www.facebook.com/hindustantimes www.twitter.com/htTweets ■ DOWNLOAD OUR iPAD APP www.hindustantimes.com/iPad ■ OUR EDITION ON KINDLE http://read.ht/JS4

hindustantimes

hindustantimes.com

Mumbai/METRO ■ Vol. XIV No. 201

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

value for money

MOHAN HOMES

built on values

MOHAN GROUP

concrete steps to the future

An ISO 9001:2008 & ISO 14001:2004 Company

₹ 25 Lakhs

₹ 50 Lakhs

₹ 1 Crore

घर लो CROREPATI BANO

*Terms and conditions apply

4 Locations - 7 Projects

KALYAN | ULHASNAGAR | AMBERNATH | BADLAPUR

www.mohan-group.com | sms MOHAN to 56677

Call: 92090 88000

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

Our Projects

MOHAN altezza

KALYAN WEST

STARTING FROM ₹**1.2 CRORE** ONWARDS*

Mohan Altezza soars majestically 30 stories into the skyline, one of the tallest residential edifices in this Mumbai suburb.

The luxury of convenience located in heart of Kalyan with **Concierge Desk, Service Apartments, Proposed HELIPAD, Day Care Creche.**

Phase-I : Rera Reg No. P51700004557 | Phase-II : Rera Reg No. P51700007011

Waterfront view makes your stay at a place worthwhile, a great one however, makes your want to remain there forever. We present to you spectacular villas that simply take your breath away & transport you to another world.

MOHAN WATERS EDGE

LUXE GATED COMMUNITY

BADLAPUR WEST

STARTING FROM ₹**1CRORE** ONWARDS*

Phase-I : Rera Reg No. P51700002550 | Phase-II : Rera Reg No. P51700010737

MOHAN Willows

urban lifescapes

1 & 2 BHK APARTMENTS

BADLAPUR (E)

STARTING FROM ₹**35 LACS** ONWARDS*

Badlapur is green & **Scenic Area** surrounded by Hills. The real estate in Badlapur has seen more than **100% appreciation** in last 4 years so it's a wise investment to beat the inflation.

Phase-I : Rera Reg No. P51700002731 | Phase-II : Rera Reg No. P51700003971

MOHAN SUBURBIA

where the city moves in

1, 2 & 3 BHK RESIDENCES

AMBERNATH (W)

STARTING FROM ₹**22 Lacs** ONWARDS*

A real **Mega Township** in it's true sense, housing more than 3500 families. Superlative shopping facilities in **Mohan Galleria**, social infrastructure such as **ICSE** school managed by **esteemed Podar School**, Multi-speciality hospital.

Phase-4 : Rera Reg No. P51700002244

Phase-I : Rera Reg No. P51700003948
Phase-II : Rera Reg No. P51700013253
Phase-III : Rera Reg No. P51700016534

MOHAN NANOESTATES

a home for everyone...

STUDIO & 1Bed Apartments @ Ambernath (W)

The best choice homes in 16 levels of luxurious three towers at one of the most prominent location of Badlapur.

You will feel closer to the environmental activities like **rock climbing, archery net, jogging track, acupressure track, amphitheater & green gardens.**

Rera Reg No. P51700000829

MOHAN ARECA

Happiness Discovered

BADLAPUR (E)

STARTING FROM ₹**38 Lacs** ONWARDS*

MOHAN RITTEKA

heart of city

7 storey 1, 2 & 3 BHK Apartments

ULHASNAGAR

STARTING FROM ₹**41 Lacs** ONWARDS*

Gated community situated along the magnificent location in the heart of Ulhasnagar. Where your favourite activities are within walking distance and **restaurants, shopping** & area attractions are minute away. Endless outdoor enjoyment and tranquility define daily existence. It is an ideal place for you & your family to meet new friends and neighbors.

Rera Reg No. P51700004103

All Projects available at www.maharera.mahaonline.gov.in

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

http :www.hindustantimes.com/

hindus

Mumbai/METRO ■ Vol. XIV No. 201 FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

VETERAN JOURNALIST, FORMER MP KULDIP NAYAR PASSES AWAY AT 95 ›HT NATION P11

Fruits of progress are now reaching the poorest: Modi

PM IN GUJARAT Says his govt ended the culture of bribery

HTC and PTI
letters@hindustantimes.com

AHMEDABAD: Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated development projects worth over ₹2,300 crore on his whirlwind Gujarat tour on Thursday, and reasserted that his government had provided corruption-free benefits to the people of India and had cut out the middlemen who siphoned funds in previous regimes.

Modi's daylong visit to his home state — he attended three events in the state and a meeting of the Somnath Trust — were in line with the government's concerted effort to showcase its welfare schemes ahead of the 2019 general elections.

Bringing up a statement by former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi that if the Centre released one rupee, only 15 paise reached the poor, Modi said that the era of middlemen in fund disbursement was over. "If ₹1 is released by Delhi, 100 paise reaches the poor," he said.

Making rural housing the centrepiece of his visit, the prime minister presided over a collective e-grahpravesh (e-house warming) at Jujwa village in south Gujarat's Valsad for units constructed under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G). He interacted through videoconference with beneficiaries from 26 of the 33 districts of Gujarat.

> If one rupee is released from Delhi, the entire 100 paise (now) reaches the house of the poor... This was made possible because there is no place for middlemen in my government.
> NARENDRA MODI, Prime Minister

Modi said in his speech that the government now was confident enough to ask people whether they had to bribe anyone to get benefits of the housing scheme. "They are happy to receive full share of their right," he said.

Modi claimed that not a single family in the country will be homeless by 2022, when India will celebrate its 75th independence anniversary. Targets have been set to complete 10 million new pucca houses in rural areas by March 2019 and 29.5 million by 2022 under the government's 'Housing for All' scheme.

According to data from the Rural Development Ministry website, 1.82 million houses were completed under the erstwhile scheme in 2015-16, while the number rose to over 3.2 million in 2016-17 and 4.45 million in 2017-18 after taking into account houses built under the new scheme and completion of incomplete houses started under the previous scheme. He also spoke about government schemes on water distribution, electrification of villages, and the Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme that is referred to as 'Modicare'.

After Valsad, Modi flew to Junagadh in Saurashtra and inaugurated a 300-bed hospital and medical college by the Gujarat Medical Research Society.

CONTINUED ON P10

UGC to ease norms, admit more SC/ST students in PhD

Neelam Pandey
neelam.pandey@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The University Grants Commission (UGC) is set to lower the eligibility cutoff for students from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes for admission to M Phil and PhD programmes in universities across the country.

The move is a bid to fill mounting vacancies in reserved seats, according to the human resource development (HRD) ministry.

UGC is also set to permit universities to launch a special ad–mission drive to fill vacant seats by setting their own criteria.

A new UGC notification, 'Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M Phil/PhD Degrees (1st Amendment) Regulations 2018' — which has been accessed by HT — says "a relaxation of 5% of marks, from 50% to 45% shall be allowed for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non- creamy layers)/differently abled category in the examination conducted by the Universities".

If seats for SC/ST/OBC remain unfilled despite this relaxation, universities will launch a special admission "for that particular category within one month from the date closure of admission of general category".

R Subrahmanyam, the secretary, higher education, in the Union HRD ministry, said the government was hoping this move would help cut down on vacancies in such programmes.

"The government is concerned with the reduced numbers of PhD admissions from the SC/ST categories, after the introduction of the two-step admission process," Subrahmanyam said.

››FULL REPORT, P13

IN SIX MONTHS, SINGLE TICKET FOR ALL YOUR RIDES IN MUMBAI

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The single ticket system for all modes of public transport in Mumbai and its satellite towns is likely to become a reality in the next six months, as chief minister Devendra Fadnavis and railway minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday overcame the final hurdle: the mode of payment.

They also decided to fast-track major suburban railway projects stuck because of land acquisition and rehabilitation issues.

At a cost of ₹130 crore, the Integrated Ticketing System (ITS) is a first-of-its kind project in the country. Although the state had planned to launch the system by the end of this year, the authorities had a dispute over how payments will be made. "Issues to implement ITS in Mumbai have been resolved in the meeting held today," Fadnavis said on Twitter.

››FULL REPORT, P7

shortstories

INDIA, CHINA TO SPEED UP HOTLINE BETWEEN FORCES

NEW DELHI: India and China on Thursday held wide-ranging talks to improve their bilateral military relationship, including speeding up a hotline between their armed forces and inking a new agreement on defence exchanges and cooperation, a defence ministry spokesperson said. China also mooted setting up two or three hotlines to address border issues, instead of one. ››P9

11 die as SUV falls into gorge near Rohtang Pass

SHIMLA: At least 11 people, including three children, were killed when the vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and rolled down a gorge near Rohtang Pass on the Manali-Leh highway late on Wednesday. Passersby saw the mangled remains of the SUV and informed the police. A rescue team was rushed to the spot and the bodies were being retrieved and identified. Police said bad weather and dense fog could have caused the accident. ››P11

STATE CHOKING, PLAN MISSING

25 Cities in Maharashtra where air pollution levels (calculated based on presence of PM10) are above permissible annual levels —the highest in India

10 Cities in Maharashtra that do not have a plan to tackle the air pollution, eight months after the Centre directed states to draw up an action plan

7 Cities, including Mumbai and Pune, have plans but were told to revise them. Maharashtra tops a list of states with no action plans; UP came second on the list, followed by Rajasthan and Karnataka

CITIES WITH NO ACTION PLAN

››REPORTS, P6 & P13

Videos emerge of JeM collecting funds for jihad

NEW DELHI: Months after Pakistan was put on a watch list for failing to counter terror financing, videos have emerged of Jaish-e-Mohammed operatives collecting funds in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province for jihad against US and India. ››P14

Pak says got proof against Jadhav, will triumph at ICJ

ISLAMABAD: Foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Thursday said that Pakistan has concrete proof against Indian national Kulbushan Jadhav – sentenced to death on charges of espionage – and will triumph at the ICJ. ››P13

pressreader™ PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

hindustantimes
PAGE ONE PLUS
FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

malavika's mumbaistan

malavikasmumbaistan@gmail.com @msangghvi

A Bite of Mumbai's Glam Cake

Queenie Singh (left) with Rhea Pillai.

Anuraag Bhatnagar

There is no doubt that even though it is a relatively new entrant in the Mumbai five-star hotel universe, and despite its teething troubles, the Anuraag Bhatnagar-led St Regis hotel has taken a sizeable bite of the city's glamour cake. From glam gals Pria Kataria Puri and Nisha Jamvwal, who regularly present events at one or the other of its many venues; to its hosting of fashion weeks, high-profile book launches and international food events, the hotel has become the go-to for a myriad of the city's social activities. Some of it, of course, has to do with its location. Situated dead-centre on the new outline of Mumbai, that too, in one of its more popular of malls and cheek-by-jowl with its food hub at Kamala Mills, St Regis has its advantages over the competition for sure, but a lot of its success, at becoming part of Mumbai's social and night life, is thanks to Bhatnagar, one of the most social and high-profile of hotel bosses in town. The dead ringer for Arnab Goswami has invested much of his time in making friends and influencing people while at his job. No surprises that early next month, the hotel, which had been the venue for Queenie Singh's birthday lunch a few months ago, will host an exhibition featuring her new collection of fine jewellery. Called Red Carpet Collection, Singh's designs will be seen along with friend Rhea Pillai's collection of saris and ensembles sourced from across the country, and aimed at the coming festive season. Save the date emails have already been sent out by the duo. "It's a lot of fun, as well as glamorous," said Singh, who was recently in Africa with her family on an idyllic safari, by way of a text. "We're doing it at the presidential suite."

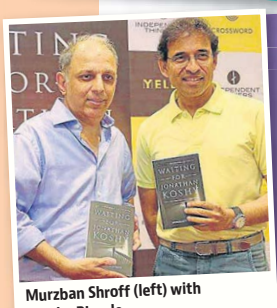
"Are you back?" We enquired of the peripatetic society diva, also by text. "In St Tropez," came her prompt response.

We don't know why we even ask...

TRUELIES

ILLUSTRATION: SHRIKRISHNA PATKAR

London was host to a gathering of a few top Indian politicians from Mumbai, this week, and what's interesting is that they represented different political parties, albeit from the Opposition. Sources say that they spotted a senior political strongman from Maharashtra, in the company of his party colleague, a suave industrialist, who once served as a Minister in the Union cabinet; and what was curious is that they were joined by another political bigwig from Mumbai, who owed allegiance to the strongman's erstwhile party, one he had left to form his own outfit, in what had been a very high-profile exit, a few years ago. What's cooking? All three men are believed to command huge resources and are celebrated for their wiliness and political and business savvy. Could there be some kind of understanding being cobbled out for the all-important upcoming 2019 general elections? And more pertinently, why is London the preferred location for such discussions?



Murzban Shroff (left) with Harsha Bhogle.

Booked!

Our interest in human nature was piqued yesterday, when we saw an outraged post from our author-friend Murzban Shroff, bemoaning the grasping, penny-pinching nature of people on social media, masquerading as friends. "Aghast at the cheapskate who sends me a friend request and a day later, asks me for a complimentary copy of my book," he said, adding good-humouredly, "Good people of Facebook: What should be done with this Kanjoos?" Murzban's response to the social media scrooge, however, was not as congenial. "In the interest of supporting literature and writers, who struggle for 4/5 years on their books (in this case, it was six), you might want to reach out and buy it. I don't think ₹300 would hurt your pocket," he'd said. This unseemly attempt to grab a free copy of a book by friending its author, a day before the demand was made, is made more unseemly, by the fact that the same author had only recently pledged the full sum of his earnings, from another of his titles, till the end of this year, to Kerela's flood relief funds! Meanwhile, many suggestions were offered on how to deal with the brazen book-snatcher by Murzban's online pals. From "Send the teaser a pic of your book!" to "Name and shame him."

Our advice? Unfriend and Block.

A Candle for Krishna Reddy

Yesterday, when we heard of the passing of the celebrated printmaker, sculptor and teacher, New York-based Krishna Reddy, we at once thought of the Delhi-based photographer and curator Ram Rahman, who'd been a friend of Reddy and his wife Judy, from his NYC student days. "I was with them a few days ago in New York," said Rahman. "A gentle soul with sharp political beliefs, his roots combined Tagore and Gandhi with a good dose of the French-left," he said. Reddy, who hailed from Andhra Pradesh, had studied under Santiniketan's Nandlal Bose. Jiddu Krishnamurthy helped him go to England to apprentice with Henry Moore, who sent him to Paris. "Initially a sculptor, he apprenticed under Ossip Zadkine and then helped found the legendary print Atelier 17 with Stanley William Hayter, where he pioneered the ground-breaking viscosity printing technique by which, he could make complex multi-coloured prints in one printing," said Rahman, before offering insight into Reddy's genius. "His unique vision was the startling combination of his pastoral nature studies from Santiniketan, with the darker cosmic view of French Surrealism."

This portrait of Judy and Krishna was shot by Rahman, two months ago.

The portrait of Krishna Reddy (left) and his wife Judy, shot by Ram Rahman two months ago.

3daymumbaiweather

FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Cloudy sky with Light rain	Cloudy sky with Light rain	Cloudy sky with Light rain
30°c | 25°c	30°c | 26°c	30°c | 26°c

TEMPERATURE • HIGH • LOW

FOR A 6-DAY FORECAST, USE HT ACTIVE

ALMANAC

Today is 24th August, 2018

- 12-Dhul Hijjah 1439
- Shravana, Shukla Paksha, 13
- Samvat 2075

Sunset: Friday at 06:59 p.m. **Sunrise:** Saturday at 06:18 a.m.

Moonrise: Friday at 05:42 p.m. **Moonset:** Saturday at 05:12 a.m.

PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

www.facebook.com/hindustantimes www.twitter.com/htTweets ■ DOWNLOAD OUR iPAD APP www.hindustantimes.com/iPad ■ OUR EDITION ON KINDLE http://read.ht/JS4

hindustantimes

hindustantimes.com

Mumbai/METRO ■ Vol. XIV No. 201 ■ Price ₹4.00 ■ 22 Pages + 6 Pages of HT Café (for Mumbai only). Area specific pages extra.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

'NO CHANCE AT ALL' OF SIMULTANEOUS POLLS FOR LS, ASSEMBLIES, SAYS CEC ›HT NATION P9

RIL BREACHES ₹8L-CR MKT CAP ›htbusiness p15

KOHLI BACK AS NO. 1 ICC TEST BATSMAN

OVERTAKES STEVE SMITH AFTER TRENT BRIDGE TEST ›HT SPORT P16

Fire brigade plans surprise checks at high-rises, malls

PAREL BLAZE BMC's July circular asks fire dept to inspect 300 buildings every month

HT SPECIAL

Eeshanpriya M S
■ eeshanpriya@htlive.com

MUMBAI: The death of four people in Wednesday's fire at Crystal Tower, where several safety rules were violated, has served as a wake-up call to the fire brigade and the Mumbai civic body to start conducting surprise checks at residential buildings.

After the tragic fire at two restaurants in Kamala Mills in December 2017, in which 14 people were killed, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) had formed a fire compliance cell to check if commercial structures had fire-safety mechanisms in place.

Until July, this cell's inspection were done only to provide clearance certificates, to mainly hotels and restaurants.

"As the Kamala Mills fire was at a commercial spot, we focused on inspecting eateries, multiplexes, pubs and bars," said fire brigade officer.

"High-rise housing societies were not in focus."

The 3,423 buildings the cell inspected since it was formed in February 2018 were hotels, restaurants, theatres, and malls. In July, the BMC issued a circular asking the cell to inspect a minimum of 300 buildings, including residential ones, every month.

So far, such checks at residential properties had not been conducted. "We have introduced a new and more stringent procedure for fire safety only last month," chief fire officer P Rahangdale confirmed.

"Follow-up investigations of existing high-rise buildings will also be done to check if they follow the mandatory bi-annual fire audits, and comply with fire safety."

CONTINUED ON P10

■ Police guard the entrance of the Crystal Tower building in Parel on Thursday. PRATIK CHORGE/HT

ACTION TAKEN SO FAR

The fire brigade has disconnected water and electricity to the building

The building has been declared unsafe and has been sealed

A complaint will be registered against the builder for not complying with fire safety norms, under the Fire Safety Act

WHAT NEXT?

BMC will serve a prosecution notice to Crystal Tower for fire safety violations

The fire brigade will open an investigation into the cause of the fire and prepare a report in a fortnight

1 FAMILY REFUSES TO VACATE BLDG

While most families affected in the Crystal Tower blaze were looking for shelters on Thursday, the Kapoors have decided to stay put, even though the water and power supply were disconnected. "My wife, son and I will not leave the flat. It is our home. We have been living here since 1995. We will drink bottled water and live in candle light," said Rajinder Kapoor. »P3

55,000 BUILDINGS DON'T HAVE OC

There are 55,000 buildings in the city with an occupancy certificate (OC), according to civic estimates. An OC allows a developer to let flat buyers occupy the building and ensures the building gets a water connection. »P3

In 6 years, two dozen terror suspects back to India from Gulf

Rajesh Ahuja and Jayanth Jacob
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Indian diplomacy, especially in the Gulf countries, has resulted in extradition or deportation of more than two dozen terror suspects back to India in the last six years, an analysis of data of ministries of home and external affairs shows.

The most recent such deportation was of an alleged LeT operative Habibur Rahman who was sent to India earlier this month by Saudi Arabia.

The new wave of deportation or extraditions related to charges of terrorism started with Abu Jundal alias Syed Zabiuddin Ansari.

Jundak, a native of Aurangabad in Maharashtra, was sent back to India from Saudi Arabia in June 2012.

THE MOST RECENT SUCH DEPORTATION WAS OF ALLEGED LET OPERATIVE, HABIBUR RAHMAN, SENT TO INDIA EARLIER THIS MONTH BY SAUDI ARABIA

After Jundal, there have been over two dozen extraditions or quick deportations from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Thailand and even from Bangladesh (that of Anup Chetia, top leader of United Liberation Front of Assam).

»FULL REPORT, P11

Will ask Centre to allow foreign aid: Alphons on Kerala

Jeevan Prakash Sharma
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Union minister KJ Alphons urged the central government on Thursday to "make an exception" for Kerala after the Centre refused to accept ₹700 crore in relief offered by the United Arab Emirates for the state, where more than a million people have been displaced and over 200 people killed in the worst flood in a century.

A political row broke out on Wednesday after the Centre said it was against India's policy to accept foreign aid in such cases. The country has refused offers of financial assistance from foreign governments since a tsunami struck in 2004.

Alphons said the government had followed a 14-year convention it "inherited" from previous governments of not accepting such assistance in the face of natural calamities. "I am pleading with my people and senior ministers that please make an exception for Kerala accept fund from abroad."

"The government is free to take a decision in the interest of the country," the minister said.

The ministry of external affairs earlier said it "is committed to meeting the requirements for relief and rehabilitation through domestic efforts".

CONTINUED ON P10
»RELATED REPORTS, P8

Traceability not a deal-breaker, govt tells WhatsApp

Vidhi Choudhary
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: WhatsApp said on Thursday that tracing the origin of messages sent over the platform would undermine its "private nature", prompting the government to clarify that it expected the Facebook-owned service to continue exploring technical innovations, even as they appeared to agree on three other conditions set by India to operate in the country. The government had asked WhatsApp to come up with a solution to trace the origin of fake messages. The messaging service said introducing traceability would weaken privacy protection of its users.

»FULL REPORT, P9

JAITLEY BACK AT FINANCE MINISTRY

■ Arun Jaitley, who resumed duty on Thursday as the Union finance minister after a three-month break, arrives at the ministry at North Block in New Delhi. ARVIND YADAV/HT »REPORT ON P15

SHOCK EXIT

India's golden kabaddi run ends in heartbreak

■ SHOOTING STAR AT 15 Shardul Vihan won India a silver medal in the men's double trap event on Thursday. PTI »P17

asian games 2018
AUG 18 - SEP 2

Somshuvra Laha
■ somshuvra.laha@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Every time India left for an Asian Games over the last 28 years, it went in the knowledge that one gold medal was virtually assured — the indigenous sport of kabaddi that has sparked its own professional league in the country since 2014.

The golden run ended on Thursday, when India was eliminated 27-18 in the kabaddi semi-final by Iran, and had to be content with a bronze medal for the first time since the sport was introduced at the Asiad in the 1990 Games in Hiroshima.

Ironically, experts said, part of the blame for India's defeat, and for the rise of Iran as a world kabaddi force, lies in the Pro Kabaddi League which features a number of Iranian players.

CONTINUED ON P10

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

PEACE OF MIND COMES STANDARD WITH A ŠKODA.

ŠKODA
SIMPLY CLEVER

PRESENTING INDIA'S FIRST 4-YEAR SERVICE CARE.

4 YEAR ŠKODA WARRANTY# + **4 YEAR ŠKODA ASSIST** + **4 YEAR ŠKODA MAINTENANCE PACKAGE***

It's no secret that every ŠKODA product is a marvel. But that's not all. ŠKODA also offers you India's first 4-year service care package that includes a 4-year warranty, 4-year road-side assistance and an optional 4-year maintenance package. All your car maintenance worries are taken care of. Indeed, peace of mind comes standard with a ŠKODA.

INDIA'S 1st 4 YEAR SERVICE CARE

To experience peace of mind, visit our nearest showroom today.

Download the MyŠKODA App for hassle-free ownership at your fingertips | myŠKODA

Toll-free 1800 2700 260 | www.skoda-auto.co.in

Mumbai: Autobahn ŠKODA: Andheri (W): 9833198331; Prabhadevi: 9833198331; JMD Auto: Andheri (E): 9870111111; Thane (W): 9870111111; Navi Mumbai (Sanpada): 9870111111; **Pune:** Ethix ŠKODA: Bhandarkar Rd.: 8669 900 900; Akoya Motors: Baner: 7817801801; **Aurangabad:** Sarra Motors: 7574089899; **Kolhapur:** Shrine Auto: 7574886660; **Nasik:** Heak Auto: 7874556666; **Nagpur:** Navnit Cars: 7378400090; **Ahmedabad** (S.G. Highway): Torque Auto: 9328883323; **Baroda:** Torque Auto: 9328883325; **Rajkot:** Torque Auto: 9328883326; **Surat:** Torque Auto: 9328883324; **Goa:** Priority Auto: Taleigao: 7574044499; **Indore:** Satguru Motors: 7771010424; **Bhopal:** Sagar Autotech: 7574801111; **Jabalpur:** Sagar Autotech: 7772890009; **Raipur:** Speed Automotive: 9993735000; **Bilaspur:** Grand Motors: 8719000011

Specifications given differ from model to model. Accessories shown may not be part of standard equipment. Always insist on genuine ŠKODA Auto parts and accessories available at authorized sales and service centres. Information relating to colours, prices, construction, technical details and equipment was valid at the time of issuance and these are subject to changes without any prior notice. All disputes are subject to the Courts in Aurangabad Jurisdiction only. Terms and conditions apply. **#ŠKODA Warranty**-4 years/100,000 Km; Promotional offer, additional warranty 3rd & 4th year. **ŠKODA Assist** - 4 years unlimited Km. ***ŠKODA Maintenance Package**-4 years/60,000 Km; Four periodic maintenance services at the interval of 15,000 Km or one year (whichever comes first from the date of delivery), available at an attractive price.

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

Fire leaves residents in the dark about future

CRYSTAL TOWER 57 families move out, one stays put despite power, water supply cut; fire brigade says building unsafe

Steffy Thevar
steffy.thevar@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: There seems to be no end to struggle for the 58 families of Crystal Tower in Parel. While some were trying to cope with the loss of lives in Wednesday's fire, others were on Thursday looking for shelters till the time their building was declared fit. One family, the Kapoors, meanwhile, decided to stay put, even though the water and power supply were disconnected.

Through the day, residents were seen leaving with their luggage and essentials to their friends' or relatives' homes. Rajinder Kapoor had a different stand. "My wife, son and I will not leave the flat. It is our home. We have been living here since 1995. We will drink bottled water and live in candle light," said the eighth floor resident, who stayed in the home even on Wednesday night, despite police's warning.

Other residents claimed the civic body had not sent them any official notice to vacate the building. Kishore Desai, assistant municipal commissioner of F/South ward (Parel), said, "We had sent a notice in 2016 and now the matter is sub-judice. We can't take any more action."

The residents had a meeting in the morning where they decided to pool in ₹10,000 each to repair electrical ducts, clear debris and get electricity connections. However, the chief fire officer made it clear the building was unsafe and that no services would be provided without their certificate. "The residents can't repair the duct until the fire department gives them a no-objection certificate. After we get a detailed inquiry report, we will send out notices to service providers, to not provide services such as power to the building," said chief fire officer PS Rahangdale.

Unlike the Kapoors, the police restrictions weakened the resolve of others who had been firm on staying back till evening. "We are now living with relatives and probably will be home tomorrow," said Yvette D'souza, a resident of 10th floor. Jitendra Chauhan, a resident of fifth floor, said, "My wife and I are too old to climb up five flights of stairs. I have had two heart surgeries and we can't even go up to get our stuff without the lift. We hope we get to stay in our homes soon."

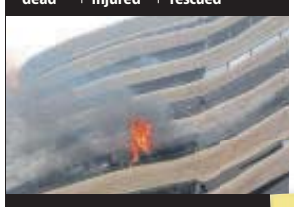
After authorities declared Crystal Tower (right) unsafe, residents of the building were seen shuttling in and out, gathering belongings, throughout Thursday. PRATIK CHORGE/HT PHOTO

> My wife, son and I will not leave the flat. It is our home. We have been living here since 1995. We will drink bottled water and live in candle light.
>
> RAJINDER KAPOOR, a resident of Crystal Tower. Kapoor and his family did not leave the premises of the building after the fire on Wednesday, despite police warning.

THE TRIGGER

A fire broke out on the twelfth floor of the 16-storey Crystal Towers in Parel

4 people dead | **27** people injured | **35** residents rescued



IRREGULARITIES FOUND

- Fire-fighting system was not working
- The building had an open electrical duct, which needs to be sealed with a fire-retardant material
- Illegal alterations were made to the building by residents, such as occupying the lift lobby, decorating the electric duct with combustible PVC sheets
- The building did not have an occupation certificate

NO-OBJECTION CERTIFICATES FROM

- Tree authority
- Stormwater and drain department
- Sewerage department
- Hydraulic department
- Environmental department (concerned with debris management)
- Airports Authority of India
- Traffic and coordination department
  - CFO (fire clearance)
  - Structural plan approval

CHECK IF YOUR SOCIETY HAS AN OCCUPATION CERTIFICATE

According to BMC, a developer cannot let flat buyers occupy a house without getting an occupation certificate (OC). This certificate is not the final document for the building as the project still needs a certificate of completion. If you haven't, make sure, you check the document today.

HOW TO GET IT

You need the following documents in place to get OC for your building:

Building layout approval or intimation of disapproval from the building proposals department. The intimation of disapproval (IOD) comprises conditions that need to be met by the developer.

COMMENCEMENT CERTIFICATE

This certificate permits a developer to begin with the construction. It is granted only after the approvals and the building plan approval are in place

OCCUPANCY CERTIFICATE

The company's architect must submit a formal letter stating the construction has been completed according to the standards set forth in the IOD and CC.

BUILDING COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

The completion certificate is considered to be the final document that the building company requires to fully occupy the building and connect it to utilities

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

An OC ensures the building gets a normal water connection and property charges. For buildings without an OC, property and water charges levied on flat buyers are 1.5 times more than Sthe actual charges. The charges continue to be imposed until the conditions laid by the civic body are not met

WHY DON'T BUILDINGS GET OC

- **Illegal alterations,** contrary to the building plan
- **Missing approvals or NOCs**

WHAT ACTION CAN BE TAKEN

Residents living in buildings without an OC are liable to be prosecuted. A notice of unauthorised occupation is issued to flatbuyers and legal action is taken against them. Illegal alterations carried out by the developer in flats can also lead to demolition of illegal structures.

55,000 buildings in the city don't have an OC

"Residents should insist on an OC before occupying their property to ensure their safety."

AJOY MEHTA, BMC chief

HOW TO GET FIRE COMPLIANCE PERMISSIONS

After construction of a building, the fire brigade inspects the premises, and checks if the builder has adhered to the mandatory fire safety norms. Following this, a fire NOC is granted

The owner of the premises has to appoint a third-party auditor to audit the building bi-annually

After inspection, the auditor submits a form to the fire brigade, certifying the building is fire-compliant.

Bldg to get notice with list of fire norm violations

Eeshanpriya MS
eeshanpriya@htlive.com

MUMBAI: After a blaze in the building killed four people on Wednesday, the fire brigade will now serve a prosecution notice to Crystal Tower for not complying with safety rules.

"We will now inspect the building and list out the irregularities. We know that the internal fire safety system was not working, but there are other violations in its structure that are hazardous in case of a fire. We need to find out what fire safety measures the builder should have provided, but did not," said an official from the fire brigade.

The 16-storey residential high-rise in Parel had illegal alterations in the common lift lobby on many floors. It did not have a fire exit or a refuge area. Fire safety equipment such as fire alarms and extinguishers, too, were not available. "The building did not have proper ventilation, and an open electric duct, which is a violation," the official said.

Primary observations revealed the fire started in the electric duct near the lift lobby on the 12th floor of the building. The fire spread to the flats, but was confined to this floor. Upper floors of the building were damaged because of the smoke said, P Rahangdale, chief fire officer.

The electric duct was decorated with combustible material such as PVC sheets, instead of the mandatory fire retardant cement to be used for sealing it. This burnt rapidly, aggravating the smoke and the fire.

The fire brigade will now speak to residents and eye-witnesses, and examine circumstantial evidence and submit a report within 15 days.

Razak Ismail Supariwala, the builder of Crystal Tower, at Bhoiwada Court on Thursday. BHUSHAN KOYANDE/HT

THE 16-STOREY RESIDENTIAL HIGH-RISE IN PAREL HAD ILLEGAL ALTERATIONS IN THE COMMON LIFT LOBBY ON MANY FLOORS. IT DID NOT HAVE A FIRE EXIT OR A REFUGE AREA

Arrested builder in cop custody till August 27

Farhan Shaikh
farhan.shaikh@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The police on Thursday got the custody of Crystals Tower developer, Razak Ismail Supariwala, who was arrested on Wednesday night after a fire in the building claimed four lives, until August 27 on the grounds that "there was a likelihood of involvement of more persons in the case of culpable homicide".

The police told the metropolitan court in Bhoiwada they needed to investigate other departments in the case and look into the steps taken by BMC in the past six years, when the residents moved into the redeveloped 16-storey structure. "There is no doubt of other people's involvement in the case. We need to investigate the departments concerned," the police said, adding they will seek a detailed report from the fire brigade department.

While there was no public prosecutor in the courtroom to present the case before magistrate P Deshmane, Bhoiwada police inspector Sushilkumar Gaikwad presented the case. The building did not have an occupation certificate (OC) from the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation, he said.

"There was no fire compliance either. There was no fire-fighting system in the building, despite the fact such incidents are common in a city like Mumbai," Gaikwad told the court.

The police said the developer had not taken necessary precautions, which aided in spreading of the fire. He also carried out alterations on the eighth floor without BMC's permission, the police said.

The defence, however, claimed there has been no complaint of illegal construction on the eighth floor. The civic body had even carried out demolition of a flat constructed in the refuge area illegally, police sources said.

Supariwala's lawyer blamed the residents. "Fire-fighting equipment was installed after the construction was completed in 2012. After the residents moved in, a society was not formed. It was the job of the residents to maintain the fire equipment," the lawyer said.

55,000 buildings in city don't have OC

Sagar Pillai
eeshanpriya@htlive.com

MUMBAI: While Wednesday's fire brought to light how people were living in Crystal Tower in Parel for six years despite not having an occupation certificate, there are 55,000 more such buildings in the city, according to civic estimates.

An occupation certificate allows a developer to let flat buyers occupy the building **(see box)** and ensures the building gets a water connection and mention in property charges.

According to housing experts, most buildings fail to get an OC as they don't fulfil the conditions laid down by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) or carry out illegal alterations.

Explaining the procedure, a senior official from BMC's development plan department said, "We inspect the entire structure to ensure if the construction has been carried out according to the approved plan. OC is not issued in cases where a developer constructs more than what was approved, until it is regularised. While we continue with the legal action against residents, we charge them property tax and for water supply. The approximate number of such buildings is 55,000, which includes buildings that are under-construction or are occupied."

Crystal Tower is a classic example of how developers cheat gullible people into buying flats without an OC, say experts. PRATIK CHORGE/HT

For buildings that don't have an OC, BMC levies higher property and water tax as penalty. Legal action is also initiated against residents for unauthorised occupation.

Shirish Sukhatme, a city-based senior architect, said, "Developers continue to flout norms and carry out illegal alterations to increase the carpet area to get more money on the increased space. Usually, there is a substantial difference in the approved plan and actual building. Such projects remain stuck for years, but developers sell them to gullible buyers without regularising them. Crystal Tower is one such example."

Municipal Commissioner Ajoy Mehta told HT, "There are several cases where the projects don't get OCs for reasons such as unpaid dues or construction carried out beyond what was allowed. Our request is residents should insist on an OC before occupation for their own safety."

3 of 27 develop respiratory infections

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Three of the 27 injured after fire broke out at Crystal Tower in Parel on Wednesday, were shifted to the medical intensive care unit (MICU) of KEM Hospital on Thursday owing to respiratory infections.

"Three patients, who are in the MICU, developed Acute Respiratory Distress Syndrome (ARDS) owing to infection caused by toxic smoke inhalation and one of them is on the ventilator. Rest six are stable and are likely to be discharged soon," said Dr Avinash Supe, dean, KEM Hospital.

Relatives of Masood Shaikh, 47, who is on ventilator said doctors suggested keeping him in MICU to minimise the infection. "Owing to burn injuries on his hands, head and near the eye, he has suffered infection, but is better now," said his cousin Imtiaz Shaikh. His nephew Waqar Shaikh who had tried to rescue people was also shifted to MICU.

Jaywant Sawant, 57, a relative of 65-year-old Shubhda Shirke, one of the four victims of the fire, is also in the MICU. "He was being treated in the emergency department, but doctors said he developed respiratory distress," said his wife, Sunita.

Among those discharged is 22-year-old firefighter Raju Narawade who rescued three people. Narawade also broke glass windows to make way for smoke to escape. "A small plastic surgery was conducted. I am fine now," said Narawade. Supe also said 62-year-old Veena Sampat, mother of Ashok Sampat who was one of the four victims, also suffered burn injuries. She was kept under observation because of increased enzymes.

TORTOISES RESCUED

Two **Indian Star Tortoises** belonging to a family on the 12th floor, too, were rescued from Crystal Tower on Wednesday.

Attn: 8th & 9th Std. students
(CBSE | ICSE | SSC)

World of Opportunity
A PLANNER FOR CAREER CHOICES IN THE COMPETITIVE WORLD
ENGINEER MEDIA SPECIALIST DOCTOR CA LAWYER MBA ARCHITECT TEACHER JOURNALIST CIVIL SERVANT

Write FREE IIT FOUNDATION APTITUDE TEST

25th August (Saturday) 2:00 to 3:00 PM OR 3:00 to 4:00 PM
OR
26th August (Sunday) 10 AM to 11 AM OR 11.30 AM 12.30 PM

PAPER PATTERN - OBJECTIVE TEST

Subject	Mathematics	Physics	Chemistry	Reasoning	Total
No.Of Questions	20	20	20	20	80
Marks	20	20	20	20	80

Followed by Detailed Analysis on 2nd September 2018

Get FREE Mock Competitive Exam Papers
(Dr. Homi Bhabha Mock Exam paper for 9th Std. & Cyber Olympiad Mock Exam paper for 8th/9th Std.)

For registration, call your nearest T.I.M.E. Centre

T.I.M.E. Triumphant Institute of Management Education Pvt. Ltd.
e-mail: mumbai@time4education.com

Andheri (E): 26833059 Anushaktinagar: 25557088 Borivali (W): 28909031 Brahmand (G.B.Road): 8655980888 Churchgate: 66546896 Dadar (E): 24121626 Dombivli (E): 8097004747 Ghatkopar (E): 40111346 Kandivali (E): 28701080 Malad (W): 28804907 Mira Road (E): 7208037666 Mulund (W): 25905577 New Panvel (E): 9029810911 Powai: 25706998 Thane (W): 41276505 Vasai (W): 0250-2331200 Vashi: 67911087 Vile Parle (W): 26631617

The most gentle care for everything that you wear.

BOSCH Invented for life

PowerWave

Introducing the new range of **Bosch Topload** Washing Machines, with an innovatively designed pulsator, to thoroughly clean your clothes and prevent damage to your everyday wear.

www.bosch-home.in

NEW

Buy a Bosch Topload Washing Machine and get Tickets worth ₹3,000* free bookmyshow

Testing Partner intertek

EUROPE'S BRAND NO.1 *For major domestic appliances. Source: Euromonitor, volume sales, 2017

1-800-266-1880 (Customer Care) Monday-Saturday 8.00 am to 8.00 pm

^~Finance options with 12/4 EMI & 18/6 EMI Available: | Attractive finance schemes$ on select credit cards at no extra cost for 3, 6 and 9 months.

Available Range: Washing Machine | Washer Dryer | Tumble Dryer | Refrigerator | Dishwasher | Cooking Appliance

Brand Store: Inner Space Interiors - +91 9987249035, Authorized Dealer: Vijay Sales, Croma, Kohinoor Tele Video Pvt. ltd, Snehanjali Electronics & Trading Pvt. Ltd., Reliance Digital, Sony Mony Electronics Ltd., Fairdeal Electronics, DIGI1, J P Electronics, Alfa, Kings Electronics Pvt. Ltd., Top Ten Electronic Shoppe, ARCEE Electronics, Shree Jain Traders, Zee Electronics. Authorized Distributor: Jumbo Distributors Pvt. Ltd. - +91 8108542906 / +91 9619422213. For Sales Enquiry – Kamlesh Khichi 8087884922, Kunal Rao 9820973913, Sumant Kumar 9766903535.

^~T&C of finance at sole discretion of Bajaj Finserv, Tata Capital Ltd., HDB Financial Services Ltd., Capital First, TVS Credit Services and Kotak Mahindra Prime Ltd. ~Available only on selected days. $T&C of credit card finance is available only on Pine Labs and worldline. Offer available at selected towns & outlets only. *+T&C Apply. Bookmyshow offer is not applicable on Bosch Topload Washing Machine – 6.5kg models.

BoschHomeIn BoschHomeIn BoschHomeIn BoschHomeIn

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

shortstories

SKIMMED MILK ON MID-DAY MEAL MENU SOON

MUMBAI: The state government has decided to include skimmed milk powder in the midday meal menu for students between Class 1 and 8 as per a government resolution released on Thursday. Students would be given 200gm packet of milk powder to take home every month. The scheme would be implemented on a pilot basis for three months. **HTC**

Dead lizard found in vadapav; seller arrested

THANE: A vadapav seller, Baban Patel, and his three workers were arrested from Ambernath by the Shivaji Nagar police on Thursday after a customer complained of a dead lizard in a vadapav. A case has been was registered at the Shivaji Nagar police station. **HTC**

28-year-old held for raping live-in partner in Dombivli

DOMBIVLI: A 28-year-old man was arrested for raping his live-in partner, who he was staying with for the past two months, in Dombivli. A police officer said, "The woman had planned to marry him but after a while he started to doubt her and also used to beat her." **HTC**

Landslide debris along Malshej Ghat not cleared

THANE: The debris along Malshej Ghat caused by a landslide on Tuesday has not been cleared, raising doubts over opening the Ghat during the weekend. Authorities claim that rain and fog is making it impossible to complete the lifting of rocks from the roads. **HTC**

7 held for dacoity on Kushinagar Express

KALYAN: The Kalyan GRP nabbed seven dacoits who looted passengers on Kushinagar Express at knife point. The incident took place between Kalyan and Kasara stations on August 19. **HTC**

Body of 19-yr-old found hanging on tree in Thane

THANE: A 19-year-old boy's body was found hanging on a tree at Mama Bhanja hills in Thane on Thursday. Shejad Ali Alamgir Shaikh was a resident of Wagle Estate. Police said as per primary probe, Shaikh had some tension at home. **HTC**

Minor raped by relatives in husband's presence

THANE: The Badlapur police arrested two men for raping a 17-year-old woman in March in her husband's presence. The woman's husband was in an inebriated state and could not help her. The two men had threatened to kill the woman if she revealed their act to anyone. **HTC**

Cops rescue 15-year-old; 'husband,' uncle held

MUMBAI: The Mumbai crime branch rescued a 15-year-old girl and arrested her uncle who had sold her and married her off to a man. The teenager's uncle took ₹25,000 from an alcoholic and got her married to him. **HTC**

Diwali spoiler for college staff: MU's winter session exams

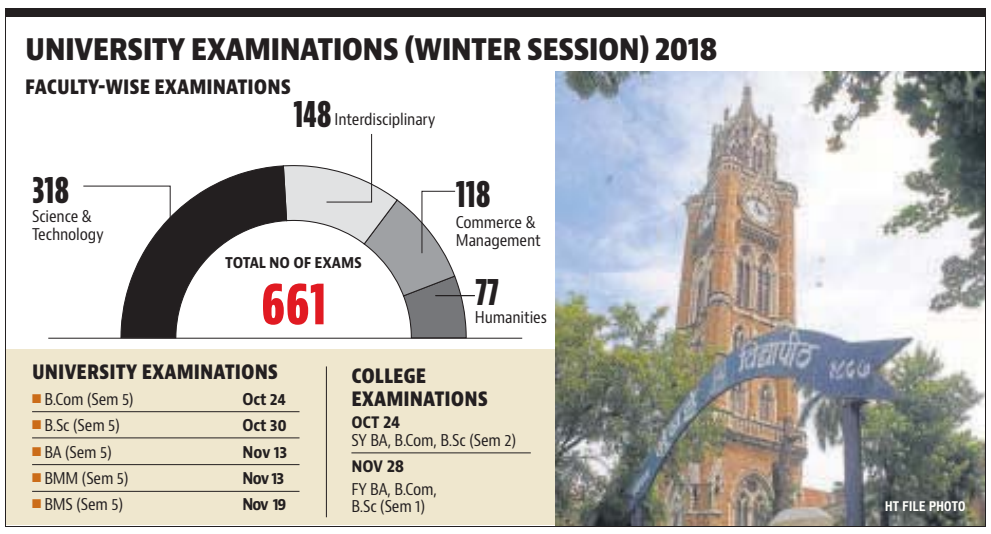
TIME TABLE MESS Exams will be held from last week of Oct till Jan; teachers complain of no break

Shreya Bhandary
shreya.bhandary@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The University of Mumbai (MU) recently announced the commencement dates of exams to be conducted in the winter session this year and once again, teachers have been left angry with assessment work as well as supervision taking over their Diwali break.

As per the academic calendar shared by MU at the beginning of the year, colleges will break for Diwali vacation from the first week of November till the 20th of the month. However, as per the exam schedule of the winter session, not only will teachers be busy checking papers of exams that will begin from the last week of October, but many exams will also be conducted during their vacation.

"Once again, fifth semester exams of BMM and BMS students will start from November 13 to 20, which means teachers will have no Diwali vacation. Once again exams will begin in the last week of October and go on till January," said a senior professor from a suburban college. She said that many teachers who had already made travel plans will now have to either cancel their tickets, or other teachers who are in town will have to fill up for them, which will be unfair to all.



HT FILE PHOTO

This year, admissions to the first year degree college courses were delayed by due to a confusion over admissions for reserved category students in minority institutes. This is one of the main reasons why first semester exams, which will be a college exam but conducted by the university, will commence from November 28. "Teachers will start supervision work in the last week of October and work through their vacations, till the first week of December. The university has stopped considering teachers while setting exam timetable," said Anju Kapoor, principal of UPG College, Vile Parle.

While colleges and teachers are unhappy with the university's exam plan, officials from the university said the problem will persist for some time in order to streamline the examination process. "The delay in announcing results, which started in 2016, is still spilling into the current semester because results are getting delayed. Now that results are getting streamlined, the examination schedule too, will slowly be brought back to track," said an official from the Examination and Evaluation department of the university. MU has invited principals of colleges on Friday to meet and discuss 'academic issues'. MU's vice-chancellor Suhas Pednekar will be addressing all principals and many will use this platform to share their concerns over this issue.

4,000 teachers fail eligibility test; likely to lose jobs

Ankita Bhatkhande
ankita.bhatkhande@htlive.com

MUMBAI: More than 4,000 primary teachers working in various state-run schools are likely to lose their jobs, as per a recent circular issued by the Directorate of Education.

The circular states that those teachers who have joined after the year 2013 will be retained in service only if they have cleared the Teachers Eligibility Test (TET) by July 2018.

"As per the rules laid by a government resolution dated 13 February 2013, TET has been made mandatory for the post of primary teachers across the state. The government had accordingly given time for teachers who joined after the year 2013 to complete the eligibility requirement. Accordingly, those who have failed to pass the exam so far would be deemed ineligible for the post and the services of such teachers would be terminated," stated the circular.

The government had allowed teachers to complete the eligibility requirement within three consecutive exams from the year 2016. The third and the final attempt was in July 2018. While the state education department has not given an estimate of how many such teachers are likely to be terminated, teachers groups in the city said that the number is over 4,000 across the state.

> The pass percentage for TET is as low as 4-5% every year. With such a low pass percentage, teachers need more time to clear the exam.
> CITY-BASED TEACHER

The education department asked teachers to submit their certificates by November, failing which their services would stand terminated.

The action could affect nearly hundred teachers working in Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) schools as Shikshan Sevaks over the last few years.

Some teachers have now written to the state education department asking for an extension.

"The government should give those teachers who failed the test another chance to clear the exam before taking such any extreme step," said a city-based teacher.

A senior official from the education department said the order stands valid and action would be initiated against teachers who have not cleared the exams.

"Enough chances have been given to the teachers to fulfil the eligibility conditions and further extensions can't be given," added the official.

AT AZAD MAIDAN

Maratha women's group begins their indefinite sit-in protest

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Women from the Maratha community started a sit-in protest at historic Azad Madian from Thursday to push various demands including reservation. A group of eight women from Karad region of Satara district in western Maharashtra has started an indefinite sit-in protest, which is expected to be joined by women from other parts of the state.

Currently, Maratha outfits have been stressing upon the withdrawal of serious cases filed against Maratha youths for violent agitations held last month. There was a large-scale damage to public and private properties during the protests in Pune, Aurangabad and Navi Mumbai. Coming under severe criticism for the protests turning violent, the organisers had declared not to hold protests on roads.

The sit-in protest by Maratha women is expected to be joined by women from other parts of the state. ANSHUMAN POYREKAR/HT PHOTO

"We have started indefinite sit-in protest as the state government was not taking our demands seriously. Apart from our main demand of reservation, we also want all the serious charges imposed on Maratha youths be withdrawn immediately," said Rupali Patil, 42, who is leading the group.

The decision of moving to Mumbai was taken by the women as the authorities took no cognisance of their sit-in protest for eight days in Karad. Similar sit-in protests are also being staged by the outfit in other districts including Kolhapur, Parbhani, Hingoli and Ahmednagar.

44-YR-OLD HELD FOR TRAPPING TURTLE IN BANDRA

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: One person was arrested by the state mangrove cell on Thursday for illegally trapping a Hawksbill sea turtle, protected under schedule 1 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 from Bandra Bandstand in June this year.

Mangrove cell officials said they were tracking down the alleged accused over the past two months who had fled the city and on the basis of a tip off on Thursday, a team finally took him into custody. The accused — Raju Chattu Rana, 44 — will be presented before the Bandra court on Friday.

A team led by range forest officer (east) Mayur Bothe, foresters Prakash Thakur and Sainath Salwe, forest guards Harshal Sathe and Devidas Mutke, arrested Rana around 2.30pm on Thursday.

"After nabbing him from Bandra itself, we interrogated him and found that he wanted to sell the protected turtle species that he caught illegally. Rana was booked under offences under sections 9 (prohibition of hunting), 50 (power of entry, search, arrest and detention) and 52 (attempts and abatement) of the Wildlife Protection Act (WPA), 1972," said Bothe. "This is a non-bailable offence with seven years imprisonment."

NGO Plants and Animals Welfare Society (PAWS-Mumbai) first filed the complaint with the forest department and Mumbai police alleging poaching of the protected species on June 26 when they spotted two people carrying the turtle in a net. "We thank alert citizens for reaching out to us and the forest department for acting against the accused. However, the Mumbai police did not act on time as they were not aware about WPA," said Sunish Subramaniam, secretary, PAWS-Mumbai and wildlife warden, Mumbai city. "The turtle was fine and released at an undisclosed location."

Bothe added that the other person spotted by the citizens was only helping the accused carry the turtle and was not responsible for the illegal act.

Major hurdle cleared for MU's sub-centre at Kalyan after civic body grants partial OC

Musab Qazi
musab.qazi@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: After a long wait, the University of Mumbai (MU) finally obtained a partial occupancy certificate (OC) from the Kalyan-Dombivali Municipal Corporation (KDMC) for its sub-centre in Kalyan, clearing a crucial hurdle for opening the campus, the idea for which, was conceived more than a decade ago.

An official at the varsity said the centre, which will house MU's School of Engineering Sciences (SES) and a service centre of its Institute of Distance and Open Learning (IDOL), will soon be inaugurated. SES and IDOL will both be functional from the upcoming academic year 2018-19, said the official.

On Thursday, the varsity even invited applications from aspirants for MTech in Computer Science at SES.

The campus building, which occupies around 6,040 sq metres of land, has four classrooms, laboratories, a library and a canteen. HT FILE

The sub-centres were established to offer administrative assistance to university students in various regions under the varsity's jurisdiction. Currently, the varsity has two sub-centres – one in Thane and the other in Ratnagiri. The Kalyan sub-centre's construction alone extended for around six years due to various administrative hurdles.

Students living in and around Kalyan have been waiting for the functioning of the sub-centre for a long time, as they have to travel to MU campuses in Kalina and south Mumbai for academic and admissions-related work. However, even after the centre becomes functional, most of the student-related activities will still be undertaken at the city campuses, said the official.

However, the varsity may decentralise some activities at the sub-campus in Thane city, the district headquarter of Thane, the official said.

The university took the decision to set up a campus in Kalyan in 2007.

The sub-centre's construction got delayed, as the land was reserved for a garden under KDMC's development plan. The construction of the sub-centre began only after the state changed the land reservation to an educational institute.

