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RUSHDIE BACKS AUTHORS

NEW DELHI: Salman Rushdie on Monday joined the protest against "rising intolerance" even as more authors decided to return their Sahitya Akademi awards.

NEWS | PAGE 12

57% TURNOUT IN PHASE 1

PATNA: The first phase of the Bihar poll for 49 Assembly seats in 10 districts passed off peacefully on Monday with 57 per cent vote cast.

WORLD | PAGE 14

COUNTER-TERROR DRILLS BEGIN

BEIJING: India began counter-terror drills with China in Kunming on Monday, even as naval exercises with the U.S. and Japan started in the Bay of Bengal.

BUSINESS | PAGE 15

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT UP

NEW DELHI: Industrial output rose to 6.4 per cent in August on strong manufacturing and capital goods, while retail inflation remained in the comfort zone.

SHIV SENA'S ATTACK ON SUDHEENDRA KULKARNI CAUSES POLITICAL AND DIPLOMATIC EMBARRASSMENT FOR INDIA

Black paint does not deter Kasuri book launch

Uddhav refused to withdraw agitation, despite request

Satish Nandgaonkar

MUMBAI: Shiv Sena's need to regain its increasingly threatened political space in Maharashtra appeared to rear its head again on Monday when some cadres smeared black paint on Sudheendra Kulkarni for hosting former Pakistan Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri.

Though the Sena shocked Mumbai's liberal cosmopolitanism by defacing Mr. Kulkarni's face with oil paint, the Devendra Fadnavis regime showed once again that when the government has adequate will, it is possible to rein in trouble-makers.

Despite fresh threats by the Sena to intensify its protests, Mr. Kasuri's memoir "Neither a Hawk Nor a Dove: An Insider's Account of Pakistan's Foreign Policy" was launched without any further incident. The police escorted Mr. Kasuri to the venue, and threw a three-tier security cover to prevent any further embarrassment to Chief Minister Fadnavis.

Mr. Fadnavis, also the home minister, disapproved of the attack. "We may not agree with somebody's views, but when a foreign dignitary or a diplomat arrives on a valid visa and holds a programme, it's the duty of a state to provide protection."

Former Indian diplomats said incidents such as these tarnished the country's image, besides hurting the "idea of India."

Earlier, former BJP leader Kulkarni, the chairperson of the Observer Research Foundation (ORF), an international policy think tank, was rendered virtually unrecognisable after some Sena activists stopped his car near his central Mumbai residence around 9.30 a.m., and smeared his face with paint.

A BLACK DAY: *Former Pakistan Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri speaking to the media, along with Sudheendra Kulkarni, in Mumbai on Monday.* – PHOTO: ARUNANGSU ROY CHOWDHURY

Undeterred, Mr. Kulkarni came to ORF's south Mumbai office, and announced that he would not be cowed down by the attack and would continue with the book launch. The attack came after Mr. Kulkarni met Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray late on Sunday night to persuade the Sena to withdraw its agitation.

Six persons, including Sena shakha pramukh Gajanan Patil, were arrested for their alleged role in the attack.

■ I WANTED TO PAY TRIBUTE TO MUMBAI: KASURI; THE STORIED LIFE OF SUDHEENDRA KULKARNI | PAGE 13

Changing dynamics of ties between BJP, Sena

Nistula Hebbar

NEW DELHI: The attack on Sudheendra Kulkarni is evidence of the changing dynamics of the relationship between the Shiv Sena and the BJP ever since the passing of three leaders who had shaped the alliance — the BJP's Pramod Mahajan and Gopinath Munde and the Sena's Balasaheb Thackeray.

The 'Mahayuti' or the alliance between the parties when Bal Thackeray was alive was very different from what it is now.

The BJP was very much a junior partner and Mahajan and Munde were its main facilitators.

Dominant Thackeray

While there was parity among Atal Bihari Vajpayee, L.K. Advani and Bal Thackeray, the latter would still dominate the relationship in Maharashtra.

He successfully intervened on behalf of Munde in 2006 when he was being sidelined in the party after the death of Mahajan.

■ THACKERAY BACKED SUSHMA; 'COMPETITIVE INTOLERANCE' | PAGE 13

■ PLURAL INDIA COMES TOGETHER TO CONDEMN ATTACK; INDIA'S IMAGE AT STAKE, SAY DIPLOMATS; | PAGE 13

'It is against democracy'

NEW DELHI: The former Deputy Prime Minister, L.K. Advani, has condemned the attack on his erstwhile aide Sudheendra Kulkarni, allegedly by Shiv Sena activists in Mumbai. "Of late, we have seen an increase in cases of intolerance. This is against democracy," he said. PAGE 13

Ahead of Punjab polls, Govt to release Khalistan militant

Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh Monday gave the green signal for the release of a convicted Khalistani terrorist lodged in a prison in Bareilly in Uttar Pradesh on humanitarian grounds, a senior government official said.

The convict, identified as Waryam Singh, was held guilty by a TADA court in 1990 for taking part in the Punjab liberation movement and has been lodged in the U.P jail since then. He is one of the 13 convicted terrorists, lodged in various prisons, whose release has been sought by the Shiromani Akali Dal , an ally of the Bhartiya Janata Party, on humanitarian grounds.

Waryam Singh's release comes ahead of the Punjab Assembly elections scheduled for early 2017 and is seen as a move by the NDA government to win over the Sikh community.

It was in January this year that Punjab's Deputy Chief Minister Sukhbir Singh Badal handed over a list of 13 terror convicts to Mr. Singh and sought his intervention to facilitate their release.

Since Waryam Singh was lodged in a U.P prison, the State administration sent a letter to the Home Ministry and sought its comment on a proposal to release the terror convict on grounds of old age and good conduct. The U.P. administration wrote to the MHA after Shiromani Gurudwara Prabandhak Committee chief Avtar Singh Makkar met U.P. Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav in July this year.

"There was a request from the Punjab government and the U.P. authorities also wrote to the MHA regarding Waryam Singh's release. The Home Minister on compassionate grounds decided that since he is already 70 years old and has served more than 20 years in jail, it would not be unjust to do so. This decision has also been taken seeing his good conduct in the jail," said a senior Home Ministry official.

The Centre's move is seen as an attempt to appease the Sikhs

Earlier, the Home Ministry was against the release of convicted terrorists as it would give a wrong signal to the law enforcement agencies and primarily be seen as "appeasement" of a particular community. Earlier, Punjab Chief Minister Parkash Singh Badal wrote to five Chief Ministers and two Union Territory administrations, seeking the premature release of the 13 convicted terrorists on humanitarian grounds.

Among the 13 Sikh terror convicts whose release is being sought by the Punjab government are five serving life imprisonment for the assassination of former Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh. Those who are lodged in various jails are -- Lakhwinder Singh, Shamsher Singh and Gurmeet Singh, lodged in Burail jail, Chandigarh; Gurmeet Singh Fauji serving in a Rajasthan jail; Jagtar Singh Hawara, Paramjit Singh Bheora, Davinder Singh Pal Bhullar and Daya Singh Lahoria in Tihar jail, Delhi; Gurdeep Singh Khaira in Gulbarga jail, Karnataka; Lal Singh Akalgarh lodged in Naba jail and Subeg Singh and Nand Singh lodged in Chandigarh jail.

Police wean 40 youths from militancy in south Kashmir

Vijaita Singh
& Peerzada Ashiq

NEW DELHI/ SRINAGAR: The Jammu and Kashmir police have weaned away around 40 young men, mostly from south Kashmir, from joining the terror outfit Hizbul Mujahideen by tracking their activities on social media, a senior Home Ministry official said.

Security agencies in Kashmir are grappling with a growing number of youths joining the militant ranks and the authorities are nipping these attempts in the bud by identifying the probable recruits on the basis of their activities. A case in point is Pulwama district where 24 boys were dissuaded by the police in just two months. On September 24, at least 16 boys were handed over to their parents.

> In Pulwama, 24 boys were dissuaded from taking to militancy in just two months

A top counter-insurgency officer told *The Hindu* on condition of anonymity that Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Muzaffar Wani (22) was a "motivation for some of these boys." "The video of Burhan and online activism did play a role in attracting these youths to militancy. Many youths were attracted to militancy after listening to separatist leaders' speeches at the funeral of slain militants," he added.

■ CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

NOBEL FOR DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIST

Angus Deaton has won the Nobel Prize in economics for his work on consumption and the way poverty is measured, notably in India

> To design economic policy that promotes welfare and reduces poverty, we must first understand individual consumption choices. More than anyone else, Angus Deaton has enhanced this understanding
> – ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

WHO: He was born in **Edinburgh, Scotland**, and went to the same school as **Tony Blair.** He **studied in Cambridge**, where he later taught, and is **currently at Princeton University**

WORK: He is known for his **work on consumption, poverty and welfare.** It is said **India changed its methodology for measuring poverty** thanks to research from the likes of Deaton

INDIA RESEARCH: His extensive research on India includes **"Health Care Delivery in Rural Rajasthan"** with Abhijit Banerjee and Esther Duflo and **"Food and Nutrition in India: Facts and Interpretations,"** co-authored with development economist Jean Dreze

BOOKS/PAPERS: The great escape (2013), Global patterns of income and health (2006), Understanding consumption (1992), Economics and consumer behaviour (1980)

> I'm so delighted, not just for myself, but that this sort of work is being recognised
> – ANGUS DEATON

REPORTS ON PAGE 14

Gurgaon Joint CP who took on boss shunted out

Staff Reporter

GURGAON: Gurgaon Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Bharti Arora, who was involved in a dispute with Commissioner of Police Navdeep Singh Virk over investigation into a rape case, was on Monday transferred as DIG (Welfare and Training), PHQ, Panchkula, in a late night reshuffle involving 10 other IPS officers.

While Ms. Arora had accused Mr. Virk of "going out of his way" to help the victim, the latter accused her of having family relations with the accused and his family and trying to shield them. A probe was ordered into the allegations and the report was submitted to the DGP, Haryana, this past week.

The transfer it is widely seen as the outcome of the fight between the two officers.

Reacting to her transfer, Ms. Bharti said it was the "prerogative" of the government and she was not disappointed.

Govt comes to aid of veteran danseuse

Tara Balgopal at her residence at Rajouri Garden in West Delhi on Monday. PHOTO: SHIV KUMAR PUSHPAKAR

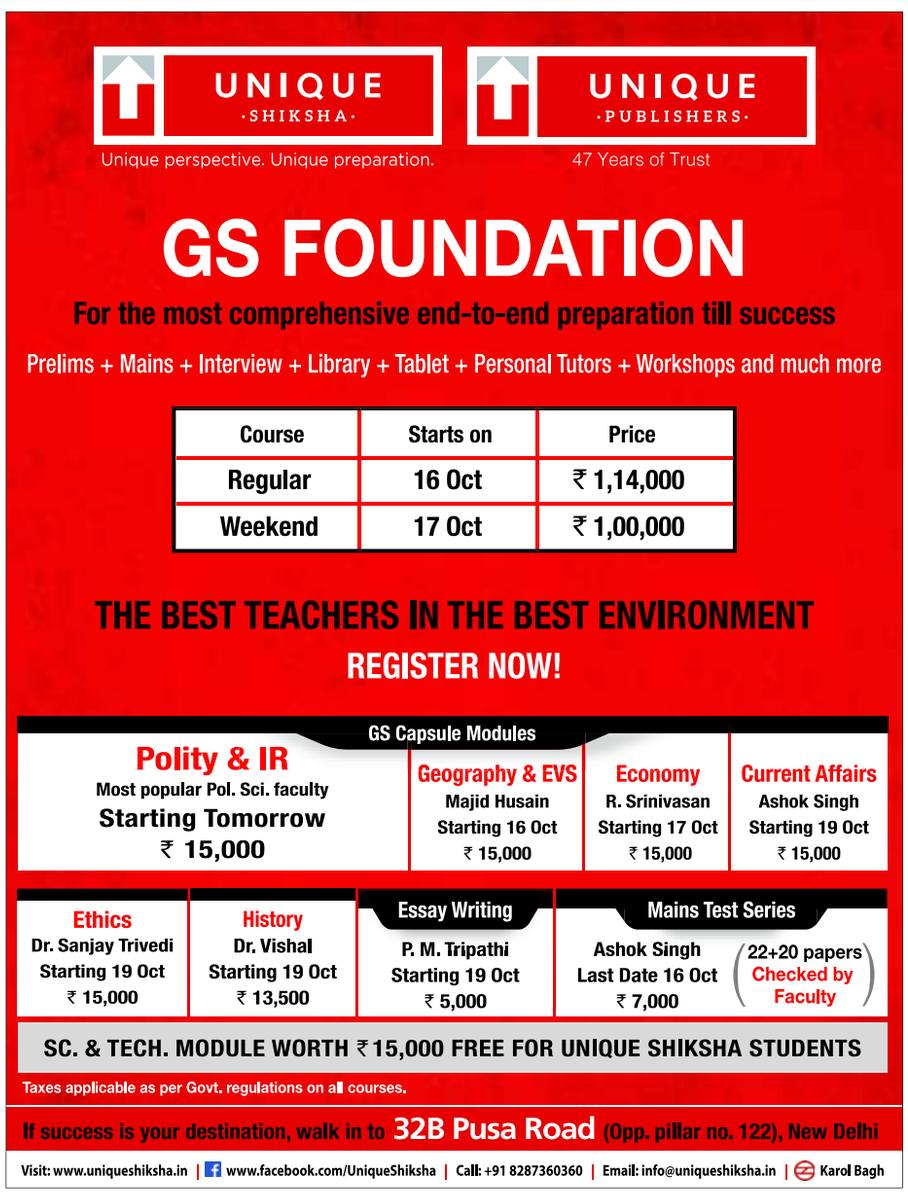
Sidhartha Roy

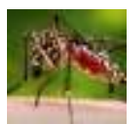
NEW DELHI: An accomplished Bharatanatyam, Kathakali and Kathak dancer, she has trained the likes of Hema Malini, been featured on an Indian stamp in 1962, won innumerable accolades and taught at Delhi University's Rajdhani College. However, at 82 years of age, veteran danseuse Tara Balgopal today lives in abject poverty in her musty Rajouri Garden house and is dependant on charity for two square meals.

EXCLUSIVE

Ms. Balgopal blames her financial plight on the sheer neglect by government authorities, banks and even insurance firms. While she was a Reader at Rajdhani College, post-retirement she was paid the pension of a lecturer and claims the college owes her Rs.2 crore in dues. The decade-long court case she has been fighting has drained all her financial resources.

■ ONLINE PETITION CAME TO HER RESCUE | PAGE 8





Delhi in grip of worst dengue crisis since 1996

The Capital is currently facing its worst dengue season since 1996 with the city reporting 10,683 cases — Delhi: 9,058; outside: 1,625. In 1996, 10,253 cases were reported >>Page 4

Notice to NTPC for 'polluting' thermal plant

The Delhi government's Environment Department has issued a notice to the NTPC for flouting emission norms at its 40-year-old power plant situated in Badarpur >>Page 5

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Delhi set to get 5 half-way homes

City has options for treatment of mental illness, but not rehabilitation

Kritika Sharma Sebastian

NEW DELHI: Rehabilitating patients with mental illness through half-way homes will soon become a reality in the Capital. While there are options for treatment of mental illness in the Capital like at the Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IHBAS) in Dilshad Garden, the city is found severely lacking when it comes to half-way homes.

Half-way homes serve as a stop-gap place for people who have undergone treatment for mental illness before they venture into the real world. The project of constructing half-way homes, which was undertaken at the time of the Sheila Dikshit-led Congress government, is now ready to be rolled out with five such homes. The Aam Aadmi Party government is now figuring out how to run these places and will conduct a workshop on Friday to decide on the same.

Mental health experts from all over the country will be part of the brainstorming session-cum-workshop.

"The idea behind this brainstorming session is to discuss how half-way homes are going to be run in the future, because they cannot be run by people in the government alone. We need the support of experts on the subject," an official from the Social Welfare Department of Delhi government said.

"Whether we run these homes under a Public-Private-Partnership model or with the help of some non-government organisations or institutes for mental health, this will be decided at the workshop. We have invited various stakeholders, including representatives from NGOs, mental health experts and people who are already running half-way homes in other parts of the country to discuss ideas," the official added.

One half-way home each will come up in Rohini Sector-22, IFC Narela and Dwarka Sector-3, and two at Rohini Sector-3. The homes will also have day-care centres for those who might want to leave a child or family member for a few hours. All five homes will have 25 residential accommodations for patients and several rooms for day-care centre patients.

"Sometimes people who have received treatment for mental illness need a kind of a stop-gap place before they venture into the real world. These places will help provide just that. People who suffer from schizophrenia, depression or other mental illnesses will be given treatment and counselling at these homes. The idea is to provide state-of-the-art facilities at these homes with nurses and counsellors. In the future, we will also try to provide vocational training to the inmates," added the official.

According to officials, the proposal for making half-way homes was made after directions from the High Court in 2009, after a public interest litigation was filed on the issue.

HOME AWAY FROM HOME

WHAT IS A HALF-WAY HOME?

A half-way home helps provide social integration and rehabilitation to patients with mental illness. These are people who have been discharged from a hospital or an institution dealing with mental illness

Half-way homes coming up in Delhi:

- Rohini Sector 3: **2 homes**
- Rohini Sector 22: **1 home**
- Dwarka Sector 3: **1 home**
- IFC Narela: **1 home**

Successful half-way homes in other parts of the country:

Asha Half-way home in Bangalore: It provides psychosocial rehabilitation to people with mental illness. People from both India and abroad volunteer at the facility

THE BANYAN Half-way home in Chennai: It was set-up for destitute women with mental illness. It helps them undergo treatment and begin the process of reintegration with society

Theatre artiste returns Sangeet Natak Akademi award

Jaideep Deo Bhanj

By returning her 2010 Sangeet Natak Akademi award in protest against the recent Dadri lynching incident, Maya Krishna Rao becomes the first performance artiste to join a string of writers handing over their literary awards in protest against the way the Central government has dealt with a number of issues

NEW DELHI: Theatre artiste Maya Krishna Rao, who is known for her powerful issue-based performances, on Monday returned her 2010 Sangeet Natak Akademi award in protest against the recent Dadri lynching incident.

Ms. Rao said: "The present government has, in spite of reminders from society, done little to stand up for the rights of people to express their thoughts and ideas, and live the way they would choose to in a free country."

She is the first performance artiste to join a string of writers handing over their literary awards in protest against the way the Bharatiya Janata Party-led Central government has dealt with a number of issues facing the country today.

In a letter to Akademi secretary Helen Acharya, Ms. Rao wrote that a village ironsmith was lynched and killed due to a carefully-orchestrated malicious rumour in Dadri, but the government failed to speak up for the rights of citizens. She added that rationalists, creative artistes, thinkers, dissenters and activists have faced threats and even been murdered in the country and that her conscience did not allow her to retain the award in these circumstances. She further stated that the government is yet to empathise and reassure the country that the basic values of independent thinking and way of life of the people will be safeguarded at any cost.

Born in 1953 in New York, Ms. Rao has donned the hats of an actor, director, educator, writer and activist, and has been active since the 1970s. She has come up with series of works that provoked her audiences to think about political issues. She founded a street theatre group, Theatre Union, and raised issues like dowry, and rape law in her works. Her recent play *Walk*, in response to the December 16 bus gang-rape, has been performed several times in schools, colleges, street, living rooms, shopping malls, NGOs and rallies.

CINEMA

ENGLISH

THE WALK: DT (Saket, Shalimar Bagh), FUN (Moti Nagar, Pitampura, Laxmi Nagar), PVR (Plaza, Saket, Naraina, City Walk), Satyam (Nehru Place, Patel Nagar, Janakpuri)

HINDI

JAZBAA (New Release: Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Irrfan Khan): Aakash, Amba, Abhishek, Delite Diamond, PVR (Plaza, Rivoli, Priya, Saket, Citywalk, Naraina, Vikaspuri, Prashant Vihar, EDM), M2K (Rohini, Pitampura), FUN (Moti Nagar, Pitampura, Laxmi Nagar, Karkardooma), Satyam (Patel Nagar, Janakpuri, Nehru Place), Wave (Raja Garden, Noida, Kaushambi), BIG (Odeon, Noida, Vaishali, Kaushambi), DT (Saket, Shalimar Bagh, Vasant Kunj), Movie Time (Raja Garden, Pitampura), SRS Cinemas, Spice (Noida), MMX, JAM Shipra, Galaxie, Star X (Vaishali), M4U, SM World, Movie Palace, Movie Magic, Chaudhary (Ghaziabad).

TALVAR (Irrfan Khan, Konkona Sen Sharma, Neeraj Kabi): Delite Diamond, M Cinemas, G3S (Rohini), PVR (Plaza, Rivoli, Priya, Saket, Citywalk, Naraina, Vikaspuri, Prashant Vihar, EDM, Opulent), FUN (Moti Nagar, Pitampura, Laxmi Nagar, Karkardooma), DT (Saket, Shalimar Bagh, Vasant Kunj), M2K (Rohini, Pitampura), Wave (Raja Garden, Noida, Kaushambi), BIG (Odeon, Noida, Vaishali, Kaushambi), SRS Cinemas, Spice (Noida), JAM Shipra, Galaxie, Star X (Vaishali), M4U, SM World, Movie Palace, Movie Magic, Chaudhary (Ghaziabad).

SINGH IS BLING (Akshay Kumar, Amy Jackson, Lara Dutta): Delite, Amba, G3S (Rohini), M2K (Rohini, Pitampura), DT (Saket, Shalimar Bagh, Vasant Kunj), Movie Time (Raja Garden, Pitampura), Satyam (Patel Nagar, Janakpuri, Nehru Place), Wave (Raja Garden, Noida, Kaushambi), BIG (Odeon, Noida, Vaishali, Kaushambi), SRS Cinemas, Spice (Noida), Galaxie, Star X (Vaishali), Movie World and Silver City (Ghaziabad), Inox and Q Cinemas (Faridabad).

(BOOKING ENQUIRIES: PVR 51513391; Spice Gold 012043890000; Satyam Cinemas 25797385; Delite 23272903; Wave 51832222)

WEATHER WATCH (City-wise reading yesterday)

For metros highlighted, readings show max temperature

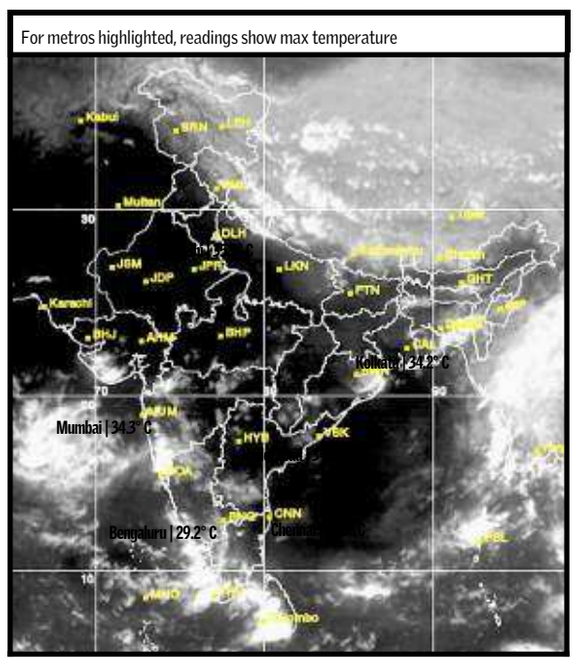


Image & Data: India Meteorological Department

Forecast for Tuesday: No forecast warning

	Max	Min		Max	Min		Max	Min
Agartala	32.1	23.6	Hubballi	29.0	21.0	New Delhi	35.5	21.5
Ahmedabad	36.7	24.5	Hyderabad	34.5	22.2	Patna	34.2	24.8
Allahabad	36.8	21.9	Imphal	24.0	18.2	Port Blair	30.1	23.7
Aizawl	27.3	13.0	Jaipur	39.2	22.8	Pune	31.1	20.3
Bengaluru	29.2	20.4	Kohima	24.5	14.0	Puducherry	33.5	23.8
Bhopal	36.6	20.8	Kolkata	34.2	25.6	Raipur	35.0	24.4
Bhubaneswar	34.3	24.5	Kochi	31.2	23.6	Ranchi	32.2	20.1
Chandigarh	34.2	23.8	Kozhikode	33.0	25.9	Shillong	21.5	14.2
Chennai	35.3	27.0	Kurnool	34.0	27.2	Shimla	24.0	11.6
Coimbatore	30.6	21.9	Lucknow	33.6	22.7	Srinagar	27.8	11.3
Dehradun	30.4	20.1	Madurai	34.4	23.5	Vijayawada	36.7	24.2
Gangtok	17.4	14.3	Mangaluru	32.2	24.2	Visakhapatnam	34.8	25.7
Goa	32.0	25.0	Mumbai	34.3	23.6	Thiruvananthapuram	31.8	25.0
Guwahati	30.9	20.5	Mysuru	29.6	20.9	Tiruchi	35.1	23.0

The myriad forms of Lord Ganesha

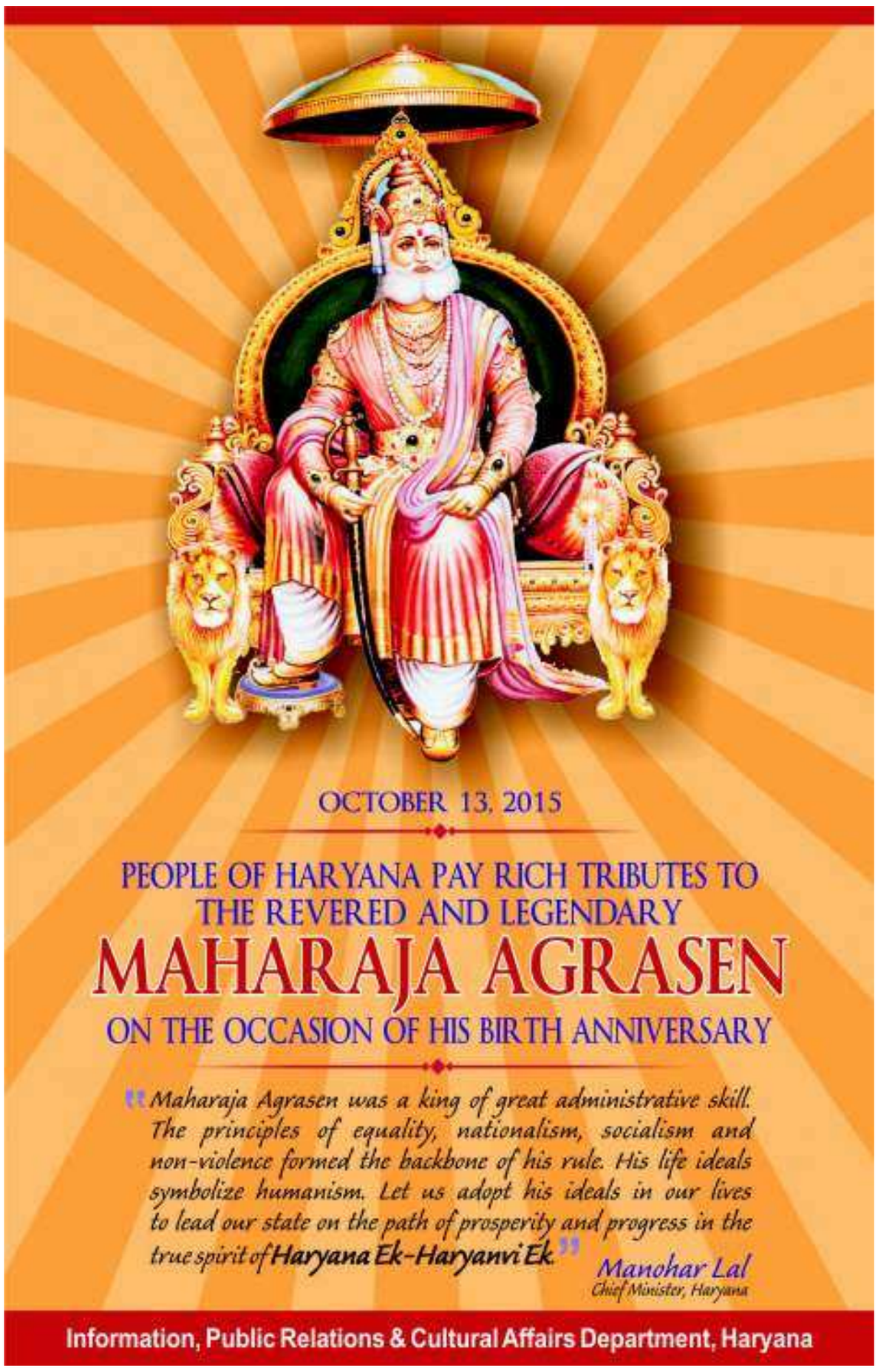
Over 30 artists have come together in a group show, titled "MahaGanapati". The exhibition is on at Mirus Art Gallery, Saket, till October 22.

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Lord Ganesha has been represented in many forms over the years and is a favourite with many artists.

Over 30 artists have come together in a group show, titled "MahaGanapati", and have portrayed him in a unique way. The belief that worshipping Lord Ganesha whenever a new venture is started brings success and that he is a good listener because he has big ears, and that is why he listens to the miseries of his devotees is brought out by many artists, including M.F Hussain

The exhibition is being held at Mirus Art Gallery, Saket, and has been curated by Praveen Upadhye. It is on till October 22.



THE HINDU PRESENTS SCHOOL BUZZ IN SCHOOL

New leaders take charge

Pragyan School, Greater Noida, organised the installation ceremony of its Interact Club recently. Rakesh Singhal, president of Rotary Club Green Greater Noida, along with other members of the club, gave away the badges to the office bearers. Principal Ruchika Sharma commended the activities of the club.

Math mania at Springdales

The Pi Club of Springdales School, Dhaula Kuan, organised Absolute Maxima, an interschool maths contest, recently. 16 schools across Delhi participated. Presenting the prizes to the winners, chief guest Rita Malhotra, principal, Kamala Nehru College, University of Delhi, highlighted the importance of maths in daily life. The overall trophy for the best team was handed over to Amity International School, Saket.

Proud moment for Darshan Academy

Darshan Education Foundation organised a seminar on 'Enlightening Minds and Illuminating Souls' to celebrate its achievement of establishing 20 schools in 20 years. Sant Rajinder Singh Ji Maharaj, founder chairman, Darshan Education Foundation, Tejender Khanna, former Lieutenant Governor of Delhi, mountaineer Santosh Yadav, Professor K. K. Aggarwal, Chancellor, K. R. Mangalam University, Gurgaon, and Michael Ribet were some of the key speakers. The seminar was followed by cultural programmes presented by the students of Darshan Academy.

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Gurgaon community radio launches series on Constitution

Ashok Kumar

GURGAON: A Gurgaon-based community radio station — Gurgaon Ki Awaaz — on Monday launched a new radio series called "Hamara Samvidhaan." The initiative has been introduced in partnership with "We the People", a network that aims at expanding active, engaged and informed citizenry in the country and with local support from the District Legal Services Authority here. The radio station gets programmatic and research support from Ideosync Media Combine and the United Nations Democracy Fund (UNDEF).

The 13-part series delves into the importance of the Constitution of India, and focuses on the values laid out in the Preamble. In each episode, experts will connect with listeners to show how every value laid out in the Preamble is connected deeply with our daily life, and the growth and betterment of the society we live in. Students from District Institute of Education and Training (DIET), as well as thousands of listeners across Gurgaon, will be able to call into the studio to join the live discussions.

The series will broadcasts its first episode on Saturday.

DIET students were an integral part of formative research for the programme. The programme will be broadcast on 107.8 FM on Saturdays at 1 p.m.

DELHI

Oct 13, Tue	Oct 14, Wed	Oct 15, Thu
RISE 06 20 SET 17 55	RISE 06 21 SET 17 54	RISE 06 22 SET 17 53
RISE 06 26 SET 18 15	RISE 07 17 SET 18 51	RISE 08 09 SET 19 31

	Maximum	Minimum
Delhi City	35	21
Safdarjang	35	21
Palam	36	22

Delhi PalamToday 35°C
A pleasant morning on a bright sunny day. Few clouds may appear. A comfortable evening & night.

Delhi PalamTomorrow 34°C
The day would be marginally warm. Thunderstorm may build up towards the evening in parts.

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Cops to be inducted from Northeast

Shubhomoy Sikdar

NEW DELHI: With Delhi Police recruitment teams camping in the eight States in the Northeastern part of the country, the force has inched a step closer to its long discussed plan of inducting personnel from the region in its ranks.

Eight separate teams — one each for Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Tripura, collectively known as 'seven sisters', and Sikkim — left the city in the beginning of October and will stay there till November-end, carrying out the recruitment process.

A senior police officer said that through the drive, the force plans to induct 450 personnel from these States. While Assam has the highest number of sanctioned posts (100), the other States will account for the remaining 350 (50 for each State).

Notifications uploaded on the websites of the respective police forces of these States suggest that male-female ratio in the vacancies is (3:1). For instance, Mizoram has 34 vacancies for men and 16 for women, while in Nagaland the corresponding numbers are 33 and 17.

As of now, these teams have set the ball rolling by uploading the notifications with coordination with the State police forces and posting advertisements in the local newspapers as well as the national ones which have an edition in bigger centres such as Guwahati.

As far as the composition of the recruitment teams are concerned, each one of these teams is headed by either a Deputy Commissioner rank officer or an Additional Deputy Commissioner and comprise an Assistant Commissioner and an inspector rank officer as well.

"Once the responses come, the teams will scrutinise and shortlist the suitable candidates and make another round for the physical training part. We hope that the process would be completed by November and the results will be out the next month," said the officer.

On the responses and inclination of youth in these States to join the city police force of a place as distant as the Capital, a senior Mizoram Police officer said that on the first day, 100 forms were sold and he sees the number as encouraging.

RECRUITMENT TIME

While Assam has the highest number of sanctioned posts (100), the other seven States will account for the remaining 350 (50 for each State)

- Eight different Delhi Police teams are currently camping in the seven **North Eastern States** and **Sikkim** to oversee a recruitment process of constables from these areas
- **Advertisements** have been published in the newspapers in the States and the teams are to **scrutinise** the responses received
- By December, Delhi Police expects to have **450 new** personnel from the region
- This would mean the representation from the region would be almost **11 times** of what it was in the beginning of the year when the force had **39 cops** from these States **10** of them **IPS officers**
- Last December, Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Kiren Rijiju had said that **160 youths** from Northeast states would join the Delhi Police
- **Bezbaruah Committee**, formed soon after the alleged murder of a youth from **Arunachal Pradesh** in **Lajpat Nagar** — the murder charges were subsequently dropped by CBI which took over the probe from Delhi Police — had recommended the induction of personnel from the region in Delhi Police

THE HINDU
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NOTICE

All Arms license holders are hereby informed that their Arms license must have a Unique ID to remain valid. Arms Licensees are requested to appear strictly and punctually at Licensing Branch, Police Station Defence Colony as per schedule given below **based on dates when renewal of their Arms License is due:**

MONDAY, 19th OCTOBER, 2015	
10:15 A.M.	Renewal due between 01.03.2018 to 31.03.2018
12:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.02.2018 to 28.02.2018
03:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.01.2018 to 31.01.2018
TUESDAY, 20th OCTOBER, 2015	
10:15 A.M.	Renewal due between 01.12.2017 to 31.12.2017
12:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.11.2017 to 30.11.2017
03:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.10.2017 to 31.10.2017
WEDNESDAY, 21st OCTOBER, 2015	
10:15 A.M.	Renewal due between 01.09.2017 to 30.09.2017
12:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.08.2017 to 31.08.2017
03:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.07.2017 to 31.07.2017
FRIDAY, 23rd OCTOBER, 2015	
10:15 A.M.	Renewal due between 01.06.2017 to 30.06.2017
12:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.05.2017 to 31.05.2017
03:15 P.M.	Renewal due between 01.04.2017 to 30.04.2017

DELHI POLICE
SHANTI SEWA NYAYA
DP/8665/15

DELHI TODAY

Exhibition: "After The Rains" - a group exhibition of paintings in aid of maitri and cancer sahyog at Open Palm Court Gallery, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

Exhibition: Dheeraj Verma's "Strong India" - an art and painting exhibition at Gallery No. 4, Lalit Kala Akademi, Rabindra Bhavan, Copernicus Marg, Mandi House, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Métamorphose" - a group exhibition of 9 artists at Gallery No. 8, Lalit Kala Akademi, Rabindra Bhavan, Copernicus Marg, Mandi House, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Exhibition: "Seedling 2015" - an art exhibition of choicest works of young talents at All India Fine Arts & Craft Society (AIFACS), 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Paintings: "Flowing Water" - paintings by Artist Kasturi Hazarika at Arpana Art Gallery, Academy of Fine Arts & Literature (AFAL), 4/6, Sirifort Institutional Area, 11 a.m.-7 p.m.

Seminar: 'From Hierarchy to Hindu Politeness: Why civility matters in the study of Dalit politics' by Dr. Suryakant Waghmore, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai at Nehru Memorial Museum & Library (NMML), Teen Murti House, 3 p.m.

Lecture: 'India and its Northeast: Another big push without a takeoff?' by Prof. Sanjib Baruah, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, New York, US and Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi at Nehru Memorial Museum & Library (NMML), Teen Murti House, 3 p.m.

Talk: "A Manual on Conservation of Historic Gardens: The Indian Context Based on the Florence Charter on Historic Gardens" by Dr. Priyaleen Singh, Professor at the School of Planning and Architecture at Conference Room - I, Main Building, India International Centre (IIC), 6:30 p.m.

Screening: "Wasted" documentary film screening on the concept of waste and recycle in India at Habitat World, India Habitat Centre (IHC), 7 p.m.

Culture: Navaratri Sangeetotasavam-2015: Sangeeta Kalanidhi Dr.T.V. Gopalakrishnan to perform chanting of Mahishasuramardini at Aiswarya Maha Ganapati Temple, C-2, Keshav Puram, 7 p.m.

(Mail your listings for this column at *cityeditordelhi@thehindu.co.in*)

Man accused of raping minor arrested

Shubhomoy Sikdar

NEW DELHI: A 37-year-old man was arrested on Monday for allegedly raping a six-year-old girl and then abandoning her in a forested area in South-West Delhi's Baba Haridas Nagar last week.

The arrest comes after allegations by the victim's family that police inaction had allowed accused Ashok to escape.

The incident, which took place on October 5, bears eerie similarities to the recent Keshav Puram incident, in which a four-year-old was raped and brutalised.

Like the other incident, in this case case too the victim was first lured with chocolates and then taken away to a secluded area where she was allegedly raped.

According to the girl's father, the suspect is their neighbour and a fellow tenant.

He has been absconding since the incident.

The father blames the police for not taking timely action, thus allowing the man to flee.

He said that while his daughter went missing in the afternoon, he came to know about it only when he returned late in the evening.

Then called up the police control room, but the girl could not be traced by the PCR staff or area police. The man further added that his daughter was playing outside the house when she was allegedly abducted by Ashok.

The police, however, said the girl was picked up in her mother's presence.

In the early hours of the next day (October 6), when she regained consciousness, the girl spotted two CISF jawan jogging near the forests. The personnel informed the PCR and helped reunite her with the family, the father added.

A case under the relevant provisions of the Indian Penal Code and Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act has been registered at Baba Haridas Nagar police station.

