regional Indian languages." She stressed on early identification of child's learning disability.

Talking about DALI's scientific standing, Professor Singh explains that DALI has around fifteen questions which the teachers, who have taught the child for at least six months. need to fill in. A teacher needs about six months to know what type of problem a child is

going through. Suppose the child has appeared in Class IV, the teacher will try to assess him to see why the kid has not been able to do his homework. 'Has the teacher not taught him



ARCHANA JYOTI

gist can draw up an individual action plan," she explained. "We would like DALI for other languages also," HB Singh, a senior official in the Department of Science and Technology which funded the project, said, adding, "and we could potentially have new

some problem' can be identi-

fied. Once the problem has

been identified, the psycholo-

testing formats, like online questionnaires, to popularise Given that appropriate dyslexia assessment and early remediation is the right of every child, it is important that such initiatives be undertaken as part of the Government policy. Only then

can we bring back the smiles on faces of kids like Srinavasa, who have all rights to feel good about themselves.

(The writer is Special Correspondent, The Pioneer)























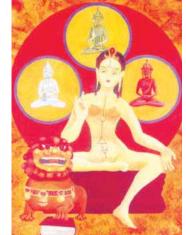




ARIES March 21-April 19

Happiness and prosperity will be knocking your doors this week. A piece of good news is on the cards, and you will have reasons to feel good. You will have sense contentment at the material and spiritual world. The card indicates that you will be full of energy and enjoy good health. Settlement in a new house, cooperation from the young ones and encouragement from the spouse is likely. There will be a healthy environment at workplace. Your colleague or a close friend will need your attention. By the end of the week, you may ponder over your accomplishments and bring improvement in your schedule. Some of you may travel a long distance. Singles, you need to be clear about what you want from a relationship before moving ahead.

Lucky number: 11 Lucky colour: White Lucky day: Monday



LEO July 23-Aug 22

Your fear and doubts are your worst enemies. Get rid of them. It is imperative you stay positive. Health issues may bother. Take it one moment at a time. Think positively, advocate for yourself, ask questions and educate yourself. On the career front, with your determination and will power, you will achieve which seems unattainable. A creative spark will inspire. You will be overwhelmed with an overseas opportunity. Projects that you are about to launch are likely to do well. Relationship wise, you need to bring stability in your family life by spending more time together. Those in a committed relationship, are likely to enjoy a happy, generous, fair and balanced relationship. Singles, meeting someone who is positive, kind, and generous is on the cards.

Lucky number: 20 Lucky colour: Indigo Lucky day: Tuesday



SAGITTARIUS Nov 22-Dec 21

Your emotions will be the gateway to your spiritual life. You will enjoy the fruits of inheritance. Those facing health issues must address symptoms at an early stage. Listen to your inner voice and body and try to bring about a balance between the two. For those of you who are planning to start a new venture, this is not the right time. You may not get the support of your seniors and colleagues. You may feel cheated at work. On the personal level, be a pillar of strength for someone you love as he or she needs you. Those who are in a committed relationship, you will need to take action to make sure that it lasts long. If required, talk to your partner about how you are feeling. Singles, be very clear about what you are looking for in a relationship.

Lucky number: 13 Lucky colour: Blue Lucky day: Thursday



TAURUS April 20-May 20

This week you will be outgoing and energetic. Take time out to pamper yourself and visit a spa or a salon to feel good about yourself. You will have the drive and determination to move towards your goals. Don't try to force things, as it might backfire on you. On the career front, avoid getting into arguments that might make the environment tense. Secret motives and information will cause worry. You need to go deep into the matter and look for your anxieties, fears, and psychic blocks. Keep an eye on your subordinates. On the relationship front, avoid heated arguments. While taking decisions, you need to be grounded and firm. Your partner may be very demanding. You are likely to be very emotional and critical this may affect your relationship.

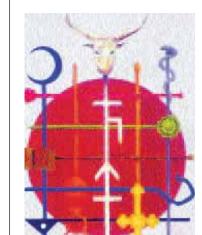
Lucky number: 9 Lucky colour: Orange Lucky day: Saturday



VIRGO Aug 23-Sep 22

You will experience immense energy and vitality this week. People will be attracted to your charisma. Take out time for sports and adventure activities, spas and sauna baths. A strict health regime like diet, exercise, and vitamins/minerals would ensure good health. A brief vacation to enjoy the energy is indicated. Career-wise, short trips and travels may open avenues for your professional growth. Those preparing for an interview or competitive exam, stars are favourable. Patience and persistence will help resolve business related issues. You are likely to face some challenges in relationship. Accusation and misunderstandings between the married couples are likely. Singles, this is not the right time to get into a relationship.

Lucky number: 12 Lucky colour: Golden Lucky day: Sunday



CAPRICORN Dec 22-Jan 19

This week you will live life on your own terms and conditions without any compromise on health issues. You are likely to take time out from your busy schedule, and map out what needs to be done to improve your health. You need to be little flexible and sensitive in your approach. A logical approach to analyse your plan for a health, through discipline may be helpful. Professionally, you will find stability. This is the right time to put your ideas into action. Your efforts will be rewarded. Be careful of an unexpected rival attack. On the personal front, you need to analyse your existing relations and spend quality time with your near and dear ones. Those who are committed, will face some hurdles in the elationship. You are likely to go far for a love interest.