HT had reported that the construction work was stalled during monsoon, due to unsuitable weather conditions. There was also shortage of labour and funds, a varsity official had said.

KERALA FLOODS

Religious institutions extend helping hand to victims

Yesha Kotak
yesha.kotak@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: On Wednesday, Shree Siddhivinayak Ganapati Temple Trust in Prabhadevi declared that they would be donating an amount of ₹1 crore to the chief minister's Kerala relief fund.

"We were watching the tragedy in Kerala on TV and felt really bad for those affected. So we called a special meeting of the trust and decided that we also need to do our bit for the flood-affected people, as it's a noble cause," said Aadesh Bandekar, chairperson, Siddhivinayak Temple Trust.

Like the Siddhivinayak trust, various other religious organisations are also extending a helping hand to those affected by floods in Kerala.

Sri Guru Singh Sabha at Dadar has been conducting a collection drive on the gurudwara premises. As a part of the drive, eight volunteers from the gurudwara have been sent to Kerala to help the victims there. The first set of volunteers left the city with four tonnes of goods on Wednesday afternoon. Kulwant Singh, the vice-president of the sabha, said that the volunteers carried milk powder, sanitary napkins, rice, sugar and dal, and will be working along with Khalsa Aid, an international NGO, in Kerala.

"Our tickets got confirmed at the last minute under special reservation, and the railways took into consideration that we are carrying relief grains to Kerala. So they didn't charge us for the four tonnes of raw materials that we were carrying along with us.

Volunteers of Sri Guru Singh Sabha at the Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (LTT) before leaving for Kerala on Wednesday. HT PHOTO

In fact, they even carried out the packing of the parcels," said Manjeet Singh, a volunteer from the sabha, who went to Kerala.

More than 100 mosques and eidgahs across the state also collected donations worth more than ₹10 lakh. A student group has also sent funds raised by selling skins of sacrificed animals during Eid for flood relief work in Kerala.

The collection was conducted by various masjids, trusts and NGOs, following which food supplies and medical aid would be purchased and sent to the flood-affected state. "While we celebrated Eid yesterday, we cannot forget that our brothers and sisters in Kerala are in pain. We are with them during this time of grief and will be sending massive donations to Kerala," said Zainuddin Siddiqui, state public relations secretary, Students Islamic Organisation of India.

thetimescrosswords

CRYPTIC CLUES

Across

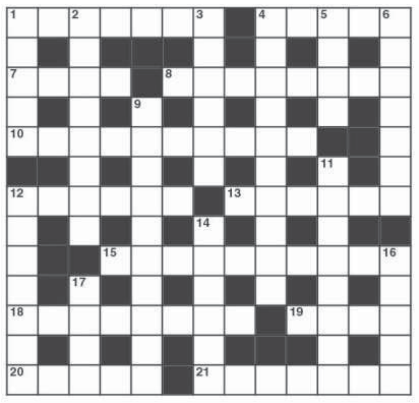
1 A feast in a flat (7)
4 Fruit offered to first mate (5)
7 It has branches in every street (4)
8 Could be room used for guest at Hatter's teaparty (8)
10 Another employee - not a new one (6,4)
12 Citrus is replanted in the country (6)
13 Desert sometimes washed by the sea (6)
15 The head's study (10)
18 Note why a reform is coming (2,3,3)
19 Make choice from ground-breaking equipment (4)
20 Refuses to face about fifty charges (5)
21 Claim he made for an archangel (7)

Down

1 We're clean out of them (5)
2 Accomplished players but not very bright (8)
3 Hop around in an attempt to get a prize (6)
4 Charge for firearms (10)
5 Fill gap with promotion (4)
6 Jewel of the small type (7)
9 Gives information to a number in broken English (10)
11 State of California if left in chaos (8)
12 Clear share of the profit (4-3)
14 Keep motionless - don't panic! (6)
16 Countryman of fifty under servitude (5)
17 Pen a note making personal complaint (4)

PUZZLE 15062

©Gemini Crosswords 2015 All rights reserved



QUICK CLUES

Across

1 No longer existing (7)
4 Bare (5)
7 Conspicuous act (4)
8 Immaculate (8)
10 Recurrent fluctuations (3,3,4)
12 Irritable (6)
13 Speculative (6)
15 Serve to explain (7,3)
18 Conspicuous wealth (8)
19 Gather as harvest (4)
20 Rascal (5)
21 Watered down (7)

Down

1 Artful expedient (5)
2 Trivial inconvenience (8)
3 Confidential warning (3-3)
4 Written promise of payment (4,2,4)
5 Having a sharp edge (4)
6 Fate (7)
9 At a low price (2,3,5)
11 For practical purposes (2,6)
12 Of little substance (7)
14 Involuntary (6)
16 Swift (5)
17 Cougar (4)

SOLUTIONS FOR 15061

Cryptic

■	R	E	A	D	Y	T	O	D	R	O	P	■
S	■	D	■	O	■	E	■	E	■	U	■	C
H	A	I	R	O	I	L	■	C	A	T	C	H
O	■	T	■	M	■	L	■	L	■	S	■	A
R	O	S	E	■	D	E	C	I	S	I	O	N
T	■	■	■	N	■	R	■	N	■	Z	■	G
M	E	D	I	U	M	■	R	E	C	E	D	E
E	■	R	■	M	■	P	■	S	■	■	■	H
M	A	I	L	B	O	A	T	■	E	M	M	A
O	■	L	■	E	■	S	■	P	■	I	■	N
R	U	L	E	R	■	T	A	U	N	T	E	D
Y	■	E	■	E	■	E	■	R	■	Z	■	S
■	B	R	I	D	A	L	T	R	A	I	N	■

Quick

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

fromourinbox

ROW OVER FOREIGN AID IS UNFORTUNATE

The turning down of the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) offer of ₹700 crore cannot be seen as apathy on the part of the Centre towards the southern states (Row over aid rule, Kerala wants UAE funds to be allowed, August 23). The same precedence was followed during the Uttarakhand floods. In 2004 during the tsunami, the then prime minister, Dr Manmohan Singh, had established a policy of not accepting direct relief funds from foreign governments during natural disasters, owing to bilateral policy frameworks. Though we all believe the central aid should have been far greater in volume, this polite turning down of UAE's gesture is to be read differently.
NIKHIL KRISHNAN

WHO IS TO BE BLAMED FOR FIRE MISHAPS?

Precious lives were lost in the fire which broke out in a housing society at Parel. It is sad that the country's financial capital is prone to such fire mishaps (4 dead, 27 hurt in Parel fire; highrise had no clearances, August 23). The civic authorities and the builders should be squarely blamed for the man-made tragedy which could have been easily prevented. The problem with administrators is that they do not learn from their earlier mistakes. The authorities should at least now on be well prepared and well-equipped with the disaster management plans in handling such incidents.
VEENA SHENOY

WELL DONE, RAHI!

Kudos to Rahi Sarnobat for being the first woman shooter to win a gold in the Asian Games (RAHI SHOWS THE WAY, August 23). It is great to see the progress of sports in India, especially with women excelling, in the last four to five years. Vinesh Phogat also became the first woman to win the Gold in wrestling. We wish our Asian games contingent the best.
JANAKI MAHADEVAN

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

L&T - 80 YEARS OF LEADING THE CHANGE

Address by **Mr. A. M. Naik,**
Group Chairman

73rd Annual General Meeting | August 23, 2018

2018 marks the 80th anniversary of Larsen & Toubro.

The tiny partnership firm set up on May 1, 1938 is now India's front-ranking engineering & construction conglomerate, operating at the upper end of the technology spectrum. Over the last eight decades, your Company has kept pace with successive waves of technological changes, and evolved in tune with the needs of the nation.

Today, emerging technologies, disruptive business models and rising customer expectations are reshaping the way business is done, and we are responding to these developments by enhancing our processes, and expanding our offerings. Your Company is, in every sense, leading the change.

When your Company began its journey, the idea of India had not yet taken political shape. Nine years later, the flag of freedom was unfurled, and since then we have played our part while a fledgling nation found its feet, and grew into a vibrant, sometimes vociferous but robust democracy – the world's largest.

Building the Nation, Creating Value
Your Company believes that its primary objective of creating value for its stakeholders goes hand in hand with the larger mission of nation building.

In the early days, when the building blocks of India's economy were being put in place, we participated in virtually every major national endeavour in vital sectors – power (thermal and nuclear), chemical, fertilizer, oil & gas, mining, cement, steel, infrastructure, and so on.

Over the decades, as the economy shifted gears, we propelled ourselves higher up the value chain, augmenting our capabilities and adding engineering, design and project execution expertise to manufacturing capability.

While we built the projects that built the nation, we simultaneously ensured that our stakeholders stood to gain significantly from these prestigious engagements. In the last two decades, our focus on shareholder value has been even sharper. Market capitalization, which stood at ₹ 2,000 crore in 1999 has surged to over ₹ 1,89,000 crore at present.

Engineering a Paradigm Shift
Your Company is helping in altering global perceptions of the country. Years ago, it was thought that high-tech engineering equipment could be made available in India only from the West or the Far East. We rejigged the compass, and commenced manufacturing some of the world's advanced equipment for refineries, petrochemical projects, aerospace industry and power plants, including nuclear. Many of these are now installed in plants around the world, including countries such as USA, Canada, UK, China and Australia.

The 3800 tonne ITER cryostat is the world's largest high-vacuum pressure chamber

Currently, your Company's engineers are working alongside their global counterparts on an experimental fusion device, named ITER, which is one of the most ambitious energy projects in the world today. When complete, the ITER cryostat, being manufactured at your Company's facility in Hazira, will be the largest high-vacuum pressure vessel ever built. It will be crucial to advancing fusion science and paving the way for the fusion power plants of tomorrow.

Side by side with these forays, your Company's construction teams are the country's flag-bearers at prestigious projects overseas – including mass rapid transit systems in Saudi Arabia, the GCC countries, Mauritius and Bangladesh. We are also building further on our presence in Africa and South-East Asia.

Next Generation Infrastructure
The Honourable Prime Minister of India has called for 'next generation infrastructure' as part of his sweeping development push. As India's largest infrastructure company, we have the expertise and experience to help launch the nation into a new orbit of growth. We believe India needs an infrastructure revolution,

L&T is building high-tech metro rail systems in India, South Asia and the Middle East

even more momentous and far-reaching than the Green and White revolutions which preceded it. High quality infrastructure can have a profoundly transformative effect. It can improve efficiencies, drive growth, and equally important, offer our country's citizens homes, workspaces, transport systems and utilities they can be proud of.

'Make in India' Track Record
For your Company, 'Make in India' began decades ago. In the early 1970s, we turned a new page in the history of Indian industry by manufacturing India's first indigenous nuclear reactor. Since then, almost all of India's nuclear reactors have come out of your Company's facilities. So too has an array of advanced equipment for critical sectors, including India's first indigenous hydrocracker reactor and giant oil & gas process platforms.

In the defence sector, 'Make in India' spells the difference between assurance and uncertainty, and the defence platforms and weapons systems which your Company offers carry an invaluable assurance – indigenous manufacture and life-cycle support.

The K9 Vajra self-propelled Howitzer gun made by L&T will bolster India's artillery capabilities

Capability building in defence cannot be achieved overnight. It entails long-term engagement, sustained levels of investment and periodic upgrading of technologies.

Your Company has stayed the course, and emerged as one of the largest private sector partners in the defence effort.

In addition to the dedicated defence facility at Talegaon near Pune, we have set up an Armoured Systems Complex in Hazira – the first of its kind in India's private sector.

Digital Disruption
The digital onset has changed our everyday lives, bringing in new levels of connectivity and convenience. We believe that even greater, more fundamental changes await us in a digital universe.

L&T is deploying new age technologies to drive innovation in design and engineering

Your Company is cued in to new age technologies, such as Artificial Intelligence, robotics and machine learning. We are rapidly inducting digital technologies into our own operations, and have secured multiple benefits, including better asset utilisation, improved labour productivity and sourcing efficiencies though the use of the Internet of Things and other digital solutions.

Our digitalisation journey will extend deep into the organisation and progressively cover additional functions. Your Company's subsidiaries – L&T Infotech and L&T Technology Services are our partners in this initiative, and we expect to continue harvesting the wide-ranging benefits of digitalisation in the coming years.

Smart World, Smarter Future
The Smart City stands at the convergence of the physical and the digital, and given your Company's prowess in both domains, we are uniquely positioned to collaborate with the Government and play the role of a Master Systems Integrator.

A growing number of cities in India – Mumbai, Nagpur, Pune, Visakhapatnam and Raipur – have already adopted elements of smart city infrastructure. This includes intelligent traffic management and surveillance systems, smart electric grids and lighting, Wi-fi networks, fibre optic cabling and transport systems. When these individual elements are fit into a mosaic, our citizens will experience the connectivity, mobility and security of a smart future.

Reimagining & Reinventing Ourselves
The ability to anticipate the future and respond proactively is a strategic asset.

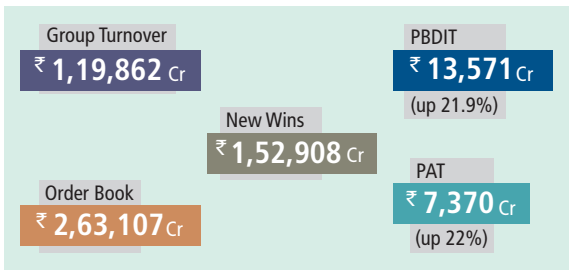
In 1999, your Company formulated its first, full-fledged Vision Statement, and subsequently drew-up a 5-year strategic plan which for the first time, mapped the direction of growth and laid down the agenda for change. These successive 5-year plans, christened LAKSHYA -1, 2 and 3 – were instrumental in enabling your Company to sustain its momentum of profitable growth despite the ups and downs of the economy. With each consecutive plan, the corporate structure of your Company also underwent changes in the light of changing markets, technologies and customer expectations. We divested businesses which were not aligned to our core, and sought out businesses where we could add greater value.

Periodically, the concept of 'core' itself is revisited to ensure that your Company remains future-ready.

Re-energising L&T's Unique Character
Your Company's success in leading the change rests on its ability to determine its own destiny – as an independent and professionally managed organisation. This unique character of your Company was endangered between the late 1980s and early 2000 by takeover threats.

However, astute leadership and strength of conviction turned conflict into a win-win solution which benefitted all concerned. There were other positive outcomes too: a newly- formed employees' foundation ring-fenced your Company against future takeover threats; your Company became AAA rated; a reduction in equity enhanced the Company's value and stock options boosted employee morale.

Performance at a Glance
Your Company has turned in a commendable performance on key financial parameters in 2017-18. Even though awarding of infrastructure projects continued to be unpredictable in terms of timelines, we registered significant growth. The unexecuted Order Book at the end of 2017-18 stands at ₹ 2, 63,107 crore which provides good revenue visibility for the future. Your Company registered a 9.5% growth in revenues at ₹ 1,19,862 crore and the Profit After Tax (PAT) recorded an all-time high of ₹ 7, 370 crore – representing a 22% increase over PAT of 2016-17.



Outcome-focused Social Responsibility
'Unity in diversity' enriches us as a nation but an underlying disparity diminishes us as a society.

At L&T, we have a history of doing our bit to promote inclusive growth. Over 50 years ago, we had set up a Welfare Centre in Mumbai for the poor and disadvantaged. Since then, in tandem with the growth of your Company, we have extended our social outreach and augmented the services we offer.

In addition to health clinics, we have also set up skill training centres to train youth from the disadvantaged sections of society, and pave the way for gainful employment.

Last year, your Company's total spends on CSR initiatives exceeded the recommendations set out in the Company's Act 2013. We believe that meaningful CSR must go far beyond 'feel-good philanthropy'. Your Company's CSR teams are out on the field, engaging with communities around the country. Our outcome-focused approach ensures that CSR outlays are rigorously monitored and the results measured against set targets – so that the next round of investment yields even better results.

I would like to conclude by thanking our shareholders who have joined us in our 80-year journey. I thank Team L&T, our customers and other stakeholders who have made it possible for your Company to maintain its trajectory of growth during a challenging phase of the Indian economy. I also wish to thank my fellow Board members for their invaluable support.

L&T's CSR programmes cover water & sanitation, education, healthcare and skill-building

On our 80th anniversary, we reaffirm our commitment to the cause we have championed all these years – of building a new India.

Twenty years from now, your Company will mark its centenary, and nine years later, India will celebrate hundred years of freedom. As we look forward to these milestones, the words of your Company's anthem resonate with us at this juncture:

'Jiski mitti se paida hue hum
Karz hum us zameen ka chukayen
Haath mein haath dekar badhe hum
Jab talak manzilen mil na jaye'

(We will redeem the debt we owe to the land we were born in. We will walk hand in hand until we reach our goals.)

Jai Hind

LTCBMC/PRD/082018

This does not purport to be a record of the proceedings of the Annual General Meeting of Larsen & Toubro Limited held on August 23, 2018.

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

10 Maha cities have no air pollution action plan; Mumbai asked to revise blueprint

SLUGGISH PACE State tops India list; 7 cities prepared action plan, but have been asked to revise them, says Central Pollution Control Board

Badri Chatterjee
badri.chatterjee@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Ten cities in Maharashtra are not prepared to tackle air pollution even eight months after the Centre directed states to draw up an action plan. Action plans prepared by cities such as Mumbai and Pune have been asked to revise their blueprints.

Officials from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) told HT that Maharashtra tops the list of cities that have failed to develop action plans followed by Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Karnataka.

A right to information response from CPCB to non-governmental organisation Greenpeace India has revealed 17 highly polluted cities in Maharashtra are not ready with action plans to tackle air pollution. While 10 cities (***see box***) are yet to submit their action plans, seven cities have been asked to revise and resubmit their plans, the RTI response said.

"Cities such as Mumbai, Pune, Amravati, Aurangabad, Kolhapur, Jalna and Latur have been requested to revise their action plans; resubmit it to their state government and CPCB," CPCB's RTI response read. CPCB officials said they had not set any deadline for developing action plans but expected all state pollution control boards (SPCBs) to finalise them by June; latest by August. "We had 51 action plans in January, 71 by June and more than 80 so far. We have asked SPCBs to finalise these plans in consultation with state governments, which is why it is taking more time," said A Sudhakar, member secretary, CPCB.

The Centre promulgated the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) to push for clean air across the country and identified 100 most polluted (non-attainment) cities in March this year, which was later updated to 102 cities. According to CPCB, 80 cities across India have developed their air pollution action plan while the remaining 22 are yet to submit their drafts.

Greenpeace members said the RTI reply shows the immediate need for Maharashtra to step up its efforts for combating air pollution under NCAP. "Lack of even one implementable action plan raises grave concerns towards the government's preparedness to mitigate air pollution crisis and fight the health emergency Maharashtra faces due to hazardous air pollution levels," said Sunil Dahiya, senior campaigner, Greenpeace India, which filed the RTI query in July and received CPCB's response on August 20.

MPCB officials said all action plans will be ready and submitted by next month. "The CPCB wanted us to develop integrated air pollution source apportionment plan, which we developed after consultations with stakeholders and guidance from National Environmental Engineering Research Institute and IIT-B for all 17 cities, which took some time. CPCB has also circulated a template for air quality improvement across five parameters, which has been completed by 70% of the cities. Some smaller municipal corporations have issues but within a month it will be complete," said P Anbalagan, member secretary, MPCB.

TAKING IT EASY?

STATUS OF AIR QUALITY AND ACTION PLAN PREPARATION ACROSS MAHARASHTRA

0 Action plans approved for implementation

7 Action plans received by Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)

17 Number of non-attainment cities included by CPCB to develop air pollution action plans (these cities recorded PM10 levels above safe limit of 60 microgrammes per cubic metre)

25 Cities that are highly polluted in Maharashtra, the highest in India

25 Number of cities with available air quality monitoring data

***PM10 LEVEL**
Particulate matter that is 10 micrograms per cubic metre or less in diameter

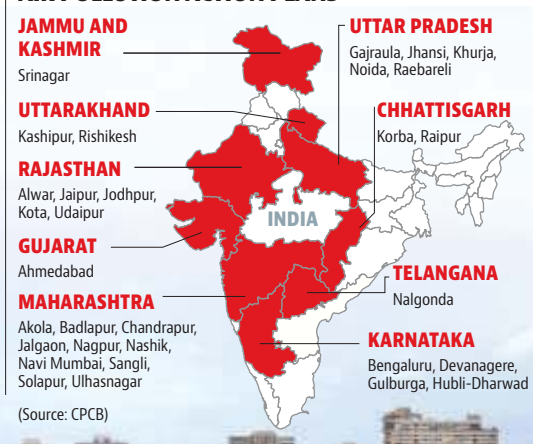
***NON-ATTAINMENT CITIES**
Cities that still do not have any action plan to tackle air pollution

(Source: Greenpeace India)

CITIES REQUESTED TO REVISE ACTION PLANS

Mumbai	Kolhapur
Pune	Jalna
Amravati	Latur
Aurangabad	

MAHARASHTRA TOPS THE LIST OF STATES THAT STILL DO NOT HAVE AIR POLLUTION ACTION PLANS



(Source: CPCB)

WHY YOU SHOULD CARE

Around 6.7 million children below 5 years in Maharashtra are inhaling particulate matter (PM10) that is above permissible limits set by the law, of which 1.4 million children are exposed to twice the permitted pollution standards, revealed the second edition of air quality report in India by Greenpeace India - Airpocalypse II report - on January 30. Additionally, 2.6 million children in the same age category live in districts across the state where there are no air quality monitoring stations.

HC warns man who claimed possession of court building

KAY Dodhiya
abbas.dodhiya@htdigital.in

MUMBAI: The Bombay high court (HC) warned a man against filing applications claiming possession of the heritage building of the court, its furniture and staff based on a decree issued in 2010. The high court expressed displeasure after being informed by its administration that one Sukumar Samanta, appearing on behalf of decree-holder Susama Samanta, had filed a series of applications seeking possession of the entire Ward C and E of the city, too, along with the court's premises.

While dismissing his execution applications, as the decree was only for three distinct properties located in Ward C and E, the bench of justice Gautam Patel asked Samanta to desist, failing which punitive orders would be passed against him for "wasting the court's time and harassing its staff".

Justice Patel directed the registry to not accept any other application from the decree-holder or Samanta.

He further restrained the decree-holder and Samanta from directly approaching any department, section or officer of the high court or any other court in Mumbai in regard to the decree concerned under any circumstance.

"I could scarcely credit what I was told by the registry seeking directions. Samanta not only takes up endless amount of time, but he does so in making the most extraordinary demand: that the registrar-general should deliver possession to him of the entire high court building, its grounds, furniture, equipment and staff," said justice Patel in his order.

After efforts by justice Patel failed to impress upon Samanta that he was entitled to only the three properties and not what he demanded, justice Patel said, "Enough is enough. Samanta must be stopped. Once and for all: Samanta is not entitled to possession of one millimetre of property beyond the area and the Cadastral Survey numbers of the three properties mentioned in his decree and conveyance."

AN UNCOMMON DEMAND

- The decree was issued in 2010
- Sukumar Samanta, appearing on behalf of decree-holder Susama Samanta, had filed a series of applications seeking possession of the entire Ward C and E of the city, too, along with the court's premises
- Two of the properties were located at Zaveri Bazaar in Ward C, while one at Kamatipura Lane in Ward E
- When justice Patel asked Samanta about his demands, the latter said the decree entitled him to demand actual physical possession of not just the HC and its campus, and everything in it, but the entire 'C' and 'E' wards
- The demand was based on the fact that the decree mentioned street names, which meant he could get them in entirety.

Why no charge sheet against Sena MP? HC

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

Chandrakant Khaire HT FILE

MUMBAI: The Bombay high court on Thursday directed the Maharashtra government to explain why the proposals seeking permission to file charge sheet against Shiv Sena member of parliament (MP) Chandrakant Khaire, for abusing a revenue official for carrying out demolition of illegal religious shrines, were kept pending for the past three years.

"This is something very shocking," said the bench of justice Abhay Oka and justice Mahesh Sonak. "The investigation is complete but the proposals for filing the charge-sheet are pending only because an MP is involved."

The judges were irked to note that the commissioner of police of Aurangabad has submitted two proposals - on December 2, 2015 and August 31, 2017 to the state government seeking permission to file the charge sheet, but no decision was taken on the proposals as yet. The bench also directed the government to explain the delay in demolition of illegal shrines across the state.

Originally, the court had fixed the deadline of August 2016 for identification and demolition of all the illegal shrines across the state. The deadline was then extended to October 2016. The state then came up with an elaborated plan and had assured that the task will be completed by December 2017. It has, however, filed a plea seeking further extension of time for implementing the court orders.

THE CASE

- A local tehsildar had gone to demolish illegal temples in Aurangabad MIDC area in 2015. A case was registered against Khaire on October 30 for openly abusing the tehsildar for carrying out demolition of illegal religious shrines
- The commissioner of police of Aurangabad submitted two proposals to the state seeking permission to file charge sheet, but no decision was taken as yet.

Petitioner Bhagwanji Raiyani, who has filed the public interest litigation (PIL) seeking demolition of all illegal religious shrines across the state, opposed the plea saying reasonably time had already been granted to the state.

The bench responded by saying that it was not inclined to grant extension of time, as sought by the state. It wants to initiate contempt proceedings against the government officials concerned if it finds there was no reasonable justification for the delay in execution of the court orders.

hindustantimes mumbai meri hai

MOVING IMAGES

A series that celebrates the city, through its people

Lanka said in 25 years, he has seen Mumbai go from a city with time and space for leisure, to a city where people never seem to have 5 minutes to spare. PRATIK CHORGE/HT PHOTO

The monk

The Reverend Lanka Ananda Thero, 37, has no memory of the day he was brought to Mumbai from Sri Lanka as a three-year-old, by his high priest. But the city has become the place he serves.

"I really like Mumbai, because I have childhood memories of going to school here and living in Dadar. So, after I completed my monastic studies in Sri Lanka, I decided to return… that felt like a better option than serving in a new country."

Another reason he came back, in 2003, was to carry forward the legacy of his high priest, the Venerable K Ananda Maha Thero.

"He died when I was studying in Lanka," he says. "Now, my cousin and I care for the three temples that were in his charge. She is the caretaker, and I am the monk."

Lanka officiates at weddings and events, in fluent Marathi. He offers counsel to the community.

The temples are at Worli, Parel and Andheri, so Lanka has had a front-row seat to Mumbai's rapid and dramatic change.

"In 25 years, I have seen this go from a city with time and space for leisure, to a city where people never seem to have five minutes to spare," he says. "You learn to be really patient, as a monk. You learn to give. But there is less and less respect for those things here now."

ANOTHER REASON
LANKA CAME BACK, IN 2003, WAS TO CARRY FORWARD THE LEGACY OF HIS HIGH PRIEST, K ANANDA MAHA THERO. LANKA OFFICIATES AT WEDDINGS AND EVENTS, IN FLUENT MARATHI. HE ALSO OFFERS COUNSEL TO THE COMMUNITY

TEXT: YESHA KOTAK

Leaders, Cong workers bid adieu to Gurudas Kamat

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

Chief minister Devendra Fadnavis at senior Congress leader Gurudas Kamat's funeral on Thursday. SATISH BATE/HT PHOTO

MUMBAI: Amid thousands of party workers and leaders, senior Congress leader and former Union minister Gurudas Kamat was cremated at Charai crematorium in Chembur on Thursday afternoon with full state honours.

Born, on October 5, 1954 in Ankola in Karnataka, Kamat completed his graduation from RA Padar College and post-graduation from Government Law College, Mumbai. Kamat, 63, was a four-term MP, from Mumbai North-East constituency and once from North-West constituency, and minister of state for home, communication and information and technology. He suffered a massive cardiac arrest on Wednesday morning while on a visit to New Delhi and died in a private hospital in Chanakyapuri. His body was flown to Mumbai by his son, Dr Sunil Kamat, on Wednesday evening.

CM Devendra Fadnavis, All India Congress Committee general secretary and Maharashtra in-charge Mallikarjun Kharge, State Congress chief Ashok Chavan, state ministers Vinod Tawde and Prakash Mehta, former chief minister Narayan Rane, Mumbai Congress chief Sanjay Nirupam, former ministers and Congress leaders Arif Naseem Khan, Chandrakant Handore and BJP's Mumbai chief Ashish Shelar were among those present. Congress chief Rahul Gandhi, who is out of the country, paid a tribute by sending a wreath through party office-bearers.

Eyebrows were raised about the decision of not keeping Kamat's body at the party's Mumbai office at Azad Maidan as per the tradition, but Nirupam said it was the decision of the family and the party respected their sentiments.

HIGH COURT RELIEF

3 med colleges can admit students soon

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: In a major relief to three new medical colleges that found their academic operations stalled due to a June 15 order of Ayush, the Bombay high court has directed the state, Maharashtra University of Health Science (MUHS) and the Ayush ministry to allow these colleges to start admissions from the academic year 2019-20.

The Ayush order restrained states from allowing new medical colleges to be started for two years, as it intended to strengthen the infrastructure of the existing colleges. However, the three colleges claimed that they had got approval from the state and affiliation from the university, prior to the Ayush order.

According to advocate Vishwanath Talkute, representing the colleges, the three colleges, which included a homoeopathy college in Pune and two Ayurveda colleges in Panhala and Jaisingpur, had already received the no-objection certificate from the state health department and the proposed affiliation from MUHS prior to June 15. However, after the Ayush order, the state and MUHS had stalled the processing of their application as the Ayush ministry had refused to accept the documents.

Talkute further informed the court that apart from getting the requisite permissions prior to the order as the colleges had already invested in the infrastructure and there was an acute need for more medical colleges in the state, stalling them would prove to be a huge loss.

After hearing the submissions, the bench of justice B R Gavai said that as the procedure for starting new colleges had started well before the Ayush order and all other requirements were in place, the authorities should complete the process and ensure that the colleges are allowed to start functioning from the academic year 2019-20.

MAN SHOWS MIDDLE FINGER TO WOMAN, HELD

MUMBAI: A 24-year-old man was arrested last week for allegedly showing his middle finger to his co-worker, in front of other colleagues, as she had complained to the office management for his indecent behaviour.

According to Saki Naka police, the arrested accused and the 22-year-old woman worked as a trainee in a private company. On August 6, the accused went up to the complainant and told her, "Darling, please pass me that". The complainant felt insulted but ignored his behaviour. The accused continued to pass indecent comments on the woman. She then complained to the office management on August 7. The accused was asked for an oral apology by the company. On August 8, during the training session, the man showed his middle finger to the woman in front of other trainees. The complainant said she felt insulted and approached the Saki Naka police on August 13 and lodged a first information report (FIR) against the accused. HTC

Tribal MLAs and MPs meet minister, oppose dhangars' ST demand

Surendra P Gangan
surendra.gangan@htlive.com

MUMBAI: Even as dhangars -- the shepherd community -- in the state are demanding their inclusion in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) category, the tribal community leaders have opposed it. On Tuesday, 17 MLAs and three MPs representing the tribal areas met tribal development minister Vishnu Savara and said such a move would affect their quota. They also demanded implementation of a Supreme Court order to sack government employees who had secured jobs by producing bogus ST certificates.

A recent order by the Nagpur bench of the Bombay high court allowed Govaris to be considered as tribals. The court said the Govari community is an integral part of the Gond-Govari community, which is part of ST category and should be treated as tribals by giving them reservation.

"First of all, inclusion of any new tribe into ST, needs constitutional amendment and no court has the right to do it. Similarly, we believe the demand by the Dhangars for inclusion in the category is not justified as they are culturally very different from us," said BJP MP from Dindori in Nashik, Harishchandra Chavan.

"We also told the government that appointment of Tata Institute of Social Studies (TISS) to study the possibility of inclusion of shepherds in ST category was uncalled for as it is the job of the Tribal Research and Training Institute, Pune," said Padmakar Valvi, Congress MLA from Shahada and a former minister.

THEY ALSO WANTED
IMPLEMENTATION OF A SC ORDER TO SACK THOSE WHO HAD GOT GOVT JOBS WITH FAKE ST CERTIFICATES

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

1 ticket for all your rides in next 6 months

ROADBLOCK REMOVED CM and railway minister iron out differences over mode of payment for single ticketing system

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The single ticket system for all modes of public transport in Mumbai and its satellite towns is likely to become a reality in the next six months as chief minister Devendra Fadnavis and railway minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday overcame the final hurdle: the mode of payment. They also decided to fast-track major suburban railway projects stuck because of land acquisition and rehabilitation issues.

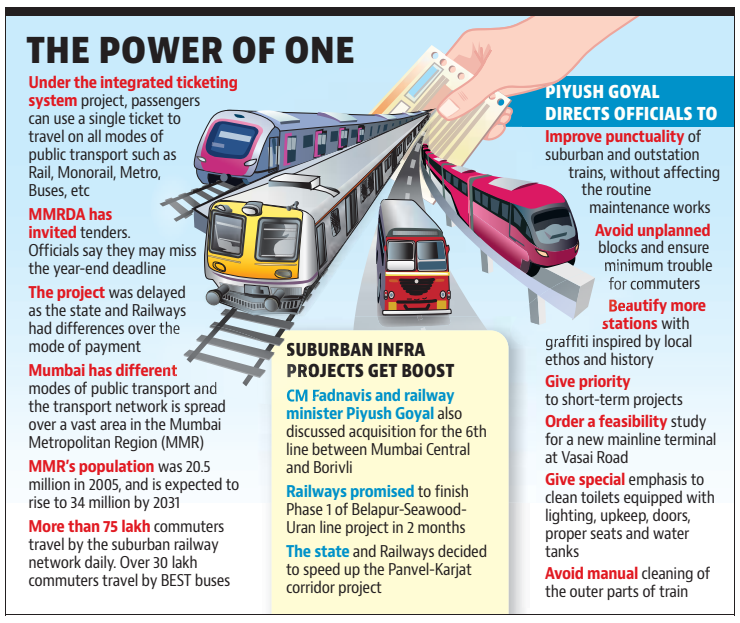
At a cost of Rs130 crore, the Integrated Ticketing System (ITS) is a first-of-its kind project in the country. Although the state had planned to launch the system by the end of this year, the authorities disputed on payment mode. While the state has finalised account based system (ABS), which maintains user's balance on a server, the Railways wanted ABS and a store value card-based system (SVC). Under SVC, the balance is stored in cards. ABS is a more advanced system, which lets commuters travel without the card, and they can simply use their phones to pass through ticketing gates. "Issues to implement ITS in Mumbai have been resolved in the meeting held today," Fadnavis tweeted later.

"The Railways was insisting upon SVC which is being adopted in cities such as Delhi and Kochi. But they have agreed upon ABS," said a senior official from MMRDA, the implementing authority.

ITS is likely to benefit more than one crore commuters.

Meanwhile, the state government has given an in-principle approval to build more floors in the influence zone under MUTP-3A, which costs Rs55,000 crore. It has set a floor space index of 5 for construction.

Fadnavis and Goyal also discussed land acquisition issues for the 6th line between Mumbai Central and Borivli, Belapur-Seawood-Uran new line project, Panvel-Kalamboli coaching terminus and doubling of the Roha-Veer line. Railway officials vowed to complete the 12.5-km Seawood-Kharkopar line will be ready in the next two months. Fadnavis and Goyal decided to take measures to fast-track projects under MUTP. In another meeting between civic officials and Goyal, it was decided that the Railways and BMC will build partially shut Delisle or Lower Parel bridge.



Govt logs out of app proposal for taxis

Kailash Korde
kailash.korde@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The Maharashtra government has shelved its plan to develop a mobile phone application that would allow users to book regular black and yellow taxis and auto rickshaws. A senior officer, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Mumbai's taxi unions were not keen to take the responsibility of running this app.

In 2017, the chief minister's office had invited leaders of major taxi and auto rickshaw unions to discuss and develop an app that could compete with the app-based cab services of Ola and Uber. Ideally, the app would also benefit users because it would prevent refusals and over-pricing by drivers. State transport officials had planned to develop the app and then hand over its operation to the taxi unions. The unions met in June 2017 and most of them, at the time, supported the idea.

"The government was ready to develop the app, but being a regulator, it didn't want to run it. The unions were asked to come forward, but they kept fighting between themselves and none of them showed interest in running it," said the officer.

According to officers, in its report on taxi-auto rickshaw fare formula submitted in October 2017, the four-member Khatua panel led by former Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer BC Khatua had also suggested that the government should not develop an app for black and yellow taxis.

Veteran taxi union leader AL Quadros said that there had been two attempts to launch apps to book taxis — in 2015 and 2017 — and on both occasions, they had received a poor response from passengers as well as cabbies. "The passengers hardly hail black and yellow cabs for long distance journeys as Ola and Uber have affected their business. On shorter routes, the passengers are less likely to go for booking cabs through the app," said Quadros.

The state transport department, however, said that the unions' decision may be short-sighted. Currently, taxis and auto rickshaws are mostly used as an intermediate mode of transport and for last mile connectivity. Mumbai has over 1.5 lakh auto rickshaws and more than 50 thousand taxis

Greed is the reason behind violations of building rules

I ON SOBO

AYAZ MEMON

Four people lost their lives in the fire that broke out in 16-storey Crystal Tower at Parel on Wednesday. But for the presence of mind of 10-year-old girl Zen Gunratan Sadavarte, who used fire safety training learnt at school, the toll could have been four to five times higher.

By definition, an accident is "an undesirable or unfortunate happening that occurs unintentionally and usually results in harm, injury, damage and loss". What caused the Crystal fire is still unclear, but from sundry facts available, it would be a travesty to call this an accident.

Undoubtedly ignorance of how to react in case of a fire (strong reason for drills to be mandated in schools, colleges and periodic practice in buildings) would be a big reason why lives were lost. But the fundamental problem is clearly the cavalier manner in which the building came up.

Going by reports carried in Hindustan Times no Wednesday, the builder had made flats in the refuge areas, some in the parking area on the first floor, the space allotted for a gymnasium on the terrace: in effect, every available square foot was sought to be exploited for greater monetary gain.

Compounding this were alterations made by flat owners residents, including those to beams and pillars and enclosing the hanging eaves outside the flats that could otherwise have been useful in case of a fire or some such calamity.

Worse, fire safety compliances hadn't been met in the six years since flat owners had moved in. While there was a fire fighting system in place, it was not working. All this suggests that the construction of the building was technically incomplete, yet it had got an Occupation Certificate (OC).

Moot question is how and why an OC ratifies a project if there are crucial loose ends still to be tied up? On what basis is this certificate provided? What are the safeguards for occupants, and who is responsible for ensuring these?

Builders will hype fancy lifestyle aspects in a project — a pool, gym, lounge area et al, but few brochures talk about fire safety provisions. And flat buyers, out of ignorance or blind trust, hardly raise these issues when they strike a deal.

In fact, flat buyers are always impatient to move in even if the project is incomplete. It is rare that buildings are completed on time, and given the cost of real estate in the city, imposes financial and other hardships that buyers want to beat.

On their part, shady builders are not averse to allowing flat owners to move in prematurely as this gets them the full price of the flat before completion of project. The more inscrutable among them use the OC to convince buyers of the 'legality' of the situation.

They allow major alterations in this period to induce full payments from buyers that can end up with dangerous and terrible consequences. In the case of Crystal, there was a fire, in so many other cases, portions of building or even the entire edifice has come down.

Only a few months ago, a fire in Mojo's Bistro in Kamala Mills claimed 13 lives, all because of illegal alterations made in the restaurant. Now four lives have been lost in the Crystal fire because of neglect from all quarters.

Greed is at the crux of this problem. This leads to flouting of rules and even basic safety norms. Since the processes of getting permissions, clearances etc is mired in so byzantine fine print and paper work, the rigour for upholding regulations is bypassed with impunity.

Accountability for loss of life and property, therefore, remains indeterminate or is lost in hurly -burly of everyday life. Till another tragedy strikes. And this is true in most aspects of living in the city, not just fire safety in buildings. Should it be this way, is life in Mumbai so cheap and so easily dispensable?

Time for an awakening Mumbaiites.

'Mikhail conspired with Rai to make Sheena disappear'

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

Sheena Bora

MUMBAI: The defence lawyer of Indrani Mukerjea accused her son Mikhail Bora of hatching a conspiracy with her driver Shyamwar Rai to "cause disappearance of Sheena Bora" over share in their grandparents' property.

Lawyer Sudeep Pasbola on Thursday concluded cross examination of Mikhail, a key witness in the Sheena Bora murder case. Pasbola alleged that Mikhail and Rai — Indrani's driver and approver in the case — were constantly in touch and could have hatched the conspiracy to make Sheena disappear.

Pasbola sought an explanation from Mikhail over the several calls he had exchanged with Rai from January 2012 to April 2012.

"Between January and April 2012, you were in constant touch with Rai and had talked to him more than 207 times," Pasbola said. The defence said between April 16 and April 18, the duo spoke over call almost 34 times.

Pasbola claimed that Mikhail was falsely implicating Indrani in the case. Attributing motive behind, Passbola said that property owned by Mikhail and Sheena's grandparents were distributed between them. However, Mikhail wanted to grab her share in the property too, for which he hatched a conspiracy with Rai to "cause Sheena's disappearance." Mikhail denied all allegations and said that his grandparents had already made a new will in April 2012, before Sheena went missing. In the new will, they had bequeathed 90% of the property to him and left only 10% for Sheena, Mikhail told the court negating allegations made by Indrani's lawyers. Meanwhile Pasbola argued on the bail plea filed by Indrani before the CBI court in connection with the murder case.

Pasbola said that Indrani has a threat to her life in jail for several reasons. He claimed that she is a witness in the case filed by CBI against P Chidambaram and his son. Passbola stressed on her health and said she needed constant monitoring and good treatment. The court adjourned the hearing on bail plea for CBI to respond on Monday.

Post-mortems by sweepers, other staff: HC seeks govt, BMC reply

MUMBAI: The Bombay high court has issued notices to the state government and the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) over allegations that post-mortems at some government hospitals are being conducted by sweepers and class IV employees.

Justice BR Gavai on Thursday directed BMC and the state to respond within four weeks.

A petition filed by Adil Khatri of Jai Ho Foundation, a non-government organisation, prayed for directions to the authorities to curb such blatant violations.

Citing information under the RTI Act, advocate Shehzad Naqvi, appearing for the NGO, said post mortems were being conducted by sweepers and class IV employees, not doctors, at Sion Hospital mortuary.

The petition hinted at the possibility of male sweepers cutting open female dead bodies and sewing them up.

The petition demanded that the state appoint forensic experts and doctors to conduct post-mortems. It sought directions to the state and BMC to employ digital methods to conduct post-mortems, like some other countries, and to draw a framework for conducting post-mortems of female bodies.

The petitioner substantiated his claims with RTI replies received from the Forensic and Medicine and Toxology department of Sion hospital. HTC

PIT STOP AHEAD

Despite authorities claiming that most potholes across the city have been filled, many roads like this one in Kurla (East) are far from smooth. ANSHUMAN POYREKAR/HT

AUTO DRIVER MASTURBATES IN FRONT OF WOMAN, BOOKED

MUMBAI: An autorickshaw driver was booked for masturbating in front of a woman in Borivli on Wednesday night.

The accused is absconding. The woman, a journalist, shared her ordeal on social media. In her post, she said that around 11.30pm, she took a rickshaw from Infiniti Mall, Malad, to Borivli, when she noticed the driver touching his private parts. She wanted to stop the rickshaw, but was scared as the lane was empty. To her horror, the man then parked the rickshaw, pulled his pants down and masturbated in front of her. The woman, who was on call jumped out and asked her friend to note down the registration number. DCP Zone 11 Sangramsinh Nishandar confirmed that an FIR was registered at Borivli police station and hunt is on for accused. HTC

Clarify tax rate on transactions of securities, high court asks CBDT

Kanchan Chaudhari
kanchan.chaudhari@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: Acting on a petition filed by members of the National Stock Exchange Limited (NSEL), the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) and other exchanges, the Bombay high court on Thursday directed the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to clarify the rate at which securities transactions tax (STT) is to be collected by them.

A division bench of Justice Bhushan Gavai and Justice Makrand Karnik felt it necessary that the CBDT clarifies the tax rate to save trading members from any unforeseen future liabilities, especially as they are not legally liable to collect STT.

The HC has posted the petition filed by Association of National Exchanges Members of India on August 28 for further hearing. The association approached the HC after the NSEL issued a circular on July 17, instructing them to collect 0.10% of the derivatives contract amounts towards STT. Their counsel, Dr Birendra Saraf, pointed out that the rate was fixed by NSEL in view of a circular issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on April 11, making physical delivery of specified stock derivatives mandatory. Saraf said the trading members objected to the NSEL making them liable for additional amounts if any higher rate is applied by CBDT for levying STT.

THE HC FELT THAT THE CBDT NEEDS TO CLARIFY THE TAX RATE TO SAVE TRADING MEMBERS FROM ANY UNFORESEEN LIABILITIES

NSEL's circular stated that it reserved the right to recover such additional amount from the trading members if CBDT applies any additional tax in future. "The trade volume goes close to ₹3 lakh crore and if CBDT seeks to apply rates higher, we all [trading members] will go bankrupt," Saraf said.

These members just collect the tax and hand it over to the exchanges concerned, which are responsible to collect it for the government. "This is a precarious situation," said the bench. "After one year, they should not be put in a situation where they have to pay crores towards the additional tax burden, especially when they are not liable to levy and collect it," the bench added.

The bench then directed additional solicitor general Anil Singh to take clear instructions from CBDT regarding the same.

Explain delay in setting up Santacruz pumping stn: HC

HT Correspondent
htmetro@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI: The Bombay high court (HC) on Thursday directed the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) to explain the inordinate delay in setting up a storm water pumping station at Gazdarban in Santacruz (West).

The pumping station is crucial to preventing flooding in western suburbs.

A division bench of justice RM Savant and justice KK Sonawane was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by advocate Atal Dubey raising concerns over non-completion of the Brihanmumbai Stormwater Disposal System (BRIMSTOWAD) project works, which is resulting in repeated flooding of several areas in the city.

The PIL was filed in the wake of floods of June 2016 after which, the city had come to a standstill.

The directive was issued after Dubey's counsel, advocate Shailesh Naidu said that several works contemplated under BRIMSTOWAD projects have not even started. He said in order to prevent flooding during monsoon, initially, eight storm water pumping stations were proposed, but three crucial projects are yet to see the light of the day – Gazdarban, Mahul and Mogra.

Naidu further said the proposed storm water pumping station at Gazdarban was crucial in preventing flooding of Santacruz, Khar and Vile Parle station areas.

He said, in 2015, BMC had stated the project was 52% complete and would be commissioned by June 2017. "We are in August 2018 and BMC is still on 52%," he complained.

The court also directed the India Metrological Department (IMD) to explain as to why Doppler weather radar had not yet been installed, although the BMC had given them the land in November 2016.

Advocate Parag Vyas, who represented IMD, told the bench that the work on installation of the radar was in progress, but the bench directed him to file an affidavit stating the progress made.

Never store important banking data in mobile, email or purse

- Use only verified, secure and trusted websites for online banking
- Avoid banking through public, open or free networks

Rasika Raje
Indian Badminton Player and RBI Employee

RBI Kehta Hai...
Jaankar Baniye,
Satark Rahiye!

For more details, give a missed call to 14440
or visit www.rbi.org.in/digitalbanking
For feedback on this advertisement,
write to rbikehtahai@rbi.org.in

Issued in public interest by
भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA
www.rbi.org.in

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

htspotlight

MONSOON MAYHEM

Kerala accuses TN of aggravating flood fury

BLAME Says sudden release of dam water by neighbouring state was a reason for the deluge

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Tamil Nadu's failure to control release of water from the Mullaperiyar dam till the reservoir reached its full capacity is one of the reasons for the flash floods in Kerala that killed over 350 people and damaged property worth thousands of crores, the Kerala government said in the Supreme Court on Thursday.

In its affidavit, Kerala blamed the sudden release of water from the dam for the unprecedented floods. "The sudden releases from the Mullaperiyar Dam, 3rd largest reservoir in the Periyar Basin, forced us (Kerala) to release more water from the Idukki reservoir, downstream of Mullaperiyar, which is one of the causes of this deluge," read the affidavit, filed by the chief secretary of the state, Tom Jose.

Located in the upper reaches of the Western Ghats above the Idukki reservoir, Mullaperiyar dam is being operated by the Tamil Nadu government even though it is wholly situated in Kerala. The catchment area of the Idukki reservoir is 650 sq km and the Mullaperiyar reservoir has a catchment area of 624 sq km.

The state, the affidavit stated, was managing the spate of water by controlling spill and letting a major portion of the flood waters escape to the sea by "implementing a strict operational control over the spill of the two largest reservoir systems of Idukki and Idamalayar in synchronization with eight small other reservoir systems in the Periyar basin."

Volunteers clean a house that was damaged in the flood on the outskirts of Kochi in Kerala. REUTERS

Kerala's affidavit comes in response to a direction by the top court on August 17. The order came on a petition filed by residents of Kerala to maintain structural safety of the dam, which as per an earlier SC judgement is being overlooked by the three-member supervisory committee that was constituted on the directions of the top court in 2014

On August 17, the Centre informed the top court that the National Crisis Management Committee (NCMC) dealing with devastating floods in Kerala has decided to reduce water level in Mullaperiyar dam to check additional inflow to avert further disaster.

According to Kerala, the secretary, water resources, Government of Kerala, had addressed a letter to her counterpart in Tamil Nadu as well as the chairman of the supervisory committee on the Mullaperiyar dam urging the commencement of controlled releases of water. The request was made to get sufficient time to evacuate people so that they would not be hit by flash floods in their sleep. But no positive assurance was received from Tamil Nadu even after repeated requests.

The Mullaperiyar reservoir water was suddenly discharged by opening all thirteen shutters to Idukki downstream at midnight on August 15. Discharge continued and around 9,000 cusecs of water was let out between 8 am and 1 pm and 21,450 cusecs at 2pm. The district administration was at that time frantically evacuating people from the downstream of Idukki dam.

With a view to avoid such disasters in future, Kerala has urged the top court to form a management committee that would directly report to the supervisory committee , appointed at the behest of the Supreme Court, to manage day-to-day operations of Mullaperiyar dam.

The deluge faced by Kerala was unprecedented in its recent history and it has already surpassed the devastation caused by the 1924 floods, the affidavit said. "It was now considered the most intense flood to have hit Kerala in the last 100 years as 13 of the 14 districts were affected and 774 of the total 1564 villages were inundated. Of its population of 3.48 crore, more than 54 lakh people i.e. one-sixth of the state's total population was directly affected by the deluge," read the affidavit filed by the Kerala government.

A man standing in floodwater shares tea with another man sitting in a canoe in Kerala's Alappuzha district. BLOOMBERG

Vijayan visits camps with rehab promise

HT Correspondent & PTI
letters@htlive.com

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: With rescue operations in Kerala nearly over and focus shifting on massive clean-up, chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Thursday visited relief camps spread across four districts and assured people of all help in rehabilitation and repair of their houses damaged in the rain fury that has claimed 231 lives since August 8.

Vijayan took a helicopter to reach camps in some of the worst-affected areas in Chengannur, Kozhencherry, Alappuzha, and Chalakudy districts.

"The government is committed to alleviate the suffering of people in relief camps. We will help them reconstruct their houses and ensure their livelihood. Different agencies are working hard to ensure better facilities at camps," Vijayan said after visiting a camp at Christian College in Chengannur.

"The government is with you. We will do everything possible to help you get back on your feet," he said at another camp.

The inmates, especially women, who had lost their homes and belongings in the worst-floods in the last 100 years, gathered in huge numbers, some with their children in arms, to narrate their woes to the chief minister about facilites at the camps.

Talking to reporters , Vijayan said the state would draw up a detailed rehabilitation package for repairing and constructing homes destroyed in the deluge.

The Kerala government is facing a Herculean task as more than 10 lakh people are still lodged in 6,000-odd relief camps.

Vijayan said his government will take up with banks the possibility of extending interest free loans of upto ₹1 lakh to people whose houses had been damaged in the rains and floods, he said adding over 60,000 houses and 30,000 wells have been cleaned

More than 50,000 volunteers have taken up the cleaning operations. A control room has also been set up to coordinate the cleaning operations, official sources said, adding civic bodies have been entrusted with the task of managing the work.

