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JOE, SOPHIE GET MARRIED IN VEGAS 13 VIVACITY

8L evacuated as Fani set to rip through east coast

Super cyclone to make landfall near Puri between 8 am and 10 am today

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a massive evacuation exercise aimed at minimising possible damage from the "extremely severe" cyclonic storm Fani that is expected to make landfall at India's south-eastern coast on Friday, the Odisha Government shifted more than 8 lakh people away from low-lying areas close to the sea on Thursday. More than 100 trains have been cancelled in view of the approaching cyclonic storm.

People living in vulnerable areas along the coast were put in buses and smaller four-wheelers and then in trains and brought to cyclone shelters specially prepared for them. Cyclone Fani is expected to make the landfall near the temple town of Puri on the coast of the Bay of Bengal in Odisha between 8 am and 10 am on Friday (May 3), according to the latest forecast by India Meteorological Department (IMD), and it will continue till 12 noon.

IMD says 19 districts of Odisha, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh are likely to be hit by Fani. Even red warning has been issued to some districts of Uttar Pradesh. Parts of north coastal Andhra Pradesh started receiving heavy rain as Fani in the Bay of Bengal neared the coast.

The IMD on Friday warned that Fani is moving northwards with a speed of 5 km per hour in last six hours and is likely to make landfall at Odisha coast between Gopalpur and Chandbali anytime after Friday afternoon, with wind speed of up to 200 km per hour. Currently, Fani lay centred over West Central



Villagers at the beach as dark clouds hover above the sea ahead of Cyclone Fani, in Puri on Thursday

Bay of Bengal about 430 km south-southwest of Puri in Odisha, 225 km south-south-east of Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and 650 km south-southwest of Digha in West Bengal.

The IMD predicted that the cyclone will first hit Puri district after which it will move northwards towards Khurda, Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack, Kendrapada, Jajpur, Bhadrak, Balasore and Mayurbhanj. IMD bulletin said storm surge of about 1.5 metre above astro-

nomical tide is likely to inundate low lying areas of Ganjam, Khurda, Puri and Jagatsinghpur districts of Odisha at the time of possible landfall. Several areas are likely to receive rainfall up to 20 cm under the impact of the cyclone.

According to IMD, maximum damage is expected in Kendrapada, Bhadrak, Jajpur, Balasore, Ganjam, Gajapati, Khurda, Puri, Jagatsinghpur districts of Odisha and east and west Medinipur, South and

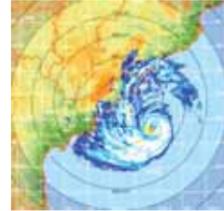
North 24 Parganas, Howrah, Hoogli, Kolkata districts of West Bengal and Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam and Vijayanagaram districts of Andhra Pradesh. The cyclone is likely to enter West Bengal as a 'severe cyclonic storm' of 90-100 kmph gusting to 115 kmph. It is likely to emerge into Bangladesh on the evening of 4 May as a cyclonic storm with a wind speed 60-70 kmph gusting to 80 kmph.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi reviewed the prepared-

ness for Fani and instructed Government officials to maintain close coordination with officials of the affected States to ensure preventive measures.

Modi also asked the officers concerned to take effective steps for relief and rescue operations. He was briefed on the likely path of the cyclone, and the ongoing precautionary and preparatory measures being undertaken.

All the 880 cyclone centres have been readied for the pur-



This satellite image acquired from the Indian Meteorological Department shows Cyclone Fani in the Bay of Bengal on Thursday

pose. Boats have been kept in a state of readiness.

The Railways on Thursday said around 102 trains have been cancelled in the last two days in view of the cyclonic storm, while three special trains pressed into service to ferry stranded passengers from affected areas. Four trains have been diverted, it said.

According to the Director General of Civil Aviation, no flights will take off from Thursday midnight for the next 24 hours from Bhubaneswar airport, while Kolkata airport will be out of bounds for flights between 9.30 pm of May 3 and 6 pm of May 4.

The Airport Authority of India (AAI) has issued alerts to all coastal airports, asking that all precautions and standard operating procedures be put into place immediately in view of Fani.

"Situation will be monitored at the highest level. Airlines and all others to be fully ready," tweeted Civil Aviation Minister Suresh Prabhu. He also said that all authorities concerned are on high alert.

'Hood of snake' may climb to 180-205 kmph

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Fani is the most severe cyclonic storm since the super cyclone of 1999 that claimed close to 10,000 lives and left a trail of destruction in vast swathes of Odisha, according to the Joint Typhoon Warning Centre. IMD said it is also the first cyclonic storm of such severity to have formed in April in India's oceanic neighbourhood in 43 years.

The super cyclone of 1999 had affected at least 1.3 crore people, including 33 lakh children, 50 lakh women and nearly 35 lakh elderly. And over 3,15,886 cattle died.

Cyclone Fani has been named by Bangladesh. It is pronounced "Foni" and trans-

lates to "the hood of a snake". The IMD has predicted that the storm wind could climb to 180-205 kmph.

IMD officials said April to December is the cyclone season but over 65 per cent of all cyclones occur in the last four months of the year. Cyclones are classified on the wind speed around the low pressure area. Wind speed of over 62 kmph is classified as a tropical cyclone and assigned a name.

It becomes a severe cyclonic storm if the speed is between 89 and 118 kmph and a very severe cyclonic storm if the speed is between 119 and 221 kmph. Those with higher speeds are categorised as super cyclonic storms.



A fisherman runs between the docked fishing boats amid strong winds at Chandrabhaga beach in Puri on Thursday

Decide complaints against Modi, Shah before May 6: SC to EC

EC's clean chit to Modi on third complaint 'nuke not for Diwali'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After the Supreme Court's directions to decide on the complaints pending against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP chief Amit Shah before the apex court hear the case on May 6, the Election Commission (EC) on Thursday gave clean chit to Modi on the third of the nine complaints in which he had said "nuclear bomb is not for Diwali" at Barmer in Rajasthan during a poll campaign on April 21.

The poll body also held that Rahul did not violate the model code of conduct for calling Shah a murder accused.



The EC told the SC that it has already decided two out of the 11 complaints which were filed by the Congress against Modi and Shah for the alleged violation of the model code.

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, appearing for Congress Lok Sabha member Sushmita Dev, who has filed a petition in the SC on the issue, told the court that they have given 11 representations to the EC against the PM and Shah

but the EC has taken decision only on two.

"After about five-and-a-half weeks, they (EC) have decided only two representations," Singhvi told the SC.

The EC said, "By Wednesday (May 8), we are likely to consider all these representations."

However, the SC ordered, "The remaining representations shall be decided by the EC before we hear the matter again on Monday (May 6)."

Court asks EC to take call on plea for poll from 5 am during Ramzan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday directed the Election Commission to take a call on a plea seeking to advance the voting timing to 5 am for the remaining phases of the Lok Sabha election due to heat waves and Ramzan.

The petition was filed by advocates Mohammed Nizamuddin Pasha and Asad Hayat, who mentioned it for urgent hearing before a Bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi and also consisting of Justices Deepak Gupta and Sanjiv Khanna.

The Bench asked the counsel appearing for the Election Commission to take a decision on the issue.

The petitioners said they had given a representation to the Election Commission on Monday in this regard, but the EC has not responded to it.

Cong banks on old guards in Alwar, Dausa

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ ALWAR/DAUSA

In the keenly-contested Lok Sabha polls in Rajasthan, Alwar and neighbouring Dausa parliamentary constituencies figure prominently among the few seats where the Congress is banking on old guards. The BJP had won all the 25 seats in 2014 LS polls in Rajasthan.

The Congress is riding high on Alwar old-timer Bhanwar Jitendra Singh, who has been trying hard to convince the electorate about the popularity of "Gehlot Sarkar" highlighting the failures of the BJP Government in providing gainful employments.

On the other hand, the BJP is relying on communal polarisation by fielding a spiritual leader Mahant Balak Nath in Alwar. Balak Nath is a disciple of late Mahant Chand Nath, who fought on the BJP ticket in 2014 to defeat Jitendra Singh.

Karan Singh Yadav of the Congress was elected in the Alwar by-election last year



against BJP's Jaswant Singh Yadav. The Congress won Alwar Lok Sabha by-election with a margin of over 1.97 lakh votes and Ajmer with 84,000 votes in the January 2018 Lok Sabha by-polls necessitated by the death of the MPs of the two constituencies.

The bypolls turned out to be a litmus test for the Vasundhara Raje Government in Rajasthan, where people vented their ire by coining slogan "Vasundhara teri khair

Others on the spot concurred with him.

"We have voted for the Congress and will do once again because the bypolls in the two seats and the Assembly elections were clearly a signal against misrule of Vasundhara Raje," said Manav from Dausa, who has to travel to neighboring Alwar for his studies.

The stakes for the Congress is high also in the Rajesh Pilot's political "Karm Bhoomi" Dausa where two women contestants — former Union Minister Jaskaur Meena (BJP) and Savita Meena (Congress) — are locked in a straight fight.

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been talking about bravery of Wing Commander Abhinandan Varthman for his role in shooting down a Pakistan fighter jet, Sachin Pilot still wields considerable influences here.

Harish Chandra Meena won the Dausa seat in 2014 polls on a BJP ticket and switched to the Congress last year.

CAPSULE

AMRAPALI CAN COUGH UP ₹9.5K CRORE, SC TOLD

New Delhi: Forensic auditors told the Supreme Court on Thursday that ₹9,590 crore can be recovered from the embattled Amrapali Group which has diverted ₹3,523 crore of homebuyers money. Of the money diverted as much as ₹455 crore can be recovered from persons, including directors of the realty firm, their family members and individuals holding managerial position, the forensic auditors told the apex court.

PEPSICO TO WITHDRAW CASES AGAINST FARMERS

Ahmedabad: Food and beverages giant PepsiCo India said on Thursday it will withdraw the cases it has filed against allegedly growing a variety of the tuber for which the company claims Plant Variety Protection (PVP) rights.

Girls on top, transgenders surmount boys in Class XII results

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Once again girls have outshone the boys in the Central Board of Secondary Examination (CBSE) Class XII results with 88.70 per cent. The pass percentage for boys stands at 79.40 per cent. Transgenders have a pass percentage of 83.3 per cent, a senior board official said on Thursday while announcing the results.

Hansika Shukla, a student of Delhi Public School, Meerut Road, Ghaziabad, and Karishma Arora from Muzaffarnagar are joint all-India toppers scoring 499 marks out of 500.

The second position has also been shared by three girl students Gaurangi Chawla from Rishikesh, Aishwarya, Rae Bareilly, and Bhavya from Jind Haryana. All three secured 498 marks.



Hansika Shukla, CBSE Class XII topper, poses for a photograph with her mother after the results were declared, in Ghaziabad on Thursday



Mehak Talwar, who ranked third in the CBSE class 12th exam, celebrates her success with family members after the declaration of results in New Delhi on Thursday

Eighteen students, who scored 497 out of 500, secured third position. Of these, two students Mehak Talwar and Veeraj Jindal are from Delhi.

Schools in Delhi have shown improvement in the results with an increase of two per cent at 91.87 in comparison with last year's pass percentage

of 89. Differently-abled candidates performed well in the exam with 86.69 pass percentage. According to the CBSE, there is a 0.39 percentage increase in the results across India this year. The overall pass percentage this year is 83.40, while it was 83.01 per cent last year.

The pass percentage in Government schools is 87.17 per cent, while that in the Government-aided and the private schools stood at 96.06 per cent.

Region wise, Trivandrum and Chennai secured the top two positions with 98.20 and 92.80 pass percentage. Delhi secured the third position with a pass percentage of 91.87.

Among the candidates with special need, Lavanya Balakrishnan from the Heritage School, Gurugram topped with a score of 489 out of 500 marks.

LOK SABHA ELECTIONS IN HARYANA

63,621 security personnel to be deployed in Hry

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

As many as 63,621 personnel of state police and from central forces will be deployed to ensure peaceful conduct of Lok Sabha elections in Haryana. This was informed during a meeting held under Haryana Additional Chief Secretary, Home SS Prasad and Director General of Police (DGP), Manoj Yadava on Thursday. They held a video conference with all Range IGs, Commissioners of Police, Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners and District SPs to review the progress in poll preparedness by State Police force for upcoming parliamentary elections in the state.

They said that there are only 10 days to go for polling, thus, all district police chiefs must ensure group-wise duty briefing to ensure proper utilization of police force in the election.

Prasad impressed upon them to remain extra vigilant and proactive and take all safety measures to ensure completion of electoral process in a peaceful manner. As all districts in Haryana shares boundaries with other neighboring states (except Rohtak, Charkhi Dadri and Hansi), therefore, the officers must ensure complete nababandi in the interstate borders to

prevent infiltration of criminal and anti social elements during the election process, he directed.

He also asked the officers to maintain close coordination with their counterparts in neighbouring states for peaceful conduct of elections polling for which is to be held on May 12. "You must take certain effective and appropriate measures to tackle any eventuality," he added.

During the meeting, the DGP Manoj Yadava said that our priority is to provide a safe and secure environment to all during the electoral process. He asked the district SPs and the DCPs to make adequate preparation for this purpose and leave no stone unturned for fair and an incident-free election. He also emphasized on the security arrangements for the visiting VVIPs/VIPs and gave necessary directions in this direction.

ADGP (Law and Order) Navdeep Singh Virk also shared the deployment plan and gave necessary directives to the officers of police and civil administration. He added that police headquarter has issued a scale of deployment of police force for the districts to ensure proper law and order during the election.

Central Armed Police Force should be deployed as per

Election Commission of India guidelines he added.

23708 VVPAT MACHINES IN HARYANA

Haryana chief electoral officer Rajeev Ranjan on Thursday said that in view of the general elections 2019 to be held on May 12 in the state, a total of 43141 ballot units, 21765 control units and 23708 VVPAT machines will be used.

As many as 19425 regular and 16 auxiliary polling stations have been created in the state, he said.

As many as 1,80,56,896 registered electors including 1,05,859 service electors will decide the fate of 223 candidates in the fray in Haryana.

Ranjan said that EVM machine is completely safe and each EVM machine has a unique ID, which contains complete information about the machine. Only with the permission of the Election Commission, EVM machines can be moved from one place to another. For this, full security of police will be provided and this time, the vehicles carrying EVM machines will be GPS enabled, which will ensure complete tracking of the movement of machines, he said.

He further said that randomization of EVM machines is

done at two levels. The first randomisation level decides which machine will go to which Lok Sabha constituency and at the second randomisation level, the polling station in which it will be installed is decided. After the randomisation process, the name of that polling station is written in the machine.

BJP COMPLAINS TO ECI ON "CRIMINAL CASES" AGAINST CANDIDATES

Haryana unit of Bharatiya Janata Party on Thursday submitted a complaint to the Election Commission against candidates for the Lok Sabha election, who have failed to make public the details of criminal cases pending against them.

The saffron party alleged that candidates along with their parties have failed to publicly declare pendency of criminal cases or other cases in which candidate have been convicted, by way of publication within specific period as required as per ECI instructions.

The legal cell of the BJP submitted the complaint with a list of 26 candidates, including of the opposition Congress and INLD who have failed to make public their criminal cases and demanded immediate action in the matter. The declaration of pen-

dency of criminal cases or cases in which candidate has been convicted, by way of publication within the specific period is mandatory as per the instructions of the ECI issued on October 10 last year. The list submitted to the CEO with the complaint by the BJP includes two candidates of the INLD and three of the Congress, one each of Aapki Apni Party, Shiv Sena, Rashtriya Garib Dal besides 9 independents.

The three Congress candidates are former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda candidate from Sonapat (6 cases - including at Gurugram, CBI Chandigarh and Delhi and ED Chandigarh), Haryana Pradesh Congress Committee (HPCC) president Ashok Tanwar candidate from Sirsa (1 Case at Sadar Deveria in UP) and Nirmal Singh candidate from Kurukshetra (1 case at Khizrabad in Yamuna Nagar), the BJP complaint stated.

The two INLD candidates in the list included Ram Lal contesting from Ambala (1 case at Yamuna Nagar and Suresh Koth in fray from Hissar (3 cases at Barwala, Sadar Hissar and Narnaund).

The other party candidates include Nitin contesting from Kurukshetra of Aapki

Apni Party (3 cases at Jhansa and Civil Lines Karnal (2cases), Dinesh Sharma of Shiv Sena contesting from Karnal (3 cases at Civil Lines, Karnal) and Tilak Raj of Rashtriya Garib Dal (1 case at Karnal), the BJP stated.

The BJP in its complaint said that the instructions of ECI dated October 10, 2018 said it is mandatory for all the candidates to declare information about criminal cases in view of the directions of ECI, where the candidates who have criminal cases against them whether pending cases or in which candidate has been convicted shall publish and declare about such cases by publicity in newspapers with wide circulation in the constituency area, in Format C-1 at least on three different dates from the date following the last day for withdrawal of candidature i.e. 26/4/2019 and two days before the date of poll so that the directions of the ECI be complied with in letter and spirit.

The party said that as per the instructions further, all such candidates with criminal cases shall also be required to publish the above declaration on TV channels on three different dates during the above mentioned period, the BJP added in its complaint.

INBRIEF

MOCK INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED AT PU IAS CENTRE

Chandigarh: The Panjab University IAS Centre conducted mock interviews for the candidates of PCS Executive and Assistant Commandant, Central Armed Police Forces. The panelists for the mock interviews comprised of Haryana former Chief Secretaries Dharam Vir, Urvasi Gulati among others. The candidates were suitably interviewed and grilled for the upcoming interviews. They were asked questions on the situation existing in Punjab and the issues confronting the bureaucracy in the state. The candidates for the Police Forces were questioned about the role of police and on the reasons of the problems being faced by the police force.

ICICI ORGANIZES CONCLAVE

Chandigarh: ICICI Bank organised a conclave for MSMEs (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) in Chandigarh to discuss the role of digital banking to make business more convenient to the segment. The conclave is part of the Bank's initiative across the country to reach out to MSME companies. The conclave saw a participation of promoters and Chief Financial Officers (CFOs) of over 200 companies from various industries based in Chandigarh, Panchkula and Mohali. Vishal Batra, Retail Business Head - North Zone, ICICI Bank said, "ICICI Bank has always leveraged technology to pioneer digital innovations to provide a world-class banking experience to its customers."

IHCL PAT RISES 184%; DECLARES 50% DIVIDEND

Chandigarh: The Indian Hotels Company Limited (IHCL) reported its consolidated and standalone financials for the 4th quarter ending March 31st 2019 and year ending March 31st 2019. For the year ending March 31st 2019, the Board of Directors have recommended an equity dividend of 50% amounting to Rs. 0.50 per share. This is an increase over the previous dividend pay-outs of 40% and 35% in 2017/18 and 2016/17 respectively. Puneet Chhatwal, MD and CEO said IHCL is on track in the execution of its strategy, Aspiration 2022.

BOOKING.COM PARTNERS WITH TWO INDIAN VARSITIES

Chandigarh: Booking.com announced new scholarship initiatives with two leading universities in India to help bridge the gender divide within the tech sector. Introduced to provide female students with necessary funding to advance their education in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), scholarships will be granted to 12 undergraduate and postgraduate women studying subjects that include computer and information science, engineering, technology and mathematics.

DHL SMARTRUCKING PARTNERS WITH SINGER INDIA

Ambala: DHL SmartTrucking has partnered with Singer India to transport their products across India. It will work to bring real business benefits by focusing on decreasing delivery time through an organized driver relay system. DHL SmartTrucking is working with Singer India on 11 routes.

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Branch Office: Jogial Branch, Pathankot

[Rule 8-(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY)
Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorized officer of the State Bank of India, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. The Bank issued Demand Notice on the date mentioned against account and stated herein after calling upon the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) to repay the amount within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) having failed to repay the amount in full, notice is hereby given to the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) and the public in general, that the Authorized Officer has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules, on the dates mentioned against Account.

The Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s) in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India, for the amount mentioned here below, along with interest and other charges thereon.

The borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s) attention is invited to provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset(s).

Name of Borrower/s Guarantor/s	Description of the Immovable Properties	Date of Demand Notice	Date of Possession	Amount Outstanding
Borrower : Sh. Naresh Kumar Saini S/o Sh. Bishamber Dass Village Bhabbar P.O. Bhabbar, Tehsil Dharkalan, Distt. Pathankot.	All that part & parcel of property at Village Tirhari Tika Tehsil Dharkalan, Distt. Pathankot. Comprised in Khaska No. 272, Khata/Khatoni No. 124/176 H.B. No. 396, Measuring 09 Kanal 04 Marla being 1/9 share of the Extent of 1 Kanal 1 Marla as per mutation for the year registered vide sale deed no. 64 dated 17.05.2005 and Jamabandi for the year 2002-03 in the name of Sh. Naresh Kumar S/o Sh. Rajinder Singh S/o Prabhudayal R/o Village Bhadrone P.O. Hawan, District Bilaspur HP.	28.01.2019	01.05.2019	Rs. 1,15,969.26 (Rupees One Lacs Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty Nine & Paise twenty Six Only) plus interest and other expenses thereon.

Date : 02.05.2019 Place: Tirhari Tika, Distt. Pathankot Authorized Officer

Punjab Police recovers ₹2.38 cr in priests' missing money case

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Acting swiftly in the Ajalandhar priest's missing money case, the special investigation team of the Punjab Police on Thursday recovered Rs. 2.38 crores in the wake of the arrest of five persons from Sangrur and Patiala involved in siphoning off the funds.

A spokesperson of the Punjab Police said the money was recovered from the accused on the basis of revelations made by two ASIs, who were arrested on Tuesday during their interrogation by Punjab Police, in Kochi.

Earlier in the day, a team of Punjab Police took over the custody of the two ASIs - Joginder Singh and Rajpreet Singh, from the Kerala Police at Kochi. Both were presented before CJM Kochi who gave transit remand and the accused were being brought back to Punjab.

DGP Dinkar Gupta said further investigations were in progress and all efforts were being made to unravel the entire chain of events and recover the full amount alleged to have been embezzled.

Earlier, the Punjab Police had tracked down the two absconding ASIs, Joginder Singh and Rajpreet Singh, to a private hotel in Kochi, where they were arrested by the local police on Tuesday.



Topper Students of Sacred Heart school, Sector 26 celebrate after the declaration of Class XII results by CBSE on Thursday

T Sharma | The Pioneer

Capt demands no value cut on wheat MSP from Centre

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Terming it double jeopardy for the farmers who had already suffered crop losses due to unseasonal rains, Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh on Thursday demanded reconsideration by the Central Government of its decision to impose value cut on MSP of wheat procured under the specifications in the State.

The relaxation given for Rabi Marketing Season 2019-20, to compensate for the crop loss-

es, should be allowed without any value cut, the Chief Minister has stated in a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Capt asked Modi to direct the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution to immediately review their decision on value cut which entails direct loss for the farmers who are already reeling under extreme financial stress.

In his letter, the Chief Minister pointed out that after according to the state's request (vide letter dated April 26, 2019)

for relaxation in specifications of lustre loss in wheat, the Department of Food and Public Distribution (DFPD) in the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Government of India, had gone ahead to impose a value cut for the same on the farmers.

This was clearly a double jeopardy for the farmers, who, for no fault of theirs, were forced to suffer twice - first as a result of inclement weather on more than one occasion since the procurement commenced,

leading to great difficulties in harvesting of the crop, and secondly on account of the value cut on MSP for their produce, leading to substantial loss in income. The value cut was clearly not justified, said Capt Amarinder.

It may be recalled that the Chief Minister had written a DO letter to the PM even earlier, on April 22, 2019, requesting relaxation in the uniform specifications of wheat to be procured in the state without any value cut during RMS 2019-20.

Masood Azhar as terrorist, big endorsement for India: Hry CM

PNS ■ PANIPAT

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal on Thursday said that Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar being designated as a global terrorist is a big acknowledgement of anti-terror policies of Prime Minister Narendra Modi across the world.

Manohar Lal, while interacting with the mediapersons here said that OM Modi has pledged to end terror from its roots. UNSC designating Masood Azhar as a global terrorist has given a support and fillip to anti-terror policies of India, he said.

The Chief Minister said that it due to the determined efforts of the Prime Minister to act against terrorism that Pakistan is getting exposed at the international level. An atmosphere for tougher action against Pakistan sponsored terrorism is coming up at the global level, Manohar



Lal added.

In a big win for India, the United Nations Security Council has designated Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist. He was named a global terrorist by the UNSC 1267 Al-Qaeda Sanctions Committee on Wednesday after China lifted its hold on a proposal in the regard by the United States,

United Kingdom and France.

On party's preparation for the election to the 10 Lok Sabha constituencies in Haryana, he said that the BJP is confident of winning all the 10 seats.

He also admitted that the contest in Sonapat and Hissar is tough but the BJP would emerge winner in both due to a fractured opposition.

PUNJAB & SIND BANK
(A GOVT. OF INDIA UNDERTAKING)
Zonal Office: SCO 76, Sector 5, Panchkula, Ph.: 0172-2582101-119, E-mail: zo.panchkula@psb.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS & ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION

Notice is hereby given that the following borrower(s) have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of credit facilities obtained by them from the bank and said facilities have turned Non Performing Assets. The notice under section 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 were issued to Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) at their last known addresses by registered post. However the notices have been returned un-served and the Authorized Officer has reasons to believe that the borrower(s) / guarantor(s) are avoiding the service of notice, as such they are hereby informed by way of public notice about the same.

Name of the Branch / Borrower & Mortgagor	Description of the Secured Assets	Date of Demand Notice	Amount as per Demand Notice (Rs.)	Nature of Loan
NARWANA BRANCH:- Borrower:- M/s Rahul Automobiles, Patiala Road, Narwana, Distt. Jind. Partner:- Sh. Rahul Sharma S/o Sh. Charan Dass, Polast Sadan, Near Post Office Kalyayat, Distt. Kaithal. Co-Partner:- Sh. Gourav Sharma S/o Sh. Charan Dass, Polast Sadan, Near Post Office Kalyayat, Distt. Kaithal. Guarantor(s):- (1) Smt. Mamta Sharma W/o Sh. Rahul Sharma, Polast Sadan, Near Post Office Kalyayat, Distt. Kaithal (2) Sh. Raman Kumar Sharma S/o Sh. Faqir Chand, Polast Sadan, Near Post Office Kalyayat, Distt. Kaithal (3) Sh. Charan Dass Sharma S/o Sh. Faqir Chand, Polast Sadan, Near Post Office Kalyayat, Distt. Kaithal.	Equitable mortgaged of Residential House, deed no. 646, dated 26.12.1990. Property Bounded as:- North: 83' 6" Ft. Abuts H/o Sh. Banarshi; West: 48' ft. with further interest and incidental expenses and costs. South: 84' 6" Ft. Abuts H/o Smt. Kamlesh.	12.03.2019	Liability as on 28.02.2019, Rs. 12,72,277.14 P in A/c No. 08861300000212 together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.	ODD LIMIT

The above borrower(s) / guarantor(s) are advised to pay the amount mentioned in notice within 60 days from the date of the publication of this notice failing which further steps will be taken after the expiry of 60 days of the date of this notice as per provisions of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002. Moreover the borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the above secured assets mentioned above in any manner whatsoever, without our prior consent. This is without prejudice to any other rights available to us under the subject Act and/or any other law in force.

Dated: 02.05.2019 Place: Narwana Authorized Officer

Will it be Ajay Singh Dharmendra Deol or Sunny Deol on EVM?

MONIKA MALIK ■ CHANDIGARH

What's in the name! Everything, when Sunny Deol is contesting the elections.

Taking an electoral plunge, the actor-turned-politician Sunny Deol has filed his nomination papers to contest as the SAD-BJP combine candidate from Gurdaspur Lok Sabha seat by the name of 'Ajay Singh Dharmendra Deol'.

But, the saffron party wanted "Sunny Deol" on the EVMs (electronic voting machines) as the people know him by his screen name, and most of the people are not aware of his real name.

For the same, the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has urged the poll panel to mention its candidate's name as "Sunny Deol" instead of his real name.

Playing a minor role in Punjab politics with just one member in the Lok Sabha, and three in Vidhan Sabha, the BJP is eyeing to grab a bigger and better share by riding high



Gurdaspur candidate Sunny Deol during a roadshow in his constituency on Thursday

Pioneer Photo

on the Bollywood action hero Sunny Deol's star power in the May 19 Lok Sabha elections in the state.

However, Sunny's decision to file his nomination by his real name has now put the saffron brigade in a quandary. "People know him as Sunny Deol. They don't know who is Ajay Singh. When people would come to vote for Sunny, they may get confused of not finding it there. That is why we have requested the election commission to write Sunny Deol instead of his real name," a senior BJP leader told The Pioneer.

Even as the poll panel has, this time, decided to carry the

pictures of the candidates along with their names and election symbols on the EVMs, the saffron party is not very confident that all the voters would recognise Sunny Deol.

