

SUNDAY millennium post

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NO HALF TRUTHS

CITY PAGE 3
4 DIE AFTER INHALING TOXIC FUMES WHILE CLEANING TANK



SPORT PAGE 7
SPANIARD MUGURUZA STUNS VENUS TO LIFT WIMBLEDON



FILM PAGE 16
UNFETTERED BY SOCIETY



Quick News

'Climate change may devastate Asia'



NEW DELHI: Climate change would bring devastating consequences to countries in the Pacific and Asia, a new report has warned and said Southern India may witness a decline in rice yields by five per cent in 2030s. Unabated climate change could severely affect the future growth of these countries, reverse current development gains, and degrade quality of life, the report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) claimed. **P4**

Ujjwala scheme: Govt gives 2.5 cr LPG lines

JANGIPUR (West Bengal): President Pranab Mukherjee on Friday handed over cooking gas connection to a woman here to mark meeting half the target of distributing five crore free LPG connections to women from poor households. In May last year, the government embarked on a drive to provide free cooking gas connection to 5 crore women from poor households in three years with a view to reduce the use of polluting fuels such as wood and dried cow dung that, according to the World Health Organization, causes 1.3 million premature deaths in India every year. **P5**

Rail network will be transformed in five years

RAILWAY MINISTER SURESH PRABHU

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CM MUFTI SAYS 'KASHMIR NOT A LAW & ORDER ISSUE', MEETS RAJNATH

'Foreign forces behind J&K problem; China aiding them'

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti categorically stated on Saturday that "external forces" are creating the problem of terrorism in the state. Emerging from a meeting with Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh here to discuss the law and order situation in Jammu and Kashmir, especially security for Amarnath pilgrims, Mufti told reporters, "The Kashmir issue is not a law and order problem. It is happening because of external forces. The ongoing fight is a handiwork of external forces and now unfortunately China is also trying to meddle into it."

During the meeting, which lasted nearly an hour, the J&K chief minister apprised the Union home minister about the steps taken to maintain peace in the Kashmir Valley, officials said. The steps taken to ensure the security of Amarnath pilgrims too were discussed, they said.

Mufti said that she had discussed with Singh the attack on Amarnath pilgrims. "The attack was designed to create communal ten-



sion in the country. But I am grateful that the entire country, political parties and the Central Government, especially the home minister, helped us in overcoming the tragedy," she said.

Seven pilgrims were killed by militants in Anantnag district while returning from the Amarnath cave shrine on Monday. Security agencies engaged in anti-terrorist operations in Jammu and Kashmir have been told to implement security plans with full vigour, said officials.

So far, more than 1.86 lakh pilgrims have visited the high altitude Himalayan shrine. As many as 21,000 paramilitary personnel, in addition to state police forces and two battalions of the Army have

been deployed for the security of the pilgrimage routes.

The number of paramilitary personnel deployed this year is 9,500 more than last year. Four districts of the state — Pulwama, Kulgam, Shopian and Anantnag — have been on the boil since the killing of Hizbul Mujahideen commander Burhan Wani in an encounter with security forces on July 8, 2016.

The unrest has resumed since the April 9 by-poll to the Srinagar Lok Sabha seat. Mehbooba said that the Jammu and Kashmir government had requested the Central Government to ensure that Article 370 of the Constitution should not get diluted as it has an emotional connect with the people of the state.

3 Pakistan-backed JeM terrorists killed in Tral

SRINAGAR: Three terrorists of the Pakistan-funded and supported Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) were killed in an encounter with our security forces in a forest area of Tral in Pulwama district of south Kashmir on Saturday, a police official said. While two of the terrorists were killed in the morning, another took shelter inside a cave and was finally killed after several hours of gun battle in Tral, about 36 km from here. The bodies of all the three militants and their weapons were recovered from the scene of the gun battle which started early in the morning when security forces launched a cordon & search operation after receiving information about presence of militants there. "The killing of the militants is a major setback for the outfit which is trying to revive its activities in the valley," the official said. **AGENCIES**

Tejashwi skips Nitish event; CM distances himself from RJD minister on dais

DHIRENDRA KUMAR

NEW DELHI: With Bihar's Deputy Chief Minister Tejashwi Yadav skipping an official function with Chief Minister Nitish Kumar in Patna, it seems the fate of Bihar's Grand Alliance is hanging in the balance. However, Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) has rejected the speculations about any separation in the alliance and dubbed the incident as a mere coincidence.

"The Deputy CM was pre-occupied with some other commitment and it's not happening for the first time. There were several occasions in the past, when the Deputy CM had skipped the official function with the CM. The alliance will remain intact and there is nothing to read from the incident," RJD spokesperson Manoj Jha said, adding that Tejashwi would not fall into the trap of occupants of 11 Ashoka Road — the central office of BJP.

Tejashwi, who is RJD supremo Lalu Prasad Yadav's younger son, was scheduled to attend a programme marking the first anniversary of 'Vishwa Yuva Kaushal Divas' at Patna's Gyan Bhawan. He was listed as a distinguished guest in a promotional pamphlet for the event. Though, RJD has rejected.

The organisers initially covered the nameplate of Tejashwi, the special guest at the function whose seat was next to the chief minister's, but later removed it. The function was held to mark the World Youth Skill Day. The matter did not end here. Kumar, who was sitting next to Labour Resources Minis-



ter and RJD leader Vijay Prakash, subsequently swapped his seat with JD(U) minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh, who was sitting on his right. This was seen as an attempt by the chief minister to maintain a distance with the RJD minister.

The episode was captured in still as well as video cameras of the electronic media to show how the acrimony between the two Grand Alliance partners was growing with every passing day in the wake of the CBI registering an FIR against Tejashwi and others in connection with a land-for-hotels scam case.

The developments on the dais at the newly-built Gyan Bhawan here came a day after RJD chief Lalu Prasad rejected the possibility of his son Tejashwi putting in his papers, a move seen as being dismissive of the JD(U) putting pressure on the deputy chief minister to quit.

When the reporters bombarded the chief minister with questions on Tejashwi skipping the function, he only smiled and extended skill day greetings to the scribes. Labour Minister Vijay Prakash, who is from the RJD, said, "I do not know why Tejashwi did not come to the function."

Mithali, Rajeshwari dazzle as India crush NZ by 186 runs to reach World Cup semi-finals

DERBY (UK): Skipper Mithali Raj slammed a century before left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad returned with a five-wicket haul as India crushed New Zealand by 186 runs to storm into the semi-finals of the ICC Women's World Cup here on Saturday. Put into bat, India recovered from an early wobble to score a challenging 265/7 in their final league match, riding on a 132-run stand between Mithali (109) and Harmanpreet Kaur (60) and a quickfire 70 by Veda Krishnamurthy.

India then produced a superb bowling display to dismiss the Kiwis for 79 in just 25.3 overs. Left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad (5/15) was the peak of the bowlers with her five-wicket haul, while Deepti Sharma (2/26) scalped two and Jhulan Goswami (1/14), Shikha Pandey (1/12) and Poonam Yadav (1/12) picked one each respectively. Chasing 266 for a win, New Zealand lost two early wickets with both openers Suzie Bates (1) and Rachel Priest (5) back in the hut in



3 overs. At 7 for 2, Katey Martin (12) joined Amy Satterthwaite but the former was dismissed by spinner Deepti Sharma in her first over as New Zealand were reduced to 27/3

in the 11th over. Satterthwaite was then dismissed in the 18th over with Sushma Verma producing a brilliant stumping off Rajeshwari Gayakwad's bowling. The Kiwi's 47-ball 26-run innings included four boundaries. Katie Perkins (1) too was sent back quickly with Sharma cleaning her up as New Zealand lost half their side for 52/5 in the 19th over.

Gayakwad then dealt two more quick blows, removing Sophie Devine (7) and Hannah Rowe (4) as New Zealand were looking down the barrel at 62/7 in 21.5 overs. In the next over, Maddy Green was dismissed by Poonam Yadav, while Lea Tahuu became the fourth victim of Gayakwad, who also cleaned up last batswoman Leigh Kasperek (0) to complete her five-wicket haul.

Mithali, who in the earlier match against Australia became the highest run-getter in ODIs and first batswoman to reach 6000 runs, continued with her purple patch in the tournament. **P7**

Prez, V-P polls may cool down Monsoon session

DHIRENDRA KUMAR

NEW DELHI: As elections of President and Vice-President are scheduled in between the ongoing Monsoon Session, the experts have opined that the session would not witness as much ruckus as it used to be in comparison to other proceedings of the house.

The session is scheduled to start on Monday, which is also the polling day for the Presidential election, and would remain functional until August 11 — when the newly elected Vice-President would take the oath of office. As the session will have only 19 working days, it's expected that the House proceedings would end on August 11. **P4**

Amarnath terrorist attack: Cops arrest PDP MLA's driver

SRINAGAR: A policeman

serving as a PDP MLA's driver has been arrested in connection with investigations into the terror attack on Amarnath pilgrims this week, police sources said on Saturday.

Touseef Ahmad, a policeman from the security wing of Jammu and Kashmir Police and Wachhi legislator Aijaz Ahmad Mir's driver, was detained for questioning two days ago. Wachhi is in Shopian district of south Kashmir. Ahmad was formally placed



under arrest on Friday as part of investigations into militancy-related violence in south Kashmir, police sources said.

The sources said two other people, suspected to be over-ground workers for militants, have also been detained for

questioning.

It was not immediately clear whether Ahmad, who was posted as Mir's driver seven months ago, has any direct link to the attack on Amarnath pilgrims that left seven yatis dead and 21 others injured.

A police official, on the condition of anonymity, said things are expected to be clearer about the involvement of the driver in the July 10 attack and other militancy-related activities later on Saturday. **AGENCIES**

Foreign policy shift? US defence budget seeks to advance military ties with India

LALIT K JHA

WASHINGTON DC: The USA's \$621.5 billion annual defence budget for fiscal 2018, which has been passed by the House of Representatives, seeks to advance of military cooperation with India, already a major defence partner of America. An amendment on enhancing cooperation with India was moved by Indian-American Congressman Ami Bera and adopted by voice vote by the House as part of the National Defense Authorisation Act (NDAA) 2018, beginning October 1 this year. The NDAA-2018 was passed by the House 344-81.

The India-related amendment passed by the House requires the Secretary of Defence, in consultation with the Secretary of State, to develop a strategy for advanc-

ing defence cooperation between the United States and India. "The United States is the world's oldest democracy and India is the world's largest democracy. It is vitally important to develop a strategy that advances defence cooperation between our two nations," Bera said.

"I am grateful this amendment passed and look forward to the Defence Department's strategy that addresses critical issues like common security challenges, the role of partners and allies, and areas for collaboration in science and technology," he said. "Cooperation between the US and India enhances our own defence and our ability to meet the evolving security challenges of the 21st century," Bera said. Following the passage of the National Defense Authorisation Act, the Secretary of Defence and



Secretary of State have 180 days to develop a strategy for advancing defence cooperation between the United States and India. NDAA needs to be passed by the Senate before it can be sent to the White House for the US President Donald Trump to sign into law.

As passed by the House, NDAA-2018 asks the State Depart-

ment and the Pentagon to develop a strategy that addresses common security challenges, the role of American partners and allies in the India-US defence relationship, and the role of the defence technology and trade initiatives. It also asks them to address how to advance the communications interoperability and security memorandum of

agreement and the basic exchange and cooperation agreement for geospatial cooperation.

The previous NDAA-2017 had designated India as a major defence partner which brings India at par with closest American partners in terms of defence trade and technology transfer. Meanwhile, a senior defence official yesterday said that India and US defence relationship is on positive track.

"... (As) we look at the global order, and when we look at the evolving security environment within Asia, India's rise and role (is) evolving, (and) we see the United States and India increasingly viewing the region in the same way, and our interests are very much aligned," explained Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for South and South-East Asia Cara Abercrombie. **P11**

... Links Pak defence funds with progress in war on terror

WASHINGTON DC: The US House of Representatives has voted for three legislative amendments to impose tougher conditions for reimbursement of defence funding to Pakistan, making it conditional to Islamabad showing satisfactory progress in the fight against terrorism. The conditions are related to Pakistan's support to terrorists and terror outfits, about which several top US officials and lawmakers have repeatedly expressed concern about in the past.

The bill, as passed by the House, requires the US Secretary of Defence to certify, prior to making any reimbursement to Pakistan, that Islamabad is maintaining security along the Ground

Lines of Communication through Pakistan, taking demonstrable steps to support counterterrorism operations, disrupting cross border attacks, and countering the threat of improvised explosive devices.

It also specifies that of the total amount of reimbursement and support authorised for Pakistan during the period beginning on October 1, 2017, and ending on December 31, 2018 — \$400 million — would not be eligible for a national security waiver unless the Secretary of Defence certifies that Pakistan continues to conduct military operations against the Haqqani Network in North Waziristan.

Weekend Break

Here is a look at the list of literary offerings from the cine world, which has actually set high benchmarks for biographical writings in the past – but were never recognised as bestsellers

Yesteryears glory: Bollywood diaries that never made it to bestseller list

The literary space has seen a rising tide of Bollywood celebrities – from Karan Johar to Rishi Kapoor – turning towards memoirs and autobiographies in recent years, but books by their predecessors are striking in that they focussed on substance, rather than mere controversies.

A look at the list of all major books by celebrities that have fast climbed the bestseller charts throws up an even larger list of controversies that were spun around the time of their launches and which were, in fact, the driving fac-

tor for much of their sales. The "Ajay Devgun-Kajol-Karan Johar triangle", which was largely for-

gotten, came back to make headlines soon before the launch of Johar's "An Unsuitable Boy".

"I am ashamed to say it, but I actually 'bought' that award," Rishi Kapoor wrote in his recent memoir "Khullam Khulla", referring to his Best Actor trophy in 1974 for *Bobby*. Shatrughan Sinha, too, created quite a buzz regarding a *baharwali* (an extramarital-affair), about whom he stays "quiet" in his biography "Anything But Khamosh".

However, these recent examples are not the only literary offerings that have come from the cine world, which has actually set high benchmarks for biographical writings in the past – but never made it to the bestseller lists.

In early 2010 or 11, Udayan Mitra, Publisher-Literary of HarperCollins India, who was then working with Penguin India, visited the residence of the iconic Bollywood actor Dev Anand. The publisher had signed a book deal with the actor and Mitra was there to discuss the progress of the book. Assuming that he would have to convey all the necessary guidelines to his secretary, Mitra met with one of the greatest shocks of his life when Dev Anand presented a completely handwritten 600-page manuscript to him.

The result? "Romancing with Life",

one of the first-ever full-fledged memoirs by a leading Bollywood star. In the book, Dev Anand tells his remarkable life story like only he can. Here are tales from Dev's youth in 1930s Gurdaspur and Lahore; his years of struggle in 1940s Bombay; his friendship with Guru Dutt and his doomed romance with Suraiya; his marriage to co-star Kalpana Kartik; his relationships with his brothers Chetan and Vijay Anand, with SD and RD Burman, with contemporaries Dilip Kumar and Raj Kapoor – both of whom he was very close to – and with heroines like Geeta Bali, Madhubala and Meena Kumari.

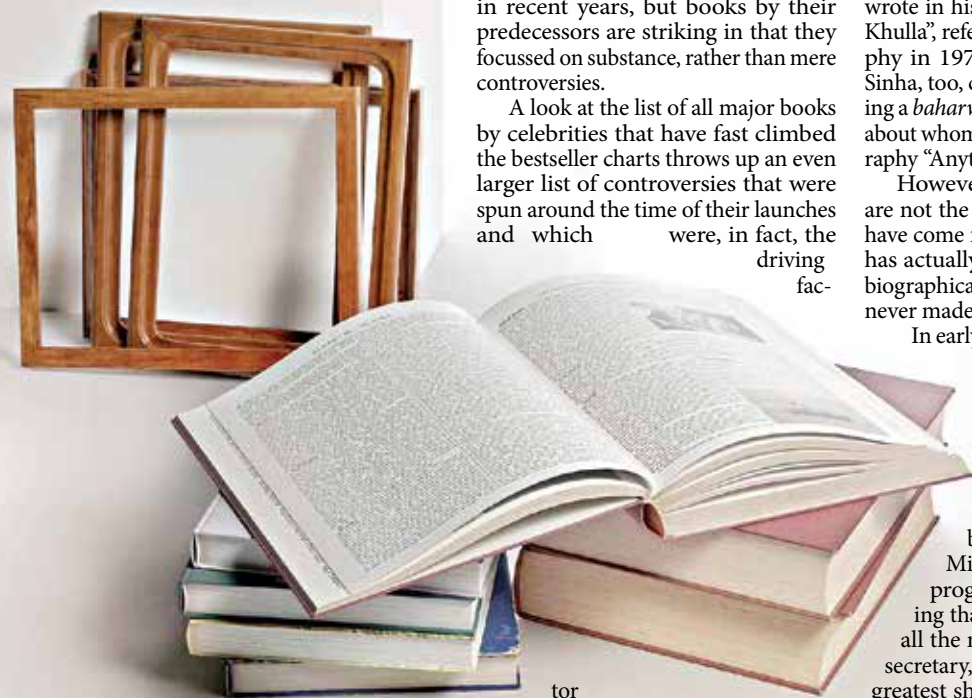
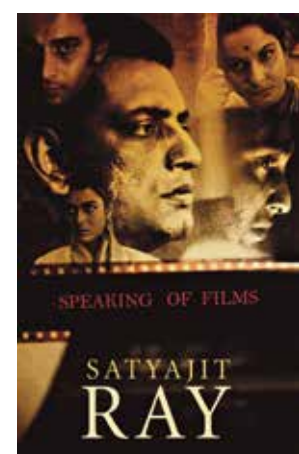
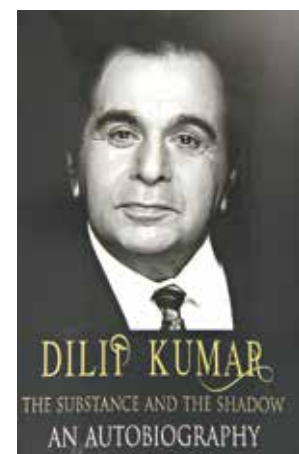
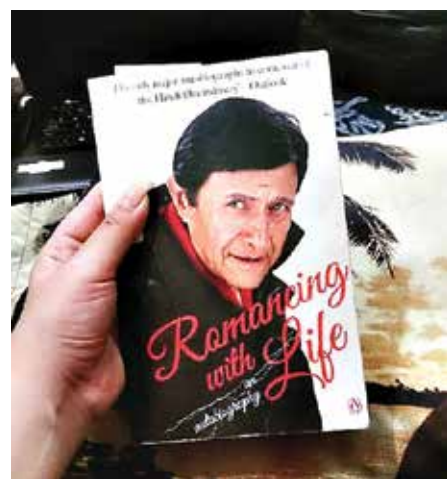
"Maybe the celebrity memoirs today lack a personal touch. Most of these are also written with a co-author, who actually does most of the writing while the celebrity only narrates the stories of his life. It doesn't mean that all memoirs today are bad, but there's something missing in some of them," said Mitra.

Another book that comes to mind is "Speaking of Films," which brings together some of Satyajit Ray's most memorable writings on films and filmmaking. With the masterly precision and clarity that characterise his films, Ray discusses a wide array of subjects – the structure and language of cinema, with special reference to his adaptations of Tagore and Bibhutii Bhushan Bandyopadhyay, the appropriate use of background music and dialogue in films,

the relationship between a filmmaker and a film critic, and important developments in cinema such as the advent of sound and colour.

One particular autobiography that aspiring writers from the film industry may consider reading before setting on the journey of penning their own book is "Dilip Kumar – The Substance and the Shadow", the autobiography of the legendary actor. In the book, the actor candidly recounts his interactions and relationships with a wide variety of people not only from his family and the film fraternity but also from other walks of life, including politicians. While seeking to set the record straight, as he feels that a lot of what has been written about him so far is "full of distortions and misinformation", he narrates, in graphic detail, how he got married to Saira Banu, all of which reads like a fairy tale.

