



West Bengal govt committed to tribal development: Mamata
PG 3

'Playing Jojo's character emotionally exhausting'
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BCCI questions Manohar's position in tax battle with ICC
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IN BRIEF
Mamata calls on Governor Dhankar

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee called on Governor Jagdeep Dhankar at his official residence on Friday. Raj Bhavan sources said. The meeting lasted for little over an hour, they said. "It was a courtesy call." Banerjee told reporters after the meeting, the first between the chief minister and the governor. Dhankar's wife also joined the two for some time. A former Lok Sabha MP from Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan and a noted Supreme Court advocate, Dhankar took oath as the 28th governor of West Bengal on July 30.

IIP slips to 2 pc in June

New Delhi, Aug 9: Industrial production growth dropped to 2 per cent in June, mainly on account of poor show by mining and manufacturing sectors, according to official data released on Friday. Factory output, as measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), had expanded by 7 per cent in June 2018. There was a slowdown in the manufacturing sector, which grew at 1.2 per cent in June as compared to 6.9 per cent a year ago. The expansion in power generation sector stood at 8.2 per cent, compared to 8.5 per cent earlier. Mining growth dropped to 1.6 per cent in June from 6.5 per cent in the corresponding month of the last fiscal.

Auto industry seeking GST cut: SIAM

New Delhi, Aug 9: The auto industry is unanimous on its demand for an immediate GST reduction on automobiles to 18 per cent, SIAM said on Friday. Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM) said the need for an immediate reduction in goods and services (GST) rates has been agreed unanimously amongst all members of the automobile manufacturers, including the two-wheeler original equipment manufacturers (OEMs).



"This was also reiterated at a recent meeting with the finance minister where all OEMs representing passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles and two wheelers had actively participated," SIAM President Rajan Wadhwa said in a statement. SIAM said Hero MotoCorp Chairman Pawan Munjal had also emphasised on this point on immediate GST reduction at the meeting with finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman earlier this week. The auto industry body's clarification comes after report of differences among leaders of the industry on the time for a GST cut. Bajaj Auto Managing Director Rajiv Bajaj has been reported to have preferred reduction in GST on automobiles closer to BS-VI implementation next year in April, as it would soften prices for vehicles which would otherwise become costlier due to the new emission norm. At present, automobiles attract GST of 28 per cent with additional cess of ranging from 1 per cent to 2 per cent.



At no point do we want to make it difficult for industry: Sitharaman

New Delhi, Aug 9: "At no point and on no score, do we want to make it difficult for industry," stated Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs Nirmala Sitharaman at the CII National Council Session here on Friday. Taxation, infrastructure, RBI-government relations, delayed payments and corporate social responsibility (CSR) was amongst the key themes she addressed. "It is our intent to reduce tax on corporates," said Sitharaman, emphasising that there was "no

second thought" on this matter. The government would consider a uniform 25 per cent tax rate for all categories of corporates after there was comfort that tax revenues were on the upward trend. Sitharaman also touched upon two other elements relating to taxation: simplification and harassment. "We are looking at simplification of taxes," said Sitharaman adding that the report of the committee on Direct Taxes Code is expected to be released on August 15. The government will immediately take this up for consideration. She also informed the CII members

present that she will be travelling around the country, including to Tier 2 cities, to first-hand hear and understand the tax harassment issues faced by corporates. In addition, a technology-driven platform will be set up wherein cases of harassment can be uploaded, either with and without disclosing identity. Sitharaman stated her intent to address the issues relating to harassment and ensure powers are not misused. The Minister mentioned the possibility of reviewing some of the milestones in relation to infrastructure.

IL&FS scam: NLCT allows govt to ban Deloitte, BSR

Mumbai Aug 9: In a major setback to the auditors, the National Company Law Tribunal Friday rejected Deloitte's and BSR's applications challenging the tribunal's jurisdiction to ban them from business for five years for their omissions and commissions in the IL&FS Group scam. This is the second setback for these foreign audit firms as earlier the tribunal had allowed the corporate affairs ministry to prosecute them along with 21 others in the same case, though the implementation of the same has been stayed after they sought time to challenge the order at the appellate tribunal NCLAT. The ministry had in June moved NLCT seeking a five-year ban on them on these auditors in the IL&FS saga. However, the tribunal said it will hear the ministry's application seeking a five year ban on these auditors afresh on September 5. The auditors - the local arm of the England-based Deloitte Haskins & Sells, which is one of the big four accounting firms and BSR & Associates, which is the local affiliate of another big four, the US-based KPMG - had challenged the jurisdiction of the NLCT to ban them under Sec 140(5) of Company's Act. They had challenged the jurisdiction of the NLCT to ban them, saying section

140(5) of the Companies Act pertains to auditors who are still auditing the company in question while they have already resigned from the service and thus cannot be banned under the given provisions. It can be noted that while Deloitte had stopped auditing IL&FS Group, which owes over Rs 95,000 crore to lenders and other financial institutions, by the end of FY18, BSR was the statutory auditor of IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN) and resigned only in June this year-nine months after the company was sent to the bankruptcy court. The BSR counsel Darius Khambata and Deloitte's counsel Janak Dwarakadas had also argued that before banning them, the tribunal has to pass a final order in the matter which establishes that fraud was indeed committed by the auditors. The ministry move to ban them came in after the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO) in its investigation found them guilty of painting a rosy picture of IFIN despite being aware of the poor financial health of the company. The counsels of the auditors had said merely based on an investigation by SFIO is not sufficient to ban them. The SFIO, in its report alleged that these auditors were aware that IFIN was lending to defaulting companies through group companies so that they could support their NPAs and not provide for the bad debt.

Petroleum Secy Kutty given addl charge of Secy, Steel Ministry

New Delhi, Aug 9: Petroleum Secretary M M Kutty has been given additional charge of Secretary, Steel Ministry from Saturday, an official order said on Friday. Kutty, a 1985-batch IAS officer of the Union Territory cadre, is presently serving as the Secretary of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. He will be holding the additional charge from August 10 to 19, the period when Steel Secretary Binoy Kumar will be on leave, according to the order. "The Competent Authority has approved assignment of additional charge of the post of Secretary, Ministry of Steel to Dr. M M Kutty... Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas from 10.08.2019 to 19.08.2019 during the period of absence on leave of Binoy Kumar..." the official order said.

Coal India to invest in conveyor belts



Coal India (CIL) and its large pithead consumers are planning a 10,000 crore investment in conveyor belts to transport coal directly from mines in a cheaper and cleaner way without using trucks. This will drastically reduce the number of trucks and reduce diesel consumption and emissions. CIL is in talks with Hindalco, Vedanta, Balco and Jindal Group, among others, for setting up such infrastructure at coal mines.

CEC rules out return to ballots; cites SC verdicts in support

Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Sunil Arora on Friday categorically dismissed the demand for doing away with EVMs and bringing back ballot papers, citing orders passed by the Supreme Court in the past. He also said assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir will be held only after receiving a formal communication from the union ministries of home, and law and justice to that effect.



West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and a host of other opposition leaders, including TDP's N

Chandrababu Naidu, Farooq Abdullah of the National Conference and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena (MNS) president Raj Thackeray, have repeatedly claimed that Electronic Voting Machines could be tampered with and demanded a return to ballot papers. "We are not going back to the era of ballot papers, the Supreme Court has more than once said that ballot papers are our past," Arora told reporters at the Kolkata airport.