Meanwhile, the Congress, the CPI-M and the CPI trained its guns on the Centre asking it to remove obstacles in accepting foreign aid for the rain-ravaged state, including ₹700 crore offered by the UAE, even as government justified the stand.

CPI(M) Kerala state secretary Kodiyeri Balakrishnan said Centre should make changes in the convention to get Kerala assistance from foreign countries.

All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary and former chief minister Oommen Chandy shot off a letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, urging him to modify rules to facilitate foreign funding for rebuilding the flood-ravaged state.

CPI general secretary Suravaram Sudhakar Reddy accused the Centre of "standing on false prestige" on the issue of foreign aid at times of natural disasters.

The opposition Congress-led UDF also continued its tirade against the state government over opening of shutters of dams without warning local people living downstream. Ramesh Chennithala, opposition leader, reiterated his demand for a judicial probe, while state electricity minister M M Mani said there was no lapse on the government's part and all guidelines had been followed.

"The situation would have been different if dam management was done properly. Leave alone experts, even common people pleaded with dam authorities to release water gradually but they kept on waiting to generate maximum power," Chennithala said.

Vijayan said, "This is not the time for dispute. The government's focus now is to solve the problems being faced by the people and so it seeks the unity and cooperation of all."

The state has suffered an estimated loss of ₹20,000 crore and had sought an interim assistance of ₹2,600 crore from the Centre, besides a special package of a similar amount under the Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme.

Kerala's flood-hit people at a relief camp set up inside a school in Kochi on Thursday. AP

flood diary

FOUR-YEAR-OLD DONATES PIGGY BANK SAVINGS

KOLKATA: A four-year-old girl from South Kolkata on Wednesday donated her piggy bank savings to the Kerala relief fund set up by the CPI(M). Aparajita Saha, a resident of Jadavpur, had saved around ₹14,800 from the gifts she had received during her birthday to buy a CD player to rehearse for her dance classes. She handed over the money to CPI(M) leader Biman Bose at the state party office here. After seeing the visuals of Kerala floods on TV channels, she decided to donate the money for deluge victims.

Defence minister to visit flood-hit Kodagu today

MADIKERI: Defence minister Nirmala Sitharaman will on Friday visit the flood and landslide-ravaged Kodagu district, bordering Kerala, where rescue and relief operations are underway in full swing. The torrential rains that lashed the district last week has left a huge trail of destruction and claimed at least 16 lives. Thousands have been rendered homeless. Sitharaman is expected to reach Kushalnagar on Friday morning and scheduled to visit affected areas.

Kerala gets 259 tonnes of food from Punjab

CHANDIGARH: The Punjab government on Thursday sent more than 259 tonnes of food items for the people of Kerala, officials said. To ensure proper distribution of the relief material, the state government has also sent a three-member team, revenue and disaster management minister Sukhbinder Singh Sarkaria said. CM Amarinder Singh has announced ₹10 crore as relief for the flood victims, out of which ₹ 5 crore has been transferred to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund of Kerala and the remaining amount was dispatched along with the food material.

Nine gates of TN dam washed away

M Manikandan
manikandan.mani@htlive.com

CHENNAI: With nine out of 45 sluice gates of the Upper Anaicut (called Mukkombu Dam) in Trichy washed away along with their piers on Wednesday, farmers in Tamil Nadu are a worried lot.

The Mukkombu Dam is the regulator that splits the water coming from Mettur into the Kollidam and Cauvery rivers. The washing away of the sluice gates means that more water is draining into the Kollidam river, leading to a possible flood threat in its downstream areas. The Tamil Nadu disaster management authority has, however, said that there is no need to panic.

Mukkombu was built by the British in 1836-38 and farmers are alleging that poor maintenance has led to the disaster.

With a large quantity of water draining into the Kollidam instead of the more important Cauvery river, Tamil Nadu farmers are worried about the samba crop cultivation for this season. This is because the Cauvery irrigates around 80% of agriculture land in Tamil Nadu's Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Pudukkottai districts with more water draining into the Kollidam, the tail-end areas of the Cauvery may not get any water at all.

The washing away of the sluice gates means that more water is draining into the Kollidam river, leading to a possible flood threat in its downstream areas. HT

Since July, the water outflow from Mettur Dam in Tamil Nadu has been high because Karnataka has opened its Kabini and KRS dams due to heavy rain.

Due to heavy rainfall in the Cauvery water catchment areas, about 200,000 cusecs of water was released from Mettur last week. Though Karnataka has now reduced the outflow to 58,214 cusecs of water per day, the TN water resources department is releasing about 50,000 cusecs from Mettur to Upper Anaicut (Mukkombu dam), which is about 15 Kms west to Trichy.

Though the Kollidam flows for 160 kms from Mukkombu and can carry 450,000 cusecs of water, it is not very useful for cultivation, complain farmers. It is the Cauvery which helps in cultivating more than 800,000 acres of land in Thanjavur, Thiruvarur, Nagapattinam and Pudukkottai districts. Farmers allege that more water in Kollidam is only likely to drain into the sea and the situation would pose a threat to samba crop cultivation.

"Already there are about 50 TMC (thousand million Cubic feet)of water draining into the Bay of Bengal through Kollidam. With this damage to Mokkombu, more water will drain into the sea. The government has erred in not ensuring upkeep of these sluice gates," said Elankeeran Veeramani, president, Cauvery delta irrigation association.

Meanwhile, PR Pandiyan, president, Tamil Nadu all farmers organising committee, said farmers may face another drought year in downstream districts of the Cauvery despite good water storage in Mettur. "Already, water has not come into the tail-end parts of delta district. So, many farmers who have sown seeds are waiting for Cauvery water. At this juncture, the damage in Upper Anaicut would further worsen the situation," he said.

Public works department's principal secretary SK Prabhakar visited the dam on Thursday and assured that they will address the issue on a war footing. "Since water flow is low in Kollidam and Cauvery, there is no need to panic about a flood in Kollidam," he said.

MK Stalin, working president of the DMK, said that the government had failed to maintain the Upper Anaicut. "The ruling AIADMK government should take full responsibility for this. It should have ensured that Upper Anaicut is safe," Stalin said. Meanwhile, chief minister Edappadi K Palaniswami, who holds the PWD portfolio, is likely to visit Upper Anaicut on Friday to assess the damage.

ADDITIONAL FUNDS

Centre assures Kerala of more financial aid

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Centre on Thursday said the ₹600-crore aid it has extended to Kerala till now was only "advance assistance" and it would give additional funds to the flood-ravaged state.

"Additional funds would be released from NDRF (the National Disaster Response Fund) on assessment of the damages (caused by floods in Kerala) as per laid down procedure," said a government statement.

The Centre also said the ₹600 crore-aid was in addition to ₹562.45 crore already made available in the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) of Kerala.

The statement added that the central government provides its allocation to the SDRF in advance in two instalments in order to help a state deal with any natural calamity.

"In case of any natural calamity beyond the coping capacity of a state, the concerned state government submits a detailed memorandum indicating the sector-wise details of damages and requirement of funds for relief operations of immediate nature. On receipt of a memorandum, an Inter-Ministerial Central Team (IMCT) is deputed by the Central Government for on-the-spot assessment of damages and additional requirement of funds," the statement clarified on the procedure for further central aid.

The IMCT report is first considered by a committee headed by the home secretary and then by a high-level panel chaired by the home minister for final approval.

The IMCT first visited Kerala between August 7 and 12.

"Since there was a second spell of floods in the state, the State Government has stated that they will submit an additional memorandum on the fresh damages caused by the floods and landslides once rescue efforts are over," said the statement.

The government statement said in all 40 helicopters, 31 aircraft, 182 rescue teams, 18 medical teams of defence forces, 58 teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and seven companies of central paramilitaries were pressed into service along with over 500 boats and necessary rescue equipments , paving the way for the rescue of over 60,000 people.

Rain relents, schools in Kodagu reopened

Vikram Gopal
vikram.gopal@hindustantimes.com

THE DECISION TO OPEN THE SCHOOLS AFTER NEARLY TWO WEEKS WAS THE FIRST SIGN OF THE DISTRICT LIMPING BACK TO NORMAL AFTER BATTLING RAIN FURY

BENGALURU: With a respite from rain, Karnataka's Kodagu district began picking up pieces as 657 of the 718 schools in the region reopened on Thursday after a period of around two weeks, officials familiar with the matter said.

In the past week, the Kerala-bordering district had witnessed heavy rainfall, which claimed 16 lives and resulted in large-scale destruction. According to the Indian Metrological Department (IMD), the rainfall recorded so far this month has already broken an 87-year-old record for August, with the district receiving 1,675 mm rainfall in the past 23 days.

Against this backdrop, the decision to open the schools so that students' studies don't get further hampered was the first sign of the district limping back to normal after battling the weather fury.

Walter D'Mello, the deputy director of public instruction for the district said, the decision to open the schools was taken considering the let up in rain.

Among the 61 schools in the district that remain closed, some are being used as relief camps and others have been damaged or made inaccessible due to the rain, D'Mello said. "We have also begun taking classes for children at all the relief camps because we do not want the children to suffer," he added.

The disaster management authority of the state, meanwhile, issued a clarifictation refuting claims that an earthquake on July 9 had caused the landslides witnessed in the state in the past week.

Citing the incessant rains as the reason for the landslides, the authority said in a statement that experts had been consulted in the immediate aftermath of the tremor. "Earthquake-induced landslides occur immediately after the tremor," the authority said, adding that an inspection had been conducted in the area on July 25.

Deluge takes the sheen off Onam

Ramesh Babu
letters@hindustantimes.com

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Lambodharan, an actor who plays Mahabali's role during Onam festivities annually, has lost most of his belongings to the worst floods that have hit Kerala in nearly 100 years. He says he will still perform the role to console the flood victims and make them laugh at least for a day. But not many appear to be in the mood to celebrate as the state struggles to deal with the aftermath of the floods that have left over 230 dead and displaced around 10 lakh people.

Thrissur's 'puli kali' (tiger dance), which is a major tour attraction every year, has been called off while traders are facing losses in the festival season that otherwise means bumper business.

Flower merchant Vel Murugan said he had ordered flowers worth ₹40 lakh from Kanyakumari. "Usually, I earn over ₹1.20 crore in this season but this time at least 70% of my stock is lying in baskets," said Murugan, who has a shop in Thiruvananthapuram's Chlai market.

Banana chips are an essential ingredient of the Onam feast and traders complain tones of chips are lying unsold. Vegetable and grocery merchants echoed them. Electronics and cloth merchants are keeping their fingers crossed about the festive season prospects.

Many companies usually launch their new brands during the Onam season. But they have been forced to withdraw their advertisements in print and electronic media. CARE, a rating agency, has said the state's GDP will go down by at least one per cent in the current financial year because of the floods.

A banner tucked in a corner of a youth club in Chengannur captured the sentiment. "Lord Mahabali, please skip your visit this time. We do not want our benevolent king to witness our plight," the banner in Malayalam read.

Onam is celebrated across the state. All castes, classes and communities, who believe in the legend of King Mahabali, celebrate it. The legend has it that demon (asura) king Mahabali once ruled Kerala and was banished. It is believed he returns once a year to bless his people during the festivities.

Customers buy flowers at a shop in Chalai Market of Kerala's Thiruvananthpuram on Thursday ahead of Onam celebrations. RAJ K RAJ/HT PHOTO

> Usually, I earn over ₹1.20 crore in this season (leading to Onam celebrations) but this time at least 70% of my stock (of flowers) is lying in baskets.
> VEL MURUGAN, flower merchant

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

htnation

WE WILL DEVELOP A CITY IN THE NAME OF LORD VISHNU SPREAD OVER 2,000 ACRES OF LAND NEAR ETAWAH. THE TEMPLE WILL BE A COPY OF FAMOUS ANGKOR WAT (IN CAMBODIA)

› AKHILESH YADAV, Samajwadi Party president and former Uttar Pradesh chief minister

shortstories

WITNESS IN KILLING OF UNNAO MINOR'S FATHER FOUND DEAD

LUCKNOW: The key witness in fatal attack on the father of a minor's gang rape in Unnao, allegedly by the BJP MLA and his aides, was found dead at his home on August 18, police said. The girl's uncle raised apprehension over the death of Mohammed Yunus, 32, but police claimed that his family has cited illness as the cause of death. Yunus was the key witness in the case of murder of the girl's father who was attacked allegedly by rape accused BJP MLA Kuldip Singh Sengar's brother in police custody and had later died of his injuries. The father was jailed after allegedly being framed by the police in a false case of possession of illegal firearms.

Man sentenced to 20 years in jail for raping 3-year-old girl

MATHURA: A special court sentenced a man to 20 years in jail for raping a three-year-old girl. Special POCSO court judge Vivekanand Sharan Tripathi called convict Vishambhar a paedophile and could repeat the crime in given a lesser punishment, assistant district government council Virendra Kumar Lavania said. "Vishambhar was also fined ₹20,000," he said. He raped the child on December 5, 2015 when she was out playing with her friends near her house.

1 killed, 4 injured in artillery shell explosion in Maharashtra

NASHIK: A 21-year-old man was killed and four others, including a child, were injured when an artillery shell exploded in a village in Maharashtra's Nashik district, police said Thursday. Ajay Shirsath spotted the shell lying near a firing range close to his home at Belgaon Kurhe village Wednesday. He took the artillery shell and was trying to break its outer metal covering in the presence of other villagers when it exploded, killing him on the spot, the police officer added.

85 days later, protesters at Manipur Univ call off agitation

IMPHAL: The 85-day-long agitation at Manipur University was called off Thursday by the protesters "in the interest of the students", Students' Union president M Dayaman Singh said. The students had been demanding the removal of Vice Chancellor AP Pandey and the setting up of an Independent Enquiry Committee to look into the allegations of administrative and financial lapses made by the V-C. The agitation was called off after the HRD ministry agreed to the terms in the Memorandum of Agreement signed August 16, Singh said.

India, China to speed up hotline between militaries

BUILDING TIES Defence ministers hold wide-ranging talks, ink MoU on defence exchanges

Rahul Singh
rahul.singh@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India and China on Thursday held wide-ranging talks to improve their bilateral military relationship, including speedier operationalisation of a hotline between their armed forces and inking a new agreement on defence exchanges and cooperation, a defence ministry spokesperson said.

India also asked China not to doubt its intentions behind infrastructure development in border areas, though China emphasised this must not harm its 'national interests', said an official familiar with the development.

During the delegation-level talks held a year after the Doklam border standoff, defence minister Nirmala Sitharaman and Chinese minister of national defence and a member of the Central Military Commission General Wei Fenghe also decided to expand the scope of engagement between the two militaries in the areas of training, joint exercises and other professional interactions, the ministry said in a statement.

Defence minister Nirmala Sitharaman greets her Chinese counterpart General Wei Fenghe in New Delhi on Thursday. AJAY AGGARWAL/HT

The Chinese side suggested the setting up of two or three hotlines instead of the one that both sides were discussing earlier, said the official quoted above. HT had earlier reported that India and China were working towards "narrowing down technical differences" over whether the hotline should be between the Director Generals of Military Operations of the two countries or between the commanders who are in charge of the border areas on either side.

The new memorandum of understanding on defence cooperation that the two sides are working towards will replace a 12-year-old previous agreement.

The two ministers welcomed recent exchanges between their armed forces, holding that these had enhanced mutual trust and understanding to implement the consensus reached between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at an informal summit in Wuhan in April earlier this year.

Wei is the highest level Chinese functionary India is hosting after the Wuhan summit.

The Hand in Hand exercise between the two armies is scheduled to take place in China in November, the official said. The two sides also discussed the possibility of opening up more border meeting points along the Line of Actual Control in addition to the current six. He added there was a proposal from China for coordinated patrols along the LAC but the Indian Army is not keen.

China was also told that it should have zero tolerance for cross-border terrorism, a reference to Pakistan. India also said it would welcome more port visits by Chinese warships as a confidence-building measure.

Military affairs expert Air Vice Marshal Kapil Kak (retd) said, "The talks on operationalising the hotline and the MoU are right steps in the direction of sustaining peace and tranquillity along the border and avoiding Doklam-like situations in the future."

MEGHALAYA CM SEEKS MANDATE

Meghalaya chief minister Conrad K Sangma flanked by sister Agatha, mother Soradini and wife Mehtab Chandee after casting their votes for the bypolls to Ranikor assembly seat on Thursday. Sangma is contesting from South Tura constituency, which too went to polls and recorded a turnout of 72.89%. Ranikor saw 85.89% voting. HT PHOTO

'Privacy' guides WhatsApp stance on tracing messages

Vidhi Choudhary
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEWDELHI: WhatsApp said Thursday tracing the origin of messages sent over the platform would undermine its "private nature", prompting the government to clarify that it expected the Facebook-owned service to continue exploring technical innovations, even as they appeared to agree on three other conditions set by India to operate in the country.

The government had asked the global messaging platform to come up with a solution to trace the origin of messages in efforts to curb incidents of mob lynching and other crimes triggered by fake news. WhatsApp chief executive officer Chris Daniels met information technology minister Ravi Shankar Prasad on Tuesday, after which Prasad said the government had asked the firm to comply with the Indian law, set up a local corporate entity and appoint a grievance officer.

WhatsApp has agreed to the three demands, according to a government official who did not wish to be identified. It, however, said that introducing traceability would weaken privacy protection of its users. "(It) would undermine end-to-end encryption and the private nature of WhatsApp, creating the potential for serious misuse. WhatsApp will not weaken the privacy protections we provide," a spokesperson said in an emailed statement.

India is WhatsApp's largest and fastest-growing market with over 230 active million users.

The ability to trace the origin of a fake news message shared over WhatsApp was one of the key demands by the government. The platform is not designed to track individual messages, as it does not have access to private conversations over the app, the company's terms and conditions say.

After WhatsApp made its stand clear on the traceability issue, the government said the service should keep looking for innovative solutions to the problem. "Continue to explore technical innovations whereby, in case of large-scale circulation of provocative and nefarious messages leading to violence and crime, the origin can be ascertained," said a senior government official who asked not to be named.

Ananth Padmanabhan, fellow at the Centre for Policy Research, said WhatsApp was right in taking the stand. "If they started in this direction (of traceability), the chilling effect it would have on free speech over the platform could be high. Responsible engagement can never be built using fear. Traceability is a tool of fear in a service that promises encrypted messaging," he said

Lawyer Apar Gupta agreed. "Traceability undermines end-to-end encryption as presently implemented in WhatsApp."

WhatsApp has drawn flak in recent months over the spread of fake news that incited cases of mob-lynching across the country. In two notices sent to WhatsApp, the Centre had expressed dissatisfaction. India said the firm could not escape its responsibility in cases of rampant abuse and provocative messages, as it raised concerns over the role of social media platforms ahead in next year's general elections.

A person familiar with the developments said it would not be "appropriate to invest in this form of data collection which could amount to surveillance."

Data localisation could negatively impact the pace of innovation and adoption of technology, the person added.

"It's not for me to decide what privacy rules are framed in India but there will be trade-offs implied in what is being asked."

(Nakul Sridhar contributed to this story)

No chance at all: CEC on simultaneous polls

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEWDELHI: Chief election commissioner Om Prakash Rawat Thursday once again ruled out the possibility of holding simultaneous elections to state assemblies and the Lok Sabha anytime soon, reiterating that a legal framework is required to be put in place.

"Koi chance nahi (no chance at all)," Rawat emphatically said at a media interaction in Aurangabad, Maharashtra, when asked if it was feasible to hold simultaneous Lok Sabha and state assembly elections in the near future.

The remarks came amid debate over the move following an assertion from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) that it was in favour of holding Lok Sabha and assembly elections together.

Om Prakash Rawat

The poll watchdog had earlier maintained that any extension or curtailment of the term of assemblies will require a constitutional amendment besides the logistics arrangements with regard to 100% availability of VVPATs (paper trail machines) will also be a constraint. "MPs will take at least a year to frame a law that can be enforceable. As soon as the bill to amend the Constitution is ready, we will know that things are now moving," Rawat said.

Apart from the BJP, the Shiromani Akali Dal, the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, the Samajwadi Party, and the Telangana Rashtra Samithi have supported the idea but the Congress, the Trinamool Congress, the Aam Aadmi Party, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, the Telugu Desam Party, the Left Front parties, and the Janata Dal (Secular) are opposed to it.

The Congress had even dared Prime Minister Narendra Modi to dissolve the Lok Sabha and announce general elections along with polls in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Mizoram due later this year.

The Election Commission, he said, starts preparations for the general elections 14 months before the time frame. "The commission has a staff strength of just 400 but deploys 1.11 crore people on poll duty during elections."

On complaints of "failure" of the electronic voting machines (EVMs), Rawat said the understanding of the system was not "comprehensive enough".

"There is just a 0.5-0.6% rate of failure and such a rate of machine failure is acceptable," he said.

'Will complete probe in irrigation scam in 6 months'

Pradip Kumar Maitra
pradipmaitra@hindustantimes.com

NAGPUR: The anti-corruption bureau (ACB) on Thursday promised the Nagpur bench of Bombay High Court that it would complete the ongoing probe into 43 cases in the alleged irrigation scam within next six months. The state had assured to provide all assistance.

A division bench consisting of Justice Bhushan Dharmadhikari and Justice Murlidhar Giratkar while asking the ACB to place this information on record, directed the trials in the newly filed charge sheets be completed within three months and asked special court to conduct hearings on a day-to-day basis. The ACB also told the court three additional charge sheets and four new First Information Reports (FIRs) have been filed by its Special Investigation Teams (SITs) in the irrigation case, while four proposals to prosecute public servants have been processed in the last two weeks. The SITs were formed only after the HC stepped up pressure on the state government. The two SITs are headed by senior officers from the ACB of Nagpur and Amravati units. The Nagpur ACB unit is looking into 17 projects, while Amravati ACB is investigating 26 projects. Thane ACB is probing 12 matters.

राजीव गान्धी विश्वविद्यालय
रोनो हिल्स, पी. ओ. दोइमूख, इंटानगर-७११ ११२
अरुणाचल प्रदेश
RAJIV GANDHI UNIVERSITY
Rono Hills, P.O. : Doimukh, Itanagar - 791 112
Arunachal Pradesh, Phone No. 0360-2279027
0360-2278523, 0360-2277253, Fax: 0360-2277889
No. EG-193/88 Dated the 20th August, 2018
ADVERTISEMENT
Applications are invited from eligible bonafide Indian Citizens for filling up of the posts of (i) Finance Officer, (ii) Controller of Examination and (iii) Internal Audit Officer in Rajiv Gandhi University, Rono Hills, Doimukh on standard terms of deputation. For further details may visit the University website www.rgu.ac.in.
Sd/- Registrar i/c

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, रायपुर (छ.ग.)
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Raipur (C.G.)
Tatibandh, G.E. Road, Raipur - 492 099 (CG),www.aiimsraipur.edu.in
Admin/Rec./SR/2018/AIIMS.RPR/282 Dated: 23.08.2018
Walk-in-Interview
AIIMS, Raipur will conduct Walk-in-Interview for Indian Nationals under Govt. of India Residency Scheme, for recruitment of 56 Senior Residents for the tenure of 03 (three) years in the departments of Anaesthesiology, Burns and Plastic Surgery, Cardiothoracic Surgery, Endocrinology and Metabolism, General Medicine, Neurology, Neurosurgery, Orthopaedics, Paediatrics and Trauma and Emergency. The pay is of Rs. 67700/- (Level-11, Cell No. 01 As per 7th CPC) plus usual allowances including NPA (if applicable).
The walk-in-Interview will be conducted on every working day between 03:00 pm to 05:00 pm on first come first serve basis till filling the vacant posts in the premises of AIIMS, Raipur. For detailed interview schedule, terms and conditions, please visit our website www.aiimsraipur.edu.in.
All the notification, amendment, corrigendum etc. related to this advertisement, if any, will be published only in the website of AIIMS, Raipur. For updates please visit website of AIIMS, Raipur regularly.
Director
AIIMS, Raipur

N·S·D·C National Skill Development Corporation
Transforming the skill landscape
National Skill Development Corporation
301-306 West Wing, Worldmark-1, Aerocity, New Delhi-110037
Ph: 011-47451600-10 | F: 011-46560417
www.nsdcindia.org
INVITATION FOR BID
National Skill Development Corporation invites Bids for Empanelment of Placement Partners under Framework Agreement IFP No: IFP/ PMKVY/ 2018/0026.
Interested firms may submit their responses in accordance with the procedure enumerated in IFP available on: https://www.nsdcindia.org/active-tender.
The last date to submit the response of this IFB is 17th September 2018 till 14:00 Hrs.
Chief Executive Officer

RAILWAY RECRUITMENT BOARD
Lichi Bagan, Muzaffarpur - 842 001 (Bihar)
Website: www.rrbmuzaffarpur.gov.in E-mail: rrbmfp-bih@nic.in
Phone No.: 0621-2213405 Fax No. : 0621-2221167
BEWARE OF TOUTS, BROKERS AND JOB RACKETEERS

➢ Recruitment process in the RRBs is fully computerised and the selection is based purely on the merit of the candidates.
➢ Beware of touts and job racketeers trying to deceive by false promises of securing job in Railway either through influence, money or by any other unfair means.
➢ RRBs have not appointed any agent(s) or coaching centre(s) for action on their behalf.
➢ Candidates attempting unfair means will be disqualified and legal action shall be initiated against them.
➢ Don't get cheated and lose your hard earned money. Don't become a fool and victim to unfair means.
➢ What is to be done by the candidate when approached by anyone with promise of job and demands money:
• She/he should immediately lodge a complaint in the nearest police station.
• Candidates can also call on the phone number 0621-2213405 for guidance and clarification of doubts.
• Candidates if they come to notice any unfair means can share the information confidentially with RRBs through e-mail. E-mail ID of RRB/Muzaffarpur is rrbmfp-bih@nic.in. The identity of candidate will be kept secret.
• Candidates are advised to consult only official website of RRB/Muzaffarpur - www.rrbmuzaffarpur.gov.in and beware of FAKE websites put up by unscrupulous elements/touts.

BE A PART OF MISSION IN FAIR & TRANSPARENT RECRUITMENT PROCESS AND JOIN INDIAN RAILWAYS WITH PRIDE AND BE A HERO
No. RRB/MFP/CEN-01/2018/06 Date: 23.08.2018
CHAIRMAN
RRB/Muzaffarpur

MUMBAI ➡ PARASIA via Nagpur
(One Trip)
SUPER FAST SPECIAL TRAIN
Central Railway will run one Superfast Train from Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai to Parasia via Nagpur (One way) to clear the Extra rush of passengers.

TRAIN NO.	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL
02019	Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus, Mumbai at 00.20 hrs on 27.08.2018	Parasia at 19.50 hrs same day.

Halts : Dadar, Kalyan, Igatpuri, Nasik Road, Bhusaval, Malkapur, Shegaon, Akola, Badnera, Dhamangaon, Pulgaon, Wardha, Nagpur, Multai and Amla.
Composition : 15 Sleeper class, 2 General Second class cum Guard's brake van.
Reservation : Bookings for 02019 Superfast Special trains on Special Charges will open on 24.08.2018 at all PRS locations and through website www.irctc.co.in.
CENTRAL RAILWAY www.cr.indianrailways.gov.in
FOLLOW US ON www.twitter.com/Central_Railway www.facebook.com/centralrailwayindia
ALL INDIA PASSENGER HELPLINE : 138 I SECURITY HELPLINE : 182

CIDCO WE MAKE CITIES
CORRIGENDUM NO: 2
(2ND EXTENSION)
Construction of Crematorium at Plot No. 205 in Sector R- 1, Pocket No. 3 at Pushpak Node,Navi Mumbai. (2nd Extension)
CIDCO of Maharashtra Limited through the process of E-tendering invites "ON LINE" item rate percentage Bids from experienced prospective bidders fulfilling the mandatory eligibility criteria, registered with CIDCO Ltd or with Central Govt, or with State Govt of Maharashtra and its undertakings in appropriate Class & Category, who have completed work of similar nature like Construction of Crematorium or any type of Building works for the work mentioned below:
1) Name of Work: Construction of Crematorium at Plot No. 205 in Sector R- 1, Pocket No. 3 at Pushpak Node,Navi Mumbai. (2nd Extension) 2) C.A.No.: 05/CIDCO/EE(AP-I)/2018-19 3) Cost put to the Bid: Rs.1,10,36,257.12 4) E.M.D: Rs. 1,11,000/- 5) Registration Class: Class-IV & above 6) Completion Period: 12 (Twelve) Months (including Monsoon) 7) Cost of Blank Bid Document: Rs. 5,250/- (including 5% GST (Non-Refundable)
Bid Document is already uploaded as E-Bid No. 2579. Bidders are requested to note that, the date for Main Bid Document Purchase is extended upto 30/08/2018 upto 15:00 hrs. The revised Bidding Programme is uploaded on website www.cidco.maharashtra.etenders.in
All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. This Corrigendum No.02 (2nd Extension) shall form part of the Bid Document and shall be uploaded along with Bid Document.
CIN - U99999 MH 1970 SGC-014574
www.cidco.maharashtra.gov.in
Superintending Engineer (AP-II)
CIDCO/PR/150(B)/2018-19

DELHI ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION
Viniyamak Bhawan, C-Block, Shivalik
Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017
Telefax: 011-26673608, 41080417
ENGAGEMENT OF STAFF CONSULTANTS WITH THE TARIFF DIVISION AND WITH ADVISOR (FINANCE) OF DERC
DELHI ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION invites applications for 02 Staff Consultants (Tariff-Finance), 02 Staff Consultants (Tariff-Engineering) to assist the Tariff Division of the Commission in the matters related to Tariff Determination and 01 Staff Consultant (TE&FA) to assist Advisor (Fin.) in Finance related matters.
For details such as eligibility, qualifications, experience and other terms & conditions of engagement, application format etc. please refer to DERC's website www.derc.gov.in. The last date for receipt of application in the above mentioned address is 24.09.2018.
Sd/-
(Surendra Edupghanti)
Secretary, DERC
DIP/Shabdarth/1488/18-19

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

SC notice to EC over duplication of voters

ELECTORAL ROLL Charges of several illegal, invalid and false entries

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

The Supreme Court

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court has issued notice to the Election Commission on petitions filed by Congress leaders Kamal Nath and Sachin Pilot alleging duplication of voters in the voters' list of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan.

A bench of Justices AK Sikri and Ashok Bhushan agreed to take up the matter on August 31 and asked the Election Commission to file its response by then.

Senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi made a brief submission on behalf of the two leaders. For Kamal Nath, he said the commission had refused to give a text board for the electoral roll in Madhya Pradesh, even as it did so in Rajasthan. The reason given by the commission is that a text board would affect the privacy of the electorate, which Singhvi termed as bizarre.

In their petitions, filed through advocate Varun Chopra, both Kamal Nath and Pilot have alleged that the updated electoral rolls of MP and Rajasthan include duplicate, repeat, multiple, illegal, invalid and false entries of voters.

Kamal Nath said he had submitted a detailed representation to the commission on June 3, 2018, highlighting 60 lakh such entries. He added that the commission had dropped more than 24 lakh voters from the list published in January 2018. The poll panel has admitted that over 2.37 lakh photo entries have been found to be suspicious, unclear and blank.

In Rajasthan, Pilot said there were around 42 lakh fake voters.

The two leaders claimed that there has not been a corresponding increase in the number of voters vis-à-vis population growth. Also, they want immediate counting of voter verifiable paper audit trails (VVPAT) if a candidate is not satisfied with the counting process or the results.

"If further, the candidate or his agent is not satisfied with the counting or the results, he should be permitted for counting of the VVPAT paper trails of particular booth(s) to a maximum of 50% of booths in the constituency and to compare it with the VVPAT results," the petitions said.

The returning officer should be required to give a certificate of counting and comparison of paper trails to the candidates, forthwith. This would also go a long way to establish the credibility of VVPAT machines, the two said.

Since the impression on the paper trail does not last more than 20 days, the leaders have suggested use of good quality paper and thermal printer in the VVPAT machines. If the impression fades, it will be impossible to count the paper trail at all. The two also want that there should be unique identification numbers on VVPAT and paper trail collection boxes.

BMS threatens stir over contract employment

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Bharatiya Mazdoor Sangh, an RSS-affiliated trade union, announced on Wednesday that it will stage a protest across districts on September 6 against the practice of contract employment.

A resolution adopted in the national executive meeting of the BMC in Cochin said a labour ministry notification in March this year gave legal status to to Fixed Term Employment, affecting the livelihood and employment of the workers. "Under this law, when permanent workers retire, their vacancies are filled by the industries with temporary fixed-term employment thereby increasing the number of new unemployed youth," the resolution reads.

The trend of contract labour system, the BMS said, has increased by the elimination of permanent posts in private and public entities as well as the State and Central Government departments. "Today 67% of the organised sector workers belong to this category. Subcontract and supply chain are becoming emerging global models of employment," the BMS said.

KRISHNA REDDY (1925 - 2018)

Farewell to world renowned abstract sculptor, printmaker

Dhamini Ratnam
dhamini.ratnam@htlive.com

Master printmaker and sculptor Krishna Reddy RAM RAHMAN

NEW DELHI: One of the favorite anecdotes that master printmaker and sculptor Krishna Reddy liked recounting was when Nandalal Bose—or 'Mastermoshai' as he was called at Santiniketan in West Bengal—saw him drawing the flowers on a tree inside the leafy campus of the famous art school. "I know you're working hard," Bose, a key figure of early Indian modern art, told Reddy, then a student. "But you're still seeing the surface. Maybe the tree will take you in, slowly, if you persist." For Reddy, this conversation changed the way he experienced nature. Rather than being caught up in form, he began to look for depth, or what he called "a wholeness to everything in nature".

It was a search that marked his contribution to modernist art, as it took him from Santiniketan to Paris and later New York, where he lived with his wife artist Judy Blum Reddy, and daughter Aparna, till he breathed his last on Thursday. He had turned 93 on July 15.

Born in 1925 in Nandanoor, a village in Andhra Pradesh, Reddy's artistic skills were in demand as a young boy. In a 2004 interview, the artist recounted how at age 10, he hardly knew how to write or read, because he was encouraged to only paint. At 15, he went to Santiniketan, where his formal training in art began. As a young adult, Reddy took part in the Quit India movement.

Soon after Independence, Reddy travelled to London to study sculpture at the Slade School of Fine Art, here he met the famous English sculptor Henry Moore . He shifted base to Paris in the early 1950s. It was here that Reddy came into close contact with Modern European artists like Marino Marini, Constantin Brancusi and the Russian born Ossip Zadkine.

"They were not the usual teachers but were living, experimenting, and working artists. Starting in the early fifties I worked on a series of prints, which were built up as I used burins and scrapers and they became like sculptures. The way I worked the plate was to dig and gouge the metal. I used mostly hand tools but later on I also began to use machine tools. I like to call myself a printmaker but sculpture is my love. That is where I get all of my inspiration," Reddy said in a 2016 interview to Art Radar, an online journal.

Reddy's use of the sculptural gesture in printmaking, for which he is most well known, was further cemented by his association with Atelier 17, an experimental printmaking studio started by Stanley Hayter. Here, Reddy met several abstract artists including Alberto Giacometti, Alexander Calder, Pablo Picasso and even American abstract painters Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko.

Together with Kaiko Moti, another artist from India, he experimented with colour intaglio printing using the viscosity process. Art historian and professor at Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan R. Siva Kumar explains that this process of making colour prints from a single plate with varied levels, using colours of different viscosity and applied with rollers of different degrees of softness, was a revolution in technique. "The multiple levels of depth on a single printing plate made the plate seem almost like a sculpture in itself. His plates looked like fine relief work. This shows a fine sensibility and refinement in the work."

Reddy began to hold workshops on this technique, in American and Indian universities. In 1976, he began teaching at New York University.

Some of his most famous works produced around this time included Demonstrators (a print which was a response to the students protests of Paris in 1968), Apu (a minimalist print of a crawling child which he named after his daughter) and the Clown series (which emerged after a visit to the circus with his daughter, which led him to contemplate the melancholia and despair behind hilarity of a clown).

According to Shukla Sawant, professor of Visual Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, and a printmaker artist herself, Reddy was a nodal figure in the network of modernist artists that emerged after the Second World War. "Artists from across the world flocked to printmaking studios in New York and Paris where he worked; his virtuoso use new technologies of image production and his generosity in sharing his methods attracted a worldwide following. With Bob Blackburn and William Stanley Hayter he helped to create a formidable 'independent studio' movement for printmakers."

"Krishna Reddy is one of the greatest printmakers and one of the finest abstractionists in printmaking that India has produced," says Bose Krishnamachari, artist, curator and co-founder of the Kochi-Muziris biennale. "While studying at the JJ School of Art, I would see his works exhibited at Gallery Chemould and Jehangir Art Gallery." Krishnamachari recalls meeting him in 1996 in his New York studio. "It was my first trip to New York. Experiencing the city with a visit to his printing studio was important to me. When I met him, he was very gentle in demeanour, soft-spoken and of course, one of the finest minds."

(With inputs from Krutika Behrawala)

Lucknow bids adieu to Vajpayee as his ashes are immersed in the Gomti river

HT Correspondents
letters@hindustantimes.com

Vajpayee's ashes were immersed in presence of home minister Rajnath Singh and UP chief minister Yogi Adityanath HT PHOTO

LUCKNOW: Thousands of people gathered in Lucknow on Thursday as former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's ashes were immersed in the Gomti river here. The ashes in a kalash (urn) were carried in a procession from the Lucknow airport to the river banks, 22 kilometres away, for their immersion.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) has organised Vajpayee's asthi kalash processions across the country to pay homage to the late former Prime Minister, who passed away in Delhi on August 16. Vajpayee's ashes would be immersed in rivers elsewhere in Uttar Pradesh on Friday and Saturday.

Earlier, Union home minister Rajnath Singh and Uttar Pradesh BJP chief Mahendra Nath Pandey brought Vajpayee's ashes to Lucknow. Vajpayee represented Lucknow in Parliament five times. Uttar Pradesh governor Ram Naik, chief minister Yogi Adityanath, his deputies, Keshav Prasad Maurya and Dinesh Sharma, were part of the procession. A ceremonial guard of honour was earlier presented at the airport. Samajwadi Party patron Mulayam Singh Yadav and Uttar Pradesh Congress chief Raj Babbar were among top Opposition politicians, who attended a prayer meeting for Vajpayee on the Gomti banks.

"This is not just a BJP function. It is an all-party event. Atal Bihari Vajpayee was the ajatshatru (without enemies) of Indian politics… he had friends across all parties and groups. And it shows," said Chandramohan, a BJP office-bearer. "Dekho aasmaan bhi ro pada (look even the gods are grieving)," said Lucknow resident Satbir Singh.

frompageone

Fire brigade...

Currently, all residential societies must conduct a fire-safety audit and send a report to the fire brigade. Under the new circular, buildings across Mumbai have been categorised based on their height and divided among officials of the compliance cell — the tallest buildings will be inspected by senior-most officials. The officials will pick buildings at random, and without giving them notice of an inspection.

Penalties for not complying with the fire-safety rule could end in prosecution under the Fire Prevention Act.

The random checks are to ensure buildings continue to stay fire-safe even after the initial inspections.

Housing societies across Mumbai welcomed the move, while urban planners pointed out the need, not only for better compliance by housing societies, but also for regulating how permissions are given in the first place.

Madhu Poplai, a resident of Pali Hill's Cozihom — an enclave of five buildings, each 10 storeys high, with 162 residents — said housing societies could learn from such inspections. "Cozihom is fire compliant and the housing society even conducts the mandatory bi-annual inspections of its equipment to make sure they work ."

Hiren Mehta, who lives in Gasper Enclave, a Bandra apartment constructed in 1962, said, his building was hardly fire compliant."But, if inspections happen, we will welcome them. The law will then take its course, and if irregularities are pointed out in our building, we will fix them." Eight families live here.

In Churchgate's Swastik Enclave, a five-storey structure with 25 residents, there are fire extinguishers on every floor, signs and exit plans. Resident Naina Kathpalia was open to the idea of surprise checks. "Our building is fire compliant, and we have fire extinguishers with floor plans. We still welcome an inspection by the fire brigade."

Urban planner PK Das pointed out: "We are missing the main point here. What we need is to regulate how permissions are given to buildings, where fire safety measures like ensuring there is enough open space and access to refuge areas are given little thought." He added, "The root cause of the problem lies in the beginning, at the time of the construction itself, where builders blatantly flout norms, and the government lets them do so. Follow-up inspections is only patch work with little impact."

A fire brigade official conceded that until 2017, there were several instances where officials gave buildings no-objection certificates without necessarily inspecting them. "But, after the Kamala Mills incident, the concept of a compliance cell came up and we began mandatory fire inspections before giving NOCs. Now, the concept of fire prevention has been added to this list."

Will ask...

It, however, added that individuals and foundations were welcome to send donations to government relief funds.

The Centre's decision to turn down the UAE offer has come in for criticism from Kerala's political parties. "It is only natural for nations to help each other," said chief minister Pinyari Vijayan, as residents began long road to recovery, returning to their homes amid fears of outbreak of diseases amid receding floodwaters. Vijayan said the Narendra Modi-led government must either accept the UAE aid or compensate the state by that amount.

Alphons, the Union minister for tourism, said: "Now, the issue is whether we can change this policy? My stand is very clear. Kerala needs billions of dollars for reconstruction. Many people are in the relief camps and over 2 lakh houses have gone under water," he said.

"There are two possibilities. One is that Indians should contribute a huge amount of money but how much of voluntary collection will come I don't really know. Let the Indians contribute generously, not just the old clothes which they want to pass on. The other possibility is to take funds from abroad," he added.

Torrential rain began in the state on August 8 and relented only earlier this week, leaving behind a trail of destruction, mud-covered houses, and shortage of electricity and clean drinking water. While the central government announced Rs 600 crore in assistance, Vijayan sought a package of Rs 2,600 crore for relief and rehabilitation. Kerala has estimated that the massive floods caused a loss of more than 20,000 crore to the state.

The ruling Left-government and the Opposition Congress in the state have urged the Centre to change the rules to facilitate foreign aid to the state.

Vijayan said he would talk to the Prime Minister over the issue. "Our people contributed immensely in building that nation (UAE) so it cannot be considered as a different country. There is a strong emotional bonding between two nations," he said.

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan added to the list of nations offering aid to India on Thursday. "On behalf of the people of Pakistan, we send our prayers and best wishes to those who have been devastated by the floods in Kerala, India. We stand ready to provide any humanitarian assistance that may be needed," the newly sworn-in Pakistan PM, who has spoken about the importance of peace efforts in the region, tweeted.

India's...

India had also lost a group match 24-23 to South Korea on Tuesday — it's first-ever kabaddi defeat in an Asian Games.

South Korea beat Pakistan 27-24 in the other semi-final, heralding a shift away from the subcontinent, which was considered the kabaddi hotbed.

"We lost the match due to the captain's over confidence. We thought this time too we would beat Iran. But it was a big mistake as they were very much ready to tackle us," India coach Ram Mehar Singh said. "We are known for our best raiding skills in the world, but it didn't live up to the expectations today."

Even as India's stock in kabaddi may have fallen, however, there is some consolation from the fact that its contingent is rising in sports such as wushu, sepak takraw and pencak silat despite have almost no pedigree or tradition in these sports. India has won four bronze medals in wushu, one bronze in sepak takraw, and booked a quarter-final berth in pencak silat. Wushu and sepak takraw were both introduced in the Asian Games in 1990, and pencak silat made its debut in the Jakarta Games.

Experts pointed out that Iran's step-up in kabaddi was not entirely unforeseen. Runners-up in the previous two Asian Games in Guangzhou and Incheon as well as the 2016 World Cup, Iran have quietly replaced Pakistan and Bangladesh as India's biggest rivals on the world stage. Between 1990 to 2006, India took gold while Pakistan and Bangladesh took either silver or bronze.

But in 2010, Bangladesh slipped out of the top three while Pakistan settled for bronze. Then in 2014, South Korea won bronze, pushing both Pakistan and Bangladesh out of the podium. Iran were a constant feature by now and slowly closing in on India.

The Iran women's coach Zahra Rahiminejad had said on Tuesday that her team had come to Jakarta to reclaim the sport she believes to have originated in her country. "It is a big mistake! Kabaddi is not an Indian word, it is an Iranian word," Rahiminejad was quoted as saying by AFP. "Kabaddi is part of the culture of Iran."

Both Iran and South Korea have a strong presence in India's PKL. Five players of the current Iranian team — Abozar Mohajermighani, Fazel Atrachali, Hadi Oshtorak, Mohsen Maghsoudloujafari and Abolfazl Maghsodloumahali — had featured in different PKL teams in the last edition. Atrachali was the highest-paid overseas player in the 2018 season.

"We possibly didn't factor in that Iran has improved in leaps and bounds over the years. I don't know by the time 2022 Asian Games are held, you might not see many of these current players. It is a historic defeat," said two-time Asian Games gold medallist and former India captain Anup Kumar.

Modi: Fruits of progress are now reaching the poorest

"The government has started Jan Aushadhi stores, which are reducing the prices of medicines. It is important that the poor and the middle-class gets access to affordable medicines," Modi said at the event.

He added that the government's emphasis on cleanliness was being universally appreciated.

"When I used to talk about cleanliness, they (Opposition) used to make fun of me. Is this the PM's work... to make toilets, clear garbage? Had all these works been done 70 years back, the country would have been disease-free by now," Prime Minister Narendra Modi said.

The prime minister then presided over the fourth convocation ceremony of Gujarat Forensic Science University in Gandhinagar, before being joined by party president Amit Shah and former deputy prime minister Lal Krishna Advani for the annual Somnath Trust meeting.

The Congress dismissed Modi's visit as showmanship, with the party's state president Amit Chavda asking why the prime minister was silent on "scams" such as the Rafale fighter aircraft deal.

"He (the PM) should also clarify how many houses have been constructed in Gujarat of the 50 lakh promised by him in 2012 (when Modi was the state's chief minister)," Chavda added.

128 Delhi private schools to rollback 'arbitrary' fee hike

Ashish Mishra
ashish.mishra2@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Around 128 private schools of the city, including some prominent ones, have decided to roll back their 'arbitary' fee hikes, an official at the chief minister's office said.

The decision comes after chief minister Arvind Kejriwal had issued directions to the schools to roll back their 'arbitrary' fee hike after receiving complaints.

The official said that with the roll-back decision, the government had delivered on its promise of keeping private school fees under check and the move will bring major relief to parents across the city.

On Kejriwal's directive, the education department had in April this year sent notices to 195 private schools of the city and asked the school heads to roll ack their fee hike. In July this year Kejriwal had asked the directorate of education to submit a compliance report on whether the private schools had rolled back the fee hike as ordered by the government.

"Out of 195 private schools, 128 have informed the directorate of education that they are rolling back their hiked fees. The move will benefit 2.03 lakh students studying at these 128 schools. Remaining 67 private schools will soon be served showcause notices for not complying with the orders," a government spokesperson said. He said that the government believes in the co-existence of private and the government schools but the arbitrary fee hike had been a cause of concern.

An official at the CM's office said that the government in April issued directions to schools after being flooded with complaints from parents regarding "arbitrary" fee hike.

"Checking the arbitrary hike in school fees is one of the main promises of this government. It has been successful in not letting the schools increase their fees arbitrarily and in the past several schools had to return increased fees to the parents after government's intervention," the government official said. The official said that education minister Manish Sisodia would meet the representatives of all the 128 schools who had complied with the government's directive and discuss how to take forward the education system in Delhi.

hindustantimes
htclassifieds ON FRIDAY

TO BOOK YOUR AD CALL 022-66134355 / 4356

PROPERTY

PLOT FOR SALE

ROADTOUCH PLOTS available 10 guntha to acres near Navi Mumbai, Panvel, Thane, Kalyan & Mumbai. INFRATECH - 022 62631114, Thane - 9136174367

ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE

HOTEL & RESTAURANT/ RESORTS

RESORT AT Karjat: For Sale: Running resort with 31 rooms, 02 Banquet Halls, Party Lawn, Restaurant, Laundry, Spa rooms, 2000 sqft Swimming Pool etc. Across 1.5 Acre Land situated in Foothills of Matheran Valley near Proposed Cable Car Station. Ideal for Resort corporate Guest House, Lavish Farm house, Club house, Therapy Centre etc. Call: 7738093320/9819219693.

BUSINESS

LOAN/FINANCE

CREDIT SUISSE Corporate Imme. Finance Available Pvt. Funding, Property Project, Takeover, Bad Cibil Deal, Agent Welcome 9988313995, 9988313688

FOR ADVERTISEMENT Call Nitin 8879048870

EMPLOYMENT

GENERAL MULTIPLE VACANCIES

URGENTLY REQUIRED Staff for Bhiwandi. • Office Admin/ Purchase/ Accounts. Well Versed with Computer, Knowing TALLY-9, MS-OFFICE, Etc. Also Knows Fluent English for Corresponding Purpose. Good Knowledge for Final Accounting/ Auditing. Calling Ayurvedic OTC Sales Professionals, Area Sales Managers: 2 Post 3-5 Years Experience in Ayurvedic OTC (Balm, Churna, Soap) FMCG Products Are Welcome. Sales Officers: 5 Post (Male / Female) Having 2-3 Years Experience in Ayurvedic OTC or FMCG Products. Email Detailed CV to: sales@sacrompharma.in Contact: 09820601803 / 09920489414

Hire us to make hiring simpler
0987-390-8002
recruiterservices@shine.com

EDUCATION

EDUCATION

AVAILABLE EXCELLENT home tutors for School/ College - any subject- any board- Foreign languages. Call PTB (ESTD.1975) 9820000374/ 9322258401.

MISCELLANEOUS

CHANGE OF NAME

I, RAHUL Ranjan, S/O Rajiv Ranjan Shrivastava, currently residing at 213, Sai Niwara CHS Ltd., Hari Nagar, Shivaji Nagar, Jogeshwari (E), Mumbai - 60, permanent resident of Kachchi Sarai Road, Near Amar Talkies, P.O. Ramna, Muzaffarpur - 842002 (Bihar), have changed my name to Rahul Shrivastava for all future purposes vide affidavit no. 000783 dated 15-05-2018

I HAVE Change my name from Mr. Mukesh Kumar to Mr. Mukesh Kumar Gupta As Per Affidavit Tr402185 Dated 22/8/2018.

NOTICES

TENDER NOTICES

TENDER NOTICE
Panchratna CHS Ltd., Opera House. Mumbai - 400004. Invites Tenders for Electrical works. Tender can be collected from M/s. Emkay Consultants. 8-A, Savitri Shopping Centre, Shastri Hall, Nana Chowk, J.D.Marg, Grant Road (W), Mumbai - 400 007 between 24/08/2018 to 31/08/2018 on payment of Rs.2,000/- (Rupees Two Thousand only)

HT
Readers are recommended to make all enquiries and seek appropriate advice before acting on any advertisement appearing in this publication. Any subscriber sending money, incurring any expenses or acting on any medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication, shall do so entirely at his/her discretion, intelligence and risk. The Company, Publisher or any of its employees do not vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services and shall not be held liable for any damages, loss, consequences, suffered by any person on account of relying on such advertisements.

FOR ADVERTISEMENT Call Muhammad Arfat 9769278592 Roopesh Rane 9819660035

GENERAL MULTIPLE VACANCIES

Hire us to make hiring simpler
0987-390-8002
recruiterservices@shine.com

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

UAE, Saudi turn in 18 terror suspects

DIPLOMATIC WIN Big catches include top LeT, IM operatives

Rajesh Ahuja and Jayanth Jacob
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: India's diplomatic efforts, especially in the Gulf countries, have resulted in the extradition or deportation of more than two dozen terror suspects to India in the last six years, an analysis of data of ministries of home and external affairs shows. Among the suspects, 18 were sent back from Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates.

The most recent such deportation was of an alleged Lashkar-e-Taiba operative, Habibur Rahman, who was sent to India earlier this month by Saudi Arabia. The new wave of deportations and extraditions related to charges of terrorism began with Abu Jundal, a native of Aurangabad in Maharashtra. He was sent back to India from Saudi Arabia in June 2012.

"He was a prized catch due to his presence in a control room established by the ISI and Lashkar-e-Taiba in Karachi to direct the 26/11 Mumbai attackers. Indian diplomatic efforts have played a part here. Besides, the world has become less tolerant to terrorism in any form after the 9/11 attacks in the US, and the Gulf countries too faced terror-related incidents on their soil," said Neeraj Kumar, former Delhi police commissioner in whose tenure Jundal was brought back to India.