For a more recent example, one may turn towards "And Then One Day" by Naseeruddin Shah. It is a rare memoir brimming with substance and honesty. He makes no effort whatsoever to hide his trysts with women, dope or smoking! In his brilliantly argued personal perspective of the megastar, he also narrates his dislike for *masala* movies. The chapters based on his love for cinema and theatre are so full of life that one is often lured to assume it is a kind of conversation, as if Shah has been narrating the story himself.



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How to get the best airplane seats

Getting a business class upgrade is not always a walk in the park; but that doesn't mean that the person sitting in economy is destined to suffer. Some of the easy travel hacks like knowing your priorities and picking an odd numbered seat can help you get the best of seats while you are travelling.

Here are some tips on how to get the best seats in the airplane on your next vacation.

*** Know your priorities:** It is good to know whether it is extra legroom, less noise, or safety that is paramount in your travel priorities as these will impact the choice of seat you make. For example, if leg space is important to you, you will probably end up in noisy surroundings because the more spacious seats are offered to parents travelling with babies in fold-out



cribs. But if it is a peaceful flight you are looking for, then a good idea would be to avoid the galley areas.

This is where the staff work preparing meals, where the toilets are located, and where the bulkhead seats are placed - which as we know are family favourites!

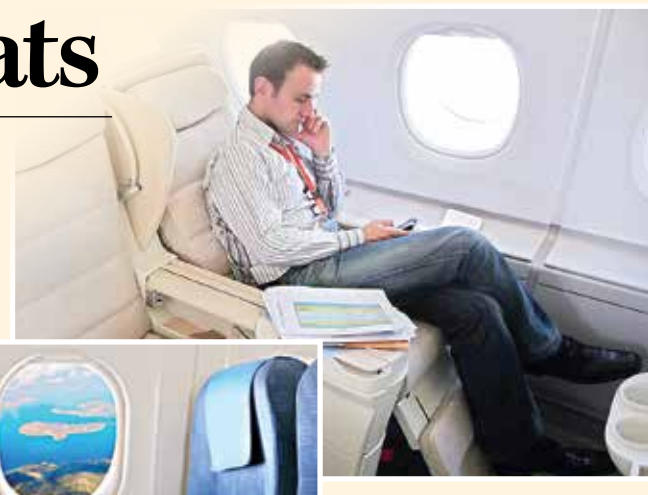
*** Do your own thing:** Don't

follow the herd. A 2013 survey tells that seat 6A is the most coveted seat on a standard plane, and the least favourite seat is 31E. So, if you want a seat of your choice, stay out of the competition and try picking an aisle seat in an odd numbered row.

*** Figure it out:** Doing your homework always helps with

the relationship between a filmmaker and a film critic, and important developments in cinema such as the advent of sound and colour.

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Movies this week

Spider-Man: Homecoming (UA) English, 3D 09:00 AM 02:15 PM
Jagga Jasoos (UA) Hindi, 2D 09:30 AM 12:45 PM 04:00 PM 07:15 PM 10:30 PM
Mom (UA) Hindi, 2D 07:45 PM

DT CINEMAS: DLF PLACE, SAKET

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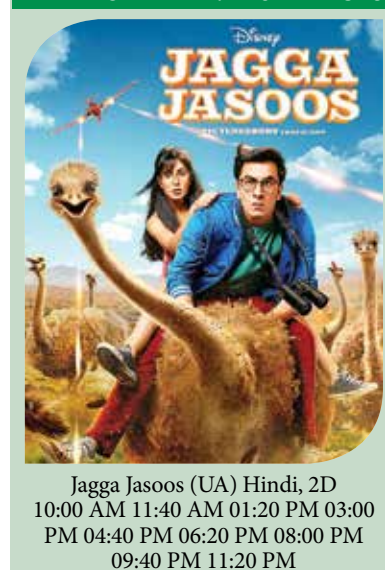
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Shab (A) Hindi, 2D 02:55 PM 10:40 PM
Baby Driver (A) English, 2D 05:20 PM

SATYAM CINEPLEXES: JANAK PLACE

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Channa Mereya (UA) Punjabi, 2D 06:40 PM

PVR PROMENADE: VASANT KUNJ



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Love Icon (U) Hindi, 2D 11:00 AM

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Despicable Me 3 (UA) English, 3D 04:00 PM
Shab (A) Hindi, 2D 04:05 PM
Baby Driver (A) English, 2D 06:30 PM
Channa Mereya (UA) Punjabi, 2D 09:00 PM

PVR: RIVOLI, DELHI

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PVR: NARAINA, DELHI

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PVR: MGF, GURGAON

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“E-rickshaw does not cause pollution (and) I hope that in future, buses, cars and all vehicles will run on electricity and battery
- Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal

2008 BMW hit-&-run case: Two-yr RI for industrialist's son

NEW DELHI: Utsav Bhasin, the son of a Haryana-based industrialist, was on Saturday sentenced to two years in jail for mowing down a motorcyclist with his overspeeding BMW car in 2008 by a Delhi court, which ruled that cow killers get more stringent punishment than errant drivers.

“Sentence for killing cow is five or seven or 14 years in different states but in case of death of a human being caused by rash or negligent driving, sentence prescribed in law is only 2 years.” Additional Sessions Judge Sanjeev Kumar said.

After pronouncing the sentence, the court granted a statutory bail to Bhasin, enabling him to file an appeal in the high court, and asked him to furnish a bail bond of Rs 50,000 with a surety of like amount.

Expressing shock over the statistics of road accidents in India, the judge said, “I am compelled to observe that India has a disreputable record of road accidents” while noting that according to National Crime Record Bureau during 2015, a

On September 11, 2008, the accused Utsav Bhasin was driving his BMW car when he hit a two-wheeler on Moolchand flyover, killing Anuj Singh

total of 4.64 lakh cases of road accidents were reported which rendered 4.82 lakh persons injured and 1.48 lakh deaths.

“Human life is precious. Road users have a fundamental right to life and liberty which includes the right to safety under Article 21 of the Constitution. It is the duty of the state to ensure safety on roads of the people and it cannot shy away from its duty in any circumstance,” the judge said.

The court directed the convict to pay a compensation of Rs 10 lakh to the deceased victim's kin and Rs 2 lakh to the other injured man, a journalist, who was riding pillion on the two-wheeler.

It also termed as “unfortunate” the fact that even in Delhi, the capital, there are no exclusive non-motorised vehicle lanes in most of its roads.

The court had, on May 5, held Bhasin guilty of offences under sections 304A (causing death by negligence), 279 (driving rashly which could endanger human life) and 338 (causing grievous hurt) of the Indian Penal Code.

The court had while convicting him dropped the charges of 304(II) (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) of the IPC. Bhasin was driving his BMW car when he had hit the two-wheeler on Moolchand flyover in South Delhi, killing Anuj Singh on September 11, 2008.

The brother of the deceased said that he would file an appeal in the high court against the dropping of a stringent charge of culpable homicide not amounting to murder under section 304 (II) of the IPC.

AGENCIES

Four die after inhaling toxic fumes while cleaning tank

The building, in south Delhi's Ghitorni, where the workers were called was under construction. Police are investigating whether safety norms were overlooked

ZAFAR ABBAS

NEW DELHI: In a tragic incident, four sanitation workers died of asphyxiation while cleaning a harvesting tank in south Delhi's Ghitorni area on Saturday morning.

Police said that five men had gone into the tank in a household in the area to clean it. But eyebrows were raised when did not come out for a long time.

It was soon found that they inhaled poisonous gases and were unable to climb out after becoming unconscious. Police were informed of the incident, but four of them were later declared dead.

The incident was reported around 10 am, when the owner of a plot called some men, involved in manual scavenging,



The drain where four sanitation workers allegedly died of asphyxiation while cleaning a tank in Ghitorni, New Delhi on Saturday

PIC/PTI

to clean the harvesting tank in the ground floor. Five workers had come for the cleaning work.

“First, two workers went inside and started cleaning

the tank. But within minutes, they fell unconscious. To rescue them, another worker went inside. But he too did not make it to the surface.

Later, the remaining two

remaining persons also went in one after the other to search for their mates, but they too got stuck,” said a senior police officer.

Soon, the police and the fire brigade were informed and all five workers were taken out in an unconscious state. The entire operation by the police and Fire department took over an hour.

“Three of them were taken to Fortis Hospital, while the other two were taken to the AIIMS Trauma Centre and the Safdarjung Hospital,” said Ishwar Singh, DCP South.

The deceased workers, identified as Swarn Singh (45), Dipu (28), Anil (23) and Balwinder (32), were declared brought dead at the hospital.

The fifth worker, Jaspal, Swarn Singh's son, is currently

undergoing treatment at Fortis. All five belong to Ambedkar Colony in Chhattarpur.

The building where the workers were called was under construction. Police are now investigating whether safety norms were overlooked while assigning work to the workers.

“We have registered a case under IPC 304 (culpable homicide not amounting to murder) and 308/34 against the owner J K Mehta. Legal procedure is on and investigation is under progress,” said a senior police officer.

Condemning the practice of manually removing of night soil with bare hands, brooms or metal scrapers, the Supreme Court had already directed all the States to abolish manual scavenging and take steps for rehabilitation of such workers.

NTPC Dadri undertakes cleanliness drive

NEW DELHI: The Swachhta Pakhwada observed at the NTPC Power Station at Dadri concluded on Saturday, with series of activities including a cleanliness drives being organised at the power station premises and nearby areas, schools and villages during the fortnight.

As part of CSR activities, the drive was kicked off under the ‘Gramin Swachhta Abhiyan’ at Dadri Tehsil premises, where Dadri SDM Amit Kumar Singh, NTPC senior manager (CSR) Kanhaiya Lal and CISE officials Hemendra Singh and J K Gupta were present, among other officials. They urged people to adopt hygiene at their homes and work places.

The drive was organised in the offices, administrative buildings and schools in nearby villages, with several school children taking part.

MPOST

LG reviews remodelling plans of Vasant Udyan Park

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal on Saturday visited the Delhi Development Authority's Vasant Udyan Park for an on-site review of the park's proposed landscaping and remodelling plans.

Bajjal asked officials to consult experts to spruce up the area around the Tughlaq-era monument Bara Lao Ka Gumbad, which is located in the Vasant Udyan complex, so as to attract more visitors.

The officials told Bajjal that the park's boundary wall would be redesigned to make it more in sync with Tughlaq era architecture. He was informed that the Forest department has cleared the landscape proposal of the area.

The LG also instructed officials to make sewage pumping stations (SPS) operational at the earliest and asked DDA and

Delhi Jal Board to coordinate on the work of the peripheral pipelines and other amenities.

He also advised DDA to explore the possibility of treatment of sewage flowing in the drain through the site by bio-remedial measures, so as to improve the quality of water.

Bajjal also directed Delhi Urban Shelter Improvement Board to adhere to the deadline of providing toilets and take action to prevent encroachments in the park.

He further said that development and remodelling of the park will provide facilities such as children's play area, jogging/walk track, open gym, toilet facilities, seating areas etc for residents in the area.

Completing his visit, the LG directed the concerned agencies for time-bound implementation of the various work components so as to finish the entire project by January 2018.

Man kills wife over suspected affair in south Delhi

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: A man was arrested on Saturday for murdering his wife in south Delhi's Kotla Mubarakpur area, after he suspected her of having an affair. The accused, identified as Tayyab, was arrested from Noida within 24 hours of the murder.

Shabnam, 35, was found lying unconscious by her landlord after he rushed to their house on hearing cries of the argument between the couple. The landlord found her husband Tayyab to be missing.

He informed the police, who arrived at the couple's rented accommodation with forensic teams to collect evidence.

Shabnam was rushed to the hospital, but was declared brought dead. Her body has been sent for post-mortem.

Police suspected that Tayyab had strangled his wife and a manhunt was launched to trace him.

They got to know that Tayyab had returned from a gulf country a few days earlier and had suspected his wife to be in an extramarital affair, which was the reason for their fight early Saturday morning.

The couple's children were not home at the time of the murder.

On Saturday evening, a police team nabbed Tayyab from Noida. The police team are now investigating him to find out details of the incident.

CM gives away subsidy to e-rickshaw drivers, lauds them for fighting pollution

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday said the Delhi government wants to operate battery-operated buses and cars to bring down pollution level in the national Capital.

Addressing e-rickshaw drivers at an event where subsidy money was given away to them, Kejriwal said there was a need to reduce the number of diesel and petrol-run vehicles to check pollution.

NDMC to embark on massive plantation drive

NEW DELHI: New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) is all set to plant 10 lakh saplings in New Delhi area during the ongoing monsoon season, under its Plantation Drive.

To achieve the target of 48-50 per cent green area in New Delhi, NDMC launched the plantation drive on Saturday from all its 52 NDMC and Navyug Schools.

The announcement was made by NDMC Chairman Naresh Kumar, speaking after planting a sapling of Ashok tree at Navyug Senior Secondary School, Lodhi Colony here.

Saplings of ornamental and herbal plants, shrubs, 30,000 indigenous trees like shisham, peepal, neem, and fruit plants like mangoes and jamun among others will be planted during the drive.

On Saturday's, as many as 28,000 NDMC and Navyug school children planted saplings in their school premises and surrounding areas.

MPOST

Kejriwal meets Anganwadi workers, assures them help

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday met a large number of Anganwadi workers in five different batches at his residence, who met him to list their grievances. After listening to their issues, Kejriwal assured them of action on all their grievances.

Speaking on the attacks on several Anganwadi centres and workers in the past few weeks, Kejriwal assured of all possible help.

“Security of all of you is our responsibility. I will talk to the Lieutenant Governor Anil Bajjal and will also meet him to apprise of the situation. I will ask him to direct the Delhi Police to do the needful,” said the Chief Minister.

The workers complained of attacks and threats to them from a union, which has been protesting.

They said that the protesting union was upset with them as they were working, while the union wants them to stop their work.

The workers complained of attacks and threats from a union, which has been protesting for a while and threatening Anganwadi workers who are on duty to stop working

The workers also demanded for a salary hike, to which Kejriwal replied in the affirmative.

“Wait for a week or so, you are going to get a salary hike and a handsome percentage hike. We are here for you and will take care of everything,” he told the workers.

On the complaint of the quality of food at the centres, Kejriwal said that the quality will be improved after consultation with Anganwadi workers. Many also complained of poor facilities at their centres.

“We have started our model Anganwadi centre. The first one is in Pitampura, where there are four centres and all are better than private crèches.

“We will come up with similar centres all over Delhi in the coming days. We together have

to make centres so good that people start sending their kids to our centres instead of private crèches,” Kejriwal told the workers.

He also assured them of providing modern facilities and the best equipments at their respective centres.

The Chief Minister further assured to fill up the vacant posts, so as to ease out the workload of the staff members.

On the complaint of issues of promotion, Kejriwal said that he will look into the process and discuss it with his Deputy Manish Sisodia.

On the issue of merger of some centres, Kejriwal said that none of the staff will lose their jobs. He also assured the workers of expediting some of the pending payments.



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“Bihar has the highest number of youths who are our capital. Bihar cannot develop without the overall growth of youths

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar

THANKS TO HECTIC PREZ, VP POLL SCHEDULES

This Monsoon Session may not witness much ruckus

DHIRENDRA KUMAR

NEW DELHI: As elections of President and Vice-President are scheduled in between the ongoing Monsoon Session, the experts have opined that the session would not witness as much ruckus as it used to be in comparison to other proceedings of the House.

The session is scheduled to start on Monday, which is also the polling day for the Presidential election, and would remain functional until August 11 – when the newly elected Vice-President would take the oath of office.

“As during the Monsoon session, series of events like election for President, farewell to incumbent President Pranab Mukherjee and then oath taking ceremony of newly elected President are scheduled, it's expected that most of the members would be occupied with official obligations,” an official of Parliamentary Affairs Ministry said while claiming that there would be disruptions during the Monsoon session.



Besides, the events like nominations for Vice-President, voting for the V-P, the farewell of Hamid Ansari and oath taking ceremony of newly elected Chairman of Rajya Sabha would also take place during the monsoon session.

As the session will have only 19 working days, it's expected that the House proceedings would come to an end on August 11 with less

number of disruptions and only a few bills would be passed during the Monsoon session.

The first day of the House would end up due voting for the Presidential poll and on account of the death of two sitting MPs – Lok Sabha member Vinod Khanna and Rajya Sabha member Pallavi Reddy.

According to sources, the

government would attempt to bring in only those bills which would be supported by Opposition parties. A meeting of all parties has also been called by Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan for the better functioning of the House.

During the meeting, Mahajan would seek cooperation from leaders of different parties in the Lok Sabha to ensure smooth transaction of

business in the House during the Monsoon session.

Despite, elections of President and Vice President, according to political experts, the Opposition would corner the government over the issues of cow vigilantism, farmers' suicides, protests over farm loan waiver, CBI raids on Lalu Prasad Yadav, border rift with China and Pakistan, etc.

In the backdrop of stormy session, the key bills that would be introduced in the House include the Banking Regulation (Amendment) Bill, which is aimed at granting right to Reserve Bank of India to deal with non-performing assets (NPAs), and The Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education (Amendment) Bill 2017.

The other key bills that would be introduced in the House are Repeal of State Bank of India (subsidy banks) Act 1959, Negotiable Instrument Act, Indian Institute of Management Bill 2017, The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Amendment) Bill 2017.

Ex-CM Zeliang calls on Nagaland Guv along with supporters

OUR CORRESPONDENT

KOHIMA: Amid the political crisis in the ruling Naga People's Front (NPF), Lok Sabha member Neiphiu Rio and 44 MLAs, all supporters of former chief minister T R Zeliang, on Saturday called on Nagaland Governor P B Acharya who promised to uphold the Constitution.

The meeting between them was confirmed by the Raj Bhavan Public Relations Department as well as NPF MLA Imkong L Imchen.

During the meeting with the NPF and Independent legislators, the governor asserted that he would uphold the provisions of the Constitution, Imchen said.

The 44 MLAs, comprising 36 from NPF, Zeliang and seven Independents, in the 60-member assembly and Rio met the governor, he said. There is one vacancy in the House.

The legislators were seen posing with Acharya in photographs of the meeting which went viral on social media, including Facebook and WhatsApp, during the day.

Zeliang, who has sought removal of Chief Minister Shurhozelie Liezietu, called on the governor to show that over 70 per cent of the MLAs are backing him, his camp said.

There is no opposition in the Assembly.

The former chief minister has garnered the support of the majority of NPF and Independent legislators and had staked claim to form a new government on July 8.

Assam flood toll touches 59

NEW DELHI: Heavy rains led to swelling of many rivers in the country with two deaths reported in Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh on Saturday while the flood situation remained grim in Assam where seven more persons have died in the deluge taking the toll to 59.

Two persons lost their lives in Sivasagar, one each was killed in flood-related incidents in Morigaon, Bongaigaon, South Salmara, Sonitpur and Jorhat districts.

With this, the total number of persons losing their lives in this year's flood-related incidents has gone up to 59, which includes eight in Guwahati. Nearly 12 lakh people in 24 districts are affected by the deluge.

Around 52 per cent area of Kaziranga National Park was

submerged which led to death of some animals while some others moved to nearby highlands. At present 1,795 villages in the state are inundated. The worst affected is South Salmara, where over 3.07 lakh people have been affected by the deluge. The Brahmaputra river is flowing above the danger mark at four places – Nimatighat in Jorhat, Tezpur in Sonitpur, Goalpara and Dhubri towns.

A major portion of the National Highway 2 between Nagaland and Manipur was severely damaged due to a landslide near Viswema village in Nagaland's Kohima district.

With monsoon remaining active in Uttar Pradesh, waters in major rivers like Ghaghra and Sharda were flowing above the danger mark at some places

in the state.

The danger of floods was looming over villages in four tehsils of Barabanki district with Nepal releasing water in the Ghaghra river.

With several villages of Ramsanehi ghat and Sirauli Gauspur tehsils inundated, locals have taken shelter on the river embankments, officials said adding relief was being provided to the affected people.

Two minor boys were washed away by the rising waters of the river Ganga after their bullock cart overturned in Sambhal district. The body of one of the boys has been recovered.