IIMTF India International **Mega Trade Fair** EXHIBITION - CUM - SALE

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India International Mega Trade Fair 2019 - 20 Annual Fair Calendar

NAME OF FAIR	PLACE	DATE
India International Mega Trade Fair	GMDC, Ahmedabad	14 - 23 September, 2019
India International Mega Trade Fair	Janta Maidan, Bhubaneswar, Odisha	1 - 11 November, 2019
FITEXPO	Science City Ground, Kolkata, West Bengal	6 - 8 December, 2019
India International Mega Trade Fair	Science City Ground, Kolkata, West Bengal	13 - 25 December, 2019
India International Mega Trade Fair	International Convention Centre, Gyan Bhavan, Patna, Bihar	18 - 27 January, 2020
India International Mega Trade Fair	Morabadi Ground, Ranchi, Jharkhand	7 - 17 February, 2020

For any Query, Contact 9433096522 / 9883252679 / 8697094116 Email: ssgdtpa2001@yahoo.com anupam_gheoh@gmktg.com sidhant78@gmail.com

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www.megatradeair.com

We've kept a target of connecting with 1 crore Indians by 2020: Vivek Bajaj

Kredent InfoEdge Pvt Ltd has made a significant impact to the people in finance. It's also been able to successful to roll out new ventures. Tell us about this success story. Poor financial education is a major problem in society and Kredent InfoEdge was the earlier ones to realize this. Since 2008, the organization has been focused on training retail investors on various aspects of financial management. The offline center through various modules has trained over 10,000 participants till date. Elearnmarkets.com is the online financial learning marketplace was launched in 2014 for the purpose of taking financial education to all over the country. As on date there are over 150,000 learners from over 200 cities in India taking over 100 finance learning modules, some certified by NSE Academy, MCA, NCFE etc.



about the journey so far. Bajaj, who also happens to be the Co Founder of StockEdge; shared his views on incubation, financial education, current state of Indian economy, divestment and Kredent's roadmap ahead. Excerpts:

Sarnavo Das Kredent InfoEdge Pvt Ltd the fintech start-up company which received backing from ace investor, Ramesh Damani last year and whose app StockEdge has become India's most-downloaded financial market analytics app with 4.7 rating with over one million downloads and more than 20000 reviews, has carved a niche for itself. Not many tech startups from Kolkata have succeeded and have achieved a milestone like Kredent. By focusing on financial education and stock market data analytics, Kredent has positioned itself uniquely in the FinTech start-up space in the country. The company's motto is to simplify finance for everyone by providing right learning and relevant analytics for effective decision making. In a firewhheeling interview with Samay Paribartan Director Vivek Bajaj spoke

Rourkela CGST organises plantation for 150th Birth Anniversary of Gandhi



Raj Kumar Sharma

Rourkela, Aug 9: Acting upon the directions of Central Government, all government offices in the country are celebrating 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi with various activities from October 2018 to October 2020. In this regard Central GST Commissionerate, Rourkela is undertaking a number of activities in and around Rourkela as per the guidelines.

On Thursday, a plantation programme was organised in front of the office premises at Civil Township, Rourkela. Central GST Commissioner Vijay Rishi inaugurated the programme by planting a sapling in front of the office. In his inaugural speech, the Commissioner suggested that everybody should plant a tree in his premise to safeguard the environment. Besides, he requested that all the officers should take care in conservation of energy and fuel as far as possible and give a supporting hand to the development of the country. Joint Commissioner Debbyoti Chakravarty also planted a sapling and informed that various activities are undertaken by Central GST Commissionerate, Rourkela to commemorate 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. He also reminded that Quit India Movement was launched by the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi on August 8, 1942. So, this day has a special importance in the history of freedom movement of our country.

Later, Assistant Commissioner Debasis Kar and other dignitaries planted saplings in front of the office. The officials of the state forest department extended necessary assistance in organising this plantation programme.

1.5 crore grant for sports complex foundation

SP Bureau

Jharsuguda, Aug 9: State Government has taken exemplary steps for the development of sports in Jharsuguda by granting 1.5 crore for construction of Integrated Sports Complex at Jharsuguda. A proposal was given before so many years for construction of a sports complex at Hansarura Kantipali of Jharsuguda. Now, the Sports and Youth Department of state government Deputy Secretary Ranjit Parida has written a letter No.703 dated 08.8.2019 to Jharsuguda Collector intimating sanction of 1.5 crores by state government for construction of the sports complex. The foundation stone will be laid on August 11 for the said complex. On that day, annual meeting of the District Sports Association will also be held in the DRDA conference hall of the Collectorate. State sports and Youth minister Tusharkanti Behera, Health and Family Welfare minister Naba Kishore Das, Barghar MP Suresh Pujari and Brajrajnagar MLA Kishore Kumar Mohanty joined the foundation stone ceremony. Sources said that earlier state sports department had sanctioned 50 lakhs grant for the integrated sports complex. The government had also identified 20 acre 76 dcm land for the complex. During 2012, state government had given 25 dcm out of the said land to a private agency on lease basis.

In addition, Western Odisha Development Council has sanctioned funds for construction of a swimming pool. The compound wall has been constructed by MCL at the cost of 23 lakhs rupees. The public have expressed happiness over such grant of funds for the complex.

Yechury, D Raja not allowed to enter Kashmir, sent back

SP Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury and CPI chief D Raja were not allowed to enter Jammu and Kashmir on Friday and were sent back from Srinagar airport after a brief detention, party sources said. The Left leaders had gone to Srinagar to meet CPI(M) leader Md Tarigami and other party colleagues.

"They showed us a legal order which did not allow any entry into Srinagar. It stated that even escorted movement into the city was not permitted due to security reasons. We are still trying to negotiate with them," Yechury told over phone.

Later, party sources said they have been sent back to Delhi. Yechury and CPI general secretary Raja had written to Satya Pal Malik on Thursday informing him of their visit and requesting him to facilitate their trip.

"Both of us had written to the J&K governor requesting him that there should be no hurdles for our visit... despite that we have been detained. I wanted to meet my ailing colleague and our comrades who are here," Yechury said.

In a statement issued by the CPI(M) politburo, the party hit out at the government over the detention, saying it was an "anti-democratic" act, which showed the ruling BJP's "authoritarian face".

"The politburo calls upon the people to protest this anti-democratic act of the BJP government," the statement said.

On Thursday, Congress leader Gulam Nabi Azad was detained and sent back to Delhi from the Srinagar airport.

Governor Malik takes round of Srinagar city, visits hospitals, assesses situation

SP Bureau

Srinagar, Aug 9: Jammu and Kashmir Governor Satya Pal Malik on Friday visited various hospitals and areas to get a first-hand appraisal of the situation, and directed that a child be airlifted from Srinagar to Delhi for better treatment, an official spokesman said.

Malik visited Lalla Dool Women's Hospital and G B Pant Children Hospital in Sonwar and interacted with doctors, patients and parents of children. He took feedback about the medical treatment being provided to patients, the spokesman said.

Officials informed the governor that sufficient stock of medicines was available with the hospitals and all possible healthcare services were being provided to patients.

The governor also directed Srinagar deputy commissioner to airlift a child from Srinagar to Delhi for better treatment, the spokesman said.

Accompanied by Chief Secretary B V R Subrahmanyam, Financial Commissioner to Governor Umang Narain, Divisional Commissioner Kashmir Baseer Khan, and Srinagar Deputy Commissioner Shahid Iqbal Choudhary, Malik also took a tour of the city and visited Rawalpindi, Rambagh, Jawahar Nagar, Sonwar and Rajghat areas.

The governor expressed satisfaction that basic facilities were being provided to residents and ATMs were functioning properly. He was also satisfied with the whole semblance of peace and calm prevailing in the city, the spokesman said.

This was Malik's first assessment outing since the government scrapped the provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution that gave Jammu and Kashmir a special status earlier this week. A massive security clampdown was ensured in Jammu and Kashmir and a communications blackout had been effective to avoid any trouble. On Friday, the authorities relaxed the restrictions imposed on gathering of people, who participated in the Friday prayers. The situation has remained peaceful in the state since the government move on Article 370. Private vehicles were seen plying on city roads and people stepped out of their residences to buy articles, vegetables and fruits for daily consumption. The governor also took stock of ration supply in Fair Price shops, the spokesman said.

He also queried about arrangements at various animal mandis ahead of Eid-ul-Azha.

The divisional commissioner briefed the governor on the arrangements made for the festival and informed him about mobile vans selling essential commodities to people.

He assured the governor that adequate arrangements have been made in view of the festival.