"There are many people in rural areas, especially the aged, which may not identify him in the picture. Moreover, the picture would be black and white, and may not come proper in the print. And what is more! Sunny Deol is campaigning in the constituency by donning a turban, and his picture is without it...so there are many issues...We would urge the Commission to consider our request," added the leader.

Notably, Sunny Deol has

been enrolled as voter by the name of Ajay Singh Dharmendra Deol and that was why he submitted his papers in the same name.

What is troubling the BJP more is that Sunny's real name has not been mentioned in the publicity material, and only his screen name, "Sunny Deol", is being publicised.

BJP, which was eyeing to take the advantage of Sunny Deol's stardom, is now fearing that it may go against it. Sunny is facing Congress' state president and sitting MP Sunil Jakhar in his first electoral fight.

WHAT THE LAW SAYS

As per the Election Commission rules, the EVM would carry the same name by which the candidate is registered as the voter, and by which he or she has filed the nomination papers.

Sunny has been registered in the voter list as Ajay Singh Dharmendra Deol, and he has filed the papers by the same name.

EC TO TAKE FINAL CALL

A senior election official maintained that the candidate's name on the EVM can be changed after following a due legal process. Now, the ball is in the court of the Election Commission.

Have come to serve people, says Sunny Deol

PNS ■ GURDASPUR

BJP candidate from Gurdaspur and film star, Sunny Deol on Thursday said creating employment opportunities for the youth will be his main priority.

Asserting that he came to Gurdaspur to serve the people and not to return to Mumbai, Deol, whose real name is Ajay Singh Deol, also praised the tenure of late BJP MP and actor Vinod Khanna and said he will take his work forward while seeking voters'

support for winning this border seat.

The most important issue (for me) is our youth. Youth is our foundation. I want creation of job opportunities for them, said Deol in his first media interaction after being named as candidate for Gurdaspur seat.

He also said he wanted to work for the welfare of the farming community.

We belong to Punjab and farming is in our blood. I want to understand all their issues and do whatever is possible

for their welfare, the actor said.

On Wednesday, Congress candidate Sunil Jakhar had accused Deol of having no understating of Punjab issues and asked him to share his vision for Gurdaspur constituency, telling him that "politics is a serious business and not a time pass activity".

Appreciating the work done by late BJP MP Vinod Khanna, Deol said, Vinod ji has worked here for 20 years and he worked a lot here. After him, I got a chance to

work (for this constituency). I want to work the same way Khanna did. I belong to people here and I will never hurt them. I will try to meet up to their expectations."

Khanna, who was fielded by the BJP from Gurdaspur seat in 1998 for the first time, was a four-time MP. Khanna passed away in 2017.

Deol also sought to allay fears that he would return to Mumbai after elections. I have not come here to return, he said.

Tewari lodges complaint against malicious propaganda

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Congress senior leader and party's Sri Anandpur Sahib candidate Manish Tewari on Thursday lodged a complaint with the Election Commission seeking action against those

indulging in "false and malicious" propaganda against him and his family on social media.

In a video clip that was attached with Tewari's tweet, it was alleged that his father late Professor VN Tewari was involved in the 1984 anti-Sikh

riots in Delhi and petrol was supplied from his filling station to "burn Sikhs".

Describing the propaganda against him as "gutter and despicable", the former Union Minister said that his family never owned a petrol pump

anywhere in the country and his father was assassinated by militants on April 3, 1984, six months before the riots. "My mother was a Jat Sikh. My father was an academic at Panjab University, Chandigarh, and my mother retired as the Dean of the PGI.

Farmers' support would be key for political parties in Haryana

NISHU MAHAJAN ■ CHANDIGARH

Farmers, who form a large voter base in the agrarian state of Haryana, will hold the key for the major political parties in the multi-cornered electoral battle on 10 Lok Sabha seats in the state.

As all the political parties in the fray—Bharatiya Janata Party, Congress, Indian National Lok Dal, Jannayak Janta Party-Aam Aadmi Party combine and Bahujan Samaj Party-Loktantra Suraksha Party combine—are leaving no stone unturned to woo the farming community in Haryana, issues including loan waiver, implementation of Swaminathan report and decision of scraping Dadpur Nalvi irrigation project, the farmers' outfits have in the past five years launched several statewide agitation against the ruling BJP.

The political analysts feel that the ruling BJP may face the ire of farming community on the issue of loan waiver in the Lok Sabha polls.

The farm debt waiver had remained a crucial issue in the last year's elections to five state assemblies in the country and the Congress' victory in three Hindi heartland states - Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Rajasthan was propelled by agrarian distress and party's promise of loan waiver.

For the Lok Sabha polls 2019, eradicating the agrarian distress and increasing farmers' income remain the top promises made by both ruling BJP and Congress to woo the farmers.

The BJP, in its Sankalp Patra has promised, to launch a pension scheme for all small and marginal farmers and to provide short-term new agri-

remain divided over which political party can best serve their interests this time.

In Haryana, the maiden BJP Government is accused of retracting from its poll promises and ignoring the plight of farmers. Be it the issue of loan waiver, non-implementation of Swaminathan report, decision of scraping Dadpur Nalvi irrigation project, the farmers' outfits have in the past five years launched several statewide agitation against the ruling BJP.

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LEADERS SPEAK

Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar: "The 'no loan waiver' policy of the Bharatiya Janata Party for farmers would not have any negative impact in the election in the state. The loan waiver schemes tend to make farmers lethargic. The farmers have matured. Rather than providing them loan waivers, we have made efforts to improve their profits. We have announced aids to them but not waivers. The farmers are happy with our initiatives."

Former Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda: "The Congress will waive outstanding farm loans. We have also promised introducing a separate budget for the agriculture sector. The farmers are suffering under BJP's regime but the Congress promises to provide them financial support when it comes to power. The BJP has betrayed the farmers and not fulfilled its promise of implementation of Swaminathan report."

debt, a separate Kisan budget and to re-design the BJP government's failed crop insurance scheme.

Eyeing the farmers' vote bank, the BJP led Haryana Government has in its budget 2019-20 also announced to launch a new scheme to provide financial and social security cover to families of farmers in possession of land of up to five acres. A 'Haryana Kisan Kalyan Pradhikaran' was also set up last year in the state in a bid to appease the angry farming community.

Now, amidst the election season, the leaders of both the BJP and Congress are drawing attention to their poll promises during campaigning while the farmers' outfits are

busy holding meetings to raise demands of complete loan waiver, implementation of the Swaminathan Commission report, higher MSP for their produce, retirement allowance, medical insurance for farmers among others besides making an appeal to the farmers to elect their representative carefully this time.

Haryana Bharatiya Kisan Union (BKU) president Gurnam Singh Chaduni, while talking to The Pioneer said, "There is a lot of resentment among farmers against the BJP Government and we have decided to support those party candidates who can defeat the BJP nominees in the state."

On poll promises made by the BJP and Congress, he said that Congress has promised separate budget for agriculture sector which will be a good initiative if implemented. On the other hand, the BJP has not mentioned anything about loan waiver or Swaminathan report in its manifesto, he said.

Gurnam Singh, who is also the president of Rashtriya Kisan Mazdoor Party (RKMP), formed to raise issues of farmers in Haryana Assembly polls due to be held later this year, said we are holding public meetings and making an appeal to the farmers to support those candidates in the elections

who can defeat the BJP. We will not support any particular party in the elections, he added.

While the BKU president is busy endorsing his anti-BJP stand in Haryana, another farmers' leader in the state says that the farmers are divided this time in favor of both BJP and Congress.

Shamsher Singh Dahiya, Haryana president of the BKU (Ambawata), another faction of farmers' union said, "We had very high expectations from Prime Minister Narendra Modi but the BJP failed to implement its poll promises. The farmers associated with our organization are supporting the mahagathbandhan in Uttar Pradesh but the farmers are divided in Haryana."

Many factors including Jat and non-Jat divide, division in Jat-centric INLD and nationalism have left the farmers confused in the state. Haryana has a tradition of sending men from families, especially in rural areas, to defence forces and BJP's nationalism narrative has influenced some voters here, he said.

Mentioning how the bitter Jat and non-Jat divide in Haryana is dividing the farmers' vote, Dahiya said, "While a section of non-Jat farmers are likely to go in favor of both BJP and Congress, the farmers belonging to Jat community are likely to vote for Congress this time as Jat-centric party -INLD is divided now."

About BJP Government's ambitious Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana (PMKSY) scheme, he said that many farmers have received the first installment of Rs 2000 under the scheme but a large section of farmers still remain unhappy with the BJP over the faulty crop insurance scheme and non-implementation of Swaminathan report.

Rattan Mann, Haryana president of BKU (Mann faction), another farmers' body in the state, said, "This time, we have left it to the wisdom of farmers to decide who to support."

"We are not holding any public meetings or rallies. In the past, all political parties had made big promises to the farming sector during election time but did nothing after coming to the power. Be it BJP or Congress, all political parties have failed to address the grievances of farmers," he added.

Apparently, with the farmers' outfits seething with anti-government sentiment due to multiple gaps in implementation of flagship crop insurance scheme, non-implementation of Swaminathan report and no promise of farm loan waiver, it remains to be seen whether the farmers would again go in favor of BJP or choose Congress or other regional parties in the fray.



45 CANDIDATES LEFT IN THE ELECTION FRAY IN HIMACHAL

On the last day of withdrawal of nominations on Thursday, 45 candidates were left in the fray for the May 19 elections to the four Lok Sabha seats in Himachal Pradesh. There are 17 candidates for the Mandi parliamentary constituency, six for Shimla, and 11 candidates each for the Kangra and Hamirpur Lok Sabha seats. Only one candidate, Dula Ram, who filed his papers as an independent from Shimla, withdrew his nomination. Nine nominations were rejected during scrutiny. Nisha Katoch is the only woman from the state is contesting the general elections. The two main parties, Congress and BJP have not fielded a single woman candidate in the state this time.

SHOW DRAFT OF PLAN FOR CITY: BANSAL

Pawan Kumar Bansal, Congress Lok Sabha candidate from Chandigarh on Thursday lashed out at the BJP for its failure to bring in any fresh ideas for development of city. He was commenting on the announcement made by Union Minister, Nitin Gadkari who was in city and announced a double decker sky bus service for Chandigarh. Pawan Bansal said BJP could not ply mini buses, which were to run inside sectors and now they are talking about double decker sky buses. "Metro is the only solution to streamline transport facilities in city. 300 bus stops were broken and have not developed and MP Kirron Kher has even failed to bring in funds. Sky bus is only useful if used for airport through a connecting tunnel from Tribune Zirakpur road which should connect International airport in Mohali, he added.

BANSAL ADDRESSES FIRST TIME VOTERS

Congress candidate for Chandigarh parliamentary seat and former MP Pawan Kumar Bansal, while interacting with first time voters in Sector 36 here said, "Vote is precious and one must exercise his or her right as it strengthens democracy. The young voters should come out in large numbers to participate in elections, the biggest festival of democracy." Bansal also visited the Sector 36 market as a part of door to door campaign here. He exhorted youngsters to vote in favour of Congress, which is expeditiously working for the welfare of the youngsters. He assured them that more jobs will be generated under Congress' regime.

HANSI MLA RENUKA BISHNOI HITS OUT AT BJP

Congress MLA from Hansi, Renuka Bishnoi on Thursday slammed the BJP which is seeking the votes in the name of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Indian Army as they have no vision to solve the basic problems of the people. Renuka while campaigning for her son Bhavya Bishnoi, Congress' Hisar candidate, said that this election is important for us as it would decide the future of Hisar and people have to exhibit unity to oust the outsider candidates here. This election would be a historical one in itself and would play an important role to make Chief Minister from Hisar later, she added.

AAP LEADER KHAWASPUR JOINS CONG

AAP's Tarn district president Bhupinder Singh Bittu Khawaspur on Thursday joined the Congress party in the presence of Punjab Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh. Welcoming Khawaspur to the party fold, Capt Amarinder expressed confidence that the party would gain far more strength with his joining in the Majha region to ensure victory of Congress candidate from Khadoor Sahib Jasbir Singh Gill 'Dimpa' during general elections as Khawaspur has a perceptible stronghold in the region. Pertinently, Khawaspur was AAP candidate from Khadoor Sahib assembly segment in 2017 Vidhan Sabha polls and secured nearly 29,000 votes.

KAITHAL CITY MAGISTRATE TRANSFERRED

Joint chief electoral officer, Haryana, Inder Jeet said that the Election Commission of India has taken cognizance on the complaint received against Kaithal City Magistrate, Jagdeep Singh. As per the Commission's order, the Haryana Government has transferred Jagdeep Singh from post of City Magistrate Kaithal with immediate effect. Inder Jeet said that Congress leader, Randeep Singh Surjewala had made a complaint to the Commission against Jagdeep Singh, on which the Commission immediately took cognizance. The EC has also received complaints from the INLD and JJP parties against HCS, Sumit Kumar. The Commission took cognizance on the complaints and Haryana Government has withdrawn the additional charge of Estate Officer, Haryana Shahari Vikas Pradhikaran, Hisar from Sumit Kumar. A complaint was also received from the Congress against IPS, Shrikant Jadhav. Directions have been received from the Commission to keep an eye on Shrikant Jadhav during the electoral process so that election laws are not violated, he added.

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PUBLIC NOTICE
M/S Green Valley Builders,
Project name "Residencia"
situated at Village
Singhpura, Zirakpur,

सार्वजनिक सूचना
श्री मन्सूराम निवासी म.नं.186 राम नगर अंबाला
शहर का रहने वाला हूँ।

Public Notice
I Paranjit Singh w/o Swaran Singh r/o 17 kila
tehsil complex near PS. City of Rajpura

Lost & Found
मैं, मोरा धीर पत्नी स्व. प्रमोद धीर निवासी
मकान नं० 1479, गोपाल रोड, सुखराम

'Disgusted' with Modi's attempts to
use martyrdom of soldiers: Capt

PNS ■ KARTARPUR
The former army officer and
Punjab chief minister Capt
Amarinder Singh on Thursday
expressed "total disgust" over
what he called Narendra Modi's



over the spate of sacrifice cases,
and the Behbal Kalan and
Bargari incidents of police firing,
in the last 18 months of their
rule, Capt Amarinder warned
that their attempts to scuttle the
SIT probe would not succeed.

Gadkari promises sky bus for Chandigarh

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH
Union Minister for Road
Transport & Highway, Water
Resources and River
Development, Nitin Gadkari on
Thursday said Chandigarh will

soon witness transport revolution
with the introduction of double
decker and sky bus to facilitate the
daily commuters here.

for citizens," said Gadkari while
addressing intellectuals from different
walks of life at Law Bhawan,
Sector 37 here.

Kher termed Gadkari 'instant
decision maker' who strengthened
the city's connectivity with other
reaches of states. Kher highlighted
cent percent spending of
MPLAD funds, effective implementa-

Classifieds

LOST AND FOUND
It is notified for the information
that my original qualifying
examination certificate of Main
Secondary Examination of year
2017, Roll No. 2209869 issued by
CBSE has been actually Lost. Name
of the Candidate: Mridul Gupta,

I, Hardev Singh S/O Ajit Singh
R/O Haridochhain Road Gurdaspur.
Tehsil/Dist-Gurdaspur. Declare That
My Son Varanot Singh Is Wrong And
Correct Name Is Varunot Singh.

I Satpal Singh S/O Chain Singh
Loyal R/O Vpo. Mandial District
Hoshiarpur Punjab Have Changed My
Name To Satpal Singh Loyal.

I Daljeet Singh S/O Sukhchain
Singh R/O Vpo. Kokri Vehniwal
(Moga) Have Changed My Name To
Daljeet Singh.

I, Service No. 3392647M Ex Hav
Nishan Singh S/O Gurbachan Singh
R/O Village Bakana, Post Office
Sharifgarh, Tehsil Shahabad
Markanda, Distt Kurukshetra
(Haryana), declares that my wife's
name and DOB is wrongly
mentioned as Manjit Kaur and
10/12/1974 (wrong), instead of
Manjeet Kaur and 08/12/1973
(10691915001255 before Executive
magistrate, Shahabad Distt
Kurukshetra (Haryana).

I Anushka D/o Kamal Arora R/O
H.No. 226, Sector-5, Urban Estate,
Kurukshetra, have changed my
name from Tania Arora to Anushka.

I Surender Kaur W/O
No.13654750 Ex Nk Gurnam Singh
R/O Vpo. Kukran Tehsil Garhsankar
District Hoshiarpur (Punjab) Have
Changed My Name From Surender
Kaur To Surender Kaur Vide Affidavit
Dated 02-May-2019 Before Notary At
Hoshiarpur.

I Bhupinder Kaur W/O Bhanpur
Singh Hans R/O Vpo. Hans Kalan
(Ludhiana) Have Changed My Name
To Bhupinder Kaur Hans.

I, Satish Kumar S/O Banarsi
Dass R/O Jakholi Adda, Kaithal
Proprietor of Maa Pitembara Trading
Co., booth N.8, New Grain Mandi,
Kaithal informs that some
documents, printed bills, cheques
etc. Of this firm is lost. I will not
be responsible for these documents if
used anywhere without my signature
& confirmation.

I, Harshdeep Garg S/O Ravi
Parkash Singh R/O H.No. 2117, H.B.
Colony Sector-3, Faridabad,
declares that Harshdeep and
Harshdeep Garg both are my
names. Harshdeep and Harshdeep
Garg are names of one and the
same person.

I Bharpur Singh S/O Tota Singh
R/O Vpo. Hans Kalan (Ludhiana)
Have Changed My Name To Bhanpur
Singh Hans.

I Harbans Singh S/O Gurnam
Singh R/O Vpo. Gurnam Singh
Tehsil Jagroa Distt. Ludhiana Have
Changed My Name To Harbans
Singh.

I, Tilak Raj S/O Pritam Singh R/O
Village allar Pind, Po. Ambala
Jattan, Garhdwala Distt. Hoshiarpur,
Punjab Have Changed My Name
From Tilak Raj To Tilak Raj Singh.
Concerned Note.

I, Narinder Kumar Thapa S/O
Gopal Singh Thapa, R/O H.No.122,
Mehra Ektanagar, Chugitti,
Jalandhar, Punjab have changed
my name to Narinder Thapa. All
concerned note.

I Tejinderpal Singh S/O Karnail
Singh R/O Vpo. Boparai Kalan Distt.
Ludhiana Have Changed My Name
To Tejinderpal Singh.

I Sukhveer Kaur W/O Jasvir
Singh R/O Vpo. Kular Distt.
Ludhiana Have Changed My Name
To Sukhvir Kaur.

I, Richa Chhabra W/o Manoj
Kumar R/O House No. 5376, Maloya
Colony Chandigarh have changed
my name from Richa Chhabra to
Richa Chugh after marriage.

I, Manjeet Kumar S/O Sh. Tek
Ram R/O Patel Nagar, Sonapat
declare that in my Marksheets &
Pancard my father name wrongly
written as Tek Chand As Tek Ram
and Tek Chand both name are same
and one person.

I Mandeep Kaur Sidhu W/O
Kulwinder Singh R/O Vpo. Lodihiwala
Distt. Ludhiana Have Changed My
Name To Mandeep Kaur.

I Amarjeet Singh S/O Mohinder
Singh R/O Jhanjhan Distt. Ferozepur
Have Changed My Name To
Amarjeet Singh Sodhi.

I, Ashok Singh S/O Girdhari Lal
R/O Bazzari Company Teh/Distt
Pathankot have changed my name
to Ashok Kumar.

I, Manish S/O Tara Singh R/O
H.No. 7619 Sector-4 Urban Estate
Kurukshetra have changed name
from Manish to Manish Singh.

I Harbans Singh S/O Gurnam
Singh R/O Vpo. Gurnam Singh
Tehsil Jagroa Distt. Ludhiana Have
Changed My Name To Harbans
Singh.

I Khushwant Kaur W/o Gurnail
Singh Gaggi R/O Plot No.10, Ward
No.1, Mata Gujari Enclave Mundi
Kharar, (SAS Nagar) changed my
name Varanpreet Kaur

I, Sandeep Kaur D/o Jasbir
Singh R/O Village-Sainpal, Tehsil-
Rania, Distt. Sirsa (Haryana) have
changed my name to Sandeep Kaur
Sidhu.

I, No. 1492992H Rank Hav,
Chandan Singh, 72 Engg. Regt., C/o
58 APO, PIN-914072, my wife Dewli
Devi wrongly mentioned in my Army
record. Her correct name is Dewali
Devi.

I, Rajinder Kumar Mittal S/O
Brahmanand R/O 136-B, Model
Town, Jind Road, Kaithal informs
that my son Chanchal Mittal & his
wife Mahak are out of my & my
family's control. I disown them
both from my movable &
immovable property. We will
not be responsible for their any
matter in future.

I, Joginder Kumar S/O Jagjit
Singh R/O H.No.3091 Sector-22-D,
Chandigarh declare that my son
Manpreet Singh and his wife
Nimratara Kingra are out of my
control. I disobedient from me
and my other family members. I
disinherit them from my
movable/immovable property

I, No. 2482446Y Seb Balwant
Singh S/O Late Sh. Bidhi Chand,
Serving in 500 DSC PL, TBRL,
Ramgarh, Distt. Panchkula
(Haryana) have changed my
daughter name from Shakshi to
Sakshi Rana in my service record.

I, No. 15385289N Hav
Jayaprakash P. Unit-11 Corps Sig
Regt. C/O 56 APO correct DOB of my
wife Sujitha A is 10-04-1983 instead
of 10-02-1982. Concerned note.

I, Jandeep Kumar S/O Baldev
Singh R/O Ward No.02 Balachaur
District S.B.S. Nagar Have Changed
My Minor Daughter's Name Anie To
Anie Choudhry.

I, Sarjeet Kaur W/o Widow
Jamal Singh R/O Dara Pindorya,
Assandh, Distt. Karnal declare that
my son Tajinder Singh and Daler
Singh is out of my control. I disown
my son's from all my moveable and
immovable property. In future
anybody dealing with responsible
for that deal himself. Please note
for future.

I, No. 1492992H Rank Hav,
Chandan Singh, 72 Engg. Regt., C/o
58 APO, PIN-914072, my wife Dewli
Devi wrongly mentioned in my Army
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immovable property. In future
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for future.

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Ramgarh, Distt. Panchkula
(Haryana) have changed my
daughter name from Shakshi to
Sakshi Rana in my service record.

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Jayaprakash P. Unit-11 Corps Sig
Regt. C/O 56 APO correct DOB of my
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Singh is out of my control. I disown
my son's from all my moveable and
immovable property. In future
anybody dealing with responsible
for that deal himself. Please note
for future.

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Serving in 500 DSC PL, TBRL,
Ramgarh, Distt. Panchkula
(Haryana) have changed my
daughter name from Shakshi to
Sakshi Rana in my service record.

I, No. 15385289N Hav
Jayaprakash P. Unit-11 Corps Sig
Regt. C/O 56 APO correct DOB of my
wife Sujitha A is 10-04-1983 instead
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BIG WIN FOR INDIA AT UN

Opp not lauding listing of Azhar as global terrorist: BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Terming United Nations designating Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) Chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist and making China support the issue as a matter of pride for India, the BJP on Thursday said that the Opposition was not appreciating the achievement as it is apprehensive of paying a political price for it.

BJP said Pakistan terrorist's sanctioning by the UN was a big victory for Indian diplomacy and credited BJP government and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "tireless efforts" at various bilateral and multi-lateral for this success.

The UN Sanctions Committee Wednesday designated the Pakistan-based JeM Chief a global terrorist after China lifted its technical objection on a proposal to ban him.

Addressing a press conference here senior BJP leader and Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley decried Congress for saying "what is the big deal" and accused it of foregoing old traditions of speaking in one voice on international issues. He said the grand old party is gradually turning into a "fringe organisation" whose leaders don't feel shy of joining "tukde-tukde gang". He wondered whether past Congress Prime Ministers including Rajiv Gandhi would have practiced the politics of the incumbent



Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley with Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman addresses a Press conference at Bharatiya Janata Party headquarters in New Delhi on Thursday. **RANJANA DIMRI | PIONEER**

leaders.

Without naming Congress General Secretary Priyanka Vadra Gandhi, the BJP leader said her comments reduce the party to a "vote-katua party". In one of the election rallies, Priyanka said Congress candidates would ensure that they damage BJP nominees.

Answering a question on Congress leaders refurbishing their Hindu image, Jaitley said they were "Choonavi Hindu" (Hindus who surface during elections).

On India's success on making China come round to Indian position on Azhar issue, he said change attitude was

impacted by recent developments including Pulwama terror attack in Kashmir and expose of Pakistan post-Balakot IAF strike where he said Azhar's camp was destroyed.

Jaitley said India has been the target of Azhar's outfit and efforts to declare him a global terrorist started in 2009, 2016 and 2017. It is combine international pressure and Indian diplomacy that together succeeded in cornering him this time round, he said.

In a swipe, the BJP leader said Congress-led-UPA regime with "unknown surgical strike" suspects Balakot air strike

under Modi-government. On making Nationalism as election issue, Jaitley said BJP stands on the theme of Nationalism, Prime Minister's leadership and Government's performance. He said BJP has sought to contrast Congress Nationalism which among others wants to remove sedition law and dilute army's powers in terror infested Jammu and Kashmir.

Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who also addressed the conference attributed the success of sanctioning of JeM chief to the leadership of Prime Minister. "It is the untiring efforts of Prime Minister that isolated Pakistan", she said.

Cong hits out at Centre, says BJP Govt singularly taking credit

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Thursday hit out at the Modi Government for singularly claiming credit for the designation of Masood Azhar as a global terrorist by the UN and asked it to give a reply to Pakistan's claim that Kashmir and Pulwama were de-linked in the JeM chief's listing.

Condemning Pakistan's claims that it agreed to Azhar's listing after all "political references", including attempts to link him to the Pulwama attack, were removed from the proposal, the Congress said it was a serious matter and a reply must be given to "Pakistan's mischief".

In 2009, India first moved a proposal by itself to designate Azhar a global terrorist. In 2016 again, India moved the proposal with the P3 -- the United States, the United Kingdom and France -- in the UN's 1267 Sanctions Committee to ban Azhar, also the mastermind of the attack on the Pathankot air base in January 2016.

In 2017, the P3 nations moved a similar proposal again. However, on all occasions China, a veto-wielding permanent member of the UN Security Council, blocked India's proposal from being adopted by the Sanctions Committee.

Former Union Minister P Chidambaram said Congress is happy that the process of designating JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist concluded successfully. He also asked why

CONGRESS SPOKESPERSON RAJEEV SHUKLA HIT OUT AT THE REMARKS MADE BY UNION MINISTER ARUN JAITLEY AND NIRMALA SITHARAMAN AT A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE, SAYING SUCH DESIGNATIONS WERE THE RESULT OF A CONTINUOUS PROCESS AND JUST ONE GOVERNMENT SHOULD NOT TAKE CREDIT FOR IT

Pakistani premier Imran Khan wants Narendra Modi to continue as India's prime minister.

Reacting to the development, Chidambaram said Azhar was released in 1999 by a BJP government after the hijack of an Indian Airlines aircraft. "After Masood Azhar masterminded the Mumbai terror attack in 2008, the process to name him as a global terrorist was started by a Congress/UPA government in

2009. We are happy that the process has concluded successfully in 2019. But why does the Prime Minister of Pakistan want Mr Modi to continue as Prime Minister of India?" the former home minister said in a series of tweets.

Congress spokesperson Rajeev Shukla hit out at the remarks made by Union minister Arun Jaitley and Nirmala Sitharaman at a joint press conference, saying such designations were the result of a continuous process and just one government should not take credit for it.

It was the Congress that had got Saeed and Zakir Rahman Lakhvi as well as other terrorists designated as global terrorists, Shukla said. "I also condemn Pakistan government's claim that it is their diplomatic victory. They are saying that we have got Pulwama and Kashmir de-linked from it (the listing) and then this declaration has been made," he said.

Shukla said that the government should give a reply to "this mischief (claim)" of Pakistan that they have de-linked Kashmir and the Pulwama incident while banning Azhar. "This is a serious matter. For us, Pulwama is very important as Azhar had a direct role and he had accepted it. Then it would mean that the earlier incidents and the 26/11 (Mumbai terror attacks) was the basis for banning him for which we had submitted all documents. So, the government's ministers should do a press conference on this also," he said.

India plays down absence of Pulwama in UN notification

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Sidestepping the issue of the United Nations Sanctions Committee not mentioning Pulwama incident in the proposal for listing Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) chief Masood Azhar as a "global terrorist" on Wednesday, India on Thursday asserted the incident in which 40 CRPF personnel were killed in a suicide attack did play a role in the listing. Stating this here, the External Affairs Ministry also said India did not offer anything to China and said New Delhi does not negotiate on matters of national security.

