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**JAITLEY SAYS GOVT WON'T ROLL BACK 1% EXCISE ON NON-SILVER JEWELLERY**

»ht nation p4

**LANBA TO BE NEW NAVY CHIEF**

»ht nation p4

**AN-ALL MADRID CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FINALE**

REAL BEAT MAN CITY 1-0, SET UP SUMMIT CLASH WITH ATLÉTICO »ht sport p14



## shortstories



■ Atanasio Monserratte

### RAPE CASE: GOA MLA APPEARS BEFORE CB

**PANAJI:** Expelled Congress legislator, Atanasio Monserratte, who was accused of raping a minor girl, appeared before Crime Branch on Thursday, a day after Goa police registered an FIR against him. He had allegedly raped the 16-year-old in March.

P4

### 'Murmu may have been killed by man she turned down'

**RANGGARH:** Sonali Murmu, the BED student who was murdered near Maharashi Parmhans College on Wednesday, could have been killed by the man she turned down, said Ranggarh SP, M Tamilwanan. He, however, said the police are still probing the circumstances which led to the murder.

P3

### 2 children die, 60 ill after drinking milk in mid-day meal

**AGRA:** Two children died on Thursday while 60 others fell ill reportedly after consuming milk served to them as part of their mid-day meal at a school in Baad area of Mathura district. "Most of the students are residents of Kanshiram colony, near the school," said Sajjan Kumar, additional chief medical officer, Mathura.

HTC

### Rolling Stones ask Trump to stop using their music

**LONDON:** The Rolling Stones have become the latest musicians to ask US Republican presumptive presidential nominee, Donald Trump, to stop using their songs in his campaigns. They said they never gave him permission to use their songs in his campaigns.

REUTERS

### Dharamsala to have a Hollywood-style hillside sign

**DHARAMSALA:** Dharamsala will get a sign on the lines of the famous Hollywood sign in Los Angeles, on a hillcock of Indru Nag. A 100-ft national flag mast will also be erected near it, Himachal Pradesh urban development minister Sudhir Sharma said.

PTI

### Gehlot visits murder victim's mother in Kerala

**KOCHI:** Union minister for social justice, Thawar Chand Gehlot, on Thursday visited the mother of a Dalit woman, who was raped and killed in Kerala, and told her the government would ensure the family gets justice. The minister visited her at the taluk hospital where she is admitted.

P4

### Can WhatsApp message be treated as a petition?

**NEW DELHI:** Can a WhatsApp message received by a judge be treated as a petition? A bench headed by CJI TS Thakur faced the peculiar question when an advocate said he had sent the CJI a WhatsApp message from the US about an issue and that the court should have taken cognizance of the matter based on that.

PTI

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# NDA rule tweak leaked to Agusta

**CHOPPER DEAL** Firm tipped off month before Vajpayee PMO made changes, Milan court papers show

## HT SPECIAL

Abhishek Sharan

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** A European middleman allegedly tipped off AgustaWestland on October 20, 2003 about a crucial specification change a month before the then NDA government officially recommended the alterations that benefitted the controversial defence firm.

Italian court documents being examined by the CBI allegedly show middleman Guido Haschke allegedly alerted AgustaWestland officials about the possibility of the government reducing the mandatory flying altitude — known as the service ceiling — of VVIP choppers from 6,000 metres to 4,500 metres.

The alleged communication took place a month before a meeting chaired by then Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee's principal secretary Brajesh Mishra on November 19, 2003.

The revelation might add more fuel to an ongoing battle between the government and

## ITALIAN COURT DOCUMENTS ADD TWIST

■ In November 2003, NDA government decides to change specification — flying capacity of the chopper lowered from 6,000m to 4,500m

■ A month earlier, Italian middleman Guido Haschke tips off AgustaWestland and Finmeccanica officials that such changes were being considered

■ Change benefits AgustaWestland because its choppers, with a flying limit of



4,572m, had been disqualified in a 2002 bid

■ Haschke said he received the information from cousins of former IAF chief SP Tyagi.

Congress over the controversial 2010 deal as the documents indicate middlemen had access to the corridors of power before the Congress-led UPA administration took over.

Haschke allegedly got the information from cousins of former air force chief SP Tyagi, who was then a senior officer.

The CBI and the ED are probing Tyagi for allegedly accepting bribes via his cousins to approve the tweaking of the service ceiling,

which he did on March 14, 2005. All the accused have denied allegations.

"I did say the Tyagi family gave me the preliminary information that the operational requirement would be lowered... in the tender document, it would be lowered," Haschke allegedly told Italian prosecutors.

Asked if he transmitted the information to AgustaWestland, Haschke reportedly said, "Well, yes, of course."

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

# Caught cheating, student kills self by jumping in front of bus

Sharad Chandra

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**DHANBAD:** A final-year BCom student of RSP College allegedly committed suicide by throwing herself before a moving bus after she was expelled from an exam for using unfair means, leading to protests by students in Dhanbad and Jharia on Thursday.

The protesters laid siege to PK Roy Memorial College where the exam was held and locked its gates after the girl, Nidhi Kumari, died during treatment on Wednesday night. The protesters blocked NH-2 connecting Delhi with Kolkata but did not disrupt the college exams.

The father of the 20-year-old lodged a complaint with Saraidhela police against the invigilators on duty, controller of examinations SK Sinha and centre superintendent DK



■ Nidhi Kumari

Verma, accusing them of provoking her to commit suicide.

"It is a matter of investigation how the deceased came out of the campus during examination," DN Banka, deputy SP, told the agitating students and family members of the girl.

The victim was first taken to Patliputra Medical College and Hospital, Dhanbad, and later referred to SAIL's Bokaro General Hospital where she succumbed to her injuries.

According to the PK Roy

Memorial College administration, the girl was caught using unfair means during the exam. The administration ignored her plea for leniency and expelled her after which she tried to jump from the college building but was stopped by teachers. Later, the teachers allegedly provoked her to do so outside.

"One of the teachers sarcastically told her not to create a scene on campus as the examination was on. He provoked her to do whatever she wished but out of campus," an examinee said, requesting anonymity.

The college administration remained tight-lipped on the issue. Sinha left the college immediately after the incident on Wednesday and was admitted to a local nursing home. Verman, who is also the principal, said, "It is not our concern as the incident occurred outside the college campus."

## BUSES CRUSH AUTO IN NOIDA, 2 DEAD



■ Two people, including a woman IT employee, died while many students were injured in a road accident at Sector 44 in Noida on Thursday. The incident occurred when the driver of a school bus suddenly applied brakes. An auto rickshaw (left) behind the bus was forced to brake immediately. A speeding private bus, approaching from behind, was unable to stop in time and rammed into the auto. The three-wheeler was crushed between the two buses.

SUNIL GHOSH / HT

## HOLIDAY HELL

# Son's wedding bells ring at school, principal under fire

Press Trust of India

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**JAMMU:** A headmistress and the entire staff of a government school in Jammu and Kashmir's Doda have been suspended after the headmistress declared a school holiday on the occasion of her son's wedding.

"We have placed the entire staff of Government High School, Bhagla in Bharat area of the district, under suspension as they declared a holiday on Tuesday to celebrate the wedding of the son of the headmaster of the

school," director education, Jammu, Samita Sethi, said. Headmistress Sayeeda Anjum, without seeking permission from authorities, had declared a holiday in the school. Over 300 students study in the school.

The sarpanch of the village came to know that the school had put up a notice signed by the headmistress declaring closure of the school for the wedding of her son.

The sarpanch then called up state education minister Naem Akhtar, who ordered an inquiry. "As soon as we got the information, we con-

ducted an inquiry and senior officials of the education department were sent to the school the same day. They found the school closed and the notice declaring the holiday."

Sethi said.

She said preliminary inquiry held the headmistress and the staff, including teachers and those in the administration, guilty of having remained "unauthorisedly" absent from their office duty, after which they were suspended.

"After the inquiry, strict action would be taken against the erring staff members for putting the future of over 300 students at stake. They will be chargesheeted and action will be taken as per the law," Sethi said.



ILLUSTRATION: ABHIMANYU SINHA



■ (L-R) PM Modi; Delhi CM Kejriwal

## MAKE MODI'S BA DEGREE PUBLIC, KEJRIWAL TELLS DELHI UNIVERSITY

Indo-Asian News Service

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday urged Delhi University to make public Prime Minister Narendra Modi's BA degree.

In a letter to vice-chancellor Yogesh Tyagi, Kejriwal referred to Modi's successive election affidavits which said he had a Bachelor of Arts degree from Delhi University.

"It will be better if you put on the university website all the documents related to the Prime Minister's degree," he said.

"The people of this country have a right to know how educated their Prime Minister is," he added. The letter comes a day after the AAP leader alleged Modi didn't have a BA degree from Delhi University. He said there were no records in the university and the purported degree of Modi published by some newspapers was forged.

Modi's election affidavit in 2014 claimed he had both undergraduate and postgraduate degrees. According to the affidavit, he completed a distance education course from Delhi University in 1978 in Political Science.

Kejriwal said in his letter to Tyagi that if Modi didn't have a BA degree, then he could not be having an MA degree too.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## HT SPOTLIGHT

### THE BOMB MAKERS OF WEST BENGAL

The bomb is the shield that protects Bengal's darkest secret — violent, mean and shallow politics. Since the first awakening of nationalism, bombs were the revolutionary's weapon. Post independence, it is now a tool to capture power.

»P10

of the helicopters. A sarcastic Swamy said it was probably done for the Leader of the Opposition, Ghulam Nabi Azad, the six-footer Kashmiri leader. The BJP even argued that these changes made the erstwhile UPA leaders liable to prosecution.

Congress leader Abhishek Manu Singhvi countered Yadav saying that it was former PM Atal Behari Vajpayee's principal secretary Brajesh Mishra who had taken the lead to change the specifications. Swamy remained silent when Antony asserted that the cabin height of 1.8m was approved by Mishra.

So, what went wrong? How did the Congress turn the tables on the BJP on an issue that kept it on the back foot all these months?

The BJP was far from convincing in their arguments that Antony allowed kickbacks under his nose.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## myindia myvote

### 84% turnout in West Bengal's final phase

The curtains came down on a marathon six-phase elections in West Bengal on Thursday after a bitter month-long campaign that was marked by close fights, high turnouts and unprecedented security cover.

### Freebies abound in Jayalalithaa manifesto

Tamil Nadu CM J Jayalalithaa announced the mother of all promises on Thursday — gold ornaments, 50% subsidy for working women to purchase mopeds, free mobile phones and ₹500 gift coupons on Pongal.

»P9

# Mumbai court sends Keenan, Reuben killers to jail for life

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**MUMBAI:** A court sentenced four men to life in jail on Thursday for the murder of two friends who were trying to protect their female companions from sexual harassment outside a posh Mumbai eatery five years ago.

Special women's court judge Vrushali Joshi held the accused guilty of murder, outraging the modesty of women and other charges of IPC, bringing to an end a case that sparked nationwide outrage and a debate on women's safety in public spaces.

Keenan Santos, 24, and Reuben Fernandez, 29, were stabbed outside a popular restaurant in suburban Mumbai on October 20, 2011,

when they tried to shield their friends from a group of men. The harassers retreated but returned with 10 more men to the spot within minutes, murdering Santos and Fernandez with at least 50 bystanders watching the assault.

Santos died the same day and Fernandez died on October 30, triggering an outpouring of grief and rage across the city that is considered safer for women than many other Indian metropolises.

Police arrested the four accused — Jitendra Rana, Sunil Bodh, Satish Dulhaji and Dipak Tival — the next day and a fast-track court framed charges against them for murder, conspiracy and molestation in October.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5  
RELATED REPORT ON P8

## POLLUTION CONTROL

# Order on diesel cabs will drive BPOs out of country: Centre to SC

Bhadra Sinha

■ bhadra.sinha@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** A day after industry body Nasscom voiced concern over the fallout of the phasing out of diesel cabs in the NCR, the Centre moved the Supreme Court on Thursday saying the ban had hit the flourishing BPO sector.

"The court order has given rise to security concerns as women employees need to be dropped at night... It (order) has badly affected them. If the BPOs move out of the country it will affect the economy."

The court ordered on April 30 that no diesel cabs would ply in the NCR, declining them more time to switch to CNG. Aimed at bringing down pollution levels in the Capital that has earned the tag of the world's most polluted city, the top court's first order against diesel-run commercial vehicles

The court order has given rise to security concerns as women employees need to be dropped at night... It (order) has badly affected them. If the BPOs move out of the country it will affect the economy.

RANJIT KUMAR, solicitor general

had come in December.

The bench asked if companies could hire CNG buses. "It is not feasible," Kumar said, adding, "The employees have to be dropped outside their houses. Women workers cannot be left on the roads because buses can't enter small lanes. It is a matter of security."

The court asked Kumar to suggest how its order could be complied with. The Delhi government — which on Tuesday sought more time to phase out diesel cabs — also has to submit a detailed plan for the court's consideration on May 9.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



■ A collapsed pandal at the Simhastha Kumbh on Thursday.

SANDEEP VATSA / HT PHOTO

# Eight pilgrims die as thunderstorm ravages Kumbh mela

Sandeep Vatsa

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**UJJAIN:** At least eight pilgrims died and more than 150 were injured when a thunderstorm hit the Simhastha Kumbh fair, bringing down a number of pandals, in Ujjain on Thursday. Among the casualties was a woman who was struck by lightning. Doctors on duty at the disaster cell claimed that the storm left at least 18 devotees dead.

Divisional commissioner Ravindra Pastore told HT that the number of casualties could go up as many of the injured, undergoing treatment at different private and government hospitals, were in a critical state.

According to sources, around 10 lakh people were present in the fair area when the hot weather

took a turn in the afternoon, bringing in heavy showers and high velocity winds in its wake. Screams of devotees could be heard as domes of the camp structures gave way with the storm weakening their base.

Many of the pilgrims had arrived after completing the 118-km panchkoshi yatra on foot.

The police control room was flooded with reports of damage at several points following which rescue teams comprising National Disaster Relief Force (NDRF), home guards and police were rushed to the spots along with medical teams.

The 20-mm rainfall that continued for half an hour created hurdles in rescue work as temporary roads leading to different pandals built on farm fields turned into swamps.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## CRIME FILES



■ Reuben Fernandez (L) and Keenan Santos (R)

■ One of the convicts, Jitendra Rana, misbehaved with two female friends of Keenan Santos, Reuben Fernandes (in picture)

■ Rana and other convicts attack Santos and Fernandes a while after they chased him away

# CBI asks Rawat to appear in sting CD probe

Deep Joshi and Agencies

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI/DEHRADUN:** The CBI summoned on Thursday former Uttarakhand CM Harish Rawat for questioning in connection with a sting video where the Congress leader was purportedly shown bribing nine dissident MLAs to save his government.

Rawat has been called by the CBI to join the probe on Monday, sources said.

The inquiry was registered on the recommendation of the state government and the notification was issued by the Centre. The state is under President's rule.

But Rawat denied receiving the summons and alleged its timing was aimed at influencing the Supreme Court hearing on a proposed floor test.

"Is it not a move on the CBI's part to influence the floor test? It is for the investigating agency to clarify its position as the timing of its summons creates doubts about its credibility," he said.

Rawat's government plunged into trouble in March when nine Congress MLAs supported the BJP during the passage of a bill. The governor asked Rawat to prove his majority in a trust vote but two days before it, a video surfaced allegedly showing the then CM offering bribes to the rebel MLAs.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5



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Raghubar Das, chief minister

## RJD, Cong bring in big guns for by-polls

HEAVYWEIGHTS Sonia, Rahul Gandhi expected to campaign

Gautam Mazumdar  
■ gautam.mazumdar@vishindustantimes.com

RANCHI: Predicting a keen contest in the upcoming Panki and Godda by-polls, the Congress and RJD are bringing in their 'star campaigners' to lobby for their candidates.

The seats fell vacant after the deaths of legislators Raghunath Mandal (Godda) and Bidesh Singh (Panki) and are scheduled to go to by-polls on May 16.

The two parties are vying to keep the Panki seat and wrest the Godda seat away from the BJP, and have thus called in Congress heavyweights like Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi, Ahmed Patel, Ghulam Nabi Azad, BK Hariprasad, Tarachand Bhagora, Shakeel Ahmad, state president Sukhdeo Bhagat, former Speaker Alamgir Alam, former Union minister Subodh Kant Sahai, former MP Furkan Ansari and others.

The RJD is yet to submit its list of campaigners but has agreed in principle to bring in its own bigwigs. RJD state president Gautam Sagar Rana said



■ Congress hopes to keep hold of the Panki seat and will look to Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi to campaign in that area. HT FILE

party leaders will meet in Godda late on Thursday to take a final call on who will campaign.

The by-polls have become interesting, with the JMM fielding candidates from both seats — Sashi Bhushan Mehta from Panki and retired IPS officer (former Odisha DGP) Sanjiv Marik from Godda. This means the by-polls are likely to be a three horse race between the JMM, BJP and the Congress-RJD alliance.

Thus, in both the seats triangular contests are likely with the BJP in the other corner and the parties are geared up to launch their apex leaders in the campaigns that are peaking with each passing day with the soaring mercury.

The BJP too is bringing in its big guns — the party is expected to bring in leaders from Bihar as well as Union minister Ram Vilas Paswan, the president of BJP's ally Lok Janshakti Party.

## ‘Zero tolerance against those harassing investors’

B Vijay Murty  
■ bvmurty@hindustantimes.com

RANCHI: Chief minister Raghubar Das on Thursday issued a directive to the superintendents of police (SP) of East Singhbhum and Seraikela-Kharswan districts to maintain zero tolerance against those harassing industrialists and investors for vested interests. He told them to protect investors from unnecessary hassles and called for strict action against those impeding investments in the state.

“Anyone harassing investors and jeopardising the investor-friendly atmosphere created by our government is a state enemy. His place should be behind bars,” Das told the SPs.

The chief minister personally phoned the SPs and passed on the directive after a delegation of Steel Strips Wheels Ltd, led by corporate and HR head DR Sharma brought to his notice the persistent problems they were facing by a select group of self-styled labour union leaders. Das, sources in the secretariat said, assured the company officials of all possible assistance in future.

Based out of Chandigarh, Steel Strips Wheels Ltd is one of the largest producers of steel wheels in the country.

On Thursday, soon after meeting Das, Sharma said, “It was a rare of a chief minister to act so proactively and swiftly: I am sure with this kind of response no one can stop Jharkhand from becoming a friendly investment hub.”

The company is enthused by the chief minister's response and has announced more investments in the state.

Around a fortnight ago, a self-



■ Raghubar Das

styled trade union leader along with his accomplices took the company's Govindpur plant hostage for at least two hours, vandalising its offices, burning the company's property and obstructing the company work leading to heavy losses. With the local police station turning deaf ears to their complaints, the company knocked the doors of the chief minister and prime minister Narendra Modi, seeking their intervention.

A week later, Jamshedpur SP Anoop T Mathew personally took charge of the case and arrested the accused, who was identified as Rajiv Kumar Pandey. The accused had then claimed that the company was depriving workers of their genuine demands and he had gone there to initiate talks with the management when the guards thrashed him.

Jamshedpur and Seraikela-Kharswan are the two major industrial towns in Jharkhand. The presence of steel major Tata Steel and automobile giant Tata Motors has led to creation of a huge ancillary hub in the twin-districts.

A few politicians and hoodlums have been harassing them for personal gains. Fed up, several companies have already shifted their expansion projects and investments to other states.

## Sonali victim of one-sided affair: Police

Manoj Sinha  
■ hiharkhand@hindustantimes.com

RANGARH: Sonali Murmu, the BEd student who was brutally murdered near the Maharashi Parmhans College on Wednesday, was probably a victim of a one-sided love affair; Rangarh SP M Tamilwanan speculated.

He however said the police are still investigating the circumstances which led to the murder. The SP said there were contradictions in the information received so far. “It is said that Sonali had come out of the college for getting her testimonials photocopied. The photocopy shop is on the right side of the college while she was found on the left side. We are tracking sim cards of her mobile phone to help solve the case, the SP added.

A police team has been rushed to Dumka to nab Suken Mandal, who has been named as an accused in the FIR lodged by Sonali's husband Chitrnanjan Tuddu. Police have also questioned the college students in



■ Sonali Murmu

connection with the case.

Sonali, a resident of Dumaria Jama village in Dumka, was famous as a social worker in her area. Tuddu said Suken wanted to marry Sonali but she turned him down as they were not of the same caste. “He used to call my wife and threaten her of dire consequences,” he said.

Tuddu said Mandal stopped calling her after she gave birth to their child.

“In June 2015 my wife got admission in B Ed college of Rangarh. Mandal started following us whenever I went to the college with my wife,” he said.

## Govt doctors call for state-wide strike on May 16

Subhash Mishra  
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DHANBAD: Aggrieved by the rising number of assault on medics, state government doctors have announced they will go on a state-wide strike on May 16. Jharkhand Health Services Association (JHSA), the frontal organisation of government doctors, has given the call for a strike its support and has demanded immediate implementation of the Medical Protection Act in the state.

According to a JHSA office-bearer, 18 states of the country have already implemented the Act for the safety and security of their doctors but “Jharkhand has been sitting on the Act while doctors of state are being assaulted daily”.

The Indian Medical Association (IMA) state chapter has also announced its support for the strike.

## Police nab five PLFI militants in Khunti district

Sanjay Sahay  
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RANCHI: The Khunti police have arrested five People Liberation Front of India (PLFI) militants, including area commander Jhublu Sanga, following an encounter with the separatists in the Kadal forests under the jurisdiction of the Karra police station on Wednesday.

After receiving a tip-off about militants in Kadal, a police team was formed to raid the area. After an exchange of fire, the militants began retreating. However, police forces positioned towards the rear of the

### THE FIVE ARRESTED WERE INVOLVED IN SEVERAL MURDERS AND CRIMINAL ACTS IN KHUNTI

forest prevented the extremists from escaping. A search operation was launched, which led to the arrests on Wednesday.

Khunti SP Anis Gupta on Thursday said they arrested Sanga, Anil Herenz, Mani Munda, Ranyu Kumar and Munna Oraon and three guns, cartridges, one motorcycle and

other articles have been recovered from them. The arms, which include a regular rifle, were provided to them by PLFI zonal commander Rajesh Gope. The police said that the arrested were involved in several murders and criminal acts in Khunti district. They were also responsible for Dashrath Mahato and his daughter Neema's murder in Karra village on Monday.

“People of the district were in fear due to the activity of the gang. They had demanded levy from many contractors in the district. The police are investigating the past criminals records of the accused,” Gupta said.



■ Khunti SP Anis Gupta (front, right) with arrested the five arrested PLFI militants on Thursday. HT FILE

## ICSE RESULTS TO BE DECLARED TODAY

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RANCHI: Friday will mark the end of the wait for close to 14,000 students in Jharkhand, with the Council for the Indian School Certificate Examinations (CISCE) to declare the results for the class 10 and 12 examinations at 3pm.

The results are being announced two weeks ahead of the schedule this year as the Council introduced a new technique, the Live Ink Character Recognition (LICR), which captures and digitalises marks entered on the top sheets of answer scripts and instantly encrypts and transfers the captured data to the Council's cloud-based servers directly from the evaluation centres.

This year 42,880 students appeared in the ISC exam (class 12), which began on February 8 and got over on April 8, from all over the country. The ICSE (class 10) exam that started on February 29 and concluded on March 31 saw participation of 1,69,381 students in India.

There are 120 ICSE affiliated schools in Jharkhand. Over 4,000 students from the state have appeared in the ISC exams, while 10,000 sat for the ICSE exams.

Since CISCSE, unlike CBSE, is yet to adopt the grading system and will give out marks and percentage to all the students, the sense of competition is higher in the class 10 students of this board. This competitiveness may lead to depression if results do not come out well, warn psychiatrists, urging parents to be extra cautious while reacting to the results.

“It is not the end of life, it is just the beginning. Don't get disappointed if you fail to meet expectations of your family and teachers. Your hard work will eventually pay off,” said St. Xavier's School, Ranchi principal Father Ajit Xess.



■ Sami (second from left) and Kataki (second from right) escorted by Dehi Police personnel to Jamshedpur. ARVIND SHARMA / HT FILE

## AQIS probe to focus on trainer, JeM link

Debashish Sarkar  
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JAMSHEDPUR: The investigation into the al-Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent (AQIS) network has now zeroed in on Pakistan-trained AQIS suspect Abu Sufiyan, with the Delhi Police special cell moving a Delhi court to declare Sufiyan and fellow suspects Umar Hyderabad, Zeeshan Ali and Arshiyani Ali as proclaimed absconders.

“We have moved the designated special court, praying for the declaration of Sufiyan, Hyderabad, Arshiyani and Zeeshan as proclaimed absconders. This will pave the way for their arrest in any state and is also a prerequisite for approaching Interpol for international alert notices,” a Delhi Police special cell inspector told HT over the phone.

The move came after the city police, Delhi Police, Intelligence Bureau (IB) and the Jharkhand anti-terrorist squad (ATS) found that Sufiyan was a trainer in an Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI)-backed terrorist training

camp in Pakistan, officials said. “AQIS chief recruiter Abdul Rehman Katki, who went to Pakistan in 2006, has confirmed Sufiyan had first gone to Pakistan in 2005 and is now a trainer in a terrorist camp. Sufiyan spent two years in a mosque in Kapali area under the Seraikela-Kharsawan district in the state and taught Arabic and the Quran before going to Pakistan. He is now a hardcore terrorist and the key link,” a top IB official, experienced in several operational assignments in various foreign countries, told HT.

Officials said Arshiyani is now in Syria and has joined the Islamic State while his brother Zeeshan is in Saudi Arabia, looking after the AQIS finances with Glasgow bomber Kafil Ahmed's brother Dr Shabil Ahmed.