Aircel-Maxis deal

Delhi court extends protection from arrest to Chidambaram, Karti till Aug 23



SP Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: A Delhi court on Friday extended till August 23 the interim protection from arrest granted to former Union minister P Chidambaram and his son Karti in Aircel-Maxis cases filed by the CBI and the ED. Special Judge O P Saini extended the relief, which was to end today, saying the court was not available for arguments.

During the hearing on an earlier date, the Chidambarams had told the court there was no ground to deny them anticipatory bail. Their argument was opposed by the two central probe agencies. The cases relate to alleged irregularities in grant of Foreign Investment Promotion Board approval in the Aircel-Maxis deal.

IL&FS scam: NLCT ...

Contd. from page-1

Meanwhile, NLCT approved the appointment of auditors to re-audit accounts of IL&FS and its subsidiaries.

The ministry had on Thursday proposed Borkar & Mazumdar & Co and MM Chitale & Co for IL&FS and IFIN respectively; and GM Kapadia & Co and CNK & Associates for IL&FS Transportation Networks to re-audit account of IL&FS and its subsidiaries. Terming the ruling "unfortunate",

Deloitte in a statement said they "will review the order and decide on the future course of action shortly."

"We remain committed to high standards of audit quality and ethical conduct in our professional practice. We have faith in the country's regulatory and judicial processes and will continue to cooperate fully with the authorities," a Deloitte spokesperson said in a statement.

At no point do we...

Contd. from page-1

In particular, projects with a bearing on the core sectors and job creation may be brought forward.

For instance, incentivising affordable housing is likely given its impact on the core sectors.

"We have an atmosphere of certainty and cordiality between the RBI and the government," said Sitharaman, adding that the current high level of synergy between the two is helping to invest in investments.

Recognising that corporates have significant outstandings from

government departments and agencies, she stated that she is in the process of addressing this.

Delayed payments to MSMEs are estimated at around Rs 48,000 crore. As the first step, out of the Rs 48,000 crore, the government will be releasing amounts which are not under litigation.

On the matter of CSR, Sitharaman mentioned that she would review the provision on criminal penal provisions. She said CSR notices with retrospective effect "were unacceptable" and she will put a stop to these notices.

Uday Kotak, President Designate, CII appreciated the frank and open comments made by the Minister. He stated that she had "won the heart of Indian industry" by her acknowledgement of Indian Inc. as India's wealth creators. He requested that the government take bold decisions to catalyse growth.

In closing, Chandrajit Banerjee, President CII, thanked Sitharaman for addressing CII and taking suggestions from CII members.

'We've kept a target of connecting..'

Contd. from page-1

As part of providing full financial freedom to retail investors and helping them to become less dependent on intermediaries, Kredent InfoEdge is also developing tools which would help everyone to become a do-it-yourself market participant. One of the tools launched in May 2016 is StockEdge app. As on date the app has over 1 million downloads with active user base of 200,000 and rating of 4.7, highest rated finance app in this category in India. StockEdge is a freemium app with almost 1 billion data point in its database and has recently introduced a premium plan with value added features like thematic watchlist, portfolio of ACE investors and ready strategies. Later we also launched the StockEdge Club, a community of stock market investors to focus on learning and networking.

How the idea germinated to foray into incubation?

We believe that the financial inclusion in our country has just begun and we need more and more tech enabled solution providers to cater to various needs of retail participants. Every time this initiative is in the news, just helping deserving entrepreneurs to reach to the critical mass but also building an entire ecosystem around our products, which is helping our growing user base to get more value from us. A clear win-win situation for everyone. We are very selective in our selection process and we would like to work with people who share similar passion of simplifying finance for everyone.

We're going through challenging times amid a global slowdown. What would be your suggestions to investors?

Investors should focus on liquid

productivity and less reliance on government—in short privatization. Do you support the disinvestment policy? What are the pros and cons?

It's not for all sectors. There are some public utility enterprises that cannot be gifted to private players. The business of government is to govern and provide the right environment to citizens. Profitable businesses which are not the core of government working should be divested at the earliest etc. Airlines etc.

What can we expect next from you? Throw light on your future course of action.

We want to become an integrated solution provider for individual investors in India in the domain of personal financial management. We started with knowledge offerings because it is core DNA of our organization. Through knowledge we are helping the users to connect with us and consume our various forms of content like video, analysis tool, learning tool etc. We would like to nurture the large population of our country by adapting to localize content and make them capable of taking their financial decision independently. We also intend to offer the final leg of the engagement with our users, by offering them transaction services in all assets and liability products related to an individual. We have kept a target of connecting with 1 crore Indians by 2020.

Would you love to pass on some tips to wannabe entrepreneurs?

Here are my 5 mantras for young and aspiring entrepreneurs which can help them get started. Have a vision with a plan to execute. Think long term, identify pain area, good team and a right investor.

How do you think about the current economic situation?

There is a serious disconnect between reality and expectation. Indian government has the mission of transforming our economy into a high growth, high employment, do you see any change in the mindset of common citizens; especially, when we struggle as far as savings are concerned?

These numbers do not have any bearing in mind of a normal citizen. We are in jobless business growth. There is a serious disconnect between reality and expectation.

Public sector banks are still struggling. What could be the way out?

I think cost-cutting, improving

GEC rules out return...

Contd. from page-1

Banerjee has often said that EVMs were earlier used in developed countries like the US, UK, France and Germany but they all reverted to ballot papers.

Arora is in the city to attend events organised by the West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences and IIM (Calcutta) on Friday and Saturday. When asked about the possibility of holding assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir, where the House was dissolved in November last year, Arora said it could happen only after a formal communication was received from the union home ministry and the ministry of law and justice.

"We are waiting for the formal communication from the home and law ministries," he said. The Centre had on Monday abrogated provisions of Article 370 of the Constitution that granted special status to Jammu and Kashmir and split the state into two Union Territories.

The UT comprising Jammu and Kashmir division will have a legislative assembly like Delhi, while Ladakh will not have one like Chandigarh. When asked whether the National Register of Citizens (NRC), a hugely contentious issue in Assam, will be implemented in West Bengal, Arora said the matter was being looked at by the Supreme Court.

"Let the Supreme Court come out with a verdict. At the moment it is for Assam. The Supreme Court has not given the verdict. I cannot give a verdict and cannot forecast," he said. Addressing rallies during the Lok Sabha polls, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and BJP chief Amit Shah had made a strong pitch for NRC in West Bengal.

The purpose of the NRC, which is being updated in Assam under the apex court's supervision, is to identify bonafide Indian citizens living in the state and weed out illegal migrants.

INFO YOU MAY NEED

Emergency Contacts

LalBazar Police Control Room: 033 22143230
SP North 24 Parganas: 2542 3005
SP South 24 Parganas: 2479 3333/1311
Bhawanee Bhawan: 2479 1761/9, 2479 1933
Lost: 2450 6100
Fire Services: 2244 0101, 2666 8111 (Howrah), 2357 5293 (Salt Lake City)

Cooking Gas Leak

LPG Emergency Cell: 2435 7268/158

Ambulances

South End Poly Clinic: 2466 2433, FD Block Association: 9830452536, 9830181286, Alipore: Chetla Slum Unnayan: 2449 0286, Life Care: 2475 4628, City Nurses' Centre: 2567 4113, 9831142623, People's Relief Committee: 2280 4943/9444, Rani Rashmani Mission: 2431 9885, Janamangal: 2466 2879, Medical Bank: 2554 0084, Meera Seva: 2411 8316, Matri Sangha Janakalyan Asram: 2475 4527, Dr Bidhan Roy Memorial: 2454 9738, Happy Calcuttans: 2440 0106, Kumartuli Inns: 2530 5561, Talata Police: 2263 3239, Sibmandir Seva Pratishthan: 2465 6749, MR Care: 2358 8750