The river Sharda was flowing above the red mark at Palia Kalan the Ghaghra river has crossed the danger mark at

Elgin Bridge in Barabanki.

Heavy rains lashed parts of Rajasthan with Sirohi in Mount Abu recording 17 cm rainfall, the highest in the state.

Pipalkhot and Kotda in Udaipur both received 10 cm rains till this morning. Abu Road and Reodar, Bakani gauged 9 cm rainfall.

In Gujarat, heavy rains lashed parts of the state, including Morbi, Surendranagar and Rajkot districts, leading to reservoirs and rivers overflowing their banks, resulting in the death of one person.

Hundreds of people in these three districts were shifted to safer places from low-lying areas near rivers and dams. In Rajkot, authorities have asked citizens not to venture out of their houses. AGENCIES

Kovind meets NDA lawmakers in Maha; thanks Uddhav over phone

OUR CORRESPONDENT

MUMBAI: NDA's presidential nominee Ram Nath Kovind on Saturday met MLAs and MPs of the BJP and its allies in Maharashtra and called up Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray to thank him for supporting his candidature in the July 17 election.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, the BJP's state unit chief Raosaheb Danve, Union ministers Nitin Gadkari and Anant Geete (Shiv Sena), BJP leader Kailash Vijayvargiya and Maharashtra minister Mahadev Jankar (RSP) were among those present at the meeting.

“We all have the duty to preserve the highest importance of the Constitution of India. I would assure of equal justice to all, avoiding discrimination based on caste, religion, sect, gender and region,” said Kovind who was in Mumbai for merely three hours as he had to visit Goa and then fly to Gujarat. He said there should be comprehensive growth of all states of the country and get equal justice for all.

“My preference would be to ensure addressing the aspirations of the youth of the country, promotion and modernisation of education. We will



NDA presidential nominee Ram Nath Kovind being welcomed by Union ministers Nitin Gadkari and Ramdas Athawale, and Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis at Garware club, in Mumbai on Saturday

do our utmost to preserve the prestige of the post of the President,” Kovind said.

Describing Kovind as an outstanding person with great dedication, Gadkari said, “The NDA has chosen the right candidate for the presidential election. He will get historical success in the election from Maharashtra.”

Fadnavis said the NDA's presidential pick has organisational and administrative skills and is a constitution expert.

Danve spoke about Kovind's clean image, simplicity and modesty and asserted, “His victory is certain as there are 239 voters from Maharashtra that are with the NDA while

the UPA has only 98 voters.” Maharashtra minister and senior Shiv Sena leader Subhash Desai said Thackeray has asked the party MLA to ensure victory of the NDA candidate.

On NDA's presidential nominee not visiting ‘Matoshree’, senior party leader and state minister Eknath Shinde said, “Kovind thanked Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday in his speech for extending support to his candidature. As Kovind has to visit couple of more states, we did not insist him on visiting ‘Matoshree’.”

A visit to Thackeray's residence ‘Matoshree’ in suburban Bandra was not in Kovind's itinerary.

NIA begins probe, scans footage of all CCTVs

OUR CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: A day after the case of high-grade PETN explosive found inside the Uttar Pradesh Assembly was handed over the National Investigative Agency (NIA), the agency came into action and started its probe work on Saturday.

According to officials, apart from visiting the spot where the Pentaerythritol Tetranitrate explosive was discovered, the NIA officials would grill the security staff and agencies of the state police responsible for the security of the Vidhan Sabha.

According to an official Press noted released in the name of Asim Arun, the IG UP ATS, 15 security personnel of the state were quizzed by NIA officials and their statements have been recorded. The NIA officials also scanning the foot-

ages of all 23 CCTV cameras installed inside the assembly.

According to sources, the state officials have also been quizzed by NIA sleuths as why no action was taken to spruce up security despite a tip-off from the Intelligence Bureau (IB) in May about a possible terror plot to attack the state assembly when in session.

The NIA team also questioned the House marshals and other security staff and others who have access to the exclusive area, near the seat of Leader of Opposition, an official said.

Meanwhile, security was tightened at the UP legislature complex and “all anti-sabotage” measures put in place. Additional Director General of Police (Law and Order) Anand Kumar said that an integrated security plan for the “entire complex is also being worked upon.”

Army jawan killed in Pak firing near LoC

JAMMU: An Indian Army jawan was killed on Saturday in firing and mortar shelling by the Pakistani troops in Rajouri sector of Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir, the defence spokesman said here.

Lance Naik Mohammed Naseer, 35-year-old from border district of Poonch in J&K, was hit during the firing and shelling by the Pakistani troops on the Indian forward posts, the spokesman said.

“Pakistan Army initiated unprovoked firing on Indian Army posts in Rajouri sector at around 1330 hours today. Indian Army retaliated strongly and effectively,” he said.

There was Pakistani firing and shelling along the LoC in Balakote, Panjgrian, Naika and Manjakote areas. “In the fire exchange, Lance Naik Mohammed Naseer was grievously injured and succumbed to his injuries,” he said. AGENCIES

CELEBRATING A GLORIOUS CHAPTER OF HISTORY



BJP president Amit Shah speaks after releasing a book 'Syama Prasad Mookerjee: His Vision of Education' at Nehru Memorial Museum & Library in New Delhi on Saturday

Climate change to have devastating effect in Asia

MPOST BUREAU

NEW DELHI: Climate change would bring devastating consequences to countries in the Pacific and Asia, a new report has warned and said Southern India may witness a decline in rice yields by five per cent in 2030s.

Unabated climate change could severely affect the future growth of these countries, reverse current development gains, and degrade quality of life, the report by the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK) claimed.

According to the report, Asia has the highest number of people exposed to flooding from possible storm surge events, particularly in the People's Republic of China (PRC), India, Bangladesh, and Indo-

nesia. It said meanwhile, 130 million people in low-elevation coastal zones in Bangladesh, India, and Pakistan, are at risk of being displaced by the end of the century in worst-case scenarios.

“While rice yields could potentially increase in the northern states of India, rice yields may decline by 5 per cent in the 2030s, 14.5 per cent in the 2050s and 17 per cent in the 2080s in the southern states,” it said.

The report, titled ‘A region at risk: The human dimensions of climate change in Asia and the Pacific’, also said different modeling approaches are relatively consistent in terms of projecting a yield reduction in wheat production of 8 per cent in India.

Flood exposure is apparently increasing in coastal cities due to growing populations



and assets and subsidence, it said. “Studying the 136 largest coastal cities, the authors estimate that the average global flood losses in 2005 were approximately \$6 billion per year and will increase to \$52 billion by 2050.

“Of the top 20 cities with the largest increase of annual

losses between 2005 and 2050, 13 are located in Asia- Guangzhou (PRC), Mumbai, Kolkata, Shenzhen (PRC), Tianjin (PRC), Ho Chi Minh City (Viet Nam), Jakarta (Indonesia), Chennai, Surat, Zhanjiang (PRC), Bangkok (Thailand), Xiamen (PRC), and Nagoya (Japan),” it said.

The report said recent studies reveal that flood risk is projected to increase significantly in Southeast Asia and India under global warming.

“The global climate crisis is arguably the biggest challenge human civilisation faces in the 21st century, with the Asia and Pacific region at the heart of it all,” said Bambang Susantono, ADB Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development.

Professor Hans Joachim Schellnhuber, PIK Director said that the Asian countries hold Earth's future in their hands.

Noting that the challenge is two-fold, he said Asian greenhouse-gas emissions have to be reduced in a way that the global community can limit planetary warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, as agreed in Paris 2015.

Business

“India-UK share many warm bonds and I hope we can take our food diplomacy to the next level with World Food India Union minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal

IT major Tech Mahindra to hire staff in US this year

MUNISH SHEKHAVAT

NEW YORK: IT major Tech Mahindra plans to hire around 2,200 people in the US this year, same as last year, amid the American government's call for creation of jobs in the country.

The Mumbai-based company, which has over 6,000 people working for over 400 clients in the US, has been recruiting resources out of colleges in the US over the past four years.

"Last year, we hired around 2,200 people and we expect to do the same this year as well," Tech Mahindra President, Strategic Verticals, Lakshmanan Chidambaram told reporters here. On the reasons for stepped up US hiring, he said: "That has happened because the message from the US government is very clear that they would like us to play a bigger role here (in terms of employment)." Besides, some of the digital technologies being worked on require enhanced local presence, he added.

Currently, the US is the single biggest market for Tech Mahindra. The company oper-



ates out of 28 cities in the US.

It also has 16 development centres in the US, spread across rural and urban centres. The company has over 1.17 lakh employees globally.

Indian IT firms are facing challenges in the business environment and stricter work permit regime in countries like the US, Singapore, Australia and New Zealand.

Back home, reports of mass layoffs by various companies, including Tech Mahindra, have the employees worried even though the industry has consistently denied any such move.

The companies have maintained that the layoffs are part of normal business decisions, although many believe

that these are directed more towards controlling costs.

Tech Mahindra was also in news lately after an audio clip went viral, which purportedly involved a conversation of a human resource (HR) executive of the company asking an employee to put in his papers by the following morning as part of a corporate decision.

Mahindra Group chairman Anand Mahindra later tendered a public apology over the manner in which the employee was asked to quit.

Asked whether increased hiring in the US should be seen in light of the company laying off staff in India, Chidambaram said: "For sure no. There is no connect".

Ujjwala scheme: Govt crosses 2.5 crore LPG connections

JANGIPUR (West Bengal): President Pranab Mukherjee on Friday handed over cooking gas connection to a woman here to mark meeting half the target of distributing five crore free LPG connections to women from poor households.

In May last year, the government embarked on a drive to provide free cooking gas connection to 5 crore women from poor households in three years with a view to reduce the use of polluting fuels such as wood and dried cow dung that, according to the World Health Organization, causes 1.3 million premature deaths in India every year.

The indoor and near-home pollution generated by burning wood and cow dung is the leading cause of premature death in India after high blood pressure.

Mukherjee handed over a cooking gas connection to Gauri Sarkaar at his residence, Jangipur House, which took the number of free con-



President Pranab Mukherjee during the distribution of LPG gas connection under the 'Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana' in Murshidabad West Bengal, on Friday

nections provided under the Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana scheme so far to 2.5 crore. In all, 10 women from the President's hometown

Jangipur as well as Raghunath Ganj and Murshidabad were handed over free connections at a ceremony also attended by Oil Minister Dharmendra

Pradhan.

"Proud to join the Hon'ble @RashtrapatiBhvn Pranab Da in handing over #2.5CrUjjwala to Gauri Sarkaar at Jangipur

House in West Bengal," Pradhan later tweeted.

The government is targeting increasing LPG usage to cover 80 per cent of the households by March 2019, against 72.8 per cent as on April 1.

It has earmarked Rs 8,000 crore to provide free LPG connection to women from families living below the poverty line (BPL).

"Have been lucky to have a team of dedicated officers who made #2.5CrUjjwala possible. Happy to share a frame with some of them at Jangipur," Pradhan said in another tweet along with a picture of the president and the beneficiary.

"Double Delight Moments for these PMUY Beneficiaries at Jangipur. Getting freedom from Smoke & Sharing frame with Hon'ble @RashtrapatiBhvn," he said in another tweet.

Earlier, Jangipur MP and Pranab Mukherjee's son Abhijeet Mukherjee welcomed the guests for the distribution ceremony at Jangipur Bhavan.

Jain is Oriental Bank MD & CEO



Mukesh Kumar Jain

NEW DELHI: Mukesh Kumar Jain has been appointed as the managing director and chief executive officer of Oriental Bank of Commerce. He is at present the executive director in Punjab and Sind Bank.

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Jain's appointment to the post for a period of three years, an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) said.

Market worth billions awaits UK firms: Harsimrat Kaur Badal

ADITI KHANNA

LONDON: Union minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal has urged UK companies to participate in India's food processing value chain, saying a market worth \$600 billion is waiting for the British firms.

The Union Cabinet Minister of Food Processing was addressing a round-table to promote her ministry's first-ever World Food India summit in New Delhi in November and called on British companies to use the platform to finalise their entry and collaboration plans.

"India is a \$600 billion retail sector, of which 70 per cent is just food retail. This is set to treble in the next three years and in the next five years, Indians will be spend-

ing 50 per cent more on food. That is the kind of huge market we have. This market is waiting for you in India to participate in any part of the food processing value chain," Badal said at the Indian High Commission in London on Friday.

"India-UK share many warm bonds and I hope we can take our food diplomacy to the next level with World Food India," she said.

Using Amazon's commitment of a 500-million-dollar investment in the Indian food sector as an example of the growing foreign investor interest in the industry, the minister highlighted a range of incentives being offered by the Indian government in the form of mega food parks and cold chain schemes.



"As we are creating the right infrastructure, we think the platform is now ready for World Food India, which is going to be a platform for people to meet and take partnerships to another level. Geographically, India is also

ported summit to be held between November 3 and 5 in New Delhi is planned as a biennial conference to bring together various states of India to showcase business opportunities as well as their own unique cuisine as part of a "Food Street", which is also likely to be replicated in the UK.

"The summit is designed to offer an unusual peek into India's food and culture as well as opportunities to invest and prosper from one of the world's largest consumer markets," CII said in a statement.

Italy has been confirmed as a focus country of the summit this year, with other partner countries are expected to join in and explore the so-called "farm to fork" food processing value chain in India.

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) sup-

Bank of India expects to return to black in Q2

KOLKATA: Bank of India (BoI), which had been reporting losses for last two consecutive fiscals, expects to return to black in the second quarter of current fiscal.

"Our operating profit is very robust and net interest income is strong. But we had been making losses as were making higher provisioning for NPAs. We hope to make net profits in the second quarter of current fiscal," MD and CEO of BoI D B Mohapatra told reporters here on Saturday.

He said that the bank had been provisioning to the extent of 60 per cent for which it was making losses. "But this will give us an edge when the

bad accounts start becoming better". The gross NPA of the bank was more than 13 per cent and net NPA at 6.9 per cent.

As per RBI norms, the bank was supposed to be under threshold one of prompt and corrective action (PCA). "We have not been under PCA since our operating profit is very good and losses had been reduced from Rs 6000 crore in 2015-16 to Rs 1500 crore in 2016-17," he said. Out of 12-odd accounts identified by RBI for reference to NCLT for resolutions, BoI was a part of the consortium of four such accounts. "None of the four has been referred to the NCLT so far," he said.

Indian students worry about physical safety in US: Survey

LALIT K JHA

WASHINGTON: Indian students have a "high level of concern" about potential study in the US and a large number of them worry about their physical safety and about the feeling of being welcomed, according to a new survey. The Institute of International Education (IIE) suggested that the final outcome of the US Supreme Court order in June that temporarily upheld President Donald Trump's executive order to restrict entry of nationals from six Muslim majority countries to America weighs on their mind.

With over a million international students pursuing higher education in the US and contributing more than \$36 billion to the American economy, the stakes are high, it said.

Founded in 1919, the IIE is a US-based not-for-profit working to build peaceful



and equitable societies by advancing scholarship, building economies and promoting access to opportunity. It focuses on International Student Exchange and Aid, Foreign Affairs, and International Peace and Security.

The IIE said that the survey results indicate the highest level of institutional concern regarding enrollment of students from the Middle East, followed by India.

Thirty-one per cent of

institutions are very concerned that Middle Eastern students who have accepted offers of admissions may not arrive on campus in the fall, and 20 per cent are very concerned that Indian students may not arrive on campus, it said. "This uncertainty raises valid concerns as to whether students from the Middle East may be deterred from US study," it said.

"Securing and maintaining a visa is reported as the top concern among these stu-

dents and was reported by 46 per cent of institutions, while feeling welcome in the United States was an almost equal concern, with 41 per cent of institutions noting so from their conversations with students," it added.

According to the IIE, survey findings suggest that Indian students "have a high level of concern about potential study in the United States, 80 per cent of institutions responded that physical safety was the most pronounced concern for Indian students, while 31 per cent of institutions indicated that feeling welcome was also a concern." "Although application totals appearing to largely remain stable, yield rates and a concern about personal safety suggest the possibility that Indian students may not continue to grow as the second largest international group in US higher education," IIE said.

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया
Central Bank of India

1911 से आपके लिए "केंद्रित" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911

BRANCH OFFICE: KHERI ROAD, BHARAT COLONY, OLD FARIDABAD

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
(Appendix-IV) See Rule 8(i)

Whereas the undersigned being the authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Kheri Road, Old Faridabad Branch, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 9 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice dated 17/04/2017, calling upon the Borrower: Mr. Kuldeep Gupta S/o. Sh. Mahaveer Gupta & Mrs. Kusum Gupta W/o. Mahaveer Gupta, H.No.170-B/4, Khatri Wara, Old Faridabad, Haryana, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.11,93,820/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Ninety Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Only) along with accrued interest within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the said rules on this 13.07.2017. The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of Central Bank of India, Kheri Road, Old Faridabad Branch, for an amount of Rs.11,93,820/- (Rupees Eleven Lakhs Ninety Three Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Only) plus interest there upon from 17.04.2017.

The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section (13) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Equitable Mortgage of House No.170-B/4, measuring 37 sq.yards situated at Ward No.4, Mohalla Khatriwara, Old Faridabad, Haryana. Bounded as: East: Remaining Part of H.No.170 West: Property of Smt. Sunita North: Road South: Property of Sh. Sher Singh

Authorised Officer,
Central Bank of India

DATE: 13.07.2017

GURU GOBIND SINGH
INDRAPRASTHA UNIVERSITY

(Established by the Govt. of NCT of Delhi)
Sector-16 C, Dwarka, New Delhi - 110 078
Website : www.ipu.ac.in

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

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

Name of Work : RMO GGSIP University, Dwarka Campus, New Delhi

Sub Head : Repair Work in Substations

NIT No. : 10/EE/UWD/Elect/2017-18

Estimated Cost : Rs. 6,79,070/-

Time of completion : 30 days, EMD : Rs 13,581/-

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from website <http://govtprocurement.delhi.gov.in>.

Last date of submission of bids is **28/07/2017**.

EE/UWD

GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH,
WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
KHARUNG WATER RESOURCES DIVISION, BILASPUR
DISTT. BILASPUR (C.G.)

e-Procurement Tender Notice
eProcurement Portal: <https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>
(SECOND-CALL)

SYSTEM TENDER NO. 19844/NOTICE INVITING TENDER NO. 09 /SAC/2017-18 DATED: 12-07-2017

Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to **28-07-2017** (17.30 hours IST).

System Tender No	Group No.	Name of Work	Probable amount of contract
19844		CONSTRUCTION OF BALANCE WORK OF HEAD WORK & CANAL OF BHURKUNDA TANK SCHEME.	Rs.136.65 Lakhs

The details can be viewed & downloaded online directly from the Govt. of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) from dated **19-07-2017** at **17.31 hours (IST)** onwards. **Note:** All eligible/interested contractors /bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the integrated e-Procurement portal (<https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in>) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under centralized contractor/ supplier registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subsequent bidding process.

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
KHARUNG W.R. DIVISION
BILASPUR (C.G.)

G42769/4

IBC segregates judicial, commercial aspects of insolvency: M S Sahoo

NEW DELHI: The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code has segregated judicial and commercial aspects of the insolvency process whereby stakeholders have the right to decide on what suits them, IBBI chairperson M S Sahoo said on Saturday.

The Code, which became operational in December last year, provides for a market-determined and time-bound insolvency resolution process. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) is implementing the Code.

Sahoo said there is an oversight mechanism, that includes

IBBI and National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT), to facilitate the transaction that a market participant wishes to do while the approval of insolvency resolution plan is done by the stakeholders concerned.

"The IBC actually has segregated commercial aspects and judicial aspects ... It has put commercial aspects in the hands of stakeholders, judicial aspects with the tribunal and with all that it has put a time line with firm consequences," Sahoo said here.

In case the process is not completed within 180 days time, then the company

concerned would go into liquidation.

"That is the disincentive if they don't do it within the time line. The incentive is that they stand to gain if the process goes through and they have the right to take the decision on what suits them the most," he noted.

More than 150 transactions are going on under the Code.