Katki has also confessed to his links with terror group Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM) and confirmed during his interrogation that AQIS is an offshoot of JeM.

Katki has also confessed to have sent Umar Hyderabad to Pakistan along with Sami and Sufiyan.

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SOURCE: TRA - BRAND TRUST REPORT PUBLISHED 2<sup>nd</sup> MARCH 2016



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► VIKAS SWARUP, external affairs ministry spokesperson, on PM's visit to Iran this month

quickread

tooningin

JAYANTO



shortstories

CHHATTISGARH  
BUS ACCIDENT  
TOLL TOUCHES 16

**RAIPUR:** The death toll in the bus accident in Chhattisgarh's Balrampur district has gone up to 16, with three more people, including a woman, succumbing to their injuries, police said on Thursday. Thirteen people were killed and 53 injured when a private bus fell off a bridge into a rivulet at Daldhovia ghat under Balrampur police station.

272 Indian fishermen lodged in foreign jails, says VK Singh

**NEW DELHI:** As many as 272 Indian fishermen are currently lodged in foreign jails, including 220 in Pakistan and 34 in Sri Lanka, MoS for external affairs V K Singh said. He told the Rajya Sabha that the main reason for frequent arrest of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan authorities was due to the allegation that they indulge in bottom trawling and there being no physical demarcation of international maritime boundaries.

Fodder scam: CBI court orders presence of Lalu, Mishra today

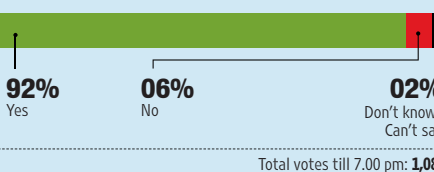
**PATNA:** A CBI court on Thursday directed RJD president Lalu Prasad and former chief minister Jagannath Mishra to be present before it on Friday in connection with a case of multi-crore rupee fodder scam. The order for personal appearance of Lalu Prasad, Jagannath Mishra and others was passed by CBI judge Devraj Tripathi.

CBI case against Paramount Airways, raids conducted

**NEW DELHI:** The CBI has registered a case against defunct Paramount Airways and its promoter M Thiagarajan for allegedly defrauding and diverting loan to off shore accounts. Immediately after registering a case, CBI sleuths swooped on seven locations and carried out searches at Chennai and Madurai.

ontheweb

**POLLOF THE DAY** Govt rejects 'priority' for MPs at airports, says they aren't 'super citizens': Do you agree with its view?



# Govt will not roll back 1% excise on non-silver jewellery: Jaitley

HT Correspondent  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Finance minister Arun Jaitley on Thursday reiterated that the government will not roll back the 1% excise on non-silver jewellery and said the levy was not applicable on small traders and artisans and only jewellers with more than ₹12 crore turnover will attract the duty.

"I have not been able to understand the politics of hatred for 'suit' but the love for gold," Jaitley said while replying to a debate on the Finance Bill 2016 as he took potshots at Congress, which is opposing the levy of excise duty.

The Finance Bill was passed in the Lok Sabha. The finance minister proposed excise duty of 1% on jewellery without input credit or 12.5% with input tax credit on articles of jewellery, excluding silver jewellery other than those studded with diamonds and some other precious stones. The government move is aimed at bringing the gems and jewellery industry that is still largely an unorganised sector into the tax net.

The jewellers and bullion traders in the country responded by launching a nationwide strike for more than 40 days.



■ Arun Jaitley

The government has set up a committee under former chief economic advisor Ashok Lahiri to look into the demand of agitating jewellers and also into their grievances with regard to compliance and operating procedures for payment of excise duty.

The government refused to budge from its stance as Jaitley clarified in Parliament late last month that gold cannot remain out of the tax net when goods used by common people were being taxed. Political parties including ally Shiv Sena, Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) and the Trinamool Congress have also opposed the government's move saying small artisans are facing harassment because of the levy.

The Shiv Sena had said in Parliament that the levy was imposed even earlier in 2005,

# Parties in race to exploit Kerala rape and murder

## PLAYING POLITICS

There is a rush of VIPs to meet the 29-yr-old victim's mother

Ramesh Babu

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**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** For the Congress-led UDF government in Kerala, the timing of the brutal rape and murder of a young law student in poll-bound state could not have been worse. Political parties are using the incident, dubbed Nirbhaya Two because of its similarity with the 2012 Delhi gangrape, to attack the ruling combine.

The 29-year-old's body was found by her mother in their one-room house on April 28. Autopsy reports confirm she had 38 big and small wounds on her body and her intestines had been pulled out using a sharp-edged weapon. The gruesome details emerged four days after the incident triggering an outrage across the country. Though the police rounded up three men for questioning on Wednesday and released a suspect's sketch, no arrests have been made.

The state's law and order machinery has failed, a BJP delegation told the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) in Delhi today after the issue echoed in the Rajya Sabha where members demanded 'exemplary punishment' for the culprits.

On Thursday itself, three leaders — Union social justice minister Tarachand Gehlot, SC/ST commission chairman RL Punia and National Women's Commission chairperson Lalitha



■ Nurses protest demanding justice in front of the Secretariat in Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday.

PTI

Kumaramagalum — met the traumatized mother admitted in a hospital in Perumbavoor near Kochi. As others make a beeline to meet the aggrieved woman, there is strong speculation that Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who will begin a tour of the state on Friday, will also call on her.

In fact, such has been the rush that the superintendent of Perumbavoor government hospital had to issue a statement for VIPs to restrict their visits. The Ernakulam district collector, Raja Manickam — who has opened a joint bank account with the victim's mother to help her build a house — used Facebook and requested visitors to not use the incident as a photo opportunity.

But the well-intentioned pleas fall far from the political arena where parties are using the crime to slam the government for its failure

to nab culprits even after a week.

The Left Democratic Front has announced a series of protest marches and rallies across the state till the assailants are booked.

"The Congress-led UDF is not giving protection to vulnerable women in society; criminals are thriving under the present government," said CPI(M) senior leader Pinarayi Vijayan blaming the police for not taking action against those who threatened the family earlier.

The Congress, on the other hand, is making impassioned requests to not politicize the incident and divert the attention from the crime. "The murder has shocked the entire nation. Police officials are probing the case with all seriousness required," said Kerala chief minister Oommen Chandy who announced solatium of ₹10 lakh for the mother and promised a job for the elder daughter.

# ED questions Tyagi in Agusta chopper deal

Press Trust of India

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Former Indian Air Force chief SP Tyagi was questioned by the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday, in connection with the ₹3,600 crore VVIP helicopter deal.

Tyagi arrived at the zonal office of the agency in New Delhi shortly before 11am. Sources said he will be questioned and his statement will be recorded under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

The ex-IAF chief was questioned in the same case by the CBI for the last three days. This is the first time that a former chief of staff of the Indian Air Force has been summoned by the ED. Agency sources had earlier indicated that it was necessary to question Tyagi after the Milan (Italy) court's judgement. The Italian court had sentenced Italian defence and aerospace major Finmeccanica's former chief, Giuseppe Orsi, and the former CEO of the firm, Bruno Spagnolini, on corruption charges in the sale of AgustaWestland helicopters to India.

Tyagi's name cropped at various points in the judgement. The allegation against the former air chief is that he allegedly reduced the height of the VVIP helicopters so that AgustaWestland could be included in the bids.

He took over as the Indian Air



■ Ex-IAF chief SP Tyagi

Force chief on December 31, 2005 and retired from service in 2007.

ED had registered a PMLA case in this regard in 2014 and named 21 people, including Tyagi in its FIR on the money laundering case. It had also arrested Delhi-based businessman, Gautam Khaitan, and filed a charge sheet last year. ED had earlier submitted that Khaitan was on the board of Chandigarh-based company Aeromatrix, which was allegedly a front firm for financial dealings in the chopper deal.

Tyagi, however, has denied any wrongdoing. On January 1, 2014, India scrapped the contract with Finmeccanica's British subsidiary AgustaWestland for supplying 12 AW101 VVIP choppers to the Indian Air Force over an alleged breach of contractual obligations and charges of paying kickbacks to the tune of ₹423 crore by it for securing the deal.

ED has also issued Letters Rogatory (judicial requests) to ten countries in this case.

## mustread

### Cong attacks Swamy

**NEW DELHI:** BJP leader Subramanian Swamy was targeted in Rajya Sabha on Thursday by Congress who wanted to know how he got access to sensitive and secret files of CBI and ED. >>P7

**LONDON:** No Indian university figures in the top 100 reputation rankings but the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru and IIT-Bombay are in the top 200, compilers of the Times Higher Education (THE) list said on Thursday.

The compilers told HT they publish only the world's top 100 list for reputation as the data becomes more congested lower down the rankings, and differentials narrow. But they said India has two institutions in the top 200 — the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru is in the list around about the 150th position, and IIT-Bombay.

A total of 106 Indian institutions received votes during THE's poll of 10,000 leading scholars, but none received enough votes

## HEAT IS ON



■ Ducks quench their thirst at Sanjay Lake, New Delhi, on Thursday.

RAJ K RAJ/HT

# ISC, IIT-B in top 200 global varsities

## BRINGING ACCOLADES

- The compilers said they publish only top 100 list as the data becomes more congested lower down the rankings, and differentials narrow
- A total of 106 Indian institutions received votes during THE's poll of 10,000 leading scholars, but none received enough votes to

- make the top 100 list.
- The rankings are dominated by the US, but Asia has increased its share of institutions.
- The 2016 rankings was topped by Harvard, followed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology

to make the top 100 list.

The rankings are dominated by the US, but Asia has increased its share of institutions among the world's most prestigious universities. It had 18 institutions in the rankings, up from 10 last year. On India, Phil Baty, editor of The rankings, said: "The recent announcement of a new policy to provide special support for ten public and ten private universi-

ties, in order to help them rise up the global rankings, is very welcome news indeed.

"However, the devil will be in the detail and we await more information on the plan with great interest and anticipation. Providing sufficient financial support will be crucial, but so will providing a better and more streamlined regulatory framework to ensure Indian universi-

# 'Instruct if Centre can allow states to conduct own CET'

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court asked solicitor general Ranjit Kumar to give instructions if the Centre can allow states to conduct their own common entrance test (CET) to medical colleges and admit students on the basis of the marks scored this year.

A bench headed by Justice AR Dave, however, clarified the exemption from Medical Council of India's common entrance test (NEET) will not be applicable to private medical colleges. This means unaided institutions will have to take in students as per CET or NEET scores. If the Centre accepts the plea then states can admit students on the basis of their own regulations.

The court also asked Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), which conducts NEET, to explore the possibility of allowing the 6.5 lakh students who appeared on May 1 to sit again in the second phase of the test on July 24. Additional solicitor general Pinky Anand said though it will not be impossible but difficult. She claimed it will be tough to stick to the schedule if all students are allowed to take the exam.

Both Centre and CBSE have to reply on Friday. Kumar, however, said NEET-1 was for 15 per cent seats. Those who did not appear or had

THE BENCH, HOWEVER, CLARIFIED THAT THE EXEMPTION FROM NEET WILL NOT BE APPLICABLE TO PRIVATE MEDICAL COLLEGES

applied but did not write the test could be allowed to participate in NEET-2. He said if second chance is given to those who took the test on May 1 then over 8 lakhs students will compete for 85 per cent seats.

But the law officer said Centre favoured medical admission this year through NEET-2 and the States must fall in line. He rejected the states' submission that students will face problem in writing NEET because the paper will not be in vernacular language but in Hindi and English. Kumar said MCI regulation requires a medical aspirant to study English in class 12th and score 50% marks in it. "How can they say that they can't take the paper in English and should be allowed to do so only in vernacular," he said. NEET, SG said, will confirm uniform standards in medical education.

The court is hearing petitions from various States and private medical colleges association seeking stay of the order that allowed NEET for this academic year.

# JAIL, ₹100-CR FINE FOR WRONG DEPICTION OF INDIAN MAP

Press Trust of India

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Wrong depiction of Indian map could land one in jail with a maximum of seven year's jail term and fine up to ₹100 crore.

This measure has been envisaged by the government against the backdrop of instances where some social networking sites showed Jammu and Kashmir and Arunachal Pradesh as part of Pakistan and China respectively.

Recently, Twitter had shown the geographical location of Kashmir in China and Jammu in Pakistan triggering protests from the Indian government after which it was corrected. According to the draft "The Geospatial Information Regulation Bill 2016", it will be mandatory to take permission from a government authority before acquiring, disseminating, publishing or distributing any geospatial information of India.

"No person shall depict, disseminate, publish or distribute any wrong or false topographic information of India including international boundaries through Internet platforms or online services or in any electronic or physical form. The draft bill was uploaded here, but was later removed. There was no immediate word from the government on why the draft bill had been removed.

Geospatial Information means geospatial imagery or data acquired through space or aerial platforms such as satellite, aircraft, airships, balloons, unmanned aerial vehicles including value addition or graphical or digital data depicting natural or man-made physical features, phenomenon or boundaries of the earth or any information related thereto including surveys, charts, maps, terrestrial photos referenced to co-ordinate system and having attributes.

The government also proposed to set up a Security Vetting Authority to carry out security vetting of the Geospatial Information of India in a time bound manner and as per regulations framed by an apex panel.

The draft bill will ensure that online platforms such as Google will have to apply for a licence to run Google Maps or Google Earth in India. The Act also applies to citizens outside India, persons in the service of the government, persons on ships and aircrafts, registered in India, any person who commits an offence beyond India.

GOVT PERMISSION WILL BE NEEDED TO ACQUIRE, DISSEMINATE, PUBLISH OR DISTRIBUTE ANY GEOSPATIAL INFORMATION OF INDIA



frompageone

## Tables turn

When he was Kerala CM, his wife would travel by public transport. Old Congressmen from Kerala remember how Antony would rile many of his colleagues by coming to the party office at 10 am everyday. There are apocryphal tales about how they managed to send his old Ambassador, given by the party, for weeks to the repair garage. Much to their chagrin, he took the bus instead and continued his daily visit to the party headquarters.

As India's defence minister, he sat on acquisition proposals, drawing flak for compromising on the country's defence preparedness but didn't expose himself to questions about any deal.

Swamy and the BJP sought to absolve him — and former PM Manmohan Singh, equally revered for his integrity — by insinuating that his hands might have been forced by Congress president Sonia Gandhi. These insinuations and innuendoes — which Singhvi said were meant to vilify Congress leaders — obviously didn't carry conviction.

The debate on the chopper scam was taking place at a time when the BJP faced many uncomfortable questions in Parliament, be it the imposition of President's rule in Uttarakhand, considerable dip in employment generation, and last, but not the least, the alleged foreign policy flip-flops. These could be some of the reasons for the isolation of the BJP as regional parties chose to back the Congress or maintain equidistance during the debate.

The BJP's below par performance in Rajya Sabha also underscored the absence of a talent pool in the party. Parrikar read from a written document and gave extensive technical details as he reiterated the party's charge in the chopper deal. But the IIT alumnus only drew yawns from those who were already weary after a four-and-a-half-hour-long debate.

The Treasury Benches sorely missed Arun Jaitley, the Leader of the House, who was on an official trip to Frankfurt. BJP strategists better check the finance minister's schedule before deciding on dates for tricky debates that require more of substance than often-misplaced exuberance and, what the opposition parties call 'hubris'.

## Diesel cabs

BPOs are a \$25 billion industry in India, of which the NCR contributes around \$5 billion. The sector employs over 250,000 people in the NCR who are ferried mostly by diesel cabs. According to Nasscom, if the ban continues for six to nine months, the industry faces a potential loss of \$1 billion.

After an emergency meeting of industry players on Thursday, Nasscom BPM Council chairman Keshav Muruges said, "We need immediate relief as this involves the delivery of critical operations to clients outside India. Half of the workforce of this industry is women and their safety is paramount."

"The infrastructure is not ready... and if still implemented without careful planning around alternates, it (the order) can lead to disastrous consequences. We will work with the government, IT ministry and judiciary."

The Environment Pollution

## 5 JNU students withdraw from hunger strike, Kanhaiya critical

Press Trust of India  
letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** Five JNU students withdrew from the ongoing indefinite hunger strike against punishments by university in connection with the February 9 event, while JNUSU President Kanhaiya Kumar's condition was stated to be critical and rushed to varsity's health centre.

On day 8 of the strike in protest against the punishment in connection with the event during which anti-national slogans were allegedly raised, five students withdrew from the protest citing deteriorating health conditions.

Kanhaiya Kumar, arrested in a sedition case over the event and is out on bail now, was taken to the JNU health centre in a semi-conscious state. The keytone levels and BP of other protesting students were also reported to be low, according to the test reports from the health centre.

"Kanhaiya's BP dropped to 56 and his glucose levels also dipped drastically. He has been vomitting since last night. He was taken to the health centre in a semi-conscious state and the doctor warned him of chances of internal bleeding if he continues with the fast," a statement by JNU students union said.

Control Authority (EPCA) — an SC-appointed panel — said diesel taxis could be allowed to phase out over the next five years.

CSE director general Sunita Narain said diesel cabs should not be registered in Delhi. Citing International Council on Clean Transportation estimates, she said cancer risk from diesel vehicles in Delhi was four times that posed by petrol cars.

(With inputs from Sunny Sen and Mallica Joshi)

## Agusta deal

A subsidiary of Italian defence major Finmeccanica, the British firm AgustaWestland allegedly paid around ₹375 crores as bribe to bag a deal for supplying 12 VVIP helicopters to the Indian Air Force.

The charges compelled the then UPA government to scrap the ₹372 crore agreement in 2014.

"All relevant information will be examined and verified. Tyagi and his three cousins will be asked about them," said the source. Haschke is wanted by the CBI an ED.

The revelation comes amid the BJP's offensive against top Congress leaders, including party chief Sonia Gandhi with allegations that they were paid off to benefit AgustaWestland.

One of the charges leveled by the BJP is that the helicopter service ceiling was changed to benefit the British firm.

This is significant as AgustaWestland was disqualified in 2002 when India conducted the first round of tendering to select an ideal VVIP chopper. The firm's chopper could not meet the 6, 000 m service ceiling benchmark as its EH-101 could fly up to only 4,572 m.

This version of events is according to Haschke's alleged admissions contained in an April 7 order of the Italy's Milan appeals' court — an equivalent of a high court in India.

The court convicted two former senior AgustaWestland-Finmeccanica officials — Giuseppe Orsi and Bruno

Spagnolini — for corruption in the deal. According to Haschke's alleged admissions, he met Orsi and Giorgio Zappa, who is also alleged to have met Tyagi.

In the November 2003 meeting, Mishra observed that his main concern was that the framing of the mandatory requirements led to effectively "a single vendor situation", said a 2013 defence ministry statement.

## PM degrees

"Gujarat University says he (Modi) has done MA from there. But if he hasn't even done his BA, how did he get admission in MA? It raises doubts that his MA degree is also forged. It is a very serious matter."

On Wednesday, three AAP leaders alleged that Delhi University refused to share with them details regarding Modi's BA degree and told them to approach the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) instead.

The Central Information Commission (CIC) had on April 29 directed the universities of Delhi and Gujarat to respond to the RTI application regarding Modi's educational qualifications. Earlier, the Delhi University declined to give information related to Modi's BA degree despite RTI requests.

## Murder

Santos' father expressed "satisfaction" over the verdict and said the two victims were finally delivered justice.

"However, this is just the beginning... The battle is not over; they might appeal in the higher courts and we have to wait," Santos said shortly after the verdict. Valerian Santos said. Special public prosecutor Ujjwal Nikam demanded the judgment send a strong message to people that one cannot get away with sexual harassment or murder.

He said he didn't seek death penalty for the accused as it was not the "rarest of rare cases" and neither a "conspiracy" or

"pre-planned" murders.

Former Maharashtra chief minister Prithviraj Chavan expressed happiness that "justice has been done in the case" and sought more stringent action in cases involving crimes against women.

(With agency inputs)

## Rawat

The Centre clamped President's Rule soon after.

Rawat insists the sting was fake but virtually admitted his presence in the controversial video last week, saying it was not a crime to meet a journalist or an MLA and dismissed the conversation purportedly shown in the sting as "meaningless".

"I am relieved because the truth about the sting video that has three versions, will finally come out, thanks to the CBI investigation," Rawat

said. Allying BJP's hand of BJP behind the sting video, he accused the saffron party of introducing a new tradition of defections in the hill state.

## Kumbh

Though the storm wreaked havoc on the entire mela area, the majority of loss was reported from camps of Mahant Gopaldas and Mandakini Didi along with ISKCON camp in Mangalnath, Someshwarnathji's camp on Sadawal Road and the government pandal at Chintaman area.

Seers said shelter arrangements for them as well as devotees would become an uphill task now as would the running of bhandaras (free-meal service).

The district administration has appealed to the public to help in rescue work and provide meal for devotees stranded in the fair area.



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**VIKRAM KAMBOJ**  
Computer Engineer / Sports Blogger



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विज्ञान संख्या : जे.सी.ई.टी.ई.टी./38/15 - 22. रांची/दिनांक 05/05/2016

**विकित्सा स्नातकोत्तर प्रवेश प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा - 2016 के संशोधित परीक्षाफल से संबंधित अत्यावश्यक सूचना**

विकित्सा स्नातकोत्तर प्रवेश प्रतियोगिता परीक्षा - 2016 में सम्मिलित सभी अभ्यर्थियों को सूचित किया जाता है कि उत्तर कुंजी के गहन जाँचोपरान्त कुछेक प्रश्नों के उत्तर में पाई गयी त्रुटियों का निराकरण करते हुए संशोधित परीक्षाफल पर्वद के वेबसाइट <http://jccetcb.jharkhand.gov.in> पर Result कॉलम में जारी कर दिया गया है। परीक्षार्थी अपना रोल नं. प्रिण्ट कर अपना संशोधित परीक्षाफल प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। साक्षात्कार संशोधित परीक्षाफल के आधार पर ही आयोजित किया जायेगा।

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# Cash does not count as justice

The Kerala government's conduct in the Dalit woman's rape and murder case is appalling

**ourtake**

Public memory is fickle. So is their reaction to different episodes of a similar nature. Take for example, the rape and murder of a 30-year-old Dalit woman at Perumbavoor in Kerala on April 28. The brutality of the incident is a chilling reminder of the 2012 gang rape case in Delhi but the public reaction to it has been nothing like what we saw in Delhi. This unnervingly indifferent reaction to the case, however, should not worry us excessively; instead, what should worry us much, much more is the 'time-lapse' in the reaction of the local police to the repeated demands of the victim's family for security cover. According to news reports, the victim's mother, a daily wage labourer, had given written complaints to the police that her daughter, a law graduate, was being stalked and harassed by a relative of a panchayat member and that both had got death threats from the man. At the time of going to press, the police have not been able to arrest the culprits but the government removed a police officer from the team investigating the case.

The initial lackadaisical approach of the police raises a critical question: Did the police look the other way because the victim was a Dalit? And a rhetorical one: Why are political parties playing politics over the rape and murder when what they should be doing is push the police to bring the culprit to book? The BJP on Tuesday attacked the Congress, saying its vice-president Rahul Gandhi was quick in rushing to different states over Dalit issues but has refrained from making a comment on the incident. While we know such cases are 'live' ammunition for the Opposition during an election season, parties should desist from petty politics; instead, they should pressure the police to nab the culprits. It's just another case of the pot calling the kettle black: If it was the BJP on the backfoot in the Rohith Vemula case, in Kerala, it's the Congress.

Caught in the storm, the Kerala chief minister went into damage-control overdrive: He tweeted that the government will give ₹10 lakh compensation for the "Perumbavoor mishap victim's family" and a government job to the victim's sister. Instead of making promises that will take years to bear fruit, it would have been better had the CM not softened the nomenclature of the crime ("mishap"), explained to us why the police failed to stick to the rule book in the first place and ensured a through and quick probe. For a victim's family, a closure is always more important than a cash handout from the very State that has failed to do its primary duty of ensuring their security.

## Coming up trumps

Donald Trump has succeeded with a bag of tricks and a dash of luck. The world awaits his move to the centre

The Grand Old Party of American politics is set to choose its most eccentric and, potentially, most dangerous candidate for the world's most powerful elected office. With John Kasich and Ted Cruz dropping out of the race, Donald Trump has a clear path to the Republican Party nomination in July. Trump is an oddity; he has never held elected office or been associated with Republican politics in the past. He is also peculiar because he is not really rightwing. He is a genuine populist, merging leftwing economic policies with nativist positions on immigration and minorities. Trump has defied conventional politics by not creating a grassroots structure, spending little on advertising and disdaining endorsements by local party officials.

Trump's selling point has been exactly that: he is not part of the system that governs the US. It is now evident that a significant portion of young, working class white Americans are unhappy with the polity that governs them. At the heart of this has been the stagnant incomes experienced by US workers for 40 years. Merged with the financial crises, a sense of a weakening US and, arguably, a sense of marginalisation in a society they once dominated, working class whites have sought candidates well beyond the pale. Trump has served this purpose. But his echo on the left is Bernie Sanders, a socialist politician who only joined the Democratic Party a few years ago. Sanders is unlikely to win his party candidacy, but he is giving the establishment candidate, Hillary Clinton, a run for her money. Sanders also has a predominantly white base but his followers are better educated and more youthful than Trump's.

Trump used a variety of showman tricks — mixed with a dash of luck — to win his nomination. But he is staggeringly unpopular outside the Republican Party. Even within the party, Trump elicits strong negative ratings. He will now have to transition towards the political centre to win the independent voter, the non-partisan block that makes up 40% of the electorate. That shift will unfold over the next several months. It will, hopefully, reveal the true nature of a Trump presidency — or show that he has even greater acting skills than people realise.

