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NO HALF TRUTHS



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SPORT PAGE 15
FIRING ON ALL CYLINDERS

Quick News

Monsoon session from July 17 to August 11



NEW DELHI: The Monsoon Session of Parliament will commence from July 17, the day voting for the presidential election is slated to take place. The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs (CCPA) has recommended holding the session from July 17 to August 11, according to sources in the committee. The CCPA meeting, chaired by Home Minister Rajnath Singh, was held on Friday evening after the NDA's presidential nominee, Ram Nath Kovind, filed his nomination papers. Sources said the session, which usually commences in the last week of July, is set to be advanced this year due to the presidential polls. They added that it would begin on July 17 to ensure that all the 776 members were present in Delhi to cast their votes in the election.

Kashmir terrorists attack CRPF vehicle, SI killed

SRINAGAR: A sub-inspector of the CRPF was killed and another jawan injured when militants attacked their vehicle at Pantha chowk in the outskirts of the city, the police said. The deceased has been identified as sub-inspector Sahib Shukla and the injured as constable-driver Nissar Ahmed, officials said. The CRPF personnel, part of road opening deployment, were sitting inside their vehicle at Pantha chowk bypass when militants carried out the attack.

Gandhi's teachings immortal, relevant at any time

VENKAIAH NAIDU

In today's paper

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Net age: I-T notice will no more mean 'dealing' with tax man

'Tax dept keen to curb harassment, corruption complaints from honest citizens'

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), the policy-making body of the income tax (I-T) department, which wants to curb complaints of harassment and corruption from honest tax-payers, has notified revised income tax scrutiny notices that will allow taxpayers to conduct their business with the taxman over the Internet without needing to visit the I-T office.

A scrutiny procedure in the income tax system pertains to a case where a taxpayer is required to provide a number of documents and testimonials to the assessing officer (AO) after his or her case is picked up for threadbare examination after study of their tax returns.

The new format pertains to three types of notices that are issued by the taxman under Section 143(2) of the Income Tax Act (scrutiny of tax returns) and the CBDT has told all field I-T offices in the country that "all scrutiny notices... shall henceforth, be issued in these revised formats only. "This has become necessary in view of Board's (CBDT) decision to utilise e-proceeding facility for electronic conduct of



assessment proceedings in a widespread manner from this financial year," the CBDT order said.

Each of the three, one-page notices, will bear the name of the assessing officer, his or her designation, telephone and fax number and now, their email id too. A taxpayer can use their account on the official e-filing website of the department (<https://incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in/>, <https://incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in/>) or their personal email id to conduct their scrutiny assessment dealings with the AO.

The new notices will also carry

a five-point explanation about the new changes being made for the taxpayer with the ushering in of the Internet-based e-proceeding regime in the Income Tax Department.

The three revised notices are meant for procedures of limited, complete and compulsory manual scrutiny. The department has said in the past that it picks less than 1 per cent of the total I-T returns (ITRs) filed for examination under the long-drawn scrutiny process but this has still been an issue of grievance for many assesseees.

"The department wants itself to

be seen as a facilitator for the honest tax-paying public without him or her requiring to visit the tax office and conducting their dealing with the AO with ease of the click of a computer mouse," a senior officer of the department said. However, the AO will have discretionary powers to call for more documents and records and seek the taxpayer's personal appearance if there is a reason for him to delve deeper into the case and such a thing is not possible on e-proceeding communication link.

The CBDT is also expected to soon implement the system of conducting the limited scrutiny cases via the 'e-proceeding' system through the official e-filing website.

"As part of the e-governance initiative to facilitate conduct of assessment proceedings electronically, I-T department has launched e-proceeding facility. It is a simple way of communication between the department and assessee, through electronic means, without the necessity to visit the income tax office for conduct of assessment proceedings. This taxpayer friendly measure would substantially reduce the compliance burden for the assessee," the note says.

Delhi-NCR to get its 2nd international airport at Jewar

SANJEEV K JHA

NEW DELHI: In what comes as a major respite from air traffic blues, the government, on Saturday, granted approval for a greenfield airport at Jewar in Greater Noida.

Civil Aviation minister P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju said that as passenger per annum was likely to reach 109 million from the current 62 million, it was the need of the hour to have another airport at Delhi in seven to 10 years. "The UP government has already submitted a proposal for construction of a new Greenfield International Airport at Jewar in Greater Noida and the ministry of Civil Aviation has accorded in-principle approval for the project based on the recommendations of the steering committee on Greenfield Airports."

Located equidistant from IGI Airport and Hindon Air Force station Ghaziabad, the Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority (YEIDA) had been allotted to implement of the project. "An area of 3000 hectares - with four runways - has been notified for the airport, out of



which 1000 hectares - with one runway - will be developed in the first phase with an estimated cost of Rs 10,000 crores," Raju further said, adding, "With a total cost of around Rs 20,000 crores, the airport will cater around 30-50 million passengers per year after its completion."

Echoing similar views, minister of State for civil aviation Jayant Sinha said that the airport is not only important for the NCR region but also for Western Uttar Pradesh. "Cities in this part of UP have a lot of potential in terms of air traffic and the Noida airport will help in providing seamless domestic and international connectivity to the region," he said, adding that the project would give a big boost to economic development in the region.

ELECTION COMMISSION DISMISSES AAP'S PLEA

EC to continue hearing against AAP MLAs

ANUP VERMA

NEW DELHI: In a major shock to the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the Election Commission has rejected to stop hearing a plea against the party's 21 MLAs for allegedly holding 'office of profit'. And, this despite the Delhi High Court had already quashed their appointment as parliamentary secretaries on September 8, 2016.

The office of profit petition was filed against 21 AAP MLAs. Later, proceedings were withdrawn against Jarnail Singh after he resigned as the Rajouri Garden MLA to contest Assembly polls in Punjab.

"The Commission...is of the considered opinion that the respondents did hold de facto the office of parliamentary secretaries from 13th March 2015 to 8th September 2016 and the interpretation as sought to be put by them on the order...of the Hon'ble Delhi High Court that they did not hold office of profit is not legally tenable. Hence, without prejudice to the merits of the case, the reference relating to the question of alleged disqualification of the respondents...for holding the said office survives and is maintainable in respect of all the said respondents except Respondent no 16 (Jarnail Singh, MLA from Rajouri Garden) who has resigned his office." the EC categorically states in its order sent to petitioner Prashant Patel and respondents.



Interestingly, the order came days before Chief Election Commissioner Nasim Zaidi retires in July. During the hearing in EC so far on the limited question of whether the disqualification case should be set aside in view of the quashing of their appointments, the petitioner had also argued that since the 21 MLAs had enjoyed the perks and benefits during the time they held the office of parliamentary secretaries, the High Court order would have no bearing on his disqualification prayer.

On the other hand, AAP spokesperson Saurabh Bharadwaj said that the party respects the High Court's and Election Commission's orders, adding that all options are available (to the party) to challenge this EC order. "The EC's order should not be misinterpreted. As the High Court had declared the very order of appointment of 21 Parliamentary Secretaries as null and void, there was no question of hearing a petition for the office which never existed," he said.

...Disqualifies MP minister

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: In a major setback to Madhya Pradesh government, the Election Commission of India has struck down Water Resources Minister Narottam Mishra over alleged corrupt practices an paid new during 2008 assembly polls in the state.

According to ECI order, Mishra has been barred from contesting elections for three years. Considered as number two in the Madhya Pradesh cabinet, Mishra also holds charge of the Public Relations Department apart from two major ministries - Water Resources and Legislative Affairs Ministry. But Mishra refuted the charges and said: "I didn't give any money to the media. There is no evidence. I'll go for an appeal against it."

The decision came based on a complaint by former Congress MLA Rajendra Bharti in April 2009. The ECI had issued a notice in January 2013 seeking his response. Mishra challenged the notice in the high court bench at Gwalior and got a stay. But the court vacated the stay order after considering the facts submitted by complainant's counsel. Mishra approached the SC to stall the EC proceedings but the top court did not grant him relief.

Portugal's Indian-origin PM treats Modi to special Gujarati veg lunch

LISBON: Portugal's Prime Minister Antonio Costa, who has his origin in Goa, on Saturday sprang a surprise for Narendra Modi when he hosted a special Gujarati vegetarian lunch for him that included dishes like 'Aakhu Saak' and 'Mango Shrikhand'.

Aakhu literally means 'whole' and saak simply means 'curry'. It is a dish in which vegetable stuffing is heavily spiced and is ideal for big get-togethers. The other items on the menu included 'Saag Kofta', 'Rajma aur Makai', 'Tarkha Daal', 'Kesar Rice', 'Parantha', 'Rotli', 'Papad', and Gulab Jamun and other sweets.

Modi is the first Indian prime minister in Portugal for a bilateral visit. He has said his one-day visit to the country will further strengthen relations between India and Portugal. Earlier in the day, Modi and Costa took a stroll



Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Costa welcomes PM Narendra Modi at the Necessidades Palace in Lisbon, Portugal, on Saturday

around the Palacio das Necessidades, a historic building in the Largo do Rilvas, a public square in Lisbon.

Costa, who is partially of Indian origin, had visited India

in January, when he went to see his family members at his ancestral house in Goa.

On Sunday Modi will fly to the USA where he will meet US President Donald Trump. AGENCIES

Row on Karnataka Assembly's jail term for 2 scribes

BENGALURU: There has been considerable criticism of the Karnataka Assembly, which has sentenced two editors of Kannada tabloids, including noted scribe Ravi Belagere, to one year in jail for "breach of privilege" over their alleged defamatory articles against state legislators. A resolution to punish the two journalists - Belagere, who is Editor of *Hi Bangalore*, and Anil

Raju, Editor of *Yelahanka Voice* - in connection with the publication of the articles was adopted by the Assembly by a voice vote on Friday.

Besides the jail term, Speaker K B Koliwad also imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 on each of them. "The State Assembly has decided to punish the two journalists of Kannada tabloids for (allegedly) publishing defamatory articles

against legislators," Koliwad announced on the floor of the House here. "I approve the recommendation of the privilege committee which had recommended a year's imprisonment and a fine of Rs 10,000 on *Hi Bangalore* and *Yelahanka Voice* editors," he said. If the journalists fail to pay the fine, the jail term would be extended to another six months, Koliwad said. AGENCIES

GOVT YET TO MAKE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO 2015 BILL

Bottlenecks make Consumer Protection Bill's fate uncertain

DHIRENDRA KUMAR

NEW DELHI: In a major setback to the government, the proposed 'toughest' Consumer Protection Bill 2015 may not be tabled in the upcoming monsoon session as the ministry concerned had yet not made 82 amendments, recommended by parliamentary standing committee in the proposed bill.

According to senior officials in the Consumer Affairs Ministry, the parliamentary panel's recommendation to make 82 changes in the final draft of the Bill was like drafting a new Act. "Given the time we have in hand, it cannot be completed till the next month. There are other processes involved in it as we have to anticipate the consequences of every change in the bill," the official

said, adding that the bill would again be tabled in the Cabinet and after getting clearance from the apex authority of the government, it would be introduced in the parliament.

Earlier, the government was hopeful that the bill would be passed in the budget session of parliament, but it didn't happen. Notably, a similar bill was also drafted in the year 2006 by the UPA government, which was not introduced in the parliament. Experts have also raised doubts over the fate of new Consumer Protection Rights Bill 2015, which has been drafted to replace the erstwhile Consumer Protection Act, 1986.

Recently, Consumer Affairs Minister Ramvilas Paswan had said that the government has made sweeping

changes in the bill as it now provides huge penalties on celebrities endorsing misleading advertisements and ban such offenders for up to three years.

The proposed bill also seeks to create a Consumer Protection Authority to fast-track grievance redressal of consumers on the lines of US and European countries. The Bill has a provision for product liability and penalties in certain cases of food poisoning.

"The new Bill has also the provision of huge penalty on befooling consumers even through misleading advertisements. Huge penalties have been imposed on offenders. For the first offence, the offender would face two years of rigorous imprisonment and huge penalty," an official said.



Fadnavis gives ₹34K cr farm loan waiver... country's biggest ever

OUR CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI: Despite Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and RBI Governor Urjit Patel's strong public statements against farm loan waivers by states, Maharashtra's BJP-led government on Saturday unveiled a Rs 34,020 crore farm loan waiver scheme, under which debt of up to Rs 1.5 lakh each will be written off, making 40 lakh farmers debt-free and providing relief to 49 lakh others. Making the announcement here, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said this was the "biggest" loan waiver scheme in the country.

He also informed that all BJP ministers and legislators would contribute a month's salary towards the loan waiver. "This Rs 34,020 crore loan waiver scheme - 'Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Krushi Sanman Yojana' - will benefit total 89 lakh farmers in the state, out of which 40 lakh cultivators will become debt-free," he told



reporters here. Fadnavis, who had been under pressure to bring in a major agrarian relief programme to help farmers hit by falling prices of produce and recurring drought, said the state cabinet approved the decision on Saturday. "There has been a demand for loan waiver for farmers, who have been severely affected due to continuous drought since 2012. They were not able to get new loans for their crops until previous debt was paid. We have time and again assured that we will help the distressed farmers," he said.

Weekend Break

“When you are insane, you are busy being insane – all the time.”

- Sylvia Plath

YOGASANA IN BRONZE

Creating hybrid realities in which the being is both with and within, Arun Pandit has puzzled consumers for the past 20 years

UMA NAIR

How does a sculptor translate a yogic stance into a bronze? Arun Pandit's fibre glass maquette for a monumental bronze entitled "Meditation" is a work that personifies the flow of artistic expression. Pandit creates works that make us stop and think. He does not give us a work that is a straight forward literal illustration. Instead he creates a work that gives us an inner and outer shell of awareness. He keeps the mould in which he creates and gives us an inside outside rhythmic feel that speaks of two worlds – in this case the yogic asana and gives us a tumultuous melding of both states.

When it comes to yoga or art there is something deeply fulfilling, about expression – but accessing creativity through yogic symbolism isn't always easy. Like the most difficult yogasanas, self control and inner creativity arise naturally. When we are in the state of stillness and can keep the calmness of presence, it creates its own aura. Pandit here creates two moulds – the first is the complete yogic being created in the wholesome image of man. The second is the mould in which the image was created. For the past 20 years Pandit has created works in which he has conjoined the inner and outer shells to create hybrid realities that have puzzled as well as enamoured buyers in the country.



Pandit's most famous work is the 'Tirupati Airport Garuda' in which he created a man with Garuda's wings that were actually 12 pairs of hands. Pandit plays with illusion and elusiveness to give us sculptures that have a surreal feel. In this case, he personifies yoga as a gift for an artist as well as normal human being. Pandit describes his position: "When we practice awareness in asana, pranayama, and meditation, we learn to see and let go of the distractions of

the mind. It is from this place of clear seeing that inspiration springs forth. So in my work I'm showing two worlds. The outer external like a shell – when I cover the human with the outer mould I am stating that we have to detach ourselves from those attachments so we can achieve that inner state."

In more ways than one Pandit is also pointing towards the truth that creativity arises naturally in states of stillness and presence. The basic tenet of yoga

is to let go of the clutter and the burdens of everyday living, and giving into the tools of yoga can give you the feeling of being completely present, awake, and alive. And while yoga is often thought of as a tool to help us find ease in the body, it can also be a way of helping us tap our creative selves. This work with its many inner and outer realms when made into a bronze will indeed be an instrument that will draw the energy of those who view it.

Pandit, the National Award Winner from Bihar College of Art junior to Subodh Gupta has come a long way for the art world to take notice of him. His sculptures at the Art Heritage stall of the India Art Fair this year drew huge response. According to him, meditation and yoga grant us access to the deep places of our psyche and consciousness that inspire creative ideas to emerge, while simultaneously offering us tools to work with some of the biggest obstacles as artists. He states: "I called my work 'Meditation' because no matter what kind of art you call your own, your yoga practice can more fully connect you with your creative mind, body, and soul. I wanted people to connect with that."

Arun Pandit takes the yogic meditation *asana* and gives us a figure that translates meditation into a calming serene posture. Pandit works with the mould and the human figure – creating a *karmic* echo in which the being is both within and with-



out. The sculpture reflects the truth that yoga is a science, one that has been with us for generations and meditation is the ultimate journey to nirvana.

Yoga gurus state that once we approach creative expression from the perspective of mindfulness and devotion, we begin to see art-making itself as a spiritual practice. In this way, our art serves a higher purpose: it helps us become more present in our daily lives and offers us an opportunity to connect more deeply with the universal creative force that resides in us.

As we become more perceptive in our yoga practice – by examining ourselves – we become more perceptive in other areas of life, including creating art. This work "Meditation" has been created as a maquette, for an assignment in Delhi Airport's T3. If accepted it becomes a feather in the cap of one of the greatest sculptors in the country and at present the Garhi studios in Delhi.

Women and single malts: Spirits should be gender neutral



IS DRINKING SINGLE malts or conjuring up great cocktails a male thing? It shouldn't be, says industry veteran Donald Colville, the global malts ambassador for Diageo. The spirits industry, he says, should be the most gender neutral. Colville was in the capital to judge a bartending competition in India, where he said he was happy to know that it had attracted a large number of female entrants.

"Two of the female participants were very close to making it to the top 12. The standards are there and more and more female participants are applying, which is great to see because the spirits industry should be the most gender neutral industry in the world," he said during a malt-tasting session.

Colville said that as long as one is good at creating flavours, "it doesn't matter what gender you are." Asked about the bartending profession in India, Colville pointed out that considering the huge population in India, there were "merely" 330 entrants in the competition. "The interesting thing for me is the standard I saw was phenomenal. There has been a leap in development that has happened in four years and there is a change in standards. There are not

only one or two people who are good, there are so many incredible skilled bartenders," he said.

Colville was of the opinion that many people in India "genuinely understand the flavours, the literal meaning of the classics, what the cocktails are, and also know how to utilise lots of different techniques. I am very impressed. These guys (bartenders) are akin to a Michelin star chef. There's an understanding of flavour and there's willingness to try and experiment with different things," Colville said, hoping that people understand how bartenders can lead to better service, more sales and better economy. Talking about single malts industry in India, Colville says the opportunity here is huge.

"The love for whiskey, in particular scotch, in India is obvious to see – there is so much passion for it. I think the interesting thing is single malts always in terms of growth come in behind the blends because blends always tend to leak their way into the market," he said.

"Just last year I have seen such a shift in India, people are writing about malts, talking about it in blogs. There is much more attraction and noise coming from India in terms of malts," Colville added.

IANS

PREVENTION FROM DENGUE, CHIKUNGUNYA & MALARIA



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Don't let water collection in and around your houses, put petrol in accumulated water



Change the water of indoor plants every week



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3. Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalya, Geeta Colony
4. Dr. Hedgewar Arogya Sansthan, Karkardooma
5. Jag Pravesh Chandra Hospital, Shastri Park
6. Swami Daya Nand Hospital, Shahadra

West Delhi

1. Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Hari Nagar
2. SVB Patel Hospital, Patel Nagar
3. ESI Hospital, Basai Darapur
4. Guru Govind Singh Govt. Hospital, Raghuvir Nagar
5. Acharya Shree Bhikshu Hospital, Moti Nagar

North Delhi

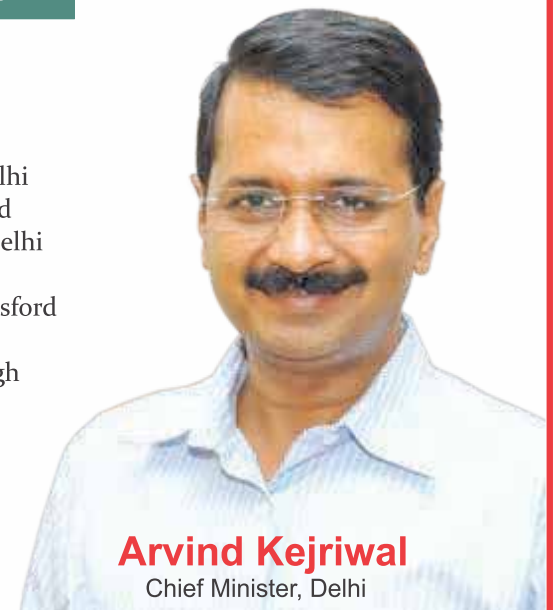
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6. Satyawadi Raja Harish Chandra Hospital, Narela
7. Bhagwan Mahavir Hospital, Pitampura

South Delhi

1. Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya Hospital, Malviya Nagar
2. Safdarjung Hospital, Ansari Nagar
3. AIIMS, Ansari Nagar
4. Rao Tula Ram Memorial Hospital, Jaffarpur
5. Army Hospital, Delhi Cantt.
6. Base Hospital, Kirbi Place Delhi Cantt.

Central Delhi

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4. Sucheta kiplani Hospital, Panchkuia Road
5. Kalawati Saran Children Hospital, New Delhi
6. Kasturba Hospital, Jama Masjid
7. Northern Railway Central Hospital, Chemsford Road
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Arvind Kejriwal
Chief Minister, Delhi

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Directorate General of Health Services
Govt. of NCT of Delhi
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“These MLAs now have no moral or legal right to continue as MLAs”
- Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari

BALLABGARH LYNCHING

Was told they were beef eaters: Main accused

OUR CORRESPONDENT

BALLABGARH: A day after a 16-year-old boy was gruesomely killed and his three siblings injured on a Mathura-bound train, the main arrested accused said that he and his friends were attacked then after he was told that the victims were “beef eaters.”