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MOSQUITO MENACE

CAPITAL REPORTS 10,683 CASES WITH 41 DEATHS

Delhi in grip of worst dengue crisis since 1996

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

The figures say it all. The Capital is currently facing its worst dengue season since 1996 with the city reporting 10,683 cases - Delhi: 9,058, outside: 1,625. In 1996, 10,253 cases were reported along with 423 deaths.

This year, Delhi has reported 41 confirmed dengue deaths so far.

Over 3,000 fresh dengue cases have been recorded in the last one week, according to the latest figures released by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD).

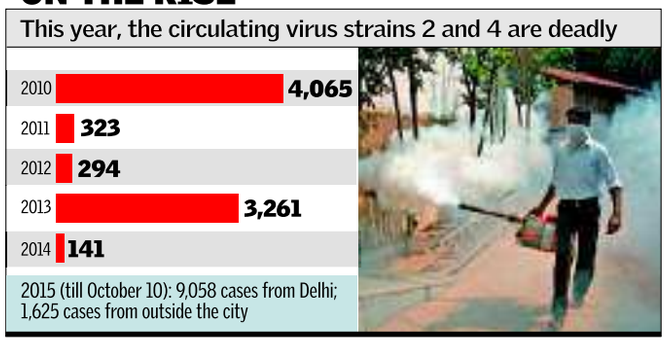
While the MCD data showed 30 people had died of dengue this season, records of major hospitals put the number of dead at anywhere near 41-43.

"This year has been particularly bad because the circulating virus strains 2 and 4 are deadly," said a senior official at the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. There are four genetically distinct viral strains — 1, 2, 3 and 4 — of dengue. Strains 1 and 3 are considered milder.

SEPTEMBER ALONE HAS SEEN 6,775 CASES, ALSO THE HIGHEST IN THE LAST SIX YEARS

ON THE RISE

This year, the circulating virus strains 2 and 4 are deadly



"Of the 10,683 cases, September alone has seen 6,775 cases, also the highest in the last six years. Till October 3, at least 7,606 dengue cases and 25 deaths have been reported," said the MCD report.

On October 8, the South Delhi Municipal Corporation (SDMC), which compiles the report on behalf of all civic bodies, had updated the official death toll to 30.

Of all the civic zones, Najafgarh zone of the SDMC has recorded the highest number with 808 cases.

Nearly 590 cases were reported from areas outside the jurisdiction of Delhi, while 641 cases were recorded in 'others' category, for which the addresses could not be ascertained.

As many as 174 people, who were diagnosed with the disease, came from Uttar Pradesh, while 84 came from Haryana. Also, 129 came from other States.

Till October 10, the number of houses found positive for mosquito breeding stood at 2,16,870, while the number of prosecution launched was 20,670

For feedback, please mail us at *cityeditordelhi@thehindu.co.in*

Chemists decry online sale of medicines, plan nationwide stir

Bindu Shajan Perappadan

NEW DELHI: The All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists (AIOCD) will go on a nationwide strike on October 14 opposing the Central government's move to regularise the sale of medicines online or through e-pharmacies. Pharmacies attached to hospitals, however, will remain open.

Making the announcement at a press conference here on Monday AIOCD president J. S. Shinde said, "We have about eight lakh members involved in the distribution of medicines across the country and they are joining us in the protest."

AIOCD member Suresh Gupta said the government should crack down on any online sale of medicines as it raises the risk of misuse of drugs.

"Presently, online pharmacy business is going on illegally and the government authorities are not taking any action against it. Hence, we have no alternative than to go on strike to protect the health of general public," he added.

According to the AICOD, the government's move would increase the risk of adverse drug reaction, which will give an opening to the entry of low-quality, misbranded, and spurious products.

Sandeep Nangia, president, Retailers and Distributors Chemist Association, Delhi, said they too are coming out in support of the AIOCD protest.

"More than 12,000 chemists and wholesalers in the city will keep their shops shut on October 14 and participate in the protest at Jantar Mantar," said Mr. Nangia.

The multi-core online pharma business currently has no prohibition under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.

Those in the business said habit forming and dangerous drugs aren't allowed, and the protest has more to do with chemists fearing loss in business and competition from other players.

HC reserves order on Millennium bus depot

Mohammed Iqbal

NEW DELHI: The Delhi High Court on Monday reserved its order on an application of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) seeking to retain the Millennium bus depot on the Yamuna riverside.

The plea has sought six months' time to approach the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) for getting the land use of the depot site changed in order to prevent its shifting. The High Court had in 2012 directed the DTC to relocate the depot or get the Master Plan Delhi 2021 amended to continue the operations of the millennium bus depot, which was constructed during the 2010 Commonwealth Games on the banks of the Yamuna.

Senior advocate Shanti Bhushan, appearing for two environmental activists, on whose writ petition the High Court had passed directions, said the DTC, which had earlier given an undertaking to shift the depot, could not go back on its word now. The DTC had undertaken before the court in January last year that it would shift the depot to an alternative site provided by the DDA by October 31, 2014. The court later extended the time till August 20 this year. A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice G. Rohini and Justice Jayant Nath reserved the order on the application after hearing brief arguments.

The High Court had in 2012 directed the DTC to relocate the depot or get the Master Plan Delhi 2021 amended to continue the operations of the bus depot. — FILE PHOTO

While the DTC had earlier told the Bench that the issue of changing land use of the depot site was being examined by the Urban Development Ministry, the DDA said that the change was not possible in view of prohibition by the National Green Tribunal on construction in the areas demarcated as zone 'O'.

The DTC has sought six more months to approach the DDA for changing the land use from 'river and water body' to 'transportation'.

NGT notices on felling of trees

Akanksha Jain

NEW DELHI: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Monday issued notices to the Centre and the Delhi government on a petition citing noncompliance of its earlier order for removal of concrete from around trees and freeing them of nails, advertisements and cables.

The tribunal also issued notices to the forest department of Uttar Pradesh, the NOIDA authority, and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) for indiscriminate felling of trees for its projects and developmental work.

The notices were issued on a petition filed by NGO 'Friends', through its general secretary Sharad Tiwari. Mr. Tiwari told the tribunal that a large number of trees had been felled in Noida in the name of pruning and despite the tribunal's order to remove encroachments from around the trees.

> The petitioner said reports sent by the independent consultants to the NHAI reveal that 49,200 trees had been felled on the Allahabad bypass project till Dec 2014

He cited the example of residential projects in Noida and said, "At some apartments such as Jeevan Ashray Apartment (Sector-62), Vasant Apartment (Sector-62), and Jalvayu Vihar Society (Sectors-21 and 25), a large number of trees have been felled and no action has been taken by the government department concerned against the offenders."

Relying on a newspaper report, the petitioner said, reports sent by the independent consultants to the NHAI reveal that 49,200 trees had been felled on the Allahabad bypass project till December 2014, but only 25,364 trees have been replanted.

Further in U.P., the situation is bad as 16,854 trees had been chopped off on NH 24-B by June 2014, but no re-plantation has been carried out.

"As many as 26,482 trees have been felled in the State of U.P. and in Haryana, 61,029 trees had been felled on the Delhi-Agra NH-2 project till September 2014. But no plantation has been done till date," the petition said.

Rape accused offered sweets to other kids too

Shubhomoy Sikdar

NEW DELHI: The 20-year-old man, who has been arrested for allegedly raping and brutalising a four-year-old girl in Keshav Puram last week, was seen offering sweets to other children in the area too, said sources.

While Deputy Commissioner of Police (North West) Vijay Singh on Monday confirmed the arrest of the accused, Raju, it is learnt that during his custodial interrogation, Raju has confessed to his crime. A source said Raju escaped suspicion initially because he would often offer toffees to other children in the area, but had not targeted anyone.

"However, with eyewitness accounts and versions of the victim's families pointing towards his role, he was detained. Initially, he tried to pin the blame on fellow detainees who were also questioned. Later, he confessed to his crime," said a source.

The police had also spoken to some persons in the area who had seen the accused taking the little girl with him after offering her chocolates.

Earlier, the grandfather of the girl had said that the accused lured the girl with toffees and took her to nearby bushes close to the slum area where the victim's family lives. He was the one who later spotted her with cuts on the lips, faces and private parts, and suspected that the injuries were inflicted using a razor blade. Doctors have also noticed several bite marks on her body. The girl's grandfather had blamed those running a liquor vend in the area for encouraging anti-social activities.

Petition saying firecrackers part of Hindu religion dismissed

Akanksha Jain

NEW DELHI: The National Green Tribunal (NGT) on Monday dismissed a petition on how bursting firecrackers is an essential part of Hindu religion and should not be regulated or banned in any manner.

The Ojasvi Party, which claims to have been formed by the son of jailed Godman Asaram Bapu, had moved the tribunal seeking dismissal of a petition which sought for designated areas for bursting firecrackers this festive season.

The Ojasvi Party sought dismissal of a petition filed by advocate Piyush Singh seeking earmarking a place and time wherein and when all the people can come together and witness a show of fireworks, dispensing with the need of crackers being burst in residential areas.

Restrict chemical composition

Mr. Singh has also sought directions to the Centre to ensure that chemical composition of firecrackers be restricted to the least-polluting composition; not only with respect to noise but also air pollution.

The religious group submitted that 'firecrackers should not be banned as they are an essential part of Hindu religion and bursting them help in killing insects and other micro-organisms'.

The tribunal, however, dismissed the petition.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Environment & Forests, the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and Petroleum and Explosives Safety Organisation sought more time to file their replies on Mr. Singh's petition. The NGT granted them two weeks.

Mr. Singh in his petition said excessive, unmindful, and unsupervised use of firecrackers is adversely affecting the ecosystem.

He relied on a judgement of the Supreme Court to say that Diwali is a festival of lights and not noise.

The petitioner emphasised that even the raw materials that go into making firecrackers are polluting.

Sorry sight

Despite the Swachh Bharat Campaign, garbage lying strewn at Jantar Mantar.
— PHOTO: SUSHIL KUMAR VERMA

Man shoots at parents over financial dispute

Shubhomoy Sikdar

NEW DELHI: A 26-year-old man allegedly shot at his parents following an argument over a financial dispute in Dwarka in the early hours of Monday.

Brahm Prakash (49) and Savita Devi (45) are reported to be out of danger, while their son Amit is on the run, said the police.

The trigger behind the incident was the parents' attempt to tow away a car, which Amit received as a wedding gift.

Amit has long-standing disputes with his parents over his share in their business. While three of his brothers stay with their parents in Dwarka, Amit lives with his wife and children in one of the apartments in Platinum Heights complex in Dwarka Sector-18, the spot of the crime.

Mr. Prakash owns three wine shops in Gurgaon and lives in Ramphal Chowk here."On Sunday night, Mr. Prakash, accompanied by his wife, visited Amit's house to tow away the car.

He had also brought a crane for the purpose," said a police officer.

Amit stood on the balcony of his first-floor apartment to confront them when they arrived. Once they reached the complex, a fight broke out between Amit and his parents over an old family dispute.

The argument continued for a few minutes with Mr. Prakash and Ms. Devi on the ground floor and Amit on his balcony. After this, Amit went inside his room and returned with a gun. The incident occurred around 12.30 a.m.

It is alleged that Amit fired several rounds. While two bullets hit his father in the hip and thigh, one hit his mother in the leg. The accused fled the scene by the time residents gathered and called up the police control room. The police rushed the couple to the hospital, from where they were later moved to a private hospital in Gurgaon.

E-rickshaws without licence being impounded, government tells court

Mohammed Iqbal

NEW DELHI: Only those e-rickshaws which are complying with the Transport Department's guidelines are being registered, while those not licensed are being impounded and their owners prosecuted, the Delhi government said here on Monday.

About 1,100 battery-operated rickshaws have been given licence to ply on the city roads.

Making this submission before the Delhi High Court, the government counsel said the Transport Department had impounded more than 15,000 e-rickshaws since January.

The Bench of Justice Manmohan was hearing a contempt petition alleging that most of the e-rickshaws were operating in violation of law and rules, and the authorities were not taking any action against those.

After petitioner Shahnawaz Khan's counsel claimed that only 31 licences had been issued and a large number of battery-operated rickshaws were plying, especially in trans-Yamuna areas, the court asked both the parties to file their affidavits and posted the case for hearing on February 15.

The government counsel told the High Court that the Transport Department had impounded more than 15,000 e-rickshaws since January. — FILE PHOTO

A Division Bench of the High Court had held on September 9 last year that the operations of e-rickshaws in Delhi were illegal as per the existing law and imposed a ban on those till the Union government framed rules for their regulation.

'No stay on CAG's exit conference'

Mohammed Iqbal

NEW DELHI: While refusing to stay an 'exit conference' of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) with Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (TPDDL) on its draft audit report, the Delhi High Court on Monday said any steps taken on the report would be subject to its further orders.

The CAG holds exit conference with the parties concerned to discuss the issues with them before finalising its draft report. A Division Bench was hearing an application moved by TPDDL in the main writ petition challenging the Delhi government's decision to get the accounts of power distribution companies audited.

The exit conference was to be held on Monday. Seeking a stay on its holding, senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for TPDDL, said the discom was not given an opportunity to controvert or verify the data sought to be analysed by the CAG and respond to the latter's reasoning.

A Division Bench was hearing an application moved by TPDDL in the main writ petition challenging the Delhi government's decision to get the accounts of power distribution companies audited. — FILE PHOTO

The Bench, comprising Justice G. Rohini and Justice Rajiv Sahai Endlaw, made it clear that any steps taken against the applicant would be subject to the court's further orders. The matter was posted for hearing on October 30.

The court said it had already directed two other discoms, BSES Yamuna and BSES Rajdhani, to take part in the exit conferences for them, to be held from October 12 to 14, with whatever information available with them. The CAG has computed an alleged loss of Rs. 2,200 crore against the discoms.

The CAG had reportedly stated in its audit report that BSES Yamuna, BSES Rajdhani, and TPDDL had inflated their previously-incurred losses by manipulating consumer figures and inflating costs. Discoms, on the other hand, said they should be provided with the detailed breakup of the alleged losses along with the methodology of computation.

According to the application of BSES Yamuna and BSES Rajdhani, if the discoms were not given a reasonable time to respond, the entire exercise would be rendered fruitless and severely impair the findings arrived at in the final report. The High Court had reserved its judgment on the main writ petition on March 4.

Notice to NTPC over 'polluting' thermal plant

Emission norms flouted at Badarpur unit

Sweta Goswami

NEW DELHI: After the Supreme Court on Monday imposed a "green tax" on diesel guzzling trucks entering the national Capital, the Delhi government too has jumped onto the wagon to fight the battle against the dangerous pollution levels in the city.

The Environment department has issued a notice to the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) for flouting emission norms at its power plant situated in Badarpur.

The 40-year-old thermal power plant is one of the most polluting units in Delhi. In fact, even distribution companies have been demanding that the ailing 705-MW plant be decommissioned.

On monitoring the plant, the government found that as many as three units of the Badarpur Thermal Power Station (BTPS) have been releasing emissions way above the prescribed level of 150 mg/nm3 (microgram per cubic nanometre).

"The BTPS has five units, of which particulate matter emissions from only two units are within the permissible limit. Hence, we sent a notice to the NTPC for upgrading the remaining three units and installing pollution control instruments," said Ashwani Kumar, Secretary (Environment and Forest).

The 40-year-old thermal power plant is one of the most polluting units in Delhi. – FILE PHOTO

> The Delhi government is also keeping a close watch on state-owned Rajghat Power House (RPH), which is the second major polluting unit in Delhi when functional

Mr. Kumar added that the NTPC had recently upgraded the well-performing units of the plant because of which their particulate matter emissions had come down to 50 mg/nm3.

The Delhi government is also keeping a close watch on state-owned Rajghat Power House (RPH), which is the second major polluting unit in Delhi when functional.

At present, the Rajghat thermal power station has been temporarily shut due to sufficient power available with the discoms.

It has an installed capacity of 135 MW, but generates around 100 MW. On the other hand, the BTPS is generating only up to 620 MW.

The discoms are also unwilling to buy power from either the RPH or BTPS as the cost of power from these plants is as high as Rs. 6 per unit.

Even the CSE, in a report released earlier this year, has said that of all the 47 thermal power plants across 16 States in the country, the one at Badarpur has been rated the lowest at 16 per cent.

Kayaking on the Yamuna

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: Delhi Tourism Minister Kapil Mishra is a man on a mission out to make the Yamuna an integral part of the national Capital's life.

A kayaking event was held on the river on Monday morning, with more in the offing, Mr. Mishra promised. "Today, we mainly had some local children participate in the event and we are planning to hold a tournament soon. We are trying to bring people to the river," he added.

Mr. Mishra promised another big event on the river on October 23.

The Delhi government and civil society groups are now coming up with new initiatives to not only clean the river, but also make its banks a destination for visitors.

Starting November 13, an aarti (prayer) will also be held every day at the Kudsia Ghat of the Yamuna.

This will be similar to the aarti held on the banks of the Ganga in Haridwar and Varanasi.

According to Mr. Mishra, believes that these initiatives will give Delhiites a reason to come to the riverside. These initiatives will run concurrently with the government's cleanliness and greening drive at the river's banks.

Won't tolerate graft, Kejriwal tells officials

Maria Akram

NEW DELHI: After the ouster of Asim Khan as Delhi's Food and Civil Supplies Minister on charges of corruption, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal met all the heads of departments in the government. The message sent out was clear — no corruption will be tolerated.

> The Delhi government plans to set up a department to look into corruption-related complaints

Earlier on Monday, the Chief Minister had tweeted: "Will meet n tell all HODs today-HODs hv to ensure zero corruption in their depts. Corrupt won't be spared, howsoever high he may be. [sic]."

The Delhi government now plans to set up a department, parallel to the Vigilance Department, to look into corruption-related complaints against errant officials as the 'Anti-Corruption Branch (ACB) has become redundant'. "The ACB these days is just doing one work, it is not working against corruption," Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia told the media.

Already facing criticism for indulging in 'spying' and encouraging it by spending funds on spy devices, the AAP government has said that it will keep an eye on officials. "From junior engineers to senior officials, no one will be spared for indulging in any kind of corruption," said Mr. Sisodia.

In fact, all heads of departments have been directed to personally monitor the grievance resolution process to ensure timely and effective resolution. According to sources in the Delhi government, even volunteers have been asked to keep a check on MLAs after the Asim Khan episode.

Officials, who attended the meeting, said that it was a meeting where a warning was issued. "He said that when their (AAP) Minister isn't let off, officials can expect harsh punishment," said an official.

The AAP-led government, meanwhile, has handed over the Asim Khan case to the CBI as "we don't trust the ACB anymore," Mr. Kejriwal had earlier said.

Soon after the meeting, the CM's Public Grievance Monitoring System instructed all departments to look into grievances of citizens. The Labour Department will soon organise grievance resolution camps in six districts of Delhi over the weekend. Those who are not satisfied with the government have been called for a session with officials and area MLAs at the camp.

Bikers open fire, child wounded

NEW DELHI: A 10-year-old girl was shot in the leg after two bikers opened fire when her family resisted a snatching bid in Ghazipur on Sunday.

She is out of danger, the police said. Moni and her family were in an auto-rickshaw when she was shot at.

— Staff Reporter

Metro's Badli line being inspected

Staff Reporter

NEW DELHI: The two-day safety inspection of the 4.49 km-long extension of the Delhi Metro's Yellow line from Jahangirpuri to Samaypur Badli began on Monday.

According to sources, the first day of the audit conducted by the Commissioner for Metro Rail Safety (CMRS) went well, with stations and the operations part of the line being inspected. The extension includes three new stations: Haiderpur, Rohini Sector 18 and Samaypur Badli.

Once the DMRC receives the green signal from the Commissioner, it is expected to open by October end.

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16 Oct, 2015	Grand Finale	1530 h

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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Be it know to all our client Ms. Nirmalata Rose Paul has shown her interest in purchasing property bearing Flat no. 180 Nilgiri Apartment, Alaknand, New Delhi from Ms. Sonali Batra and Ms. Samrita Bharat Parab. The brief history of the said property is as under:-

1. Shri O.M. Kaushal was the allottee of the said property who acquired freeholds rights by virtue of conveyance deed executed by DDA in his favour duly registered on 13-07-2000
2. Shri O. M. Kaushal expired on 29.01.2002 and his wife Smt. Vijay kaushal also expired on 08.06.2014 leaving behind Ms Sonali Batra and Ms Samrita Bharat Parab as their only class-I legal heirs
3. Ms Sonali Batra and Ms Samrita Bharat Parab got the said property mulated in their name from MCD vide letter dated 10.07.2014
4. A surviving legal heir certificate dated 27.07.2015 has also been issued by the concerned SDM. Delhi stating that they are the owner legal heirs of late Shri O.M. kaushal and Smt. Vijay Kaushal

If any person/legal heir/claimant of late Shri O.M. Kaushal and Smt. Vijay Kaushal has any right, title or interest in the said property, he/she may contact the undersigned within 7 days with documentary proof after that no claim against the said flat shall be admissible.

Ravi Chopra, Advocate, Enrl No. DL/215/01, Office No. 1, First Floor, DDA Market Pocket-A1, Mayur Vihar-III, Delhi-96

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Public is hereby informed that Shri C. Parasuraman & his daughter Usha Parasuraman were joint owners of Flat No. C-5/101 in Powers Welfare Organisation Housing Complex Plot No. GH-1/A, Sector-43, Gurgaon, Haryana. Mr. C. Parasuraman expired on 06.10.2007 and later on Ms. Usha Parasuraman also expired on 30.11.2012. Now the above Flat is to be transferred in the name of their legal heirs i.e. Mrs. Manjula Ravichandran wife of Mr. C.S. Ravichandran & Mrs. Maheshwari Sita Ram wife of Mr. Sita Ram both residents of Flat No. 631, Sector A, Pocket C, Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070.
Anybody having objection to above transfer may contact/file his/her objection to the under singed or the Secretary of the PWO within 30 days of publication of this Notice.

R. K. Gupta, Advocate
18P, Shopping Complex, Sector-14, Gurgaon.

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APPENDIX IV
[See rule 8 (1)]
POSSESSION NOTICE
(For immovable property)

Whereas
The undersigned being the Chief Manager / Authorised Officer of "The Kangra Co-Operative Bank Ltd.", Head Office at, C-29, Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi-58, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-55 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated 22-11-2014, calling upon the borrower Sh. Manoj Sharma S/o Sh. P.C. Sharma, R/o Plot No. 94, 4th Floor, Sector-12A, Dwarka Residential Scheme, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 & calling upon the Mortgagor Smt. Kanta Sharma W/o Sh. Manoj Sharma R/o Plot No. 94, 4th Floor, Sector-12A, Dwarka Residential Scheme, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 41,82,108/- (Rupees Forty One Lakhs Eighty Two Thousand One Hundred & Eight only) together with further interest, penal interest & other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of the notice till the date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice.
The above mentioned borrower / mortgagor / surety having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the Bank has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 9 of the said rules, on this 05th day of October, 2015.
The borrower / mortgagor / surety in particular & the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the mortgaged property & any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "The Kangra Co-Operative Bank Ltd.", for an amount of Rs. 41,82,108/- together with further interest, penal interest & other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of Demand Notice till the date of realization together with all the costs incurred by the Bank in realizing the said amount.
DISCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY
The property under consideration is a built up Property Free-Hold Built-up Property Bearing No. 94, Area measuring 66.60 Sq.mtrs., Sector-12A, Dwarka Residential Scheme, Dwarka, New Delhi.
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Sd/-
Shashi Pal Sharma
Chief Manager / Authorised Officer
Delhi :
Dated : 05-10-2015 The Kangra Co-Operative Bank Ltd.
Head Off.: C-29, Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janakpuri, New Delhi-110 058

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Notice is hereby given that I, Mr. Harjit Singh Saggu have lost the Share certificates nos. 25549 to 25550 & 27534 to 27537, Distinctive Nos. 2548501 to 2548700 & 2747001 to 2747400 for 200 & 400 Equity Shares respectively under folio No.13416 & 14112 of Shree Hari Chemicals Export Ltd. having registered office at 103/104, Unique Tower, S.V. Road, Near Kamat Club, Goregaon (W), Mumbai-400062 and have applied to the company for issue of duplicate Share Certificates. Any person having claim/objection can write to the company within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, else the company will proceed to issue duplicate share certificates in my favour.
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Centre, States bicker over cleaning Ganga

NGT to fix responsibility

Akanksha Jain

NEW DELHI: The Centre and the States are engaged in a blame game over cleaning the Ganga yet again, much to the displeasure of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), which on Monday took it upon itself to fix responsibility on the agencies concerned.

Hearing a matter related to the cleaning of the river, the Ministry of Water Resources, Ministry of Environment & Forests (MoEF) and the State of Uttarakhand failed to offer complete answers to issues the tribunal raised.

The NGT Bench, headed by chairperson Justice Swatanter Kumar, was displeased with both the Centre and States concerned passing the buck and remarked, "It is a federal structure. Does the Centre owe responsibility to clear everything or the State should also share the responsibility? We have to look into this aspect and fix accountability accordingly."

"After deliberation it is clear that we should hold a meeting of the following officers, for Section One of Phase-1 of cleaning of the Ganga, at the earliest as various directions passed by the tribunal have not been carried out in true spirit and substance," it added.

"We would expect all the learned counsel (for the Centre, states and the agencies concerned) to lead their part completely and comprehensively, which is at present found wanting," the tribunal remarked while calling an in-chamber meeting of the Secretary (MoEF), Ministry of Water Resources, Chief Secretaries of Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand, one representative of the Industries and Principal Secretary (Environment) of both states on October 19.

During the hearing, the counsel for the government said the Centre had approved in principal Rs.328 crore to Uttarakhand since 2008, but only Rs.78 crore had been spent.

The counsel for the government said the Centre had approved in principal Rs.328 crore to Uttarakhand since 2008, but only Rs.78 crore had been spent

Advocate General of Uttarakhand said a total of 1,083 establishments, including 396 hotels and 436 ashrams, were operating in Haridwar without environmental clearances. He added that these would be shut down if they did not obtain necessary clearances.

The Centre, meanwhile, had said that almost Rs.4,000 crore has been spent on the rejuvenation of the river since 1985 till last year. It said that the Ganga Action Plan (GAP) Phase-I was launched as a centrally-funded scheme in 1985. Later, GAP Phase-II was initiated in 1993 to improve the river's water quality.

In 2009, the 'National Ganga River Basin Authority' (NGRBA) was set up to control pollution in the river. NGRBA, a World Bank-funded scheme, was aimed at effective abatement of pollution and conservation of the Ganga. As much as 70 per cent of the total project cost was contributed by the Centre, while the remaining was borne by the States.

Flat-owners up in arms

Ashok Kumar

GURGAON: Over a hundred flat-owners in different projects of Ramprastha City in Sector 37D staged a demonstration outside the office of Ramprastha Promoters and Developers Limited, over prolonged delay in possession of flats.

The developer had launched three projects — The Atrium, The View and The Edge — comprising two-and three-BHK flats in 2008 and promised possession in the first half of 2013. However, the project is far from complete even two years after the scheduled date of possession.

The flat-buyers assembled outside the developer's office in Sector 44. After initial stone walling by the employees, director Arvind Walia agreed to speak to the buyers at a meeting on October 25 at the site office in Sector 37D.

OBITUARY

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LATE R. VENUGOPAL REDDY
DOB:13-10-1928 DOD: 15-08-2002

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Son: R. Vijaynandan Reddy
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Dt: 06/10/2015

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On behalf of the president of India, Sr. Divisional Electric Engineer/ TRS/ Electric Loco Shed, Tughlakabad, New Delhi-44, Invites sealed open tenders for the works mentioned below:-

(1) Tender No.- TKD/07/2015, **Name of work and station-** Photocopies of standard performae and other documents. Station: ELS/TKD. **QTY-** 6.90 Lac Photocopies. **Estimated Cost (In Rs.)-** 4,14,000/-, **Earnest Money (In Rs.)-** 8,280/-

(2) Tender No.- TKD/08/2015, **Name of work and station-** Reconditioning cum repair of valve sets of 3 phase locos. Station: ELS/ TKD. **QTY-** 10 Nos., **Estimated Cost (In Rs.)-** 49,38,047/-, **Earnest Money (In Rs.)-** 98770/- **Last Dt. of submission of All Tenders-** 16/11/2015, 15.00 Hrs. **All Tenders Opening Date-** 16/11/2015, 15.30 Hrs. Complete details are available in the tenders posted on Railway website **https:/ wcr. indianrailways.gov.in** & also available in this office. The Complete tender form can be down loaded from this Railway website.

EAST CENTRAL RAILWAY

TENDER FOR DIFFERENT TYPE OF WORKS

TENDER NOTICE No. TC/19 OF 2015 (Open), The Divisional Rly. Manager (Engg.)/E.C.Railway/Samastipur for and on behalf of the President of India invites sealed Open Tender from experienced and financially capable tenderers including those registered with Government Department like Irrigation/CPWD/MES or any Public Sector Undertaking for the following works which will be received up to 12.00 hours on 20.11.2015 and will be opened at 12.30 hours on the same date in the offices as mentioned below.1. Office of DRM (Engg)/E.C.Railway/ Samastipur- For item no. 01 to 10, 2 Office of GM (Engg)/E.C. Railway/Hajipur - For item no. 01 to 09. **1. Name of the work :** Assisting Track Relaying Train (TRT) Machine for the work-Increase in sleeper density of existing PSC sleepers @ 1340 nos./km on 52 kg rails with new 60 kg PSC sleepers @ 1600 nos./km on SL line from km 0.5-31.4 total ISD 30.6 km between Saleh-Jaynagar', **Tender Value (In ₹):** 1,46,49,065/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 2,23,250/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 5,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 09 months. **2. Name of the work :** Through Bridge Timber Renewal on Bridge No.-01 & 15 (total-480 Nos.) in Samastipur Darbhanga Section. **Tender Value (In ₹):** 90,09,443/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 1,80,200/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 5,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 07 months. **3. Name of the work :** Narkatiaganj-Pariyahawa-Through Turn-out Renewal by curve switch & CMS Crossing (CS+CMSC)-(1:12 & 1:8.5) & fixing/renewal of 300 nos. Glued Joint, **Tender Value (In ₹):** 46,86,526/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 93,750/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 3,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 06 months. **4. Name of the work :** Ujiyarpur-Kapasigram (SPJ yard)-Through Turn out Renewal (CS+CMSC)=14 sets, **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 33,58,091/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 67,370/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 3,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 06 months. **5. Name of the work :** Sagauli-Raxaul : Through Fittings Renewal 28.45 km., **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 30,05,019/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 60,110/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 3,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 06 months. **6. Name of the work :** Through Glued Joint Renewal (200 Nos.) in Kaparpura-Pariyahawa section., **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 19,09,985/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 38,200/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 2,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 06 months. **7. Name of the work :** Renewal 01 SEJ with New improved 52 kg SEJ (35 Sets) in Khagaria-Samastipur section, **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 15,59,916/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 31,200/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 2,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 06 months. **8. Name of the work :** Renewal of SEJ with new improved 52 kg SEJ in Kaparpura-Sagauli section (35 sets), **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 15,59,916/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 31,200/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 2,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 06 months. **9. Name of the work :** Muzaffapur-Sagauli : Through Rail Renewal (Primary)-2.041 km, **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 10,54,101/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 21,100/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 2,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 06 months. **10. Name of the work :** Unloading of boulder in different section of Samastipur Division, **Tender Value (In ₹) :** 7,73,200/-, **Earnest Money (In ₹) :** 15,470/-, **Cost of Tender document (In ₹) :** 2,000/-, **Completion period of the work :** 12 months. **1. Address of the offices from where the tender form can be purchased :** Office of Divisional Railway Manager (Engg)/E.C Railway/Samastipur. **2. Date & time for submission of tender :** 20.11.2015 upto 12.00 hours. **3. Date & time for opening of tender :** 20.11.2015 upto 12.30 hours. **4. Website particular and Notice Board location where complete details of tender can be seen etc. :** Website : http://www.ecr.indianrailways.gov.in, Location for Notice Board : (i) Office of the D.R.M. (Engg.)/E.C.Railway/Samastipur, (ii) Office of G.M. (Engg.)/E.C.Railway/Hajipur

Sr. Divisional Engineer/Co-ord
PR/1647/SPJ/T/112 E.C.Railway/Samastipur

NORTHERN RAILWAY

3rd Corrigendum

Sub :- 3rd corrigendum of tender notice of even no. dated 30.09.2015 schedule to be opened on 16.10.2015. The tender No. 128-W/269/O.T./15-16/WE Tender Notice No. 28(A,B,C), published on 02.09.2015 and to be opened on **16.10.2015.** The tender schedule 28(A) is hereby postponed due to change in tender schedule. Now the same will be opened on **06.11.2015.** The tenderer can be download revised tender schedule from **21.10.2015** to **05.11.2015** upto 15:00 hrs. Other terms and conditions remain same. Corrigendum has already been uploaded on Website "**www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in**" **No. 128W/269/OT/15-16/WE/ T.No.28(A,B,C)Dated : 12.10.2015 2853/15**

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Public Works Roads Department
[Government of Assam]
Chandmari, Guwahati - 781 003 Assam
Press Notice (Retender)

NIB No. CE/PMGSY/ADB/RCIP/201/2013-14/25 Date: 8-10-2015

Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam, on behalf of the Governor of Assam, invites Online Item Rate Bids from eligible Bidders for Construction of Rural Roads under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (ADB, RCIP 2013-14, Batch-II) for the following Packages:

S. No.	Name of District	Name of PIU	No. of Work Packages	No. of Roads	Total Road Length in Km
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Karbianglong	Borpathar Roads Division	3	3	15.241
2.	Lakhimpur	Lakhimpur Rural Roads Division	3	3	3.430
3.	Nagaon	Kaliabor Rural Roads Division	1	1	3.012
4.	Sivasagar	Choraideo Rural Roads Division	2	2	2.745
5.	Sonitpur	Sonitpur State Roads Division	2	2	4.500
		Total	**11**	**11**	**28.928**

Detailed NIB and other details can be viewed on our website **http://pmgsytendersasm.gov.in** after 16.05 hrs on 15-10-2015.

Chief Engineer, PWD (Roads), Assam
Chandmari, Guwahati - 781003

JANASANYOG/1646/15

Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts
and All India Kashiraj Trust
invite all to the screening of
Shri Ramlila, Ramnagar, Varanasi
Sunday, 27 September to Tuesday, 27 October, 2015
at 6:00 p.m.
Media Centre Auditorium 3, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-1
Telecast
DD Bharti will telecast Shri Ramlila, Ramnagar, regularly for 31 days from 27 September, 2015 at 8:30 pm
website: www.ignca.gov.in; Email: igncakaladarsana@gmail.com;
Follow us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/IGNCA; Twitter: @ignca
RSVP: +91-11-23388155 (9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)
Entry and Parking Free
Nearest Metro Station: Central Secretariat, Gate No. 2 & Janpath Gate No. 1 & 4

SEARCH FOR MISSING

Jyoti

General Public is hereby informed that one girl namely Jyoti, D/o Sunil Dutt Yadav, R/o H.No. A-103, Balbir Vihar, Kirari, Delhi has been missing since 02.08.2015 from the area of PS. Aman Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 940/15 U/s 363 IPC dated 03.08.2015 has been registered at PS. Aman Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of missing girl is as under:-

Name: Jyoti, **Father's Name:** Sh. Sunil Dutt Yadav, **Age:** 17 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **ID Mark:** "PK" written on left arm and also 'OM' tattoo, **Wearing:** Red colour suit, blue colour salwar and blue colour plastic chappal in feet.

Website: http://cbi.nic.in
E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax No.: 011-24368639
Ph.Nos: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO,
P.S.: Aman Vihar, Delhi
Ph: 011-25961600, 25185393

DP/7218/OD/15

DIRECTORATE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE ASSAM:: KAHILIPARA :: GUWAHATI-19
NOTICE INVITING TENDER

No. DFS.1678/Plan/2015-2016/22/1499

Sealed tenders affixing Court fee stamp of Rs. 8.25 (Rupees eight and paise twenty five) only along with prescribed EMD are invited from reputed Manufacturers/ Authorised Dealers/ Authorised Distributors and Registered Suppliers for supply of equipments, spares and accessories etc. for the Directorate of Forensic Science, Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati-781019 to be procured under the Annual Plan Fund for 2015-2016. The details of the items and necessary tender documents may be obtained from the office during the office hours of the undersigned with 7 (seven) days from the publication of this tender notice or may be downloaded from the Website: www.dfsassam.org & www.tenders.gov.in.

The tenders must accompany up to date Tax Clearance Certificates, without which the tender(s) will be summarily rejected. Intending tenderers or their authorised representatives may be present during the opening of the tenders.

The undersigned reserves the right or reject any tender without assigning any reason thereof.

Director-in-charge,
Directorate of Forensic Science, Assam,
Kahilipara, Guwahati-19.

JANASANYOG/3357/15

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General public is hereby informed that an unknown male was found dead on dt 27.09.2015 at the area of P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi. In this regard a DD No. 37-B, dated 27.09.2015 U/s 174 CrPc, has been lodged at P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi.

The description of the dead body is given as under **Age :** about 45-50 yrs **Height :** 5'7" **Complexion:** Fair **Build:** Strong **Wearing :** Blue colour Shirt and pent.

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

SHO
P.S. Nand Nagri, Delhi
DP/4657/NE/15 Ph.: 011-011-22137761, 8750870727

NORTHERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER ON SHORT NOTICE

For and on behalf of President of India, The Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer/ Coaching, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites sealed tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers. 1 **Name of work** Fitment of CCTV in one rake of 12497 Shane-e-Punjab. 2 **Period of work** One year. 3 **Total Estimated cost of work** Rs.49,48,500/-. 4 **Earnest money in favour of Sr.DFM/NR, New Delhi** Rs. 98,970/-. 5 **Cost of the tender form (non-refundable) in favour of Sr.DFM/NR, New Delhi** Rs.3,000/- (On submitting money receipt deposited in the Railway station Earning/Pay order/Demand Draft (in Favour of Sr.DFM, Northern Railway, New Delhi). If tender documents are downloaded from website, cost of tender documents shall have to be deposited separately along with the bid failing which the offer shall be liable to summarily rejected. 6 **Availability of tender documents** Mechanical Branch, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-55 from 16/10/2015 to 03/11/2015 up to 15:00 hrs. (On working days only) Tender documents are also available on website no. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in. 7 **Date & time of tender box closing** 04/11/2015 at 15:00 hrs. 8 **Date & time of tender opening** 04/11/2015 at 15:15 hrs. If the date of opening happens to be a holiday the tender shall be opened on the next working day. 9 **Place for opening of tender** Tender Room, Divisional Railway Manager's Office, Northern Railway, State Entry Road, New Delhi-55. Note: Additional relevant information may be checked on the web site no. www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in. No. 197-S-184-CCTV-Coach-15-MC-IV Date:10/10/2015 2836/2015

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that this girl, named **Savita,** D/o Sh. Ram Milan, R/o B-372, B-Block, Gali No. 4, Agar Nagar, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped from the area of P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi since 16.05.15. In this regard, a **DD No. 36A, Dated 17.05.15 had been lodged at P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi.**

Investigation has been carried out but despite best efforts, the victim could not be traced.

The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under:
Name: Savita, **Age:** 20 yrs, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Shallow, **Face:** Round, **Built:** Thin, **Wearing:** Blue suit, salwar and pink hawai chappals.