Lucky number: 6 Lucky colour: Pink Lucky day: Friday



GEMINI May 21-June 20

Patience and mental strength will help you lead a healthy life. You need to stay positive and send out good vibes to people around you. Share your motivation and inspiration with others and you might heal them. Those who are dealing with a bad habit, like alcohol and gambling, this is the right time to correct it. Careerwise, uncertainties and confusions will dominate and make your goals unclear. Colleagues and peers might try to limit your capabilities. Stay positive and be confident and you will overcome all opposition. On the relationship front, your partner and you are likely to feel inspired and motivated. Try to express your feelings romantically. Singles, a new beginning may come your way. Use your creative energy in a productive manner.

Lucky number: 22 Lucky colour: Red Lucky day: Wednesday



LIBRA Sep 23-Oct 22

Your determination will pay off on the health front. A disciplined approach to physical well-being and adequate sleep will boost your energy. A prevailing tension related to a health issue will be resolved. Those having sleepless nights need to relax as there is nothing serious. This is the time to use the energy to reinforce and enhance your habits. Careerwise, you are likely to make a comeback on academic front. Financially, it is a smooth sail. This is a period of increased studying, learning, and research for a masters degree. A prestigious position at work is being recommended for you as you continue to give excellent performance. Conflicts, difference of opinions are foreseen in relationship area. Your relations with you partner may be affected. You may try to avoid each other.

Lucky number: 3 Lucký colour: Peach Lucky day: Wednesdav



AQUARIUS Jan 20-Feb 18

This week you will prove to the best of your capabilities and genius and creativity will be your forte. You will multi task with efficiency. You are versatile and your expertise will be acknowledged by the others. You will be busy this week. You may have to take important decisions related to your professional and personal life. This decision will have you charged. This is the right time to invest money in business expansion. The money will not be a limitation for you. Mid week, a new job opportunity will come your way. You will get a tempting job offer with a higher salary and perks. By the end of the week, you will be high on emotions, and hence, making you almost a home bird. It is recommended to invest time in artistic pursuits.

Lucky number: 19 Lucky colour: Sky Blue Lucky day: Friday



⊣he other day an old man worried

about his bullish grandson came

asking: "What is in store of his

destiny? He is 9 years old. Has no inter-

elders. No amount of reprimand or even

est in studies. He doesn't listen to his

beating has any effect on him. He has

become defiant. When his parents show

displeasure towards his unseemly con-

hands over to his father and says: 'You

want to beat me, please do.' We tried to

put him in boarding, but he refused to

go. We are at a loss how to reform him.

Please suggest some remedial measure

if handled with prudence and patience,

astrological chart suggests as much the

reflects his present undesirable behav-

iour. But remember, he doesn't seem to

be the type who would respond to com-

mandments. If things are forced upon

him, he will become a habitual defiant,

first thing that needs to be immediately

beating him or shouting at him. Instead,

which is already in evidence. So, the

done is to stop coercive practice -

possibility of change towards better as it

At the outset, let me assure you that

that may help bring him around."

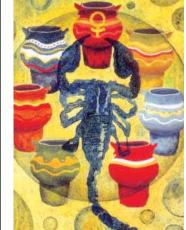
this boy will change with time. His

duct, he himself picks up a stick and

CANCER June 21-July 22

You will be surrounded by healing and rejuvenating creativity. Positive thoughts will come easily to you. Ensure you continue with your health regime. Those facing health issues are likely to recover, but it is still advisable to consult a doctor. On the career front, you are creative, original, and free from restrictions imposed by ideas and criticisms. How you speak your mind is as important as what you say. For some of you promotion, salary hike or desirable transfer is on the cards. This is a very eventful week in all aspects. In relationship, be very clear about your boundaries and preferences, and be honest with yourself about the possibilities. Whatever the final decision, stick to it.

Lucky number: 18 Lucky colour: Green **Lucky day:** Friday



SCORPIO Oct 23-Nov 21

Sentiments and emotions rule your heart and mind this your personality. Use every opportunity to resolve any conflict through negotiation — be it over issues or with important people in your life. You are likely to help or make amends with your family. Irrespective of negotiation, try to maintain balance. Spend time alone to re-evaluate your life and situations basis the fourfold process that is experienced at the levels of consciousness, mental, emotional, spiritual and physical. Surrender yourself to higher wisdom, conquer material temptation and be prepared to give up something in order to gain something better. Your patience and endurance will be put to test.

Let love play the game changer

Lucky number: 21 Lucky colour: Magenta Lucky day: Wednesday



PISCES Feb 19-March 20

This week your search for a mentor in life who opens the This person will provide you with the comfort and help, you require. You are likely to experience mental grief or agony. You will put your family in greater focus than usual and condition all around won't be at their best. Trust yourself and follow a tradition. The dreams of the past will sink in and new ones will arise. Stay calm and quiet and allow things to take their own course without intervention or control. You may change your residence or take a journey to distant lands. Help from a male friend or relative is indicated. You will experience high energy and vitality in your daily life. Religion and traditions will be become a priority and enlighten you spiritually.