The accused, who is yet to be identified, said he believed his friends’ word during the incident as he was drunk.

The arrested accused was part of a group of 15-20 men who beat up the four boys inside the moving Delhi-Mathura EMU train near Ballabgarh, Haryana.

The boys were returning after completing their Eid shopping from Delhi’s Sadar Bazar on Thursday evening.

The victims alleged that they were abused by the attackers



The deceased Junaid (in picture) was stabbed multiple times by the accused. PIC/MPOST

and made hostage, while other passengers watched the furore.

The victims have been identified as Hashim, Moin, Mohsin, Shakir and the deceased Junaid.

After the train reached Okhla, a group of 15-20 men entered the coach and asked them to vacate the seats.

“I gave my seat to an older man, but they kept insisting that my brothers should also get up, to which my brothers resisted. It was then we were abused and racist slurs were passed against us. They called us traitors, even our *topi* was snatched,” recalled Hashim.

Seeing that things were getting out of hand, the victims tried to get down at Faridabad. However, the men stopped them from getting down.

They then called their brother Shakir and two others, in Ballabgarh.

Shakir and his friends boarded the moving train to save his brothers.

An argument then broke out over seats and soon turned communal, as the mob repeatedly called the brothers ‘anti-nationals’ and ‘beef eaters.’

The accused also reportedly threw the victims’ skull caps

on the floor and taunted them with communal slurs before starting to stab them.

“Some men held us, while one of them started stabbing Shakir with a knife, I was also stabbed two times and later they stabbed Junaid multiple times. At Asaoti Railway station, the attackers got down and ran away. We got down and called an ambulance.”

Junaid was rushed to Civil Hospital in Palwal, where doctors declared him brought dead. Shakir, meanwhile, is undergoing treatment at AIIMS.

Earlier, the police had registered a case only under sections of murder and causing hurt using a weapon.

The police are now looking for the weapon used in the crime and will also record statements of other eyewitnesses.

Two pavement dwellers run over in Kashmere Gate

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: In yet another accident involving pavement dwellers, an out of control car ran killing two people and injured two others who were sleeping under a bridge in North Delhi’s Kashmere Gate area on Saturday.

The injured have been shifted to a local hospital, while the police have arrested the driver who is reportedly a guest teacher at a local school.

A constable present at the spot managed to apprehend the driver, identified as Harish Kumar, after a brief chase.

A senior police official from North District said that Kumar works in a government school in Yamuna Vihar.

On Saturday, he had borrowed his uncle’s Etios car for a personal work in Faridabad.

“After he finished his work, he was returning to Delhi from Rajghat area and had reached Monkey Bridge near Kashmere Gate. He lost control of the car



(Left) The spot of the incident in Kashmere Gate; the offending car under police custody on Saturday. PIC/MPOST

and climbed a pavement where four people were sleeping. All of them came under the wheels,” said the official.

Police had taken the statements eyewitnesses, who claimed that the car was out of control. “The whole car was damaged. The driver had completely lost control and rammed it into the pavement. Two of them died at the spot. We had called the police and the injured were shifted to LNJP hospital,” said Ashok Sharma, an eyewitness.

The injured have been identified as Deepak and Rashid. Police are yet to identify the

deceased and are approaching vagabonds in the area with photographs of the deceased for any clues.

Police have registered a case under appropriate sections of the IPC and started investigating the case. “He (Kumar) does have a driver’s licence. We are also trying to ascertain if he was drunk during the time of the accident,” the official added.

In a similar accident in April this year at Kashmere Gate, a pavement dweller was killed and three others injured when a speeding i20 car – being driven by a Class XII student – lost control and climbed up a pavement.

LG inspects Rani Jhansi Road Grade Separator



OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: After inspecting the progress in construction work of the grade separator at Rani Jhansi Road on Sunday, Delhi Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal directed the Commissioner of North Delhi Municipal Corporation (North MCD) Praveen Kumar Gupta to ensure that there are no potholes in the city roads, so as to avoid water logging during the rainy season.

Bajjal further instructed the Commissioner to make sure that the material used for construction of the grade separator should be of the prescribed standards.

Bajjal directed all stakeholders to take action in a time-bound manner and work within strict timelines.

He also directed to complete the construction work on site by the end of October this year.

The senior officers assured Bajjal of completing all remaining works by end of the October.

Moreover, officials of the Northern Railway, who were also present in the meeting, informed that Railway work will be completed by the middle of September this year in all respects.

Additionally, the chief executive officer of Delhi Jal Board informed Bajjal that the work of shifting of a major pipe line and sewer will be completed on Monday.

Bajjal directed the CEO to ensure that there is no leakage of water from the pipelines.

The LG said that he will again visit after one month to review progress of the project and ensure that this much needed project for decongestion of traffic in the area is completed by the end of October.

SUV tries to run over cop, injures three passers-by in Gurugram

PIYUSH OHRIE

GURUGRAM: A brazen incident of road rage was reported from Gurugram’s MG Road area when an SUV tried to mow down the Sector-29 SHO Inspector Vikas Kaushal in the wee hours of Saturday.

While Kaushal narrowly escaped, the car hit three passers-by who were taken to hospital and treated for injuries.

According to police, the incident occurred when a team of police officials, led by the SHO, were carrying out night surveillance at MG Road, following a spate of crimes at the Mall Mile.

Around 1 am, the Mahindra Scorpio car reached near the police barricades.

Finding it suspicious, the police personnel asked the SUV to stop.

However, the driver speeded up and hit the bum-

per of the SHO’s official vehicle.

He then swerved the vehicle and headed towards Inspector Kaushal trying to run him over, but the officer quickly moved the other way.

However, three passers-by were hit by the car.

Having missed its target, the SUV then sped towards Golf Course Road, where a PCR van tried to chase it down. In the end, the culprits managed to escape towards Delhi.

Police are now trying to ascertain whether the culprits were criminals trying to flee the cops or erring drivers under the influence of alcohol.

Three people are believed to be inside the car at the time of the incident.

“At this point, it will be difficult for me to say who exactly these people were. The way they behaved, there are chances that the way these people could be dreaded criminals who got

wary of the night surveillance and therefore tried to harm the police,” said SHO Kaushal.

The daring incident at MG Road comes at a time when questions are being constantly raised over the law and order situation in one of the most up market areas of Gurugram.

Due to recent incidents of molestation that occurred at Mall Mile, Gurugram Police have increased police deployment in the area, with senior officials leading the charge in night surveillance duties.

“Certain unfortunate incidents have dented the image of MG Road, which is frequented by a large number of visitors. We have increased police presence, which includes women officers especially during night, to ensure the safety and security of the visitors,” said Deepak Saharan, DCP (East) Gurugram.

Oppn parties demand ouster of AAP MLAs after plea rejection

ANUP VERMA

NEW DELHI: Hours after the Election Commission rejected the pleas of 21 legislators of Aam Aadmi Party – whose appointment as Parliamentary Secretaries was set aside by Delhi High Court – to drop the “office of profit” case against them, Opposition parties demanded resignation of the MLAs with from immediate effect on Saturday.

Of these MLAs, Jarnail Singh had resigned from the Rajouri Garden seat in January to contest the Punjab Assembly elections. The seat was won by the Bharatiya Janata Party in a by-election.

Welcoming the move, the BJP said that MLAs who are facing charges of office of profit have no moral right to continue as lawmakers.

“After the Delhi High Court, the Election Commission has

The development comes hours after the Election Commission on Saturday rejected the pleas of 21 Aam Aadmi Party legislators to drop the ‘office of profit’ case against them

also found these AAP MLAs guilty of enjoying the office of profit as Parliamentary Secretaries; this is a welcome step. These MLAs now have no moral or legal right to continue as MLAs,” Delhi BJP chief Manoj Tiwari told mediapersons here.

“In its interim order, the EC analysed AAP MLAs’ arguments and rejected their pleas, finding that charges of misuse of office of profit have been proved,” he added.

Tiwari, who represents the North East Delhi constituency in the Lok Sabha, said his party hoped the Commission will

give its final decision on the matter “very soon”, as the case was pending for 14 months.

The BJP leader said Delhi voters had already rejected one of the 21 MLAs, i.e. Jarnail Singh.

“If the EC disqualifies the remaining 20 MLAs and holds elections in their constituencies, the BJP will win all of them,” Tiwari claimed.

Meanwhile, Delhi Congress president Ajay Maken also echoed Tiwari’s sentiments, demanding the resignation of all the 20 AAP MLAs.

“Arvind Kejriwal had appointed them as

Parliamentary Secretaries to facilitate them with perks and other facilities such as car, plush office space, staff etc which a minister receives,” Maken said.

“The President of India, on November 10, 2015, had referred the office of profit warranting the disqualification of the 21 MLAs to the Election Commission of India. In March, 2016 the Commission issued notice to the 21 MLAs and even the Congress party on June 9, 2015 filed an application for impeachment and seeking early disqualification of the 21 MLAs.

“In its order in July 2016, the EC allowed the Congress to assist the Commission in the above matter and since then the Congress party has been continuously pursuing the matter of disqualification of the 21 MLAs,” the Congress leader added.



ASPIRANTS THROUGH DELHI UNIVERSITY COLLEGES TO SECURE ADMISSION ON DAY ONE

Technical glitches, slow functioning of DU portal marks Day 1

ANAND MOHAN J AND YOGESH KANT

NEW DELHI: Delhi University on Friday night opened its doors for aspirants, as the race to clinch seats in its colleges began on Saturday morning.

However, in a repeat of the varsity’s online registration process, the DU server crashed

several times and technical glitches frustrated aspirants and parents alike.

There was chaos on Day One of the admission process. Several students thronged North Campus, who had cleared the sky high cut-offs and were expected to log into the portal, sign in with their registration details and get a printout of the admission slip. The admission

slip was to be taken to the college of their choice for document verification.

With the portal either working at a slow pace or crashing at 9 am, when the admission procedure officially began, students reached colleges without a printout. However, they were sent back as the colleges could not complete the process without the admission slip.

Many admission seekers dashed to nearby cyber cafes for printout of admission slips. Unfortunately, the cafes were unable to cope with the rush as well, due to slow functioning speed of DU’s admission portal.

Since the admission window closed at 1 pm in some colleges, many students were forced to return home, hoping to be successful in the upcoming

days.

Moreover, students at Daulat Ram College seemed clueless. But eventually, the portals started functioning.

“The admission process was almost hampered as the DU portal was not functioning. An official at the college told us to wait,” said Nikita Manchandani, an aspirant’s mother. After a prolonged wait at

the campus, the portal started working and Manchandani’s ward got the admission slip.

Meanwhile, in South Campus, several aspirants made beelines at the nearest cyber cafes in Satya Niketan market to get a print out of the individual college forms. Sri Venkateswara College saw the most number of applicants. As soon as they entered the col-

lege premises, they came out within minutes, running to the nearest cyber cafe.

“I was supposed to give a printed form after logging into the official site with my User ID and password. The college officials had helped, but the server was down. Volunteers then gave us directions to the nearest cyber cafe,” said Revati Venkatraman, an applicant.

A few metres from the college premises, around 50 students had stuffed themselves inside Ultramod Cyber Cafe. The owner, Hemant, and two of his assistants helped many aspirants with their documents. “We have had around 50 students since 11:30 am. The website server keeps crashing, and after half an hour, it was functional again,” he said.

Lack of valid documents a roadblock for applicants

YOGESH KANT

NEW DELHI: Anxiety and confusion prevailed on Saturday at Delhi University, as several admission seekers faced problems with the documentation process and failed to get a verbal nod from the authorities.

Additionally, technical glitches at the portal multiplied their problems to a large extent, with some applicants reporting of rude behaviour from officials.

Meanwhile, many students were seen rushing to the campus without even checking the essential documents list and were distressed by it.

Many students from outstation Board requested for the slip, as they did not have other essential certificates.

“Our Board has not disbursed the certificate and here officials are asking for the original certificate for verification. We are perplexed, as officials here are not showing any interest” said Anupriya, an aspirant from Satna in Madhya Pradesh.

Not having original certificates is a barrier to admission seekers, including aspirants to Miranda College.

“I have scored 96.75 per cent in my Board exams. But due to the absence of certificates I could not get my admission slip. But the principal has assured me and has given me one week’s time to show my certificates,” said Priyanka, an applicant for Jhansi.

For students who belong to Boards other than the Central Board of Secondary Education, the University will scale down their marks. Additionally, there is also a problem in verifying mark sheets of students of other state Boards, as the data is not available online.

Another student was found confused about admissions through extracurricular activities (ECA) quota. “I am confused about the ECA trials. DU has not intimated students about them yet,” said Vanshika, a student from Vikaspuri. With a best of four of 95 per cent, she is aiming for colleges like Hindu and KMC, both known for BA Political Science.

Smaller colleges see a handful of admission seekers

RISHABH RAJ

NEW DELHI: Admissions in Delhi University started on Saturday morning, with the University releasing its much awaited first cut-off list on Friday night.

With the University’s lesser known colleges keeping their first cut-off at par with their more sought-after counterparts, colleges in both categories saw a rather low turnout on the first day of admission.

Despite a marginal dip in the overall cut-off percentage this year – which has come as a relief for students – the usually less much sought-after colleges, such as Dyal Singh, Aryabhata, Ram Lal Anand and Shivaji have kept their cut-offs for popular courses mostly around 97 per cent.

Shivaji College kept cut-off for BA Economics (H) and BCom (H) at 98 per cent. It was 97 per cent for BCom (H), BA Economics (H) and BA Psychology (H) at Aryabhata College. Dyal Singh College kept its cut off for BCom (H) and BA Economics (H) at 97 per cent. The cut-off for BCom (H) at Ram Lal Anand and Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce was 97 per cent.



Students were mostly seen flocking the more famous colleges. REPRESENTATIVE IMAGE

These colleges remained bereft of the large flocks of students, who were mostly seen crowding the more famous colleges such as Ramjas, Shri Ram College of Commerce, Hindu, Miranda, Kirori Mal, Sri Venkateswara and Atma Ram Santana Dharma, in the morning.

“Till now, only two students have come to take admission; one for BA (H) History and the other for BA programme,” said Professor R K Dwivedi of Aryabhata College.

“Contemplating about surplus admissions on the first day, the cut-off was kept high. As the cut-offs will come down, admissions will gradually increase,” he added.

The student who had come to take admission in BA History (H) in Aryabhata College said: “I just wanted to confirm my seat where I

am getting admission in the course of my choice. If in the next round of cut-offs I get a college in North Campus, I may withdraw from here.”

An official of the Admission Committee of Ram Lal Anand College said: “Today, it was only the first day, evidently the admissions today are less.”

Last year, the Ramjas College had set the bar quite high at 99.25 per cent for admission into BCom (H). This year, Shri Guru Tegh Bahadur Khalsa College pegged the high-cut off at 99.66 per cent for B.Sc Electronics (H).

Applicants to LSR complain of confusion in admission process

TUSHAR KHANDELWAL AND TRAPTI BANSAL

NEW DELHI: With technical glitches on the in Delhi University’s admission portal, a mass of admission seekers at Lady Shri Ram College thronged the college on Saturday, with the next two days being off.

Meanwhile, parents of students teamed up with their wards and were curious and anxious whether or not their children would get admission.

However, despite the tight security and friendly environment at the college premises, students were seen complaining about the chaos and the mismanagement. Many complained of not getting proper assistance in getting their document verification and no proper response for their queries.

However, some other applicants were level-headed. “The chaos is because of the general mentality of the people. They are not ready to cooperate with the system. That’s just because of nervous students,” said Divyansha Singhal, an aspirant at LSR. Some of the applicants were seen anxious over the deduction of 2.5 per cent in the change of subject and 0.5 per cent in stream.

Several students were unaware that changing the stream or subject leads to

Some students were unaware that changing the stream or subject leads to minor cuts in their percentage

minor cuts in their total of best of four subjects. “I will wait for the second cut-off, as I don’t want to get enrolled with my deducted percentage of best four subjects,” Aamina Mariyam, who scored 96.5 per cent, said.

Meanwhile, a few students returned home, complaining about the confusion. “We did not expect to experience this kind of environment in this prestigious college. The process has been messed up now, I cannot bear this and would come in the next working days to get admission in the college,” said Radhika Kohli, another student.

Another applicant at LSR, who said she was curious to take admission in Delhi University, said was depressed.

“I have completed my 12 from Kolkata Board, where Mathematics is not mandatory in Commerce. But over here, in the varsity, Maths is compulsory to pursue BCom (Hons). I am unhappy that I won’t get admission in Commerce in any college of DU,” Niang San said.

“It is important to learn the ‘Rashtra Bhasha’ (national language) Hindi as most people in the country speak this language

Union minister M Venkaiah Naidu

J&K lynching: 5 persons arrested, SP shunted out

OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR: Five persons were arrested and a senior official shunted after a mob lynched a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) of the Jammu and Kashmir police outside the historic Jamia Masjid in Srinagar's Nowhatta area on Thursday night.

Top police officials expressed resolve that the guilty would not be spared for the brutal killing of DSP Mohammad Ayub Pandith and said that a Special Investigation Team (SIT) had been formed to probe the case.

Five of the 12 persons identified in connection with the crime had been arrested, state Director General of Police (DGP) S P Vaid said.

In an order issued late Friday night, Vaid also transferred the Superintendent of Police (SP), North Srinagar, Sajad Khaliq Bhat. Nowhatta, where the lynching took place, falls under the jurisdiction of the SP, North Srinagar.

Sajad Ahmad Shah, the additional SP (Traffic City), Srinagar, was asked to look after the duties of the SP (North Srinagar) while Bhat has been asked to report to the headquarters.

"An SIT headed by an SP rank officer has been formed for speedy investigation into the lynching incident in which Deputy Superintendent of Police Mohammad Ayub Pan-



Family members of Danish Mir, who was arrested for his alleged participation in the lynching of a police officer, demand his release, in Srinagar on Saturday

dith was killed on the night of June 22," a police official said. Pandith was stripped and lynched by a mob outside the historic Jamia Masjid in Srinagar's Nowhatta area Thursday night triggering outrage across Kashmir and drawing all-round condemnation.

"We have identified 12 persons in connection with the case and five of them have been arrested so far," Director General of Police S P Vaid said.

While two persons were arrested yesterday, three more have been picked up since. "Two of the arrested persons are those who were injured in the firing at the time of lynching," Vaid added.

He said police has resolved not to spare the people behind the act.

"It is the resolve of Jammu and Kashmir Police that we are not going to spare these rascals," he said, adding that investigation into the case was underway and everything would be clear once the report comes.

"Let the investigation be completed. Only then can we say what happened," he said.

Asked whether moderate Hurriyat Conference chairman Mirwaiz Umar Farooq was present in the Jamia Masjid when the incident took place, Vaid said, "It is a matter of investigation."

Meanwhile, chief minister Mehbooba Mufti called on Governor N N Vohra at the Raj Bhavan and discussed continued attacks on police personnel in the valley, following the lynching of the police officer.

The governor and the chief minister discussed issues relating to the continuing attacks on police personnel, including the most gruesome killing of Pandith, an official spokesman said.

He said Mehbooba and Vohra discussed the measures to be taken to support the families of those personnel who lay down their lives in the line of duty.

Pak forces violate ceasefire in Poonch LoC

OUR CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU: Pakistani forces violated ceasefire by firing from automatic weapons and shelling mortars along the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on Saturday.

The violation comes just days after an attack by a Pakistani special forces team that sneaked across the LoC into Poonch under heavy fire-cover and killed two jawans while losing one of their men.

The Pakistan Army initiated unprovoked and indiscriminate firing from small arms, automatic weapons and mortars from 1130 hours on Indian Army posts along the LoC in Poonch sector, a Defence spokesman said.

The Indian troops returned the fire strongly and effectively, he said adding that the firing stopped at 1410 hours.

Earlier on Thursday, in the third such attack this year, a team of Pakistani special forces sneaked 600 metres across the LoC into the Poonch sector and killed two Indian jawans and lost one Border Action Team (BAT) member in retaliatory action.

Pak's BAT team carried headband cameras to record terror attack

OUR CORRESPONDENT

JAMMU: The Pakistani Border Action Team (BAT), which attacked an Indian Army patrol after crossing the LoC, was made up of special forces' men and terrorists who were armed with 'special daggers' and headband cameras for recording the strike in Poonch district.

The attack on June 22 left two Indian soldiers dead while one BAT member was killed in retaliatory action by Indian troops. Army troops during search and sanitation operations, recovered the body of a member of the BAT team along the LoC in Jammu and Kashmir's Poonch district on June 22.

"The body of the intruder killed in the BAT attempt has been retrieved and handed over to the local police," a senior army officer said on Friday.

"Arms, ammunition and other war-like stores including a special dagger and a headband with a camera, knife, one AK rifle, 3 magazines, 2 grenades besides dresses and bags was recovered which reflects the barbaric mindset of the Pakistani Army," he said.