The assertion about Pulwama came after Pakistan claimed that it agreed to Azhar's listing after all "political references", including attempts to link him to the Pulwama attack, were removed from the proposal to designate him a global terrorist. Islamabad has repeatedly brushed aside any proof India cited that links Pakistan-based terror groups with attacks in India.

"The designation is not based on the basis of a specific incident, but on the basis of evidence which we have shared with members of the UN's 1267 Sanctions Committee, linking Azhar to several acts of terrorism," ministry spokesperson Raveesh Kumar said here at a media briefing.

He said the notification broadly covers all terrorist acts. "Elements are being introduced by Pakistan to divert attention from this huge diplomatic setback," Kumar said. Besides the Pulwama suicide attack

of February 14, Azhar had been involved in many terror strikes in India -- including on Parliament House, Pathankot Air Force base and the Army camps in Jammu and Kashmir.

Asked whether India offered something to China for Azhar's listing, he asserted that India does not negotiate on matters related to national security. "Our objective was to ensure designation of Masood Azhar as global terrorist," he said. The Pulwama terror attack played a role in Azhar's designation, the spokesperson said, adding that China's support to Azhar's listing will contribute to better Sino-India ties.

In a huge diplomatic victory for India, the UN Sanctions Committee on Wednesday designated Azhar as global terrorist after China lifted its hold on a proposal to ban him. France, the UK and the US had moved a fresh proposal to declare Azhar as global terrorist by the UN in the wake of the February 14 Pulwama terror attack. The JeM had claimed responsibility for the attack.

However, China put a technical hold on the proposal, blocking it for a fourth time to designate Azhar a global terrorist. India had termed the Chinese move as "disappointing." On Wednesday, China lifted its hold from the proposal.

A United Nations Security Council (UNSC) designation will subject Azhar to an assets freeze, travel ban and an arms embargo. An assets freeze under the sanctions committee requires that all states freeze without delay the funds and

other financial assets or economic resources of designated individuals and entities.

In 2009, India first moved a proposal by itself to designate Azhar a global terrorist. In 2016 again, India moved the proposal with the P3 -- the United States, the United Kingdom and France -- in the UN's 1267 Sanctions Committee to ban Azhar, also the mastermind of the attack on the Pathankot air base in January 2016. In 2017, the P3 nations moved a similar proposal again.

However, on all occasions China, a veto-wielding permanent member of the UNSC, blocked India's proposal from being adopted by the Sanctions Committee.

France welcomed the UN decision and said it "signals the successful realisation" of its efforts. "For many years, French diplomacy has been relentlessly pleading for sanctioning Azhar, 'head of the terrorist group responsible, notably, for the Pulwama attack,'" said a statement issued by the Foreign Affairs of France.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in a tweet message Congrats to our team @USUN for their work in negotiating JEM's Masood Azhar's #UN designation as a terrorist. This long-awaited action is a victory for American diplomacy and the international community against terrorism, and an important step towards peace in South Asia. On Wednesday, the US had said blacklisting of the JeM chief demonstrates international commitment to rooting out terrorism in Pakistan.

Congress slams BJP, releases six surgical strikes list under UPA

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Congress on Thursday came out with a list of six anti-terror surgical strikes carried out during UPA rule, asserting that it never tried to take political advantage from military operations. The Congress released the list at a press conference after BJP leader Arun Jaitley took a jibe at the Opposition party, saying its surgical strikes were "invisible and unknown".

The UPA government carried out six surgical strikes -- Bhattal sector in Poonch (June 19, 2008); Sharda sector, across Neelam River Valley, in Kel (August 30-September 1, 2011); Sawan Patra checkpoint (January 6, 2013); Nazapir sector (July 27-28, 2013); Neelam Valley (August 6, 2013); and one on December 23, 2013, Congress spokesperson Rajeev Shukla said.

He also listed two surgical strikes carried out under the previous BJP-led NDA government of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. These were Nadala Enclave, across the Neelam River (January 21, 2000) and Baroh sector in Poonch (September 18, 2003), Shukla said.

Attacking the Congress, Jaitley said the Manmohan Singh government did not act against terrorists after the Mumbai terror attack in 2008 even as security forces were ready to target them. The UPA government in fact released 25 terrorists as a "goodwill gesture" and one of them was later involved in the Pathankot terror attack, he alleged.

"When the former Prime Minister and (a former) Army chief say earlier also surgical strikes have taken place and the finance minister says they were invisible strikes then he is raising questions not just on Vajpayee ji and Manmohan Singh ji, but is also casting aspersions on the Army and the remarks made by the army chiefs at that time," Congress spokesperson Ragini Nayak said.

Shukla, in his remarks, said that both Manmohan Singh and Vajpayee never talked about the strikes. The convention is not to talk about military operations, but this government has broken all traditions, he said. Shukla also said the Congress never tried to take political advantage from military operations.

ED chargesheets Zakir in money laundering case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Enforcement Directorate (ED) has filed a charge sheet against terror preacher Zakir Naik and others in Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) Special Court for laundering money to the tune of Rs 193.06 crore. This is the second chargesheet against Naik and others. The agency has sought punishment to the accused and confiscation of attached properties to the tune of Rs. 50.46 crores for involvement in money laundering.

The attached properties belonging to Naik, including investment in mutual funds, Islamic International School in Chennai, 10 residential flats, three godowns, two buildings and land in Pune and Mumbai and 10 bank accounts worth Rs 50.46 crores.

Proceeds of Crime totalling Rs. 193.06 crores have been quantified in the case. Other than these attachments, investigation in respect of investments of Zakir Naik in Dubai to ascertain to identify the properties outside the country is under progress, the ED said in a statement.

ED has initiated investigation based on the FIR registered by NIA against Naik and his associates for his involvement in unlawful activities through his provocative utterances, thus promoting enmity and hatred between different religious groups in India. The NIA has filed a Final



Zakir Naik in Dubai to ascertain to identify the properties outside the country is under progress, the ED said in a statement

Report/Charge sheet before the court of Special Judge, NIA, Mumbai on October 26, 2017.

Investigation under the PMLA revealed that IRF received during the period from the year 2003-04 to 2016-17 an amount to the tune of Rs. 64.86 crore mostly from various

dubious/suspicious/unknown sources. Majority of the funds were utilised for organising the so called Peace conferences. "It was during these peace conferences that provocative speeches were made and religious conversion to Islam were propagated. The IRF received donations in response to the appeals made by Zakir Naik during the course of his controversial speeches and thus these donations were proceeds of crime emanating from criminal activ-

ity. Money trail led to identification of one school building in Chennai valued at Rs 6.2 Crore, mutual funds of Rs 9.41 Crore and ground floor of a building in Mumbai and these were provisionally attached," the ED said. Investigations also revealed that funds to the tune of Rs 49.20 crore were received during the period from the year 2012 to 2016 from Zakir Naik's accounts maintained in UAE to his personal accounts in India. Source of his income in United Arab Emirates is not known. He transferred these funds to India and purchased properties in Mumbai and Pune by layering of funds in the name of his close relatives, the agency added.

Investigation has also revealed that Zakir Naik was also involved in suspicious unaccounted cash transactions.

If greenhouse gas isn't cut, half of glaciers may vanish by 2100: Report

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Nearly half of all glaciers at World Heritage sites may vanish by 2100, if greenhouse gas emission is not cut down significantly, a new study has said.

Touted as the first-ever global study of UNESCO World Heritage glaciers, the research published recently in the American Geophysical Union (AGU's) journal Earth's Future said that glaciers at 21 of the 46 World Heritage sites will be iceless by 2100.

"Losing these iconic glaciers would be a tragedy and have major consequences for the availability of water resources, sea level rise and weather patterns," Peter Shadie, Director of the International Union for Conservation of Nature's World Heritage Program, said in a statement here.

"This unprecedented decline could also jeopardize the listing of the sites in question on the World Heritage list.



States must reinforce their commitments to combat climate change and step up efforts to preserve these glaciers for future generations," he added.

Researchers from AGU and ICUN combined data from a global glacier inventory, a review of existing literature

and computer modeling to analyze the current state of the glaciers. They also looked at how the glaciers have evolved and analyzed how the glaciers will tolerate a warming climate in the coming decades.

Even if emissions are significantly reduced, the

researchers concluded that eight of the 46 World Heritage sites will become ice-free by 2100.

In fact, earth's glaciers have already lost nine trillion metric tons of ice in the 55 years between 1961 and 2016. An international team of scientists used satellite and direct field

observations to conclude that Earth's glaciers have melted such a profound sum of ice in the last half-century. The report was published in the journal Nature.

The study which has appeared in 'Earth's Future', total ice volume in 2017 at all World Heritage sites is expected to drop between 33 to 60 percent by 2100, dependent upon the "emission scenario."

The World Heritage sites expected to be impacted in North America include Waterton Glacier International Peace Park, in Alberta, Canada; seven parks that make up the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks in Alberta and British Columbia, Canada; and Olympic National Park, in the state of Washington. All of these sites can expect to lose more than 70 percent of their current glacier ice by 2100, even if carbon emissions are "drastically lowered."

"To preserve these iconic glaciers found in World Heritage sites, we urgently need to see significant cuts in

greenhouse gas emissions. This is the only way of avoiding long-lasting and irreversible glacier decline and the related major natural, social, economic and migratory cascading consequences," lead author Jean-Baptiste Bosson, scientific advisor for the IUCN's World Heritage program, said in the statement.

"The study on glacier decline further emphasizes the need for individual and collective actions to achieve the mitigation and adaptation aspirations of the Paris Agreement on climate change," he added. Climate change has prompted the World Heritage organization to double the number of sites threatened by climate change since 2014.

We find that 19,039 glaciers have their whole or partial area within natural World Heritage sites. This corresponds to 9 per cent of all glaciers on earth. Between one and several thousand glaciers, whose sizes range from 0.01 to 106 km², have been inventoried in 46 sites.

Poll body removes returning officer of Tripura West seat

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Thursday removed the returning officer of the Tripura West seat, where polling was held on the first phase on the Lok Sabha elections on April 11.

Sources in the EC said that the Commission has removed the returning officer of the Tripura West seat Sandeep Mahatma. Tripura East's returning officer, Vikas Singh, has been appointed in his place.

Alleging large-scale rigging, booth capturing, intimidation and attacks on voters and polling agents by the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) members and their goons, the opposition Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) and the Congress had been demanding re-polling in the constituency.

They had also been demanding Mahatma's removal.

The EC order issued by Secretary Arvind Anand, and available with , relieved Mahatma, the District Magistrate of West Tripura, from election-related duties. It also asked Vikas Singh, the District Magistrate of Dhalai, to join his new posting by Thursday.

According to the official, Tripura's Chief Electoral Officer Sriram Taranikanti has been asked to send a panel of names by Thursday to be appointed the new District Magistrate of Dhalai.

While polling was held in Tripura West on April 11, voting in the Tripura East seat, slated for the second phase of April 18, was deferred to the third (April 23) by the poll panel, citing the "non-conducive security situation".

Didi invokes Sepoy Mutiny for her oust Modi campaign

Bhatpara/New Town (WB): Trinamool Congress supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday invoked the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 to draw a parallel with the efforts by her party to dislodge the Narendra Modi Government in the ongoing parliamentary polls.

"Sepoy Mutiny was the first uprising against the British in India. Now the biggest threat and problem in the country is Narendra Modi," she said at a rally in support of TMC MP Dinesh Trivedi, who is pitted against BJP's Arjun Singh. The Sepoy Mutiny was a violent and bloody uprising against British rule in India in 1857.

"Sepoy Mutiny started from Barrackpore. You keep this in mind and vote," she told the gathering at Bhatpara, which is under the Barrackpore parliamentary constituency.

Raising the slogan "Modi Hatao, Desh Bachao", she sought the support of the people for TMC in both Lok Sabha and assembly by-election at Bhatpara.

The by-election was necessitated as Singh, who was the Bhatpara TMC MLA had quit the party and switched to BJP



just before the Lok Sabha elections. Slamming the Modi government, she said democracy is at stake and BJP is involved in riots. "This cannot happen here (Bengal)".

"We have seen national leaders like Gandhiji, Netaji Ambedkar and Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. But we have never seen a leader like Modi. His very appearance is like Gabbar Singh".

Gabbar Singh is a fictional character, the antagonist of the 1975 Bollywood film 'Sholay'.

"What we want is a democratic government - a government for the people. We don't want Modi", she said.

Referring to the comment by Modi that 40 MLAs of TMC in Bengal are in touch with him, she said it is unbecom-

ing of a prime minister to make such a statement during elections.

"I ask him to name one of such MLA," she challenged adding "TMC is now a full-grown tree and it is not easy to destabilise it. We do not fear any sort of threats".

The TMC supremo alleged that BJP is spending huge sums of money to influence the vote. "He (Modi) is travelling with big boxes," she said referring to the recent alleged incident in which a black box was reportedly offloaded from the prime minister's helicopter during his visit to Chitradurg in Karnataka for poll campaign.

Banerjee alleged that Modi had never looked at West Bengal and is now coming to the state begging for votes.

"Narendra Modi is shameless. He says that nothing has been done in the state and is now seeking votes to do something for Bengal.

"Just come and see the development which has taken place in Rajarhat-New Town area. If he compares the traffic system with this area and Delhi, he will be surprised to see the roads and lighting that has been done", she said. **PTI**

'Modi's masters control Govt'

Congress will work for farmers and youths: Rahul Gandhi

Jaipur: Congress president Rahul Gandhi on Thursday said his party's Government will not work for a handful of top businessmen, calling them Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "masters".

"We will not run the Government for 15 people because they are not our 'malik' (masters)," he told a public meeting at Chomu in Jaipur district.

"These are Narendra Modi's 'master', he said, naming industrialist Anil Ambani and fugitive businessman Mehul Choksi.

"Polling in most States is over and the result is clear. PM Narendra Modi is going to lose the elections and the Congress Government of the farmers and the youth is about to come in," he said.

"You are our masters and we will do what you will order," he told the gathering.

He accused Modi of not talking about the Bharatiya Janata Party's earlier poll promises.

He claimed the Prime



Minister had promised ₹15 lakh in everyone's bank account and two crore new jobs.

Mentioning the Rafale aircraft deal, Gandhi said he had challenged Modi to a debate on corruption. But he is silent on.

The Congress leader also claimed that the prime minister had failed to answer his questions in Parliament.

He said the Nyay scheme, which promises income support to the poorest in the country if the Congress comes to power, will boost the country's economy.

Gandhi said he will not claim it will create two crore employment opportunities, but added that "factories will restart, lakhs of youth will get jobs".

Modi has handcuffed the youth, we want to set your hands free," he said.

If young people want to start a business no permissions will be required from any government office for three years, he said.

Taking a swipe at the prime minister, Gandhi said when Modi gives a speech there is a teleprompter in front of him

warning him not to speak about the youth or the farmers.

Referring to what he has claimed are existing vacancies, Gandhi said as soon the Congress comes to power the youth will get 22 lakh government jobs.

Amid the shouting of the 'Chowkidar chor hai' slogan, Gandhi said that the watchman's "biggest theft" was the Rs. 30,000 crore which he "stole" from the Indian Air Force and gave to industrialist Anil Ambani.

The reference was to the Congress claim that the Reliance Group has unfairly bagged a contract worth this amount from French company Dassault in related deals after the Modi government signed the Rafale contract.

The allegation has been denied by the government and the Ambani Group.

He claimed the "second theft" by Modi was writing off loans taken by "15 people", but not those by the farmers and small and medium businessmen. **PTI**

SP-BSP alliance forged out of fear of Modi: Anupriya Patel

Gorakhpur (UP): Union Minister Anupriya Patel, whose Apna Dal (Sonela) is a constituent of the BJP-led NDA, on Thursday took a dig at the SP-BSP alliance terming it like "oil and water" which was "forged out of fear".

She claimed that the recent trend has made it clear that Narendra Modi will return as prime minister.

Addressing an election meeting in Shohratgarh area of Siddhartnagar district, she said, "All matches are not made in heaven, some are made out of fear of Modi."

"The live example is the SP-

BSP alliance which is just like trying to mix water and oil. The alliance is made due to selfish reasons. Elephant (BSP symbol) has taken seat on bicycle (Samajwadi party symbol)... It is bound to be broken," Patel said.

On the UN Security Council designating Masood Azhar as a global terrorist, she said, "It is a huge moral victory of the Government. China has been saving Azhar for the last five years but ultimately bowed due to a determined government and also the true face of Pakistan has been revealed to all." **PTI**

'Chaiwala' betrayed people by going back on promises: Akhilesh

Kaushambi (UP): Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Thursday attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying the "chaiwala" has betrayed people by going back on his promises.

He also hit out at the "thoko (violent) policy" of the Uttar Pradesh Government led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.

Addressing an election meeting for SP-BSP alliance candidates from Kaushambi and Pratnagar here, the SP chief said, "The 'chaiwala' (tea seller) has gone back on the promises... They have been exposed... Chaiwala has this time come as 'chowkidar' (watchman)." Modi has often referred to himself as a 'chaiwala' and 'chowkidar'.



In a dig at the Yogi Adityanath Government, Yadav said those pursuing 'thoko policy' were insulting the police force of the state.

He had earlier alleged that police officers of the state were following the 'thoko neeti' (counter policy) of the chief minister to avoid getting transferred.

Talking about the alliance between Samajwadi Party and Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP), the former Chief Minister said there is a wave in favour of the alliance. **PTI**

"Public is the real king in a democracy. There is a wave in favour of the alliance," he said.

"BJP supporters want to drag us down by hook or crook... We want that all castes get proper representation, only then social right and honour can be established," Yadav asserted.

The SP leader urged the people to vote for the SP-BSP alliance as he said this single act can "teach a lesson" to the wrongdoers.

"By pressing button for the alliance candidates, the 'chowkidar' and 'thokidars' will be removed," he said.

Yadav added that the alliance was fighting for farmers, youths, Dalits, backwards and minorities. **PTI**

Cong, BJP have tacit understanding: Maya

Lucknow: Hitting out at both the BJP and the Congress, BSP chief Mayawati on Thursday accused the two national parties of having a tacit understanding in the ongoing Lok Sabha polls and unitedly working against the SP-BSP-RLD alliance in Uttar Pradesh.

Congressmen think it is not a problem if the candidates of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) win the electoral battle, but the nominees of the SP-BSP-RLD alliance should not win the polls, the former Uttar Pradesh chief minister alleged.

"Like the BJP, the Congress has started saying absurd things about the SP-BSP alliance. It is

clear that both (Congress, BJP) have a tacit understanding and are contesting against our alliance unitedly," Mayawati said, while appealing to the voters not to waste their votes by supporting the Congress.

Addressing a poll rally in Barabanki on Wednesday, Congress president Rahul Gandhi had alleged that the control of Mayawati and Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav was in the hands of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"In the last five years, did the SP or the BSP take on Prime Minister Narendra Modi directly? Did you hear any statement from Mayawati or

(SP patriarch) Mulayam Singh Yadav? See, I am not scared of Modi. I do not care. If someone is scared, it is Narendra Modi. But the control of Mayawati and Akhilesh is in the hands of Modi," he had said.

Attacking the prime minister, Mayawati said, "He has made some comments on the BSP, taking the name of Bhim Rao Ambedkar. I want to tell him that Baba Saheb's name might be for vote politics and self-interest for them, but he is the soul of the BSP. The BSP does not practice the politics of 'Ramnaam japna, janta ko thagna' (taking the name of Ram and duping people) like the BJP." **PTI**

Over 5 lakh voters in J&K's Pulwama, Shopian districts

Srinagar: Over 5.22 lakh people from Pulwama and Shopian districts of Jammu & Kashmir are eligible to cast their votes in the final leg of polling for the Anantnag Lok Sabha seat on May 6 that will bring down the curtains on the general elections in the State.

Over 5.22 lakh electors are going to exercise their franchise in the twin districts spread over six Assembly segments comprising Tral, Pampore, Pulwama, Rajpora, Wachi and Shopian. As many as 695 polling stations have been established across the districts for smooth conduct of the elections, an official spokesman said Thursday.

The polling in four districts of Anantnag Lok Sabha constituency is being held over three legs. While Anantnag district voted on April 23, Kulgam

went to polls on April 29. The voter turnout in the two districts has so far been dismal as only 13.61 per cent people cast their votes in Anantnag district and 10.3 per cent turnout was recorded in Kulgam district.

As Shopian and Pulwama districts have been worst hit by the violence in the aftermath of the killing of Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani during an encounter in July 2016, the political observers foresee the trend of low voter turnout continuing on May 6 as well.

Security arrangements have been put in place to ensure smooth conduct of elections, a police official said.

He said dozens of suspects and known trouble-mongers have been taken into preventive custody in the wake of several

stone-pelting incidents reported during the polling in Kulgam district on April 29.

PDP president and former chief minister Mehbooba Mufti is among the 18 candidates from the Anantnag Lok Sabha seat.

The other notable candidates are state president of Congress G A Mir, former high court judge Hasnain Masoodi (National Conference) and former MLC Sofi Yousuf (BJP).

With the Ladakh Lok Sabha seat also going to polls on the same day, the voting for general elections in Jammu and Kashmir will conclude on May 6.

Jammu and Baramulla Lok Sabha seats went to polls in the first phase of elections on April 11, followed by Udhampur and Srinagar constituencies in the second phase on April 18. **PTI**

J&K: Former MLA arrested for assaulting woman sarpanch

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

National Conference leader and former BJP MLA Gagan Bhagat who had allegedly thrashed an elected woman Sarpanch in broad daylight in RS Pura area last week was finally arrested by the J&K police on Thursday. He was picked up by the police from the court premises in Jammu where he had moved an application to earn an anticipatory bail.

Gagan Bhagat had reportedly thrashed Seema Devi, an elected Sarpanch from village Jindher Melu in Miran Sahib, on Saturday after a verbal brawl over the issue of taking credit for installation of a power transformer in the area. Gagan wanted to inaugurate the power transformed claiming he had provided funds for the same from his Constituency develop-

ment fund while woman sarpanch stood her ground claiming she pursued the case and got it approved for the area from the Power development department on her own. Abusing her in full public view Gagan had attacked her along with her supporters and even questioned her credentials, ignoring the fact that she was an elected public representative and discharging her duties of addressing general grievances of common people of her area. Police had registered counter FIR's in the case but acted against the former MLA on Thursday after a state level body of elected sarpanches and panches also staged protest demonstrations against him and appealed to the state government to take action as per rule of law against the former MLA for thrashing and abusing an elected representative. **PTI**



Workers of Bharatiya Janata Party stamp placards with pictures of Jaish-e-Mohammad leader Masood Azhar in Ahmedabad on Thursday. **AP**

25 candidates in fray for May 19 K'taka bypolls

Bengaluru: A total of 25 candidates are in the fray for the May 19 by-elections to two Assembly constituencies in Karnataka, election officials said on Thursday.

Among 25 contesting candidates, 17 are from Chincholi and 8 from Kundgol assembly segments.

Both the constituencies have two women each as candidates. Thursday was the last date for withdrawal of nominations.

The bypoll to Chincholi has been necessitated by the resignation of sitting member Umesh Jadhav who quit the Congress and joined the BJP to contest the recent Lok Sabha polls from Gulbarga.

Kundgol seat fell vacant following the death of Minister C S Shivalli.

The main contest in this bypoll will be between the nominees of Congress, which held the seats, and the BJP.

The BJP has fielded S I Chikkanagowdar and Avinash Jadhav from Kundgol and Chincholi Assembly seats respectively. **PTI**

Regret joining Cong, BJP my last stop: Ravi Kishan

Gorakhpur: Bhojpuri film star Ravi Kishan, the BJP candidate from Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur parliamentary constituency, has said that contesting the 2014 general election on a Congress ticket was a mistake and that the saffron party is his last destination.

In an interview to PTI, Kishan said actor-turned-politicians like N T Rama Rao and Vinod Khanna inspire him and he wants to project himself as a serious politician just like them.

"I want to become a serious politician like N T Rama Rao and Vinod Khanna who were from the film industry but joined politics and worked with utmost seriousness," Kishan said.

"If I was not serious about politics, I would not have left behind my successful career to become a politician," added the actor who joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in February 2017. **PTI**

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath have given me their blessings because they understand my seriousness," he said further.

On joining the Congress ahead of the 2014 Lok Sabha polls, the actor said, "It was a mistake. When I lost the election, no one in the party high command got in touch with me. I was dejected."

The actor had contested from his home constituency of Jaunpur in Uttar Pradesh on a Congress ticket but secured only 42,759 votes or 4.25 per cent of the total votes.

Kishan admitted that it was Modi's passion which convinced him to join the BJP.

"In 2014, I heard Modi ji speak about toilets. For the first time, I saw a prime minister with such an outlook. I was impressed. When Yogi ji asked me to contest polls, I was ready to serve the people of Gorakhpur," he said. **PTI**

Nationalism means respect for people, don't see respect in anything BJP does: Priyanka

Amethi/Rae Bareilly (UP): True nationalism means love of the people and for the country but the BJP mirrors neither love nor respect in anything it does, says Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra.

Stepping up her attack on the saffron party and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for failing to address real issues, Priyanka Gandhi said there will be consequences if the voice of the people is drowned by the voice of one leader.

In an exclusive interview to PTI, the Congress leader also said there is growing "public anger and pain" for which the people of India will give a message to Modi on May 23 when the votes for the Lok Sabha polls will be counted.

"I believe true nationalism is love of the people and love for the country, which means respect and I do not see respect for the people in anything they are doing," Priyanka Gandhi said in an interview during her campaign through the constituencies represented by her mother and brother.

While Sonia Gandhi is the MP from Rae Bareilly, Rahul Gandhi represents Amethi in the Lok Sabha.

"Nationalism means solving the problems of the people of the country. The greatest patriotism of any politician, of any government, would be to be able to hear the people when they speak, would be to be democratic, to be able to strengthen the institutions that strengthen the public voice, not weaken it," Priyanka Gandhi said.

The BJP has been building its campaign narrative around the issue of nationalism and national security and the party has been referring to the Balakot air strikes and the Modi government's policy in tackling terror.

Priyanka Gandhi, who has been vigorously campaigning in Rae Bareilly and Ameth, said the Modi government's policies have led to large scale public anger and pain among people. "I think the people will give the message to him (PM) because I think wherever I go, I see a lot of public anger, pub-

lic pain, which has not been addressed," the Congress general secretary in-charge of eastern Uttar Pradesh said.

"Any leader whether it is him (Modi) or anyone else, if public pain is not addressed, if the voice of the people is drowned by the voice of one leader or by the kind of ideology they have, they will have to suffer the consequences. So I think the people are very clear," she said.

She said the ongoing Lok Sabha elections are very crucial as the Congress is fighting to protect the idea of India and the contest is between ideologies.

"It is an election in which we are fighting for the India that we all love, for democracy, and for all those values of democracy that we hold dear because institutions are being destroyed by this government," she said.

Asked whether she is dejected about not contesting the Lok Sabha polls from Varanasi against Modi, Priyanka Gandhi said she "feared no one" and went by the direction of the party. **PTI**

If not for LS, NCP may have tie-up with MNS for State polls

Mumbai: The NCP is considering taking the Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) onboard for the Maharashtra Assembly elections, sources in the Sharad Pawar-led party have said.

Assembly polls are due in the state later this year.

The Raj Thackeray-led party was not part of the 'grand alliance' stitched by the Congress and NCP with smaller parties for the ongoing Lok Sabha polls.

The NCP was keen on alliance with the MNS, but the Congress reportedly had reservations, fearing a backlash in the Hindi heartland due to the MNS' anti-North Indian stand.

The MNS is not contesting the ongoing Lok Sabha polls. Thackeray, however, addressed several rallies in the state during the first four phases, attacking Prime Minister Narendra Modi and appealing people not to vote

for the BJP. "The Congress was concerned about aligning with the MNS during general elections due to latter's anti-North Indian posturing. But that should not be a concern in the state polls," an NCP leader said.

The possibility of the NCP allotting MNS some seats from its quota (as part of alliance with the Congress) could not be ruled out, he said.

The MNS, he said, can influence voters in around 30 Assembly segments.

"The MNS put up a good show in the 2009 polls. That indicated the strength it had in certain Assembly segments in Mumbai, Thane, Pune and Nashik," the source said. The MNS won 13 seats in the 2009 Assembly polls and is believed to have eaten into the Shiv Sena and BJP's vote share, helping the Congress-NCP combine to retain power. **PTI**

EASTER BOMBING LINKS TO INDIA NIA launches manhunt across Tamil Nadu

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■
CHENNAI

Sleuths of National Investigation Agency launched a manhunt across Tamil Nadu since Thursday morning reportedly in search of persons from Sri Lanka hiding in the State. Sources in the NIA told reporters that the search is to find out persons associated with the Easter Sunday bombings in Colombo in which more than 250 persons lost their lives and 500 were left maimed and injured.