Hospitals

SSKM: 2204 1100, Medical College: 2241 4901, Thakurpur Cancer Research Centre: 2453 2781/3, Peer Less: 91 (33) 4011 1222, 2432 0075 / 4989, 2462 2394, CMRI: 2456 7700, NRS: 2244, 3213, National Hospital: 2289 7122, RG Kar: 2455 7675, Sambhushanti Pandit Hospital: 2290 0077, Bangur: 2473 3354, RKM Seva Pratishthan: 2475 3636/9, Priyamada Birla Aurobinda Eye: 2289 4343, B General: 2442 6091/0291, Matri Bhawan: 2406 4189, Kalpana: 2241 4901, BM Birla: 2456 7717, West Bank: 2644 5516, AMRI: 2461 2626, Balananda Brahamsacharya: 2478 7801, Susrut: 2358 0201, Applo Glenglen: 2320 2122, Eye Care: 2287 2809, North City: 2321 1101, Silver Line Eye: 2472 0836, BP Poddar: 2445 8901, Barasat Cancer Research: 2552 2222, Escarg Sanjeevani: 2554 1818, Vinayak Health World: 2532 9950

Nursing Home

Belle View: 2287 2321, Wood Lands: 2456 7079, Nightingale: 2282 7263, Aurobinda Seva Trust: 2473 3601, Capital: 2350 7272, Care Centre: 2483 3315, May Flower: 2217 1001, Speed Eye: 2534 3170, Resport: 2287 1442, Mind Care: 2534 6220, New Life: 2570 8090, Ekbalpur Nursing Home: 2449 5151, Revival: 2460 0888, Microbal: 2446 9910

24-Hour Medical Oxygen Delivery

BOC India Ltd.: 9831277777

Blood Banks

Ashok Laboratory: 2472 0333, Central Blood Bank: 2351 0619, Life Care: 2284 6940, Peoples' Blood Bank: 2455 5164/5557, RKM Seva Pratishthan: 2475 3636/39

Hearers

Hindu Satkar Samiti: 2241 3849, New Alipore Suruchi Sangha: 2400 9550, Park Circus Puri: 2287 1793, Sarkar Bagan: 2554 1881, Meera Seva Trust: 2411 8316, Rajeev Memorial: 2454 9550, Baguhathi Subhas Sangha: 2570 6566, Lake Town Community: 2521 9578, Kumartuli Inns: 2350 5561, Sreebhumi Shopping: 2535 0002, Triidip Puspak: 2435 1349, Udayar Pathar: 3250 1089

Crematorium

Nimtal: 2269 1955, Cossipore: 2558 3484, Kasi Mitra Ghat: 2554 2967, Keoratala: 2466 6602, Siriti: 2403 2013

Civic Services:

Kolkata Municipal Corporation: 2286 1000, Water Supply: 2543 1602

Calcutta Telephones:

Changed Number Announcement: 1951, 1952, 1953

Taxi Referrals: SMS 575756

Complaint and Registration: Police toll free number: 1073

Transport Deptt. No.: 6451 6718

CESC Fault Reporting: 1912 & 4403 1912

Trains

Howrah Station Old Complex: 21331/1332, 638 7412/3542/2418

Howrah Station New Complex: 2638 2217

Sealdah: 2350 3535/3537

Reservation Enquiry: 138

Shalimar Station: 2668 1121

Eastern Rly & South Eastern Rly: 139

Airlines

Indian Air Lines (City): 2211 4433/0730

Dum Dum Air Port: 2511 8787

Jet Airways: 2229 2660

Trains

Howrah Station Old Complex: 21331/1332, 638 7412/3542/2418

Howrah Station New Complex: 2638 2217

Sealdah: 2350 3535/3537

Reservation Enquiry: 138

Shalimar Station: 2668 1121

Eastern Rly & South Eastern Rly: 139

Airlines

Indian Air Lines (City): 2211 4433/0730

Dum Dum Air Port: 2511 8787

Jet Airways: 2229 2660

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FORM A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

(Under Regulation 6 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Resolution Process for Corporate Persons) Regulations, 2016)

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE CREDITORS OF P K S LTD.

RELEVANT PARTICULARS	
1. Name of the corporate debtor	P K S LTD.
2. Date of incorporation of corporate debtor	20 July 1982.
3. Authority under which corporate debtor is incorporated / registered	ROC-Kolkata
4. Corporate identity number / limited liability identification number of corporate debtor	U63090WB1962PLC035059
5. Address of the registered office and principal office (if any) of corporate debtor	7, CAMAC STREET, AZIMGUNA HOUSE KOLKATA-700 017
6. Insolvency commencement date in respect of corporate debtor	August 8, 2019
7. Estimated date of closure of insolvency resolution process	February 3, 2020
8. Name and Registration Number of the Insolvency professional acting as interim resolution professional	PINAKI SIRCAR IBBI Registration Number: IBBI/PA-02/IP-ND0632017-18/10141
9. Address and e-mail of the interim resolution professional, as registered with the Board	pinaki_sircar@hotmail.com
10. Address and e-mail to be used for correspondence with the interim resolution professional	Email: pksl.crn@gmail.com 107, N.C. Chatterjee Road Kolkata-700 042
11. Last date for submission of claims	August 21, 2019
12. Classes of creditors, if any, under (class(es)) of sub-section (6A) of section 21, ascertained by the interim resolution professional	Not Applicable
13. Names of Insolvency Professional identified to act as Authorised Representative of creditors in a class (Three names for each class)	Not Applicable
14. a) Relevant Forms and b) Details of authorised representatives, if available at all.	a) Website: www.ibbi.gov.in/downloadform.html b) Not Applicable

Notice is hereby given that the National Company Law Tribunal has ordered the commencement of a corporate insolvency resolution process of the P K S LTD on August 8, 2019.

The creditors of P K S LTD, are hereby called upon to submit their claims with proof on or before August 21, 2019 to the interim resolution professional at the address mentioned against entry No. 10.

The financial creditors shall submit their claims with proof by electronic means only. All other creditors may submit the claims with proof in person, by post or by any other means.

A financial creditor belonging to a class, as listed against the entry No. 12, shall indicate its choice of authorised representative from among the three insolvency professionals listed against entry No. 13 to act as authorised representative of the class (specify class) in Form CA.

Submission of false or misleading proofs of claim shall attract penalties.

Date: 10.08.2019
Place: Kolkata
Sd/- Pinaaki Sircar
Insolvency Professional
IP Registration Number
IBBI/PA-02/IP-ND0632017-18/10141

TMC promises to 'look into' demand for monthly allowance to Hindu priests

SP Bureau

A West Bengal minister on Friday said the government will "look into" the long-pending demand of monthly allowance for Hindu priests, in a bid to reach out to the community amid the opposition BJP's accusation that the ruling TMC appeases Muslims.

"The Hindu priests are a very big community. They have been deprived for a long time. I had assured them their demand for monthly allowance will be looked into," Trinamool Congress leader and minister Rajib Banerjee said.

"We feel they should also get a monthly allowance as there are hundreds of priests who find it tough to run their families," he told reporters on the sidelines of West Bengal Sanatan Brahmin Sammelan.

The statements are significant, given the BJP, which has made deep inroads in Bengal, has often accused the TMC of indulging in appeasement politics and offering doles to Imams. Shridhar Shastri, president of the organisation behind the congregation, said Brahmins who run their family through priesthood, have been a deprived lot in the state.

"We don't have any political affiliation. We just want our demands to be heard. We have been placing our demands for a long time. If TMC won't fulfill it, someone else will. We will support whoever fulfils our demands," Shastri said.

Around 1.83 lakh priests are members of Shastri's organisation. It has released a list of 35,000 poor priests who should be given a



Photo: Rajib Basu

monthly allowance of Rs 2,000, he said. Reacting to TMC's promise on allowance, BJP state president Diip Ghosh asked what took so long for the Mamata Banerjee government to see the "sufferings of Hindu priests".

"The TMC government had announced allowance for Muslim clerics long back. But it did not pay any heed to our demands. Now as they are losing ground they are making these announcements. We will have to see whether they really fulfil these promises or not," he said. The BJP won 18 of the 42 Lok Sabha seats

in the state in the general election earlier this year, only four behind TMC's 22 seats. The saffron party has asserted its next target is to unseat the Trinamool from Bengal in 2021. But the TMC has taken several measures since the general election to turn the tide in its favour. The priest organisation also demanded that the TMC government take steps to stop sweets shops and groceries firms from printing photographs of gods and goddess on food packets as it is a dishonour towards the Hindu religion. It also organised a massive rally in Kolkata on Friday.