After Jundal, there have been about two dozen extraditions or quick deportations from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Thailand and Bangladesh.

"The contribution of Saudi Arabia and the UAE is the biggest," said a home ministry official who did not wish to be identified. There was no formal response from the external affairs ministry.

Those sent back to India to face the law include Wuthikorn Naruenartwanich, who is a Thai national accused of supplying arms and ammunition to the insurgent groups in the Northeast. The deportees include Aboobacker Haji, Shareeb Mohammed Yusuf and Abdul Majeed, who have been accused of being involved in fake Indian currency smuggling rings and also those accused of being sympathisers of the Islamic State. Others include alleged Indian Mujahideen members Fasih Mehmood and Abdul Wahid Siddibappa. Mohammed Farooq Yasin alias Farooq Takla, an accused in the 1993 Mumbai serial blasts case, was also sent back.

Both of Manmohan Singh and Narendra Modi governments, have invested diplomatic energy in improving ties with Saudi Arabia and the UAE. Modi was the first Indian PM to visit the UAE in 34 years in 2015. He again visited the UAE in February this year.

Recent joint statements between India and the two Gulf nations have had greater focus on counter-terrorism cooperation.

Saudi Arabian ambassador Saud bin Mohammed Al Sati said: "I can assure you the security cooperation is excellent. The foundation for this is the interests of the two people in countering terrorism and extremism. In the Delhi Declaration and Riyadh Declaration, there was a reference to this… and we signed a MoU on cooperation in countering extremism, money laundering, terror finance and other crimes. We have excellent cooperation in these areas and… (the latest person to be arrested) was deported from Saudi Arabia."

"With these two countries, we are placing a lot of importance in dealing with matters of fugitives, issues of radicalisation and terrorism… Working out legal frameworks and sharing of information and taking measures aimed at deradicalisation of youth are part of these strategies. All these measures are paying off," an official said. The UAE embassy here didn't offer an immediate response.

(With inputs from Rezaul H Lashkar)

Terror suspects extradited or deported - From 2012 onwards

SAUDI ARABIA
- **Habeeb-ur-Rehman** — On August 5, 2018
- **Sheikh Azhar-ul-Islam** — On January 29, 2016
- **Adnan Hassan** — On January 29, 2016
- **Mohammed Farhan** — On January 29, 2016
- **Abu Jundal** — On June 5, 2012
- **Fasih Mehmood** — On October 22, 2012
- **Abdul Salam** — On December 12, 2016
- **Amjad Khan** — On April 5, 2017

SUDAN
- **Mohammed Naseer** — On December 10, 2015

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
- **Aboobacker Haji** — On November 3, 2012
- **Abdul Majeed** — On December 7, 2012
- **Abdul Sathar** — On July 28, 2013
- **Faizan Ahmad Sultan** — On May 2, 2014
- **Anthony Das** — On January 1, 2015
- **Mohammed Farooq Yasin** — On March 8, 2015
- **KA Anoop** — On April 8, 2016
- **Abdul Wahid Siddibappa** — On May 20, 2016
- **Shareeb Mohammed Yusuf** — On March 26, 2013
- **Mohiuddin P** — On February 15, 2017

THAILAND
- **Jagtar Singh Tara** — On January 16, 2015
- **Willy Naruenartwanich** — On December 9, 2015

BANGLADESH
- **Anup Chetia** — On November 11, 2015

TURKEY
- **Midhilaj** — On October 25, 2017
- **Abdul Razak** — On October 25, 2017
- **Rashid MV** — On October 25, 2017

KULDIP NAYAR (1923-2018)

Eternal optimist and defender of civil liberties dies at 95

Zia Haq
zia.haq@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Kuldip Nayar, the last of a generation of journalists to have continuously covered the nation's politics since Independence, died on Thursday at New Delhi. He was 95.

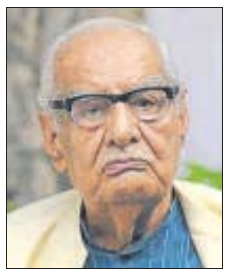
Through the decades, Nayar was a crusader for press freedom, a bitter opponent of the Emergency imposed by Indira Gandhi in 1975 and a passionate advocate of friendly India-Pakistan relations. He also served as an official adviser, diplomat and parliamentarian.

Nayar wrote unflinching, first-hand accounts of the country's affairs, often with an insider's edge. In the variegated world of Indian press, Nayar's columns came to be a source of trust for his readers. He edited the Statesman and the Indian Express newspapers. With political values that were left-leaning and liberal, Nayar knew the corridors of power rather well and eventually took on public roles in an era when India itself was stitching the loose ends of its national fabric. He served as the information officer to Govind Ballabh Pant, the Union home minister from 1955 to 1961, under whose watch the country reorganised the boundaries of some major states along linguistic lines.

Getting publicity for Pant was his main task. In his autobiography, Beyond the Lines, he recalls badgering the Press Trust of India, the news agency, to "disseminate as complete a version" of Pant's speeches as possible.

Nayar's role gave him access to details of decision-making during one of the most turbulent periods of India's early decades, when many statehood demands based on language cropped up. Telugu-speaking areas were part of Madras. Assam was a museum of many races, ethnicities and languages. Assamese was not the language spoken by the majority of undivided Assam. Nayar described the challenge of redrawing the country's internal map thus: "India had not faced a crisis on this scale since Partition."

After his stint with Pant, Nayar was back as the editor of United News of India. Upon Nehru's death, the big question was, who among the Congress's leaders would take office next? He put out a story in the UNI that said Morarji Desai, former finance minister, was the "first one to throw his hat in the ring". The story spoiled, rather than helped, Desai's chances and Lal Bahadur Shastri became prime minister.



Kuldip Nayar HT FILE

Nayar writes in his autobiography that Desai blamed the story for ruining his chances, which was written as a "favour" to Shastri. Shastri offered Nayar the post of information officer. He however did not take it but "unofficially" looked after his publicity. Nayar's fierce resistance of the Emergency, for which he was jailed in 1975, and his almost deluded vision that India and Pakistan could end all disputes to become chums will define his legacy.

"Tyrants sprouted at all levels," he wrote of the Emergency, a 21-month period from 1975 to 1977 when Indira Gandhi suspended the Constitution and, with it, normal democratic rights. Much of the nation's boisterous press clamped up. Nayar gathered journalists on June 28, 1975 to pass a resolution denouncing the Emergency. He wrote a protest letter to Indira Gandhi, stating "a free society is founded on free information". Nayar also broke the story about Indira Gandhi's decision to go in for elections in 1977.

Nayar also became India's High Commissioner to United Kingdom in 1990 and was nominated to Rajya Sabha in 1997.

Nayar's death led to condolence messages from across the spectrum. "His strong stand against the Emergency, public service and commitment to a better India will always be remembered," Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted.

"Nayar always vigorously supported democratic rights and civil liberties," said CPM general secretary Sitaram Yechury. BJP president Amit Shah recalled he had met Nayar on June 9 as part of his party's 'Sampark for Samarthan' (outreach for support) campaign.

Nayar's life, like millions others, was shaped by the events of Partition of India and the creation of Pakistan, where he was born in Sialkot in 1923. He believed in the indispensability of dialogue with the neighbouring country. Every year on August 14, which was Nayar's birthday and Pakistan's Independence Day, he would travel to the Wagah border with Pakistan to light candles, hoping for friendlier relations.

"He is not the only one. Many of his generation believed that borders may dissolve. Nayar dreamt of a softer border through which people could travel freely. He was very much against the Radcliffe line," said Meera Dewan, the filmmaker who created the documentary, In His Inner Voice: Kuldip Nayar.

Nayar wasn't a blinkered optimist when it came to Pakistan. His recent column, which he wrote for The Daily Star of Bangladesh, was on Imran Khan's win in Pakistan's recent general election. In it, Nayar slams both Khan and the army: "The army in Pakistan seems to have devised a way where a particular person is elected even without a valid cause. Imran Khan is a product of such phenomena."

Blast in TMC office kills one, sparks war of words

Koushik Dutta
letters@hindustantimes.com

Kolkata: A Trinamool Congress worker was killed in an explosion in a party office in West Bengal's West Midnapore district on Thursday that sparked a war of words between the state's ruling party and Opposition leaders over the cause of the blast.

The blast, which destroyed a part of the TMC office, took place at around 8.45 am at Makrampur in Narayangarh area on NH-60, about 125km west of Kolkata, police said. It happened minutes before a party meeting was scheduled to begin, said Ajit Maity, president of the district Trinamool Congress.

The killed TMC worker was identified as Sudipto Ghosh, 40. Six others who were injured, two critically, have been admitted to Midnapore Medical College hospital.

The TMC said a gas cylinder had exploded at the facility but both the Bharatiya Janata Party and the Congress were quick to allege that crude bombs had caused the explosion.

"To create an atmosphere of fear, Trinamool workers stocked bombs inside their office. Since the process of forming panchayats started this week, they needed the bombs to strike fear in the villages," claimed Samit Dash, BJP district president. He did not give any evidence to support his claim, which was rubbished by TMC's district president Maity. "The gas cylinder kept in the party office exploded as our workers were gathering for a meeting. The Opposition is spreading lies to malign us," he said.

Anil Sikaria, a district Congress leader raised the crude bombs theory as well. He alleged, "The Trinamool had stocked bombs in the party office which exploded, resulting in the death and injuries."

11 die as SUV falls in gorge near Rohtang

HT Correspondent
letters@hindustantimes.com

SHIMLA: Eleven people, including three children and five women, were killed when the vehicle they were travelling in skidded off the road and rolled down a gorge near Rohtang Pass on Manali-Leh highway late on Wednesday night, police said.

Kullu's superintendent of police (SP) Shalini Agnihotri said the SUV was on its way from Manali to Pangi in Chamba district.

"The vehicle bearing registration number HP-45 7000 entered at Gulaba check post near Manali but did not reach Koksar on Lahaul side," Shalini Agnihotri said. Passersby saw the mangled remains of the SUV in the gorge at Rahni Nalla and informed the police. A rescue team was then rushed to the spot and the bodies were retrieved.

HimachalPradesh governor Acharya Dev Vrat and chief minister Jai Ram Thakur have expressed grief over the deaths. The villagers started the rescue operations before the authorities could reach the spot.

Bad weather and dense fog in the area are said to be prima facie cause of the accident. Police have initiated an investigation to ascertain the exact cause.

(With inputs from PTI)

Blackbucks die of infighting at Delhi zoo

Joydeep Thakur
joydeep.thakur@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: At least five blackbucks died and a few others were injured in the National Zoological Park in Delhi because of infighting among the herd since April this year.

Allegations have surfaced that the animals started fighting after they got scared and traumatised when the zoo authorities allowed renovation work inside the enclosure without shifting them.

The noise of hammers breaking the night shelter of the animals, labourers working there from morning till sunset, dumping of cement bags and the scattered debris traumatised the black bucks, which started to fight among themselves.

Some were fatally wounded and eyes gorged out. The last death was reported on Monday.

"Work has been stopped. I have ordered an enquiry into the deaths," said Renu Singh, director of the Delhi Zoo.

Blackbucks are protected animals under the Schedule I of the Wildlife Act since 1972. Tiger, leopard, elephant, pangolin, monitor lizards, pythons fall in the same category. A Jodhpur court has convicted actor Salman Khan in a blackbuck poaching case earlier in April this year.

The renovation of the permanent shelter started in May this year. The antelopes used to take shelter there during rain and other weather conditions. Sometimes, injured animals used to take shelter to avoid the herd.

Delhi Zoo's blackbuck enclosure JOYDEEP THAKUR/HT

The authorities used to treat the injured animal inside the shelter by separating it from the herd. Their feeding platforms and water resources were also there.

A zoo official said permission to break the shelter was given without building any temporary shelter or setting up any barricade to isolate the animals.

"The animals used to get scared and traumatised whenever labourers used to work there, making a deafening noise as they broke the single floor building. They used to huddle up in small herds during rains in the open space, as there were no other shelters. This led to more infighting. The stressed animals used to fight among themselves often," said a zoo keeper.

"While one animal died in April, the second one died in July. In August, three blackbucks died. The cement bags might have been kept there just for one day and have been removed. At present, no work is going on. Most of the animals that died had grown old. Infighting is common among herd animals," said Manoj, biological assistant of the Delhi Zoo who goes to by his first name.

A senior zoo official, however, said the post mortem mentions they were 'traumatised' and died of 'infighting'. Zoo veterinarian Abhijit Bhawal could not be contacted for his comments.

"Renovation in zoos is round-the-year work. The animals should have been shifted to another enclosure before undertaking such work, failing which they can suffer from stress and trauma. Even though animals in zoo adapt themselves to the noise of light vehicles and onlookers, any loud and unusual noise can traumatise them," Rajesh Gopal, former member secretary of the Central Zoo Authority, said.

The only zoological park in the country to come under the direct administration of the Union government, it has already come under the scanner of the Delhi High Court after a PIL was filed mentioning a series of irregularities and controversies, including suppression of animal deaths, illegally capturing animals to replace the dead, expired drugs being administered to animals, illegally procuring Ketamine and portions of a rhino horn going missing. The PIL was filed based on at least eight reports by the CZA and other agencies filed since 2016.

BHIMA KOREGAON

Dalit outfits want commission hearings in Pune

PUNE: The two-member Bhima Koregaon judicial commission, headed by former chief justice of Calcutta high court justice Jai Narayan Patel and state chief secretary Sumit Mullick, is all set to begin hearings from September 5.

The hearings will take place in Mumbai from September 5 to September 7 and in Pune from October 3 and October 6.

This comes eight months after the January 1 violence which erupted in Bhima Koregaon, Perne phata and Shikrapur.

Dalit organisations led by republican yuva morcha president Rahul Dambale, have demanded that hearings be held in Pune and a major portion of the probe be completed here as the incident took place in the Pune jurisdiction. **HTC**

Docs remove tumour as big as a newborn

NEW DELHI: Doctors at Delhi's Ganga Ram Hospital removed a four-kg cervical tumour as big as a newborn child from a 47-year-old woman after a three-hour surgery. The woman came to the hospital in January this year with complaints of pain in the abdomen and abnormally high bleeding for the past 10 years.

Doctors felt a large firm mass almost equivalent to a 34 weeks old pregnancy.

She had earlier got an ultrasound scan of the abdomen done in 2009 that showed a fibroid, non-cancerous tumour in the womb, of 3.3 x 2.3 cm size. But she did not get treated for the condition then.

Investigations at Ganga Ram Hospital revealed the growth had now become a giant tumour of 23cm x 23cm x 16 cm, weighing 4 kgs, and was occupying the space from the depth of the pelvis up to four inches below the breast bone and was adjoining the liver.

The tumour was removed by experts at the minimally invasive gynaecology department.

"It was a unique case in many ways: firstly the huge size, its rapid growth and its management laparoscopically. This case amazed us because in spite of knowing about the tumour, no active management was done to date. Due to its huge size, its precarious position and chances of it being cancerous, its removal was challenging," said Dr Debasis Dutta, senior consultant, department of minimally invasive gynaecology, Ganga Ram.

Since there was suspicion of the mass being cancereous, the tumour had to be removed in total with minimal blood loss.

The case was recently published in 'Journal of Obstetrics & Gynaecology Research'.

Uttar Pradesh MSCL
(CIN:U85310UP2018SGC102425)
(A Government of Uttar Pradesh Undertaking)

RFP Ref. No.: UPMSCL/EQ/RFP/31 **Date:** 23rd August, 2018

NOTICE INVITATION FOR RFP

Uttar Pradesh Medical Supplies Corporation Limited, Lucknow invites online proposals from eligible bidders **for Empanelment of Agencies to provide Technical Assistance Towards Human Resource Management**. The schedules of activities are as here under:

Sl.No.	Activity	Date & Time
01	RFP Reference NO.	UPMSCL/EQ/RFP/31
02	Commencement of Downloading of RFP Document	24th August, 2018 From 10:00 AM website of www.etender.up.nic.in
03	Date of Pre Bid Meeting	31.08.2018 at 3:00 P.M in the office of UPMSCL, SUDA Bhawan, 7/23, Sector 7, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow – 226010
04	Last Date & Submission of online Bids	14.09.2018 up to 3:00 P.M
05	Date, Time & Place of Opening of Technical Bids	14.09.2018 at 4:00 P.M at the office of UPMSCL, SUDA Bhawan, 7/23, Sector 7, Gomti Nagar Extension, Lucknow – 226010
06	Cost of Tender Document	Rs 2250/- (Rupees Twenty Two Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Only). Non Refundable.

The details of tender notice are given on website **www.upmsc.in** and **www.etender.up.nic.in**. Kindly read the tender notice before applying.

GM (Equipment Procurement), UPMSCL
Department of Medical Health & Family Welfare,U.P.

सीएसआईआर–केन्द्रीय खनन एवं ईंधन अनुसंधान संस्थान (सिंफर)
CSIR-CENTRAL INSTITUTE OF MINING & FUEL RESEARCH (CIMFR)
बरवा रोड, धनबाद & 826015 झारखंड भारत
Barwa Road, Dhanbad – 826 015 (Jharkhand), India
Ph.: 0326-2203156/2093/202774/07909079618/08987421172
e-mail:spo.cimfr@rediffmail.com/spo.cimfr@nic.in
जीएसटीआईएन/GSTIN : 20AAATC2716R1ZT

क्रय निविदा सं/ PUR NIT No.- 17/SPO/2017-18 दिनांक/ Date: 22.08.2018

खुली निविदा/ Open e-tender
ई-निविदाएँ हेतु आमंत्रण/ Invitation for e- tender

निदेशक, सीएसआईआर-सिफर,धनबाद नीचे वर्णित सामग्री हेतु दुवि-पद्दती के आधार ऑनलाइन निविदाएँ https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app के माध्यम से जमा करने हेतु आमंत्रित करते हैं/ Director, CSIR-CIMFR, Dhanbad invites online quotations in two bids system through https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app for following item/service :-

क्रम/ S.N	पत्रवाली संख्या/ File No.	मद का नाम/ Name of the item	मात्रा/ quantity	ईएमडी राशि/ EMD amount
1	CIMFR/PUR-14(4) 2018 E-tender ID: 2018_CSIR_14344_1 in https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app	सीएचएनएस अनल्यजर/ CHNS Analyzer	1	₹/Rs. 1,10,000/-
2	CIMFR/PUR-09(14) 2018 E-tender ID: 2018_CSIR_14345_1 in https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app	पल्वाराईजर्स/ Pulverizers	8	₹/Rs. 92,000/-

कृपया ध्यान दें/Please note-
(i)- ई-निविदाएं जमा करने की तिथि व समय/Date & time for online bid submission: 11.09.2018, 1:00 PM
(ii)- तकनीकी ई-निविदाएं खोले जाने की तिथि व समय/Date & time for opening of techno-commercial online bids: 12.09. 2018, 3:00 PM
1. इच्छुक बोलीदाता उपरोक्त विषय में विस्तृत जानकारी भंडार एवं क्रय अधिकारी, सीएसआईआर-सिंफर, धनबाद, झारखंड, भारत से प्राप्त कर सकते हैं/Interested bidders may obtain further information from the office of the Stores & Purchase Officer, CSIR-CIMFR, Dhanbad, Jharkhand, INDIA.
2. ऑनलाइन निविदाप्रपत्र, जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि व समय के भीतर यथापूर्व अपलोड हो जाना चाहिए। संस्थान विलंब/देरी/ तकनीकी दोष/वेबसाइट कंजेशन के कारणों से निविदापत्रों के अपलोड न होने के प्रति उत्तरदाई नहीं होगा। / The online bids must be uploaded well before the last date & time for submission of online e-tender. Institute will not be responsible for any cause of non-submission of the online bids due to technical fault/website congestion /Late/Delay.
3. विस्तृत जानकारी हेतु देखें /For detail information please visit : https://etenders.gov.in/eprocure/app

Sd/- भंडार एवं क्रय अधिकारी/
Stores & Purchase Officer

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer(E), NCED, CPWD, Nagpur, on behalf of the President of India, invites online item rate tender on two bid system i.e. Technical-cum-Commercial bid and Price bid from Category 'A' Lift Manufacturers approved by CPWD for the following work:-

Two Bid System

Sr. No.: 1. NIT No.: 76/EE(E)/NCED/2018-19 (2nd Call). Name of Work: Providing 13 Passenger Lifts at N.S. Building, Civil Lines, Nagpur. Estimated Cost: ₹ 48,72,552/-. Earnest Money: ₹ 97,451/-. Period of Completion: 6 (Six) Months. Last Date and Time of Submission of Bid: 05.09.2018 by 3.00 PM. Date and Time of Opening of Bid: 05.09.2018 by 3.30 PM.

The Executive Engineer(E), Nagpur Central Electrical Division, CPWD, Nagpur, for & on behalf of the President of India, invites online Percentage rate tenders from approved and eligible enlisted contractors of appropriate class of CPWD in composite category for the following work(s):

Single Bid System

Sr. No.: 1. NIT No.: 77/EE(E)/NCED/2018-19. Name of Work: Rewiring of Central Excise building (main) including providing and fixing energy efficient LED fitting and 5 star rated ceiling fan, compt. and power wiring and fire alarm system at Aurangabad. Estimated Cost: ₹ 1,65,51,541/-. Earnest Money: ₹ 3,31,031/-. Period of Completion: 8 (Eight) Months. Last Date and Time of Submission of Bid: 05.09.2018 by 3.00 PM. Date and Time of Opening of Bid: 05.09.2018 by 3.30 PM.

Details and Blank Tender Forms can be obtained from **www.tenderwizard.com/cpwd** OR **www.cpwd.gov.in** OR **www.eprocure.gov.in**.

Govt. of Bihar

Bhagalpur Smart City Limited
Swami Vivekanand Path, Near-Ghuran Peer Baba Chowk, Bhagalpur-812001

NOTICE INVITINGe-TENDER
(Through e-Procurement mode)
(https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)

Tender Notice No: BSCL/PDMC /MSI CCC/2018-19/02 Date: 20-08-2018

Bhagalpur Smart City Limited invites Request for Proposal for "Selection of Master System Integrator (MSI) for Implementation of Command and Control Centre and Integrated Smart Solutions for Bhagalpur Smart City."

SL No.	Scope of work	Cost of tender document (In Rupees)	Tender processing Fee(Non Refundable) (inclusive of GST @18.00%) to be paid through e-payment mode (i.e. NEFT/RTGS/,Credit Card/Debit card) (in Rupees)	Earnest Money Deposit (In Rupees)
1	2	3	4	5
01.	"Selection of Master System Integrator (MSI) for Implementation of Command and Control, Centre and Integrated Smart Solutions for Bhagalpur Smart City."	Rs.25,000.00 (Twenty five Thousand Only)	₹17,700/- (Seventeen Thousand Seven Hundred Only)	₹1,30,00,000/- (One Crore Thirty Lakhs Only)

Tender Schedule/Programme:

Sl. No.	Activity	Date/Time : Duration
1.	Online Sale / Download date of RFP documents	From 27th August 2018 to 10th September 2018 (15:00 hrs) ((https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in
2.	Last Date for Submission of Pre Bid Query through email/ Hard Copy.	06th September 2018 up to 1700 hrs. nagarnigambhagalpur@gmail.com(Bhagalpur Smart City Limited, Swami Vivekanand Path, Near Ghuran Peer Baba Chowk, Bhagalpur – 812001)
3.	Pre-BidMeeting date and venue .	08th September 2018 at 11:30 hrsBhagalpur Smart City Limited, Swami Vibekananda Path, Near Ghuran Peer Baba Chowk, Bhagalpur – 812001.
4.	Upload of Bid queries response.	13th September 2018. https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in . www.smartcitybhagalpur.org/
5.	Date / Time for submission/uploading of Offer / Bids	17th September2018 up to 1500 Hrs. (https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
6.	Submission of form fee & EMD in hard copy / original.	19th September, 2018 at 15:00 hrs (Bhagalpur Smart City Limited, Swami Vivekanand Path, Near Ghuran Peer Baba Chowk, Bhagalpur – 812001)
7.	Date and Time of Openingof Technical Bid.	22th September, 2018 at 16:00 hrs(https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)
8.	Contact person for all official correspondence.	Nodal Officer, Bhagalpur Smart City Limited Email: nagarnigambhagalpur@gmail.com Mobile No.: 8292151116, 06412302035
9.	Financial Bid Opening Date and Time	01th October2018 at 16:00 Hrs.**(https://www.eproc.bihar.gov.in)**

Note: For more information please visit https://www.smartcitybhagalpur.org/

PR. No. 7199 (Ni Ni) 2018-19

C.E.O,
Bhagalpur Smart City Limited

अवैध शराब एवं मादक द्रव्य के सम्बंध में शिकायत टॉल फ्री नं. 18003456268 या 15545 पर करें।

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

The Hindustan Times
ESTABLISHED IN 1924

Scoring populist brownie points

Punjab's efforts to criminalise blasphemy further is dangerous

ourtake

In what seems a clear attempt to pander to religious sensibilities, the Punjab government has sought a state-specific amendment to make the country's blasphemy law under Section 295 of the IPC more stringent. Currently, it prescribes two years punishment for "injuring or defiling a place of worship with intent to insult the religion of any class." The Amarinder Singh cabinet, on Tuesday, approved amendments to the CrPC and IPC, making the desecration of religious texts punishable with life in Punjab. It made the case for the insertion of Section 295 AA, providing that "whoever causes injury, damage or sacrilege to Sri Guru Granth Sahib, Srimad Bhagwad Gita, Holy Quran and Holy Bible with the intention to hurt the religious feelings of the people, shall be punished with imprisonment for life". Criminalising the blasphemy law further is fraught with danger and it needs to undergo much more legal scrutiny before it is pushed through, if at all.

The context and timing of the Bill has more to do with scoring populist brownie points in a state where religion and politics mingle ceaselessly. The Bill was first enacted by the previous Akali Dal-BJP government as a desperate damage-control exercise in the wake of Sikh rage over a rash of desecrations of the Sikh holy book in 2015. The amendment at that time specifically sought life imprisonment for desecration of Guru Granth Sahib and a 10-year term for that of other religious texts. But the home ministry returned the Bill saying it would violate the constitutional principle of secularism and was "excessive in law". It is no coincidence that the Bill's presentation in the assembly on August 24 has been timed with the tabling of the panel report which squarely blames the previous government for the past incidents.

Harsh blasphemy laws in other countries have been brazenly misused to settle political scores and silence opponents. They also feed religious frenzy as we have seen in our neighbourhood. The only redeeming aspect is that Punjab's Bill will have go through central scrutiny.

There is no silver bullet to fight inequality

Less dogma and more evidence should guide our fight on this front

That economic growth has led to significant reduction in absolute poverty in India is beyond doubt. This growth has also brought with it increasing inequality. The long-term way to achieve equality is to provide quality education to future wage-earners. Inequality in skill endowments, however, is not the only factor which is responsible for wage inequality in India. Differences in bargaining power of workers vis-à-vis employers, social biases such as discrimination against women and lower caste workers and obligations which make it mandatory for employers to make contribution s for social security of workers etc can play a large role on determining the extent of wage-inequality in an economy.

Pro-market voices often blame India's labour laws as an impediment to next-generation reforms. The opponents of such a view believe that any change in these laws will dilute the rights of workers in India. An International Labour Organisation (ILO) report shows that this debate is more likely to be a false binary. The report says that only 10.7% of India's workforce had a trade union membership. Share of labour in national income has actually gone down between 1981 and 2013. These statistics show that the balance between capital and labour in the economy is tilted in favour of the former. What is ironical is that India's labour laws have also failed to work to the advantage of workers. Despite the regulations, over 33% of wage workers were paid less than the indicative national minimum wage in 2009-10. The report also calls for facilitating transition from the informal to the formal economy while ensuring the preservation of existing livelihoods. Such prescriptions are easier said than done. Many small informal businesses work on very small margins and are only viable because they manage to stay out of the tax net and social security commitments.

Less dogma (of either variety) and more evidence should guide our fight against inequality.

comment

incidentally

GOPALKRISHNA GANDHI

Political governors: Both good & bad

J&K's governor must observe Atal's tripod: Insaniyat, Jamhuriyat and Kashmiriyat

Narinder Nath Vohra has demitted office as discreetly as he entered it. An unfussy retirement from Srinagar's Raj Bhavan would be no small achievement for any Governor of Jammu and Kashmir. It is specially so for a Governor who has had two uninterrupted terms, clocking a total of 10 years in that none-too-envied office.

The altogether unique inaugurator of that office, in 1965, is of course the sui generis Dr Karan Singh. As the 18-year-old son of the last Maharaja of Kashmir, he had become in 1949, on the Maharaja's stepping down, Regent of the Princely State and then its head with the first-of-its-kind title of Sadar-e-Riyasat, which office was morphed by the Constitution of Jammu and Kashmir Sixth Amendment Act, 1965, into 'Governor'. The scholar-prince has, thus, been at the state's crest the longest anyone has or perhaps ever will – for a total of 16 years.

Dr Karan Singh was followed by three ICS stalwarts – Bhagwan Sahay (1967-1973), LK Jha (1973-1981) and BK Nehru (1981-1984). The 'ICS-pattern' for the state's governorship ended with the appointment of the hugely skilful administrator Jagmohan to succeed BK Nehru. Jagmohan's two terms were not continuous but in their two 'broken' halves (1984-1989 and January 1990 to May 1990) were unrelievedly turbulent, separatism and militancy acquiring grim proportions during that period.

There followed after the Jagmohan era what may be called the olive green or khaki years in the Srinagar and Jammu Raj bhavans with the ex-Army chief KV Krishna Rao doing two terms (1989-1990 and 1993-1998), the astute IPS veteran and ex-R&AW chief GC Saxena doing the same (1990-1993 and 1998-2003) and the reflective Army veteran SK Sinha holding the office from 2003 to 2008.

And so, with demission of NN Vohra and the arrival of his successor, a seasoned politician, the uninterrupted era of non-political governorships of Jammu and Kashmir comes to a close. One could say that Jagmohan though in terms of background was not political he was, by his instincts, so. But that would be splitting hairs. Jagmohan's political innings as an elected legislator and Cabinet ministers lay ahead of him in the Himalayan state.

And so Satyapal Malik becomes the first 'political' Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, after its first Governor Karan Singh who reached that position by historical propulsions.

Is this core-change to a political governor to be welcomed or pondered with doubts?

Both, I would say.

I welcome it for the reason that howsoever supple and sensitive an administrator's, soldier's or policeman's mind, it is at the end of the day a mind that thinks in terms of maintaining the peace, not creating it. The administrator, soldier or policeman is not to be faulted for this, his training is such. NN Vohra had been a valued interlocutor in the state before he became the state's Governor and his insightful report on criminalisation and politics showed a rare understanding of our political chemistry. But his value as Governor lay, like that of his predecessors, in his impartial, neutral and essentially objective oversight.

Satya Pal Malik, the new governor of Jammu and Kashmir MOHD ZAKIR/HT

A state, howsoever riddled by violence, insurrection, disaffection, separatism and militancy is nonetheless a political constituent of the Union of states that is Bharat. Its Governor has to have political savvy, as much as administrative skill. And so a political appointment has to be welcomed on that score.

But I have this thought in parallel: a 'political' Governor like a 'political' ambassador cannot but come with a political memory, a political orientation and – a political mandate. J&K is not just another Indian state; it is India's most anxiously observed, most critically studied state. It is not at the nation's crest for nothing. It is, therefore, vitally important that the Governor is seen to be one thing above all else: scrupulously non-partisan.

I cannot conclude this column without saying that it is puzzling why no Government of India since 1947 has been able to find for India's only state with a Muslim majority, a Muslim Governor from outside the State. Why? A sense of insecurity in ourselves?

We must wish Rajyapal Satya Pal Malik a fulfilling innings as Governor of Jammu & Kashmir, as the successor personifying Atal Bihari Vajpayee's famous tripod for that State – Insaniyat, Jamhuriyat and Kashmiriyat -- without all that bedevils siyasat.

Gopalkrishna Gandhi is distinguished professor of history and politics, Ashoka University
The views expressed are personal

FLOODFURY

We have policies to reduce risks, but overtly and covertly, we are creating new risks of disasters that are compounding the existing layers of hazards and vulnerabilities AP

We lack an understanding of the risks disasters bring

Our multi-hazard early warning systems have improved, but we are yet to develop a modern EWS for the floods

PG DHAR CHAKRABARTI

The devastating flood in Kerala has claimed more than 400 lives, besides damaging 8,000-plus houses and a vast network of infrastructure. The direct economic loss, according to the state government, is estimated to be around Rs 19,512 crore, but the indirect environmental costs could be much more. While the state may take months, if not years, to recover, the country must be concerned about a disturbing trend in flooding seen in recent years.

First, floods are the most common and recurrent natural disaster in India, but their frequency and intensity have increased lately. Second, earlier floods were mostly riverine in nature, confined to the Brahmaputra-Barak Valley, the Indo-Gangetic plains and the deltaic regions of Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala. Now incidences of flooding are being reported from smaller river valleys, hills, plateaus, even deserts. Third, urban areas are getting flooded much more frequently, and these are not limited only to cities on rivers or coasts. Now even cities such as Bangalore and Jaipur get flooded.

A number of factors are responsible. First, the rainfall pattern is changing. While the average seasonal rainfall has not changed much, its distribution in space and time is changing: this is leading to an increase in the number of dry days, decrease in the number of rainy days, intense downpours in fewer days, and heavier rains in areas that had scanty atmospheric moisture.

This has put pressure on the resilience of dams, drains and flood protection network, which were designed on parameters based on past rainfall/flooding pattern. Their resilience has also been compromised because of poor maintenance. Some of the colonial-era infrastructures are in dire need of an overhaul, retrofitting, even reconstruction. Much of the new infrastructure, houses and industries may not fulfil the global standards of resilience. In our strategic approach to development, we hardly factor eco-system services in the cost-benefit analysis and calculation of internal rate of return of projects.

Our water bodies and flood plains, which provide natural cushions to absorb and drain excess water and recharge groundwater, have been encroached upon by unplanned expansion of cities and other human settlements. Our forests and bio-diversity, which help to protect slopes, prevent landslides and protect the environment, have been damaged by unregulated mining, quarrying and other development projects.

We are committed by our policies and legislations to reduce risks and build resilience, but overtly and covertly, we are creating new risks of disasters that are compounding the already existing layers of hazard, vulnerabilities and risks. The Disaster Management Act 2005 and the National Policy on Disaster Management 2009 prescribed integrating disaster risk reduction in the process of development across all sectors, but such integration and mainstreaming has remained largely elusive.

Our understanding of the dynamics of risks of disasters is far from being comprehensive. Our multi-hazard early warning systems (EWS) have improved, but we are yet to develop a modern EWS for floods. We are able to forecast rain with a degree of accuracy, but we are not yet ready with a flood warning system that would facilitate evacuation of people the way it's done during cyclones. Despite the much talked about paradigm shift, our focus of disaster management is still largely on managing events of disaster (response, relief and rehabilitation) rather than on managing risks of disasters (risk assessment, risk prevention and mitigation and disaster preparedness). We spend more than 90% of our budgets on disaster management (annually, around Rs 20000 crore by my calculation), but we are yet to set up national, state and district mitigation funds that were mandated by law. The tragedy of Kerala signals that the much-hyped shift in disaster management is yet to be achieved.

PG Dhar Chakrabarti is former executive director of National Institute of Disaster Management
The views expressed are personal
(This is the first in a series of columns on the increase in extreme weather events like the Kerala floods)

India's Supreme Court: The Grande Dame of Tilak Marg just turned 60

Judges and lawyers of the court have shown that they are human and that they are frail, but they have also displayed immense courage, wisdom and vision

GOPAL SANKARANARAYANAN

As winter stole upon Delhi in October 1954, an elderly gentleman in an impressive achkan was seen presiding over what appeared to be a formal function. There was applause and tea, both warm without being enthusiastic (as has been the uninterrupted practice at Delhi's government events), and of course, speeches. The assemblage consisted of Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, Chief Justice of India Mehr Chand Mahajan and President Rajendra Prasad, laying the foundation stone for what is today India's most important institution.

Although the Supreme Court was decreed by the Constitution in 1950 itself, it took nearly eight years to find a permanent home. During the interval, it was housed in the regal Hall of Princes in Parliament, where the foundations were laid for some of independent India's most salutary Constitutional principles.

In barely the first two years, that hallowed hall churned out judgments on the scope of our life and liberties in AK Gopalan (1950), on the freedom to associate in VG Row (1952), on equality in Anwar Ali Sarkar (1951), on classification in Kathi Raning Rawat (1952), on community quotas in Champakam Dorairajan (1950), the right to property in Sankari Prasad (1951) and free speech in Romesh Thappar (1950).

It was clear that the early location within the precincts of the legislative wing did not deter their Lordships. Statutes were regularly quashed as being violative of Constitutional freedoms, which eventually led to a desperate Pandit Nehru piloting the First Amendment through the provisional Parliament so that his lawmakers found easy passage for measures on land reform and public order.

It still took till 1956 for a triangular piece of land to be earmarked opposite the Hardinge Bridge for a shift. As was the norm then, the task of constructing new government buildings fell to the Central Public Works Department that saw two Maharashtrians at the helm: first Ganesh Bhikaji Deolalikar, and then Shridhar Krishna Joglekar.

Although many of their successors chose to depart from the colonial precedent of the 'Delhi Order' set by Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker, these early stewards of the CPWD did not.

THE SUPREME COURT HAS SEEN MORE THAN 200 JUDGES, THOUSANDS OF JUDGMENTS, MILLIONS OF LITIGANTS. BUT ITS LEGACY IS NOT BORNE BY NUMBERS, BUT BY THE VALUES IT HAS SOUGHT TO UPHOLD.

It had fallen to Joglekar to oversee the new construction, and he set about it in an Indo-British style. Clearly, Rashtrapati Bhawan was an inspiration, as is evident from the imposing dome with canopied pavilions that were placed on 15-inch supports. As with Vigyan Bhawan, which was constructed contemporaneously along the Mall (Raj Path), the Court's buildings prominently featured overhanging eaves, and these were emulated when extensions were added to the building in 1979 and 1994.

However, what was unique about the new complex was not evident from the street. The actual layout within the oddly-shaped piece of land was to reflect its purpose: when seen from the sky, the Supreme Court is designed as the scales of justice, comprising a central beam with two pans, placed evenly.

Beneath the imposing dome is the court of the Chief Justice of India, which holds portraits of the first and fourth Chief Justices – Harilal Kania and BK Mukherjee. Both of them unfortunately passed away in office, and never got to see the very building that today remembers them.

On either side of court one are courts two to five with the remaining nine courtrooms housed in an arc around the back. Either wing arising from the beam contains the offices of the registry, the attorney general, other law officers and the libraries. The two pans provide cramped chamber space to practising advocates.

Sixty years ago, the Supreme Court commenced its functioning within this majestic edifice in the first week of August 1958. In these six decades, it has seen more than 200 judges and several thousands of their judgments. Millions of litigants have knocked on its doors, and billions of pages of documentation have sought to further their causes.

But the legacy of this institution is not borne by its numbers, but by the values it has sought to uphold. It has been buffeted by many storms. Judges and lawyers have shown that they are human and that they are frail, but they have also displayed courage, wisdom and vision.

Those pillars have marked three score in stony silence, the echoes of many a sterling address or tempered remark lost within its recesses. And yet, this forbidding façade is for many a sign of hope — the death row convict, the evicted tenant, the abused spouse and the bankrupt corporation — they all arrive at those portals with a prayer on their lips.

The empress of Tilak Marg is thus much like a fine legal argument. Hewn from rock and shaped to perfection with the sweat of the builder's brow, she aligns herself in harmony with her task. As a new day dawns, she is set.

It is 10:30 am. Time for court.

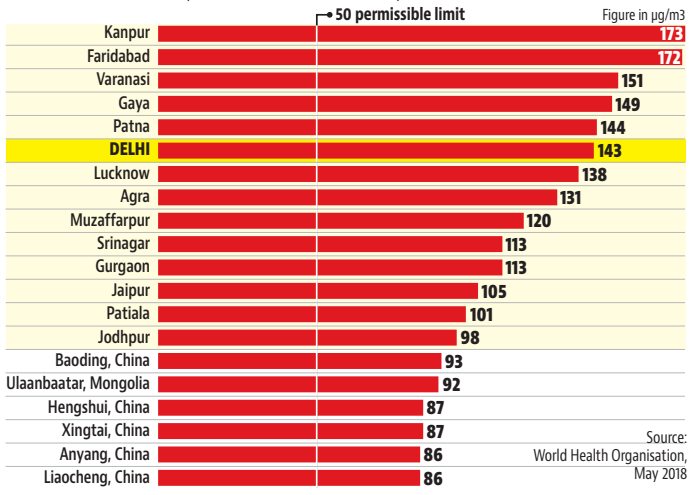
Gopal Sankaranarayanan is advocate, Supreme Court of India
The views expressed are personal

RNI No. MAHENG/2005/15186, Air Surcharge : Ahmedabad, Nagpur and beyond by Rail or Road - Rs. 2 /-.
Printed and published by SHARAD SAXENA for and on behalf of HT Media Ltd., 9th Floor, Tower 3, Indiabulls Finance Centre, Senapati Bapat Marg, Elphinstone Road (West), Mumbai-400013 at HT Media Ltd. Press at Plot No. 6, TTC Industrial Area, Thane - Belapur Road, Navi Mumbai - 400 708.
Phones: Board: (022) 66134000/01. ● Circulation: (022) 67764242. ● Fax No: (022) 66134322.
Executive Editor: SACHIN KALBAG

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

World's most polluted cities are in India

India has 14 of the world's most polluted cities when it comes to fine particulate matter concentration



Fine dust triggers 60% heart attacks, strokes

DEATH BY BREATH Inhaling PM 2.5 leads to health complications

Sanchita Sharma
sanchitasharma@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Outdoor air pollution leads to 4.2 million premature deaths worldwide each year, with close to 60% of the deaths from heart attacks and strokes, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). Finally, scientists appear to have figured out just how fine dust attacks the cardiovascular system.

An analysis of the effect of the different components of polluted air, including ozone, nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and sulfur dioxide, showed that small particulate matter is the most damaging to the body's vascular system, reported a team of researchers from Germany, England and the US.

Ultrafine dust (particulate matter 2.5 microns or less in diameter, or PM2.5) is the size of a virus and can penetrate the lung barrier to enter the blood system, leading to local inflammation in blood vessels, the researchers found.

This leads to atherosclerosis (plaque or fatty deposits in the side wall of the arteries), which stops blood flow to cause heart attacks, heart failure and irregular heartbeat (arrhythmias) , they said.

It was PM2.5 and not nitrogen dioxide (NO2) —both of which are found in diesel exhaust emissions — which affected vascular function and posed a bigger risk to cardiovascular health, found the study published in the European Heart Journal on Thursday.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death in India, which has 14 of the world's most polluted cities by small particulate matter concentration (see box). According to the Global Burden of Disease report, an estimated 1.1 million deaths in India were linked to PM2.5 air pollution in the year 2015.

Globally, 58% of outdoor air pollution-related premature deaths are due to heart disease and strokes, 18% due to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, 18% from lung infections, and 6% because of lung cancer, said WHO's 2016 estimates.

"PM 2.5 inhalation causes hypertension, insulin resistance, and endothelial dysfunction with impaired vasodilation (stiffening of the arteries), inflammation and clot formation, which can trigger heart attack and stroke," said Dr Ravi R Kasliwal, chairman of clinical and preventive cardiology at Medanta, Gurugram.

"Studies show that staying just 2km away from a polluted arterial road can affect development of heart disease and outcomes," he said.

"The fine dust particles are chemically formed mainly in the atmosphere from emissions from traffic, industry, and agriculture.

In order to achieve low, harmless concentrations, emissions from all these sources need to be reduced," said lead author Thomas Münzel, director of cardiology at the Medical Center of Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany.

"While governments need to introduce strong regulatory policies to regulate emissions and invest in clean transport, green power generation and efficient waste management, at a personal level, people can counter the effects high pollution by using personal breathing protection and exercising indoors or in green areas.

That said, lowering salt, sugar, fat and stress, and staying active can further help lower cardiovascular risk," said Dr Kasliwal.

UGC to ease norms to admit more SC/ST students in PhD

Neelam Pandey
neelam.pandey@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The University Grants Commission (UGC) is set to lower the eligibility cutoff for students from Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes for admission to M.Phil and PhD programmes in universities across the country in order to fill mounting vacancies in reserved seats, according to the human resource development (HRD) ministry.

UGC is also set to permit universities to launch a special admission drive to fill vacant seats by setting their own criteria.

A new UGC notification, 'Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of MPhil/PhD Degrees (1st Amendment) Regulations 2018' — which has been accessed by HT — says "a relaxation of 5% of marks, from 50% to 45% shall be allowed for the candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non creamy layers)/differently abled category in the examination conducted by the Universities".

If seats for SC/ST/OBC remain unfilled despite this relaxation, universities will launch a special admission "for that particular category within one month from the date closure of admission of general category".

R Subrahmanyam, secretary, higher education, in the Union HRD ministry, said the government was hoping this move would help cut down on vacancies in such programmes.

"Whereas we are determined to improve the quality of doctoral education, we must ensure that the constitutional safeguards for SCs and STs are not violated. Therefore, the minister for HRD Prakash Javadekar approved an amendment in the PhD regulation that provides for a special admission process for SC/ST/OBC vacancies. This we hope will go a long way for improving the current situation," Subrahmanyam said.

He did not specify how many seats were vacant.

Some academics believe the decision could have come earlier.

Himanshu, Associate professor at the Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences, JNU, said, "The government should have done it earlier. They can't compensate for the loss of the students who have missed out on higher studies. Already the number of students from the deprived sections of the society who are able to go for higher studies is quite low. It will definitely have a good impact next year but there has to be some consistency in the way policies are formed."

Others believe that there is a strong political subtext to the move, particularly ahead of the 2019 Lok Sabha elections, with the government trying to battle the Opposition critique that it is insensitive to Dalits.

Udit Raj, BJP MP, said the government's decision was welcome. "We have been demanding this for a while. Earlier some universities had reduced the seats for Mphil and PhD too and that had a huge impact on the community. They rely the most on government universities as private ones are very expensive. This move reflects that the government is proactive in the interest of the SC/ST community and is committed to their welfare."

But the opposition was not convinced. Kumari Selja, senior Congress leader and former union minister, said it was a case of 'too little, too late'. "

They are carrying out too many experiments and are playing around with the future of SC/ST students. How will they know that the universities will follow this and ensure that they ensure more students are admitted? They have reduced the number of post-matric scholarships that they used to give - so how will they ensure students opt for higher education?"

Satya Pal Malik

SATYA PAL MALIK TAKES OATH AS J&K GOVERNOR

Mir Ehsan
letterschd@hindustantimes.com

SRINAGAR: Satya Pal Malik was sworn-in as Jammu and Kashmir's 13th governor on Thursday. J&K HC chief justice Gita Mittal administered him the oath of office at Srinagar's Rajbhawan.

Malik will have the state's direct administrative control since J&K has been under the governor's rule since June when BJP withdrew support to the Peoples Democratic Party -led coalition government. He is the first politician to be named the state's governor in five decades.

Malik's immediate challenge would be to oversee local bodies' polls likely to be conducted in a few months. The elections have been delayed due to a spike in the militant violence.

Former chief ministers Farooq Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti were among the 500 guests, who attended Malik's oath-taking ceremony.

Malik, 72, has served as Bihar and Odisha's governor. He began his political career in UP in the 1970s and joined the BJP in 2004. Malik replaced Narendra Nath Vohra, who had been J&K governor since 2008.

Ali Mohammad Sagar of Abdullah's National Conference hoped Malik would be "just and fair". "We hope he will take all the parties on board before taking crucial decisions and play his role in stopping the bloodshed in the state."

PDP spokesman Rafi Mir said the new governor is a politician and hoped he will have the state's better understanding."

State Congress vice-president Ghulam Nabi Monga called Malik a bad choice and said he cannot be partisan.

BJP spokesman Altaf Thakur called Malik's appointment a good omen.

"This is for the first time that a political person has been appointed as the governor. He is a nationalist and will work for the national interests."

Pak says got proof against Jadhav, will triumph at ICJ

Imtiaz Ahmad
letters@hindustantimes.com

ISLAMABAD: Foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said on Thursday that Pakistan has concrete proof against Indian national Kulbushan Jadhav, sentenced to death on charges of espionage, and will triumph at the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

"Pakistan will present its stance effectively in the international court," he told reporters.

"Unfortunately, Pakistan did not have a foreign minister for four years," he said, referring to the handling of Jadhav's case under the previous PML-N government.

The ICJ will hold hearings in Jadhav's case in February, Geo News channel reported. Citing its sources, the channel reported that the world court in The Hague is expected to hear the case during February 19-25.

India approached the ICJ after a Pakistani military court sentenced Jadhav to death after he was arrested in March 2016.

CSIR tech to make combat aircraft Tejas 20% lighter

Anonna Dutt
letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Technology indigenously developed by a government laboratory for manufacturing carbon components will make India's light combat aircrafts 20% lighter.

The technology developed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - National Aerospace Laboratory (CSIR-NAL) uses indigenously developed carbon fibre, which is pre-impregnated with the organic polymer 'resin', to make complex parts like fin, rudder, wing spars and fairings in a single mould.

"For making the composite material, this pre-impregnated carbon fibre is autoclaved or treated under extreme heat and temperature. The autoclaving technology has also developed by our lab," said Jitendra Jadhav, director of CSIR-NAL.

"The material is then moulded into complex components of the aircraft. This reduces the number of parts used in the aircraft as well as the number of fasteners needed to assemble it," he said.

Tejas combat aircraft

The use of the complete home-grown technology will reduce the number of parts of the light combat aircraft by 40%, the number of fasteners by 50%, and the time on the assembly line by 30%.

The composite technology is critical of the fourth generation fighter aircraft.

"The composite material is sturdier than aluminium, more heat resistant, the wear and tear is less and corrosion," said Jadhav. The laboratory has received an order for 20 sets of parts for the aircrafts worth more than ₹100 crore from the government owned aerospace company Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). CSIR-NAL has now transferred the technology to manufacturing partner Tata Advanced Materials Limited (TAML), Bengaluru. The project began with two technology demonstrator aircrafts and then five prototype aircrafts.

"It is a matter of pride that India's light combat aircraft – Tejas – has one of the highest percentage deployment of composites among contemporary aircrafts of its class anywhere.

And, this project is a major achievement of CSIR and highlights its commitment towards 'Make in India' initiative," said Dr Girish Sahni, director general of CSIR.

Government of India
Department of Atomic Energy
Directorate of Construction, Services & Estate Management

PRE-QUALIFICATION CUM NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Chairman, G.B., DCSEM, DAE, V.S. Bhavan, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai- 94 on behalf of the President of India invites online item rate tender (in two bid) through e-tendering mode, from eligible contractors for the following works :

1. NIT No. DCSEM / CQD / QSB / 55 / 2018 - 19 dt. 21.08.2018
Name of work :- Renovation of Houses Internal finishes at Anushaktinagar - XXVI, Mumbai. Estimated cost Rs. 337.70 lakh, EMD Rs. 6,75,400.00, completion period : 12 Months, tender processing fee Rs. 5,900.00 in the form of e-payment .

2. NIT No. DCSEM / CQD / QSB / 56 / 2018 - 19 dt. 21.08.2018
Name of work :- External repairs and painting of Dilwara & Gangotri buildings at Anushaktinagar, Mumbai. Estimated cost Rs. 86.20 lakh, EMD Rs. 1,72,400.00, completion period : 12 Months, tender processing fee Rs.5,086.00 in the form of e-payment .

3. NIT No. DCSEM / CQD / QSB / 57 / 2018 - 19 dt. 21.08.2018
Name of work :- External repairs and painting of "Kanchanjunga" building (Stilt + 20 floors) at Anushaktinagar, Mumbai. Estimated cost Rs. 80.00 lakh, EMD Rs. 1,60,000.00, completion period : 12 Months, tender processing fee Rs.4,720.00 in the form of e-payment .