If anyone has any information about the missing/kidnapped girl, then please inform P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi.

email: cic@cbi.gov.in
Fax: 011-24368639
Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO,
P.S. Aman Vihar, Delhi
Ph. No.: 011-25961600, 25185393

DP/6825/OD/15

BSES **BSES Yamuna Power Limited, New Delhi**

TENDER NOTICE **Date : 13.10.2015**

Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) are invited for following jobs for two years from all bidders

NIT No.	Brief Item Description	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	Cost of EMD (Rs.)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BY/15-16/ RB/SB/44	Consumer bill printing service in BYPL	Rs. 6.0 Crores	Rs. 6.0 Lacs	02.11.2015 14:00 HRS.	02.11.2015 15:00 HRS.

Cost of Tender Document : **Rs 1000/-**

For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & Conditions, Purchase/Submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website **www.bsesdelhi.com >** Tenders **> BSES YAMUNA POWER LTD >** Open Tenders.

Head (Contracts & Materials)

कार्यालय पुलिस उपमहानिरीक्षक अर्द्धकुंभ मेला-2016
मेला नियंत्रण भवन, हर की पैड़ी, हरिद्वार।
पत्रांक-DIG AKM-16/BB/2015 दिनांक अक्टूबर 2015

फोन नं0 01334-221604
फैक्स नं0 01334-221603
e-mail : digakm2016@gmail.com

ई-विड सूचना

अर्द्धकुंभ मेला 2016 हरिद्वार हेतु मैसर्स्टीडीपीसी पार्विलास लिमिटेड एवं वाटरलैंस रोड के उपक्रमों को क्रय किये जाने हेतु 17-10-2015 को होने वाली ई-विड सम्बन्धी विस्तृत सूचना उत्तराखण्ड पुलिस की वेबसाइट www.uttarakhandpolice.uk.gov.in में उपलब्ध है।

(जीएस्का मार्टोलिया)
पुलिस उपमहानिरीक्षक
अर्द्धकुंभ मेला हरिद्वार।

Government of Punjab
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT, B&R BRANCH ON BEHALF OF MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

Tender Notice No. : 43 **NOTICE INVITING RFP.** **Dated: 09.10.2015**

Government of Punjab on behalf of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Government of India invites bids from the eligible contractors for the following project to be implemented on EPC mode in the state of Punjab.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Estimated Cost (In Crore)	Completion Period	Maintenance Period
	Construction of ROB in replacement of existing Level Crossing No : A-54/E-2 at Km.198.050 of NH-95 (Old)/NH-05(New) at Ferozepur in the state of Punjab on EPC mode.	57.178	2-years	4-years

Schedule of Bidding Process is as under :-

1.	Invitation of RFP(NIT)	12.10.2015
2.	Last date for receiving queries.	28.10.2015
3.	Pre Bid meeting	02.11.2015 at 11.30 a.m. in the office of Chief Engineer (NH), Punjab P.W.D. B&R Br. Civil Secretariate No-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh
4.	Authority response to queries latest by	09.11.2015
5.	Last date of Request for BID documents.	26.11.2015 (up to 1700 Hrs)
6.	Bid Due Date.	27.11.2015 (up to 1700 Hrs)
7.	Physical submission of Bid Security/POA etc.	30-11-2015 up to 1300 Hrs. IST on BID due date. in the office of Chief Engineer (NH), Punjab P.W.D. B&R Br. Civil Secretariate No-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh
8.	Opening of Technical BIDs	01.12.2015 at 1300 Hrs in the office of Chief Engineer (NH), Punjab P.W.D. B&R Br. Civil Secretariate No-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh
9.	Declaration eligible/qualified bidders	To be declared later on
10.	Opening of Financial BIDs	To be declared later on
11.	Letter of award	To be declared later on
12.	Validity of BID	120 days from BID Due date
13.	Signing of Agreement	To be declared later on

The complete BID documents can be viewed/downloaded from official website of MORT&H **https://morth.eproc.in** from 12.10.2015 to 26.11.2015 upto 1700 Hrs. IST. Bid must be submitted online only at **https://morth.eproc.in** on or before 27.11.2015 upto 1700 Hrs. IST. Bids received online shall be opened on 30.11.2015 at 1300 Hrs IST.
Bid through any other mode shall not be entertained. However, Bid Security documents fee, Power of Attorney and joint bidding agreement shall be submitted physically by the Bidder on or before 27.11.2015 upto 1700 Hrs IST in the office of Chief Engineer (NH), Punjab P.W.D. B&R Br. Civil Secretariate No-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh Please note that the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways reserves the right to accept or reject all or any of the BID without assigning any reason whatsoever.

Executive Engineer,
Central Works Division,
PWD, B&R Branch, Ferozepur (Punjab)

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH
(An autonomous Institution under Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India)
Po-Bhimpur-Padanpur,Via-Jatni,Dist-Khurda-752050
Phone- 0674-2494013, Fax-0674-2494004, web:- http://www.niser.ac.in

Notice for Admission to Ph.D. Program for 2015-16 (Even Semester)

Advt.No:NISER/ACAD/Ph.D/2015-16(2)

Applications are invited from Indian citizens for admission to Ph.D Program scheduled to commence from **5th January,2016 (Monday)** in the following schools of basic sciences at NISER Bhubaneswar:

1. School of Biological Sciences
2. School of Chemical Sciences
3. School of Physical Sciences
4. School of Mathematical Sciences

No application/entrance fee is charged to the student. To and Fro single 2nd sleeper class railway fare will be provided to candidates called for the test/interview.

Important dates:
Online application activation date : 15th October (Thursday)
Last date for online application filling up : 6th November (Friday)
Last date for receiving hard copy of application forms: 13th November (Friday)

Kindly refer to our website **http://www.niser.ac.in** for details regarding eligibility criteria, application and selection procedure.

Sd/-
Faculty-In-Charge
(Academic Affairs)

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LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF SH. PRASHANT SHARMA, LD. ACJ/CCJ/ARC ROOM NO. 30, PATIALA HOUSE COURTS NEW DELHI
Petition No. SC-23/15
Renu Sharma & Anr.
Vs.
State & Ors. (PETITIONER)
FOR SUCCESSION CERTIFICATE UNDER INDIAN SUCCESSION ACT, 1925

Whereas in the above noted petition the applicant/petitioner has applied for Succession Certificate to the Hon'ble Court Under Section 372 of the Indian Succession Act, 1925 in respect of the debt and securities **i.e Amount 1,30,000/- in saving Bank Account No. SB/01/013056 in Corporation Bank at Bhikaji Cama** Place to be standing in the name of Late Sh. Naresh Kumar deceased.
Whereas the 06.11.2015 at 10' o clock in the forenoon has been fixed for hearing and the application notice is hereby given to all concerned.
Given under my hand and the seal of the court on this 28th day of September 2015.

Sd/-
ACJ/CCJ/ARC
PHC, ND

SITUATIONS VACANT

GENERAL

R.P.M. COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Village Nayan, Post-Thanwas, Tehsil-Nangal Choudhary (Mahendergarh) 123023
Approved by NCTE, Jaipur & Affiliated to MDU, Rohtak (Haryana)
REQUIRES
- **Principal – 01**
- **Lecturer (Curriculum & Pedagogic Course) – 01**
- **Lecturer (Phy. Edu.) – 01**
- **Lect. (Fine Art) -01**
- **Librarian – 01**
- **Library Attendant – 01**
- **Laboratory Attendant/ Assistant – 01**
- **Peon – 01**

Salary & Qualifications as per UGC/NCTE/MDU Rohtak

Application along with attested photo copies of all testimonials should reach with in 21 days in the Office & same copy of Application should be submitted in the office of Dean College Development Council, MDU Rohtak (Haryana).
Ph. 01282-270502

Chairman

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ND-ND

COLOURFUL START

DURING THE CELEBRATIONS, PRAYERS ARE OFFERED TO GODDESS GOWRI IN THE FORM OF FLOWERS

Telangana comes alive

B. Chandrashekhar

Bathukamma, the annual festival of flowers ahead of Dasara, and unique only to Telangana region in the country, was off to a colourful start across the State on Monday.

The nine-day festival celebrated to offer prayers to Goddess Gowri in the form of flowers will conclude on October 20 with the arrangement of tallest *Bathukammas* of the festival, before floating them in the water bodies.

State festival

The festival, which was reduced only to rural areas of Telangana, particularly during the last two decades due to cultural invasion, regained its popularity and even spread to urban areas along with the movement for statehood to Telangana, particularly after 2009. It is now a State festival after the TRS came to power though the previous Congress Government conferred official status to it in 2013.

The festival assumed greater proportions with its celebration in every nook and corner since last year. The State Government has released Rs.10 crore each for the festival in 2014 and 2015 and has declared public holiday on the first and last days of the festival.

Telangana Jagruthi, the cultural wing of TRS, has popularised the festival on a large-scale in recent years and it has been spearheading the celebrations State-wide.

Large-scale celebrations

The cultural outfit is organising the festival in the name of 'Bangaru Bathukamma' on a mass-scale from October 12 to 20 starting from Narsampet in Warangal district. It has also decided to hold it at Husnabad (Karimnagar), Kamareddy (Nizamabad), Koudipally (Medak), Vikarabad (Ranga Reddy), Kothakota (Mahabubnagar), Mumbai, Devarakonda (Nalgonda) and Tank Bund here during the period.

Every year, the festival begins on 'Bhadrapada or Mahalaya Amavasya' day as per the Telugu calendar and concludes on 'Navami', a day before Vijayadasami, with the celebration of Saddula Bathukamma when a major congregation of women is seen in villages and water bodies.

The final event in Hyderabad is held in the form of a procession from Lal Bahadur stadium to Tank Bund.

President of Telangana Jagruthi K. Kavitha, who is also an MP from Nizamabad, participated at Narsampet on Monday.

TELANGANA JAGRUTHI IS ORGANISING THE FESTIVAL ON A MASS-SCALE TILL OCTOBER 20

Students of Devnar Foundation for the Blind celebrating Bathukamma in Hyderabad on Monday. - PHOTO: NAGARA GOPAL

VHR lashes out at Kavitha

Special Correspondent

HYDERABAD: The Congress on Monday targeted Nizamabad MP K. Kavitha for using Bathukamma celebrations to popularise herself.

She should try saving Bathukamma Kunta, an encroached lake in Amberpet here, before carrying out Bathukamma festivities across the State, said Congress MP V. Hanumantha Rao.

'SHE IS USING THE OCCASION TO POPULARISE HERSELF'

The TRS has been ignoring lake encroachment for long despite petitions as some members of the same party have taken a cut on the land deal. Even Mission Kakatiya could not save the lake, he said.

The State should not spend Rs. 10 crore on festivities at a time when the farmers are committing suicide, he said, referring to big budget large scale festivities for the festival.

Upper caste women

Condemning K. Kavitha's Bathukamma yatra, Congress MLC Akula Lalitha said it is mainly a festival of the bahujans and should not be appropriated by upper caste women. While the State is ready to spend Rs. 10 crore on festivities to boost the TRS leader's image, the government has failed to allow one time waiver of farmers' loans, she said. "How can you be so arrogant to do this massive show when women ryots are ending their lives," Ms. Lalitha asked.

She said that the State government should implement the initial blueprint of Pranahita-Chevella project.

Women taking part in the festivities at Thousand Pillar temple in Warangal on Monday. - PHOTO: M. MURALI

Fervour grips Warangal

Special Correspondent

WARANGAL: As the sun sets, the lanes and by-lanes of Hanamkonda, Kazipet and Warangal brighten up.

Women, young and old, in their best attire head to nearby temples and street corners to celebrate Bathukamma – the festival of flowers

Women and children carry plates arranged with flowers of different colours and species in a cone shape. They vie with one another in arranging the flowers as high as possible. Though the evening rituals last for an hour, the women wake up early and prompt their children to collect as many flowers as possible from the neighbourhood. All the flowers available during the season – Cassia (thangedu), luffa (bera), celosia (gunugu), nelumbo (thamara) cucurbita (gummadi), marigold (banthi), crossandra (kanakambaram), ixora (ramabanam), hibiscus (mandhara), and so on are collected and splendidly arranged in an enticing fashion.

Women mostly gather at the Thousand Pillar temple, Bhadrakali temple, Padmakshi temple in Hanamkonda and some of them look for street corners in their respective localities. They form a circle and place their flowers in the middle. They go round clapping and dancing rhythmically.

All songs carry the essence 'long live mother' urging the goddess to take birth. These festivities last for nine days during the Durga Navaratri celebrations preceding Dasara.

Legend has it that king Daksha performed a 'yagna' and invited all but his youngest daughter 'Sati', who married Lord Siva against his will. However, Sati turns up at the place and was insulted along with her husband. She kills herself. Women make an image with turmeric paste and worship her urging her to come back to life.

State seeks report on seer's death

Asks if there is ground for reinquiry

Special Correspondent

Swami Saswatikananda

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Home Department has asked the Crime Branch to report whether there is any ground for a reinquiry into Swami Saswatikananda's unnatural death in the Periyar in Aluva in 2002.

Though it has set no deadline for the agency, the move has serious political implications for the current Sree Narayana Dharma Paripalana (SNDP) Yogam leadership, which has proposed a grassroots-level alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party in the coming local body polls.

The Congress and the Communist Party of India (Marxist), which view the proposed alliance as a communally polarising one, have demanded that the monk's death be reinvestigated.

The former head of the Sivagiri Madhom died when he went missing in the Periyar on the banks of Advaitha Ashramam on July 1, 2002.

His death had spawned a swarm of conspiracy theories that put SNDP Yogam general secretary Vellappally Natesan and his son and political heir, Thushar Vellappally, at their centre.

The crux of the allegation was that Saswatikananda had cut short a trip to the Gulf following a serious disagreement with the duo and was promptly "assassinated" on his return. Both the SNDP leaders have since dismissed the allegations as those advanced by their rival factions in the social organisation that claims a membership of over 28 lakh.

The Crime Branch attempted to explain the apparently "inexplicable" death as a case of accidental drowning. It pointed out that Saswatikananda had entered the river for a bath after a hiatus of seven years. Investigators viewed the decision as peculiar and a break from his usual routine.

The allegations have surfaced again at a time when Mr. Natesan and his son were seeking to carve out a definite space for themselves in the State's chaotic coalition politics in the current cycle of local body elections.

Online petition came to dancer's rescue

Sidhartha Roy

NEW DELHI: While she doesn't talk much due to her advanced age, Tara Balgopal still has nimble feet thanks to years of *riyaaz*. After her chartered accountant husband passed away, she lives alone in the crumbling house with a dusty fiat parked in the front porch as reminders of better days. The couple didn't have children.

There is, however, now some hope for the veteran who once was the pride of the country but now lives forgotten. An online petition to help her has managed to accumulate about Rs. 3 crore and the Delhi government too has now taken up the initiative to help her in her fight.

Delhi Tourism Minister Kapil Mishra has now taken up her cause.

"I had sent an official from my office who has met her and I have got all the details of the problems she has with the college. The Delhi government will now support her and resolve her pension issue," Mr. Mishra told *The Hindu*.

"I wonder how people can be so insensitive towards someone who has done so much for the country? I will take personal interest and see to it that she gets all the support she needs. In the coming days, the issues will be resolved," Mr. Mishra assured.

The Aam Aadmi Party MLA from Rajouri Garden, Jarnail Singh, also visited Ms. Balgopal to assure her of help. "I met her personally and noted details of the case. She doesn't want any charity but only wants what is due to her. I have given her my number and asked her to call me anytime she needs anything as no one lives with her," Mr. Singh told *The Hindu*.

FOR A CAUSE

One lakh people won't go hungry this Dasara

Bengalurean organises a massive food distribution drive, with help from home cooks

Cinthya Anand

BENGALURU: The target is to feed one lakh people in the city over 11 days, starting Monday. No, this is not an attempt for a record, but a sheer desire to feed the hungry, and for Mahita Fernandez this isn't about any religion or festivals.

The 34-year-old has leveraged the power of the Internet to organise a massive food distribution drive.

She and an army of volunteers under the banner — 'Feed Your Neighbour' — will feed the poor through a network of people spread across the city.

Ms. Fernandez has turned her house in Langford Town into a veritable industry. Food for 2,900 people was cooked in the kitchen on Monday. Volunteers were seen folding cardboard boxes in the hall (where the provisions have been stored) and another group was packing rice in containers in the porch.

And her mission has caught the imagination of nearly 550 home cooks, who volunteered to cook food at home, which will then be picked up and distributed for dinner among institutions and slums in the city.

"The idea came to me after I had a rumble in my stomach a few weeks ago. I realised that while I had a choice, there are millions who have no option but to go to sleep on an empty stomach," says Ms. Fernandez. Dasara seemed an apt time because it was a 10-day period and schools would be closed.

The entire operation has been driven through word-of-mouth and the social media.

Volunteers packing food at the residence of Mahita Fernandez, founder of the initiative, in Langford Town, Bengaluru, on Monday.

Madhumita Kalauni, product manager at Schneider Electric, who lives at Koramangala, heard of the initiative through Facebook. "It was such a brilliant idea! This was something I always wanted to do but could never figure out the logistics, and here was this woman who thought of everything," said Ms. Kalauni.

Meherangez Mistry, a former medical transcriptionist residing in Sena Vihar, Kamanahalli, along with other wives of retired defence personnel, have committed to cooking 50 packets of food per day as well.

But is one lakh too ambitious a target? "Today, we will be feeding 6,000 people. I'm hoping that as we reach the second half of Dasara, and word goes out, we'll be able to increase this number. I'm not letting go of my target," says Ms. Fernandez.

Woman surviving with forceps in abdomen for 25 years, a medical miracle: High Court

Special Correspondent

MADURAI: Observing that it is a "medical miracle" for a woman to have survived for nearly 25 years with a broken surgical forceps in her abdomen, the Madras High Court Bench here has directed the State government to consider compensating her monetarily, besides recovering the money from government doctors responsible for leaving the foreign body inside her abdomen.

Allowing a writ petition filed by the woman's husband, P. Arumugam, in 2013, Justice R. Mahadevan directed the Health Secretary to consider granting compensation to A. Indrani, apart from initiating departmental action against medical officers responsible for having left the forceps behind during a surgery conducted at Government Rajaji Hospital (GRH) here on October 11, 1989.

The judge pointed out that the victim had undergone the surgery for excision of retroperitoneal hydatid cyst, a rare parasitic infection caused by tapeworms. Despite suffering from a mysterious pain ever since the surgery took place, she opted to take a CT (Computed Tomography) scan of the abdomen only when the pain became unbearable about two years ago. The scan report issued on June 1, 2013, revealed the presence of the forceps in the RIF (Right Illiac Fossa) region of the abdomen with severe adhesions, foreign body reaction and clumping of bowl loops. Immediately, her husband filed the case seeking a direction to the State to remove the forceps from his wife's abdomen besides paying adequate compensation.

On the basis of interim orders passed by the court, GRH doctors removed the forceps on June 12, 2013, and reported that the woman was healthy. However, government counsel contested the petitioner's claim for compensation stating that it was the woman's mistake to have approached private hospitals all these years without visiting GRH for post surgery check-up. Rejecting the contention, the judge recalled that in August 2014, he had ordered a compensation of Rs.10 lakh to the family of a 23-year-old woman who had died due to a gauze pad left inside her abdomen during a Caesarean section performed at the Government Hospital in Rajapalayam in Virudhunagar district in March 2005. However, since the victim in the present case had not made any representation so far to the government seeking compensation, he directed the petitioner to make a representation within two weeks and ordered the Health Secretary to dispose it of within six weeks thereafter.

'A small Yemen in India'

Yunus Y. Lasania

HYDERABAD: When 26-year-old Yemeni student Adam Sawab joined Osmania University in mid-2013 to study journalism, he would often hear people talk about a Yemeni community residing in the city. Soon enough, his curiosity took him to Barkas, where he discovered that many of its residents were descendants of Yemeni soldiers employed in the Nizam government.

"I go there whenever I am free. When I am in Barkas, I feel that it is like home," says Adam, who is from Ibb city in Yemen, which he describes as the "green province" of his home country. And to show this part of Hyderabad to his countrymen back home, he has made a documentary titled 'Barkas – A Small Yemen in India' as part of his course.

The project, which Adam started early this year, has even won offers to be aired on television in Yemen. "I got a few calls from channels, but I don't want to air my documentary on channels affiliated to political parties," he mentions, adding that the existence of Yemenis in India is not much known back in his country. His documentary, completed in just a few months, was submitted as part of his course's project.

"I met many people in Barkas and they are very happy. But the main thing is that they have managed to preserve their customs," explains Adam. He, however, points out quickly that though the older generation speaks fluent Arabic, youngsters in Barkas cannot. "I like the Yemeni kindness in Indian atmosphere here," he says, when asked what he found to be most striking.

Adam's documentary also throws light on interesting facts about the Yemenis settled here for centuries. Inhabited mainly by members of the Chaush community, who are direct descendants of the Hadhrami - military men in the Hadhramaut region in Yemen, there are 52 Yemeni tribes in Hyderabad, explains Adam.

Some of the Yemeni tribes settled here are those of Al-Saadi, Al-Nahdi, Al-Yamani, Barabaa, Al-aidroos and Al-Saadi. "During the time of the Nizam's rule, the Arab population here increased and slowly settled mainly in the Army barracks, now Barkas, on the outskirts of the city," observes Adam.

Adam states that there are over three lakh Yemenis settled here in India, in cities such as Aurangabad, Hyderabad and other places. He is yet to decide how to screen his documentary back in Yemen. "I have not uploaded it online as there is still some editing to be done," he quips.

Having completed his masters degree in communication and journalism from Osmania University this year, Adam now plans to go to another country for higher studies.

Huge haul of expired tablets

Sruthisagar Yamunan and R. Sujatha

CHENNAI: The State Drug Control Authority seized a huge cache of expired tablets from a godown in Vadapalani on Monday. The officials confiscated about 250 cardboard boxes of *Respifed* manufactured by Cipla. Each of the boxes contained 54 cartons of 200 tablets each.

Respifed contains triprolidine and pseudoephedrine. While triprolidine is used for nasal blocks the latter could be used in making amphetamine, a banned substance. Pseudoephidrine is banned in the Northeast States, where it has been used as a party drug.

The tablets were manufactured in October 2013 and expired in September 2015. The cache was found in a dingy hall on the second floor of a utensils shop next to Kamala theatre on the busy Arcot Road following a tip-off. The courier stickers on the carton revealed that the boxes were being transported from Puducherry to Mumbai.

Inside the long hall, a dozen employees removed the expired tablets from the strip and stored them in small circular plastic containers. According to Tamizh Viduthalai, the supervisor who oversaw the operation, the employees had been engaged for the past five days.

"We don't know what they do with the drugs but we were told that tablets should all be removed from their original packing and put in the containers," he said.

According to the drug inspectors, who seized the product, while expired drugs are usually removed from the packing to gather the aluminium foil as scrap, this was a serious case since a particular tablet alone was being unpacked.

Amaravati rises, but questions remain

Uncertainty haunts small farmers and workers of the A.P. capital region

K. Venkateshwarlu

VIJAYAWADA: Will it resemble the other famed capital cities on rivers like London, Paris, Dublin, Amsterdam or just Singapore? Time alone will decide what shape Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister, N. Chandrababu Naidu's dream capital, Amaravati, will take, as it rises from the predominantly pastoral Krishna river bank.

But for now as the city is all set to take its first baby steps in ten days when Prime Minister Narendra Modi lays the foundation stone and kick-start works, amid "spectacular extravaganza," a wave of mixed emotions runs through farmers of about 25 villages where 30,000 acres of land pooling was completed.

Some take pride in the fact their land would now be part of the "vibrant, world-class capital" promised by Mr. Naidu, while some wonder if they did the right thing by parting with rich fertile multi-crop land that fetched them good returns for generations. There are others, small and marginal farmers, who feel let down by those having larger landholdings for not showing any resistance and forcing them to jump on the bandwagon. But the worst to suffer are tenant farmers and agriculture labour who see nothing but bleak future.

A banana plantation being cleared in Guntur district on Monday at the venue of the foundation stone laying ceremony on October 22..– PHOTO: CH.VIJAYA BHASKAR

"I have given away ten acres, as everyone else, for our 'rajadhani' (capital). I got the annuity of Rs. 30,000 an acre and bought 40 buffaloes. I will earn something by rearing them till they take over the land," said Gudapati Sambasiva Rao of Mandadam where Mr. Naidu had performed "bhoomi puja," a pre-foundation laying ceremony and where farming has come to a halt. Quite happy that he got some compensation promptly, he appears reconciled. Others, especially farm labourers, differ. "How will I run my family till the capital comes up and where will I fit in the new city?" asks Venkateswara Rao of Krishnayapalem.

Notwithstanding these mixed feelings, at Uddandapalem village, work is in full swing with earthmovers clearing agriculture fields for the foundation-stone laying function on Dasara day. Mr. Naidu chose this sleepy village in tune with "vaastu," to transform it into city piazza with iconic twin towers in the years to come.

These encompass a bustling commercial hub, Amaravati Downtown, the Central Boulevard, the River Krishna Boulevard, the Gateway, the 17-km-long Waterfront and the Government Core. The downtown will be the first to come up and act as central spine and going by the master plan for the seed capital, "buildings in this node will be designed in a way that they will have direct access to the metro rail stations through landmark towers."

AP Capital Region Development Authority Commissioner N. Srikant is confident of finding solutions to the various concerns raised: "Technology will take care of soil and flooding. We are confident of Amaravati's exponential growth given its potential, its magnetic capacity to attract investment backed by entrepreneurial nature of its inhabitants. None will be left out and we will impart right skills to the landless and agricultural labourers. The government will spend on creating top class infrastructure and funds will flow automatically from the private sector," he said.

Solution eludes Kerala plantation labour stir

N.J. Nair

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: While the Kerala government is gearing up for the fifth round of discussions to settle the plantation labour agitation on Tuesday, moves are afoot to extend the agitation, demanding minimum wages, to the traditional industries as well as other sectors where workers are paid measly wages.

Chief Minister Oommen Chandy will hold talks with Central trade union leaders in the morning and then attend the Plantation Labour Committee (PLC) meeting, to be held in the afternoon, to crystallise any proposal that evolves at the meeting with the trade unions.

The government does not seem to have a palpable solution at hand, especially an acceptable wage rate. The government had not put forward any proposal for discussion so far, K.K. Jayachandran, MLA, told *The Hindu*. The unions had rejected a government offer to provide interim relief till the completion of the local body election process.

While hinging on the demand for the wage hike, issues such as the government's alleged failure in implementing a housing scheme for the labourers are also being raised by the unions.

Though an allocation of Rs. 15 crore was made for a housing scheme for plantation labourers last year, and Rs. 25 crore in the current year's budget, the scheme failed to take off for want of government initiative. The main hitch was in providing 5 cents of land to each labourer for the scheme.

Soon after the local body elections, the Central trade unions plan to extend the agitation to all sectors where the daily wages are much below the minimum wages. It has been proposed to mobilise labourers in the traditional industries such as coir and also the scores of workers employed in shops and commercial establishments, mainly women, who are working for meagre wages, much below the accepted minimum wage rate.

Opposition for House session

Special Correspondent

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: The Opposition Left Democratic Front (LDF) has urged Governor P. Sathasivam to convene an urgent meeting of the State Assembly to discuss the crisis in the plantation sector and to bring to an immediate end the ongoing strike by plantation workers for higher bonus and wages.

In a memorandum submitted to the Governor here on Monday evening, the Opposition leaders pointed out that the strike had affected 3.5 lakh plantation labourers all over Kerala, creating a serious situation.

The possession of public lands by plantation owners without proper documents was also a very serious issue and should, therefore, be discussed in the State Assembly. The Leader of the Opposition had written a letter to the Chief Minister on October 6 seeking immediate convening of the State Assembly, , they said.

The memorandum was signed by Leader of the Opposition V.S. Achuthanandan, CPI Legislature Party leader C. Divakaran, Janata Dal (Secular) State president Mathew T. Thomas and NCP leader A.K. Saseendran.

Jagan's condition alarming: doctors

Staff Reporter

GUNTUR: YSR Congress president Y.S Jaganmohan Reddy continued his fast demanding Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh for the sixth day even as his health condition deteriorated and is leading to an alarming condition called as "Starvation Ketoacidoisis," which, doctors said, could lead to serious complications including renal failure.

The alarming health condition of Mr. Jagan triggered emotional scenes at the venue when a local man Sai tried to immolate himself but was prevented by the police.

Senior party leaders Y. Vijay Sai Reddy, Botcha Satyanarayana, Ummareddy Venkateswarlu and Marri Rajasekhar were at the venue and were discussing the future course of action in the event, Mr. Jagan was shifted forcibly by the police.

The police, meanwhile, are watching the situation and indications were that police forces could be moved to the venue late on Monday night. Superintendent of Police, Guntur Urban, Sarva Srestha Tripathi was holding meetings with senior officers on the action plan to be adopted in the eventuality of Mr. Jagan being shifted. In all likelihood, the YSRC president might be shifted to GGH, Guntur.

The YSR Congress president continued his fast, demanding Special Category Status to A.P. for the sixth day on Monday. – PHOTO: T. VIJAYA KUMAR

"Mr. Jagan's ketone levels are showing an abnormal level which could lead to multiple organ failure. This is a medical emergency and calls for immediate treatment," said a emergency physician.

Meanwhile, members of family Y.S Vijayamma, Y.S Bharati and others rushed to Guntur.

They said rapidly deteriorating health of Jagan was worrying and appealed to the Centre and the State government to make an announcement of special category status immediately.

Itti Achuthan's property to be attached

K.A. Martin

KOCHI: The property where the 17th century Ayurvedic physician Kollatt Itti Achuthan, renowned for his contributions to the botanical compendium *Hortus Malabaricus*, lived is to be sold to recover more than Rs. 5 lakh due to the Thankey Service Cooperative Bank.

The notice for attachment and sale of land, more than 60 cents, in Cherthala taluk where a palm leaf-thatched *kuriala* (hut) stands in memory of the famous physician, has been issued to L.P. Harikrishnan (Unni), 25, the eighth generation descendant of Itti Achuthan. The case is due to come up at the Cherthala munsif court on Tuesday.

Umayamma, Unni's mother, said the property was pledged to secure a loan of Rs.2 lakh by Unni's father Pushkaran in 2004, apparently for starting a business. However, he was unable to repay, said Ms. Umayamma. He killed himself in April 2012.

A spokesman for the bank said there were efforts to go in for conciliation after it was reported that the government would take over the property. However, nothing had moved since then.

Umayamma at a memorial to Itti Achuthan Vaidyar (inset) near Cherthala. – PHOTO: VIPIN CHANDRAN

The late Pushkaran had also pledged about 20 cents adjacent to the property, which housed a sacred grove, said Ms. Umayamma.

The property was also in for attachment for bank dues of more than Rs.5 lakh, she said.

K.P. Agoshkumar, president, Kadakkarappally grama panchayat, said that efforts had been made in the past to turn the property into a monument for the renowned Ayurvedic physician.

He said he would visit the family and discuss what could be done to salvage the situation.

Ms. Umayamma also has a daughter, Aishwarya, 22, who works in a private firm. The family lives on the income earned by the siblings.

From Malabar's garden

Special Correspondent

KOCHI: Itti Achuthan, born into the Kollatt family of traditional doctors (vaidyar) at Kadakkarappally, north-west of Cherthala town, is celebrated as one of the most outstanding contributors to *Hortus Malabaricus* (Garden of Malabar), published in Amsterdam in 12 volumes between 1678 and 1693.

The illustrated treatise on the plants of Kerala, originally published in Latin, was compiled over a period of 30 years under an initiative by Hendrik van Rheede, a naturalist and governor of Malabar between 1670 and 1677.

3 die of swine flu in Maharashtra

Shoumojit Banerjee

PUNE: Maharashtra saw a resurgence of swine flu with three deaths on Sunday, taking the total toll since January this year beyond 800.

Around 20 patients across the State are critical and have been put on ventilator support. The unusually large number of cases has been attributed to the unseasonal rains at the end of an extended monsoon.

With the number of recorded cases since January exceeding a staggering 8,240, the State Health officials are worried.

"The death toll now stands at 810. The three who died on Sunday were a 60-year-old man from Latur district, a 47-year-old from Satara district and a 42-year-old woman from Sangli," said S.T. Pardeshi, Chief Medical Officer, Pune Municipal Corporation.

According to health officials, around 2,600 people exhibiting influenza-like symptoms were screened for swine flu at various centres.

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D.G.M.P,SPG/ST invites sealed bids as per details given below Tender No.KY1AC15001. Description:Sludge removal through de-sludging of crude tanks/VAP Tanks/Effluent Tanks&complete cleaning of the tanks with freeing of hydrocarbons at different installations of Rajahmundry Asset, Period:6 months, Type:Two Bid -Open tender,Fee:Rs500/-,Sale:From 13.10.2015 to 02.11.2015 1000 hrs to 1700hrs),Closing/Opening1400/1500hrs:02.11.2015, For further details logon to website:http://tenders.ongc.co.in & https://etender.ongc.co.in

Government of Kerala
Published Tenders from 05/10/2015to 11/10/2015
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
Tender Id: 2015_PWD_51916_1
Electronics Division, Thiruvananthapuram
Supply and Installation of Printers, Scanners etc for various Engineering Departments of Kerala State Government.
Closing Date:09-Nov-2015 03:00 PM PAC:₹ 1,39,95,200
visit: http://etenders.kerala.gov.in for more details
Ro.No: 05-11/Oct/2015/PRD/(N)/4

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
Revenue (Disaster Management) Department
State Project Implementation Unit (SPIU)
National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP)
Credit No.: NCRMP - 1/4772-IN/AP
IFB No. AP/SPIU/NCRMP-1/EWDS/001/2015 Date: 12-10-2015
Corrigendum-I
(Extension of Date)
Reference IFB No. AP/SPIU/NCRMP-1/EWDS/001/2015 dated: 24-08-2015, Published in Eenadu Telugu daily and The Hindu English National daily on 26-08-2015 for Procurement of Installation, Commissioning, Supply and Services for Early Warning Dissemination System (EWDS) through e-procurement system.
The last date and time of bids and submisssion of required documents has been extended as per the below schedule.

S. No.	Clause No. of ITB/GCC/ SCC/Forms	Previous Dates & Time	Revised Dates & Time
1.	SI. No. 7 of Pg No. 5 of NIT	The last Date and time for receipt of bids through the e-tendering portal http://eprocure.gov.in is 14-10-2015 upto 15.00 Hrs.	The Last Date and time for receipt of bids through the e-tendering portal http://eprocure.gov.in is 17-11-2015 upto 15.00 Hrs.
2.	SI. No. 5 of Pg. No.5 of NIT	The bidders are required to submit the following to the O/o. Project Director, SPIU, NCRMP, 7th Floor, North Wing, Gagan Vihar Complex, Opposite Gandhi Bhawan, MJ Road, Nampally, Hyderabad - 500001 on or before 14.10.2015 upto 15.00 Hrs	The bidders are required to submit the required documents to the O/o. Project Director, SPIU, NCRMP, 7th Floor, North Wing, Gagan Vihar Complex, Opposite Gandhi Bhawan, MJ Road, Nampally, Hyderabad - 500001 on or before 19.11.2015 upto 15.00 Hrs.

Sd/- Principal Secretary to Government
Revenue (DM) Department, L-Block, 4th Floor,
DIPR 218PP/CL, dt. 12/10/15 AP Secretariat, Hyderabad - 500 022, India

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ROADS &BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT
NATIONAL CYCLONERISK MITIGATION PROJECT (NCRMP)
ADDITIONAL FINANCING WORLD BANK FUNDED PROJECT
INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) - (Credit No: 5413-IN)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING (NCB)
Bid Notice No. 4/NCRMP-AF/EE (R)/DEE-5/AEE-1/2015, Date:-08-10-2015
Government of India has received a credit from the International Development Association towards the cost of National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project (NCRMP) and intends to apply a part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the contracts for construction of works. The Engineer-in-Chief(R&B) Admin., & State Roads invites bids from the registered bidders of Government of Andhra Pradesh or other State Governments/Government of India, or State/Central Government Undertakings for the works (1) Construction of HLB at km 17/8-10 of NH5 (Kosta Jn) to Koyyam in Srikakulam District (2) Construction of bridge across Pinneru drain at km 1/8 of Extension of approach road from Chinnagollapalem Bridge at Padatadika village to connect Pallipalem village at km 35/8 of NH-216 in Krishna District. The details of the Bid Notice are available at the website of Central Public Procurement Portal http://eprocure.gov.in/ of National Informatics Centre.
DIPR 217 PP/ cl dt 12/10 Sd/- for ENC (R&B) Admn.,SR &Buildings

Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd.
CAUVERY ASSET, KARAIKAL
TENDER NOTICE
1. DGM– I/c (C&M), ONGC, Cauvery Asset, Neravy, Karaikal-609 604 invites e-tender under TWO BID SYSTEM:-
Tender No: VE1GC15004. Brief Description of Work: Refer Annexure III. Contract Period: 08 Months. Tender Download/Sale Period: 13.10.2015 to 02.11.2015.Tender fee: Rs.500/-.Online Bid submission closing date and time: 02.11.2015 till 1400 Hrs. Un-priced Techno - Commercial bid opening date and time: 02.11.2015 at 1500 Hrs. Date for submission of physical documents: 09.11.2015 1400 Hrs. Bid security amount: Rs.3,39,400/-.Bid validity: 90 days from date of technical bid opening. Bid security validity up to: 120 days from date of technical bid opening. Place of submission of physical Bid/Physical Documents: Office of DGM-incharge-C&M, ONGC, Cauvery Asset, Neravy, Karaikal-609604.
2. DGM- I/c MM, ONGC, Cauvery Asset, Karaikal invites e-bids (E-Procurement) under OPEN LOCAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING as per details given below in TWO BID SYSTEM:-
Tender No. V16MC15015. Brief Description of Work: Inspection, NDT & Hydrotesting of Pressure Vessels and Rate Contract for NDT of Mast and Sub Structure. Tender fee: Rs.500/-. Period of Sale of tender document: 14.10.2015 to 04.11.2015.Tender closing / opening date and time: 04.11.2015 at 1400/1500 hrs respectively.
Note: For complete details of tender please logon to website: https://tenders.ongc.co.in, https://etender.ongc.co.in

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS-TIRUPATI
REVENUE SECTION - TIRUMALA
TENDER NOTICE
Roc.No.Rev1/487/AEO(REV)/TTD/Tml/2015 Dt:10-10-2015
Sealed tenders are invited for grant of license to run canteen at Narayana Giri Rest House area, Tirumala (Present name Saarangi Fine Dine Restaurant) on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" for a period of three years with effect from the date of occupation.
The Tender schedule (containing of tender form i.e. Technical Bid and Financial Bid, Tender conditions, License conditions and price list of the edibles) can be obtained on payment of Rs.2,000/- (Rs. Two Thousand only) by way of demand draft, drawn in favour of the Executive Officer, TTD., Tirumala. The tender schedules will be issued in the office of the Asst. Exe. Officer (Panchayat & Revenue),TTD., Tirumala between 10-30 AM to 5-00 PM on any working day up to 27-10-2015. The Tenderer must be a reputed hotelier with chain hotel establishments having presence in at least one of the Southern States i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka must be a Hindu having faith in LORD VENKATESWARA and must be in similar business for the last five years with a turnover of not less than 25 Crores in each year in the last five years. It is desirable that the intending applicant should have received international accreditation like ISO 9000.
The tenderer should deposit a Single Sealed cover (containing two separate covers [1]. Technical bid & [2]. Financial bid enclosing the relevant material along with the EMD details duly signed) in tender box kept in the chamber of the Asst. Exe. Officer (Panchayat & Revenue), TTD., Tirumala from 10-30 AM to 3-00 PM on 28-10-2015. The sealed covers will be opened on 28-10-2015 at 3-30 PM in the chamber's of the Estate Officer, TTD., Tirumala, Or any Officer authorised by the Executive Officer in the presence of the tenderers presented and the Technical Bid and Financial Bid will be separated. Then the Technical Bid will be opened first and the Technical Criteria will be scrutinised by the Committee. Then the Financial Bid of the technically eligible / qualified alone will be opened.
The Executive Officer, TTD (or) the Officer authorised by him will have the right to postpone (or) cancel the Tenders without assigning any reasons thereon. For further details please contact the Asst. Exe. Officer (Panchayat & Revenue), TTD., Tirumala during office working hours in any working day. Contact No.0877- 2263725 (or) 07702285222.
Roc.No.PR4/1668/Adv.No.264/PRO/2015, Dated:12-10-2015 EXECUTIVE OFFICER

THE HINDU

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2015

Anger beyond words

Over the past week, a growing number of writers have returned literary honours that had been awarded to them in recognition of their work — and in doing so reminded the state of its failure to protect the last man standing. What started with writer Nayantara Sahgal returning the Sahitya Akademi award she won in 1986, led to a wave of protests. The others also chose to give up their precious Sahitya Akademi awards, given by writers to writers. Their protest is against an impassive state that remains a silent spectator, effectively complicit in the act of writers and rationalists being hunted down, and a Muslim man being lynched by his own neighbours for allegedly storing beef in his home. Their rejection of the honour is a symbolic reminder of the times, as a wave of intolerance cascades from Dadri even to the most cosmopolitan of Indian cities, Mumbai, threatening to choke the air. What the writers have reminded India is what its people are today witness to: a society turning upon itself. And in asking the state to act now, the writers are telling India of the need to preserve and hold on to its pluralistic fabric. The letters serve as reminders of the fragile times we live in, when mere rumours can rob a man of his right to life. A writer speaks out when his or her conscience is numbed beyond pain. For many of them, the lynching of the Muslim man was the last straw. After all, since Partition this is probably the first time that rumours of a man killing a cow have cost him his life, in his own neighbourhood. Their protest is also against several non-state actors that owe allegiance to the Bharatiya Janata Party government and that call the shots in towns and villages far from the public gaze in general.