Sahoo was speaking at an event organised by industry body Assocham. He also said that merely making rules and regulations is not adequate unless there are facilitators in the system.

MILITARY ENGINEER SERVICES

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

Assistance Garrison Engineer (Indp) Raiwala, Military Engineer Services, Raiwala Cantt-249205 on behalf of President of India invites online item rate bids on Single stage Two Cover Bid System for the following works :-

Sr. No.	Name of Work	Estimated Cost Rs.	Period of completion	Tender ID
1.	Repair to drain, culvert, parapet, and other misc B/R work at Mily station Raiwala under AGE (I) Raiwala.	Rs. 9.60 (Lakhs)	06 Month	2017_MES 129579_1
2.	Cleaning of UG Sumps, OH Tank and supply of chemicals for water purification & repair of chronome plant and other allied works at Raiwala and Narendra Nagar under AGE(I) Raiwala.	Rs. 9.95 (Lakhs)	06 Month	2017_MES 129601_1
3.	Manning and operation of water supply installation at Raiwala and electric and water supply installation at Narendra Nagar under AGE(I) Raiwala.	Rs. 9.00 (Lakhs)	06 Month	2017_MES 129602_1

For further detail refer web site eprocuremes.gov.in/eprocure.gov.in

Appendix 'A' to AGE (I) Raiwala
Letter No. 8487/01/E-8 dated 15 Jul 2017

AEE IDSE
AGE (I) Raiwala

Trump admin moves SC against judge's ruling on travel ban

WASHINGTON: The Trump administration has moved the Supreme Court to block a federal judge's ruling that weakened the president's ban on travellers from six Muslim-majority nations by expanding the list of family relationships with US citizens that visa applicants can use to get into America.

In a filing before the US Supreme Court late evening yesterday, the Department of Justice sought to overturn the ruling of a federal judge in Hawaii this week which sought to limit the number of people affected by the travel ban.

The Supreme Court is currently not in session, but can take emergency cases.

US District Judge Derrick Watson this week had ordered the Trump administration not to enforce the ban on grandparents, grandchildren, brothers-in-law, sisters-in-law, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins of people in the US.

"Common sense, for instance, dictates that close family members be defined to include grandparents," Watson said in his ruling.



Watson had also ruled that the government may not exclude refugees who have formal assurance from a resettlement agency in the US. Opposing the Hawaii court ruling, US Attorney General Jeff Sessions said the district court has issued decisions that are entrusted to the executive branch, undermined national security, delayed necessary action, created confusion, and violated a proper respect for separation of powers.

"The Supreme Court has had to correct this lower court once, and we will now reluctantly return directly to the Supreme Court to again vindicate the rule of law and the executive branch's duty to protect the nation," Sessions said.

"Once again, we are faced with a situation in which a single federal district court has undertaken by a nationwide injunction to micromanage decisions of the co-equal executive branch related to our national security," he argued. Sessions alleged that by its decision, the district court had "improperly substituted" its policy preferences for the national security judgements of the executive branch in a time of grave threats, defying both the lawful prerogatives of the executive branch and the directive of the Supreme Court. AGENCIES

Trump stance a 'setback' in US-Cuba relations: Raul Castro

HAVANA: Cuba's president said Donald Trump's hard-line stance towards the country was a "setback" in relations with the United States after ties were gradually restored in 2015. Raul Castro criticized Trump's partial rollback of his predecessor Barack Obama's rapprochement with the communist island in comments ahead of the second anniversary of Havana embassy's reopening in Washington on July 20.

"The announcements made by the current president... mean a setback in bilateral relations," Castro said Friday in remarks broadcast on state television at the closing of the first session of Cuba's parliament.

The remarks came after Trump last month stood before a crowd of anti-Castro activists in Miami's Little Havana and announced tightened rules for Americans traveling to Cuba, banned ties with a military-run tourism firm and reaffirmed the existing US trade embargo.

He framed his measures as a move against a "cruel and



brutal" regime, saying progress on bilateral relations would hinge on concessions related to human rights.

Castro called the new measures a toughening of the US

embargo against the island, imposed since 1962, saying they evoked "an old and hostile rhetoric that characterized the Cold War".

He also denounced the

he said during the session, to which international press does not have access.

"Any strategy that seeks to destroy the revolution, whether through coercion or pressure or through subtle methods, will fail."

Castro -- who is 86 and due to leave the Cuban presidency in February -- reiterated his willingness to continue "respectful dialogue" and negotiate bilateral issues "on the basis of equality" and recognition of "the sovereignty and independence of our country."

The original Cuban government response to Trump's declaration was restrained, expressing rejection of the tightened policy but emphasizing openness to continuing "respectful" negotiation. Trump's critics have warned his clampdown on dealings with Cuban military-run tour firms and on private US travel to the communist-run island would only impoverish ordinary Cubans and threaten diplomatic rapprochement. AGENCIES

3 British Sikhs jailed for smuggling Afghans into UK

LONDON: Three British Sikhs have been jailed for a total of 19 years for helping about 70 illegal Afghan immigrants sneak into the UK by misusing passports in a 600,000 pounds scam.

Cousins Daljit Kapoor and Harmit Kapoor, and Davinder Chawla, all three in their 40s, had admitted conspiring to help foreigners get into the country illegally and were sentenced last week at Inner London Crown Court.

"The whole system of immigration is completely undermined. It was a large scale operation and was for financial gain," Judge Nigel Seed told them. Daljit was jailed for seven years, Harmit for four and a half years and Chawla, a member of the same extended family, for seven and a half years. The gang was paid more than 9,000 pounds for each family they got into the UK, smuggling nearly 70 people into the country in the estimated 620,000 pound scam. They travelled to France and handed over passports to waiting immigrants and then collected them once they safely got within the UK territory. Once the immigrants got into the UK, the gang would recycle the passports passing them on to others trying to sneak into the country. All the passports shown by the Afghans had photos of Sikhs wearing their turbans and border staff failed to spot the difference. In total, 69 individuals who travelled to the UK on the passports were identified and 59 did not make an asylum application.

"The central aim was to gain financially. At least one of the conspirators with a passport would travel to France to enable to asylum seeker to travel to the UK using this passport," Prosecutor Alexandra Felix told the court. AGENCIES

3 dead in fire in Honolulu high-rise apartment building

HONOLULU: At least three people died as dozens of firefighters battled a multiple-alarm fire in a Honolulu high-rise apartment building just outside Waikiki on Saturday.

The blaze at the Marco Polo apartments started on the 26th floor and spread to at least the 27th floor and several units, said Honolulu Fire Department spokesman Capt David Jenkins. He said the number of fatalities could change.

Firefighters say there were reports of people trapped in their units in the burning building.

The high-rise has 568 apartments and four commercial spaces. Paramedics treated several injured people and at least two people were sent to the hospital in serious but stable



condition. Troy Yasuda, who lives in a building across the street, was giving water to people who evacuated. "They were choking from the smoke," he said, adding that people told him they evacuated through dark stairwells.

Police were yelling through megaphones for people still inside to come down, Yasuda said. He watched as people

were carried out.

"It's been an orderly evacuation," said security guard Leonard Rosa, who was answering phones from the front lobby of the 31-story building near Waikiki. Police and firefighters were going door-to-door, he said.

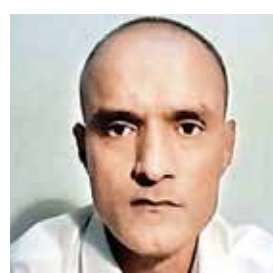
Firefighters were checking on reports that there were people trapped in their units, Jenkins said. Fourth-floor resident Aaron Dengler and his wife were helping their elderly neighbor get to an aid station the American Red Cross set up at a nearby park. "It doesn't help to just stand and watch," he said. About two hours after the fire started it looked like flames were getting bigger and it looked like the blaze was reaching the 28th floor, Dengler said. AGENCIES

Leading Pakistani daily says Kulbhushan Jadhav's mother should be granted visa

LAHORE: Pakistan should grant a visa to Kulbhushan Jadhav's mother on humanitarian grounds as it is an opportunity to lower the temperature in the ties and show that humanity can still shine, Pakistan's leading daily said on Saturday.

Pakistan has repeatedly denied India consular access to Jadhav, and his mother's visa application to visit Pakistan to see her son is pending with the authorities for approval.

In an editorial, the Dawn newspaper said the Pakistan government should grant Jadhav's mother a visa on humanitarian grounds to demonstrate



"humanity can still shine through".

It said the visa application was the "latest opportunity" for the two countries to back away from an increasingly confrontational stance against each other. "A meeting between

mother and son is very different to granting consular access, which is any case being litigated by India in the International Court of Justice," the paper said, asserting that the meeting would not undermine Pakistan's case against Jadhav.

"Small gestures can have a way of lowering the temperature in the overall relationship between India and Pakistan and opening the door to further sensible measures.

Pakistan and India are caught in a trough in relations; the request by Jadhav's mother is an opportunity for both sides to show that human-

HORSING AROUND



Payton Lackey of Blanco, Texas, competes in the bareback bronc championship at the International Finals Youth Rodeo in Okla AP/PTI

Brexit causing 'severe damage', must be halted, says Blair

LONDON: Former UK Prime Minister Tony Blair has warned against Britain's planned exit from the European Union, saying stopping Brexit was "necessary".

It is necessary for Britain to remain in the EU bloc to fend off "severe economic damage," Blair wrote in an article published on Saturday by his Institute for Global Change.

Blair, who hailed from the Labour Party, suggested in the article that EU leaders might compromise and be willing to "reform and meet us half way" to stop Britain from leaving the bloc.

Blair also told Sky News that "every day is bringing us fresh evidence" of Brexit's harm to Britain, with economic growth slowing and the value of the pound down sharply since the June 2016 EU membership referendum.

The EU referendum, also known as Brexit, took place on June 23, 2016, in which the majority of Britons voted in favor of leaving the bloc.

Prime Minister Theresa May has claimed that Brexit would only be possible by cutting all ties with the EU and losing access to the single market.

Her Tory government has formally drafted a bill to enact the country's divorce from the EU.

Opposition Labour Party lawmakers say they believe there could be other alternative ways to Brexit without cutting all ties to the EU and threatened to kill May's proposed Brexit bill in the parliament.

The bill is a key part of the government's plan to exit the EU in 2019. AGENCIES

Australia set to join UN Human Rights Council: Report

CANBERRA: Australia looks set to fill one of two vacancies on the United Nations Human Rights Council following France's withdrawal from the process, the Herald Sun newspaper said Foreign Minister Julie Bishop. The appointment would be Australia's first to the powerful body, coming amid criticism of its own human rights record against indigenous people and asylum seekers in offshore detention centres on Nauru and Papua New Guinea's Manus Island. "We didn't use our aid budget, we didn't make promises we couldn't keep," the paper quoted Bishop as saying. "We very much campaigned on our record and how we would act on the Human Rights Council." Australia secured 141 written pledges and more than 20 verbal pledges from 192 U.N. members to back its bid, the paper said. Bishop's office said it could not confirm Australia had been guaranteed a spot, but added, "We are looking forward to making a positive contribution." AGENCIES

WORLD BRIEFS

INDIAN STUDENT FOUND DEAD IN BANGLADESH, ANOTHER INJURED

DHAKA: An Indian student has been found dead while another was found injured in a flat in Bangladesh's Chittagong's city. The deceased was identified as Ateef Sheikh, 25, a final year MBBS student of the University of Science and Technology Chittagong (USTC), the Daily Star quoted Alamgir Hossain, Officer-in-Charge of the Akbar Shah Police Station, as saying. Another Indian student, identified as Winsong Singh, 23, was also found hanging from a ceiling fan at the same flat in Akbar Shah locality. Both men hailed from India's northeastern Manipur state.

INDONESIA RESTRICTS APP OVER 'TERRORISM' CONTENT

JAKARTA: Indonesia has blocked web-based access to a popular messaging service and threatened a full ban on the app due to its "terrorism" content, the government said. The communications ministry said in a statement that "so many channels in the (Telegram) service contain radicalism and terrorism... encouragement and tips to assemble bombs or launch attacks" that it needed to block it. The partial ban came as the country suffered from a string of attacks, including one carried out by a man police said was radicalised after reading radical material on Telegram.

SECURITY TIGHT, HOLY SITE SHUT AFTER JERUSALEM ATTACK

JERUSALEM: Security forces locked down parts of Jerusalem's Old City on Saturday and an ultra-sensitive holy site remained closed after an attack that killed two police officers and heightened Israeli-Palestinian tensions. Three Arab Israeli assailants opened fire on Israeli police Friday in the Old City before fleeing to the nearby Haram al-Sharif, known to Jews as the Temple Mount, where they were shot dead by police. Israeli authorities said they had come from the flash-point holy site, which includes the Al-Aqsa mosque and the Dome of the Rock, to commit the attack.

ISIS AFGHAN BRANCH LEADER KILLED IN US STRIKE

WASHINGTON: The US forces have killed the head of Islamic State's Afghanistan branch in a strike on the terror group's headquarters in Kunar Province, the Pentagon said. The killing of Abu Sayed, marked the third time within a year that the terror group's Afghanistan branch has lost its leader. AGENCIES

Women tourists killed in Egyptian resort were Germans

CAIRO: The two women tourists stabbed to death by a man at a popular Red Sea beach resort in Egypt were German nationals, the German government on Saturday confirmed. The German foreign ministry said in a statement here that it "sadly confirms that two German tourists died in the attack" at Hurgada holiday resort, renowned for its scuba diving. Reports previously said the two women were Ukrainian nationals.

Four other women were injured in yesterday's attack.

The attacker had swum ashore from another beach, according to Egypt's interior ministry.

He has been arrested and is being questioned to ascertain the motive behind the attack. AGENCIES

Nobel laureate Liu Xiaobo cremated; China says wife 'free so far'

BEIJING: China's Nobel laureate and prominent dissident Liu Xiaobo was cremated on Saturday after succumbing to cancer while in custody, even as Beijing said his wife was "free so far" but must "avoid trouble" amid international pressure to let her leave the country.

The 61-year-old human rights activist died due to multiple organ failure following a battle with liver cancer on Thursday.

Family members and friends of Liu bade farewell to him in northeast China's Shenyang city, officials told a media briefing in the city. Liu's body was cremated in accordance with the will of his family members and local customs, state-run Xinhua news agency reported. Prior to the cremation, a simple ceremony was held with the attendance of Liu's wife Liu Xia and his friends.

"The cremation of Liu's body



Liu Xia, wife of Liu Xiaobo and her brother Liu Hui (left) stand next to the casket of the late Nobel Peace Prize winner Liu Xiaobo AP/PTI

funeral after consultation, the report said. The death of Liu, who was sentenced in 2009 for 11 years on the charges of sedition and incarcerated since then has brought the focus on the future of his activist wife Liu Xia, who has also been confined to house detention. AGENCIES

millenniumpost
CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Sumreen W/o Kalim Ullah R/o House No. 1091, Street No. 39/1, Jafraabad, Delhi-53 changed my minor son name from Mohammad Azhaan to Azhaan Sami for all purposes.

SAI BABA INVESTMENT AND COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES LIMITED
Reg. office: T-63, Ground Floor, West Patel Nagar, Near Khanna Market, Delhi-110008.
Email Id: saibabainvestco@gmail.com
Website: www.saibabainvestco.in
Tel: +91-22-24922528 Fax: +91-22-24922528
CIN: L74999DL1981PLC012736

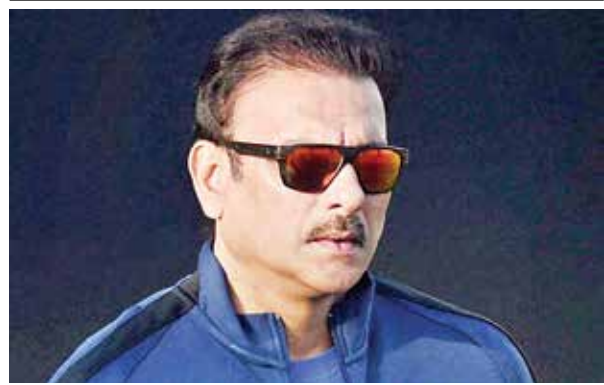
Declaration of Record Date for Split of Shares
The Company has fixed Monday, 24th July, 2017 as the Record date for the purpose of Sub-Division of each Equity Share having nominal value of Rs. 10/- each into 10 Equity Shares of nominal value of Rs. 1/- each.

The same is also available on Company's website www.saibabainvestco.in and Bombay Stock Exchange Limited's website www.bseindia.com

By the order of the Board For Sai Baba Investment and Commercial Enterprises Limited Sd/-
Date: 15th July, 2017 Anu Bala
Place: Delhi Company Secretary

“I was hoping to be in good shape when the grass court season came around”
-Roger Federer

Shastri appointment approved but no decision on Dravid, Zaheer



NEW DELHI: The Committee of Administrators (CoA) on Saturday said the Indian cricket team's support staff will be recruited after consultation with head coach Ravi Shastri by July 22, effectively putting on hold Zaheer Khan and Rahul Dravid's appointments.

In a meeting attended by CoA members Vinod Rai, Diana Edulji and BCCI CEO Rahul Johri, the CoA approved the appointment of Shastri. However, the committee did not implicitly specify whether Dravid and Khan were on board as consultants for specific overseas tours, as had been claimed by the BCCI.

As per the minutes of the meeting, the "appointments of other consultants will be decided by the committee in consultation with the head coach".

The CoA has formed a four-member panel, which includes acting Board President C K Khanna and CEO Rahul Johri, to decide on the remuneration of newly-appointed head coach Shastri and other members of the support staff. Edulji and BCCI acting Secretary Amitabh Choudhary are the other members of the committee which will meet on July 19.

This was decided after a CoA meeting today.

The new committee will reach out to CoA with its recommendations on July 22, three days after the team leaves for the Sri Lanka tour on July 19.

"We have taken all the recommendations of the CAC for Ravi Shastri as head coach and we will further discuss with him appointment of other coaches. We have set up a committee and they will speak to them (CAC), communicate with them after talking to Shastri. The support staff has been decided in consultation with the head coach," Rai told reporters after the meeting.

"Three appointments which are core to the coaching team have been decided. But we have to consult each one of them, we have to ascertain their willingness and have to ensure that there is no conflict of interest issue. The three-member Cricket Advisory Committee (CAC) had named Shastri as head coach while Dravid and Khan were appointed batting and bowling consultants respectively for specific overseas tours.

However, the CoA clarified that they (Zaheer and Dravid) were mere recommendations and appointments. "There is no such thing as contract as yet. It's only a recommendation. It's not an appointment. A recommendation has been made and the CoA has to act on the recommendation, that recommendation will be acted upon in consultation with the head coach." AGENCIES

Muguruza leaves her mark on Venus

LONDON: Garbine Muguruza stormed to her first Wimbledon title and shattered Venus Williams' history bid with a majestic 7-5, 6-0 victory on Saturday's final.

Muguruza overwhelmed Williams with a supreme display of power hitting in 77 minutes on Centre Court to become only the second Spanish woman to win Wimbledon.

Watched from the Royal Box by King Juan Carlos of Spain, the 23-year-old finally got her hands on the Venus Rosewater Dish two years after losing to the American's sister Serena in her maiden Wimbledon final.

Fittingly, it was Muguruza's current coach Conchita Martinez who was the first woman to raise the Spanish flag at Wimbledon in 1994 when she defeated Martina Navratilova.

"The first set was tough. We both had a lot of chances. I'm glad I took mine," Muguruza said.

"Two years ago I lost in the final against Serena and she told me I would win one day. Here I am. Finally!"



PIC/AP/PTI

Venezuela-born Muguruza's second Grand Slam title, following her French Open triumph last year, denied Williams, 37, in her attempt to become the oldest Wimbledon champion in the Open era.

Back in the Wimbledon final after an eight-year absence, Williams had hoped to clinch a sixth All England Club title, nine years after she last lifted the trophy.

Instead, she paid the price for a surprisingly nerve-ridden display that condemned her to a second Grand Slam disappointment this year following her Australian Open final loss against Serena.