Mamata pays homage to freedom fighters

SP Bureau

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee paid homage to freedom fighters on the 77th anniversary of the Quit India movement on Friday. "On the 77th anniversary of Quit India Movement, my respectful homage to all those brave men and women who took part in our freedom struggle," Banerjee tweeted. The Quit India Movement, also known as the August Movement, was launched by Mahatma Gandhi during the All India Congress Committee session in Bombay on this day in 1942, demanding an end to the British rule of India.

West Bengal govt committed to tribal development: Mamata

SP Bureau

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said on Friday that the state government is committed to tribal development of various tribal communities in the state. The chief minister, on the occasion of International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples, listed her government's work for the uplift of the tribals.

"Today is... #AdivasiDibas. Our government has created the Tribal Development Department to bring about comprehensive development of various tribal communities in #Bangla," Banerjee tweeted.

The state government has set up development boards for the Lepcha, Tamang, Sherpa, Bhutia, Limbo and Adivasi tribal communities of the state.

The state government offers old-age pension and social security schemes for the tribals besides publishing a Santhali



dictionary for development of the language. It also publishes booklets in Bengali, Santhali and Hindi to disseminate information on various tribal development schemes.

The state government had commenced a pilot project in 2014-15 for screening of tribals suffering from sickle cell disease.

Woman stabbed by youth in local train

SP Bureau

A woman was stabbed multiple times by a youth inside a Scaldha-bound local train in West Bengal's Kalyani railway station after she asked him not to travel in the ladies compartment. Police said on Friday. The incident took place in the Scaldha-bound Kalyani Simanta local train on Thursday evening.

The victim identified as Anima Sahu (32), a resident of North 24 Parganas district's Kanchrapara, was rushed to Kalyani's JNM Hospital in critical condition, a railway police officer said.

According to fellow commuters, the youth boarded the unguarded ladies compartment at the Kalyani station as



the train was gradually moving out. He attacked the victim with a knife, after she protested against him travelling in that compartment and asked him to get down immediately. The youth stabbed the woman multiple times with a

knife. He jumped off the train from the wrong side when a few hawkers got onto the compartment hearing the screams of the victim. The accused is yet to be nabbed," the RPF officer said. The incident left the passengers in a state of panic as a lot of women jumped out of the moving train. However, none of them sustained any serious injuries. "We need to talk to the woman in detail once she recovers. We are trying to identify the assailant and nab him. It could not immediately be ascertained that the woman was stabbed on the account of asking the youth to deboard the ladies compartment. We are not ruling out any old enmity with the victim," the RPF officer added.

Driver runs 'cloth bank' for shut tea garden workers

SP Bureau

A 48-year-old taxi driver, who had to drop out of school due to financial inability to buy a uniform, collects discarded clothes and distributes them among dwellers of shut tea gardens in north Bengal's Doars region. Sajju Talukdar of Alipurduar district's Birpara started the charity by forming a 'cloth bank' in 2017, naming it after legendary tribal leader Birsa Munda.

"While driving between Siliguri and different parts of north Bengal, I used to often come across scantily-clothed people begging on the streets and scanning through garbage for food and clothes. Upon inquiry, I found most of them were workers of shut tea gardens. That drove me to help them," he told.

Assisted by his wife Mahoni and sons Alamgir and Sohel, Talukdar collects the old and discarded clothes from affluent families and distributes them to residents of 12 closed tea gardens in the area. He said his initiative has been appreciated by the people of Alipurduar and Jalpaiguri districts, many of whom now bring bags full of old clothes to his 'cloth bank'.

"I dream of giving new clothes to the poor, some day," he said.



Talukdar said the sight of poor, helpless people reminded him of his childhood. "Uniform was compulsory in my school from Class 5 onwards. My father, who used to earn a living by repairing umbrellas, made me a uniform from discarded clothes. However, it got torn within a year and he could not afford to buy more old clothes to make another uniform. Hence, I had to drop out of school," he said.

After dropping out, Talukdar joined his father in repairing umbrellas but soon took to driving. Apart from running a 'cloth bank', Sajju

Talukdar also runs an 18-inmate strong shelter home for abandoned aged and differently-abled people. While Talukdar initially gave shelter to the people in his Indira Awas Yojna home in Alipurduar's Dimdima Hatkhola area in 2015, a few locals donated half-an-acre land a year ago for establishing a shelter home. "Doctors of the local government hospital treat the inmates for free and one Siliguri-based psychiatrist comes down weekly once to check them. Locals have also donated many essentials for running the shelter home," he said.

HC allows Rajeev Kumar to face CBI in Bidhannagar

SP Bureau

The Calcutta High Court on Friday allowed Rajeev Kumar to go to adjoining Bidhannagar for attending CBI summons in connection with the Rose Valley chitfund scam. Kumar, a former commissioner of Kolkata police and also the Bidhannagar police commissioner, moved the high court seeking modification of its earlier order that barred him from leaving the jurisdiction of Kolkata Police as a condition to grant him interim protection from CBI arrest.

Justice Madhumati Mitra also extended an interim protection to him till August 20. The high court had granted protection to Kumar, who is at present additional director general (ADG) of West Bengal CID, from arrest over summons issued to him in connection with the Rs 2,500-crore Saradha chitfund scam.

The CBI had summoned Kumar to appear before its officers at the CGO complex on Thursday in connection with the Rose Valley chitfund scam. He, however, did not go to the agency office and sent a letter to it seeking more time.

The Supreme Court had on May 9, 2014, ordered transfer of all cases related to ponzi scams, including the one involving the Saradha Group, to the CBI. A vacation bench of the high court had on May 30 granted Kumar protection from arrest and any coercive action till July 10 in the



Saradha chit fund scam case, which was extended from time to time.

The apex court had on February 5 prevented the agency from any coercive action against Kumar, while directing him to appear and cooperate in CBI questioning at a "neutral place". He was then questioned by the probe agency for nearly five days in Shillong from February 9.

The CBI had told the Supreme Court in April this year that Kumar's custodial interrogation was necessary as he was not cooperating in the probe and was "evasive" and "arrogant" in answering the queries put to him.

The Saradha Group of companies duped lakhs of customers, promising higher rates of returns on their investment, the agency has said.

CBI quizzes Derek O'Brien in Saradha chit fund case

SP Bureau

Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha MP Derek O'Brien appeared before the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) officials on Friday in connection with the probe into the Saradha chit fund scam, a CBI officer said.

The senior Trinamool leader was summoned by the CBI to join the probe into the multi crore ponzi scam by the first week of August, but O'Brien had said that he would appear after the monsoon session of the Parliament got over.

He appeared before the central agency's Kolkata office at around 1.30 p.m. on Friday. According to CBI sources, O'Brien has been summoned to seek clarification on certain transactions recorded in the bank accounts of Trinamool's mouthpiece, 'Jago Bangla'. The Trinamool leader is the publisher of the newspaper.

Following the CBI notice last month, O'Brien had put up a tweet, hinting that the summons by the central agency was politically motivated as the notice was issued to him at almost the same time when his party brought up a motion to oppose the amendments to the RTI Act in the Rajya Sabha. "Jago Bangla" is Trinamool's official newspaper. Editor: Derek O'Brien, Publisher: Subrata Bakshi was summoned by CBI a month ago to seek clarifications.

BJP's two-day Chintan Baithak from today

SP Bureau

With an eye on the 2021 assembly polls in Bengal, the BJP Bengal unit is organising a two-day brain storming session from Saturday at Durgapur where it will set the dos and don'ts for the party in the days to come, sources in it said.

The two-day 'Chintan Baithak' will be first such meeting of the party after the Lok Sabha poll results. Apart from discussing organisational aspects will chart the course of the party for the next assembly polls, the sources said.