It is in this climate of intolerance and complicity by the state that the letters of protest have found their way to the Akademi and to the public realm. The Akademi is an autonomous body but has refrained from speaking out. Its silence is the silence of the state. Even the once-formidable media adviser to Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee has had ink thrown on his face for taking a stand on former Pakistan Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri's book launch event, which was opposed vehemently by the BJP's ally, the Shiv Sena. The Shiv Sena is known for acts of that kind, but they don't behove a city such as Mumbai that prides itself on being India's most cosmopolitan city. As for Prime Minister Narendra Modi who leads the BJP, a party that has premised itself on extending its hand to the common man, words have to match deeds. It is the responsibility of the chief servant of the country to ensure that the stain of intolerance does not spread and then consume it.

The path to economic recovery

A dividend payment of Rs. 66,000 crore from the Reserve Bank of India, the highest in its 80-year history, helped tip India's fiscal balance to surplus in August. A combination of the pick-up in the Centre's revenue receipts and its declining expenditures, especially on subsidies, helped keep the fiscal deficit during the first five months of the current financial year under Rs. 3.7 lakh crore, lower than the Rs. 3.97 lakh crore during the corresponding period last year. The Central government's unfailing commitment to fiscal consolidation is conducive to macroeconomic stability. But sticking to the road map for fiscal consolidation isn't easy: expenditure and tax reforms can be tricky politically. In its budget for this year, the Narendra Modi government had shifted India's fiscal consolidation road map by raising the fiscal deficit target for the year to 3.9 per cent from 3.6 per cent earlier. By doing so it created fiscal room for Rs. 70,000 crore of public investments, which it hopes would kick-start the jobs-generating infrastructure sector. Earlier governments too postponed targets. The fiscal deficit reduction targets that were originally a part of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management (FRBM) Bill, 2000 were eliminated from the Act that Parliament passed in 2003; the annual numerical targets were left to the government to formulate in the FRBM Rules. Since then, the road map has been halted four times — in 2005-06, 2008-09, 2012-13 and 2015-16. And so the resolve that the Union Finance Secretary expressed at a media conference last week — that though the government expects a shortfall in tax revenues this year it won't deviate from the 3.9 per cent fiscal deficit target — is welcome.

With inflation now under 4 per cent, interest rate cuts adding up to 125 basis points in the past 12 months, and the Centre and the States going all out to revive stalled projects and improve the ease of doing business, India remains well-poised on the path to economic recovery. Fiscal credibility, important as it is to macroeconomic management, will make it possible to sustain India's current growth rate and to convert potential into actual growth. The focus will be on the budget-makers' tricks of funding subsidies through non-transparent, off-budget borrowings, or higher taxes on fuel and so on. The Finance Minister has undertaken to clean up the clutter of tax incentives for the corporate sector to plug revenue leakages, in order to set the stage for lower tax rates. He is bound to find the business lobbies far from enthusiastic about giving up sops, and must resist pleas for their retention. He will have to be insusceptible too to excuses for delaying even further urea price de-control and other expenditure-side reforms. On the road to fiscal correction, Finance Ministers walk, and are judged, alone.

The multiple costs of death penalty

R.K. Raghavan

The cost of prisoners on death row, the complex task of ensuring a painless mode of carrying out the judicial order and the growing international rejection of the death penalty must weigh against the pain of a victim's family seeking justice

"What they (the two accused) did, cannot be condoned, but it (the offence) is not so heinous and abhorring that warrants death....It was just a murder. That is it-...They (the two accused) have also suffered the sentence for 16 years," held the Supreme Court of India (October 9, 2015) while rejecting the petition of Ms. Neelam Katara, mother of Nitish Katara, seeking enhancement of sentence.

The curtain has in all probability come down on the Nitish Katara case of murder, committed thirteen years ago by the son of a politician and his cousin. They are currently undergoing a jail term of 30 years. In dismissing the plea of the victim's mother for imposing the maximum penalty, the Supreme Court said the murder was neither an 'honour killing', nor was it the rarest of rare cases meriting capital punishment. Ms. Katara is however, determined to continue to "fight for justice."

It is the intensity of the pain of a victim's family that often explains their disappointment at the court not awarding death. In the eyes of some, this resolve to get the severest of penalties could possibly smack of vindictiveness. I believe however, that this dimension to the natural feelings of associates and relatives of the victim should not be ignored by those, including criminologists across the globe, who consider that the debate over the rightness of the death penalty is hackneyed. The Supreme Court's dismissal of Ms. Katara's plea is liable to be discussed for a long, long time. The fact is each day brings in a new point of view to the discussion on adequacy of punishment. This is something which raises many absorbing questions related to the core of penology. A stand by some individuals that there are no further issues to be resolved in as serious a matter as capital punishment is being didactic and insensitive.

U.S. discourse

No discussion of the rationale of a death sentence will be meaningful without reference to what is happening just now in the U.S., a country prone to violent crime. A large number of cities have reported an increase in homicide rates this year. Added to this are mass killings of the kind reported recently from a community college in Oregon and earlier at an African-American church in South Carolina, which are said to have enhanced fear levels and strengthened the plea by many individuals and organisations for greater gun control and more deterrence in sentencing policies. Ironically, 19 of the 50 States do not have the death penalty on their statutes. Despite this, more than 1400 convicts have been executed in the country since 1976, the year when capital sentence was restored after a four-year de facto moratorium flowing from the Supreme Court decision in *Furman v Georgia*.

There is something more than numbers here. It is the complex history that surrounds the issue of the mode of judicial killing in the country which is of interest.

The Law Commission's recent weighty report that favours giving up the death penalty, except in cases of terrorism, should also motivate the government into swift action

Currently, administering a lethal injection is the accepted procedure to execute a prisoner awarded the death sentence. An option to choose hanging is available to those convicted before this was introduced. It is significant that the constitutionality of lethal injection has been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Hanging was one of the first methods employed by states to execute a condemned prisoner. After a series of blotched hangings in the 19th century, many switched to electrocution, following the recommendation of a Gerry Commission (1886) appointed to suggest an alternative mode. After New York first introduced electrocution, other States followed suit. This form of execution also came into disrepute, as sequel to a few cases of failure of the electric chair, which necessitated repeated application of high voltage electricity on a prisoner for the successful completion of an order of sentence. This practice therefore, came to be challenged as a "cruel and unusual" punishment, prohibited by the U.S. Constitution.

In view of this development, many States started enforcing the administration of a lethal injection, comprising a single or combination of drugs. While hydromorphone is widely used, a recent entrant is midazolam. Some human rights organisations have cited research to raise doubts over the claimed painlessness of drugs employed in executions, and have charged that lethal injections are also cruel. However, in a case of 2008 (*Baze v Rees*) and in a more recent (2015) case (*Glossip v Gross*), the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the constitutionality of lethal injections. In the former case, while concurring with the majority opinion, Justice John Paul Stevens however, raised doubts about Kentucky's three drug protocol, especially the use of a paralytic agent, panucronium bromide. He believed that this matter could generate a future debate. Also, while hearing the Glossip case, Justice Stephen Breyer was noticeably candid about his aversion to the death penalty. It is against this backdrop that one must follow the proceedings of the U.S. Supreme Court which began a new term on October 5. Though the constitutionality of death sentence is not directly listed to come up before it, any stray observation by any of the nine judges in associated matters could provide a pointer to the future.

The execution of a woman, Kelly Gissendaner, on September 30 in Georgia, has added spice to the controversy, although only about one per cent of those executed in the U.S. till now have been women. And Gissendaner was the first woman to be executed in Georgia in about 70 years.

Methodological problems

I quizzed Professor Daniel Silverman of the Department of Criminal Justice, Temple University, Philadelphia (from where I graduated more than two decades ago) on current trends in the U.S. on the death penalty. Prof. Silverman, an attorney who defends many prisoners on the death row, teaches a course on capital punishment at Temple. He tells me that States are finding it increasingly difficult to procure the drugs required to carry out an execution. As a result there is once again an alarming frequency of botched executions, resulting sometimes from the use of wrong drugs. The whole process is shrouded in such mystery that doubts have arisen over the efficacy and fairness of the system.

Prof. Silverman also refers to the overall sentiment within the country against the death penalty. During the past decade, seven States either abolished it or held it in abeyance. There is further the sharpening division on the subject within the U.S. Supreme Court, between liberals and conservatives. Four of the nine judges are said to believe that death penalty is constitutional, while two clearly consider it otherwise. It is difficult to speculate what the other three would do when the matter comes up before them in the future. It is just possible that the debate may linger on inconclusively, and will ultimately be settled only when one or two new judges join the court in the next few years. According to Prof. Silverman, the U.S. Supreme Court is now quite sensitive to what is happening internationally. This is why it is reasonable to believe that it will take cognisance of the worldwide trend of nations giving up the death penalty.

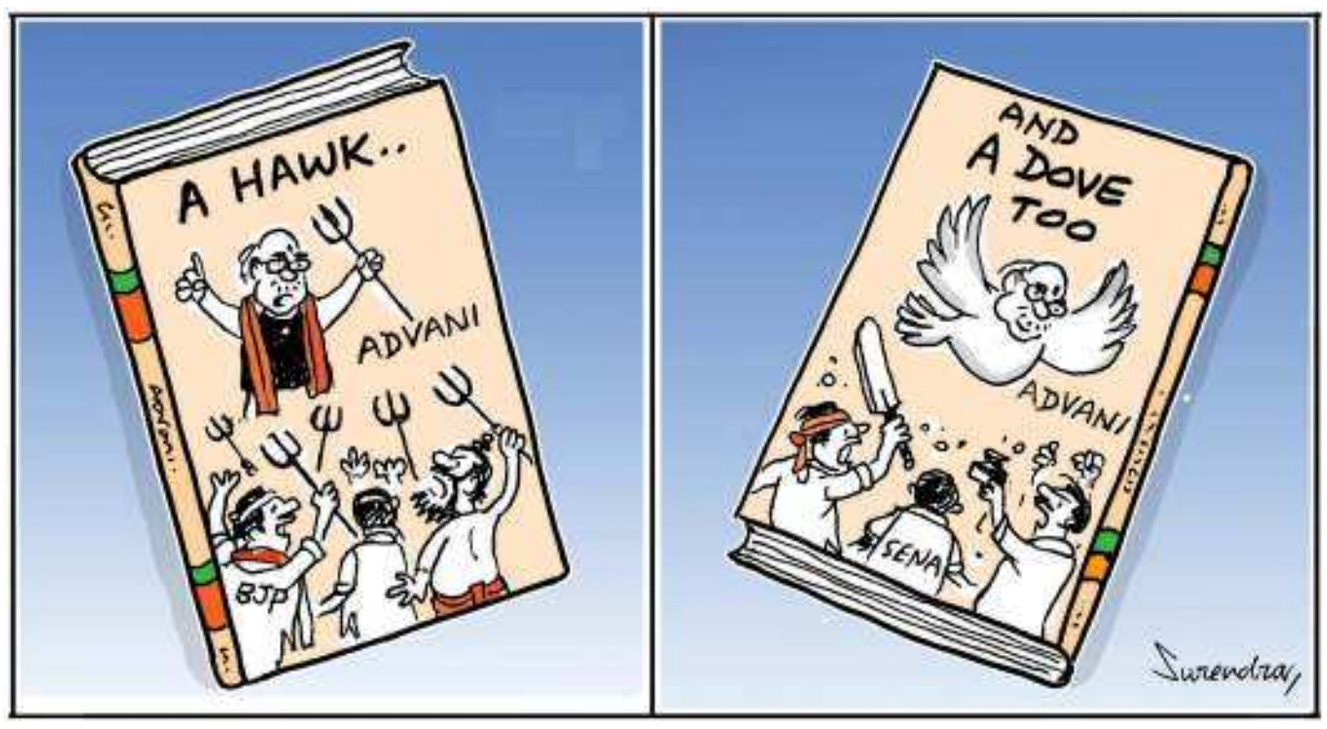
Finally, there is also the factor of costs involved here. There are now more than 3000 prisoners on death row in U.S. prisons. Organising sustained legal help for a majority of them adds on to the already huge commitment to look after their food and health needs. While this particular issue is beyond the purview of courts, it could weigh heavily on the administration while reviewing the expediency of retaining the death penalty.

Challenge for India

The trends that characterise the U.S. scene are very relevant to India, although in a slightly less acute form. We have had about 1300 death verdicts for the whole country during the period 2004-14. Of these, only four have ended in actual execution. Prisoners in such cases certainly escalate costs of prison management. While this argument may not hold water with those who stand rigidly for the retention of capital punishment, there is the overwhelming international trend in support of abolition that can hardly be ignored. The Law Commission's recent weighty report that favours giving up the death penalty, except in cases of terrorism, should also motivate the government into swift action. Apart from promoting the cause of a humane jurisprudence, a decision to do away with the death sentence could have a hugely positive impact on our international image.

(R.K. Raghavan is a former CBI Director and a graduate in criminal justice from the Temple University, Philadelphia.)

CARTOONSCAPE



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters emailed to **letters@thehindu.co.in** must carry the full postal address and the full name or the name with initials.

Sena shenanigans

Shiv Sena's anti-Pakistan attitude ("End the Sena's veto power," Oct.12) and its threat to disrupt the visit of former Pakistan Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri may add fuel to the flames. The already sour relations between India and Pakistan may escalate. In the words of Ramachandra Guha, "Intellectuals contribute to the growth of knowledge and ideologues are more interested in promoting their political or religious beliefs." Mr. Kasuri should be welcome as his book will help in production of knowledge about Pakistan.

Sonia Basumatary,
Hyderabad

The convenient ploy that the Shiv Sena uses for its brand of politics is the catch word "Patriotism". Anything done to display this brand of patriotism, according to the Sena, brooks no questioning, much less condemnation. Anyone who dares to question their modus operandi, by implication, would be labelled unpatriotic and their acts traitorous. If we go strictly by the logic of the party, even a diplomatic endeavour to engage Pakistan in peace dialogue would be construed unpatriotic. A single political party can not own sole rights to patriotism and force society to fall in line.

Chandran Dharmalingam,
Udhagamandalam

Writers' protest

Attacks on secularism, dissent and democratic pluralism have become all too frequent in India ("Fighting silence with dignified dissent," Oct.12). There is a calculated method in this madness. Whether it is the murder of a writer, killing an innocent person for supposedly eating beef, forced cancellation of a Ghulam Ali concert or blackening the face of Sudheendra Kulkarni for a discussion at the book launch by Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, the sinister design of the powers of subversion is all too evident. It can only be fought with the collective voices of sanity. It is in this connection that Shiv Vishvanathan's call acquires an urgency.

The vast constituency of writers and institutions must break their silence to proclaim and preserve the integrity of their commitment to the civic universe.

Satish C. Aikant,
Kulri, Mussoorie

I agree that in returning their awards, Sahgal and Vajpeyi have reminded Mr. Modi of his duties of upholding a citizen's right to life and of protecting an artist's right to creativity. It is laudable that other Sahitya Akademi awardees have also returned their awards. The saffronisation of education and cultural organisations was a hidden agenda of the Modi government in the beginning. Now it comes in open with all its terror and the brutal killing of progressive writers and activists. I quote octogenarian freedom fighter Gour Hari Das: "There is unfairness everywhere. What this country needs is a social and cultural revolution."

B. Prabha,
Varkala, Kerala

Had it been just solidarity with the slain writers, it would have been understandable as "awardees" would be seen as a legitimate "associational pressure group" and their act of returning the awards as a legitimate tactics for their legitimate concerns — artistic freedom. But certain writers' political statements raise doubts over their intentions. Artistic freedom is threatened today, but not due to any direct action of state. It is not clear if the "dissent" is born out of writers' concerns for India and its pluralism or out of their prejudice against the present government and its ideology.

Shashank Jain,
Delhi

Fiscal surplus

The news of the fiscal surplus ("Fiscal balance turns surplus after 8 years," Oct.12) is indeed cause for celebration. Reducing its subsidy bill has played a major role and the recent penalties on black money have boosted the numbers. However, other measures are not encouraging. Budget 2015 reduced the expenditure on health and women and children by almost half. Such a step has negated the earlier gains made in these two sectors. The challenge is to ensure that the surplus is not a one-off event.

Akshay Viswanathan,
Thiruvananthapuram

Adieu Manorama

What Sachin Tendulkar is to Indian cricket, Manorama was to Tamil cinema. Her passing away has evoked unprecedented outpouring of grief, admiration, and respect. Can a body of work generate such collective sorrow and regard? Amazing indeed! A quintessential multi-talented artist has left behind a treasure-trove of her films.

R. Sivakumar,
Chennai

The passing away of Manorama, who ruled the Tamil screens for over five decades has saddened her innumerable fans. Even though comedy was her forte, she essayed serious roles with ease which struck a special chord with the audience. She deserved more awards than she received for her talented performances.

K.R.Srinivasan,
Secunderabad.

Children's rights

Nobel laureate Kailash Satyarthi ("Victory for the world's children," Oct.12) has rightly said that without child development, human development is impossible. India has the largest number of children in the world. Though we have made rapid strides in universalising primary education, about eight million children are out of school. The sharp drop in secondary school attendance, particularly among girls poses a big challenge. The government must focus on these issues.

Gagan Pratap Singh,
Noida

Financing elections

The issue is not about the money being spent upon advertisements and on reaching the voters ("Limited finance limits democracy," Oct.12). The bigger issue is in money being spent on the distribution of drugs, alcohol, and other freebees to the voters. Also the misuse of official State machinery especially during local elections like panchayat and municipal corporations and voter education need attention.

Gurneemat Singh,
Amritsar

The article has rightly focused on guarded socialist mindset of policy makers. The premise that "rich cannot represent the poor" is false as India itself has had many affluent leaders such as like Jawaharlal Nehru and Dadabhai Naoroji whose will to serve society cannot be questioned. Also, the rules do not ensure that people who spend less on campaigns can be better politicians.

Ritika Singh,
Lucknow

Lauding Tunisia

The growing trends of civil society being silent on intolerant politics is a cause of concern. The Nobel peace prize for the Tunisian dialogue quartet, including the UGTT, should help civil society find its voice ("Honouring a robust civil society," Oct.12), lest the fringe elements of various colours turn the world's largest democracy into a 'managed democracy'.

Dr. D.V.G. Sankararao,
Vizianagaram

Flute falls silent

The departure of Dr. Natesan Ramani affectionately called 'Flute Ramani' has rendered the music world poorer. He along with the maestro Mali brought international attention to the Carnatic flute with their distinct playing styles and techniques. Only a few flutists would have made their instrument virtually sing as Ramani did. He always enjoyed and celebrated his works as did his innumerable listeners. Though he is no more, the immortal renditions left behind will continue to beguile countless music lovers.

R.Sampath,
Chennai

LEGAL EYE

India not obliged to arrest President Bashir

Jay Sanklecha

In less than a fortnight, India will host the incumbent Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir as part of the Third India-Africa Forum Summit, expected to be the largest gathering of world leaders in India since the Non-Aligned Summit in New Delhi in 1983. However, the event, in view of President Bashir's attendance, may not pass without its share of controversy.

President Bashir's arrival will represent a serious challenge to the authority of the International Criminal Court (ICC), which has issued two separate arrest warrants against him. The first was issued on March 4, 2009, when the President was charged with war crimes over the conflict in Darfur, earning the ill-repute of becoming the first sitting head of state issued with an arrest warrant by the ICC. And on July 12, 2010, the ICC charged Mr. Bashir with three counts of genocide in Darfur, accusing him of trying to wipe out three non-Arab ethnic groups in the region. According to reports, in anticipation of his attendance at the summit, the office of the prosecutor of the ICC has called upon India to "contribute to the important goal of ending impunity for the world's worst crimes" by arresting and surrendering President Bashir to the ICC. The question is, is India under any international legal obligation to do so?

President Bashir first came to power in a coup in 1989 when Sudan was in the midst of a civil war between north and south. He then allegedly exploited these differences in order to destroy those ethnic groups which presented a threat to his power. This resulted in extended clashes between the government's armed forces and rebel groups, which reportedly lasted from 2003 to 2008, a period that witnessed serious war atrocities such as pillaging and rape. It is believed that as a result of the ensuing armed conflict, over 2,00,000 civilians were killed and over 2.4 million people were forced to flee their homes. Taking a serious view of the matter, and given that Sudan was not a party to the Rome Statute establishing the ICC, the United Nations Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, referred the situation in Darfur to the ICC vide Resolution 1593. Pursuant to a formal investigation, the then chief prosecutor of the ICC requested and obtained arrest warrants against President Bashir and other senior ministers of Sudan. Immediately following the issuance of the arrest warrants, cooperation requests for the arrest and surrender of President Bashir were transmitted to all states that are parties to the Rome Statute and all UNSC members, including states who are not parties to the Rome Statute. Curiously, the decision of the pre-trial chamber of the ICC, while issuing the arrest warrants against Mr. Bashir, directed the registry of the ICC to prepare and transmit any additional request for the arrest and surrender of President Bashir to other states as appropriate.

The wording of the Security Council resolution falls short of creating a legal obligation on non-member states to co-operate

India's response

If such a formal request were made, how should India respond? At the outset, since India is not a signatory to the Rome Statute that established the ICC, it would not ordinarily be under any legal obligation to comply with a request made by the Court. However, the situation is complicated by virtue of the Security Council referral in Resolution 1593. Paragraph 2 of the Security Council resolution states: "...the government of Sudan and all other parties to the conflict in Darfur shall co-operate fully with and provide any necessary assistance to the Court and the Prosecutor pursuant to this Resolution and, while recognising that states not party to the Rome Statute have no obligation under the Statute, urges all states and concerned regional organisations to co-operate fully."

Since the resolution was adopted under Chapter VII, it is binding on all member states, including India. If it creates legal obligations, it would prevail over India's other international law obligations. Fortunately, the wording of the resolution falls short of creating a legal obligation on non-member states — and only 'urges' non-member states to co-operate. Since the resolution falls short of a creating an international law obligation, India can, by arresting President Bashir, violate international law, since heads of state are accorded full immunity from arrest in a foreign state under both treaty and customary international law. Therefore, India is not under any legal obligation to arrest and surrender President Bashir to the ICC and may, in fact, not be permitted to arrest President Bashir on Indian soil.

Nevertheless, given India's position in the international legal order and its push for a permanent seat on the UNSC, it may have been prudent on the part of India to have avoided this controversy altogether by not extending the invitation to host President Bashir in the first place.

(Jay Sanklecha is a graduate of the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences, Kolkata, and is working with a law firm in Mumbai. The views expressed are personal.)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

The Hindu.

(dated October 13, 1965)

Rebels' attitude to Naga truce

Mr. Jaya Prakash Narayan to-day [October 12] deplored the action of the Naga Underground in not agreeing to a three-month extension of the cease-fire in Nagaland, but only to one month. Mr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, a member of the Nagaland peace mission, said in an interview here [Shillong] to-day: "It has come to me as a great surprise that even though the Government of India greed to three months' extension, the Naga underground leadership agreed only to one month. What may be behind this is more than what I can understand."

According to an informed source in Kohima, the underground Nagas, who have been trained and equipped in Pakistan, are reported to be under strong pressure to reject the cease-fire and return to the war path.

CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

>>We erred: In the correction regarding the report, "Communal elements will not be spared: Rajnath" (Oct. 8, 2015), this column - (Corrections and Clarifications, Oct. 12, 2015) - erroneously gave the month of publication of the report as *December*.

>>"Noted music director Ravindra Jain no more" (Oct. 10, 2015) erroneously said the veteran music director composed scores for TV serials on epics Ramayan and *Mahabharat*. Ravindra Jain did not compose the score for Mahabharat.

>>In "Prisons too reflect Bengal's work culture" (Oct. 8, 2015), the total worth of goods produced by the inmates of correctional homes in Kerala was given as *Rs. 214.3 crore*. The correct figure is *Rs. 21.43 crore*.

It is the policy of *The Hindu* to correct significant errors as soon as possible. **Please specify the edition (place of publication), date and page**.

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Back to the bad old days

With its hardline Hindutva stand appropriated by the BJP, and no new ideas on the development front, the Shiv Sena is going back to its violent past to stay in the public eye

Sachin Kalbag

Shiv Sena's reprehensible attack on Observer Research Foundation's Sudheendra Kulkarni yesterday (October 12), for organising former Pakistan Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri's book launch in Mumbai, is another step back for a party desperately trying to remain relevant both to its voting constituency as well as in the Bharatiya Janata Party-led coalition government in Maharashtra. Last week, it threatened to violently disrupt noted ghazal singer Ghulam Ali's concert in Mumbai, scaring the organiser into cancelling the event.

The Sena, after a brief affair with liberalism last year with its demand for nightlife licenses and a perceptible shift towards the youth vote, is clearly returning to the platform it was founded upon: hatred for Pakistan (and migrants from within the country) and extreme Hindutva.

Targeting the BJP

What the Sena is really worried about is the BJP, and has taken on the mantle of the largest party's principal opposition. The Kasuri book launch incident and the Ghulam Ali concert disruption were targeted more at the BJP than at the victims themselves. It is not surprising, therefore, that Aditya Thackeray, who heads the youth wing of the party, said that the "attack was non-violent". He knows his statement is a mockery of what happened, but he said it because the eventual target was the BJP. His party wants to send a message to the BJP that it can remain in the media and the public eye by resorting to its old tricks.

The Sena, for all its bravado, knows that its hardline Hindutva stand has been appropriated by the BJP, and there is little it can do on the development plank either. The last time it was in power along with the BJP (1995-1999), the Sena was the senior alliance partner with founder Bal Thackeray's hand-picked man Manohar Joshi as Chief Minister. But what Mumbai really remembers of that coalition government are the 50-plus flyovers in the city and its neighbourhood, planned and executed by BJP's Nitin Gadkari, the then State Public Works Minister. Mr. Gadkari is now a Minister in the Modi cabinet.

Take their other recent battle. In early September, the BJP collaborated with the Jain community in demanding a meat ban during the penance period of Paryushan. The Shiv Sena, along with its ideological but separated cousin, the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena, sided with the meat eaters. There is a history to this. The Jain community, though not technically Hindu, is identified with the Gujarati community. More than a decade ago, Gujarati Jains and Gujarati Hindus, along with the Marwari community, had teamed up to make the prime South Mumbai localities of Malabar Hill, Marine Drive and Walkeshwar meat-free zones, a move the Sena despised but could do little to reverse. That agitation was led by Mangal Prabhat Lodha, a Marwari real estate tycoon, who is also a BJP MLA and a staunch vegetarian. Those who followed the BJP's meat-free agenda of the early 2000s will not be surprised about its vegetarian stance now.

A STEP BACK: *"The inability to get mass support has spurred the Shiv Sena into going back to its violent past." Picture shows Sena activists protesting in Delhi before an anticipated meeting between Kashmiri leaders and the Pakistan High Commissioner.* – PHOTO: SHANKER CHAKRAVARTY

The refrain in Mumbai after the Ghulam Ali concert cancellation and the attack on Kulkarni was, 'Not again!' But the Shiv Sena is turning a deaf ear to this

The BJP-Sena war has reached such a crescendo that in the Kalyan Dombivali Municipal Corporation (KDMC) elections slated for November 1, the two parties have decided to go to the polls separately, encouraging the Congress and the Nationalist Congress Party to possibly come together, despite their significant differences. The BJP and Sena are now so far divorced that they would rather allow a Congress-NCP alliance to come to power than join hands with each other.

The KDMC elections, though not important in the larger national context, will be a barometer for voters' perceptions of the two parties. The only thing going for both the Sena and the BJP is the complete indifference of the electorate towards the Congress. On ground, Congress vice-president Rahul Gandhi remains someone to be mocked at, and his repeated gaffes in public rallies are not helping his party either. An emaciated opposition will, therefore, most probably help Sena retain power there, but the fracture with the BJP will not be repaired.

More important, while the BJP has appropriated (or is attempting to appropriate) B.R. Ambedkar's legacy despite having nothing in common with the father of the Indian Constitution, the Sena is increasingly coming across as a party bereft of ideas. With little manouevring power in the State government, it is left with no option but to go back to its violent roots. This is unfortunate for a party that was being seen as changing its colours in the last year or so.

Issues for the Sena

The two biggest issues that the Sena has taken up in the last 12 months are the extension of licences for eateries and entertainment establishments to remain open through the night, and the yellow sodium vapour lamps along Marine Drive instead of the white LED lamps that the BJP government prefers. Both are inconsequential items on a larger political agenda, but the Sena seems to care for them more than for governance issues. In any case, they lost to the BJP on both points. The scars of that battle run deep in the Sena.

For a party that purports to be connected with the sons of the soil, the Sena has done precious little to bring about awareness or raise money for farmers in the drought-affected areas of the State. Meanwhile, farmers continue to commit suicide in Vidarbha and other areas of severe rain shortfall. Private entities and individuals seem to have responded to the crisis far better than political parties. While the Sena has been attacking the BJP for its inaction in the drought-affected areas, it has not done much on its own.

The vote gain and seat gain in last year's State elections should have spurred the party into attempting a national footprint. It was one of their stated objectives. Uddhav Thackeray's leadership on that front has left a lot to be desired. In fact, it has been insipid. Meanwhile, the BJP has made gains in even the Sena strongholds of western Maharashtra. This has eroded the Sena's grassroots credibility, as it is mainly a cadre-based party with strong on-ground presence across the State, with its hierarchies clearly defined.

A sheer inability to get mass support has spurred the Sena into going back to its violent past. It may have worked in the 1970s and the 1980s, when Bal Thackeray's anti-migrant mantra struck a raw nerve among Maharashtrians reeling under an already collapsing economic infrastructure in Mumbai thanks to cotton mills being shut down in rapid succession. It is unlikely to work in the second decade of the 21st century.

Aditya Thackeray and his father, therefore, need to reinvent the party, which has not only become irrelevant to the Marathi-speaking population, but also to its core voter base. The refrain in Mumbai after the Ghulam Ali concert cancellation and the attack on Mr. Kulkarni was, "No, not again!" This is a refrain to which the Shiv Sena is turning a deaf ear.

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'Improving our knowledge of the world'

Nobel Laureate **Arthur B. McDonald** on how the neutrino experiments can provide a fuller picture for the very basic laws of physics

On October 6, Takaaki Kajita, Chief Scientist of Super-Kamiokande Collaboration, University of Tokyo, and Arthur B. McDonald, chief scientist at the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory (SNO) Collaboration, Queen's University, Kingston, Canada, were awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics for proving that neutrinos change identities or 'flavours' from one type to another over time. Professor McDonald, in this email interview with **Shubashree Desikan**, *speaks about the 17-year journey from the start of the SNO Collaboration to the prestigious moment of recognition. Excerpts:*

Arthur McDonald. – PHOTO: AP

How does it feel to have won the Nobel Prize? Some physicists told me that it was widely anticipated that the observation of neutrino oscillations would win the Nobel this year.

Our SNO Collaboration was very-pleased to have provided clear observation of neutrino oscillations for solar neutrino and to have verified models of the sun with great accuracy. However, having this strong international endorsement of the value of our work by a respected committee is very gratifying.

When you became the spokesperson for the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory in 1989, it was unusual then for Canada to make an investment of this magnitude on a basic science project. How did you convince them?

At the time that our scientists were attempting to obtain approval of funding for this project, it was necessary to convince agencies in Canada, the U.S. and the U.K. of the importance of the measurements that we could perform. It took a long time and involved technical demonstrations of the engineering feasibility of the design. With strong peer review of the importance of the basic science we were proposing (now proven by the awarding of the Nobel Prize), we were able to obtain the funding.

The return on investment is a fundamental improvement in our knowledge of our world, excellent training of the best students who are attracted to such projects, and the innovative technology that had to be developed to accomplish this difficult experiment.

The SNO detector consists of a 12-m diameter transparent acrylic container holding 1,000 litres of ultrapure heavy water, which was supplied by Canada's Department of Atomic Energy. Did this happen readily? Was there any worry that you could be carrying out secret research on nuclear weapons?

Senior scientists at Atomic Energy of Canada understood the importance of the research that we would perform and recommended the loan near the beginning of our discussions. There was then a bit of worry from the public about the relationship of heavy water to nuclear reactors, etc. However, one of our scientists drank a glass of heavy water at a public meeting (with a bit of Scotch for flavour) and showed clearly that it was a safe substance. We also pointed out continually that we were creating one of the lowest radioactivity locations in the world, far from worries about high radioactivity.

A major question remains about the ordering of the relative masses of neutrinos, which will be addressed with good sensitivity by the India-based Neutrino Observatory detector- ARTHUR MCDONALD

EXCLUSIVE

What main questions remain about the neutrino and why is neutrino research important? What other experiments are being planned around the world?

A major question remains about the ordering of the relative masses of neutrinos, which will be addressed with good sensitivity by the India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) detector. In addition, the accurate values for other oscillation parameters that INO will provide will be important for developing detailed models of how finite mass neutrinos should be added to the Standard Model of elementary particles. Other questions that will be addressed in other experiments are the absolute masses of neutrinos and the asymmetry between matter and anti-matter in the universe that may be related to neutrino properties.

Neutrino science is important because they (neutrinos), along with electrons and quarks, are the basic building blocks which we do not know how to sub-divide further. Therefore, understanding their properties is essential to complete our knowledge of the world at a very fundamental level. For example, the observation of finite neutrino masses determined by the SNO and Super-Kamiokande experiments goes beyond the Standard Model of elementary particles and may help provide a fuller picture for the very basic laws of physics.

How did the offer of the site for the observatory by INCO Ltd, the nickel mining company, come about?

Again, after presentations by our scientists, senior members of the company management saw the importance of the science that could be done and recommended to their management that we be allowed to co-exist with ongoing mining operations at the mine. This strong support for the new international underground laboratory, SNOLAB, has continued with the present owner, Vale.

Did you have to develop any new engineering techniques or materials for the construction and support of the huge underground cavity? How did you ensure the stability of the rock above the underground observatory?

It was the largest cavity of its type built at that depth, but INCO engineers provided a design of excavation and rock support techniques that were reviewed by a panel of international experts and found to be feasible. The cavity was very carefully instrumented and provided wonderful data, enabling INCO to pursue large cavities at great depth for their ongoing mining operations. Several old and new techniques were combined for ground control for the cavity, and they worked very well.

Would you say 17 years is a long time to work without an indication of whether you were on the right track?

We knew that we could have a substantial impact on fundamental physics if we could carry out this major project and that inspired everyone working on the project throughout.

Looking back on over 30 years of your association with SNO, can you tell us what made it worth the while?

Our collaboration set about understanding our universe more fully and with our results, we feel that we have made a major contribution to that. The Nobel Prize for our work is a confirmation by a body that we greatly respect that we have made a truly valuable contribution.

When we were analysing our data, we purposely added in a known amount of false data, so that those doing the analysis could not be led to a pre-conceived result by the way they analyse the data. On one-day when we had defined the best way to do the analysis, we lifted this "blindness condition," removed the false events and all together were able to see our final results. The results were conclusive that solar neutrinos did change from one type to another and, therefore, do have a finite mass. That was a real "eureka" moment that every SNO collaborator remembers as a significant day in their scientific life.

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(A longer version of this interview is available online at www.thehindu.com)

FROM PAGE ONE

Police wean 40 youths from militancy in south Kashmir

"The J&K police have a separate wing to track the online activities of these young men. While some operate with pseudo-identities, some are genuine accounts. Mostly they belong to Tral, Pulwama and other parts of south Kashmir. They are being counselled and dissuaded from joining the militant ranks," said the Home Ministry official in Delhi.

The J&K police counselled these youths, mostly aged 14-17, by "providing Islamic perspective through religious preachers on how their decision to join militancy was un-Islamic and a legal perspective to dissuade them from joining the militants." They were forewarned about "ruined career and the uselessness of violence to achieve any goal."

> Religious preachers told the youth their decision was un-Islamic

"In most cases, parents did not know of the intentions of their wards. We also asked them to keep a close eye on their children," said the counter-insurgency top cop.

He said that while most boys were teenagers, a few were regular college-goers in Srinagar, and one was pursing his Master's through a private institution in Pulwama district.

"Most of them had no record of any anti-social activities or stone-pelting. It was through human intelligence that we were able to identify them," said the official.

He admitted that in a few instances counselling failed, as in the case of Jehangeer Ganai, a resident of Pulwama's Quail area. "Ganai has joined the militant ranks unfortunately," said the officer.

Apex court tells Centre to work on civil code

Legal Correspondent

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Monday sought the government's stand on shaping the uniform civil code to end the "confusion" in personal laws holding sway over various communities.

A Bench of Justices Vikramjit Sen and Shiva Kirti Singh asked Solicitor General Ranjit Kumar to clarify the government's view.

Mr. Kumar sought three weeks' time to get back to the court.