"Congratulations Garbine. I know how hard you work," Williams said. "I tried my best to do the things Serena does, but I think there will be other opportunities."

Since winning her maiden Grand Slam title in Paris, Muguruza had endured something of a sophomore slump as her ranking dropped out of the top 10.

But she has rediscovered her mojo on grass and will climb to fifth when the new rankings are confirmed next week.

Remarkably, of her four four-level titles, two are now Grand Slams.

With persistent drizzle blanketing the All England Club, Williams and Muguruza were competing in the first Wimbledon final to begin under the roof, watched by a sell-out crowd including Hollywood actress Hilary Swank.

Twenty years ago, Venus admitted she was a bundle of nerves when she made a losing Wimbledon debut against Magdalena Grzybowska and, in her ninth All England Club final, once again there was anxiety coursing through her error-strewn display. Fortified by a cross-court winner to bring up break point at 3-2, Williams looked poised to seize control, but instead a tame forehand into the net to let Muguruza off the hook. AGENCIES

Women's World Cup: India crush NZ by 186 runs

DERBY: Skipper Mithali Raj slammed a century before left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad returned with a five-wicket haul as India crushed New Zealand by 186 runs to storm into the semifinals of the ICC Women's World Cup here on Saturday.

Put into bat, India recovered from an early wobble to score a challenging 265/7 in their final league match, riding on a 132-run stand between Mithali (109) and Harmanpreet Kaur (60) and a quickfire 70 by Veda Krishnamurthy.

India then produced a superb bowling display to dismiss the Kiwis for 79 in just 25.3 overs.

Left-arm spinner Rajeshwari Gayakwad (5/15) was the peak of the bowlers with her five-wicket haul, while Deepti Sharma (2/26) scalped two and Jhulan Goswami (1/14), Shikha Pandey (1/12) and Poonam Yadav (1/12) picked one each respectively.



Mithali Raj plays a shot against New Zealand

PIC/AP/PTI

Chasing 266 for a win, New Zealand lost two early wickets with both openers Suzie Bates (1) and Rachel Priest (5) back in the hut in 3 overs.

At 7 for 2, Katey Martin (12) joined Amy Satterthwaite but the former was dismissed by spinner Deepti Sharma in her first over as New Zealand were reduced to 27/3 in the 11th over.

Satterthwaite was then dismissed in the 18th over with Sushma Verma producing a brilliant stumping off Rajeshwari Gayakwad's bowling. The Kiwi's 47-ball 26-run innings included four boundaries.

Katie Perkins (1) too was sent back quickly with Sharma cleaning her up as New Zealand lost half their side for 52/5 in the 19th over.

Gayakwad then dealt two more quick blows, removing Sophie Devine (7) and Hannah Rowe (4) as New Zealand were looking down the barrel at 62/7 in 21.5 overs.

In the next over, Maddy Green was dismissed by Poonam Yadav, while Lea Tahuhu became the fourth victim of Gayakwad, who also cleaned up last batswoman Leigh Kasperick (0) to complete her five-wicket haul.

Earlier, India were reduced to 21 for 2 in the eighth over but a 132-run stand between Mithali (109) and Harmanpreet Kaur (60) for the third wicket brought them back into the match.

A brilliant quick-fire 70 off just 45 balls from Krishnamurthy, studded with seven fours and two sixes, then took India past 260. However, the highlight of the virtual knock-out match was Mithali's sixth ton in her 184th match and her 109 came from 123 balls and had 11 fours in it.

Bindra seeks helpline for touring Indian athletes



NEW DELHI: India's lone individual Olympic gold-medallist Abhinav Bindra has requested the Sports Ministry to set up a helpline for athletes travelling abroad to avoid the kind of hardships that para-swimmer Kanchanmala Pande faced recently due to lack of timely help.

Pande was forced to borrow money from fellow swimmers during the Para Swimming Championships in Berlin after the funds sanctioned by the Sports Authority of India did not reach her on time.

Bindra helped Pande get a scholarship after the incident through a Foundation, he is part of.

"The recent incident of our paralympic athlete in Berlin raised a larger question of athlete management. Things like these continue to happen in Indian sport and leaves everyone in a bad taste and over-shadows a lot of good work that is done," Bindra said in his letter to Sports Minister Vijay Goel.

"In this regard I have a suggestion: The creation of a helpline for all athletes especially when in a foreign country to solve matters of extreme concern and having a contingency fund for unforeseen situations to provide just in time support to athletes would be a fantastic initiative to be taken up by the sports ministry," he added. AGENCIES

Federer on verge of Wimbledon immortality

LONDON: Five years after his last Wimbledon triumph, Roger Federer can capture a record eighth All England Club title on Sunday and become the tournament's oldest men's champion of the modern era.

With his 36th birthday fast approaching, the ever-green Swiss will comfortably succeed Arthur Ashe, who was almost 32 when he won in 1975, as Wimbledon's most senior champion.

Victory over Croatian giant Marin Cilic will also give him a 19th career Grand Slam title and second in three majors this year after sweeping to a fifth Australian Open in January following a six-month absence.

"I was hoping to be in good shape when the grass court season came around," said Federer who, for good measure, also pocketed back-to-back Masters at Indian Wells and Miami as well as a ninth Halle grass court crown.

"The first three, four months were just like a dream really. So this is something I was working towards, you know, Wimbledon, to be in good shape. I'm happy it's paying off here now."



PIC/AP/PTI

Federer admits his form in 2017 has surprised even himself after he shut down his 2016 season to rest a knee injury in the aftermath of his brutal five-set semi-final loss at Wimbledon to Milos Raonic.

He has 30 wins and just two losses this year and he has reached his 11th Wimbledon final without dropping a set.

Sunday's match will be his 102nd at the tournament and his 29th final at the majors.

"It makes me really happy, making history here at Wimbledon. It's a big deal. I love this tournament," said Federer, who has been tied with Pete Sampras on seven Wimbledon titles since beating Andy Murray in the 2012 final.

"All my dreams came true here as a player. To have another chance to go for number eight now, be kind of so close now at this stage, is a great feeling."

"Yeah, unbelievably excited. I hope I can play one more good match. 11 finals here, all these records, it's great. I'm so close now."

While 'Big Four' rivals Murray, Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal failed to even make the semi-finals, Federer has been reborn.

He came into Wimbledon having radically pruned his playing schedule, skipping the entire clay court season.

Wimbledon is just his seventh event of the year; 28-year-old Cilic is in his 15th.

Federer, revelling in the spotlight of having played all his matches on Centre Court, has hardly been troubled on his way to the final.

He has lost serve just four times and spent four and a half hours less on court than Cilic.

Federer also boasts a 6-1 career record over Cilic, the 2014 US Open champion who has made his first Wimbledon final at the 11th attempt.

However, Cilic's game is made for grass and 12 months ago he led Federer by two sets to love and held three match points in an epic quarter-final which the Swiss superstar eventually claimed.

When Cilic won his only Slam in New York three years ago, he demolished Federer in straight sets in the semi-finals.

"I don't want to say it's more relaxed going into it because I have a good head-to-head record against Marin, even though the matches were extremely close," said Federer.

"But it's not like we've played against each other 30 times. You feel like you have to reinvent the wheel."

"It's more straightforward, in my opinion. I think that's nice in some ways. It's a nice change, but it doesn't make things easier."

Cilic is only the second Croatian man to reach the Wimbledon final after Goran Ivanisevic, his former coach, who swept to a memorable title victory in 2001. AGENCIES

TOWERING ABOVE



Sourav Ganguly takes a selfie with his own fibre statue during an inauguration programme at Balurghat Stadium

PIC/PTI

I will miss rivalry with Mohun Bagan in ISL, says Chhetri

KOLKATA: India football captain Sunil Chhetri on Saturday rued that he would "miss" Mohun Bagan and Bengaluru FC rivalry, one of the talking points of Indian football in the recent past.

Bengaluru FC are one of the new teams of the fourth edition of Indian Super League, while Maidan heavyweights Mohun Bagan and East Bengal would continue to play in the I-League as the two tournaments will be held simultaneously in 2017-18 season.

"I will miss them (Mohun Bagan). I'm not trying to hint anything but I loved our game against Mohun Bagan. In last three years the rivalry between Mohun Bagan and BFC is the best thing that has happened," the BFC striker told reporters on the sidelines of the Newtown School's investiture ceremony.

Mohun Bagan and East Bengal remained adamant on their demands to play in the ISL as



the talks did not fall through whereas Tata and Bengaluru were unveiled as new franchises. But Chhetri hoped the two Kolkata heavyweights would be back soon to resume their rivalry.

"It has been really equal. All the games that I think right now were really tough. Be it AFC Cup, I-League or the Federation Cup, all the games against Mohun Bagan has always been tough. We had great rivalry. I just hope we meet soon," he said.

Chhetri, however, saw a silver lining in both the leagues being held together as it would give Indian players a big opportunity.

"The good part is there will be 20 teams playing at the same time, so more players will get opportunity, especially the Indians. Last year when both happened differently the same players almost played the ISL and I-League. Now more Indian players will get opportunity," said Chhetri.

"I want both the leagues to flourish as at the end of the day, you want more Indian players to come in. The problems that some of the players were not employed last year might not happen this time with 20 teams playing simultaneously."

But he agreed that ultimately a long European style league with about 20 clubs is the way forward.

"I, you and the whole country would prefer that any day. We are 1.3 billion people. I would love to see 20 (teams) in first, second, third and fourth divisions... I think we can cater to that."

"As a captain of the country I would like all the players who are good enough should get an opportunity to play."

Chhetri further said he's not happy with playing more than four foreigners as that's the rule in the AFC Cup.

"Eventually I want to see four foreigners. I do not know which league you are talking about. From next year it's going to be four that's what I've been promised."

"It's a simple. You want to win a league or the Federation Cup because you want to compete in the AFC. This is a big price. When you play AFC, you must play with their rules, this is what I feel."

On the back of their fine run with 13 wins from 15 matches, India have achieved 96th place in FIFA rankings, their best-ever FIFA ranking since February 1996.

"I don't take rankings too seriously. For me it's important we win games and important tournaments. We are in between a very important tournament (Asian Cup qualification) and we have won two games, so that's a priority."

"If after three years we still are talking that we are 100 that will be a massive achievement," he said. AGENCIES

Lewis Hamilton storms to British Grand Prix pole

SILVERSTONE: Lewis Hamilton stormed to a provisional fifth Silverstone pole of his career after a dazzling performance during a rain-affected qualifying session on Saturday for the British Grand Prix.

The Briton thrilled home fans with a devastating quickest lap of 1min 26.600sec to finish 0.547sec clear of Ferrari's Kimi Raikkonen, although Hamilton was under investigation for potential impeding.

Championship leader Sebastian Vettel was left frustrated in third in the second Ferrari ahead of Valtteri Bottas in the second Mercedes.

Bottas, however, faces a likely five-place grid penalty for an unscheduled gearbox change, while stewards were looking into an incident in which Romain Grosjean claimed he was blocked by Hamilton.

Max Verstappen was fifth for Red Bull ahead of Nico Hulkenberg of Renault, Sergio Perez and his Force India team-mate Esteban Ocon.

Stoffel Vandoorne took an encouraging ninth for McLaren ahead of Grosjean of Haas.

"You always try to save the best till last," said Hamilton, who closed to within one of Michael Schumacher's record of 68 poles. "I felt very comfortable in these conditions - they are the conditions we grew up racing in here in England."

"It felt ok, but the conditions were not easy, changing a lot," said Raikkonen. "The car felt the best it had this weekend, but not quite fast enough for first place."

Vettel said: "The car came alive this morning and that was really good. It's a shame there that in the last run in Q3 there was not more time!" AGENCIES

Beacon



Through her highly controlled and softly modulated use of water colour washes, Srimati created a series of works echoing love for her motherland and all its deities, writes Uma Nair

Rural culture and religiosity

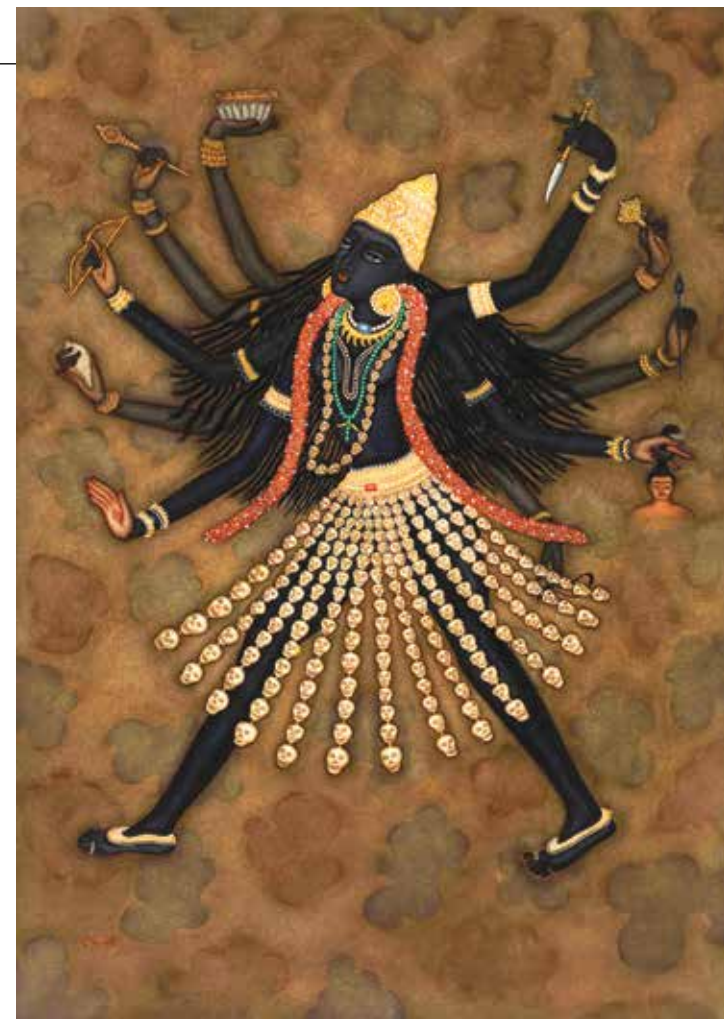


periences merged, influencing and pollinating each other.

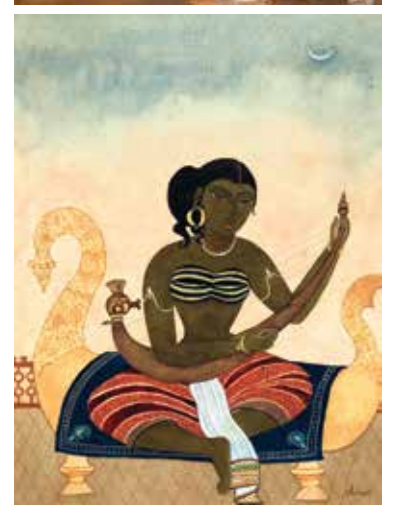
At the Met Museum on display were works inspired by the Buddhist murals of the Ajanta caves in Western India — for example, her Mithuna Couple, after Ajanta (1950-52) styled on the 6th-century sketches of loving couples on these rock-cut caves. Most famous is Srimati's large work devoted to Goddess Kali called Mahakali (1980). "The degree of the artist's emotional immersion in the imagery of Kali is evident in the finished work, a painting of great authority that conveys an almost subliminal understanding of the power of the goddess," states the curator. This lush work that celebrates the black goddess has been used in a historic exhibition at Smithsonian called 'Devi' curated by Vidya Dahejia in 1998 and later at the Met in "The Goddess in Indian Painting" in 2011.

Whenever exhibited it has been the cynosure of all eyes - a delicate composition of Kali created against an earth and gravel-toned backdrop. The slender figure in black is clothed in a skirt that falls like lace from a jewelled waistline. The skirt is made of a series of little skulls that hang like embellished beads. Each of the 10 hands carries elements and weapons of ritual import - the 10 hands radiating around her hold the shield, trident, kapala, damaru, sword and the head of the demon. Curatorial texts at the Met state that Mahakali was part of 15 works done for a Bhagvad Gita - she wrote in her diary that she was awakened at night by the crushing sounds of the skulls in Kali's skirt and kept hearing them until she finished the painting.

The curator discusses further and adds: "Srimati's painting displayed a consistent commitment to her vision of an Indian style. She explored themes from Indian religious epic literature and scenes of rural culture, asserting traditional subject matter as part of a conscious



'Srimati's painting displayed a consistent commitment to her vision of an Indian style, her choice was personal and idiosyncratic...'



alluring being created from the haunts of human and religious history. In this work, we can espie the linear technique of pala illustration that marked all paintings of Bengal till the 18th century as well as the Kalighat school, that emerged as a result of increasing socio-religious demand. In her Vishwarupa we can see tenets of 'traditional Bengal School', recognised widely as a display of perfect technique and decorative forms depicting myths and legends. Srimati used the delicacy and depth of this blend of ancient styles to interpret the modern world and it is in these compositions that we notice a continuity of the tradition. Srimati's paintings display a consistent commitment to her vision of an Indian style. She explored themes from Indian religious epic literature and scenes of rural culture, asserting her love for the Indianesque idiom suggesting a rare richness in the fine detailing that she used as embellishments but never overdoing it to create density.

Through her highly controlled and softly modulated use of watercolour washes she created a series of works that echo her love for her motherland and all its many deities and mythic and spiritual stories. Indeed an iconoclast with multiple talents, the Met Museum gave present day Indians something to savour in this epic retrospective.

IMAGES: METROPOLITAN MUSEUM NEW YORK

Just concluded at the Metropolitan Museum in New York is YG Srimati's retrospective of 25 watercolour paintings done over 4 decades. Curated by John Guy, it was a show that spoke of the inherent understanding and deep love for the term nationalism as well as a reverence for tales that sprang from the reverence accorded to religious fervour.

This was the first retrospective exhibition devoted to the Indian artist YG Srimati (1926-2007), who was born in Mysore and died in New York. Raised in a cultured Tamil Brahmin family in Chennai, as a teenager in the 1940s Srimati was swept up in the nationalist movement for an independent India.

Already an accomplished artist and classically trained musician, Srimati was invited in 1946 to sing devotional songs (bhajans) at a number of independence rallies addressed by Mahatma Gandhi in Chennai. She was deeply moved by the time she spent with Gandhi and his assassination in 1948. These momentous events, and her personal encounter with Gandhi shaped much of the orientation and agenda of Srimati the painter. The show was a testimony to her Indianesque leanings and love for tradition. Curator Guy affirms: "The career of Srimati who came to New York in 1961 — as a classical singer, musician, dancer and painter — represents a continuum in which each of these skills and expe-



expression of nationalist sentiments; her choice was personal and idiosyncratic... Through her highly controlled and softly modulated use of watercolour washes, Srimati built on the poetic and lyrical styles developed a generation earlier in India by Abanindranath Tagore and Nandalal Bose."