# Turning on the charm, again

Modi's visit to the US in the last year of Obama's presidency underlines the importance of our ties for a changing Asia, writes SHISHIR GUPTA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi does not mince his words when it comes to India's interests, irrespective of the clout and weight of the challenge. During the Vibrant Gujarat Summit in January 2015, visiting US Secretary of State John Kerry insisted on carrying a message from him to Pakistan Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in Islamabad, his next stop from Gandhinagar, in order to improve ties between what Americans call nuclear neighbours. An irritated Modi cut down the honest broker by saying: "Aap hamme apne nasib par chhod dijiye, hum ek doosre ko sambhal lenge (Please leave India and Pakistan to their fate. We can handle each other).

Cut to the launch of a "Make in India" event in Mumbai this February. Modi gave an earful to the US-India Business Council chairman about President Barack Obama plans to supply F-16 fighters to Pakistan under the garb of counter-terrorism aid. When Modi addresses the joint session of US Congress on June 8, the lawmakers will see a PM who does not need the crutches of non-alignment, one who is all for a broad spectrum engagement with the American people but is equally upfront on irritants facing the bilateral relationship. For the PM has a notion of India and the US as partners rather than allies, working independently to serve the same global objectives. Even on Afghanistan-Pakistan, there is no difference between India and the US over the diagnosis of the problem and long-term interests, only the prescription is different with the gap hinging on tactical play.

While the India-US relationship is not at the cost of time-tested ties with Russia, Modi understands the significance of US House of Representatives Speaker Paul Ryan's invite in the last year of President Obama's reign and recognises the global pre-eminence of US companies in the techno-economic, digital and innovative spheres for next two decades. It is interesting to note that PM Atal Behari Vajpayee got to address the US Congress in September 2000, the last year of the Clinton presidency, and

managed to end India's nuclear isolation post-Pokhran II tests. PM Manmohan Singh addressed the US Senators and Congressmen in July 2005 and signed the India-US civilian nuclear agreement, paving the way for clean energy for his people.

While many a think-tank will say Modi is going to the US to get entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and other multilateral regimes, Indian ambitions now stretch far beyond in its relationship with Washington. With China getting aggressive in the Indo-Pacific region, geopolitics dictates India's close engagement with the US as New Delhi, unlike Beijing, has historically not questioned the presence of Western powers in either the Indian Ocean or Pacific. India knows that it is important to check China's expanding maritime power in the Pacific for the balance of power in one would affect the balance of power in the Indian Ocean as both are linked. And to maintain this strategic equilibrium, India needs the might, long reach and capability of the US Navy.

The role of the US in overall security and stability in Asia-Pacific, particularly in the Af-Pak region and the South China Sea, cannot be ignored. In a changing strategic environment, India needs US technological help in building its own defence precision capability to ward off any China-Pak joint adventure on the land borders. With no less than 3.2 million Indian expats shaping the bilateral engagement on shared democratic values and innovation, PM Modi will get an opportunity to underscore the importance of the information technology industry in bringing the two countries, separated by time zones, together notwithstanding the mimicry of the Indian accent by Republican presidential candidates.

Moving beyond the White House and State Department, PM Modi will sell the Indian story in times of global economic gloom before the US lawmakers and people at large and convince both on the win-win partnership between the two countries. The joint address comes at a



■ The role of the US in the security and stability in Asia-Pacific, particularly in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region and the South China Sea, cannot be ignored  
VIRENDRA SINGH GOSAIN/HT

critical time when the US has started to look inwards with both Obama and Republican frontrunner Donald Trump talking about sharing the global burden and the polity showing radical signs and an unpredictable November result. In the US system, a joint address or public speaking in the last year gives an opportunity for a visiting leader to reach out to the masses including industry, think-tanks, lobbyists and the presidential campaigns.

This people to people contact is unique to democratic countries as PM Modi only needs to engage President Vladimir Putin in Russia and President Xi Jinping in China to boost bilateral ties. While pushing for bilateral engagement, PM Modi would like to articulate India's security concerns in the neighbourhood by insisting that US forces remain in Afghanistan for the stability of South and Central Asia as well as the need to globally contain the rise of the Islamic State and India-specific terrorist groups based in Pakistan. He needs to convey that the China-Pakistan economic corridor through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) is unacceptable as it violates Indian sovereignty and the strategic challenge posed by all-weather friends to New Delhi. While India-US trade issues are highlighted by American law makers and industrial lobbies, these concerns are often amplified and largely resolvable. PM Modi should not only use the joint address to say good-bye to his new-found friend Obama but also to reach out to the key players in the next regime from both parties so that the relationship does not go into auto-mode during the transition period of nearly eight months.

This is important as a close relationship is linked to more jobs on both sides in the innovation and IT industry as well as the role of American companies in PM Modi's "Make in India" campaign. Through his speech, he needs to make Congressmen believe that the India-US global engagement for the future and that they were wrong in denying him an American visa for a decade.

■ shishir.gupta@hindustantimes.com

## newsmaker

RAJ THACKERAY president, Maharashtra Navnirman Sena

I HAVE FOLLOWED DEMOCRACY IN THIS PARTY FOR A LONG TIME, DON'T FORCE ME TO BECOME THE ORIGINAL RAJ THACKERAY... YOU ARE GOING TO OTHER PARTIES FOR MONEY. IT IS ALL WASTE AND WON'T SERVE ANY PURPOSE. IF YOU HAVE ANY PROBLEMS, DISCUSS THEM DIRECTLY WITH ME. I AM ALWAYS AVAILABLE.

Illustration: SIDDHANT JUMDE



### THINK IT OVER »

KNOWLEDGE WHICH IS DIVORCED FROM JUSTICE MAY BE CALLED CUNNING RATHER THAN WISDOM: MARCUS TULLIUS CICERO

# Fixing academic shortage is not too difficult

Gursharan Singh

We often relate the deplorable state of education in universities and colleges with faculty shortage, more so competent faculty. It is estimated that more than 35% faculty positions in our higher education system are lying vacant. Consequently with a 1:23 teacher-student ratio, we are half way to the ratio of 1:12 recommended by the UGC. In terms of student-faculty ratio, it is the IIMs that are doing best with one faculty member for every 6 students. In the case of IITs, it is one to 16 students.

The IITs top the list with 39% vacancies and central universities follow with 38% vacancies. One would assume that since a large number of new institutions were set up in the last few years, their faculty would add to the numbers. But this assumption is wrong. Even in the central universities, it is the old universities that are worst hit. Delhi University has a shortage of more

than 50% closely followed by the University of Allahabad.

The situation, though somewhat alarming, is certainly not unmanageable. Regular full-time faculty positions in the US are even worse than ours, if we go by the numbers. Some of US public universities have only one-third regular faculty. Harvard University has less than 54% full time regular faculty on its rolls while in Yale there is less than 49% regular faculty. The question is how do they account for the faculty crunch and where have we failed.

The US higher education system employs about 50% non-regular faculty such as the adjunct professors, part-time professors and visiting professors. The national average of adjunct professors on the rolls of US universities is about 48%. Apart from this, graduate assistants are utilised to help senior faculty in teaching. Why could we not adopt such a system of utilising the services of retired faculty as adjunct professors or that of students

pursuing higher studies in our universities? This is a question that vice-chancellors of public universities need to examine.

Private education providers have been under criticism for various reasons. Public universities in the country, however, need to learn from them as regards the judicious utilisation of expertise in education. Private universities are employing, to a considerable extent, faculty retired from the public universities to teach their students whereas public universities themselves have failed to utilise their potential and experience in education. We could opt for uniformity in the retirement age; while it is 65 years in 44 central universities, it is 60 or 62 years in other nearly 700 universities. This is one part of the solution, there are many others which the vice-chancellors and education experts need to discuss within a fixed timeline.

Gursharan Singh is former dean of postgraduate studies, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana  
The views expressed are personal

## hopefulsigns

# Islamic State is now feeling the heat

Reduced flow of foreign fighters, a squeeze on economic operations and US airstrikes have hurt the group

Rashmee Roshan Lall

Is this the beginning of the end for IS, the brutal extremist group? 'Islamic State' is both a proper noun and a territorial ambition. For a couple of years, IS seemed to be living the name and the dream. But in April, some of the most important people in America started to say that IS was on a downward spiral. In Baghdad, US vice-president Joe Biden said there had been "serious" progress in wresting back territory from the group and weakening its leadership. And US secretary of state John Kerry said IS's days were numbered.

India, like much of the world, would want to know if rumours of IS's impending end are true. There are reports that the group has released a video of one of its Indian fighters, a van-driver from Karnataka named Anwar Hussain, who died in Afghanistan in 2014. Some say it's meant to serve as a recruitment tool, which prompts the question: Why would the two-year-old footage of a man who perished in an impossible battle against a legitimate government inspire young Indians to sign up for IS? As a strategy it sounds more like a death rattle from the sound archives than a full-throated cry of the empowered.

Let's consider the facts, not the florid

rhetoric of politicians and the flaccid evidence offered by a dated film. The flow of foreign fighters into Iraq and Syria is drying up, according to the US military, or more particularly, Air Force Major General Peter Gersten, deputy commander of operations for the US-led campaign against IS. He quotes newly-obtained internal IS documents that show the group drawing just one-tenth of the 2,000 fighters per month it recruited earlier. On Sunday, the Pentagon revised the estimate of recruits to about 500 a month, but that's still a big drop.

IS has halved its fighters' monthly salaries, which the US Congressional Research Service has previously estimated at anywhere between \$400 and \$600.

Clearly, more than 11,000 US air strikes against IS over the past 20 months have hit home. They have crippled the group's oil operations. This happened while IS was losing territory to the Kurds and the Iraqi Army, and the price of oil was falling worldwide. In any country, such a fiscal crisis would require an emergency international lenders' bailout. For an extremist group with no more than pretensions to being a "state", there is no fallback other than pay cuts and, according to the documents General Gersten quoted, IS exhortations to fighters about limiting

the use of electricity and official cars.

There was the campaign against IS's oil assets and its men and materials. The second zoomed in on IS's financial infrastructure. And there is the newly assertive effort by US Cybercom to target IS's communication centres and its Internet connections, thereby leaving the group in 'virtual isolation' or the technological equivalent of the sands of 7th century Arabia.

Fewer men and less money are powerful indicators of the state of a battlefield adversary and in almost any other circumstance it might be seen as decisive. And yet, it may still be premature to write off IS (and certainly not its ideology). The political crisis in Iraq may slow the momentum of the fight to retake territory. Libya's profusion of governments and slide into ungovernability makes it harder to enable western plans for a coordinated 'squeeze them' strategy to fight IS by hitting it in Syria, Iraq and Libya all at the same time.

It's not the end of IS. It may not even be the beginning of the end, just the opening of a window into an imagined reality — a world without the brand called 'Islamic State'.

Rashmee Roshan Lall is a senior journalist  
The views expressed are personal

## innervoice



# What the Baba would have us believe about life

Azhar A Khan

A painfully thin old man clad in tatters with unkempt, stringy hair who sat round-the-clock on the street corner, whose religion was unknown was known to all as Baba. Hewas always lost in his thoughts with sporadic smiles and occasional frowns of concentration.

Some spoiled brats in the locality harassed him by throwing pebbles at him and it was only then that this otherwise calm Baba ran after them unleashing invectives.

Baba was often heard whispering to himself that 'all human beings are equal in the sight of God.' All these stark similarities in them — from the conception to birth, to infancy, boyhood, adulthood, manhood, and finally from old age to the inevitability of death — bear testimony to the fact that our creator is the one and same who has cast us in the dice of varying sizes, no matter whatever name we call Him.'

He would also murmur, 'Why do men hate men and, at times, so much so that they even kill each other for two pins throwing to the winds all the old religious teachings, civilisations, their cultural values and moral principles and, more significantly, the law of the land?'

He would then even answer himself 'because of our egoism, superiority complexes, narcissism and condescending attitude towards our brethren of faiths different from ours'. 'This abysmal plight stemming from violations of divine laws and age-old traditions following the rat race for materialism may be easily wished away. Both the worldly gains and observation of religions may easily co-exist so as to make an omelette without breaking eggs. And we can live and let others live peacefully with a sense of perennial closure! May we see sense!'

(Inner Voice comprises contributions from our readers  
The views expressed are personal)  
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HTIN PARLIAMENTAPRIL 25-MAY 13

Oppn attacks govt again over killing of J’khand Muslim traders

COMMUNAL HEATLeft leader says there is a campaign to polarise country on religious lines

Press Trust of India  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: The Modi government faced sharp attacks in Parliament over the killing of two Muslim cattle traders in Jharkhand last month, as Opposition said there was a campaign to religiously divide the country.

“Can you wash your hands of it by saying it is a state subject?” CPI(M) MP Tapan Kumar Sen said, on being told by minister of state for home Kiren Rijiju that such incidents fell squarely in the domain of the states.

“The issue has a clear political content. It is an organised design of pouncing upon cattle traders by an organised group to bring about a different kind of polarization,” the Left member said.

Sen referred to incidents in Haryana too and said, looking towards the treasury benches, that “in every such case there is a communal angularity by some fringe group belonging to your organisation—some Sena or the —other”.

Rijiju said claimed that “communal incidents” – a catchall for



■ Last month in Jharkhand’s Latehar, two Muslim cattle traders were found hanging from a tree, after allegedly being killed. . HT FILE

religious violence – had declined between January-March this year. “A wrong impression is being created against the BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi,” he said. Rijiju said cattle trade was not a crime.

“How can you say that BJP made that environment? We acted immediately after the death of the cattle traders,” Rijiju said.

Opposition members then pointed out that Jharkhand was a BJP-ruled state.

Last month in Jharkhand’s Latehar, two Muslim cattle traders were found hanging from a tree, after allegedly being killed. Police have arrested a few persons linked to a right-wing outfit.

Group with alleged Jaish links learnt bomb-making online

Prawesh Lama and Ananya Bhardwaj  
■ htreporters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: Sajid, the alleged kingpin of the group picked up for alleged Jaish links, learned to make bombs on YouTube and other websites, the police said.

The police had picked up 12 youth, who are believed to be heavily influenced by the Pakistan-based terror outfit Jaish-e-Mohammad, in raids at UP and Delhi. Three of them who were arrested from Delhi and UP — Sajid, Sameer and Shakir — were indoctrinated by Jaish videos and wanted to fight for the terror group, the police claimed on Wednesday.

Police sources said the activities of the group were being monitored for the past six months after Sajid and Shakir made a phone call to Pakistan.

Sources said Sajid started with liking Facebook posts related to Jaish and posting comments on similar websites.

After allegedly following the members of communities related to terrorism and websites that have such content, Sajid “got a contact number” and was told



■ The lane in Chand Bagh area of Bhajanpura in northeast Delhi where Sajid, the alleged kingpin of the Jaish module, lived. VIPIN KUMAR/HT FILE

to contact JeM founder Maulana Masood Azhar’s brother Talha.

“Talha could be anyone...he might be an ISI agent. Talha guided Sajid. One of Masood Azhar’s brothers operates by the name of Talha. The man told him to gather youths and prepare improvised explosive devices (IEDs),” said an official.

Sajid, who lives in northeast Delhi’s Bhajanpura area, also allegedly got instructions on WhatsApp. “He downloaded vid

eos related to JeM and searched YouTube for tips to make IEDs,” police sources said.

Sources said police have Facebook and WhatsApp chats as evidence. The explosives recovered have been sent to the CBI’s forensic laboratory. “They were self radicalised. They did not use sophisticated devices or code names to contact Talha. They used forwarded videos and those uploaded on YouTube to get motivated for jihad,” the officer said.

Kurien seeks laws to curb adulteration

NEW DELHI: Rajya Sabha deputy chairman P J Kurien has urged the Modi government to bring stringent laws to curb food adulteration, which hogged much of the zero-hour discussions in the upper house on Thursday.

Raising the issue, Samajwadi Party member Naresh Agrawal said food adulteration had become a growing menace due to lax laws. Key items such as milk, fruits and vegetables are unsafe, he claimed.

Lending support, Kurien said: “It is a very, very serious matter. Report it to the minister concerned and come out with a legislation which has more teeth,” Kurien said.

“Liver and heart diseases as well as cancer are rising. The current laws are not very strict to check this menace,” he said. **HTC**

Swamy under Cong attack over access to ‘sensitive’ documents

Press Trust of India  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

NEW DELHI: A day after a debate on AgustaWestland issue, BJP leader Subramanian Swamy was targeted in Rajya Sabha on Thursday by Congress members who wanted to know how he got access to sensitive and secret files of CBI and ED and whether he had authenticated the documents quoted by him.

Swamy, a newly-nominated member, said on Thursday he was quoting the Italian court’s documents to allege that a bribe of 30 million euros was paid in the ₹3600 crore deal for 12 VVIP choppers. Out of this, 6 million euros went to IAF personnel, 8.4 million euros to

CONG LEADER ANAND SHARMA SAID SENSITIVE DOCUMENTS OF CBI, ED HAD BEEN REFERRED TO WHEN SWAMY SPOKE IN THE HOUSE ON WEDNESDAY

bureaucrats and ₹125 crore to ‘AP’, Swamy had claimed.

Deputy leader of Congress, Anand Sharma, raised a point of order, saying sensitive documents of CBI and ED had been referred to when Swamy spoke in the House on Wednesday.

The House “must know how an honourable member or rather less honourable member” was

given access to sensitive and secret files, which he has refused to authenticate and place on the table of the House, Sharma said.

Deputy Chairman P J Kurien said the Rule will take its own course if Swamy had not complied with his ruling that all documents he was quoting must be authenticated by him and placed on the table of the House.

Later, another Congress member Jairam Ramesh wanted to know whether the documents, which were quoted by Swamy to target the opposition party, were authenticated or not.

Ramesh alleged that the member was making “inunendos” on the basis of those papers. Kurien said he will get it examined.

SADHUS DENIED ENTRY



■ A group of “sadhus” (saints) were denied entry to the Visitor’s Gallery of the Lok Sabha despite having obtained valid passes on Thursday due to tightened security norms that have been put in place at Parliament house after the Pathankot terror incident. SONU MEHTA/HT

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# For families of Keenan, Reuben, justice took five long years

**MUCH AWAITED** Kin celebrates as court grants life imprisonment to four accused in case

**Charul Shah**  
■ charul.shah@hindustantimes.com

**MUMBAI:** After a long wait of five years, the families of Keenan Santos and Reuben Fernandez were in tears on Thursday as the court granted life imprisonment to the four accused who killed their sons for objecting to sexual harassment.

As the verdict was pronounced, Keenan's father Valerian Santos cried and thanked his family and friends who came to support him. Santos said the family was extremely happy as finally, justice had prevailed.

"We still have to wait for some more days till it is finally over as they will appeal against the judgment," he said.

While the Santos family was inconsolable, Reuben's mother Brigida Fernandez looked content.

She said, "We have faith in god and we knew he will do justice to us. I have just informed my husband who will join us tomorrow. He too was very happy."

However, the families of the four accused — Jitendra Rana, Sunil Bodh, Satish Dulgaj and Dipak Tival — claimed that they were victimised by the police.

Ishwar Tival, father of Dipak Tival, the youngest of the four accused, said his son was not a part of the mob that attacked

## THE STORY OF TWO MUMBAI BRAVEHEARTS



**OCT 20, 2011:** Keenan Santos and Reuben Fernandes attacked outside a popular eatery in Mumbai as they try to shield their women friends from a group of men. Keenan loses his life in the incident

**OCT 20, 2011:** All four accused arrested

**OCT 31, 2011:** Reuben succumbs to stab injuries

**NOV 4, 2011:** Accused presented in court, sent to judicial custody

**DECEMBER 9, 2011:** Keenan and



■ The accused attacked Keenan and Reuben in 2011 after they objected to the four men harassing their women friends. PTI

Reuben posthumously honoured with Godfrey Phillips Bravery Zone Award

**FEB 8, 2012:** State government shifts case to a fast-track court

**OCT 23, 2012:** Charges finally framed in case

**JAN 15, 2013:** Day-to-day trial begins in fast-track court

**MARCH 19, 2013:** Trial moved to Special Women's Court

**MARCH 27, 2014:** Avinash Bali,

complainant in the case, deposes before court

**MAY 7, 2014:** Deposition of complainant in case ends

**JULY 1, 2014:** Prosecution examines crucial witness to prove case against accused. Witness identifies the accused and the murder weapon in court.

**May 5, 2016:** All four accused held guilty of murders, sentenced to life in jail

the two boys. "He had nothing to with the incident. He just went there to see what was happening as the boys were from our locality. No one has heard us for so many years and it is only the victims' families that are highlighted. Our plight has gone unheard," Ishwar said.

Expressing shock over

the decision, both Sunil and Dipak said they never expected that the court would convict them for murder.

"We had nothing to do with the incident. There were many people around who were involved. We had just gone to see. Why have only we been booked?" they asked.

The incident dates back to

October 20, 2011, when Keenan and Reuben were attacked outside a popular eatery in Mumbai as they tried to shield their women friends from a group of men harassing them.

The verdict has been hailed by several celebrities such as Varun Dhawan, Farhan Akhtar, Sonakshi Sinha and Vishal Dadlani among others.

# Deposition of witnesses helped nail accused

**Charul Shah**  
■ charul.shah@hindustantimes.com

**MUMBAI:** It was the deposition of five witnesses that nailed the accused in the Keenan and Reuben murder case.

Special judge Vrushali Joshi, while convicting the four

accused for murder with common intention, heavily relied on the statements of five witnesses — three friends of the duo, a guard of the restaurant and a pan seller — who identified the accused and narrated the incident before the court.

The incident occurred on

October 20, 2011, when seven friends — Keenan, Reuben, three women, Avinash Solanki and Benjamin Fernandez — went to a restaurant in Amboli for dinner.

According to the statement of one of the women who were molested, after the group finished dinner, the girls went to the restroom while the boys waited at a pan shop nearby. "When we were leaving the hotel, the men smoking outside winked at me and said... 'isko hum aaj raat ko uthake leke jaenge' (we will pick her up tonight)," said the woman.

She said one of the men came

near her, touched her inappropriately and passed some comments. "I screamed and pushed him and ran towards my friends. At that time, the three men laughed loudly," she added. She later told her friends about the incident and Keenan came forward to confront the accused.

She told the court that there was a heated argument between the two groups and the accused left after threatening to kill her friends.

S Kumar Churasia, who runs a pan shop and Surendra Ray, the restaurant's guard also supported the friends' versions

# Man in soup for posters targeting Azam Khan

**HT Correspondent**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**VARANASI:** Police registered an FIR against the owner of a missing bull on Wednesday for putting up controversial posters targeting senior Uttar Pradesh minister Mohammad Azam Khan.

Baraipur resident Manoj Kumar Pandey put up the posters at several locations, including one on a road leading to the Sarnath police station, questioning the failure of the cops in recovering his bull Badshah even after three weeks, though Khan's lost buffaloes were found in 24 hours a few years ago.

Seven buffaloes were stolen from Khan's farmhouse in Rampur in February 2014 and three policemen were removed for dereliction of duty after the incident. The buffaloes were found three days later.

The poster read, "As you are in power, police recovered your buffaloes within 24 hours. Since I am a commoner, my bull was not recovered in 24 days." Pandey also

**MANOJ PANDEY PUT A MORPHED PICTURE OF AZAM KHAN AND HIS BUFFALO ON HIS POSTER, WHICH WAS PUT UP AT SEVERAL LOCATIONS**

put a morphed picture of the minister and his buffalo on the poster.

Cantonment area circle officer Rajkumar Yadav said, "Putting up such a controversial poster is a serious matter. A case under relevant sections of the IPC has been registered against Pandey and a police team has been constituted to arrest him. He will be in our custody soon."

Pandey has been booked under sections 295A (deliberate and malicious acts intended to outrage religious feelings or any class by insulting its religion or religious beliefs) and 501 (printing or engraving matter known to be defamatory) of the IPC. Police are interrogating Pandey's kin to know his whereabouts.

# Court to sentence Mallya on May 9 in cheque bounce case

**Press Trust of India**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**HYDERABAD:** A local court on Thursday said it will pronounce on May 9 its order on the quantum of sentence for industrialist Vijay Mallya, who was convicted in two cheque bounce cases filed against him by GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd.

On April 20, the Special Magistrate Court had convicted Mallya and others, in connection with the bouncing of two cheques of ₹50 lakh each under relevant sections of Negotiable Instruments Act and had adjourned the matter to pronounce the quantum of punishment, as Mallya, who left the country, was not present in court.

The matter relates to cheques issued by Kingfisher Airlines Ltd to GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL) which operates the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport here, towards charges for using the facilities at the airport for its Kingfisher Airlines flights.

# SWARAJ TO STAY IN HOSPITAL FOR SOME MORE DAYS

**NEW DELHI:** External affairs minister Sushma Swaraj, who was admitted to the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) 10 days ago with chest congestion and pneumonia, is likely to remain in hospital for a few more days.

While Swaraj's infection is under control, her long-standing history of diabetes has affected her kidney function.

"Her kidney condition has taken over other infections that she was being treated for. She has chronic kidney disease and needed dialysis. She is not likely to be discharged till her kidney function stabilises," said a senior doctor.