The Bench orally observed that the code should be "worked" on and if the government has the will to implement a uniform personal law for all religions, it should go ahead and do it.

The court was hearing a petition highlighting how Christians were compelled by their personal law to wait for two years before divorce unlike other communities.

Centre seeks report on HC order on Article 370

National Bureau

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Home Affairs has sought a report from the Jammu and Kashmir government on the State High Court's order that Article 370, which grants special status to the State, is beyond amendment, repeal or abrogation.

In a communication, the Home Ministry sought a copy of the High Court order from the State government as early as possible, explaining the grounds on which the order was issued, a Home Ministry official said.

The State Law Department is expected to forward a copy of the High Court ruling to the Central government.

The HC had ruled that Article 370 has assumed place of permanence in the Constitution and the feature is beyond amendment, repeal or abrogation.

> J&K court said Article 370 is beyond amendment

The court also said that Article 35A gives "protection" to existing laws in force in the State. "Article 370 though titled as 'Temporary Provision' and included in Para XXI titled 'Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions,' has assumed place of permanence in the Constitution," a Division Bench of justices Hasnain Masoodi and Janak Raj Kotwal ruled in a 60-page judgment.

"It is beyond amendment, repeal or abrogation, in as much as Constituent Assembly of the State before its dissolution did not recommend its Amendment or repeal," the Bench ruled. The BJP has been demanding for long repeal of Article 370.

Alarming times for free expression, says Rushdie

NEW DELHI/CHANDIGARH: Booker Prize winning author Salman Rushdie on Monday joined the growing chorus of protests by writers and poets against spread of "communal poison" and "rising intolerance" in the country even as more authors decided to return their Sahitya Akademi awards.

"I support Nayantara Sahgal and the many other writers protesting to the Sahitya Akademi. Alarming times for free expression in India," Mr. Rushdie tweeted.

Ms. Sahgal, niece of Jawaharlal Nehru, was among the first to lodge her protest against the Akademi's silence over repeated attacks on writers and rationalists who were raising their voice of dissent.

Urdu novelist Rahman Abbas, Hindi writers Mangalesh Dabral and Rajesh Joshi have returned the Akademi awards in protest against "communal" atmosphere following rationalist M.M. Kalburgi's killing. Vadodara-based author and poet Anil Joshi said he would return the Akademi award.

Punjabi author Waryam Sandhu said he had intimated to the Akademi his decision to give back the award.

Delhi-based theatre artist Maya Krishna Rao returned her Sangeet Natak Akademi award in protest against Dadri lynching and the "rising intolerance" in the country.

Salman Rushdie has backed Nayantara Sahgal and other protesting writers.

Four more writers and poets from Punjab — Surjit Pattar, Baldev Singh Sadaknama, Jaswinder and Darshan Buttar — joined the protest against communal violence and said they were also returning their awards as a mark of protest.

Urdu writer Rahman Abbas said, "After the Dadri lynching, the Urdu writing community has been unhappy. Therefore, I decided to return the award. There are some other Urdu writers who also want to join the protest. It is high time we stood up to the injustice surrounding us."

Akademi calls meet

Under fire from several quarters, the Akademi has called for a meeting of the Executive Board for October 23. Sahitya Akademi president Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari had said the institution was committed to the core secular values enshrined in the Constitution. — PTI

Tarikeri returns award

M. Ahiraj reports:

Kannada critic Rahamat Tarikeri has returned his Sahitya Akademi award in protest against the killing of Kalburgi and rationalists Narendra Dabholkar and Govind Pansare. "The recent Dadri lynching is also part of this intolerance," he said.

J&K writer follows suit

Peerzada Ashiq reports:

Kashmir's well-known writer Ghulam Nabi Khayal followed suit, accusing the BJP of "unleashing a pack of wolves" on minorities to curtail their rights. He won the Akademi honour for his book '*Gashik Minaar*' (Luminaries) in 1975. He is the first Kashmiri to return the award.

CBI told to go by the book in case against Birla group

Legal Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Refusing to make any comments, the Supreme Court on Monday left it to the Central Bureau of Investigation to proceed as per law on the issue of registering an FIR into the alleged seizure of unaccounted cash worth Rs. 25 crore, a diary and other incriminating documents from Aditya Birla Group's Corporate Office here in 2013.

A Bench of Justices Madan B. Lokur, Kurian Joseph and A.K. Sikri, hearing a plea by NGO Common Cause to register an FIR in the case, said the CBI is expected to act as per the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

The court was reacting to arguments made by advocate Prashant Bhushan for the NGO that the CBI was under a legal obligation to register an FIR. He claimed the documents allegedly seized indicated payments to politicians and political groups.

When the CBI pleaded that the Enforcement Directorate was already looking into the aspect of seizure, Mr. Bhushan countered that the ED investigate any links to possible money laundering unless an FIR is lodged by the CBI or other agency.

"An FIR is already registered in the Hindalco matter and that is why the ED was doing the inquiry," senior advocate Amarendra Sharan for the CBI responded.

"Our understanding is that CBI has filed a report in the Supreme Court today in respect of the seized papers. In this regard, the Honourable Court has observed that 'we are not making any comment as to whether any offence is made out or not.' CBI is expected 'to examine the papers and if any offence is made out or not, it is to proceed in accordance with law'," Aditya Birla Group reacted in a statement.

The court further expressed unhappiness over the pace of probe conducted by the CBI into the coal block allocation scam cases and asked the agency to conclude these investigations by December-end.

BIHAR POLLING BEGINS

NDA hopes soar as 57% turn out to vote in Bihar

Amarnath Tewary

PATNA: Amid tight security, the first phase of the Bihar poll for 49 Assembly seats in 10 districts, including some Maoist-affected areas, passed off peacefully on Monday with 57 per cent vote cast.

While the National Democratic Alliance heaved a sigh of relief over the increased voting percentage, 'the grand alliance' felt that the trend would work to its advantage. Women voters outnumbered their male counterparts by five per cent.

Voters of the Sultanganj Assembly constituency in Bhagalpur district of Bihar on their way to exercise their franchise on Monday. At right, a voter shows her indelible ink mark. – PHOTOS: RANJEET KUMAR

Long queues

Long queues of voters were largely seen in rural areas. In urban areas, voters did not show much enthusiasm. It is generally said that the BJP gets its major support from urban middle class voters and 'the grand alliance' of Nitish Kumar and Lalu Prasad have their supporters in rural areas.

"Though the high voting percentage reflects the anti-incumbency sentiment, the percentage was not so high that the BJP should feel happy about it. On the other side, the high turnout in rural areas does send out positive signals for the grand alliance," a poll observer told *The Hindu*. "The higher turnout can be attributed to better security management and the resultant fear-free atmosphere," he added.

In the first phase of the last Assembly poll held for the same number of seats, the JD(U) had picked up 29 seats, the BJP 13, the RJD 4, while the Congress, the CPI and the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha got one seat each. This time, the JD(U) put up 24 candidates, the RJD 17 and the Congress 8 candidates.

Since morning hundreds of thousands of people lined up at polling stations to cast their vote in the crucial election seen as a referendum on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "popularity" and Chief Minister Nitish Kumar's "development plank."

Women voters too were seen in long queues, especially in Bhagalpur, Banka, Munger and Samastipur districts.

With the first phase of Bihar poll, for 49 Assembly seats completed on Monday, political observers, believed the trend is still going 50-50 for both the blocs.

"It is still not very clear who is gaining and who is losing but from available indications, a tough and tight battle lies ahead," said N.K. Chaudhury, a political observer.

However, leaders from both camps saw the polling trend going in their favour. "The BJP-led NDA will not get more than 10-12 seats in the first phase," declared a ruling party JD(U) leader, while the State BJP leaders said that "the high poll percentage indicates that people are fed up with this government and have voted for change."

"In the 2010 Assembly poll, the voting percentage in these districts was 50.85, while this time it has gone up to 57," said the State Election Commission.

Second phase on Oct. 16

Tight security arrangements were made with deployment of Central paramilitary forces at every booth and in the Maoist-affected districts of Jamui, Lakhisarai, Munger and Nawada, five helicopters and three drones were deployed for surveillance.

At nine booths in Gopalpur, Pirpainti, Sultanganj, Banka and Lakhisarai, the poll was boycotted by people for different reasons. According to the Election Commission, altogether 110 persons were arrested and some vehicles seized.

The second phase will be held on October 16 for 32 seats.

'What JD(U) Minister did was an insult to JP'

Amarnath Tewary

PATNA: Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed two poll meetings in Bihar on Monday, as 49 seats went to the polls in the first phase of the Assembly elections, and criticised the JD(U) and the RJD over a video purporting to show a senior JD(U) Minister accepting a bribe. Mr. Modi demanded the disclosure of the names of the five other ministers mentioned in the video.

"They claim to be the disciples of Jayaprakash Narayan; but on his 113th birth anniversary, what they did, what their ministers did...it was an insult to JP," Mr. Modi said at meetings in Jehanabad and Bhabhua. "Where will you go if this money game goes on? Will you be able to give Rs. 4 lakh to anyone?"

PM Narendra Modi at an election rally in Jehanabad on Monday. – PHOTO: PTI

On Sunday night, Minister for Registration, Excise, Prohibition and Urban Development Awadhesh Prasad Kushwaha was caught on camera taking Rs. 4 lakh in bribe from a fake Mumbai businessman. When the video went viral on social media, Mr. Nitish Kumar asked Mr. Kushwaha to resign. His nomination from Pipra was cancelled.

Mr. Modi said that until the BJP was part of the Bihar government "no sting operation happened." "But ever since this gentleman [Chief Minister Nitish Kumar] joined hands with the other gentleman [Mr. Lalu Prasad], such things [like bribery] started happening and it would continue to happen as the new partner [Mr. Lalu Prasad] is widely known for this... Even the court has put its stamp on him. It's unfortunate that people are taking bribe in the name of JP...I appeal to you to finish them in the poll," he said.

In Jehanabad, Mr. Modi sought to remind the voters of Jagdeo Prasad, a veteran backward caste leader of the region, who was mysteriously killed in 1974. "I'd like to ask both Mr. Lalu Prasad and Mr. Nitish Kumar how they are sitting with those who had killed the leader who stood up for the poor," he said in an oblique reference to the Congress, which was then in power in the State.

He said that in the ongoing polls, only two things mattered. "We keep saying vote us to power for development as Bihar's development is our only goal, and they keep saying destroy Modi. Democracy is not to finish someone but to fulfil the expectations of the poor people..."

As for the RJD's demand that the Election Commission cancel his poll meeting in Bhabhua, Mr. Modi said: "They want to stop me, but in democracy you cannot throttle the voice of anyone... You don't know Modi... I'm a labourer. I can even set out on foot to meet people."

PM to host Netaji family

Nistula Hebbar

NEW DELHI: Nearly 35 members of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's family from across the world and around 15 research associates who have been asking for the declassification of the Bose files by the government, will be hosted at 7 Race Course Road on October 14 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, for what is being seen by the family members as an important juncture in their "movement" for some closure on the late leader's life and death.

The invitation had been extended by Prime Minister Modi during his visit to Germany in April. Speaking to *The Hindu*, Netaji's grand nephew, Chandra Kumar Bose, said Prime Minister Modi was the "first Indian Prime Minister to play host to the Bose family."

Centre won't ban Sanstha on its own

Vijaita Singh

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Home Affairs will wait for a proposal from either Maharashtra or Goa, both BJP-ruled States, to declare right-wing outfit Sanatan Sanstha a terrorist organisation and not take any *suo motu* action, a senior Ministry official told *The Hindu*.

> Ministry of Home Affairs says request has to come from either Goa or Maharashtra

The Maharashtra police have claimed that one of the members of Sanstha — Samir Gaikwad — arrested by it, was allegedly involved in rationalist Govind Pansare's murder. Investigators also suspect that the killings of social activist Narendra Dabholkar and scholar M.M. Kalburgi could be linked to this organisation.

"Either of the State government — Maharashtra or Goa — has to write to us that they want the Sanatan Sanstha to be declared a terrorist organisation. We have no jurisdiction on the subject," the official said.

The decision assumes significance as in 2009, when the activities of the Sanstha came under the radar for the first time, it was the MHA which had written to the governments of Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka, seeking reports that could aid it in declaring it a terrorist organisation under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act (UAPA).

The three State governments did send a response to the Centre, but the Sanstha could not be banned based on their submissions.

Another accused associated with the Sanstha, identified as Ravindra Patil, who is wanted by the National Investigation Agency in the 2009 Margao church blast case when two members of the Sanstha were blown up when the IEDs they were carrying accidentally detonated.

The MHA had in 2009 sent proposals to the governments of Goa, Maharashtra and Karnataka to not only ban the Sanstha but also two other organisations – the Hindu Janjagruti Samiti, a sister organisation of Sanstha, and the Abhinav Bharat, the radical Hindu outfit led by Sadhvi Pragya and Lieutenant Colonel Prasad Shrikant Purohit, who were arrested for their role in Malegaon blast of 2008.

SC Bench says hearing Teesta case was a 'mistake'

Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI: A two-judge Bench of the Supreme Court admitted on Monday that it committed a "mistake" on September 11 when it heard the case of Godhra riots activist Teesta Setalvad and her husband.

The Bench of Justices Anil R. Dave and A.K. Goel said the case was supposed to be listed before a three-judge Bench. The Bench had then ordered extending interim bail to the couple.

In September, the same Bench had extended the interim protection against arrest of Ms. Setalvad and her husband by four weeks in a case of alleged embezzlement of funds for a memorial at Ahmedabad's Gulberg Society that was devastated in the 2002 riots. On Monday, the Bench owned up to the error when senior advocate Kapil Sibal pushed for further extension, saying the couple's bail period was coming to an end on October 15.

Teesta Setalvad has been accused of embezzlement of funds for a memorial in Gulberg Society.

When the Bench refused to hear the plea, Mr. Sibal reminded the court that it was the same Bench that heard and passed the interim order in September.

"We don't know why this matter has come before us... We made a mistake the last time... let the matter be posted before an appropriate Bench," Justice Dave responded.

Mr. Sibal drew the court's attention to the urgency of the couple's position and said expiry of the existing bail period on October 15 may lead to their arrest. The court then recorded the situation in the day's order and directed its Registry to list the case before a three-judge Bench "as soon as possible."

In March this year, the apex court had extended Ms. Setalvad relief from arrest while transferring their petition to a three-judge Bench. The Gujarat police have accused the couple of embezzling crores of rupees collected from residents of the Gulbarg Society in the name of constructing a memorial in honour of the riot victims. The court had first stayed their arrest on February 19, observing that "personal liberty cannot be put on ventilator."

In July, the Gujarat police filed an affidavit opposing the continued anticipatory bail for Ms. Setalvad and her husband, while reiterating their accusations that the couple misappropriated charity funds meant for rehabilitation of riots victims for their own personal use.

The affidavit said the couple diverted funds collected through their trusts — Sabrang Trust and Citizens for Justice and Peace.

Trucks entering Delhi to pay green charge: SC

Krishnadas Rajagopal

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has ordered that all light and commercial vehicles passing through Delhi be made to pay an environment compensation charge (ECC), declaring that Delhi residents have suffered enough from the sly efforts of polluting commercial vehicles to skip higher toll tax on alternative routes.

A three-judge Bench led by Chief Justice of India H.L. Dattu reasoned that ECC along with the toll tax would deter commercial traffic travelling from north India towards Jaipur and onwards from opting for the city's roads, choking the residents. The court noted that toll roads NH 71 and NH 71A, connecting Rewari and Panipat via Jhajjar and Rohtak are alternative routes which obviate the need to travel through Delhi. But the truckers avoid them to save tax.

"Thus, apart from the MCD toll, it was necessary to impose ECC to equalise the difference in cost in travelling through alternative routes," the apex court observed in the seven-page order dated October 9 and uploaded on Monday on the Supreme Court official website.

The court directed the Delhi Government to immediately issue a notification to levy the charge, which would be operative for a period of four months starting from November 1, 2015, to February 29, 2016, on an experimental basis.

It said this order would override any order to the contrary by any authority. The apex court posted the case on February 3, 2016, to review implementation of the mechanism.

The court fixed the tariffs in two categories. Light duty vehicles and two-axle trucks would pay Rs. 700, while three-axle, four-axle trucks and above would pay Rs.1,300. Passenger vehicles, ambulances and vehicles carrying essential commodities such as food stuffs and oil tankers, would be exempted from payment.

"The charge will be collected by the toll operators without any deduction and handed over to the Delhi government every Friday. The Delhi government shall furnish accounts of the receipts and the expenditure incurred to Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control)) Authority [EPCA] and to this court each quarter," the court directed.

Making the governments of Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan to share responsibility with Delhi, the court directed them to provide large-size billboards at their exits pointing commercial traffic to the diversions and take steps to avoid traffic jams or other inconveniences.

The court also ordered the Delhi government to install CCTV cameras at nine of the total 127 entry points and organise surprise visits to oversee the ECC collections.

MUMBAI OUTRAGE

THE ATTACK BY SHIV SENA ACTIVISTS DID LITTLE TO DAMPEN THE SPIRIT OF ORGANISERS OF KASURI'S BOOK LAUNCH

Plural India comes together to condemn attack

Alok Deshpande

Mumbai does belong to Maharashtra, but it also belongs to the nation — moreover, it is an international city, said Sudheendra Kulkarni, chairman of the Observer Research Foundation, in Marathi sending a firm message to the Shiv Sena, which is said to be behind an attack on him on Monday.

He was speaking at the launch of a book, *Neither a Hawk nor a Dove: An Insider's Account of Pakistan's Foreign Policy*, by Pakistan's Former Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri.

An organiser of the event, Mr. Kulkarni had been at the receiving end of threats and abuse by Sena activists in the past two days warning him against holding the programme.

His introductory speech was a careful mix of Marathi and English, made purposely to send a clear message to the Sena, which claims to champion the cause of sons of soil.

Mr. Kasuri chose not to talk about the Monday morning's incident. Instead he had words of advice for Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "I have not interacted with Mr. Modi much, but he was voted in on the development agenda. Internal harmony and peace on border will ensure more foreign investment in India to fulfil that promise. Development will happen if the country has genuine peace," he said.

Sudheendra Kulkarni presenting a spinning wheel to the former Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri in Mumbai on Monday. – PHOTO: VIVEK BENDRE

Thackeray backed Sushma

Nistula Hebbar

NEW DELHI: The alliance between the BJP and the Shiv Sena when Bal Thackeray was alive was very different from what it is now. The BJP was very much a junior partner and Mahajan and Munde were its main facilitators.

When it came to making a choice among BJP leaders for the NDA's prime ministerial candidate, Sena's Balasaheb Thackeray preferred Sushma Swaraj to Narendra Modi, who he felt was a difficult customer.

That was not forgotten by Mr. Modi. To add insult to injury, the BJP did well enough to form a government on its own, its later accommodation of the Shiv Sena more of a practical acceptance than an alliance of equals.

Since then, whether it is the meat ban issue, or editorials in the Sena mouthpiece *Saamna* extolling the former Prime Minister, Manmohan Singh's achievements in contrast to Mr. Modi, the allies have been frenemies at best.

'I wanted to pay tribute to Mumbai'

Satish Nandgaonkar

MUMBAI: Former Pakistani Foreign Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri said here on Monday that he was saddened by the blackening of Sudheendra Kulkarni, chairman of the Observer Research Foundation. "I have come to Mumbai because this is an inclusive city where my father completed his law degree, and I want to pay my tribute to the city. I recognise the right of Shiv Sena to protest as long as it is done in a peaceful manner," he said.

Dileep Padgaonkar, senior journalist and former Kashmir interlocutor, condemned the incident as a sign of growing intolerance.

Political commentator Kumar Ketkar saw the attack as a sign of frustration of the Shiv Sena. "It is a well-perfected Shiv Sena-style protest to create ruckus, get into headlines, tell its followers that it exists with all its militancy, and then quietly place the tail between the legs," Mr. Ketkar said.

Journalist-commentator Nikhil Wagle congratulated Mr. Kulkarni for not succumbing to Sena 'hooliganism.'

India's image and foreign policy at stake: diplomats

National Bureau

NEW DELHI: Indian diplomats reacted with disappointment to the Shiv Sena's threats and ink-protest against the former Pakistani Foreign Minister, Khurshid Kasuri's book launch in Mumbai.

While some responded with references to the "idea of India" being hurt, others worried that India's image and foreign policy could be overshadowed by such incidents. "There have been a string of events that are tarnishing India's image," says the former Ambassador, Neelam Deo, co-founder of the Mumbai-based think tank Gateway House.

Referring to the protests by the Shiv Sena that forced Pakistani singer Ghulam Ali to cancel his concerts in Mumbai and Pune last week, Ms. Deo told *The Hindu* that such events were disappointing to liberals outside India as well. "Let's remember that there are many in Pakistan and neighbouring countries who have seen India as a democratic tolerant country to aspire to. That kind of moral image is being risked today."

On Twitter, the former Foreign Secretary, Nirupama Rao, based in Bengaluru, defended herself after she tweeted: "Where is my India? Anguished and ashamed. I am sure Gandhiji is weeping. Tears in Heaven." When she was questioned by others on the social media network for taking a pacifist stand, Ms. Rao, who has been a veteran of several rounds of tough negotiations with Pakistan in the past, wrote: "Let us be a grown-up nation. Let us put away intolerance. Cry, the beloved country."

"Regrettable, unfortunate and condemnable," is how former special envoy Satinder Lambah described the attack.

Asked why leading diplomatic thinkers had been reacting publicly to the events of the last few weeks, which was out of step with the past, the former Ambassador, K.C. Singh, told *The Hindu* that it was a question of the gap between India's image and the reality.

"I think it is of concern to all-well thinking people in the country, not just diplomats, that this sort of incident ill goes with the image PM Modi is promoting abroad, and even could overshadow it," he said.

"Considering the PM was elected on the vision of a progressive inclusive aspirational 21st-century India, the question we are asking is why he doesn't challenge the rhetoric and actions of his allies and Sangh Parivar fringes?"

> **"Where is my India? Anguished and ashamed. I am sure Gandhiji is weeping tears in heaven**
> — NIRUPAMA RAO

> **"I think it is of concern to all well-thinking people in the country, not just diplomats, that this sort of incident goes with the image PM Modi is promoting abroad, and even could overshadow it**
> — K.C. SINGH

> **"There have been a string of events that are tarnishing India's image**
> — NEELAM DEO

Competitive intolerance: Brinda

Special Correspondent

CHENNAI: Monday's ink-throwing on Sudheendra Kulkarni, who organised the launch of a book authored by former Pakistan Minister Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri, is an act of competitive intolerance, Communist Party of India (Marxist) Polit Bureau member Brinda Karat has said.

She questioned the Maharashtra government's silence. A book launch function was a perfectly democratic platform. "If the Shiv Sena can dare to try and prevent it by actual physical attack, it is precisely because the Fadnavis government is giving respect to those who are intolerant..."

The storied life of Sudheendra Kulkarni

Nistulla Hebbar

NEW DELHI: If a life were to be viewed episodically, then what happened on Monday with Sudheendhra Kulkarni, erstwhile speech writer to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, can be considered a cliff-hanger of a season finale.

From a card-carrying Marxist in his days at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay, to the man who finessed senior BJP leader L.K. Advani's messaging from atop the Ram Rath during the Ayodhya movement in the early 1990s, to finally being the India-Pakistan peacenik smeared with black paint by an intolerant Shiv Sena, Mr. Kulkarni remains a man difficult to define.

The Hindu spoke to a few of Mr. Kulkarni's colleagues in the Vajpayee PMO and all of them said his veering from Marxism to the Hindutva cause was something they never got a fix on. Mr. Kulkarni himself describes it thus: "I realised very late in my life that Marxist ideology is not suitable in India. In fact, I would say it is unsuitable for any corner in the world." While his rise from a columnist for *Blitz* in Mumbai to a close aide of former Prime Minister Vajpayee is well known, what is not known is his chequered relationship with the BJP after the party lost the polls in 2004. "At some point during that election, Kulkarni was convinced that only a Right of Centre politics and an accommodation with the country's minorities could result in a full majority BJP government at the Centre," said a former aide of Mr. Vajpayee.

To reinvent the person of former Deputy Prime Minister L.K. Advani, from a hawkish Hindutvavadi to a leader with expansive appeal like Mr. Vajpayee, a trip to Pakistan in 2005 was undertaken, where Mr. Advani proceeded to anoint the country's founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah as a secular thinker.

"Advaniji paid a heavy price for the Jinnah episode," said a senior BJP leader. Nevertheless, Mr. Kulkarni continued to enjoy Mr. Advani's confidence and, in 2008, engineered the "cash for votes scam" where it was sought to be proven that members of Parliament were being offered cash to vote to save the UPA government during the trust vote in July.

This is against democracy: Advani

National Bureau

NEW DELHI: The former Deputy Prime Minister, L.K. Advani, on Monday condemned the attack on his erstwhile aide Sudheendra Kulkarni, allegedly by Shiv Sena activists in Mumbai over organising a book release function for the former Pakistan Foreign Minister, Khurshid Mahmud Kasuri.

"I strongly condemn whosoever has done this," said Mr. Advani.

"Of late, we have seen an increase in cases of intolerance. This is against democracy."

Significantly, Mr. Advani had, on the 40th anniversary of the Emergency in June, said conditions that could give rise to another Emergency continued to prevail in India today.

Indian Taliban

The Aam Aadmi Party termed the Shiv Sena "the Indian Taliban."

"After Ghulam Ali, it is Sudheendra Kulkarni," said party leader Dr. Kumar Vishwas, a poet himself. "Interestingly, he belongs to the BJP and is known to be a close aide of L.K. Advani. If the BJP cannot even protect its own people, there is little hope that they can safeguard the lives of [ordinary] citizens."

The party demanded that FIRs be registered against the offending leaders.

Misleading ad on blood still on air

Vidya Krishnan

NEW DELHI: As the blood bag runs out, a doctor is seen haggling on the phone for more units of A blood group. He concludes the call by saying: *19-20 ka farak hai. A nahin toh AB de do.* There is hardly any difference. If you don't have A blood type, give AB type.

This advertisement by Carwale.com, a platform with a consolidated used car inventory for prospective buyers, is now at the heart of a tussle between the company and the Health Ministry.

The statement of using A or AB blood type interchangeably, according to the Ministry, is adding to the myth surrounding blood donations.

As per the Indian laws, human blood is treated as a 'drug' under the Drugs & Cosmetics (D&C) Act. During the HIV/AIDS crisis, the Indian government made it mandatory for any donated blood to be tested for HIV 1&2 antibodies, giving the Blood Safety Programme to the National AIDS Control Organization (NACO).

The NACO has written to the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI), a self-regulatory body, to have that advertisement pulled off air as it does not meet the ASCI's standards of honest representations, said an official in the Ministry.

The official said: "The ASCI has upheld the judgment but the advertisement is yet to be pulled off air. We are following it up with relevant authorities. There are too many inaccuracies surrounding the donation and use of blood components in India. Misinformed advertisements are the last thing we need at this point."

ASCI secretary-general Shweta Purandare said a decision on the complaint had not been taken yet. "We usually do not speak about individual complaints. In this case, we haven't conveyed our final decision to the Ministry."

Earlier this year, the ASCI's Consumer Complaint Council upheld nearly 60 appeals to remove health and personal care products advertisements on the grounds of being "either misleading or false or not adequately/scientifically substantiated and hence violating the ASCI's Code."

In July 2011, advertisements for deodorants — by Axe, Set Wet Style & Zatak — were pulled off air for being derogatory to women.

CONSUMER ISN'T KING

Many companies have run into trouble with the authorities over their alleged misleading advertisements

- **Colgate-Palmolive (India):** For the claim that the toothpaste could lead to **'Rebuilding of Enamel'**
- **Dr Batra's hair vitalising serum:** For the claim that the product **reduced hair fall and stimulated hair growth**
- **VLCC skin care and shape up kit:** For claiming that the **user could lose up to two kilograms**
- **Lotus Herbals:** For claiming that **their serum and moisturiser** could make the user **two times fairer and had "brightening powers"**

BLOOD DONATION AND POLICY

- Indians are **eligible to donate blood** from the age of **18 years**
- In **1997,** the Supreme Court **banned paid donations**
- In **2002,** the government adopted the **National Blood Policy** to develop a system **to ensure adequate and safe blood supply**
- India has **2,545 blood banks** of which **1,549 are in the private sector**

India firmly behind Palestine: Pranab

Stanly Johny

RAMALLAH: President Pranab Mukherjee on Monday held talks with his Palestinian counterpart Mahmoud Abbas in Ramallah where he reiterated India's economic and political support for the Palestinians, and announced projects for capacity building in Gaza and West Bank.

The President has handed over a cheque of $5 million to the Palestinian government as a budgetary support, Anil Wadhwa, Secretary East at the External Affairs Ministry, told the accompanying media delegation after high-level talks.

Both countries have also announced five projects worth $17.79 million aimed at capacity building in the Palestinian territories. The projects include a $12-million techno park, a $4.5 million Palestine Institute for Diplomacy and a $1 million India-Palestine Centre for Excellence in Gaza.

Mr. Mukherjee has arrived in Ramallah at a time when clashes between Palestinians and Israeli security forces are on the rise. On Monday, two Palestinians were shot dead after they carried out stabbing attacks against Israeli police in Jerusalem. On Saturday, an Israeli airstrike in the Gaza strip, which is under the control of the Islamist Hamas, had killed a pregnant Palestinian woman and her three-year old daughter.

Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas welcomes President Pranab Mukherjee to the West Bank city of Ramallah on Monday. PHOTO: AP

Reflecting the complicated security situation, the President and his entourage drove from the Ben-Gurion airport in Tel Aviv to the Bitunia checkpoint which divides Israel from Palestine. The President and members of the delegation had to change from Israeli vehicles to those arranged by Palestine.

In Ramallah, Mr. Mukherjee visited the Yasser Arafat mausoleum, and paid floral tribute to the late Palestinian leader.

During the talks, Mr. Mukherjee reiterated India's position that it supports a peaceful solution to the Israeli-Palestinian crisis based on negotiations and UN Security Council resolutions. Mr. Wadhwa said India would continue to support resolution on the formation of a Palestinian state based on the 1967 border at the UN.

Later in the day, at a state banquet, Mr. Mukherjee invited Mr. Abbas to India. "I would like to invite Your Excellency to visit India at a mutually convenient time. It would be an honour to receive him in Delhi," he said.

He said India's empathy with the Palestinian cause and its support for the Palestinian people has become an "integral part" of the country's foreign policy.

'38 Indians missing in Iraq are alive'

RAMALLAH: 38 Indians missing in Iraq for several months are alive, according to Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, who, however, provided no evidence to back up the claim.

Mr. Abbas told President Pranab Mukherjee that the missing Indians are safe, according to an Indian spokesman who said that no supporting evidence was provided. There has been speculation that the Indians are being held in captivity by IS in the Mosul region of Iraq. — PTI

Textiles Ministry alleges large-scale import of cheap jute bags

Devesh K. Pandey

NEW DELHI: The Union Textiles Ministry has unearthed a major racket in large-scale import of cheap jute bags from Nepal and Bangladesh by Indian manufacturers, many of whom were supplying these to government agencies after putting their own seals.

The Jute Packaging Materials (Compulsory Use in Packing Commodities) Act, 1987, mandates that jute bags supplied to government agencies for packaging foodgrains and sugar under the Public Distribution System (PDS) must be manufactured by the supplier, using only domestically produced raw jute.

But with many Indian manufacturers surreptitiously supplying cheap imported jute bags, their prices have plummeted in the domestic market, adversely affecting lakhs of farmers and jute mill workers across the country. The current government procurement price is Rs.43 a bag, while the imported ones cost Rs.30-35 in the open market.

"An estimated two lakh bales (each containing 500 bags) are imported every year," said a senior government official.

> Cheap imported bags are sold as Indian to govt. agencies for a higher procurement price

On Monday, *The Hindu* had reported a scam involving alleged pilferage, illegal sale and recycling of new bags supplied to State government agencies, which is currently being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation.

RTI activist Gouri Shankar Jain said suppliers also produced fake raw jute procurement bills to conceal the sale of imported bags to the government. "Several manufacturers under-report the number of imported bags, pushing the unreported lot into the PDS system. Through over-invoicing, they inflate outgoing remittances and round-trip the rest of the amount through the hawala channel. It is nothing but black money," he said.

Many manufacturers, particularly those based in Bihar, have also set up mills in Nepal, it is suspected. Mills in Nepal procure raw jute from India, manufacture bags and sell them to clients in India.

Over the past few years, Ministry sources said the jute mafia has used individuals to import bags from Nepal without detection. "They recruited individual players for as low as Rs.5,000 a month. First they obtained an importer-exporter code for the agents from the Directorate General of Foreign Trade offices. Then they got them registered with the Jute Commissioner's Office to facilitate import of the bags from Nepal," said another official.

After the fraud was detected, the Jute Commissioner's Office cancelled over 300 such registrations last month and set new terms and conditions for new registrations. Now, applicants are required to file monthly returns on imports and sales. The subsequent buyers also have to furnish the necessary details.

Raw jute traders and mill workers in different parts of the country have been alleging that several manufacturers, who draw subsidies from the government and get easy loans, have not been clearing their dues running into hundreds of crores. Last year, workers at a Kanpur mill got a police case registered against the owners, alleging that while the latter had shut the mill, they were still supplying jute to government agencies. In another instance, the RTI activist said, jute traders in West Bengal filed a complaint with Union Textiles Minister Santosh Kumar Gangwar, accusing an owner of shutting down his mill and disposing of the machinery without clearing dues of over Rs.100 crore.

Woman pushed off train

BERHAMPUR (WEST BENGAL): A woman passenger was pushed off a running train allegedly by a GRP constable following an altercation with her husband, police said on Monday. The woman, Nesa Giri, was travelling with her husband, Ramesh Giri, in the Teesta-Torsa Express to NJP station in Darjeeling from Azimganj station in Murshidabad. - PTI

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GEOPOLITICAL GAMES

NEW DELHI DOES A BALANCING ACT WITH EXERCISES IN KUNMING AND BAY OF BENGAL

India, China begin counter-terrorism drills

Atul Aneja

India's attempt to keep China engaged in a military-cooperation cycle while it bolsters defence ties with the United States and Japan is becoming strikingly illustrated this week with the joint counter-terror drills in Kunming, as well as the Malabar-2015 naval exercises in the Bay of Bengal.

The joint Hand-in-Hand counter-terrorism exercises between India and China started on Monday, following the arrival of 175 personnel from the Naga Regiment of the Eastern Command in Kunming. An equal number of Chinese personnel from the Chengdu-based 14 Corps are participating in the manoeuvres whose aim is "to develop joint operating capability, share useful experience in counter-terrorism operations and to promote friendly exchanges between the armies of India and China."

This year's annual exercise kicked off with addresses at Kunming's Dabanqiao Training Base by Lieutenant-General Surinder Singh, Head of Observers Delegation, and Ashok K. Kantha, India's Ambassador to China, and Lieutenant-General Zhou Xiaozhou from China. While these exercises will continue till October 22, the much larger Malabar-2015 naval drills, with the U.S. and Japan will commence later this week in the Bay of Bengal.

Head of the Indian Observer Delegation, Lt. Gen. Surinder Singh, his Chinese counterpart Lt. Gen. Zhou Xiaozhou and Indian Ambassador Ashok K. Kantha at the commencement of India-China joint exercise at the Kunming Military Academy in Yunnan, China. – PHOTO: PTI

Beijing's concerns

In view of the growing tensions with Japan, the Chinese are focusing on the format of this exercise to gauge whether the joint India-U.S. exercises are morphing into a trilateral framework with Tokyo as a permanent participant. If that happens, it will re-open the question whether Indian foreign policy is now shifting gears towards an active support for the U.S.-led "Asia-Pivot."

The Chinese perceive President Barack Obama's "Asia Pivot" or "rebalance" doctrine as a thinly veiled attempt aimed at China's containment. Japan, South Korea and Australia are firm allies in this enterprise, but New Delhi has so far carefully avoided in bracketing itself with the coalition, notwithstanding the adoption of a higher amplitude in expressing its concerns in the South China Sea.

Monitoring Malabar 2015

Analysts say that China's sharper focus on the Malabar 2015 can be attributed to the first meeting of the Foreign Ministers of India, U.S., and Japan in New York last month where the exercise was discussed, according to a media note circulated by the U.S. State Department. The statement also noted the "growing convergence" of the three countries in the Indo-Pacific region, referring to the sea-space on either side of the strategic Strait of Malacca, which is the lifeline of East-West trade.

'Asian century'

Regarding the Kunming exercise, a write-up in the *Global Times,* a state-run tabloid, pointed out at that China and India "have agreed to enhance their military cooperation, and to boost people-to-people exchanges." It noted that New Delhi has also proposed joint forays in counter-terrorism, along with combating smuggling by sea and anti-piracy operations. The article signalled India and China's shared interest in what has been described as an emerging new world order centred around the Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa (BRICS) grouping.

"A grander mission is that as representatives of emerging economies and members of the BRICS countries, both Beijing and New Delhi should boost their cooperation while improving themselves, in order to jointly create an Asian century, make breakthroughs in the current financial order, and forge a new global economic order that is more in line with emerging markets' interests," the daily observed.

Not worried about Malabar drills: Beijing

National Bureau

NEW DELHI: While the Indian Army was conducting joint counter-terror drills with the Chinese in Kunming, the navies of U.S. and India and the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force began interactions in the run up to Exercise Malabar 2015 in the Bay of Bengal. Ten ships – four of U.S., five from India and one from Japan – are participating in the exercise that is being closely watched by China.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying reacted sharply when asked about the exercise on Monday: "You mentioned India is having naval exercises with U.S. and Japan and you ask whether China is concerned. I think you are thinking too much...Everyday a lot of activities take place around the world. We cannot connect every activity with China."

"We are not that fragile and we are having sound relationship with both India and the U.S. We hope that relevant activities will contribute to the regional stability they will contribute more positive energy for that," she added.

The motley army exercise between India and China pales in front of the scale and size of the naval drills involving the three countries, where the U.S. is fielding a massive aircraft carrier with 90 fighters, a nuclear submarine, and two other warships and a P-8A Poseidon maritime surveillance aircraft. The Indian side is fielding a Rajput class destroyer, two other ships, a conventional submarine and a P-8I maritime surveillance aircraft. Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force is deploying an Akizuki-class guided missile destroyer.

The exercise will begin on October 16 in full swing after the ships are in the high seas, and will go on for four days.

In 2007, when the Malabar exercise featured countries other than just India and U.S., China raised objections.

Nepal Prime Minister forms Cabinet

K.P. Sharma Oli (right) being sworn in as Nepal Prime Minister by President Ram Baran Yadav as outgoing Prime Minister Sushil Koirala (second from left) looks on in Kathmandu on Monday. – PHOTO: AFP

KATHMANDU: Veteran Communist leader K.P. Sharma Oli was on Monday sworn in as Nepal's 38th Prime Minister, a day after he was elected in Parliament with support from smaller parties, even as the country is grappling with political unrest over the new Constitution.

Mr. Oli, 63, was administered the oath of office and secrecy by President Ram Baran Yadav at his official residence here.

He also has formed a small Cabinet incorporating two Deputy Prime Ministers and five ministers as he chaired his first Cabinet meeting here.

Bijay Kumar Gachhadar and Kamal Thapa were sworn in as Deputy Prime Ministers. The two are said to have been rewarded for their support to Mr. Oli in Parliament.