But a release issued by NIA headquarters later in the day said sleuths from the agency carried out searches at 20 locations at Kumbakonam, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and Karaikal in connection with investigation of the murder of Ramalingam, a 41-year-old activist of the PMK in Thanjavur district which is being probed by the NIA.

During searches, a number of digital devices including 16 mobile phones, 21 SIM cards, 3 Laptops, 9 Hard Disks, 7 Memory cards, 118 CDs/DVDs, 1 Tab, 7 Diaries, 2 PFI Banners, 1 DVR have been seized. Besides 1 Sword, 1 Sharp edged knife and Cash

of Rs 2 Lakhs were recovered from 3 different houses and about 100 incriminating documents have also been seized," said the NIA release.

Thanjavur Police had arrested ten persons believed to be accused in the case. "Six other accused are still absconding. The accused persons are active members/office bearers of PFI," the NIA release disclosed further.

Chennai Police on Wednesday had arrested a person of Sri Lankan origin from Mannady, a city suburb described as a haven for extremists and criminals on the run. The arrested person, who told the police that he was in touch with activists of the National Thowheed Jama'ath of Sri Lanka, the organisation believed to have carried out the bombings in Colombo Churches, took the cops to an apartment at Poonamallee from where they picked up 33 year old Roshan, a Sri Lankan citizen.

When reports last came, officials belonging to the NIA, IB and the Tamil Nadu Police were questioning those whom they have taken into custody. Sources in Chennai Police said

that Roshan has been staying in Chennai without valid documents and they expect to collect some vital information from him while questioning.

Ramalingam, who questioned a group of Islamic activists engaged in proselytising the villagers of Thripuvan near Kumbhakonam was murdered in a gruesome manner by persons suspected to be members of the PFI. His hand and leg were chopped off for questioning the clerics and Ramalingam died on the way to the hospital.

Though the Tamil Nadu police had arrested 11 persons in connection with the murder, no progress could be made in the investigation which resulted in the State administration entrusting the probe with the NIA.

S Gurumurthy, columnist and editor of Thuglaq magazine came out on Thursday with a revelation that the Tamil Nadu Thowheed Jama'ath has connections with the National Thowheed Jama'ath and Sri Lankan Thowheed Jama'ath. According to Gurumurthy, Tamil Nadu Thowheed Jama'ath and Sri La Thowheed Jama'ath has relations dating back to a decade.

Kerala Muslim body bans burqa on campus

Thiruvananthapuram: Amid a raging debate on prohibiting burqa in the country on grounds of national security, a Muslim educational group in Kerala has banned its students from covering their faces with any attire on the campuses of its institutions.

The Kozhikode-based Muslim Education Society (MES), a progressive group which runs several educational institutions, including professional colleges, issued a circular urging its students not to attend classes wearing any face-covering attire.

While the dress code mentioned in a circular triggered opposition from orthodox Muslim organisations and scholars, the MES maintained



that covering women's faces was a new trend and had not been in practice in the community in the state earlier.

In the April 17 circular, MES Institutions president P K Fazal Gafoor said the directive should be implemented from the 2019-20 academic year without triggering any controversy.

"Without creating any controversy, the institutions must make sure to implement from 2019-20 academic year that students do not come to the class wearing any attire covering their face," it said.

Any 'inappropriate' trend in the campuses should be discouraged. "Any attire, which is unacceptable in the public society, cannot be allowed, even if it is in the name of modernity or religious ritual," Gafoor said.

The circular, addressed to the secretaries and the principals of the MES institutions, also asked them to include the dress code directive as a new rule in the college calendar for the new academic year.

Facing demands for with-

drawing the move, Gafoor Thursday made it clear that the MES would go ahead with its decision to ban face-covering attire on its campuses.

"Covering the face of women is a new trend. 99 per cent women are not covering their face. There had been no such practice in the Kerala community or in the Muslim community here...," he told media persons.

Gafoor said the MES was not ready to implement the dress codes being imposed in the name of "religious fundamentalism".

"We have freedom to ban such attires on our campuses. There is no need to consult with religious outfits for that," the MES president said.

Criticising the MES, Samashta, an orthodox outfit of Muslim scholars, said the circular was "un-Islamic" and it should be withdrawn.

"As per the Islamic rules, the body parts of women should not be shown out. The MES has no right to issue a circular banning the attire covering the face of women. Islamic rules should be followed," Umar Faize, a Samashta scholar, said.

The Shiv Sena had on Wednesday welcomed the Sri Lankan Government's decision to ban burqa and masks on grounds of national security in the wake of the Easter Sunday terror attacks and asked the Narendra Modi-led regime to follow suit. PTI

Maoists warn Govt, contractors not to hold developmental work

TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

A day after they killed 15 C-60 commandos in a landmine blast, Maoists operating in the forests of Gadchiroli district in eastern Maharashtra, bordering Chhattisgarh, once again made their presence felt on Thursday by putting up banners and posters warning the Maharashtra Government, private contractors and firms against building roads and bridges in the region.

On a day when Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis and Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Hansraj Ahir paid homage to martyred C-60 commandos of the Gadchiroli police, members of banned CPI (Maoist) through its local Divisional Vigilance Committees (DVC) put up posters and banners in villages thus warning the State Government, private contractors and firms to desist from taking up vital infrastructure projects in the area.

The posters and banners - prepared in red and white coloured sheets and clothes - said that water, land, forests and mines belonged to all the people and by building roads and bridges, these were being to be handed over to a few industrialists for their profiteering.

The banners also accused top industrialists and their agents of indulging in the 'chamchagiri' of (Prime Minister Narendra Modi) and Fadnis' to get such projects for their 'vikas'.

The shocking landmine blast had come nearly ten hours after the Maoists set on fire at least 36 private vehicles and two site offices of a road engaged construction and repair work along the Purada-Malewada-Yerkhade stretch of along the Maharashtra-



Chhattisgarh national highway number 136.

Meanwhile, talking to media persons after paying to the homage to the 15 commandos killed in Wednesday's landmine blast, Chief Minister Fadnis said: "Yesterday's incident in which 15 security personnel and one driver were killed is a serious incident. Maharashtra Director General of Police is conducting a detailed inquiry to see if there were lapses that led to the blast. But let me assure you this supreme sacrifice of our brave jawans will not go in vain! We will fight this menace with more vigour and strength!"

Earlier, Union Minister of State for Home Hansraj

Ahir and State DGP Subodh Kumar Jaiswal visited the spot where Maoists blew up a security vehicle using an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) at Jamburkhed, six kilometres away from Kurkhed town, killing 15 C-90 commandos.

The C-60 commandos of the Gadchiroli police were heading in a vehicle for naxal combating operations, when they found several fallen trees blocking the road leading to an isolated stretch of the road in a forest area. When the security personnel alighted to clear the road, landmines planted by Maoists blew up, leaving 16 personnel dead. Those killed comprised 15 commandos and one driver.

NHRC condemns killing of 15 police personnel

Mumbai: Condemning Wednesday's landmine blast that left 15 commandos of the Gadchiroli police dead, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) on Thursday called for efforts to stop such attacks against security personnel "which are a grave violation of human rights".

"The country's strong democratic values and institutions provide enough space to people with divergent views to function through non-violent

means and to endear themselves to the mainstream of social, cultural and political life. Any struggle renders itself meaningless, the moment it turns violent, leading to grave violation of human rights," a statement issued by the NHRC said.

"The supreme sacrifice made by all those martyred in this dastardly and cowardly attack would not go in vain and the aggrieved families should be suitably compensated," a statement issued by the NHRC said.

Ishrat Jahan case: CBI court discharges Vanzara, Amin

Ahmedabad: A special CBI court here on Thursday discharged former police officers DG Vanzara and NK Amin in the Ishrat Jahan alleged fake encounter case.

Vanzara and Amin had filed discharge applications in the court after the Gujarat government refused to grant sanctions to the CBI to prosecute the two former police officers.

Special CBI court judge J K Pandya said that since the government has not sanctioned their prosecution, their discharge pleas are allowed and proceedings against them will be dropped in the case.

Under section 197 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Government's sanction is necessary for the prosecution of a public servant for an act done as part of the official duty.

Ishrat, a 19-year-old woman from Mumbai near Mumbai, Javed Shaikh alias Pranesh Pillai, Amjadali Akbarali Rana and Zeeshan Johar were killed by Gujarat police in an alleged fake encounter on the outskirts of Ahmedabad on June 15, 2004. PTI

92 mistakes in answer keys of 21 subjects in Assam civil services exam

Guwahati: A total of 92 mistakes have cropped up in the answer keys of 21 of the 22 subjects of the Assam Civil Services examination, forcing the Assam Public Service Commission (APSC) to declare the results twice.

Because of this anomaly, the APSC said on Thursday, it has blacklisted 22 experts who were responsible for setting up of question papers and preparation of answer keys in the Combined Competitive (Preliminary) Examination 2018.

The examination was held on December 30 last year. The first list of the qualified candidates was announced on March 13, while the second one was issued on April 30, APSC Chairman Dipak Kr Sarma told a press conference here.

He said 3,361 candidates who had cleared the preliminary examination on the basis of wrong answer keys have been retained to appear for the mains though some of them have secured lower marks in the re-evaluation. PTI

Sarma said 408 more candidates were allowed to write the mains examination in the second list after the re-evaluation.

APSC Principal Controller of Examinations Pubali Gohain said out of the 22 subjects that had candidates, 21 had mistakes in their answer keys submitted by the subject experts who were teachers from reputed colleges and universities.

Political Science had the maximum of 14 wrong keys, followed by 11 in History, nine in Sociology, eight in Mechanical Engineering and seven in Geology.

Education and Electrical Engineering had six mistakes each, five in Physics and three each in General Studies, Agriculture, Anthropology and Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Science, she said.

Gohain said Civil Engineering, Commerce, Mathematics, Philosophy and Zoology had two mistakes each, while Law, Geography, Electronics and Botany had one wrong answer each in the solution keys. PTI

EC removes DM of West Tripura following Opp charge of rigging during poll

Agartala: The EC on Thursday removed West Tripura District Magistrate Sandeep Namdeo Mahatme who is also the Returning Officer of West Tripura Lok Sabha seat, where Opposition parties are demanding re-poll in many booths alleging large-scale rigging by the BJP during voting there on April 11. Mahatme was replaced by East Tripura RO and District Magistrate of Dhalai, Vikash Singh.

EC secretary Arvind Anand wrote to state Chief Electoral Officer Sriram Taranikanti that Mahatme was "relieved and shall not be given any election related posting".

The Election Commission also asked the Tripura government to send to it names of a panel of officials for posting as district magistrate, who would be District Election Officer of Dhalai district. Opposition parties including the CPI (M) and the Congress have demanded removal of Mahatme claiming that his role was not impartial during the polling in the constituency on April 11. After the allegation of rigging in West Tripura, the EC had postponed voting in the East Tripura, the other Lok Sabha seat in the State, to the third phase on April 23 from April 18, saying the prevailing law-and-order situation there is not conducive for holding free and fair poll. PTI



All India Trinamool Congress (TMC) activists participate in a roadshow in support of their party candidate Mala Roy for Kolkata-South Lok Sabha seat in Kolkata on Thursday. PTI

Goa Assembly's acting Speaker Michael Lobo wants CM post

Panaji: Goa Assembly's acting Speaker Michael Lobo on Thursday said he would prefer to be the Chief Minister if given a chance by his party BJP instead of becoming a full-time Speaker.

His comments came ahead of election for the Speaker's post in the upcoming monsoon session of the Assembly.

The post of Speaker fell vacant after incumbent Pramod Sawant was elected the Chief Minister following the demise of Manohar Parrikar on March 17.

Lobo was elected the deputy speaker in March 2017 after the BJP-led government came to power in the state. He has been officiating as the acting Speaker after Sawant took over as the

chief minister. "As acting Speaker, I have got an opportunity to be the Speaker of the House and I don't want to continue to hold this post.

"I have told my party (BJP) that I am not in the race for the post of Speaker," Lobo said while talking to reporters in his chamber.

"The Speaker means you have to be very neutral. You cannot take up issues of general public. You can only call government officers and get work done from them.

"You cannot raise issues in the assembly, you cannot raise issues outside the assembly," said the BJP legislator known for issue-based attack on his own government. PTI

Lobo said the Speaker is a neutral position and when someone assumes that office he has to be impartial.

He said a senior member of the House should take up that position and then revealed his chief ministerial ambition.

"I wanted to become the CM. The party has not done it. I am still waiting that they will do it," Lobo said.

The MLA said he does not want to become the Speaker even if the BJP forces him to take up the constitutional post.

"If the party forces me to become the CM, I will be ready, but if the party forces to become the Speaker I won't. I am happy as deputy speaker," he added. PTI

APPEAL FOR IDENTIFICATION



General public is hereby informed that an unidentified dead body of male **Namely** : Jai Singh S/o Unknown R/o Unknown **Age** : about 65 years, **Height** : about 5'7", **Complexion** : Wheatish, **Face** : Long, **Built** : Thin, **Wearing** : Blue colour T-shirt, grey colour pant has been found at DDA Park, near Mohan

Mandir, Hari Nagar, Delhi on 27.04.2019. In this regard a case vide DD No. 24 A dated 27.04.2019 has been lodged at P.S. Hari Nagar, New Delhi.

Any person having any information or clue about this found dead body may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO : P.S. Hari Nagar, New Delhi West Dist., Delhi DP/8232/WD/19 Tel. No. 011- 28525719, 8750871128

SEARCH FOR MISSING



General Public is hereby informed that one man **Namely**: Vincent Mashi, S/o: Narender Pal, R/o: B-2/13-14 Budh Vihar Ph-I, Delhi, **Age**: 28 Years, **Height**: 5'2", **Complexion**: Shallow, **Face**: Round, **Wearing**: Blue Jacket, Grey Pant and Sport Shoes in feet has been missing/kidnapped since

16.02.2019 from the area of PS. Vijay Vihar, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 101-A, dated 18.02.2019 has been lodged at PS. Vijay Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped man but no clue has come to light so far.

If anyone have any information about this missing/kidnapped man please inform the undersigned.

SHO E-Mail ID: cic@cbi.gov.in PS, Vijay Vihar, Delhi, Fax: 011-24368639 DP/2679/RD/19 Ph.: 011-27282350, 27280435

Appeal for Identification



General public is hereby informed that one male **Name**: Unknown, **S/o**: Unknown, **R/o**: Unknown, **Age**: Approx 25-30 Years, **Height**: 5'6", **Complexion**: Wheatish, **Sex**: Male, **Built**: Normal, **Wearing**: Blue Red T-Shirt and Black Lower was found

dead on 25.04.2019. **Place of Recovery**: Sec.-2, DSIIIDC, Bawana, Delhi. In this regard DD No. 25-A, has been lodged at PS Bawana Outer North Distt., Delhi on 25.04.2019.

Any clue come to notice please inform undersigned.

SHO PS. Bawana, Outer North Distt., Delhi DP/254/ON/19 Ph.: 011-27752534, 27751949

NORTHERN RAILWAY

TENDER NOTICE (Through e-tendering)
Name of work with its location: Augmentation of Railnet at DEMU Diesel Shed & Training Centre Shakurbasti. App. Cost of the work: Rs. 43,15,029.98/- only. Tender Document Fee: Rs. 3,540/- only. Earnest Money Deposit: Rs. 86,300/- only. Address of the office: Senior Divisional Signal & Telecom Engineer-1, Northern Railway, 3rd Floor, Annex-1, DRM office, New Delhi-110055. Date & Time for upload the tender / closing of tender: Tender uploading / closing date & time 29.05.2019 up to 15:00 hrs. Website particular & notice board location where complete details of the tender can be seen etc.: See the Northern Railway website www.treps.gov.in & Notice board at S&T branch, 3rd Floor, DRM office, State Entry Road, New Delhi-110055. No.: 558-Sig-16-TE-OT-902 Dated: 02.05.2019. 1302/2019

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GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR

Resident Commission
5 Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi - 110011
Tel: 24611108, 24611210, Fax: 24601277, 24627047

No: KRC/Estt./239/2019/557/19 Dated: 02.05.2019

Open tender for the supply of material of Tea, coffee and other items at Resident Commission, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to invite sealed quotation for supply of material of tea, coffee and other items at Resident Commission, J&K Govt., 5-Prithvi Raj Road and Chanakyapuri, New Delhi and its sub-offices located at Amritsar, Chandigarh and Mumbai for 01 (One) year from the date of awarding of the contract. The contract shall be valid for 01 (One) year from the date of its awarding.

The indicative requirement of tea, coffee and other items is as per "Annexure-II".

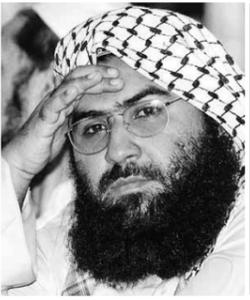
The sealed cover containing the bids superscripted "Open tender for supply of material for tea, coffee and other items" should be addressed to Chief Pay & Account Officer, Resident Commission, Government of Jammu & Kashmir, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi alongwith all the particulars of the agency as per Annexure-I and dropped in tender box at ground floor near reception, J&K House, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi-110011 by 3.00 PM on or before 15.05.2019. The bids received after the stipulated date and time will not be considered. The bid opening date shall be notified separately. Vender or his representative can be present at the time of opening of the sealed bids.

The tender documents can be had from this office on any working upto 12.05.2019 against a cash payment of Rs. 50/- (Rupees fifty only).

No: KBI/Advt/1807-08/2019 Dated: 02-05-2019 Chief Pay & Account Officer

Azhar nailed, finally

Now that the UN has tagged the Jaish chief a global terrorist, it is a diplomatic coup for India and its standing in the world



This is closure at so many levels, the UN declaration of Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist. For common Indians, this is comeuppance for a series of terror attacks that began with the Kandahar hijacking besides the brutal blasts and suicide squads that we have lived with for two decades. Besides costing us human lives, they have also hurt our institutional pride by attacking the Indian Parliament no less. It's a big win for Indian diplomacy, which has been in lobby wars from the Capitol Hill

to the UN, to convince the world that Pakistan-exported terrorism was not just a byproduct of regional conflicts but a sub-set of global terrorism and that the West had as much of a common cause as us. It's also the first time that India at least painted China into a corner with world opinion on its side, though it had to concede ground on the wording of the ban order, making it look equidistant from both India and Pakistan. Finally, though the final resolution did not mention the Pulwama attacks, the fact that the global ban follows the worst terrorist attack in Kashmir, that, too, on security forces, is acknowledgement enough of the context and Pakistan's hand in fomenting terrorism in Kashmir. Of course, the biggest political capital has been claimed by the Narendra Modi government, during whose tenure the impossible task of proscribing Azhar has been achieved. In the middle of the Lok Sabha elections, this only lends credence to the ruling BJP's twin planks of muscular nationalism and national security. It silences the criticism of Balakot being a misadventure, shows that Pakistan can be brought to book by staying well under the nuclear threshold and demonstrates to the world that a usually pacifist India will no longer be a pushover. As for Modi himself, who has already arrogated to himself the task of protecting the nation's interests, the US-led move posits him as a tall leader the world wants to do business with. Regardless of what concessions that superpower extracts from us, maybe a quid pro quo on Iran.

Getting China on board was the biggest obstacle despite India working with international allies relentlessly. Beijing had put a technical hold on the Azhar ban in the Security Council's 1267 Al Qaeda Sanctions Committee not once but four times. Given the strategic depth of the Sino-Pak friendship, one that is often reiterated by President Xi Jinping, it seemed unlikely that China would ever give in. Particularly considering Pakistan was wholeheartedly participating in its Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and ensuring no IS activity was directed its way. But when the US pushed for an independent Security Council resolution, where China would have had to explain its veto and risk being tagged a pariah, the latter agreed to the ban albeit with conditions, prime among them being no mention of Pulwama or Kashmir. Besides, both India and the US also approved China's presidentship of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) that caps terror funding and it did look the other way when Pakistan was put on the grey list. The US-India-China equation was calibrated so well that each side could factor in sensitivities of the other and accommodate each other without appearing to have cut a compromise. Given India's intransigence on BRI, China has already worked out an alternative space through the Wuhan dialogues. Even before the UN meeting, Indian Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale went to Beijing, held talks with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi and shared evidence of JeM's involvement in the Pulwama terror attack. In fact, France, which spearheaded the UN resolution, was the only one which mentioned Pulwama as the last straw on the camel's back. "For many years now, French diplomacy has been relentlessly pleading for sanctioning Azhar, head of the terrorist group responsible, notably, for the Pulwama attack last February," it said.

What does it mean for Azhar and other terror networks in Pakistan? Yes, there will be an arms and funds freeze as well as a travel ban and confinement. But when it comes to Jaish and the Lashkar before it, they mutate in hibernation and cadres emerge with a new face, style and identity. By the time they are circled out, much damage is done. So clamping down on Pakistan's hydra-headed terror networks is still quite a bit.

Closing the web

Putin wants to isolate Russia's internet from the rest of the world, much like China. This is not a good thing



Vladimir Putin is the archetypal strongman; his "muscular" presence has allowed a Post-Soviet Russia to punch way above its weight in global geopolitics. Of course, it helps when you have tens of thousands of nuclear warheads at your disposal. Now, Putin wants to emulate the Chinese and create a purely Russian internet. According to a law signed by the President, November onwards, it will be possible for Russian authorities to cut off access to the wider world-wide web in certain situations and thus create a purely domestic internet. A simple reason for Putin to do so is to prevent the spread of information or misinformation on Western social media networks that can be used to destabilise a state. Twitter and Facebook, as well as other public social networks, have become 'enemies of the state' in several countries, particularly quasi-dictatorships. Russia has even acted against one of its homegrown networks 'Telegram,' an extremely secure instant messaging service favoured by terrorists across the world.

This action of Russia has sent shivers not just in other countries but also among activists. Can Putin's actions give ideas to the next Indian government? However, Putin has realised and so should Indian politicians that services like Twitter and Facebook are extensions of the United States' foreign policy. They can very easily manipulate information flows and how they serve up that information to transform electoral results. This is why defence analyst Abhijit Iyer-Mitra has filed a suit against these companies in the Delhi High Court, as their actions can manipulate (and are, according to some evidence) Indian elections. So should we also go down the same path and have a purely 'Indian' internet? No. The beauty of the internet is that it has democratised information flows as well as how people react and talk with each other. That has to stay. However, governments are right and must be concerned about how the internet has encouraged and enabled coercive activities. While the Supreme Court did enshrine the right to privacy, it does not allow anyone to work against the state. India should remain part of the world-wide web but protect its own interests. It should force foreign companies to not only store their data here but explain their actions when it comes to blocking users and their algorithms since these can be weaponised against Indians.

opinion

Selective amnesia

The Election Commission has been under scrutiny for not taking action against those who violate the Model Code of Conduct. It is now faced with the task of regaining moral authority



AJOY KUMAR

Last week, I read an excellent article in the *New York Times* by SY Quraishi, who was India's Chief Election Commissioner between 2010 and 2012. In this article, Quraishi shared a number of fascinating nibbles about the Election Commission of India (ECI). A particularly interesting fact highlighted by him was the sheer size of the Indian election and the poll panel's massive responsibility to ensure that each vote counts. He illustrated a lovely example of this task by narrating how Election Commissioners set up a polling booth in the Gir Forest National Park in Gujarat for the only living voter in the area: A Hindu priest.

The Indian election is remarkable. As the Constitutional watchdog of the voting process, the EC plays an important role to ensure free and fair polls. It is fully empowered to take any action for upholding the legitimacy of a democratic process. While each election is crucial, the ongoing edition requires the electoral body to demand more from itself. No other election was filled with as much misinformation, as much hatred, and as clear a blatant abdication of any form of responsible conduct than the 2019 Lok Sabha polls. This is especially evident from the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP's) conduct and transgressions in the ongoing elections. However, the EC has unfortunately been disappointingly silent through this most trying period.

One way through which the electoral body tries to ensure free and fair polls is by issuing guidelines for Model Code of Conduct, which come into force the day the election schedule is announced. This code is not a law. Instead, it is in the form of a moral code and the electoral body expects the politicians to adhere to the terms set by it. Crucially, it believes that leaders will have the integrity to adhere to such a code. Unfortunately, over the past few weeks, the moral authority of the EC and the Model Code of Conduct has been brazenly undermined by the Prime Minister, who has shown reckless disregard.

Take, for example, the directives of the Election Commission. On March 19, the electoral body issued a general advisory saying that "political parties/candidates are advised that their campaigners/candidates should desist, as part of their campaigning, from indulging in any political propaganda involving activities of the defence forces."

The order was aimed at curbing actions by political parties who claim votes in the name of the military because after all, India's armed forces are not owned by any political party. Therefore, one expects that any decent political party will not ask for votes in the name of its martyrs. However, in this election, we have campaigners like Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister



Yogi Adityanath, who termed the Army as "Modiji ki Sena."

The Prime Minister, too, during an election speech on April 9 said: "I wish to ask my first-time voters, can you dedicate your first vote to the brave martyrs of Pulwama?" Did Prime Minister Modi not get the memo or was he absolutely unaware of any repercussions? Since it is evident that the Prime Minister will not voluntarily subject himself to any authority, let alone a moral one, it is incumbent on the enforcers of the Model Code of Conduct to come down hard against such brazen violation of *diktats* of the institution.

However, the EC has been found terribly wanting. While it heard numerous complaints and representations against various leaders, till last week, it took no action against the various representations by Opposition parties against the comments and conduct of Prime Minister Modi. This forced the Congress to approach the Supreme Court in the hope that such an action would provide some explanation as to why numerous blatant violations by the Prime Minister were not examined and acted upon by the EC.

“
IRONICALLY, THE ELECTION COMMISSION WAS PROMPT IN DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS AGAINST OTHER CANDIDATES BUT FAILED TO DISPLAY THE SAME PROMPTNESS IN DEALING WITH COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE PRIME MINISTER AND BJP CHIEF AMIT SHAH
 ”

Ironically, the Commission was prompt in dealing with complaints against other candidates, but failed to display the same promptness in dealing with objections raised against the Prime Minister and BJP chief Amit Shah. Since then, we have seen Prime Minister Modi not being cautioned for several parts of his speech against Congress chief Rahul Gandhi, who is contesting from Wayanad, and the April 9 speech where the Prime Minister explicitly asked the voters to dedicate their vote to Pulwama martyrs. If this isn't "political propaganda involving activities of the defence forces," I am not sure what is.

Even after an inextinguishable delay, when it did choose to probe these charges and act, the EC cleared the Prime Minister on two counts. Even when his remarks were not that veiled and quite specific.

Other than this, there have been several instances like "no pending complaint against Prime Minister Modi" appearing on the poll panel's portal, despite the fact that several complaints have been lodged. The official defence is that there has to be a *prima facie* violation of the Model Code of Conduct. That means the vio-

lation should be obvious on the face of it. A look at some of the comments on social media and by wide sections of the political establishment will show that this basic standard has been met.

Similarly, the fact that the EC suspended an IAS officer, who searched Modi's chopper, and that this action of the electoral body was stayed by the Central Administrative Tribunal does not reflect well on it either.

Mahatma Gandhi had once said, "Moral authority is never retained by any attempt to hold on to it. It comes without seeking and is retained without effort." The Indian elections are a magnificent testimony to our commitment to democracy. However, it needs a strong moral authority to ensure that it remains so. Unfortunately, going by events of the past few weeks, the EC will need to put immense effort to regain its moral authority and fulfil the role it was meant to. And its office-bearers will at some point have to think about the sacredness of their jobs over political expediency.

(The writer is Jharkhand PCC president, former MP and IPS officer. Views are personal)

SOUNDBITE

Prime Minister didn't come anywhere close to either Indira Gandhi or Lal Bahadur Shastri. There cannot be any comparison between their greatness and the pettiness of the present regime.



Former Prime Minister — Manmohan Singh

I like to change things up fast and keep it fresh. I'd love to do a proper action film. Do my bit, and do it for the right reasons.



Actor — Rajkumar Rao

It's always good when all member states agree on something. We would of course hope that all members abide by those decisions.



UN Secretary-General — Antonio Guterres

Like the BJP, the Congress has started saying absurd things about the SP-BSP alliance. It is clear that both (Congress, BJP) have a tacit understanding.



BSP chief — Mayawati

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unnecessary ruckus

Sir — This refers to the editorial, "In TinTin's footsteps" (May 2). Even if there is solid evidence that the footprints spotted by the Indian Army were indeed of the elusive Yeti, let us, for nature's sake, not disturb a pristine environment. We must learn not to endanger species who have been living and surviving in the lap of nature. Some things are best left alone.