Apsara with Harp is another classic that celebrates the bronze tonality of Dravidian persona. Srimati had a keen eye for details and she embellished her compositions with a zeal that referenced social culture of those times. She obviously was trained in the schematics of the Neo-Bengal school, which developed at the beginning of the 20th century, which became an internationally known and admired school. It owed its origins to Abanindranath Tagore. He mixed the Japanese wash method with British watercolour technique to come up with a new wash method. We can discover all these nuances in her works - whether they reflect religiosity or mundane imagery. The Goddess Saraswati is an impassioned beautiful

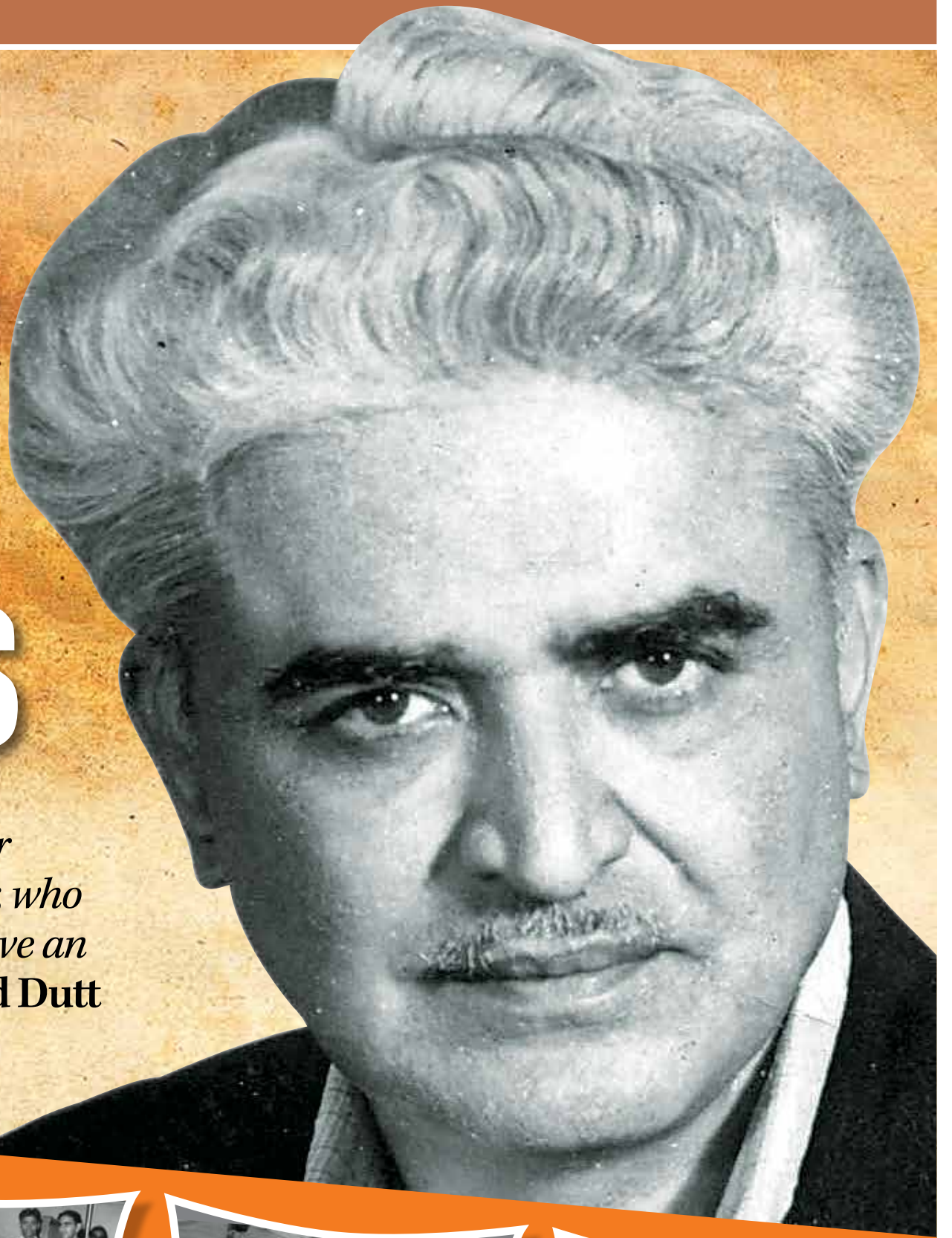
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Inland

C Ramachandra: The Merchant of

Magical Melodies

Ramachandra was a trailblazer and trendsetting music director, who right at the outset aspired to leave an indelible imprint, writes Sharad Dutt



Isn't it a sheer coincidence that five young men came to the city of their dreams to become an actor? Some were outright rejected and some did cameos and became music directors. Their contribution to the golden era of film music, ie the 1950s and 1960s, would always be cherished in the annals of the industry. There is an interesting story about an actor turned music director. In 1955, a studio owner, producer and director from the South, SMS Naidu, met the veteran music director Naushad to give a musical score in his film. But there was a precondition to accomplish it in a month's time. He offered a fat sum of one lakh rupees to the maestro, who politely declined the offer saying he would take at least a year to compose for a film.

Soon after, a young music director met Naidu and told him that he would render the compositions within a week, but charge just one rupee extra offered to Naushad Saab. He kept his word and met the deadline. The film was *Azad*, starring Dilip Kumar and Meena Kumari, and the music director was C Ramachandra. The other four aspiring actors turned music directors were OP Nayyar, Madan Mohan, Khayyam and Jaidev.

Son of a station master in Indian Railways, Ramachandra Narhar Chitalkar was born in Puntambe village of Ahmednagar district in Maharashtra, on June 10, 1910. During his father's posting in Nagpur, he took lessons in music at the Gandharva Mahavidyalaya of Pandit Vinayak Rao Patwardhan. A young Ramachandra had a great fascination for films, which brought him to Kolhapur, the birthplace of Marathi film industry. This handsome lad got the role of an extra for Rs 50 in Lalit Pictures and played some itchy-bitsy characters till he got a lead role in *Naganand* (1935). Unfortunately, the film flopped. Thereafter, Ramachandra acted in *Said-e-Hawas* and *Atmatarang*, films produced by the legendary Sohrab Modi's Minerva Movietone. But soon it dawned that acting was not his forte and again approached Modi. He got a job as harmonium player and it was an ideal opportunity to showcase his talent that was duly acknowledged. He became an assistant to Meer Saab, the music director of Minerva Movietone, and made a mark in *Meetha Zehar*, *Jailor* and *Pukar*. That classic song of *Pukar*, 'Tum bin kaun khabar le', was composed by Ramachandra himself. Later, he also composed a popular number for singer-actor Noor Jehan, 'Aao mere pyare saanwariya', in *Laal Haveli*, but both these numbers were credited to Meer Saab.

Actor, singer and music director, Ramachandra sang as Chitalkar and gave music in some films as Anna Sahib, Ram Chitalkar, P Ramakant and Shyamoo. Subsequently, like V Shantaram he adopted his name as C Ramachandra but kept on singing as Chitalkar. Ramachandra had a lifelong bonhomie with the actor, producer and director Bhagwan (better known as Bhagwan Dada), as they met during the making of *Bahadur Kisan*, produced

and directed by Bhagwan.

Although Ramachandra got this maiden break as an independent music director with *Sukhi Jeevan* (1942), the film bombed. But his music style was considerably noticed. And with two patriotic songs, 'Bharat pyara desh hamara' in *Sukhi Jeevan* and 'Soya desh jaga do' in his second film *Muskrati* (1943) Ramachandra ensconced himself in the industry. Among the several producers, who approached him, Jayant Desai from KL Saigal's Tansen fame signed Ramachandra and composed for four films. But they parted company during the making of *Tadbir* in 1945, when Ramachandra wished his salary to be raised to one thousand rupees, but Desai wanted him to accept just six hundred rupees, and also lured him that in his next film Ramachandra would work with the legendary KL Saigal. But Ramachandra walked out of the company asserting, "Agar wo Saigal hai to main bhi C Ramachandra hoon".

The next big banner that C Ramachandra signed was Filmistan. And he gave a score for eleven films. His very first film *Safar* with Filmistan had superb songs rendered by Mohammad Rafi - 'Keh ke bhi naa aaye tum' and 'Ab to hamare ho gaye iqar karein na karein'. But the biggest hit was a lilting duet, 'Kabhi yaad karke, gali paar karke, chali aana hamari galiyan', sung by Chitalkar and Veena Pani Mukherjee. In his next film for Filmistan, *Leela* (1947), he composed a delectable thumri, 'Maine lakhon ke bole sahey saanwariya tere liye', by Veena Pani Mukherjee. And yet, the most memorable song was by Chitalkar himself, 'Tum saath raho to main prem karoon sukh paon'.

Two years later Naushad composed a number for Mehboob Khan's *Andaz* in 1949, which had a striking echo of Ramachandra's *Leela* song.

Ramachandra composed a few more songs of patri-

Filmistan's *Sajan* directed by Kishore Sahu (starring Ashok Kumar and Rehana) had an interesting story to narrate. Ashok Kumar was the singing star of Bombay Talkies in the 30s and 40s. He had sung very popular duets and solos, and wished to sing the duet, 'Hum ko tumahra hi asara, tum hamare ho na ho', with Lalita Dewoolkar. But Ramachandra wanted Mohammad Rafi instead of Ashok Kumar. On the day of recording, Ashok Kumar reached late in the studio and by that time Ramachandra had already recorded the song in Rafi's voice. This duet became an instant hit and also spelt the end of Ashok Kumar's career as a playback singer.

It so happened that Master Ghulam Haider was originally signed for Filmistan's *Shehnai* in 1947, but due to his extremely hectic schedule, he could not devote much time to the film. Rai Bahadur Chunnail, father of music director Madan Mohan and also a partner in Filmistan asked Ramachandra to compose one song, which was to be shot soon, but Ramachandra didn't agree for he wanted to score music for the entire film. Luckily he was strongly endorsed by S Mukherjee, the co-partner of Filmistan - that's how this film came to Ramachandra. The music captivated the audience and the song, 'Maar katar mar jana', sung by Ameerbai Karnatak in mujra style with the melodious harmony of sitar, harmonium and tabla created a nationwide storm. Another hit song of the film was 'Jawani ki rail chali jaaye re'. During the recording of this song, Ramachandra met Lata the very first time and they were to create a unique musical history in years to come. *Nadiya Ke Paar* (1948) directed by Kishore Sahu was a first golden jubilee hit of Ramachandra. Lata sang her first solo under Ramachandra's baton, 'Dil le ke bhaga, daga de ke bhaga'.

Ramachandra's female singers up till now were Ameerbai Karnatak, Lalita Dewoolkar, Beena Pani Mukherjee, Shamshad Begum, Zohra

Bai Ambalewali, Mohantara Talpade, Surender Kaur and Geeta Roy. But it was the Lata and Ramachandra duo that created a sensation in cine music. Lata sang 248 songs (200 solo, 76 male duets, 18 female duets and four miscellaneous in 63 films) for Ramachandra and she even composed for a Marathi film, 'Ram Ram Pahune', under his tutelage.

Patanga (1949) directed by HS Rawel (starring Shayam, Nigar Sultana, Gope, Yaqoob and Purnima) was a super hit because of its music, as Ramachandra was at the peak of his creativity. The film had soulful solos sung by Lata, 'Dil se bhula do tum hamein', 'Jane wale tu ney armano ki duniya loot li' and 'Kabhi khamoshi ho jana', which became immortal. The film had the ever-green number 'Mere piya gaye Rangoon'.

The 1950s was the golden era of Ramachandra's musical trajectory. *Samadhi* was a silver jubilee hit. The title track of the movie was Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose's Indian National Army song, 'Kadam kadam badaye ja'. The chartbuster of the film was a dance number, 'Gore gore, O baanke chorey, kabhi meri gali aaya karo' and *Samadhi* became a cult film on the Second World War.

Ramachandra also scored music for *Sangeeta* and *Khazana* in 1951. The influence of Latin American/ Caribbean beats in the songs composed by Ramachandra could be distinctly deciphered. Again in 1951, Ramachandra gave comic situation numbers for *Sagai*, 'Jhukti hai duniya jhukane wala chahiye' and 'Daddyji meri mummy ko satana nahi accha' (Lata). In 1951 also came *Albela* which still makes you nostalgic for its songs, 'Dil dhadke nazar sharmaye, Balma bada naadaan', and all-time great lullaby, 'Dheere se aana re akhiyan mein' (Lata). Chitalkar was at his best singing, 'O beta ji kismet ki hawa kabhi naram kabhi garam', and 'Haseeno ki mohabbat mein yahi anjaam hota

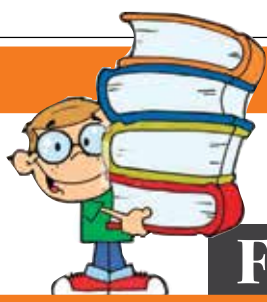
hai', which were on everyone's lips. Another musical hit of Ramachandra, *Shim shinaki boobla boo*, in 1952, was again directed by PL Santoshi. Ramachandra was a staunch devotee of Shri Sai Baba.

He launched his own company, New Sai Productions, with his comedian friend Om Prakash. After the success of *Azad* Ramachandra was flooded with offers from the South. He gave music for SS Vasan's *Insaniyat* in 1955, *Raj Tilak* in 1958, *Paigam* in 1959, MV Raman's *Pehli Jhalak* in 1954 and *Asha* in 1957. For *Asha* he composed 'Eena Meena Deeka', a song in scat singing style, for Kishore Kumar and Asha Bhonsle separately. He also gave music for another South Indian film *Devta* in 1956, which had classical numbers like 'Kaise aon Jamuna ke teer', set in Raga Bhairavi, that became a rage. T Prakash Rao signed Ramachandra for his film *Bahu Rani* in 1963 and Lata sang two unforgettable songs, 'Balma anari man bhaye' and 'Main jagoon saari raat'.

Ramachandra worked with all the leading banners of his time. He also did a film for his benefactor Sohrab Modi, *Nousherwan-e-Adil* which had some lilting numbers sung by Lata and Rafi. He did four films with V Shantaram; *Parchhaiyan* in 1952, *Subah Ka Tara* in 1954, *Navrang* in 1959 and *Stree* in 1961, a remake of Shantaram's own *Shakuntala*. In these films Ramachandra composed music to Shantaram's utter delight. According to vintage film music lovers, Ramachandra was remarkable in *Albela*, *Anarkali* and *Azad*. One more film worth mentioning is *Yasmeen*, where he made his favourite singer Talat sing his all-time great songs. His excellent chemistry with Lata and Talat was more than evident. Ramachandra was a trailblazer and trendsetting music director. Right at the outset, he aspired to leave an indelible imprint. A trained classical singer, his orchestra had a mix of instruments ranging from sitar, flute, tabla, sarangi, shehnai, clarinet, oboe, harmonica, trumpet, turhi to congo, that he used deftly to perfection.

At the fag end of his career, he had set-up an Academy of Indian Music and gave public performances of his haunting melodies along with his disciples Promila Datar and Kavita Krishnamurthi. He also composed for Marathi films and sang Sai bhajans. Ramachandra reigned supreme in the world of music for three decades, but succumbed to terminal disease at 72, and passed away on January 5 of 1982. He would always be missed by millions of his fans.





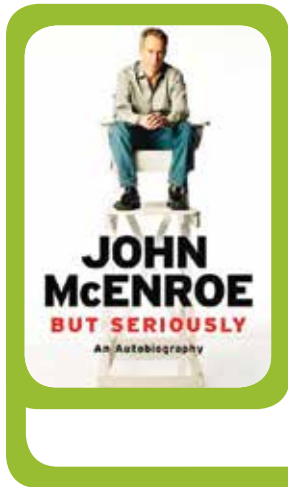
FRESH OFF THE SHELF

Read



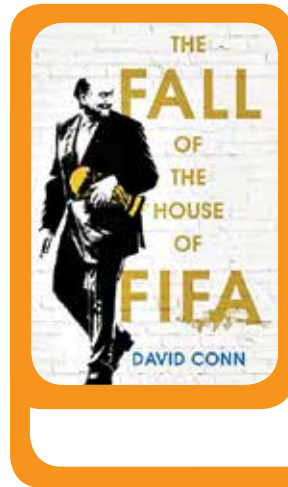
NAVIGATING INDIA
Author: Bharat Joshi
Publisher: Rupa Publications India
Price: ₹203

This book is a non-preachy, non-prescriptive and unbiased account of the possibilities that define India amidst magnificent paradoxes. It provides an experiential compass through first-hand accounts and insights from some of India's most respected names in business, public governance and diplomacy.



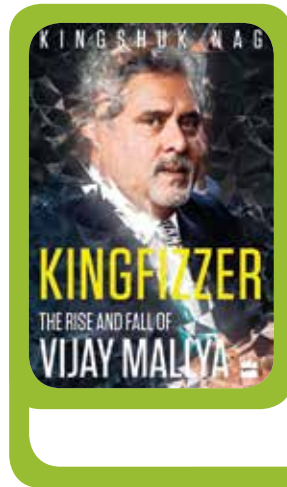
BUT SERIOUSLY: AN AUTO-BIOGRAPHY
Author: John McEnroe
Publisher: W&N
Price: ₹449

In But Seriously, John McEnroe confronts his demons and reveals his struggle to reinvent himself from ex-champion to father, broadcaster and author. The result is a richly personal account, blending anecdote and reflection in an inspirational re-evaluation of what it means to be – and stay – successful.



THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF FIFA
Author: David Conn
Publisher: Random House UK
Price: ₹599

While the simple, beautiful game captured the hearts of billions around the world, becoming a truly global sport and a commercial powerhouse, its governing body was rotting to its core; its eventual fall the most spectacular story of corruption sport has ever seen.



KINGFIZZER: THE MALLYA STORY
Author: Kingshuk Nag
Publisher: Harper Business
Price: ₹319

Kingfizzer: the Mallya Story is the story of how the king lost his cheer and high spirits, to be remembered for one of the biggest corporate collapses of our time. Facing charges of money laundering, misappropriation and being a wilful defaulter, Mallya left the country in 2016 for his country estate near London.

Dostum: Afghanistan's brave liberator or violent warlord?

History is told by the victors but in our modern age, even contemporary events get – or are given – a slant, where some contributors soon get eclipsed from the narrative or their images tarnished. The changing perception of this key player in the murky, violent recent story of Afghanistan is a case in point.

Is Abdul Rashid Dostum one of the infamous warlords whose internecine struggles for power destabilised Afghanistan till the Taliban rose to provide a cure worse than the ailment, or an inspiration for his oppressed Uzbek minority, someone who maintained peace and harmony over a large area until he was betrayed by some of his own men and allies? What was his record in fighting the Taliban and what role did he play in ultimately overthrowing their harsh rule? And most crucially, does he have a place in the "new" Afghanistan?

Out of all these, his role ahead, and with, the American forces in the wake of 9/11 is unprecedented, says American historian Brian Glyn Williams, recounting how Dostum's few men fought the Taliban in 2001 in the harsh Hindu Kush mountains on horseback – a form of warfare deemed lethally impractical in an age of automatic weapons and air power.

"But in what has to be one of the greatest upsets in modern military history, the Uzbek descendants of Genghis Khan proved the doubters wrong. In one of the most decisive campaigns of the entire war on terror, the hardy Uzbeks cut their way through one Taliban defensive line after another. Galloping through the smoke of supporting American satellite-guided bombs delivered by B-52s, they charged the Taliban's tanks, firing armour-piercing RPGs and Kalashnikovs from the hip..." he says.

Any man who could inspire such bravery has to be exceptional. And Williams' account brings this out in its description of an ordinary boy from a peasant family, who transformed from an oil worker and a special forces soldier to a popular leader and one of the most powerful figures in the country (still). Based on unprecedented and extensive access to Dostum (after meeting him for the first time

Packed with fascinating insights into its convoluted politics and society, this book helps one understand Afghanistan, writes Vikas Dutta

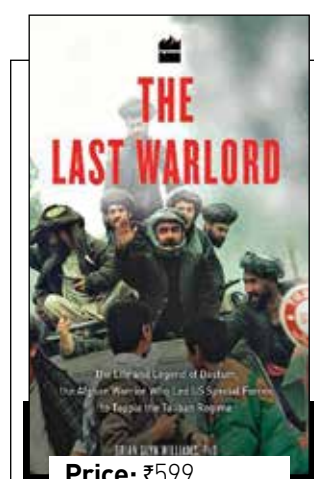


Afghanistan's Uzbek warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum (right) with then President Hamid Karzai

in 2003 and convincing him of his objectivity) as well his family and key aides and subordinates, local village elders and mullahs, Taliban enemies and women's rights activists, Williams' account features spectacular victories, crushing defeats and betrayals, as well as heart-breaking tragedies, personal and political, in taking a vivid look at Afghanistan in its all glories and faults.

On the way, we also find how Dostum picked his unusual "surname" (similar to the way Ernesto Guevara became "Che"), the scrapes he got into, including a scheduled execution, his dramatic first romance – and its tragic end, and his religious and social outlook.