Mr. Gachhadar, the president of Madhesi Peoples Rights Forum Democratic, a key Madhesi party, has been allocated with the portfolio of Physical Planning and Transport while Mr. Thapa, president of Rastriya Prajatantra Party-Nepal received the portfolio of Foreign Affairs.

The five other ministers included in Oli's cabinet are Agni Kharel, Satya Narayan Mandal, Som Pandey, Haribol Gajurel and Ram Kumar Subba.

Pillayan arrested in murder case

T. Ramakrishnan

COLOMBO: Former Chief Minister of Sri Lanka's Eastern Province, Sivanesathurai Chandrakanthan, popularly known as Pillayan, has been arrested in connection with the assassination of TNA Member of Parliament Joseph Pararajasingham in December 2005.

Mr. Pararajasingham was shot dead when he was attending a Christmas mass in Batticaloa.

Police department spokesperson Ruwan Gunasekara told *The Hindu*: "Around 5 p.m. on Sunday, he came to the CID office in Colombo along with his lawyer and surrendered himself before the authorities. He was subsequently arrested."

Two others were also taken into custody, Mr. Gunasekara added.

British economist Angus Deaton wins Nobel for studies on income, poverty

Binyamin Appelbaum

NEW YORK: Professor Angus Deaton, a British economist, was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Science on Monday for improving the accuracy of basic economic gauges, including measures of income, poverty and consumption.

Prof. Deaton, 69, of Princeton, is best known for his insight that economic averages such as measures of national income could be misleading, because they concealed important variations among individuals.

Prof. Deaton was born in Scotland, and is a British and U.S. citizen. Speaking by phone at the news conference held to announce the prize on Monday, he said the message of his work was mostly optimistic.

"My general message is, my measurements tend to show that things are getting better, but there is a lot of work still to be done," he said. Prof. Deaton said he was "pretty sleepy" when he got the call telling him that he had won. "I was surprised and delighted," he said. "It was wonderful to hear the voices of my friends on the committee."

Prof. Deaton's name has long appeared on lists of likely candidates for the economics prize. He was an early contributor to one of the defining trends in modern economics: the emphasis on building models of broad economic trends from the ground up, using data about individual behaviour rather than relying on averages. He then used this carefully constructed data to address large questions about wealth, health and well-being.

"He is the one who has brought very careful statistical analysis of household choices into development economics," said Dani Rodrik, a professor of international political economy at Harvard.

But Prof. Rodrik emphasised that the Nobel laureate's work avoided sweeping conclusions. — **New York Times News Service**

His research focussed on India

Puja Mehra

NEW DELHI: "My current research focuses on the determinants of health in rich and poor countries, as well as on the measurement of poverty in India and around the world," declares the profile page of Prof. Angus Deaton, the winner of the 2015 Nobel Prize for Economics, who is the Dwight D. Eisenhower Professor of Economics and International Affairs at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs and the Economics Department at Princeton University.

Prof. Deaton is best known for his work on health, well being, and economic development. Measuring poverty is often based on snapshot surveys of income levels, but Prof. Deaton is lauded for adopting groups or cohorts of the population and examining the improvements, or not, in their well- being.

Much of his research concerns the trickledown theory and seeks to answer the question: why there has been so much growth in the world, and so little poverty reduction. For instance, he has written "the economic reforms of the early 1990s in India were followed by rates of economic growth that were high by historical standards. The effects on poverty remain controversial."

The answer to this puzzle, he says, lies in deep contradictions between the data sources used to measure growth and those used to measure poverty. "The history of poverty lines in India is a case study in the interaction of science and politics, with political discussions often claiming a scientific basis, sometimes with justification, more often without," he says in *Data and Dogma: The Great Indian Poverty Debate* that he co-authored with Valerie Kozel, who worked at the World Bank.

Professor Angus Deaton is best known for his work on health, well being, and economic development. – PHOTO: THE NEW YORK TIMES

In an article he wrote for *The Hindu* last year, Prof. Deaton rejected most of the recommendations of the panel on poverty headed by former Reserve Bank Governor C. Rangarajan except for the one seeking that entitlement programmes in India be delinked from the poverty line and urged giving up of the BPL-targeting.

Valuable work

"Delighted to hear Prof. Deaton's been awarded the Nobel ... his work brought out rigour and organised thinking to the questions of consumption in India and remains valuable to our understanding of poverty," National Institute of Public Finance and Policy Director and member of the task force Prime Minister Modi has set up on poverty, Rathin Roy, told *The Hindu.*

To design economic policy that promotes welfare and reduces poverty, we must first understand individual consumption choices, said the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said on Monday. "More than anyone else, Angus Deaton has enhanced this understanding. By linking detailed individual choices and aggregate outcomes, his research has helped transform the fields of microeconomics, macroeconomics, and development economics."

His recent work also covers assessment of the levels of happiness. Along with Daniel Kahneman, a psychologist who won the Nobel memorial prize in economics, he concluded that income is better at buying some forms of happiness than others. Prof. Deaton's Nobel is recognition of the latest revolution in economics that lays emphasis on empirical studies, especially of data on individuals.

'Far-reaching implications'

Development economist Jean Dreze called Prof. Deaton "not only a brilliant economist but also a formidable scholar and a great writer."

"He has shown how intelligent use of survey data can illuminate momentous issues of human welfare and contribute to public reasoning," Prof. Dreze said, adding: "Deaton's work has important implications not only for the substance of economic policy in India, but also for the process of policy-making. On the substance, his work calls for significant rethinking of policy priorities, with much greater attention to the social sector in particular. On the process, Angus Deaton is very committed to the idea that public policy should be an outcome of democratic practice, as opposed, say, to professional expertise or randomised controlled trials. That, again, has significant implications since the Indian government is constantly trying to insulate economic policy from public debate."

(*Additional reporting by Special Correspondent*)

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LIMITED
CIN- U40102RJ2000SGC016484 (A Govt. of Rajasthan Undertaking)
KOTA SUPER THERMAL POWER STATION, KOTA (RAJASTHAN)
Ph. No. 0744-2371134/2370189/ Fax No. 0744-2370061/2370054 E-Mail- cektps@gmail.com
TENDER NOTICE
Sealed tenders are invited for the following work contracts: **1. TN-4200:** Repair / reconditioning of coal Mills & pulverizing fuel piping components and other associated works **2. TN-4201:** Work of leakage attend by On-Line sealing technique in Turbine & Boiler area **3. TN-4202:** Testing and painting of Hydrogen Gas cylinders **4. TN-4203:** Routine & breakdown maintenance of pumps of potable water supply and sewage water treatment **5. TN-4204:** Cleaning and upkeeping of common auxiliary area **6. TN-4205:** Maitenance work of HT/LT motors and other associated works in CHP area **7. TN-4206:** O&M of Central AC plant, Evaporating cooling plant, Package air conditioners, Hydrogen gas dryers & Fan coil units etc. **8. TN-4208:** Repairing & reconditioning of condensers installed in Air Conditioning Plant **9. TN-4209:** Routine & Breakdown maintenance of CW system **10. TN-4210:** Maintenance works of Protection System, AVR and Excitation System **11. TN-4213:** Cleaning & sweeping of road, road berms and storm water drains, cleaning of back lanes, sewer line, non residential buildings and public utility buildings.
Note:-Details are available on website www.rvunl.com and www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in. Any type of corrigendum in tenders shall be published on above websites only.
Raj.samwad/C/15/3494 RVUN/PR 2630/2015 CHIEF ENGINEER (KSTPS)

HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Enterprise)
VISAKH REFINERY, POST BOX NO.:15, MALKAPURAM, VISAKHAPATNAM - 530 011. (A.P.)
Tel: 0891-2894331, 2894329, Fax: 0891-2577637
TENDER NOTICE (GLOBAL)
e-offers are invited under 3 bid e-Tender system [EMD & Tender Fee (by POST) + Pre-qualification bid, Part I (in eProc site) + Unpriced techno-commercial bid Part II (in eProc site) + Priced bid Part III (in eProc site)] from the eligible bidders, for below given tender at HPCL - Visakh Refinery:
TENDER NO. 15000216-ND-46009, TITLE: CLEAN AGENT FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM MS BLOCK, TENDER FEE: For Indian Bidder: INR 10,000/- For Foreign Bidder: US$ 153, EMD AMOUNT: INR 7,36000/- (For Indian Bidders), USD 11,231 (For Foreign Bidders), Due date for submission of offers (Part I, II & III in eProc as per NIT) & for receipt of Tender Fees & EMD (by post as per NIT): 30.10.2015 @15.00 Hrs (IST)
Please visit our websites http://www.hindustanpetroleum.com or https://etender.hpcl.co.in for the detailed NIT & tender. Bidders are required to submit their e-offers @https://etender.hpcl.co.in only. All updates regarding Pre-bid meeting, revisions, clarifications, corrigenda, addenda, time extensions etc. to the tender will be hosted on HPCL website (www.hindustanpetroleum.com) only. Bidders should regularly visit this website to keep themselves updated.
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A.P. STATE HOUSING CORPORATION LTD.
H.NO.3-6-184, ST.NO.17, HIMAYATHNAGAR, HYDERABAD-500029.
Notice Inviting Tender
Rc.No.0740/E&P/DEE(U&T)/Tech.Committee/Pre-fab/2015, Date:10.10.2015
Tender is invited from reputed, experienced, technically and financially sound companies/firms/Contracotrs/Institutions/Individuals/ Developers for award of work on design & built basis for construction of 3408 houses using pre-fab/alternate emerging technologies in Vishakhapatnam, Vizianagaram, Srikakulam districts of Andhra Pradesh.
Tender Document can be downloaded from the APSHCL website i.e., aphousing.cgg.gov.in, from 12.10.2015. For further details **Contact No. 040-23228930, 23261317. Mobile: +917093930011 & email: eeurban@apshcl.gov.in / apcehousing@gmail.com / snbhushan@gmail.com**
Sd/- 10.10.2015
CHIEF ENGINEER

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER (NH) PWD RAJASTHAN JAIPUR
No.SE/NH/NIT/2015-16/42/D- Dated .10.2015
Corrigendum No. 01/2015-16
NIT No. 5/2015-16
NIT No. 5/2015-16 was issued by this office vide letter No. SE/NH/tender/42/2014-15/D-1215 dated 29.09.2015. Now following corrigendum is hereby being issued:-

S.No. of work of the NIT	Reference	Previously written	Now may be read as
3	Office for receipt of tender	Additional Chief Engineer PWD, **Zone-II Jaipur**	Additional Chief Engineer **PWD, Zone-Bharatpur**
4	Name of work	Widening of existing intermediate lane/2 lane paved shoulder between km 2/800 to 30/0 on NH-89 (Ajmer-Pushkar section) in Rajasthan	Widening of existing intermediate lane/2 lane ***to 2 lane with*** paved shoulder between km 2/800 to 30/0 on NH-89 (Ajmer-Pushkar section) in Rajasthan
	Office for receipt of tender	Additional Chief Engineer PWD, Zone Jodhpur	***Additional Chief Engineer PWD, Zone Ajmer***

Other terms and conditions of NIT shall remain the same as before.
(Rajmal Jain)
Chief Engineer (NH),
PWD, Rajasthan, Jaipur

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT NOTICE INVITING e-TENDERING
The Executive Engineer, Hyderabad Central Division-III, CPWD, Hyderabad invites on behalf of President of India online item rate bids for the following work(s):-
1. NIT No.44/15-16/HCD-III/HYD (SE's No.13/NIT/SE/HCC-I/2015-16) (2nd Call), Name of work: Construction of 13 Nos. annex shafts to the existing buildings in the Campus for Providing 13 passengers lifts at University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad. Estimated Cost: **Rs.2,32,70,803/-,** Earnest Money: **Rs.4,65,416/-,** Period of completion: **240 Days.** Last time and date of submission of bid: **Up to 15:00 Hours on 26.10.2015.**
The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the website **www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD.** The Press Notice is also available on **www.eprocure.gov.in**
Sd/- Executive Engineer

SUCHITWA MISSION
Local Self Government Department
Government of Kerala
suchitwamission@gmail.com
No.3242/G/2015/SM Dated /10/2015
RFP INVITED FOR THE SELECTION OF PUBLIC RELATIONS AND ACTIVATION AGENCY
Suchitwa Mission intends to engage a professional PR and Activation Agency that will undertake various services for fulfilling the objectives of the Mission. Interested parties may submit their proposal (Hard Copy) by post to Executive Director, Suchitwa Mission on or before 31st October 2015, 3 PM.
RFP copy with all details may be downloaded from the website: www.sanitation.kerala.gov.in
Sd/-
Executive Director

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS)
THROUGH
GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
Roads and Buildings Department (National Highways)
NATIONAL COMPETITIVE BIDDING
Notice Inviting from eligible bidder for the work taken up in the EPC Mode details in the table below
SE/R&B/NH ATP NIT. No.25/EPC/AEE1/2015-16, Dt. 05-10-2015
Package No. :25, **Name of work:** Consultancy services for Feasibility Study, Detailed project report, including conducting site investigation, sub soil exploration and testing, preparation of plans, designs, land plan schedules, preparation of GAD, EPC Schedules from Km 425/0 to 487/693 of Gooty - Tadipatri - Bondaladinne of NH - 67 in the state of Andhra Pradesh. (2nd Call)
1. Issue of Tender document From : 15-10-2015 15.00 Hrs, (2) Issue of Tender Document to : 16-11-2015, 15.00 Hrs, (3) Pre-Bid Conference : 02-11-2015, 11.00 Hrs, (4) Tender Closing date and Time : 16-11-2015, 17.00 Hrs, (5) Date of Submission of hard copies : 16-11-2015, 17.00 Hrs, (6) Opening of technical bids on : 17-11-2015 12.00 hrs.
In - O/o Chief Engineer (R&B), NH & CRF Wing, Erramanzil, Hydeabad
Detailed NIT Bid Documents (Corrigendum / Addendum if any) are available at Tender portal of C1 India through website www.morth.eproc.in
Sd/- Sri K. Venu Gopal Reddy, Superintending Engineer (R&B) NH Circle, Sai Nagar, Anantapuramu - 515 001
DIPR 216PP/Cl, Dt. 12/10/15

NEYVELI LIGNITE CORPORATION LTD.
NAVRATNA - Government of India Enterprise
Registered Office : 'Neyveli House', No.135, Periyar EVR High Rd, Chennai - 600 010.
CORPORATE OFFICE : BLOCK-1, NEYVELI-607 801. TAMIL NADU
PROVEN VALUES. POWERFUL VISION CIN L93090TN1956GOI003507 website: www.nlcindia.com
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
Sealed bids in English (One Original and six identical copies) are invited by Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli for **Hiring of Crawler Mounted Shovels / Hydraulic Excavators, Backhoes, Dumpers for the Excavation and Transportation of 53 Lakh M^3 of Over Burden (OB) and 15 Lakh Tons of Lignite from the Southwest area of Mine II of Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Neyveli, Tamil Nadu in a period of 18 Months from the date of LOA.**
Tender No: CO/CONTS/00046C/MINE-II/OBR&LIG/2015, Dt.12.10.2015.
Bid Guarantee Amount: ₹ 27,00,000/-
Cost of tender documents: ₹ 20,000/-
Tender document sale period: 14.10.2015 to 11.11.2015
Last date& time for receipt of bids: 12.11.2015 Upto 14.30 Hrs. (IST)
Date & time of bid opening (Part-I): 12.11.2015 At 15.00 Hrs. (IST)
Pre bid conference: On 28.10.2015 at 11.00 Hrs. (IST)
FOR FURTHER DETAILS/CORRIGENDUM VISIT: www.nlcindia.com
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U. K. SINHA, CHAIRMAN, SEBI

SENSEX	12-10-15	26904	175 POINTS
	09-10-15	27079	
GOLD	12-10-15	26,870	170 Rs/10gm
	10-10-15	26,700	
RUPEE	12-10-15	64.75	0.01 Rs/$
	09-10-15	64.74	
BRENT OIL	12-10-15	51.08	1.55 $/bbl
	09-10-15	52.63	

SECOND QUARTER PERFORMANCE

DESPITE WITNESSING A STRONG Q2, IT HAS LOWERED ITS REVENUE GUIDANCE FOR THE FULL YEAR IN DOLLAR TERMS

Infosys beats market expectations

Pradeesh Chandran

Beating expectations of the market, India's second largest IT exporter Infosys reported robust numbers for the second quarter ended September 30, 2015.

Fuelled by strong client spending and large deal wins, the company clocked a net profit of Rs.3,398 crore, registering a growth of 9.8 per cent when compared with the same period a year-ago.

The total revenue for the July-September period stood at Rs.15, 635 crore, registering a growth of 17.2 per cent against same period last year. On a quarterly basis, the net profit of Infosys grew 12.1 per cent and revenue grew 8.9 per cent respectively.

In dollar terms, the revenue stood at $2,392 million for the September quarter, reporting a y-o-y growth of 8.7 per cent and a sequential growth of 6 per cent. Net profit in dollar terms stood at $519 million, sequentially up 9.1 per cent and annually up by 1.6 per cent.

Commenting on the company's performance Vishal Sikka, CEO and MD, said: "The second quarter revenue performance was the best in the last 16 quarters. We are very happy about that. All aspects among segments and services did well for us."

Despite witnessing a strong Q2, Infosys has lowered its revenue guidance for the full year to 6.4-8.4 per cent from 7.2-9.2 per cent in dollar terms. However, in constant currency terms, it has maintained the guidance at 10-12 per cent.

The board of directors declared an interim dividend of Rs.10 per share

During the quarter, Infosys signed five large deals with a TCV (total contract value) of $983 million and added 82 new clients taking the total number of active clients to about 1,000. It also added 8,453 people taking its total headcount to 1.88 lakh as of September 30, 2015. The attrition rate for the said period was 14.1 per cent against 21.1 per cent same period last year. "We are comfortable with the current attrition rate and various measures taken by us in controlling the people leaving the company is gaining results," said U.B. Pravin Rao, COO, Infosys.

On a geographical basis, North America grew by 6.1 per cent sequentially, Europe grew by 8.3 sequentially, while India and rest of the world grew sequentially by 9.4 per cent and 0.8 per cent respectively.

All aspects among segments and services did well for us, says Infosys CEO and MD Vishal Sikka (right). Newly appointed Chief Financial Officer, M. D. Ranganath is also seen. - PHOTO: G.R.N. SOMASHEKAR

Infosys to hire 20,000 freshers

Special Correspondent

BENGALURU: Infosys on Monday said it was planning to hire around 20,000 from various campuses in the country. The company's fresh campus hire plan for the year is in line with what it had done last year.

Detailing the campus recruitment plans, U. B. Pravin Rao, COO, Infosys said: "This number would be similar number what we have done last year."

Further the company said, it would increase the number of interns it hires every year and also has increased the stipend for interns from Rs.4,000 to Rs.10,000.

"We want to hire more people as interns and want them to continue to be part of us. We believe that the increase in stipend will also help them to have a long term career with us," added Mr. Rao.

For the fresh campus hires, the company provides a training of 5-6 months and gives an annual salary package of Rs.3.25 lakh.

Industrial output up 6.4% in Aug. CPI inflation at 4.4% in September

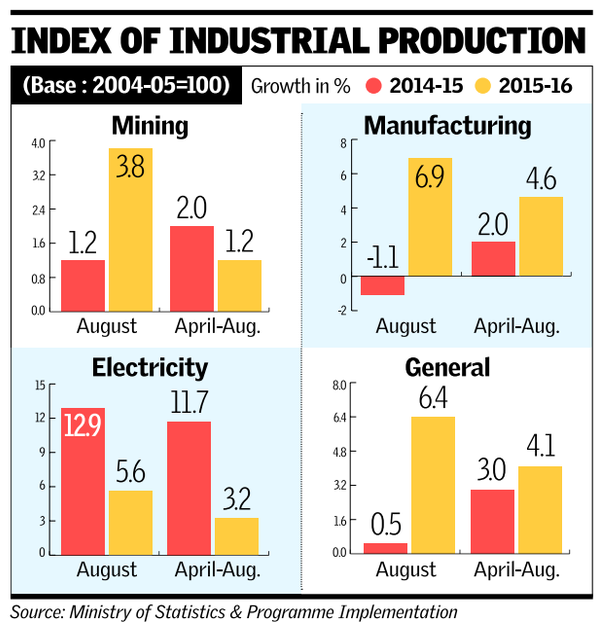
TCA Sharad Raghavan

NEW DELHI: Growth in retail inflation accelerated to 4.4 per cent in September following three months of deceleration. Consumer Price index inflation was 3.7 per cent in August. Industrial production, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production, grew a robust 6.4 per cent in August compared to 4.2 per cent in July. This is the highest growth in the IIP since October 2012.

"On the whole, these estimates put forward certain positive indications of growth revival, however, the policy makers need to continue with the proactive stance to support these developments," said Rana Kapoor, President, Assocham.

"The good performance of manufacturing, capital goods and consumer durables sector in particular seems to have resulted in the favourable development," Mr. Kapoor added.

The manufacturing sector grew 6.9 per cent in August compared to 4.6 per cent in July. While this is at variance with the private sector PMI data, which showed lower growth in August than in July, the growth of the electricity sector, which is one indicator of manufacturing activity, suggests that manufacturing is picking up.



Source: Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

The electricity sector grew by 5.6 per cent in August, the third consecutive month of accelerated growth. July saw the sector grow at only 3.5 per cent. The mining & quarrying sector also saw its growth pick up, to 3.8 per cent in August from 0.9 per cent in July.

By usage, the capital goods sector more than doubled its rate of growth, registering 21.8 per cent in August compared to 10.6 per cent in July. The consumer durables sector grew at 17 per cent in August, up from 10.3 per cent in July.

The pick-up in manufacturing combined with the consumer durables data suggests that, as confirmation of Finance Minister Arun Jaitley's repeated assertions, consumer demand is rising again. Food inflation in the CPI grew 4.3 per cent in September compared to 2.9 per cent in August. At the same time, the clothing & footwear category saw growth of 6 per cent in September compared to 0.4 per cent in August. These two sectors also serve as limited indicators of consumer demand.

Board appoints new CFO after Rajiv Bansal resigns

Special Correspondent

BENGALURU: In a surprise development, Infosys' Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Rajiv Bansal resigned from the services of the company. The board has appointed Ranganath D. Mavinakere, as the new CFO and Key Managerial Personnel effective October 12.

Mr. Mavinakere is presently the EVP and head of strategic operations and CEO's office. He has been associated with the company for over 15 years and is responsible for strategic planning, risk management, mergers & acquisitions and corporate marketing. He was also the Chief Risk Officer about five years.

"Typically, Infosys kind of companies, you don't retire as CFOs. I have been here for 16 years. I am 43, I have spent three years as CFO and 16 years in the company. I thought I needed to do something more exciting and challenging," said Rajiv Bansal, who was appointed as CFO in November 2012.

When asked about his new organisation, he said, "I have to respect the other company's judgement to announce. I can't announce it on my own."

Sensex down 175 points

Lalatendu Mishra

MUMBAI: Lower revenue guidance from Infosys and profit booking led key benchmark stock indices to close in the negative territory though the indices had opened at high levels. The S&P BSE Sensex closed with a loss of 175.40 points at 26904.11, down 0.65 per cent. Similarly, the CNX Nifty of the National Stock Exchange (NSE) closed at 8143.60, down 46.10 points.

"Initially, the bias was positive; however, announcement of quarterly result by IT major Infosys, capped the upside in index. Though the company posted better than expected numbers but factors like lower revenue guidance in dollar terms, CFO resignation and dip in volume growth, dented the sentiments and triggered profit taking," Jayant Manglik, President, Retail Distribution, Religare Securities said.

Rupee ends flat

The rupee on Monday closed at 64.75 against the dollar, down one paise against Friday's close of 64.74.

BRIEFLY

GOVERNMENT BONDS

FPIs put in bids worth Rs.17,266 cr

NEW DELHI: An auction of debt securities on Monday attracted bids of staggering Rs.17,266 crore from foreign investors — three times higher than securities put on offer. The auction was held at BSE's ebidXchange platform for allocation of Foreign Portfolio Investors investment limits in government debt securities worth Rs.5,600 crore saw bids for Rs 17,266 crore, as per the bourse. — PTI

NEW LUXURY HOTELS

Oberoi Group to manage projects in Doha

KOLKATA: The Oberoi Group has entered into management contracts for two new luxury properties in Qatar. This includes a 250-room luxury hotel and a 148-room serviced-apartment. Planning of these projects is under way and construction will commence early 2016 and get completed by around mid-2018. While the hotel is located in the West Bay area, the apartment is in Lusail, on Doha's outskirts. The projects are being sponsored by Qatar General Insurance and Reinsurance Company (SAQ). P.R.S. Oberoi, Executive Chairman, the Oberoi Group, said that it had been chosen by SAQ to assist in the design and management of these two projects. — Indrani Dutta

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m on October 12

Currencies	TT Buying	TT Selling
U.S. Dollar	64.55	64.87
Euro	73.41	73.79
Pound Sterling	99.13	99.65
Jap Yen (100 Units)	53.73	54.01
Chinese Yuan	10.19	10.27
Swiss Franc	67.15	67.50
Singapore Dollar	46.18	46.42
Australian Dollar	47.54	47.79
Canadian Dollar	49.90	50.16
Swedish Kroner	7.89	7.94
Danish Kroner	9.84	9.89
New Zealand Dollar	43.38	43.60
Hongkong Dollar	8.33	8.37
Malaysian Ringitt	15.52	15.73
Kuwaiti Dinar	213.44	215.21
UAE Dirham	17.57	17.66
Bahraini Dinar	169.86	173.11
Qatari Riyal	17.77	17.79
Saudi Riyal	17.24	17.29
Omani Riyal	167.19	168.90

Source: Indian Bank

Dell to buy EMC in $67 b deal

BENGALURU: Computer maker Dell Inc. said on Monday it had agreed to buy data storage company EMC Corp in a $67 billion record technology deal that will unite two mature companies and create an enterprise tech powerhouse.

The acquisition will help privately held Dell diversify away from a stagnant personal-computer market and give it greater scale in the faster-growing and more lucrative market for managing and storing data for enterprises.

"Dell wants to become the old IBM Corp, a one-stop shop for corporate clients. That model fell apart a couple of decades ago. Reviving it would be a stunning coup for Dell," said Erik Gordon, clinical assistant professor at the University of Michigan's Ross School of Business.

The deal values EMC at $33.15 a share. Dell will pay $24.05 per share in cash and will also give EMC shareholders a special stock that tracks the share price in virtual software provider VMWare Inc. EMC shares surged 3.9 per cent to $29.08 in pre-market trading. "The combination of Dell and EMC creates an enterprise solutions powerhouse," said Michael Dell, who will lead the combined company as Chairman and Chief Executive.

VMware will remain an independent, publicly traded company. — Reuters

Imported tur dal will come into market from October 15, fresh tender floated

Gargi Parsai

NEW DELHI: Even as the Centre on Monday floated a fresh tender for import of 2,000 tonnes of tur dal to augment supplies, the State-run Kendriya Bhandars and Safal outlets will start selling earlier stocks of imported arhar from October 15.

The fresh imports will be delivered by next month to ease the situation during the festival season.

The price of tur dal has multiplied several-fold on account of shortfall in production taking the price of the pulse to about Rs.150 per kg in Delhi markets.

The government is still working out its pricing for the imported dal but Kendriya Bhandar and Safal will lift their supplies before milling at Rs.69 per kg. However, what will come to the market will include cost of processing, packaging as well as transportation. Sources said the price would be lower than the retail market price.

Panel price review

These decisions were taken at a meeting of an inter-ministerial committee, headed by Consumer Affairs Secretary C. Vishwanath. The panel reviewed the pulses price situation.

To control pulses prices in other states, imported dal has been allocated to states as per their request. Allocations to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu have been made, the statement said.

MMTC has contracted to import 5,000 tonnes of tur dal, out of which 3,250 tonnes have landed at Chennai and Mumbai ports. The public sector firm has separately contracted to import 5,000 tonnes of urad.

The panel agreed to appoint an independent agency of experts for prior forecast of availability for effective and timely market intervention, an official press note said.

BULLION RATES

October 12 rates in rupees with previous rates in brackets

Chennai		
Bar Silver (1 kg)	37,420	(37,325)
Retail (1 g)	40.00	(39.90)
24 ct gold (10 g)	27,020	(26,750)
22 ct gold (1 g)	2,526	(2,501)
Delhi		
Silver	37,000	(36,725)
Standard gold	26,870	(26,700)
Sovereign	22,400	(22,400)

INTERVIEW | ABHIJIT MUKHERJEE

Indian market presents a lot of headroom for growth

Prashanth Chintala

Dr. K. Anji Reddy, the founder of Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd. (DRL), had a fascination for drug discovery. However, his desire to take a new molecule from discovery to commercialisation stage has remained unfulfilled. He mentions this in his memoirs which have been published as a book titled — "An Unfinished Agenda: My life in the pharmaceutical industry". Nevertheless, DRL Chief Operating Officer **Abhijit Mukherjee** *says in an interview that the company is focused on fulfilling this agenda and its biotech research arm had taken the initiative. Excerpts:*

• Are you confident of finishing the unfinished agenda of Dr. Anji Reddy? If so, how?

Yes, the company is certainly focused on fulfilling the unfinished agenda of Dr. Anji Reddy- that is to take a new molecule to the world from discovery to commercialization stages. Full clinical development of a molecule is a long, high-risk and expensive process, which most Indian companies have not been able to do, or have not engaged in. Having said that, Aurigene, our biotech research arm, has taken the initiative and has recently started working on development of novel drugs (anti-infective drugs to start with) and is looking for ways to commercialize them on its own. The company plans to bring more of its compounds to the market.

• Of late, you seem to be focusing on the domestic market. What are your strategies in this regard?

Our domestic formulations business is certainly one of our focus areas and has grown on a very consistent manner over the past few quarters. The aim of our India business is to make a difference to the lives of patients in the chosen therapy areas, through differentiated launches and an enriched portfolio. We believe that this will enable us deliver industry leading growth in the coming years. Partnerships such as the one with Amgen is a good example of addressing significant unmet needs of patients. We have also integrated UCB's acquired business and announced a number of business development deals which help broaden our portfolio. We continue to look at companies that would be strategic fit for our business and where we will be able to add value through our commercial excellence efforts.

• Do you feel that so far you had missed the Indian growth story. If so, how did this happen?

While we had built large brands through scientific detailing in Indian market, some of our launches were not on time. One of the key needs of the branded generics market is to bring the products on time to the patients. However, we brought in several initiatives aimed at timely launches, focused sales and marketing, broad basing through institution channel, focused growth in chronic and super-specialty areas, enabling growth of the business, we now feel quite confident on the future trajectory. Indian pharmaceutical market is still fragmented and presents a lot of headroom for growth, given the poor diagnosis and treatment rates. Most diseases are highly under-diagnosed and under-treated as a result. We are seeing investments in health care infrastructure, expansion of retail chemists, and patients becoming more aware as a result of rising incomes and improving socio economic trends. For companies like ours, this is a great opportunity to make a difference in accelerating access to high quality medicines and impacting health care in the country.

• You are also reportedly focusing on startups. Do you think this is a safe bet compared to expanding your R&D activities?

This is a nascent stage thought process and too early to comment on.

• Are you in talks with U.S., European and Japanese firms for forging licensing agreements to market their products in India? What kind of revenues do you expect from such initiatives in the short-term and long-term?

We are constantly evaluating partnerships that complement our strategy and help us address unmet needs. In line with this objective we are exploring several possible agreements, some of which have already fructified. As an Indian company with a fairly global presence and having established ourselves as a partner of choice through trustworthiness and reliability, we will continue to look at similar value accretive opportunities in the future.

• Have USFDA concerns over your Srikakulam plant been addressed to?

We have put in enormous amount of focus and resources in addressing to the issues and have periodically updated USFDA on our progress. We are waiting to hear back from the agency. It's very difficult for us to comment on it.

• You have recently tied-up with Mumbai-based Arogya Finance for marketing in rural areas. Do you plan to have more such tie-ups?

We have tied up with Arogya Finance for Resof and a couple of more brands to increase access to a larger section of patients.

For many years now, we have been running a strong patient assistance programme called Sparsh for our oncology products. For the rural markets, we will continue to increase our sales and distribution reach for our popular brands, forge strong distribution partnerships to ensure better product availability, launch products specifically designed for the rural markets, and facilitate better access through patient assistance and financing programs. The program is in the early stages.

We are aspiring to make sure every eligible patient is made aware about the financing choice available to them and that cash flow issues don't restrict access to medical treatment.

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Some thoughts on how an Indian should respond to the outrage against freedoms

The who, what and where of Dadri

Chapal Mehra

On September 28, a murderous mob got together to kill a man ostensibly for having kept some beef in his refrigerator. They seriously injured his young son and misbehaved with the women in his family. All of this over beef, a meat Indians have consumed for centuries.

Who were these people? Why did they kill a man over an item of food? What did they achieve out of it? All of us in India have for a fortnight been besieged by these questions.

Let's start with the facts. It was not just a Hindu mob killing a Muslim, it was an anti-national mob attacking India's plurality, diversity and inclusiveness. By killing Akhlaq, a 50-year-old Muslim ironsmith, for having beef in his house, they were attacking our collective Indianness and the freedoms it gives us. They were also illustrating what India can become — a right-wing, intolerant country where majoritarianism trumps basic human rights.

Akhlaq and his family had lived with their Hindu neighbours peacefully for decades. The man could easily be a Sikh in Delhi in 1984 or a Kashmiri Pandit in Srinagar in the early 1990s. His crime was not that he may have had beef in the house, which is no crime at all. His crime was that a political party wanted a corpse and he was vulnerable. This mob was not just murdering Akhlaq but attacking the most fundamental values of India — inclusiveness, tolerance and freedom.

To read this merely as a communal event would be incorrect. It's not about beef or bread, or about the religious sentiments of Hindus. Most Hindus have been historically meat-eaters, and there is enough historical evidence to prove such beef consumption. This incident is a carefully scripted murder, a stage-managed political event intended to further polarise the Indian people. In particular, it is intended to create a false anxiety amongst India's majority, and a climate of fear among the minorities.

The politics and deliberate misinterpretation that have followed this murder are perhaps more heinous than the crime itself. Bharatiya Janata Party leaders have gone on to make provocative remarks defending the incident, while others have dismissed it as an unfortunate one. The only vestige of humanity and Indianness came from Akhlaq's son, an Indian Air Force employee, who spoke about the incident. His grace even in grief was in stark contrast to those who have cited religion, history, culture and public sentiment to cleverly mislead the public. Even in his grief he reminded us of our Indianess, quoting *Mazhaab nahi sikhata aapas mein bar karna*.

The truth is that Hindus have been eating beef long before Muslims arrived here. Instead of focussing on this historical fact, the public debate is a carefully woven narrative to make India see this as a Hindu vs minorities issue. The cow has been misappropriated as a symbol of Hindu faith and pride. It is repulsive to see what Hindutva is doing to Hinduism — shrivelling it into an ugly monster. Here is a matter of common knowledge: even the leather we use and the cricket balls we play with are made out of the cow's hide. Will every Hindu give up leather and cricket now as well? Similarly, Hindus in Kerala eat beef while others may not. Should we then kill them in Kerala?

It is the very idea of India as a free society that is under attack. As Indians, our wisest move will be to recognise the truth and fight it

Indians must remember this is only obfuscation. We are being fed a staple diet of hate, and dislike for the 'other'. We are being told the cow is at risk — only from the minorities. Not from the ill-treatment they receive on city streets, the fact that some Hindus eat beef, or that leather is extracted from their carcasses.

In the end we have to remember that holy cow or not, there is little in common amongst most Indians — except the ideas of a plural, diverse, inclusive, equal and secular country. A person from Delhi may not have much in common with another from Chennai or Kolkata. They often don't speak the same language, or eat the same sort of food, or wear the same kind of clothes. This is our truth. We exist as a nation because we believe in each other's right to live freely without fear and oppression.

Much like British colonialists, our politicians seem determined to divide us by means of religion, diet, language, region or dress. Hence it is now our job to protect the idea of a diverse and plural society and country. As Indians, not Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs or Christians, we need to take a moment to consider who we are as a people if we do not accord the same freedom to that we want for ourselves? It's not about beef, a particular book, or a religion — these are not under attack. It's the very idea of India as a free society that is under attack. As Indians, our wisest move will be to recognise this truth and fight it.

Our biggest enemy in protecting the idea of a plural India will be our inability to look beyond religious or community identities, and think and act as one people. Unfortunately we have for so long been absorbed with ideas of growth and development that the slow and incremental loss of our freedom and our Indianness seems unclear to us. Dadri seems too far away and obscure. Actually it might be much closer than we think, for what can happen in Dadri can happen in Delhi and elsewhere soon enough.

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ILLUSTRATION: SATWIK GADE

Charity and some wrinkles

Philip Umman

Recently I spent half an hour listening to a young engineering graduate who was doing voluntary work for a marketing agency, on how malnutrition was killing a lot of our women and children and how I could make a difference by making a contribution to a particular national organisation doing good work in the field. I had heard of the organisation, not of the marketing agency that had tied up with it and was doing the collection. The young man was presenting to me all the statistics on the issue, little realising that I was a doctor aware of the issues. He was a bit taken aback when I finally told him I was a doctor. But when I asked him how much money they could hope to collect in this manner and whether it would also meet the fees of the agency he was representing, he was not clear about it. He was part of a group of five graduates from Coimbatore who had come to Kerala for five days for the project. Everything was aboveboard. No donations in cash, only crossed cheques. There were forms in triplicate with phone numbers and e-mail ids. Confirmatory phone calls would come before the cheques are presented in the bank. There will be tax-saving 80G certificates to boot.

Crowd-sourcing of funds on the net, I had heard of. But this was new. How do you deal with this? I had earlier donated into the bank account of an organisation in Delhi for a person undergoing treatment at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. How they got my number, I have no idea. The moment I picked up the call, they bombarded me with emotional blackmail on a child with blood cancer requiring urgent treatment. It was all about how I could be the saviour. They informed me about their website and e-mailed details of the child. After the first time, I stopped. There is no way one can check on these things. Having a website and all that is fine; but whether the funds reach the intended beneficiary is quite another thing. It could very well be an elaborate scam. Create a website, get hold of some phone numbers from telecom companies, and dial at random. A few people will respond and the day is made. As for the poor patients in whose name the money is collected, there is no way they know or we know whether someone is taking us for a ride.

Charity does not end with putting money into the box or signing the cheque. We need to ask questions

Which brings me to the question, should charity be local? Do we donate only for causes that we know personally about or are in our localities? We know whom the money will directly help. There are few or no intermediaries, and we can actually check outcomes. Overheads are less, money meets an immediate need. Maybe there is no tax exemption certificate. But the primary motive behind donating is surely not tax exemption? The only problem with local charities is their lack of visibility. Hence their voices will not be heard at the national level. Advocacy is important, and the local orphanage or school for mentally challenged children will not be able to make its voice heard on issues related to changes in laws or guidelines.

Not that everything local is above-board. I once spent a hundred rupees to help a man buy a bus ticket; he had promised to send it back within a week. I was still waiting for the money a year later, when I saw the same man trying to milk another person at the railway station in the same manner. I never got my money back, but at least I managed to alert the next person to a fraud.