Giving details, the officer said that a special class of dagger and a knife was meant to engineer quick mutilation and beheading of jawans killed in the firing exchanges and it has been foiled by the quick action by Indian soldiers.

The BAT member was wearing headband with camera on his head to record the action and possible mutilation of jawans, which was pre-



District Collector Aavish Subedar pays tributes to the slain sepoy Sawan Mane, who was killed in an attack by a team of Pakistani forces at Poonch sector of Jammu and Kashmir, in Kolhapur on Saturday

vented by other troops who shot dead one of them and injured another, he said.

The officer said it is matter of investigation whether the camera was live connected with Pakistani Army establishments across the border. "The data and details of the camera will be analysed," he said.

"We are confident that another BAT member has also been killed but his body was taken back by the other members of the BAT," he said.

"The resolute action of our soldiers didn't let the nefarious plan (of mutilating bodies and recording it on camera) succeed," officer said.

In the third such attack this year, a team of Pakistani special forces sneaked 600 metres across the Line of Control (LoC) into the Poonch sector.

The Border Action Team (BAT), which generally comprises special forces personnel of the Pakistani Army and some terrorists, carried out the attack at around 2 pm under heavy cover fire by Pakistani troops from their posts.

In the firefight, two Indian soldiers were killed. They were 34-year-old Naik Sandip Jadhav of Aurangabad, Maharashtra and 24-year-old Sepoy Mane Savan Balku of Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

Important to learn Rashtra Bhasha Hindi: Naidu



Union Housing Minister M Venkaiah Naidu and Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani (L to Naidu) being felicitated at a two-day property show by GIHD and CREDAI, in Ahmedabad on Saturday

OUR CORRESPONDENT

AHMEDABAD: It is important to learn the 'Rashtra Bhasha' (national language) Hindi as most people in the country speak this language, Union minister M Venkaiah Naidu said on Saturday. He also stressed on the promotion of 'Matrubhasha' (mother tongue) and lamented that too much importance was attached to English in the country.

The minister was speaking at an event in Sabarmati Ashram here where he presented 100 volumes of collected works of Mahatma Gandhi in English to the Ashram.

"Hindi as Rashtra Bhasha (national language) is very important, we cannot do without it...Most people in our country speak Hindi, so learning Hindi is also important... but we should be fluent in our mother language like Gujarati, Marathi, Bhojpuri..." Naidu said.

"We should bring them (these volumes) in all Indian languages. I do not call them regional languages because they are mother languages and national languages. Because

English came subsequently, Hindi became Rashtra Bhasha subsequently," Naidu said.

"But the original languages are Bangla, Marathi, Gujarati, Tamil ... bhasha and bhavna' (language and feeling) go together. Apni bhavna ko vyakt karne ke liye, bhasha bahut jaroori hai. Isliye apni matrubhasha mein log padhe, ye bahut jaroori hai. (Language is important to express our feelings. So, it is important that people study in their mother language)," he said.

"I want that in our education policy we should consider (promoting our mother language). It is our misfortune that we give too much importance to English medium. Dheere dheere angrezi seekhte seekhte angrezi mind bhi aa gaya hamare mein. Ye acchha nahi hai, deshhiit meing nahi hai. (By learning English language, we have also developed an English mindset)," he said.

The Information and Broadcasting minister said while he was not against English as a language, it was "being given undue importance because of its association with increasing job prospects."

Indian priest found dead in Edinburgh

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: A Kerala priest who was missing from last four days was found dead on a beach in Edinburgh in the UK, according to information received by Church sources on Saturday. A message about the death of Martin Xavier Vazhachira, belonging to the CMI Congregation, was received by the Carmelites of Mary Immaculate provincial here from the Archbishop of St Andrews in Edinburgh.

2 security personnel dead in gunbattles with naxals

OUR CORRESPONDENT

RAIPUR: Two security personnel were killed and five others injured, three of them critically, in two separate encounters with Naxalites in Chhattisgarh's insurgency-hit Sukma district, police said.

One naxal was also gunned down during the operation, they said.

"While two district reserve guard (DRG) jawans were killed, five special task force (STF) personnel injured in two gunbattles between a joint team of security forces and ultras under Chintagufa police station limits in the district," Special DGP (anti-Maoist operations) D M Awasthi said.

A composite squad of the STF, the DRG, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) and its elite unit-CoBRA (Commando Battalion for Resolute Action) was out on the operation based on inputs about the location of Maoist hide-outs in the interiors of Chintagufa, around 500-km away from here, since yesterday.

When the security forces were today around 10.30 am advancing through the for-



A jawan is being taken to a hospital after Maoist attack in Sukma, Chhattisgarh on Saturday

ests of Dondamarka, a Maoist den, armed Naxalites opened indiscriminate firing on them, leading to a gun-battle between both the sides, he said.

"Five STF personnel sustained bullet injuries, three of them critically, in the face-off following which reinforcement was sent to evacuate them," the Special DGP said.

The injured were airlifted to Raipur and admitted at a private hospital here.

While cordoning off the region, the team of security forces was on their way back to the base when it again came under heavy firing from the ultras near Durma village at

around 3.30 pm in which two DRG jawans were killed, he said. Additional forces were rushed to the spot and bodies of the two jawans were being retrieved from the forest, he said.

"Over a dozen Maoists were killed during the operation, but their colleagues managed to drag their bodies deep into the jungle. However, body of one Maoist was recovered," the SDGP claimed, adding further details are awaited.

On April 24, 25 CRPF personnel were killed in a naxal ambush in Burkapal area under Chintagufa police station of limits of Sukma.

Prez polls: Kovind to seek support in Lucknow today

MPOST BUREAU

NEW DELHI: NDA's presidential nominee Ram Nath Kovind will seek support from the ruling bloc's MPs and legislators from Uttar Pradesh on Sunday and speak to their Uttarakhand counterparts in Dehradun on Monday as he begins a nationwide tour.

BJP General Secretary Bhupender Yadav, who is also Kovind's authorised representative for the presidential poll, said that Kovind will seek support from members of the president's electoral college.

He will start from Uttar Pradesh, which is also the 71-year-old Dalit leader's home state.

Chief minister Yogi Adityanath will receive him at the airport and the meeting with the NDA members will take place at Adityanath's official residence in Lucknow, Yadav said.

Yadav, besides Union minister Nitin Gadkari and two members of Parliament will accompany Kovind during the Lucknow leg of the tour.

During his interaction with the BJP-led NDA MPs and MLAs in Dehradun on Monday, Kovind will be joined by Union minister Thaawar Chand Gehlot and Anil Baluni, who is the BJP's media head and belongs to the hill state, besides two other MPs.

BJP sources said a Union minister, a senior organisation leader from the party and two MPs will accompany Kovind during his nationwide tour to reach out to all members of the electoral college.

Though his meeting will be with the supporting MPs and MLAs, Kovind will make an appeal to all the members of the electoral college in every state to support his cand



fielded Meira Kumar, also a Dalit leader, against Kovind.

With over 62 per cent of votes firmly behind him, Kovind's election as the next president is almost certain.

Besides the BJP and its NDA allies, parties like the TRS, the YSRCP, the AIADMK, the BJD and the JD(U) have announced their support to

MPOST BUREAU

NEW DELHI: The CBI on Saturday arrested former Assistant Director in Enforcement Directorate, N B Singh for allegedly receiving Rs 4 lakh of Rs 50 lakh bribe amount from an accused in the National Rural Health Mission scam.

Singh, who was posted in the Lucknow office of the ED, along with a middleman Subhash was allegedly threatening to attach properties of an accused in the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) scam.

They were demanding Rs 50 lakh bribe to be 'lenient' in the matter. The officer was relieved by the Enforcement Directorate on May 18, but he continued going to office on the pretext of formalities of handing over the charge, the sources said. They said the duo was arrested following a trap operation by the CBI, while they were receiving Rs 4 lakh as part payment of the total bribe amount.

Singh belongs to the Central Excise and Customs service and was deputed in the ED.

He was handling certain cases of the NRHM scam. The ED is also mulling to file a money laundering case against him.

The CBI had registered the case based on a complaint from one Surendra Chowdhary, who is facing the agency probe in one of the cases related to the scam. Chowdhary in his complaint to the CBI said Singh had called him in the office, accusing him of causing loss to the tune of Rs 21 crore to the exchequer. He apparently clarified that the loss was not of Rs 21 crore and was merely Rs two crore, and that he had deposited the same in a CBI court.

Chowdhary also told the official (Singh) that even the Allahabad High Court had not pegged the loss to the exchequer at Rs 21 crore. Despite arguments put forth by Chowdhary, Singh called him in his office where alleged middleman Subhash was also present, and demanded Rs 50 lakh as bribe to not arrest Chowdhary and attach his assets, the complaint alleged.

HC notice to CBSE on detention of class XI students of KV school

CHENNAI: The Madras High Court has issued notice to the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) and the management of a school here on a petition alleging that several standard IX students had been detained and compelled to repeat the class.

The petition was filed by K Santhosh Kumar, father of a class IX student of Kendriya Vidyalaya -IIT(M) campus here, alleging that the school had detained 42 students of class IX including his son, and was compelling them to re-study.

He also said that the school's action was contrary to a circular issued by the CBSE to do away with the concept of examinations till class XII.

Admitting the plea, Justice Pushpa Sathyanarayana issued notice to the CBSE and the school management, seeking their reply within two weeks.

The petitioner said his son S Adithya Yegan had been studying in the school since standard I and had completed standard IX in the 2016-17 academic year.

NATION BRIEFS

JAT STIR CALLED OFF IN BHARATPUR AFTER GOVT'S ASSURANCE

JAIPUR: Stir by Jats demanding reservation for community members was called off in Bharatpur district of Rajasthan on Saturday after the state government's assurance that it would consider including them in the OBC list. The decision came after a meeting between Jat leaders and state government officials at IG Bharatpur office.

8 INDIAN FISHERMEN ARRESTED BY SRI LANKA NAVY, TN GOVT FUMES

NAGAPATTINAM/CHENNAI: Eight Tamil Nadu fishermen were arrested on Saturday by the Sri Lankan Navy for allegedly fishing in the territorial waters of the island country, drawing angry reaction from the state government which termed it as an "abduction". The fishermen from Nagapattinam were fishing near Paruthithurai when they were held by Lankan naval personnel who took them to Kangesanthurai port there. The incident comes two days after four fishermen from Pudukottai district and 17 from Karaikal region in Puducherry were arrested by the Sri Lankan Navy for allegedly fishing near Neduntheevu in the island nation. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K Palaniswami took up the matter with Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Executive Engineer, NBD, Social Sector, P.W. Dte. invites online Tender reference no.WBPWD/EE/NBD/SS/PW Dte. NIT No. 08(e) of 2017-2018. Tender Id No. 2017_WBPWD_117600_1
Name of Work: Repair and renovation of College building at A.P.C. Roy Govt. College, Siliguri in the District of Darjeeling. Estimated amount put to tender: Rs 42,92,463.00 Bid Submission last date 10-07-2017, upto 2.00 P.M. Details can be seen from website www.etender.wb.nic.in CORRIGENDUM / RECTIFICATION OR MODIFICATION, IF ANY, ISSUED BY THE DEPARTMENT AGAINST THESE NIT WILL BE PUBLISHED IN WEBSITE ONLY.

Business

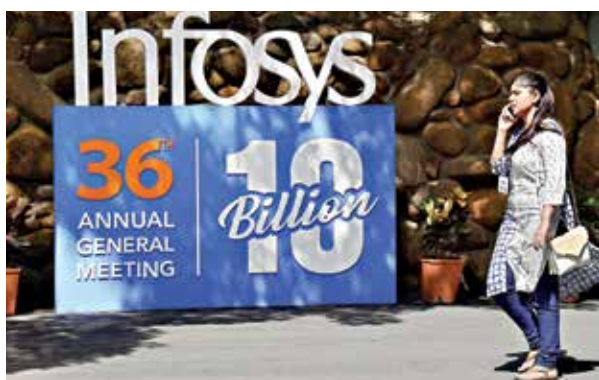
“Implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) from July 1 would help reduce cascading effects of multiple taxes, lower cost and make exports more competitive

Commerce Secretary Rita Teatota

Visa furore: Infosys arrives at settlement with New York state

NEW YORK: Infosys has reached a settlement for \$1 million with the state of New York for “systematically abusing” the H1-B work visa programme, allegations that Infosys has denied. The development comes just days ahead of Prime Minister Narendra Modi meeting US President Donald Trump, where he is expected to take up the issue of H1-B visas for skilled workers. In a statement, New York Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman said the \$1-million settlement with the Indian IT firm has been reached to conclude the investigation. It added that Infosys had failed to “properly compensate hundreds of workers and to pay applicable taxes, by systematically abusing the US visa rules in placing foreign workers at client sites in New York State”. Infosys denied any wrongdoing, saying the agreement concludes the State of New

York’s investigation relating to the amount of taxes the company paid in 2010-11 without any criminal or civil charges being filed. “While this investigation centred on alleged paperwork errors, the company committed no wrongdoing and denies all allegations made in this regard,” the Bengaluru-based firm said. Infosys said this settlement relates to legal issues already resolved under the 2013 settlement with the US Department of Justice and was reached by both parties to “avoid protracted litigation”. Infosys has a significant presence in New York State and provides consulting and outsourcing services to many New York-based clients in the financial sector, among other industries. The settlement resolves a whistleblower’s claims that Infosys, in the course of providing outsourcing services, routinely brought foreign IT



A participant of the 36th Annual General Meeting of the Infosys walks past a cutout in Bengaluru on Saturday

personnel into New York to perform work in violation of the terms of their visas. The NY AG statement explained that in order to perform the services offered by Infosys in New York State, its foreign workers needed H1-B visas. “But in order to avoid the difficulty and expense of obtaining such visas, the Office contends that Infosys knowingly and unlawfully obtained temporary visitor visas (B-1 visas) instead,” it said. PII

Seshasayee to retire next year, wants smooth transition

BENGALURU: Infosys Chairman R Seshasayee on Saturday said it would be his last AGM before he retires next year in May and plans a smooth transition to his successor. “Finally, as this will be my last AGM, before I retire upon reaching the age of 70 in May 2018... During the remaining part of my tenure, I would be committed to further enhancing governance standards, improving shareholder value and planning a smooth transition to my successor,” he said in his speech at the 36th AGM of Infosys here on Saturday. He also thanked found-

ers, his colleagues on the board and shareholders for giving him an opportunity to serve the company at “an extremely critical” point during its transformation journey. “I have had unstinted support from my colleagues on the board and the management, and I am truly grateful to them for imposing confidence in my leadership in these challenging times,” he added. Seshasayee spoke of the company undertaking three transformations, including the cultural one to secure a sustainable and secure future. PII

States’ fiscal deficit soars to Rs 4.93 tn in fiscal 2016-17

MUMBAI: Led by the most populous Uttar Pradesh and the largest Rajasthan, the gross fiscal deficits of all the states skyrocketed to Rs 4,93,360 crore in fiscal 2016 from Rs 18,790 crore in FY1991, according to the latest RBI data. According to the second edition of RBI’s statistical publication titled ‘Handbook of Statistics on States 2016-17’, which was released today, the gap is projected to improve to Rs 4,49,520 crore as per the budget estimates of the states for fiscal 2017. Uttar Pradesh had a fiscal deficit of a paltry Rs 3,070 crore in FY91, which zoomed to Rs 64,320 crore in FY16 and but is projected to improve to Rs 49,960 crore in FY17. According to the 16-year data, Rajasthan, which had a gross fiscal deficit of Rs 540 crore in FY91, saw it soaring to Rs 67,350 crore in FY16 and is projected to decline to Rs 40,530 crore in FY17. Maharashtra, one of the most urbanised and industrialised states, had a gap of Rs 1,020 crore in FY91 but the same jumped to Rs 37,950 crore in FY16 which is projected to improve to Rs 35,030 crore in FY17. On the other hand, Gujarat, which had seen rapid industrialisation during the period of data analysis, had only Rs 1,800 crore in fiscal deficit in FY91 but the same had jumped to Rs 22,170 crore in FY16 and is projected to further deteriorate in FY17 to Rs 24,610 crore. In fact from FY01, there was not a single year when the western state had shown

improvements in its macro numbers. In FY01 its fiscal gap stood at Rs 7,990 crore which almost doubled to Rs 15,150 crore in FY10 and further to Rs 18,320 crore in FY15. Another state projected to have higher deficit in FY17 is Andhra Pradesh at Rs 20,500 crore, which was Rs 17,000 crore in FY16 and a paltry Rs 970 crore in FY91. Similarly, Tamil Nadu, a state known for state freebies, is also projected to have a higher deficit at Rs 40,530 crore in FY17, up from Rs 32,320 crore a year ago and Rs 1,130 crore in FY91. Again, Karnataka, which had good finances in the past, is also estimated to post higher deficit in FY17 at Rs 25,660 crore, up from Rs 20,560 crore a year ago and Rs 560 crore in FY91. Similar is the case with Kerala, which is also slated to have higher deficit at Rs 23,140 crore in FY17 from Rs 17,720 crore in FY16 and a healthy Rs 800 crore in FY91. Reflecting its improved finances on the back of rising investments following better law and order situation, Bihar is slated to improve its finances with fiscal deficit of Rs 16,010 crore in FY17 against Rs 28,510 crore in FY16. The state which had for long been the badland of the nation had Rs 15,90 crore deficit in FY91. West Bengal, despite having high debt levels, has been improving its finances with its fiscal deficit projected to improve to Rs 19,360 crore in FY17 from Rs 25,180 crore a year ago and a healthy Rs 1,630 crore in FY91. PII

GST to make exports more competitive: Commerce Secy

NEW DELHI: Implementation of Goods and Services Tax (GST) from July 1 would help reduce cascading effects of multiple taxes, lower cost and make exports more competitive, a top government official said on Saturday. Commerce Secretary Rita Teatota said the two main export promotion schemes - Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and Services Exports from India Scheme (SEIS) - will continue

post GST implementation but would be aligned with the new indirect tax regime. The commerce ministry, she said, is reviewing the validity of the scrips and export obligation periods to make them more realistic and aligned with GST network so that there is a seamless process of extending benefit to exporters. She was addressing exporters at an event organised by Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) in Mumbai. PII

Future Group to grow fashion biz to Rs 12k cr

KOLKATA: Future Group, which runs retail stores across the country under various formats, wishes to grow its fashion business to Rs 12,000 crore in the current fiscal. “Revenue from the fashion business is targeted to touch Rs 12,000 crore in the current financial year. Out of which Rs 3500 crore will come from the revenues of Central, a lifestyle departmental store owned by the group”, CEO of Future Group Kishore Biyani told reporters here on Saturday. Opening its first Central departmental store in the metropolis, Biyani said another 15 such outlets will be opened across the country by the end of this



Future Group CEO Kishore Biyani

financial year, thus taking the total to 50. Future Group was also planning a second Central store at the famous Metro cinema building, now closed, located in the heart of the city at Esplanade. Since the building had been accorded the heritage status, the facade would remain unchanged, he said. The group had also collaborated with the West Bengal government to open ‘Biswa Bangla’ outlets at all Central stores across the country. An outlet of Biswa Bangla had already been opened in the first Central store here. The group also operates fashion stores across formats like FBB and Brand Factory.

Post-Brexit India-UK trade, investment can be lot better: Indian envoy

LONDON: Trade and investment patterns between India and the UK can be much better than current levels as the UK takes a fresh approach to globalisation post-Brexit, Indian High Commissioner to the UK Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha said. Delivering the keynote address at a joint conference by the All India Management Association (AIMA) and Imperial College London titled ‘To Build Walls or Bridges: The Path to a New Economic Nirvana’ in London on Friday, the Indian envoy also called on the UK to Make in India for the world. “The trade and investment between India and UK

can be a lot better than what it has been lately. India is now open to the world and the UK is globalising afresh. It is a good opportunity for both countries to grow their economy faster by increasing movement of goods and people. I am sure that this opportunity will not be missed,” Sinha said. “The outcome of the snap elections in the UK has only confirmed that nations are ambivalent about globalisation...India is looking for more trade and investment because it wants to grow even faster. It is inviting everyone to make in India for the world. The UK, for its part, has chosen to reconfigure its relationship with the

world,” he noted. There was consensus among the business and political leaders at the conference, held to coincide with the one-year mark of the referendum on Britain’s membership of the European Union (EU) on June 23 last year, that protectionism, Brexit and anti-globalisation will not hold back UK-India ties. “Some believe that for a country to compete and for its citizens to prosper, we should retreat from globalisation. But as many of us see every day, this is wrong. International collaboration, global competition and inclusive growth are not mutually exclusive... Imperial’s

global, collaborative environment, and our wider impact, is testament to that,” said Prof. Alice Gast, President of Imperial College London. “At Imperial we build bridges. More than half of our research papers involve an international co-author. India is at the heart of that. In the last five years, Imperial researchers have published more than 1,200 joint papers with collaborators in India,” she said. Britain’s Universities and Science Minister, Jo Johnson, used the event to “send a message to prospective Indian students that they have the warmest welcome” waiting for them in the UK. PII

Centre approves Rs 109.29 cr plan under horticulture mission

CHANDIGARH: The Centre has approved an annual action plan of Rs 109.29 crore under Haryana State Horticulture Mission for 2017-18 fiscal, including state share and spill-over activities. “Besides, the Haryana government has approved Rs 6.95 crore as 15 per cent extra state share for the release of assistance to the beneficiaries of protected structures,” Principal Secretary, Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Department, Abhilaksh Likhni, said here on Saturday. He said while the Centre had released the first instalment of funds amounting to Rs 50 crore, the state finance department had released Rs 6.90 crore as extra state share. Major focus under the mission in 2017-18 would be on protected cultivation, hybrid tomato production, water creation resources, establishment of new gardens, seed production programme, mushroom production, pollination support through bee-keeping, training of farmers and development of Integrated Post Harvest Management Infrastructure. PII

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mp World

Six killed, over 100 missing in China landslide

Scores missing after a landslide in Xinmo village of Sichuan province



BEIJING: At least six people were killed and over 100 others remained missing after a mountain village was on Saturday buried under tons of rocks following a massive landslide in southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The landslide from a high part of a mountain in Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture of Aba hit Xinmo Village in Maoxian County at about 6 AM, blocking a 2 km section of a river and burying 1,600 metres of road.