Lucky number: 10 Lucky colour: Brown Lucky day: Tuesday

Madhu Kotiya is a tarot card reader, spiritual healer, and Founder, MShezaim Institute of Tarot and Divination. Contact details: madhu@indiatarot.com, www.indiatarot.com, M: 9873283331



ASTROTURF BHARAT BHUSHAN PADMADEO

engage with him with a sense of love. Over a period of time, as he realises that coercive methods have become a matter

of past, he will begin to respond. Remember, every child is born unique, displaying varying mind traits. Try to figure out the trends of his mind and psyche, and accordingly innovate ways and means to deal with him. In this context, I recall a story shared by someone as to how he and his younger sibling were handled differently by their grandfather. Their grandfather, a teacher by profession, took them under his charge when he found them wanting in studies. He enforced strict discipline on them. Later, the old man realised that his method was not working on the elder one. So, apparently in a state of desperation, he told them to do whatever they liked. "You will yourself bear the consequences. I am not going to waste my energy over you," he said.

Thereafter, he stopped overseeing his studies, but ensured that he was on the study table in time. Following which, the elder one began working upon himself. Eventually, he performed very well in the final examination. The elder one used to wonder, why the two



brothers were handled differently. He later realised that his grandfather being a teacher could figure out the mind and psyche of the two brothers and accordingly conducted them.

The same way, your grandchild is unique and has to be dealt differently. The usual way a child is handled in Indian families won't work on him. He has to be led with a force of love, which in turn, will tempt him to begin making efforts to prove himself in his own right. Before suggesting a suitable remedial measure let me first run through the astrological pointers to the child's mind

Born with Sagittarius lagna, having Rahu there itself makes him inherently erratic. Moon being the 8th lord makes him habitually suspicious of other's intent. Moon, the mind-signifier occupying the fiery sign Aries, makes him impulsive, aggressive, domineering, intolerant, and impatient. He won't take kindly to commandments, as he doesn't like to play second fiddle to any. Acting on instinctive prompting, he will like to go about unrestrained. If that would not be enough, Mars, the lord of the Moon sign, is debilitated and in opposition to expansive Jupiter and mischievous Neptune. That makes him all the more

fiery, rebellious and defiant. If subjected to continued strain, he may develop inferiority complex. Mercury placed adverse to Uranus makes him eccentric. Venus being combust speaks of a strong urge for love, which he would be missing. But the good thing is that there is change of signs between Moon and Mars, which carries the possibility of a definite change in his behavioural pattern with time, if tended with a force of

Remember, planets are not doers. They are indicative of how one's thought process works, and which can be very well redirected through conscious efforts. The best remedy for a child is to introduce him to an active game or a sporting event, which he likes, under the guidance of a proven coach. Let the coach turn his eccentricity into a passion towards becoming the lead person in the game, where after this approach will help him in his studies also.

> The writer is an astrologer, vastu consultant and spiritual counsellor. Write to him at G-102, Bharat Nagar, New Friends Colony, New Delhi-110 025 Tel: 91-11-49848475/9818037273 Email: bharatbhushanpadmadeo@gmail.com Website: www.bharatastro.com

TEAM AGENDA DESK > NAVNEET MENDIRATTA, CONSULTING EDITOR I ★ LAYOUT AND DESIGN > SATISH CHANDRA JAKHMOLA, SENIOR EDITOR (CREATIVE)

sunday pioneer

'Learnt a lot from Vidya'

What is your character in The Office about?

I play Riya Pahwa. She is the boss' boss. She sits in the Delhi head office. She has a lot of critical decisions to make. She keeps telling Jagdeep Chadda (played by Mukul Chadda), who is a branch manager, that he has to lis-

ten to her advice otherwise the company will suffer losses. Basically, time and again she makes Chadda realise that she is the boss. She is confident and a won hearts through her acting and bold nature.

sorted woman. ■What made you say

It is a character that I haven't played before. In my first film — Rocket Singh, my role was set-up in an office environment but it was of a receptionist and here I play the boss. It is a different role altogether. Moreover, it is a web series and being aired on Hotstar. When the team of Applause Entertainment approached me for the role there was no reason to turn it

■What is that one thing that is attracting people towards remakes or adaptations of foreign shows?

When you see a movie and if you like it, you want to see it's sequels too. Same goes for this. If there is a good adaptation people will watch it. *The Office* is an adaptation of a cult show which was an international format. It's not as if it's a scene to scene pick up. You have to make the required changes. Here comes the connectivity with the audience. For example, it is an Indian adaptation so accordingly everything has been decided keeping in mind the

Indian audience — be it the characters or the work environment. This makes it an interesting watch. A big show like this deserves an Indian adaptation. ■ Is there a checklist that you follow before signing projects?

First, the script should be good. Second, I look for the production house. Third, good director is a must. Fouth, the platform on which it will be shown. For web series, the platform is decided at a much later stage but then good names should be associated with

a project. You have worked in films, TV and now web. Where do you find yourself most comfortable working in?