M Pradyu Thalikavu

Diplomatic victory

Sir — The listing of Masood Azhar as a global terrorist by the UN Security Council is undoubtedly a huge diplomatic win for India in its long-standing fight against terrorism. Azhar was the blue-eyed boy of Pakistan's Inter-Services Intelligence and is also responsible for multiple terror attacks in India, including the Pulwama terror attack in which 40 Indian soldiers were killed in February. At a time when almost all nations across the world have

Mystery around Yeti only grows stronger

This refers to the editorial, "In TinTin's footsteps" (May 2). The reported sighting of mysterious footprints of Yeti, a mythical creature, by an expedition team of the Indian Army, was a welcome diversion from the exhaustive election news. Myth has it that the Yeti, otherwise known as the abominable snowman, resided in the snow-covered slopes of the Himalayas. The Army regards the "discovery of mysterious footprints of mythical beast Yeti" as sufficient and even clinching evidence for its claimed existence.

It is worth noting that DNA samples from bones, hair strands and faeces believed to be those of Yeti have turned out to be those of certain sub-species of black and brown bears. How did the Army come to the conclusion that the primate-like footprints were of Yeti is not clear. The scientific community sees it as "amateur speculation." Anindya Sinha, an Indian scientist, believes that the images as seen by the Army could be pugmarks of the Himalayan Brown Bears walking on fresh snow. Ever since, the Army has had to face a lot of ridicule for "propagating theories previously debunked by science." Those with a scientific bent of mind dismiss Yeti as a non-existent crypto zoological



phenomenon on par with Loch Ness Monster popularised by indigenous Lepcha people and mountaineers. They are unwilling to suspend disbelief and accept the Army's puerile claim. This is not to rule out the possibility that Yeti or a creature answering to the description — a human-like hominid — may have once existed in the mountainous terrain. Open-mindedness is a virtue when it comes to unravelling enduring mysteries.

G David Milton Maruthancode

Action Task Force (FATF), had not only drained all terror-financing options for Islamabad, but had also forced it to take action, albeit a cosmetic one.

India must side by side explore other options like taking pre-emptive action against terrorists, like the recent Balakot airstrikes. It must also put diplomatic pressure on Pakistan to take action against terrorists.

Srinivas Chennai

Election gimmick

Sir — It is strange that the Bharatiya Janata Party is resorting to every trick to retain power. After having accused the Congress of working in favour of Pakistan, it has now resurrected the issue of Congress president Rahul Gandhi's "citizenship." Why is the Home Ministry flogging a dead horse? Is the ruling dispensation running out of better ideas?

Abhishek Via web

Small step forward

Sir — The UN's listing of Masood Azhar, the chief of Pakistan-based terrorist organisation, Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM), as a global terrorist is a symbolic move but is a small step forward towards India's fight

against terrorism.

It is noteworthy that Lashkar-e-Tayyeba (LeT) and its chief, Hafiz Saeed, too, were listed under the UN 1267 resolution. But as things stand today, such a move has done little to stop terror organisations from operating. In fact, the grey-listing of Pakistan by the Financial

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

Get set, go and never falter

Incubators are boosters that help businesses get off the ground. They add value to start-ups and ultimately benefit the wider ecosystem



PRAVIN KHANDELWAL

One of the major factors responsible for the high failure rate of start-ups in India is the lack of proportional growth of incubators. Ironically, the concept of incubators or accelerators — an organisation that shows the way for the start-up companies to speed up their growth and success — is still in the nascent stage while the start-up culture is flourishing with incessant growth. In a country where more than 1,000 start-ups are born every year, there are hardly 150 incubators and they, too, are failing to support a majority of endangered young businesses. Consequently, 90 per cent of the start-ups succumb to weak immunity even before their fifth anniversary. Though it's encouraging that India enjoys the status of being the world's third-largest start-up ecosystem, high failure rate is one big concern for all stakeholders, including foreign investors. To overcome barriers on the path of toddler businesses, there is an urgent need for a robust incubation system, one that runs parallel to the rising startup culture. But before ensuring sustainability to this culture, incubators must deal with the challenges they come across quite frequently.

Distance barriers: Ideas and entrepreneurs can be born anywhere and anytime — not just in Delhi or Mumbai but also in other big and small cities that have become a breeding ground for businesses. Despite the fact that 70 per cent of India's population lives in rural areas, the maximum incubators are located in metro cities and Tier-I cities. Distance keeps many potential start-ups out of the reach of enabling systems. Although India's communication infrastructure has improved significantly, everything related to business cannot be shared and understood over phone and emails. So, first of all, incubators must increase their physical reach to tap the growing opportunities in smaller cities and towns.

Lack of compatibility: Many a time, the aim of an entrepreneur does not align well with the vision of the incubating team because of the asymmetry between ambition and viability. It's really difficult to convince a budding entrepreneur as to why an idea, as shared by him/her, scores low on feasibility and viability. Often, the entrepreneur wants to go with the original ideas without even considering the alternative of an incubator. This opinion clash reduces the enthusiasm of the mentors and the end result is that neither the client nor the incubators is satisfied. The best way to prevent these kind of conflicts is by conveying all probable challenges in the initial rounds instead of throwing light on them in the middle of the journey. So, keeping clarity during official as well as non-official communication is the best antidote for communication barriers.

Funding vs revenue: Enabling a business to generate good revenue is more profitable than improving its traction for more funding. Here, the focus of an incubator should be to maintain a balance between fund management and revenue growth. In the initial phases, most incubators focus on luring the investors and care little about untapping the market potential for business. Though this one-dimensional approach helps secure required funds for the business, slow growth in revenue increases the financial liability of the company even in the infancy stage. Hence, the goal of funding should be smooth functioning, market penetration and achieving revenue targets. If funding is merely increasing the liability of a firm and revenue is not growing simultaneously, then it is an alarming situation for the startup.

Ensuring scalability: High scalability means better sustainability — this principle applies to almost every business but is more applicable to startups, which should be more flexible to mould themselves as per changes in micro and macroeconomic environment. In fact, if a start-up aims to achieve high in the long run, scalability should be in its DNA. A young entrepreneur high on passion and less on experience cannot easily understand the need for scalability of his/her business. But a coach or mentor can never ignore it. So, incubators must help start-ups in adopting a flexible and agile framework through counselling as well as devising feasible modules.

Value addition: Start-up incubation is not only about immunisation of a business through appropriate funding, availability of space, recruitment of top management and exploration of market. The most promising attribute for any start-up is 'value addition', which offers an edge over its competitors. Usually, incubators serve all the needs. Such confined services can never ensure a better future. In contrast, incubators, that help start-ups in increasing their market share with value-added products or services, always succeed in achieving mutual goals.

(The writer is leadership and motivation director of a startup accelerator firm)

CONGRESS WILL WIN SEATS WHERE OUR CANDIDATES ARE STRONG. WHERE OUR CANDIDATES ARE SLIGHTLY LIGHTWEIGHT, WE WILL CUT INTO BJP'S VOTE SHARE.

—CONGRESS GENERAL SECRETARY
PRIYANKA GANDHI VADRA

POINTCOUNTERPOINT



I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE CONGRESS HAS FIELDLED WEAK CANDIDATES ANYWHERE. PEOPLE ARE NOT WITH IT. THIS IS WHY THEY ARE MAKING EXCUSES.

—SP CHIEF
AKHILESH YADAV

Men have rights too

Male sex workers have been around through history but are a legally neglected lot. They should attract sanctions and restrictions like their female counterparts



HASAN KHURSHID

Prostitution is an age-old profession, the term derived from the Latin word *prostituta*, which involves the practice of engaging in sexual relations in exchange for money or some other material benefit. Its practitioners have now mutated to the more acceptable moniker of "sex workers", indicating a respect for their work rights and a more structured rule of engagement. Although a majority of sex workers are women, there are also gay, lesbian and heterosexual male ones, the last commonly known as gigolos. In fact, there is a significant emerging market for liberated women, who pay for sexual pleasure from men. Around 80 per cent of the estimated 42 million sex workers worldwide are female. This means that the remaining 20 per cent comprises male escorts. Yet they have got left out of the discourse on shedding taboos and are denied legitimacy by law.

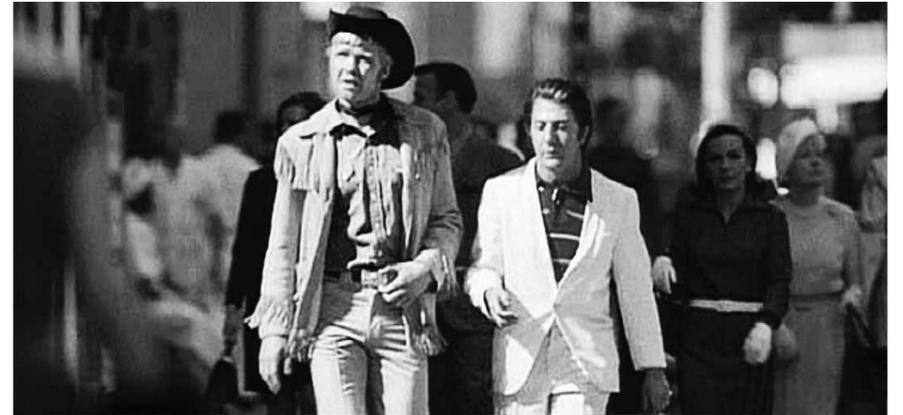
A survey of websites in 61 countries has found that a quarter of Australia's 516 male sex workers are now catering to women. Meanwhile, researchers from QUT's Crime, Justice and Social Democracy Research Centre and the Kirby Institute at the University of New South Wales, in the United Kingdom, found out that 50 per cent of the 5,487 male escorts cater to women and couples. In 2008, a scholarly paper revealed 300,000 male practitioners (serving either sex) were under the age of 16 years. New technologies like internet and mobile phones have promoted awareness of male sex work. The internet has also helped in safeguarding privacy and anonymity for potential male/female clients. There is no more need for gigolos to cruise public places, running the risk of arrest or violence. Professional escorts (indoor sex workers) usually advertise in print media through spa services or else on male escorting websites. However, such websites may face legal problems. In 2015, a well-known American website, *Rentboy.com*, was shut down by the United States Department of Homeland Security and its operators were charged for facilitating prostitution. However, recent research suggests a substantial growth in the number of online escorts worldwide.

Although not openly acknowledged as royal mistresses or concubines, royal histories across the world do have mentions of gigolos. It has been found in almost all modern and ancient cultures, though its prevalence has not been so common and prominent as that of female prostitution. In ancient times, male and female sex workers are believed to have plied their trade in sacred shrines. Yet the trade is horribly askew vis-a-vis men.

The isolation and stigma of male sex workers has been portrayed effectively in novels and cinemas in the West since the 1960s. Quite often, male prostitutes have been portrayed as tragic figures in films such as *Midnight Cowboy* (1969), which is about a tragic gigolo and won the Oscars, too.

Still male sex workers, compared to women (who have more slotted roles), have to provide varied services under different terminologies on mutually acceptable fee-for-service arrangement. They may be referred to as dancing partners, nude models, masseurs, rent-boys, male escorts,

“AS MALE PROSTITUTION HAS NOT BEEN EXPLICITLY AND EXPRESSLY MENTIONED IN THE ITPA, THE INDIAN JUDICIARY IS EXPECTED TO INCORPORATE THE RULES OF NATURAL JUSTICE, UTILISE THE DYNAMIC METHODS OF STATUTORY INTERPRETATION AND GIVE MEANING TO THE WORD AS PER ITS BEST JUDGEMENT



MIDNIGHT COWBOY

gigolos (implying female customers) and hustlers (more common for those soliciting in public places), among others. A large number of escorts catering to men and women engage in "non-tactile" services such as romance, tenderness, massage therapy and companionship, suggesting that sex is only part of the holistic service, where intimacy and emotional comfort is equally important to sexual pleasure.

Professor John Scott in his survey report quoted Maxime Durocher, a male sex worker since 2011, as saying, "Many of our clients come to see us saying (sometimes in tears) that they love their partner and they want to stay with them but they are missing something that needs to be addressed. They can't continue living like this. They might need more tenderness, understanding, somebody to talk to, satisfying sex, certain sexual acts, or simply variety, diversity, novelty, something new." Durocher continued, "Whatever they need, there are only two solutions: Getting it or leaving their partner. So by satisfying their missing desires, we provide them the opportunity of not breaking up relationships. We are most of the time the glue that keeps them together with spouses."

In January 2010, Ian Daly had written about a 25-year-old gigolo, 'Markus' (his working name), who had been registered as the first legal male sex worker of America. Expressing his views, Markus had said that to become successful in this type of venture, he had to act not as a service provider but as a surrogate lover, encompassing everything that's required of you, not only physically but emotion-

ally and psychologically too. That's even more difficult than the woman sex worker. "You can't necessarily say, oh, it's just a job. You actually have to say it's a passion. This actually isn't about selling my body. This is about changing social norms. I view myself as an artist, a performer. It's a craft. Whoever woman may walk through my door, she is appreciated. A surrogate lover will love that woman for a whole hour and she will be leaving much more empowered and much more confident of herself."

In the absence of male brothels, gigolos usually operate through internet or walk down certain selective locations of metropolitan cities, including Delhi and Bengaluru. Apart from the money, they are also offered costly gifts besides the agreed amount.

Yet they continued to be a nebulous entity in the eyes of the law, which still has been worked to protect women from being preyed upon. There is no clarity as to the working rights of the male sex worker. There is the Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956 (SITA), as the nation was a signatory to the United Nations International Convention for the 'Suppression of Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of Others' of 1950. SITA was amended twice in 1978 and 1986. The 1978 amendment enhanced punishments for certain offences in the Act. The 1986 amendment changed the nomenclature of the Act as "The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956" (ITPA). One of the significant changes in the Act was that the phrase "women and girls" was replaced with "per-

son" throughout the Act. This was done to include all persons, regardless of whether male or female, who were abused sexually for commercial purposes. Section 2(f) of the ITPA specifically says that the term "prostitute" is to be construed accordingly — which is to say that the word is to be interpreted as per the facts and circumstances of each individual case. The key is to interpret the statute with the legislative intent in mind, what was the intention of the Parliament when it first drafted the statute. Surely, the Parliament had no intention that it would protect the female but leave aside the male. The phrase "female prostitutes" was used only because in those days female prostitution was more common. As male prostitution has not been explicitly and expressly mentioned in the Act, the Indian judiciary is expected to incorporate the rules of natural justice, utilise the dynamic methods of statutory interpretation and give meaning to the word as per its best judgement.

Unless the male sex workers are protected, they will continue to be vulnerable to sexually transmitted diseases and prone to social exclusion, loss of esteem and drug and alcoholic dependence. It is, therefore, vital that males be legally protected with as much sanctions and restrictions like female sex workers. As the phrase of "women and girls" was substituted by "person" in the ITPA Act, all types of sex workers and their clients should be prosecuted at par, failing which it will be the violation of Article 14 of the Indian Constitution.

(The writer is a legal journalist)

Debate on parliamentary reforms

There is understandable scepticism in Pakistan about the calls for adopting a presidential system of Government. But aside from its history, it's instructive to look at whether such a model is actually more politically stable



NADEEM PARACHA

In his controversial book, *Pakistan's ISI: Covert Action and Internal Operations*, Owen L Sirrs writes that Pakistan's first elected Prime Minister, ZA Bhutto, wanted a presidential system to replace the parliamentary one that had elected him. Economist and author Shahid Javed Burki, in his 1980 book, *Pakistan under Bhutto, 1971-1977*, also mentions that Bhutto desired a presidential form of democracy.

Sirrs writes that Bhutto had enjoyed numerous executive powers when he replaced Yahya Khan as President and Chief martial law administrator in December 1971. However, his Government transformed Pakistan into a parliamentary democracy in 1973 and Bhutto became Prime Minister. Burki suggests

that Bhutto did this because his party's manifesto had advocated parliamentary democracy. Nevertheless, since the fate and workings of the executive in parliamentary democracy are closely related to the legislative assemblies, this meant that Prime Minister Bhutto had to let go of the powers that were at his disposal as President.

Even though his party had a majority in the National Assembly, Bhutto struggled to navigate around the interests of his party's elected legislators, to fully enact the kind of reforms he wanted to. On many occasions, he had to compromise to keep his own MNAs and MPs happy, let alone dealing in this context with the Opposition. Being an ambitious politician, he wanted to wield power without the many Constitutional checks and balances, which Assemblies are armed with, including having the power to dismiss a Prime Minister through a "no confidence" move.

In a presidential system, the executive and the legislature are independent bodies. The Assemblies cannot dismiss a President who is directly

elected by the electorate. The President can also appoint non-elected members as Ministers in his/her Cabinet. Former ideologue of Bhutto's PPP, Mubashir Hasan, in his 2001 book, *The Mirage of Power*, more than alludes that Bhutto was looking for a big win in the 1977 election so that he could use his party's majority in the Assemblies to constitutionally change Pakistan's parliamentary form of Government to a presidential one.

Bhutto was confident of winning a majority. But once it was realised that a united Opposition alliance had the potential to curtail his ambition in this respect, Government officials, handling the polling, went overboard in rigging the election on various seats, especially in Punjab.

All four military dictators, who ruled Pakistan during various stages, preferred the presidential system. This is one reason why even the mention of this system raises many eyebrows. Recently, as the establishment-backed PTI Government of Imran Khan faces increasing criticism on its handling of the country's floundering economy, talk of replacing Pakistan's

parliamentary system with a presidential one can be heard again from certain quarters. The perception being developed by such talk is that PTI's wafer-thin majority in the National Assembly and lack of elected ministerial talent within the party has left Prime Minister Khan's reformist agenda reeling.

What has made this (coy) call for a presidential system even more suspect is that some are calling it an "Islamic Presidential system." Truth is, anything in Pakistan with the prefix "Islamic" has and should draw immediate scepticism because it has always been cynically used — often causing more confusion than resolution. Ideas in this regard have been nothing more than convoluted rhetorical drivel.

Some are suggesting that an "Islamic Presidential system" has something to do with Allama Iqbal's idea of democracy. But according to LA Shirvani's 2005 book, *Writings, Speeches and Lectures of Iqbal*, Iqbal believed that a Muslim polity should elect a National Assembly made up of members, who were well-versed in both Islamic as well as modern (sec-

ular) sciences, laws and philosophies. Such an Assembly would make sure that the political and economic interests of the polity are advanced according to the progressive spirit of its faith and a consensus (*Jfma*) is reached which is representative of the electorate. Iqbal was also in favour of *ijtihad* (independent reasoning). Jinnah had interpreted this as parliamentary democracy, which it was. But one should also keep in mind that Iqbal was a poet and philosopher par excellence and not a political scientist.

But what if we investigate the presidential system without scepticism associated with it in Pakistan? Spanish sociologist Juan Jose Linz in his essay *The Perils of Democracy* and Harvard University's Prof S Mainwaring in *Presidentialism, Multipartyism and Democracy* write that historically, the parliamentary system performed better and provided stable democracies than presidential systems. Since the executive and the legislature are independent from each other in the presidential system, Linz and Mainwaring find the gap between the two as a flaw that can lead to a clash. Linz worries

that "the rigidity of presidential system can create a profound suspicion of the personalisation of power." The President is not accountable to the legislature as a Prime Minister is in a Parliamentary system.

According to Mainwaring's 1993 study, "presidential systems have not fared well. Only seven of 31 (22.6 per cent) presidential democracies have endured for at least 25 consecutive years, compared with 25 of 44 parliamentary systems (56.8 per cent). Linz points out that smaller parties lose out in the presidential system. This can become an issue in multicultural nations where groups represented by smaller parties may find themselves left out from the legislative process.

However, the West African researcher J Luengo's 2006 essay, *Democracy and Civil War in Sri Lanka* demonstrates how the adoption of parliamentary democracy by Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) in 1948 actually sent the country into a deadly spiral of ethnic tensions and warfare. Sri Lanka's Sinhalese majority had felt that during the British rule, it had been subjugated by the

region's pro-British Tamil minority. After independence, parliamentary democracy brought populist Sinhalese nationalist parties into power, who began to implement policies which alienated the Tamils. According to Luengo, this was the seed which gave birth to the long-drawn civil war in Sri Lanka between the Sinhalese and the Tamils. In 1978, the country adopted a "semi-presidential system" in which the Prime Minister is a secondary figure. It's a hybrid system like the one practised in France. But this system can cause problems when the directly elected President belongs to a party that fails to bag a majority in Parliament. The result can be a deadlock.

There is nothing wrong in debating what democratic system should Pakistan adopt. But this debate is premature in a country where parliamentary democracy has not yet been given the kind of uninterrupted run that it requires before one can seriously critique it or, moreover, advocate its replacement with a presidential democracy.

(The Dawn)

Banks to declare defaulting IL&FS accounts as NPAs

NCLAT allows banks to declare as non-performing assets the accounts of IL&FS and its group companies that have defaulted on payments

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Thursday allowed the banks to declare as non-performing assets the accounts of IL&FS and its group companies that have defaulted on payments.

A bench headed by Chairman Justice S J Mukhopadhyaya lifted the embargo on the banks to declare the accounts of the debt-ridden IL&FS and its 300 group entities.

However, the appellate tribunal has also clarified that although the banks would declare the IL&FS accounts as NPAs but can not initiate recovery process and debit money.



The bench has observed that lenders must not withdraw support until a resolution is found of the IL&FS and its group companies.

Presently, Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) Group companies, with a collective debt of over ₹90,000 crore, are going through resolution process.

The NCLAT had in February prohibited banks from recognising any IL&FS group accounts as non-performing assets without first seeking approval from the tribunal.

The RBI had moved the NCLAT, filing a plea to modify the order allowing the banks to declare the defaulting accounts of IL&FS as NPAs as per the banking regulations.

Now, all group companies of IL&FS are being classified according to their ability to meet payment obligations.

Those able to meet all payment obligations are categorised as 'green' while companies able to meet only operational payments and senior secured debt obligations are categorised as 'amber'. Others are categorised as 'red'.

Jet shares plunge 12%, hit 1-year low during the day

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of Jet Airways plunged 12 per cent Thursday amid a report that bidders for the company so far appear uninterested in following up on their expressions of interest.

Investors deserted the Jet Airways' counter since the start of trading in the morning and the scrip closed at Rs 134.85, plunging 12.04 per cent on the BSE. During the day, it plummeted 20.41 per cent to Rs 122 -- its 52-week low.

On the National Stock Exchange (NSE), the scrip dropped 11.70 per cent to close at Rs 135.40.

On the traded volume front, 35.08 lakh shares of the company were traded on the BSE and over three crore shares on the NSE during the day.

The company's market valuation went lower by Rs 209.14 crore to Rs 1,531.86 crore on the BSE.

Jet Airways ceased operations on April 17 after months of financial difficulties and multiple attempts at saving the oldest private sector airliner failed.

Tata Motors sales dip 20% to 42,577 units in April

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Tata Motors on Thursday reported a 20 per cent decline in total sales during April at 42,577 units as compared with 53,511 units in the same month last year.

The company's passenger vehicle sales in the domestic market declined by 26 per cent to 12,694 units last month as compared with 17,235 units in April 2018.

"The industry has recorded de-growth for the tenth consecutive month. Weak consumer sentiments are reflected in this demand de-growth and we have also been impacted," Tata Motors President Passenger Vehicles Business Unit Mayank Pareek said.

The company said its commercial vehicle (CV) sales in the domestic market stood at

29,883 units in April, down 18 per cent from 36,276 units in the same month last year.

"The industry is yet to recover from the revised axle load norms while the postponement of demand due to general elections have also dragged down CV sales," Tata Motors President Commercial Vehicles Business Unit Girish Wagh said.

Total exports during April stood at 1,402 units, a dip of 53 per cent as compared with the same period of last year due to lower offtake in markets like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Middle East, the company said.



Business Corner



As per directives of Railway Board, a Vendors Meet was organised by Chittaranjan Locomotive Works (CLW) in association with ER, SER & METRO Railway in the Belvedere Club at Kolkata. The objective was development of new vendors as well as enhancing product range of existing vendors. High purchase value items as well as items for which very few approved sources are available were showcased. Emphasis was given on indigenisation of imported items



With the commissioning of the INDMAX Unit at its Paradip Refinery using technology developed in-house, IndianOil achieved global recognition as a technology-provider. The 4.17 million metric tonnes per annum unit is designed to produce 44% LPG, the highest from such plants. A bus running on CNG spiked with Hydrogen at IndianOil's R&D Centre. Trials on the novel technology using H-CNG as a clean fuel will begin in the national capital soon



(L to R) Arun Mediratta, Branch Banking Head, HDFC Bank, Bengaluru - South 2 Branch, Ashish Mehrotra, MD and CEO, Max Bupa Health Insurance, Aditi Govitrikar and Arvind Vohra, Country Head - Retail Branch Banking, HDFC Bank at the launch of Max Bupa ATH at HDFC Bank, Bengaluru



Northern Railway in association with Rail Coach Factory, Kapurthala held a Vendors Meet at National Rail Museum, New Delhi. The purpose of the meet was to provide a platform for interaction with the existing and new vendors. The streamlined method of vendor registration and approval process for material supply to the Railways was explained during the meet



Honouring the founding day of a new model of cutting edge design and innovation, education, Institute of Studies in Industrial Foundation (ISID) hosts an educational event celebrating its 32nd Foundation Day. The event primarily comprised a Foundation Day Lecture, themed around 'Fast economic growth and trickle down: Indian experience and policy options in the post reform period'. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Sucha Singh Gill, Member, Revenue Commission, Govt of Punjab & Sr. Professor, CRRID, Chandigarh. The lecture session was chaired by Prof. SR Hashim, Former Member Secretary, Planning Commission

BHEL COMMISSIONS TWO UNITS OF KALESHWARAM LIFT IRRIGATION SCHEME IN TELANGANA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has successfully commissioned the first two pumping units (116 MW each) of the 7x116 MW Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS) Package-6 in Telangana. Significantly, the pump for each unit is designed to lift 89.16 cumecs (cubic metres per second) of water by 105.5 metres.

Being developed by the Irrigation & CAD (I&CAD) department of the Government of Telangana, the greenfield lift irrigation project (formerly known as Pranhita Chevella) is located in Peddapalli district of Telangana.

₹ darts up 19 paise to 69.37

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee appreciated by 19 paise to 69.37 against the US dollar Thursday, registering its third consecutive session of gain amid easing crude oil prices and weakening of the greenback against other major currencies overseas.

Forex dealers said selling of the American currency by exporters and sustained foreign

fund inflows also propped up the rupee.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the domestic unit opened at 69.60 per dollar and advanced to a high of 69.62 during the day.

It finally settled at 69.37, registering a rise of 19 paise over its previous close.

The rupee had settled at 69.56 against the US dollar Tuesday.

US calls for cautious EU policy on 5G networks

PTI ■ PRAGUE

The US on Thursday urged "like-minded Governments" from the European Union to be cautious and coordinate their policies on 5G network security in light of suspicions over the system proposed by Chinese giant Huawei.

"Only with the leadership of like-minded countries will be able to develop and deploy and manage secure and reliable 5G communications infrastructures," said Joshua Steinman, a special cyber security assistant to US President Donald Trump.

Speaking at a conference in Prague organised by the Czech government, he singled out national security as "a mandatory criterion in evaluating suppliers of information and communication technologies, products and services."

Steinman was echoed by Julian King, an EU commissioner in charge of the Security Union, who spoke in a video message screened at the conference.

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Steinman was echoed by Julian King, an EU commissioner in charge of the Security Union, who spoke in a video message screened at the conference.

TRAI to ask Bharti Airtel to furnish details of segmented offers in 'stipulated format'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Regulator TRAI plans to ask telecom operator Bharti Airtel to cough up additional details on segmented or concessional offerings it made to customers and will insist that information furnished adheres to its 'prescribed format', a source said.

The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) had last month asked operators to submit information on concessional offers dished out between April 2018 and March 2019, and while Bharti Airtel has shared some details, Vodafone Idea sought two more weeks to submit the same.

A TRAI official privy to the development said Bharti Airtel has merely mentioned the number of segmented offers given in a month, but added that the regulator wants the information segregated circle-wise and co-related with the existing plans.

Also, Bharti Airtel has furnished the details for December 2018 onwards, while TRAI has sought details of such concessions over a longer period, the official noted.

Meanwhile, Vodafone Idea

has sought two more weeks to submit the required information citing its recent merger and the amount of information involved.

Both Airtel and Vodafone Idea declined to comment to e-mail queries sent to them.

The source further said TRAI would like to have access to information on concessions being given to subscribers by operators, for its record.

"The operators are not putting it (segmented offer details) in public domain, nor are they filing those offers...So they have to tell us, in each plan how many segmented offers have been made," the official said.

The telecom tribunal, in December last year, had set aside TRAI's rule on predatory pricing as also its regulation that required telcos to report all segmented offers.

However, the Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT) had said that TRAI can seek details of any segmented offer about which it may have received complaints and can even examine whether such offers for existing customers are actually non-discriminatory.