Local or national, charity does not end with putting money into the box or signing the cheque. Yes, we need to ask questions, see where it is going, how it is going to be used. Only then these small drops we put in will bring about change in society. An ocean that will not change the world maybe, but at least change somebody's world.

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The chase for endorphins

Afsha Sethi

Though he fails as the gentle therapist I had in mind, he has induced a tonne of activity into our lives

I recently moved back home after studying and working in the United States for five years. One of the first things on my "moving back to-do list" was getting a dog. The frustrating "no pets allowed" policy of all the apartments I lived in ensured I was deprived of doggy company for a long time. I did make use of the 'Puppy Therapy' most U.S. colleges offer to calm student nerves during examinations. These dogs were not "therapy dogs" or trained to behave in a way that would magically alleviate stress. A charitable professor would offer to bring in his dog into a section of the school library for a slotted length of time for stressed students to play with. This simple initiative has been a huge success and is practised in a good number of American colleges.

Research shows interacting with dogs decreases the stress hormone cortisol and releases 'happy' endorphins. In the same spirit it is also becoming increasingly common for companies to allow employees to bring their dogs to work, or even have an office dog that tends to become the firm's unofficial mascot.

With these statistics to back me up I got Darcy, a two-month-old Beagle, within a month of getting home. My family was apprehensive about the responsibilities involved, but that was easier to work around compared to my previous landlords. I was so excited! I had my own fur ball to cuddle and take Snapchat selfies with.

Man, was I in for a surprise! Far from being a cuddly snuggle buddy, Darcy is a strong-willed, excitable and always-ready-for-action puppy. He hates being lifted and isn't a fan of cuddling — unless he's really sleepy and doesn't have much of a say in the matter. He has been pampered with an excellent collection of chew toys, but he prefers chewing furniture or nipping ankles till you agree to chase him. An expert digger, he has dug many a hole in the backyard, where he sits smugly after having trampled on my grandma's painstakingly planted saplings. He will chase the gardener and his water hose, dive into a heap of dry leaves and emerge — victorious snout first.

On a rare low-energy day he walks around the garden smelling each flower, sometimes sneezing in disgust upon inhaling a tiny insect by mistake. Darcy has developed his own equation with each member of the household. He lies down at my grandfather's feet and dozes off when tired; he prods my grandma to play fetch while she sits in the garden in the evening sipping her tea. He finds ways to amuse himself and everyone, be it running away with the broom in protest against the daily cleaning, or chasing an empty bottle from one end of the house to the other. Refusal to comply with his efforts to play leads to repeated nudges and encouraging barks.

So, though Darcy fails as the gentle therapist I had in mind, he has induced a tonne of activity into our otherwise sedentary lives. He makes us move and match his energy, and reprimands us with a sharp puppy nip when we fail to comply. His unintentional goofiness lightens up the most sombre of settings. Maybe we got a better deal than the living stuffed toy I was aiming to get — a fitness instructor with an excellent sense of humour!

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Decision awaited: will they, or won't they?

Ashwini C.N.

Before getting into decision-making mode, ensure you aren't directly or indirectly making others wait

I take pride in the fact that I can take decisions fairly quickly. Yes, I give it some thought and arrive at a conclusion just like most of you, only a lot quicker. A close friend of mine, on the other hand, takes all the time in the world to decide (irrespective of whether it's something trivial or important). I'm sure there are many who belong to that category. I'm usually not bothered by this as long as I'm not involved in the decision, or if the decision wouldn't have an impact on me. But, if it involves me, I can tolerate up to a threshold. Let me give you a clearer picture.

What do I eat today? Every afternoon when my stomach signals that it's time to eat, I immediately lock my computer system and head to the cafeteria. I look at the menu board and wait in a queue to pay the bill (see, even when I'm hungry I follow rules). As luck would have it, the person before me in the queue would always have to take the most difficult decision ever. North Indian meals, Regular or Special. What's amazing is how these people take the liberty to contemplate the pros and cons of this decision only when their turn comes to pay the bill.

Where do I sit today? I travel by office transport. As I board the bus at the second stop, it will be relatively empty. So this means you get to choose which seat you want to occupy. There are a few people who take time even to do this. What irritates me is when, during their analysis they forget that they're blocking the aisle. All of us waiting to occupy seats have to wait and also pray that the person takes a quick decision and occupies some seat or the other.

Should I cross the road? Or not? Perhaps the most annoying scenario would be when we're driving. How do we cross a road? We look to our left and right multiple times, wait for vehicles to pass, and break into a sprint. Some people keep it simple: they cross the road glued to their smartphones (Oh! The irony!) irrespective of whether there are any oncoming vehicles. Then there is this group that does a mini dance step before they decide whether or not to cross (*Step 1:* Go forward and come back. *Step 2:* Repeat Step 1 till vehicle crosses the road). While driving, you might think they'd wait for you to cross, but then you see them trying to cross. When you slow down, they also seem to have decided not to cross. And just when you accelerate, they cross the road. Sigh!

I'm not getting into complicated scenarios like choosing which shade of pink you want your shirt to be, or whether or not those accessories are worth even after the flash sales. Yes, one's entire life depends on those decisions. But I don't understand the amount of time and thought one allocates for trivial things.

So the next time, before you get into your decision-making mode ensure that you aren't directly or indirectly making others wait. Now, assuming that there are two people involved in your decision and you have to decide whose time you intend to waste, will you be able to decide that?

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To buy or not to buy: those million-dollar strategies

Pranav Shekhar

Have you ever bought something you didn't really need, only to regret the purchase later? I admit I have. And if you are a human being, chances are that your answer will be 'yes' too. In that case, reading this is going to be a 'life-saver', and 'money-saver' as well.

So why do we get tempted to buy things even when we may not need them at all? The answer is not a simple one, and falls in the realm of what is often referred to as 'consumer and advertisement psychology'. It is intended precisely to make us 'spend'. At times it borders on the foolish.

Those perpetrators have hacked into our sub-conscious minds to make us buy, as the Skinnerian rats keep pressing the lever for food pellets. The human mind has its weaknesses, and those operators exploit them.

The mind, simply put, has two components: a smart human one (that thinks before it does anything), and a primitive-impulsive one (that jumps upon what it wants). 'They' play with the second component. The trick is to activate that component and not allow the first one to do its job.

'Flash sales', 'shopping festivals', 'registration/invitation-based sales', and so on create a false perception of scarcity or exclusiveness that makes the primate in us pounce upon the item, as if it is the last one on post-apocalyptic earth. Here our 'smart brain' is bypassed. Slogans such as 'shopping makes me happy, happy', gives our monkey brain the illusion of 'buying happiness'. And you 'shop till you drop'. The words 'sale' and 'discount' give us a false impression of 'saving'. They tag a Rs. 100 item at Rs. 150 and then offer a 30 per cent discount.

Some may ask, what is wrong with all this? Isn't it desirable for the nation's economic growth? But our *mantra* should be 'consume to live', not 'live to consume'. There is a thin line between spending on necessities and splurging without a thought for tomorrow. Not crossing that line is the key.

There are several 'ills' that come with crossing it. The consumer over-spends, even taking loans, and this eats into future plans. And in some really stupid cases people even sell their kidneys.

So, why do we get persuaded so easily to part with our hard-earned money? Because we don't think. We don't think hard enough before we buy stuff. If you do think, with your 'smart brain', you will see that thin line and make choices consciously to buy or not to.

However, it's not that easy, as 'they' have their 'weapons'. They will try to use your own psychology against you. You will have to fight. But worry not; if they have tricks, so do we. Here are some (psychological) weapons to use.

Your mind is your strongest weapon. Think before you buy, before you click that 'Buy Now' button on online sites. Judge whether you really need that item. Beware of trick-words such as 'sale', 'discount', 'coupon code', and 'only for today'. Avoid traps.

Online shoppers, use a filter for e-mail. Google gives the tag 'Promotions' to such mails. Avoid them. If you actually need something, you won't need a reminder by e-mail to buy it. Stop surfing shopping sites to pass time. It's not Facebook. Uninstall shopping Apps on your smartphones. If you must buy, use websites. Consult 'others' before you buy; they will break the 'spell' cast on you.

Procrastinate. Yes, here this habit is a boon. Make a 'wish list' (some websites already offer this). If you feel like buying an item, simply add it to your (physical/electronic) wish list. Return after a week, not before. If you still strongly feel you should buy it, do so. If you're not too sure, again postpone for a week. Chances are that the initial charm will fade. And you will delete that item from your list.

Always pay in cash. Prefer the cash-on-delivery option to online payment. Seeing your wallet getting depleted may check you. When going into shopping malls, keep your wallet light and leave your credit cards and ATM cards back.

Price Elasticity of Demand Theory. No economics here, just a simple test. Ask yourself: "Would I buy this even if its price doubled?"

Research before buying. If you study the market thoroughly, physically or over the Internet, the effort could stop your 'binge' behaviour. But avoid 'window-shopping': it tempts.

The 'shopper's high' is only temporary. But the 'cost' will be permanent. Besides, shopping can never be an item of 'entertainment'. Nor can it fill an emotional void or counter loneliness. You need a friend, and shopping can never get you one.

'Buying' is a necessary evil; there's nothing wrong with it. Crossing that 'thin line' is what is wrong. The slogan, 'earn and burn', is wrong. Use your mind; then, and only then, buy. Reversing this order is what produces guilt. Else, save. Saving money is a virtue, highly under-rated in our times.

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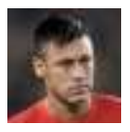
Telecast schedule

Cricket: Pakistan vs England, 1st Test, TEN Cricket, 11.30 a.m.

Pedrosa wins Japanese MotoGP

The Spanish Honda rider **Dani Pedrosa** clocked 46min 50.767sec for his 50th career victory, 8.573sec ahead of championship leader Valentino Rossi on Yamaha at the Japanese MotoGP on Sunday



Neymar's life changed for the better

I've changed the way I play and the way that I live my life and FC Barcelona has helped me change my life for the better — **Neymar** says he has calmed down from his former wild-child attitude

Riyaz and Kajal win titles

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Riyaz Ali and Kajal Kumari won the men's and women's singles titles respectively in the seventh International Carrom Federation Cup at the Thyagaraj Sports Complex on Sunday.

Riyaz defeated Nishant Fernando of Sri Lanka 25-22, 25-10 in the men's final while Kajal beat compatriot Tuba Sehar 25-16, 8-25, 25-7.

Nishant had defeated world champion K. Srinivas 25-15, 14-25, 25-24 in the semifinals and the women's world champion Rashmi lost to Tuba Sehar in the semifinals.

The Indian men won the team championship earlier, beating Sri Lanka 2-1, and Bangladesh took the bronze downing France 3-0.

The results (Indians unless specified):

Men (final): Riyal Ali bt Nishant Fernando (SL) 25-22, 25-10; **Semi-finals:** Nishant bt K. Srinivas 25-15, 14-25, 25-24; Riyaz bt D. Sandeep 15-25, 25-22, 25-22; **Quarterfinals:** Nishant bt Yogesh Pardeshi 25-14, 25-22; Srinivas bt Himayat 25-3, 25-8; Sandeep bt Chamil Cooray (SL) 25-5, 25-20; Riyaz bt P. Dubois (Fra) 25-4, 25-7.

Women (final): Kajal Kumari bt Tuba Sehar 25-16, 8-25, 25-7; **Semi-finals:** Tuba bt Rashmi Kumari 25-15, 18-25, 25-19; Kajal bt Arosha (SL) 25-10, 25-4; **Quarterfinals:** Kajal bt Josef Roshita (SL) 25-10, 25-23; Arosha bt Devjani Tamoli 25-22, 1-25, 25-4; Rashmi bt C. Lakmali (SL) 25-15, 25-13; Tuba bt Madhushikha (SL) 25-13, 25-6.

Team (final): India bt Sri Lanka 2-1 (Srinivas bt Chamil 25-10, 25-5; Riyaz bt Anas Ahmed 25-8, 25-8; Sandeep lost to Nishant Fernando 16-22, 25-0, 25-10).

An evening to remember for Pele

Felicitates the 1977 Mohun Bagan team, shares special moment with Rahman

Amitabha Das Sharma

KOLKATA: Football legend Pele had an evening to remember as he renewed his acquaintance with the players of the Mohun Bagan team which hosted him in 1977.

Pele feted all the 13 players and coach P.K. Banerjee who were present to receive the honour from the greatest footballer on earth at the Netaji Indoor Stadium on Monday evening. Subrata Bhattacharya, the captain of the Bagan side then, called in his players to be felicitated by the owner of three World Cup crowns. The others players included the likes of Shibaji Banerjee, Prasoon Banerjee, Gautam Sarkar, Bidesh Bose, Shyam Thapa, and Pradip Choudhury.

Prasoon, the younger brother of P.K. Banerjee, asked Pele who he thought was better: Diego Maradona or Lionel Messi? "Both have the same style and are great players, but Maradona was a more complete player than Messi. For the last 10 years, Messi is the best player the world has seen," said Pele.

DOWN MEMORY LANE: *Players from the Mohun Bagan team that hosted Pele way back in 1977 had a great time getting reacquainted with the Brazilian legend in Kolkata on Monday.* – PHOTO: ASHOKE CHAKRABARTY

Machine closed!

Asked whether the world would see another Pele, the legend quipped, "My mother and father have closed the machine."

Pele also had a special moment with internationally-acclaimed music composer A.R. Rahman, who has scored the music for a biopic on the Brazilian great which is yet to be released.

"I am zero on sport, and know only names like Kapil Dev and Sachin Tendulkar. I have composed the music for Pele's biopic without even knowing him. But, when I saw the 'rushes' of the movie, I cried thrice," said Rahman, after meeting the legend.

"I wanted to see the real Pele. He is such an amazing personality, a great inspiration. All my musician friends were envious when they came to know that I was doing the music for Pele's biopic," said Rahman.

Rahman sang 'happy birthday' for Pele, who turns 75 on October 23. The Brazilian also cut a cake, shaped like the Jules Rimet Trophy, which he helped Brazil retain forever after becoming the world champion for the third time in 1970.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and former India cricket captain Sourav Ganguly were present on the occasion.

Decimated ATK takes on confident Kerala Blasters

I have absolute confidence in the 18 players that I have for selection — Antonio Habas, ATK's coach on the five players he will be missing

We have started well this season and are already on four points, which we had reached after playing five matches last season — Peter Taylor, Kerala Blasters' coach

Amitabha Das Sharma

KOLKATA: Returning from its outstation ventures bruised, but unconquered, Atletico de Kolkata will look to tend to the wounds and consolidate when it takes on its last year's final opponent, Kerala Blasters in its first home outing of the Hero-ISL Season-2 at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Tuesday.

The host will be missing five players — Portuguese striker Helder Postiga, Botswana defender Ofentse Nato and Indians Baljit Singh Sahni, Arnab Mondal and Rino Anto — to injury, suspension and national duty.

Coach Antonio Habas said the situation was difficult but the team was prepared for the challenge. "I have absolute confidence in the 18 players that I have for selection. We have started the season well, having beaten Chennaiyin FC and picked up a point against FC Goa, which was a very tough match," Habas said.

The match assumes special significance with the presence of Brazilian legend Pele among the spectators. 'The King of Football' will have a session with the ATK players in the afternoon, which Habas said would serve as great motivation for the team.

"Having Pele in the audience will be great, especially because the team is playing its first home match," Habas said.

TELECAST

Atletico de Kolkata vs Kerala Blasters

STAR Sports 2, 3, HD2 & HD3

7 p.m.

With the Salt Lake Stadium pitch returning to natural turf, the home side sounded upbeat. "This will be less traumatic for the players," Habas said, referring to the experience he had in the inaugural season when his team had to play on artificial turf.

Kerala Blasters, meanwhile, is in much better shape in comparison, missing only two Indians — defender Sandesh Jinghan and midfielder Cavin Lobo, to national duty.

The team, which is on four points earned from a 3-1 win against North-East United FC and a goalless draw against Mumbai City FC, will be further strengthened by the inclusion of its marquee player Carlos Marchena. The Spanish World Cupper, who missed the first two outings because of injury, is available for selection, according to the Kerala Blasters head coach Peter Taylor.

The former England manager said he would like to continue with the rotation policy as it saves a player from getting worn out after playing close matches.

"We have started well this season and are already on four points, which we had reached after playing five matches last season," Taylor said.

"We have a decent team shape and expect to do well against a good side like Atletico de Kolkata," he added.

Start at the base is Pele's advice

Principal Correspondent

KOLKATA: Grassroots development is the key, said Brazilian legend Pele as he held forth on a number of topics in his first public appearance in the city after 38 years here on Monday.

"Start working at the base, it is important to train kids for the future," said Pele in response to Sourav Ganguly's "Please suggest a way for the development of Indian football." Ganguly, who has seen India reach the pinnacle as its cricket captain, put the question to Pele as one of the owners of Atletico de Kolkata.

With age telling on him, the 74-year-old legend had sought a day's rest — he had reached the city on Sunday morning — before starting his hectic itinerary for the next 48 hours.

Ganguly, a recent entrant to sports administration after being elected president of the Cricket Association of Bengal, asked specifically about another underdeveloped aspect of Indian football — infrastructure.

"You have to give players the chance to go abroad and play and gain experience. They can then come here and share their experiences. But, firstly, you have to support the base," replied Pele. "You should have football in universities, schools and colleges. It is important to start the sport at the right level," added Pele.

Ganguly was perhaps unconsciously repeating the question on development first put to Pele by the then Mohun Bagan captain Subrata Bhattacharya when he first visited the city in 1977 with New York Cosmos to play an exhibition match against the Kolkata giant.

Pele had not answered then, as Bhattacharya recalled, but the Brazilian, wise with age and experience, chose to reply to a question that is still pertinent even after four decades.

A firm no

A lot of questions were reserved for Pele on the controversy and allegations of corruption at the highest level plaguing the sport's world governing body — FIFA. The Brazilian's one line reply was: "No, I do not have the intention of becoming FIFA president."

The questions next veered to the comparisons of the best players in world football and specifically about the current state of football. "During my time players belonged to the clubs, but the players now belong to the *impresarios*," Pele said, meaning that modern day footballers are more commercial-minded, dominated by agents and managers.

"Modern day football is tough, but yes, I would have still achieved the same feat that I had so many years back. Footballers are born and gain skills as a gift of God," he said even as he recalled the support of the many talented colleagues who made him what he is.

"I had some great teammates like Garrincha, Didi and Vava. Later I played with the likes of Zico. When I was with New York Cosmos, I played alongside Franz Beckenbauer and Giorgio Chinaglia, who were also great footballers. I did not play alone. There was someone who always played beside and with me to make us succeed as a team," Pele said.

When he was asked to pick his best, Pele partitioned his preferences, saying Bobby Moore of England was the best of his time and hailed Argentine Lionel Messi as the best in the last 10 years.

"People do not take much notice of defenders. To me the best was Bobby Moore. But over the last ten years, without a doubt, it is Messi," Pele said.

On the comparison between Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo and Messi, Pele said, "A lot of people compare Messi with Ronaldo. But they are players of a different kind. Ronaldo is more of a scorer, more like a centre-forward. Messi plays deeper. But both are fantastic."

Pele went on to add the name of Brazilian Neymar in the comparison. "Neymar, no doubt, could be one of the best players at the moment. I hope Neymar wins a trophy for Brazil. He hails from Santos, the club I used to play for. My son Edinho was the one who trained him, so I feel proud and happy," Pele said.

He rued the absence of a good club league structure in his own country which sees the players moving to Europe and failing as a team when turning out for Brazil.

"We have some of the best players in Brazil, but, unfortunately, we did not have much time to prepare the team before the World Cup.

"You have to have the players together for a longer time to prepare, better but that is not possible as most of them are playing in Europe. Nowadays players' managers decide if they should play for the country or the club," Pele ended with a note of concern.

You should have football in universities, schools and colleges. It is important to start the sport at the right level

To me the best was Bobby Moore. But over the last ten years without a doubt it is Messi

MEETING A LEGEND: *'Prince of Kolkata' Sourav Ganguly comes face to face with 'The King' Pele at a press conference on Monday.* – PHOTO: ASHOKE CHAKRABARTY

I fixed games for Cairns: Lou Vincent

LONDON: Former New Zealand cricketer Lou Vincent told a London courtroom on Monday that he had helped to fix matches under "direct orders" from his captain, Chris Cairns.

Speaking at Cairns's perjury trial, Vincent, 36, said that Cairns persuaded him to take part in match-fixing while they were playing for the Chandigarh Lions in the Indian Cricket League in 2008.

"I was under direct orders from Chris Cairns to get involved in fixing," said Vincent, who claimed Cairns promised him $50,000 per game to under-perform.

Former New Zealand captain Cairns, who is also accused of perverting the course of justice, denies the charges facing him.

The charges relate to a libel case that Cairns, 45, brought against Lalit Modi, the founder of the Indian Premier League (IPL), in March 2012.

Cairns successfully sued Modi for £1.4 million after being accused of match-fixing on Twitter in January 2010, but now faces allegations that he lied during the case.

Vincent, now retired, said he had turned down an approach to get involved in match-fixing from an Indian man who had offered him cash and the use of a prostitute.

But he claimed that when he told Cairns, captain of the Chandigarh Lions, about the approach, he was told: "You're working for me now."

"Immediately I went to Chris Cairns and told him what had happened," Vincent said. "The deal, the room, the woman and being offered the money and how I went to report what had just happened.

"Chris was obviously interested, then there was a pause for a short period of time.

"And then he turned to me, looked at me and said 'You did the right thing' and 'That's good cover. Right, you're working for me now'."

Vincent told the jury at Southwark Crown Court that he deliberately under-performed in four games in 2008.

He said that he had been suffering from mental health problems and depression at the time and "felt good to be part of a gang".

According to Vincent, that "gang" also included former New Zealand all-rounder Daryl Tuffey and former India batsman Dinesh Mongia.

Vincent said that he was not paid the money he had been promised but did not confront Cairns because he felt "too intimidated".

He also alleged that Cairns threatened him with a cricket bat after he "messed up" a proposed fix.

Vincent said that he continued to fix matches after leaving the Chandigarh Lions, before confessing to the cricket authorities in 2012.

A big-hitting all-rounder, Cairns played in 62 Tests for New Zealand and is one of the few players to have achieved the double of 200 wickets and 3,000 runs.

He was named one of the Wisden Cricketers of the Year in 2000. — AFP

TENNIS

Sarthak ousts Vipul

Special Correspondent

NEW DELHI: Sarthak Suden knocked out third seed Vipul Mehta 6-3, 6-0 in the under-14 boys first round of the Fenesta National sub-junior tennis championship at the DLTA Complex here on Monday. He will next play qualifier Naman Sharma who battled his way past Nitin Jaipal Singh.

Top seed Himanshu Mor, who has been struggling on these courts for some time, including the Masters event of the Road to Wimbledon championship, subdued Adarsh Naga Tippabhatla of Andhra Pradesh 6-3, 7-6(0).

Second Sacchitt Sharma, who won the UK under-14 championship in Wimbledon, warmed up for the challenges ahead with a 6-2, 6-4 win over Bhavesh Kumar Agarwal.

The player with the biggest game in the age group, fifth seed Shashank Theertha who trains with coach Ilyas Ghouse in Hyderabad, opened with a 6-2, 6-4 victory over Sammar Raina.

In the girls under-14 section, in which all the 16 seeded players got a bye in the first round, Ashrita Nagpal beat Zaffar Raina 7-6(4), 7-6(6), while Vanshika Choudhary recovered quickly to outplay Bhakti Shah 5-7, 6-0, 6-0.

Kyrgios cruises

SHANGHAI: Nick Kyrgios swept aside Andreas Haider-Maurer 6-3, 6-2 on Monday to set up a second round clash with Japan's Kei Nishikori in the ATP Shanghai Masters.

The results: First round: Jo-Wilfried Tsonga bt Tommy Robredo 6-7(5), 6-2, 6-2; Leonardo Mayer bt Bai Yan 6-0, 6-1; Feliciano Lopez bt Andrey Kuznetsov 6-4, 7-6(3); Albert Ramos bt Sam Querrey 4-6, 6-4, 7-5; Victor Estrella Burgos bt Donald Young 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; Dominic Thiem bt Lu Yen-Hsun 6-3, 6-3; John Isner bt Adrian Mannarino 6-1, 6-2; Steve Johnson bt Andreas Seppi 4-6, 6-1, 7-6(2); Martin Klizan bt Zhang Ze 7-6(8), 6-2; Ivo Karlovic bt Jeremy Chardy 6-4, 7-6(6); Roberto Bautista Agut bt Guillermo Garcia-Lopez 6-2, 6-3; Nick Kyrgios bt Andreas Haider-Maurer 6-3, 6-2; Marin Cilic bt Wu Di 4-6, 6-3, 7-6(4). — Agencies

Germany, Poland book berths

PARIS: World champion Germany secured its place at Euro 2016 despite labouring to a 2-1 win at home to Georgia on Sunday, while Poland also qualified for next summer's finals after beating the Republic of Ireland 2-1.

Germany needed just a point against Georgia in Leipzig to guarantee itself a top-two finish in Group 'D' but Max Kruse's 79th-minute winner ensured Joachim Loew's men progressed as group winners.

Thomas Muller had given Germany the lead shortly after half-time, converting a penalty for his ninth goal in the qualifiers, before it was cancelled out almost immediately by Jaba Kankava.

Robert Lewandowski equalled former Northern Ireland striker David Healy's 13-goal record for a single European championship qualifying campaign as Poland claimed second place in Group 'D'.

Germany, Poland, Albania and Romania joined already qualified Wales, Belgium, Italy, Austria, the Czech Republic, England, hosts France, Iceland, Northern Ireland, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland in the 24-team finals.

EURO QUALIFIERS

The results: Group D: Germany 2 (Muller 50-pen, Kruse 79) bt Georgia 1 (Kankava 53); Gibraltar 0 lost to Scotland 6 (Martin 25, Maloney 39, Fletcher 52, 56, 85, Naismith 90+1); Poland 2 (Krychowiak 13, Lewandowski 42) bt Republic of Ireland 1 (Walters 16-pen).

Group G: Russia 2 (Kuzmin 33, Kokorin 37-pen) bt Montenegro 0; Sweden 2 (Ibrahimovic 24, Erkan Zengin 48) bt Moldova 0; Austria 3 (Arnautovic 12, Janko 54, 57) bt Liechtenstein 0. — AFP

IT'S PARTY TIME: *Poland's Robert Lewandowski, who equalled the 13-goal record for a single European championship qualifying campaign, celebrates the qualification for the finals.* – PHOTO: AFP

CRICKET

Andhra enters semifinals

VIJAYAWADA: The Andhra under-19 women's cricket team entered the semifinals of the BCCI inter-State cricket tournament defeating Maharashtra by 23 runs at Cuttack on Monday.

Andhra will meet Mumbai while Madhya Pradesh will play Uttar Pradesh in the semifinals on Friday.

The scores (league): At Cuttack: Andhra 100 in 41.3 overs (Anusha 29, Solao three for 19) bt Maharashtra 77 in 38.4 overs (K. Dhatri four for 20, M. Bhavana three for 13).

At Guntur: Madhya Pradesh 102 for eight in 50 overs (Nuzhat Parween 28) bt Haryana 56 in 44.5 overs.

At Perecherla: Mumbai 216 for seven in 50 overs (R. Jemimah 88, Vaishali Bhagat 56) bt Kerala 101 for seven in 50 overs.

Yuki in pre-quarterfinals

NEW DELHI: Fourth seed Yuki Bhambri beat Jurgen Zopp of Estonia 6-4, 6-2 in the first round of the $125,000 men's Challenger tennis tournament in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, on Monday.

He will play Nikola Mektic of Croatia in the pre-quarterfinals.

Yuki, however, lost in the doubles when he along with Michael Venus of New Zealand were beaten by Dudi Sela and Amir Weintraub of Israel 10-6 in the super tie-break.

In the $50,000 Challenger in Vietnam, qualifier Vijay Sundar Prashanth was beaten 6-4, 7-5 by Matija Pecotic of Croatia in the first round. He won five ATP points for making the main draw.

The Wimbledon boys' doubles champions, Nam Hoang Ly of Vietnam and Sumit Nagal fought well before being beaten 6-3, 5-7, 10-6 by Toshihide Matsui and Yasutaka Uchiyama of Japan in the first round.

INDIANS ABROAD

The results:

$125,000 Challenger men, Tashkent, Uzbekistan: Singles (first round): Yuki Bhambri bt Jurgen Zopp (Est) 6-4, 6-2.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Dudi Sela & Amir Weintraub (Isr) bt Michael Venus (Nzl) & Yuki Bhambri 6-7(3), 6-4, 10-6.

$50,000 Challenger men, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam: Singles (first round): Matija Pecotic (Cro) bt Vijay Sundar Prashanth 6-4, 7-5.

Doubles (pre-quarterfinals): Toshihide Matsui & Yasutaka Uchiyama (Jpn) bt Nam Hoang Ly (Vie) & Sumit Nagal 6-3, 5-7, 10-6.

$10,000 ITF men, Antalya, Turkey: Qualifying singles: Third and final round: Haadin Bava bt Lukas Klein (Svk) 6-1, 7-5. **Second round:** Haadin Bava bt Jannis Liniger (Sui) 6-4, 7-6(4). **First round:** Haadin Bava bt Mert Celik (Tur) 6-0, 6-2.

Who is the best No. 3?

CRICKET / Dhoni saddled with the conundrum

Y.B. Sarangi

KANPUR: The M.S. Dhoni-led Indian team has left a riddle to solve after the Kanpur one-day international: Who among the Men in Blue is suited best for the No. 3 slot in the batting order?

Prior to the first ODI at the Green Park here, Dhoni reignited the debate on Ajinkya Rahane's place in the limited overs' side. "Sometimes even number four is quite low for him (Rahane). I think he is somebody who should bat up the order. Opening is a slot that fits him really well," Dhoni had said, bolstering the doubt about the Mumbaikar's place in the playing XI.

However, what Dhoni did not say was even more important. Analysed further, it may provide a more interesting perspective to whole debate.

Since Shikhar Dhawan and Rohit Sharma are doing well as openers, none other than Test captain Virat Kohli has to relinquish his favourite slot in one-dayers to accommodated Rahane in the top three. That is what happened at the Green Park when Dhoni disclosed the playing XI to leave everyone agape.

When India, chasing as big a target as 304, lost Rahane's wicket in the 34th over, the run rate slowed down a bit. "I felt around 35-40 overs we failed to get to move on. That would have made things easier," noted Dhoni. Kohli got out in the last ball of the 40th over after contributing 11 runs off 29 deliveries.

HOW TO BRING SOME ORDER? *India skipper M.S. Dhoni has of late been in a predicament of sorts as to how to fit in Virat Kohli and Ajinkya Rahane in the playing XI.* – PHOTO: R.V. MOORTHY

Kohli's lean patch in the one-dayers has extended longer than expected.

The 26-year-old, with 22 centuries in 162 matches, has 46 against South Africa in the World Cup as his highest score in the last 11 innings spread across seven venues in Australia, New Zealand, Bangladesh and India. His last eye-catching knock was his hundred against Pakistan in the World Cup.

Notwithstanding his present struggle, Kohli has always done his best at the No. 3 position, making that slot his own by coming in to bat one-down in 105 matches. In comparison, he has batted at No. 4 only 39 times.

Now, the most pertinent question is -- Should Kohli be asked to go down a place to make way for Rahane on a regular basis? And, more importantly, can India afford to destabilise two of its most reliable batsmen?

During the Bangladesh tour, Dhoni, promoting himself to bat at No. 4, had found it difficult to fit Rahane into the playing XI. Within a few months, the situation seems to have changed again in search of the right balance.

Complaint lodged against Kulkarni

Vijay Lokapally

INDORE: The Indian team management has lodged a complaint against umpire Vineet Kulkarni for what the home team feels is incompetent supervision.

It has cited four decisions, all leg-before shouts from the ongoing series against South Africa, to make its point.

Kulkarni, the Indians were convinced, let off Jean-Paul Duminy twice in the first T20 at Dharamshala and erred in judging Shikhar Dhawan leg-before in the first ODI at Kanpur.

It also did not appreciate Faf du Plessis surviving first ball from R. Ashwin early in the match.

Standing in his seventh T20 match, Kulkarni turned down left-arm spinner Axar Patel's appeal for leg-before when Duminy was on five with South Africa needing 96 runs off 48 balls.

Later, when Duminy was on 33 and South Africa needed 43 off 23 balls, Kulkarni signalled two leg-byes even as Bhuvneshwar Kumar vehemently appealed when the South African left-hander missed an intended flick. With two 'lives', Duminy pulled off a dramatic last-over victory for South Africa.

Vineet Kulkarni. – FILE PHOTO

"We did not have quite a few decisions going our way and sometimes these can change the match. It could have been different if we could have got Duminy out early," bemoaned India skipper Mahendra Singh Dhoni after the defeat.

At Kanpur, the Indians were livid when Kulkarni, in his 18th ODI match since debut in 2009, upheld Morne Morkel's leg-before shout against Shikhar Dhawan, who was in firm control as India attempted to chase 304 to win.

The Indians were upset at the umpire giving the batsman out despite Morkel coming round the wicket. The Indians believed that they had du Plessis first ball. India lost by five runs to trail 0-1 in the five-match series.

The BCCI, which is opposed to the Decision Review System (DRS), would now be under pressure to have a rethink following such incidents when its team ends up a loser due to errors by home umpires.

AIFF FC enters semifinals

NEW DELHI: The Indian under-17 team edged past Swedish club side BK Hacken 2-1 in extra time to advance to the semifinals of the 56th Subroto Cup junior boys' football tournament here, courtesy a 78th-minute winner from Baoringdao Bodo.

The team will now take on unbeaten Indonesian side Daftar Nama Kontingen, who beat BSL+2 High School, Bokaro, by an identical margin in the other quarterfinal to complete the semifinals line-up.

Trailing for a large part of the match, the AIFF Under-17 team managed to keep its composure and gameplan despite missing several close chances to finish the game in regulation time.

BK Hacken got ahead early on through a header in the 18th minute. Bodo and Edmund Lalrindika combined well upfront to create a number of chances, but the shots kept going wide even as the Swedish goalkeeper came up with some impressive saves.

The Indian side finally got level in the 56th minute after Bedeshwor was brought down in the box and Lalrindika made no mistake in slotting in the penalty.

With the game going into extra time, the teams fought for possession before Bodo tapped in for the winner.

Little Angels Paradise School, Manipur, and Betkuchi High School, Guwahati, earlier qualified for the semifinals and will take on each other for a spot in the final.

The results: Quarterfinals: AIFF FC bt BK Hacken 2-1; Daftar Nama Kontigen bt BSL+2 High School, Bokaro 2-1.

Schiavone bags feature event

HYDERABAD: Schiavone (P. Trevor up) clinched the Melbourne Racing Club Trophy, the main event of the races held here on Monday. The winner is owned by the United Racing & Blood Stock Breeders Ltd. rep by Mr & Mrs Vijay Mallya and trained by S.S. Attaollahi.

1. NALGONDA PLATE (D. I), (1,100m), Cat. III, maiden 3-y-o & over, rated upto 50: **Golden Angel** (Aneel) 1, Prideofmaduranagar (R Vaibhav) 2, Chandraja (K Mukesh Kumar) 3, Yes Baby (M.F. Ali Khan) 4. 1/4, 1-3/4, 1-1/4. 1m 08.56s. Rs. 25 (w), 8, 9, 7 (p), SHP: Rs. 33, FP: Rs. 159, Q: Rs. 86, Tanala: Rs. 299. Favourite: Penumatcha's Pride. Owners: Mr Mukesh Gupta & Mrs Surekha Gupta. Trainer: A Vatsalya.

2. PRINCE REGENT PLATE (2,000m), Cat. III, 3-y-o & over, rated upto 50: **Chocolate Greedy** (A M Tograllu) 1, Naamdhari (S S Tanwar) 2, Fair Fax (P.Trevor) 3, Buckshee (C. Henrique) 4. 1-1/2, 1, 1/2. 2m 10.25s. Rs. 41 (w), 9, 7, 5 (p), SHP: Rs. 17, FP: Rs. 222, Q: Rs. 96, Tanala: Rs. 305. Favourite: Fair Fax. Owner: Mr Ch. Naga Nancharayya. Trainer: Zoheb Shaikh.

3. MELBOURNE RACING CLUB TROPHY (1,400m), Sweepstakes Fillies and Mares, 3-y-o & over (Terms): **Schiavone** (P. Trevor) 1, Desire (Dashrath Singh) 2, Supreme Fairy (Kuldeep Singh) 3, Palm Springs (Akshay Kumar) 4. 1, 1-1/4, 1-3/4. 1m 27.43s. Rs. 8 (w), 6 and 7 (p), SHP: Rs. 12, FP: Rs. 15, Q: Rs. 9. Favourite: Schiavone. Owner: United Racing & Blood Stock Breeders Ltd. rep by Mr & Mrs Vijay Mallya. Trainer: S.S. Attaollahi.

4. CORDEN BLEU PLATE (1,400m), Cat. II, 3-y-o & over, rated upto 75: **Green Image** (P. Trevor) 1, Brilliant Twist (S S Tanwar) 2, Escalante (C. Henrique) 3, Kireeti (Praveen Gaddam) 4. 1-3/4, 1-1/2, hd. 1m 28.27s. Rs. 16 (w), 7, 6, 7 (p), SHP: Rs. 18, FP: Rs. 50, Q: Rs. 23, Tanala: Rs. 90. Favourite: Brilliant Twist. Owner: Mr Tatineni Raghu Ram. Trainer: Sk. Waseem Ahmed.

5. STAR OF STARS CUP (D. I), (1,200m), Cat. III, 4-y-o & over, rated upto 50: **Kintyre Princess** (C. Henrique) 1, Romantic Fire (Deepak Singh) 2, Gun Barrel (Khurshad Alam) 3, Save The Nation (Akshay Kumar) 4. 1-1/4, 1-1/4, nose. 1m 14.92s. Rs. 29 (w), 8, 11, 6 (p), SHP: Rs. 34, FP: Rs. 157, Q: Rs. 71, Tanala: Rs. 462. Favourite: Gun Barrel. Owners: M/s A.K. Jaiswal, Mukund Kakani & G. Vamsi Krishna. Trainer: Anupam Sharma.

6. STAR OF STARS CUP (D. II), (1,200m), Cat. III, 4-y-o & over, rated upto 50: **Kimono** (Aneel) 1, Golden Phoenix (Ajit Singh) 2, Oathofyourdaughter (G Naresh) 3, Rocky Hill (P. Trevor) 4. 1, nk, 1-3/4. 1m 15.19s. Rs. 11 (w), 6, 13, 10 (p), SHP: Rs. 50, FP: Rs. 129, Q: Rs. 89, Tanala: Rs. 513. Favourite: Kimono. Owner: Mr M.A.M. Ramaswamy. Trainer: K. Satheesh.

7. G. SUDHAKAR REDDY MEMORIAL CUP (1,200m), Cat. II, 3-y-o & over, rated upto 75: **Kohinoor Grace** (Kunal Bunde) 1, Rubyonrails (Deepak Singh) 2, Rock Baby Rock (Kuldeep Singh) 3, Mangalyaan (C. Henrique) 4. 2-1/4, 1/4, 1-1/4. 1m 13.68s. Rs. 21 (w), 8, 14, 6 (p), SHP: Rs. 54, FP: Rs. 337, Q: Rs. 215, Tanala: Rs. 764. Favourite: Rock Baby Rock. Owners: M/s Venkata Narasimha Reddy Nalla, Anand Nalla & Rathan Nalla. Trainer: K.R.K.Raju.