Another doctor said, "It started with chest congestion, which led to pneumonic changes in her lungs and later, her kidney function was also affected. One thing led to another and in her case, her uncontrolled sugar levels are not helping. She is also a cardiac patient and age is a key factor." Swaraj, 64, is admitted to a private ward in the cardio-neurosciences centre of AIIMS. **HTC**

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Corrigendum/Amendment No. 1 Dated 03.05.2016 to Tender Notice No. CE/ COW/GRS/2016, Dated : 04.04.2016 published earlier by Chief Engineer (CON)/GRS of Construction of Road Over Bridge of Span : 1 x 24.00m + 1 x 30.00m complete at Rangam including approaches and other miscellaneous works adjacent to existing ROB at Km : 400+11-12 between MAFI-RRMT Station of South Eastern Railway. Corrigendum will be available on internet website [www.tenders.gov.in](http://www.tenders.gov.in). All prospective tenders are requested to see the above website. All other conditions & contents will remain unchanged. [PR-25/C]  
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**PARKING CONTRACT AT HATIA RAILWAY STATION**  
Sealed offer (Tender Notice No. : C21) Cycle-Car stand Hatia/2016-18, Dated: 02.05.2016) is invited by the Sr. Divisional Commercial Manager, South Eastern Railway, Ranchi, for and on behalf of the President of India in prescribed Tender forms from reputed contractor with adequate experience and capability for the under mentioned work : Description of the Work : Management of Cycle/Scooter/Cycle/Scooter/Auto Rickshaw & Car stand at Hatia Railway Station for a period of 03 years. Departmental Tender Value of License Fee for 1st year : ₹ 55,04,406/- EMD : ₹ 5,57,450/- Cost of Tender Form : ₹ 5,000/- + Service Tax ₹ 750/-. Date of Dropping of Tender : 15.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. of 09.06.2016. Place of Dropping of Tender : Sr. DCM Office, Ranchi, DCM Office Building, Hata, Ranchi-834003. Date & Time of Opening of Tender : At 15.30 hrs. of 09.06.2016. Availability of Tender Documents : Tender documents can be obtained from the office of Sr. DCM's office, S. E. Railway, Ranchi on any working day between 10.00 hrs. to 17.00 hrs. from 09.05.2016 to 08.06.2016. Tender Notice and Tender document will be also available on the website <http://www.tenders.gov.in> from 09.05.2016 to 12.00 hrs. of 08.06.2016. [PR-42]  
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BATTLE FOR STATES

84% voter turnout, stray violence mark final phase

**BENGAL ELECTIONS** The EC ordered FIRs against ruling party candidates from Dinhata, Natabari; TMC, oppn claim magic figure

**HT Correspondent**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**KOLKATA:** The curtain came down on a marathon six-phase assembly elections in West Bengal on Thursday after a bitter month-long campaign that was marked by close fights, high turnouts and unprecedented security cover. Polling in 25 seats of Cooch Behar (9) and East Midnapore (16) was largely peaceful and witnessed a 103-year old voter casting his vote for the first time. Police recorded stray incidents of violence and voter intimidation by Trinamool Congress supporters. Nearly 84% voters came out to vote in the final phase. Voter turnout has been high in all the phases with over 80% of the electorate going out to cast their votes. Opposition leaders said they were unable to field agents in Nandigram and Paskura in East Midnapore and alleged ruling party supporters rigged votes. The Election Commission ordered FIRs against ruling party candidates from Dinhata, Udayan Guha, and Natabari, Rabindranath Ghosh. But even before the polls



■ **First-time voter Asgar Ali, 103, makes his way to the polling booth in Cooch Behar on Thursday.**  
ASHOK NATH DEY / HT PHOTO

closed, both the leader of the Opposition, Suryakanta Mishra, and Trinamool chief Mamata Banerjee claimed to have crossed the magic figure of 148. “The alliance will achieve a majority. Trinamool’s fate was sealed today,” remarked Mishra. “The sun (Surya) has set today. He is the commander of a vanquished army,” retorted Trinamool secretary general Partha Chatterjee. The state elections are historic because traditional rivals

Congress and Left came together to fight the Trinamool. Going by the arithmetic in previous elections, Bengal’s ruling party has much to fear from the alliance and the possible consolidation of opposition votes. In 2011, the Trinamool won 39.08% of the votes with the Congress (8.91%) and Left (41.05%) together polling 49.06%. The Trinamool was in alliance with the Congress at the time and swept the Left Front out of power after 34 years.

Mobiles, gift coupons, gold: Freebies galore in Jaya’s manifesto

**KV Lakshmana**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**PERUNDURAI (ERODE):** Gold ornaments for brides below the poverty line. Fifty per cent subsidy for working women to purchase mopeds. Free mobile phones and ₹500 gift coupons on Pongal. Tamil Nadu chief minister J Jayalalithaa announced the mother of all promises on Thursday as she showered pledges of sops and freebies on key demographics such as the poor and women that are key to winning the ongoing assembly elections. The AIADMK’s manifesto also promised free set top box for Arasu cable TV subscribers, free laptops to all Class 10 and Class 12 students and 100 units of free power every month, a move that will benefit around eight million consumers. Prohibition on alcohol will be introduced in phases if she comes back to power, the manifesto announced. “Only a mother knows what her children need. Which is why, I gave much more than what I had promised in the last elections,” she said. Then there is a huge relief for the farmers, as she promised a loan waiver for them and announced the Amma banking

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- ₹40,000 cr loans for farmers in 2016-21
- 50% subsidy on scooters for women
- 100 units electricity free every two months.
- No FDI in retail
- Free Laptops with internet for Class 10 and 12 students
- Seperate housing for fisherfolk.

card for the poor and government subsidy to entrepreneurs. For this purpose, she announced the starting of Amma Collateral Gurantee Fund with a seed capital of ₹100 crore for small and marginal institutions. Besides, 20% land on SME industrial parks will be reserved for SC/ST entrepreneurs. On the corruption front, the AIADMK government would constitute a Lokayukta. Releasing the much-awaited manifesto, Jayalalithaa said that she was 24X7 working for the welfare of the people.

Will the Kerala voter give wings to a ‘fallen’ Sreesanth?

**Thufail PT**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**THIRUVANANTHAPURAM:** Kerala has probably never seen an election as star-studded as this. By propping up every celebrity it can get, from actors Suresh Gopi and Bheeman Raghu to director Rajasenan, the BJP seems to be fighting its poll battle under the cover of the silver screen. Nobody among these, however, seems to command as much attention as once-disgraced cricketer Sreesanth – who is being fielded by the party from the Thiruvananthapuram constituency. Despite the headlines he makes every day, one wonders if he will get anything more than a heat rash from all that hectic campaigning under a scalding sun. The former sportsperson, for his part, claims to have found his calling on the campaign trail. “The love and respect you get from politics is much more than what you get from cricket,” the 33-year-old says. “I breathe politics now.” Sreesanth’s past, however, continues to haunt him. He was warned – even fined at times – for indiscipline in his former role of a cricketer, and the situation doesn’t seem to have changed much. A few days ago, Sreesanth tried comparing the BJP state president to Sachin Tendulkar – eliciting a tweet from writer NS Madhavan that the people will turn into Harbhajan Singh if he talks this way. The spinner had treated Sreesanth to a resounding slap after an IPL match in 2008, reducing him to tears. On another instance, he blocked a person for simply correcting a tweet that had Sreesanth erroneously referring to Kerala as a city. Even die-hard cricket fans wonder if he has become mature enough for politics. “I love his cricket, but not his character,” a young fan told me bluntly. The more genuine among Sreesanth’s followers wanted to see him play profes-



■ **On the campaign trail, he seemed extremely polite – betraying no sign of his infamous aggression.** SREEKESH RAVEENDRAN NAIR/HT PHOTO

sional cricket, not walk around shouting political slogans. Sreesanth recently declared to the press: “Malayalis love me.” There, however, has been little evidence of this. Several regional newspapers recently ran stories on how some voters seemed to have no idea who he was. Others seemed disapproving of his brand of impulsive, outré behavior. But could it be that Sreesanth has turned a new leaf? On the campaign trail, he seemed extremely polite – betraying no sign of his infamous aggression. Recently, one of Sreesanth’s local election committee offices was allegedly attacked by rival party workers. The former cricketer, however, said he will not resort to aggression. “The election is an opportunity for me to go to the people and tell them that I’m a simple man and I don’t have any ego,” he said. This change in attitude is probably the former cricketer’s response to how Kerala wants its celebrities to behave in public life, and the way it takes deep pleasure in ridiculing its celebrities for their jaadaa (sense of self-importance). According to Shyam Nawas, a friend, Sreesanth’s incarceration in Tihar jail for his alleged role in the matchfixing scam was the turning point. However, that’s not an experience the cricketer recalls with glee. “I was put in jail for nothing. I was treated really badly. They took me from Delhi airport like a terrorist. People told my parents that their son had betrayed the nation. I came to know what life was all about. There was no one to help me. No one came to me till I got a clean chit,” he says. And it is then that Sreesanth answers the question everybody has been wondering about. “That’s why I am into politics,” he says. “Nobody should go through what I went through.”

**SREESANTH'S PAST CONTINUES TO HAUNT HIM. HE WAS WARNED FOR INDISCIPLINE IN HIS FORMER ROLE OF A CRICKETER**

(In arrangement with GRIST Media)

GASTRONOMICAL ATTRACTION

In poll-bound Tamil Nadu, biryani is the flavour of the season

**Aditya Iyer**  
■ aditya.iyer@hindustantimes.com

**CHENNAI:** What separates a political rally from any other crowd? Some signs are obvious — party flags all around, the ubiquitous white vans from which candidates address the people and supporters raising slogans at the top of their voice. But in Tamil Nadu, there is just one more giveaway: The aroma of biryani. With the poll season in full

swing in the southern state, biryani, mostly of chicken and mutton, has become a common sight in a majority of local political meets and election rallies. Packets of 1 kg and 500 gm of the delicacy are distributed among the crowds with promises and implorations to vote for a particular party. “For 1,000 kg of biryani, we can get anywhere from ₹30,000 for chicken to ₹1 lakh for mutton,” says Qasim, a caterer. But why has biryani



Illustration: JAYANTO  
become so popular when a food staple like yoghurt rice would make more sense in the

blazing heat? Well, a lot of it boils down to the taste. “No one is going to come outside to listen to you if you just give them curd-rice,” grins Karthik S, the 45-year-old manager of SS Biryani in Valluvar Kottam High Road. “It’s also far easier to eat,” Karthik says, adding, “For example, how can you mix sambar and pickle while standing under the sun?” Hafeez, owner of Habib Biryani, says, “It is cheap and easy to distribute.”

Some caterers, however, have decided that dealing with politicians isn’t worth the hassle. “They always start dilly-dallying when it comes to paying,” says Anil, who has been running Khaled Biryani in Valluvar Kottam for more than a decade. “CPI, CPI (M), DMK — it doesn’t matter, they never pay up in time,” he rues. “The worst part is that a local party worker will place the order, but when it comes to payment they will say, ‘ask Jayalalithaa for it!’” he laughs.

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EVERY LESSON I TAUGHT THEM, TAUGHT ME A NEW THING ABOUT MYSELF

**Chaitali, a trained Hindustani Classical Music singer on how she found a lost part of herself by volunteering for HT Paathshala.**

It all started with a newspaper ad for me. I had taken a sabbatical from my work as a Classical Music teacher and was spending time at home as a housewife. My skills as a trained Hindustani Classical Music singer were lying mostly unused. At this time, I couldn’t have asked for a better outlet for my singing impulses.

Sharing my passion for music with these underprivileged children turned out to be an extremely valuable moment of my life. These kids showed a great sense of inquisitiveness to learn finer elements of music and as a result reignited the fire of excelling in me.

For me, the greatest takeaway from this experience has to be how Hindustan Times Paathshala helped me connect with these kids and with a part of myself that I had long forgotten.

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htspotlight  
EXPLOSIVE BUSINESS

POLITICS OF VIOLENCE

# Bomb-makers of West Bengal

**SPLINTER POWER** Master makers are much sought after by both politicians, dons

Debijyoti Chakraborty  
and Ravik Bhattacharya  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**KOLKATA/BIRBHUM:** “Don’t get so worked up about bombs. It’s part of our her-itage and culture, like rosogolla, Rabindranath, Netaji and ilish maachh.” That was Anubrata Mondal, aka Kesh-to-da, the most talked about fighter-bomber and Birbhumi district chief of Mamata Banerjee’s Trinamool Congress.

Mondal, in a way, is right. While other elements of Bengal’s history – both recent and not-so-recent – have been discussed, bragged about and showcased to the point of boredom, the bomb has always been a loosely guarded secret. It protects Bengal’s darkest secret – violent, mean and shallow politics.

In fact, since the first awakening of nationalism during the Raj in the latter half of the 19th century, bombs became the main weapon. But later, it lost the lofty cause and became simply a tool to capture and retain power. With splinters, they are lethal. Without them, they are scary.

The Naxalite movement of the 1970s – essentially a guerrilla uprising in Bengal – also relied on the power of bombs. One of the party members, a Chemistry professor in a Calcutta college, even taught his students to make the Molotov cocktail, a petrol bomb named after Russian communist leader Vycheslav Molotov and favoured by the Bolsheviks.

During each regime in Bengal, the strength to grab and stay in power came

not from the barrel of the gun, but from the splinters of the bomb. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said at an election rally: “The only industry worth talking about in Bengal is that of making bombs.”

Why do political activists always favour bombs? Simple. Besides being cheap and easy to make and handle, one can get master bomb-makers in almost every district of Bengal. Reason: Obscene poverty.

Mondal said the most daring bomb-makers come from the bordering district of Murshidabad. “Give them ₹10,000, and they will do anything you want. They’re so poor that that much money is almost like a dream.” Even children are employed in bomb making, since they have nimble fingers and nagging hunger to take care of.

Mondal’s own district, Birbhumi, however, emerged as the main flash-point in the 2016 assembly elections. An HT team scoured the districts just before and during the elections to find and meet the master bomb-makers, who make democracy tick in Bengal.

The team first went to a swanky office of a land developer, Ramesh (name changed), in Behala in the southern suburbs of Kolkata. Sitting in his uncomfortably cold office, the 47-year-old looked like any other small businessman. But a closer look revealed that the computer terminal in front of him is actually a CCTV screen, with six picture windows, which he monitors through the day.

An alleged extortionist who claims to

have started out as an angry young man, Ramesh is back after spending almost 11 years behind the bars. Asked about the charges against him, he only mumbles: “They were only some ‘half’ murders.”

Although he denies his involvement in the bomb-making industry, Ramesh said, “There are areas where it provides employment to both men and women. But they all have an Ustad (master), who trains and engages them.”

Bhola (name changed), Ramesh’s crony-cum-bodyguard, explained the most traditional bombs were the ‘lal-shada petos’. The name comes from the colours of potassium nitrate and sulphur – the chemical ingredients for making crude bombs.

Bhola doesn’t know the names of the chemicals, but he can guarantee the havoc they can wreak when combined with ball-bearings, nails and shards of glass and wrapped in simple jute strings. “The tighter the binding, the better the bomb. The splinters act like bullets when the bomb bursts. There are stingless varieties, too, to scare away people.”

He said, “During polls, bombs are better because they can hit a large number of people at one go. One bullet can get you only one body at a time and draw unnecessary attention.”

Mohammad Islam, a Birbhumi-based master, said, “In rural areas, if you want to storm an opposition village, you need bombs. If you want to defend your vil-lage, you need bombs. For instance, in Nanur area of Birbhumi, where the ruling party factions have been fighting a bloody battle every day since 2011,



■ A gunman guards bomb-makers who show handmade bombs, called ‘peto’, in a village in Birbhumi district.

ASHOK NATH DEY/HT

every village has stockpiles of bombs. They need them to survive and protect their land.”

The prices, although a little prohibi-tive, are always paid in hard cash. While bombs costs ₹500 a piece in urban areas, the rural customers can get them for ₹200 a piece. The lethal ones may cost around ₹1,000 a piece.

Ramesh said, “Both makers and buy-ers are part of the system.” And that’s the reason why no one is ever arrested for making bombs. Sometimes, police arrest the masters on minor charges. “That’s absolute hogwash. For, the ruling party is always the biggest buyer.”

But how does the industry work? Sometimes, political bosses bring in experts from different areas and a deal is struck. The masters’ fees could be ₹20,000 to ₹50,000, depending on the number of bombs to be made.

## DEATH BY BOMB

Bombs kill, very often their own makers. Most cases of blasts where the tolls are high are accidents at make-shift factories. Nobody is bothered; the makers come cheap from Bengal’s impoverished rural areas.

**May 8, 2015:** Twelve people — many of them teens, killed in West Midnapore while making crude bombs for a political boss. The blast was so powerful that the house was in shreds and body parts were found hanging on trees nearly 100 metres away

**October 13, 2015:** Two people killed and one injured in a village in Murshidabad during panchayat byelections. C Sudhakar, police chief, said they were making crude bombs in their home

**January 22, 2016:** Two people killed in a blast at a Trinamool leader’s house in Birbhumi. They were brothers of a local Trinamool leader. The blast brought down parts of the brick-and-mortar building

**March 8, 2016:** Three people were killed and two injured while making crude bombs in Murshidabad

**April 21, 2016:** A CPI(M) polling agent was killed in Murshidabad during third phase of elections

**May 2, 2016:** At least four people died and six were injured in a blast while making bombs in Malda district. Later, two policemen died while trying to remove the stockpile.

## THE VARIETIES

**PETO or basic ‘LAL SHADA’**, or potassium nitrate and sulphur, is bound with only jute strings. It can wreak havoc when combined with ball-bearings, nails and shards of glass

**DIBBA**, where the material is put in a small steel container

**HAJMOLA**, where the material is put in small glass bottle

**PIM**, where a glycerin-filled glass bottle is put inside the bomb

## THE GLOSSARY

| LOCAL NAMES | INGREDIENTS                    |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| PETO        | ■ Lankar gurho (chilly powder) |
| NARU        | ■ Masala                       |
| BALL        | ■ Pan masala                   |
| ROSOGOLLA   |                                |

## THE PRICES

| URBAN AREAS | Bomb        | Chemicals        |
|-------------|-------------|------------------|
|             | ₹500-₹1,000 | ₹3,000/KG        |
| RURAL AREAS |             |                  |
|             | ₹200-₹500   | ₹1,600-₹1,800/KG |

## face to face

MASTER RAFIQUE, EXPERT BOMB-MAKER

# ‘I can make a bomb in 5 minutes; with help, 2,000 in a day’

After two dozen phone calls, verification, cross-verification and frisking, **Ravik Bhattacharya** reached Master Rafique, the most famous bomb-maker in a village near Shantiniketan in Birbhumi. Excerpts from the conversation:

**How good are you at making bombs?**  
I can make one in five minutes. With four to five helpers, I can make around 2,000 pieces a day. Ask any political leader or gangster in

Bengal, he will tell you how good I am. I do not want to brag.

**Is bomb-making your only profession?**  
I own five bighas of land. But since I have to feed a family of six, this work comes in handy.

**How much do you charge?**  
It ranges from ₹5,000 to ₹15,000, depending on the number of bombs. If it’s urgent, I even charge ₹10,000 for half a day.

**How important you think you are for politicians and goons?**  
We are treated like VIPs in this season. This time, I told my clients that I need an air-conditioned car for my travel.

**How is the demand when there’s no election in sight?**  
Thanks to TMC’s faction fights, we do good business. For instance, every village in Nanur got around 1,000 to 1,500 bombs in stock. The

CPI(M) and BJP also call us.

**Is there a retirement age?**  
I think I can work till 60-65. You know you have to stop when you no longer have the nerve.

**What does your family have to say about this?**  
Once in, there’s no exit. We don’t want to make our political bosses angry. We have families, sir.  
(With inputs from Surajit Ghosh Hazra)

**एसजेवीएन लिमिटेड**  
(Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of H.P.)  
**SJVN Limited**  
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of H.P.)  
A 'Mini Ratna' & Schedule 'A' PSU  
CIN No. L28110HP2002000000

**NOTICE INVITING TENDERS**  
(Domestic Competitive Bidding through e-tendering)  
Tender No.: DCB-CCD-FMS-741-04

SJVN Limited invites eligible bidders to submit their bid for "Providing Facility Management Services at SJVN Corporate Office Building, Shimla (HP)". For Detailed NIT and procedure for downloading/availability of Tender Document, any Corrigendum/ Addendum etc. please visit websites [www.sjvn.nic.in](http://www.sjvn.nic.in), <https://sjvn.abcpocure.com>, <http://tenders.gov.in>, and [www.eprocure.gov.in](http://www.eprocure.gov.in). For and on behalf of SJVN Ltd., General Manager (Civil Contract), SJVN Ltd., Shimla (H.P.)

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Where real people find real solutions

**National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI)**  
(Dept. of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India)  
C-127, Industrial Area, Phase VII, S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali-160071, Punjab/INDIA  
Website : [www.nabi.res.in](http://www.nabi.res.in) Ph: 0172-4996300 Telefax : 0172-4994893

**NOTICE INVITING TENDER (NIT)**

Name of Work : - Construction of Transgenic Screen Houses (2 nos) at Main Campus, NABI, Sec 81, Mohali.

Sealed percentage (%) rate tender is invited on behalf of the Executive Director, National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali for the work of "Construction of Transgenic Screen Houses (2 nos) at Main Campus, NABI, Sec 81, Mohali." as per terms and conditions provided in the tender document which can be directly downloaded from NABI website [www.nabi.res.in](http://www.nabi.res.in) or Central Public Procurement Portal ([eprocure.gov.in](http://eprocure.gov.in)) . The last date for receipt of tenders shall be 27 May 2016 up to 3 pm.

Administrative Officer

**JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**  
Room No. CDC-TF-308, CDC Building, Ram Kishore Vyas Bhawan, Indira Circle, J.A. Marg, Jaipur-302004 Tel: +91-141-2669066 Email: [anusharmajd@jda.gov.in](mailto:anusharmajd@jda.gov.in)  
Bid No. JDA/EE-17/2016-17/0-20 Dated : 02.05.16

**NOTICE INVITING BID NIB No. EE-17/01/2016-17**

Online Bids are invited up to 08.00 PM of 14.05.2016 for "Construction of BIT roads in Zone-17, PSN area, JDA, Jaipur (Phase-I) (Annual Rate Contract)". Details may be seen in the Bidding Document at our office or the website of State Public Procurement Portal website <http://slppp.rajabihar.gov.in>, [www.eproc.rajabihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajabihar.gov.in) and [www.jaipurjda.org](http://www.jaipurjda.org). To participate in the bid, bidder has to be : 1. Registered on JDA website [www.jaipurjda.org](http://www.jaipurjda.org). For participating in the bid, the Bidder has to apply and pay the Bidding Document Fee, BSL Processing Fee online method only. Bid Security Deposit may be deposited online or through bank guarantee method in prescribed format. 2. Registered on e-Procurement Portal of Government of Rajasthan [www.eproc.rajabihar.gov.in](http://www.eproc.rajabihar.gov.in) for online e-bid submission. (Ref. Sanction/CD/2016-17/465)

Executive Engineer -17

**Jharkhand Bijli Vitran Nigam Ltd.**  
CIN No. 40108JH2013SGC001702  
Engineering Building HEC, Dhurwa, Ranchi-834004

**Corrigendum Notice -3**

Due to unavoidable reason bid submission date has been extended for NIT no. 15/PRJBVN/16-17 for EMPANELMENT OF SOFTWARE SERVICE AGENCY FOR DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT, MAINTENANCE & OPERATION OF SOFTWARE, WEB AND MOBILE APPLICATION FOR VARIOUS INITIATIVES OF JBVN is uploaded on [jharkhandtenders.gov.in](http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in) vide corrigendum-3 detailed as follows:-

|                                   | Old date & time       | New Date & time        |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Last date of uploading the tender | 04/05/16 up to 5:00PM | 11/05/16 up to 5:00 PM |
| Bid opening dated                 | 06/05/16 at 05:30 PM  | 13/05/16 at 05:30 PM   |

स्वीकृत एवं राष्ट्रिय में ऊर्जा बचतों। कृपया अपनी शिकायतों को टोल फ्री नं. 1800 345 6570 पर दर्ज कराएं।

Sd/-  
GM(R-APDRP)

PR No. 141818  
P.R. 141952 (Jharkhand Bijlee Vitran Nigam Ltd) 16-17

**PSPCL** Punjab State Power Corporation Limited  
Regd. Off.: PSEB H.O., The Mall, Patiala-147001  
Corporate Identification Number (CIN): U40100PB2010SGC033013. Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in)  
Office: Dy. CE/ IT (A&PM), PSPCL, The Mall, Patiala  
Fax No. 0175-2207649, 0175-8613030 E-mail: [se-it1@pspcl.in](mailto:se-it1@pspcl.in)  
CORRIGENDUM NO. 8 Dated: 03.05.2016

Tender Enquiry No. 38/DIT-726/Vol. II dated 23.07.2015  
Description: Implementation of ERP Solution as an extension of R-APDRP Project at PSPCL

A pre-bid meeting for the subject cited tender enquiry was held at PSPCL Head Office at Patiala on 07.03.2015. A number of queries have been received from prospective bidders during the meeting which are under consideration and shall be addressed shortly by this office. The response to the queries along with any change (if required) in the tender specifications shall be uploaded on the PSPCL website (<http://pspcl.nprocure.com>) in due course of time.

In view of the above, the due date and time for the downloading, receipt and opening of tenders is hereby extended as under:-  
Last date for Downloading of Tender Specification : 01.06.2016 up to 05.00 PM  
Last Date for Receipt of Tenders : 03.06.2016 up to 11.00 AM  
Last Date for Opening of Tenders : 03.06.2016 at 11:30 AM  
Dy. CE/IT (A&PM), PSPCL, Patiala, C-362/15

**SAVE ENERGY SAVE MONEY**  
Pay Electricity Bill Online 24 x 7 From PSPCL Website [www.pspcl.com](http://www.pspcl.com)

**RECRUITMENT NOTICE : CIVILIAN**  
(Min of Defence, Govt. of India)  
APPLICATIONS FORM FROM ELIGIBLE INDIAN NATIONALS ARE INVITED FOR THE POST OF  
02 X SAFAIWALI (MULTI TASKING STAFF)(UR)  
Service liability - All India

| Classification of post                                       | No of post (likely to be changed) | Pay Band & Gd Pay                     | Education Qualification                                                                                                                                            | Age Limit                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Safaiwali (MTS) (Un-reserved post for female candidate only) | 02                                | Rs. 5200-20200 with Grade pay Rs.1800 | - Matriculation (10th) or equivalent from recognized Board/ University. - Desirable - conversant with the duties of the respective trade with one year experience. | a) Age Between 18 to 25 yrs [On 07 Jun 2016] |

Last date of receipt of application form : 07 Jun 2016 at 1400 hrs (02:00pm)  
Location of test centre : Military Hospital Namkum(Ranchi) PIN- 834010  
Syllabus for written test - (a) General intelligence & reasoning- 25 marks (b) Numerical aptitude- 25 marks (c) General English - 50 marks (d) General awareness- 50 marks. (e) Physical/ Trade test will be qualifying in nature.  
Date & time for written exam and Physical/ trade test : 30 Jul 2016 starting at 0830hrs.