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a girl namely **Nirmal Yadav**, D/o Parmod Yadav, R/o H.No. B-290, Near Banke Bihari Mandir, Rajeev Nagar, Begumpur, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 23.02.2019 from the area of P.S. Begumpur, Delhi. In this regard a case vides DD No. 99-A, dated 23.02.2019, has been lodged at P.S. Begumpur, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped girl but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under:

Name: Nirmal Yadav, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 19 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Orange colour Suit-Salwar and Red colour Slippers in Feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing/kidnapped girl, kindly inform SHO Begumpur, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Begumpur, Delhi
DP/2669/RD/19 Ph. No.: 011-27581118, 27581128



Nirmal Yadav

Stellar Value Chain acquires Patel Roadways Business

New Delhi: Stellar Value Chain Solutions Pvt Ltd, an Indian third-party logistics services company, on Thursday announced the 100% acquisition of 'Patel Roadways' business, the surface transportation arm of Patel Integrated Logistics Ltd. Innovative Logistics Services Pvt Ltd, a 100% subsidiary of Stellar will acquire Patel Roadways division of PLLI including Express, Less-than-truck-load (LTL) and Full-truck-load (FTL) segments by way of slump sale in all cash deal.

PNS

MEDICAL COUNCIL OF INDIA APPROVES 150 MBBS SEATS FOR AL FALAH UNIVERSITY

New Delhi: Medical Council of India has approved establishment of a new medical college with an intake of 150 MBBS students, in the name of "Al Falah School of Medical Science & Research Centre" in Faridabad (Haryana), just 22 kms distance from Badarpur Delhi border. This college is a part of Al Falah University, a premium private University of the region.

PNS

NORTHERN RAILWAY NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Name of work and its location :- 30-Elect-09-T-2019-20-E3 Electrical work in connection with renovation of ward no.3,4,6,10,11,12,14,15,16,17,18, Canteen units & cabins at NRCH. & extension of platform no. 1,2 & 3 at DSJ Railway Station. Approx cost of the works in : Rs 28.59 lacs. Address of the office : Sr. Divt. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. Earnest Money : Rs.57200.00 Date & time of submission of tender : 27.05.2019, 15.00 Hrs. Opening of tender : 27.05.2019, 15.15 Hrs. Website & notice board :- www.ireps.gov.in & Sr. Divt. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi. 1304/19

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NOTICE

HIRING SERVICES OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

Applications are invited on the prescribed format from the registered Chartered Accountants/firms who are interested to offer their services as Chartered Accountants to the Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh for a period of two years.

LAST DATE & TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION : 15 May 2019 (1700Hrs)

The detailed job requirements, terms and conditions and application form can be obtained from the office of the Finance Officer, Central University of Haryana, Jant-Pali, Dist. Mahendergarh, Haryana on any working day from 10:30 AM to 5:30 PM or may be downloaded from the University website: www.cuh.ac.in free of cost.

Registrar

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General public is hereby informed that a female namely **Golu @ Sarita**, W/o Raj Pal, R/o H.No. 128, Jindpur, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 10.12.2018 from the area of P.S. Alipur, Delhi in this regard a case vides DD No. 16-A, dated 11.12.2018, has been lodged at P.S. Alipur, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out the missing/kidnapped female but no clue has come to light so far. The description of the missing/kidnapped female is as under:

Name: Golu @ Sarita, **Gender:** Female, **Age:** 24 years, **Height:** 5', **Complexion:** Wheatish, **Face:** Round, **Wearing:** Red colour suit & salwar and Hawai Slippers in Feet.

If anyone has any information regarding this missing/kidnapped female, kindly inform SHO/Alipur, Delhi.

E-mail : cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax : 011-24368639

SHO
P.S. Alipur, Delhi
DP/2687/RD/19 Ph. No.: 011-27202290, 27202265



Golu @ Sarita

UNIDENTIFIED DEAD BODY

General Public is hereby informed that one male **Namely: Unknown**, S/o: **Unknown**, Address: **Unknown** was found dead at Peera Garhi to Rohtak Road, between Metro Pillar No. 444 & 445, in the area of P.S. Nangloi, Delhi on 26.04.2019 at 03:16 A.M.. In this regard a case has been lodged vide FIR/DD No. 203/19 u/s 279/304-A IPC dated 26.04.2019 at P.S. Nangloi, Delhi. The description of the dead person is as under:- **Age:** Approx. 25-26 years, **Sex:** Male, **Height:** 5'6", **Complexion:** Sallow, **Identification:** He was wearing a Locket of one side Sai Bhagwan and other Side OM. **Wearing:** Cream Colour Shirt, Blue Colour Lower and Pink & Blue Baniyan. If any one having any information about this dead person please inform undersigned.

SHO
P.S. Nangloi, Delhi
DP/2200/OD/19 Ph. : 011-25947225, 7065036127

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that one boy namely **Gautam**, S/o Suresh Chand, R/o H.No. B-456, DDA Market, Camp No. 5, Jwala Puri, Delhi has been missing from the area of P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi since 11.04.2019. In this regard an F.I.R. No. 180/19, Dated 19.04.2019 U/s 363 IPC has been registered at Police Station - Paschim Vihar West, Delhi. His physical description is as under:- **Age:** 15 years, **Complexion:** Fair, **Height:** 5'0" **Face:** Long, **Clothing:** White colour T-shirt, Khaki Colour Kaffri and sandal in feet .

Any person is having any information/Clue about this missing boy, may inform undersigned.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph. No.: 011-24368638, 24368641

SHO
P.S. Paschim Vihar West, Delhi
DP/2178/OD/19 Ph. : 011-25268394, 25280980

SEARCH FOR MISSING

General public is hereby informed that this girl (depicted in the photo) namely: **Rukhsar D/o Ali Imman R/o H. No. 21, Kavita Colony, Nangloi, Delhi**, has been missing/kidnapped from the area of PS Nihal Vihar since 25.03.2019. In this regard FIR No. 210/19 U/s 363 IPC dated 26.03.2019 has been registered a PS Nihal Vihar, Delhi. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far.

Her physical description is as under:- **Sex:** Female, **Age:** 14 years, **Height:** 5'2" ft., **Complexion:** Fair, **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Golden Print Kamij-Green Salwar and hawai Chappale in feet.

Any person is having information or clue about this missing/kidnapped girl may kindly inform to the following:-

SHO
Website: <http://cbi.nic.in> P.S. Nihal Vihar, Delhi
E-mail: cic@cbi.gov.in Ph. No.-011-25946700, 25946710
Tel. No.: 011-24368638/24368641 Mob. No. - 7065036129
Fax No.: 011-24368639 DP/2101/OD/19



Rukhsar

PRIMENET GLOBAL LIMITED

(CIN:U72200DL1984PLC019697)
Registered Office: 25, Business Park, Shivaji Marg, Delhi - 110015
"Form No. INC-25A"
Before the Regional Director, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Northern Region
In the matter of the Companies Act, 2013, Section 14 of Companies Act, 2013 and rule 41 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014

AND
In the matter of Mis PRIMENET GLOBAL LIMITED (CIN-U72200DL1984PLC019697), having its registered office at-25, Business Park, Shivaji Marg, Delhi - 110015

..... Applicant
Notice is hereby given to the general public that the Company has made an application to the Central Government under Section 14 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with aforesaid rules and is desirous of converting into a private limited Company in terms of the special resolutions passed at the Extra Ordinary General Meeting held on Wednesday, the 2nd day of January 2019 to enable the Company to give effect for such conversion.

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change/status of the Company may deliver or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his interest and grounds of opposition to the concerned Regional Director-Northern Region at B-2 WING, 2nd FLOOR, PARYAVARAN BHAWAN, CGO COMPLEX, NEW DELHI - 110003, within Twenty One days from the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant Company at its registered office at the address mentioned above:

For and on behalf of the Applicant
Sd/-
Rakesh Kumar
Whole-time Director (DIN-01909840)

Place: New Delhi Date: 02/05/2019

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED

General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Mahak @ Madhu**, D/o: **Lt. Sh. Jawahar Singh**, R/o: B-1/19 Budh Vihar Phase-I, Delhi has been missing/kidnapped since 01.04.2019 from the area of P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi. In this regard a case vide FIR No. 78/19 dated 02.04.2019 has been registered at P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi. The description of the missing / kidnapped girl is as under:

Age: 16 years 5 months, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Light Orange Colour T-shirt, Light Grey Colour Lower & Black Hawai Chappal. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl butno clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.

Website: <http://cbi.nic.in>
E-mail Id - cic@cbi.gov.in
Ph. : 011-24368638, 24368641
Fax No. 011-24368639

SHO
PS Vijay Vihar, Delhi
DP/2806/RD/19 Ph. : 011-27061294, 8750870329



Mahak @ Madhu

Markets end modestly lower on macro data, global cues

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Equity benchmarks ended on a negative note after a volatile session on Thursday as investor sentiment remained on the back foot amid lacklustre macroeconomic data and mixed overseas cues.

Auto stocks skidded following weak April sales numbers, while IT counters tumbled as the rupee strengthened above the 70 per dollar mark.

The BSE Sensex settled 50.12 points, or 0.13 per cent, lower at 38,981.43. During the day, the index swung over 300 points, hitting an intra-day low of 38,882.99 and a high of 39,189.95.

In similar movement, the broader NSE Nifty slipped 23.40 points, or 0.20 per cent, to close at 11,724.75. It also saw an intra-day movement of 89.75 points.

Globally, stock markets struggled after the US Federal Reserve decided to keep its benchmark interest rate unchanged amid mixed signals about the direction of the American economy.

In the Sensex pack, Tata Motors was the biggest loser, shedding 3.29 per cent, followed by ICICI Bank, IndusInd Bank, Infosys, HCL Tech, Axis Bank, TCS, HUL, Asian Paints, Sun Pharma, SBI, Tata Steel and NTPC, which dropped up to 3.23 per cent.

On the other hand, Yes Bank was the top gainer, rebounding 3.45 per

cent. PowerGrid, HDFC, HDFC Bank, Hero MotoCorp, Bajaj Auto, Bharti Airtel, Bajaj Finance, Kotak Bank, RIL, L&T, Vedanta, ITC, ONGC and Maruti too ended in the green, rising up to 1.88 per cent.

"As we enter the final stages of the 2019 general elections, one can expect the volatility in the market to remain high. Q4 FY19 earnings so far has been lacklustre, slowdown in sectors such as consumption and auto has hurt investor sentiment.

"Rising oil prices continue to be a threat to the domestic markets. However, due to the ongoing general elections the government has kept domestic oil prices stable and has not undertaken any steep hikes," said Hemang Jani, Head - Advisory, Sharekhan by BNP Paribas.

Sectorally, BSE IT, teck, consumer durables, bankex and auto indices ended in the red, falling up to 1.84 per cent. The broader BSE Midcap and Smallcap gauges closed in line with the benchmarks, shedding up to 0.61 per cent.

Elsewhere in Asia, Korea's Kospi and Hong Kong's Hang Seng ended in the green, while other major bourses in China and Japan were shut. European equities started off on a mixed note.

RUPEE DARTS UP 19 PAISE

The rupee, meanwhile, appreciated by 19 paise to 69.37 against the US dollar on Thursday, registering its third consecutive session of gain amid

easing crude oil prices and weakening of the greenback against other major currencies overseas.

Forex dealers said selling of the American currency by exporters and sustained foreign fund inflows also propped up the rupee.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the domestic unit opened at 69.60 per dollar and advanced to a high of 69.62 during the day. It finally settled at 69.37, registering a rise of 19 paise over its previous close. The rupee had settled at 69.56 against the US dollar Tuesday. Currency market was shut on Wednesday on account of Maharashtra Day.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, slipped 0.93 per cent to USD 71.51 per barrel. Crude prices have recovered significantly from their six-month high of USD 75.60 per barrel. "Oil prices fell today, pulled down by record US crude production that led to a surge in iXWventories. Brent is set for a weekly loss, which would break its longest string of weekly gains for a year," said V K Sharma, Head PDCG and Capital Markets Strategy, HCG Securities.

The dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, slipped 0.05 per cent to 97.63. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) remained net buyers in the capital markets, putting in Rs 11.4 crore Tuesday, according to provisional exchange data.

India's mfg sector growth slows in April amid poll uncertainty: PMI

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The country's manufacturing sector performance eased to an eight-month low in April as new business growth moderated, curbed by the elections and a challenging economic environment, a monthly survey showed on Thursday.

The Nikkei India Manufacturing Purchasing Managers' Index declined from 52.6 in March to 51.8 in April, reflecting weakest improvement in business conditions since August 2018. This is the 21st consecutive month that the manufacturing PMI remained above the 50-point mark. In PMI parlance, a print above 50 means expansion, while a score below that denotes contraction.

April PMI data indicated that softer increase in new orders restricted growth of output, employment and business sentiment

"Although remaining inside expansion territory, growth continued to soften and the fact that employment increased at the weakest pace for over a year suggests that producers are hardly gearing up for a rebound," said Pollyanna De Lima, principal economist at IHS Markit and author of the report, said.

When looking at reasons provided by surveyed companies for the slowdown, disruptions arising from the elections was a key theme, Lima said, adding that "firms also seem to have adopted a wait-and-see approach on their plans until public policies become clearer upon the formation of a government". On the prices front, input cost inflation eased to a 43-month low while the rate of charge inflation was marginal and below its long-run average.

"With price pressures in the manufacturing economy cooling and growth losing momentum, it's increasingly likely that the RBI may cut its official rate for a third successive time in June," Lima said. The next meeting of RBI's Monetary Policy Committee is scheduled on June 3-6.

BUSINESS CORNER

MRF Q4 NET PROFIT DROPS 15%

New Delhi: Tyre major MRF on Thursday posted 14.91% decline in its standalone net profit at ₹293.83 crore for the fourth quarter of 2018-19 fiscal. The company had posted a net profit of ₹345.32 crore in the year-ago period. Revenue from operations, however, rose to ₹4,073.45 crore during the fourth quarter as compared with ₹3,835.50 crore in the same period of 2017-18, MRF said in a regulatory filing. For the 2018-19 fiscal, the company reported a net profit of ₹1,096.87 crore, up marginally from ₹1,092.28 crore in 2017-18. Revenue from operations rose to ₹15,837 crore in 2018-19 fiscal as compared with ₹15,181.05 crore in 2017-18. The company's board recommended a final dividend of ₹54 per share, which along with two interim dividends of ₹3 each already paid, works out to ₹60 per share for the year ended March, 31 2019.

BANDHAN BANK Q4 NET RISES 68%

Kolkata: Net profit of private sector Bandhan Bank during the last quarter of FY18-19 increased 68% at ₹650.87 crore as compared to ₹388 crore the same period previous fiscal. Net profit for the whole financial year 2018-19 increased 45% y-o-y at ₹1951.50 crore as against ₹1346 crore in the similar corresponding period, the bank said in a statement on Thursday. Net interest margin (NIM) of the bank in the current quarter stood at 10.69% against 9.32% in the corresponding period of the previous year. Total advances of the bank grew 38.46% at ₹44,776 crore as on March 31, 2019, as against ₹32,339 crore as on March 31, 2018. Total deposits increased by 27.64% at ₹43,232 crore as on March 31, 2019, compared to ₹33,869 crore as on March 31, 2018, the statement added. Gross NPAs as on March 31, 2019 stood at 2.04% against 2.41% as on December 31, 2018. CASA ratio of the bank at 40.75% of total deposits, compared to 34.32% in the corresponding period last year. Operating profit for the quarter increased by 63.92% at ₹1,154 crore against ₹704 crore in the corresponding quarter of the previous year.

DABUR NET PROFIT FALLS 6.4%

New Delhi: Homegrown FMCG major Dabur India Ltd on Thursday reported a fall of 6.46% in consolidated net profit to ₹371.49 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 2019. The company had posted a net profit of ₹397.18 crore in the January-March quarter a year ago. Dabur India said in a BSE filing. Its total income stood at ₹2,194.25 crore, a rise of 4.18% as compared with ₹2,106.15 crore of the year-ago quarter. Dabur's total expense was ₹1,729.59 crore as against ₹1,603.56 crore a year ago, up 7.85%. For the entire financial year 2018-19, Dabur's profit stood at ₹1,446.25 crore as against ₹1,357.74 crore in the previous year.

RADICO KHAITAN Q4 NET PROFIT UP 14% TO ₹39 CRORE

New Delhi: Liquor firm Radico Khaitan ON Thursday reported 14.24% increase in its standalone net profit to ₹39.05 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31. The company had posted a net profit of ₹34.18 crore during the January-March a year ago, Radico Khaitan said in a regulatory filing. Its total income during the quarter under review stood at ₹1,981.85 crore, up 18.51% against ₹1,672.30 crore in the corresponding quarter previous fiscal. Radico Khaitan's total expenses surged 18.78% to ₹1,925.19 crore compared to ₹1,620.74 crore. For the entire 2018-19, Radico Khaitan's profit stood at ₹188.06 crore, up 52.33%, as against ₹123.45 crore in the previous year. Total income in the last fiscal stood at ₹8,071.29 crore, up 28.54%, from ₹6,279.03 crore in 2017-18.

ORIENT PAPER Q4 NET PROFIT SURGES OVER TWO-FOLD TO ₹32.42 CRORE

New Delhi: CK Birla group firm Orient Paper on Thursday reported over two-fold jump in its standalone net profit to ₹32.42 crore for the fourth quarter ended March 31. The company had posted a net profit of ₹15.78 crore during the January-March a year ago, Orient Paper said in a regulatory filing.

NIFTY 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY 50	11725.55	11789.30	11699.55	11724.75	-23.40
INFRADEL	262.55	272.40	262.55	272.00	9.45
YESBANK	162.00	178.00	160.00	174.00	6.00
POWERGRID	187.05	190.00	186.45	190.20	3.00
HEROMOTOCO	2510.00	2569.40	2492.50	2555.00	43.15
HDFCBANK	323.50	325.65	321.50	325.00	38.55
BHARTIARTL	322.90	329.40	321.60	325.30	4.30
BAJAJ-AUTO	2989.00	3040.00	2958.70	3028.00	53.00
KOTAKBANK	1394.00	1421.75	1382.50	1404.00	17.45
HDFC	1995.00	2027.90	1989.25	2018.00	22.95
EICHERMOT	19990.00	20630.00	19860.00	20571.00	202.70
BAJAJFINSV	7522.00	7625.00	7500.85	7595.00	74.55
ITC	301.10	306.50	300.60	304.15	2.80
VEDL	165.90	169.20	164.20	168.30	1.45
BAJFINANCE	3095.00	3148.95	3060.00	3122.70	26.75
LT	1349.45	1376.50	1342.00	1359.00	10.45
RELIANCE	1392.00	1413.90	1382.10	1403.10	10.30
ADANIPORTS	392.80	397.00	390.15	395.30	2.50
CIPLA	563.00	567.90	556.70	568.00	3.00
ONGC	169.30	172.00	168.40	169.50	0.30
COALINDIA	251.60	254.90	250.45	252.50	0.35
MARUTI	6550.00	6709.95	6525.00	6670.00	3.60
TECHM	834.90	846.50	829.10	836.00	-1.10
M&M	646.00	663.00	635.20	645.05	-0.25
ULTRACEMCO	4615.00	4634.00	4574.10	4614.00	-2.80
BPLCL	380.10	382.90	376.00	379.30	-0.55
HINDALCO	204.25	207.65	201.60	205.35	-0.35
IOC	159.00	163.00	156.20	157.65	-0.40
UPL	967.00	973.00	955.05	966.00	-3.15
JSWSTEEL	309.05	314.00	303.50	307.15	-1.20
GRASSIM	900.00	907.15	891.35	897.00	-4.20
TATASTEEL	554.10	561.65	549.45	554.35	-2.85
SRIN	308.05	311.40	305.65	307.90	-2.05
NTPC	133.30	133.90	132.10	133.00	-1.05
DREDDYD	2925.00	2964.00	2905.00	2906.65	-27.10
SUNPHARMA	456.95	461.70	450.50	452.50	-5.15
ASIANPAINT	1465.00	1472.90	1430.10	1441.90	-21.25
TITAN	1159.00	1160.00	1135.60	1141.00	-17.55
WIPRO	298.55	298.85	292.65	293.85	-4.70
HCLTECH	1170.00	1180.50	1156.50	1160.95	-22.40
HINDUNILVR	765.40	767.80	748.05	751.95	-14.90
AXISBANK	1756.50	1762.50	1720.25	1723.40	-34.70
TCS	2255.00	2259.40	2211.10	2214.70	-45.65
GAIL	353.10	354.85	346.25	346.50	-9.45
INFY	747.00	748.40	729.50	730.80	-20.55
BOMDYEING	689.05	689.05	675.00	676.00	-19.45
ICICIBANK	403.70	405.00	394.40	394.75	-12.75
INDUSINDBK	1601.15	1617.60	1551.50	1555.50	-51.00
TATAMOTORS	211.00	212.65	206.50	206.90	-7.40
ZEE	433.85	435.30	416.50	415.45	-15.45
BRITANNIA	2927.00	2959.95	2772.00	2780.00	-116.05

NIFTY NEXT 50

SCRIP	OPEN	High	LOW	LTP	CHANGE
NIFTY NEXT 50	27750.40	27897.20	27612.60	27659.10	-141.15
IDEA	15.35	16.55	15.15	16.20	0.75
BAJAJHLING	3085.95	3221.50	3080.10	3219.95	133.95
BANDHANBANK	594.00	636.30	593.00	625.25	25.80
CONCOR	498.00	520.90	494.00	514.20	21.00
ASHOKLEY	87.10	91.80	85.80	89.70	2.75
HDFCLIFE	405.45	418.00	405.10	417.10	12.55
SRIJIT	639.95	658.00	639.95	650.00	10.15
INDIGO	1512.95	1549.00	1496.50	1540.70	23.70
ICICIPRULI	369.00	374.00	365.70	375.00	5.70
ICSI	1093.00	1115.80	1081.15	1104.90	11.55
SAIL	56.00	56.70	55.35	56.20	0.40
SHREECEM	1975.00	2000.85	1957.60	1991.10	121.50
LUPIN	870.00	884.00	867.00	877.00	9.00
NMDC	100.15	101.80	99.95	100.95	0.50
PEL	2360.00	2375.00	2350.00	2370.00	11.00
NACL	180.00	181.70	179.00	181.00	0.85
PCHEM	10235.10	10340.00	10152.75	10240.00	36.35
GICRE	239.20	244.95	236.25	241.00	0.80
AMBUJACEM	219.50	225.95	218.05	221.20	0.70
HDFCAMC	693.95	718.90	667.15	700.00	4.95
UPL	1419.70	1422.95	1395.70	1420.20	1.25
BOSCHLTD	1925.00	1935.95	1765.30	1802.00	8.05
GODREJCP	645.45	662.00	646.75	651.00	-0.80
ABB	1485.00	1519.90	1461.35	1476.10	-3.20
PIDILITIND	129.00	125.00	122.20	123.00	-0.45
LATHT	131.00	133.95	129.20	130.60	-0.50
DLF	171.05	175.00	169.70	172.00	-0.65
HAVELLS	78.00	78.85	76.50	77.00	-0.45
BANKBARODA	116.00	117.95	114.85	115.95	-0.70
PETRONET	241.15	241.20	237.30	239.40	-1.75
MRF	5205.00	5269.00	5158.30	5239.00	-51.00
MARICO	360.20	363.00	353.85	354.95	-4.45
NHPC	23.30	23.40	23.00	23.05	-0.30
ACC	1628.00	1644.15	1606.20	1610.25	-21.80
BHEL	70.95	71.65	69.35	69.60	-1.20
SIRTRANSN	1094.00	1109.90	1088.35	1091.20	-19.75
SIEMENS	1163.20	1188.05	1146.00	1149.90	-22.85
HINDZINC	276.00	277.00	270.00	272.50	-5.60
DIAMANT	174.40	177.15	170.10	171.00	-36.75
DRYSL	129.00	131.00	126.00	128.00	-27.50
COPAL	329.00	329.95	318.00	318.80	-26.35
OFSS	1025.00	1050.00	1030.10	1044.00	-79.00
PAGEND	2287.00	2294.50	2230.00	2242.25	-65.60
MCDOWELL	558.90	561.00	542.15	543.15	-17.95
HINDPETRO	815.75	829.00	780.15	781.60	-6.95
AUROPHARMA	295.00	296.00	280.20	291.30	-27.75
ONGC	160.75	171.70	168.30	169.55	-11.70
CADILAC	328.85	334.30	313.20	313.75	-15.30
DABUR	398.10	399.70	376.90	382.80	-11.50
MOTHERSUNI	145.40	145.40	139.20	140.00	-6.50
BIOCON	593.90	593.90	554.00	555.00	-38.50

BSE 500

BLACKLISTING OF JeM CHIEF MASOOD AZHAR 'Sanctity, credibility' of UNSC preserved: UNSC Prez Indonesia

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

With the blacklisting of JeM chief Masood Azhar, the "sanctity and credibility" of the UN Security Council's sanctions committee have been preserved, according to Indonesia's envoy to the UN and Chair of the committee Dian Triansyah Djani.

The Indonesian Permanent Representative, who assumed the Presidency of the 15-nation UN Security Council for the month of May, thanked all member states of the 1267 Al-Qaeda Sanctions Committee after the designation of Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) chief Azhar as a global terrorist.

"I just would like to underline... It's not only the function of the Chair, but all members of the Committee that have been working very hard (on the issue of listing Azhar). But what is more important is not the role of the Chair but what

is more important is that we have been able to preserve the sanctity and credibility of the Committee and we have been able to have the listing," Djani said during a press briefing at the UN headquarters on Wednesday.

Djani was responding to a question on the blacklisting of Azhar and his role in the successful outcome at the committee, of which he is the Chair.

"We Indonesians are very humble. I'm just doing my function as the Chair trying to facilitate, to bring all parties together, in line with the guidelines," he said.

India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin specifically thanked Djani in a video statement issued soon after Azhar's designation.

"I'd like to thank the Permanent Representative of Indonesia who was instru-

mental in ensuring that the process went smoothly and in accordance with our agreed understanding," Akbaruddin said.

At around 9 AM New York time (6:30 PM IST), Akbaruddin was informed by his Indonesian counterpart, who had just assumed the Presidency of the Council for May and Chair of the Sanctions Committee, that no objection was raised by any country for the listing of Azhar, meaning China had lifted its hold imposed on the proposal on March 13.

Talking to PTI after the Azhar listing, Akbaruddin drew an analogy with cricketer MS Dhoni's style and approach of playing and said he too believes in working patiently towards the goal in mind, not getting perturbed by the hurdles and knowing that even in the last lap, things can take a turn for the better so one should not give up early.

Breakthrough in Azhar case struck during Imran's China trip: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

The "breakthrough" in designating Masood Azhar as a global terrorist came during Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's recent visit to China where the two sides agreed to withdraw their opposition to the latest move to blacklist the JeM chief, a media report said here Thursday.

The UN's sanctions committee announced Wednesday the designation of Pakistan-based Azhar, leader of the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), over its ties to Al-Qaeda.

Pakistan military too must take right decisions: US

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan is saying the "right things", but his military leadership too needs to take the "right decisions", the Trump administration has said, hours after the UN Security Council designated JeM chief Masood Azhar as a global terrorist.

Nearly 18 months after President Donald Trump ordered cutting off security aid to Pakistan, a senior US administration official told reporters that the US is trying to change Pakistan's policy of supporting terrorist groups.

Noting the US' recognition of the ISI's links with its home-grown terrorist groups, the

official said the US does not want to get involved in the country's internal politics and expects the Pakistan military to correct the situation.

"We support the civilian government. We support the nascent democratic system there. We support the fact that Prime Minister Khan says right things and appears to be trying to make some changes within Pakistan. But only time will tell if he is successful in doing that," he said.

The senior official said Pakistan's military leadership too needs to take "right decisions and right steps".

"So far, we do see support from the military to the direction that prime minister Khan

seems to be going in," he said. The Trump administration credited Khan for his "helpful statements" on cracking down on terror outfits and some initial steps being taken.

"We do appreciate that Pakistan is saying the right thing, has taken the initial step that we're looking for, but we reserve judgment because we have seen backtracking in the past," the official said.

The official said the US wants to "reserve judgment" till it sees if the steps they are taking are actually irreversible.

Observing that only time will tell about Pakistan's future course of action, the US official said Khan as of now has made the right statement.

GLOBE TROTTER

MYANMAR ARMY KILLS SIX ETHNIC RAKHINE

Yangon: Myanmar's Army said it shot dead six detainees in a village school on Thursday while holding 275 men on suspicion of being Rakhine rebels, as fears over military impunity grow in the escalating fighting.

ABE READY TO MEET KIM UNCONDITIONALLY: MEDIA

Tokyo: Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe has offered to meet North Korean leader Kim Jong Un "unconditionally" in a bid to restore diplomatic ties between the two historic foes, a daily said on Thursday.