A side of a mountain collapsed following the landslide, triggered by heavy rains, burying 62 homes and a hotel under huge rocks.

The Maoxian government said on its Weibo social media account that six bodies were pulled from the rubble while 112 people remained missing.

State media had earlier reported that 141 people may have been buried but later the figure was revised.

Nearly 2,000 rescuers, including soldiers, frantically scoured through the mud and rocks to find survivors.

It is the biggest landslide in this area since the Wenchuan earthquake that killed 87,000 people in 2008 in a town in Sichuan, said one of the officials in charge of rescue efforts.

A family of three was pulled out alive from the rubble, the Mao County government said on its official Weibo page.

The couple and their baby are being treated at the Mao County People's Hospital, the post said. It did not provide further details on their identities.

Chinese President Xi Jinping has ordered all-out efforts to save people buried in the landslide.

Xi has ordered the State Council, China's Cabinet, to send a work team to the site.

The provincial government has launched the highest level of disaster relief response and sent rescue teams to the site, state-run Xinhua news agency reported.

More than 300 rescuers carrying excavation and life-detection instruments were rushed to the site, said Tang Limin, spokesperson of Sichuan provincial government.

Pictures posted by the People's Daily newspaper showed bulldozers moving earth and large boulders as the rescue efforts continued.

Local police told state broadcaster CCTV that the landslide had been triggered by recent heavy rains in the region and that the situation was made worse by a lack of vegetation in the area.

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As per Tender reference no. 2504 dated 27-05-2017 last date for submission of bid is 27/06/2017 at 3.00 p.m. will be now extended up to 12/07/2017 at 3.00 p.m. Rest of all terms & conditions are remain same.
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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

Civil nuclear deal will be part of Modi-Trump discussions: WH

WASHINGTON: The civil nuclear deal would be part of the discussions between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump, the White House has said, emphasising that the US was looking forward to its nuclear reactors contributing to India's energy security.

"In terms of the actual deals, the US is still looking forward to US-built nuclear reactors contributing to India's energy security. We think that this civil nuclear partnership will bolster India's energy security, create jobs and trade opportunities for the American people.

"So we're still very much interested in seeing this deal move forward," a senior administration official told reporters ahead of PM Modi's visit to the US next week.

"I think Westinghouse stands behind the viability of the project, and it presented it in its technical commercial offer to India.

"So we very much support continued negotiations between Westinghouse and



its Indian partners, recognising that deals on this scale can take time," the official said, acknowledging that this is a very complicated issue.

"This will be part of the discussion. It's the White House Energy Week, so civil nuclear

energy cooperation is bound to come up," the official said in response to a question and dismissed reports that it has been suspended.

"I wouldn't characterise the civil nuclear deal that was completed now nine years ago as



being suspended or it's done. That waiver was provided for India. The Nuclear Suppliers Group agreed to a waiver for India to receive civil nuclear technology and fuel. So that's completed," said the official. Meanwhile, a senior White

House official preparing for PM Modi's maiden meeting with Trump, said that the US president is well aware of India's economy and strategic potential.

He said that Trump has already visited Mumbai, the

commercial capital of India, in his capacity as a real estate tycoon.

"He has visited India. I think Mumbai, he's been to Mumbai," he said.

"As you know, during the campaign he was very much in touch with the Indian-American community. He expressed a very positive feeling toward India.

"I think he said that if he were to be elected, India would find a true friend in the White House," said the official.

"He (Trump) is not new to India. He has understood their contribution to the US economy, everything that's happening in Silicon Valley, for example. Indian Americans have really embraced the innovation and entrepreneurship. So there's a lot of synergies and linkages between the US and India in this particular realm," the official said.

Noting that Indian-Americans have founded 15 per cent of Silicon Valley startups alone, the official said that as a businessman, India is not new for him (Trump). AGENCIES

Thousands evacuated as 27 UK high-rise towers fail safety test

LONDON: Thousands of residents were today evacuated from four housing towers as the UK government in the wake of the deadly Grenfell Tower blaze found 27 high-rise residential blocks across Britain unsafe.

Residents of 650 flats in four tower blocks on an estate in the Swiss Cottage area of north London were evacuated last night by the local Camden Council, following tests ordered in the wake of the Grenfell Tower blaze on June 14, which claimed at least 79 lives and displaced hundreds of others. The estates evacuated were found to have cladding similar to Grenfell Tower, which Scotland Yard confirmed as a factor for the fire spreading rapidly through the 24-storey building after a fridge-freezer burst in one of the flats.

Local councils and housing authorities have been given until Monday to submit cladding samples for these tests to ensure the material used on the exterior of their residential blocks are not made up of similar flammable material as in the massive Grenfell Tower blaze in west London last week.

The Metropolitan Police, which had launched a criminal investigation into the Grenfell Tower tragedy, has said that detectives are keeping open



the option of bringing manslaughter charges relating to the Grenfell fire. Camden Council's Labour party leader Georgia Gould said the council had acted "as swiftly as we possibly can" to ensure people's safety after the fire service said they could not guarantee the residents' safety in those blocks.

"I know it's difficult, but Grenfell changes everything

and I just don't believe we can take any risk with our residents' safety and I have to put them first," she said.

"I offered to pay for fire stations to be stationed outside all of those blocks so we could have a couple of days to get the work done but the message was there was absolutely nothing I could do to make those blocks safe that night," she added.

Refurbishment on the Chalco Estate evacuated overnight was also overseen by Rydon, the company involved in the refit of Grenfell Tower, according to its website. A statement released by Downing Street on behalf of Prime Minister Theresa May said: "My thoughts are with residents being evacuated in Camden while their homes are made safe tonight. We will work with and support the emergency services and relevant authorities to safeguard the public". AGENCIES

India, Russia to conclude talks for military platforms

MOSCOW: India and Russia have decided to conclude negotiations for different military platforms soon as they agreed on a roadmap for ramping up bilateral defence cooperation. Both the sides signed a protocol for the roadmap to step-up defence engagement during the annual meeting of the Indian-Russian Intergovernmental Commission on Military-Technical Cooperation. AGENCIES

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Bid.No. IREPS/2017-18/35 Global Tender Notice Date: 21.06.2017
Sealed Tender/GT through IREPS Tender is invited for & on behalf of the president of India for the supply of following items:- S.No.1. Tender No. 091710461 Due Date: 27.07.2017 Description: Set of Fiber optics cable, Cat.No. N/00031, C and D no. T029/002, Spec. no. CLW/ES/3/0141 Alt-Nil (Part No.29600042) Quantity: 98 Nos. S.No.2. Tender No. 091710200 Due Date: 28.07.2017 Description: Connector Plug STR No.DEL/EL/STR/005 Rev. 2.0, Drawing no.9522854 Alt-Ad (DLW Part No.18360105) Quantity: 168 Nos. S.No.3. Tender No. 091710451 Due Date: 28.07.2017 Description: Capacitors (22 Micro Farad) alongwith accessories i.e. Retaining Ring, Mounting Plate, Insulating part as per drawing no. CLW/ES/3/SK-20097/C Cat. No. N/0009 C and D no. T020/008 CLW Specification no. CLW/ES/3/0097/C. (Part No.29771018) Quantity: 154 Nos. S.No.4. Tender No. 091770620 Due Date: 28.07.2017 Description: Sheet Assembly Cover, Drawing no.8428176 Alt-Db (DLW Part No.18022273) Quantity: 40 Nos. S.No.5. Tender No. 091770420 Due Date: 04.08.2017 Description: Rectifier Bank Assembly (Ref. Chart Drg No.40027892 Alt-DA) Drawing no.40027895 Alt-CA (DLW Part No.18021554) Quantity: 64 Nos. S.No.6. Tender No. 091770350 Due Date: 08.08.2017 Description: Cap Bearing, Drawing no.8418657 Alt-Hb (DLW Part No.18021700) Quantity: 30 Nos. S.No.7. Tender No. 091770020 Due Date: 18.08.2017 Description: Reactor Copper Winding Drawing no.40049519 Alt-A (DLW Part No.18400024) Quantity: 16 Nos. S.No.8. Tender No. 091770060 Due Date: 30.08.2017 Description: Non Fan Tap Grid, Drawing no. 10634215 Alt-Da (DLW Part No.18250038) Quantity: 184 Nos. Description: Fan Tap Grid, Drawing no. 10634216 Alt-Ea (DLW Part No.18250040) Quantity: 87 Nos. NOTE: For complete details of tender cost/Earnest Money download in website https://www.ireps.gov.in
No. GT/T. Notice/IREPS/2017-18/36 Date: 21.06.2017
Global Tender Notice
E-Tenders are invited for & on behalf of the President of India for the supply of following items:- S.No.1. Tender No. 101670541 Due Date: 24.07.2017 Description: KIT POWER PACK INSTALLATION, CLEANING, PACKING AND MARKING SPECN NO. MISC-426, DRG NO.9582482 ALT a (PL NO.16171329) Quantity: 2868 Nos. S.No.2. Tender No. 101711500 Due Date: 07.08.2017 Description: ANCHOR SPRING, Purchase Specification No. MISC-526 Rev. Nil Drg. No.8085119, Alt-A (PL No.16160289) Quantity: 60 Nos. Description: Ferrule Hydraulic Flareless Tube, Drg No.274228, Alt-C (PL No.16240510) Quantity: 410 Nos. S.No.3. Tender No. 101711270 Due Date: 01.08.2017 Description: Elbow As per Drg No.9534873, Alt-Bb and Cleaning, Marking and Packing Specification No.MISC-574, Rev.-Nil (PL No.16120322) Quantity: 205 Nos. Description: Elbow As per Drg No.8436703, Alt-Dc and Cleaning, Marking and Packing Specification No.MISC-574, Rev.-Nil (PL No.16120711) Quantity: 217 Nos. NOTE: For complete details of Tender Cost/EMD and downloading of tender documents please visit website: https://www.ireps.gov.in
P.R.O./DLWS-47 Controller of Stores
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Suicide bomber blows himself up as Saudis foil Mecca plot



A photo released by Saudi Press Agency, SPA, shows the scene of a suicide bombing after a police raid in Mecca, Saudi Arabia. Police said the bomber shot at them when they tried to raid the three-story house and the man blew himself up during the confrontation, leading to the building's collapse

RIYADH: A suicide bomber blew himself up near the Grand Mosque in Mecca as police disrupted a plot to target the holiest site in Islam just as the fasting month of Ramadan ends, Saudi security forces said on Saturday.

The Interior Ministry said it launched a raid around Jiddah, as well as two areas in Mecca itself, including the Ajyad Al-Masafi neighbourhood, located near the Grand Mosque.

There, police said they engaged in a shootout at a three-story house with a suicide bomber, who blew himself up and caused the building to collapse. He was killed, while the blast wounded six foreigners and five members of security forces, according to the Interior Ministry's statement. Five others were arrested,

including a woman, it said. Saudi state television aired footage after the raid yesterday near the Grand Mosque, showing police and rescue personnel running through the neighbourhood's narrow streets.

The blast demolished the building, its walls crushing a parked car. Nearby structures appeared to be peppered with shrapnel and bullet holes.

The Interior Ministry said the thwarted "terrorist plan" would have violated "all sanctities by targeting the security of the Grand Mosque, the holiest place on Earth."

"They obeyed their evil and corrupt self-serving schemes managed from abroad whose aim is to destabilise the security and stability of this blessed country," it said. AGENCIES

'TRUMP REALISES INDIA HAS BEEN FORCE FOR GOOD IN WORLD'

WASHINGTON: On the eve of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's US visit, the Trump administration has dismissed reports that it has been ignoring India, saying President Donald Trump realises that the country has been a "force for good" in the world and ties with it were important. "I think that it would be wrong to say that this administration has been ignoring or not focused on India," a senior administration official said. The Prime Minister would meet President Donald Trump face-to-face for the first time at the White House on Monday. "I think that the US really appreciates India, and I think that President Trump realises that India has been a force for good in the world and that it's a relationship that's important. And I think that will come through in the visit on Monday," the official said. The senior administration official made the remarks while responding to questions on whether the US-India relationship has drifted under the new government, in part, because of President Trump and the administration's support to China. AGENCIES

WORLD BRIEFS

INDIAN-ORIGIN SIKH BECOMES FIRST TURBANED JUDGE IN CANADA

TORONTO: An Indian-origin Sikh woman human rights activist has been appointed a judge of the Canadian Supreme Court of British Columbia in New Westminster, the first turbaned Sikh to be appointed to the judiciary of the country. Palbinder Kaur Shergill, a sole practitioner with Shergill & Company, has extensive trial and appellate experience and has appeared before courts and tribunals across Canada, including the Supreme Court of Canada, newswire.ca reported.

JOURNALIST WITH FRENCH TV DIES OF WOUNDS FROM MOSUL BLAST

PARIS: Journalist Veronique Robert, wounded in the same landmine blast that killed two colleagues in the Iraqi city of Mosul earlier this week, has died, employers France Televisions announced today. Robert had been operated on in Baghdad and then flown back for treatment in France overnight Thursday to Friday, but died of her wounds, the public broadcaster said in a statement.

TWO KILLED, 11 MISSING AFTER COLOMBIA MINE EXPLOSION

BOGOTA: An explosion at a central Colombian coal mine killed at least two people, as rescuers scrambled to find another 11 who are still missing, authorities said, updating earlier figures. The blast occurred at a coal mine in the town of Cucunuba in Cundinamarca state, some 90 kilometers north of Bogota, at about 9.30 pm GMT.

NEW SYSTEM DETECTS SARCASM ON SOCIAL MEDIA

JERUSALEM: Scientists have developed a new system that can detect sarcasm in social media posts, and interpret it for people with autism and Asperger's syndrome who have difficulty understanding such statements. "There are a lot of systems designed to identify sarcasm, but this is the first that is able to interpret sarcasm in written text," said Lotam Peled, graduate student at Technion-Israel Institute of Technology. "We hope in the future, it will help people with autism and Asperger's, who have difficulty interpreting sarcasm, irony and humour," said Peled. Based on machine translation, the new system, called Sarcasm SIGN (sarcasm Sentimental Interpretation GeNerator), turns sarcastic sentences into honest, non-sarcastic ones.

“Kumble’s role has been absolutely impeccable. He has done very well as a coach”

-CoA head Vinod Rai

All eyes on Yuvraj as India hope for rain-free 2nd ODI

PORT OF SPAIN: Yuvraj Singh’s patchy form and fear of inclement weather will be paramount when India take on the West Indies in the second One Day International, here on Sunday.

The first ODI was abandoned after 39.2 overs with India reaching 199 for 3 when persistent showers played spoilsport.

Shikhar Dhawan’s 87 and comeback-man Ajinkya Rahane’s 62 were the highlights of the Indian innings.

While weather is not in their control, what will keep Virat Kohli a touch worried is Yuvraj’s form which doesn’t exactly inspire confidence of the highest order.

After a half-century against Pakistan in the Champions Trophy opener, Yuvraj’s sequence of scores has been 7 (vs Sri Lanka), 23 not out (vs South Africa), 22 (vs Pakistan in CT final) and 4 (1st ODI



The last ODI match between India and West Indies was washed out due to rain Match at the Queen's Park Oval in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

vs WI).

There is no debate on the class and experience of Yuvraj but at 35-plus, he surely is a shadow of his old self.

His fielding has gone from bad to worse and skipper Kohli has not felt the need to sum-

mon him to bowl his left-arm spinners.

Former India captain and current India U-19 coach Rahul Dravid had recently said that team management should have a clear cut policy whether they want Yuvraj going into the

2019 World Cup.

With just two years left and around 45-50 ODIs to be played, Kohli will have to take a call in the next few months about Yuvraj figuring in his scheme of things.

An explosive left-hander

like Rishabh Pant, the most exciting batting prospect among the Gen-Next is waiting in the wings, eagerly for his chance. The veteran can’t take his place for granted in the side.

Not to forget an injured Manish Pandey waiting to get fit and prove his mettle in the 50-over format.

With the first match being a wash-out, India are unlikely to change their playing XI for the second ODI, which will be played at the same venue.

For Rahane, the half-century will be a confidence booster, knowing fully well that he will have to vacate the top spot once Rohit Sharma is back during the next limited overs assignment.

It was not the smoothest of innings by any standards but if one assesses the track which was slightly on the slower side, Rahane did well to add 132 with Dhawan, who has been in blazing form.

AGENCIES

India hammer Pakistan 6-1 in HWL classification clash

V KRISHNASWAMY

LONDON: India bounced back from the devastating reverse against Malaysia in the quarters to heap a second successive defeat over Pakistan in the Hero Hockey World League on Saturday. The margin, 6-1, was only just short of the 7-1 achieved six days ago. Overall, it was India’s fourth consecutive win over Pakistan.

India’s scorers were Randeep Singh (8’, 28’), Talwinder Singh (25’), Mandeep Singh (27’, 59’) and Harmanpreet Singh (36’) while Ajaz Ahmad for Pakistan’s lone goal in 41st minute. India’s 23 goals in this tournament include 13 against Pakistan, but that is still not a consolation for the Indians, who failed to make the semis.

Coach Roelant Oltmans, summed the happenings of the last few days, which spanned the loss to Malaysia and the second win over Pakistan, saying, “I am happy but not satisfied.” He admitted, “The team expectedly was crestfallen after



PIC/AP/PTI

the loss to Malaysia but did well to come back. Oltmans, admitted, “You always need some time to cope with disappointment and that’s the time we gave them. The next day we started to bring our focus to this match. You have to make sure that you finish it (disappointment) and start up in a different way. Yesterday we had a small training session and you could see that the smiles were back on the faces and boys were really eager to have a good

performance.”

Oltmans also said “In this tournament, we won’t be happy anymore. I think we should have finished higher than we will. We clearly mentioned as a team after that match (vs Malaysia) that our aim is to finish fifth position and make sure we have two good matches. The first part is done and I am satisfied. The fact that we played the way we played today, especially in the first half, it’s a compliment to the team.”

Mandhana, Raj guide India to 35-run win over England

DERBY: India women’s cricket team launched their campaign at the ICC Women’s World Cup with a comfortable 35-run win over England, riding on superb batting display by the top-order, here on Saturday.

Put into bat, Smriti Mandhana struck a sizzling 90 off 72 balls in a dominating batting display as India posted an imposing 281 for three after being asked to bat.

Mandhana forged a 144-run opening wicket stand with Poonam Raut (86 off 134) before skipper Mithali Raj (71 not out) completed an unprecedented seventh consecutive half century in ODIs.

India then returned to dismiss England for 246 with 15 balls to spare to make a resounding start to their World Cup campaign at the County Ground here.



PIC/AP/PTI

It is India’s first win over England in five years as they had all lost all six previous matches to the hosts.

Chasing 282 to win, England failed to build partnership with middle-order batswoman Fran Wilson (81 off 102) emerging as the highest scorer.

Her run out proved turning point of the game since England looked cruising when she was at the crease.

Off-spinner Deepti Sharma took three wickets for 47 runs.

Tammy Beaumont (14) and Sarah Taylor (22) gave England a decent start adding 33 in 8 overs but Shikha Pandey removed the openers and Deepti Sharma dismissed Natalie Sciver (18) as England slipped to 67 for 3 in the 18th over.

Heather Knight (46) and Wilson took the team across the 100-mark. But Knight was back into the hut in the 32nd over after being run out by Harmanpreet Kaur.

AGENCIES

Srikanth reaches third final in a row

SYDNEY: Kidambi Srikanth continued his dream run and grabbed a third successive Super Series final spot at the Australian Open with a straight-game victory over China’s Shi Yuqi here on Saturday.

Srikanth, who had reached the summit clash in Singapore and Indonesia, joined Indonesia’s Sony Dwi Kuncoro, Malaysia’s Lee Chong Wei, the Chinese duo of Chen Long and Lin Dan to become only the fifth player in the world to contest three successive Super Series finals.