**General instructions**

- Application form should be on a plain paper and should contain following information - (a) Name of candidate (b) Father/husband/Guardian's name (c) Date of birth (all entries should be as per Matriculation certificate) (d) Educational qualification (attach two Xerox copies of matriculation board certificates and marks sheet duly attested by Gazetted Officer) (e) A recent passport size photograph with date should be affixed on right hand top corner of the application form duly attested by a Gazetted Officer (also attach two passport size photographs alongwith application form) (f) Complete address (permanent & temporary including PIN code) (g) Contact No (mobile/landline).
- Application form to be sent by registered post only in the envelop duly marked on top "APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF SAFAIWALI" addressed to - THE COMMANDANT, MILITARY HOSPITAL NAMKUM (RANCHI) JHARKHAND, PIN - 834010.
- Application form received by hand will not be accepted. \* No TA/DA admissible for the test.
- Furnishing of wrong information in application form or submitting false document/certificate will render the applicant liable for disciplinary action. His / Her candidature will be terminated.

**Note :** Merely fulfilling the basic selection criteria does not automatically entitle a person to be called for test. In case of excessively large number of applicants, screening of application on the basis of percentage of marks obtained in the matriculation exam may be carried out.

Sd/- XXX  
Brig RDS Ahluwalia, Commandant

306103/M-3(B)(1)/Civ/Rect 05 Apr 2016

**Govt. of Jharkhand**  
**JHARKHAND COMBINED ENTRANCE COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION BOARD**

Advt. No. - JCECEB/38/15-21 Ranchi, Dated: 05/05/2016

**Indicative information regarding First Round of Counselling Programme on the basis of P.G.M.A.T. - 2016 Revised Result**

The revised result of P.G.M.A.T. - 2016 has already been announced vide Advt. No. JCECEB/38/15-20, dated 05/05/2016 which is available in the Result column on the home page of the Board's website i.e. <http://jceceb.jharkhand.gov.in>.

- On the basis of aforesaid result of P.G.M.A.T. - 2016; the order passed by Hon'ble Jharkhand High Court in W.P. (C) No. 85 of 2016 and W.P. (C) No. 2028 of 2016, the First Round of Counselling is scheduled to be held on 09.05.2016 (Monday) from 10:00 AM at the office of J.C.E.C.E. Board, Science & Technology Campus, Sirkha Toli, Namkum - Tupudana Road, Namkum, Ranchi - 834010. The scheduled Counselling of 09.05.2016 will end at 06:00 PM. By that time if seat remains vacant and the eligible candidates are available, then counselling will continue on 10.05.2016 (Tuesday) from 10:00 AM onwards by the last roster point where the previous day's (i.e. 09.05.2016) counselling was finished.
- List of shortlisted candidates and detailed notice related to First Round of Counselling has been uploaded on the Board's website under Counselling Notice column through Advt. No. JCECEB/38/15-22, dated 05/05/2016.

Sd/- Dr. Pradeep Kumar, I.A.S.  
Controller of Examination

Memo No. - JCECEB/38/15-221, Ranchi, Dated: 05/05/2016



|                                                                            |                                                                               |                                                                          |                                                                       |                                                                              |                                                                             |                                                                           |                                                                                  |                                                                                 |                                                                            |                                                                              |                                                                          |                                                                                     |                                                                                       |                                                                                        |
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| <div><div></div><div>NIFTY</div><div>7,735.50</div><div>+28.95</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>SENSEX</div><div>25,262.21</div><div>+160.48</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>HDFC</div><div>1,163.85</div><div>32.85</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>BHEL</div><div>122.85</div><div>3.05</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>TATA MOTORS</div><div>391.20</div><div>9.40</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>L&amp;T</div><div>1,273.45</div><div>27.40</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>LUPIN</div><div>1,605.30</div><div>26.95</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>NIKKEI 225*</div><div>16,147.38</div><div>+0.00</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>HANG SENG</div><div>20,449.82</div><div>-76.01</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>KOSPI*</div><div>1,976.71</div><div>+0.00</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>SHANGHAI</div><div>2,997.84</div><div>+6.57</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>RUPEE/£</div><div>96.20</div><div>+0.34</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>BRENT CRUDE</div><div>45.73</div><div>\$/BBL +1.10</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>LME COPPER</div><div>4,792.00</div><div>\$/TN -71.00</div></div> | <div><div></div><div>LME NICKEL</div><div>9,285.00</div><div>\$/TN -160.57</div></div> |
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\*STOCK EXCHANGES CLOSED

# Bankruptcy bill gets LS nod, will help clean up bad debt

**NEW MOVE** Bill to aid banks' efforts to recover loans from wilful defaulters, help improve India's doing business ranking

**HT Correspondent**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** The Lok Sabha on Thursday passed a bankruptcy code, aimed to enable failed businesses to wind up faster; aid quicker dispute resolution, and hasten debt recovery by banks that have been snowed under bad loans worth over ₹4 lakh crore.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 was passed by a voice vote in the Lok Sabha and is expected to be passed by the Rajya Sabha soon.

Once voted into law, the code will give a legal framework to deal with sick companies, which become insolvent due to genuine reasons. The move, first announced by finance minister Arun Jaitley in Budget 2014, is aimed at modernising the country's century-old bankruptcy rules.

The code will likely bolster banks' efforts to recover bad loans from wilful defaulters—borrowers who default despite having the capacity to repay.

A consortium of 17 banks are currently locked in a legal battle to recover loans worth more than ₹9,000 crore for funds given to Vijay Mallya-promoted Kingfisher Airlines.

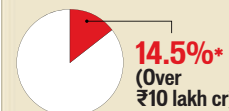
India ranks 130 in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business index, mirroring the complex rules that govern the country's business landscape. Winding up a sick company in India, on an average, takes four years, or twice as long as in China.

Minister of state for finance Jayant Sinha said the code was

## NEW PRESCRIPTION

The bankruptcy law will speed up decisions to save ailing companies and ease their restructuring

**136 India's rank on the World Bank's resolving insolvency parameter, among 189 countries**



RBI governor Raghuram Rajan has given banks a deadline of March 2017 to clean up their books

**₹2,57,235 crore\***  
Amount of debt recast under implementation, involving 242 companies

### What it will do

- There is currently no comprehensive law to deal with insolvency in India. Bankruptcy bill will help make it easier for companies to exit
- Sick companies will have to settle their future course of action within 180 days
- In case 75% of creditors don't agree on a revival plan, the firm will automatically go into liquidation, and its assets will be distributed among creditors
- A new class of insolvency professionals will help determine the economic viability of debtors
- A debtor will face up to 5-year jail term if he is found to have defrauded lenders

\*As of December 2015

“transformational” and would help improve India's rankings in the ease of doing business survey.

The code stipulates a 180-day deadline for an ailing or defaulting company to decide on a revival plan. If 75% of creditors agree on a revival plan, that term can be extended by 90 days. Otherwise, a firm would be automatically liquidated. A debtor could face a jail term of up to five years if

found to have hidden property or defrauding lenders. Besides, bankrupt individuals could be barred from contesting elections.

On the issue of wilful defaulters, Sinha said cross-border treaties would have to be put in place.

“It should go a long way in speeding up the resolution process for stressed assets in the country,” said Varun Gupta, partner, deal advisory at KPMG India.

# S'pore court fines Ranbaxy's Singh brothers ₹2,600 cr for concealing facts from Daiichi

**HT Correspondent & Agencies**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI/SINGAPORE:** Malvinder Mohan Singh and Shivinder Mohan Singh, the former promoters of Ranbaxy Laboratories Ltd, have been slapped with a ₹2,600-crore fine by an arbitration court in Singapore for ‘suppressing and misrepresenting’ facts from Daiichi Sankyo, when the Japanese company bought the brothers' 35% stake in Ranbaxy for \$2.4 billion in 2008.

However, in 2013, the Japanese pharmaceutical major filed an arbitration case in Singapore accusing the Indian promoters of concealment and misrepresentation of facts, after Ranbaxy paid \$500 million to the US Department of Justice as settlement for misrepresenting facts.

The arbitration tribunal has issued an award by a majority of 2:1 in favour of the claimant for damages of an amount of ₹2,562.78 crore, RHC Holding Pvt Ltd said in a statement.

RHC Holding Pvt Ltd is among the sellers of shares of erstwhile Ranbaxy Laboratories along with Oscar Investments, which have been named as respondents in the arbitration suit by the claimant, Daiichi Sankyo.

In a statement issued on Thursday, RHC Holdings, which held 27% stake in erstwhile Ranbaxy, said they will explore legal options to challenge the fine.

It, however, declined to share details, saying, “All the parties to the arbitration are bound by confidentiality obligations as a part of the arbitration proceedings.”

The statement added that the damage amount to be paid include “quantified interest, costs and expenses of the arbitration till the date of award and interest on above until date of payment, against all the respondents jointly



■ Malvinder (left) and Shivinder Singh

FILE PHOTO

## STORY SO FAR

**2008** Singh brothers Malvinder and Shivinder sell their entire 35% stake in Ranbaxy to Daiichi Sankyo for \$2.4 bn

**2013** Ranbaxy agrees to pay a fine of \$500 mn after pleading guilty to criminal charges of manufacturing and distributing adulterated drugs manufactured at its facilities of Paonta Sahib (Himachal) and Dewas (Madhya Pradesh)

■ Daiichi files arbitration case in Singapore court, accusing the Indian promoters of misrepresentation of facts; seeks compensation for the \$500-mn fine it had to pay to the US Department of Justice

**2014** Sun Pharma agrees to acquire Ranbaxy for \$4 bn

**2016** Singapore arbitration court rules in favour of Daiichi

and severally”.

Pranav Mago, head of South Asia for Singapore International Arbitration Centre, declined to comment citing confidentiality agreements.

After buying out the erstwhile promoters, Daiichi spent around ₹22,000 crore to gain a majority stake in Ranbaxy. Later on, the Japanese firm exited Ranbaxy following a \$4.2-billion merger deal between Sun Pharmaceuticals and Ranbaxy, in March 2015. It sold out its entire

stake for over ₹20,420 crore, after facing a series of import alerts and warning letters by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) over concerns about manufacturing processes at its plants.

Malvinder is currently the chairman of Fortis Laboratories. Younger brother Shivinder stepped down from the executive role of group companies last year to join the Radha Soami Satsang Beas, a spiritual organisation headquartered near Amritsar.

## quickread



■ Honda Cars India president Yoichiro Ueno (L) and senior V-P Raman Sharma with the BR-V on Thursday REUTERS

## HONDA LAUNCHES BR-V COMPACT SUV AT ₹8.75 L

**NEW DELHI:** Intensifying competition in the fast-growing compact SUV segment, Honda Cars India on Thursday launched seven-seater compact SUV BR-V priced between ₹8.75 lakh and ₹12.9 lakh (ex-showroom Delhi). The model will compete with the likes of Hyundai Creta and Renault Duster. India is a key market for Honda, and the company is looking to introduce new models to drive its expansion plans in the country. PTI

## Wary Sebi rules out new commex futures trading

**MUMBAI:** As the NSEL scam continues to rattle investors in the commodities market, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) on Thursday ruled out allowing trading in any new commodity futures unless assured of sufficient liquidity. “Sebi has been very careful in allowing trading in new commodities. We want to do that but we will be doing it very carefully. Unless we are assured that there's enough liquidity likely in some commodities, we will not consider that,” chairman UK Sinha said. PTI

## ITC cigarette plans closed for compliance

**MUMBAI:** India's biggest cigarette maker, ITC, said on Thursday that it had shut its plants from May 4 to comply with the Supreme Court's ruling on bigger pictorial warnings on cigarette packets. “The company has had to shut its cigarette factories from May 04... until (it) is in a

position to comply with the interim requirements pending hearing in the Karnataka High Court,” ITC said. REUTERS

## UK talking ‘intensively’ with Tata Steel: Cameron

**LONDON:** The British government is “talking intensively” with Tata Steel and will work with it to create a shortlist of “serious” buyers of the Indian steel giant's loss-making units in the UK, Prime Minister David Cameron told the House of Commons on Wednesday. “We're talking intensively with Tata to make sure they do everything they can to make sure this is a serious sales process.” PTI

## Hero MotoCorp Q4 net surges 71% to ₹814 cr

**NEW DELHI:** The country's largest two-wheeler maker, Hero MotoCorp, posted a 70.85% rise in standalone net profit to ₹814.16 crore during the January-March quarter of 2015-16, against the same period of the previous fiscal year. PTI

## On-tap bank licence norms released

**Agencies**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**MUMBAI:** Moving towards on-tap licensing regime, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has proposed allowing professionals with 10 years of experience to promote full-fledged banks, but said business houses can come in only as investors with less than 10% stake.

On-tap licensing means that the RBI window for granting licences will be open through the year.

The RBI also proposed a lowering of the minimum ownership level for firms or people setting up lenders under a financial holding structure to 51% from 100%.

The draft guidelines, released by the RBI on Thursday, is based on a discussion paper by the central bank in 2013. The RBI is seeking feedback to its proposals by June 30.

The norms are likely to upset the plans of large business houses, which are eagerly waiting for on-tap regime to set up their own banks. PTI & REUTERS

# Finance Bill paves the way for monetary panel on policy rate

**HT Correspondent**  
■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**NEW DELHI:** India moved a step closer to a “monetary policy framework”, which will empower a six-member panel monetary policy committee (MPC) chaired by the RBI governor to take decisions on interest rates.

The governor, however, will not enjoy a veto power to overrule the other panel members, but will have a casting vote in case of a tie.

The Finance Bill, 2016, which was passed in the Lok Sabha on Thursday, contained an amendment to the Reserve Bank of India Act of 1934 to give a statutory basis to the monetary policy framework.

Last year, the government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had agreed to adopt a monetary policy framework, which will make taming inflation the primary priority of the central bank's policy decisions.

“We have drafted the amend-

## MOST NPAs IN STEEL: FM

The steel industry accounts for the largest proportion of the banks' non-performing assets, finance minister Arun Jaitley told the Lok Sabha on Thursday. “If our firms will not be able to sell their steel, it is obvious that they will not be able to repay bank loan.” PTI/NEW DELHI

ment (to the RBI Act) in consultation with the RBI so that inflation is reduced,” finance minister Arun Jaitley said in his hour-long reply to the debate on the Bill.

The MPC will set interest rates to keep retail inflation within targets.

“Inflation targets will be set

once every five years,” Jaitley said.

The government will nominate three eminent persons to the MPC. No government official will be nominated to the MPC.

The other three members would be from the RBI with the governor being the ex-officio chairperson. Deputy governor of RBI in charge of the monetary policy will be a member; as also an executive director of the central bank.

At present, the RBI's Monetary Policy Department (MPD) assists the governor in formulating the monetary policy. Views of all key stakeholders in the economy, advice of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) contribute to the process for arriving at the key decision on policy repo rate—the rate at which the central bank lends to banks. The governor, however, has overriding powers to decide on interest rates.

The Finance Bill is expected to be taken up for approval in the Rajya Sabha on Friday

## SAFETY NET

# Food regulator sets sights on ads, looks to put in place new verification system

**Himani Chandna and Sunny Sen**  
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**NEW DELHI:** Just after he seems to have drawn the curtains down on the Maggi controversy, Pawan Agarwal, the four-month-old CEO of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), is stuck with a new challenge.

“I had never dealt with food,” he said, but on his mind are a bunch of reforms, some conventional and some radical. Large food companies, street food vendors, temples, mosques and churches, and even the right kind of food advertisements, are on his radar.

“There is a very thin line of what is unsafe and what is unhealthy,” Agarwal said.

The FSSAI will ensure that consumers are not misguided by what they see, hear or read, as advertisements. There are 167-million households with television sets. But, what is alarming is that the Advertising Standard Council of India (ASCI) in January alone upheld 51 com-



**God will take care of you, but even the FSSAI is taking care of you (on the regulator's plan to keep an eye on kitchens at places of worship)**

PAWAN AGARWAL, CEO, FSSAI

panies, out of which 12 were food makers, for misleading advertisements. The list included well-known names, such as, yoga guru Ramdev's Patanjali Atta Noodles, Coca-Cola and Perfetti Van Melle.

Patanjali failed to prove that Atta Noodles were oil-free, and

Dabur didn't substantiate how Chawanprash helped in fighting pollution.

“In advanced countries, there are systems in place for verification of every such claim. As we move forward, we would like to put in place such systems,” Agarwal said.

The industry is optimistic. The move will bring discipline in the food business, ad-guru Prahlad Kakkar said. “Consumers trust ads, but this does not mean that ad makers can claim everything and anything under the wrap of creativity.”

“It's a welcome move. We assure that we make conservative claims,” said Partho Chakrabarti, vice-president, snacks, PepsiCo India.

The food regulator has also set its sight on “prasada”, offered at several popular places of worship. Agarwal is looking to ensure that lakhs of people visiting these places should not fall sick after consuming “prasada”.

According to the 2001 Census,

India has 2.4 million places of worship, including temples, mosques, gurdwaras and churches, visited by 300 million people every day.

“God will take care of you, but even the FSSAI is taking care of you,” Agarwal said.

To begin with, Shree Siddhivinayak temple in Mumbai, Sai Baba temple in Shirdi and Sri Venkateswara Swamy temple in Tirupati will play the role of seeding good food practices into the religious system. “They are very forthcoming... the role of priests in serving lakhs of devotees is limited... it's the role of the large kitchens, which are adopting food safety management systems,” Agarwal said. He will also be talking to churches, mosques and gurdwaras, but “cautiously”

If Agarwal is able to pull off these mega projects, the FSSAI will have a lot more than 15% of India's food consumption under its purview. “We want to increase our reach to the balance 85% of the business, which is currently not under FSSAI,” Agarwal said.

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I DON'T CHANGE THAT VIEW AND I'M VERY CLEAR THAT THE POLICY  
IDEA THAT WAS PUT FORWARD...WILL REMAIN WRONG.

> DAVID CAMERON , British Prime Minister, defending his criticism of Donald Trump's views on Muslims

quickread



CALLING FROM WORLD'S MOST VALUABLE FIELDS OF DEBRIS

**SHANGHAI:** Li Guoqiang talks on his phone outside his house at Guangfuli neighbourhood in Shanghai, China. On paper, the neighbourhood is a real estate investor's dream. But in reality, it is a developer's nightmare, thanks to hundreds of people living there who have refused to budge from their homes.

REUTERS

Truce takes hold in Aleppo, fighting goes on elsewhere

**AMMAN:** A cessation of hostilities agreement brokered by Russia and the US brought some relief to the battered Syrian city of Aleppo on Thursday but President Bashar al-Assad said he still sought a total, crushing victory over rebel forces. Syrian state media said the army would abide by a "regime of calm" in the city for 48 hours, and relative calm prevailed on Thursday morning after two weeks of death and destruction.

REUTERS

US govt says North Carolina LGBT law violates rights

**WASHINGTON:** A North Carolina law limiting protections to LGBT people violates federal civil rights laws and can't be enforced, the US. Justice Department said on Wednesday, putting the state on notice that it is in danger of being sued and losing hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding.

AP

Pak court asks authorities to set date for releasing Indian

**NEW DELHI:** A Pakistani court has directed authorities to inform it about the arrest and expected date of release of Indian national Hamid Nehal Ansari, who was given a three-year prison term by a military court. The Peshawar high court sought the information from the federal interior ministry and the home department of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province on Wednesday. A two-judge bench led by Chief Justice Mazhar Miankhel also directed the Peshawar central prison to provide Ansari proper medical treatment and the diet recommended for him

by a doctor for ailments he has been suffering from, according to a report in the Dawn newspaper on Thursday.

HTC

Obama drinks water in Flint, hits Republicans

**FLINT:** Sipping filtered city water to show it's again drinkable, President Barack Obama promised on Wednesday to ride herd on leaders at all levels of government until every drop of water flowing into homes in Flint, Michigan, is safe to use. He also promised that the aging pipes that contaminated the water with lead will be replaced, but cautioned that the project will take time. Obama said he wanted to use the crisis to make long-term improvements to the city, where more than 40% of residents live in poverty.

AP

German gurdwara blast: Third suspect in police net

**BERLIN:** A third suspect has been arrested in connection with the bombing of a gurdwara by Islamist militants in the German city of Essen, police said on Thursday amid reports that two teenagers had rehearsed for the terror attack by detonating a prototype of their self-made bomb. A special police unit took the unidentified man into custody at Essen's central railway station on Wednesday. A person accompanying him was also detained and kept in custody. Police gave no further details, but media reports identified the third man arrested as Tolga I, a 17-year-old jihadist and sympathiser of Islamic State, from Wesel in the state of North Rhine Westphalia.

PTI

# Emergency in Alberta as Canada wildfires spread

SCORCHING EARTH 88,000 flee Fort McMurray, Canada's energy heartland

Agencies

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**FORT MCMURRAY, ALBERTA:** Alberta declared a state of emergency as crews frantically held back wind-whipped wildfires that have already torched 1,600 homes and other buildings in Canada's main oil sands city of Fort McMurray, forcing more than 80,000 residents to flee.

Alberta Premier Rachel Notley on Wednesday said fire had destroyed or damaged an estimated 1,600 structures. Flames are being kept from the downtown area thanks to the "herculean" efforts of firefighters, said Scott Long of the Alberta Emergency Management Agency. No injuries or fire related fatalities have been reported.

The fire appeared near the airport late on Wednesday where crews were on site. All commercial flights in and out of Fort McMurray have been suspended.

Unseasonably hot temperatures combined with dry conditions have transformed the boreal forest in much of Alberta into a tinderbox. Fort McMurray is surrounded by wilderness in the heart of Canada's oil sands — the third largest reserves of oil in the world behind Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.

Danielle Larivee, Alberta's minister of municipal affairs, said the fire is actively burning in residential areas. More than 250



■ A rescue helicopter flies past a wildfire in Fort McMurray, Alberta on Wednesday.

AP PHOTO

firefighters are battling the blaze. An update from the Municipality of Wood Buffalo later in the evening indicated the fire was continuing to claim homes and had destroyed a new school.

Fatalities have been reported from a collision on a nearby highway but she was unaware if it was related to the evacuation or fire.

There were haunting images of scorched trucks, charred homes and telephone poles, burned out from the bottom up, hanging in the wires like little wooden crosses.

SURGE IN OIL PRICES

Oil prices jumped on Thursday after the huge wildfire in Canada disrupted oil sands production, while escalating fighting in Libya threatened the North African nation's output.

International benchmark Brent crude futures were trading at \$45.36 per barrel at 0654 GMT, up 74 cents or 1.7% from their last close, after three days of declining prices.

US West Texas Intermediate

(WTI) crude futures were up 95 cents, or 2.2%, at \$44.73.

Traders said WTI prices were being driven up by an uncontrolled wildfire in Canada that disrupted oil production in the province of Alberta.

With evacuees being told to head north towards Alberta's oil sand fields, and some pipelines in the region being shut as a precaution, output at several facilities has been disrupted, although the volume of the decline was unclear.

## In new twist, Maoists say won't withdraw support for Oli govt

Utpal Parashar

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**KATHMANDU:** Less than a day after plotting to remove Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli, the Maoists made a U-turn on Thursday and decided to continue backing the government.

On Wednesday, the Unified Communist Party of Nepal-Maoist (UCPN-M), the main partner in the coalition headed by Oli's Communist Party of Nepal-Unified Marxist Leninist, decided to remove the seven-month-old regime.

In a statement seeking support from all parties, the UCPN-M blamed the government for failing to address the Madhes issue through talks, implement the new Constitution and speed up earthquake-related reconstruction.

The UPCN-M's plan was to set up a national unity government headed by its chairman, Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda, with support from the Nepali Congress, the biggest party in parliament and the main opposition.

But the move fizzled out after Oli assured Prachanda of giving him a chance to head the government once the budget and policies for the next fiscal are presented in parliament.

Oli said the reasons specified by the UCPN-M for planning to remove him would be addressed in a time-bound manner.

Following these developments, Prachanda apprised Nepali Congress president Sher Bahadur Deuba of his party's inability to bring a no-confidence motion against Oli.

"I have been elected by parliament and would remain in office as long as I enjoy the support of a majority of members," Oli said in an address to parliament on Thursday afternoon after the threat to his government subsided.

He said he is not against a national unity government, but would not support a conspiracy to topple governments as a ruse to implement the new Constitution and address other issues.

## Trump maintains stand on banning Muslims



**WASHINGTON/LOS ANGELES:** Republican presumptive presidential nominee Donald Trump has reiterated his stand on banning Muslims from entering the US and deporting illegal immigrants out of the country.

The rival Hillary Clinton campaign immediately slammed Trump asserting that the former secretary of state would not tolerate this divisive and dangerous direction as the US President.

A day after he became a presumptive nominee, Trump refused

to budge from his primary election season's controversial rhetoric in a series of interviews.

In one with CNN, Trump said he would not back away from his proposal to temporarily ban all foreign Muslims from entering the US. At the same time, he said he would work with Muslim countries in the fight against terrorism. But the onus for this is on those countries first, he argued.

Trump said he does not care if it hurts him. "I'm doing the right thing when I do this. And whether it's Muslim or whether it's something else, I mean, I have to do the right thing, and that's the way I've been guided," he told MSNBC in another interview.