The meeting will be attended by senior central leaders of BJP and all office bearers of its state unit. Its Bengal milder and general secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya, national secretary (organisation) Shiv Prakash, co-incharge of Bengal Arvind Menon and BJP state president Diip Ghosh will be present.

"The agenda of the meeting has been set by the central leadership and organisational issues are likely to be discussed. The ongoing membership drive will also be discussed during the meeting," said a senior state BJP leader said.

The BJP has set a target of one crore membership from Bengal and so far the state unit has managed to enroll around 60 lakhs, the party has claimed. The membership drive will continue for next few days. According to state BJP sources, although the central leadership is elated

over party's "magnificent performance" in the Lok Sabha polls in Bengal where it won 18 out of the 42 Lok Sabha seats, it is not happy with induction of leaders from other parties to BJP without "proper background check".

Another senior state BJP leader said on condition of anonymity that after the Lok Sabha polls six TMC-controlled municipal



bodies had switched over to BJP. But except Bhatpara municipality, the others have reverted to TMC in the last two months.

"This has sent out a wrong message. So the central leadership wants us to have a check and balance mechanism to avoid such an embarrassing situation. That is why it was decided to form a committee which will have state leadership such as Diip Ghosh and Subrata Chatterjee in the committee to look into the aspect of members joining from other parties," he said.

The BJP had won 18 of the 42 Lok Sabha seats in the state this time, just four less than TMC. The saffron camp has also clocked 41 percent vote share.

बैंक ऑफ बड़ोदा
Bank of Baroda
India's International Bank

ROSARB GKOL
DN-14, VISHNU TOWER, SECTOT-V
SALLTAKE, KOLKATA- 700091

Appendix - IV, Rule 8(1)
POSSESSION NOTICE
(For Immovable Property)

Whereas, The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the Bank of Baroda under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a Demand Notice calling upon the Borrowers to repay the amount mentioned in the notice plus interest thereon, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The Borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Guarantor and the Public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said Rules on the date mentioned below.

The Borrower/ Guarantors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealings with the properties will be subject to the charge of Bank of Baroda for an amount and further interest, incidental expenses, costs and charges etc. thereon.

The Borrower's attention is invited to the provision of section 13(4) of the said Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Sl.	Name of the Borrowers / Guarantors and Branch	(1) Date of Demand Notice (2) Date of Possession (3) Outstanding Amount	Description of Immovable Properties
1	A/c. Sri Debaji Bhadra, s/o Nirod Shaha Bhadra and Smt Niva Bhadra (Co-borrower) w/o Debaji Bhadra of Renu Apartment, Ground Floor, 2 No. Ispah Chatterjee Road, Railway Park, Sodepur, North 24 Parganas, Kolkata 700110 A/c. No. 0060900002679 Branch: ROSARB GKOL	(1) 21.05.2019 (2) 07.08.2019 (3) Rs. 23,24,299.00 (Rupees Twenty Three Lacs Twenty Four Thousand Two Hundred Ninety Nine rupees only) as on 13-05-2019 and further unapplied interest, incidental expenses, costs & charges etc. thereon.	All that one self contained Flat No. 4/B in the North-East side on the 4th Floor of "Vinayak Apartment", measuring a super built up area 977 Sq.Ft. more or less under the name of Smt. Niva Bhadra & Smt. Niva Bhadra (Co-borrower) w/o Debaji Bhadra of Renu Apartment, Ground Floor, 2 No. Ispah Chatterjee Road, Railway Park, Sodepur, North 24 Parganas, Kolkata 700110. P. No. 71, R.S. Dag No. 610 & 659 situated at Holding No. 79, Motilalpur Road (E. of Ford Road), Ward No. 16 under Panthi Municipality, P.S. Khardaha, District - North 24 Parganas, Being Deed No. 1-1524/02/028, Vol. No. 1524-2016, Page from 162084 to 162114 for the year of 2016, A.D. D.P.O. - Sodepur. Properties stand in the name of Sri Debaji Bhadra s/o Nirod Behari Bhadra & Smt Niva Bhadra w/o Debaji Bhadra. Property is butted and bounded by:- North by - Open to sky, South by: Stair & Lift, East by - Open to sky and West by-Flat No.A
2	A/c. Sri. Subrata Dasgupta (Borrower), S/o. Sri Banta Kumar Dasgupta & Smt. Gurbani Dasgupta (Co-Borrower) w/o Sri Subrata Dasgupta at B-2/001, Paresnagar, P.O. Panthi, Sodepur, District - North 24 Parganas, Kolkata - 700114 A/c. No. 0040900001489 Branch: ROSARB GKOL	(1) 28.12.2018 (2) 07.08.2019 (3) Rs. 55,269.00 (Rupees Three Lakh Fifty Three Thousand Two Hundred Sixty Nine only) as on 31-12-2018 and further unapplied interest, incidental expenses, costs & charges etc. thereon.	All that one self contained Flat No. 1-F in the north-west facing on the 1st Floor of "Suman Apartment", measuring a super built up area 977 Sq.Ft. more or less under Mouza - Sodepur, J.L. No. 8, R. S. 45, Touzi No. 112, C.S. Dag No. 490(P), E.P. No. 102/104, S.P. No. 125, 126, Situated at New Holding No. 138, 4 No. Deshabandhu Nagar, Ward No. 13 under Panthi Municipality, P.S. Khardaha, District - North 24 Parganas, Being Deed No. 105771, Vol. No. 23, Pages 2106 to 2137 for the year of 2012, A.D. S.R.O. - Barakpur. Property stands in the name of Sri Subrata Dasgupta, S/o. Sri Banta Kumar Dasgupta. Butted & Bounded by:- North by - Open to sky, South by - Open to sky, East by - Flat No. 1D, On the East - Flat No. 1E and On the West - Common Passage, Municipal Drain & Municipal Road.
3	A/c. Sri Abhishek Shaw S/o Arjun Shaw & Smt Asha Shaw w/o Arjun Shaw at 16/1, Jy. Jagadlal, Dist. - North 24 Parganas, Pin - 743126 A/c. No. 24540900022618 Branch: ROSARB GKOL	(1) 17.01.2019 (2) 09.08.2019 (3) Rs. 8,86,251.10 (Rupees Nine Lakhs Eighty six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty One rupees and Ten paise only) as on 31-12-2018 and further unapplied interest, incidental expenses, costs & charges etc. thereon.	All that the Flat measuring about super built up area of 850 sq. ft. more or less on the 2nd Floor North-East side which has been constructed thereupon at that place and parcel of a plot of Basu Land with structure having an area measuring about 4 Cotahs 15 Chittaks 0 paise or the same a little more or less out of total land measuring about 34 satak measuring about 100 cotahs and contained in Mouza - Kasba, J. No. 13, Khatun No. 1407, 1448, 1461, 1462 under Dag No. 1634, 1636, 1637, 1642, 1644, 1643, 1645, 1654 within the limits of Kolkata Municipal Corporation Premises No. 9A2, Beda Danga Masjid Bari Bye Lane, Kolkata - 700039, P.S. Kaaba under Ward 67, District - South 24 Parganas as mentioned in original Title Deed No. 1-05348 volume number 13 pages 419 to 439 dated 27-12-2014. Property stand in the name of Sri Abhishek Shaw s/o Arjun Shaw & Smt Asha Shaw w/o Arjun Shaw. The property is butted and bounded by:- North by - Temple, South by: 9A, Beda Danga Masjid Bari Bye Lane, East by: 12 Common passage, and West by: Land of Ajit/Mandir and Tarun/Mandir.