A former World No.3, Srikanth, who had reached the semifinals in the last edition, produced yet another near-perfect performance to outclass All England finalist Shi 21-10 21-14 in a 37-minute match to notch up his second win over the Chinese. Srikanth had beaten him at the quarters of the Singapore Open in April.

“It’s a dream performance,” said Srikanth, who had suffered a stress fracture in his right ankle after the Olympics. “I played a World Super Series final (Singapore Open)



after two years, and then to play the next two finals is a dream for sure.”

“I was in control of the whole match, I didn’t give him any easy points at the start. It’s just that I had to stay there, he’s someone who wants to keep the shuttle in play and goes for the odd shot, so I wanted to stay there and not give him easy points. I was in control at the net.”

Srikanth will play either

reigning Olympic champion and two-time World champion and All England champion Chen Long or Korea’s Lee Hyun Il in the finals.

“I have no thoughts about the final, no thoughts about winning or losing. (If it is Chen Long) I’ve played him four or five times. Most times it was close. I played him twice this year, I lost 21-19 or so,” he said. Srikanth and Shi engaged in long rallies with both the shut-

tlers staying away from the net early on. The Indian relied on strong returns to lead 9-6 in the first game.

Srikanth showed better anticipation and immaculate stroke play to lead 11-7 at the break.

He continued to dominate the proceedings with Shi hitting long, finding the nets. At 16-9, Srikanth had a service error as the shuttle went to the net. But that didn’t affect his run as he continued to move ahead and reached the game point when the Chinese faltered with a net-stroke. The Indian seized the opportunity with a straight smash which left his opponent stranded.

Shi took a slender early lead in the second game but Srikanth caught up at 2-2 and edged ahead with an onrushing return at the net.

The duo engaged in some sensational rallies where both tried to surprise each other with odd shots. But it was Srikanth’s brilliant net play which helped him to move to 7-6 with a backhand smash.

AGENCIES

Srinivasan set to represent TNCA at BCCI SGM

CHENNAI: N Srinivasan will represent Tamil Nadu Cricket Association (TNCA) at the BCCI’s special general meeting to be held in Mumbai on June 26. TNCA’s executive committee has nominated Srinivasan to be the association’s representative at the meet, an official said.

He would also attend the state associations’ meetings with the Supreme Court-appointed CoA on Sunday. Srinivasan, former BCCI president and ICC chairman, has stepped down as the TNCA president, but continues to be a member of the association’s executive committee in his capacity as a representative of Perambalur District Cricket Association.

Though he has stopped functioning as the TNCA chief after the Supreme Court ruling on the Lodha Committee recommendations, the TNCA website still mentions him as the association president.

AGENCIES



HARYANA EK - HARYANVI EK

TRANSFORMING HARYANA - PROGRESSING HARYANA

Haryana Introduces

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Sh. Manohar Lal
Chief Minister, Haryana

To facilitate the dealers of Haryana who are having outstanding dues towards Haryana Excise and Taxation Department

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- The Punjab Entertainment Duty Act, 1955

PROCEDURE
Application Form OTS-1 along with proof of payment of settlement amount to be submitted on or before June 28, 2017 with Assessing Authority.

LAST & FINAL OPPORTUNITY
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EXCISE AND TAXATION DEPARTMENT

In retrospect

THIS 'HEAL' IS NOT REAL



Rx

Swanky private hospitals, government-run healthcare units, every nook and corner of Bengal are germinating doctors with fancy degrees from fancier medical institutions, some of which may be really difficult to locate, though

OUR CORRESPONDENT

We have all enjoyed *Munnabhai MBBS*, the film. But it has never occurred to us that if such Munnabhai-like doctors and their Circuits were a reality in one's own life, how pathetic and grim the scenario would be. Notwithstanding the gravity of the situation, it's raining Munnabhai MBBS in Bengal. And considering India's character and constitution, it would not be surprising if we get similar reports from other parts of the country as well.

Swanky private hospitals, government-run healthcare units, every lane, by-lane and every nook and corner of the state are germinating doctors with fancy degrees from fancier medical institutions, some of which may be really difficult to locate, though.

Over the past month, the Bengal Criminal Investigation Department (CID) has been bringing to light this monstrosity that has been silently ailing the state's medical system.

With the state Medical Council on a massive mission to sanitise the health system, the agency is systematically cracking the whip on fake doctors who have been practising and prescribing medicines illegally without an appropriate degree for years now.

Not only have they been enjoying considerable clout, they have been successful enough to make a name for them-

selves as well as amass huge assets and properties. With the lid off of a massive fake doctors' racket, till now, at least 15 people working with bogus medical certificates have been arrested. There are reports that at least 500 more medical practitioners are under scanner along with seven to eight fake medical institutions, which are handing out fake degrees.

Among the arrested include a list of those who have been working for years at leading private hospitals in Kolkata or the suburbs while the others were associated with state-run facilities and private clinics.

The racket came to the fore on May 3 when the CID arrested two practitioners employed in government-run hospitals in North Bengal's Alipurduar and North Dinajpur districts.

On May 25, Ramesh Chandra Baidya, a

dar (employed in Madarihat block primary health centre in Alipurduar), and Mohammed Akbar Ali from Kolkata's Panchasayar area.

Naren Pandey, a fake doctor with Belle Vue Clinic in Kolkata, was in possession of a "fake" MBBS degree and owned a diagnostic centre at Dr Suresh Sarkar Road in Moulali. Pandey had been claiming to be an allergy expert but during interrogation, he confessed that his qualification was that of a Unani practitioner.

Ajay Tewary was arrested from his clinic in South Kolkata. He claimed to be a "consultant gastroenterologist" with a big private hospital in the city — the Kothari Medical Centre — and was allegedly using a

In a latest twist, an Inspector-in-Charge of the women police station at English Bazar in Malda arrested a fake doctor to whom she had gone for treatment after she fell ill. The woman IC, Sarbari Bhattacharya, while being examined, became suspicious and started questioning him. In the face of interrogation, the accused, Md Alamgir became puzzled and finally admitted that he never did an MBBS course. He was taken to the police station and was later arrested.

During interrogation, the accused, however, told the police that he had completed a homoeopathy course from Midnapore Medical College and Hospital and obtained a degree. However, police are yet to ascertain if he had obtained a homoeopathic degree or not.

Rajesh Kumar, ADG CID,



member of the "Alternative Medical Council Calcutta", was arrested for his alleged involvement in supplying fake certificates. During the probe, he confessed to selling more than 500 fake degrees for lakhs of rupees. For an extra Rs 10,000, he would even provide a "gold medalist" certificate.

The first arrest came with a person who was identified as Kaiser Alam from North Bengal. He worked at Kolkata's Ruby General Hospital since 2015.

A one-off case was that of Subhendu Bhattacharya, who recently got an award from President Pranab Mukherjee and is the owner of a private nursing home in Howrah. His list of degrees and his Facebook profile are enough to impress anyone. He claims to have studied at Oxford, Harvard, Stanford, MIT and Cambridge. While officers initially believed that the award might be fake, sources suggest that footage has since emerged showing Bhattacharya accepting an award from the President. It is, however, not known if the award is connected to the medical field. He claimed to be the youngest member of the Royal Colleges of Physicians (MRCB, UK), for which he also held the Guinness World Record, at least that is what he claimed. The accused — a resident of Ramrajatalla's Kedarnath Bhattacharya Lane — was nabbed from Howrah near his home after being on the run for around two weeks. Bantra police station in Howrah had received a complaint from a doctor identified as Ayan Ghosh, who had alleged that Bhattacharya was using his registration number to run a private nursing home — Kalpana Women and Child Care near his residence, apart from which he was also associated with other clinics.

The others arrested so far have been identified as Naren Pandey who was attached to Belle Vue Clinic, Ajay Tewary (a 'consultant gastroenterologist' with leading private hospitals when in reality he only had a BCom degree), Ram Shankar Singh (has a private chamber in Howrah), Khusinath Hal-

dar, fake Medical Council of India registration certificate. According to the hospital management, Tewary had been treating patients at the institute for 20 years. During its initial probe, the CID found that Tewary's claim of having an MBBS degree from Assam was false and that he was actually a commerce graduate.

Ram Shankar Singh ran a chamber beside his medicine shop at the ground floor of his residence in Howrah. A local resident Bholanath Bhandari had visited him with his wife for her treatment recently. He claimed that his wife's condition worsened after following his prescription, after which Bhandari, accompanied by his neighbours, went to Singh's chamber and asked for his registration certificate.

Singh, understandably, denied to furnish it. Bhandari along with the others immediately informed the police and Singh was arrested after it was found that his MBBS certificate was fake.

Singh, who had a steady practise in Howrah, had a mouthful of degrees trailing on the signboard of his clinic. The degrees — MBBS, Biochem, MD, DIAAMS, DMALT — whatever it might mean, had been drawing patients in hordes for years.

Amid the constant stream of arrests, the state Medical Council has pleaded helplessness, saying it neither had judicial powers nor could act like police but claimed that the racket was busted after it asked for medical registration of doctors in the state.

According to reports, West Bengal Medical Council president Nirmal Maji has alleged that some fake doctors were active in government hospitals, while in private hospitals and nursing homes, "they call the shots". He alleged that seven to eight "illegal private institutions" have been supplying "bogus medical registration numbers".

Maji, also a Trinamool Congress MLA, cautioned that the panel would take strong action against the accused.

He said: "We appeal to the common people to alert us if they find anyone, claiming to be a doctor, suspicious. We have already lodged a complaint with the Bidhannagar police station against 11 such persons. There are several fake doctors in those hospitals where raids are yet to take place. Even Ayurved specialists are working as Resident Medical Officers. The criminal investigation department has been probing the racket."

The council, on the other hand, has appealed to people to inform it if they suspected anybody to be a fake doctor. On the CID's insistence, it had issued a directive to doctors to register themselves afresh, renew and update their credentials with them.

"All sorts of measures have been taken to uproot the menace. Now, common people have also joined this movement and are coming forward with necessary details that will eventually help us to arrest fake doctors."

For ages, the medical scenario in India has been a dismal one. Rising cases of female infanticide, malnourishment, superstition and dearth of medical facilities in rural areas coupled with communicable diseases — all provide a wide open "window" for the innumerable quacks and fake doctors who have made a name of their own in the business.

With little access to education and awareness, the common man is left on their own to deal with the menace. And the "fake" doctors, through years, have thus enjoyed a "cult" status and grown by leaps and bounds.

A recent news report in New Delhi's less affluent areas like Sangam Vihar and Chanakyapuri's Sanjay Camp-1 found that quacks are openly practising medicine in make-shift clinics. Most researchers and doctors attribute the free run of quacks to "police inaction" and "lack of political will".

Some even went to the extent of claiming that around 70 per cent of doctors in the city are quacks. The patients who visit them in large numbers consider these people as their first option because of the low consultation fees that the latter charge which is sometimes less than Rs 100. Health Minister of Karnataka KR Ramesh Kumar recently informed the Legislative Council that as many as 2,869 cases of fake doctors had been detected lately. He also admitted that the government was also at fault for not preventing this at the primary level. He further added that the government is aware of fake doctors posing as genuine medical practitioners.

This trend is not new. "It's better late than never. We have constituted an expert committee to streamline medical practitioners, including cracking down on fake doctors. The committee is expected to submit its report in a month's time," he was quoted in a report. In an unabashed manner, the trade of "fake" has grown and grown bigger. One must have heard of fake businesses, fake numbers, fake job rackets, fake letters, so on and so forth. But to come to terms with "fake" doctors has to be quite an experience since the helplessness and dependence connected with it is simply overwhelming. With such shocking revelations coming to light, the atmosphere is that of suspicion and mistrust. And this unlicensed and unbridled growth of the Munnabhai-like doctors have certainly made sure that none of us stay alive without having bumped into them, at least once at some point of life.



Beacon



MOMA: Unpacking 150 years Frank Lloyd Wright

A central theme that pervades his architecture is a recurrent question in American culture: How do you balance the need for individual privacy with the attraction of community activity? writes Uma Nair

MOMA in New York finds a distinctive spot in the orbit of art unveilings with a rostrum of shows that pan out into the iconic intensities of world famous artists and designers. After a historic suite of Pablo Picasso's Guitars and Sculptures over the past two years, their magnum opus this time is a celebration of 150 years of Frank Lloyd Wright.

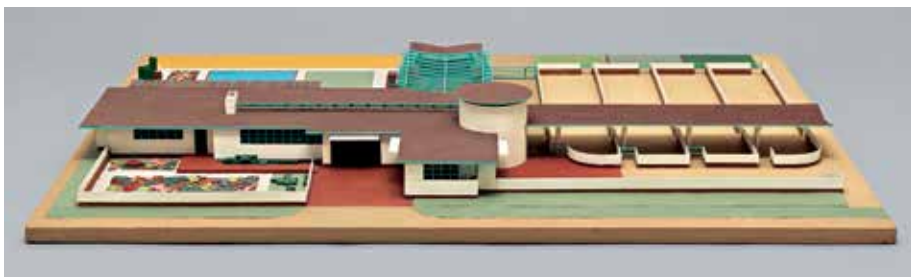
And, 'Unpacking Frank Lloyd Wright at 150 years' is about dipping into archival history to understand an architect for whom diversity and design were skin deep. MOMA has a history of tapping into distinctive archives and creating exhibitions that become the touchstone of history.

The press release gives an insight into the making of such a retrospective that spans decades of cerebral aesthetics and intellectual reflections of one of the greatest architects America ever had. Five years ago, the Modern and Columbia University's Avery Library acquired Wright's enormous archive (55,000 drawings, 125,000 photographs, 300,000 sheets of correspondence, countless telegrams, hours of home movies) from the Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation. To celebrate the acquisition, and Wright's 150th birthday, Barry Bergdoll, longtime curator at the Modern and a Columbia professor, enlisted scholars, mostly not the usual Wright suspects, to mine the trove.

To look at Wright's archival drawings is to understand that his projects were about implying a social ecology of architecture.

At MOMA to see the painstaking drawings that preserve the rich colouring of many important projects hung on the wall is akin to an epiphany. Pen or pencil lines in pristine clarity recovered from the fragile records of Frank Lloyd Wright's revolutionary concepts become subtle shades of iconicity. Faithful, colourful and ample, this splendidly produced show offers an unparalleled close-up of 70 years of Frank Lloyd Wright's organic architecture as it originated in his studio.

Wright was a thinker and writer. "An idea is inevitably a coordination. It is a coming together of something that is



To look at Frank Lloyd Wright's archival drawings is to understand that his projects were about implying a social ecology of architecture

separate or disorganised or incomplete. With an idea, you find to feel into the nature of that incompleteness." He wrote in his essay 'Nature and Idea' on December 30, 1956, that one of his greatest creations was Falling water in Pennsylvania.

In 1936, in a mountainside in Pennsylvania, Falling water was built as a retreat for the family of a Pittsburgh department store owner, it is a voluptuous expression of Wright's organic architecture. The first of his masterpieces, Wright realised the house would need to be bigger than the plot allowed, so he designed around his problems by using specially-designed anchors that would keep the house attached to the nearby grounds.

It melds man-made with natural in an expansive indoor/outdoor flow, with cantilevered terraces built out over a gushing waterfall. This great house of 1936, has powerful cantilevers that borrowed the crispness of European modernism.

In an audacious creation, Wright sent out free-floating platforms over a small waterfall and anchored them in natural rock. It also reflects the International Style in the interlocking geometry of the planes and flat, textureless surface of the main shelves. The house is fused to mountain terrain both within and without- the rough stone walls and flagged floors bearing an elemental ruggedness. Wright explored the dictums of time and space with a passion.

Houses, offices, synagogues, cities and churches. Everything came off his draughts board with elan and elegance. When he was creating the Unity Temple Church he wrote: Why not, then, build a temple, not to GOD in that way—more sentimental than sense—but build a temple to man, appropriate to his uses as a meeting place, in which to study man himself for his God's sake? A modern meeting-house and good-time place."

Looking deeper at his drawings reveals not

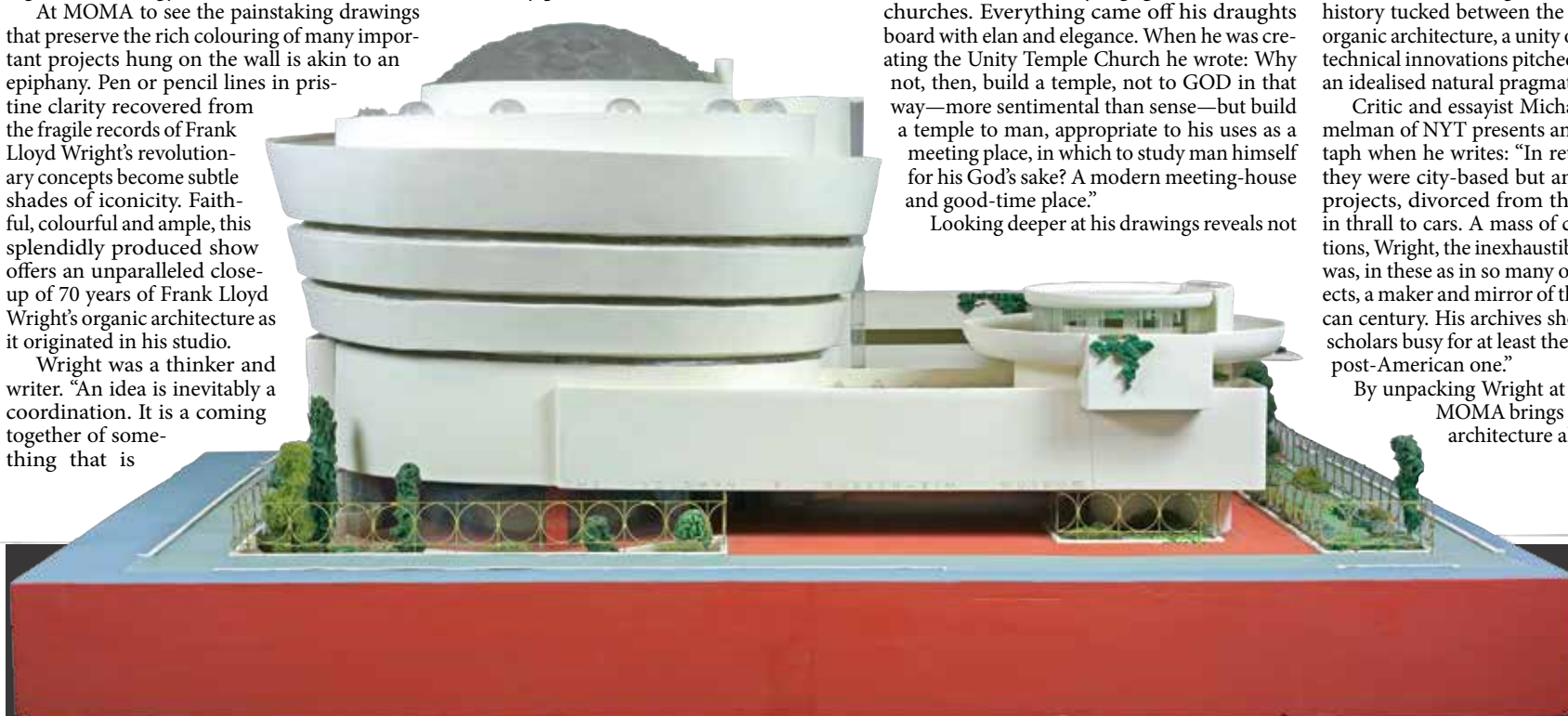
just his unshakable optimism, his messianic zeal and a rare pragmatic resilience, Wright was quintessentially American. A central theme that pervades his architecture is a recurrent question in American culture: How do you balance the need for individual privacy with the attraction of community activity?

Wright's reflections express his deeper notions of time and space. "We will never have a culture of our own until we have an architecture of our own. An architecture of our own does not mean something that is ours by the way of our own tastes. It is something that we have knowledge concerning. We will have it only when we know what constitutes a good building and when we know that the good building is not one that hurts the landscape, but is one that makes the landscape more beautiful than it was before that building was built"

Everyone craves periods of solitude, but in Wright's view, a human being develops fully only as a social creature. Good architecture, Wright wrote in a 1908 essay, should promote the democratic ideal of "the highest possible expression of the individual as a unit not inconsistent with a harmonious whole." MOMA gives us pages of history tucked between the tenets of organic architecture, a unity of design, technical innovations pitched betwixt an idealised natural pragmatism.

Critic and essayist Michael Kimmelman of NYT presents an apt epitaph when he writes: "In retrospect, they were city-based but anti-urban projects, divorced from the streets, in thrall to cars. A mass of contradictions, Wright, the inexhaustible genius, was, in these as in so many other projects, a maker and mirror of the American century. His archives should keep scholars busy for at least the rest of the post-American one."

By unpacking Wright at 150 years, MOMA brings 72 years of architecture alive.



mp

Inland



Men's Fashion:

Chic and casual is in

Nandini Guha brings to you a detailed list of fashion accessories for men this summer - what's in and what's not. Read on to find out about the incredible and chic opportunities in menswear

Even as the hot June summer melts into occasional rain, we haven't quite shed our light and breezy clothes, especially our accessories - which can make any humid evening feel bright and colourful along with a cooling sundowner or two.