"And I've been guided by common sense, by what's right. And

you see what's happening. We have to be careful. I mean, we're allowing thousands of people to come into our country, thousands and thousands of people being placed all over the country that frankly nobody knows who they are. They don't have documentation in many cases — in most cases. And we don't know what we're doing," Trump said.

ROLLING STONES RAP

The Rolling Stones on Wednesday told Trump to stop using the band's music for his campaign after artists such as Adele and R.E.M. made the same request.

"The Rolling Stones have never given permission to the Trump campaign to use their songs and

have requested that they cease all use immediately," the band's spokesperson said in a statement.

Before his rally in Carmel, Indiana on Tuesday, Trump's campaign played The Rolling Stones' 1969 song "You Can't Always Get What You Want" at least four times.

Trump's campaign did not respond to a request for comment.

Alongside pop and rock songs, the Trump campaign also plays Broadway show tunes and opera music ahead of rallies.

British singer Adele in February said she has not given permission for anyone to use her music for political campaigns, after Trump played her 2011 hit "Rolling in the Deep" at rallies in Iowa.

AGENCIES

in the news

AHMET DAVUTOGLU

Turkish prime minister quits, a move that will boost President Recep Tayyip Erdogan



1 Divisions between Davutoglu and Erdogan erupted into the open on Wednesday, with the two leaders holding crisis talks that failed to resolve the conflict

2 The ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) will hold an extraordinary congress on May 22 and Davutoglu said he will not be standing for a new mandate

3 This means Davutoglu, the head of government since 2014 when Erdogan moved from premiership to presidency, will step aside from his twin jobs of AKP boss and premier.

## Bangladesh Islamist party leader to hang for 1971 war crimes

Reuters

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**DHAKA:** Bangladesh's Supreme Court on Thursday rejected a final appeal by the leader of the top Islamist party against a death sentence for atrocities committed during the 1971 war of independence, lawyers said, meaning he could be hanged at any time.

The court in January upheld the death penalty for Motiur Rahman Nizami, head of the Jamaat-e-Islami party, for genocide, rape and orchestrating the massacre of top intellectuals during the 1971 war.

Nizami, 73, a former legislator and minister under Khaleda Zia when she was prime minister, has been in jail since 2010 when he was charged with war crimes by a tribunal set up by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina that year.

The war crimes tribunal has sparked violence and drawn criticism from opposition politicians, including leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami, that it is victimising Hasina's political opponents.

"All the legal battles are over," Nizami's lawyer, Khandaker Mahbub Hossain, told reporters.



■ Motiur Rahman Nizami

"Now it is up to him, whether he will seek clemency from the president, or not."

Hundreds of people flooded the streets of the capital, Dhaka, to cheer the verdict, but there has been no report of violence, although Jamaat called a nationwide strike for Sunday in protest.

Authorities have deployed additional security forces in Dhaka and elsewhere as similar previous judgments triggered violence that killed around 200, mainly Jamaat activists and police.

The verdict comes as the Muslim-majority nation suffers a surge in militant violence in which atheist bloggers, academics, religious minorities and foreign aid workers have been killed.

## No takers for UK's new daily, to close on Friday

HT Correspondent

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**LONDON:** Britain's "The New Day" inspired some hope that print has a future in the age of digital media but the daily launched by Trinity Mirror on February 29 soon realised the ground reality and announced its demise from Friday.

It was billed as the "first standalone national daily newspaper for 30 years" at launch, but the company said although it received many supportive reviews

and built a strong following on Facebook, "the circulation for the title is below our expectations".

"As a result, we have decided to close the title on 6 May 2016. Whilst disappointing, the launch and subsequent closure have provided new insights into enhancing our newspapers and a number of these opportunities will be considered over time," it said.

Editor Alison Phillips wrote: "Bad news I'm afraid but tomorrow's edition of The New Day will be the last."



■ A group of translators at the function where Tagore's books in Chinese were released.

SUTIRTHO PATRANOBIS

Sutirtho Patranobis

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**BEIJING:** Six years, 18 Chinese translators fluent in Bengali and a fair amount of passion. That's what it took for Rabindranath Tagore's works — novels, essays, poems and plays — to be translated for the first time from Bengali into 16 million Chinese characters.

The 33 translated volumes were released on Thursday afternoon at a function at the China Radio International (CRI) office in Beijing, where Chinese students sang Tagore's songs, elderly Chinese professors spoke of his humanism and the translators shared moments of their hard work.

The release was aimed at commemorating Tagore's 155th birth anniversary on May 7.

Officially, it took six years but the groundwork had begun by 2009. "I got my first script to be translated when I was studying at Dacca University in 2009," said Cao Yan Hua, deputy director of CRI's Bengali department.

"The work actually began then," said Cao, whose Bengali name is Shuborna.

In 2011, the Chinese government gave its stamp for the venture, making it a "Cultural Project" under the 12th five year plan, which meant it had to be completed by 2015.

It was. And in April, China's biggest state-run printer, the

People's Publishing House, came out with the volumes.

But there were problems.

One, there was no Bengali-to-Chinese dictionary. So translators, Cao said, had to carefully translate thousands and thousands of words first from Bengali to English, and then from English to Chinese.

The translators juggled the project with their day jobs. The money — 60 Yuan (₹600) for 1,000 Chinese words — was a pittance. But the passion made up for it.

Tagore visited China three times in the 1920s and 1930s. But his visits were contentious, with eminent Chinese scholars of the time debating his philosophy and worldview.

AGENCIES

## Pak girl killed, body burnt for helping friend

Intiaz Ahmad

■ letters@hindustantimes.com

**ISLAMABAD:** A teenage girl was drugged and strangled, and her body set alight on the orders of a tribal council in northwest Pakistan because she helped her friend elope, police said on Thursday as they announced the arrest of 14 men for the killing.

A case was registered in an anti-terrorism court against the men for allegedly ordering the killing of 15-year-old Ambreen at Makol village near Abbottabad.

The tribal jirga or council acted against Ambreen on April 29 after she helped her friend, Saima, elope and get married to a man named Musa. The jirga was convened on the insistence of the relatives of the couple. It ruled that Saima, Musa and Ambreen should all be killed for violating local traditions.

After the decision, Ambreen was dragged from her home by members of the jirga. They then drugged and strangled her. Ambreen's body was then placed in a van, which was set on fire.

The van was earlier used by Saima and Musa and the vehicle's driver was also punished, police said. Saima and Musa are safe, police added.

Police started an investigation after it emerged there was a body in the burnt van. More details came to light after the

## AMBREEN WAS DRAGGED FROM HER HOME BY MEMBERS OF THE TRIBAL COUNCIL BEFORE SHE WAS MURDERED

van's owner was arrested. Local police chief Khurram Rasheed told a news conference the whole village had not disclosed what had happened to Ambreen for a week. It was only after the van's driver provided details of the murder that the police were able to make arrests.

"The parents of Ambreen have also been arrested as they did not come forward to register the crime," said Rasheed.

In a related development, Pakistan People's Party chairman Bilawal Bhutto Zardari has said people should protest against such jirgas. "We need to stand up and protest against such jirgas and their decisions," he told the media.

Hundreds of women are murdered by their relatives in Pakistan each year on the pretext of defending family "honour" but it is rare to hear of those who facilitate elopements being killed. Pakistan amended its criminal code in 2005 to prevent men who kill female relatives escape punishment by pardoning themselves as an heir of the victim.



quickread

AUSSIE LEISHMAN WITHDRAWS FROM RIO CITING ZIKA



**SYDNEY:** Golfer **Marc Leishman** said on Thursday he has withdrawn his candidacy for the Rio Olympics, citing the Zika virus and health concerns for his wife, becoming the first Australian athlete to withdraw over the mosquito-borne virus. Leishman, Australia's number three golfer, was first in the race to qualify for Rio alongside compatriot and world number one Jason Day after former U.S. Masters champion Adam Scott ruled himself out of the tournament last month. The Australian Olympic Committee (AOC) confirmed world number 35 Leishman had become the first prospective Australian Olympian to withdraw from Rio over the Zika virus. There is a strong scientific consensus that Zika can cause microcephaly in newborn babies as well as Guillain-Barre syndrome in adults. Leishman's wife Audrey suffered toxic shock syndrome, a potentially fatal illness caused by bacterial infection, in April last year and was still recovering, the 32-year-old golfer said in a statement released on Wednesday U.S.-time.

REUTERS

Thai ace pledges to bring home Oly medal

**BANGKOK:** Thailand's 21-year-old badminton star Ratchanok Intanon said Thursday she was "100 percent confident" she would bring home a medal in the Rio Olympics, despite slipping from her top ranking last week. Ratchanok, known in Thailand as Nong May, was crowned the world's number one women's singles player last month after sealing three successive Superseries titles in as many weeks. But she was bumped back to second place, behind Spain's Carolina Marin, after an elimination in last week's 2016 Badminton Asia Championship. Ratchanok nevertheless vowed to bring home Thailand's first ever badminton Olympic medal. "I am 100 percent confident I will get a medal," she told AFP from the court on the outskirts of Bangkok where she practises daily. "The whole world will be watching. I want to get a medal, no matter which medal it is," she added.

AFP

Furyk back from injury as McIlroy defends

**CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA:** American 17-times PGA Tour winner Jim Furyk makes his comeback from injury at this week's Wells Fargo Championship, where Rory McIlroy is defending champion. Furyk, 45, has not played since September due to left wrist injury that required surgery and he will have plenty of work to do if he is to secure a spot in his Ryder Cup later this year. He is 41st in the American standings and, barring a sizzling summer stretch, will have to make do with his already-assigned role as captain's assistant. But Furyk is more focused right now on trying to play his way back into form without the benefit of much practice. "I'm still on a limited schedule and not able to go to the range and bang a bunch of balls," he said at Quail Hollow on the eve of the opening round. McIlroy is also raring to go after three weeks off, having not played since the Masters, where he tied for 10th and was not happy with aspects of his swing. "I'm working quite a lot on a couple of technical things," he said. McIlroy took a decent break because of a busy upcoming stretch that includes three major championships, the Rio Olympics and Ryder Cup.

REUTERS

Russell credits team's faith for success

**PLAINSPEAKING** Says he does not mind batting in the death but would like to get more overs in the middle

Press Trust of India  
sportsdesk@hindustantimes.com

**KOLKATA:** If he's not scoring, he's making the difference with his bowling and fielding and Kolkata Knight Riders star West Indies all-rounder Andre Russell says it's the team's calming reassurance that brings the best out of him.

Needing 11 runs to defend in the last over, 'Man of the Match' Russell (4/20) claimed a wicket and ran out Axar Patel, who was looking to spoil KKR's homecoming with a seven-ball 21 that included two sixes against the Jamaican, to seal a close seven-run win.

"I think being comfortable knowing that I would play the next game, gives me a big confidence in terms of going forward. It boosts me a lot more," Russell said after their win that dislodged Gujarat Lions atop the table on net run rate.

Having scored a crucial 24-ball 39 in their win over Royal Challengers Bangalore, Russell was run out for 16 last night as KKR were restricted to a modest 164/3 after skipper Gautam Gambhir (54) and Robin Uthappa (70) put on their season's highest 101-run opening partnership.

"If I was in a situation where I have to do well to play the next game, maybe I would worry about my game and would not perform the way I do. Knowing that I will play the next game, I'm confident."

"It does not matter if I make runs or take wickets, it gives me the confidence to go out there and do my thing. It's reassuring to know that the coaching staff and the captain have the confidence in you."

Less than a day after joining the team after a long flight, the West Indies World T20 winner had given it a winning start in the ongoing IPL when his 3/24 set up a nine-wicket win over Delhi Daredevils who were skittled out for 98.

"As a cricketer, I want to leave behind a legacy, set standards as high as possible. I love these challenges, enjoy bowling in the moments where I can win the game. If it goes the other way, I learn from it and take the positives. I enjoy workload and want to go from strength to strength."

"It's what I really work hard for. I know my job is not easy, it's very hard. Batting till the end and

then bowling the first over, I don't mind doing it."

Russell said he did not mind batting in the death but would like to get more overs in the middle.

"At the end, I would really appreciate if I could get more time to bat. So be it, I'm just happy to be a part of this team. Wherever the skipper needs me to go bat and bowl, I want to give 100 per cent. I can't complain."

"I don't have problem batting the last five overs. No 7 is good enough for a T20 game. I'm a team man, I don't mind 160-170 with five overs to go. Even I'm fine with 150 with five overs to go. That would give confidence to go from ball from one and try to get as much runs as possible for my team."

Russell further credited likes of head coach Jacques Kallis and bowling mentor Wasim Akram for his growth as a cricketer.

"To be around with the likes of Jacques Kallis and Wasim Akram, teach me a few things about bowling. It helps me to hone my knowledge in terms of batting and bowling," Russell has played for Islamabad United in the

Pakistan Super League, Sydney Thunder in the Australian Big Bash and Sylhet Royals in the Bangladesh Premier League beside featuring for Jamaica Tallawahs back home in the Caribbean Premier League.

"From playing in different parts of the world and in different tournaments. I try to learn as well. I look up to a lot more guys as key players. It gives me the confidence the way I perform at the moment. I'm just happy to be a part of the IPL and doing well. Once people know I can hit sixes and take wickets bowling fast, I would bring smiles on fans face. I do my best for my team."

Asked about Sunil Narine's omission as their ace spinner was replaced by Brad Hogg against KXIP, he said the Trinidadian is nursing a finger injury in his bowling hand.

Bollywood icon Shah Rukh Khan came to see their match for the first time this season and Russell said the team co-owner had extended the team best wishes before the match.

"He came to the team meeting, extended best wishes."



■ KKR skipper Gautam Gambhir has been in terrific form and blasted a half-century at Eden on Wednesday. SUBHENDU GHOSH/HT



■ Robin Uthappa in action. PTI

Taking art of opening to next level

**Somshuvra Laha**  
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**KOLKATA:** Much has been written about the advantage of an opening partnership in this IPL. But Kolkata Knight Riders seem to be taking it to another level. In the pursuit of laying a platform for the middle order, KKR openers Gautam Gambhir and Robin Uthappa look ready to hand the initial advantage to opponents. Even Powerplays seem redundant in their quest to settle into a rhythm in sync with the mood of the pitch. Once poised, they make it count big time.

The most curious phase of the partnerships between Gambhir and Uthappa is how quickly they shift from the first to fifth gear. Against Kings XI Punjab, it came

to the fore once again. The start was understandably slow, given KKR were batting first on a home pitch they hadn't played in over three weeks. The bad deliveries were put to sword but by tempering them with adequate singles, Gambhir and Uthappa managed to make it look an innocuous start. Kings XI Punjab couldn't have been blamed for feeling good after conceding just 40 runs in Powerplay.

A bigger kick came in the form of the phase between the fifth and sixth overs in which KKR managed just 13 runs. But just when Kings XI Punjab thought they were in control of the match, came the first counter blows. After a few failed attempts to sweep spinners, Uthappa finally got one right against Gurkeerat Mann in the eighth over. He then picked a fuller delivery from Axar Patel to swat it inside out for the first six

of the innings.

What helped KKR was Punjab's weak bowling after the Powerplay. Deploying seven bowlers might have been an attempt to make their attack look varied but none except Patel and Sandeep Sharma made any visible impact on KKR. Uthappa and Gambhir exploited that phase, taking 11 runs of a sole Glenn Maxwell over after milking Swapnil Singh for 12 runs in the 10th over.

Within a matter of three overs, they put KKR back on track. In the process, they also notched their second century partnership in this edition. Had Gambhir not made that fatal scramble for a non-existent single, this was an opening partnership that could have probably stretched its legs a bit more. Maybe it could have added a few more to KKR's final total but it had served its primary purpose.

'Back from break SRH players are fresh and ready'

Press Trust of India  
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**HYDERABAD:** Their spirits high after a five-day break, a rejuvenated Sunrisers Hyderabad team is raring to take the field against Gujarat Lions in an Indian Premier League match here tomorrow, captain David Warner said here on Thursday.

"We won a couple, we lost a couple. We are coming out and putting up good performances. It's going to be challenging for the guys but the team is in a good frame of mind. The guys had rest (during) last couple of days and everyone is fresh and ready to go," Warner told reporters on the eve of the game.

Sunrisers Hyderabad played their last game on April 30 in which they defeated Royal Challengers Bangalore by 15 runs. And Warner said the much-needed break helped the players to regroup. "For us, it's about making sure that mentally we are ok, we are not exhausting ourselves. The guys had a little bit of training session yesterday. The guys bonded very well at resorts, some went for go-karting," he said.

Stating that Gujarat Lions are a strong side, Warner said Sunrisers Hyderabad need to make early inroads to contain the explosive batting line-up of the visitors.

"We have to contain them early. Whether we bat or ball first, it's all about first six overs and early wickets. For us as a batting unit, it is important not to lose too many wickets and for our bowlers it is important to get as many wickets as they can," he said.

The Australian said their aim is to keep on winning games without thinking about others.

"For us, it's about winning. If we keep winning, we are going to make it to the finals. We don't have to worry about what other teams do," he said. Warner said as a captain, he is open minded and always accessible to his teammates.

"My life becomes easy when the guys are doing their job. If I feel something is not in place, I talk to the players. My doors are always open," he said.

HTANALYSIS

TOO CLOSE FOR COMFORT

KKR's Andre Russell picked up four wickets to seal the deal for the hosts at Eden against Kings XI Punjab. Glenn Maxwell almost pulled the visitors through with a 68.



SEDATE START

The Kolkata openers, Gautam Gambhir and Robin Uthappa, didn't go after the bowling and picked only the loose balls for boundary. At the end of the power-play, they were just 40 but without losing a wicket. Their idea, it seems, was to lay a platform for the big-hitters Andre Russell and Yusuf Pathan.



TOO LATE?

The openers, however, left it too late for the lower-order batsmen. When Gambhir was dismissed, it was already the 14th over whereas Uthappa fell towards the end of the 17th over. Yusuf Pathan couldn't accelerate as expected, making 19 off 16, while Russell made 16 off 10.

EARLY WICKETS

In a team with pacers Morne Morkel and Umesh Yadav, all-rounder Andre Russell has earned enough faith to be given the new ball. Russell picked two early wickets — of Marcus Stoinis and Manan Vohra, in each of his first two overs. KXIP were 13/3 with Morkel claiming skipper Murali Vijay.



LATE SURGE FAILS

The struggling KXIP found hope in Glenn Maxwell, who finally clicked. His 68 off 42, that included four sixes brought them within range. Axar Patel too hit a few lusty blows to make the target look attainable. But three wickets in the last over sealed it for KKR.

We'll try to correct mistakes and put up a good show: Karthik

Press Trust of India  
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**HYDERABAD:** Notwithstanding their successive losses in IPL-9, Gujarat Lions would look to come back strong in the upcoming matches starting with the clash against Sunrisers Hyderabad on Friday, wicket-keeper batsman Dinesh Karthik said here on Thursday.

"Yes, obviously, we were a little upset after our last game. We were expecting to do a little better than that. But, the good thing is we've got all the boys together and we have now, kind of realised where may be we could have gone wrong and we will try and correct those mistakes and put up a brilliant show in the next couple of games," he said in the pre-match press conference.

Acknowledging that Sunrisers Hyderabad is a good bowling side, Karthik said his team would like to put its best foot forward on Friday.

"It's going to be an interesting battle. Obviously, they are a good bowling side and we will look to match up to them and do the best that we can," he said.

Karthik said the team would not like to make any sudden



■ Dinesh Karthik has said his team would not like to make any sudden changes because a couple of games have not gone their way. SATISH BATE/HT

changes because couple of games have not gone their way.

"Obviously, we had two tough games. Batting being our obvious strength compared to bowling, we have not lived up to expectations and in a long term tournament like this, these things are bound to happen," he said.

"What's important is to keep the same approach in terms of batting and attitude, keep believing and it is important that you don't start changing things, because things have not gone your way for two games," he said. Karthik is pleased with the performance of Gujarat's key

all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja in recent matches.

"Our middle order, when compare to openers, it's not been on par. It is a different role. It is pretty difficult as middle order batsmen to come in when run rate is so high and keep going at the same rate," Karthik said.

"You take time and consolidate over there. That's what you try to do ideally. Sometimes, when the wicket is good, you try to keep going at the same pace. At this stage, the good thing is Jaddu (Ravindra Jadeja) is on first class game which is a great plus for us."

"He is a very, very important cricketer for us and he forms the crux of the team in the middle order. Once, Bravo gets going, it is only a matter of time ... I am confident if those two get going, then we are on track," he said.

Observing that he had a love-hate relationship with the sweep shot, he said it is difficult to say that one particular shot is his "go to shot".

"It's difficult to pinpoint one shot and say this is my go to shot. It depends on the bowler and a little bit on the wicket. Sometimes, playing a sweep can be a tough shot on a given wicket."

Three foreigners good enough for visiting Kings

HT correspondent  
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**KOLKATA:** It couldn't be confirmed whether Kings XI Punjab have really bought into Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make in India initiative or whether they are keener than the rest to promote Indian talent but they did something that has happened only once in nine editions of the IPL.

Against Kolkata Knight Riders, the visitors fielded three foreigners in the playing 11, one less than what a team is allowed. Marcus Stoinis, Glenn Maxwell and David Miller were the imports.

Kyle Abbot and Farhan Behardien were the other foreigners in the 15. Maybe it had something to do with the perceived slow Eden pitch. The only other time this happened was in 2008 when Shane Warne's Rajasthan Royals played three foreigners against Delhi Daredevils.

MARCUS STOINIS, GLENN MAXWELL AND DAVID MILLER WERE THE IMPORTS FOR KINGS XI PUNJAB

thedoosra

ENTER KKR'S BIGGEST FAN

**KOLKATA:** For all of last season when till the last day of the league phase KKR were among the top four but failed to make it to the eliminators, he attended only one home match. This time too, with KKR having won five of their eight games, he has been conspicuous by his absence. Finally, at 8:50pm, KKR's biggest fan arrived. SRK was busy with his day job, it has been reported in the media, explaining his absence from IPL theatres. Not even SRK can mix business and pleasure it seems.

M FOR MISSED CHANCE

**KOLKATA:** Soon after getting to his 50 off a freebie from Sandeep Sharma, Robin Uthappa went hard on him again, but this time the shot gained more height than distance. David Miller ran in and so did Mohit Sharma. Maybe the Kings XI Punjab dugout screamed out to avert a collision of the kind that had Jeff Thomson dislocating his shoulder after clattering into Alan Turner in the Australia-Pakistan Test in 1976 for Miller stopped. And then Mohit spilled the chance.



■ Had a great break with the family on our day off. Zoravar cheered the loudest while the #SunRisers Hyderabad boys and me raced! - Shikhar Dhawan's Instagram post for fans.

GUARDING PRACTICE

**NEW DELHI:** It seems the players' practice area is closely guarded even from those who have no stake in the game. Two security guards at the Ferozeshah Kotla found that out on Wednesday evening when they were rudely admonished by the man in charge of the team security. The guards were trying to click some Pune franchise players on their mobiles when the man jumped in and said, "If you do that again, I am going get you thrown out."

THE RAIN RUN

**HYDERABAD:** Being handed separate training schedules is no longer alien to cricketers. And IPL teams, an assorted set of international and domestic players, showcase that. On Wednesday, pre-monsoon showers drenched Hyderabad and most of the Sunrisers players stayed indoors as they next play only on Friday. However, leg-spinner Karn Sharma and Aussie all-rounder Moises Henriques were at the ground for fitness training. The skies opened up as they placed the cones, but they did a series of 200m sprints before heading in.

THE SAMMY DANCE

**KOLKATA:** So what if franchisees have ignored him this time, West Indies T20 captain Darren Sammy was back at the Eden on Wednesday. Only, unlike Arnold "I'll be back" Schwarzenegger in Terminator, he wasn't growling it. With the 'Lungi Dance' star in the audience, Sammy, now part of the commentators' team, was also seen shaking a leg at a venue where a little over a month he had more than jigged his way to the World T20 title.





# Real set up all-Madrid final

**REDUX** Los Blancos beat Manchester City 1-0 to ensure a repeat of 2014 final

Agencies

**MADRID:**Real Madrid will face Atletico Madrid in the Champions League final for the second time in three years after overcoming Manchester City 1-0 in their semi-final second leg on Wednesday.

Brazilian midfielder Fernando deflected Gareth Bale's cross into his own net after 20 minutes at the Santiago Bernabeu for the only goal of the tie after the first leg ended goalless.

Fernandinho came closest to taking City to their first ever Champions League final when his shot clipped the outside of the post a minute before half-time.

Real beat Atletico 4-1 after extra time in Lisbon two years ago to win the competition for a 10th time and will be hoping for a repeat when they face Diego Simeone's men in Milan on May 28.

Real were given a huge boost before kick-off as Cristiano Ronaldo made his return after a three-game absence due to a thigh injury.

By contrast, City were dealt a massive injury blow inside 10 minutes when captain Vincent Kompany was forced off with a



■ Real Madrid's Pepe crosses for Sergio Ramos to score during their semifinal against Manchester City on Wednesday. The goal was later disallowed due to off-side, but Real held on to their early lead. REUTERS

muscle problem.

Ronaldo sent his first chance well over the bar with a header from Dani Carvajal's cross. However, Madrid got the luck

they needed to swing the tie in their favour with their next attack as Bale was played in on the right of the City box and his

intended cross spooned up off Fernando and into the far corner to leave Hart helpless.

## INEXPERIENCE

That inexperience looked to be taking hold as City enjoyed decent spells of first-half possession without troubling the Real

defence. However, they came within inches of finding the crucial away goal just before the break when Kevin De Bruyne picked out Fernandinho and the Brazilian midfielder's low driven shot clipped the outside of the post.