I find myself most comfortable in front of the camera. Medium doesn't matter. I love playing different characters. I am comfortable working in any medium as long as I am performing. I have also done *Zangoora*, which was

Bollywood's first musical. I have done everything and I hope I continue to add newer mediums and genres in my list. You have been a part of a lot of reality shows. Any plans to step into the mainstream TV?

If I am offered a good lead character, then yes. But, the role has to be appealing. I would love to do something around love, drama and romance because I haven't done that

How was the experience working with Vidya Balan in Begum Jaan?

There were so many lessons that I took back home from her. More than an amazing actor, she is an amazing human being. She takes care of people around her and is very much aware of what's happening around. I love her to bits. She is very professional, throws no tantrums and never causes any trouble to anyone just

because she is a big actor.

A lesson learnt in the industry.

You don't need to be affiliated to some big name from the industry to earn fame. Your hard work earns you work. Doing good work brings more good work in your way.

Good, bad and ugly of trolling.

Trolling is only bad and ugly, there is no good. The only good can be that it teaches you how to ignore people who want to bring you down. How has your journey been thus

I only see my journey as a glass half full. I don't care about the time when things didn't turn out well. I am a very optimistic person.

■What are your upcoming projects? There are two web series in the peline. I don't want to talk more about it but I have completed shooting for one and have signed the other.

It is an exhibition that is (in)complete and composed of ideas that work in isolation. Yet, the pieces manage to lead to a conversation between the artist and the viewer, says SHALINI SAKSENA



Unfinished business

when applied to art. To each his own
It is such a beautiful place, yet there is what works here. What may is violence everywhere," Ahmad appear to be dull and dark and not worth even looking at, can be a piece of art worth lakhs. Hence, it has been seen that the young artists are. It just experimenting with the medium but the concept of what art is all about. It is no longer restricted to canvas, wood or clay. Today, artists display a concept and sell that to the audience who understands what the creator wants to show.

The work on display at Dharti Arts Residency Open Studio by Serendipity Arts Foundation in the Capital by artists Khursheed Ahmad, Dharmendra Prasad and Farah Mulla are a case in point. In fact, 26year-old Ahmad's work is more about what he wants to say through his work rather than the art itself. He tells you that his work is a reflection

of what is happening in the Valley. A piece that I have created — a shrine made from wood with windows — with a video where I am banging the wall with my hands wearing shoes is symbolic. A shrine is a place of peace and a place of worship. People go there to soak in the peaceful ambience. But then there is

here is an adage—beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder. This saying can't be more apt with what is happening in Kashmir. explains who belongs to a performing art community from Budgam.

He tells you that as a child he

She speaks with Musba Hashmi about her

projects and journey. In order to get

fame, one needs to work

used to accompany his family to performance at a various events. "We belong to the bhand community. Our performing style involves a traditional folk theatre of play and dance. So I was inclined towards art. After finishing my schooling from a Government school, I joined an art college in Srinagar. It was here that I learnt how to fine tune my body art performance. I was introduced to painting and photography. I learnt now one could use different strokes to tell the audience what we want to convey. The idea is not to sell my work but to introduce people to different aspects of art. That doesn't mean that I turn down work when it comes to me. Sometimes people like the photographs that I have taken and want me to paint that on a canvas, other times, they want a big poster size of the photograph; it all depends," Ahmad tells you.

Dharmendra Prasad, who is



Khursheed Ahmad with his work

what my life has been. I was born in Bihar and lived there for 10 years and then moved to Guwahati. I did my schooling there and pursued painting from an art college. I then moved to Hyderabad but went back to Guwahati and visited many villages. It was living in an urban city and then in a rural area. This got me thinking how I could use this into my art. I wanted to use the knowledge that I had gathered and my interest in ecology led to me create a work that showcased that aspect. I am working with farmers and artisans in different seasons. When I came to Delhi, that got me thinking what I could create to show my background. I wanted to treat the space I was given as a field. The piece shows the agrarian side of India from Guwahati tells you that his art using hydraulics, irrigation techis what a farmer would perceive as nology and different kind of agriculthis violent banging, a noise, that is art. "The piece that I have created is tural byproducts and mixing this artists to create and collaborate with

with my creative side," the 32-yearold says who agrees that a piece like this is not what people would be wiling to buy.

The idea is not to sell art in the form that we are used to. My idea is to tell people that art is not just a western concept and for people who wear suits. Art is for everyone, even a farmer. Nobody is going to buy a running water system or crop residue. But that doesn't mean that it has no value, it does for the people from rural India. But just like a video can be sold, my work can also social and public place and how it find buyers— not in it's entirety but influences us. "Sound does not have at least in part," Prasad says who material quality yet it speaks of passed out of an art college in materiality of objects. Hyderabad and since then he has been trying to create a space for his kind of work.

"I am based out of Guwahati where there are no takers for my ork. So I make do by painting portraits. The path that I have chosen is tough but I want to reposition myself. Life is not just about making money. Art is everywhere. I want to be in a place where I can bring all the knowledge that I have gained and put it on a single platform. For me art is not just a painting on canvas. Art is not restricted to any genre or medium," Prasad explains.