Williams clearly admires his subject but is not totally spell-bound, admitting where the burly warlord may be gilding or embellishing the account, where evidence of claims cannot be found or verified, and giving appropriate credit



Price: ₹599
Publisher: Harper Collins

William's account features spectacular victories, crushing defeats, as well as heart-breaking tragedies, in taking a vivid look at Afghanistan in its all glories and fault lines

and then goes into flashback, also provides the historic, political and social backdrop to explain the rise of ethnic warlords like Dostum, Ahmed Shah Massoud and others, and their shifting alliances.

This, he shows, is a legacy of ethnic mistrust and tension created in 1880 when (Pashtun) "Iron Emir" Abdul Rehman forcibly annexed the Uzbek, Tajik and Hazara areas with considerable bloodshed. In this light, the defection of Dostum, who had been the military mainstay of President Najibullah, and why he did the same with his Tajik and Hazara allies in 1994, is understandable – but he did have good reasons too, we learn. Williams then goes on to recount

events from the rise of Taliban in 1996 to its overthrow in 2001 from Dostum's perspective, and his consequent sidelining and even exile under Hamid Karzai. Here he also deals with the attempts to demonise Dostum, and how far justified they were, while also trying to gauge who was behind it and for what reason.

Packed with fascinating insights into its convoluted politics and society, Taliban's deprivations and the bravery of those who never gave up opposing them despite the odds, America's miscalculations from the late 1970s to today and more, this book is key for anyone who wants to understand the country.

to other players where needed. But his story, which begins with an account of his first meeting with Dostum in Mazar-e-Sharif

A new perspective on Sita, and Ramayana

ANKITA CHANDA

Even two years later Amish Tripathi's 'Scion of Ikshvaku' continues to sell like hotcakes and social media cannot stop lauding the very sought after author. Amish Tripathi has probably made Indian mythology more in vogue than it had ever been, thereby successfully grabbing the attention of many more readers in the genre. And why shouldn't it be? While his 'Shiva Trilogy' was the fastest selling book series in Indian publishing history, the first title, 'Scion of Ikshvaku' from the five-part 'Ram Chandra Series' was the fastest selling book of 2015.

What is really appealing about the second book from his 'Ram Chandra Series' titled, 'Sita - Warrior of Mithila' is the "warrior" tag which has been novelly used to describe the otherwise demure image associated with the Hindu goddess Sita. It's made clear from the very title that the protagonist is Sita but not the Sita we have read or heard of. She is fierce, an expert at the art of warfare and the chosen avatar of Vishnu. Patriarchy, take note.

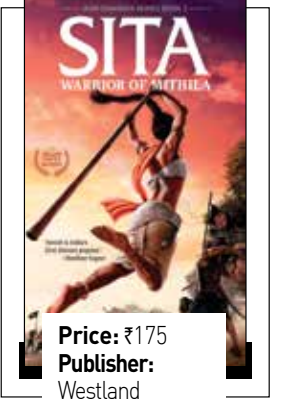
While the essential story would be familiar to most Indians, Amish gives us a Sita, very different from the constrained creature of several maudlin text and screen versions – fancy this: "Sita rolled as she fell to the ground and quickly steadied herself behind a tree. She stayed low, her back against the tree, protected for now".

Given that most readers already know the basic plot, it could have also been a disadvantage for the author but he has carefully counted on the minute details of the characters to keep the interest of the readers alive.

The book is a wonderful read, leaving you in a constant state of awe at how gracefully Amish fuses rich mythological detail without losing out on the credibility, which particularly interests the modern mind. The novel is full of intricate observations along with words and catchphrases that seem to sync with the regular diction of the contemporary readers. We however do not get her entire story just yet as Amish has planned a series of four related narratives separately telling the stories of Ram, Sita, and Raavan from their individual births up to the kidnap. The last two books in the series will, in all possibility, finally bring these three strands together leading to a denouement.

What actually makes this book gripping is the fact that readers get an opportunity to know Sita in a more comprehensive manner. The second chapter of the book goes 38 years behind the first chapter and moves thereon till the current event – the first chapter – towards its end. And along the journey, Amish takes his readers into the life of Sita and together we explore the lesser known aspects of her life.

Finally, is this novel worth your money and time? Yes, it is highly recommend for anybody, who has an interest in Indian mythology but is too intimidated by the lofty scriptures. And if you look at it in another way, popularity has been used to sell all kinds of works – sex scandals, call centre chaos and IIT affairs – but here is a writer, using his immense popularity and creativity to re-imagine the saga of our mythology. In doing so, he not only preserves a sound literary standard, but also rightly deserves the readership that he commands.



Price: ₹175
Publisher: Westland

Literary tourism: Visiting places that inspired iconic literature

The unsettling story of an evil Transylvanian aristocrat's deprivations was brought home – in all senses – to the readers by a British coastal resort, Gabriel Garcia Marquez's fictional Colombian setting of his best-known works actually exists and San Francisco highlights the spot of a murder catalysing one of the most famous crime noir novels. Literature may be the ultimate epitome of inspired imagination, but it is somewhere tied to reality though its settings, characters or plot. And as these examples and others show, the first tends to take more prominence. There is scarcely a place in the world which has not figured in some story, and conversely, many places have inspired some of the most iconic fiction of all genres.

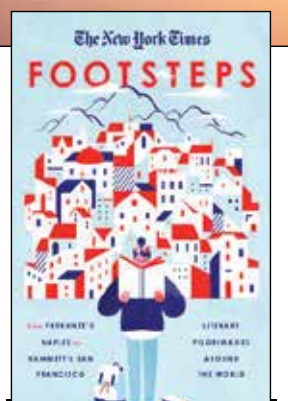
The dreaming spires and cloisters of Oxford, the "foreboding forests, striking towers, and even some genuine castles" between Germany's Frankfurt and Bremen, the hedonistic playground of the French Riviera, the "brash, kitschy, post-war" West US seen from its back-roads, the grandeur of St Petersburg, the "dangerous, dirty and seductive" streets of Naples and more survive well beyond their depictions, actual or adapted from the works of Lewis Carroll to Alexander Pushkin to Elena Ferrante. And there are people who revel in visiting these places to try to get insights into how they may have inspired these

writers, as this anthology of literary travel writings from 'The New York Times' popular 'Footsteps' travel feature brings out. Noting that all travellers may have once strayed "onto turf that an artist, including those who paint pictures with words, once trod...", Monica Drake, the editor of the New York Times' travel section, says it shouldn't be "unexpected".

"All the world is a reliquary, filled with fields, forests and city plazas that lead visionaries among us to create work that endures the ages. We travellers are but devotees who touch these monuments and in place of prayers meditate on how someone else came to be who they are and create what they did.

"We inevitably look and wonder. Did the sweep of this hill and the mist of the morning somehow ignite a spark. Was this place more incidental than inspirational? Examining these questions has been the defining task of 'Footsteps' since 1981, when The New York Times ran it as a short-lived series," she says.

'Footsteps', she adds, appeared sporadically in subsequent years before becoming an full-fledged feature and it is some of its pieces from the new millennium that feature here. But Drake notes it is always not about the inspiration, for many of the pieces, including a few featured here, deal with writers' impressions of places ranging from Mark Twain on a vacation in laidback



Price: ₹499
Publisher: Three Rivers Press

Hawaii to Arthur Rimbaud recuperating in Ethiopian market town with cobbled streets to Orhan Pamuk introducing his Istanbul.

"What unifies them is a single guiding principle: Each story should leave the readers with a new perspective on an artist and the place that has somehow been a muse," she says, and the anthology well meets the criterion. And in three dozen-odd delightfully incisive, thoroughly informative and

endearing pieces spanning cities, regions and routes over five continents by a range of writers retracing the footsteps of a favourite author, there is something for readers across genres. Here are traced the settings that inspired works from "Alice in Wonderland" to Ferrante's acclaimed Neapolitan coming of age quartet, from the Brothers Grimm's fairytales to the gritty crime stories of Dashiell Hammett, and from the singular "romance" of Vladimir Nabokov's 'Invitation to a Beheading' to the surreal stories of Jorge Luis Borges.

And while there are many obvious spots like Rome, Paris, the coastal English "Wessex" of Thomas Hardy and the Madrid of Ernest Hemingway, there are many others not so obvious, including Alice Murno's Vancouver, Antigua, Pablo Neruda's Chile and even Saigon/Ho Chi Minh City and a Sri Lankan resort. There is much to learn, including how Hardy invented the phrase "cliff-hanger", how Hemingway cooked and what has survived war and revolution in St Petersburg.

A point to introspect for us can be why no Indian spot makes the cut, but that is ameliorated by the thrill of these essays meant "for the avid readers who can travel by simply turning a page" but also enjoyable for other travellers – armchair or potential.

Routes

Airports Now: Showcasing local flavour

To acquaint travellers with the local flavour of the place, airports today are being redesigned to provide a piece of India's rich heritage and culture



Sculpture placed in departure area



Concept of Dasavatara of Lord Vishnu

A country as diverse as India is symbolised by the plurality of its culture and heritage. This is further enriched by myriad forms of local art which is an embodiment of its cultural diversity as each one is quintessential and inimitable from the rest. Today airports are not just transport hubs but destinations as well. Since airports are the natural gateways and often the first point of contact with the local destination for travellers, it is imperative that the experience of a traveller must be memorable and long cherished. In an effort to enhance passenger experience which can connect foreign visitors with the local region and its community, there is an imminent need to create a sense of place within the airport by reflecting the unique identity of the local area.

The sense of place is a unique collection of qualities and characteristics – visual, cultural, social, and environmental – that defines a location. Zürich Airport is a great example. Going from one terminal to another, travellers notice cow noises, yodeling and an animated Heidi, giving them a flavour of Switzerland.



Wide spread of wings

TIRUPATI AIRPORT

AI airports are already working on the same as can be seen at Tirupati Airport in Andhra Pradesh, where the newly integrated terminal building of the airport referred to as Garuda Terminal was constructed on the historic importance of the place. The building is a blend of a modern steel structure imbibing its form from Garuda, with artworks showing the heritage and significance of this temple city. The installations have been selected in different mediums – painting, cement relief, fiber, ceramics etc to create different auras in different spaces.

The passenger terminal building at Tirupati

Airport is a graphic interpretation of the form of Garuda with its association as the carrier of Lord Venkateswara, an avatar of Lord Vishnu and its co-relation with the concept of flight. The imposing structure of the terminal building has been designed, deriving inspiration from the shape of Garuda (Eagle) in-flight with its wings spread across air. Garuda is the vehicle of Lord Vishnu, whose temple is popular in India as well as abroad. A beautiful sculpture of Garuda made of bronze is placed in the check-in area.

As a backdrop over the check-in counters, a 2D relief work in fusion with paintings depicting

a beautiful story showing the Das-Avatar of Lord Venkateswara is displayed. This artwork occupies the central part of the building and the earthen colours are visually soothing to the human eye. The artwork at the baggage claim area depicts the culture and heritage of Hampi during the reign of King Krishna Devaraya. The intricate details interwoven with the story of the Krishna Devayara period creates a beautiful ambience.

The magnificent work done at the Tirupati Airport should be seen in the light of conceptualising and revamping of airports with innovative ideas.



BAGDOGRA AIRPORT

At the Bagdogra Airport in West Bengal the AAI team undertook an endeavour to recreate the environment of the area with tea, mountains, local handicraft of Darjeeling and Sikkim, the iconic "toy train" of Darjeeling, music and dance of Bengali and Nepali culture, local food to Gujarati tourists who flock in large numbers and the ever-present *Khata* – the traditional ceremonial scarf to represent the giver's goodwill and regards to the recipient.

The concept of creating a sense of place is best exemplified by Moutat – bringing the tea gardens to the Bagdogra Airport. Moutat is an initiative by a group of four women who want to bring out the best of the culture of the region and present it to the people by serving a free cup of Darjeeling tea to every passenger boarding flights from the Bagdogra Airport as a 'Welcome Drink'. The aroma and taste of Darjeeling tea is unparalleled. The basic motive behind serving tea is to introduce visitors to the flavour of the region.

In order to promote the culture of Sikkim and present it to tourists through everyday lifestyle products; which are authentic often referred as souvenirs of the place, Bagdogra Airport has collaborated with SIKKIMIS, an off-shoot of B.R.E.W (Bakery, Retail, and Event & Workshop). Each of the products is inspired by some aspect of Sikkimese life allowing tourists to take a piece of the beautiful hills back with them.

Bagdogra Airport has an outlet of ART-MART, an art gallery where they promote local artists and display paintings on local themes, such as tea gardens, mountains and the wildlife of Dooars. All paintings are 100 per cent hand painted, as artists and communities do not use any rouge techniques to make them – like canvas prints, canvas transfers, or painting on prints. The gallery not only creates a 'sense of place' but also beautifies the ambience of the airport. The airport proudly hosts an outlet of Biswa Bangla in the waiting area. Visitors to the showrooms are tacitly enlightened on West Bengal's heritage art and craft forms.



Gifts from Sikkim



Moutat Tea Boutique



Terminal Building Tirupati Airport



Tips to evaluate 'the one'

If you both want the same things, share the same ideals, and want the same results, you will find success together

ROOPSHA DASGUPTA RAY

There is someone in my life. But I'm not sure whether 'he is the one'. How does one actually decide on the right partner. I'm very confused.
Sheetal, New Delhi

There's someone special in your life. Here are 13 things that indicate a healthy, happy relationship. If the majority applies to you, keep him in your life.

- You're happy**
First things first, if you are unhappy on a regular basis, get out of there. Make sure your happiness begins within yourself. Those who rely on their significant other for ALL of their happiness usually don't make it very far.
- You know each other's families**
You don't have to go to every family event, but if you're familiar with his siblings and parents and have met a few of them, you're good to go. Secret relationships may be fun, but anything lasting means you're joining the family.
- You are yourself**
You are not afraid to tell him secrets, let him know when you're in a bad mood. You can be relaxed and comfortable with the person you are.
- You laugh**
If you are enjoying yourself and laughing a little bit each day, things are going well.
- You don't have to talk all the time**
Silence or pauses aren't uncomfortable when you are together, and you don't feel awkward. Good relationships don't require constant communication.
- You communicate**
On the flip side of number five, a healthy relationship is dependent upon communication. Being open, honest, and talkative with each other is the only way you will get to know each other more. Keep those lines of communication open. The worst way to ruin a relationship is to misunderstand or complicate things.
- There is little to no drama**
If your relationship feeds off the daily drama, someone is going to crack and it will not last long. If you find yourself angry, confused, depressed, or just fed up, it is definitely not a healthy relationship to be in.
- You have balance**
If you are spending every waking minute with this guy, odds are you have lost a lot of friends. If you are bringing your friends to every date night, odds are you and this guy aren't serious. Find that balance between having both of your own lives and being a part of each other's.
- There is spontaneity**
If you have fallen into a tedious routine, face the red flag and realize that any healthy relationship has an element of fun to it. That doesn't mean every day is a carnival adventure, but don't let things get predictably boring.
- You are learning**
A good relationship causes you to think, to be challenged, and to grow. If you are not learning



I am a 25-year-old man. My girlfriend had a crush on a guy a long time ago. She hasn't spoken to him in almost a year now. However, she still keeps talking about him all the time. How do I make her stop talking about the other guy?

Name unknown

Are you sure your girlfriend is aware of the heartache she is causing you? Sometimes people do things unintentionally, unknowingly. Please stop fuming over this communication gap only in your heart and try telling her how you feel. Express. I am sure she will understand and you guys will be fine together. Just be open about your feelings and don't worry so much. Love is always meant to go a long way if it is true. Talk it out, sort it out and sail smoothly. Good luck!

My husband is determined to live in the joint family. But, it's killing me. I come from a peaceful nuclear family and living with 9 people is a torture! What to do?

Mrs Mehta, Gurgaon

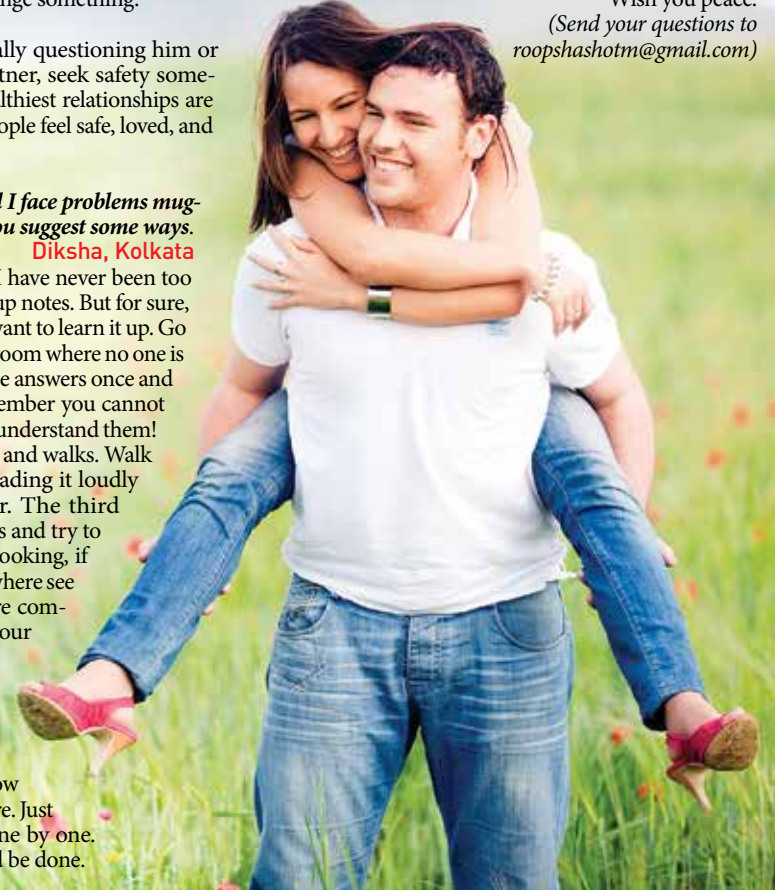
I'm sure you knew the family and its members before stepping in. It's difficult to convince a man to move out of his set up. You should not lose hope and request him to look for an alternate address close to the original house. Explain him with love, tears and pleads. Let's hope he understands your problem and take steps accordingly. Wish you peace.

(Send your questions to roopshashotm@gmail.com)

- You have the same goals**
Aside from the happiness factor, this is perhaps the second biggest factor in determining a relationship. If you both want the same things, share the same ideals, and want the same results, you will find success together.
- He makes the effort to talk with and be around you**
Any one-sided relationship will never work. Both sides need to be invested and interested in order for this healthy relationship to flourish. If you are constantly reaching out first or waiting for a text message all day, change something.
- You feel safe**
If you are continually questioning him or doubting your partner, seek safety somewhere else. The healthiest relationships are ones where both people feel safe, loved, and at home.

I am in standard 9 and I face problems mugging lessons up. Can you suggest some ways.
Diksha, Kolkata

To be very honest, I have never been too successful in mugging up notes. But for sure, these steps help if you want to learn it up. Go in a quiet and peaceful room where no one is disturbing you. Read the answers once and understand them; remember you cannot learn them if you don't understand them! Next time read it aloud and walk. Walk around everywhere reading it loudly and try to remember. The third time, read the questions and try to answer them without looking, if you are stuck up somewhere see it. Try this until you are completely satisfied with your answer. Ask yourself, "If I get this question in the examination will I be able to write it without ANY hesitation?" Do not look at how many questions there are. Just complete an answer one by one. Without knowing you'd be done.



You share your birthday with



KATRINA KAIF

Born on July 16, 1983, Katrina Turquotte is a British-Indian film actor and model known for her work in Bollywood. She has appeared primarily in Hindi films, as well as Telugu and Malayalam films. In addition to being one of Bollywood's highest-paid actors, she is considered one of India's most attractive celebrities by media. At a fashion show in London, filmmaker Kaizad Gustad spotted Kaif and decided to cast her in Boom (2003), a critical and commercial failure. Katrina later, changed her surname to her father's (Kaif) because she thought it would be easier to pronounce after moving to India. While filming in India, Kaif established a successful modelling career. However, filmmakers were hesitant to cast her due to her poor command of Hindi. She earned commercial success in Bollywood with the romantic comedies 'Maine Pyaar Kyun Kiya?' and 'Namaste London'. Despite receiving mixed reviews from critics for her acting prowess, she has established herself as a commercially successful actress of Hindi cinema. In addition to acting, Kaif is involved with her mother's charity and participates in stage shows.