## ‘Maturing’ Bale seeks more Champions League glory

**MADRID:** Gareth Bale believes he has turned a corner at Real Madrid after leading the Spanish giants to their second Champions League final in his three years at the club.

Bale's effort was deflected by Brazilian midfielder Fernando into his own net to hand Madrid a 1-0 win on the night and on aggregate over Manchester City to set up a final date with local rivals Atletico Madrid in Milan on May 28.

"I feel like I'm maturing," Bale told BT Sports.

"My Spanish is getting better and I'm integrating more with the team.

"It is difficult the first few years, but once you get past that mark then it does get a bit easier.

"I feel like I've turned a corner in that sense now. I'm enjoying my football here."

Bale was denied his first Champions League goal of the season as Uefa credited the only goal of the tie to the unlucky



■ Bale's effort was deflected by City's Fernando in his own net on Wednesday AP

Fernando. And he said reaching another final justified his decision to resist lucrative offers to return to the Premier League last summer to make his mark in Madrid.

"It doesn't matter who scored -- whether it's an own goal or whatever," he added. "The reason I came here was to win the Champions Leagues. I've got one already and I've got the chance to win another one now. It's great to be in the final again." AFP

## Leicester exception to the rule: Martinez

**LONDON:** Everton manager Roberto Martinez said on Thursday that Leicester City winning the Premier League this season was an "inspiration" to other clubs but warned against another "underdog" champion any time soon.

Martinez's men will be the opponents at Leicester's King Power Stadium on Saturday when the Foxes are presented with the Premier League trophy.

However, the Toffees boss said replicating Leicester's feat would be no easy task.

"What Leicester have achieved is a great inspiration for any team sport and for any group in order to dream high and have huge expectations but I think we need to be realistic that this is not the norm," he said.

"It's something we haven't seen in the modern game and I don't think that's going to be repeated easily."

Leicester beat Everton 3-2 in December. They were leading the table at that point but

Martinez thought their title challenge would evaporate.AFP

## Indians revel in Leicester's miracle win

Prasun Sonwalkar

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**LONDON:** Leicester's reputation as Europe's poster city for the success of the idea of multiculturalism was on show when a large number of Indian-origin supporters of Leicester City donned blue — the club's colour — and revelled in the upsurge of joy at its miracle win.

Starting with odds at 1 to 5000, the club achieved a remarkable win in the English Premier League, upsetting big beasts and providing an occasion for the many communities to unite and celebrate for days and nights in a rare show of unity and multi-



■ Leicester City fans celebrate outside the King Power Stadium after Spurs drew Chelsea to ensure Foxes' title win REUTERS

culturalism. Belgrave Road and Melton Road — called the 'Golden Mile' and the hub of Indian culture and business — turned blue

as shops, restaurants and business establishments reported brisk business. Some Indian restaurants offered free snacks

## Rohit wishes Oly-bound athletes best of luck

Press Trust of India

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**PUNE:** Star cricketer Rohit Sharma on Thursday wished luck to the Indian sports contingent which will take part in the upcoming Rio Olympic Games from August 5-21 by presenting an autographed bat to ace marksman Gagan Narang who is a bronze medalist from the last edition.

Rohit, who is leading defending champions Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League, which is in progress, presented a signed bat with the words "Go for the Gold" written on it to Narang, a bronze medalist in the men's 10m air rifle event at the 2012 London Olympics.

The bat was presented to Narang by Rohit after the duo had inaugurated the Pune International Sports Expo (PISE). Narang spoke about the challenges the Olympic athletes face to achieve their goals. "Winning medals for India is my job, but while I pursue my dream of yet another Olympic medal, this time in Rio, I want to reflect on the challenges that we face," said the 32-year-old Hyderabad-based Narang, winner of eight gold medals in the Commonwealth Games of 2006 and 2010.

"We often talk about level playing field. While in corporate boardrooms this still is an Utopia, but in sports this is what we strive for.



■ Rohit Sharma. AFP

However, in a country like ours democracy or level can only come once we think of opportunity or playing fields," said the ace rifle shooter.

Recently, Parliament was told by the Sports Ministry that the Government expects 10 medals from Rio, while the target is 25 at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics.

Speaking about the figure that has been projected by the sports ministry, Narang said whether or not that figure was achievable, it was more important to view the efforts that go behind the final results.

"Surely that is a number that Government wants to achieve given the grants they give. But is

it practical? It can become practical if there is democratisation of sports and if Indian sports had many more stake holders," felt Narang.

"In that backdrop, I see there is a great initiative "In that backdrop, I see there is a great initiative here to give a shot in the arm to Indian sports at this sports exhibition as we need people like these to partner sporting needs of people who are not only at the top, the elite athletes... but the ones starting out as well," he said. Rohit pointed out that Pune has a special place in his career as after playing his Under-14 and Under-17 cricket in the city, it was here that he was selected for the India Under-17 team.

"Being a sportsperson, we all know it is not easy to excel. Lot of dedication and hard work is required and lot of willingness to improve every time you go out on the field. That's what we all have been doing. I am talking about cricket as I am a cricketer," said Rohit.

"I can see a lot of kids sitting here and I am sure their goal is to represent India at some stage of any sport. I wish them all the best," he added.

Describing Pune as the city that has rich sports culture, Vishwajeet Kadam, the brain behind the PISE, said the city has shown immense growth all sectors including sports.

## Kallis warns KKR against 2015-like slip up

Press Trust of India

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**KOLKATA:** Kolkata Knight Riders may be going along smoothly with six wins from nine matches but head coach Jacques Kallis on Thursday warned the team against complacency, saying that it had slipped out of contention from a similar position in last year's IPL.

"The positive of course is we're atop the table. We're sitting pretty in a good position. I suppose some of the negatives might be we were pretty similar to this last year, then sort of relaxed towards the end," Kallis told reporters on the sidelines of 'Knight Golf' a charity initiative at RCGC here on Thursday.

Rewind the clock to IPL-2015 and then defending champions KKR had climbed to the pole position after a thrilling one-run win over Kings XI Punjab at Eden Gardens on May 9. But as it turned out, they lost two matches (Mumbai Indians and Rajasthan Royals) on the trot to slip out of top-four and miss a playoff berth.

"We are aware of that and hopefully we have learnt from it. We're working hard. The way the guys gel together getting a balanced side, there's a

lot of positives going forward," the legendary South African all-rounder said.

Returning home after being on the road for six matches over three weeks, KKR defeated the same Kings XI Punjab last night to topple Gujarat Lions from the pole position on net run-rate.

"Thanks to their four wins from six away matches their last-four prospect is brighter this time as the two-time former champions need to win two more matches from their remaining five matches.

"It's been a tough three weeks on the road. It makes it a lot easier for us. But having said that you still have to play good cricket. We can't just back and expect that we will win at home. It's nice to have that cushion.

"Hopefully we can carry that forward. Probably you need eight wins, that means two more for us. Certainly that will be our first objective. Obviously it becomes easier when you finish among top two.

"Certainly our main objective will be to get into playoffs first, then we will think of finishing among top two," the head coach said reminding the team of the old cliché, "One game at a time."



■ Axar Patel. SATISH BATE/HT

## KXIP's Axar regrets match-turning last over

Press Trust of India

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**KOLKATA:** Kings XI Punjab left-arm spinner Axar Patel feels they were on course for a win till things went horribly wrong in the last over when they lost three wickets to concede defeat to Kolkata Knight Riders in the Indian Premier League.

After Glenn Maxwell's 42-ball 68, Axar brightened KXIP's hopes in a 165-run chase with his 21-run cameo off seven balls, but Russell's tight last over meant that they fell short by seven runs as KKR reclaimed the top spot.

"Russell did well in the fielding and ran me out, we lost three wickets in the last over and the match got out of our hands," Axar told reporters at the post-match press conference. "We were satisfied with our bowling, the target

was within our reach. We also did well in the death overs. We were keeping in mind a target of about 170-175. But it was difficult to recover from being three down (in 3.1 overs) and the run rate slowed down. If you don't have wickets in hand, you feel the pressure in the end."

"We got off to a wrong start. It brought our downfall. But when we started building a partnership, they fielded well and the match got out of our hands."

Asked about the mood in the camp, he said: "Obviously, team morale goes down when you start losing. It was a close finish but we were on a high after beating Gujarat Lions in the previous match. There's not much of a change but you don't enjoy the dressing room environment. Everyone tries to stay relaxed as it's a long tournament. It's not

that you're out of contention after a few losses. We try to relax so that we can concentrate on our next match and give 100 per cent."

He further stressed the IPL was a great opportunity for Indian youngsters.

"IPL gives a very good opportunity to the youngsters and the Indian players. I also got picked for the Indian team for the first time after playing in the IPL. It's crucial for every youngster as nobody is seen properly in Ranji matches. But here your performances are noticed widely and you get an opportunity."

"I don't think too far ahead and try to concentrate on my strengths as a bowler and batsman. I'm just taking one game at a time to boost my confidence. I try to focus on my strengths, try to focus on slow ball and bowl in the right areas."

## BREAK POINTS

### CAZORLA HANDS WENGER FITNESS BOOST

**LONDON:** Arsenal midfielder Santi Cazorla has returned to fitness after a five-month injury lay-off, handing manager Arsene Wenger a late-season boost before Sunday's away clash with Manchester City. The 31-year-old Spain international played an hour for the club's under-21s against Blackburn Rovers this week, and could return to first-team action for the first time since injuring his knee in December. "I would like to help the first team at the week-end against Manchester City," Cazorla told the club's website. "(Wenger) has the decision, but I will try to play." Cazorla's absence has given midfielder Alex Iwobi an extended run in the first team, and the youngster has caught the eye with a series of sparkling displays. Midfielder Jack Wilshere, who has made only one appearance this season, praised Wenger for the way he had nurtured Iwobi.



REUTERS

### India to tour Zim for limited-overs matches

**CAPE TOWN:** Zimbabwe will host India for three one-day internationals and three Twenty20 matches in June, the country's cricket board said on Tuesday. All the matches will be played at Harare Sports Club with the ODIs scheduled to be played between June 11-15 and the Twenty20s between June 18-22. "After finalising all the formalities with the BCCI, we are pleased to announce the incoming tour scheduled for this June," Zimbabwe Cricket managing director Wilfred Muzondidza said. India have been regular travellers to Zimbabwe in recent seasons with three previous tours since 2010. REUTERS

### Olympic flame arrives in Brazil, to travel to 300 cities

**BRAZILIA:** The Olympic flame arrived in Brasilia on Tuesday from Geneva to embark on a procession across Brazil culminating in the opening ceremony of the 2016 Games in Rio de Janeiro. The flame was to light the Olympic torch at the presidential palace in the presence of President Dilma Rousseff, who currently faces impeachment and may soon be forced from office. The torch will travel to more than 300 towns and cities carried by some 12,000 relay runners before arriving August 5 at the Maracana stadium to kick off the South America's maiden Olympics. AFP



### KHAN AIMS VERBAL JAB AT DONALD TRUMP

**LOS ANGELES:** England's Amir Khan sparked loud roars of laughter ahead of his WBC middleweight title fight with Mexican Saul "Canelo" Alvarez on Saturday when he aimed a light-hearted verbal jab at Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump. "You never know, this could be the last fight for me and Canelo here, that's if Donald Trump becomes president so..." Khan said before breaking off with a chuckle during a news conference at the MGM Grand on Wednesday as the room erupted with guffaws. REUTERS

## Tank shot: Tomic accused of throwing away match



■ Andy Murray in action against Gilles Simon of France in the Madrid Masters on Thursday. REUTERS

Reuters

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**MELBOURNE:** Bernard Tomic's on-court commitment has come under renewed scrutiny after the Australian played match point holding his racket backwards in defeat to Fabio Fognini at the Madrid Open. Tomic, down 0-40 as Italian Fognini sought to serve out the match at 6-2 5-4, held his racket by the head with the handle pointing forward and barely moved as his opponent fired an ace past him to seal the win.

News of the stunt triggered a storm of criticism in his home country and on social media from tennis pundits. "Bernard Tomic has stated before he believes he is a top 10 player, but he won't be top 10 in anyone's books with continued displays of petulance like this," News Ltd media said.

World number 22 Tomic was nicknamed 'Tomic the Tank Engine' after accusations he 'tanked' — or failed to try his best — in a loss to Andy Roddick at the 2012 U.S. Open. The 23-year-old also holds the record for the quickest loss at a Masters-level tournament on the ATP Tour after being smashed 6-0, 6-1 in 28 minutes by Finn Jarkko Nieminen in Miami in 2014.

Tomic came under fire in the leadup to the Australian Open for retiring during his Sydney International quarter-final after telling the chair umpire his mind was on the year's first grand slam. He later claimed to have suffered food poisoning.

Tomic created further controversy during a Davis Cup match against the United States in Melbourne in March when he publicly criticised team mate Nick Kyrgios for withdrawing from the tie with illness.

### MURRAY DOMINATES SIMON TO REACH QF

**MADRID:** Defending champion Andy Murray sealed his place in the quarter-finals of the Madrid Masters on Thursday with a 6-4, 6-2 win over 16th seed Gilles Simon.

Murray will face Thomas Berdych or David Ferrer in the last eight on Friday.

"After the first six or seven games I really started to hit the ball well," said Murray.

"I served well throughout the match. It was a good performance." The two-time Grand Slam champion extends his impressive record over Simon to 14-2, but wasn't pushed as hard as he often has been in the past by the Frenchman as he didn't even face a break point in just over an hour-and-a-half on court.

Murray pounced on a series of Simon errors to seal the only break of the first set in the final game.

However, the Scot was far more dominant in the second as his power and variation from the back of the court allowed him to race into a 30 lead before breaking again to seal his place in the last eight. "Normally against Gilles it's always a complicated match because of the way he plays," added Murray.

"He always makes it very diffi-

cult. There are a lot of long rallies, but because of the conditions, it was a bit faster. I was able to get a lot more free points on my serve."

Rafael Nadal, who could meet Murray in a repeat of last year's final, continues his quest for a fifth title in and record 50th on clay when he faces American Sam Querrey later on Thursday.

World number one Novak Djokovic is also in action when he takes on Spaniard Roberto Bautista Agut.

World number six Kei Nishikori continued his fine form on the clay in Spain to reach the last eight with a 6-4, 7-5 win over 10th seed Richard Gasquet. Nishikori lost out to Nadal in the final of the Barcelona Open two weeks ago and will meet Australian Nick Kyrgios or Uruguay's Pablo Cuevas in the quarters after registering his first win over Gasquet in seven attempts.

The Japanese survived a blip when he missed out on two match points on his own serve before being broken at 5-4 in the second.

However, he responded immediately to break the Gasquet serve for the fourth time in the match before serving it out at the second attempt.

In the women's Madrid Open, the only remaining seed Simona Halep was victorious in an all-Romanian quarter-final against Irina-Camelia Begu 6-3, 0-6, 6-1.

Halep — a finalist in Madrid in 2014 — will face another Romanian Patricia Maria Tig or former US Open champion Sam Stosur in the last four.



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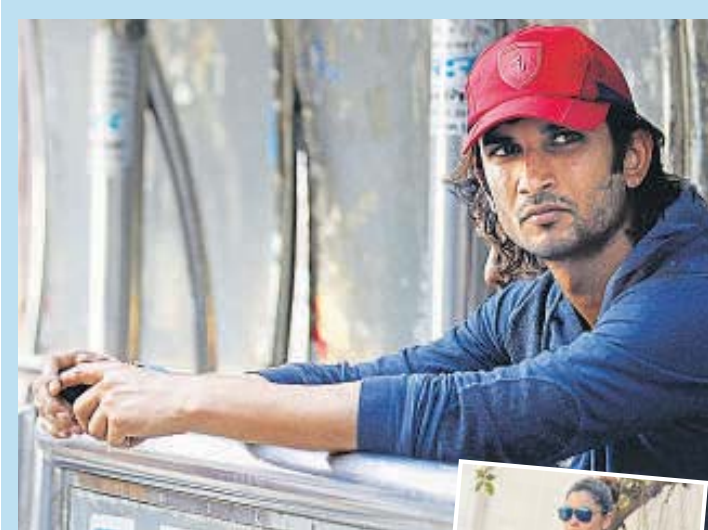


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# People grow apart and it's unfortunate: Sushant



Sushant, Ankita (above, right)

On Wednesday, actor Sushant Singh Rajput, who has broken up with his live-in girlfriend of many years, TV actor Ankita Lokhande took to Twitter to set some records straight. The buzz in the industry suggests that the separation happened because of Ankita's alleged drinking habit or Sushant's, equally alleged, womanising. However, in his tweets Sushant has slammed these rumours and

wrote: "What matters in life is not what happens to you but what you remember and how you remember it." Defending himself and Ankita he added: "Neither she was an alcoholic nor I am a womaniser. People do Grow apart & its unfortunate. Period!!" Ankita also wrote: "So many years of education yet nobody ever taught me how to love myself and why it's so important"

HTC



PHOTO: INSTAGRAM



Parineeti Chopra posted a photo of herself when she was a plump girl

PHOTO: AFP

## stoppress

### MADONNA SLAMS CRITICS

Singer Madonna took to her Instagram to take on critics who slammed the dress she wore at the recently-held MET Gala (right). Madonna, 57, who wore a Givenchy number, posted on Instagram: "The fact that people actually believe a woman is not allowed to express her sexuality and be adventurous past a certain age is proof that we still live in an age-ist and sexist society."

HTC



PHOTO: EDUARDO MUNOZ/REUTERS



PHOTO: YOGESH SHAH



PHOTO: VANNEY LE GAE/INVISION/AP

### AAMIR TO MEET SIR IAN MCKELLEN IN MUMBAI

Sir Ian McKellen, who has frequently acted in plays under the prestigious banner of the Royal Shakespeare Company, is coming to Mumbai. The Tony Award-winning English actor is expected to have a formal discussion with actor Aamir Khan on cinema and Shakespeare's works. The two are supposed to meet on May 23.

# CELEBS SLAM THE SHAMERS

Finally, actors are openly talking about their imperfect bodies and shaming their critics

Samarth Goyal

samarth.goyal@hindustantimes.com

Over the past few months, Bollywood celebrities have spoken of their experiences of being body shamed and how they fought back.

Last month, actor Zarine Khan posted a photo of her during her school days, when she was overweight, on Instagram and said that she is proud of her body. "Along with the weight loss came a lot of stretch marks but instead of feeling ashamed of it and trying to hide it, I believe in flaunting it," she wrote alongside the photo. The actor went from being 100 kilos to 57 kilos. More recently, actor Parineeti Chopra posted an old photo of herself and said that constant criticism encouraged her to get fitter. The actor, who went from being a size 38

to size 30, wrote on Instagram, "I was constantly made fun of, but the person I was, I generously laughed with them." In March, Sonam Kapoor had supported actor Anushka Sharma on Twitter after the latter tweeted that she was constantly criticised for being too thin. "(Anushka) people are just J of you! Coz you're a self respecting intelligent successful beautiful woman!!!" she wrote in a series of tweets.

Ad guru Prahlad Kakkar lauds the bold move by celebrities but says that "looking fit" should not be the only thing that the world should be worried about. "The advertisements for weight loss and weigh gain have definitely gone up, ever since they have started talking about body shaming. It is good thing, but should not be ultimate goal in someone's life," he says.



PHOTO: INSTAGRAM

Zarine Khan (left) posted a photo of herself in school (inset) when she was overweight

## HOLLYWOOD ACTORS ARE IN SUPPORT TOO

Actor and comedian Amy Schumer during an interview explained how she got back at body shamers. "It's very therapeutic for me to be like, 'Yes, I'm not going to look like a malnourished bird, and I like speaking to that,'" she was quoted as saying. Actor, Jennifer Lawrence has always said that she has no issues with her weight. "If anybody even tries to whisper the word 'diet,' I'm like, 'You can go f--- yourself,'" she was quoted as saying during an interview.



PHOTO: FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES/AFP

— THE BEST OR NOTHING —

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\*T&C apply. Feature available on select models. For details, please visit: [www.panasonic.com/in/airconditioner](http://www.panasonic.com/in/airconditioner) and catalogue. Test Method: (1) Keep room inside and outside temperature stable at i. DB 35°C, WB 24°C. (2) Operate the test sample to cool down room temperature until stable condition achieved and evaluate the power consumption for 8 hours stable condition.

| Test Unit                       | Inverter: CS/CU-S12KX                                                                                                          | Non Inverter: CS/CU-12KX                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Operation Mode                  | Cooling and Eco-mode Operation without sunlight                                                                                | Non Inverter: Cooling with sunlight                                                                                 |
| Point (Right Before Thermo Off) | Intake Temperature: 27.5°C SET: 27.0°C, Wind Speed (m/s): 0.33, Average RH: 61.60%, Point (22h) Temperature: 26.6°C            | Intake Temperature: 26.5°C SET: 27.0°C, Wind Speed (m/s): 0.33, Average RH: 61.20%, Point (22h) Temperature: 24.5°C |
| Remark                          | SET = Standardized New Effective Temperature: Point (22h) = CC wire terminal inside Annex room (X = 150L, Y = 130L, Z = 400mm) |                                                                                                                     |

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dailyhoroscope



**Dr Prem Kr. Sharma**  
Astrologer & Vastu Expert

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

**GEORGE CLOONEY**

The American actor has given blockbuster hits such as Ocean's Twelve, Argo, Criminal and The Descendants. He turns 55 today.

**MAY 6**





**ARIES**  
(MAR 21 - APR 20)

Lover may refuse to be accommodating and may not do your bidding. Family and finances can put you in much stress and strain. Differences with spouse cannot be ruled out for some. Paying back a loan can become a problem. You will be able to effectively deal with a rumour that has you at its focus.

**Lucky No: 17 Lucky Colour: Beige**



**LIBRA**  
(SEPT 24 - OCT 23)

Good advice by a friend can make a big difference in your life. Family will appear most responsive to your needs. Your lack of initiative may let slip some good opportunities, so remain alert. You are assured of the sympathetic ear of the one who is close to you, so pour your heart out. You need to take steps towards perfect health.

**Lucky No: 4 Lucky Colour: Blue**



**TAURUS**  
(APR 21 - MAY 20)

An enjoyable time is foreseen for those in love. A surprise gift can raise your spirits and make you want to reciprocate in the same coin. Those desperately needing a break can get the day off. A happening evening can bring you in contact with old friends. Extra energy will enable you to enjoy the evening.

**Lucky No: 9 Colour: Golden Brown**



**GEMINI**  
(MAY 21 - JUN 21)

Students may not find the day to their liking. Workload increases for those in a corporate set up. Candlelight dinner, soft music or whatever else you have in mind may not be enough in pleasing lover. Monetary help can be extended to those in dire need of money, but it will not be an unconditional charity.

**Lucky No: 18 Lucky Colour: Pink**



**CANCER**  
(JUNE 22 - JULY 22)

You will manage to put a restless person at ease today. The day seems profitable when you can make some money. Your forethought and a touch of creativity will help make the home environment tranquil. Friends and relations will be thoroughly impressed by your eye for detail.

**Lucky No: 11 Lucky Colour: Peach**



**LEO**  
(JULY 23 - AUG 23)

A lot is happening on the home front, so expect some exciting time today. Someone you had known casually can forge friendly relations with you. You display good performance in a competitive situation. Your foresight is likely to see your assets multiply. There is a possibility of getting romantically involved with a colleague.

**Lucky No: 1 Lucky Colour: Silver**



**VIRGO**  
(AUG 24 - SEPT 23)

Your performance at work will bring you to the notice of higher ups for all the wrong reasons today. So, tighten your belt and remain focussed. Your inquisitiveness can make those close to you uncomfortable and suspicious, so resist the temptation to become a nosy parker. A piece of news can be disappointing.

**Lucky No: 15 Lucky Colour: Light Green**



**SCORPIO**  
(OCT 24 - NOV 22)

Good planning gives excellent results, so get set to enjoy a vacation that you have put together meticulously. Some of you will be firmly in the saddle in a new job. A business meeting will be successful and bring you a step closer to clinching a deal. You will begin to earn better than before.

**Lucky No: 2 Lucky Colour: Dark Yellow**



**SAGITTARIUS**  
(NOV 23 - DEC 21)

You will enjoy perfect health by becoming regular in your workouts. A sporting event can put the spotlight on your performance. You can while away time on the academic front today. Wandering aimlessly with friends in tow may look inviting, but take your call. Remain calm by retaining your peace of mind.

**Lucky No: 3 Lucky Colour: Crimson**



**CAPRICORN**  
(DEC 22 - JAN 21)

You are likely to be a pillar of strength for the family. Your purposeful approach to all issues troubling you will find you victorious. Family will be extremely supportive and help you out in a crisis. A party thrown by you may exceed the budget, but you will have enough to not to spoil the fun.

**Lucky No: 11 Colour: Deep Sky Blue**



**AQUARIUS**  
(JAN 22 - FEB 19)

You'll be able to surmount all opposition at work to present your ideas. Success is foreseen for those in the fields of architecture, law, medical and engineering. An extra source of income may commence soon. Solid will power may drive you to become a fitness freak, but the fallout will be perfect health.

**Lucky No: 6 Lucky Colour: Violet**



**PISCES**  
(FEB 20 - MAR 20)

Your spirited approach to a task is likely to motivate those around you. A golden opportunity to win over the one you love is about to present itself. Feelings of hatred may cloud your judgment, so it is best to take stock of the situation before you commit any action. You give a good account of yourself on the professional front.