Detailed tender notice alongwith documents are available on website ; **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE** for free view and download. Tender documents are available for view / download from 24.08.2018 (11 00 hrs.) to 07.09.2018 (15 00 hrs.). Date of Pre-Bid clarification on 10.09.2018. Closing of online submission of tenders upto 15 00 hrs on 24.09.2018. Receipt of hard copies towards EMD upto 15 00 hrs. on 24.09.2018. Opening of online tender (Technical bids) on 25.09.2018 at 15 30 hrs. Financial bids of qualified bidders shall be opened at a later date to be notified separately. Detailed NIT is also available on website **www.dcsem.gov.in**. for view only. For further information, please contact on 022- 25487334, 25487337 Fax: 022-25565362.

GRANT GOVT. MEDICAL COLLEGE, MUMBAI
ADMISSION PROCESS FOR DMLT COURSE 2018-2019

Applications are invited for admission to the post graduate Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology (DMLT) Course at Grant Medical College, Mumbai. Prescribed application form is available at Grant Govt. Medical College, (Academic Section), Byculla, Mumbai.
Form fee Open Rs.400/- and Reserved category Rs-200/-

Detailed Scheduled is as under.

Sale of Admission Form.	23.08.2018 to 04.09.2018 (10.30 am to 4.30.pm on working days)
Last date of Submission of Form	04.09.2018 (up to 5.00 pm)
Provisional merit list will be Display.	10.09.2018 (11.00 am onwards.)
Submission of Representation regarding Provisional merit list	11.09.2018 (up to 5.00 pm)
Final Merit List	14.09.2018
Date of interview	17.09.2018 (10.00 am onwards.)
Last Date of Admission	25.09.2018 (up to 5.00 pm)
Session Start Date	01.10.2018

No.of seats

SC	ST	VJ	NT-1	NT-2	NT-3	OBC	SBC	Total Reserve	Open	Total Seats
1 (In Service)	1	1	-	-	-	3	-	6	6	12

Eligibility
Candidate must have passed B.Sc. Degree of statutory recognized with **Chemistry, Biochemistry, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Botany & Zoology** as principle subject.

Sd/-
(Dr.M.B.Tayade)
DEAN
Grant Govt. Medical College, Mumbai.

DGIPR/2018-2019/2601

CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
NOTICE INVITING E-TENDERS

The Executive Engineer, Mumbai Central Division-V, CPWD, Mumbai-400 099 on behalf of President of India invites online Percentage rate bids from approved and eligible contractors of **CPWD** for the following work(s):

1. **N. I. T. No. : 34/EE/MCD V/2018-2019. Name of Work :** Upgradation of three lavatories at Bassein Division Customs office of Customs (P), Killabunder, Vasai (W), Dist. Palghar; **Estimate Cost :** ₹ 6,66,512/-; **Earnest Money :** ₹ 13,330/-; **Period of completion :** 02 (Two Months); **Last time and date of submission of bid :** 31.08.2018 at 3.00 p. m.

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website **www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD.**

GOVT. OF INDIA
CENTRAL PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
https:// www.cpwd.gov.in

NOTICE INVITING e-Tender

The Executive Engineer, **Nasik Central Division, CPWD, Nirman Bhavan, Gandhinagar, Nasik** -422006 invites on behalf of The President of India, online Percentage rate bids from approved and eligible contractors of CPWD for the following work (s):

NIT No: - 20/EE/NCD/PB/2018-2019. **Name of work and Location:-** Construction of barrier free environment for Income Tax Office, Ahemadnagar. **Estimate Cost:-** Rs. 30,51,367/-, **Earnest Money: -** Rs. 61,027/- **Period of Completion: -** 02 (Two) Months. **Last Date and time of Submission of Bid: -** 05/09/2018 15:00. **Date of Opening: -** 05/09/2018 15:30

NIT No: - 32/EE/NCD/PB/2018-2019. **Name of work and Location:-** Renovation of workshop canteen and CSD canteen at ISP, Nasik Road. **Estimate Cost:-** Rs. 10,90,721/-, **Earnest Money: -** Rs. 21,814/- **Period of Completion: -** 03 (Three) Months. **Last Date and time of Submission of Bid: -** 05/09/2018 15:00. **Date of Opening: -** 05/09/2018 15:30

NIT No: - 33/EE/NCD/PB/2018-2019. **Name of work and Location:-** Conversion of space adjacent to Photo Litho Wing (PLW) into canteen and renovation of Industrial toilet block in GIPP Premises, Gandhinagar, Nasik. **Estimate Cost:-** Rs. 16,14,402/-, **Earnest Money: -** Rs. 32,288/- **Period of Completion: -** 04 (Four) Months. **Last Date and time of Submission of Bid:-** 05/09/2018 15:00. **Date of Opening: -** 05/09/2018 15:30

The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website www.tenderwizard.com/CPWD.
The Press Notice is also available on www.eprocure.gov.in

BANK NOTE PRESS, DEWAS - 455 001 (M.P.)
CIN: U22213DL2006GOI144763
(A Unit of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd)
Miniratna Category - I CPSE
(Wholly Owned by Government of India)
(ISO: 9001:2008 & ISO: 14001 Certified Unit)
Email: bnppurchase@spmcil.com Website: http://bnpdewas.spmcil.com
Phone: (07272) 268253/268468 Fax: (07272) 255111

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Bank Note Press, Dewas invites the sealed tender in the prescribed form for supply of below mentioned materials :-

1. **6000011606/BNP/P/PTG/CRN/GT/2018 for Design, Supply, Engineering, Retrofitting, Installation, Commissioning of Computerized Random Numbering (CRN) System.**
2. **6000011610/BNP/P/11006421/Advertisement/18/OT for Hiring of agency for publishing of tender & other advertisements in local & National Newspaper.**

For the details & tender documents, The General Manager, Bank Note Press, Dewas may be contacted. Also refer website **http://bnpdewas.spmcil.com** for tender document. All updates, amendments, corrigendum etc. if any will be posted on the above websites as and when required. There will not be any publication of the same through newspaper or any other media.

हस्ता/ -
महाप्रबन्धक, बैंक नोट मुद्रणालय, देवास

Government of India
Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
Architecture & Structural Engineering Division
Notice inviting e-Tenders

Online item rate tenders are invited through e-tendering mode by Head, Architecture & Structural Engineering Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, North Site, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai - 400 085, on behalf of President of India from eligible contractors for the following works:

1. NIT No. BARC/A&SED/HQS/ET/06/2018-2019 Dated 10.08.2018 Name of work: Cosmetic maintenance of Zone-1 areas of BARC, Trombay, Mumbai for a period of Two years. **Estimated Cost:** ₹ 4,16,72,000/-**Earnest Money Deposit :** ₹ 8,33,440/-, **Period of Completion :** 24 (Twenty four) months, **Date of pre-bid meeting :** 27.09.2018, **Last date and time of online submission of bid:** 15.10.2018 (15.00 Hours).

2. NIT No. BARC/A&SED/HQS/ET/07/2018-2019 Dated 10.08.2018 Name of work: Cosmetic maintenance of Zone-2 areas of BARC, Trombay, Mumbai for a period of Two years. **Estimated Cost :** ₹ 4,38,84,000/-**Earnest Money Deposit:** ₹ 8,77,680/- **Period of Completion :** 24 (Twenty four) months, **Date of pre-bid meeting :** 01.10.2018, **Last date and time of online submission of bid:** 18.10.2018 (15.00 Hours).

3. NIT No. BARC/A&SED/HQS/ET/08/2018-2019 Dated 10.08.2018 Name of work: Cosmetic maintenance of Zone-3 areas of BARC, Trombay, Mumbai for a period of Two years. **Estimated Cost :** ₹ 4,33,63,000/-**Earnest Money Deposit :** ₹ 8,67,260/- **Period of Completion :** 24 (Twenty four) months, **Date of pre-bid meeting :** 03.10.2018, **Last date and time of online submission of bid** : 22.10.2018 (15.00 Hours).

4. NIT No. BARC/A&SED/HQS/ET/09/2018-2019 Dated 10.08.2018 Name of work: Cosmetic maintenance of Zone-4 areas of BARC, Trombay, Mumbai for a period of Two years. **Estimated Cost:** ₹ 4,40,75,000/-**Earnest Money Deposit:** ₹ 8,81,500/- **Period of Completion:** 24 (Twenty four) months, **Date of pre-bid meeting :** 09.10.2018, **Last date and time of online submission of bid:** 26.10.2018 (15.00 Hours).

Detailed NITs & tender documents are available on cpp portal i.e. **www.eprocure.gov.in** and website **www.tenderwizard.com/DAE** for free view / download and detailed NITs on website **www.barc.gov.in under drop down menu "Tenders" for free view only**.

MAHAVITARAN

Tender Notice

The **Chief Engineer (Aurangabad Zone) on behalf of MSEDCL (the Employer)** invites tenders in e-tendering work execution of balance 19 Nos. of 11KV feeders against untouched work under Aurangabad Rural Circle under Infra-II.

Tender for Aurangabad Rural Circle CE / AZ / INFRA-II / T-14 / 2018-19 for Amt. Rs. 388.50 Crs. EMD Amt. Rs. 3,88,500/- & Tender Fees Rs. 5900/-. Date of Availability of bidding Document on MSEDCL e-tendering website: 24.08.2018 Onwards, Date & time of Pre-Bid Meeting: 30.08.2018 at 15:00 Hrs, Last Date & time for submission of bid: 10.09.2018 upto 15:00 Hrs. The tenders will be opened on 10.09.2018 at 16.00 hrs.

For further details of invitation for Bids, Bid Documents of tender, please visit our website http://works.mahadiscom.in/eTender/etender

HO PR No: 230/2018 **Chief Engineer (AZ)**

CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)
P.O.I.I.P., MOHKAMPUR, DEHRADUN – 248005 (UK) INDIA
Ph.0135-2525762 & 2525945, Fax. 0135-2660072, 2660202-203
E-Mail- pmitra@iip.res.in ; rawats@iip.res.in

TENDER NOTICE

E-BIDS (Online tenders) under two bids system (Part-I Technical bid along with EMD and Part II Price bid) through Central Public Procurement (CPP) Portal (https://www.etenders.gov.in). Only online quotations will be entertained from the registered bidders of CCP Portal.

Sl No	File No.	Description	Qty	EMD (in Indian Rupees)
1	PUR/1/18-19/306/UK/CSD/PO:	Gas Chromatograph/ Analyzer instrument	One	₹60,000.00/- (Rs Sixty Thousand Only)

The bids submission date is on or before **11.09.2018**. Please visit our website **www.iip.res.in** for further details for standard bid documents.
(Stores & Purchase Officer)

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

htworld

IT WILL BE JUST AWESOME FOR GABRIELLA TO HAVE MUMMY HOME FINALLY....IT IS STILL SO HARD TO BELIEVE.

› NAZANIN ZAGHARI-RATCLIFFE, British-Iranian jailed in Iran for spying, on her temporary release

photooftheday

A photo taken from the International Space Station above Hawaii, US, shows Hurricane Lane's progress. President Donald Trump on Thursday declared a state of emergency in Hawaii as the hurricane bears down on the archipelago. REUTERS

shortstories

SAUDI ARABIA SAYS IT HAS POSTPONED PLANS TO TAKE OIL GIANT ARAMCO PUBLIC

LONDON/RIYADH: Saudi Arabia has called off plans for the domestic and international listing of state oil giant Aramco, billed as the biggest stock flotation in history, four senior industry sources said on Wednesday. Financial advisers working on the planned listing have been disbanded as Saudi Arabia shifts its attention to a proposed acquisition of a "strategic stake" in local petrochemicals maker Saudi Basic Industries Corp, two of the sources said. "The message we have been given is that the IPO has been called off for the foreseeable future," said a source, a senior financial adviser. On Thursday, Saudi Arabia's energy minister Khalid al-Falih issued a denial that the IPO had been called off. REUTERS

Death toll in DR Congo from Ebola outbreak now at 61

BENI: Sixty-one people have died in the latest outbreak of Ebola in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the authorities said, adding that four novel drugs had been added to the roster of treatments. The health ministry's General Directorate for Combatting Disease said 103 cases of Ebola had been recorded in the east as of August 22, 76 of which had been confirmed by tests. AFP

British Airways, Air France to halt flights to Iran

LONDON/PARIS: British Airways and Air France said on Thursday they would halt flights to Iran from September for business reasons, months after US President Donald Trump announced he would re-impose sanctions on Tehran. British Airways said it was suspending its London to Tehran service "as the operation is currently not commercially viable". Air France will stop flights from Paris to Tehran because of "the line's weak performance," a spokesman said. REUTERS

UK plans to adopt EU rules in case of no-deal Brexit

LONDON: Britain's Brexit secretary said on Thursday London will take unilateral action and respect EU rules in some sectors to keep trade flowing if Brussels refuses to cooperate and strike a deal. Dominic Raab insisted he was "still confident" of reaching a deal with the European Union -- but is nonetheless due to set out the government's advice about planning for a departure without an agreement. AFP

Poland to re-examine 2010 plane crash in Russia

MOSCOW: Russian investigators said Polish officials will be visiting Russia next month to re-examine the wreckage of a plane that crashed in western Russia in 2010, killing then-president Lech Kaczynski along with many other political and military leaders onboard. Polish and Russian aviation experts have concluded that the 2010 plane crash was an accident, but Kaczynski's powerful twin brother alleges it resulted from foul play. AP

inthenews

STEVEN TYLER

Aerosmith frontman demands US President Donald Trump stop playing band's songs at rallies

1. After the band's song Livin' On The Edge was played at a Trump rally, Tyler sent the president a cease-and-desist letter. "Mr Trump is creating the false impression that our client has given his consent for the use of his music, and even that he endorses the presidency of Mr Trump," Tyler's lawyers said
2. Later, Tyler took to Twitter, typing in all caps that he didn't have a problem with Republicans, but his ire was because his permission was not sought. "Protecting songwriters is what I've been fighting for even before this current administration took office," he wrote
3. The letter noted this isn't the first time Trump used Aerosmith music without the band's permission — during the presidential campaign in 2015, the band had sent him two cease-and-desist letters.

Embattled Trump says economy will 'crash' if he is impeached

FRIENDS AND ENEMIES Attacks Cohen, praises Paul Manafort for going to trial, sparking speculation of a pardon

Agencies
letters@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: US President Donald Trump warned on Thursday the US economy would collapse if he were impeached, as legal chaos roiling the White House has experts saying his presidency is under threat.

Days after Trump's former fixer Michael Cohen told a federal judge he made illegal campaign contributions at the president's request to silence women alleging affairs with Trump, the Republican leader told Fox News that an impeachment would only cause more turmoil.

"I will tell you what, if I ever got impeached, I think the market would crash. I think everybody would be very poor," Trump said on Fox and Friends. "You would see ...numbers that you wouldn't believe in reverse."

Trump then launched into a rambling statement on job creation and other economic progress he said had been made during his presidency. "I don't know how you can impeach somebody who has done a great job."

Trump was dealt severe back-to-back blows on Tuesday when Cohen pled guilty to illegal campaign finance violations and former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort was convicted of tax and bank fraud within minutes of each other.

The Manafort conviction was the first case sent to trial by the special prosecutor probing Russian meddling in the 2016 election.

The president has insisted he did nothing wrong after Cohen implicated him in the illicit hush payments made before the 2016 election to two women who claimed to have had affairs with the Republican presidential candidate. Although Cohen did not name them, the women were believed to be porn star Stormy Daniels and Playboy model Karen McDougal.

Trump was evasive when asked in the Fox News interview if he had instructed Cohen to make the payments, saying that his former lawyer "made the deals," and insisted that Cohen's actions were "not a crime."

"Campaign violations are considered not a big deal, frankly," he said.

Trump then said the hush payments were financed with his own money to which Cohen had access and that while he had no knowledge of them at the time, he had since been fully transparent.

Trump praised Manafort for going to trial, where the president's former campaign chief was found guilty of eight counts of financial fraud.

The US president lauded the 69-year-old Manafort for leaving his fate to a jury rather than striking a plea deal , a move that has sparked speculation Manafort hopes for a pardon.

Asked if he was considering such a move, Trump said only that he has "great respect for what he has done, in terms of what he has gone through."

A lot to answer: US President Donald Trump speaks to reporters about Manafort's conviction. REUTERS

South Africa hits out at Trump over racially divisive tweet

JOHANNESBURG: The South African government lashed out at President Donald Trump on Thursday after he tweeted that his administration would be looking into farm seizures and the "large scale killing of farmers" in South Africa.

The government said Trump's tweet was based on "false information" and reflected a "narrow perception which only seeks to divide our nation and reminds us of our colonial past." It said it was meeting with the US embassy on Thursday as it seeks to clarify Trump's remarks.

South Africa is in the throes of a racially charged national debate over land reform, a lawful process that seeks to correct the legacy of decades of white minority rule that stripped blacks of their land.

Today, nearly a quarter-century after the first democratic elections, black South Africans, who comprise 80 percent of the population, still own just 4 percent of the country's land, according to the government.

Though the ruling African National Congress, which has been in power since 1994, has pledged to close that gap, progress has been slow.

In July, President Cyril Ramaphosa said his party would amend the constitution so the state could expropriate land without compensation to speed up the land reform process.

Trump's tweet followed a segment on Fox News on Wednesday in which host Tucker Carlson claimed Ramaphosa had already started "seizing land from his own citizens without compensation because they are the wrong skin color," calling the alleged seizures "immoral." AP

POMPEO URGES IMRAN TO ACT AGAINST 'ALL TERRORISTS'

Yashwant Raj
yashwant.raj@hindustantimes.com

WASHINGTON: US secretary of state Mike Pompeo on Thursday urged Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan to take "decisive action" against "all terrorists".

Pompeo employed a term used to press Pakistan to act against groups operating from its soil and targeting India and Afghanistan.

Pompeo, in a telephone conversation with Khan, "raised the importance of Pakistan taking decisive action against all terrorists operating in Pakistan", state department spokesperson Heather Nauert said.

Pompeo also raised with Khan Pakistan's "vital role in promoting the Afghan peace process".

Pakistan's foreign office described the state department's statement as "factually incorrect" and said there was "no mention at all in the conversation about terrorists operating in Pakistan."

This was the first high-level interaction the US had with the new dispensation in Islamabad — neither President Donald Trump nor vice president Mike Pence has called Khan yet.

Pompeo will reportedly visit Islamabad en route to India for the inaugural 2+2 meeting in September, but there has been no formal announcement.

Relations between the US and Pakistan have nosedived in recent months and the Trump administration's decision to suspend nearly $2 billion in security aid and Washington's lobbying for Islamabad to placed be on an international watch list for terrorist financing pushed ties to a further low.

#MeToo: Actor says he feared speaking out on Argento assault

LOS ANGELES: A young actor who alleged in legal documents that Italian actress and filmmaker Asia Argento sexually assaulted him when he was 17 said on Wednesday that his trauma resurfaced when Argento came out as a victim of sexual assault herself last year.

"I did not initially speak out about my story because I chose to handle it in private with the person who wronged me," Bennett, now 22, said in a statement released through his attorney.

The comments were his first made publicly since a Sunday New York Times story saying Argento reached a $380,000 legal settlement with him last year over an alleged sexual assault in a California hotel room in 2013.

Bennett said he believed there was a stigma to being sexually assaulted as a male, and that he "didn't think that people would understand the event that took place from the eyes of a teenage boy."

His comments come a day after the 42-year-old Argento denied having a sexual relationship with him. She said in a statement on Tuesday that she was linked "in friendship only" to Bennett, who played her son in a film in 2004.

She said the $380,000 payment was undertaken by her boyfriend Anthony Bourdain, the celebrity chef who killed himself in France in June.

The Los Angeles County sheriff's department said it is looking into the allegations and seeking to talk to Bennett. AP

A Russian military helicopter flies over the desert in Deir es-Zor province, Syria, in September 2017. AP

Russia's Syria role larger than thought

Agence France-Presse
letters@hindustantimes.com

MOSCOW: Russia has sent over 63,000 troops to Syria over the course of its involvement in the conflict, the Russian defence ministry has said.

A total of 63,012 Russian personnel have "received combat experience" in the war-torn country, the ministry said in a video about Russia's campaign to support the Syrian regime dating back to September 2015.

This number includes 25,738 ranking officers and 434 generals as well as 4,349 artillery and rocket specialists, it said.

Previously Russian defence minister Sergei Shoigu said in December 2017 that over 48,000 military personnel had taken part in the Syrian campaign.

President Vladimir Putin in December last year ordered his armed forces to pull the bulk of troops out of Syria.

But the Russian president later clarified that the military would remain in Syria for "as long as it is beneficial" and was not planning to withdraw yet.

The ministry said on Wednesday that Russian airforce had conducted more than 39,000 sorties that killed "over 86,000 militants" and destroyed 121,466 "terrorist targets".

The video made no mention of Russia's civilian or military casualties in the conflict.

IS leader resurfaces after nearly a year, calls for jihad

BEIRUT: The leader of the Islamic State group, Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, has called on Muslims to wage "jihad" in a purported new audio recording.

He also called for attacks in the West in the Telegram message on Eid ul-Adha on Wednesday, which comes as IS has lost most of its territory in Iraq and Syria. It is the first purported recording of the IS leader to be released since September last year.

"Those who forget their religion, patience, jihad against their enemies, and their certainty in the creator's promise lose and are disgraced," the leader said. "But when they hold on to it, they are mighty and victorious, even if after a certain time."

IS overran large swathes of Syria and neighbouring Iraq in 2014, proclaiming a "caliphate" in areas they controlled. But they have since lost most of that to various offensives in both countries.

The "caliphate will remain, God willing", Baghdadi, however, said in the recording, addressing followers in the Middle East, Asia and Africa.

It was not clear when the message was recorded, but Baghdadi appeared to criticise a $100-million pledge by Saudi Arabia last week to help rebuild Syria's northeast.

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi AP FILE

He threatened the United States and Russia, who have both backed offensives against IS, saying that the jihadists had prepared "horrors" for them.

Speaking of war-torn Syria, he criticised rebel fighters for agreeing to surrender deals with the Damascus regime, and called on opposition fighters to join his jihadist group.

Baghdadi has been pronounced dead on several occasions, but an Iraqi intelligence official said in May that he remains alive in Syrian territory by the Iraqi border.

Baghdadi was said to move around with only a small group of followers. Originally from Iraq, Baghdadi has been dubbed the "most wanted man on the planet" and the United States is offering a $25 million reward for his capture. AFP

Man stabs mother, sister near Paris, IS claims attack

PARIS: A man stabbed his mother and sister to death and seriously injured another person in a town near Paris on Thursday before being shot dead by police.

The killer had serious mental health problems and had been on a terror watch list since 2016, interior minister Gerard Collomb told reporters after visiting the scene in the town of Trappes.

The motive for the violence remained unclear despite a claim by the Islamic State that it was an attack by one of its fighters responding to the terror organisation's propaganda.

Collomb said the attacker was "mentally unstable, rather than someone who was committed, who would respond to orders from a terrorist organisation, in particular Daesh," another name for IS.

Regular French criminal prosecutors are investigating the case rather than anti-terror specialists, he stressed, although checks on the knifeman's phone and computer were under way. AFP

US to name Khalilzad as spl Afghan envoy

WASHINGTON: US secretary of state Mike Pompeo is expected to tap Zalmay Khalilzad, an Afghan-born former US ambassador to Kabul and Iraq, as his special envoy on Afghanistan, two officials said, the latest signal to the Taliban that the United States is serious about talks to end its longest war.

The decision to tap Khalilzad, a Republican foreign policy veteran, comes as US military commanders acknowledge a stalemate in the fighting and follows a meeting last month between a US diplomat and Taliban officials to explore possible negotiations.

The administration has not officially confirmed those talks.

The two officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said they were unsure when the announcement would be made. The White House and the state department declined to comment, and Khalilzad did not return messages left with his office.

Khalilzad, 67, is well suited to the difficult task of persuading the insurgents to talk, according to a former senior US official.

In addition to his experience advising or working for four US administrations and his knowledge of Afghanistan's main languages, culture and politics, he is from the ethnic Pashtun majority and is close to President Ashraf Ghani, the official said. REUTERS

Videos emerge of JeM collecting funds for jihad against India, US

NEW DELHI: Less than two months after Pakistan was put a global watch list for failing to do enough to counter terror financing, videos have emerged of Jaish-e-Mohammed operatives collecting funds after Eid-ul-Azha prayers in Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

The videos, shot at a venue for Eid prayers at Domel sub-district of Bannu district on Tuesday, show members of the banned JeM and Al Rahmat Trust, a banned front organisation of the terror group led by Masood Azhar, openly soliciting for funds for jihad against the US and India.

The videos, shared widely on social media since Wednesday, show the JeM and Al Rahmat Trust operatives collecting funds while standing a short distance from policemen from the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa Police.

KHYBER-PAKHTUNKHWA HAS BEEN RULED BY IMRAN KHAN'S PTI PARTY SINCE 2013. THE PARTY RECENTLY RETURNED TO POWER IN PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS.

In one video, two men are holding up a sheet of cloth containing a sizeable amount of cash as a third man, speaking in a mix of Urdu and Pashto, asks people attending the Eid prayers to contribute for the "jihad by Muslims" against the "kafir" forces in America and India.

The man seeking funds repeatedly states he is collecting funds for the JeM, which was banned by Pakistan in 2002.

The second video features a man exhorting people to join the jihad and support it. He says he belongs to the JeM and Al Rahmat Trust, listed by the US and the UN as a front for the JeM. In 2010, the US said the trust has provided support for militant activities in Afghanistan and Pakistan and was involved in fund-raising for JeM, including for militant training and indoctrination.

In June, Pakistan was placed in the Financial Action Task Force's grey list for failing to curb terror financing. HTC

Pak diplomat in Canada on tape 'threatening' journalist

Anirudh Bhattacharyya
letters@hindustantimes.com

TORONTO: Pakistan's consul general in Toronto has been caught on tape purportedly threatening a Canadian journalist of Pakistani-origin, prompting calls for his expulsion from the country.

The apparent threat emerged during a telephone conversation in March between the consul general, Imran Ahmed Siddiqui, and an unidentified caller. Referring to Tahir Aslam Gora, the head of the multi-cultural TAG TV network, the diplomat purportedly says such journalists will have to cooperate "if they want to survive". The Canadian radio show, The Quiggin Report, described Siddiqui's purported comments a threat to "fix" journalists whose views were "not acceptable" to the diplomat. Reacting to the contents of the recording, a copy of which was made available to Hindustan Times, Howard Anglin, executive director of Calgary-based Canadian Constitution Foundation, tweeted: "This is an unacceptable threat and interference with Canadian press freedom."

Imran Ahmed Siddiqui (right) in Toronto. TWITTER

Anglin, a former deputy chief of staff to Canada's prime minister, said the government of Prime Minister Justin Trudeau "should have the guts to expel the diplomats involved, as the other govts have done when Pakistani diplomats crossed legal/diplomatic lines". A one point of the conversation, which takes place in Urdu and English, Siddiqui refers to Gora and says: "We are working on a treatment." He uses the Urdu word 'ilaaj' or treatment to refer to dealing with Gora and says this is not being done overtly. Referring to journalists perceived to be anti-Pakistan, Siddiqui is heard saying: "Journalists have freedom, they can say whatever they want…We too have the freedom to do whatever we need to."

"There is a treatment and it is being done…the treatment is being done slowly as the thing has spread," he adds.

BIMSTEC SUMMIT IN NEPAL

Areas of cooperation to be cut down to five

Anil Giri
letters@hindustantimes.com

KATHMANDU: As Nepal prepares to host the BIMSTEC Summit in Kathmandu during August 30-31, one of the focus areas of the meeting will be cutting the numbers of areas of cooperation from 14 to five, officials said on Thursday.

This was also communicated by foreign minister Pradeep Gyawali to some former diplomats during a consultation. Gyawali said the summit will set connectivity, poverty alleviation, trade and investment, climate change and energy as its core priority areas for the regional grouping.

The proliferation of commitments and increase in areas of cooperation did not yield tangible results in the past two decades, and the seven members of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) agreed to trim the number of priority areas to produce concrete results.

Since its inception in 1997, BIMSTEC, which aims to bridge East and South Asia, has listed trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism, fisheries, agriculture, public health, poverty alleviation, counter-terrorism, environment, culture, people-to-people contacts and climate change as areas of cooperation.

Apart from cutting down the priority areas, the member states will focus on strengthening the BIMSTEC secretariat in Dhaka, where a revolving fund will be set up to focus on research on expanding cooperation, officials said.

All members of BIMSTEC have confirmed their participation in the fourth summit and the meetings preceding it, a statement from foreign ministry said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the summit and this will be his fourth visit to Kathmandu since he assumed office in 2014. Some bilateral memorandums of understanding and agreements are expected to be signed between Nepal and India on the sidelines of the summit.

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

shortstories

Sebi chairman Ajay Tyagi
MINT/FILE

SEBI CHIEF: LACK OF COMPETITION IN MF SECTOR CAUSE OF WORRY

MUMBAI: Lack of competition among mutual funds (MF) and very high profits at some fund houses are worrisome for the industry, Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) chairman Ajay Tyagi said. Despite tremendous growth in the MF industry, the market share remains concentrated among a few big players, Tyagi said at a summit organized by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi). India's top four mutual funds account for almost 50% of the industry's assets under management (AUM), while the top seven account for around 70% of the industry AUM. "Concentration of the industry in a few hands is not only evident in AUM, but also revenue and profit margins of mutual funds. Is this high concentration due to lack of competition? Are such disproportionately high profits due to high total expense ratio (TER) especially in equity funds? Some thinking is required to facilitate healthy competition in the industry, which we feel is lacking as of now."

US, China resume trade talks as fresh tariffs kick in

WASHINGTON/BEIJING: The US and China imposed fresh tariffs on each other's goods in the middle of trade talks aimed at averting the worsening conflict between the two economies. Both nations started levying the previously announced taxes on $16 billion of imports from the other country shortly after noon Beijing time. China also said it would lodge a complaint about the new American tariffs to the WTO, according to a Chinese ministry of commerce statement on its website. The US will collect an additional 25% in duties on Chinese imports ranging from motorcycles to steam turbines and railway cars, and the Chinese retaliation will see a similarly sized tax on items including coal, medical instruments, waste products, cars and buses.

L&T to buy back shares worth ₹9,000 crore

MUMBAI: Construction and engineering company Larsen and Toubro Ltd on Thursday approved a share buyback worth ₹9,000 crore at ₹1,500 apiece. The buyback price is at a 13.5% premium from Tuesday's closing price of ₹1,322. The L&T board approved the buyback of up to 60 million shares, aggregating up to 4.29% of the company's paid-up equity capital. Following the announcement, L&T shares ended 2.3% higher on BSE at the end of the day's trade on Thursday.

Gillette net profit drops 8% to ₹34.62 crore in Apr-Jun

NEW DELHI: FMCG major Gillette India on Thursday posted 8.09% decline in its net profit at ₹34.62 crore for the fourth quarter ended on June 30, 2018. The company, which follows July-June financial year, had posted a net profit at ₹37.67 crore during April-June period a year ago, Gillette India said in a regulatory filing.

TVS launches new 110cc motorcycle 'Radeon'

CHENNAI: TVS Motor Company on Thursday launched a new 110cc motorbike, Radeon, with user-friendly features such as the "largest seat in the segment", a car-like speedometer, synchronised braking and high ground clearance. "The firm is targeting discerning progressive customers with the Radeon, priced at ₹48,400/—(ex-showroom Delhi)," TVS CEO KN Radhakrishnan said.

COMPILED FROM MINT REPORTERS AND AGENCIES

Jaitley back as FM amid worries over rupee slide

KEY CHALLENGE Jaitley will have to walk a tightrope over fiscal deficit, volatile oil prices

Remya Nair
remya.n@livemint.com

Arun Jaitley with senior finance ministry officials after resuming charge on Thursday PTI

NEW DELHI: Arun Jaitley on Thursday resumed charge as the finance and corporate affairs minister after a gap of more than three months.

The senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader was recuperating from a kidney transplant, which took place in May. Jaitley was undergoing dialysis before the transplant.

Jaitley returns at a time when the government is facing a challenging external environment on account of a weakening currency. The rupee depreciated past 70 against the dollar earlier this month. A weak rupee, along with volatile oil prices, has the potential to exert pressure on the trade deficit and, consequently, on the current account deficit (CAD).

In 2018, the rupee has fallen by more than 9% against the US dollar. It has also weakened the most compared to other Asian currencies. This has led to economists forecasting that the CAD will widen to 2.6-3% of gross domestic product (GDP) in 2018-19, against 1.9% in 2017-18.

Jaitley's return also comes at a time when the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government has been forced to defend its track record after a recent draft report of the National Statistical Commission on GDP back series data showed that the performance of the previous Congress-led United Progressive Government (UPA) was much better in terms of growth.

The report, which calculated India's GDP with 2011-12 as the base year, showed the Indian economy grew over 10% twice in the UPA regime, with the average growth at over 8% in its 10 years in power. In contrast, the average growth in NDA's four years was at 7.3%.

The growth performance will be one of the major talking points in the runup to the 2019 polls.

Jaitley will also have to walk a tightrope on fiscal deficit. Tax revenues from goods and services tax (GST) are yet to stabilise with actual collections lagging targets so far. Besides, the recent rate cuts on many items, effective July 27, will further impact revenues and probably offset the improvement in collections on account of better compliance.

The disinvestment target of ₹80,000 crore also looks difficult to achieve with the privatisation of Air India falling through. Expenditure squeeze is also difficult ahead of general elections, threatening the government's fiscal deficit target of 3.3% of GDP.

The only silver lining were direct tax collections and the unexpected windfall gains from the Walmart-Flipkart deal.

Jaitley resumed charge at North Block on Thursday after the President reallocated the finance and corporate affairs portfolios to him.

The senior leader met secretaries to the government of India, including finance secretary Hasmukh Adhia and financial services secretary Rajiv Kumar, as well as the head of the direct and indirect tax boards. Jaitley is likely to limit his public appearance for the next few weeks because of the risk of infection.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had temporarily assigned the finance and corporate affairs portfolio to railways and coal minister Piyush Goyal.

China in doubt, all roads lead to India for Suzuki

Amrit Raj
Amrit.r@livemint.com

MUMBAI: Suzuki Motor Corp. may be exiting China and that is good news for India.

Unlike Indian consumers' abiding love affair with Suzuki cars, sales of the company's vehicles in China have plunged after a promising start. Quitting China will allow the Japanese carmaker to free up resources and focus more attention on India, its most lucrative market.

Nikkei Business on Thursday reported that Suzuki and its Chinese partner, Chongqing Changan Automobile Co., will disband their joint venture, with Suzuki selling its stake to the local manufacturer.

Shares of Suzuki dropped 4.8% in Tokyo on Thursday, the most since August 9. But, unit Maruti Suzuki India Ltd rose 1.3% on BSE, a reflection of what investors think will be the fallout of the move.

The process of dissolving the partnership will start with approval from Chinese authorities and could be completed by the year-end, with Changan continuing to make Suzuki-brand vehicles under licence, according to the Nikkei report.

Bloomberg cited Suzuki spokesman Satoshi Kasukawa as saying that the company's stance hasn't changed and it continues to discuss with Changan about future growth of the partnership.

Suzuki's move to exit China, if true, means it will no longer be present in the world's top two markets as the auto maker exited the US in 2012. With a minuscule presence in Europe and in its home market, the company is facing a prolonged slowdown and cutthroat competition from Daihatsu in the mini-car segment.

Effectively then, India remains its only white knight and one that is in supreme health.

Maruti shares have been on an upward curve and have risen nine times since July 2012, when a labour strike crippled production at its plant in Manesar, Haryana, and mob violence led to the death of one of its managers.

Maruti didn't respond to an email seeking comment till press time.

Suzuki controls 51% of India's car market through Maruti, which means it literally sells every second car in the country. Net profit at Maruti has doubled in the last three years and it clocks about ₹2,000 crore in net profit on a quarterly basis. Its brand recall is at an all-time high.

The unit now contributes more than 50% of Suzuki's consolidated profit from about 30% six years ago.

End of the road in China?

- Suzuki will sell its stake to Chinese partner Chongqing Changan Automobile Co., after terminating their joint venture, according to a Nikkei report
- The process will start with approval from Chinese authorities and may be completed by year-end, the report says
- If it exits China, Suzuki will no longer be present in the world's top two markets—it moved out of the US in 2012
- Its Indian unit, Maruti Suzuki, sells every second car in India
- The Indian unit contributes over 50% of Suzuki's consolidated profits from about 30%, six years ago
- Suzuki has little presence in Europe and Japan; it is facing a prolonged slowdown and stiff competition from Daihatsu in the mini-car segment

MARUTI PLANS CARS THAT RUN ON ALTERNATIVE FUEL

Malyaban Ghosh
malyaban.g@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Maruti Suzuki India Ltd will explore the possibility of developing cars that will run on alternative fuels such as ethanol and methanol along with its efforts to launch electric vehicles, chairman RC Bhargava said. The country's largest car maker is also planning to develop more CNG-run engines for its cars in the future to reduce carbon emissions from its vehicles, Bhargava told shareholders at the firm's AGM in New Delhi.

ICICI says Kochhar inquiry report in two-and-a-half mths

Remya Nair
remya.n@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: The committee set up under retired Supreme Court judge, Justice BN Srikrishna, to probe allegations against ICICI Bank managing director and chief executive officer Chanda Kochhar is expected to submit its report in the next two-and-a-half months, the bank's non-executive chairman, GC Chaturvedi said on Thursday.

Kochhar's continuation at ICICI Bank depends on the findings of the panel.

A final decision on Kochhar's fate will be taken after receiving the panel's report and she continues to be the bank's managing director and CEO, Chaturvedi said on the sidelines of the India Banking Conclave.

ICICI Bank had appointed Srikrishna to investigate allegations of conflict of interest and quid pro quo against Kochhar in the Videocon loan case.

Chaturvedi said the bank will reply to the Videocon notice by capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) only after receiving the panel's report.

Chaturvedi, a retired bureaucrat, took over as the chairman in June after MK Sharma's tenure ended.

Sebi had initiated proceedings against ICICI Bank for non-disclosure of information in the alleged conflict of interest in the grant of loans to the Videocon Group. Sebi had sent the bank and Kochhar a notice alleging violation of Listing Obligation and Disclosure Requirements (LODR) and for not making adequate disclosures. Kochhar had proceeded on leave till the completion of the investigation. The bank had appointed Sandeep Bakhshi, the head of its life insurance arm, as chief operating officer of the bank. Bakhshi will run the bank and report to the board while Kochhar remains on leave.

The controversy pertains to the alleged conflict of interest in a ₹3,250 crore loan given by ICICI Bank to Videocon Group. The money was part of a ₹40,000 crore loan given by a consortium of 20 banks in 2012.

KOCHHAR OFFERS TO BE BACK ON ICICI SECURITIES BOARD

Press Trust of India
feedback@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochhar, who is on indefinite leave pending a probe against her in an alleged quid pro quo in loan sanctioning case, has offered herself to be reappointed on the board of ICICI Securities.

Kochhar is set to retire from the board of ICICI Securities, a subsidiary of ICICI Bank.

"Chanda Kochhar has offered herself for re-appointment," said the annual report for 2017-18 of ICICI Securities. She is the chairperson of the bank's subsidiary.

RIL first Indian firm to breach ₹8 lakh crore m-cap mark

Press Trust of India
feedback@livemint.com

NEW DELHI: Reliance Industries (RIL) on Thursday became the first Indian company to cross the ₹8 lakh crore market capitalisation mark while its stock hit a fresh 52-week high.

The stock closed 1.86% higher at ₹1,269.70 on the BSE. During the trading session, the scrip touched a 52-week high of ₹1,273.55 The surge in the counter has pegged the firm's market valuation at ₹8,04,691.40 crore at the end of Thursday's session.

According to market experts, the stock has been on an uptrend after the company announced aggressive business plans at its annual general meeting (AGM) last month, including the launch of its fibre-to-the-home service, GigaFiber.

On July 13, RIL's market valuation had briefly surged past the ₹7 lakh crore mark, making it the second company after IT bellwether Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) to achieve this milestone. On July 12, it crossed the $100-billion market capitalisation mark for the first time in the last 10 years. Again on July 20, Reliance Industries' market capitalisation surged past ₹7 lakh crore mark. TCS' market valuation had in May surged past ₹7 lakh crore.

Meanwhile, the 30-share Sensex scaled an all-time (intraday) high of 38,487.63 in early trade. However, it succumbed to profit booking to slip to 38,227.36, before finally ending at 38,336.76 points, up 51.01 points, or 0.13%.

Growth-hungry Swiggy looks beyond food, plans hyperlocal deliveries soon

Anirban Sen
feedback@livemint.com

BENGALURU: Swiggy, India's largest online food delivery service, has planned several new initiatives over the coming months, including hyperlocal deliveries across sectors, co-founder and chief executive Sriharsha Majety said.

"We are experimenting with some such (hyperlocal) categories," Majety said in an interview. "We've been closely observing our consumers' lives and we feel that there are some unique capabilities that we have that can take a shot at solving more problems, even outside the realm of food. You'll see us start making small forays into new areas."

The startup will continue to prioritize growth over near-term profitability, he added.

Majety, who founded Swiggy in 2014 with Nandan Reddy and Rahul Jaimini, did not rule out raising more funds in the near term from new investors, although he emphasized that the company is well-funded at the moment.

"If there's an investor that we'd like to work with who can help us accelerate the vision that we have, we're definitely going to go after it," said Majety.

Swiggy recently raised $210 million, catapulting it into a select club of start-ups with a valuation of $1 billion or more.

It has raised about $465 million till date, and is easily the most well-funded food delivery start-up.

Swiggy, Majety said, is also working on a new loyalty programme to retain its fleet of several thousands of delivery staff.

facetoface

SRIHARSHA MAJETY, co-founder and CEO of Swiggy

'Profits not the top priority for us'

Anirban Sen
feedback@livemint.com

BENGALURU: Food delivery start-up Swiggy is among the few survivors of the last funding bubble burst. In the years since 2014, co-founder and chief executive Sriharsha Majety and his team have worked to maintain the company's market leadership and chase growth at all costs.

Recently, Swiggy hired Vivek Sunder as its chief operating officer, among other top recruitments. In their first media interaction, Majety and Sunder spoke about the funding boom in food delivery, the battle against Zomato, Uber Eats and Ola; the company's burn rates and discounting; and new leadership hiring, among others. Edited excerpts from an interview:

How is the current boom in food tech different from what we saw back in 2014-15?
There are similarities and differences. Similarities in the sense that there are some in the market who degrade fundamentals to buy growth. Differences are that it's all happening at a larger scale, in the sense that there are companies that have gone through the cycle. It's not a bubble in the sense that we know now that the demand for the category is limitless, going by consumer demand. It was largely untested in 2015.

How much room is there for more than one player to survive in the business of food delivery? Do you think it's a winner-takes-all business?
Actually, there is no market in India where the winner has taken all. If you compare it with e-commerce and cabs, there are two players. In this case also, there will be a few leaders who will have a disproportionate share of the market and some others who may not be as relevant in the long term.

Definitely it's a very large market, so it can accommodate a few players. There will still be a concentration of power, and not a bunch of equally-sized companies.

You spoke about having a path to profitability. Is profitability a near term goal?
Not right now. Sitting where we are, we are just scratching the surface of this category. And it may not be the right time, right now to have a short-term goal on that.

Growth is absolutely the priority.

Sunder: Solving different types of issues is the priority and if you solve it better than other people, then growth is a natural outcome of that. And it's a slight nuanced difference. If you go after growth, you'll say any growth is good growth.

What are 2-3 of your most immediate priorities as COO?
Sunder: We have to think about how to structure the company differently, how to operate the company differently, how to give levers of control, what's the balance between local autonomy, speed and quick decision-making, versus the power of scale and sophistication that comes from doing things. All of that stuff has to be done well.

HARLEY IN SIGHTS

Avantura aims to tap India's cruiser motorcycle segment

Arushi Kotecha
arushi.k@livemint.com

(Left to right) Gaurav Aggarwal, co-founder, Amitabh Biswas, CMO, and Vijay Singh, co-founder of Avantura Choppers

MUMBAI: Avantura Choppers, a Mumbai-based startup for chopper motorcycles, is aiming to capture about half of India's small but potential growth market for more than 1600cc motorcycles.

The company, which claims to make India's first road-legal chopper motorcycles, will however face a tough challenge as the segment is dominated by iconic US brand Harley-Davidson Inc.

The chopper is a class of motorcycles originating from California and is identified by extensive customization. In addition to their larger engines, choppers generally have low seats, high handlebars and long-front forks.

Avantura began retailing its first two products—the Rudra and Pravega—on Wednesday at Bengaluru. Both are powered by a 2000cc engine and retail above ₹21 lakh.

The company plans to sell about 250 motorcycles in the next one year, Amitabh Biswas, founding partner and chief marketing officer, said in an interview.

India is one of the world's top motorcycle markets but products such as those made by Avantura and Harley-Davidson have a limited customer base.

A total of 539 motorcycles with 1600cc engines and above were sold in the last financial year, with Harley-Davidson contributing 535 units, according to data provided by the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (Siam). The segment accounted for less than a percentage point of total two-wheeler sales in India.

However, sales in the segment have slowed in the past two years. Sales fell from 584 units in FY16 to 574 units in FY17 and 539 units last year. Sales however rebounded to grow three-fold to 210 units during April to July 2018, led by Harley-Davidson.

Avantura is "very positive" on the segment, with plans to start a dealer each in Hyderabad and in the national capital region before Diwali, and two in west and east India by the end of the fiscal. "We are very happy with the way things are proceeding. As the base gets more crowded, it creates a unique niche for us as we are not looking to be a mass brand," Biswas said.

Panel asks govt to announce 5G spectrum policy by end of Dec

Rhik Kundu
rhik.k@livemint.com

The economic impact of 5G is expected to be over $1 trillion
MINT

MUMBAI: A top panel formed by the central government to outline a road map for 5G telecom services has recommended additional spectrum for its rollout.

The steering committee headed by Stanford University professor AJ Paulraj on Thursday submitted the report, Making India 5G Ready, to telecom secretary Aruna Sundararajan.

The report suggested the government should announce its 5G policy by the end of December, besides setting up a standing committee to advise on building the infrastructure for spectrum technology.

"India's spectrum allocation for public wireless services should be enhanced significantly on various frontiers to realize digital infrastructure as a core utility under Digital India," the report said, adding that most guidelines on regulatory matters be promulgated by March 2019 to facilitate early 5G deployment.

The key recommendations and action plan included recommendations on spectrum policy, regulatory policy, education and awareness promotion, application and use case labs, participation in international standards, development of application layer standards, and major 5G trials.

"The cost of spectrum relative to per-capita GDP is high. It is important that India builds a more favourable spectrum policy in the 5G era. The economic impact of 5G is expected to be over 1 trillion dollars," the report added.

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

htsport

ONE OF THE BIGGEST THINGS I'VE LEARNED ABOUT MYSELF IS HOW IMPATIENT I WAS.

› NOVAK DJOKOVIC, on road to recovery after an elbow injury

shortstories

Virat Kohli scored a century at Trent Bridge. GETTY

KOHLI REGAINS TOP SPOT IN ICC TEST RANKINGS

NEW DELHI: Virat Kohli, after the match-winning knock against England in the third Test at Nottingham, reached a personal best of 937 rating points to reclaim the top position for batsmen in the ICC Test Player Rankings. The India captain had lost the top spot to Australia's Steve Smith after India's loss in the Lord's Test, where he scored 23 and 17.

Jhulan announces retirement from T20s

NEW DELHI: India pacer Jhulan Goswami has quit playing T20 internationals, according to a media release sent by the BCCI. She took 56 wickets in 68 T20Is, including a fifer against Australia in 2012. Goswami is currently the leading wicket-taker (203) in the women's ODIs.

Lad, Ramaswamy help India Red post 256/4

DINDIGUL: Siddesh Lad with a knock of 83 (batting) starred as India Red recovered from an early blow to post 256 for four at stumps against India Blue on the opening day of the second league match of the Duleep Trophy tournament at the NPR College ground here on Thursday.

Brief scores: India Red 256/4 in 89.5 overs (Sanjay Ramaswamy 72, Siddhesh Lad 83*, Baba Aparajith 48) v India Blue.

Pandey, Rayudu's knocks help India B, India A win

BENGALURU: Manish Pandey (95) and Ambati Rayudu (62) helped India B and India A register victories against South Africa A and Australia A respectively in quadrangular one-day series.

Brief scores: AUS A 151 in 31.4 overs (Ashton Agar 34; Mohammed Siraj 4/68) lost to IND A 152/5 in 38.3 overs (Ambati Rayudu 62*) by five wickets.

Brief scores: SA A 231 in 47.3 overs (Senuran Muthusamy 55; Prasidh Krishna 4 /49) lost to India B 214/5 in 40.3 overs (Manish Pandey 95*) by 30 runs (D/L method)

todayontv

ASIAN GAMES

7.00am onwards: Day 7, live on Sony Ten 2, Ten 2HD, Sony ESPN, ESPN HD, Sony Ten 3 & Ten 3 HD

MOTORSPORTS

FORMULA ONE

2.25pm: Belgian GP first practice

6.25pm: Belgian GP second practice, live on Star Sports Select 2 & SS Select 2 HD

FOOTBALL

FIFA U-20 WOMEN'S WC FINAL

11.00pm: Spain v Japan, live on Sony Ten 2 & Ten 2 HD

For latest in sports, go to www.hindustantimes.com/sport-news

Finally, India have a proper pace quartet

SUCCESS STORY Indian pacers are outdoing their counterparts on the basis of speed and efficiency

BY INVITATION

AAKASH CHOPRA

While the focus has been, and quite rightly so, on Virat Kohli's meteoric rise in world cricket, it's unlikely that the success story of Indian cricket will be authored by him. Please don't get me wrong — Kohli is playing an incredible part in making India a force to reckon with both at home and away but it's seldom a batsman (or even a group of batsmen), who can regularly influence the Test results.

BOWLERS SHINE

In most cases, you need to take 20 wickets to win a Test and therefore, the onus is on the bowlers to script fairytales. Indian fast bowlers have not only started to pull their weight in the side but also, have started outdoing their counterparts both in terms of speed and efficiency on a regular basis.

Indian bowlers have taken all 100 wickets in the five overseas Tests (considering the Lord's Test as an aberration) in 2018, and that too, reasonably cheaply. Finally, India have their own pace quartet.

This is the best I've seen Ishant bowl in a long time. In fact, some might argue that it's the best he's ever bowled in his decade-long Test career. He's bowling a lot fuller — he bowled only 8 per cent full balls in India's tour to England in 2014 but now, that has gone up to 20 per cent.

Ishant may have wanted to bowl fuller in the past also but the lack of lateral movement in the air would've held him back. He was always a hit-the-deck-hard bowler depending on the sideways movement after pitching.

Half a season in county cricket has seen him develop the art of swinging the ball in the air, which in turn is allowing him to bowl fuller. It can be said that he's come of age.

Two five wicket hauls in just four Test matches — Bumrah has taken to Test cricket like fish to water. He fast emerged as one of the finest white ball bowler in the world but unlike a lot of white ball successes, he's been able to make the switch to red ball cricket seamlessly.

He's quite rapid in the air, hits the deck hard and is an asset when the ball stops swinging in the air.

CHANGING TREND

Earlier the problem with Indian pacers has been their inability to extract something from the pitch after the ball lost its shine and seam. It happens very quickly with the Kookaburra ball and even with the Dukes ball (that's used in England), it ceases to help you enough in the second innings after the pitch dries out. While most swing bowlers struggle in these conditions, Bumrah comes to his own.

If there's grass and moisture on the 22 yards, you won't find a better bowler than Bhuvneshwar Kumar to exploit the conditions with the new ball. His control over the wrist position allows him to move the ball in both directions and his accuracy with regards to line and length forces the batsman to be in two minds -- whether to play at it or let it go.

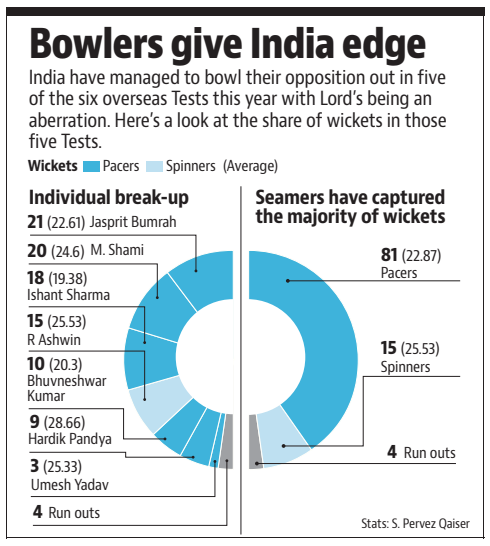
Bhuvi does lose a little bit of venom when the ball gets old in the second innings but that's where he makes up for it with his batting. Also, that's when Ishant and Bumrah take centre stage.