Smriti Rajgarhia, Director, Serendipity Arts Foundation & Festival tells you that as an arts foundation, they are pleased to be able to provide a platform for artists and to e part of the process of creation while they explore their individual artistic practices and grow their network within the arts communi-

Sunil Kant Munjal, Founder Patron, Serendipity Arts Foundation: "The Dharti Arts Residency allows

peers, and to connect with the artist community at large. 2019 marks our third edition, and we are proud to be able to support four artists again this year during the early stages of their creation by offering them inspiration, space and time to focus solely on enriching their practice and building their arts network."

Farah Mulla, a sound artist and a curator, tells you that the her research is all about sound and it's effects on humans; how acoustic soundscape helps us to navigate the

That got me interested. I work with cross model sensory perception where one sense can enhance the experience other. I wanted to have these little transfusions between different mediums and started building different insulations that are on display like there is a piece that has been created to make sound by touch, Mulla says and adds that art is a sensory perception that engages your senses and makes you interact.

"I am interacting in a different medium. My medium is sound and find it interesting because it is immaterial, it is reproducible, at the same time recording is not a reproduction. The morality of the medium interests me," Mulla says who travels constantly for work.

'There was a time when there were not many takers in India. There was a time when most of my work was outside of the country. The good thing is that things are changing here. My work has taken me to Baroda or deep into the Himalayan mountains," Mulla says.

'Hitting lows is important to reach highs'

Choreographer BOSCO MARTIS, who debued with Mission Kashmir speaks with MUSBA HASHMI about his best moments and judging a reality show

■ You have been in the industry for almost two decades now. How do you think you have evolved as an artist?

It has not been an overnight thing. It takes time. Every day is a learning process. At the end of the day, I analyse the mistakes and try not to repeat them. I learn by seeing myself. I am still evolving. I try to improve and keep progressing.

■ How has your journey been? Were there more ups or more

The truth is that you have to hit the lows to go high. It is important for one's progress. If you are already on that high, then there is only downfall. I would rather like lows coming in my life so that it can prepare me for the highs.

You have choreographed for people like Shah Rukh Khan and Kareena Kapoor Khan. How is it like to work with them?

It is more of a giving process since I am choreographing them. While working with actors, you have to understand that this is what they are and you have to bring out the best in them. The audience doesn't know if they can dance or not, it is up to me see see how to present them. This is when our expertise come into work. It is also a challenge to figure out how to present a particular actor, since everyone has their own strengths and weaknesses, so that they come out as a better version of themselves. Out of all the actors you have worked with, which one is your favourite?

Ranbir Kapoor is my favourite. I love working with him. The reason being he has nothing to say. If I am giving him a step he just does it without any ifs and buts. He just does everything that is taught to him for the love of dance and for the love of what's happening around him. He knows that he is with professionals who will give him the right moves and what it takes to make the song a hit.

■What was the most challenging project for you?

The song Senorita in the movie Zindagi Na Milegi Dobara was challenging. We had to be in Spain and had to complete the song in just 10 days. There was a lot of hard work that went into it and the appraisal was so well done. It also got a National Award for us.

■What are some of the best moment of your journey?

I have enjoyed each and every

moment of my life. It is not a single memory that turns out to be best for you but it is a collaborative effort of each and everything in your life. It will be wrong to term any particular incident or memory as the best one. But, yes one of the best moments can be the year 2000 when my debut film as a choreographer — Mission Kashmir

■ How do you define dance? Dance is a way to release your energy. If you are happy you can dance, if you are sad you can dance.

released.

■What does success mean to you?

Success is what you embed in yourself and what you derive from it. It is not as if you got a big offer and you become successful. Success for me is the little things that makes me happy. If a child comes and hugs me, it is a

■ How is the experience with Dance India Dance?

I am thoroughly enjoying it. There is a lot of fresh talent. Then, there is Kareena Kapoor Khan as a judge this time. It is a wonderful expe-

■What is your mindset while judging a reality show?

I try to give the best of my knowledge to the performer. I try to give the best of my expertise to the contestants so that they can benefit from it. And, I hope that I do it the right way.

Ek garam chai ki pyali ho the good old Dilli *ki chhalli* with

othing like some hot masala chai and pakoras on a rainy day, more so if you are meeting up friends at a tony coffee shop in town. Keeping this clientele in mind this monsoon, the Claridges' signature coffee shop Pickwick's has laid out a break

from the usual fare to suit the As rain drops keep falling on your head chef Vikas Rana regales you with cuisine tales from the four corners that the

monsoon fare spreads out on. Be it the onion *bhaji* and vada pav from Mumbai's streets or the Irani samosa and Osmania biscuit from Hyderabad or, for that matter,



THE HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONSOON FEAST IS THE CLARIDGES' SPECIAL CHAI. THE **EXTRAVAGANZA BRINGS WITH IT** THE FAMILIAR TASTES OF A TYPICAL RAINY

times want the real *ghar ka* stuff away from home. The spicy onion bhaji is both in spirit and taste true to

mixed veg pakoras, the fare is lip

smacking for a lazy evening out.