Date : 10.08.2019, Place : Kolkata

Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

No end to woes

Even after two years of roll out of GST, the tax administration and its mechanism in place is infested with serious faults on several counts resulting in public suffering and economic woes. Multiplicity of tax rates is yet to be completely eliminated. Single IT based interface for taxpayers and simplified tax compliance regime are yet to be fully implemented. System validated Input Tax Credit through "invoice matching" is not in place and nonintrusive e-tax system still remains elusive. No one has a clear picture even about the huge data generated mainly due to its inaccessibility. The latest report of CAG says that the complexity of return mechanism and the technical glitches resulted in roll back of invoice-matching, rendering the system prone to ITC frauds. Thus, on the whole, the envisaged GST tax compliance system is non-functional. The deficiencies in the GST system also point to a serious lack of coordination between the Executive and the developers of the system. According to the CAG report after implementing of GST, the Centre's revenue on goods and services (excluding central excise on Petroleum and Tobacco) registered a decline of 10% in 2017-18 as compared to revenue of subsumed taxes in 2016-17. There was a short transfer of 6,466 crore of GST Compensation cess to the Public Account during 2017-18. All returns being filed showed a declining trend of filing from April 2018 to December 2018. The introduction of GSTR-3B resulted in filing of returns with ITC claims which could not be verified if they were to have been filed in the form of even GSTR-1. Since filing of GSTR-1 is mandatory, short-filing is an area of concern and needs to be addressed. GSTR-3B being only a summary return, short-filing of GSTR-1 implied that the tax departments did not have complete invoice level details. The system in place was found to have certain provisions that were not even a part of the Act itself. Software Requirement Specification (SRS) is a case in point which included a condition not prescribed in the Act. During inspection, system validations were not found aligned to the provisions of the GST Acts and Rules, leaving the crucial gaps in GST Registration module. The payment module, despite being in operation since 1 July 2017, was fraught with operational deficiencies. Like delay in updating the Electronic Cash Ledger (ECL) even after successful payment of tax by the taxpayer. All the IGST Settlement Ledgers were not being generated due to non-implementation of corresponding GST modules, like imports and appeals. This, coupled with the inaccuracies in the settlement algorithm and limitation of the GSTR-3B return in capturing all the information required for settlement, had a bearing on the settlement of funds to the Centre and various States. The incomplete IGST ledgers were partly responsible for Rs. 211,688 crore of IGST balance remaining unsettled during 2017-18. Duplicate records were noticed in 6,748 cases in 5 Settlement ledgers, leading to inaccurate settlement of 416.07 crore IGST funds for the period from July 2017 to July 2018. Incorrect settlement of IGST amounting to Rs. 359.46 crore during the period from July 2017 to July 2018 was noticed because of erroneous entries in settlement ledgers due to the algorithm picking up entries from wrong category of taxpayers. Unrealistic erroneous claim of ITC of IGST by one taxpayer, representing 79% of ITC claim by all taxpayers for a month, was allowed by the system, exposing the vulnerability of the system to fraudulent ITC claims. The IGST algorithm was found to be defective picking up entries from wrong reports in IGST module. CAG said that the failure to map business rules correctly and the absence of key validations in the rolled out system points to inadequacies in the engineering of GST. There is a need for GSTN to re-examine the system to ensure that critical deficiencies in application be rectified. The role of the executive in UAT / SRS sign off also needs to be re-examined.

Altering the demography

For last 72 years, since India attained independence, suggestions were made to trifurcate Jammu and Kashmir, but the political leadership of the country refused to be pressured by any argument. It is not that they were naïve or failed to comprehend the interest of the country. The idea of dividing Jammu and Kashmir into two or more parts is not new. Its origin could be traced to the Dixon Plan of 1950. Owen Dixon, an Australian jurist was chosen by the United Nations to mediate between India and Pakistan on the J&K issue who in his report of September 1950 suggested a package, which was eventually outright rejected by the government of the day. Even eminent jurist A.G. Noorani in his article in Frontline of October 2002, had suggested to assign Ladakh to India and northern areas and Pakistan-occupied Kashmir to Pakistan, besides splitting Jammu in two. He had also proposed a plebiscite in the Kashmir valley. B.R. Ambedkar had also suggested the formation of three zones: the area held by Pakistan, the Valley and Jammu-Ladakh. He had also favoured a plebiscite only in the Valley. In 1983, former President R. Venkataraman, had also floated the concept of trifurcating J&K: Ladakh as a Union Territory; Jammu as a State and the Valley as a "separate entity". He had mentioned this in his book, My Presidential Years (1994). In 1966 the then Home Minister G. L. Nanda had told the Rajya Sabha that the government had "no intention" of separating Jammu from Kashmir. It is not that the persons or the leaders who did not endorse trifurcation or supported the idea of autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir were anti-national or committed any kind of historical blunder. Interestingly this demand was also rejected by the patriarch and present margdarshak of the BJP, L.K. Advani. But in October 2000, after attending an official meeting in Srinagar, Advani the then Home Minister, rejected the RSS demand. There are many ifs and buts in the Home Minister's assurance that the government could restore full statehood to Jammu and Kashmir if the situation improved. The government even held that the Article 370 allowed Pakistan to spread terrorism in J&K that has seen 41,900 deaths since 1989. Do we still want to follow the same path that we have so far followed or should we try something new? But at the same time it would be utopian to comprehend that scrapping the Article 370 or trifurcating the state would ease the state of the threat of terrorism. The terrorist using the PoK to carry out their nefarious activities from PoK would use the space liberally. Though the Home Minister asserted that the government's decision did not impact in any way India's claim over Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK), and the government would continue to do so the fact remains that the latest document did not state India's claim on the PoK, as it used to frequently do in the past. The decision of the government to do away with the special status to J&K and bifurcate the state into two UTs was allegedly propelled by view that the state of Kashmir are living in poverty. They don't get the benefit of reservation. The BJP government refused to accept the fact that a complete sway on Kashmir will provide it with opportunity to spread all over India. Being a Muslim dominated state, it was proving to be a stumbling path for BJP. It is also significant to watch that the Centre's decision on Kashmir comes at a time when the Indian economy is experiencing a slowdown coupled with large-scale loss of jobs. Notwithstanding poor financial indicators, the state was also questioning the political authority of the party. True enough rightist parties, from Hindu Mahasabha to BJP, have been demanding from the time of Independence, the abrogation of 370. The latest move comes as the fulfilment of their wishes. It will help establish a saffron government there.

Confronting the extremists

Sagarneel Sinha



The fast changing scenario of political situations of Afghanistan where there is a strong chance of Taliban, which has good relations with Pakistan, coming back to power, has played a major role for the hurried decision ...

Although, Jammu & Kashmir's constitution clearly mentioned that it was an integral part of India, the truth is Article 370 did come in the way. The separate Constitution has always helped the separatists and Pakistan to reiterate their propaganda that Jammu & Kashmir is actually not an "integral part of India". Further, the refugees of West Pakistan have not been conferred the rights of citizenship living for decades in the state because of now void Article 35 A, which stems itself from Article 370.

There are arguments that there is no proper debate on this issue, particularly with the local Kashmiris who are locked in their homes by security forces. Obviously, one can't deny the fact that it would have been better had the centre first tried to win the hearts of all Kashmiris. In that case, there would have been no need of deploying heavy security forces. But we can't forget the fact that the talks of removing of Article 370 has always been an agenda of the saffron party finding place in its party manifesto. So, BJP did what it had promised before the elections. It was its duty to implement the promise, particularly after its stunning victory, which is supported by the majority of the electorate — also evident from support of non-NDA parties like BSP, AAP, YSR Congress, TRS and BJP.

Another important fact that is being ignored is the fast changing scenario of political situations of Afghanistan where there is a strong chance of Taliban, which has good relations with Pakistan, coming back to power, has played a major role for the hurried decision of the centre regarding Kashmir. The recent change of mind of the US president Donald Trump towards Pakistan that was seen in Imran Khan's visit signalled that Pakistan is still important for the United States, which is actually trying to negotiate a respectful deal of its deal with the Taliban in Afghanistan — where it needs the help of Pakistan to deal with them.