PRIORITY IN LIBYA IS FIGHTING TERRORISM: UAE

Abu Dhabi: The UAE said on Thursday that fighting "terrorism" was the priority in Libya, where it has backed a controversial military strongman against the UN-recognised government in Tripoli. The UAE, and its allies Egypt and Saudi Arabia, regard Khalifa Haftar and his Libyan National Army militia as a bulwark.

One shot dead, dozens hurt in deadly Venezuela clashes

AFP ■ CARACAS (VENEZUELA)

A woman was shot dead and more than two dozen people were injured during May Day clashes between Opposition supporters and Venezuela's armed forces in Caracas on Wednesday, with opposition leader Juan Guaido attempting to rally demonstrators against President Nicolas Maduro.

Jurubith Rausseo, 27, died at a clinic after being hit by a "bullet in the head during (a) demonstration," the non-governmental Venezuelan Observatory of Social Conflict said on Twitter.

It condemned her "murder," after health services earlier reported at least 27 people injured in Wednesday's clashes, including one person with a gunshot wound.

Tensions in Venezuela have soared since Guaido, who heads the National Assembly

legislature, invoked the constitution to declare himself acting president on January 23, claiming Maduro's re-election last year was illegitimate.

Maduro exhorts Venezuela military to fight 'any coup plotter'

Caracas: Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro on Thursday called on the armed forces to oppose "any coup plotter" after a failed military uprising by forces supporting Opposition leader Juan Guaido.

"Yes, we are in combat, keep morale high in this fight to disarm any traitor, any coup plotter," Maduro said at a televised event with the military high command in which he appeared. AFP

Assange begins legal fight against US extradition

London: WikiLeaks co-founder Julian Assange on Thursday began his legal fight against being extradited to the US from the UK to face charges of allegedly leaking American Government secrets.

The 47-year-old, who appeared by video link at Westminster Magistrates' Court a day after he was sentenced to 50 weeks in jail for breaching bail conditions, told Judge he did not consent to being extradited to the US.

"I do not wish to surrender myself for extradition for doing journalism that has won many awards and protected many people," he said. The hearing marked the start of a long-drawn extradition process, with the next case management listing scheduled for May 30.

The UK court will decide whether to extradite Assange to the US in response to allegations that he conspired with former US intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning to download classified databases. PTI

10 terrorists buried without religious rites in Sri Lanka

PTI ■ COLOMBO

The bodies of 10 terrorists killed during a fierce gun battle with security forces in Sri Lanka's Eastern province last week were buried without any religious rites on Thursday afternoon, police said.

However, the bodies of six children killed in the same raid were buried as per the religious rites.

"Ten bodies were buried without conducting any religious activities on a request made by Muslim religious leaders," police spokesman Ruwan Gunasekera said. They were buried following investigations and post-mortem, he said.

All Ceylon Jamiyyathuul Ulama or council of Muslim theologians had demanded "maximum punishment" for the perpetrators of the suicide attacks on churches and luxury hotels in the country that left at least 250 dead.

Anger as Paris protesters accused of storming famed hospital

AFP ■ PARIS

Paris: The French Government on Thursday accused radicals of storming a famed Paris hospital during a fiery May Day, in an incident that risks further raising tensions between authorities and a nationwide protest movement.

Doctors at the Pitie-Salpetriere hospital — where Diana, Princess of Wales died in 1997 after a car crash in Paris — also said protesters had forced their way into the hospital, caused damage and even tried to enter an intensive care unit.

But supporters of the "yellow vest" movement, whose protests have shaken the government of President Emmanuel Macron over the past half year -- insisted the demonstrators were merely seeking refuge from tear gas fired by police.

The incident came during a hugely tense May Day which saw Paris police clash with headline protesters. AFP

UK's fired Defence Secy furiously denies Huawei leak

AP ■ LONDON

Britain's former Defence Secretary has furiously denied allegations that he leaked details from private government discussions about Chinese telecommunications company Huawei.

Gavin Williamson was fired late Wednesday by Prime Minister Theresa May, who said she had seen "compelling evidence" that he was behind media reports that Huawei had agreed to let Huawei participate in some aspects of Britain's new 5G wireless communications network.

Williamson hit back, telling Sky News that the investigation had been a "witch hunt" and claiming he was the victim of a "kangaroo court." Opposition parties called for a criminal investigation.

Cabinet Office Minister David Lidington said on Thursday that the Government shouldn't plan to refer the matter to police.

From bodyguard to Queen, Thailand's Suthida makes debut



Thailand's King Maha Vajiralongkorn, Queen Suthida and their daughter Princess Bajrakitiyabha arrive at Royal Plaza to pay homage to the Equestrian Statue of King Chulalongkorn in Bangkok on Thursday. AP

AFP ■ BANGKOK

Thailand's Queen Suthida, the former deputy head of the royal bodyguard, made her first official public appearance on Thursday at the side of Rama X, just days before his coronation.

The palace announced late Wednesday that King Maha Vajiralongkorn had married his long-time consort, Suthida Vajiralongkorn na Ayudhya, and made her his Queen.

On Thursday she was seen kneeling alongside the king as

they paid their respects to statues of previous Chakri dynasty monarchs in Bangkok's historic quarter.

Harsh lese-majeste laws mean unguarded discussion about the monarchy inside Thailand is virtually impossible, and the kingdom's normally bubbly social media was subdued in reaction to the news of the nuptials.

She is widely reported to have been a Thai Airways flight attendant before joining the king's retinue, but little biographical information has been released by the palace.

NORTHERN RAILWAY
Open Tender Notice (E-Tender)
For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer/Freight, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers. **Tender No.:** 197-S/194/Hiring-Vehicle/SSB/19/MC-IV. **Name of work:** Hiring of Multi-utility Vehicles for transportation as per requirement of Mech/CMW Dept. at Wagon Care Centre, Shakurbasti for Three years. **Advised Tender Value:** Rs. 20,30,400/- (excluding GST). **Earnest money in favour of Sr.DFM/NR, New Delhi:** Rs. 40,800/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS). **Date & time of submission of tender bid:** Up to 29.05.2019 at 12:00 hrs. **Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen:** www.ireps.gov.in No. 197-S/194/Hiring-Vehicle/SSB/19/MC-IV **Date:** 02.05.2019 **1299/19**
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Website: www.nr.indianrailways.gov.in
Dy Chief Engineer (Bridge Line), Northern Railway, Tilkat Bridge, New Delhi for and on behalf of President of India Re-invites open e-Tenders for the following work.
Tender No.: 32-W/MUV-HIRE-1MT-UMD Dated 02.05.2019.
Name of Work: Hiring of one Hiring and operating Multi Utility Vehicle (MUV) of loading capacity 1 MT under SSE/Br/MU/MB.
Critical Dates

Code	Activity	Date
D0	Date of availability of tender document on www.ireps.gov.in	02.04.2019
D1=D0+07 days	Start of submission of offer on www.ireps.gov.in	09.05.2019
D2=D0+22 days	End of Availability of Tender Documents at www.ireps.gov.in	23.05.2019 @ 15:00 hours

The reference time for all the above activities is 15:00 hours
NOTE: In case the intended date for opening of tenders is declared a holiday, the tenders will be opened on the next Working day at the same time. **1301/19**
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE (E-TENDER)
No. 197-S/223/Conversion of BLC wagon/TKD/19/MC-IV Dated: 02.05.2019
For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer/Freight, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers.

1. Tender No.	197-S/223/Conversion of BLC wagon/TKD/19/MC-IV
2. Name of work	Conversion of BLC rakes to 22 T axle load - BLCAM/ BLCBM wagons as per drawing during ROH activity at Wagon Care Centre, Tughlakabad for Two years.
3. Advertised Tender Value	Rs. 19,44,918/- (excluding GST)
4. Earnest money in favour of Sr.DFM/NR, New Delhi	Rs. 38,900 (Note: It should be in the form net banking or gateway only. FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS)
5. Date & time of submission of tender bid	Up to 28.05.2019 at 12:00 Hrs.
6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

1298/19
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

CHITTARANJAN
LOCOMOTIVE WORKS
CANCELLATION NOTICE
Notification of All India Pension Adalat-2019, which was published on 10.04.2019 should be treated as cancelled as per Railway Board's letter no. E(W)2018/PA-1/2 dated. 29.03.2019.
Pension Adalat will be held on 15th December 2019 in Vivekananda Auditorium, English Medium School, CLW/CRJ at 10.00 hrs.
In this connection, fresh notification will be issued in the month of July 2019.
Principal Chief Personnel Officer
CLW/Chittaranjan
ABC-032
Like us on: www.facebook.com/clwrailways

SEARCH FOR MISSING
General public is hereby informed that one boy, **Namely Dev Kumar S/o Ram Shankar, R/o D-156, JJ Colony, Sector-24, Rohini, Delhi** has been missing since 13.07.2018 from the area of P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi. In this regard, a case **FIR No. 485/18 dated 27.07.2018 has been registered at P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi.** The description of the missing boy is as under:

Age: 17 Years, **Complexion:** Shallow, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Long, **Wearing:** Blue Jeans and Shirt with Grey Hawai Chappal in feet. Sincere efforts have been made by the local police to trace out him but no clue has come to light so far. If anyone has any information about the missing boy then please inform P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi, at following Tel No./e-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in and Website: http://cbi.nic.in
Ph: 011-24368638, 24368641 **Sd/- S.H.O.**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **P.S. Vijay Vihar, Delhi**
DP/2161/RD/18 **Ph.: 011-27052772**

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General Public is hereby informed that a lady namely **Divya W/o Brijesh Prasad, R/o H.No. 340, Pkt. 14, Sector-A/5, Narela, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 13.08.2018 from the area of P.S. Narela. In this regard a **DD No. 39-A dated 14.08.2018** has been lodged at PS, Narela, Delhi.
The description of Missing/kidnapped lady is as under:

Name: Divya, **Husband's Name:** Brijesh Prasad, **Age:** 28 years, **Height:** 5', **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Blue Suit and Salwar & Grey Chappal in feet. If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **SHO**
e-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in **P.S., Narela, Delhi**
Fax: 011-24368639 **Ph: 011-27282350**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **27280435**
DP/2166/RD/18

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
Resident Commission
5 Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi - 110011
Tel: 24611108, 24611210, Fax: 24601277, 24627047
No: KRC/Misc/Vend/483/18/495/19 Dated: 30.04.2019
INSTALLATION OF COFFEE VENDING MACHINES AND SUPPLY OF MATERIAL/CONSUMABLES
The Resident Commission Office, Jammu & Kashmir Government, New Delhi under the administrative control of Hospitality & Protocol Department, J&K Government invites sealed quotations for installation of (3) Coffee Vending Machines (Bean to Coffee) for supply of tetra branded milk coffee, and supply of Materials/ Consumables like coffee, sugar sachets, branded milk, wooden stirrers, etc at J&K House, 5 Prithvi Raj Road and J&K House, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi as per the details given in the tender documents.
The tender documents may be collected from Chief Pay & Account Officer, Resident Commission, J&K Government, New Delhi on payment of tender cost of Rs. 200/- (non-refundable) through Bank Draft in favour of Principal Resident Commissioner, New Delhi on any working day (Monday to Friday) between 10.30 AM to 05.00. The last date and time for bid submission (Technical & Financial) shall be 16th May, 2019 up till 5.00 PM. The Bid Box shall be placed at reception of J&K House, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi.
No: KBI/Adv/1805-06/2019 Chief Pay & Account Office,
Dated: 01-05-2019 Resident Commission

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General Public is hereby informed that one girl **Namely: Divya, D/o: Naresh Kumar, R/o: E-48, Shiv Vihar, Karala, Delhi** has been missing/kidnapped since 26.02.2019 from the area of P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi. In this regard a case vide **DD No. 43-A dated 27.02.2019** has been registered at P.S. Kanjhawala, Delhi. The description of the missing/kidnapped girl is as under: **Age:** 22 yrs, **Height:** 5' 5", **Face:** Long, **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Sky Blue Colour Suit and Salwar. Sincere efforts have been made by local police to trace out the girl but no clue has come to light so far. Any person having any information or clue about this girl kindly inform to the following.
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **SHO**
E-mail Id - cbc@cbi.gov.in **P.S., Narela, Delhi**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **Ph.: 011-25951486, 7065036125**
Fax No. 011-24368639 **DP/2680/RD/19**

SEARCH FOR MISSING/KIDNAPPED
General Public is hereby informed that a female namely **Kusum Tiwari W/o Ravishankar, R/o Khasra No.-38/2/21, Gali No.-9 Gautam Colony, Narela, Delhi** has been missing / kidnapped since 27.12.2018 from the area of P.S. Narela. In this regard a **DD No. 44-A dated 28.12.2018** has been lodged at PS, Narela, Delhi.
The description of Missing/kidnapped female is as under:

Name: Kusum Tiwari, **Husband's Name:** Ravishankar, **Age:** 34 years, **Height:** 5'2", **Face:** Round, **Complexion:** Fair, **Wearing:** Blue Colour Shirt, Brown Jacket, White Colour Pajama and Chappal in feet. If anyone having any clue/information, kindly inform the undersigned.
Website: http://cbi.nic.in **SHO**
e-mail: cbc@cbi.gov.in **P.S., Narela, Delhi**
Fax: 011-24368639 **Ph: 011-27282350**
Ph.: 011-24368638, 24368641 **27280435**
DP/2670/RD/19

NORTHERN RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER NOTICE (E-Tender)
For and on behalf of President of India, the Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer/ Freight, Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites E-tender for following work from experienced and capable tenderers.

1. Tender No.	197-S/181/Hiring of Truck/CC-97/TKD/19/MC-IV
2. Name of work	Hiring of Full body Truck (Carrying capacity-9T) at Wagon Care Centre, TKD for transportation of Railway material between depot. over Delhi division and JJDW for two years
3. Advertised Tender Value	Rs. 21,15,225/- (Including GST)
4. Earnest money in favour of Sr.DFM/NR, New Delhi	Rs. 42,300/- (Note: It should be in the form of net banking or gateway only. FDR not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS)
5. Date & time of submission of tender bid	Up to 30.05.2019 at 12:00 hrs.
6. Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen	www.ireps.gov.in

1297/2019
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHERN RAILWAY
TENDER NOTICE
Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)
N.I. T. No.: 03 (A, B, C, D) -19-20 dated: 01.05.2019. 1. Name of work with its location: A) Annual maintenance of lawn/park & hedges in various colony i.e. Thompson Road, Minto Bridge, Babar road, Mata Sundari place, Central Place & M.K. Road, Sri Ram Road, Tis Hazari & Motia Bagh colony in the S/o SSE/Hort./NDS & DKZ under ADEH/Hort./DLI. B) Annual maintenance & operation of automatic irrigation system in Rail Eco Park Chankya Puri, New Delhi (for two years) under ADEH/Hort./DLI. C) Removal of hedge cutting grass/cutting etc. from at least 7 nos nominated sites of Railway colonies and dump same into the Municipal Corporation dumping ground in Delhi area in the section of ADEH/Hort./DLI. D) Supply & Maintenance of indoor well developed ornamental potted plants, average ht. 2' to 5' on hire basis in various flats/Bungalow in the S/o JE/Hort./SOJ & SSE/Hort./SPM under ADEH/Hort./NDS. 2. Approx. cost of work: A) Rs. 49,87,589.69; B) 18,77,688/-; C) 17,52,21.92; D) 30,24,000/-. 3. Earnest Money: (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/ICE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016). A) Rs. 99,800/-; B) 37,800/-; C) 35,100/-; D) 60,500/-. 4. Completion period of work: A) 30 Months B) 24 Months C) 24 Months D) 12 Months. 5. Cost of tender on cash/basis post: (It should be in the form of net banking or payment gateway only. Note: FDR will not be accepted as EMD for tender invited on IREPS as per Railway Boards letter no 2015/ICE-ICT/5/1 dated 31.08.2016). A) Rs. 3,540/-; B) Rs. 2,360/-; C) Rs. 2,360/-; D) Rs. 3,540/-. 6. Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender: Up to 15.00 hrs. on 28.05.2019 Opening of tender 15.00 hrs. on 28.05.2019. 7. Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can be purchased etc. Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in No.: 128-W/269/OET/19-20/WEN/IT 03 (A, B, C, D) Dated: 01.05.2019 **1295/2019**
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



TRAIL THROUGH VINTAGE MYANMAR

As CHAHAK MITTAL tastes the specially-curated delicacies of the *Thingyan* Food Festival at BURMA BURMA, she finds herself on a journey through the land of tamarinds and bamboos

The very first step inside the Burma Burma, DLF Mall of India, Noida, reminded me of Kolkata in the sixties, a tad bit more vibrant. When you run your eyes across the green and brown walls, with striped, wooden window sills, the chandeliers that appeared to be made with bamboo sticks, you seem to be turning the pages of history. The ambience reminded one of how the British rule gave rise to mixed colonial styles of architecture where local material like the Burmese teak was used. A wide hanging shelf on the right was full of Burmese dolls and books.

While strolling through the mall in search of some soul-satisfying food after a tiring day at shopping, we found out that the outlet had an ongoing *Thingyan* Food Festival. This is Burma's answer to Thai *Songkran*, Cambodian *Chaul Chnam Thmey*, Laotian *Pi Mai*, and Indian *Holi*. The *Thingyan* or *A-Kyo Nei* marks the beginning of festivities as it is the Burmese New Year.

We started with the *Bamboo shoot and water chestnut* soup. A recipe from the hills of Kachin, the tender bamboo shoot soup with dill leaves was more of a fusion with Indian flavours. Bright yellow, with chopped bamboo shoot pieces, the soup tasted sour and a bit too salty.

The *Crunchy corn salad*, the next

dish, can certainly be rated as the best of the evening. With crisp golden corn kernels, hand-mixed with sweet and tangy tamarind dressing, the salad was flavoured with chopped brown onions, sliced carrots, cabbage and scallions. Crispy on the upper and soft on the inside, the dish could be termed as the perfect starter.

Next up was the *Quack quack palata* — a dish one could eat even on a full stomach. The dish was a Yangon (erstwhile Rangoon) tea shop-special where a flaky *palata* was filled with minced mock duck, finely-chopped tofu, cottage cheese, garlic and ginger. It reminded one of an Indian *parantha*, though it was a bit crispier and with heavy stuffing of disparate ingredients. The *palata* was served with a mint *chutney*, nothing short of the typical green *chutneys* in Indian households.

We tasted the *palata* with the two types of sauces out of the four on the table. One, tamarind *chutney*, which perfectly incorporated the sour *imili* flavour; second, a sticky paste-like *chutney*, not meant for those who don't like it too hot as it had spicy, roasted red chillies along with a hint of sweetness of jaggery. How we wished we could take the latter home! Well, our wishes did come true as we flipped to the last page of the menu that had listed its saleable items. One of those was

the spicy sauce as well, with a jar only for ₹250.

The *Malar* noodle bowl, a dish of thick flat noodles from the Shan region served with vegetables and soya in a curry was up next. The noodles, wider and thicker than an inch, were a blast of flavours in our mouths as they tasted of everything from tamarind, garlic, tofu, brown onion, scallions and chilli.

Moving ahead from the main course, we ordered some coolers and steamed buns. First was the *Oh no tamarind* mocktail. The super-chilled drink was undoubtedly the most sour thing we had ever tasted. As much as the thought of the drink's sourness would salivate our taste buds, we could also feel our jaws tingle as our eyes squinted at its very first sip. Well, the next cooler was just its opposite. The cranberry, watermelon, rose and cherry mocktail gave us a chilling welcome to the Burmese land. A rose petal on the top of the brew appeared like a cherry on the top of a pineapple cake. Full marks to both the coolers, however the former one, we felt, could have lessened its tanginess.

The steamed buns, which looked like round white *idlis* from the top, were soft as cotton balls and had brown onions and roasted chillies as their filling. Softest on the outside and mushy on the inside, the buns can

make for a great snack.

Well, one last thing was still left — desserts, which too didn't fail to make us crave for more even on a full stomach. Out of the two, the first one was the *Yay-Gei-Tho*. The coconut ice-cream dessert was presented in a coconut shell and had crushed peanuts, ice apples, *nata-de-coco*, fruit jellies as its toppings. As one bit into the ice cream, one could taste bits of creamy peels stuck on the walls of the coconut as well. This dessert was more than just soul-satisfying and heart-melting. The last one for the evening was *Rangoon Ruby*, a coconut, lemon-grass panacotta and black sesame ice-cream, served with yuzu curd and poppy seed crumbles. First the mind-blowing presentation. Two plates, one with a dried, frozen red rose was brought to the table and before you would even realise, the chef crushed its petals on the cheesecake-like panacotta and ice-cream. Well, this one-of-its-kind dessert grew delicious with each bite. The *paapad*-like waffles on each side tasted of peanuts and as if they were dipped in peanut butter and jaggery syrup, balancing the dish's abundant flavours of rose, cranberry, vanilla, caramel and cream.

Not just one, we found more reasons than we could count for visiting the place for an encore. (The festival is on till May 5.)

Kitchen tricks

Let's look at whether instant pot is an appliance one should add to the counter or the classic slow cooker will do just fine

Now that the viral craze surrounding the Instant Pot has quieted down a bit, let's look at whether it really is an appliance you should add to your kitchen or whether the classic slow cooker is just fine.



INSTANT POTS

Instant Pot is the most popular brand name for a fairly new breed of programmable, electric, multi-function cookers. There are a number made by other manufacturers too. Instant Pots are pressure cookers, slow cookers, rice cookers, yogurt makers, steamers and warmers, all in one. They also can brown foods, so you can sear or sauté in them.

This last feature is one of the many reasons of its huge likeability. When making something like pulled pork or braised chicken, it is preferred to sear the meat first, before cooking it. This gives the final product more texture, with a nicely caramelised outside and a super-tender interior. With a regular slow cooker, you must do this step in a pan on the stove before transferring it to the slow cooker, which is an extra step and an extra thing to wash.

The main draw of the pot is the pressure-cooking function. The cooking temperature of an Instant Pot in the "instant," or pressure-cooker, setting ranges between 239 degrees F and 244 degrees F. Many meals can be cooked in less than 60 minutes, including things that might surprise you if you've never had a pressure cooker. Pot roast in an hour? Yes.

The Instant Pot has insulated housing, which makes it energy efficient. You have to seal the pressure valve, and then it locks itself during the pressure-cooking process, which results in no cooking smells. The pot raises, monitors and adjusts the pressure automatically, and when the cooking time is finished the valve is released to bring the pressure back down (some recipes say you should release the pressure valve manually, while others allow for the Instant Pot to do this automatically and slowly). The food should be allowed to sit in the Instant Pot until the release time is over — most recipes will be clear on that, and the

pot itself unlocks when it's time to remove the food.

You can certainly use the slow-cooker function on an Instant Pot, but many slow-cooker fans don't think it's as good as a designated slow cooker. Because the pot seals itself so well, even when it's not on the pressure-cook mode there is less liquid able to evaporate than with a traditional slow cooker. This may result in some liquid left at the end, and less reduction and thickening of sauce as the food cooks.

Most Instant Pots have smart, built-in programs like "rice" or "bean/chili" so you can make certain foods with the press of a button. But overall, it's less intuitive than a slow cooker, so you should find recipes with explicit pot instructions. Once you get the hang of it, then you can experiment more.

For steaming, or for other recipes where you don't want the food submerged in liquid, there is a rack insert to keep the food suspended above a small amount of water or other liquid. This means you can make foods in your Instant Pot that you would not usually make in a slow cooker, such as a *lasagna* in a pan. There are pans designed just for using in the Instant Pot on the market, and also some silicone slings and other inserts designed for cooking specific foods, such as eggs, and lifting foods from the machine.

THE SLOW COOKER

As the name suggests, the slow cooker cooks foods low and slow, with a temperature range of about 175 degrees F to 200 degrees F. There are usually only two settings — low and high; the high setting usually has a minimum cooking time of four hours and a maximum of six, with the low

offering a choice between eight and 10 hours.

Most recipes specify which setting and amount of time to use, but some like a roast or pork shoulder, can be flexible, so you may choose a setting and time based on how much time you have (for example, if you are cooking something in the afternoon for dinner, or overnight while you sleep).

The slow cooker is more intuitive for most cooks than the Instant Pot. Fewer functions (one) mean fewer buttons, and it's harder to mess anything up.

Slow cookers are available in sizes up to 10 quarts, while Instant Pots top out at 8 quarts, so if big-batch cooking is your thing, that's a consideration.

WHAT THEY BOTH DO

Both machines are good for foods with lots of moisture and long cooking times, such as soups, chillies, stews and braises. With both, the cooking time can usually be preset, and foods can be kept warm after cooking is finished.

WHICH IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

If you are a person with a lot of appliances that an Instant Pot can replicate, such as a yogurt maker, a slow cooker, a pressure cooker and a rice maker, then boy, will you save a lot of storage space with this one device. And if you are a last-minute dinner maker, then the Instant Pot might become an invaluable tool. But if you are someone who plans ahead, loves slow-cooked foods, and wants to walk in the door to a house filled with the scent of dinner waiting to be served up, then stick with the slow cooker. —AP

gorge us

India Grill at Hilton Garden Inn, presents 'create your own four-course meal' from appetiser to desserts. The lunch includes live cooking stations, freshly-made items and a dessert selection. Parmesan and Parsley-crust fish finger, *Paneer* butter *masala* and for those with a sweet tooth, there is the *New York cheese cake*, among others. **Time:** 12 pm to 3 pm **Price:** ₹666 plus taxes **Date:** Till May 15 **Venue:** Hilton Garden Inn, Saket.



Unplugged Courtyard presents Kerala-styled delicacies including the spicy and smoky tandoori South Indian spiced prawns and pancakes. Try dishes like *Atta chicken*, House BBQ pork ribs, *Sukha bhuna gosht* with *parantha* slider and more. **Time:** 12 pm to 1 am **Price:** ₹1,500 plus taxes **Date:** Till May **Venue:** Unplugged Courtyard, Gurugram.

Punjab Grill, presents a special 90s summer drinks menu offering fresh summer coolers like *Chatmola* electric soda, *Pan Pasand chutki* Martini, *Swad* cranberry margarita, *Rim Jhim* mojito and many more. **Date:** Till May 31 **Time:** 11 am to 10 pm **Venue:** Punjab Grill, Connaught Place.



Presenting an affair with Dimsums, Pra Pra Prank, Cyber Hub, offers the Ruby dimsum with savoury crumble, vegetable dumpling with ginger soy broth and the Spinach and pok choy dumpling with pine nuts for a tasteful vegetarian-friendly meal. Binge on chicken chilli oil sticker with Shanghai dip, prawns with fermented chilli and many more. **Time:** 12 pm to 12 am **Price:** ₹2,100 plus taxes **Date:** Till May

The 1911 Restaurant at The Imperial brings you the season's favorite treat with an array of delectable ice creams and sorbets. Tempt the child in you, with creamy indulgence and scoops of exotic flavours that are the perfect remedy to summertime blues. **Price:** Starting from ₹550 plus taxes **Date:** Till May 14 **Venue:** 1911 Restaurant, The Imperial, Janpath Road.

CAD has come up with a software-named *Pulled Jackfruit masala filo pie* as it is served with their special star anise-scented apricot chutney. There are also special *GoT*-inspired dishes like Lannister's chicken steak, Kingslayer, Needle to Theo's drums of heaven, and King's Landing crispy vegetables. **Time:** 12 pm to 12 am **Price:** ₹325 plus taxes **Venue:** CAD, Sector 15, Gurugram.



THAT'S AMORE

WHAT YOU NEED

- Vodka: 60 ml
- Amaretto liqueur: 20ml
- Pineapple juice: 30ml
- Cranberry juice: 30ml
- Sweet and sour mix: 15ml

METHOD

- Mix everything and shake well and top up with ice.
- Garnish with almond and rose petals.

Courtesy: Chef Shireesh Singh at UNO Chicago Bar and Grill.



BEETROOT POACHED PEAR WITH MAPLE AND DIJON GLAZE

WHAT YOU NEED

Poaching of Pear:

- Pear (peeled): 1
- Beetroot (raw): ½
- Bay leaf: 1
- Water: 3 cups
- Brown sugar: 1/2 cups
- Star anise: 4
- White wine vinegar: 1 ounce
- Salt: 1 tsp
- Cinnamon stick: 1
- Cloves: 4

Dressing:

- Maple: 1 tbsp
- Honey: 1 tbsp
- Lemon juice: 1 tbsp
- Kosher salt: ½ tsp
- Black pepper: ½ tsp



- Pomery mustard: ½ tsp
- #### Caramel walnut:
- Sugar: 1 ounce
 - Walnuts: 5-6
 - Pinch of Himalayan salt
- #### Salad:
- Arugula leaves: 1 ounce
 - Goat cheese: 20 gm
 - Extra virgin olive oil: 15 ml

METHOD

- Take water in a stockpot, add all the ingredients mentioned under the poaching pear head.
- Place a parchment paper or butter paper over the top and make sure that pears are completely submerged in the water.
- Leave it for one hour on simmer mark.
- Let it cool down and keep it in the refrigerator until you want to serve it.
- Slice up the pear width wise and take out the core.
- Toss the arugula into the dressing.
- Assemble the salad according to the layers, put goat cheese over the top and garnish with caramel walnuts.
- Drizzle the remaining dressing over the top.