Mohammed Shami is immensely talented but is guilty of blowing hot and cold often. He's got such control over the wrist that he's one of the few bowlers who make the ball move laterally after pitching without making the seam wobble in the air.

When on song, Shami is capable of picking three-four wickets in a spell but he's also guilty of leaking too many once in a while. Since he's got pace and swing, he can be effective with all kinds of balls on all kinds of pitches. Shami only needs discipline.

(The writer is a former Test batsman and views are personal)

Indian pacers have been in prolific form in the series so far, picking up 38 of the 47 English wickets to fall in the three Tests. REUTERS



India look to better feat of 2001

HT@ ENGLAND

N ANANTHANARAYANAN

FOR THE SHEER SPIRIT OF RESURGENCE, THE MOOD IN THE INDIAN CAMP RESONATES THAT OF THE 2001 SERIES AGAINST AUSTRALIA FOLLOWING THE DRAMATIC EDEN GARDENS WIN.

NOTTINGHAM: India's overseas cricket wins have often ended as consolation affairs — Perth 2008, Durban 2010, Lord's 2014 and Wanderers 2018. Either the series was already lost or India could not win it. The win in the Trent Bridge Test promises to change that narrative.

Will the Southampton pitch for the fourth Test between India and England be dry and spinner-friendly? Or will damp weather that has chased the teams amid a parched English summer also leave the Agean Bowl contest at the mercy of seamers?

Either way, it would be Joe Root's team feeling the heat. After the 203-run win to mark a remarkable fightback, a 'complete' success as Virat Kohli put it, the buzz is around India, though England lead the series 2-1 with two games left.

For the sheer spirit of resurgence, the mood in the Indian camp resonates that of the 2001 series against Australia following the dramatic Eden Gardens win. Coach Ravi Shastri though reminded his team "we've only won a Test, not the series".

And only Don Bradman's Australia have come back from 0-2 down to win a series, against England in 1936-37. However, India, having dismantled England just days after caving in at Lord's, can go one better than their 2001 achievement over Australia or Bradman's world mark if they go all the way to win a tough overseas assignment.

In South Africa, after winning the final Test at Johannesburg in a 1-2 series loss, regret in the Indian camp was that it was not a five-match series. The series was already lost before Kohli's boys reached Wanderers and India paid for not acclimatising.

India have a great chance to prove a point now.

Trent Bridge could mark a new beginning for Kohli the captain — India could also for the first time under him retain the side at Southampton.

Kohli batted two gears lower and didn't step up tempo even when set during the third Test, negating the swing of James Anderson — he is yet to dismiss the batsman — and others.

That encouraged Ajinkya Rahane and Cheteshwar Pujara to solve technical problems and regain confidence with fifties.

Rahane still nicked a wide ball as at Lord's, but the 81 and a century stand with Kohli has boosted him. Pujara showed intent, and though he fell hooking in the first innings, he was calm in scoring 72 in the second innings, not pushing at seaming deliveries, leaving well outside off-stump and punishing every bad ball.

At 32, Shikhar Dhawan's willingness to change is commendable. The left-hander has been a sitting duck when the red ball seams. In Edgbaston, he was clueless. Recalled after being dropped for Lord's, he left deliveries or showed the discipline to play late. His half-century stands with KL Rahul in both innings blunted the new ball threat.

Kohli lived up to India's mantra of mental discipline, unflustered even when Jos Buttler and Ben Stokes kept them at bay for over four hours on Day 4.

Coach Ravi Shastri's message going into a weeklong break was this: "We've had back-to-back Tests. It's been hard. Take a break, think about all the good things you did in this Test and take it forward."

BCCI acting officials lose powers

Soumitra Bose
soumitra.bose@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Three 'acting' officials of the BCCI — president CK Khanna, secretary Amitabh Choudhary and treasurer Anirudh Chaudhry — will no more be in control. As mandated by the Supreme Court in its order on August 9, 2018, the overall supervision of the Board's administration will now be in the hands of the Committee of Administrators.

The new BCCI constitution was registered by Board CEO Rahul Johri on Tuesday. It immediately put an end to the powers enjoyed by the acting office-bearers. "The new rules came into force soon after the new constitution was registered in Chennai. As per Supreme Court, the office-bearers will no more be able to exercise any power without the approval of the CoA," explained a senior Board functionary in the know of things.

The past several months have seen a slew of conflicts between the Committee of Administrators and BCCI's acting officials, particularly the secretary and treasurer. On matters relating to hike in players' salaries, appointment of professional managers, players' rehabilitation, international travel and allowances, the officials and the CoA, headed by former Comptroller and Auditor General of India Vinod Rai, were never on the same page.

The audacity of the BCCI officials hit a peak when a special general meeting, attended by most members, was organised in New Delhi on June 22 in complete defiance of the CoA. All that will end now till the BCCI convenes its annual general body meeting and elects fresh office-bearers.

"Any powers exercisable by any office-bearer will henceforth be only as mandated under the New Constitution and shall be exercised only with the prior approval of the Committee of Administrators. The office-bearers and/or their respective Executive Assistants as well as the employees of BCCI shall not undertake any travel outside India at BCCI expense without the prior approval of the Committee of Administrators," said a CoA directive on Thursday.

NEW CONSTITUTION

As things stand now, the state units and voting members will have to comply with the new constitution by September 20. "Assuming that there are no more hassles, we should have a new set of BCCI officials in 90 days," said the functionary. The fact that the new rules impede the future of quite a few high-profile cricket administrators, litigation cannot be ruled out.

However, the "BCCI shall no longer bear the expenses of any legal advisor/ consultant who is taking instructions from and/or reporting to any office-bearer. Any such existing appointment/ engagement shall be terminated."

Meanwhile, the CoA is working on the formation of a players' association. Two members – a male and a female — are integral components of the nine-member Apex Council that will have supreme powers to run the BCCI in future.

While Johri will control most of the administrative work and be one of the six signatories to operate the bank accounts, the Cricket Advisory Committee and the selection panels will continue to function normally.

Not looking too far ahead, says Shaw

Sanjjeev K Samyal
sanjjeev.samyal@htlive.com

MUMBAI: Success has come easy to young Prithvi Shaw, but importantly he has handled it well.

From leading the India under-19 team to the World Cup win at the start of the year to making it to the Test squad, it has been a meteoric rise for the 18-year old opening batsman.

"It's a very good feeling, I can't explain in words, very delighted to go there (to United Kingdom) and enjoy the cricket," said Prithvi, sharing his excitement of the Test call-up after being named in the squad for the last two games.

Prithvi has made smooth transition to every level of cricket, from junior to first-class to India A, by keeping his head on his shoulders. "I just wanted to focus on whatever chances I got, and try my best for myself and my team, and stay in the present. I was not thinking of India selection," said Prithvi when reminded about the excellent season he is having.

Even while talking about the England Tests, he is not looking too far ahead. "I am not thinking anything extra; (will look to) just play my game and try my best."

Prithvi had first made headlines for a world record knock of 546 runs in the Harris Shield (Mumbai school cricket) in 2013. He scored heavily in the age-group tournaments and in 2017, made his Ranji Trophy debut in the semi-final against Tamil Nadu, scoring a second-innings century.

He also smashed a century on Duleep Trophy debut. And his performances for the A team on the recent tour of United Kingdom, including a top score of 188 in a four-day game against West Indies A, convinced the selectors he is ready for the highest level.

It was not his first tour of England. Shaw was groomed in his school days with regular tours of the UK, playing in the Yorkshire League under an exchange programme. While he has an idea of what to expect, the youngster said nothing can prepare him for the challenges of international cricket. "Yes I have played there, in Yorkshire and Manchester, but I can't say I am used to the conditions. But I know what happens there."

Prithvi Shaw

'THAT'S A FUTURE INDIA PLAYER'

Press Trust of India
sportm@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Sachin Tendulkar, who himself was a child prodigy, has stated that he had predicted around a decade back that Prithvi Shaw would one day represent India.

"Around ten years ago, one of my friends asked me to take a look at the young Prithvi. He asked me analyse his game and give him some advice. I had a session with him and gave couple of pointers on how to improve his game," Tendulkar said on his app '100MB'. Tendulkar later told his friend: "Are you watching? That's a future India player".

Hanuma Vihari

VIHARI RIDES ON RANJI, IRANI PERFORMANCES TO MAKE CUT

Ankit Kumar Singh/Sidharth Gulati
sportm@hindustantimes.com

MUMBAI/DELHI: Hanuma Vihari, who was included in India's squad for the remaining two Tests against England, is a quintessential old school batsman who loves to bat for hours on end without trying anything fancy.

Known for daddy hundreds in domestic cricket, Vihari's selection in the national team comes on the back of a purple patch he has enjoyed in recent times.

"It's just the consistent performances from the last 4-5 years (that helped). Because I don't have the Indian Premier League contract which other players have to get into limelight, playing domestic cricket was the only way I could get into the Indian team. That said, I knew I needed to be consistent," said Vihari.

The 24-year old, who became the first player from Andhra in over 18 years to be selected to the Indian Test squad (after current selection committee chief and former Andhra wicketkeeper MSK Prasad represented India in 1999-2000), was among the leading run scorers in the 2017-18 Ranji Trophy season, amassing 752 runs in six matches at a staggering average of 94.

Vihari continued his good form in the Irani Trophy where he made a 327-ball 183 for Rest of India (RoI) against Ranji champions Vidarbha. His prolific run in domestic cricket earned him a place in India 'A' squad. In his most recent first-class game against South Africa 'A' in Bengaluru, he hit a match-winning 148.

HORSE RACING

Cambridge best bet for Nirmal Ruia Trophy

Astonish
sportm@hindustantimes.com

PUNE: Trainer Pesi Shroff's Cambridge who has been well tuned should win the Nirmal Ruia Trophy, the main event of Friday's afternoon races here.

The first race starts at 2.30pm.

SELECTIONS

1: 2. Golden Hind, 3. Pondarosa, 5. Fanfare

2: 3. Cambridge, 4. Governor General, 1. Celtic Prince

3: 1. Iron Age, 3. Kingston Heath, 9. Lesrel

4: 2. Zenon, 1. Lord Of The Sea, 3. Glorious Eyes

5: 1. Masterofbalantrae, 4. Colombianprincess, 5. Bottega Louie

6: 3. Hudson, 8. Dazzling Star, 6. Sassy Lass

Day's Best: Golden Hind

Double: Iron Age — Zenon

SPORTS ROUNDUP

Anand plays out draw with Carlsen in Sinquefield Cup

Agencies
sportm@hindustantimes.com

ST LOUIS, USA: Viswanathan Anand gave nothing away and played out a keenly contested draw with reigning world champion Magnus Carlsen of Norway in the fourth round of Sinquefield Cup, a part of the Grand Chess tour.

Playing his second white in the event, Anand tried the Rossolimo variation to counter Carlsen's Sicilian defense, an opening that the Norwegian chose second time against Anand in the current year.

WOODS, MICKELSON CONFIRM $9M DUEL

LOS ANGELES: Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson will go head-to-head in a winner-take-all $9 million (€7.78 million) duel in Las Vegas in November, it was announced Wednesday.

Woods and Mickelson, who have 19 Major titles between them, will face off at the Shadow Creek Golf Course on November 23, coinciding with Thanksgiving weekend in the United States.

Viswanathan Anand

SPANISH UNION THREATENS STRIKE

MADRID: Spain's footballers union on Wednesday threatened to strike over controversial plans to play a La Liga match in the US, blasting a decision based only on "money and business".

"We are tired of these unilateral decisions that directly affect the players like this plan of playing outside Spain," said David Aganzo, the president of the players union (AFE) after a meeting attended by stars including Sergio Ramos and Sergio Busquets. La Liga plans to stage a match in North America as part of an expansion drive.

DJOKOVIC EXCITED TO TEAM UP WITH FEDERER

CHICAGO: Novak Djokovic is looking forward to possibly forming a doubles dream-team with Roger Federer as Europe prepares to take on the Rest of the World in the Laver Cup. Djokovic and Federer will spearhead European challenge in the second staging of the tournament, which takes place in Chicago from September 21-23.

FORMER BRAZILIAN FOOTBALL BOSS JAILED

NEW YORK: A US judge jailed the 86-year-old former boss of Brazilian football for four years, branding him a "cancer" on the world's most popular sport in the sweeping FIFA corruption scandal. Jose Maria Marin was found guilty in connection with nearly $6.6 million in bribes from sports marketing companies in exchange for contracts to broadcast major tournaments.

D-day for coach Kovac as Bayern kick-off campaign

Agence France-Presse
sportm@hindustantimes.com

BERLIN: Bayern Munich kick-off the Bundesliga season on Friday at home against Hoffenheim with the spotlight on new coach Niko Kovac and whether he has what it takes to lead the club to a seventh straight league title.

"Tomorrow is D-Day — I'm convinced that my team will have a great day, technically and tactically," Kovac said confidently in a press conference on Thursday.

However, the 46-year-old ex-Bayern midfielder knows he is expected to maintain the club's winning ways after Munich won the title by 21 points under predecessor Jupp Heynckes last season. Kovac knows only satisfying Bayern's relentless thirst for silverware after six straight seasons as German champions will safeguard his job.

"Those who hope that FC Bayern will relax will be disappointed," boasted club chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge in preseason. "The gene that causes the feeling of being satisfied does not exist in our DNA."

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

asiangames

JAKARTA 2018
18 AUGUST - 2 SEPTEMBER

medalstally

Country	G	S	B	Total
China	55	40	21	116
Japan	25	28	33	86
South Korea	16	20	27	63
Iran	10	9	8	27
Indonesia	8	6	10	24
India (10th)	4	4	10	18

G-Gold **S**-Silver **B**-Bronze

The medals tally was updated after Day 5 of competition.

newstracker

Wang Shanshan AFP

FORGET MESSI, CHINA'S '9-GOAL DIVA' IS HERE

SHANGHAI: Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo step aside — the hottest striker in world football at the moment is China's "Nine-Goal Diva" Wang Shanshan. Wang earned that nickname from Chinese fans and media when she plundered a scarcely believable nine goals in a dizzying 29 minutes after coming off the bench in a 16-0 demolition of Tajikistan on Monday at the Asian Games. The forward has found the net a total of 11 times, netting in the 7-0 opening victory over Hong Kong and adding a soaring header as China's women beat formidable North Korea 2-0 on Wednesday to top their group and make the quarter-finals.

Vietnamese women row to first Asian Games gold

PALEMBANG: An overjoyed Vietnamese women's rowing team paddled into first place on Thursday to take their country's only gold of the Asian Games so far, as China racked up six wins on the Palembang lake. Vietnam's lightweight women's quadruple sculls claimed gold in the final race of the penultimate day of rowing events, held in the co-host city of Asia's regional Olympics. "We're very proud and honoured because we brought victory to our country," Ta Thanh Huyen said with a beaming smile on her face. "I never thought I could win a gold medal in a tournament like this." Iran took the silver in the same event — its best-ever result in women's rowing. China rowed to victory in six out of eight medal races on Thursday.

Chinese swimmer assaulted Korean: report

JAKARTA: A South Korean swimmer was assaulted by a Chinese athlete following an altercation at the Asian Games, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported on Thursday. The incident happened after Kim Hye-jin accidentally struck the Chinese swimmer's face while training at Jakarta's Aquatic Center, Yonhap said, citing the Korean Sport and Olympic Committee (KSOC). The Chinese swimmer, who was not named, kicked Kim and the pair had to be separated by athletes and coaches, the report said.

Son's South Korea beat Iran to reach quarters

CIKARANG: Son Heung-min's South Korea defeated Iran 2-0 on Thursday to progress to the Asian Games football quarter-finals in Cikarang, near Jakarta.
Son himself was kept quiet by Iran, who have won the tournament four times, but goals from Hwang Ui Jo and Lee Seungwoo secured South Korea's safe passage to the last eight. The Tottenham Hotspur forward, one of the overage players in the nominally Under-23 competition, may need South Korea to win the gold medal in Indonesia if he is to be exempt from two years national service. Son was a constant presence in the game.

Teenage prodigy Shardul narrowly misses gold

SILVER LINING 15-year-old double trap shooter wins 8th medal from the range

Shardul Vihan in action in men's double trap on Thursday. PTI

HT @ ASIAN GAMES

AJAI MASAND

PALEMBANG: Where is all this precocious talent coming from, one was forced to think after Shardul Vihan became another 15-year old to clinch a medal — silver in double trap shooting — in the Asian Games at the Jakabaring Complex ranges on Thursday.

On Tuesday, 15-year old Saurabh Chaudhary had won gold in the 10m air pistol event.

As the sun scalded the skin and parched the lips, spectators had the luxury of going back to the comfort of the air-conditioned confines, but not the 15-year-old Shardul, who seemed to be radiating such positivity that the excruciating conditions did not have an effect on him, until he had emerged with the eighth medal for the country in shooting.

The youngest shooter from India to win a medal at the Asian Games had everything going for him from the start. In fact he led with 141 points after five rounds of qualification and was two points ahead of Qatar's Hamad Ali Al Marri, almost thrice his age.

In the final — and starting with a clean slate — Shardul looked set to win India's third gold in shooting but the Korean shooter Shin Hyun-woo missed one target less than the Indian to emerge champion by just one point at 74-73.

During the victory ceremony, Shardul stood sheepishly, unable to come to terms with the magnitude of his achievement even as gold-medallist, Shin Hyun-woo, let out a roar.

Ceremony over, someone joked, "Now that you've won a senior medal, you should have your first shave." To, which the Meerut boy simply gave a nervous smile before it was time to go to the dope control centre.

The journey to silver has not been easy — neither for Shardul, nor for his family. For three years now, his uncle has been ferrying the champion shooter from Meerut to the Dr Karni Singh Shooting Ranges in Tughlakabad, as the 15-year-old still has three years to get a driving licence. "My chacha ji (uncle) Manoj Vihan drives me to the ranges, a good 2-1/2 hours from Meerut. He stays there all day long and brings me back home around 9:00 pm."

Manoj didn't want to miss the "historic feat", so he flew along with Shardul's personal coach Anwer Sultan for the finals.

"This is the moment I'd trained him for," said Sultan. "I remember the day his father brought him to me. He was a few inches shorter than me and now stands at least 3-4 inches taller than me"

On what was he doing the night before the biggest competition of his life, Vihan said, "I was playing PUBG (a video game)."

Though Shardul emerged second best, there are plenty of years ahead of him to turn that silver into gold. Maybe that occasion will come in a week's time, when he competes at the World Championships in South Korea.

SHIFT TO TRAP

With double trap now no longer part of the Olympic curriculum, what would be Shardul's next step? The baby-faced lad said, "I'll shift to trap shooting after the worlds. I'll be very disappointed leaving double trap, but if I have to win an Olympic gold, I need to become a trap shooter."

That training too would be under Sultan, himself a master of trap shooting, having won three national titles and competed at the 2000 Sydney Olympic. Moulding Shardul into a trap shooter won't be difficult. He started off playing cricket, moved to badminton, and now double trap.

SHARDUL VIHAN

15-year old from Meerut
Coach: Anwer Sultan
Pet event: Double Trap

ACHIEVEMENTS

2018 Asian Games silver medal
2017: 6th place in junior World Championships in Moscow
2018: National champion

Shardul Vihan celebrates with silver medal. PTI

No physio, India shooters cry foul

Ajai Masand
Ajai.Masand@htlive.com

PALEMBANG: There is a strong undercurrent of discontent in the 28-member Indian shooting contingent over the absence of a physiotherapist, who, according to players and coaches, is a basic requirement.

The contingent has four Indian coaches — Jaspal Rana, Ronak Pandit, Suma Shirur and Mansher. Four foreign coaches — Marcelo Dradi, Mikhailov Oleg, Falco Ennio and Smirnov Pavel — too have travelled here. The presence of eight coaches has not left any slot for a physiotherapist or manager as only eight accreditations were given by the Indonesian Asian Games Organising Committee (INAGSOC) for support staff.

Ronak Pandit, the coach of the pistol team, who is doubling as manager, asked: "Why does India need so many foreign coaches now? There was a time when they were a necessity. But now, many Indian shooters who have quit, or are on the verge of quitting, are better equipped to train those coming through the junior training programme of the National Rifle Association of India."

While Jaspal's wards Manu Bhaker, Saurabh Chaudhary and Anish Bhanwala, have dazzled in the pistol arena around the world, Mansher's band of young shotgun shooters, among them Lakshay Sheoran, have made a splash at the Games.

"The foreign coaches are blocking four slots which should ideally have gone to physios, masseurs, perhaps a dietician and a manager," said another male Indian coach, who has more than two decades of experience in the sport, on condition of anonymity.

Jaspal, a four-time Asian Games gold-medallist was equally scathing. "Shooting is our passion and we are passing our experience to the youngsters. When you look at their (foreign coaches') salaries, we get a pittance. It took six years of the junior training programme to bring the kids to this level; what role have they (the foreign coaches) played? They are all coaching seniors," he said.

DUAL ROLE

All Indian coaches are doubling as managers. "We have two deputy chefs de mission in Palembang — Balbir Singh Kushwaha and Col Satyawrat Sheoran — who we see only during the medals ceremony," said the coach. Three physios from the Olympic Gold Quest (OGQ) — Alap Jawadekar, Zeinia Samar and Jay Yadav — stay outside the Jakabaring Complex and come every morning on guest passes.

INDIANS IN ACTION TODAY

ARCHERY
8:05am: Recurve mixed team 1/8 eliminations – India v Mongolia
9:35am: Compound mixed team1/8 eliminations- India v Iraq

ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS
2:30pm: Men's vault final (Yogeshwar Singh)
3:08pm: Women's balance team final (Dipa Karmakar)

BRIDGE
8:00am: Mixed team round robin 2- round 3
12:30pm: Men's team qualification round 10
12:30pm: Mixed team round robin 2- round 4
12:30pm: Supermixed team qualification round 7
3:15pm: Men's team qualification round 11
3:15pm: Mixed team round robin 2- round 5

Kidambi Srikanth

BADMINTON
10:30am: Men's singles round of 32 (Srikanth Kidambi v Vincent Wong Wing of Hong Kong)
10:30am: Men's singles round of 32 (HS Prannoy v Kantaphon Wangcharoen of Thailand)
10:30am: Women's doubles round of 16 (Ashwini Ponnappa/N Sikki Reddy v tbd)

GOLF
4:30am: Women's team round 2
5:25am: Men's team round 2

HANDBALL
9:30am: Men's handball Group 3 (India v PAK)

HOCKEY
6:30pm: Men's Pool A (India v Japan)

KABADDI
1:30pm: Women's team gold medal match (India v Iran)

PENCAK SILAT
7:30am: Men's class B: 50kg to 55kg quarterfinal match 1 (Naorem Boynao Singh v Dines Dumaan of Philippines)

SPORT CLIMBING
7:30am: Men's combined bouldering qualification (Maibam Chingkheinganba, Bharath Stephen Pereira Kamath)

ROWING
7:30am: Men's lightweight single sculls finals (Dushyant)
7:40am: Men's quadruple sculls finals
8:20am: Men's lightweight double sculls finals (Rohit Kumar/ Bhagwan Singh)
9:05am: Women's four finals

SHOOTING
7:30am: 300m standard rifle men final (Amit Kumar, Harjinder Singh)
7:30am: 25m rapid fire pistol men qualification stage 1 (Shivam Shukla, Anish)
7:30am: 10m air pistol women qualification (Heena Sidhu, Manu Bhaker)

SWIMMING
7:38am: Men's 50m breaststroke heats (Sandeep Sejwal)
8:03am: Men's 1500m freestyle heats (Advait Page)

TENNIS
8:30am: Men's doubles gold medal match (Rohan Bopanna/ Divij Sharan v Aleksandr Bublik/ Denis Yevseyev (KAZ)

'Overconfident' India lose kabaddi stronghold

Iranian kabaddi team tackles down an Indian raider during their semi-final encounter. PTI

Sharad Deep
sharad.deep@htlive.com

JAKARTA: India's 28-year dominance in kabbadi in Asian Games ended on Thursday as the men's side lost 18-27 to an energetic Iran side to miss out on gold for the first time in eight Asian Games. Long-time rival Pakistan also got bronze after losing to South Korea 24-27 in the other semi-final.

A full-house crowd composed mainly of Indians kept roaring for the Ajay Thakur-led side till the last minute but it was too late for an 'overconfident' side that looked clueless in the second half of the 40-minute duel. At the 2014 Incheon Asian Games India had a thrilling two-point win in the final against the same opponents.

Despite leading 6-1 in the first-half, India, who missed best raider Rohit Kumar due to injury, stumbled quickly. With Iran left with just two raiders, India had the opportunity to strike a lona (when the entire opposing team is declared out).

But Iran kept their cool and scored back-to-back three super tackles, restoring parity at eight.

> Yes, we were a bit overconfident as we thought that this time too we would win against Iran. But this turned out to be our biggest mistake.
> RAMBIR SINGH, India coach

After the first timeout, Iran extended the lead by one point with a fine raid point by Mohammadesmaeil Maghsoudloumahalli before India levelled the score at nine.

After change of ends, Iran came up with a stunning display of raiding, catching and defending, leaving India completely jittery. Injury to Indian skipper Ajay Thakur at this juncture too proved to be crucial.

Puzzling was the way India went on overexcited raids while trailing by three points in the last 10 minutes of play. That played into the Iranians' hands as they showed better grasp on their catching and tackling than India.

"We had a certain game plan for India as we were watching all the footage of India and Pakistan players back home during our training. We followed these two teams religiously and then chalked out our strategy," Iran's coach Gholamreza Mazandarani said after the match. "We didn't lose patience and were waiting for Indians to commit mistakes. It happened as per our plan and that proved worthy."

Later India coach Rambir Singh Khokhar admitted overconfidence led to their fall. "Yes, we were a bit overconfident as we thought that this time too we would win against Iran. But this turned out to be our big mistake as the rivals were ready to tackle us," Rambir said. "We are known for our best raiding skills in the world, but didn't live up to the expectations today."

He, however, admitted that Ajay Thakur's injury proved costly. "We needed to score a lona early in the game, and later the injury to Ajay (a cut on his forehead) frustrated the team's moral. As many as seven super tackles (that fetched Iran 14 points) left us licking our wounds. It's a big loss and we will never forget this. Iran were far superior to us and they deserved to win."

Until you fall, you don't learn: Rana

Ajai Masand
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

> Gradually, she (Manu Bhaker) will get used to the pressure. It doesn't happen overnight. The kids are ready for the challenge at World Championships
> JASPAL RANA, India pistol coach

PALEMBANG: No television and restricted access to mobile phones are some of the ways India pistol coach Jaspal Rana mentors his wards, many of whom are teenagers.

Jaspal, a four-time Asian Games gold medallist, knows the gamut of emotions a teenager can go through in victory and in defeat. He had looked somewhat out of sorts when, as an 18-year-old, he returned from the Hiroshima Asian Games with a gold medal.

So, when Jaspal's prodigy, Manu Bhaker, emerged from the 25m pistol range bruised and shattered, he shielded the Jhajjar girl from the media and took her to the comfort of the rest room. Quite unlike the 10m mixed final where he seemed a bit angry with Bhaker's performance.

"That was my way of telling her she had not lived up to expectations (in 10m event), but yesterday (Wednesday), she did a remarkably good job and I was proud of her performance even though she finished fifth in the nerve-wracking final, won by Rahi Sarnobat," said Jaspal, who now has 60-odd shooters on his watch.

"My first lesson to them is, 'until you don't fall, you don't learn anything'. So, they compete without baggage but absorb the experience for future competitions," he said.

Time was when there was just one pistol shooter shouldering the aspirations of a nation and Jaspal is now happy that if one misses out, there is usually someone else backing up.

"What happened yesterday was a superb example of that. Manu got eliminated early but Rahi kept going and won gold. That was also a learning experience for the young girl. Seeing Rahi shoot in that pressure-cooker situation was a lesson in endurance for Manu. Gradually, she will get used to the pressure. It doesn't happen overnight. Champions like Rahi, Abhinav Bindra, Gagan Narang....or for that matter Sanjeev Rajput, who shot remarkably in that killing (50m rifle 3-position) competition to win silver have slogged for two, maybe, three decades. Those are lessons in endurance and mental strength for youngster."

Jaspal was initially sceptical about the medals' haul because the team events and a few individual events had been scrapped from the Games. "I thought, we'd return with frugal picking but these kids have been a revelation," said Jaspal, who won three gold at the 2006 Asian Games.

"Now children from all cross-sections of society are in the camp. They are children of businessmen, farmers, bureaucrats... those who make the top-10 cut in the National championships are absorbed in the junior programme."

"After the pressures here, I'm sure the kids are ready for the world championships."

results

ARCHERY
Recurve women's individual1/16 eliminations: Promila Daimary lost to Bishindeegiin Urantungalag
Recurve women's individual1/8 eliminations: Deepika Kumari lost to Lei Chien-Ying of Chinese Taipei
Recurve men's individual 1/8 eliminations: Viswash lost to Ilfat Abdullin of Kazakhstan
Recurve men's individual 1/8 quarterfinals: Atanu Das lost to Riau Ega Agatha of Indonesia

ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS
Women's Vault final: Aruna Reddy finished 7th with 12.755 points, Pranati Nayak finished 8th with 12.650 points.

BADMINTON
Women's singles round of 32: PV Sindhu bt Vũ Th Trang of Vietnam 21-10, 12-21, 23-21; Saina Nehwal bt Soraya A. of Iran 21-7, 21-9.
Women's doubles round of 32: Ashwini Ponappa/N Sikki Reddy bt Ng Wing Yung/ Yeung Nga Ting of Hong Kong 21-16, 21-15; Rutaparna Panda/Arathi Sunil lost to Chayanti C/Phataimas M of Thailand 11-21, 6-21.

BASKETBALL
Women's 5x5Preliminary: India lost to Indonesia 66-69.

GOLF
Women's individual round 1: Diksha Dagar-T7, Sifat Sagoo-24, Ridhima D. -T27.
Men's individual round 1: Aadil Bedi-T2, Rayhan John Thomas-T11, Naveed Kaul-T18, Mohan Singh-T45.

KABADDI
Women's team semi-finals: India bt Chinese Taipei 27-14.
Men's team semi-finals: India lost to Iran 18-27, secured bronze medal.

PENCAK SILAT
Men's class B: 50kg to 55kg Rd of 16: NB Singh bt T Sulaimankul of Kyrgyzstan

SHOOTING
Double Trap women finals: Shreyasi Singh (6th); Varsha Varman (7th)

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

Deepika stumbles once again, says lost fight against herself

MISSES MEDAL Former world No 1 archer doesn't live up to her billing, loses in pre-quarters

HT@ ASIAN GAMES

SHARAD DEEP

JAKARTA: Yet again, Deepika Kumari flunked at the top level in what seems to be a continuing trend for the archer who was expected to lead India's charge in the discipline at the Asian Games here.

On Thursday, she made an early exit after losing her individual recurve pre-quarterfinal to Chien-Ying Lei of Chinese Taipei 3-7.

This comes on the back of a gold-winning performance at a World Cup stage.

But here, it was the case of just one arrow as Deepika failed to control her nerve despite having an early lead in the game.

She won the first set 29-27 before the second set was equalled 29-29.

Her form, however, started taking a nosedive after that as she lost the next three sets 24-28, 27-28 and 25-29.

TEARY-EYED

"It was my fight against my own self and I lost," a teary-eyed Deepika, who won gold medals at the 2010 Commonwealth Games in recurve individual and team events, said after her loss.

"It is a sport where you always try to beat yourself and this has nothing to do with what my rival is doing. I tried my best to remain focused but it did not go my way."

Deepika, who had a convincing 6-2 win in her first match against North Korea's Hyang Ji Ri, said she was quite disappointed with her performance.

"It is really quite disappointing for me as I started well and tried hard, but I did not shoot well in my second last shot in the third set and it made all the difference at the end. I was desperate for a full 10, but it didn't happen," said Deepika, who has won two silver medals (2011 and 2015) at the World Championships.

Deepika Kumari takes aim during the women's recurve individual round in Jakarta on Thursday. PTI

> Now it is time to concentrate on the mixed team event and I should not remember what has happened to me in the individual event
> DEEPIKA KUMARI, Indian archer

She, however, refused to acknowledge there was any pressure.

DID NOT FEEL PRESSURE

"I also expect myself to do well. I do not feel pressure at big events. We don't think like this is a big event. That kind of thought puts pressure. We just practice and try hard," the former world number one archer said, adding that she will now try to do well in the mixed event. Deepika had won a recurve team bronze medal at the 2010 Asian Games in Guangzhou.

"Now it is time to concentrate on the mixed team event and I should forget what has happened to me in the individual event. One needs to learn from his or her mistakes and I too will do the same," said the three-time World Cup gold medallist.

In fact, Deepika's elimination was curtains for India in the women's individual recurve as Promila Daimary was also eliminated after losing 2-6 to Mongolia's Urantungalag Bishindee in the second round.

India's last hope in the men's individual quarter-final was dashed too when Atanu Das lost to Indonesia's Salsabilla Riau Egaagata 3-7.

Atanu was neck-and-neck in the first three sets, but thereafter lost the next two.

In the Round of 32, Atanu defeated North Korean Yong Won Pak 7-3 following it up with a same score victory against Denis Gankin of Kazakhstan in the pre-quarterfinal.

The other Indian in men's individual recurve, Viswas got the better of Bataa Purevsuren of Mongolia 6-2 in the first match but crashed out after losing his pre-quarterfinal 1-7 to Kazakhstan's Ilfat Abdullin.

Archer Vishwas slams federation after early defeat

Sharad Deep
sharad.deep@htlive.com

JAKARTA: Indian archer Vishwas has slammed the Archery Association of India (AAI) for not backing him enough after losing the pre-quarterfinal of recurve individual event on Thursday. His 1-7 loss to Kazakh Ilfat Abdullin sparked a tirade from the veteran who accused AAI of never treating him as priority.

"When there are no expectations of a medal from us then what can we do. They don't have focus on us. If they did they would have sorted out everything before we came here. I never felt myself as the priority player in the team," said Vishwas, who won bronze at 2006 Doha. "It keeps you pinching all the time even when you are aiming for the target. It's really humiliating."

Barring Atanu Das, the other three archers in the four-member men's recurve squad, including Vishwas, Sukhchain Singh and Jagdish Choudhary are not in the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS). Procuring equipment too has been an issue. Despite Army's full support, Vishwas hasn't been able to get new equipment as Army has a process through which all requisitions are done. A brand new set costs more than ₹3 lakh, including the bow and a dozen arrows. "Since 2017, I am shooting on a borrowed limb from Deepika Kumari, whereas the handle for my equipment was given by someone else," said Vishwas.

Meanwhile, AAI acting president Tarlochan Singh refused to accept there was any shortcoming. "We give full support to our archers in terms of training, exposure etc. and there was no lacking on our part. I was expecting Vishwas to win a medal this time, but he missed out."

Bopanna-Sharan duo in final, Ankita gets bronze

HT Correspondent & Agencies
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

PALEMBANG: The Indian men's tennis doubles team of Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan registered a hard fought victory to enter the final on Thursday.

Bopanna and Sharan beat Japanese duo of Kaito Uesugi and Sho Shimabukuro 4-6, 6-3, 10-8 in an hour and 12 minutes.

The Japanese pair lacked the power and big serve of the Indians but made up with accurate placements and some good work at the net. Playing against more experienced and higher ranked opponents, Kaito and Sho did well to win the first set.

The second set went with the serve till the Indians earned their first break in the eighth game to take a 5-3 lead. Serving for the set, Divij conceded a 0-40 deficit before fighting back to 40-40 and eventually holding serve to draw level. The Indians then won the tie-breaker to enter the final.

ANKITA GOES DOWN

In the women's singles semi-finals, India's Ankita Raina will have to be content with a bronze after a straight sets loss to Chinese top seed Zhang Shuai. Despite not being fully fit, Ankita gave a spirited fight against a much higher ranked opponent, who is more than 150 places above her in the WTA rankings.

After losing the first set, Ankita fought back and almost won the second set before going down 4-6, 6-7 in a tough, long drawn battle that lasted two hours and 11 minutes.

Rohan Bopanna (right) and Divij Sharan in action on Thursday. PTI

BOPANNA-RAINA LOSE

Later, Bopanna and Raina lost their quarter-final against local players Christopher Rungkat and Aldila Sutjiadi 6-4, 1-6, 10-6.

PRAJNESH IN SEMIS

Prajnesh Gunneswaran also assured himself of at least a bronze after entering the men's singles semis. The Indian beat South Korean Soonwoo Kwon 6-7(2), 6-4, 7-6(8).

INDIA ROUNDUP

Ghosal, Sandhu face-off in quarters

Agencies
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

JAKARTA: India are assured of a bronze in squash as Saurav Ghosal faces Harinder Pal Sandhu in the men's quarter-finals. In women's singles, both Joshna Chinappa and Dipika Pallikal Karthik also entered quarters.

NATRAJ 6TH, KHADE 8TH

Srihari Natraj twice bettered his national record in the 200m backstroke with timings of 2:02.97 in the heats and 2:02.83 in the final, but could finish only sixth. Virdhawal Khade finished last in the 50m butterfly with a timing of 24.48 in the final.

INDIA FACE JAPAN

Defending champions India will face their first real test when they take on Japan in a Pool A men's hockey match on Friday. It has been a cakewalk for India so far as they demolished Indonesia 17-0 and Hong Kong 26-0 earlier.

Saurav Ghosal. GETTY IMAGES

SONIA IN BOXING LAST-8

World and Asian silver-medallist Sonia Lather (57kg) got a bye to the quarters as the boxing draws were revealed. In the men's draw, Shiva Thapa (60kg), Amit Panghal (49kg), Mohd Hussamuddin (56kg), Dheeraj Rangi (64kg) and Vikas Krishan (75kg) got byes to pre-quarters.

SINDHU, SAINA WIN

PV Sindhu had to dig deep to beat Vu Thi Trang of Vietnam 21-10, 12-21, 23-21 but Saina Nehwal did not break sweat to oust Iran's Soraya Aghhajiagha 21-7, 21-9 in the first round of the women's singles badminton.

BEDI T-2 IN MEN'S GOLF

Aadil Bedi carded 3-under 69 to be tied second behind Japan's Keita Nakajima after Round 1 of men's golf. Rayhan Thomas (71) and Kshitij Naveed (73) helped India to second spot in team event with a total of 213. In the women's section, Diksha Dagar (71), Sifat Sagoo (75) and Ridhima Dilawari (77) kept India in 9th spot.

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

www.facebook.com/hindustantimes www.twitter.com/htTweets ■ DOWNLOAD OUR iPAD APP www.hindustantimes.com/iPad ■ OUR EDITION ON KINDLE http://read.ht/JS4

hindustantimes

hindustantimes.com

Mumbai/METRO/Navi Mumbai ■ Vol. XIV No. 201 ■ Price ₹4.00 ■ 24 Pages + 6 Pages of HT Café (for Mumbai only). Area specific pages extra.

NAVI MUMBAI FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

'NO CHANCE AT ALL' OF SIMULTANEOUS POLLS FOR LS, ASSEMBLIES, SAYS CEC ›HT NATION P9

RIL BREACHES ₹8L-CR MKT CAP ›htbusiness p15

KOHLI BACK AS NO. 1 ICC TEST BATSMAN

OVERTAKES STEVE SMITH AFTER TRENT BRIDGE TEST ›HT SPORT P16

Fire brigade plans surprise checks at high-rises, malls

PAREL BLAZE BMC's July circular asks fire dept to inspect 300 buildings every month

HT SPECIAL

Eeshanpriya M S
■ eeshanpriya@htlive.com

MUMBAI: The death of four people in Wednesday's fire at Crystal Tower, where several safety rules were violated, has served as a wake-up call to the fire brigade and the Mumbai civic body to start conducting surprise checks at residential buildings.

After the tragic fire at two restaurants in Kamala Mills in December 2017, in which 14 people were killed, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) had formed a fire compliance cell to check if commercial structures had fire-safety mechanisms in place.

Until July, this cell's inspection were done only to provide clearance certificates, to mainly hotels and restaurants.

"As the Kamala Mills fire was at a commercial spot, we focused on inspecting eateries, multiplexes, pubs and bars," said fire brigade officer.

"High-rise housing societies were not in focus."

The 3,423 buildings the cell inspected since it was formed in February 2018 were hotels, restaurants, theatres, and malls. In July, the BMC issued a circular asking the cell to inspect a minimum of 300 buildings, including residential ones, every month.

So far, such checks at residential properties had not been conducted. "We have introduced a new and more stringent procedure for fire safety only last month," chief fire officer P Rahangdale confirmed.

"Follow-up investigations of existing high-rise buildings will also be done to check if they follow the mandatory bi-annual fire audits, and comply with fire safety."

CONTINUED ON P10

■ Police guard the entrance of the Crystal Tower building in Parel on Thursday. PRATIK CHORGE/HT

ACTION TAKEN SO FAR

The fire brigade has disconnected water and electricity to the building

The building has been declared unsafe and has been sealed

A complaint will be registered against the builder for not complying with fire safety norms, under the Fire Safety Act

WHAT NEXT?

BMC will serve a prosecution notice to Crystal Tower for fire safety violations

The fire brigade will open an investigation into the cause of the fire and prepare a report in a fortnight

1 FAMILY REFUSES TO VACATE BLDG

While most families affected in the Crystal Tower blaze were looking for shelters on Thursday, the Kapoors have decided to stay put, even though the water and power supply were disconnected. "My wife, son and I will not leave the flat. It is our home. We have been living here since 1995. We will drink bottled water and live in candle light," said Rajinder Kapoor. »P3

55,000 BUILDINGS DON'T HAVE OC

There are 55,000 buildings in the city with an occupancy certificate (OC), according to civic estimates. An OC allows a developer to let flat buyers occupy the building and ensures the building gets a water connection. »P3

In 6 years, two dozen terror suspects back to India from Gulf

Rajesh Ahuja and Jayanth Jacob
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Indian diplomacy, especially in the Gulf countries, has resulted in extradition or deportation of more than two dozen terror suspects back to India in the last six years, an analysis of data of ministries of home and external affairs shows.

The most recent such deportation was of an alleged LeT operative Habibur Rahman who was sent to India earlier this month by Saudi Arabia.

The new wave of deportation or extraditions related to charges of terrorism started with Abu Jundal alias Syed Zabiuddin Ansari.

Jundak, a native of Aurangabad in Maharashtra, was sent back to India from Saudi Arabia in June 2012.

THE MOST RECENT SUCH DEPORTATION WAS OF ALLEGED LET OPERATIVE, HABIBUR RAHMAN, SENT TO INDIA EARLIER THIS MONTH BY SAUDI ARABIA

After Jundal, there have been over two dozen extraditions or quick deportations from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Thailand and even from Bangladesh (that of Anup Chetia, top leader of United Liberation Front of Assam).

»FULL REPORT, P11

Will ask Centre to allow foreign aid: Alphons on Kerala

Jeevan Prakash Sharma
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Union minister KJ Alphons urged the central government on Thursday to "make an exception" for Kerala after the Centre refused to accept ₹700 crore in relief offered by the United Arab Emirates for the state, where more than a million people have been displaced and over 200 people killed in the worst flood in a century.

A political row broke out on Wednesday after the Centre said it was against India's policy to accept foreign aid in such cases. The country has refused offers of financial assistance from foreign governments since a tsunami struck in 2004.

Alphons said the government had followed a 14-year convention it "inherited" from previous governments of not accepting such assistance in the face of natural calamities. "I am pleading with my people and senior ministers that please make an exception for Kerala accept fund from abroad."

"The government is free to take a decision in the interest of the country," the minister said.

The ministry of external affairs earlier said it "is committed to meeting the requirements for relief and rehabilitation through domestic efforts".

CONTINUED ON P10
»RELATED REPORTS, P8

Traceability not a deal-breaker, govt tells WhatsApp

Vidhi Choudhary
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: WhatsApp said on Thursday that tracing the origin of messages sent over the platform would undermine its "private nature", prompting the government to clarify that it expected the Facebook-owned service to continue exploring technical innovations, even as they appeared to agree on three other conditions set by India to operate in the country. The government had asked WhatsApp to come up with a solution to trace the origin of fake messages. The messaging service said introducing traceability would weaken privacy protection of its users.

»FULL REPORT, P9

JAITLEY BACK AT FINANCE MINISTRY

■ Arun Jaitley, who resumed duty on Thursday as the Union finance minister after a three-month break, arrives at the ministry at North Block in New Delhi. ARVIND YADAV/HT »REPORT ON P15

SHOCK EXIT

India's golden kabaddi run ends in heartbreak

■ SHOOTING STAR AT 15 Shardul Vihan won India a silver medal in the men's double trap event on Thursday. PTI »P17

asian games 2018 AUG 18 - SEP 2

Somshuvra Laha
■ somshuvra.laha@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Every time India left for an Asian Games over the last 28 years, it went in the knowledge that one gold medal was virtually assured — the indigenous sport of kabaddi that has sparked its own professional league in the country since 2014.

The golden run ended on Thursday, when India was eliminated 27-18 in the kabaddi semi-final by Iran, and had to be content with a bronze medal for the first time since the sport was introduced at the Asiad in the 1990 Games in Hiroshima.

Ironically, experts said, part of the blame for India's defeat, and for the rise of Iran as a world kabaddi force, lies in the Pro Kabaddi League which features a number of Iranian players.

CONTINUED ON P10

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

htnavimumbai

WE WILL COMPLETE THE WORK BY SEPT END. BY OCT, ORGANISERS CAN START BOOKING THE AUDITORIUM
›KDMC OFFICIAL, over reopening of Acharya Atre auditorium

Kalwa-Airoli rail corridor put on fast track

₹428-CRORE PLAN State govt comes up with policy for rehabilitation of project-affected, which was so far acting as hurdle in the work

Megha Pol
megha.pol@hindustantimes.com

THANE: With the state government coming up with a policy on rehabilitation for project-affected people under the Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP), the work on the ₹428-crore Kalwa-Airoli elevated rail corridor project is set to speed up.

The encroachments will be removed by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA). The total corridor is of 8km, of which the elevated corridor is 3.2-km between Airoli and Kalwa passing via Digha. Digha will be a new station, while Kalwa will have an elevated station. The new elevated corridor will join the existing Airoli station. The corridor will ease 30% of the crowd from Thane station.

The Kalwa-Airoli corridor, to be implemented by the Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation (MRVC), was stuck for state's approval to remove around 2,100 encroachers along the way of the project. The state has drafted fresh guidelines for thousands of people residing on the project-affected areas of various MUTP projects. These new guidelines focus on rehabilitating eligible encroachers. While those in city limit will get a 269-sqft house, those in village or council limit will get 300-sqft house. Those who are ineligible will not get any sort of compensation.

The foundation stone for the project was laid in December 2016 and the work on Digha station began recently. Sanjay Singh, spokesperson of MRVC, said, "This state policy will clear the road ahead for removing the encroachments along the Kalwa-Airoli corridor. We were waiting for this resettlement and rehabilitation policy and can now proceed."

Rajan Vichare, Thane MP, said, "The state has now given a go-ahead to the MMRDA to remove these encroachments. The plan for rehabilitation and removal of these encroachments is approved by the state."

The idea of the corridor is to decongest Thane station. People from Dombivli, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Karjat and Kasara lines have to get down at Thane station to go to Navi Mumbai. With the new corridor, they will have direct connectivity to Navi Mumbai. Urban planner Mayuresh Bhadsavle said, "Currently, the maximum crowd at Thane station is along the trans-harbour line. There are merely two platforms catering to trans-harbour, insufficient to accommodate lakhs of commuters. The corridor will help."

KALWA-AIROLI ELEVATED STATION

₹428 cr The cost of the elevated railway corridor

It will be funded partly by the world bank and partly by the state and central governments

The new station will ease 30% of the crowd at Thane station

The total corridor will be 8km, of which elevated corridor will be 3.2km from Kalwa through Digha to Airoli

A new Digha station will be converted on this track, along with a new elevated station at Kalwa

The line will join the existing Airoli station, from where the Kalwa train will run towards the new elevated station via Digha

Around a lakh of people from Kalyan, Dombivli, Badlapur and Ambernath board the trans-harbour train from Thane. This crowd will be shifted to the new elevated station at Kalwa

NEED FOR THE NEW STATION

6.5 lakh commute from the 10 platforms of Thane railway station every day

Of this, over one to two lakh people use the trans-harbour line between Thane to Navi Mumbai

1,400 local and 50 long-distance trains pass through Thane station every day

The station has six foot overbridges, while the work on the seventh one is on.

■ **The foundation stone for the Kalwa-Airoli elevated rail corridor was laid in December 2016.** PRAFUL GANGURDE/HT

DRUNK 'TC' CHEATS PASSENGERS ON PUNE-INDORE EXPRESS, HELD

Priyanka Dhomse
priyanka.dhomse@htlive.com

DOMBIVLI: A 39-year-old fake ticket checker, travelling on 19311 Indore-Pune Express was arrested by the Dombivli government railway police on Wednesday.

According to an officer, as the train left from Chinchwad, Pune, posing as a ticket checker, the accused, Vilas Maruti Mane, started asking passengers to show their tickets. Most passengers started showing their tickets. However, one of the passengers realised he was drunk and asked him for his identity card.

As he failed to show the same, the passenger complained about him by calling on the GRP helpline number. "We received a call when the train was close to Bhiwandi Road station. Around 9:30pm on Wednesday, he was nabbed by our GRP team from Bhiwandi Road station," said Satish Pawar, senior inspector, Dombivli GRP.

Pawar also said Mane hails from Sangli district and was unable to say which station he boarded the train from. "A case has been registered under section 420 of Indian Penal Code. He has been remanded in police custody for 14 days," said Pawar.

Acharya Atre auditorium to reopen in Sept

Sajana Nambiar
sajana.nambiar@hindustantimes.com

KALYAN: Theatre lovers in Kalyan will have to wait longer to watch a play at the Acharya Atre auditorium. According to the Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Corporation (KDMC) officials, the repair work in the auditorium will take another month for completion.

The civic officials claimed that the work got delayed because there was no response for the tender to repair the carpets, air conditioners and seating arrangements. Three different tenders were floated for the separate works.

"We will complete the work by September end after Ganesh Chaturthi. By October, organisers can start booking the auditorium for performances," said a senior KDMC official.

The civic body planned to spend around ₹4 crore on the repair work. Last year, several cultural programme organisers had written to the civic body chief about the delay in the reopening of the auditorium.

In response, city engineer Pramod Kulkarni listed out the reasons for the delay – lack of response from contractors even after tender was called three times, the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), and the fact that repair works could not be conducted during monsoon.

The auditorium, which is near Shivaji chowk, has been shut for repairs since April 2017.

The civic body had assured it would complete the repair work by December 2017 and reopen the auditorium in January this year.

Organisers across the state are finding it difficult to finalise the venue for their events, as the KDMC keeps delaying the reopening of the auditorium.

Prashant Dandekar, a representative of Kalyan Gayan Samaj, who holds various events at the auditorium every year, said, "I am planning to organise a musical programme in October. I have been constantly asking the KDMC officials about the auditorium's reopening date. However, I don't get a proper response from them."

He said, "Recently, the civic officials had said they will open the auditorium by August 15, but they missed that deadline."

According to Dandekar, the last three months of the year witness many cultural programmes.

Dandekar added, "The civic body should open the auditorium by September end as promised because during the last three months of the year, we schedule several events."

Last year, Kalyan's popular event 'Devgandharva Mahotsav,' got affected due to the repair work. At the last minute, the programme had to be conducted at Dombivli's Savitribai Phule auditorium instead of the Acharya Atre auditorium. After the Acharya Atre auditorium is opened, the civic body plans to shut the Savitribai Phule auditorium.

"I check the newspapers every day to see if there is any listing on musical and theatre programmes at the auditorium. However, there is no such information from the last one year. We have no other option here in Kalyan to watch live performances," said Sangita Mane, 34, a resident of Paar Naka, Kalyan (West).

Artistes and programme organisers from the twin city had initiated a signature campaign on Gudi Padwa in March, at Tilak chowk in Dombivli, during the yearly Swagat Yatra (procession) taken by the Ganesh Mandir Sansthan in Dombivli to complete the repair work on time.