Light, authentic and fulfill-

The sips and the treats

versations with the

ing for the rainy season the chef has worked well on the taste buds of simpletons who some-

the kiosks that line Colaba to fill your tummy with tasty treats. The highlight of the monsoon feast is The Claridges' special chai. The extravaganza brings with it the familiar tastes of a All the regions typical rainy day. To top it, the wafting aroma speaks of the finest quality of tea leaves which are meant to more than merely quench your thirst for some hot stuff on an overcast and wet

enhance your afternoon con-

very special cutting chai paired with savoury snacks.

The corn on the cob is hot, well-roasted on coal fire, spiced up with nimbu and salt and served with elan. The juicy almost sweet and soft corn sitting on the cob melts in your mouth, as does the wee bit crunchier parappu vada from down

propel the locally loved version of tea and so the South Indian stuff comes with filter coffee as tea is an alien brew in much of the Deccan. Take time out, it rarely gets so seasonal in five-star joints, that too with taste intact!

Fortune favours the bold

Smith's 92 despite double blow help Aus score 250 in response to England's 258



Steve Smith receives treatment on the field of play after he was hit by Jofra Archer's bouncer during 2nd session of 4th day at Lord's Test on Saturday

ustralia batsman Steve Smith just missed his third Ashes A just missed in as many innings hundred in as many innings after returning following a sickening blow to the neck from a Jofra Archer bouncer on the fourth day of the second Test against England at Lord's on

Smith's 92 was the centrepiece of Australia's 250 all out in reply to England's first innings 258.

The star batsman had made 80 when he was felled by a bouncer from World Cup-winner Archer, making his

Test debut, timed at 92.4 mph.
The ball struck him on the side of the neck and head.

Smith, fell face forward onto the

out the additional neck protection that was introduced following the death of Phillip Hughes after his former Australia team-mate was hit by a bouncer in a 2014 domestic Sheffield Shield match in Sydney.

Smith, who had marked his comeback Test following a 12-month ball-tampering ban, with innings of 144 and 142 in Australia's 251-run win in the series opener at Edgbaston last week, received several minutes of on-field treatment involving both teams' med-

He got to his feet but eventually retired hurt, with Smith receiving a generous round of applause as he walked back into the pavilion. Australia were then 203-6.

Archer had previously struck ground. He was wearing a helmet with- Smith, then on 70, on his unprotect-

SMITH'S 92 WAS THE CENTREPIECE OF **AUSTRALIA'S 250 IN** REPLY TO ENGLAND'S FIRST INNINGS 258. THE STAR BATSMAN HAD MADE 80 WHEN HE WAS FELLED BY A BOUNCER FROM ARCHER, MAKING HIS TEST DEBUT, TIMED AT

92.4 MPH. THE BALL STRUCK HIM ON THE SIDE OF THE NECK AND HEAD

ed forearm with another bouncer during a fiery eight-over spell that cost 31

And it was that injury, not the blow to the neck, which an Australia team spokesman said prevented Smith from fielding at the start of England's second

innings.
"Steve Smith is off the field because of his sore left forearm and has been taken for a precautionary X-ray of that arm after being struck there during his innings," the spokesman said.

Earlier, Smith' resumed his innings as soon as he could when Peter Siddle's exit left Australia 218-7.

From the second and third balls he faced on his return after 46 minutes off the field, Smith hit two fours off Chris Woakes — a slammed shot over midon followed by a backfoot drive

But on 92, facing his ninth ball, Smith shouldered arms to a Woakes delivery that nipped back and was plumb lbw to leave Australia 234-8. In total, he faced 161 balls includ-

ing 14 fours.

Smith turned towards the pavilion, signalling that he was reviewing umpire Chris Gaffaney's decision almost as an after-thought before replays confirmed his dismissal.

This series, the first of the ICC's new World Test Championship, has seen the introduction of concussion protocols designed to allow injured batsmen to be replaced by a substitute previously restricted to fielding duty

SMITH ASSESSED ON PITCH But the Australia spokesman insisted Smith's health had not been put at undue risk by letting him resume his

'Steve was hit on the neck below the left ear," the spokesman said.

"He was assessed lying on the pitch at the instructions of team doctor Richard Saw.

Dr Saw made the precautionary decision to remove Steve from the field of play to have him further assessed under Cricket Australia's head impact protocol.

"Steve then passed his assessments and will now be monitored on an ongoing basis, as is routine." Stuart Broad, leading the attack in

the absence of the injured James Anderson, England's all-time leading wicket-taker, took 4-65 in 27.3 overs and Woakes 3-61 in 19.

Archer finished with figures of 2-

Australia had resumed on Saturday on 80-4 with Smith 12 not out and Matthew Wade, who also made a hundred at Edgbaston, unbeaten on

Broad soon had Wade caught low down by Rory Burns at third slip for an innings of six that took 45 balls.

Smith, amid some typically extravagant 'leaves', completed his fifty when he lofted spinner Jack Leach over long-



Virat Kohli chats with coach Ravi Shastri during India's practice session File Photo

Will continue to experiment & look to build legacy: Shastri

PTI ■ COOLIDGE

The reappointed Ravi Shastri says his primary endeavour will be facilitating a smooth transition by the time he leaves the scene. There will also be room for experimentation, he said, as the team looks to leave a lasting legacy. Shastri, 57, was on Friday

reappointed for a second term. As per BCCI's constitution, the national team's head coach has to be below 60 years, the age Shastri will be approaching by the time his current tenure ends. The 2023 World Cup still a long way and winning 2021 World T20 is the realistic goal for the team.