**Lucky No: 5 Lucky Colour: White**

htcitysudoku

DIFFICULTY LEVEL ★★★★★

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|   | 5 |   |   | 7 | 8 | 6 | 9 |
| 6 |   | 9 |   | 5 |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   |   | 5 |   |   |
|   | 1 |   |   | 6 |   | 2 |   |
| 2 |   |   | 5 | 9 |   |   | 8 |
|   | 8 |   | 4 |   |   | 3 |   |
|   |   | 8 |   |   |   |   |   |
|   |   |   |   | 7 |   | 1 |   |
| 1 | 6 | 4 | 8 |   |   | 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.



htcitymathdoku

|     |     |     |    |     |
|-----|-----|-----|----|-----|
| 15x | 40x | 2   | 5+ | 6x  |
|     |     | 20x |    |     |
|     |     |     | 3÷ |     |
| 2÷  | 4+  | 2-  |    | 20x |
|     |     | 2÷  |    |     |

Place numbers into the puzzle cells in such a way that each row and column contains each of the digits from 1 up to the size of the puzzle (5). Like a Sudoku puzzle, no number is repeated in any row or column. Each bold-outlined group of cells contains a hint consisting of a number and one of the mathematical symbols + x - /. The number is the result of applying the mathematical operation represented by the symbol to the digits contained within the domain. The solution to each puzzle is arrived at logically and is unique.

**SCRAMBLE - 1968**

Solve the four anagrams and move one letter to each square to form four ordinary words

IRREE

HLWAS

PRANGS

CEIYKM

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| * | * |   |   | * |
| * |   | * |   |   |
| * |   |   | * |   |
| * |   |   | * |   |

Now arrange the letters marked with an asterisk (\*) to form the answer to the riddle or to fill in the missing words as indicated

The world doesn't \_\_\_\_ until you force it to - Frank Miller (4,5)

**Solution:** Words: Eerie, shawl, sprang, mickey

**Answer:** The world doesn't **make sense** until you force it to - Frank Miller

calvinandhobbes



BILL WATTERSON

SOLUTION SUDOKU

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

SOLUTION MATHDOKU

|   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 2 |
| 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 4 |
| 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 5 |

thecrosswords

**CRYPTIC CLUES**

**ACROSS**

1 Doesn't go right inside but wanders around (6)

4 Lots of planes waiting to land (6)

9 Suppress the rest of Hamlet? (7)

10 Strangely eager to come to terms (5)

11 He gave people the law and doctors directions (5)

12 Gave a man the wrong date (7)

13 Labour leader may give the password (4,7)

18 Refusing to listen to reason I got put into bed (7)

20 King-size is unusually large (5)

22 A bird on the Nile (5)

23 An alternative to a politician speechifying (7)

24 Airing some laundry in good weather (6)

25 More like the snow I threw out? (6)

**DOWN**

1 A plant Sam has to look out for (6)

2 The car that creates records (5)

3 Pulls a stupid punk, say, to his feet (5,2)

5 Coach transport (5)

6 He looks after our cart when damaged (7)

7 Set out on the wrong day in uniform (6)

8 Exhausted like a parachutist about to jump? (5,2,4)

14 Road up? (7)

15 Clearly not the way to peace (7)

16 A timber found on a ship (6)

17 One who makes or interprets a score (6)

19 Fitting end for a number with no heart (5)

21 After midnight a party-giver produces the spirit (5)

**QUICK CLUES**

**ACROSS**

1 Dilapidated old vehicle (6)

4 Cosset (6)

9 Anxiety (7)

10 Unsought extra benefit (5)

11 Follow as result (5)

12 Without doubt (3,4)

13 In reality (2,2,7)

18 Legendary founder of Rome (7)

20 Influential person (5)

22 Correspond (5)

23 Vague notion (7)

24 Comment (6)

25 Concoct (6)

**DOWN**

1 Short coat (6)

2 Golf course (5)

3 An excuse offered (7)

5 Honey-yellow colour (5)

6 A flightless seabird (7)

7 List showing turns of duty (6)

8 Panic-stricken (2,1,4,4)

14 Objective evidence of disease (7)

15 Large fruit of gourd family (7)

16 Elementary textbook (6)

17 Treat with disdain (6)

19 Hungarian operetta composer (5)

21 Slyness (5)

**PUZZLE 14349**

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**YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS (14348)**

**Cryptic**

**Quick**

moviesontv

**HBO**

1048 Final Destination 1233

Shaolin Soccer

1421 Spy Kids 3-D: Game Over

1601 Batman Begins

1835 Mission: Impossible III

2100 Non-Stop

2306 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles

0104 Limitless

**STAR MOVIES**

1000 X-Men: The Last Stand

1200 Transporter 2

1400 Rambo: First Blood Part II

1600 How to Train Your Dragon 2

1800 Dawn of the Planet of the Apes

2100 Captain America: The First Avenger

2330 Rise of the Planet of the Apes

0130 Robots

**PIX**

0909 John Carter

1206 Skyfall

1456 Step Up: All In

1724 The World Is Not Enough

2004 Iron Man 3

2300 The Da Vinci Code

0147 Finding Forrester

**MAX**

1000 Khudgarz

1300 Suhaag

1700 Kaalo

1900 IPL: Sunrisers Hyderabad Vs Gujarat Lions

**STAR GOLD**

1000 My Friend Ganesha

1245 Ishq

1615 Dushmano Ka Dushman

1900 Singham

2205 Balwaan

0110 Gola Barood

**ZEE CINEMA**

0924 Durga IPS

1217 Khoon Ka Rishta

1507 No Problem

1800 Daring Baaz

2100 Diljale

0000 Dost Garibon Ka

**UTV MOVIES**

1020 Himmatwala

1330 Salnik

1630 Benaam Badsha

2000 Boss



**A still from Non-Stop**

Sanjay is eyeing roles that suit his age

Bollywood superstars Shah Rukh Khan and Salman Khan, who have crossed the age of 50, don't mind doing an item number or dancing around the trees. However, that is not the case with Bollywood actor **Sanjay Dutt** (right) as he feels it is not his age to do so. Sanjay, who is currently flooded with film offers, revealed that he is eyeing films that will suit his age. In an interview, the 56-year-old actor said, "I am looking for roles according to my age. I am not in the age where I can dance around trees or do an item number. I am doing roles according to my age. I would love to do films like Hollywood actor Liam Neeson does. May be something like Taken. So, I am all geared up to do some actions and emotional films." He further said, "For now, I am relaxing with my family. I will start shooting for a film in August and one Vinod Chopra film will start in October. Apart from that there is a biopic coming on me, after which I will be working on the sequel of Munna Bhai." **ANI**

PHOTO: PRAMOD THAKUR/HT



I am looking for roles according to my age. I am not in the age where I can dance around trees

Sanjay Dutt, actor

movies in town

**Traffic**

**Fun Cinemas** - 2.05pm, 8.10pm

**Eyex (Ranchi)** - 4.30pm, 8.05pm

**Eyex (Jamshedpur)** - 12.05pm, 4.45pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm

**Glitz Cinemas** - 9.45am, 1.50pm, 8.05pm, 10.35pm

**Baaghi**

**Pokorn Cinemas** - 11.15am, 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm

**Miniplex** - 11.30am, 2.00pm, 4.30pm,

**Eyex (Ranchi)** - 9.45pm, 12.20pm, 2.55pm, 5.30pm

**Fun Cinemas** - 9.15am, 11.45am, 2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm

**Eyex (Jamshedpur)** - 12.40pm, 2.05pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9.00pm

**Glitz Cinemas** - 11.50am, 2.35pm, 5.20pm, 10.10pm,

**Captain America**

**Pokorn Cinemas** - 12.00pm, 4.45pm, 9.00pm

**Fun Cinemas** - (Eng) 7.20pm, (Hindi) 9.00am, 11.45am, 4.40pm, 10.00pm

**Eyex (Jamshedpur)** - 10.15am, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, (Hindi) 8.35pm (Eng)

**Eyex (Ranchi)** - 9.00am, 1.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm,

**Glitz Cinemas** - (Hindi) 9.00am, 4.40pm, 10.20am, (Eng) 11.50am, 7.30pm

**1920 London**

**Pokorn Cinemas** - 9.45am, 2.30pm, 9.15pm

**Miniplex** - 7.00pm

**Fun Cinemas** - 11.55am, 4.05pm, 10.10pm

**Glitz Cinemas** - 9.30am, 3.55pm, 8.15pm

NUMBERS YOU CAN USE

**JAMSHEDPUR (0657)**

**HOSPITALS**

Tata Main Hospital: 6641233/6641000

Tipplate Hospital 2342266/2342228

Telco Hospital 2286247, 2488215

Mercy Hospital 2210018

Gurunanak Hospital Research Center 2361668

Jamshedpur Eye Hospital 2423344

Kantilal Gandhi Eye Hospital 2317293

A.D.M. Hospital 2145282

Meherbai Tata Cancer Hospital 2427933

Government Hospital 2432107

**BLOOD BANKS**

M.G.M. Blood Bank 2440844

Jamshedpur Blood bank 2142514

Indian Red Cross Society 2320306

**AMBULANCE**

Adershir Dalal Memorial Hospital 2210022

Jamshedpur Eye Bank 2224559

Bharat Sevashram Sangha, Sonari 2302371

Marwari Yuva Manch 09835132908

Jamshedpur Eye Hospital 2432203

Gurudwara Central Samiti (Eng) 09431184807

**POLICE**

Senior-SP 9431706480

City-SP 9431190203

Rural -SP 94370199228

Police Stations

Mango 9431706488

Sakchi 9431706491

Golmuri 9431706494

Jugsalai 9431706495

Bistupur 9431706497

Olidih 9431706501

Azadnagar 9431706502

MGM 9431706503

Kadma 9431706506

Sonari 9431706507

Sidgora 9431706508

Sitaramera 9431706509

Telco 9431706510

Govindpur 9431706511

Birsanagar 9431706512

Burma Mines 9431706513

Bagbera 9431706514

Parsudih 9431706515

Sundernagar 9431706516

**FIRE STATIONS**

Golmuri Fire Brigade 2431036

Mango Fire Brigade 2381444

Tisco Fire Brigade 6642153

Bistupur Fire Brigade 6450101

Telco Fire Brigade 2286888

**INQUIRY**

Railway Inquiry 2290112/2290104/131/ 139

Gas Agency

L.P.G. Gas Samiti 9771983976

Laxmi Gas Agency 2428180

Chandrayoti Petroleum 9431301759

Arati Indane 2309611/8092000308

Sadar Hospital 2309700/ 9905175332

Birma Hp Gas Agency 2343555, 2343666

Agrawal Indance Service 2306587/ 2306609

Agarwal Trading Co 2291472/2291463

Jaiswal Gas Service 2340354/2341072

**RANCHI (0651)**

**HOSPITALS**

RIMS 2541533

Sadar Hospital 2312681/2201932

Apollo 3041555/556557

CIP 2451115/2450822

Gurunanak Hospital 2460506/6455564

Raj Hospital 2330129/128

Nagarmal Seva Sadan 2209570/2207406

Devkamal Hospital 9204055638/754900111

RINPAS 2450813/2451121

Rani Children Hospital 3292731/9334432308

Alam Nursing Home 2547233/2540778

SD Mission Hospital 2545649/2545829

CCL Hospital 2230143/2230121

**BLOOD BANKS**

RIMS 2540564/ 9431102200

Nagarmal Seva Sadan Hospital 2209570/2207406

Indian Red Cross Society 2360587/2360290

Birsa Blood Bank 2542437

Apollo Hospital 3041687/ 3041663

CCL Hospital 2230852/2230143

SDA Mission Hospital 2542396/2542652

**AMBULANCE**

RIMS 2547260/2541533

Sadar Hospital 2212618/2312618

Nagarmal Seva Sadan Hospital 2209570/2207406

Apollo Hospital 3041555/56

Indian Red Cross Society 2360587/ 9431352561

Orchid Hospital 2219501

Santavita Hospital 3011222

Devkamal Hospital 2512094

**POLICE**

Police Control Room 100/ 2215855

Senior-SP 943176136

City SP 9431706137

Rural SP 9431706138

Traffic SP 9431706140

**POLICE STATIONS**

Kotwali 9431706158

Lalpur 9431706160

Sadar 9431706159

Argora 9431706170

Bariatu 9431706161

Namkom 9431706173

Chutia 9431706165

Ormanjhi 9431706183

Doranda 9431706168

Daily Market 9431706163

Lower Bazaar 9431156710

Jagannathpur 9431706171

Dhurwa 9431706169

Hindpidi 9431706164

Gonda 9431706162

Kanke 9431706185

Ratu 9431706175

Computer Reservation 135/2202381

**AIRLINES**

Airport Authority of India 2250500

Airport Manager 2503255

Air India 2511112/2252323

Jet Airways 225003/2250051

Go Air 2253343

Indigo 2251002

**BOKARO (06542)**

**HOSPITALS/ AMBULANCE**

Bokaro General Hospital 231227/232750

Suraj Nursing Home 266466

Neelam Nursing Home 265635

Shashi Nursing Home 242406

St.Paul Health'Ways 247600

**BLOOD BANKS**

Bokaro General Hospital 231227/232750

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Barwada 9431706401

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Baliapur 9431706414

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# Acknowledge the effort, please

Composer Amit Trivedi says creating scores is no easy task

**Samarth Goyal**  
■ samarth.goyal@hindustantimes.com

He has composed many hit songs for films such as Dev.D (2009), Lootera (2013) and Shandaar (2015). But it's the music of Bombay Velvet (2015) that remains the closest to composer **Amit Trivedi's** (right) heart despite it not becoming too popular.

The Ranbir Kapoor and Anushka Sharma-starrer didn't fare well at the box office, and the music too didn't make an impact. Trivedi, who "gave his all" to the compositions, blames the makers of the film for not promoting it

enough. "Music for that film is something I will cherish for the rest of my life. When the time came, to promote the music for the film, the producers decided to play it safe, and they didn't release the original music, they chose to release the remixes instead. I think that's where the music failed to reach out to people," says the 37-year-old.

"For the first month before the film released, they (the makers) did not play any original music thinking it was too jazz to be liked by people," adds Trivedi, who believes that the film's negative reviews affected its music as well. "The film released on a

Friday and was out of the theatres by Saturday. So essentially, we had only one day to showcase the original music," he says.

Trivedi only wishes that producers understand that a "great amount of effort" goes into creating scores. "Bringing jazz to mainstream was difficult and I would've wanted people to recognize the Herculean effort that went behind it," he says.



PHOTO: VIDYA SUBRAMANIAN/HT

## Doesn't seem like 25 years: Parikrama

PHOTO: PARVEEN KUMAR/HT



They embarked upon a journey in the world of music in 1991 as a band called **Parikrama**, (above) and have remained a source of inspiration for many rock fans in the country. As the band turns 25 this year, keyboard player Subir Malik walks down memory lane and says that the journey has just started.

"The best part is that it

does not seem like 25 years at all, and that tells you the story. It just seems like yesterday," he says, adding: "The biggest lesson is probably to keep your feet on the ground, that's very important to stick around."

The band consists of members Srijan Mahajan, Saurabh Choudhary, Nitin Malik, Gaurav Balani, Shambu Nath, Imran Khan,

Sonam Sherpa and Subir. They are said to have remained ahead of their time in terms of music as well as vision. They have not released a full-length album yet, and believe in distributing music via digital mediums and giving it out for free. Asked about the changes that have encompassed the music industry, Subir says, "Today there are much more opportunities and money and mediums than before"

The band received international acclaim in 2007 via a performance at the Download Festival in England, and there was no looking back. The band has been a part of major music festivals in India as well as foreign shores.

■ IANS

### A LOOK AT THIS WEEK'S RELEASES

#### CAPTAIN AMERICA: CIVIL WAR



**Genre:** Superhero  
**Directors:** Joe Russo, Anthony Russo  
**Cast:** Chris Evans, Robert Downey Jr, Scarlett Johansson, Tom Holland, Sebastian Stan  
**Synopsis:** The new political tension deeply divides members of the team into two factions — one led by Captain America and Iron Man. As the feud escalates, Black Widow and Hawkeye must pick a side.

#### ONE NIGHT STAND

**Genre:** Romance-drama  
**Director:** Jasmine D'Souza  
**Cast:** Sunny Leone, Urvil Raisinghani and Celina Jaitley  
**Synopsis:** After Urvil Raisinghani and Celina Jaitley have a sordid one night stand, the memories of Celina haunt Urvil. What happens next forms the crux of the unfolding drama.



#### 1920 LONDON

**Genre:** Horror  
**Director:** Tinu Suresh Desai  
**Cast:** Sharmar Joshi, Meera Chopra, Vishal Karwal  
**Synopsis:** The story revolves around Shivangi and husband Veer Singh, who has been possessed by an evil spirit. Can Shivangi save him?

#### TRAFFIC

**Genre:** Drama-thriller  
**Director:** Rajesh Pillai  
**Cast:** Manoj Bajpayee, Jimmy Shergill, Divya Dutta  
**Synopsis:** Inspired by an actual event in Chennai, Traffic is the story of different people and how their lives change at a traffic signal in just one day.



People should realise that what they spend in two-three days in a big city could help provide a normal life, education and the basics to at least one girl  
**Reshmi Ghosh,**  
actor

## RESSHMI URGES TO ADOPT A GIRL CHILD

**Medha Shri Dahiya**  
■ medha.dahiya@hindustantimes.com

Actor **Reshmi Ghosh** (above) sponsored a baby girl in Bengaluru through an NGO about three years ago. All this while, she refrained from talking about it, but now she feels she could encourage others to adopt happiness for themselves and make someone's life better. "I recently received her report card, and I felt happy about her progress. I realised that when I adopted her (as my own), I invited happiness in my life. It's amazing to know how much children add to one's life. They (the NGO) sends me her progress card quarterly, and it's such a sense of achievement for me! It makes me so happy," says Reshmi, who portrays

Maharani Kaikeyi in the TV show, Sankatmochan Mahabali Hanuman.

Talking about the girl she sponsored, the actor says: "She is a grateful child. Whenever I talk to her, it is sheer joy. She has a beautiful smile." Reshmi urges one and all to volunteer to help in the development of girl child. "I adopted this girl because I could afford it and because I felt deeply about it. But today, I feel that others can sponsor a child too. There is a need for people to realise that what they spend in two-three days in a big city could help provide a normal life, education and the basics to at least one girl. I request all those who can afford it to help make the world becomes a better place," adds the former-beauty pageant winner.

**Fever Ka Thappa**  
CERTIFIED HITS OF THE WEEK BY FEVER 104FM

| Song                     | Artist        |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Let's Talk About Love | Baaghi        |
| 2. Kar Gayi Chull        | Kapoor & Sons |
| 3. Jabra Fan             | Fan           |
| 4. Bol Do Na Zara        | Azhar         |
| 5. Sab Tera              | Baaghi        |
| 6. Oye-Oye               | Azhar         |
| 7. Cham-Cham             | Baaghi        |
| 8. Itni Si Baat          | Azhar         |
| 9. Bolna                 | Kapoor & Sons |
| 10. High Heels           | Ki & Ka       |

#### ON THIS DAY IN 1965



British rock band **Rolling Stones'** members **Keith Richards** (L) and **Mick Jagger** worked out the opening guitar riff of (I Can't Get No) Satisfaction. The song is considered to be one of the all-time greatest rock songs ever recorded. In 2004 Rolling Stone magazine placed Satisfaction in the second spot on its list of The 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.

## Wanted: show with recall value

**Yashika Mathur**  
■ yashika.mathur@hindustantimes.com

Actor **Rithvik Dhanjani** (right), who recently won a Dada Saheb Phalke Film Foundation award for anchoring, says he's looking for a role and a show that is remembered for long. "I'm exploring good acting options. Anchoring is just happening by default. Although I have received an award for my anchoring skills and I enjoy it a lot, acting is my priority. I am looking for a role that will go down in posterity and a show that will have a recall value. Acting is where my focus is — be it films, television or the web. And if you ask me, why I haven't chosen a fiction show yet, I will tell you that I am going through scripts and they



are attractive but not good enough," says the actor whose debut TV show **Bandi** got him much fame. Ask him about anchoring, and Dhanjani wants to tell you that it's like acting only. "It is

not that I've only anchored. I have shown my acting skills for three years back to back. Anchoring in itself is kind of acting. I really want to do fiction shows but not for the heck of it. Even in the realm of films, there are a lot of opportunities that I am exploring," says Dhanjani, who has hosted television shows such as India's Best Dramebaaz, Yeh Hai Aashiqui and Nach Baliye 7.

## Sarah Jessica Parker strikes back at blogger

Hollywood actor **Sarah Jessica Parker** (right) lashed back at a fashion blogger, who criticised her on Instagram for her Met Gala attire. The former Sex and the City star along with Madonna and Diane Von Furstenberg was called out for her outfit choice on the Met Gala red carpet when the blogger expressed that some stars didn't seem to follow the theme of the night, reports E! Online. The account posted a photo of the three women posing on the carpet with the caption, "The 2016 Met Gala Theme was Manus X Machina; Fashion in the age of technology and this trio didn't get the memo."

The 51-year-old actor retaliated by replying, "Got the memo. Always welcome thoughts but I'm a stickler for the theme and pay close attention to what it means. Every year with great consideration, research and conviction."

Parker ended with the parting shot, "The understanding of man and machine, how they intersect, when and why is what we considered."



Perhaps you weren't aware of the technology used in the details and embellishments of the design. Or perhaps you simply didn't like what I wore which is completely fine but you can't accuse me of not paying close attention and adhering to the theme. With respect and warmest regards, SJ (sic)."

ing close attention and adhering to the theme. With respect and warmest regards, SJ (sic)."

■ ANI



## Fassbender to enter killer mode for a film

Actor **Michael Fassbender** (above) is in talks to play a serial killer in **Entering Hades**. The upcoming film is based on author **John Leake's** true crime novel about **Jack Unterwieser** — a celebrated Austrian journalist and best-selling author — who led a double life investigating murders by day and killing by night, amassing a body count of 11 people across several continents, reports variety.com.

A director for the film is yet to be finalised. **Alexander Dinleris** — who won an Oscar for the best original screenplay, as one of the four screenwriters on **Birdman** (2014) — is rewriting the screenplay of the film.

■ IANS

## Motherhood has made Mila Kunis selfless

American actor **Mila Kunis** (right) says she was ready to ditch her selfishness when she became a mother. The 32-year-old welcomed daughter **Wyatt** with hubby, Hollywood actor **Ashton Kutcher**, in 2014, and the couple quickly settled into parenthood. With the little one to look out for, Kunis left her old ways behind to put her tot first, and she wouldn't have it any other way, reported Entertainment Tonight. "I reprioritised my life, in all honesty. I travelled through all my 20s and I was very selfish... In a good way, not in a way I regret. And I think having a kid made me realise how incredibly selfless I want to be," says Kunis.

"It does change the way you think and look at life. I would never trade it for the world... But I know that when we decided to have a kid, we were ready to no longer be selfish. Or at least start the process," adds the actor.

■ PTI



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# Jharcraft fair a success in Ranchi



K Srivalli

The ongoing Jharcraft fair at Morhabadi has evoked positive response from citizens of Ranchi. Organised by Union Textile Ministry in association with Jharcraft, a large number of artisans from different states are showcasing their artworks at the ten-day long fair, jointly inaugurated by Ranchi mayor Asha Lakra and artist Ajit Pandit on April 28.

Artisans from Orissa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh,



Artisans from different states participates in the fair. PARWAZ KHAN/HT

Kerala, Bihar, Jharkhand and Punjab are participating in the fair.

Wood crafts toys, crochet fabric, Madhubani painting, teracotta craft and various forms of embroideries such as chikankari, applique have impressed visitors. Besides, there is a steady demand for

bamboo and cane furniture, lac bangles and other crafts on display. Artists and vendors are offering 15% to 25% discount on every purchase.

The art and culture department of the Jharkhand government is holding cultural programmes on every evening to promote the state to tourists.

# Jamshedpur singer meets Tiger, Shraddha

A Poornima

A singer from Jamshedpur, Arun Dev Yadav, met actors Tiger Shroff and Shraddha Kapoor recently in Mumbai during the promotion of their upcoming film Baaghi.

The singer performer and actor from Jamshedpur also got the opportunity to sing in front of the actors. "Everyone in the hall were so musically touched and impressed by my voice specially Shraddha Kapoor who complimented that I have a magical voice" said Arun with joy.

Arun added that receiving such compliments and wishes from well-known Bollywood actors filled him with huge inspiration and more dedication towards his work. He said that Shraddha Kapoor also said that she hopes to see him make a mark in Bollywood soon.

The singer completed his education from Vidya Bharti Chinmaya Vidyalaya and Karim city college,

Jamshedpur. He is the winner of a reality show 'Suroon ka Mahasangram' in 2012 and was also among the top five contestants of the reality show 'Bharat ki Shaan' on DD National in 2014.

"Music has always been my life's passion and working with elite musicians of Indian cinema has been a dream," he said adding that he started singing when he was 8 years old and then went on to get professionally trained in classical music.



Arun Dev Yadav met the actors of Baaghi in Mumbai. HT PHOTO



PHOTO: JOHN SALANGSANG/INVISION/AP

# Latin people are more passionate: Demi Lovato

American pop singer Demi Lovato (below) recently opened up about her relationship with That 70s Show actor Wilmer Valderrama (above), saying that she feels blessed to have him in her life not just as her lover, but also as her best friend. In an interview to a magazine, the former Disney star said: "When I dated white guys, it wasn't as passionate as my relationship with Wilmer. Maybe that's just Wilmer. But I believe that Latin people are just more expressive, more passionate with their emotions." The couple recently celebrated their six year anniversary.



PHOTO: OWEN SWEENEY/INVISION/AP

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**ONE NIGHT STAND (U/A):** 10:00am, 06:15pm

**1920 LONDON (U/A):** 11:55am, 04:05pm, 10:10pm

**BAGHI (U/A):** 09:15am, 11:45am, 02:15pm, 04:45pm, 07:15pm, 09:45pm

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**ONE NIGHT STAND** (A) : 9:45am, 6:45pm

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**1920 LONDON** (U/A) : 7:00pm

**ONE NIGHT STAND** (A) : 10:00am, 9:00pm

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