8. BANGALORE TURF CLUB TROPHY (1,600m), Cat. I, 3-y-o & over: **Parushram** (Akshay Kumar) 1, Santa Monica (P. Trevor) 2, Ashok Chakra (C.Henrique) 3, Golden Essence (R Vaibhav) 4. 1, 2-3/4, 1-1/2. 1m 39.95s. Rs. 14 (w), 7, 7, 14 (p), SHP: Rs. 19, FP: Rs. 50, Q: Rs. 28, Tanala: Rs. 343. Favourite: Parushram. Owners: M/s P. Prabhakar Reddy, Rama Seshu Eyunni & D.Netto. Trainer: D.Netto.

9. NALGONDA PLATE (D. II), (1,100m), Cat. III, maiden 3-y-o & over, rated upto 50: **Beauty Flash** (Praveen Gaddam) 1, Hunter's Pride (Md Sameeruddin) 2, Perfection (Kuldeep Singh) 3, Upon A Star (G Naresh) 4. 4-1/4, 3-1/4, 1/4. 1m 07.57s. Rs. 30 (w), 8, 9, 6 (p), SHP: Rs. 25, FP: Rs. 155, Q: Rs. 88, Tanala: Rs. 382. Favourite: In Command. Owner and trainer: Mr T.Srinagesh.

Treble (i): Rs. 378 (117 tkts.), (ii): Rs. 247 (333 tkts.), (iii): Rs. 308 (382 tkts.); Consolation: Rs. 320 (780 tkts.); Jackpot: Rs.4172 (140 tkts.).

Tripura forced to follow on

HYDERABAD: Tripura was forced to follow-on after being bundled out for 106 in reply to Hyderabad's first innings score of 362 on the third day of the Col. C.K. Nayudu Trophy under-23 cricket tournament Group 'A' match here on Monday.

The scores:

At Hyderabad: Hyderabad 362 in 143.5 overs (Rohan Yadav 84, Saket Sai Ram 37 n.o., Joydeep Bhattarcharjee four for 100, Dwaipayan Bhattarcharjee four for 85) vs Tripura 106 in 85.3 overs (S.B. Debnath 30, T. Ravi Teja four for 23) and 14 for one in 3.3 overs.

At Amtar (HP):

Himachal Pradesh 293 & 137 for five in 66 overs (A.J. Thakur 57) vs Kerala 183 in 71.3 overs (Abhishek Mohan 43, Mohammed Azharuddeen 41, V.K. Galetiya four for 59, A.P. Sharma three for nine).

Dipika and Joshna advance

CHENNAI: Dipika Pallikal and Joshna Chinappa moved into the second round of the Delaware Investments US Open squash event in Philadelphia, with stunning victories over Joelle King (New Zealand) and Annie Au (Hong Kong) respectively, on Sunday.

World No. 19 Dipika defeated Joelle King, who came in as a qualifier but with credentials of being a former world No. 4, 8-11, 13-11, 5-11, 11-7, 11-9.

The Indian ace next plays fourth seed Alison Waters of England.

Ranked 20 in the world, National champion Joshna accounted for the ninth seed Annie 11-6, 11-7, 12-10 in 28 minutes.

She next plays Omneya Kawy, the sixth seed from Egypt.

Ghosal bows out

In the men's section, Saurav Ghosal lost to third seed Gregory Gaultier of France 5-11, 6-11, 10-12.

ACSU reports DDCA's faux pas

G. Viswanath

MUMBAI: The BCCI's Anti-Corruption and Security Unit (ACSU) has reported against the Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA) for violating rules that bars unaccredited people from entering the Players and Match Officials Area (PMOA) during BCCI tournaments.

The ACSU has told the BCCI that former India captain Mohammad Azharuddin was in the PMOA with DDCA vice-president Chetan Chauhan during the final day of the Ranji Trophy match between Delhi and Vidarbha at the Ferozeshah Kotla on Sunday. A few players, without realising that it was a mistake to do so, went towards Azharuddin and greeted him.

A BCCI match referee told *The Hindu* that the ACSU is very strict and follows ICC match-protocol for the board's domestic matches.

"The players and match officials are accredited and their photographs are displayed at the entrance of the dressing room and match officials' room. Only very few officials of the association are given accreditation. If anyone wants to meet the players, even if it is a selector, he has to approach the ACSU officer. He either accompanies the visitor to the player or official concerned, or brings them to meet the visitor. But, people with accreditation are allowed after the day's play is over," he said.

Fifteen years ago, the BCCI banned Azharuddin for life, linking him to a match-fixing scandal, and barred him from any cricket activity under its jurisdiction.

Though the Andhra Pradesh High Court lifted the ban in 2012, the BCCI has not done so. According to some sources in the BCCI, the stylish Hyderabad batsman, who has played 99 Tests, is keen to see the life-ban lifted by the authorities in India.

BADMINTON

Saina, Ajay Jayaram spearhead Indian challenge

ODENSE: After skipping the Korea Open, World No. 1 Saina Nehwal will be back in action when she leads the Indian challenge at the Denmark Open badminton and sharing some of the limelight in the $650,000 Super Series Premier event will be Ajay Jayaram.

Saina, who had clinched the Denmark title in 2012, is confident after weaving some stupendous performances this year and the Indian ace looks to continue her dominant run when she starts her campaign against Busanan Ongbumrungphan of Thailand on Wednesday.

The 25-year-old from Hyderabad, who won the India Super Series and Syed Modi Grand Prix Gold, a silver medal at World championship, a runner-up finish at All England, is likely to be tested only after the quarterfinals if she plays to her reputation.

Also brimming with confidence will be Jayaram, who reached his maiden Super Series final at the Korea Open in September and then defended his men's singles title at the Dutch Open Grand Prix.

Ajay Jayaram (left) and Saina Nehwal. – PHOTOS: AFP

The Mumbai-born shuttler will have to go through the qualifiers, where he will take on Germany's Fabian Roth at the Odense Sports Park.

"Danish Open Super Series will offer bigger challenges. I am looking to take the positives from this tournament (Dutch Open) and give my best next week," he had said after winning the men's singles title at Almere.

Two-time bronze medallist at the World championship, P.V. Sindhu, will also look to put her best foot forward when she starts her campaign against Indonesia's Maria Febe Kusumastuti.

In men's singles, World No. 5 Kidambi Srikanth, Commonwealth Games champion P. Kashyap and World No. 16 H.S. Prannoy will lead the Indian challenge.

While Srikanth's first round opponent is yet to be decided after the withdrawal of Thailand's Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk, Kashyap will have to fight it out against former world No. 1 and two-time Olympic silver medallist Lee Chong Wei of Malaysia and Prannoy will take on Chinese Taipei's Hsu Jen Hao.

The Indian men's doubles pair of Manu Attri and B. Sumeeth Reddy, who finished runner-up at Dutch Open, will square up against the England combo of Marcus Ellis and Chris Langridge.

In women's doubles, 2014 Commonwealth Games silver winners G. Jwala and Ashwini Ponnappa will be back in business after missing the Korea Open as they take on Japanese seventh seed Reika Kakiiwa and Miyuki Maeda. — PTI

GENERAL

South Asian Games 2016 re-scheduled

Sports Reporter

CHENNAI: The South Asian Games 2016, which was originally scheduled between January 10 and 20 at Guwahati and Shillong, is now set to take place in the second fortnight of February. The decision was taken unanimously at a meeting of the South Asian Olympic Council here on Sunday.

IOA president N. Ramachandran, who chaired the meeting, said the decision to re-schedule was taken in keeping with the request of some of the members, and factoring in the non-conducive climatic conditions at the hosting venues in January.

"The exact dates would be communicated to the various national Olympic committees in the next 15 days after consultations with all stake holders, including the Government of India and the governments of Assam and Meghalaya. The IOA would also be consulting the Chief Ministers of both these states in this regard," he said.

The council also decided on the disciplines to be included for the event. Accordingly, the games will feature twenty three of them — archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, boxing, cycling, football, handball, hockey, judo, kabaddi, kho kho, shooting, squash, swimming, table tennis, taekwondo, triathlon, volleyball, weightlifting, wrestling and wushu — with tennis being the latest addition. Guwahati will host a major chunk of the events.

The meeting was also attended by the newly appointed CEO of South Asian Games, R.K. Sharma and delegates of all the other seven countries — Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka.

Ramachandran said the events to be held in each discipline would be worked out by the Games Technical Conduct Committee in a week's time, referring the preceding edition which was held at Dhaka in 2010.

India takes on Oman

MUSCAT: Virtually out of the reckoning after four losses in a row, the Indian football team will look to salvage some pride and put up a decent performance against higher-ranked Oman in a World Cup qualifying round match here on Tuesday.

India is without a win in its World Cup qualifying campaign and pressure has been piling on the players and coach Stephen Constantine.

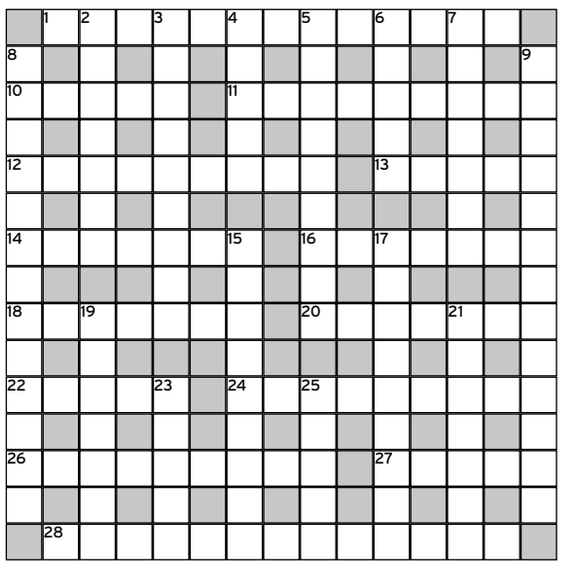
It faces an uphill task against Oman, which is ranked 102 as against India's 167. Oman had emerged a 2-1 winner in the first leg at Bengaluru.

Stephen Constantine's boys will surely be the underdogs as Oman is riding high after holding the continent's highest-ranked team Iran to a 1-1 draw at home last week. — PTI

VARIETY

THE HINDU CROSSWORD 11524

Arden



Across

1 Patriot, say escorted girl to French island (6,7)
10 May be masculine, but not lean — it is noted (5)
11 Extremely small — a timeless novel (9)
12 Doesn't make sense without a certified mastery of language (9)
13 Starts systematically taking out infiltrators — calm and unmoved (5)
14 Strange thing to keep note on brace (7)
16 Funnily, Simpson's acquired a title (7)
18 Start chasing it before deal's made in a safe place (7)
20 Decreasing maybe later in the day (7)
22 Capital has been invested in American city (5)
24 May be non-restrictive, since withdrawn and shy (9)
26 Ain't nerve used to do this? (9)
27 Charm of people post middle age (5)
28 For Saint Harry to be put in a box — you would want to do it later (13)

Down

2 Rising trend of using emergency power arm (7)
3 Frozen up before the game was won — completely destroyed (9)
4 Resign from the French university (5)
5 Rage hiding basic struggle by novice — it's fiery (9)
6 Same up and down flights (5)
7 After song will have rest (3,4)
8 Waters affect IMF clout with India (8,5)
9 Stay united and get hit by rockets, unfortunately (5,8)
15 Promoting a pill in a single package for a woman yet to have a child (9)
17 No point playing 'Rose garden' on this instrument (4,5)
19 A treadmill, say for the coach (7)
21 One that repeats nitrate compound (7)
23 E.M. Forster's novel 'With a heart of gold' (5)
25 'Bit dry outside' is a short message (5)

Solution to puzzle 11523

F	O	I	S	T	E	D	■	C	A	L	I	B	R	E
L	■	M	■	A	■	I	■	R	■	A	■	E	■	S
O	R	P	I	N	■	S	T	A	N	D	F	A	S	T
P	■	R	■	G	■	T	■	F	■	I	■	N	■	E
P	R	O	P	O	N	E	N	T	■	E	L	O	P	E
Y	■	M	■	■	■	M	■	■	■	S	■	■	■	M
■	O	P	U	S	■	P	O	L	Y	M	A	T	H	■
■	■	T	■	E	■	E	■	A	■	A	■	E	■	■
■	D	U	M	M	Y	R	U	N	■	N	O	N	E	■
C	■	■	■	A	■	■	■	T	■	■	■	N	■	A
O	N	T	A	P	■	B	E	H	E	A	D	I	N	G
M	■	H	■	H	■	A	■	A	■	M	■	S	■	E
P	R	O	M	O	T	I	O	N	■	P	O	P	I	N
L	■	R	■	R	■	T	■	U	■	L	■	R	■	D
Y	A	N	K	E	E	S	■	M	Y	E	L	O	M	A

FAITH

Heaven and Hell

Verse ten of Andal's Tiruppavai talks of 'svarga.' But what is svarga? There is a beautiful explanation of what svarga is in the Ramayana, elaborated M.A. Venkatakrishnan in a discourse. Rama tries to dissuade Sita from accompanying Him to the forest. He says forest life is full of hardships. Forest life, in short, is like being in hell. Sita then asks Rama to explain what He means by Heaven and Hell.

Rama says that that which gives one joy is Heaven and that which gives one sorrow is Hell. Sita thereupon points out that if joy is heaven, then Her joy lies in being with Him. And if hell is sorrow, then to be parted from Him is sorrow and separation from Him is hell.

Sita's argument is valid for all of us. Proximity to Him is joy and distance from Him is sorrow.

In fact, the Azhvars have referred to this earth as a hell worse than the one over which Yama lords. Yama's hell is the place where we pay for our sins, but this earth is the place that paves the way for more sins! So this earth is worse than hell, and that is why we seek liberation.

Svarga or heaven is not used in a limited sense in this Tiruppavai verse. Heaven is the joy of being beside Him.

The Gopika who is being woken up in this verse is a girl whose sleep is well earned. She is peaceful and is able to sleep without any worries, because she is fortunate. And the good fortune she has is that she has surrendered to Lord Narayana and therefore enjoys bliss.

In her mind, She is able to visualise the Lord and is happy. She is like one who has done her duties and is therefore carefree.

SU | DO | KU

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

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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

A mind game and a puzzle that you solve with reasoning and logic. Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3x3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any. The solution to yesterday's puzzle is at left.

Dahiya overcomes Pun

CHANDIGARH: Jatin Dahiya fought his way past Param Pun 6-7(6), 7-5, 6-0 in the men's first round of Rs. 200,000 Tribune Cup AITA ranking tennis tournament at the CLTA Complex on Monday.

Former national champion V.M. Ranjeet beat lucky loser Keneiezotuo Whourie in straight sets to make the pre-quarterfinals.

The results (first round):

Men: V.M. Ranjeet bt Keneiezotuo Whourie 6-3, 6-3; Jatin Dahiya bt Param Pun 6-7(6), 7-5, 6-0; Suraj Beniwal bt Shrey Gupta 6-2, 6-4; Sahil Gaware bt Rohit Bisht 6-3, 6-3; Ranjeet Singh bt Yuvraj Singh 7-6(7), 6-3; R. Ramakrishnan bt Aditya Deswal 6-7(4), 6-2, 6-0; Archit Jain bt Maninder Singh 6-1, 6-3; Deepinder Bains bt Ravi Shankar 6-4, 7-5.

Paramveer Bajwa bt Aditya Tiwari 6-3, 6-3; Jagmeet Singh bt Raghvendra Subramanyam 7-6(5), 6-1; Sagar Bains bt Mohammed Fariz 7-6(9), 6-0; Vlasier Khate bt Chnmay Dev 1-6, 6-2, 6-4; Sandeep Chaudhary bt Ayush Mintri 6-3, 6-2; Javed Hazary Akbar bt Lavish Nehra 6-1, 5-7, 6-1; Digvijay Singh bt Sultan Singh Atwal 6-2, 6-3; Siddharth Vishwakarma bt Manjot Singh 6-4, 6-2.

Women: Gurleen Singh bt Sukhmani Kaur 6-3, 6-1; Sharmeen Rizvi bt Shamita Yadav 6-3, 6-2; Ishwari Seth bt Kavya Gupta 7-6(6), 4-6, 6-1; Gayatri Kumaraiah bt Shrishti Dhanda 6-1, 6-1; Shehnaz Singh bt Deepa Kumari 6-0, 6-0; Amreen Naaz bt Silky Sachdeva 4-6, 6-4, 6-2; Seerat Kaur Pannu bt Nishtha Dudeja 6-0, 6-0; Priyangana Seth bt Sudeshna Sen 6-0, 6-1; Anandita Mitra bt Stuti Tomar 6-3, 6-4.

Sania to take measured approach to Olympics

BEIJING: India's doubles world No. 1 Sania Mirza has promised to take a measured approach to next year's Olympics, promising "I'm not going to kill myself!" if she fails to bring home a gold medal.

Excitement over the Rio de Janeiro Games is already ramping up with high speculation over who will team up with Sania as she seeks to win a rare Olympic gold for India.

The 28-year-old said it would be "amazing" to win Olympic gold, but also stressed that it wasn't the only target in a sport which has four Grand Slam tournaments every year. — AFP

Hirwani keen to unearth domestic spin talent

Narendra Hirwan. – PHOTO: SANDEEP SAXENA

Vijay Lokapally

INDORE: Other than the 16 wickets that he took on Test debut (eight for 61 and eight for 75) against the West Indies at Madras in 1988, the wily Narendra Hirwani has a memory he so preciously cherishes. He was given the best bowler's award in an exhibition match. Not for taking wickets in a heap. It was for not letting G.R. Viswanath play the cut. Well, some achievement that!

Hiru, as he is fondly known in cricket circles, can't sit still. He must make various actions with his wrist, fingers, hip and feet – movements that left many batsmen in a daze, unable to fathom the flight and turn that this leg-spinner imparted, without once letting his mind be influenced by the state of the pitch.

He last played a Test in 1996 and an ODI in 1992. His first-class career ended in 2005 with an aggregate of 732 wickets off 42,890 balls in 167 matches. Surprisingly, he only figured in 17 Tests and 18 ODIs despite that explosive start to his career when he accounted for the great Viv Richards in both innings.

Sadly, he watches the decline of his tribe, the spinner, from the sidelines. Cricket is an inseparable component of his life. He will stop and correct a bowler if he sees a flaw even in a street contest. "I am not one obsessed with technique but I want things to be done correctly," he says.

At 46, he has no cricketing dreams left apart from monitoring the progress of his son, Mihir. He too bowls leg-spin. What ails spin? Hiru smiles. "To be termed a spinner you need to spin the ball," he says. "I see very few bowlers spin the ball. If the pitch is helpful, you may not be able to differentiate a good spinner from a bad one. But if the pitch is placid, you will have to work hard to get the ball to turn. That is where you will find a good spinner."

Hiru laments the absence of hip movement – the trigger to impart revolutions to the ball. "The part played by the hip is as important as the shoulder, fingers and wrist," he says. "Flight depends on how much you can spin the ball. It comes from practice. It is science too. Of course, patience is of paramount importance. Today, the youngsters are in a hurry, probably the pace of life affects their game too. Quick, quick, quick. It doesn't help."

He advocates long hours of training. Five-hundred balls a day. "It is important to dream. Today, parents dream for their child, add pressure. None of my family members came to the ground to watch me. It helped me."

What if he is appointed spin guru? "I would scout myself, develop the natural flair of the young bowlers. Technique counts, but I won't tamper with his natural action. A coach has to be passionate and not driven by needs. He should be hurt if his pupil fails. This trait is missing today. A spinner has to be hungry. His coach, too."

A thinking cricketer like Hirwani can be expected to work in his field and look for quality slow bowlers. A spinner is not a member merely included to give the seamers rest or meet the demands of the over-rate.

He is a match-winner. Just like Hirwani, who buried a team as mighty as the West Indies single-handed. He is keen to unearth a few from the domestic league, for India needs to play to its strength: "Spin," Hirwani emphasises.

Pakistan banks on spin duo

ABU DHABI: Pakistan is pinning its hopes on relative Test novices Yasir Shah and Zulfiqar Babar to cause England's batsmen problems when the two countries renew a 51-year rivalry in the United Arab Emirates on Tuesday.

England should be confident after reclaiming the Ashes on home soil this year with a 3-2 win over Australia, but Alastair Cook's charges may also feel some trepidation after their last series against Pakistan in 2012 ended in a 3-0 whitewash.

Spin duo Saeed Ajmal and Abdur Rehman were England's tormentors back then, taking 43 wickets for an average of 15.6 runs, but they are absent this time so Shah and Babar will be Pakistan's main spin threat in the three-Test series.

Both are late bloomers.

Shah, 29, made his Test debut last year and has since claimed 61 wickets in 10 matches including 24 against Sri Lanka in July. Babar, 36, has 42 wickets in 10 matches following his 2013 bow.

"The way he (Shah) is bowling he's a threat to every team, he's our strength," said Pakistan captain Misbah-ul-Haq, 41.

"To win a Test match, a series, you can't just focus on one bowler. Zulfiqar and the fast bowlers will play a key role because of the reverse swing, especially with the new ball."

Crucial

Younis Khan, Pakistan's all-time third-highest run scorer, will be crucial to the host's batting hopes especially after Azhar Ali was ruled out of the first Test due to injury.

Most Pakistan players arrived in the UAE on Wednesday from a one-day series in Zimbabwe. The team opted for just one warm-up match, a sign of confidence about playing in their adopted UAE home where Pakistan remains unbeaten in seven series.

"Any away team these days seem to be the underdogs," England coach Trevor Bayliss told reporters.

"Experience-wise, we've got some young players but players with a lot of ability and skill. There's no reason why we can't play some good cricket and if we play some good cricket we'll be hard to beat."

Meanwhile, England fast bowler Steven Finn will miss the first Test against Pakistan with a foot injury, the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) announced on Monday.

The 26-year-old has sustained a stress injury to his left foot and will therefore sit out of the opening match in the three-Test series.

Finn first felt pain in his foot during England's second warm-up match against Pakistan 'A' in Sharjah last week, but took part in a nets session on Sunday. Joe Root, the world's third-ranked batsman, will be England's main scoring hope after many of the specialist batsmen struggled in the Ashes.

Allrounder Moeen Ali, a handy off-spinner and regular at No.8, seems likely to become Cook's seventh opening partner.

The teams (from):

Pakistan: Misbah-ul-Haq (capt.), Ahmed Shehzad, Shan Masood, Mohammad Hafeez, Fawad Alam, Asad Shafiq, Younis Khan, Shoaib Malik, Sarfraz Ahmed, Yasir Shah, Zulfiqar Babar, Wahab Riaz, Imran Khan, Rahat Ali and Junaid Khan.

England: Alastair Cook (capt.), Moeen Ali, James Anderson, Samit Patel, Jonny Bairstow, Ian Bell, Stuart Broad, Jos Buttler, Alex Hales, Liam Plunkett, Adil Rashid, Joe Root, Ben Stokes, James Taylor and Mark Wood. — Agencies

TIPS FROM MASTER: *Pakistan coach Waqar Younis (left) is having a word with spin bowler Yasir Shah on the eve of their first Test against England in Abu Dhabi on Monday.* – PHOTO: GARETH COPLEY / GETTY IMAGES

Younis poised to pass Miandad's run record

ABU DHABI: Younis Khan is poised to surpass Javed Miandad as Pakistan's greatest Test match run scorer, but refuses to be considered the equal of a man he describes as a "legend and an idol".s

The 37-year-old needs just 19 more runs in the three-Test series against England starting on Tuesday to pass Miandad's tally of 8,832 runs scored in 124 matches during an illustrious career which stretched from 1976 to 1993.

Younis has so far scored 8,814 runs in 101 Tests, with a Pakistan record of 30 centuries. — AFP

Amrinder scores six

NEW DELHI: Amrinder Kaur slammed in six goals while Amandeep Kaur scored five as the girls from Baba Zoravar Singh Fateh Singh Sr. Sec. School ran riot, thrashing NCC Directorate, Delhi 23-1 in its Super League match of the Nehru Girls hockey tournament here on Monday.

The completely one-sided Pool A match saw the Punjab team dominate even as the opposition struggled to put stick to ball. Pavithra P.A. managed to put in the lone consolation goal for her team.

It wasn't the only one-sided match of the day, however, with Rajwinder Kaur continuing her scoring spree to help Sri Guru Arjan Dev SSS, Tarn Taran decimate Urmi School & Hostel, Vadodara 13-0. Rajwinder scored nine of those goals.

The results: Pool C: Lallengvunga High School, Mizoram 4 (Lalremsiami 2, R. Lalsangzwali, F. Lalawmpwil) bt Krida Prabodhini, Pune 1 (Akshata Dhekale); **Pool A:** Baba Zoravar Singh Fateh Singh SSS, Fatehgarh Sahib 23 (Amrinder Kaur 6, Amandeep Kaur 5, Reet 4, Navneet Kaur 3, Kajal 3, Mahima, Gurleen Grewal) bt NCC Directorate, Delhi 1 (Pavithra P. A.); **Pool D:** Sri Guru Arjan Dev SSS, Tarn Taran 13 (Rajwinder Kaur 9, Rozy Bharti 4) bt Urmi School & Hostel, Vadodara 0.

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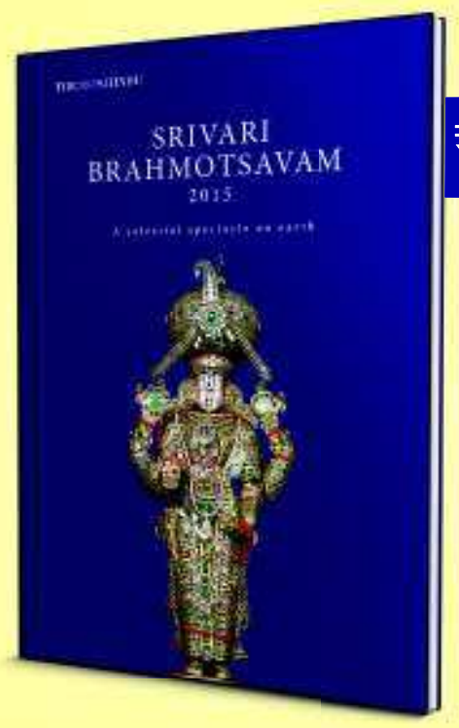

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Firstborns prone to myopia

Firstborn children run a greater risk of becoming nearsighted later in life, compared to their siblings, a study by Cardiff University says.

OnePlus will make in India

Chinese mobile phone company OnePlus said it has entered into an agreement with Foxconn Technology to manufacture phones in India.

Tyler threatens Trump with lawsuit

Steven Tyler has said that he will take legal action against U.S. Presidential candidate Donald Trump if Tyler's band Aerosmith's hit song *Dream On* continues to be used in campaign rallies.

STAR TREK

PRIYANKA WRAPS UP *BAJIRAO*

Priyanka Chopra turned emotional as she wrapped up the shooting of Sanjay Leela Bhanasali's period drama *Bajirao Mastani*. "And it's a Film wrap! Being a part of #BajiraoMastani is a milestone in my life! Thank u Sanjay Sir for being a dream. Thank you Team. Left a part of me behind," Priyanka tweeted.

The actress shared a picture of her flying from the filming location at Wai in Maharashtra. "The chopper takes off... Leaving beautiful Wai and the unit that spent a year making this beautiful masterpiece with a sad goodbye but a song in my heart," she captioned her Instagram post. — PTI

THEATRE TO BUILD BONDS

Mahesh Bhatt's play *Milne Do* will have a cast of Indian and Pakistani actors. The play, which is an intense love story between two culturally crossed individuals during times of hatred, will be staged at the Shri Ram Centre in New Delhi before it travels to other cities of India and Pakistan.

Laal, a Pakistani band, has composed the music and will perform live during the play. The story is by Suhrita Sengupta. — ANI

SIDHARTH GETS FRODO'S RING

As a fan of the *Lord Of The Rings* film series, actor Sidharth Malhotra was thrilled to receive Frodo Baggins' ring from Oscar-winning legend Richard Taylor, who contributed to the trilogy's costume, make-up and visual effects departments.

Of course, the ring wasn't the original, but it left Sidharth extremely excited. "Thank u Sir Richard Taylor for creating Lord of the rings and @WetaWorkshop n for Frodos Ring," the *Ek Villain* actor, who has been appointed as New Zealand's tourism ambassador in India, posted on his Instagram page.

Sidharth lightheartedly asked Taylor if the ring was the original one. And Taylor joked that the actor could just tell his friends and fans back home that it indeed was. On Monday, Sidharth got a peek at the sets and props used in the *LOTR* films at Weta Workshop in Welling in New Zealand. — IANS

CAROLINE ON HER ROYAL ROMANCE

TV presenter Caroline Flack has recently spilled the beans on her rumoured romance with Prince Harry. In her new autobiography, *Storm in a C Cup*, the 35-year-old *X Factor* host said she and the 31-year-old royal got close after meeting through a mutual pal. Flack said they "did have a friendship" but it ended quickly, *People* magazine reported. Flack previously dated singer Harry Styles. — ANI

SANITATION DRIVE

Sachin and Murali make a clean sweep in Sri Lanka

T. Ramakrishnan

Cricket legends Sachin Tendulkar and Muttiah Muralitharan (right) demonstrate how to wash hands in Colombo at a UNICEF campaign on Monday. – PHOTO: AFP

COLOMBO: Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar visited Sri Lanka first in 1993 to play a three-match series. Over the next 17 years, he travelled here to play several matches.

But, his current trip to Colombo is "to play a different match, a match against all diseases caused by diarrhoea."

Sachin, donning the cap of the UNICEF's goodwill ambassador for south Asia, said that it was not just an 11-member squad but "entire Sri Lanka is going to be involved in the match."

His "teammate" in this match is cricketer Muttiah Muralidharan or, in short, Murali. Both teamed up to launch a campaign, highlighting the importance of hygiene and sanitation in Sri Lanka, at an event organised by the UNICEF here on Monday.

Sachin recalled how his mother had taught him the importance of handwashing in the early years of life. Murali said that rural areas in Sri Lanka were better placed than urban centres with regard to the provision of toilets. He called for the setting up of more public toilets in cities and tea plantations.

Seventeen per cent of schools and 14 per cent of households in Sri Lanka do not have adequate sanitation coverage. Sachin urged local heroes and celebrities to promote the cause of sanitation.

True to their passion for the game, the cricketers wound up the launch by playing with children.

Stem-cell therapy for foetuses to fight brittle-bone disease

PARIS: Foetuses burdened with a crippling form of brittle-bone disease will receive stem-cell treatment early next year in a pioneering trial, British hospitals participating in the study said on Monday.

Stem cells will be injected into the foetuses to help strengthen bones so frail they may break before birth, the researchers said, and into stricken babies to compare the results.

Children with severe forms of the condition, called osteogenesis imperfecta, suffer repeated fractures throughout the skeleton, leading to painful disability and, in some cases, death in early infancy.

The symptoms include brittle teeth, hearing loss, and breathing difficulties due to malformed rib cages. There is no cure.

Genetic in origin, brittle-bone disease affects about one in 25,000 people of European descent.

The condition is caused by a defect in a gene that produces collagen, a fibre-like protein crucial for strengthening bone, much in the way steel rods reinforce concrete.

> Children with osteogenesis imperfecta suffer repeated fractures

The trials, coordinated by the Karolinska Institute in Sweden where the stem-cell treatment was developed, will involve a group of foetuses and a group of babies.

Collagen levels

Each group will receive injections of stem cells specialised in boosting collagen levels in infants' growing bones.

Stem cells are primitive cells which, as they grow, differentiate into the various specialised cells that make up the different organs — the brain, the heart, the kidney, and so on.

The approach had already been tested on a handful of young children suffering from brittle-bone disease, with encouraging results, said the Karolinska Institute's Cecilia Gotherstrom.

"But we believe that we can improve the treatment for other patients by administering it to the foetus and again in repeated doses during the child's first years of life," she said in a statement.

A dozen research institutes, hospitals and pharmaceutical companies across Europe are participating in the trial.

Lyn Chitty of the Great Ormond Street Hospital for children in London will conduct genetic testing of women at high risk of carrying children with the disease, to find subjects for the trial.

"If successful, this project may be one of the first to show that certain conditions can begin to be treated prior to birth, leading to better outcomes for the child," according to the hospital. — AFP

A new lullaby

A 'lab assistant' helps a man get into a hammock at Chronarium Sleep Lab, a public sleep laboratory presented in an audiovisual environment by British group Loop.pH during the Festival of Tech in Singapore on Monday. The installation, inspired by chronobiology or biological rhythms, makes use of sound and artificial lighting to help the brain relax and rest for 15 minutes. – PHOTO: REUTERS

More U.S. cities recognise Indigenous Peoples' Day

ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO: More U.S. cities are recognising Native Americans on Columbus Day this year as they revive a movement to change the name of the holiday to celebrate the history and contributions of indigenous cultures around the country.

As the U.S. observes Columbus Day on Monday, it will also be Indigenous Peoples' Day in at least nine cities for the first time this year, including Albuquerque, New Mexico; Portland, Oregon; St. Paul, Minnesota; and Olympia, Washington state.

Native American activists have made a push in dozens of cities in recent months to get local leaders to officially recognize the second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples' Day.

The campaigns say the federal holiday honouring Christopher Columbus and the parades and pageantry accompanying it overlook a painful history of colonialism, enslavement, discrimination and land grabs that followed the Italian explorer's 1492 arrival in the Americas.

A dance during a "pow-wow" celebrating the Indigenous Peoples' Day in New York. – PHOTO: REUTERS

The indigenous holiday takes into account the history and contributions of Native Americans for a more accurate historical record, activists have argued. — AP

'Power' dressing, literally

MELBOURNE: Researchers have created stretchable and electrically conductive fibres that can be braided and knitted using traditional techniques to create garments that monitor human movement.

The ability to arrange different types of fibres with predetermined spatial organisation gives colour and vibrancy to traditional textiles and comfort to those who wear them. By replacing conventional fibres with those that can conduct electricity, researchers can allow for monitoring of human movement using garments and storing the energy required to power such a function. Researchers of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Electromaterials Science (ACES) have created new fibre structures and used traditional knitting and braiding techniques to introduce both these capabilities in wearable structures. A knitted textile based on the polymeric composite fibres, produced at the Australian National Fabrication Facility, is highly sensitive, stable and able to detect a wide range of human movement.

> Electrically conductive fibres help create garments that monitor movement

The team demonstrated a working device with remote sensing capabilities using a knee sleeve prototype of the fabric that "talks" to a commercial wireless receiver.

These fibres are not only stretchable but also conduct electricity. This combination of properties allows the fibres to respond to body movement.

For energy storage, the materials that make up a battery have been braided into appropriate arrangements to deliver energy storage capabilities, researchers said.

"We are able to take fundamental advances in materials science and engineering and to realise wearable structures for use in sports training and rehabilitation applications," ACES Director Gordon Wallace said. — PTI

Not a restroom, it's the 'fifth space'

BEIJING: Restrooms here are set to become the "fifth space" besides family, work, leisure and cyber space in China, a media report said on Monday.

The Beijing Environmental Sanitation Engineering Group says the restrooms will be a multifunctional public space, which will have Wi-Fi coverage, an ATM, charging devices for mobile phones and electric vehicles, the *People's Daily* reported.

Basic physical examination, such as measurement of blood pressure and heart rate and urine analysis, can also be done, an official from the group said. The restrooms will provide special services to seniors, the disabled and the blind as well as parents with babies, he said.

A public restroom in Beijing. — FILE PHOTO: REUTERS

To guarantee the sanitation of "the fifth space", the group will issue a new construction and service standard for the public restroom in November. With advanced automatic cleaning equipment, the sanitation of the restroom will be improved, the official added. — IANS

PEOPLE

Kovacevich's sublime musical dexterity

Near-fatal stroke, severe stage fright did not break his affair with the piano

LONDON: California-born pianist Stephen Kovacevich, who made his public debut at the age of 11, has a lot to be thankful for as he celebrates his 75th birthday this week — including being alive.

He and his former wife, the virtuoso Martha Argerich, will play piano duets at London's Wigmore Hall, a box set of his recordings has been reissued and, perhaps most significantly, seven years have now passed since he suffered a near-fatal stroke.

"I'm incredibly lucky, I've made a total recovery. That isn't everyone's fate," the affable Kovacevich said in an interview at his flat in north London, where his Steinway grand dominates one room and a stereo dominates the room below.

MUSE AND THE MUSICIAN: *Pianist Stephen Kovacevich reveals his magic in Mumbai.* – FILE PHOTO: PTI

Pacemaker implant

Kovacevich has talked to other interviewers about how his medical emergency began with a loss of some ability in his left hand and escalated with a loss of velocity in his right. It culminated with his doctors in London sending him a text message saying he had to come in that night for a pacemaker implant.

A few days later, he had the full-blown stroke, which initially left him unable to speak.

"I thought, that's it for me, I'm going to be like this for the rest of my life," he said. "But I could play, not fantastically. And two weeks later I played [Beethoven's] *Emperor Concerto*, not fantastically, but it was good." So was it that famous, if not scientifically proven, notion that musicians' brains are wired differently, that helped him recover?

All Kovacevich knows is that when he left hospital, a specialist told him: "When you go home, you turn the key in your apartment, you go to the piano and you start."

"So there must be something about practising that keeps the brain working ... there probably is something, it may be true," he said.

Piano aficionados worldwide will rejoice that Kovacevich made it — and keeps going. The recording he made of Beethoven's challenging *Diabelli Variations* in 1968 after he triumphed with it at a London recital is rated one of the best — perhaps rivalled only by one he made some 40 years later, which some critics rank even higher.

"The second one is wild," Kovacevich said clearly relishing recent acclaim for his later version.

Mind matters

What some of his admirers may not realise is how hard it has been for Kovacevich to perform at all. As many performers, he suffers from severe — and unpredictable — bouts of stage fright.

"There have been times when I walked off" stage, Kovacevich said, adding it had happened only twice, years ago, and he feels better able to cope, having talked to a sports psychologist.

"The coach takes care of the tennis, but the sports psychologist, I know one, and he says, 'My job is when the person is taking a penalty I get his mind to think it's at least a half-filled glass and not a half empty glass'."

"That helps," Kovacevich said. — Reuters

Now a genetic brake on ageing

NEW YORK: In what could lead to potential new ways of slowing the pace of ageing in humans, research have identified 238 genes that when removed from living cells can extend their life.

The 10-year study by scientists at the Buck Institute for Research on Aging and the University of Washington was conducted on yeast cells.

As many of these genes and genetic pathways are found in mammals, the researchers believe that if the same gene editing technique could be replicated in humans, it could help extend lifespan.

"This study looks at ageing in the context of the whole genome and gives us a more complete picture of what ageing is," said Brian Kennedy, lead author of the study and president and chief executive officer of the institute.

The researchers examined 4,698 yeast strains, each with a single gene deletion.

To determine which strains yielded an increased lifespan, the researchers counted yeast cells, logging how many daughter cells a mother produced before it stopped dividing.

Higher organisms

These efforts produced a wealth of information about how different genes, and their associated pathways, modulate ageing in yeast.

A number of the age-extending genes the team identified are also found in roundworms, indicating these mechanisms are conserved in higher organisms.

The research was published online in the journal *Cell Metabolism*. — IANS