After the signature campaign, the KDMC had assured to complete the repair work on priority basis and set the auditorium open by August 15.

However, the authorities failed to complete the time within the deadline.

ABOUT THE AUDITORIUM
- The auditorium has a capacity to seat 850 visitors
- At least one play or musical performance used to be held at the auditorium every day
- The auditorium was built in 2001

■ **The Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Corporation will spend ₹4 crore on the repairs.** RISHIKESH CHOUDHARY/HT

BONDING WITH NATURE

■ **Students of New English High School in Thane on Thursday used Raksha Bandhan (August 26) as an occasion to bond with nature. They tied eco-friendly rakhis around trees on their school premises, promising to protect them and encourage others to follow suit.** PRAFUL GANGURDE/ /HT

GST IMPACT

Spend more to bring Ganesha home

Padmja Sinha
padmja.sinha@htlive.com

NAVI MUMBAI: The cost of idols for the Ganesh Chaturthi festival this year has increased by 18 to 20% as compared to an increase of 10% in the previous years.

After the government levied 18% Goods and Service Tax (GST) on raw materials this year and service charge, the cost of celebrations has gotten heavier on the pockets. While plaster of paris (POP) earlier invited 13.5% tax (value-added tax, import duty, etc), the government has now levied 18% GST on them, thus increasing the cost of idols.

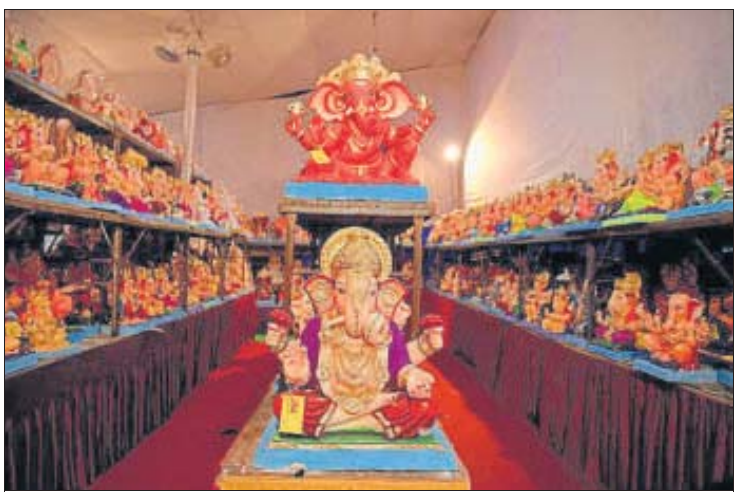
"This year, I have decided to opt for cloth decorations for the mandals and not thermocol. But, cloth decoration is an art in itself and I would need good decorators. Hence, I would also need to pay higher tax, considering the service charge," said, Chandrakant Shewale, organiser of Shiv Shambhu Mitra Mandal, Kopar Khairane. Many mandals across the city have also opted for eco-friendly decorations.

Sampat Shewale, from Sarvajanik Ganesh Mandal, Vashi, Sector 7, said, "Since the very beginning, we have celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi in an eco-friendly way, thus, the increase in cost of Ganesh idols will not affect our celebrations." He said that he is happy with the GST and it has reduced the burden of different taxes and eased their work.

This year, organisers will have to pay GST even while hiring decorators. Until now, mandals would pay service tax at 15%, but this year, it will increase to 18%.

Badal Jain from Yuva Ganesh Utsav mandal, Kamothe, said, "Unlike every year, this year, we have to pay a higher cost for the idols as well as the decorators."

Last year, a 15-feet idol cost organisers ₹70,000 to ₹80,000. However, this year, it is likely to cost around ₹1 lakh. Similarly, a two-feet idol that was sold at ₹ 2,000 to ₹2,300 last year may cost ₹4,000 this year.



■ **Until now, mandals had to pay service tax at 15%, but this year, it will increase to 18%.** BACHCHAN KUMAR/HT

Long-distance private buses under cop lens

Pranab Jyoti Bhuyan
pranab.bhuyan@hindustantimes.com

NAVI MUMBAI: In view of long-distance private buses violating the norms, the Navi Mumbai traffic department has decided to take a special drive against them from Friday.

A huge number of private buses carry passengers from Vashi and Kopar Khairane to other states, namely Karnataka, Goa and other far-off places in Maharashtra such as Kolhapur, Satara, Pune, among others.

These buses are parked on main roads, creating trouble for other vehicles. As they operate mostly at nights, they don't bother about traffic officials who may take action against them.

Satish Gaikwad, senior police inspector of Vashi traffic unit, said, "Drivers of these buses park their vehicles wherever they want. They also randomly stop them for taking passengers even at important junctions."

"Some carry passengers more than their capacity. Likewise they also violate other rules such as jumping signals or rash driving. We have been receiving complaints against them for a long time. Therefore, we have decided to take up this drive," he said.

According to Gaikwad, the traffic officials will be deployed on roads at night to pay special attention to these buses. If any bus driver is found violating norms, he will be penalised.

"Our officials will also keep a tab on other vehicles plying on roads at nights. It will make the roads safer for the pedestrians and law abiding motorists," Gaikwad said.

TRAFFIC COPS' SPECIAL DRIVE
- A huge number of private buses carry passengers from Navi Mumbai to other states. These buses are parked on main roads, creating trouble for other vehicles. Some also carry passengers more than their capacity
- After a lot of complaints against them, Navi Mumbai traffic unit decided to take up a special drive against them.

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

Best to waste? NMMC now neglects garbage

CHANGE IN APPROACH After being declared the best civic body in solid waste management in Swachh Survekshan Survey in 2018, waste lies strewn near station

Pranab Jyoti Bhuyan
pranab.bhuyan@hindustantimes.com

NAVI MUMBAI: Thanks to its scientific approach towards garbage segregation, collection and composting, the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) was declared the best civic body in India in solid waste management in the Swachch Survekshan Survey in 2018.

However, within a few weeks after the results were declared and the wards were handed over, the civic body seems to have lost interest in collecting garbage. The local residents are now complaining about how the approach of the staff has changed after the survey.

A huge amount of waste has piled up on an arterial road behind a shopping mall near the Vashi railway station over the past few days. The situation is so bad that because of its foul smell, pedestrians can't even walk on the road. "The area where the garbage has been dumped is barely 100 meters away from the Vashi station, which sees over 60,000 footfalls a day. Most commuters suffer because of this menace and the NMMC is aware of it," said Usha Salve, 45, a resident of Vashi.

"In case of heavy rain, the garbage mixes with the water. We have no option but to walk through the puddle. It is surprising that NMMC, which came first in the country in solid waste management, is now doing handling garbage like this," she said.

Residents alleged garbage is not being lifted from bins properly at other places too. "It is not that the civic body has stopped lifting garbage from the city. But there's a visible change in their attitude after the results of Swachch Survekshan were announced," said Rajendra Mane, 38, a resident of Kopar Khairane.

"The bins on the roads are now filled with garbage most of the times. But we can't see NMMC staff collecting garbage from the bins. Likewise, roads are also not being swept regularly," he said.

According to official records, the NMMC collects around 650 metric tonnes of garbage every day, of which around 200 metric tonnes are wet waste. "Before survey, the NMMC was aggressive in promoting segregation of e-waste and scientific composting. But they seem to have forgotten about it now," said Rashmi Mukherji, 41, a resident of Vashi.

Tushar Pawar, deputy commissioner of NMMC (solid waste management), said, "It is true that because of the rains, the process of collecting and segregating garbage has slowed down to some extent. Our people have not been able to do it as fast as they used to do it earlier. Because of that, they might not have lifted garbage from some of the bins. We have taken this matter seriously and the requisite measures will be taken soon."

"As far as the place near Vashi railway station is concerned, some people have undertaken the task of collecting and segregating garbage there. We had received complaints about them earlier too, after which we asked the Vashi ward officer to look into it. We will coordinate with him again," he said.

Despite repeated attempts, Mahendra Singh Thoke, the NMMC ward officer for Vashi was unavailable for comments.

Mounds of garbage in Navi Mumbai tell the story of NMMC's negligence towards waste management. BACHCHAN KUMAR/HT

> The area where the garbage has been dumped is barely 100 metres from Vashi station. Most commuters suffer because of this.
> USHA SALVE, Vashi resident

> It is not that NMMC has stopped lifting garbage from the city. But there's a visible change in their attitude after the
> R MANE, Kopar Khairane resident

> Our people have not been able to collect and segregate garbage as fast as they used to do it earlier due to rain
> TUSHAR PAWAR, NMMC chief

THE LAUREL

The Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) was declared the best civic body in India in solid waste management in the Swachch Survekshan Survey in 2018

The survey ranks cities in the country based on their cleanliness

According to official records, the Navi Mumbai civic body collects 650 metric tonnes of garbage daily, of which around 200 metric tonnes are wet waste.

COMPLAINTS

Even as the NMMC decided to sweep roads twice a day that was not being done at all places for different reasons. Now they claim to have taken all possible steps to ensure roads in all areas are swept both in the morning and evening

The civic body is now processing 40-50 tonnes of organic waste every day. The fertilizers produced by the composting units are being sold to a government agency.

They have made waste composting mandatory for housing societies and hotels that generate over 100 kg garbage every day

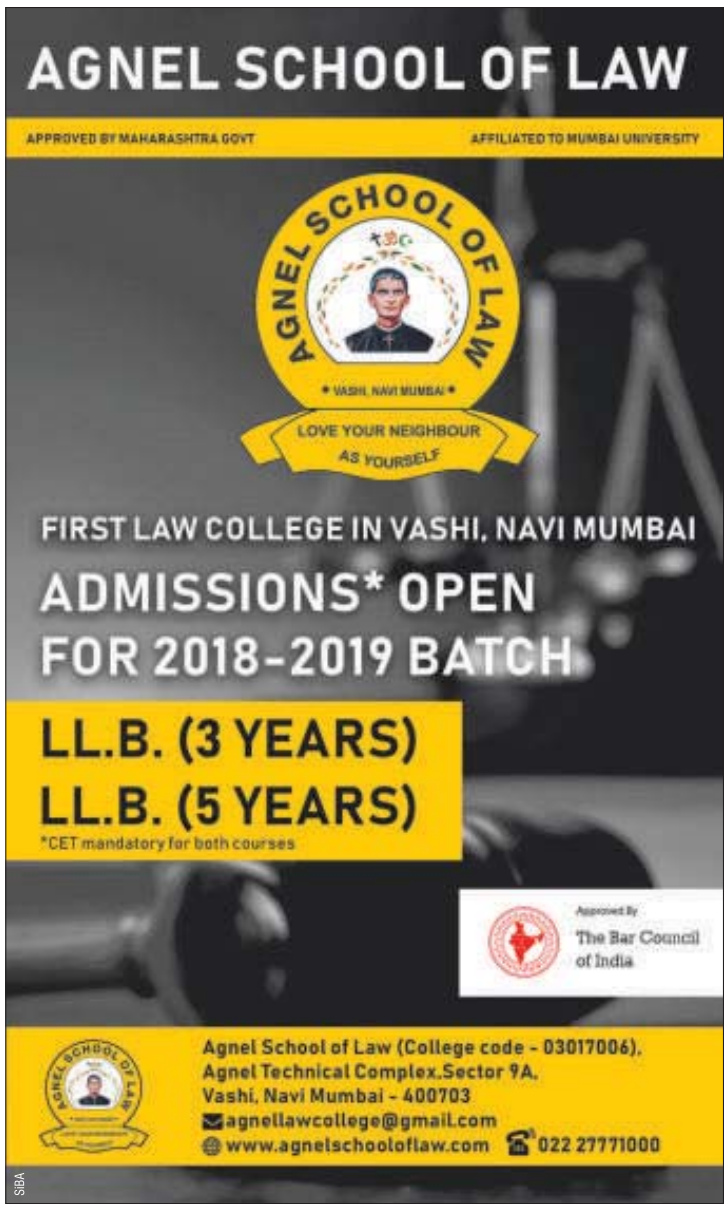
They had also served over 6,000 notices to different societies informing the residents about ways of garbage segregation.

Fresh surveys will be conducted to understand the need of public and family toilets in the city. Requisite measures will be taken accordingly

They are also paying more attention to the parks and the gardens and nullahs in the city.

Residents alleged garbage is not being lifted from bins properly at other places to. They are being to wade through puddles littered with waste to reach Vashi station.

A HUGE AMOUNT OF WASTE HAS PILED UP ON AN ARTERIAL ROAD BEHIND A SHOPPING MALL NEAR THE VASHI RAILWAY STATION OVER THE PAST FEW DAYS



pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

hindustantimes

MUMBAI, FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018, 6 PAGES | Entertainment & Promotional Features

www.hindustantimes.com | www.facebook.com/HTcity | twitter.com/htshowbiz | instagram.com/htcity | www.youtube.com/user/ht

ht café MUMBAI

SHAHID TAKES ON INFLATED ELECTRICITY BILLS>>P2

IS INDIA READY TO ACCEPT QUEER FASHION?

Prateik Babbar and Jason Arland walk the ramp for Chola by Sohaya Mishra
PHOTO: YOGEN SHAH

Akshay Kaushal

Historically, fashion has always had the power to inspire revolutions and challenge prejudices. As Indian fashion increasingly becomes more inclusive, designers are boldly foraying into gender-neutral clothing and expressing freedom through clothes. At the ongoing Lakme Fashion Week Winter/ Festive 2018, actor Prateik Babbar and celebrity makeup artist Jason Arland made a strong statement by showcasing drag culture on the ramp for Chola by Sohaya Mishra. While Babbar wore skirt style pants teamed with cape, bright nail-paint and lipstick, Arland wore a feminine, frilly tiered dress.

Designer Nikhil Mehra says it's great that designers are attempting to make Indian fashion queer-friendly. "Fashion is a great way to bring about a big change. The millennials don't want to be tagged with a certain gender. Also, there is a great sense of acceptance among fashion lovers. Gender prejudice is becoming a thing of the past. It's an amazing time for Indian fashion," he says. Designer Anvita Sharma, who will be showcasing her gender-neutral collection at Lakme Fashion Week today, says

As a recent show celebrates drag culture, designers say it's heartening to see Indian fashion become inclusive

> Fashion is a great way to bring about a big change in society. It's great that designers are finally attempting to make Indian fashion queer-friendly. There is a great sense of acceptance among fashion lovers.
> **NIKHIL MEHRA** DESIGNER

there was a time when there was no sign of queer fashion in India. "Though a lot of people working in the fashion world were from the LGBTQ+ , we sadly didn't see their representation on the ramp. They were simply ignored. But that's changing. Fashion is a strong tool to express your ideology and express freedom. I'm glad that designers are doing this now," she says. LGBTQ activist Ashok Row Kavi says that it's heartening to see Indian fashion encourage gender non-conformity. "Showcasing drag on the ramp is a bold step. We need more such endeavours to support the community."

akshay.kaushal@htlive.com

'I'd time travel to share the stage with Rafi sahab'

Pooja Sharma

Shraddha Kapoor has had more hits than flops in her eight-year career in Bollywood. With a winning streak at the box office with formula films, Shraddha Kapoor also threw in an unconventional choice, Haider (2014). The actor now explores a totally new genre for her — horror comedy. Shraddha says she is enjoying this consuming but experimental phase. With four big films queued for release, the actor talks about Stree, her first film in 2018:

Actor Shraddha Kapoor is glad that she got to play a role in a horror comedy
PHOTO: YOGEN SHAH

This is your first time doing a horror-comedy. What were the challenges?
Every film comes with its own set of challenges. In this film, the challenge was to stay true to the feel of the character as she is from a small town. To retain the mystery around her and have a very special quality to her that was most challenging. But when I heard the narration, I was sure I wanted to do it. It was fun and I was laughing all through. The writing is spectacular. I felt that it was a clutter breaking film. I was happy that such a film was being made and was offered to me.

Are you a fan of horror comedies?
My favourite horror comedy would be hands down the Scary Movie series. I love those films because their humour and their jokes are pretty nonsensical (laughs). Among Hindi films, I think Bhool Bhulaiyaa (2007) was fun.

Do you have a phobia or believe in any superstitions?
I do believe that there are energies. I do think that there is something out there. I don't know what it is and it is okay to not know what it could be. But I don't think I am superstitious. But my dad had gifted me a car when I started working on Aashiqui 2 (2013). The car number and colour is the same as my current car that I bought for myself. I kept the same number because it was just something that felt right. Otherwise, I don't believe in superstitions.

How do you zero in on a project? Do you consider its saleability?
I think that it is more of a producer's job. I only see a film from an actor's point of view and make my decisions accordingly. I see if I connect with the story and the character I am playing. If I feel I am going to grow and enjoy an experience, as well the challenges that come with a film, then I sign it. Also, these are the only things in my control, so I might as well keep my focus on that.

Would you be singing in your upcoming films? Name one singer with whom you always wanted to share the stage...
I would have loved to share the stage with the late Mohammed Rafi. I would love to time travel for that. But, if you ask me about the films that are up for release, I haven't sung in any.

How is the Saina Nehwal biopic shaping up?
The prep is still on. It's extremely challenging, but a lot of fun. We begin shooting the next month. The badminton portions will be shot next year.

pooja.sharma@htlive.com

Dear PM, we have put our faith in you, say transgenders this Raksha Bandhan

Ruchika Garg

The transgender community in Delhi believes there can't be a better day than Raksha Bandhan to urge the PM to save them from humiliation and ridicule that has become a part of their lives. They are sending rakhis to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, along with a moving letter, requesting him to pass The Transgender Persons (Protection of Rights) Bill, 2016. Whisky, a transgender who has collaborated with India HIV/AIDS Alliance, the NGO that has organised this initiative, says, "The PM says, sabka saath, sabka vikas. We want to be a part of it. We want to live a life of dignity. We want laws to protect us. We consider the PM our brother. We hope he saves us from the ostracization we face. We are sending rakhis to him with a letter hoping that the parliamentarians will pass the Transgender Bill."

The community also wants the PM to address their issues publicly. "For his weekly radio programme, Mann Ki Baat, Modi Bhai asks people to suggest topics. We want him to speak about us, about the LGBTQ+. We love that he talks about technology, GST, Clean India, and Make In India. We want to be a part of this. This rakhi, we request Modi Bhai to talk about us," says Bobby, a sex worker.

(Top) Transgenders hold the letters and rakhis they are sending to the PM. (Inset) An excerpt from the letter
PHOTOS: GOKUL VS/HT

The letter has been put inside a rainbow envelope that stands for LGBTQ+ pride."Our families have disowned us. We don't tie rakhi to anyone. This could be the first time that our community is sending rakhis to PM Modi. I believe that this will change our lives with jobs and respect," says Raamkali, a transgender who runs an NGO, Basera Samajik Sansthan. Sonal Mehta, chief executive of India HIV/AIDS Alliance, is hopeful that the Transgender Bill will be passed. "Narendra Modi has shown great political leadership in the Parliament in the past years. We hope he will convince his fellow parliamentarians to pass the bill," she says.

ruchika.garg@hindustantimes.com

STOP PRESS

PHOTO: INSTAGRAM/WALIYHA.AZAD

ZAYN MALIK, GIGI HADID CELEBRATE EID

British singer of Pakistani origin, Zayn Malik and his girlfriend, American model Gigi Hadid celebrated Eid al-Adha with their families. Gigi posted on her Instagram story a love-filled photo of Zayn with his younger sister Waliyha Azad. And, Waliyha shared this lovey-dovey pic of the couple on her Instagram on Wednesday. Gigi and Zayn have been dating since 2015, with a minor break-up in March this year, which only lasted a few weeks.

HTC

Parineeti Chopra picks up Bhojpuri diction for new role

Monika Rawal Kukreja

Getting into the skin of the character sometimes means building a new body, sometimes learning a new skill, and sometimes even learning a new language. Actor Parineeti Chopra, who plays a girl from Bihar in her next Hindi film, titled Jabariya Jodi, has done a month-long diction training with a language coach to get her Bhojpuri accent right.

A source close to the actor tells us that diction classes were kept in accordance with Parineeti's schedule and she made sure to have them "at least thrice a week for about one-and-a-half hours each."

The film, reportedly based on pakadwa vivah (a practice where the groom is kidnapped by the bride's family and forced into marriage) prevalent in parts of India, will have Parineeti paired opposite her Hasee Toh Phasee (2014) co-star Sidharth Malhotra.

Talking about her prep for the film, Parineeti says, "We actors are fortunate enough to live [as] different characters on the screen. This time, I'm playing a character based out of Bihar and I needed to perfect the Bhojpuri accent. I knew I had to master the diction before filming. I had a fun time training with my coach to get the dialect right. When I'm playing a character, I like diving deep into the small nuances."

The source adds that the actor was particular about her dialogue delivery even before the shooting began. "Parineeti didn't want to sound unnatural while delivering dialogues in Bhojpuri as some words are pronounced differently. This training helped her get the hang of the language," says the source.

monika.rawal@htlive.com

Someone's got a special invite!

Pooja Sharma

Actor Aayush Sharma, the brother-in-law of Salman Khan, is all set to make his Bollywood debut along with co-star Warina Hussain. The two are busy promoting their upcoming film Loveratri. After launching the second song of the film in Kolkata, the actors have left for Ranchi for promotions. What's special about their visit is that the debutants will be meeting former Indian cricket team captain MS Dhoni for a private dinner. "Dhoni is very close to Salman and his family. As soon as he came to know about Aayush's visit in the city, he immediately called to check Aayush's itinerary and invited Warina and him over for a dinner at his residence. The actors will land in Ranchi today evening and they will meet MS Dhoni, his wife Sakshi and their family in the night for dinner," a source informs.

In 2016, MS Dhoni and his wife Sakshi had visited Salman's house and spent time with his dad Salim Khan, sister Arpita Khan Sharma and her son Ahil. The actors are very excited about the special dinner, the source says.

PHOTO: YOGEN SHAH

Actors Aayush Sharma and Warina Hussain will meet cricketer MS Dhoni in Ranchi

NOTE TO READERS: Some of the coverage that appears on our pages is paid for by the concerned brands. No sponsored content does or shall appear in any part of HT without it being declared as such to our valued readers.

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

I'D LOVE TO PLAY A LOVER BOY AGAIN

Actor Jimmy Sheirgill talks about opting for lighter roles after playing intense characters on screen

Pooja Sharma

For someone who started off with the quintessential chocolate-boy roles, Jimmy Sheirgill's career took a different course with time. Jimmy has impressed the audiences with strong supporting roles in films in the past few years. Known for portraying intense and rooted, desi characters and playing antagonists in films such as Tanu Weds Manu series and Mukkabaz (2017), Jimmy is now back with a comedy — Happy Phirr Bhag Jayegi. The actor says, "The light-hearted roles have only started pouring in and I am really enjoying it." Excerpts from an interview:

Have you enjoyed the transition of roles and your journey so far?
It's been great. I am glad that there has been a variety of roles for me to play. But I'd love to play a lover boy again. So let's see, I am open to different characters.

Sonakshi Sinha recently praised your comic timing. Does comedy come naturally to you?
I love comedy. It is fun to play any character that is well etched out on paper, and comedy does come naturally to me. Since Happy Phirr... is set in China, it will be funny to see how my character would function in a foreign country where he doesn't know the language.

Which actor according to you has good comic timing?
I think Chi Chi bhaiya (Govinda). No one can do comedy better than him.

Do you think film promotions ensure box office draw?
Everything depends on how good your film is. But promotions are necessary for people to know that your film is coming out. With so many films releasing on Friday, it is very important to be visible and inform people about your release date.

You have a strong hold in Punjabi cinema. What's unique about the industry?
It's the only industry where comedies are the biggest blockbusters. People want to go for movies which they can watch with their families. The overseas collections also reflect that. Also, now audiences here are opening up to stories which have a message that's why films like Daana Paani work. Moreover, makers need support from actors to make different cinema. So, it will take a little time, but people are coming up with new concepts.

▪ pooja.sharma@htlive.com

> I love comedy. It is fun to play any character that is well etched out on paper, and comedy does come naturally to me... No one can do comedy better than Govinda.
> **JIMMY SHEIRGILL,** ACTOR

Shahid's 'electrifying' fight on big screen!

Prashant Singh

In big Indian cities, electricity has become an indispensable part of people's lives. But not many are aware that its availability continues to be a major issue in large parts of rural India. Interestingly, one thing that's common — across rural as well as urban areas — are inflated electricity bills, and how it affects common people. Shahid Kapoor-starrer next Batti Gul Meter Chalu (BGMC) revolves around this "real and relevant" problem.

"Yes, BGMC deals with the issue of very high electricity bills and how the common man has nowhere to go and fight it out. It also revolves around massive power cuts in rural areas where they are still to see even a single bulb. But electricity is a fundamental human right," says the actor.

Interestingly, the first person who got Shahid's attention towards the problem was his wife, Mira Rajput Kapoor. "Actually, the script had been with me for a long time. When she got to know about it, she told me, 'Shahid, you don't realise this is a very big issue in the country and you must do the film,'" he says.

Terming it "a pan-India problem" and a "very real and palpable issue," Shahid feels the common man "deals with it on a daily basis."

"Electricity is a fundamental human right, but as per estimates, there are still 32 million villages where there is not even a single bulb. In many cases, the pressure (of high electricity bills) has been so much that people have committed suicides. So, there are lots of such real instances from which this film is inspired," he says.

Even though BGMC is based in Uttarakhand, Shahid feels it "represents a problem that several people [across the country] feel is something that they are oppressed by. So, it was a very exciting, fresh and original script for me to take up," he says about the Shree Narayan Singh (of Toilet: Ek Prem Katha; 2017 fame) directed film.

▪ prashant.singh@htlive.com

Shahid Kapoor

Sobhita and Zoya pair up for a mini series

Sneha Mahadevan

Kaalakandi (2017) actor Sobhita Dhulipala is excited about her next project, a mini series. The actor, who has been a part of Nawazuddin Siddiqui-starrer Raman Raghav 2.0 (2016) is thrilled to collaborate with Zoya Akhtar as she thinks the film-maker and her thoughts align and are in sync.

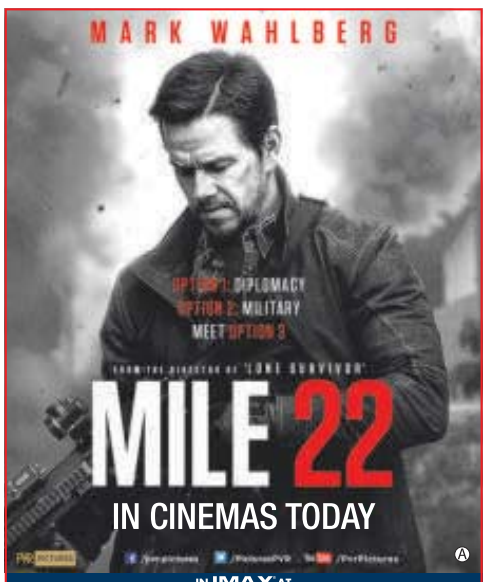
Talking about the project, a source close to the actor reveals, "Zoya has been busy with her next film, Gully Boy, but she has also been simultaneously working on this mini series. Her last release, Lust Stories, too, was an anthology of short films that released on an OTT platform. In the series, Sobhita plays a wedding planner from South Delhi as the show is set in the Capital and it explores complex relationships. The shoot has been wrapped up and it will release sometime this year."

Talking about working on the digital medium, Sobhita says, "I've been an admirer of Zoya's work and it is lovely collaborating with her. It's a great time to push the boundaries of storytelling, I'm thrilled to be collaborating with such a credible team of writers, directors and crew! After having spent over a year shooting for it, I'm quite attached and am beyond excited to share it soon."

While she says the experience was pretty much the same as that on a film set, working on the digital space does come with it's share of advantages. "It was shot like any film would be shot, albeit we shot for a lot more content/screen time. The fundamental difference being, emotions were expressed as they are, without being needed to be dumbed down for faster consumption or out of fear of being amputated through our country's censorship system", says Sobhita who is currently pursuing a degree in Economics from Oxford University.

▪ sneha.mahadevan@htlive.com

Sobhita Dhulipala



IN IMAX AT
IMAX CARNIVAL CINEMAS Wadala, 12:30, 4:30, 9:00 p.m. | INOX INORBIT MALL Malad, 11:20 a.m., 3:55, 8:30 p.m. | INOX R-CITY MALL Ghatkopar, 9:15, 11:15 a.m., 3:50, 8:25 p.m. | CINEPOLIS VIVIANA MALL Thane, 11:20 a.m., 3:55, 8:30 p.m. |

IN 4DX AT
PVR ECX PHOENIX MARKETCITY Kurla, 11:15 a.m., 6:30, 10:50 p.m. | CINEPOLIS VIVIANA MALL Thane, 2:15, 6:10 p.m. |

IN PXL AT
PVR ICON OBEROI MALL Goregaon-E, 12:00, 4:30, 9:00 p.m. | PVR ECX PHOENIX MARKETCITY Kurla, 3:15, 8:30 p.m. |

PVR HIGH STREET PHOENIX MILLS Lower Parel, 9:30 a.m., 8:45, 11:15 p.m. | INOX CR2 Nariman Point, 9:00 a.m., 3:15, 8:10 p.m. | METRO INOX Marine Lines, 9:00 a.m., 3:55, 6:00, 11:15 p.m. | STERLING CST, 10:00 a.m., 8:15 p.m. | INOX ATRIA MALL Worli, 1:10, 3:20, 8:10 p.m. | PVR DYNAMIX MALL Juhu, 11:45 a.m., 4:15, 8:45, 11:15 p.m. | CINEPOLIS Andheri, 1:00, 8:55 p.m. | SANGAM CARNIVAL CINEMAS Andheri, 1:30, 6:00 p.m. | PVR ICON INFINITI MALL Andheri, 12:00, 4:30, 9:00, 11:15 p.m. | PVR ECX CITI MALL Andheri, 9:15 a.m., 1:45, 6:15, 10:45 p.m. | PVR ICON OBEROI MALL Goregaon-E, 9:45 a.m., 11:15 p.m. | INOX INORBIT MALL Malad, 11:15 p.m. | PVR ECX PHOENIX MARKETCITY Kurla, 7:30 p.m. | INOX R-CITY MALL Ghatkopar, 11:15 p.m. | CINEPOLIS NEPTUNE MAGNET Bhandup, 12:20, 5:55, 11:00 p.m. | CINEPOLIS VIVIANA MALL Thane, VIP SCREEN :- 11:25 p.m. | INOX RAGHULEELA Vashi, 9:10 a.m., 2:35, 7:10, 10:35 p.m. |

farnazfever

farnazfever

IN DOLBY ATMOS AT
INOX CR2 Nariman Point, 12:30, 7:20 p.m. | INOX ATRIA MALL Worli, 10:05, 1:05, 4:10, 7:20, 10:15 p.m. | CINEPOLIS Andheri, 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | SANGAM CARNIVAL CINEMAS Andheri, 10:15 a.m., 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15 p.m. | SUNCITY Vile Parle, 9:00 a.m., 2:10, 7:45 p.m. | PVR ICON OBEROI MALL Goregaon-E, 9:30 a.m., 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30 p.m. | PVR PHOENIX MARKETCITY Kurla, 10:45 p.m. | INOX R-CITY MALL Ghatkopar, 10:05 a.m., 1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 10:45 p.m. | CINEPOLIS VIVIANA MALL Thane, 12:25, 6:25 p.m. | CARNIVAL SM5 SARVODAYA MALL Kalyan, 11:00 a.m., 4:15 p.m. | CARNIVAL CINEMAS LITTLE WORLD MALL Kharghar, 1:30, 10:15 p.m. |

SOUTH MUMBAI
INOX CR2 Nariman Point, 10:05 a.m., 4:10, 10:15 p.m. | METRO INOX Marine Lines, 10:05 a.m., 1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 10:45 p.m. | STERLING CST, 10:45 a.m., 2:40, 5:15, 10:45 p.m. | REGAL Colaba, 6:30 p.m. | NEW EXCELSIOR MUKTA A2 CINEMA CST, 7:30 p.m. | ROXY Opera House, 5:15 p.m. | CENTRAL PLAZA Girgaon, 2:30 p.m. | PVR HIGH STREET PHOENIX MILLS Lower Parel, 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 4:15, 10:30 p.m. | JAI HIND MUKTA A2 CINEMA Lalbaug, 1:30, 10:15 p.m. |

WESTERN SUBURBS
INOX NAKSHATRA Dadar, 7:25 p.m. | MOVIETIME STARCITY Matunga, 7:00 p.m. | CITYLIGHT Matunga, 5:30 p.m. | GALAXY Bandra, 3:15, 6:15 p.m. | GLAMOUR Bandra, 12:30, 9:30 p.m. | LE REVE Bandra, 7:45 p.m. | MOVIETIME SUBURBIA Bandra, 3:30 p.m. | GOLD Santacruz, 4:00 p.m. | PVR DYNAMIX MALL Juhu, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | PVR ICON INFINITI MALL Andheri, 11:00 a.m., 2:15, 5:15, 8:00, 11:05 p.m. | PVR ECX CITI MALL Andheri, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15 p.m. | 24 KARAT Jogeshwari, 11:55 a.m., 6:30, 10:15 p.m. | TOPIWALA MUKTA A2 Goregaon, 1:30, 10:15 p.m. | MIRAJ ANUPAM Goregaon, 10:00 a.m., 4:15, 10:30 p.m. | MOVIETIME HUB Goregaon, 10:30 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 5:45, 7:30, 10:30 p.m. | MOVIESTAR CARNIVAL CINEMAS Goregaon, 10:15 a.m., 1:15, 2:30, 4:30, 10:30 p.m. | CARNIVAL CINEMAS Oshiwara, 10:45 a.m., 4:15 p.m. | CINEMAX INFINITI MALL Malad, 10:00 a.m., 4:15, 10:30 p.m. | INOX INORBIT MALL Malad, 9:50, 1:00, 4:10, 7:20, 8:20, 10:30 p.m. | MOVIETIME Malad, 2:30, 10:30 p.m. | SANGEETA CINEPLEX Malad, 7:35 p.m. | GOLD Malad, 7:00 p.m. | PVR Milap Kandivali, 10:00 a.m., 7:30 p.m. | PVR GROWEL Kandivali-E, 9:15 a.m., 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15 p.m. | INOX RAGHULEELA Kandivali, 10:20 a.m., 1:20, 4:30, 8:05, 10:30 p.m. | INOX THAKUR MOVIE Kandivali, 7:25 p.m. | CARNIVAL CINEMAS Borivali, 9:00 a.m., 4:15, 8:00 p.m. | MAXUS Borivali, 8:00, 10:15 a.m., 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15 p.m. | INOX THAKUR MALL Dahisar, 9:30 a.m., 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30 p.m. | MOVIETIME Dahisar, 4:00 p.m. | PVR Mira Road, 12:00, 5:30, 10:30 p.m. | RASSAZ Mira Road, 11:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m. | MAXUS Bhayander, 7:30, 9:00, 10:30 a.m., 12:00, 1:30, 3:00, 5:00, 6:00, 8:00, 9:00, 11:00, 11:55 p.m. | CARNIVAL CINEMAS Vasai, 1:00, 5:15, 7:15 p.m. | K-MOVIESTAR MULTIPLEX Vasai, 11:00 a.m., 2:00, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00 p.m. | MIRAJ DATTANI DIGIPLEX Vasai, 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 p.m. | K.T.VISION Vasai, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 4:00, 10:00 p.m. | MIRAJ FUN FIESTA Nalasopara, 10:30 a.m., 4:30, 10:30 p.m. | K.T.VISION Boisar, 3:15 p.m. | GOLD CINEMA Palghar, 9:30 p.m. |

CENTRAL SUBURBS
CHITRA Dadar, 9:30 p.m. | IMAX CARNIVAL CINEMAS Wadala, 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 p.m. | PVR Sion, 10:00 a.m., 7:15 p.m. | MAXUS Andheri-E, 9:20 a.m., 12:30, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00 p.m. | PVR PHOENIX MARKETCITY Kurla, 9:45 a.m., 12:30, 4:15, 7:00 p.m. | INOX NEELYOG Ghatkopar, 9:55 a.m., 3:55, 7:05, 10:15 p.m. | INOX R-CITY MALL Ghatkopar, 6:20, 9:30 p.m. | CINEMAX Ghatkopar, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | HUMA CARNIVAL CINEMAS Kanjurmarg, 1:00, 4:00, 7:15 p.m. | CINEPOLIS NEPTUNE MAGNET Bhandup, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 3:20, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | R-MALL CARNIVAL CINEMAS Mulund, 10:15 a.m., 1:30, 4:15, 10:15 p.m. | PVR NIRMAL LIFESTYLE Mulund, 10:00 a.m., 4:00, 7:15, 10:30 p.m. | CINEPOLIS Chembur, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | MOVIETIME CUBIC MALL Chembur, 10:30 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30 p.m. | CINEPOLIS VIVIANA MALL Thane, 9:00, 1:15, 3:10, 7:45, 9:20, 11:00 p.m. VIP SCREEN :- 9:30 a.m., 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30 p.m. | CINEMAX ETERNITY MALL Thane, 10:00 a.m., 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | CINEMAX WONDERMALL Thane, 10:00 a.m., 2:30, 8:00 p.m. | CINEMA STAR Thane, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | INOX KORUM MALL Thane, 9:45 a.m., 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:15 p.m. | ANAND Thane, 7:00 p.m. | PVR XPERIA MALL Dombivali, 9:15 a.m., 12:30, 3:45, 7:15, 10:30 p.m. | MADHUBAN Dombivali, 12:30, 3:30, 9:30 p.m. | GOPI Dombivali, 4:00, 7:00 p.m. | CARNIVAL SM5 SARVODAYA MALL Kalyan, 1:00, 7:00 p.m. | INOX METRO JUNCTION MALL Kalyan, 9:50 a.m., 1:00, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30 p.m. | CINEMAX Kalyan, 4:00, 10:15 p.m. | CARNIVAL CINEMAS FUN CITY MALL Ulhasnagar, 12:45, 3:45, 7:30, 10:15 p.m. | ASHOK-ANIL MULTIPLEX Ulhasnagar, 10:15 a.m., 1:20, 4:25, 7:30, 10:30 p.m. | VENUS Ulhasnagar, 3:30, 9:30 p.m. | STAR CARNIVAL CINEMAS Ambernath, 1:00, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00 p.m. | S2 HASEEN Bhiwandi, 12:45, 6:45 p.m. | SAMUEL MULTIPLEX Khopoli, 3:00 p.m. | GOLD CINEMA Khopoli, 6:30 p.m. |

NAVI MUMBAI
INOX RAGHULEELA Vashi, 10:05 a.m., 1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 10:45 p.m. | INOX PALM BEACH Vashi, 10:00 a.m., 12:15, 4:00, 6:20, 10:15 p.m. | CARNIVAL CINEMAS LITTLE WORLD MALL Kharghar, 9:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m. | INOX GLOMAX MALL Kharghar, 10:05 a.m., 1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 10:30 p.m. | MAX CINEMAS Kharghar, 3:15, 6:15 p.m. | BALAJI MOVIEPLEX Koperkhairane, 9:45 a.m., 4:15, 7:30, 10:45 p.m. | MUKTA A2 Panvel, 1:15, 4:15, 10:15 p.m. | PVR ORION MALL Panvel, 9:30 a.m., 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:30 p.m. | K K CINEMA Kamothe, 11:15 a.m., 2:30, 10:30 p.m. | MAX CINEMAS Nerul, 12:15, 3:15, 9:15 p.m. | MORESHWAR CARNIVAL CINEMAS Pen, 12:30, 6:30 p.m. | TRIOS CINEMA Lonavala, 12:00, 3:00 p.m. |

FOR ANY CHANGES OR CANCELLATION IN SHOW TIMINGS, PLEASE CONTACT THE THEATRE

farnazfever

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

PHOTOS: VIRAL BHAYANI, YOGEN SHAH

Shahid Kapoor

Kareena Kapoor Khan

Sonakshi Sinha (left); Aditya Roy Kapur (above)

Nawazuddin Siddiqui

THE TINSELTOWN FOLKS

Karan Johar

R Madhavan

Arjun Kapoor

Metallics and sequins ruled the runway at Abraham & Thakore's show on Day 1 at the Lakmé Fashion Week Winter/Festive 2018 PHOTO: PRODIP GUHA/HTCS

LFW, MUMBAI DAY 3

DAY 3, AUGUST 24

Here is the schedule for all the fun and fashion that awaits you in Mumbai today at the **Lakmé Fashion Week 2018.**

12 PM
TWO POINT TWO
MOHAMMED MAZHAR
ARMAAN RANDHAWA
RUNWAY

1.30 PM
smartwater PRESENTS "THE PLATFORM" FEATURING
POOCHKI
SHANTI
KANIKA GOYAL
RUNWAY

LAKMÉ FASHION WEEK
LMG | Reliance
NEXA

2.30 PM
#GENDERBENDER
ANAAM
THE POT PLANT
BOBO CALCUTTA
BLONI
STUDIO

3.30 PM
GAURANG
RUNWAY

4.30 PM
KARTIKEYA
MISFIT PANDA
STUDIO

5.30 PM
CAPRESE X SHIFT & ARPITA MEHTA
RUNWAY

7.30 PM
R I ELAN PRESENTS NACHIKET BARVE
RUNWAY

8.30 PM
KALLOL DATTA 1955
VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2
STUDIO

9.30 PM
NEXA PRESENTS AMIT AGGARWAL
RUNWAY

SPOTTED

A number of celebrities were photographed in and around the city recently. Kangana Ranaut was seen in a gym avatar near Bandra. Karan Johar, who was clicked in the same area, was seen wearing a black shirt with a striped blue jacket. Aditya Roy Kapur and Kareena Kapoor Khan were seen in the vicinity. Former cricketer Sachin Tendulkar was also seen wearing a striped blue shirt with black jeans in the same neighbourhood. Actor R Madhavan was clicked sporting a desi look in a blue kurta near Juhu. Film-maker Suhdir Mishra was seen wearing a green jacket paired with a black shirt in Byculla. Kunaal Roy Kapur looked dapper in a black shirt as he posed for the shutterbugs in the same area. Anurag Kashyap chose to go all casual in a black t-shirt and blue ripped jeans. Arjun Kapoor, in a black jacket paired with a white t-shirt, and Diana Penty, who was seen in a white top and a striped palazzo, were seen at the airport.

Kangana Ranaut

Anurag Kashyap

Alia Bhatt

Diana Penty

Huma Qureshi

Kunaal Roy Kapur

Pankaj Kapur

Dia Mirza

Parineeti Chopra

Kiara Advani

Malaika Arora

Mallika Sherawat

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

TODAY'S SPECIAL

EXHIBITIONS

DOUGLAS JOHN/JEHANGIR ART GALLERY

INNER DIVINITY
At Jehangir Art Gallery, Fort. From 11am to 7pm. Till August 27.

INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA
At National Gallery of Modern Art, Fort. From 11am to 7pm. Till August 26.

CREATIVE VISUAL EXPRESSIONS
At Jehangir Art Gallery, Fort. From 11am to 7pm. Till August 27.

VIDYARTHI VISHESH
At Gallery Pradarshak, Khar. From 11am to 7pm. Till September 1.

SAVOUR

WHISKY AFFAIR
Treat your taste buds with single malts and a specially curated menu. At Renaissance Mumbai, Powai. From 7pm to 11.30pm.

VEGETARIAN TREAT
Feast on dishes such as Stir-fry Tofu and Stir-fry Lotus Root And Asparagus. At Hakkasan, Bandra. From 12pm to 4pm.

LAUGH

IN SPLITS
Laugh it away with comedian Vaibhav Sethia as he keeps you on the edge with his latest show. At Tea Villa Cafe, Kurla. From 8pm.

COMEDY NIGHT
Make your way for some fresh comedians in the city as they make you laugh out loud. At CLAP, Malad (W). From 9pm.

ATTEND

KEEP IT SHORT
Kick start your weekend with some interesting short films on dreams and fantasies. At OF10, Powai. At 8pm.

LEARN

YOGA SESSION
Natasha Noel will talk about loosing tight hips and improving blood circulation. At 212 All Good, Lower Parel. On August 25. From 10am.

For more events log on to www.hindustantimes.com/events

Get your event listed in this section by mailing us the complete details (pictures, date and venue details) to ht.cafe@gmail.com. For any further queries, contact: 022-66134000

MOVIES ON TV

HBO
0915 Transformers: Dark Of The Moon
1153 Geostorm
1344 GI Joe: Retaliation
1534 Mission: Impossible II
1750 The Conjuring 2
2100 The Angry Birds Movie

SONY PIX
0849 Lucy
1034 The Great Wall
1245 Enter The Dragon
1440 The Mummy: Tomb Of The Dragon Emperor
1659 Wall-E
1912 CJ7
2100 The Fate of the Furious

STAR MOVIES
0948 Dragonball: Evolution
1128 Fantastic Four
1338 X-Men: First Class
1619 Life Of Pi
1900 Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs
2100 Doctor Strange

STAR GOLD
0435 Taqdeerwala
0710 MS Dhoni: The Untold Story
1115 Action Jackson
1425 Singham
1730 Bajrangi Bhaijaan
2100 Theeran

ZEE CINEMA
0825 Shiva The Super Hero
1127 Businessman 2
1421 Happy New Year
1809 Daringbaaz 3
2100 Krishna Ki Love Story

WB
0720 Blade Runner
0910 Munich
1150 Deep Blue Sea
1333 The Crew
1537 47 Meters Down
1707 Sully
1844 Executive Decision
2100 Jack Reacher: Never Go Back
2259 Get Smart

MOVIES IN TOWN

REVIEWS AND RATINGS BY desimartini.com

SMS MOVIES to 542420
For the latest ratings and reviews

BOLLYWOOD

GENIUS
After finding love, an orphan joins RAW and is compelled to kill his entire team.

HAPPY PHIRR BHAG JAYEGI
Madness ensues when Professor Harpreet Kaur lands in Shanghai and is kidnapped.

HOLLYWOOD

MILE 22
James Silva, an operative from the CIA, is aided by a top-secret team to retrieve information.

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: FALLOUT
Ethan Hunt takes it upon himself to save the world .

HINDI MOVIES

GENIUS New

CAST: Utkarsh Sharma, Ayesha Jhulka, Nawazuddin Siddiqui
Carnival, Sangam, Andheri (W), 11.45am, 7.30pm,**Balaji Movieplex**, Kopar Khairane, 2pm, **PVR Growel**, Kandivali (E), 10am, 4.15pm, 10.30pm, **INOX**, Inorbit Mall, Malad (W), 9.55am, 1.05pm, 4.15pm, 6.20pm, INSIGNIA, 10.15pm, **INOX**, Raghuleela Mall, Kandivali (W) 12.20pm, 5.30pm, 11.15pm, **INOX**, Raghuleela Mall, Vashi, 9.55am, 1.20pm, 5.30pm, 10.15pm, **Cinepolis**, Fun Republic Mall, Andheri (W) 8.50am, 5.05pm, 11.30pm, **Fun Cinemas**, K Star Mall, Chembur, 10am, 4.30pm, 10.55pm, **Metro INOX Cinemas**, Marine Lines, 9.15am, 12.25pm, 3.35pm, 6.50pm, **INOX**, R-City, Ghatkopar, 10.05am, INSIGNIA, 12.45pm, 3.55pm, 7.05pm, 10.15pm, **Miraj Dattani Cinemas**, Vasai, 12.15pm, 7.45pm, Movietime, Cubic Mall, Chembur, 11am, 5pm, 8pm, 10.55pm, **PVR**, Citi Mall, Andheri (W), 9am, 5.15pm, 11.15pm, **Suncity Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Vile Parle, 2pm, **Carnival**, Little World Mall, Kharghar, 1.40pm, 10.30pm, **Carnival**, R Mall Mulund, 9.45am, 2.45pm, 7.45pm, **Star Big Cinemas**, Ambarnath (W), 11am, 1.45pm, 9.45pm, **Bahar Cinema**, Vile Parle (E), 7.15pm, **Carnival,** Dreams Mall, Vasai, 11.15am, 5pm, 10.45pm, **Chandan Cinema**, Juhu, 6.30pm, **New Excelsior Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Fort, 1.30pm, **INOX**, Thakur Mall, Dahisar 1.15pm, 4.25pm, 7.35pm, **INOX**, Neelyog, Ghatkopar (E), 9.40am, 3.40pm, 8pm, **INOX**, Metro Mall Junction, Kalyan (E), 10.15am, 1.25pm, 7.25pm, 10.35pm, **G7 Multiplex**, Bandra (W), 3.30pm, 6.30pm, **Gold Cinema**, Dadar (E), 5.15pm, **Gold Cinema**, Santacruz (W), 4pm, 10pm, **INOX**, Glomax Mall, Kharghar, 12pm, 4.30pm, 10.45pm, **INOX**, Korum Mall, Eastern Express Highway, Thane, 10.50am, 5.35pm, 10.45pm, **INOX** Laserplex, CR2, Nariman Point, 9.55am, 2.30pm, INSIGNIA, 5.25pm, 10.45pm, **Kasturba Cinema**, Malad, 6.30pm, **Carnival KT**, Vasai, 10.35am, 4.15pm, 7.15pm, 10.15pm, **Bharat Cineplex**, Kurla (W), 12.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.30pm, **Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Jai Hind, Lalbaugh, 10.30am, 4.35pm, **Miraj Fun Fiesta Cinemas**, Nallasopara, 9.30am, 8pm, **Mukta A2 Cinemas,** K Mall, New Panvel(W), 12pm, 5.30pm, 10pm, **Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Topiwala, Goregaon,10.30am, 4.30pm, **Maratha Mandir**, Mumbai Central, 6.30pm, Movietime, The Hub, Goregaon, 11am, 5pm, 8pm, 10.55pm, Movietime, Malad, 10.30am, 7.30pm, **Movietime Star City**, Matunga (W), 1pm, **Premiere Cinema**, Dadar (E), 6.30pm, **Premier Gold**, Dongri, 12.30pm, 6.30pm, **PVR, Milap,** Kandivali (W), 4.15pm, **Plaza Cinema**, Dadar, 12.30pm, **Roxy Cinema**, Charni Road, 11.45am, **Sangeeta Cineplex**, Malad, 11.30am, 2.10pm, 10.30pm, **SPI**, **S2 Haseen**, Bhiwandi, 12.30pm, 3.40pm, 6.50pm, 10pm, **Carnival SM5**, Kalyan, 10.15am, 1.15pm, 4.15pm, 7.15pm, **Gold Cinema**, Sona Borivali (E), 2.30pm, **Sterling Cineplex**, Fort, 5.15pm, **Tilak Cineplex**, Dombivali, 9.30am, 6.30pm, **Vandana Cinema**, Thane, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, **INOX**, Worli, Atria Mall, 10.10am, INSIGNIA, 5.25pm, INSIGNIA, 10.45pm

HAPPY PHIRR BHAG JAYEGI New

CAST : Sonakshi Sinha, Diana Penty, Jassi Gill
Bharat Cineplex, Kurla (W), 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 10pm, **INOX**, Neelyog, Ghatkopar (E), 10.45am, 1.45pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm, 7.45pm, 10.45pm, **Fun Cinemas**, K Star Mall, Chembur, 9am, 11.55am, 12.30pm, 2.50pm, 5.45pm, 8.40pm, 11.35pm, **Carnival**, Sangam, Andheri, 9am, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm, 11pm, **Gold Cinema**, Santacruz (W),1pm, 7pm, **Movietime Cubic Mall**, Chembur, 9am, 10am, 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm, 8pm, 10.45pm, **G7 Multiplex**, Bandra (W), 12.30pm, 9.30pm, **Bahar Cinema**, Vile Parle (E), 4.30pm, 10.30pm, **Movietime Suburbia**, Bandra (W), 10am, 12.45pm, 8.15pm, **Suncity Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Vile Parle, 9am, 11.45am, 5pm, 10.45pm, **INOX**, R-City, Ghatkopar, 9am, 10.35am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm, 3.25pm, 4.25pm, 6.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.15pm, 10.15pm, 11.15pm, **Carnival**, IMAX, Wadala, 9.05am, 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8pm, 10.45pm, **Citylight Cinema**, Mahim, 9.45am, 2.45pm, 10.30pm, **Movietime Star City**, Matunga (W), 10am, 4pm, 10pm, **Chandan Cinema**, Juhu, 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 9.30pm, **Plaza Cinema**, Dadar, 9.30pm, **Chitra Cinema**, Dadar (E), 6.30pm, **24 Karat**, Jogeshwari, 11.15am, 2.15pm, 5pm, 7.45pm, 10.30pm, **Cinepolis**, Fun Republic Mall, Andheri (W), 9am, 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm, 11pm, **Gold Cinema**, Dadar (E), 9.30am, 2.30pm, 10.30pm, **PVR**, Citi Mall, Andheri (W), 9am, 11am, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, 11pm, **Premiere Cinema**, Dadar (E), 12.30pm, 3.30pm, **Movietime**, The Hub, Goregaon, 9am, 10am, 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 7.30pm, 8pm, 10.45pm, **Matterden Carnival Cinemas (Deepak Talkies)**, Parel, 9.15am, 11.55am, 2.35pm, 5.15pm, 10.45pm, **Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Topiwala, Goregaon, 9am, 2.15pm, 5pm, 10.30pm, **Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Jai Hind, Lalbaugh, 9am, 2.30pm, 5.10pm, 10.35pm, **INOX**, Worli, Atria Mall, 10.05am, 1.15pm, 4.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.35pm, 10.35pm, **INOX**, Inorbit Mall, Malad (W), 9.10am, 10.45am, 12pm, 1.45pm, 3.10pm, 4.45pm, 7.45pm, 9.30pm, 10.45pm, **INOX**, Raghuleela Mall, Vashi, 10.05am, 11.15am, 2.10pm, 3.35pm, 5.05pm, 8pm, 9.30pm, 10.55pm, **Kasturba Cinema**, Malad, 12.30pm, 3.30pm, **Sangeeta Cineplex**, Malad, 9am, 2.30pm, 7.50pm, 10.35pm, **Maratha Mandir**, Mumbai Central, 3.30pm, **Movietime**, Malad, 9am, 11.45am, 5.30pm, 10.55pm, **Premier Gold**, Dongri, 3.30pm, 10pm, PVR, Milap, Kandivali (W), 10am, 1pm, 4pm, 7pm, 10.45pm, **Balaji Movieplex**, Kopar Khairane, 9.15am, 12pm, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm, 11.15pm, **Carnival**, R Mall, Mulund, 9.10am, 11.55am, 2.40pm, 5.25pm, 8.05pm, 10.50pm, **FUN Cinemas**, Central Plaza, Girgaon, 9.30am, 7.55pm, **Roxy Cinema**, Charni Road, 9am, 2.30pm, 10.45pm, **INOX**, Raghuleela Mall, Kandivali (W), 9.30am, 11.15am, 2.10pm, 5.05pm, 8pm, 10.55pm, **Metro INOX Cinemas**, Marine Lines, 9.45am, 11.20am, 2.15pm, 5.10pm, 8.05pm, 10pm, 11pm, **Anand Cinema**, Thane, 10.30am, 4pm, 10pm, **Liberty Carnival Cinemas**, Marine Lines, 11.30am, 2.15pm, 5pm, 10.30pm, **Sterling Cineplex**, Fort 9.30am, 12pm, 2.35pm, 8.05pm, 10.30pm, **New Excelsior Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Fort, 10.30am, 4.30pm, 10.30pm, **Vandana Cinema**, Thane, 12.30pm, 9.30pm, **INOX**, Korum Mall, Eastern Express Highway, Thane, 10am, 1pm, 4.15pm, 7.15pm, 10.30pm, **Regal Cinema**, Colaba, 3.30pm, 9.30pm, **INOX** Laserplex, CR2, Nariman Point, 9.35am, 11.15am, 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm, 10.30pm, **Gold Cinema**, Sona, Borivali (E), 9.30am, 10.30pm, **INOX**, **Glomax Mall**, Kharghar, 9.05am, 11.55am, 2.45pm, 5.35pm, 7.35pm, 11.05pm, **Carnival,** Little World Mall, Kharghar, 9am, 11.45am, 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8pm, 10.45pm, **Oracle Fun Square**, Kharghar, 12pm, 3pm, 6pm, 8.35pm, **INOX**, Thakur Mall, Dahisar, 9.50am, 11.15am, 2.10pm, 5.05pm, 8pm, 10.55pm, **KK Cinema**, Kamothe, 8.30am, 11.40am, 2.15pm, 5pm, 8.15pm, 11pm,**Tilak Cineplex**, Dombivali, 9.30am, 12pm, 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8pm, 10.30pm, **Mukta A2 Cinemas**, K Mall, New Panvel (W), 9.45am, 12.15pm, 3pm, 7.45pm, 10.30pm, **Carnival**, SM5, Kalyan, 9am, 11.35am, 2.15pm, 5pm, 7.45pm, 10.30pm, **SPI, S2 Haseen**, Bhiwandi, 12.15pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm, **Miraj Dattani Cinemas**, Vasai, 9.15am, 12pm, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm, 11pm, **Carnival, KT**, Vasai, 9am, 11.40am, 2.20pm, 5pm, 7.45pm, 10.30pm, **Star Big Cinemas**, Ambarnath (W), 10am, 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 7.30pm, 10.30pm, **Carnival**, Dreams Mall, Vasai, 9am, 11.45am, 2.30pm, 8.15pm, 11pm, **Miraj Fun Fiesta Cinemas**, Nallasopara, 9.15am, 12pm, 2.45pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm, 11pm.