Designer Sunil Mehra recommends that we opt for breathable clothes that make us feel comfortable and stylish at the same time. Interestingly, he presents a stunning collection of 'bandhgalas' this summer. Bandhgalas or Jodhpuri suits are a new trend in the world of fashion as modern men have started embracing the "Indian" look and style. It is now being accepted as a good option for formal wear as most men look for apparel which has an Indo-Western touch.

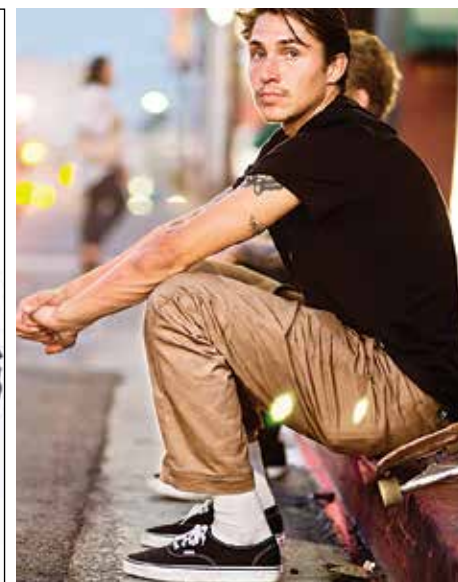
APPARELS

An interesting medley of casual and party wear, the collection is exclusively crafted for men who are fashion enthusiasts. Crafted with a blend of fabrics like cotton, linen and velvet, each piece lends itself to a crisp and smart fit. A leading fashion player, Mehra, stands out for his ability to reconcile fashion with innovation and spirituality. Says Sagar Mehra, Creative Director at Sunil Mehra, "Go for striking checks and stripes, vibrant shades and warm hues, animal and floral prints to typify your summer wardrobe. Make your summers comfortable and contrasting with breathable fabrics of blazers like cotton silk, linen silk. Opt for cotton scarves to add a style statement to your simple look. Summers are about color and since monsoon is arriving, pastel shades are perfect in apparel."

If it's summer, can Chinos be far behind? Vans, the action sports footwear and apparel brand, presents Authentic Chino, as part of the spring 2017 Mens' Apparel collection. Authentic Chino features Vans' Sturdy Stretch twill fabrication, highlighting an innovation that embraces timeless style and skateboard functionality all-in-one.

To create everyday wear that can be worn from day to night, Vans gained insight from their skate team to fulfill the need for classic style, lifestyle functionality and all-day comfort. The chinos feature a woven Vans branded label and are available in classic colours including black, dirt and dark slate. Marked by the predominance of red, white and blue, taking inspiration from the 90's, this range includes hoodies, graphic tees, accessories and footwear. The featured garments adopt a minimalist and 90's anti-conformist approach to fashion, which is a contrast to flashy trends featured over other decades. A colorful take on some of the world's favorite footwear staples, there's always a good excuse to stock up on a new pair of classic Vans.

Summer and style can be a little bothersome to lead on a parallel path. You can either save yourself from harsh rays or look presentable enough. Dheeraj Bhatia, Co-founder of Gritstones says, "It has become a repetitive ideology to only opt for bright colors in summer. Mix and match is always



Good shoes for men are one of the most significant elements of any sartorial statement. The level of style that you bring to any event lays its foundation in the shoes that you wear



a better option to create a new style statement and this summer it can be experimented with the mixture of pastel and bright colors. Choosing bright color for top wear and pastel color for shorts or trouser or reversing the color combination accordingly can help in generating a more fashionable look even in summer days." To acquire no sweat style with the mix of street trends, they have created some interesting designs like the printed vests from hooded style to zipper style, dual coloured round neck T-shirts and funky shorts.

SHOE MATE

Good shoes for men are one of the most significant elements of any sartorial statement. The level of style that you bring to any event lays its foundation in the shoes that you wear. To keep up the style quotient, Corneliani, the international Italian menswear brand has come up with Shoe Mate, a

striking collection of formal, semi-formal and casual shoes.

Distinctively designed, the range incorporates textures and colours, adding a whiff of robustness in any wardrobe. Whether it's a simple casual look or refined formal attire, Corneliani shoes meet the demand seamlessly. Ranging from suede loafers with contrasting piping, derby shoes in hand-dyed calfskin to sneakers in micro-perforated nubuck leather, the brand effortlessly blends style and performance with high-quality material and finishing.

Alberto Torresi, an iconic footwear brand associated with style and comfort, presents its latest 'Classic Summer Collection' to rejoice the summer spell. The latest assortment by the brand comprises a range of loafers in a variety of styles including tassels. Offering a trendy combination of casual and tasteful fashion, the entire range is an ideal pick to enhance your style quotient this summer. These pairs are available in varied shades of burgundy, blue, black and brown at www.albertotorresi.com.

Ishaan Sachdeva, Director, Alberto Torresi says, "Our latest collection is designed keeping in mind the fashion tastes of the modern man. Through this collection we have also experimented with the colors. The unique designs make this range a complete fit for office as well as day-to-day wear."

BAGS AND MORE

Bridging the gap in Men's fashion wardrobe, BRUNE, a luxury leather brand offering premium genuine leather, handcrafted and hand finished shoes, bags and accessories at affordable prices has just launched its chic summer collection. The assortment incorporates varied styles in sandals ranging from buckles, fringes to lace-ups that are sure to give an absolute style statement this summer.

Made out of premium leather with padded insole, the range is handcrafted and

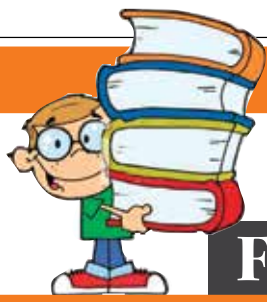
hand painted with finesse to give an impeccable styling. Beat the heat this summer with these ultra-comfortable stylish pairs from Brune, available at: www.voganow.com, apt for both casual and semi-formal attire.

Says Tabby Bhatia, Director, Voganow.com, "Over the past few years, we can observe a tremendous indulgence of fashion trends in men's segment, be it apparels, footwear or accessories. A leather duffel bag in tones of dark brown, black or with a check print of brown and black is a must for a confident man. Secondly, a hand finished leather strolley bag in earthy tones of dark brown with golden zip gives a luxe accent. Thirdly, a classic hand painted leather backpack in dark shade can render a fabulous appeal. Also, camouflage prints are quite in vogue these days; a laptop bag or sling bag in camouflage print can give a lasting impression to one's personality."

SCARVES AND TIES

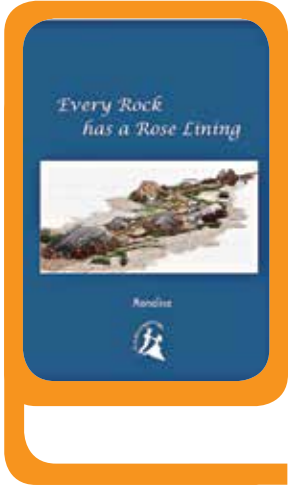
Sharbari Datta started designing for men in 2001 when fashion for men was a nascent concept in India. Her richly embroidered kurtas, paired with coloured dhotis and matching chadors or scarves made a splash instantly. Her client list has India's top celebrities including the Bachchans. Her designs are available at sharbaristudio.com. "Be it scarves, ties, shoes, bags, men are conscious and choosy about what they wear and how they carry their accessories. Since I design accessories for formal occasions, I use silk with embroidery, sequins, crystals on them. Even *uttariyas* that men wear with clothes are used a style statement..." So indulge!





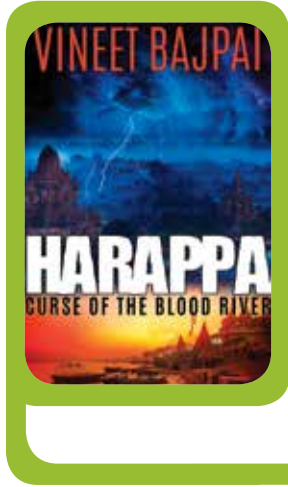
FRESH OFF THE SHELF

Read



EVERY ROCK HAS A ROSE LINING
 Author: Monalisa
 Publisher: Abha Prakashan
 Price: ₹395

It is a story of an Indian couple who moves to the US to pursue their dreams. The author shares the experience of ground realities faced by them when they moved from India to the US as new immigrants, this book is a first-hand account of life of foreign students along with its myriad perks and challenges



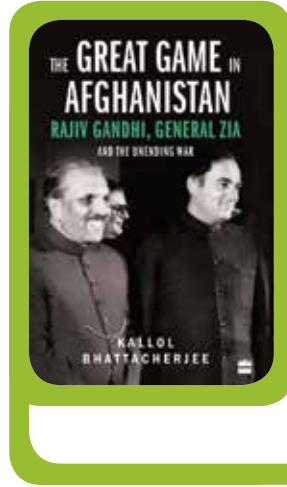
HARAPPA - CURSE OF THE BLOOD RIVER
 Author: Vineet Bajpai
 Publisher: VB Performance LLP
 Price: ₹130

What connects Banaras, Harappa and Rome? What was the ancient curse and who was the last devta? What is the terrible secret behind the fall of the colossal Indus Valley? Read on as you travel through a saga of deceit and violence, gods and demons, love and ambition



DARING TO DRIVE
 Author: Manal Al-Sharif
 Publisher: Simon & Schuster
 Price: ₹448

A visceral coming-of-age tale from the young woman who dared to stand up to a kingdom of men. Best known for her campaign work for women's rights, including the Women-2Drive campaign, this is Manal al-Sharif's fiercely intimate memoir. Future generations will marvel at Manal al-Sharif.



THE GREAT GAME IN AFGHANISTAN
 Author: Kallol Bhattacharjee
 Publisher: HarperCollins
 Price: ₹599

At the height of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, a complex multinational diplomacy had proposed setting up a coalition government in Kabul as a solution to the Afghan problem. Even as all sides worked on the coalition, the US took steps that India considered a stab in the back.

Reporting from Pakistan: Adventures in a mirror-image land?

Aware Indian readers will realise no doubt how common some factors are (or will be) in both countries, though outraged patriots on both sides will angrily demur, writes **Vikas Datta**

The hardest border to cross is the one constructed or fostered in our minds. Though many Indians are quite fond of citing "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", or the world being one family, the sentiment may not only stop at their western frontier but also doesn't prevent "borders" being drawn deep within the country. Why wouldn't suspicions and misconceptions flourish?

Just a few years after she became a journalist in 1984 and decades before her short stint of reporting from Pakistan, Meena Menon recounts she came across a "border" in Mumbai between a "cluster of shanties" and a "hill-ock with ramshackle huts" and was warned not to cross over to the latter. "That is Pakistan. The mosques are full of bombs and guns," a "well-meaning" local party activist told her.

This was not the only case in the city or the state, she says or is the sentiment only rooted in space for those against "the so-called patriotic or nationalist notions of being Indian" will also be asked to go or be sent to Pakistan, deemed "a repository of people traitorous to India". The reality, as Menon brings out in her memoir of her less than an year but eventful stint in Pakistan as the Hindu's reporter before she and fellow Indian agency journalist were summarily asked to leave, is quite different.

As her own case brings out, the "unshakeable feeling" in the minds of many Indians that it "must be a rotten place, anti-India, full of bearded men wanting to blow themselves up, and with guns and ammunition stored in mosques, burqa-clad women, and people straining at the leash to attack India" is quite far from the truth.

There are no doubt many obstreperous bureaucrats or suspicious or opinionated citizens with pre-conceived or hawkish notions, even a rare case of a diplomat who has hadn't pleasant experiences



Apart from describing experiences of adapting to a new place, Menon also unflinchingly writes about more serious issues, though seeking to clarify that she is "no expert" in bilateral relations

of India, but Menon also notes that there are many more people, both official and common, who are delighted to meet Indians, ask questions about the country and are helpful as they can be.

Her account, spanning her nine-month stint in Islamabad, an earlier visit to Karachi in 2011 and filling subsequent details about many incidents she had covered or written about, is no attempt to

sugar-coat the reality of a country which has many problems.

Apart from describing experiences of adapting to a new place which is not entirely unfamiliar or unfriendly, the bonhomie, or rather uncontroversial matters like art and culture and cuisine, Menon also unflinchingly writes about more serious issues, though seeking to clarify that she is "no expert" in bilateral relations.

These issues span terrorism and other insurgencies (blamed on India), development (or lack thereof), the continuing trauma of Partition, the "deep state" and its effect on politics and civil-military relations, the treatment of minorities, including the Ahmadis, down to the problems of transgender, the quashing of student councils and the Left's efforts to stay relevant.

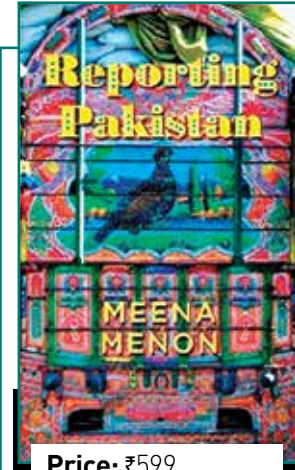
Her reporting included visiting the aftermath of a terrorist attack where she can see policemen collecting body parts in plastic bags, attending the "treason" trial of former President Pervez Musharraf, interacting with 26/11 prosecutor (until he requested her to stop putting him into trouble), chronicling the plight of many marginalised

sections, from displaced Christians, the Afghan refugees, and the Baloch.

In fact, her interview of Mama Qadeer Baloch, who held a "Long March" to Islamabad to raise awareness of the missing people of the sprawling but restive province got her into trouble with the Foreign Office and may have a contributing factor in her ouster.

There are also some comic incidents, though maybe in hindsight - Menon's running into Sufi singer Abida Parveen without realising whom she was (though her fans can take solace in the fact that a longer and structured meeting soon follows). And there are surprises galore - guess what you can find in the Parliament library in Islamabad?

But aware Indian readers will realise no doubt how common some factors are (or will be) in both countries, though outraged patriots on both sides will angrily demur. And the most effective lesson is that while the relations between India and Pakistan cannot be explained by logic, physics may be helpful, say as magnets brought near each other behave?



Price: ₹599
 Publisher: Penguin Random House



Start-up Boom: Evolution of successful entrepreneurs in India

PORISMA P GOGOI

Prior to economic liberalisation, the Indian business scenario was dominated by family-based companies or people opting for government jobs, instilled with the notion of being financially secure. There was very little or no success in being an entrepreneur. With the introduction of economic reforms in 1991, the start-up scenario started flourishing here. An entrepreneur himself, the author, Alan Rosling, has put in the effort to provide an insight into the evolution of entrepreneurship in the country and described it in simple language through the experiences of over 100 successful entrepreneurs.

Rosling, a strategic advisor and co-founder of a Mumbai-based start-up grid-connected solar energy producer Kiran Energy, has compiled interviews of 109 such pioneers, of whom 92 were relatively recent starters. He narrated his experience as: "These busy people gave me their time, their stories and their views, often sharing intimate, difficult or embarrassing anecdotes and opening up to another entrepreneur as they might not have done to a journalist."

The book begins with an account of the conversation Rosling had in 2003 with Ratan Tata, the doyen of Indian business, who then considered his plan of venturing into a start-up as "not a good idea". Prior to opening his own start-up, Rosling had worked as the non-executive director of one of the holding companies of the Tata Group. Regarded as India's most iconic business leader with an experience of over

described Ratan Tata's enthusiasm of supporting young entrepreneurs as the theme of his book -- "that something new, different, and exciting is happening in India in entrepreneurship." In his book, Rosling has divided the evolution of entrepreneurship into three groups. The first group comprised entrepreneurs who started prior to the 1991 reforms and grew in businesses boosted by the liberalisation.

The second group - which Rosling called 'Manmohan's children' - culled the group of entrepreneurs who started prior to 2000. It included names like media personality Ronnie Screwvala, N.R. Narayana Murthy, founder of Infosys, and Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, founder of biotech business Biocon, who had faced the additional challenge of being a woman trying to enter a traditionally male industry. The rest of the 71 interviews incorporated those who started after 2000, and many after 2010, termed as 'The New Generation'. Among them was Deep Kalra, one of the first-wave Internet entrepreneurs in India, setting up MakeMyTrip in 2000. He was followed by three more entrepreneurial enterprises - SLK Software, Micromax Infomatics and Fractal Analytics.

The interviews also included traditional leading business houses, like Mahindra and Godrej, established first-generation entrepreneurs like Sunil Mittal and Kishore Biyani among others. New-generation start-ups include Flipkart, Ola Cabs (Bhavish Aggarwal) and One97 Communications (Paytm). The book states that although the economy is continuously developing and strength-

50 years, Tata, after his retirement as the interim chairman of the Tata Group, became one of the most prominent angel investors, putting money in 34 small or growing companies, including Snapdeal, Paytm, Zivame, Urban Ladder and BlueStone. The author



Price: ₹599
 Publisher: Hachette India

ening with a boom of start-ups, the significant risks and fragilities in this scenario cannot be ignored. Overall, anyone who looks for an inspiration to embark on a journey as an entrepreneur may profit from the success stories described in the book.

HILLARY CLINTON'S SECOND PRESIDENTIAL BID: AN AUTOPSY

As American voters confounded experienced but "establishment" candidate Hillary Clinton to plump for an untested businessman as their President, they have given birth to an entire industry searching for the reasons

It was an election she had been preparing long for and was favoured to win to become the first woman heading the world's most powerful democracy. But as American voters confounded experienced but "establishment" candidate Hillary Clinton - and experts - to plump

working class votes are usually cited, what responsibility does Hillary Clinton herself have?

It is this aspect that political journalists Jonathan Allan and Amie Parnes seek to investigate in this book, and in their thrilling, behind-the-scenes and incisive retelling of her second and final Presidential bid, they find the candidate - whose polarising nature is well-acknowledged - herself and her campaign had a crucial role too.

Focussing on her major decisions, foregone opportunities, unlearned lessons, miscalculations, and pitfalls "that turned a winnable contest into a devastating loss" as well as how "Hillary herself made victory an uphill battle", the authors



Price: ₹799
 Publisher: Crown



are, however, no Hillary-baiters, but rather on her side - to a point.

Allan and Parnes, whose previous book "HRC: State Secrets and the Rebirth of Hillary Clinton" (2015) chronicled her resurrection after losing the Democratic nomination to Barack Obama in 2008, admit they expected they would be "writing

the inside story of Hillary shattering what she had called the "highest, hardest glass ceiling". "We were surprised, then, when Clinton world sources started telling us in 2015 that Hillary was still struggling to articulate her motivation for seeking the presidency. And we were taken aback by how much infighting was going on below

the surface of her campaign..."

In their account, which spans Hillary's decision to commit herself to her second bid in early 2015 to that watershed night in November 2016, gives you a ringside view of genesis of her bid, its organisation, its high and lows, its successes and failures and finally the tragic denouement. Based on extensive access to key players, enabled by their decision to conduct interviews on background to enable full anonymity to their sources, Allan and Parnes' story is also a cautionary tale for all politicians - though it can be argued that a lot of flaws can only be discerned in hindsight.