'Next two years is to see that smooth transition happens because you will get a lot of youngsters coming, especially into the white ball setup. There will be youngsters coming into the Test match setup as well," Shastri told BCCI tv.

"You will need to identify another three-four bowlers to add to the pool, those are the challenges. So that the team, at the end of our tenure, in 26 months, my endeavour would be to leave the team in a happier place. So that they can leave a legacy for the time to come," the former India all-rounder

He wants the team to leave the kind of legacy that future generations would find it diffi-

"I had the belief that this team could leave a legacy very few teams have left behind in years to come, not just for the moment they are playing but at the end of it all... The kind of legacy other teams going down decades will want to try and

emulate. "That is the desire, we are on track. There is always room for improvement. And with youth coming in through the ranks, I think it's very exciting

time," he said.

"It's been superbly consistent if you look at the performance over the last two-three years. But like I said that is the bar they have set and now it's up to them to raise the bar," Shastri assessed the team's performance in the last two years.

He stressed on the improvements the current setup has made in fielding.

"One thing that is most important is that over the last four-five years the biggest improvement is fielding and the endeavour is to make this the best fielding side in the world.

"So it is a clear diktat to whoever wants to play for this team the standards of that particular player's fielding will have to be of the highest level, especially in white ball cricket."

"Collectively, looking at the coaches, the players, the team management the endeavour is to keep this consistency going and try and take it to another

SL set up final day thriller Domingo named new B'desh coach



Dimuth Karunaratne and Lahiru Thirimane chats in between Sri Lanka's 2nd innings AP

AFP GALLE

Cri Lanka's batters set the stage Son Saturday for a thrilling final day, reaching 133 without loss at stumps on day four as they chased 268 to beat New Zealand in the first Test in Galle.

Openers Karunaratne and Lahiru Thirimanne were involved in a record opening stand of 133 runs and benefited from some sloppy fielding by the tourists. It leaves

Sri Lanka needing a further 135 runs to record their first win in the World Test Championship.

Karunaratne was unbeaten on 71 off 168 balls with two boundaries while Thirimanne was on 57 having faced 132 deliveries and hit four fours. They were in no mood to withdraw to the dressing room but bad light ended play 34 minutes before schedule.

Batting fourth in Galle is not the prettiest thing for batsmen three.

and the highest successful run chase here is 99. But this track held together and there weren't any demons for batsmen making

Both openers were slow off the blocks with the first boundary coming in the 22nd over. Karunaratne was the first to reach half-century with a cut shot off William Somerville. It was the Sri Lankan skipper's 23rd Test

Thirimanne reached his sixth half-century with a flick for four off Ajaz Patel. After a series of low scores, he was under pressure to post a decent figure and the halfcentury will have saved his place for the next Test in Colombo.

The duo went onto establish the highest partnership by a Sri Lankan opening pair in the fourth innings. It is also the highest partnership by a Sri Lankan pair for the first wicket against New Zealand.

Earlier, resuming from the overnight score of 195 for seven, New Zealand posted 285 with Watling top scoring with 77 runs. He was well supported by the tail with William Somerville hitting his highest score in first class cricket — 40 not out.

Lasith Embuldeniva finished with four wickets while Dhananjaya de Silva claimed

The Bangladesh Cricket Board on Saturday named South Africa's Russell Domingo as the new head coach of the national team, replacing

Englishman Steve Rhodes. The 44-year-old has agreed to a two-year term with the BCB and is expected to arrive in Dhaka on Wednesday to take charge.

"He has a wealth of experience and we have been very impressed with his passion and coaching philosophy," BCB president Nazmul Hassan

Bangladesh were struggling to appoint a head coach ahead of hosting Afghanistan for a one Test series in early September and a trination tournament with the visitors and Zimbabwe. Hasan said they chose Domingo

ahead of other candidates because of his availability. "We also

sought a full-time coach... (Domingo) said he was very keen to work with the boys and didn't want any holiday breaks. These

about winning the tournament.

I just want to have the chance to

play it now.

are the reasons why we found him suit-

able," he added. Domingo, the lone candidate to face an interview for the post when he arrived in Dhaka on August 7, said he was eagerly looking ahead to his new challenge.

"I have followed Bangladesh's progress with keen interest and I am extremely excited to assist the team in reaching the goals that they are capable of," a BCB statement quoted him as

saying.

Domingo was the assistant coach of South Africa in 2011. He replaced Gary Kirsten as national team head coach of the Proteas in 2013 and remained there 2017.

He led South Africa to semifinals of the 2014 World Twenty20 in Bangladesh.

Domingo will have compatriots Charl Langeveldt and Neil McKenzie among his support staff.

Bangladesh last month appointed Langeveldt as the pace bowling coach retained McKenzie as batting coach.

Former Zealand captain Daniel Vettori has also been appointed as new spin bowling coach up to ICC World Гwenty20 in Australia next year.