Aries (Mar 21–April 20)

As Mars continues its journey through your home zone, you may be quite eager to get ahead with DIY projects. And with last week's difficulties out of the way, you might be ready to tackle any chores that are overdue. In addition, Mercury in your leisure sector makes a lovely tie to Jupiter, which might encourage you to take time out to relax and invite loved ones along for the ride.



Taurus (April 21–May 21)

Making new connections can be very beneficial and even help you get further ahead with a project or receive some useful advice. This trend will last until July 20, and it could see you making new friends online and off. Meanwhile, you might be eager to get organized at home, and this could lead you to remove clutter and sell or give away items you no longer need.



Gemini (May 22–June 21)

Although you may be in the process of taking stock of financial matters, recent efforts to set matters right could help you feel more optimistic and secure. But the presence of Mars here could see you adopting a can-do approach to earning extra money and perhaps starting a small business that helps take care of everyday expenses and gives you funds for vacations and other treats.



Cancer (June 22–July 22)

Vitality is strong with the golden Sun and ruddy Mars moving through your sign. You may feel more courageous and inclined to stand up for what you believe in. But you'll also be eager to reach out and connect with old and new friends. Mercury in your financial sector could see you doing some organizing and getting up to speed with bills and other money matters.



Leo (July 23–Aug 23)

You may have felt like taking a back seat lately, especially with your ruler Sun in a more secluded sector of your chart. But you may still feel very compassionate toward others and willing to lend your support. You would probably feel put out if they didn't ask. If there have been issues between you and another, don't take them personally. This person may have their own problems to contend with.



Virgo (Aug 24–Sept 23)

The present picture reveals that you may have a long to-do list, but if it involves fulfilling other people's needs and neglecting your own, then something needs to change. While the ongoing focus in your social zone could incline you to help, the cosmos is also encouraging you to forge ahead and do what you have to do. You can't please everyone.



Libra (Sept 24–Oct 23)

With Mercury in your social sector aspecting Jupiter in your sign, the time may be ripe for moving in new circles and exploring activities you've never tried before. While you may sometimes find yourself at odds with other's ideas, this can be a positive learning curve that encourages you to reconsider your plans and perhaps take on bigger challenges.



Scorpio (Oct 24–Nov 22)

Any new information you've uncovered can give you inspiration for the future and could see you envisioning all sorts of possibilities. This might be an excellent time to expand your horizons, either by studying or networking and making friends with those on your wavelength. Your instincts can also play a part in any key decisions and shouldn't be ignored.



Sagittarius (Nov 23–Dec 21)

As Mercury angles toward Jupiter in your social sector, you might want to try on a new experience for size, especially if you can involve your friends, too. However, another influence suggests that if you think about this issue too much, you may end up in a state of analysis paralysis and get nowhere. Asking a friend for advice or researching the pros and cons might help you decide.



Capricorn (Dec 22–Jan 20)

There's a focus on relationships, especially with the affable Sun and Mars lighting up your relationship zone and enticing you to explore the potential in a new friendship or budding romance. What interests you about another might be a story they tell or an experience they've had that captures your imagination and leaves you wanting more.



Aquarius (Jan 21–Feb 18)

To overcome any reservations concerning a bold idea, you may benefit from chatting with someone who has been through a similar situation. The influence of Venus in your creative zone might help you see things from a more positive perspective, perhaps putting things in a new light and bringing you hope. Later in the week, a tie to Jupiter can bring on a mood of optimism.



Pisces (Feb 19–March 20)

Although pleasure plans may be firmly on the agenda, other factors indicate that you may be eager to make changes to your lifestyle. With Mercury moving through your sector of routines, you might want to reorganise certain aspects of your day to accomplish your health goals and be productive. From July 20, you may find it a lot easier to stay true to your new regimen.

How to relocate your pet abroad

To shift with your pets abroad, seek assistance from a pet relocation company, and also get vaccinations and file the proof that you have done so



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

My pet's vet is refusing to operate/treat my pet. What should I do?

According to the laws applicable in India (Veterinary Practice Regulations of 2008), a veterinarian is not bound to treat each and every patient and can exercise his discretion in the same. In such a situation take your pet to some other veterinarian. However, it is not applicable in case of an emergency. Emergency services (for example, in case of a heart attack) must be provided according to the Veterinary Practice Regulations of 2008 and the veterinarian cannot refuse treatment/operation. If any veterinarian refuses to attend to the patient in an emergency situation, then you can file a complaint in the district civil court (i.e. session's court) under the aforementioned regulations. This is also covered

under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986 (as per medical negligence liability). In order to file a complaint, first identify the jurisdiction of the court under which the complaint is to be filed according to your district). You will be required to pay a prescribed fee along with your complaint, accompanied with the authorization letter and your signature. Don't forget to mention the name, description and address of the complainant and the name, description, address of the opposite party or parties against whom relief is claimed. You also need to provide the copies of all the documents supporting your allegations. You can also ask for compensation costs which should be specifically

tioned in the complaint. Besides compensation, you can also ask for the refunds, damages, litigation costs, and interest amount. Thereafter, the case proceedings shall begin.

My pet's vet was negligent in treating my pet which resulted in deterioration of health. Can I claim damages? If yes, then how?

Yes, you can claim damages as

per the medical negligence liability under the Consumer Protection Act of 1986. You have to prove that the veterinarian owed a duty of care to you, and the deterioration of health of your pet was a direct result of the breach of that duty. You can do so by getting prescriptions, medical reports and by photographic evidence. You can also

take statements from expert witnesses (practicing veterinarian) as a form of evidence. Thereafter, you can file a complaint in your regional consumer court under the aforementioned act. In order to file a complaint, first identify the jurisdiction of the court under which the complaint is to be filed (territorial jurisdiction according to your district). You will be required to pay a prescribed fee along with your complaint, accompanied with the authorization letter and your signature. Don't forget to mention the name, description and address of the complainant and



the name, description, address of the opposite party or parties against whom relief is claimed. You also need to provide the copies of all the documents supporting your allegations. You can also ask for compensation costs which should be specifically alleged in the complaint. Besides compensation, you can also ask for the refunds, damages, litigation costs, and interest amount.

I want to move abroad along with my pet. What procedure should I follow?

The procedure for taking your pet to another country varies from one country

to another. However, it usually requires you to obtain a pet passport (in the case of India as well) along with other necessary permits including a medical clearance. You can also contact the embassy of the country that you are planning to move to in this regard, to know more about their rules and regulations. You can also seek assistance from a pet relocation company (For example: Furry Flyers, Air Pets Relocation Services), to make this process easier. You have to get vaccinations and file the proof that you have done so.

(Send your questions to manekaanimallove@gmail.com)



Game On



The return of Everton's PRODIGAL SON

Almost 15 years and countless trophies later, Wayne Rooney has returned to his boyhood club Everton, after having spent 13 glorious seasons at Manchester United, writes Sridhar Venkatesh

On October 19, 2002, Everton was playing at their home ground at Goodison Park against a much stronger Arsenal FC side, which had not been beaten in their previous 30 games. It was a nail-biting one, with both sides coming close to breaking the 1-1 deadlock on several occasions. The referee was about to blow the final whistle when something remarkable happened: a soon to be 17-year-old Wayne Rooney received a ball just outside the box 22-yard box and, with the dying minutes of the second half, struck a magnificent volley towards goal. The ball went flying from his boot towards the goal, struck the inside of the crossbar and went into the net as the Arsenal goalkeeper David Seaman was left to do nothing, but pick it out of the net. The video clipping of that memorable game is available on the internet, where the ecstatic commentator Clive Tyldesley can be heard uttering the words that the world would not forget for a long time: "Remember the name: Wayne Rooney!"

Almost 15 years and countless trophies later, 31-year-old Rooney – now the captain of the England national team and unarguably a legend of the game – has returned to his boyhood club, after having spent 13 glorious seasons at Manchester United, where he won every possible trophy that an English club footballer can win.

When he officially announced his decision to join Everton on social media on July 9, millions of United fans across the world were heartbroken, to say the least. Rooney's career at Manchester United has been nothing short of a fairytale and he broke countless records over the 13 consecutive seasons he spent at Old Trafford. The record that is bound to last longer than others is the number of goals he has scored for United: with 253 goals in 559 competitive games across all competitions, Rooney is the highest goalscorer for United. Rooney overtook the legendary Bobby Charlton on January 21 when he scored his 250th goal for the club with an unstoppable free kick against Stoke City. During his time at United, Rooney amassed an enviable five Premier League titles, lifted the League Cup thrice, the FA Cup once, the Community Shield four times, the UEFA Champions League and FIFA Club World Cup once (both in 2008) and, more recently, the UEFA Europa League at the end of the 2016-17 season.

Rooney left Everton to arrive at Manchester United as an 18-year-old when he was signed by Sir Alex Ferguson, United's longest serving manager ever, for a staggering sum of £25.6 million. At the time, it was the highest fee ever paid for a player under the age of 20. At Everton, Rooney played with the number 18 on his back. At United, the number had been taken up the legendary Paul Scholes and Rooney was given the number 8 jersey. Rooney's debut at United, however, was spectacular as it could ever be. Starting his career in a UEFA Champions League game against Fenerbahçe, Rooney scored a sensational hat-trick and also assisted in a goal, as United trounced the Turkish side 6-2. His three goals made him the youngest player to score a hat-trick in the Champions League, at the age of 18 years and 335 days.

The young Rooney's first season may have been productive for him. For the club, however, the 2004-05 season was trophyless. Rooney's first major trophy with United came in the 2005-06 season when United won the League Cup, after defeating Wigan Athletic in the final by four goals to nil. Rooney was named the Man of the Match in the final for his two goals. The next season, however, was more memorable to both United as well as Rooney. The then 21-year-old won his first ever Premier League



medal, with his partnership with Cristiano Ronaldo being the highlight of the 2006-07 season.

The highlight of Rooney's career would, however, be the 2007-08 season. After the prolific Ruud van Nistelrooy had left United for Spanish giants Real Madrid the previous season, the number 10 jersey had been lying vacant for an entire season. In the beginning of the 2007 season, the jersey was given to Rooney, who said that he had always loved that number. Not only did United manage to win the 2007-08 Premier League season, they also defeated fellow English rivals Chelsea FC in the first-ever all-English UEFA Champions League final. In the FIFA Club World Cup final against Ecuadorian side LDU Quito, Rooney scored the only goal of the contest, giving United its first ever Club World Cup trophy. Rooney scored an impressive 18 goals in 43 games in all competitions for United that season.

Rooney lifted his third Premier League title the next season and scored 20 goals in all competitions. United also reached the UEFA Champions League final for the second consecutive year but was defeated by a superior Barcelona 2-0.

The 2009-10 season was the most productive for Rooney in terms of personal achievements as he recorded his highest ever tally of goals in a single season, 34 goals in 44 games across all competitions. He also finished the season as the top scorer in the Premier League, with 26 goals in 32 games. The only trophy, however, that United won that season was the League Cup, Rooney's second ever.

The 2010-11 was a tumultuous one, to say the least for Rooney. Speculation was rife that Rooney was to quit the club. The development was then con-

firmed by the manager Ferguson after he stated at a press conference that Rooney wanted to quit the club. It was almost decided that Rooney would leave the club, but in a dramatic reversal of fortune for the club, the then 24-year-old decided to stay on and agreed on a new five-year contract to stay at the club till 2015. One of the most memorable moments of Rooney's career came in this season during the Manchester Derby and neighbourhood rivals Manchester City. On February 12, 2011, in the 78th minute of the derby, Rooney scored an overhead bicycle kick into City's net to hand United a narrow 2-1 win at Old Trafford. The goal was hailed as one of the best of the decade and was awarded the Premier League Goal of the 20 Seasons award. Rooney also won his fourth Premier League medal at the end of the 2010-11 season, while finishing runner-up in the UEFA Champions League final, being defeated once again by Spanish giants FC Barcelona. The 2011-12 season saw Rooney achieve a few more highs. In late August, Rooney scored his 150th goal for the club and also scored a hat-trick in a Premier League game against Arsenal, where the London club was battered 8-2. In the next Premier League game against Bolton Wanderers, Rooney scored another hat-trick, thus becoming only the fourth ever player in Premier League history to score consecutive hat-tricks. He also equalled his highest ever goals tally for a season, with 34 goals in 43 games. However, the season did not see United

win any major trophies. It was the 2012-13 season that proved to be the beginning of Rooney's dip in form. Luckily, United won the Premier

League that season, which would go on to become Sir Alex Ferguson's last ever season as a football manager. The Scot announced his retirement at the end of the season, but not before handing over Rooney his Premier League medal.

At the beginning of the 2013-14, speculation again arose about Rooney's departure, with his former Everton boss David Moyes being handed over the reins of Manchester United. However, Rooney's once again gave all his fans a pleasant surprise, by extending his contract till 2019. The season was more than forgettable for United, as they finished a dismal seventh in the league and were knocked out of both the UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Europa League.

The 2014-15 season saw Dutch manager Louis van Gaal take over the club and saw Rooney don the captain's armband. The season saw a revival of sorts, with United finishing fourth and getting the chance to play Champions League football once again in the upcoming season. van Gaal's second season in charge of United was, again, a disappointment for fans all over the globe, as United were again knocked out of the Champions League in the group stage and only finished fifth in the Premier League. However, the season did finish with Rooney lifting his maiden FA Cup title with United.

Portuguese manager Jose Mourinho took over as United's manager in the 2016-17 season. This was perhaps Rooney's least productive season in his entire United career. The season saw Rooney score the least number of goals ever in any season in the Premier League, with only eight in 38 games in all competitions. This was the signal that United was perhaps ready to give Rooney the boot.

The inevitable was eventually announced on July 9 and Rooney bid farewell to the club where he won every trophy possible. Rooney's exit from the Manchester giants will indeed leave a gaping hole in their campaign for the upcoming 2017-18 season. But with Everton seeing their prodigal son returning to the club that he has supported since he was a boy, many will be curious to see what magic will Rooney bring at Goodison Park for thousand of Merseyside football lovers.



“We waste time looking for the perfect lover, instead of creating the perfect love”

- Tom Robbins



UNFETTERED BY SOCIETY

A very bold, yet strangely questioning film. You will relate to the movie and feel like a part of it. You have seen this happening around you, with yourself or maybe a friend who got into an arranged marriage

The makers and actors of the upcoming film *Lipstick Under My Burkha* – Prakash Jha, Ekta Kapoor, Alankrita Srivastav, Ratna Pathak, Konkona Sen Sharma, Aahana Kumra and Plabita Borthakur – come forward to share their journey and their experiences from the sets to the Censor Board in a free-wheeling interview with Antara Agarwal and Rhythem Vatsa.

The beautiful women of this controversial movie talk about society and the changes they hope to see, in a beautiful paradigm. The movie has been described as real, yet entertaining. And Ekta Kapoor says that it would have been very sad to see a film like this and not be a part of it, and that 11 international awards, is only a beginning.

Alankrita, what is the story behind the title? How did it come to your mind?

I have no answer to how it came to my mind; it just did (laughs). The title is a metaphorical idea of the pulsating desire women have to be free. They'll always keep dreaming, and even if society puts them into boxes, or restrain them, they can't kill passion and ambition. It also talks about the idea of a lot of things that women sometimes do in secret, which they're not allowed to do in public. So it's about secret fantasies and hidden wishes.

(To Ratna Pathak) What was your reaction to the script? How challenging was the role for you, considering that such a role for a lady of your age has never been seen before?

This is fantastic. I want to be a part of it. And I would be an idiot if I'm not a part of it – that was my first, and frankly my only reaction. The script was extremely well written, and it is one of those

films where you completely can't guess what's going to happen next. It was really a page turner. And the role wasn't an extraordinary challenge. Every role can be challenging if written in the right way. I will admit that I had to think about what my family would say if I did this role. But now, I think I have answers for them as well.

(To Ekta Kapoor) You started the #LipstickForMen Campaign to make this film reach out to more people. How did this idea come to you and how are you going to use it further?

The biggest problem is that we generalize films, and typecast movies that come from a thought process as art films. They are really sometimes great and educative. But they often get lost because only a limited number of people watch them. The most beautiful part of this film is that it is very entertaining. While watching it, I never felt that I was being lectured. There came a point during the screening, when we paused the movie and clapped for a scene by Ratna Ji. And I am sure that lots of



PIC/NAMAN KHOSLA

will definitely want to question themselves after watching the movie. And that is what we really hope for the film to do. And this film will do social service; it will serve as a medium of sex education in India which we are in desperate need of. We don't even know how we became 1.5 billion or whatever the figure is. So, let this film clear it out once and for all.

Aahana, was your family supportive despite the explicit scenes you've done in the movie?

My mom watched the movie at the same time as I did, and surprisingly, she told me that she was proud of me. This movie has changed me as a person. I am more confident about my body now. I never thought in my life that I would do a role like this. This movie has made me more confident in taking up such roles. When the script came out it was like a now or never situation. I feel very happy about the fact that I took this role.

We can see who the female cast is but who are their male counterparts?

Prakash Jha: All the actors, Sushant, Vikrant, Shashank, Vaibhav and Jagat have done an amazing job. There are so many sexual scenes in the movie but none of them are with the intent of titillation. And this wouldn't have been possible without the kind of approach that the male cast had.

Aahana Kumra: I don't think without Vikrant I would have been able to play my role. A man is equally important. In this movie the man and woman equation is very important. We did a lot of workshop for those scenes. I have scenes with both Vikrant and Vaibhav and they were uncomfortable for all of us. There were days when I would have to shoot five days in a row, alternatively with Vikrant and Vaibhav. And my lips would turn blue. The scenes are very gloriously painted on screen but there's a lot of physical discomfort that goes behind them but the crew made it very easy for us and both the actors have done really well.

women will stand up and clap in the theatre in that scene. It was a kind of an emotional release. This film unites people who fight suppression, women who are not acknowledged as women but as their place in a house. When we launched this campaign, I think it was men who supported us more. And this is how an ideology changes. This is not an anti-men process.

This middle finger campaign is for patriarchy. But silently, at some level, is it for the Censor Board too? Why can't we say this to them out loud?

Ekta Kapoor: You're making the fight very small. Don't do that. Censor Board only stops films. The ideology we are fighting for has to be combated on various levels. There are hundreds of women who



(To Ratna Pathak) Do you think that the society is ready to hear these opinions?

Society is never ready to hear an opposing point of view. Anybody with an alternative point of view, whatever it may be, has to fight for space. It's a pity, that we have been cast in the role of an opposing point of view. The world consists of world and women, 50-50 almost, and we're both equally important. But it is true that people get bothered when they want to tell their own stories. I think it is a question of 'Thode din ki baat'. We were not ready for this kind of movie 10 years ago. I am glad this has been made today, when we have an audience for this kind of a movie. This audience isn't very clear headed, but they

have been coming up to me and telling me their stories. And they don't even know what the Censor Board is. And on the other hand there have been these big daddies of Bollywood telling me that the movie isn't going to achieve much. So, I don't think it is about the Censor Board, but various kinds of subtle bias you find every day.

Prakash Jha: Censor Board is a mindset of a bygone era. Whenever you give someone authority, that authority can be used in any way. And this is authority over our sense and choices. I don't have anything against Censor Board or Pahlaj Nilani. He is doing the job of a mindset. I have, since time immemorial, been saying that we do not need this authority. The poster of this campaign is just what this film is all about.



दिल्ली सरकार

आप की सरकार

**GUNJAN SAGAR**

joined Delhi Government's WCSC after clearing 12th standard. She completed a one-year course in Hospitality Operations.

Job Profile: Trainee Cabin Crew in a reputed airline

Package: 4.40 Lacs per annum

**RAJ KUMAR KASANA**

joined Delhi Government's WCSC after clearing 12th standard. He completed a one-year course in Hospitality Operations.

Job Profile: Crew member in a reputed American cruise ship

Package: 14 Lacs per annum

दिल्ली सरकार

आप की सरकार

**KHUSHBOO ATAL**

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