Courtesy: Saurabh Srivastava, executive chef at Aloft New Delhi Aerocity.

RECIPES

THAI STYLE CHICKEN TIKKA

WHAT YOU NEED

- Chicken thighs: 250 gm
- Thai ginger: 7 gm
- Lemon leaf: 3
- Lemon grass: 5 gm
- Coconut milk powder: 130 gm
- Refined oil: 100 ml
- Red curry paste: 12 gm
- Peanut butter: 20gm
- Basil leaves (fried): 3 gm
- Lotus stem: 25 gm
- Yellow butter: 15 gm
- Chat masala: 1 gm



again with red curry paste, butter and Thai ginger lemon grass leaf. Take the chicken out of the fridge, marinate it again and put it back in the refrigerator for two to three hours more.

METHOD

- First of all, marinate the chicken. For that, mix the Thai ginger lemon grass leaf, butter and red curry paste in a bowl. Now pour this mixture over the chicken pieces and keep it in the refrigerator for two to three hours.
- Marinate the chicken again. Just repeat the step one by making the paste

- Take the chicken out and grill it in a tandoor until properly cooked.
- Now for peanut butter sauce, take a bowl, add peanut butter, coconut milk powder and 1/4th cup of water. Mix it well till it is smooth.
- Plate the cooked chicken with peanut butter sauce on the side and garnish it with lotus stem, fried basil and some *chaat* masala.

Courtesy: Chef Ramesh Rana at Decode Air Bar.

BEETROOT SMOOTHIE



WHAT YOU NEED

- Spinach: 1 bowl
- Pineapple: 1 cup
- Beetroot: ½

- Banana: 1
- Honey: 2 tbsp
- Vanilla Pod: 1 pinch
- Yoghurt: 1 cup

METHOD

- Blend everything and serve chilled with spinach and beetroot as garnish.

Courtesy: Topesh Chatterjee, Manager, Grappa Bar, Shangri-La's - Eros Hotel.

PURE GENIUS

Messi inspires Barcelona step closer to Champions League title after beating Liverpool 3-0 in 1st leg

AFP ■ BARCELONA

Jürgen Klopp admitted Lionel Messi was "unstoppable" on Wednesday after he left Liverpool needing a miracle to reach the Champions League final. Luis Suarez poked in against his former club before Messi hit a late double, the second a stunning free-kick for his 600th Barca goal, as his team took a 3-0 lead from a pulsating semi-final first leg ahead of next week's return at Anfield.

"He's unstoppable," said Klopp afterwards. "Obviously we couldn't defend the free-kick. What a strike. He's a world-class player but I knew that already. It's no surprise."

Klopp could only smile after Messi's curling shot nestled in the top corner but this result was harsh on his side.

They matched Barcelona in the first half, dominated them early in the second and could still have left with an away goal after Messi's brilliant brace, only for Mohamed Salah to hit the post.

"I said to the boys I was proud of how we played against a side like this," Klopp said. "If you lose away it's not a massive problem as long as you score a goal. That's our problem tonight - it doesn't make our life any easier."

Messi and Suarez did what they have done all season, their tallies now at 47 and 27 goals respectively in all competitions.

It had been a breathtaking contest befitting two of Europe's most exhilarating teams. The first half was electric, a reel of chances, breaks and blocks, while the second was tense, a tactical battle where Barca dared Liverpool to over-exert.

The comeback will be even tougher for them given Barcelona, with La Liga wrapped up, will surely rest a host of players against Celta Vigo this weekend while Liverpool, a point behind Premier League leaders Manchester City, will have



to be at full throttle again away at Newcastle on Saturday.

"They can still make us suffer," said Barca coach Ernesto Valverde. "The result is good but the tie is open."



CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

SCINTILLATING

Messi was already fresh, after playing just over half the La Liga minutes he could have done in April, and he looked sharp early on, weaving through the centre while for Liverpool, the sensational Sadio Mane raced down the left.

The attacks were scintillating but the defending was good too. Andy Robertson scrambled across to block Messi's finish from six yards and moments later it was Sergi



Roberto on the slide, preventing Mane from sprinting clear.

Messi wanted a penalty when the ball jumped up on Joel Matip and Naby Keita went off injured in the 25th minute, replaced by Jordan Henderson.

A minute later came the goal. Arturo Vidal sprayed the ball left to Philippe Coutinho, who cushioned back for Jordi Alba. Alba shaped to cross but instead curved a perfectly weighted pass to the near post, where Suarez nipped in.

Liverpool came again. Mane scampered in behind then flicked the ball round Sergio Busquets. He should have scored too, Henderson's cross finding him free from eight yards but the shot flew over.

Barca took control just as Suarez began to lose it, irked by James Milner barging Messi into the sideboards after the Argentinian had danced past

Robertson. But Liverpool were re-energised at the start of the second half. Marc-Andre ter Stegen pushed away shots from Milner and Salah, and held a Milner drive.

Then Messi intervened, striking twice in seven minutes. His own run started the first, setting Sergi free to square to Suarez. Off balance, Suarez could only knee the ball against the crossbar but it came back for Messi, who chested and finished into an open net.

Two was tough on Liverpool but Messi was not done. The free-kick was central, 30 yards out. He whipped it over the wall and into the top corner.

Barca were delirious but Liverpool almost grabbed an away goal when a clearance on the line fell kindly for Salah, who hammered against the post. It could have been a lifeline. Liverpool are on the brink.

FIGURATIVELY

8 Lionel Messi has scored eight direct free-kick goals from 56 attempts for Barcelona in all competitions this season; Cristiano Ronaldo is yet to score a direct free-kick from 24 attempts for Juventus.

4 Liverpool have now lost more matches in the Champions League this season (4 in 11 matches) than in all other competitions combined (3 in 38 matches).

3 Liverpool suffered their joint-heaviest Champions League defeat, also losing 0-3 to Real Madrid in October 2014.

600 Lionel Messi has scored his 600th goal for FC Barcelona in all competitions, exactly 14 years ago since his first goal against Albacete on 1st May 2005.

26 Lionel Messi now has 26 goals in 33 appearances against English clubs in the Champions League; no player has more against teams from a particular country in the competition's history (level with Cristiano Ronaldo v German clubs).

3 Lionel Messi is only the second player to score against three different English clubs in the same Champions League season (Spurs, Man Utd and Liverpool), after Thomas Muller in 2013-14 (Arsenal, Man City and Man Utd).

32 Only Raúl (33) has scored against more different Champions League opponents than Lionel Messi (32), with this his first goal in three appearances against Liverpool.

36 Luis Suárez has scored his first Champions League goal of the season, with his 36th shot of the campaign.



"We were the better team in the first half, but in the second half they pressured us and we couldn't get out of our half, but we got the goals and it is a good advantage."
— Lionel Messi



"I don't know if we can play much better. But one moment there's Messi with an easy goal and the second was unsaveable."
— Jürgen Klopp



"We know how good he is. We're not going to hide away from it. He's the best player in the world, but I thought we done relatively well against him."
— Andrew Robertson



"I think he's the best player in the world and he's got that little bit extra as well that he's shown over the years."
— Virgil van Dijk



"We have made a great match, a very good result. But the euphoria has not reached the dressing room. We know that there is a return match and we have to go to win and without speculating anything."
— Jordi Alba



"We know what Leo is, but he does not stop surprising us. He has pushed us to the brink [of the final] but we still have to play the second leg."
— Ernesto Valverde

SINGLES

STEFAN URGES JAMES TO LEAVE BAYERN
MUNICH: Former Bayern Munich captain Stefan Effenberg has said that Colombian star James Rodriguez should leave the club in order to pick up more game time. "James should recognise that the right path for him is to leave Bayern," wrote Effenberg in his column for the German news website T-online on Thursday. The 27-year-old Colombian joined Bayern from Real Madrid in 2017, on a two-year loan deal which expires at the end of this season. Bayern have the option to buy Rodriguez permanently for 42 million euros (\$47.1m), but the midfielder has not been a first-team regular under Niko Kovac this season. "He has to play and enjoy his football, but he cannot do that if he is only allowed to play seven, 10, 12 or 15 minutes at a time," wrote Effenberg.

SEMENYA TO RUN IN DIAMOND LEAGUE
DOHA: Olympic champion Gaster Semanya, who lost her legal challenge against new IAAF gender rules, will race in the 800 metres in Friday's Doha Diamond League after making a late entry, organisers said on Thursday. Semanya, the double Olympic champion, was added to the start list for Friday's 800 metres on Thursday morning, a day after her appeal against the IAAF's rule regulating testosterone levels for women athletes was rejected by the Court for Arbitration of Sport. Doha organisers said the South African runner had waited for the outcome of Wednesday's CAS hearing in Lausanne, Switzerland, before deciding whether to run in the meeting that opens the Diamond League season.

ALEX HALES TO FEATURE FOR NOTTS
LONDON: Controversial England batsman Alex Hales will be available for Nottinghamshire for the rest of the white-ball season. Hales was axed from all England squads, including the provisional 15-man party for this year's World Cup, after reportedly failing a second test for recreational drugs. But his English county Nottinghamshire believes it is in the interests of "all concerned" for the batsman to return to playing cricket, starting with Friday's game against Durham. "The recent events in relation to Alex Hales have been difficult for everyone involved with Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club," a statement from the club read on Wednesday. Following his withdrawal from all England squads this week, we have met with Alex to express our concerns and to re-iterate that such actions cannot continue.

PRANNOY STUNS SUGIARTO IN NZ OPEN
AUCKLAND: India's HS Prannoy stunned Tommy Sugiarto in straight games to sail into the men's singles quarterfinals even as his compatriot B Sai Praneeth crashed out in the second round of the New Zealand Open badminton tournament here on Thursday. Unseeded Prannoy shocked second seed Sugiarto 21-14, 21-12 in just 37 minutes to book his place in the last-eight round, where he will be up against fifth seed Kanta Tsuneyama of Japan. This was world No 26 Prannoy's maiden meeting against world No 13 Sugiarto. Earlier in the day, Praneeth suffered a straight-game 12-21, 12-21 loss to the legendary Lin Dan of China. Seventh seed Lin Dan, thus, progressed to the quarterfinals where he will be up against top seed Anthony Sinisuka Ginting of Indonesia. Indian men's doubles pair of Manu Attri and Sumeeth B Reddy too lost in the second round, going down against seventh seeds Goh V Shem and Tan Wee Kiong of Malaysia 17-21, 19-21.

Dhoni's contribution will be massive for India: Gavaskar



Mahendra Singh Dhoni bats during nets session. BCCI/Twitter

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Former India captain Sunil Gavaskar foresees Mahendra Singh Dhoni making a "massive" contribution in India's World Cup campaign and he feels it will not be limited to the talismanic player's much-admired instinctive reading of the game. Dhoni has been in superb form in the ongoing Indian Premier League and has so far amassed 358 runs from 11 matches for the Chennai Super Kings. Gavaskar feels the stumper-batsman will be crucial to India posting defendable totals in the mega-event starting May 30 in the United Kingdom. "I think it will be very important because we have a fabulous top-three. But in case the top-three don't make their usual contribution, then Dhoni's contribution down the order, whether it's at number four or five, will make a big difference in India posting a defendable total," Gavaskar said. Gavaskar also spoke highly of Dhoni's wicket-keeping skills and how they aid skip-

per Virat Kohli in making field placements. "...We have seen the wicket-keeping skills that he has. But more importantly as somebody who stands close to the wicket, guiding the spinners where to bowl, guiding the other bowlers also where to ball and making those little field adjustments..." he elaborated. "...(Virat) Kohli, whose brilliant fielding makes it imperative for him to stand in the deep, at long-off/long-on may be, is unable to see those little changes of the backward point fielder moving a little bit to his right or little bit to his left, similarly square-leg fielder moving. "So those are the kind of changes Dhoni will be able to bring about with Kohli's, of course, full backing as well," the scorer of 34 Test hundreds explained. Gavaskar also said the fact that Dhoni has already led India to the 2011 World Cup triumph would make his experience all the more valuable. "And when you have somebody who's actually been in a position where he's taken the stress and taken the team to a win as he did in 2011 (World Cup), that is invaluable in your team. "So Dhoni's contribution is going to be massive," Gavaskar signed off.



'Huge hunger' - Finch tips Warner to dominate WC

AFP ■ SYDNEY
Australia captain Aaron Finch believes David Warner will enter this year's World Cup desperate to prove himself as the disgraced batsman prepares to rejoin his teammates after a ball-tampering ban. Warner has been in red-hot form in the India Premier League after completing a 12-month suspension for cheating, averaging 69.20 in 12 innings, including a century and eight fifties. Finch expected the fiery batsman to also dominate on the international stage, providing a massive boost for Australia as the reigning champions chase a sixth World Cup trophy. "He's coming back with a huge hunger, not just to perform well for his franchise, but to dominate international cricket again," Finch told Melbourne commercial radio on Wednesday. "When you have your dream taken away from you for 12 months, I can imagine there's something inside you that burns really strongly." Finch said the ban, imposed after Warner masterminded the "Sandpaper-gate" scandal in Cape Town last year, had given the 32-year-old a chance to refresh his game. "He's a super player, we know how destructive he can be," he said. "I think having time off to spend with his family and get away from the game (was important)." Warner and former Australian captain Steve Smith will officially rejoin the Australian squad for the first time at a training camp in Brisbane on Friday. Finch did not expect any problems re-integrating them into the team, even though the former captain and deputy will have to defer to a new leadership team. He said he would consult the pair about on-field tactics. "I'll be using them as much as I can tactically because they've both captained a lot of cricket and are very good captains on the field," he said. "It would be really naive of me not to lean on them." Finch also revealed he feared for his own spot on the team after a recent barren run, although he believed he had now returned to form. "In the back of your mind you're thinking, 'Gee, the World Cup isn't far away, as a captain I could be left out of the squad,'" he said. "Then you start putting unrealistic pressure on yourself to perform." Finch had an unsuccessful spell in the Test side last year, averaging 27.80 in five matches, and conceded that at 32 his career in the long-form game was over. "My chances to play Test cricket again have probably slipped away," he said. "I'm still very grateful for the opportunity... I'm OK with that because I gave it everything I could."

WC will offer beautiful tracks for batsmen: Tendulkar

PTI ■ MUMBAI
Legendary cricketer Sachin Tendulkar on Thursday said the World Cup in the United Kingdom will offer beautiful batting tracks but he doesn't expect the ball to swing much in the hot conditions that will prevail there. The World Cup, which will kick-start on May 30, will see all 10 participating nations face-off against each other. "I am told it's going to be a hot summer. Even in the Champions Trophy the wickets



were superb when the sun was out. In the heat the wickets get really flat. I am sure they will give beautiful tracks to bat on," Tendulkar said on the sidelines of the inauguration of the MIG Club pavilion named after him. "I don't think there will be much difference in the conditions unless there is a heavy cloud cover. If there is a cloud cover, the ball might go around a bit. Even if that's the case I don't see that happening for a longer duration just the first over if at all," he added. Several Indian players, including captain Virat Kohli, Hardik Pandya and KL Rahul, are performing well in the ongoing Indian Premier League. Asked if that will help them in the World Cup, Tendulkar said: "A good performance in any format is good news because it gives the player confidence. If you are confident in any format, that's important." "The players have time to make some adjustments according to the conditions. All of them have played enough cricket to know what to do to improve," he added.

I am told it's going to be a hot summer. Even in the Champions Trophy the wickets were superb when the sun was out. In the heat the wickets get really flat. I am sure they will give beautiful tracks to bat on

LEADERBOARD

RUNS	692	David Warner (SRH)
WICKETS	25	Kagiso Rabada (DC)
6S	658	We can't blame our bowlers because you had an experienced campaigner like Dhoni in the middle.
4S	1417	— SHREYAS IYER



SRH restrict MI to 162-5

AGENCIES ■ MUMBAI

Mumbai Indians rode opener Quinton de Kock's valiant knock of 69 (unbeaten) off 58 balls to post 162/5 in 20 overs against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) in their return fixture of the Indian Premier League (IPL) at the Wankhede Stadium, here on Thursday.

Despite getting little support from the other end, de Kock kept his cool and helped the three-time champions reach a respectable total. The opener's knock contained six boundaries and two hits into the stands.

Opting to bat, Mumbai were off to a decent but cautious start with scoreboard reading 26/0 in the initial three overs. While Rohit Sharma (24 off 18) clobbered Hyderabad bowlers, de Kock played second fiddle to the Mumbai captain.

Khaleel Ahmed drew the first blood for his side and sent back a dangerous looking Rohit in the sixth over, leaving Mumbai at 36/1. The Mumbai skipper played an overambitious pull-shot on a delivery that bounced a bit more and popped up in the air only to be caught by Mohammed Nabi at mid-on.

Incoming batsman Suryakumar Yadav (23 off 17) and de Kock then tried to repair the early damage, adding 54 runs for the second wicket. Just when the home side were approaching the three-digit mark, Khaleel struck again to break the partnership. He cut short Suryakumar's stay in the middle, reducing Mumbai to 90/2 in 11.2 overs.

Nabi spelled further trouble for Mumbai and just after the addition of a run, he packed back Evin Lewis (1 off 6) in the 13th over.

Hardik Pandya then played a quick 10-ball 18, with the help



of a four and a six. But the Mumbai all-rounder failed to spend much time in the middle as Bhuvneshwar Kumar applied brakes on his innings in the 16th over, with Mumbai placed at 119/4.

Kieron Pollard (10 off 9) and de Kock then shared a short 32-run partnership for the fifth wicket, helping their side cross the 150-run mark in 18.5 overs. Pollard was dismissed in the

DESPITE GETTING LITTLE SUPPORT FROM THE OTHER END, DE KOCK KEPT HIS COOL AND HELPED THE THREE-TIME CHAMPIONS REACH A RESPECTABLE TOTAL. THE OPENER'S KNOCK CONTAINED SIX BOUNDARIES AND TWO HITS INTO THE STANDS

final over by Khaleel before Krunal Pandya chipped in with an unbeaten 9 off three balls as Mumbai reached a fighting total.

For the visitors, Khaleel bagged three wickets for 42 runs and Bhuvneshwar and Nabi got one wicket each.

Sunrisers was playing without their leading run scorer David Warner (692 runs in 12 matches) after the Australian opener left the tournament to return back and join national camp ahead of the upcoming World Cup in England.

Sunrisers replaced Warner with New Zealand opener Martin Gupthill while Basil Thampi was included in place of Sandeep Sharma.

Up Next



KKR-Kings XI face off in do-or-die game

PTI ■ MOHALI

Staring at elimination, two-time champions Kolkata Knight Riders and Kings XI Punjab will lock horns in a battle of survival in Friday's Indian Premier League match, here at PCA stadium.

The two teams are languishing at the bottom half of the table and need to win on Friday to keep alive their remote Play-off chances.

Both KKR and Kings XI have 10 points from 12 matches but the Kolkata outfit is placed a rung above Punjab at sixth in the eight-team competition by virtue of a better net run-rate.

Both KKR and Kings XI had a decent outing in the first half of the tournament before losing the plot in the all-important second phase.

After registering four wins and one loss in the first five games, KKR suffered six defeats in a row that derailed their campaign.

Although KKR return to winning ways against Mumbai Indians in their last game, the Dinesh Karthik-led side need to register victories in their final two games to have an outside chance of qualifying for the Play-offs.

The KKR top-order — Shubman Gill (75), Chris Lynn (54) and Andre Russell (80 not out) fired in unison in their last

match against Mumbai Indians to lift the side to a mammoth 232 for two, a total which the bowling unit defended to register a much-needed 34-run win.

Russell has been in ominous form for KKR this season and is the third highest scorer so far with 486 runs from 12 games at a staggering strike rate of 207.69.

And come on Friday, KKR would look for yet another superb show from the top-order to negate the team's frailties.

But if batting is their strength, KKR's weak link is the bowling department.

Veteran campaigners like Sunil Narine (2/44) and Piyush Chawla (1/57) leaked runs against MI and if not for the cushion of 230 plus score, KKR could have lost the match.

Just like KKR, Kings XI too had an erratic campaign so far and are on a three-match losing streak, going into Friday's game.

Their situation is worse than KKR as they have a negative net run rate, which eventually can come into the picture.

K L Rahul (520 runs off 12 games) is enjoying a good IPL and is currently second in the runs-scorers' list with an unbeaten century to his name, while Chris Gayle is fifth in the list with 448 runs even though consistency is something that has lacked in the West Indian's game.

The bowling will largely depend on skipper Ravichandran Ashwin and much-improved India pacer Mohammed Shami.

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M 24

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KKR 15

MOHALI

FRIDAY | 8:00 PM



IPL enhances players' skills, says Bravo

PTI ■ CHENNAI

West Indies all rounder Dwayne Bravo on Thursday said Indian Premier League enhances players' skills and every team has some high profile coaches to iron out the flaws.

A big-hitter on the field, Bravo reiterated that the West Indies would pose a threat to all the teams in the coming World Cup as it had a sledgehammer in Chris Gayle and the dangerous Andre Russell who has been in great form this season.

A key player for Chennai Super Kings, Bravo also reaffirmed his admiration for M S Dhoni's leadership and again termed him the best captain he has played under.

"I think IPL helps domestic players. It also helps international players. You are being coached by some of the best coaches in the world.

I think that is the beauty of IPL. Players get an opportunity to improve their skills", Bravo said during a promotional event.

Asked how much he enjoyed playing for Chennai Super Kings, the all rounder said he enjoyed a lot playing for CSK.

"It is one of my favourite teams... It is my biggest fan base overseas, it is no secret. It is always good to wear the yellow jersey," he said.

About the West Indies' chances at the World Cup, he said, "the chances of West Indies winning the cup are just as good as every other team's... West Indies is just as good as any other team."

"Universal boss (Chris Gayle) is there. Andre Russell is there. (Shannon) Gabriel is there. So they have very good players, all match winners. So look out for them."

Bravo heaped praise on Dhoni and reiterated that he was the best captain in the world he has played under.

"It is no secret. I love, I can say much about MSD leadership... Everyone knows. He is the best in the world," he added.

Dhoni's presence makes a huge difference: Raina

PTI ■ CHENNAI

The sheer presence of MS Dhoni on the pitch creates a lot of pressure for opposition teams and it is always difficult to fill the veteran stumper's boots whenever he is not around, said Chennai Super Kings' batsman Suresh Raina.

Dhoni missed two games for CSK this season — against Mumbai Indians and Sunrisers Hyderabad — due to fever and stiff back, and on both occasions they ended on the losing side.

Besides, Dhoni has been in superb form with the bat this year and hit a 22-ball unbeaten 44 against Delhi Capitals to ensure a comfortable 80-run win for CSK.

Asked Raina how challenging it was to lead CSK in Dhoni's absence, he replied: "I think losing him (Dhoni) as a captain is not an issue, losing him as a batsman is always difficult for us. That's what happened for us against Hyderabad and Mumbai Indians.



"When he comes to the crease a lot of pressure is created for other teams. When he is not in the team, we see the difference."

Raina also hinted that he might take up CSK captaincy as and when Dhoni decides to call it quits.

"He has done well in the last couple of years as a batsman as well team mentor. So probably you may see me more next year when he is done but I need more of his calibre. But he will continue as long as he wants to play for Chennai, you know him and Chennai," he said.

The left-hander also praised Dhoni's glove work in the light of two brilliant stumpings he had effected on Wednesday night.

"He (Dhoni) had two brilliant stumpings. One is Shreyas (Iyer) and the other

is (Chris) Morris. It shows how compact he is.

"In the last couple of years when he was playing for India also, he has done amazing stumpings that shows how involved he is in the game," Raina said.

Raina said it was important to play smart cricket in Chennai.

"It is important to play very, very smart cricket in Chennai. The game starts after the sixth over here. In the powerplay, if you see the last two games which we won against Hyderabad and against Delhi here, you can see that we hadn't done well in the first three overs," he said.

"Watto (Shane Watson) and Faf (du Plessis) played very carefully against (Trent) Boult and (Chris) Morris. It is important to have wickets in Chennai because later

when you have hitters like MS (Dhoni), (Ambati) Rayudu and Jadeja, you can score extra 30-40 runs."

Raina said Delhi couldn't capitalise on a good start, adding one needs to plan well against CSK's lethal spin attack.

"They (Delhi) were very good in the powerplay, but later on they didn't capitalise on their good start. In Chennai, you need to plan really well against our good spinners. You need to rotate really well, otherwise it is going to be difficult with the heat," he said.

Meanwhile, Delhi Capitals captain Shreyas Iyer said the defeat was a good reality check for his team ahead of the play-offs.

"After the kind of start we got (52/2 at one stage), we should have at least reached close to the total. It

was a reality check for us. We need to assess where we went wrong and come back strongly," he said.

Iyer said Rishabh Pant could have played 'smart' but added he won't ask the left-hander to curb his style.

"He (Pant) has won matches for us earlier in the season. A batsman like him can turn the momentum with one innings. So I wouldn't want to curb his style. I like the way he bats," he said.

Asked about Dhoni's impact, the Delhi captain said: "We can't blame our bowlers because you had an experienced campaigner like Dhoni in the middle.

"He can change the game from ball one and if he stays till the end, he can take them to a good total. The bowlers too feel the pressure when MS is in the middle."

Jofra Archer set for England debut

AFP ■ LONDON

Jofra Archer is set to make his England debut when Eoin Morgan's men face Ireland in a one-day international in Malahide on Friday.

The 24-year-old Barbados-born all-rounder was called into a senior England squad for the first time last month after qualifying on residency grounds.

He was not included in the tournament hosts' 15-man provisional squad for the World Cup.

But Archer can stake a claim by impressing for world number one team England in their one-off game against Ireland and upcoming series at home to Pakistan before the World Cup squad is finalised on May 23.

Middlesex batsman Dawid Malan and Surrey wicketkeeper-batsman Ben Foakes, a replacement for the injured Sam Billings, are also set to win their first one-day international caps on Friday.

Morgan, confirming Sussex star Archer's inclusion, told Sky Sports: "He obviously brings a lot of excitement, along with skill level. He's been around for the last few years. I've played against him and he's bowled extremely well when I've played against him. "He was delighted (when he was told). Debuters are all about celebrating what's gone before and recognising the start of a new journey and for Jofra it's obviously very exciting."

Archer has impressed in the lucrative Twenty20 Indian Premier League this season for the Rajasthan Royals, where his teammates included established England all-rounder Ben Stokes.

He completed a three-year qualification period in March after the England and Wales Cricket Board changed its residency rules.



Under the previous system, Archer would not have been eligible until 2022 after a seven-year residency.

The prospect of Archer, whose father is English, playing at the World Cup has caused concern among several more established England rivals for a pace-bowling berth including Chris Woakes, David Willey and Mark Wood, amid suggestions his inclusion could damage team morale.

But former England seamer Dominic Cork said his inclusion was "an absolute must".

"I've watched him the last three weeks in Mumbai, playing for Rajasthan," added Cork.

"You've got someone who can bowl at the pace that he can. He can bowl in that first powerplay, in the middle and at the end."

Rabada deals with stiff back

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Premier South Africa pacer Kagiso Rabada's stiff back is a concern for Delhi Capitals towards the business end of the IPL but his national team would be more concerned with the World Cup just few days away.

Delhi Capitals badly missed Rabada's services in the game against CSK in Chennai on Wednesday, when they were handed a massive 80-run loss. It was the first time this season Rabada missed a game.

"The team management is monitoring him closely. The final league game is still two days away (May 4) and since the team has already qualified for the play-offs, there is no point risking him," a team source said.

Though captain Shreyas Iyer insisted that the management took a precautionary measure by resting Rabada, South Africa would be worried since their veteran pacer Dale Steyn is also injured, playing just two IPL games this season.

"Yes we know what abilities he has. He's an amazing bowler especially in the slog overs. For sure we missed him but he had



Though captain Shreyas Iyer insisted that the management took a precautionary measure by resting Rabada, South Africa would be worried since their veteran pacer Dale Steyn is also injured, playing just two IPL games this season

a stiff back, it's good he got to take rest," said Iyer after the defeat against CSK.

Being a World Cup year, physios of all national teams are monitoring their respective players' workload in the IPL and are in constant touch with their counterparts across the eight franchisees.

Rabada has had back issues in the past and last year was out for three months with a lower-back injury and also missed the IPL. He is IPL's leading wicket-taker at the moment, having taken 25 wickets in 12 games at an average of 14.72.