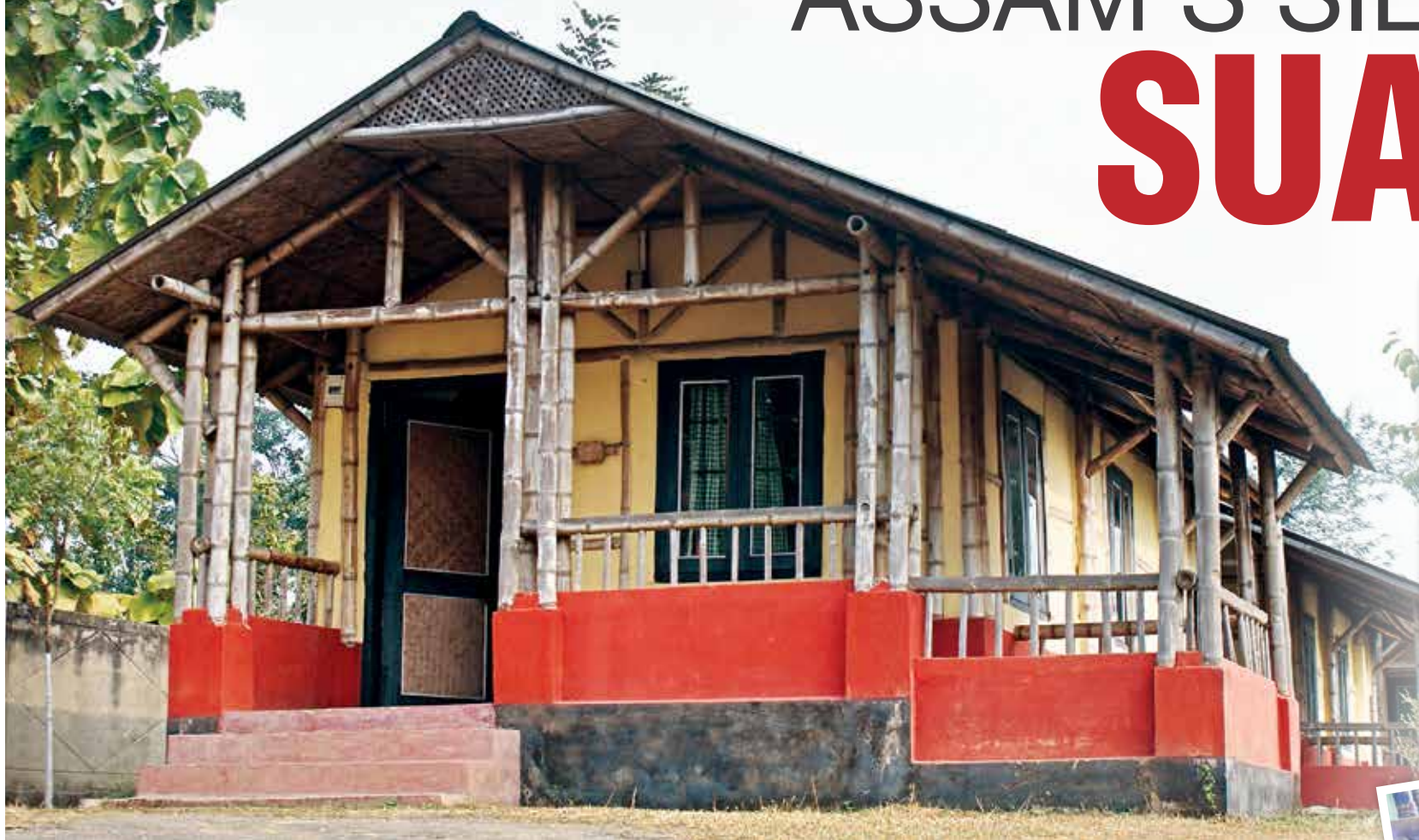
While they hold that the external factors did play a role, they also fault Hillary and her campaign managers for not assessing problems properly or taking timely remedial attention. There were people who did warn things were not going their way but weren't heeded, including Hillary's husband and former President Bill Clinton, who may be seen in various lights, but cannot be faulted in his reading of the

public pulse. On the usual reasons, Allen and Parnes hold that on the private email server issue, Hillary never told the full story or sought to put it behind her at a time it could have been controlled. And while Comey's role is downright inappropriate, the issue was something that she brought on herself - the purported reason disclosed here is not very palatable too.

And while Sanders' overlong and bruising campaign did play a role as his many of his supporters never swung behind her and his eventual support was rather tepid, Clinton and her team failed to gauge the outlook and importance of his constituency - and Trump plumed to fashion his victory.

There are more issues, such as the differing approaches of her campaign team, which never mounted a concerted effort, some key personnel's reliance on their own technological techniques over public interface, her voter targeting but above all, her own image which was so engrained in the public psyche that it could not be refashioned.

Routes

ASSAM'S SILK VILLAGE OF
SUALKUCHI

The village of Sualkuchi, situated on the northern banks of river Brahmaputra, with sprawling green hills all around, is a beautiful place to visit. The Sualkuchi forest range, well-tended agricultural fields and the village fishing pond complete the rustic setting

Talk of Assam and one immediately thinks of the mighty Brahmaputra, the Bihu dance or the rhinos of Kaziranga National Park. But very rarely do we think of the indigenous eri and muga silk of Assam. Unique in style and displaying some of the finest craftsmanship ever, the Assam silk is one of the finest art forms of the northeastern state.

A sleepy village just half an hour away from busy Guwahati is often called 'Manchester of East' for producing one of the best kinds of silk in the state. This picturesque village on the bank of the mighty river Brahmaputra is a heaven for silk fabricators ranging from the golden muga to the ivory white pat and the light beige eri or endi silks. The village took shape as a weaving village when the Ahoms occupied Sualkuchi by defeating the Mughals in the mid 17th century. Patronised by the Pala and the Ahom kings, the craft established itself and during that period, it was a luxury enjoyed only by the royalty of Assam.

It is a common belief that weaving comes naturally to the natives of this village as it is ingrained in their lifestyle. Expert weavers from other districts also through this place for its commercial prominence. In fact, the migrant weavers who work on wages are dominating the locals at present. The women weavers outnumber the male weavers. Though cotton and khadi textiles are also woven, silk weaving is more prominent and well known.

In the numerous tiny streets of Sualkuchi, one can hear the rhythmic sounds made by the looms and the flying shut-

tles. Every house has a loom, and in it, the weaver weaves exotic mekhla chadors, the Assamese attire, with an adept hand. It is spell-binding to see these women and men at work. The rhythmic movements of hands and legs on looms turn silk threads into magnificent fabrics, with the help of punched cards which help in imprinting gorgeous woven motifs.

These premeditated motifs are first drawn on graph paper. Then holes are punched on rectangular cardboard pieces along the lines of the design to make the punched cards. The woven motifs are mostly inspired by the flora and fauna found in the state, ranging from various flowers to peacocks, deer and rhinos etc. Another common motif is the 'Jaapi' or traditional Assamese hat. Weaving one saree takes about six days and sometimes more, depending on the design. In the past, golden zari was used for the motifs but now silk and cotton threads are used.

The village of Sualkuchi, situated on the northern banks of river Brahmaputra, with sprawling green hills all around, is a beautiful place to visit. The picturesque Sualkuchi forest range on the opposite side, well-tended agricultural fields and the village fishing pond complete the rustic setting. During one of our walking tours through the village, we found weavers settling down behind their wooden contraptions strung with colourful spools. One of them manoeuvred his arms and legs and through the threads and brought the silk fabric alive, which the master weavers examined for flaws. They repeat this painstaking process for hours each day to produce the saris.

One can get a glimpse of the ethnicity and rustic crafts of the village in the lovely bamboo artefacts and their houses covered with mud, which maintains cool-

ness in summers and keeps

warm in winters. Marvel at the ecological diversity along the Brahmaputra's banks: forest, riverine and wetland eco-systems, with birds, flora and fauna. Dotted with temples, namghars and monasteries, the village offers simple hotels and homestays in three basic mud and bamboo huts on the crest of a hill, with stunning views, and in 'Little Paradise', a private farm. Sualkuchi serves delicious Assamese cuisine. The main ingredient is rice and bamboo shoots. Fish and meat dishes are popular as well. Mostly, non-vegetarian dishes are served in the local restaurant but the vegetarian food is equally delicious. Try the local Asomiya Thali of fish, vegetables and poultry, subtly spiced and eaten with an array of accompaniments. Try on a traditional dress: mekhla chador (women), churiya and tenga (men). Enjoy Bihu and Bagurumba dance, performed with delicate grace and measured steps, and Naam, Borgeet, Jikir and Jari folk music (devotional songs of different communities), during festivals like Bohag Bihu (April), which marks the sowing of grain, Kaati Bihu (October), when crops are transplanted, and Maagh Bihu (Jan), the harvest festival. Learn about organic farming, cooking native dishes, and brewing of local drinks. Enroll in Gurukul programmes to learn weaving techniques in the village workshops. Take a boat ride out on the Brahmaputra river to catch a glimpse of the Gangetic dolphin, catch fish with fishermen or visit Rakshyashini Pahar (an island near the village), and enjoy the traditional boat race on the birthday (Aug / Sept) of Srimanta; Sankar Deva is a renowned religious and cultural guru of Assam. Enjoy shopping or cultural activities such as temple visits to Sidheswar Devalaya temple, Hatisatra monastery dedicated to Lord Krishna, the ancient Ganesh Bigrah Temple, as well as the Hayagriva Madhava Temple and the holy Muslim shrine known as Powa-Mecca, both in Hajo. Boat rides are available between Sualkuchi and Fancy Bazaar Ghat, 20 kms away. You can reach Sualkuchi by cab from Kamakhya temple (30 km), or from Guwahati Airport, 30 kms away. ■





STORIES IN A FRAME

VIBRANT DILLI HAAT



One of the most ineffable experiences of an open air food plaza and craft bazaar, one can ever have would definitely be Dilli Haat. The unbridled excitement on every tourist's face is because they are graced with the original composition of the works of the gifted artisans. It is no less of an art museum itself with the colourful sheds and small thatched roof cottage like shops offering the art of Incredible India with the essence of Indian culture and society. Putting Delhi's heart all together would be a no brainer at Dilli Haat.

PICS: VEDANT KUMAR

SEND YOUR ORIGINAL SNAPS ALONG WITH YOUR NAME AND A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE STORY BEHIND THEM TO MPSUNDAYPOST@GMAIL.COM. IF WE LIKE THEM, WE'LL PUBLISH THEM!

Trending

Fun with Words



Four words best suited for Monsoon

Pluviophile: A lover of rain; someone who finds joy and peace of mind during rainy days
 Origin: In the early 17th century, clerics began wearing long cloaks known as "pluvials" for protection against the rain during processions. The name of the cloak is based on the Latin word for "rain": "pluvia." By the mid-17th century, "pluvial" was also being used as an adjective meaning "of or relating to rain."
 Example: Poets are often found to be pluviophile.

Mugginess: a state of warm humidity
 Origin: The word was first used as non-standard dialect English for "humid;" other sources give its origin as Old Norse (mug), meaning a mist or drizzle.
 Example: In muggy weather it is impossible to do good work; often, indeed, it is impossible to do any work at all.

Puddle: A mixture of wet clay and sand that can be used to line a pond and that is impervious to water when dry
 Example: A passing car hit a puddle and splashed water all over me.

Deluge: The rising of a waterbody and its overflowing onto normally dry land
 Origin: The word originated from Old French, variant of diluve, from Latin diluivum, from diluere which means 'wash away'.
 Example: Every year, flooding from the Brahmaputra and other rivers deluges places in Assam.



BRAIN DRAIN

SUDOKU

		1				6	3	
	2			9				
5								1
	8	5	9					
			7			2		
		4		2				6
	4			1				
		8		6				3
	6		5	2				

WORD SEARCH

L	O	N	G	E	R	N	I	G	H	T	S	N	A	A	U	C	N
T	O	R	U	E	S	T	U	N	Y	R	O	K	C	I	H	R	I
M	S	O	A	Y	Q	E	N	I	S	I	A	O	T	R	W	O	K
R	C	Y	H	N	E	U	V	S	T	E	R	F	H	E	O	P	P
C	E	A	A	C	G	K	I	A	S	N	O	A	A	B	R	S	M
K	N	D	N	D	S	E	R	N	E	D	S	R	N	M	C	O	U
S	C	Y	L	N	R	G	L	U	O	L	P	M	K	E	E	C	P
Q	R	A	K	E	I	E	R	E	T	X	G	I	S	V	R	T	S
U	Y	D	T	M	A	N	T	S	A	E	F	N	G	O	A	O	E
A	D	Y	D	S	I	V	G	R	T	V	S	G	I	N	C	B	P
S	N	R	N	G	Y	W	E	H	O	E	E	N	V	W	S	E	T
H	I	E	L	P	P	A	E	S	P	H	A	S	I	V	O	R	E
B	W	T	Y	L	L	I	H	C	T	E	S	P	N	R	F	L	M
F	T	S	E	V	R	A	H	Y	E	L	O	I	G	C	R	E	B
A	A	U	H	A	L	L	O	W	E	E	N	E	F	I	O	S	E
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L	O	B	L	W	E	C	H	E	S	T	N	U	T	S	T	R	D

- ACORN
- APPLE
- BIRD MIGRATION
- BLOWING LEAVES
- BLUSTERY DAY
- CANNING
- CHESTNUTS
- CHILLY
- COLD
- CROPS
- EQUINOX
- FALL
- FARMING
- FEAST
- FROST
- HALLOWEEN
- HARVEST
- HAYSTACK
- HICKORY NUTS
- LONGER NIGHTS
- NOVEMBER
- OCTOBER
- ORANGE LEAVES
- PIE
- PUMPKIN
- RAKE
- RED LEAVES
- SCARECROW
- SCHOOL
- SEASON
- SEPTEMBER
- SHORTER DAYS
- SQUASH
- SWEET POTATOES
- THANKSGIVING
- TURKEY
- WINDY
- YELLOW LEAVES

BEER PARTY

One Saturday afternoon the grasshopper, the snail, and the centipede were sitting around the grasshopper's house drinking beer. They ran out of beer before they were ready to quit drinking, so they decided one of them should go out for more beer.
 The snail said, "I'd go, but I'm kind of slow. Besides, Grasshopper, this is your neighborhood so you know where to go." The grasshopper said, "I don't mind going, but my hopping will shake up the beer and we'll get sprayed every time we open one." So they decided to send the centipede; and the grasshopper explained how to get to the nearest liquor store. An hour or so passed and still the centipede hadn't returned, so the snail and the grasshopper decided to go look for him.
 They got as far as the front door and found the centipede sitting there putting on his shoes.



chuckles

Finish the proverb:

Better to light a candle than to curse the _____.

4	9	1	8	7	5	6	3	2
8	2	3	6	9	1	4	7	5
5	7	6	2	3	4	8	9	1
2	8	5	9	4	6	3	1	7
6	1	9	7	5	3	2	8	4
7	3	4	1	2	8	9	5	6
9	4	2	3	1	7	5	6	8
1	5	8	4	6	9	7	2	3
3	6	7	5	8	2	1	4	9

GASTRONOMY



Garlic tossed spinach filled cottage cheese cannelloni

- INGREDIENTS**
- | | | | |
|------------------|---------|---------------|--------|
| CANNELLONI | | Pepper | 02 gms |
| Cottage cheese | 100 gms | Olive oil | 05 ml |
| Spinach(blanchd) | 100 gms | LENTIL SAUCE | |
| Garlic | 10 gms | Yellow lentil | 50 gms |
| Onion | 10 gms | Onion | 05 gms |
| Nutmeg powder | 01 gms | Garlic | 05 gms |
| Salt | 05 gms | Salt | 02 gms |
| | | Olive oil | 02 ml |

METHOD

1. Keep lentil for cooking and make a fine puree later on
2. Sauté onion and garlic in a pan. Add blanched and chopped spinach-season it and keep it separate.
3. Sauté onion and garlic in another pan, and add lentil puree-adjust seasoning and keep aside
4. Now cut thin slices of cottage cheese and sear it on a hot plate, add spinach mixture and roll it like cannelloni
5. Now arrange it on a plate and pour lentil sauce on top and serve piping hot

(Courtesy: Chef Anirudh Nautiyal, The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel)



INGREDIENTS

- | | |
|------------------------|--------|
| White sticky rice | 30gms |
| Coconut milk | 60ml |
| Sugar | 05 gms |
| Salt | 1 gms |
| Sesame seeds (roasted) | 02 gms |
| Ripe mango | 1 |

Khao neow mamuang

METHOD :

1. Wash sticky rice and soak it for 8 hrs.
2. Put it in muslin cloth and steam it.
3. Put coconut milk in a pot, add sugar and salt. Keep on stirring it on slow flame till it becomes a little thick.
4. When sticky rice is done, pack it with coconut milk, leaving 1 tbsp of coconut milk aside for garnishing.
5. Peel the mango and dice it.
6. Put sticky rice in a small mould. De-mould it onto a plate. Garnish with a tbsp of coconut milk and sesame seeds. Serve it with dices of mango.

(Chef Veena Arora- Chef De Cuisine at The Spice Route)

Salmon Fishcake with Parsley

INGREDIENTS :

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| Potato, diced in small cubes : | 450gm |
| Salmon fillets : | 350gm |
| Parsley : | 1 bunch |
| Egg(beatn) : | 1 |
| Black pepper powder : | 2 tsp |
| Lemon juice : | 2 tsp |
| Onion : | 1 medium sized |
| Olive oil/refined oil : | 4 tsp |
| Flour : | 4 tsp. |
| Salt: | As per taste |



METHOD :

- Boil potatoes and fish fillets. Drain the excess water and mix them into a fine mash. Add chopped onions, pepper powder, salt, 2 tsp flour and lime juice to a mash and mix it well.
 Now shape the mixture into balls, flatten it and refrigerate for half an hour. Dip the balls in beaten egg and roll it in bread crumb, then shallow fry in olive oil or refined oil. Serve with mayonnaise or mustard sauce.

(Courtesy: Baishali Ghosh)





Not at the cost of friendship

Change shoes and act/react in life, it will make life and its decisions easier to explore



ROOPSHA DASGUPTA RAY

We are married and have a kid. How good or bad partner is swapping? We even want to experiment group sex.

A Dayal, New Delhi

I'm nobody to judge bad or good. I can imagine that swapping/ group sex is a colorful act but can't really comment on its consequences later. This is a decision of the participating adults. Just ensure that momentary pleasures do not lead to permanent damages. As parents you have a responsibility towards your child. Don't do any-

thing that will cast a negative shadow in the mind of the young one. Enjoy life. Experiment. But please be extra safe. Life is a long journey and sometimes we ignore the truth of consequences while painting the colors of the present.

My best friend's parents got divorced. He is shattered. I feel very helpless. We are in 6th standard. How can I help him?

Jai, Kolkata

Just be extra kind and extra supportive towards him. Help him in whatever little ways you can. With his homework, taking him out to movies, bringing him over to your place for studies, sleepovers or simple adda. Your parents can also help you to be beside him. Why don't you both join some salsa, music, art or something that interests you both? This is going to help him come out of this phase with ease. Good to see such a caring friend like you. I'm sure the clouds will fade and your friend will recover soon!



I have developed a huge crush towards my friend's mom. She's too hot and a single parent. Should I approach her? I'm in college.

Name unknown, New Delhi

Crush or infatuation is a temporary attraction which will get over with time. She's your friend's mother and I'm sure that if you do not let go of this feeling now, you might lose your friend in future. Just imagine, one of your friend fantasising your parent! How does that

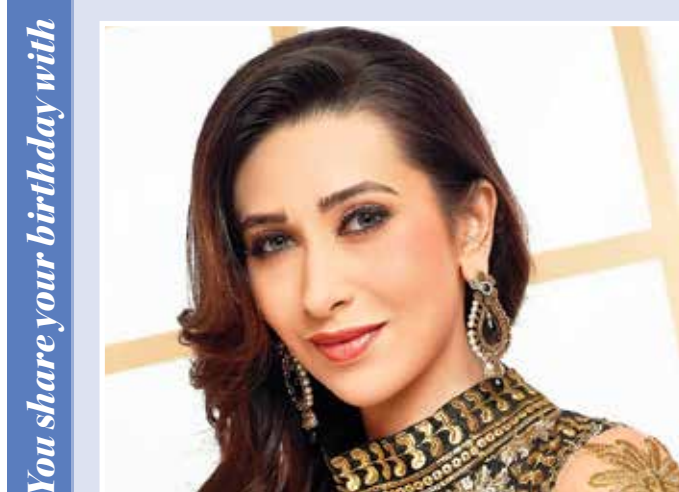
feel? Change shoes and act/react in life. This will make life and its decisions easier. Too many hot, hotter women around. Explore. Play safe but don't ruin friendships at any cost.

Our only son is a businessman and has developed major drinking habits. He regularly comes home in an unstable condition. What should we do?

Mrs and Mr Kaur, New Delhi

You should have a breakfast table chat with him. As parents, express your concern in a friendly manner. Try to understand his reasons for drinking so much. Don't get into any argumentative mood. Look and sound hurt but not nagging. Parents, their precious tears, sincere requests and endless love sometimes have huge healing effects on kids. You can also take some inputs from your doctor who can advise you ways to treat alcoholism. Seek professional help from rehabilitation centers, if needed. Good luck!

(Send your questions to roopshashotm@gmail.com)



KARISMA KAPOOR

Born on June 25, 1974, Karisma Kapoor is Bollywood actress. One of the most popular and highest-paid actresses of India, Kapoor is particularly known for her work in the female-centric films and her film roles have been credited as a significant departure from the traditional portrayal of women in Hindi films. Kapoor is often regarded as the nation's most beautiful actress, and has received several accolades, including a National Film Award and four Filmfare Awards.

During her years in the film industry, Kapoor has been involved in different charitable organizations and has particularly supported women's causes in India. Kapoor is also a celebrity endorser for many brands and is currently the face of international cosmetic and beauty brand Garnier Colour. She walked the runway for such designers as Manish Malhotra, Arpita Mehta, and Vikram Phadnis. Karisma has also been part of several stage shows and world tours since '90s.

CARING FOR YOUR BUNNY

If you don't think you can devote lot of time to your rabbit consider getting a second rabbit, and prepare your home as if you were bringing a new baby



Maneka Sanjay Gandhi, MP & Union Cabinet Minister, also an eminent animal rights activist and environmentalist answers Millennium Post readers queries related to animal welfare issues

Should rabbits be kept inside or outside the house?

Pros: The biggest pro of keeping rabbits inside is that they are safe from predators, harsh weather and parasites. Rabbits are great house companions and can stay happy in even the smallest home or apartment. They have sweet personalities and spending time with them can relax you. When litter box trained in a properly rabbit proof house, they can be allowed to roam inside the house like a dog or cat (although most people still keep a cage or secure area for when they are not there to supervise).