AFP ■ CINCINNATI

speciality are over.

Tamim rested for Afghan series



Tamim lobal celebrates after scoring hundred

AFP ■ DHAKA

 $B_{\text{decided to rest out-of-form}}^{\text{angladesh Cricket Board have}}$ opener Tamim Iqbal for next month's one-off Test against Afghanistan following a request from the player, an official said on Saturday. Afghanistan arrive later in

August for their maiden Test against Bangladesh in Chittagong from September 5. Chief selector Minhajul Abedin

said Tamim would also be rested during a tri-nation Twenty20 tournament from September 13 which will also involve Zimbabwe. Abedin said the board had

accepted Tamim's request for a break. "He will now rest both in the (in 2017).

Test match against Afghanistan and also the tri-nation tournament," he

MORTAZARETIREMENT?

Bangladesh one-day international cricket skipper Mashrafe Mortaza has asked for two months to confirm his retirement plans.

He was expected to confirm his retirement thoughts after the recent World Cup where he claimed just one wicket in eight matches. The 35-year-old seamer missed the latest Sri Lanka tour due to ham-

string injury and is facing a long absence from international cricket as Bangladesh are not scheduled to play any ODIs until June next year. Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) last week said they were planning to host a one-off ODI sometime

in September against Zimbabwe to organise a farewell for Mashrafe. But the plan has been shelved following Mashrafe's meeting on

Saturday with board officials. "He sought two months to make his final decision and we said that is

fine," BCB president Nazmul Hassan told reporters. The veteran who made his Bangladesh debut in 2001 kept play-

ing 50-over ODIs and has alredy retired from Tests (in 2009) and T20s

AFP CINCINNATI

shleigh Barty edged closer Ashleigh Dairy Cage.

Ato a return to the top WTA ranking on Friday, reaching the WTA semi-finals as current number one Naomi Osaka retired with a knee injury. Barty, the Australian top

comeback in as many days, overhauling Maria Sakkari 5-7, But the US Open alarm bells were ringing for Osaka less than two weeks before the start of her title defense at Flushing Meadows after a left knee injury

saw her retire against Sofia

into the semis with a 6-4, 1-6, 2-Men's top seed Novak Djokovic also had the trainer on during his 7-6 (7/2), 6-1 victorv over Lucas Pouille, but hoped discomfort in his right elbow

wouldn't linger. The 16-time Grand Slam champion will next face Daniil Medvedev, who beat Russian

Barty close to No 1 rank play the US Open," she said. "I don't even really think



Ashleigh Barty acknowledges crowd gesture at the end of her match

compatriot Andrey Rublev, conquerer this week of Roger Federer, 6-2, 6-3. Osaka's left knee trouble

Japanese star admitting it put a

cloud over her upcoming US Open title defense. "Last year I won the US was more of a concern, the Open and this year I'm trying to

heavily taped Osaka played one more game before packing it in and sending Kenin to the semis. "This is not the way I wanted to win," said Kenin, who will next play fellow American Madison Keys, a 6-2, 6-3 winner over Venus Williams.

French Open champion

Barty will play for a place in the

the physio.

first complained of

apparent knee pain

and after one game of

the third set called for

With the knee

"If there is a 1 percent to number one wouldn't be her chance of me not playing it, that's focus this weekend. what's concerning me." "I'm in the semis for the first Osaka had won time here," she said. "I'm not the second set to level thinking of the ranking at all. the match when she

Elsewhere in the men's draw, France's Richard Gasquet earned his first Masters 1000 quarterfinal victory in six years, defeating Roberto Bautista Agut 7-6 (7/2), 3-6, 6-2. Gasquet won his last contest

final against Russian veteran

Svetlana Kuznetsova, who beat third seed Karolina Pliskova 3-

6, 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 to end the Czech's chances of claiming the

number one ranking next week.

NO 1 NOT FOCUS

Barty said a potential return

at this level in Miami in 2013 and had since lost seven Masters quarter-finals. He will play for a place in the final against 16th seed David Goffin, who advanced in a

walkover against Japanese qual-

ifier Yoshihito Nishioka, who

could not take the court due to

Murray and Feliciano Lopez lost in the Cincinnati Masters men's doubles quarterfinals, going down in what for the 32-year-old Scot was an uncomfortable confrontation with his elder brother Jamie who combined with fellow Brit Ken Skupski for a 6-7 (5/7), 7-

Three-time Grand Slam champion Murray, who won Queen's Club in June with Lopez said that he has decided to dump doubles in hopes of returning to singles.

5, 10-4 defeat of Murray and

He accepted a wild card into the singles draw at next

Doubles done for Murray After flirting for a few months with doubles as he recovers from January hip surgery, Andy Murray on Friday said that his days in that



Andy Murray shakes hand with his brother Jamie after the end of doubles match week's ATP tournament in "I realized that if I want to

Winston-Salem, but he will not play singles at the US

Murray said that after playing doubles last week in Montreal and here in the US, he's keen to return to his former life as a top singles player.

get back to singles at the highest as quickly as possible, I need to avoid doubles. "Doubles was slowing

down everything. Now that my doubles is done, the focus will be totally on singles, which should help in the long run."