GOLD

CAST : Akshay Kumar, Mouni Roy, Kunal Kapoor, Amit Sadh
Fun Cinemas, K Star Mall, Chembur, 9.45am, 1pm, 4.15pm, 7.30pm, 10.45pm, **Carnival**, Sangam, Andheri, 10am, 1pm, 4.30pm, 7.25pm, 10.25pm, **Movietime**, Cubic Mall, Chembur, 10am, 1pm, 4pm, 7pm, 10pm, **Suncity Mukta A2 Cinemas**, Vile Parle, 9am, 2.10pm, 7.45pm, INOX, R-City, **Ghatkopar**, 10.05am, 1.15pm, 4.25pm, 6.20pm, 7.35pm, 9.30pm, 10.45pm, **Cinepolis**, Fun Republic Mall, Andheri (W), 9.45am, 1pm, 4.15pm, 7.30pm, 10.45pm, **PVR**, Citi Mall, Andheri (W), 9.45am, 1pm, 3.45pm, 7pm, 10.15pm, **INOX**, Inorbit Mall, Malad (W), 9.50am, 1pm, 4.10pm, 7.20pm, 8.20pm, 10.30pm, **INOX**, Raghuleela Mall, Vashi, 10.05am, 1.15pm, 4.25pm, 7.35pm, 10.45pm, **Balaji Movieplex**, Kopar Khairane, 9.45am, 4.15pm, 7.30pm, 10.30pm, **PVR**, Growel, Kandivali (E), 9.15am, 12.30pm, 3.45pm, 7pm, 10.15pm, **INOX**, Raghuleela Mall, Kandivali (W), 10.20am, 1.20pm, 4.30pm, 8.05pm, 10.30pm, **Metro INOX Cinemas**, Marine Lines, 10.05am, 1.15pm, 4.25pm, 7.35pm, 10.45pm, **Cinepolis**, Viviana Mall, Thane, 10am, 12.30pm, 1.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 7.45pm, 9.30pm, 11pm

ENGLISH MOVIES

MILE 22 New

CAST: Mark Wahlberg, Lauren Cohan, Ronda Rousey, Iko Uwais
Carnival, Sangam, Andheri, 1.05pm, 6pm, **INOX**, R-City, Ghatkopar, 9.15am, 11.15pm, **Cinepolis**, Fun Republic Mall, Andheri (W), 12.10pm, 9.05pm, **PVR**, Citi Mall, Andheri (W), 9.30am, 1.45pm, 6.15pm, 10.45pm, **INOX**, Worli, Atria Mall, 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 8.10pm, **INOX**, Inorbit Mall, Malad (W), 11.30pm, **INOX**, Raghuleela Mall, Vashi, 9.10am, 2.35pm, 7.10pm, 10.35pm, **Metro INOX Cinemas**, Marine Lines, 9am, 6pm, 11.15pm, **Sterling Cineplex**, Fort, 10am, 8.15pm

MISSION IMPOSSIBLE: FALLOUT

CAST: Tom Cruise, Rebecca Ferguson, Michelle Monaghan, Henry Cavill
INOX, R-City, Ghatkopar, 5.25pm, **INOX**, Inorbit Mall, Malad (W), 9.05am, 5.15pm, **Movietime**, The Hub, Goregaon, 10.30am, 10pm, **INOX**, Worli, Atria Mall, 3.30pm, **INOX**, Korum Mall, Eastern Express Highway, Thane, 1.55pm, **INOX Laserplex**, CR2, Nariman Point, 11.25am.

CHRISTOPHER ROBIN

CAST : Ewan McGregor, Hayley Atwell, Mark Gatiss
Metro INOX Cinemas, Marine Lines, 9.05am, 4.05pm, **Cinepolis**, Viviana Mall, Thane, 11.10am, **INOX**, Worli, Atria Mall, 10.40am

THE MEG

CAST : Jason Statham, Li Bingbing, Ruby Rose, Rainn Wilson
INOX, R-City, Ghatkopar, 10.10am, **INOX**, Inorbit Mall, Malad (W), 2.45pm, **Metro INOX Cinemas**, Marine Lines, 1:35pm, 10.55pm.

Cinema halls may send their movie schedule to ht.cafe@gmail.com every Wednesday by 4pm

PVR, Phoenix : 38581913 **Regal:** 22021017 **Eros:** 22822335
Plaza: 24304704 **Chandan:** 26200437 **INOX, Nariman Point:** 39862563 **Sterling:** 66220016
Premier Gold: 23722094 **Maratha Mandir:** 23070110 **Cinepolis, Thane:** 39863550
PVR Goregaon: 40730301 **Sangam:** 28327217 **Balaji Movieplex:** 27554245
Cinemax, Malad: 28897851 **PVR, Juhu:** 8800900009 **INOX, Kharghar:** 66595959
Chitra: 2418 **INOX, Vashi:** 9321866843 **Carnival:** 67886209 **PVR Mulund:** 8800900009

DESIMARTINI RATING METRE
- Terrifyingly Terrible
- Not Worth It
- One Time Watch
- First Class
- Super Awesome

All the listings on this page are subject to last-minute changes without prior intimation

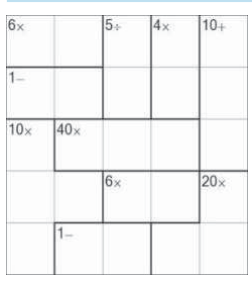
SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★

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

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, column and each of the 9X9 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

MATHDOKU



Place numbers into the puzzle cells so that each row and column contains each of the digits from 1 to 5. No number is to be repeated in any row or column. Each bold-outlined cells contain a hint of a number and one of the mathematical symbols + x - /. The number is the result of the operation represented by the symbol to the digits contained.

CALVIN AND HOBBES

Bill Watterson

DID YOU KNOW?

Diana Penty was originally slated to make her Bollywood debut in 2011 with Imtiaz Ali's Rockstar, but she rejected the film due to her modelling commitments at that time. She was subsequently replaced by Nargis Fakhri.

SCRAMBLE - 2823

Solve the four anagrams and move one letter to each square to form four ordinary words

GMWIO
SHIVE
EMUVLL
CLOONU

Now arrange the letters marked with an asterisk (*) to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing words as indicated.

Reality is merely an _____, albeit a very persistent one - Einstein (8)

SCRAMBLE SOLUTION: Owing, hives, vellum, uncool
ANSWER: Reality is merely an **illusion**, albeit a very persistent one - Einstein

SOLUTION SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION MATHDOKU

2	4	3	5	1	
5	1	2	3	4	
4	3	2	4	5	1
3	2	5	1	2	
	5	1	4	3	

DAILY HOROSCOPE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

Astrologer Prem Kumar Sharma can be contacted at: Delhi: 91-11-26449898, 26489899 (Sat to Mon): Panchkula: 91-172-2562832, 2572874 (Tues to Thurs); Mumbai: 91-22-26398641 (Last week of every month)

YOU SHARE YOUR BIRTHDAY WITH

RUPERT GRINT: He is an English actor and producer, who is best known for his portrayal of Ronald Weasley in the Harry Potter series (2001 - 2011). He was also seen in Cross of Honour (2012).

ARIES (MAR 21 - APR 20)
Those in the political field will be able to mould those around to their way of thinking. Financially, you will get to save a lot as you make others foot the bill for you. There is a good chance of reaping the benefits of a changed diet. You will be able to make your surroundings comfortable on the home front.
Lucky Number: 2; Lucky Colour: Peach

TAURUS (APR 21 - MAY 20)
Your persistence is likely to pay on the fitness front as you achieve the desired figure and physique. A comfortable journey is foreseen for those approaching long-distance travel. Going in for a piece of property cannot be ruled out for some. Some good news on the financial front is in the offing.
Lucky Number: 4; Lucky Colour: Blue

GEMINI (MAY 21 - JUN 21)
Your commuting time is likely to be reduced today as someone offers you a lift. Some changes on the home front may be initiated. Take everything at work seriously as a senior can spring a surprise. Those in the service sector may have to deal with some annoying customers.
Lucky Number: 6; Lucky Colour: Blue

CANCER (JUNE 22 - JULY 22)
You can go ahead with your plans of getting a repair job done. Home loans applied for by some are likely to get sanctioned. A household remedy may come in handy for those suffering from body aches and pains. You may not be able to justify delay in not meeting the deadline at work.
Lucky Number: 17; Lucky Colour: Grey

LEO (JULY 23 - AUG 23)
You may be in talks with someone for partnership in a new venture. Something you are not familiar with may bother you on the academic front, but persistence will pay. A family youngster may need guidance to cure his or her erring ways. Serious differences may rock your love life and lead to separation.
Lucky Number: 3; Lucky Colour: Yellow

VIRGO (AUG 24 - SEPT 23)
The day turns out excellent for you as you pursue your goal with single-minded devotion. You are likely to be instrumental in sealing a lucrative deal on the professional front. A hike in your salary or some additional perks cannot be ruled out. You will feel fit and strong enough to take on the world.
Lucky Number: 11; Lucky Colour: Pink

LIBRA (SEPT 24 - OCT 23)
You will get the opportunity to complete all pending tasks and start once again with a clean slate on the work front. Something entrusted to you will get completed most efficiently. You will remain popular in your crowd on the social front. Someone may set your heart aflutter on the romantic front.
Lucky Number: 7; Lucky Colour: Pink

SCORPIO (OCT 24 - NOV 22)
Your reputation on the professional or academic front gets boosted as your performance is lauded by all. Worries regarding money may be laid to rest as you reap rich dividends through past investments. You may plan to meet some old friends today. Getting something done on the home front cannot be ruled out for some.
Lucky Number: 5; Lucky Colour: Green

SAGITTARIUS (NOV 23 - DEC 21)
Those learning something new on the work front will finally get the hang of it. Your good work will earn you a prestigious assignment on the professional front. A social event may find you in your element. Someone you are in love with can go all out to make your evening enjoyable.
Lucky Number: 15; Lucky Colour: Brown

CAPRICORN (DEC 22 - JAN 21)
Going to any extent for the welfare of your family is ingrained in your nature and you are not likely to leave any stone unturned to help and support them, even at the cost of your own comfort. You love travelling and can make plans with your lover for a romantic evening out today.
Lucky Number: 9; Lucky Colour: Red

AQUARIUS (JAN 22 - FEB 19)
You are likely to find the day most favourable. A suitable matrimonial match for someone eligible in the family can be expected. You may remain in celebratory mood on the social front as you enjoy your popularity within your circle of friends and relations. A happy financial situation promises to keep you in an upbeat mood.
Lucky Number: 3; Lucky Colour: Yellow

PISCES (FEB 20 - MAR 20)
Something that had been worrying you in the past is likely to get resolved and come as a great relief to you. Your professional stars are on the ascendant and will help make your mark on the career front. A good investment opportunity comes your way and you are likely to make the most of it.
Lucky Number: 4; Lucky Colour: Blue

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

PHOTOS: PRODIP GUHA/HT, SHASHI KASHYAP/HT, HEMANSHI KAMANI/HT

A RAINBOW OF MONOCHROME

From celebrating monochromes to reminiscing Indian crafts, Day 1 of Lakmé Fashion Week was a runway full of surprises

The Miniaturist, a theatrical presentation put together by Good Earth, emphasised on the importance of preserving India's indigenous crafts

The Shibori patterning was dominant in most of Amrich by Richard Pandav and Amit Vijaya's creations

Akshata Shetty

The palette may have been neutral but Day 1 of Lakmé Fashion Week Winter/Festive 2018 was a colourful treat. The runway saw an interesting array of sombre shades, modern designs combined with Indian ethnic textiles and crafts, and live performances with a dash of chaos.

What caught our attention was the flamboyant performance by actor and model Sushant Divgikar aka Rani Ko-HE-Nur, when he crooned to the popular number 'I will survive' as music artiste Ashvin Mani Sharma hit the right notes to complement his performance. Divgikar who walked for fashion designer Sohaya Misra, had the audience pumped up even post the show.

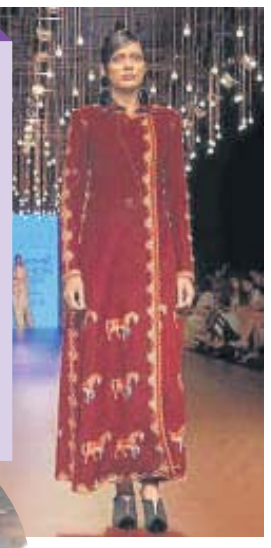
Misra's show, which revolved around gender fluidity, had no separate line for men and women. The models wore the clothes as is, thus, leaving it up to the audience's imagination. "For me, age, size and gender are no bar. There wasn't a thought process signalling what's specifically for men and what's for women. Everything is for everybody. I hope people get more open, tolerant and that there is less hate and more love," says Misra.

Black played an integral role in most collections including Antar-Agni by Ujjawal Dubey, Amrich: by Richard Pandav and Amit Vijaya, 'Bye Felicia' by Chola. It also reflected in the designs of Abraham & Thakore and Shweta Kapur. We also saw a mixed palette of browns, beiges and mustards teamed with elegant embroidery, motifs and prints. Day 1 came to close with an interesting concept put together by Good Earth titled 'The Miniaturist'. It brought together the centuries-old craft legacy of fine handmade Gota work. The show also comprised a set of soulful melodies performed by Hindustani classical vocalist Suchismita Das, who crooned to songs such as 'Sajda' (My Name is Khan; 2010) and more.

▪ ht.cafe@htlive.com

THE GYPSET

The hero of AM:PM by Ankur & Priyanka Modi's collection was the embellished horse motif. "Birds have always been a fashion favourite to show movement, flight, freedom and femininity. I wanted to stray from that line of thought. Thus came about the horse, a symbol of strength, beauty, character and of course, movement. So, we have tea-length dresses and jackets with the whimsical horse motif galloping across them," says the designer duo Ankur and Priyanka.



Jewellery designer Advaeita Mathur's collection was inspired by the idea of marine detritus, and was created using common water pollutants such as styrofoam bits and polymer balls.

THE MUNDU MEN

According to fashion designer duo David Abraham and Rakesh Thakore, it was about time they started thinking about cocktail dressing with a desi twist. The designer duo took cocktail dressing a notch higher with the introduction of the lungi teamed with a dinner jacket, on the ramp.

(Top) Sushant Divgikar (right) A model strikes a pose in a Kedia-style blouse teamed with cigarette pants from the Bukhara collection by Rahul and Shikha for their label Vrisa

India's Biggest Silk, Cotton & Handloom
Direct Weaver's Exhibition & Sale
NATIONAL SILK EXPO
Festival Special Collection
23 to 27 August
WORLD TRADE CENTRE
CUFFE PARADE. MUMBAI
Pure silk & cotton products directly purchased by master weavers from all over India.
Saree | Suit | Dress Material | Fashion Jewelry | More
TIME: 10AM TO 8PM • ENTRY FREE • ALL DEBIT & CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED • M:09368882225

HINDUSTAN TIMES MEDIA MARKETING INITIATIVE

NEW ZEALAND EDUCATION FAIR

New Zealand Education Fair will be held in Mumbai on Saturday, 25th August from 10:30 am to 5:00 pm at: Hotel JW Marriott, Mahi Banquet Hall, Juhu Tara Road, Juhu.

Over 35 leading New Zealand Universities, Institutes of Technology and Colleges will be participating in the Fair. Many institutions will be offering spot admissions to eligible students at the Fair. Kindly carry 5 sets of academic documents. The fair offers a platform for students and parents to engage with institution representatives directly for information on various courses like Agriculture, Animal Science, Arts, Biotechnology, Business, Culinary, Design, Education, Engineering, Film making, Finance, Health Science, Hospitality, H.R.M., International Business, I.T., Maritime programs, Marketing, MBA, Media, Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Nursing, Science, Tourism, etc. There are Scholarship opportunities for deserving students. Free Bus service is available from/to Thane.

Representatives from Immigration New Zealand will be available to answer student visas queries. New Zealand offers post study work opportunities for qualifying students.

New Zealand Education Fair is organized by GeeBee Education and supported by Education New Zealand. For Free Registration, call GeeBee Education (Education NZ Recognised Agency): Andheri: 40224480, Borivali: 28998333, Churchgate: 43222333, Thane: 25388844 or logon to: www.geebeeworld.com/nzfair

DIL KI LADAAI DIMAG SE
K.C. SHARMA AND KAMAL MUKUT PRESENTS
ANIL SHARMA PRODUCTIONS AND SOHAM ROCKSTAR ENTERTAINMENT'S
GENIUS
AN ANIL SHARMA FILM
PRODUCED BY DEEPAK MUKUT
MUSIC HIMESH RESHAMMIYA
RELEASING TODAY
/GeniusTheMovie /SohamRockstarEntertainment /genius_themovie /SohamRockstrEnt /geniusthemovie /sohamrockstrent www.sohamrockstar.com
A SOHAM ROCKSTAR ENTERTAINMENT WORLDWIDE RELEASE

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

RESTAURANT REVIEW

A heavy price to pay

Nikita Deb

Located in the extremely posh Phoenix mall of Lower Parel, Typhoon Shelter takes fine dining to the next level. Although, we were visiting on a weekday, we deemed it best to make a reservation. However, the Mumbai traffic delayed us and we reached about half an hour late but the staff was kind enough to hold the table. The fact that the restaurant wasn't full probably helped.

As soon as we were seated, we got to ordering. The waiter introduced himself and went on to politely ask us if we would like to start with a bottle of liquor. They serve signature cocktails as well as popular concoctions. We asked the waiter to suggest two vodka-based cocktails and he recommended the Ba (₹895) and Tidal Mist (₹895), which he explained in detail. We trusted his instinct and went with it, and we were not disappointed. The drinks were subtle and had fresh flavours. But for the price that they charged, it seemed highly inadequate.

We also ordered for starters simultaneously. Their options are not as varied as we would have liked them to be. We went with the Succulent Lamb Crystal Ball Dim Sum (₹445) and Sing-A-Ling King Fish (₹595). The portions seemed rather small, with the dim sum dish having just three pieces, and the fish being only a medium-sized piece of kingfish. The lamb in the dim sums was perfectly cooked, had a clear covering with strong flavours, and pleasantly melted in the mouth. The fish was just rightly cooked and the spicy sauce that it was cooked in made it an absolute delight.

As we were observing the décor, we noticed that the ceiling had created an illusion of thunder and lightning which was interesting. The restaurant, being an Asian outlet, was also playing historic videos of Hong Kong, in an attempt to spread more information about the country and culture. The bar was extensive and the entire place had a very authentic Asian vibe to it.

For the main course, the waiter suggested the Yuan Dynasty Lamb Clay Pot (₹695) paired with Steamed Jasmine Rice (₹445). The lamb dish was aplenty with vegetables such as green beans and carrots but lacked flavour. It felt like the lamb was trying to overcompensate for the lack of texture in the dish.

We wanted to round off the meal with desserts and decided to go with the Colourcomb (₹475), only because we felt the description was extremely interesting. The dish was made of berries, cucumber granite, honey ganache and nougatine, among other fancy ingredients. All in all, the restaurant seemed extremely fancy, but the food failed to impress us, especially considering the price they charged.

nikita.deb@htlive.com

(HT Café reviews anonymously and pays for its meals)

TYPHOON SHELTER

Where: High Street Phoenix, North Skyzone, 2nd floor, Lower Parel
Call: 022 30151817
What's on the menu: Asian
Alcohol: Yes
Smoking: No

AT A GLANCE

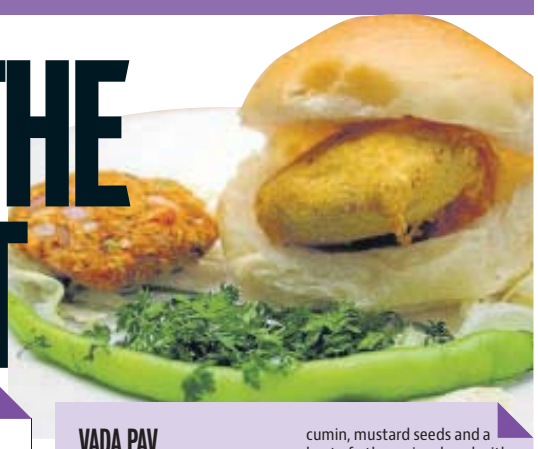
Décor: Asian
Food quality: Okay
Reservation: Recommended
Service: Good
Price for two: ₹5,000
Rating: ★★★

DISHING OUT THE STREETS' BEST

From hot, spicy vada pav to tangy chaat, here's a look at some of the most lip-smacking and favoured street foods in Mumbai

Ruella Philips

hindustantimes mumbai meri hai



High-end restaurants these days serve tiny servings of delicious dishes — calling them 'small plates' — that stir up your appetite while burning a hole in your pocket. But long before small plates were even a thing, Mumbaikars thrived on small portions of street food. These tasty and highly affordable dishes such as poha, pav bhaji, bhelpuri, chaat, dosa and the Maharashtrian misal pav were found at almost every nook and corner of the city.

These legendary street foods have their origins in Mumbai's now vanished mills and factories, where workers needed quick, inexpensive meals. To this day, the city's streets burst into life every morning as a host of street vendors begin their daily routine of chopping, spicing, grilling and frying that goes on until late night. Here are our top picks of some tantalising street food that the city has to offer.

ruella.fernandes@htlive.com

MISAL PAV

An extremely popular Maharashtrian dish, the basic ingredients in misal are sprouts, flattened rice, boiled potatoes, chopped onion and coriander. Misal is usually served with pav, but a few places serve this dish with chapati, slices of bread and even tandoori roti. Mamledar in Thane (W) is inarguably the ultimate destination in the city for the most flavourful misal pav.

CHAAT

A wide range of dishes fall under this umbrella, the most popular being pani puri and sev puri, in close competition with ragda and bhelpuri. Although they fall under chaat, each dish has its own distinct flavour and texture. In pani puri, a flour-based fried, hollow sphere is stuffed with mashed potatoes, onions and lentils before being served with two to three different types of chutneys and the spicy water (pani), from which it derives its name. A few varieties of this dish are topped with roasted peanuts and fresh coriander. The toppings on sev puri are similar to the ones on the pani puri — barring the spicy water. Instead of a hollow sphere, you get flat, deep-fried discs of flour. Chaat stalls are found all across the city, but the ones at Chowpatty, Juhu, are famous for some of the city's best chaat.

VADA PAV

Another example of Mumbaikars' love for pav is this beloved, extremely popular snack. Before burgers and rolls came around, vada pav was the go-to snack for everyone. And despite the rising Western influence on the food we consume, this dish continues to rule the local populace's hearts. The vada is made from spicy mashed potatoe balls with cumin, mustard seeds and a host of other spices laced with fresh coriander, which is dipped in gram flour batter and then deep fried. The resulting vada is served hot between sliced fluffy pav with sweet and spicy chutney. Anand Stall in Vile Parle (W), opposite Mithibai College, has been attracting everybody foe years. The place is known to dish out more than thousand vada pavs every day.

DABELI

Although a Gujarati snack, this spicy yet sweet treat has paved its way into the street food circuit of Mumbai with success. One might argue that it is similar to a vada pav, but that is restricted to only how it looks. The filling consists of spicy, mashed potatoes dotted with pomegranates, which gives it a tangy, sweet flavour. Matunga Dabeli in Matunga (E) is known for its dabelis, among other snacks.

PAV BHAJI

Pav is considered a food item that the people of Mumbai people love to have with nearly everything, and Pav Bhaji is a prime example of the simple yet delicious street food in the city. The bhaji is a combination of various vegetables, but mainly consists of potatoes, tomatoes, green peas, carrots and cauliflower. You can find this dish at nearly every eatery in the city, but Sardar Pav Bhaji is widely considered to be among the top places that specialise in this dish. This eatery is near Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus railway station, and serves a wide variety of hot and tasty bhaji with pavs toasted in butter.

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

www.facebook.com/hindustantimes www.twitter.com/htTweets ■ DOWNLOAD OUR iPAD APP www.hindustantimes.com/iPad ■ OUR EDITION ON KINDLE http://read.ht/JS4

hindustantimes

hindustantimes.com

Mumbai/METRO/Thane ■ Vol. XIV No. 201 ■ Price ₹4.00 ■ 24 Pages + 6 Pages of HT Café (for Mumbai only). Area specific pages extra.

THANE FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2018

'NO CHANCE AT ALL' OF SIMULTANEOUS POLLS FOR LS, ASSEMBLIES, SAYS CEC

›HT NATION P9

RIL BREACHES ₹8L-CR MKT CAP

›htbusiness p15

KOHLI BACK AS NO. 1 ICC TEST BATSMAN

OVERTAKES STEVE SMITH AFTER TRENT BRIDGE TEST ›HT SPORT P16

Fire brigade plans surprise checks at high-rises, malls

PAREL BLAZE BMC's July circular asks fire dept to inspect 300 buildings every month

HT SPECIAL

Eeshanpriya M S
■ eeshanpriya@htlive.com

MUMBAI: The death of four people in Wednesday's fire at Crystal Tower, where several safety rules were violated, has served as a wake-up call to the fire brigade and the Mumbai civic body to start conducting surprise checks at residential buildings.

After the tragic fire at two restaurants in Kamala Mills in December 2017, in which 14 people were killed, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) had formed a fire compliance cell to check if commercial structures had fire-safety mechanisms in place.

Until July, this cell's inspection were done only to provide clearance certificates, to mainly hotels and restaurants.

"As the Kamala Mills fire was at a commercial spot, we focused on inspecting eateries, multiplexes, pubs and bars," said fire brigade officer.

"High-rise housing societies were not in focus."

The 3,423 buildings the cell inspected since it was formed in February 2018 were hotels, restaurants, theatres, and malls. In July, the BMC issued a circular asking the cell to inspect a minimum of 300 buildings, including residential ones, every month. So far, such checks at residential properties had not been conducted. "We have introduced a new and more stringent procedure for fire safety only last month," chief fire officer P Rahangdale confirmed.

"Follow-up investigations of existing high-rise buildings will also be done to check if they follow the mandatory bi-annual fire audits, and comply with fire safety."

CONTINUED ON P10

■ Police guard the entrance of the Crystal Tower building in Parel on Thursday. PRATIK CHORGE/HT

ACTION TAKEN SO FAR

The fire brigade has disconnected water and electricity to the building

The building has been declared unsafe and has been sealed

A complaint will be registered against the builder for not complying with fire safety norms, under the Fire Safety Act

WHAT NEXT?

BMC will serve a prosecution notice to Crystal Tower for fire safety violations

The fire brigade will open an investigation into the cause of the fire and prepare a report in a fortnight

1 FAMILY REFUSES TO VACATE BLDG

While most families affected in the Crystal Tower blaze were looking for shelters on Thursday, the Kapoors have decided to stay put, even though the water and power supply were disconnected. "My wife, son and I will not leave the flat. It is our home. We have been living here since 1995. We will drink bottled water and live in candle light," said Rajinder Kapoor. »P3

55,000 BUILDINGS DON'T HAVE OC

There are 55,000 buildings in the city with an occupancy certificate (OC), according to civic estimates. An OC allows a developer to let flat buyers occupy the building and ensures the building gets a water connection. »P3

In 6 years, two dozen terror suspects back to India from Gulf

Rajesh Ahuja and Jayanth Jacob
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Indian diplomacy, especially in the Gulf countries, has resulted in extradition or deportation of more than two dozen terror suspects back to India in the last six years, an analysis of data of ministries of home and external affairs shows.

The most recent such deportation was of an alleged LeT operative Habibur Rahman who was sent to India earlier this month by Saudi Arabia.

The new wave of deportation or extraditions related to charges of terrorism started with Abu Jundal alias Syed Zabiuddin Ansari.

Jundak, a native of Aurangabad in Maharashtra, was sent back to India from Saudi Arabia in June 2012.

THE MOST RECENT SUCH DEPORTATION WAS OF ALLEGED LET OPERATIVE, HABIBUR RAHMAN, SENT TO INDIA EARLIER THIS MONTH BY SAUDI ARABIA

After Jundal, there have been over two dozen extraditions or quick deportations from the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Thailand and even from Bangladesh (that of Anup Chetia, top leader of United Liberation Front of Assam).

»FULL REPORT, P11

Will ask Centre to allow foreign aid: Alphons on Kerala

Jeevan Prakash Sharma
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Union minister KJ Alphons urged the central government on Thursday to "make an exception" for Kerala after the Centre refused to accept ₹700 crore in relief offered by the United Arab Emirates for the state, where more than a million people have been displaced and over 200 people killed in the worst flood in a century.

A political row broke out on Wednesday after the Centre said it was against India's policy to accept foreign aid in such cases. The country has refused offers of financial assistance from foreign governments since a tsunami struck in 2004.

Alphons said the government had followed a 14-year convention it "inherited" from previous governments of not accepting such assistance in the face of natural calamities. "I am pleading with my people and senior ministers that please make an exception for Kerala accept fund from abroad."

"The government is free to take a decision in the interest of the country," the minister said.

The ministry of external affairs earlier said it "is committed to meeting the requirements for relief and rehabilitation through domestic efforts".

CONTINUED ON P10
»RELATED REPORTS, P8

Traceability not a deal-breaker, govt tells WhatsApp

Vidhi Choudhary
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: WhatsApp said on Thursday that tracing the origin of messages sent over the platform would undermine its "private nature", prompting the government to clarify that it expected the Facebook-owned service to continue exploring technical innovations, even as they appeared to agree on three other conditions set by India to operate in the country. The government had asked WhatsApp to come up with a solution to trace the origin of fake messages. The messaging service said introducing traceability would weaken privacy protection of its users.

»FULL REPORT, P9

JAITLEY BACK AT FINANCE MINISTRY

■ Arun Jaitley, who resumed duty on Thursday as the Union finance minister after a three-month break, arrives at the ministry at North Block in New Delhi. ARVIND YADAV/HT »REPORT ON P15

SHOCK EXIT

India's golden kabaddi run ends in heartbreak

■ SHOOTING STAR AT 15 Shardul Vihan won India a silver medal in the men's double trap event on Thursday. PTI »P17

asian games 2018 AUG 18 - SEP 2

Somshuvra Laha
■ somshuvra.laha@htlive.com

NEW DELHI: Every time India left for an Asian Games over the last 28 years, it went in the knowledge that one gold medal was virtually assured — the indigenous sport of kabaddi that has sparked its own professional league in the country since 2014.

The golden run ended on Thursday, when India was eliminated 27-18 in the kabaddi semi-final by Iran, and had to be content with a bronze medal for the first time since the sport was introduced at the Asiad in the 1990 Games in Hiroshima.

Ironically, experts said, part of the blame for India's defeat, and for the rise of Iran as a world kabaddi force, lies in the Pro Kabaddi League which features a number of Iranian players.

CONTINUED ON P10

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

WE WILL COMPLETE THE WORK BY SEPT END. BY OCT, ORGANISERS CAN START BOOKING THE AUDITORIUM
›KDMC OFFICIAL, over reopening of Acharya Atre auditorium

Kalwa-Airoli rail corridor put on fast track

₹428-CRORE PLAN State govt comes up with policy for rehabilitation of project-affected, which was so far acting as hurdle in the work

Megha Pol
megha.pol@hindustantimes.com

THANE: With the state government coming up with a policy on rehabilitation for project-affected people under the Mumbai Urban Transport Project (MUTP), the work on the ₹428-crore Kalwa-Airoli elevated rail corridor project is set to speed up.

The encroachments will be removed by the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA). The total corridor is of 8km, of which the elevated corridor is 3.2-km between Airoli and Kalwa passing via Digha. Digha will be a new station, while Kalwa will have an elevated station. The new elevated corridor will join the existing Airoli station. The corridor will ease 30% of the crowd from Thane station.

The Kalwa-Airoli corridor, to be implemented by the Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation (MRVC), was stuck for state's approval to remove around 2,100 encroachers along the way of the project. The state has drafted fresh guidelines for thousands of people residing on the project-affected areas of various MUTP projects. These new guidelines focus on rehabilitating eligible encroachers. While those in city limit will get a 269-sqft house, those in village or council limit will get 300-sqft house. Those who are ineligible will not get any sort of compensation.

The foundation stone for the project was laid in December 2016 and the work on Digha station began recently. Sanjay Singh, spokesperson of MRVC, said, "This state policy will clear the road ahead for removing the encroachments along the Kalwa-Airoli corridor. We were waiting for this resettlement and rehabilitation policy and can now proceed."

Rajan Vichare, Thane MP, said, "The state has now given a go-ahead to the MMRDA to remove these encroachments. The plan for rehabilitation and removal of these encroachments is approved by the state."

The idea of the corridor is to decongest Thane station. People from Dombivli, Kalyan, Ulhasnagar, Karjat and Kasara lines have to get down at Thane station to go to Navi Mumbai. With the new corridor, they will have direct connectivity to Navi Mumbai. Urban planner Mayuresh Bhadsavle said, "Currently, the maximum crowd at Thane station is along the trans-harbour line. There are merely two platforms catering to trans-harbour, insufficient to accommodate lakhs of commuters. The corridor will help."

KALWA-AIROLI ELEVATED STATION

₹428 cr The cost of the elevated railway corridor

It will be funded partly by the world bank and partly by the state and central governments

The new station will ease 30% of the crowd at Thane station

The total corridor will be 8km, of which elevated corridor will be 3.2km from Kalwa through Digha to Airoli

A new Digha station will be converted on this track, along with a new elevated station at Kalwa

The line will join the existing Airoli station, from where the Kalwa train will run towards the new elevated station via Digha

Around a lakh of people from Kalyan, Dombivli, Badlapur and Ambernath board the trans-harbour train from Thane. This crowd will be shifted to the new elevated station at Kalwa

NEED FOR THE NEW STATION

6.5 lakh commute from the 10 platforms of Thane railway station every day

Of this, over one to two lakh people use the trans-harbour line between Thane to Navi Mumbai

1,400 local and 50 long-distance trains pass through Thane station every day

The station has six foot overbridges, while the work on the seventh one is on.

■ **The foundation stone for the Kalwa-Airoli elevated rail corridor was laid in December 2016.** PRAFUL GANGURDE/HT

DRUNK 'TC' CHEATS PASSENGERS ON PUNE-INDORE EXPRESS, HELD

Priyanka Dhomse
priyanka.dhomse@htlive.com

DOMBIVLI: A 39-year-old fake ticket checker, travelling on 19311 Indore-Pune Express was arrested by the Dombivli government railway police on Wednesday.

According to an officer, as the train left from Chinchwad, Pune, posing as a ticket checker, the accused, Vilas Maruti Mane, started asking passengers to show their tickets. Most passengers started showing their tickets. However, one of the passengers realised he was drunk and asked him for his identity card.

As he failed to show the same, the passenger complained about him by calling on the GRP helpline number. "We received a call when the train was close to Bhiwandi Road station. Around 9:30pm on Wednesday, he was nabbed by our GRP team from Bhiwandi Road station," said Satish Pawar, senior inspector, Dombivli GRP.

Pawar also said Mane hails from Sangli district and was unable to say which station he boarded the train from. "A case has been registered under section 420 of Indian Penal Code. He has been remanded in police custody for 14 days," said Pawar.

Acharya Atre auditorium to reopen in Sept

Sajana Nambiar
sajana.nambiar@hindustantimes.com

KALYAN: Theatre lovers in Kalyan will have to wait longer to watch a play at the Acharya Atre auditorium. According to the Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Corporation (KDMC) officials, the repair work in the auditorium will take another month for completion.

The civic officials claimed that the work got delayed because there was no response for the tender to repair the carpets, air conditioners and seating arrangements. Three different tenders were floated for the separate works.

"We will complete the work by September end after Ganesh Chaturthi. By October, organisers can start booking the auditorium for performances," said a senior KDMC official.

The civic body planned to spend around ₹4 crore on the repair work. Last year, several cultural programme organisers had written to the civic body chief about the delay in the reopening of the auditorium.

In response, city engineer Pramod Kulkarni listed out the reasons for the delay – lack of response from contractors even after tender was called three times, the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), and the fact that repair works could not be conducted during monsoon.

The auditorium, which is near Shivaji chowk, has been shut for repairs since April 2017.

The civic body had assured it would complete the repair work by December 2017 and reopen the auditorium in January this year.

Organisers across the state are finding it difficult to finalise the venue for their events, as the KDMC keeps delaying the reopening of the auditorium.

Prashant Dandekar, a representative of Kalyan Gayan Samaj, who holds various events at the auditorium every year, said, "I am planning to organise a musical programme in October. I have been constantly asking the KDMC officials about the auditorium's reopening date. However, I don't get a proper response from them."

He said, "Recently, the civic officials had said they will open the auditorium by August 15, but they missed that deadline."

According to Dandekar, the last three months of the year witness many cultural programmes.

Dandekar added, "The civic body should open the auditorium by September end as promised because during the last three months of the year, we schedule several events."

Last year, Kalyan's popular event 'Devgandharva Mahotsav,' got affected due to the repair work. At the last minute, the programme had to be conducted at Dombivli's Savitribai Phule auditorium instead of the Acharya Atre auditorium. After the Acharya Atre auditorium is opened, the civic body plans to shut the Savitribai Phule auditorium.

"I check the newspapers every day to see if there is any listing on musical and theatre programmes at the auditorium. However, there is no such information from the last one year. We have no other option here in Kalyan to watch live performances," said Sangita Mane, 34, a resident of Paar Naka, Kalyan (West).

Artistes and programme organisers from the twin city had initiated a signature campaign on Gudi Padwa in March, at Tilak chowk in Dombivli, during the yearly Swagat Yatra (procession) taken by the Ganesh Mandir Sansthan in Dombivli to complete the repair work on time.

After the signature campaign, the KDMC had assured to complete the repair work on priority basis and set the auditorium open by August 15.

However, the authorities failed to complete the time within the deadline.

ABOUT THE AUDITORIUM
- The auditorium has a capacity to seat 850 visitors
- At least one play or musical performance used to be held at the auditorium every day
- The auditorium was built in 2001

■ **The Kalyan-Dombivli Municipal Corporation will spend ₹4 crore on the repairs.** RISHIKESH CHOUDHARY/HT

BONDING WITH NATURE

■ **Students of New English High School in Thane on Thursday used Raksha Bandhan (August 26) as an occasion to bond with nature. They tied eco-friendly rakhis around trees on their school premises, promising to protect them and encourage others to follow suit.** PRAFUL GANGURDE/ /HT

GST IMPACT

Spend more to bring Ganesha home

Padmja Sinha
padmja.sinha@htlive.com

NAVI MUMBAI: The cost of idols for the Ganesh Chaturthi festival this year has increased by 18 to 20% as compared to an increase of 10% in the previous years.

After the government levied 18% Goods and Service Tax (GST) on raw materials this year and service charge, the cost of celebrations has gotten heavier on the pockets. While plaster of paris (POP) earlier invited 13.5% tax (value-added tax, import duty, etc), the government has now levied 18% GST on them, thus increasing the cost of idols.

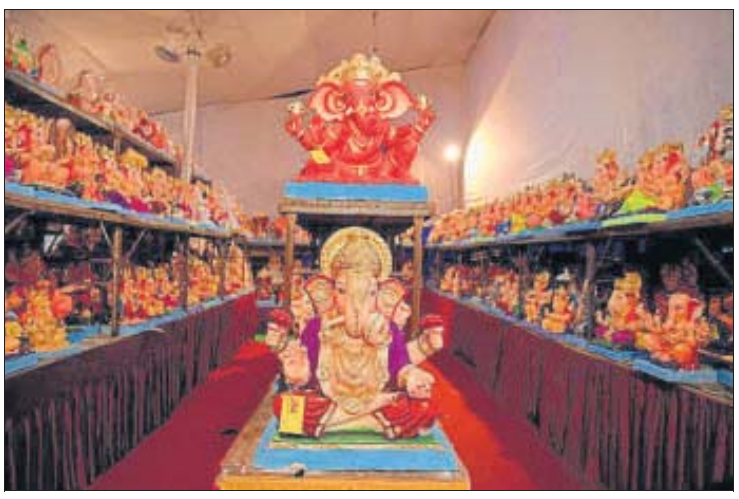
"This year, I have decided to opt for cloth decorations for the mandals and not thermocol. But, cloth decoration is an art in itself and I would need good decorators. Hence, I would also need to pay higher tax, considering the service charge," said, Chandrakant Shewale, organiser of Shiv Shambhu Mitra Mandal, Kopar Khairane. Many mandals across the city have also opted for eco-friendly decorations.

Sampat Shewale, from Sarvajanik Ganesh Mandal, Vashi, Sector 7, said, "Since the very beginning, we have celebrated Ganesh Chaturthi in an eco-friendly way, thus, the increase in cost of Ganesh idols will not affect our celebrations." He said that he is happy with the GST and it has reduced the burden of different taxes and eased their work.

This year, organisers will have to pay GST even while hiring decorators. Until now, mandals would pay service tax at 15%, but this year, it will increase to 18%.

Badal Jain from Yuva Ganesh Utsav mandal, Kamothe, said, "Unlike every year, this year, we have to pay a higher cost for the idols as well as the decorators."

Last year, a 15-feet idol cost organisers ₹70,000 to ₹80,000. However, this year, it is likely to cost around ₹1 lakh. Similarly, a two-feet idol that was sold at ₹ 2,000 to ₹2,300 last year may cost ₹4,000 this year.



■ **Until now, mandals had to pay service tax at 15%, but this year, it will increase to 18%.** BACHCHAN KUMAR/HT

Long-distance private buses under cop lens

Pranab Jyoti Bhuyan
pranab.bhuyan@hindustantimes.com

NAVI MUMBAI: In view of long-distance private buses violating the norms, the Navi Mumbai traffic department has decided to take a special drive against them from Friday.

A huge number of private buses carry passengers from Vashi and Kopar Khairane to other states, namely Karnataka, Goa and other far-off places in Maharashtra such as Kolhapur, Satara, Pune, among others.

These buses are parked on main roads, creating trouble for other vehicles. As they operate mostly at nights, they don't bother about traffic officials who may take action against them.

Satish Gaikwad, senior police inspector of Vashi traffic unit, said, "Drivers of these buses park their vehicles wherever they want. They also randomly stop them for taking passengers even at important junctions."

"Some carry passengers more than their capacity. Likewise they also violate other rules such as jumping signals or rash driving. We have been receiving complaints against them for a long time. Therefore, we have decided to take up this drive," he said.

According to Gaikwad, the traffic officials will be deployed on roads at night to pay special attention to these buses. If any bus driver is found violating norms, he will be penalised.

"Our officials will also keep a tab on other vehicles plying on roads at nights. It will make the roads safer for the pedestrians and law abiding motorists," Gaikwad said.

TRAFFIC COPS' SPECIAL DRIVE
- A huge number of private buses carry passengers from Navi Mumbai to other states. These buses are parked on main roads, creating trouble for other vehicles. Some also carry passengers more than their capacity
- After a lot of complaints against them, Navi Mumbai traffic unit decided to take up a special drive against them.

pressreader PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604 COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW

Best to waste? NMMC now neglects garbage

CHANGE IN APPROACH After being declared the best civic body in solid waste management in Swachh Survekshan Survey in 2018, waste lies strewn near station

Pranab Jyoti Bhuyan
pranab.bhuyan@hindustantimes.com

NAVI MUMBAI: Thanks to its scientific approach towards garbage segregation, collection and composting, the Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) was declared the best civic body in India in solid waste management in the Swachch Survekshan Survey in 2018.

However, within a few weeks after the results were declared and the wards were handed over, the civic body seems to have lost interest in collecting garbage. The local residents are now complaining about how the approach of the staff has changed after the survey.

A huge amount of waste has piled up on an arterial road behind a shopping mall near the Vashi railway station over the past few days. The situation is so bad that because of its foul smell, pedestrians can't even walk on the road. "The area where the garbage has been dumped is barely 100 meters away from the Vashi station, which sees over 60,000 footfalls a day. Most commuters suffer because of this menace and the NMMC is aware of it," said Usha Salve, 45, a resident of Vashi.

"In case of heavy rain, the garbage mixes with the water. We have no option but to walk through the puddle. It is surprising that NMMC, which came first in the country in solid waste management, is now doing handling garbage like this," she said.

Residents alleged garbage is not being lifted from bins properly at other places too. "It is not that the civic body has stopped lifting garbage from the city. But there's a visible change in their attitude after the results of Swachch Survekshan were announced," said Rajendra Mane, 38, a resident of Kopar Khairane.

"The bins on the roads are now filled with garbage most of the times. But we can't see NMMC staff collecting garbage from the bins. Likewise, roads are also not being swept regularly," he said.

According to official records, the NMMC collects around 650 metric tonnes of garbage every day, of which around 200 metric tonnes are wet waste. "Before survey, the NMMC was aggressive in promoting segregation of e-waste and scientific composting. But they seem to have forgotten about it now," said Rashmi Mukherji, 41, a resident of Vashi.

Tushar Pawar, deputy commissioner of NMMC (solid waste management), said, "It is true that because of the rains, the process of collecting and segregating garbage has slowed down to some extent. Our people have not been able to do it as fast as they used to do it earlier. Because of that, they might not have lifted garbage from some of the bins. We have taken this matter seriously and the requisite measures will be taken soon."

"As far as the place near Vashi railway station is concerned, some people have undertaken the task of collecting and segregating garbage there. We had received complaints about them earlier too, after which we asked the Vashi ward officer to look into it. We will coordinate with him again," he said.

Despite repeated attempts, Mahendra Singh Thoke, the NMMC ward officer for Vashi was unavailable for comments.

▪ Mounds of garbage in Navi Mumbai tell the story of NMMC's negligence towards waste management.

BACHCHAN KUMAR/HT

> The area where the garbage has been dumped is barely 100 metres from Vashi station. Most commuters suffer because of this.
> USHA SALVE, Vashi resident

> It is not that NMMC has stopped lifting garbage from the city. But there's a visible change in their attitude after the
> R MANE, Kopar Khairane resident

> Our people have not been able to collect and segregate garbage as fast as they used to do it earlier due to rain
> TUSHAR PAWAR, NMMC chief

THE LAUREL

The Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation (NMMC) was declared the best civic body in India in solid waste management in the Swachch Survekshan Survey in 2018

The survey ranks cities in the country based on their cleanliness

According to official records, the Navi Mumbai civic body collects 650 metric tonnes of garbage daily, of which around 200 metric tonnes are wet waste.

COMPLAINTS

Even as the NMMC decided to sweep roads twice a day that was not being done at all places for different reasons. Now they claim to have taken all possible steps to ensure roads in all areas are swept both in the morning and evening

The civic body is now processing 40-50 tonnes of organic waste every day. The fertilizers produced by the composting units are being sold to a government agency.

They have made waste composting mandatory for housing societies and hotels that generate over 100 kg garbage every day

They had also served over 6,000 notices to different societies informing the residents about ways of garbage segregation.

Fresh surveys will be conducted to understand the need of public and family toilets in the city. Requisite measures will be taken accordingly

They are also paying more attention to the parks and the gardens and nullahs in the city.

Residents alleged garbage is not being lifted from bins properly at other places to. They are being to wade through puddles littered with waste to reach Vashi station.

▪ Before the cleanliness survey, most roads were free of garbage.

HT FILE

pressreader
PRINTED AND DISTRIBUTED BY PRESSREADER
PressReader.com +1 604 278 4604
COPYRIGHT AND PROTECTED BY APPLICABLE LAW