Cons: Rabbits are very curious and their instincts tell them to dig, chew, burrow and explore. Destructive habits, like when they chew the cord off an expen-

sive electronic item, burrow through your couch or chew up rugs, woodwork or furniture could be unwelcome in your house. They generally do well with cats and smaller dogs, but, every animal is different. If you are concerned about rabbit damage or finding random piles of poop on your rug, you are going to be more inclined to leave the rabbit bored- caged for days on end.

How to happily keep rabbits inside?

Prepare your home for rabbits as if you were bringing home a new baby. Secure cords out of the way and block access to areas like behind the couch where you might not want them to go. Rabbits are very social. If you don't think you can devote lots of time everyday to your rabbit consider getting a second rabbit. Provide your rabbit chewable things like, blocks of wood, commercial rabbit toys, paper towel tubes, wicker baskets, cardboard boxes, etc. Wild rabbits spend a lot of time digging & tunnelling. An indoor rabbit will enjoy plush cat tunnels, contractor tubes, a few boxes taped end to end. Provide them with some loose towels or old shirts to push around and burrow into. Give them some natural sisal mats to dig and tear



apart. If your rabbit is kept busy mentally and physically in constructive ways, they will be less likely to take their boredom out on your furniture.

Only keep them outside if you have a safe and secure area. Outdoor rabbits with

a proper enclosure can live a more natural life - digging, tunnelling, chewing to their hearts' content without damaging human property and enjoying the freedom of living in fresh air. Happy rabbits have plenty of room to run around and access to dirt



for digging.

Cons - Protecting your rabbits from predators and harsh elements are the biggest challenges, and serious thought needs to be given to keep them safe. Safe and dry housing is important for rabbit, but, you

also have to be prepared to tend to your rabbits in all types of weather. Your rabbit need social interaction, food, fresh unfrozen water and clean bedding. If keeping rabbits outside, you must be committed to attending to them every single day.

The first and most important step in keeping rabbits outdoors is to provide a large, predator proof area for them to live. You should have wire around the perimeter to stop animals from digging or chewing their way in, and the rabbits from digging out. Use strong hardware cloth wire, not flimsy chicken wire. The rabbits should have a secure, weatherproof house that is at least 7 feet long, 2 feet wide and 2 feet tall. You should be able to lock them in the house at night when predator danger is highest and when away from home for an extended time. Rabbits that are housed outdoors should NEVER be kept alone. They are very social creatures and will be sad if stuck in an enclosure all by themselves, so giving them a bunny playmate is necessary.

How to make disposable temporary shelters for stray dogs during winters?

If bringing the animal home is not an option, you might be able to help him survive the cold by providing shelter such as a sturdy cardboard box lined with straw under some sort of shed. Put old towels and blankets, but, if they get wet remove them. Providing stray animals with fresh, clean food and water can help them survive the cold as they will save energy of scrounging up their dinner. A well-fed animal is better prepared to fight off illness and infection.

(Send your questions to manekaanimallove@gmail.com)



Aries (Mar 21-April 20)

Intense situations may seem to bring feelings to the surface, but with a focus on Cancer, you could register everything very deeply. As the emphasis is also on your home and family zone, a lot of the drama could play out here. It might be tempting to act defensively when the best approach would be to talk things through, even if you feel uncomfortable about doing so.



Gemini (May 22-June 21)

While the focus on your financial sector could encourage you to look closely at your money situation, it might also entice you to spend. The coming weeks could see you tempted into purchasing items you don't really need as a way to feel better about yourself or ease the anxiety in a certain situation. But you may find that small treats are just as effective as big-ticket items.



Leo (July 23-Aug 23)

The focus shifts to a more secluded and spiritual sector of your chart, and this phase is likely to last for some weeks. This can be an opportunity to take an honest look at your life and consider letting go of situations or perhaps relationships that no longer serve you. This is time when understanding what motivates you and makes you tick can enable you to make wiser decisions in the future.



Libra (Sept 24-Oct 23)

You may find yourself in the spotlight this and in coming weeks, and this could provide an opportunity to showcase your skills or impress someone. You will also be very aware of how your skills impact others in a positive way, and this can spur you on to give your best. The New Moon in this same zone on Friday could coincide with a new job or promotion.



Sagittarius (Nov 23-Dec 21)

As the Sun and Mercury move into a more sensitive sector of your chart, you could face certain issues that have been holding you back for some time. These could be childhood experiences that created patterns that affect your progress at work or in key relationships. Counseling or therapy could work equally well at this time, if this option appeals to you.



Aquarius (Jan 21-Feb 18)

With your lifestyle sector in focus for some weeks, you now have opportunities to improve your health or progress at work. In fact, this is a good time to consider your overall level of happiness and what you can do to enhance it. The cosmos encourages you to intuitively grasp what you need to do to feel more vital and alive, and it might not be what you think.



Taurus (April 21-May 21)

You could have a lot more empathy for others once this week gets underway, and this could positively impact the way some relationships pan out. But having too much compassion may not always work in your favor, and there are times when it could be inappropriate. The New Moon in this same zone brings the possibility of a new beginning regarding an opportunity or relationship.



Cancer (June 22-July 22)

The Sun and Mercury move into your sign mid-week, bringing an end to a period in which you've been more inward looking. Now the cosmos encourages you to express yourself and reveal more of your true nature. This can also be a chance to manifest those ideas that you've been dreaming up in recent weeks. This is a perfect time to get started on a meaningful project.



Virgo (Aug 24-Sept 23)

Your friendship zone perks up this week as cosmic forces encourage you to take stock and think about how you might improve your social life. This could involve taking time to connect with people you haven't seen in a while. You may find that joining a group or club gives you a new lease on life. Someone from another country or culture could attract your attention, too.



Scorpio (Oct 24-Nov 22)

If you have a good feeling about a country or destination, this might spur you on to make travel plans. The same may be true if you're fond of someone who lives far away. You may also have a passionate interest in a subject and want to learn more. A passionate trend could also reveal strong emotions for someone nearer to home that you might be ready to share.



Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 20)

This can be a time of give and take, as well as making the time to understand someone's feelings. You may become more aware of how certain routines and patterns within a bond have been taken for granted for some time. This influence can encourage you to rewrite the script and take those actions that can change things for the better.



Pisces (Feb 19-March 20)

The focus on fun continues as the Sun and Mercury dance into your leisure sector. This trend, which continues for a few weeks, encourages you to explore your creative skills. This can be a good opportunity to showcase them to people who have an interest in what you do. You may find you feel more vital and energized and more confident in general.

Game On

CHAMPIONS TROPHY:

The road ahead for India & Pakistan

Pakistan cricket could be on the road to redemption with several young guns coming to the forefront, while the drama in the administrative circle of Indian cricket continues, writes Sridhar Venkatesh



With its victory in the 2017 ICC Champions Trophy final, Pakistan men's cricket team not only managed to prove their detractors wrong but also signalled a revival of the nation's once glorious cricketing past.

Pakistan is renowned for an abundant resource of quality fast bowlers. Waqar Younis, Wasim Akram, Wahab Riaz are among some of the talents pacers that our neighbours have produced over the years. This year's Champions Trophy in England proved that Pakistan will not fall short of talented seamers anytime soon, with youngsters like Hasan Ali, Mohammad Amir and Junaid Khan proving their mettle in the tournament. Another surprise package for Pakistan turned out to be young leg-spinner, Shadab Khan. At 18, Khan displayed skills and maturity beyond his years and took two crucial wickets in the Champions Trophy final against India to set up his team's mammoth 180-run win.

Batting has not always been a matter of pride for Pakistan in the past few years. But this year around, it was the youth who put in valuable performances for their team and saved crucial games for Pakistan. Most notably, Fakhar Zaman and 22-year-old Babar Azam performed consistently for the Men in Green, especially in the final against India.

The steady growth in Pakistan's national cricket team can be attributed to their coach as well. After

taking over in May 2016, Micky Arthur made some much-needed changes to the team, most notably bringing the once stigmatised Mohammad Amir back into the side, and giving younger and fitter players more game time. Pakistan cricket could be on the road to redemption with several young guns coming to the forefront if they remain focused on their objective.



The runner-ups India, however, are going through a churn it seems. India has been a dominant force in all three formats and the statistics prove their case. In the 17 Test matches played throughout the 2016-17 season, India lost just one game against a more than resilient Australia and won 12. In ODIs, with the exception of the 4-1 drubbing at the hands of the Australian side in January, all other games in 2016 – which were played under Virat Kohli's captaincy – were mostly fruitful for India. In the 16 ODIs played since the series in Australia, India has won 11 games so far.

India's performance in T20 internationals has not been one to complain about either. They have won 15 of the 21 games in 2016 and two of the three games played in 2017, and are deservedly on the top of the ICC T20I Teams rankings.

Despite boasting of impressive numbers, the loss in the Champions Trophy final has come as a shocker to many people. Though there is nothing earth shattering about the loss, the circumstances leading to it are what has caused many fans to worry. The loss led to coach Anil Kumble announcing his resignation after reports of discord between him and the team came to light. It is believed that clashes between him and Kohli were primarily responsible for the sudden decision. What actually led to Kumble's resignation won't be revealed any soon, but to speculate on the reasons would be unfair to both Kumble and Kohli.

What can be said for sure is the Board of Control for Cricket in India's lack of professional intervention in the issue, which could and should have been nipped in the bud. All eyes are now on the tour to West Indies, which could be an important series not for the players but for the administrators. After a protracted battle with the West Indies Cricket Board, the players finally resolved the issue of their wages with the authorities and took to the pitch in 2016. But the drama in the Indian cricket administration, though less intense than what happened in West Indies, is yet to end.



Firing on all cylinders

For the ardent hockey fan, the Hockey World League gives a chance to see some young stars of the national team shine brightly, writes Sridhar Venkatesh

On June 18, most of the 125 crore inhabitants of India would have been heartbroken by the Indian cricket team's crushing defeat against Pakistan in the ICC Champions Trophy final. India was beaten by 180 runs in a game they were expected to win with ease.

Elsewhere in London, a rather smaller crowd had gathered on the same day to watch another India-Pakistan encounter, but in a different sport. Playing in the first round Pool B game of the Hockey World League 2017 semi-final, this match was keenly watched.

The game's first big moment was when 18-year-old defender Harmanpreet Singh converted a 13th-minute penalty corner for India to give them the lead against Pakistan. Eight minutes later, two field goals by 23-year-old Talwinder Singh in the space of three minutes gave India a 3-0 lead. Two minutes into the second half, Harmanpreet scored his second with another finely converted penalty corner.

Forward Akashdeep Singh

struck another goal in the 47th minute, followed by defender Pardeep Mor two minutes later, to take India 6-0 up. Pakistan managed to pull a goal back in three minutes before the final hooter, but Akashdeep regained India's six goal lead with his second in the 59th.

The 7-1 drubbing of Pakistan at the hands of a rather inexperienced, but a youthful team was quite surprising, but hockey fans across India had a lot to rejoice over. For other sports fans dejected by India's loss in cricket, this was something to cheer for as well.

India's hockey team might not have players with very memorable names. On any given match day, there are at least five players with the surname 'Singh' playing in the team, all of whom are mostly players of Punjab at the state level. These include defender Harmanpreet, forwards Mandeep, Akashdeep and Ramandeep, midfielders Satbir and Sardar Singh.

The names of many of these players might be easily forgotten by many people. But their contribution to India's Hockey World League campaign so far was vital.

Of the four games played in Pool B, India won three and finished second only to Netherlands. In the HWL quarter-final against Malaysia on June 22, India went down fighting two goals to three, giving Malaysia the passage to the semi-finals of HWL and an assured

berth in the 2018 World Cup. Luckily, however, the defeat does not rob India of a shot at the World Cup, which will be hosted by Bhubaneswar.

Those who have more than a mild interest in the exciting game of field hockey must be aware that the Hockey World League serves as a qualifying tournament for the Hockey World Cup and the Olympics.

The tournament serves more as an opportunity to teams on the lower rungs of world hockey to compete with the top ranking teams and, hopefully, qualify for the major tournaments. Yet, for the ardent hockey fan, this tournament is a chance to see some of the young stars of the national team shine brighter than some others. And the 2016-17 edition of HWL has done precisely that.

In the absence of regular goalkeeper and captain PR Sreejesh, 25-year-old Akash Chikte took over the pads and gloves. His performance in London was not spectacular, but he sure has established himself as a name to reckon with. His substitute, 22-year-old Vikas Dahiya, too has proved his mettle at the international stage and has featured for the men's side eight times now.

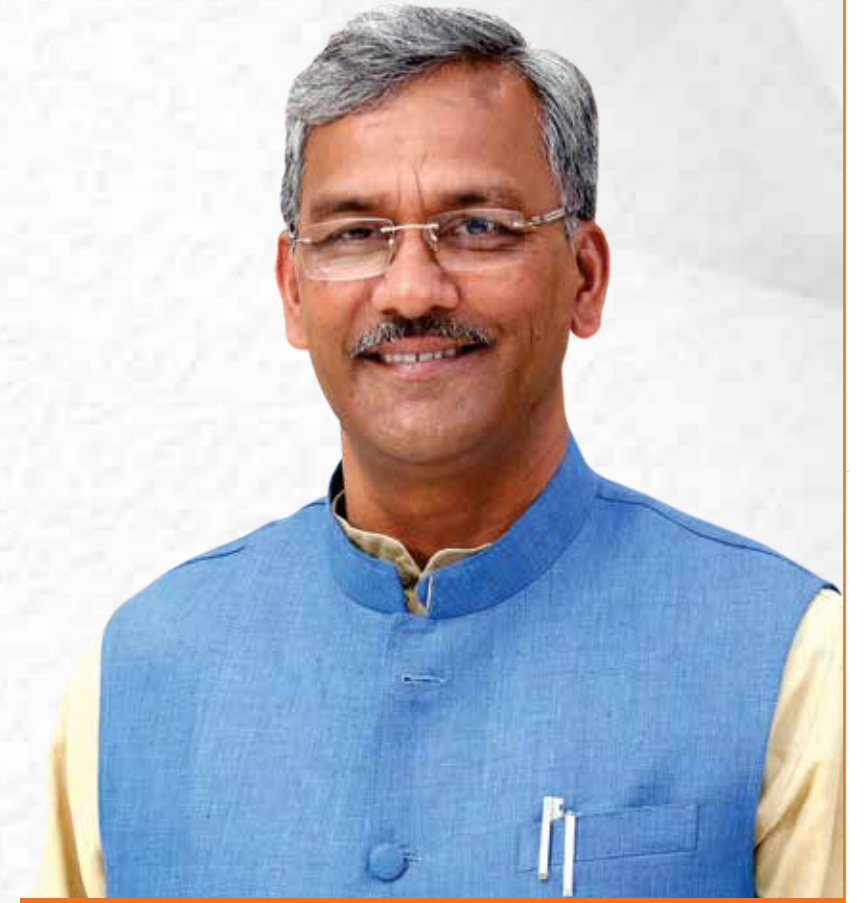
Other youngsters, like defender Dipsan Tirkey, midfielder Sumit and forward Affan Yousuf have made their mark this season and are expected to continue their good run.





श्री नरेन्द्र मोदी
माननीय, प्रधानमंत्री

100 दिन सरकार के... विकास के...



प्रिय प्रदेशवासियों,

आपका जनादेश मेरे लिए प्रेरणास्रोत है। साथ ही एक बहुत बड़ा दायित्व भी है। मेरे लिए सामान्य जनमानस की सेवा एक रामकाज है।

राम काजू कीन्हें बिनु मोहि कहाँ बिश्राम

सरकार का लक्ष्य "सबका साथ-सबका विकास" है। शहीद राज्य आन्दोलनकारियों को नमन करते हुए, मैं आपको विश्वास दिलाता हूँ कि भ्रष्टाचारमुक्त प्रदेश, पारदर्शी व संतुलित विकास एवं सुशासन के लिए प्रतिबद्धता, मेरी सरकार के प्रत्येक आचरण में आपको साफ-साफ दिखाई देगी।

आपका

त्रिवेन्द्र सिंह रावत
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

डबल इंजन का कमाल विकास को मिली रफ्तार

- ₹ 12 हजार करोड़ की 889 किमी. ऑल वैदर रोड़ का कार्य प्रगति पर, ₹ 1700 करोड़ का कार्य आवंटित।
- टनकपुर-पिथौरागढ़ एन.एच. को ऑल वैदर रोड़ बनाने के लिए केन्द्र ने ₹ 1557 करोड़ किए मंजूर।
- 22 सड़कों को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग बनाने की मंजूरी। देहरादून, हरिद्वार और हल्द्वानी में बनेगी रिंग रोड़।
- ₹ 43292 करोड़ की 327 किमी. चारधाम रेल परियोजना के फाइनल लोकेशन सर्वेक्षण कार्य हेतु ₹ 120.92 करोड़ स्वीकृत।
- ऋषिकेश-कर्णप्रयाग रेलवे लाइन के प्रथम चरण की टेंडर प्रक्रिया पूर्ण, कार्य प्रारम्भ।
- रूड़की-देवबन्द रेलमार्ग को मंजूरी। टनकपुर-पिथौरागढ़-बागेश्वर एवं रामनगर-चौखुटिया रेलमार्गों का होगा विकास।
- श्रीनगर मेडिकल कॉलेज का संचालन सेना करेगी।
- प्रदेश में स्थापित होंगे 3 बड़े संस्थान : नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ फैशन टेक्नोलॉजी, सेंट्रल इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ प्लास्टिक इंजीनियरिंग एंड टेक्नोलॉजी, हॉस्पिटैलिटी यूनिवर्सिटी।
- पंतनगर में खुलेगा सॉफ्टवेयर टेक्नोलॉजी पार्क ऑफ इंडिया।
- केन्द्र द्वारा नमामि गंगे परियोजना के अन्तर्गत करीब ₹ 14 अरब की मंजूरी, जिसमें 20 में से 13 परियोजनाएं उत्तराखण्ड की हैं।
- कौशल विकास के लिए केन्द्र का पहला क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय, उत्तराखण्ड में।

नया विजन नए इरादे

- लघु, सीमान्त किसानों को 2% ब्याज पर ₹ 1 लाख तक का कर्ज।
- गन्ना किसानों का पेराई सत्र 2015-16 का लगभग ₹ 45 करोड़ का भुगतान प्रारम्भ।
- सरकारी विभाग के ₹ 5 करोड़ तक के ठेके अब सिर्फ स्थानीय ठेकेदारों को।
- अति निर्धन परिवारों को दी जाएगी निःशुल्क रसोई गैस।
- "पं. दीनदयाल उपाध्याय स्वास्थ्य बीमा योजना" होगी प्रारम्भ।
- 13 डिस्ट्रिक्ट : 13 न्यू डेस्टिनेशन।
- गढ़वाल एवं कुमाऊँ की कनेक्टिविटी के लिए खुलेगी कंडी रोड़।
- पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं को मजबूत करने के लिए 170 डॉक्टरों की तैनाती की।
- जौलीग्राण्ट हवाई अड्डे का विस्तार कर, अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय स्तर का बनाया जाएगा।
- प्रदेश के I.T.I के सुधार हेतु केन्द्र से मिलेगा ₹ 100 करोड़।
- जीएसटी पारित करने वाला उत्तराखण्ड देश का पांचवा राज्य।
- प्रदेश बना चौथा ओडीएफ स्टेट।
- 1100 पटवारियों की भर्ती का निर्णय।
- स्मार्ट सिटी बनेगा देहरादून।
- जल संचय, जल संरक्षण एवं जल संवर्द्धन अभियान किया प्रारम्भ।
- मात्र 58 दिनों में ही 17 लाख से अधिक श्रद्धालु आए चारधाम यात्रा पर। विगत वर्षों का टूटा रिकॉर्ड।

विकास का बजट

- बिजली-सड़क इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर पर जोर।
- कौशल विकास, रोजगार सृजन पर बल।
- गरीब-मेधावी छात्रों पर किया फोकस।
- 2019 तक हर परिवार को बिजली, सड़क।
- 2022 तक हर सिर को छत।
- प्रदेश 2019 तक होगा शत-प्रतिशत साक्षर।
- दुर्गम क्षेत्रों के लिए एयर एंबुलेंस।
- 2022 तक किसानों की आय दोगुना करने का लक्ष्य।
- इमरजेन्सी के समय के लोकतंत्र के सैनानियों को पेंशन।

जिम्मेदारी से जवाबदेही तक

- जीरो टॉलरेंस ऑन करप्शन के प्रति पूर्ण प्रतिबद्धता।
- अवैध खनन माफियाओं के खिलाफ निरन्तर कार्रवाई, खनन से प्राप्त होगा दोगुना राजस्व।
- लोकायुक्त एक्ट व ट्रांसफर एक्ट किया जाएगा लागू, सदन में पेश किया विधेयक।
- प्रतिदिन प्रत्येक विभाग की मॉनिटरिंग सीधे मुख्यमंत्री कार्यालय से, इस हेतु सीएम डैश बोर्ड होगा स्थापित।
- सरकारी कार्यालयों में अनिवार्य हुई बायोमेट्रिक हाजिरी।

सबका साथ, सबका विकास

सूचना एवं लोक सम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा जनहित में जारी

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