One shouldn't forget the false and deceitful statement of Trump that India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi had asked him to mediate between India and Pakistan in Kashmir; which was actually aimed to satisfy Pakistan premier Imran Khan. It was this statement which made the government of India to hurry its decision to take control of Kashmir by killing the very purpose of Article 370 — which prevents the centre to take individual decisions regarding Jammu & Kashmir. Undoubtedly, the criticism that the centre should have first won the hearts of Kashmiris has some valid points but given the situation of Afghanistan it seems that Modi government was left only with

this option. So, if analysed with the security angle, this act is justified. Plus, there should be no doubt that Pakistan would have tried its best to destroy the discussions of modifying Article 370 in the valley by activating its agents — separatists and the terrorists. Also, Pakistan's renewed interest in aiding infiltration along the LOC after remaining cold for the last two months justifies the act of the central government. On the other hand, we can't ignore the certainty that the Article 370 was not part of the Instrument of Accession signed between King of Jammu and Kashmir Hari Singh and government of India on 26th October, 1947. It was introduced later in 1949 keeping with the spirit of IOA. But not to forget that the Article 370 was drafted

in Part XXI of Indian Constitution — which is titled as Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions. So, it is clear that Article 370 was a temporary article contradicting to what Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah's National Conference and Mehbooba Mufti's PDP say.

Over the years the central government, mostly under the Congress party, has used the Article 370 to amend a number of provisions of the constitution of Jammu & Kashmir through Presidential orders — even after the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly of Jammu & Kashmir. That's why terming the passage of the Jammu & Kashmir Reorganisation Bill 2019, as "murder of democracy" is not accurate. The significant facts are that this bill not

only integrates Jammu & Kashmir in true sense but also delivers justice to the people dwelling in Ladakh. This can also bring investments to the region which has seen almost no major investments for the last decades. Plus, the refugees of West Pakistan living for decades will now be able to get the status of permanent citizenship. Not to forget that, through this bill, central government has also checkmated Pakistan at a very crucial time over the issue of Kashmir — as given the special status of Jammu and Kashmir, it was easy for our neighbour to claim that "J&K was not an integral part of India". So, this historic decision is actually aimed for India's interests — including the people of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh.

New Delhi's oil diplomacy

Ashok B Sharma



India should play its diplomatic card and convince the mercurial Donald Trump that its relations with Iran should not come under US sanctions ...

The bitterness between the two major powers, India and Pakistan, has stalled the process in the regional body, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC). Islamabad has denied India access to another SAARC country, Afghanistan. But Iran, which is not a South Asian country, has offered New Delhi to use its Chabahar port and transport goods to Afghanistan. India has partially developed the port and goods are being transported to Afghanistan. India has already developed a 240-km-long road connecting Chabahar with Afghanistan.

Plans are underway to construct a 900-km Chabahar-Zahedan-Hajigak railway line that will connect Chabahar port in Iran, being built with Indian help, to the mineral-rich Hajigak region of central Afghanistan. About seven Indian companies have been given permission to extract iron ore in Hajigak region and to invest in Chabahar SEZs, including in smelter plant and urea producing facility. But all these activities have been stalled in wake of recent US sanctions against Iran.

In November 2018, the United States had exempted the multinational Chabahar port project from its sanctions against Iran due to its economic importance to Afghanistan. New Delhi should take up with Donald Trump that its activities in Chabahar port should not invite US sanctions. Due to sanctions imposed India has reduced its oil imports from Iran to zero. India gets oil from Iran at cheaper rates. As a strategic partner with US, India should tell Washington that it should see that none of its strategic partners should be in trouble on account of sanctions imposed on Iran. New Delhi should be bold in asserting its stated position that it adheres to sanctions imposed on any country by the world body, the United Nations and is not any sanctions imposed by any one country against the other.

Iraq, which is heavily dependent upon Iranian gas supply, has been granted waiver by the US. If Iraq can be granted waiver by the US, then why not India? Iran's National Oil Company is to set up an office in Baghdad for cooperation in oil industry and transfer of engineering and technical services to Iraq. Washington's NATO ally, Turkey, has refused to fall in line with US sanctions and has decided to go ahead with its Iranian oil imports and to increase its gas imports from Tehran. In mid-April, this year, the Iranian Foreign Minister Javed

Zarif visited Turkey where he argued for setting up a financial mechanism similar to the proposed INSTEX — a special purpose vehicle set up by Germany, France and UK to facilitate non-dollar trade with Iran. During Zarif's visit to India in January 2019, the two countries signed an agreement for rupee-payment mechanism under which IDBI Bank will execute the mechanism and set up Iran trade processing cells in Delhi, Ahmadabad and Kolkata.

The US has exempted from its sanctions Tehran's supply of natural gas to neighbouring countries. The Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan pitched his country as transit corridor for Iranian gas in the region. Iran has agreed to stop

up its gas supply to Armenia and launch tripartite gas cooperation to export gas to Georgia.

There are, therefore, numerous benefits if India maintains good relations with Iran. Connectivity to Afghanistan, central and western Asia and Europe, supply of oil and natural gas. Connectivity with Afghanistan through Chabahar port will foster consolidation of South Asia and its integration with central Asia. Pakistan has long denied India access to Afghanistan. This can be made good with better relations with Iran. The US has dual policy in Indian Ocean region. On the eastern side of the region it needs India to counter the rising influence of China in the Indo-Pacific. On

the western part of the Indian Ocean region US seeks the help of China and Pakistan to deal with the Taliban in Afghanistan.

One of the main reasons why Donald Trump wants to undo the nuclear deal with Iran is that this deal was struck by his predecessor Barack Obama. He wants to make a new beginning by striking a deal with North Korea. Also US allies in the region like Israel and Saudi Arabia want to see a weak Iran. India should play its diplomatic card in this situation and convince the mercurial Donald Trump that its relations with Iran should not come under US sanctions. The connectivity to Afghanistan through Chabahar port is to serve the interests of peace and development in Afghanistan. But does US needs India's help in Afghanistan? It is more interested in seeking help from China and Pakistan to resolve the Taliban issue in Afghanistan. The region therefore is a platform for power play by China and Pakistan. China wants to keep India on tenterhooks by siding with its all weather friend Pakistan. India has to play its diplomatic card very carefully. India should come out open in offering to mediate between US and Iran, just like Turkey, Iraq and Japan has made similar offers.

Ayodhya dispute: SC rejects plea objecting to daily hearings

SP Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 9: A Muslim party on Monday objected in the Supreme Court five-days-a-week hearing of the politically sensitive Ram Janmaboomi-Babri Masjid land dispute case in Ayodhya, saying it will "not be able to assist" the court if the hearing is "rushed through".
 The submission was made by senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan, who is appearing for a Muslim party, when the Supreme Court commenced hearing on the fourth day in the case. Breaking with the tradition, the apex court decided to hear the sensitive case on Friday which is kept fresh cases only, along with Monday. As per the apex court's procedures, on Mondays and Fridays, the registry lists before the benches fresh and miscellaneous cases after notice cases. As the counsel for deity 'Ram Lalla Virajman' started presenting its submissions before a five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice Ranjan Gogoi, Dhavan got up and interjected the proceedings.
 "It is not possible to assist the court if it is heard on all days of the week. This is the first appeal and the hearing cannot be rushed in this manner and I am put to torture," he told the bench, also comprising Justices S A Bobde, D Y Chandrachud, Ashok Bhushan and S A Nazeer. He said the apex court was hearing first appeal after the Allahabad High Court delivered the verdict in the case and the hearing as such cannot be rushed through. Being a first appeal, documentary evidences have to be studied. Many documents are in Urdu and Sanskrit, which have to be translated, Dhavan said.
 The senior lawyer alleged that "experts, except Justice Chandrachud, other judges might not have read the judgment (Allahabad High Court's)". He said that if the court has taken a decision to hear the case on all five days of the week then he might have to leave the case. "We have taken note of your submissions. We will revert back to you soon," CJ Gogoi said and proceeded with the hearing. The bench has now started hearing the submissions of senior advocate K Parasaran on behalf of deity Ram Lalla Virajman. The apex court had on Thursday asked the counsel for the deity, which itself has been made a party to the case, as to how the 'Janmaboomi' (place of deity) can be regarded as a "juristic person" having stakes as a litigant in the case.

Prez gives assent to amendments to UAPA; individuals can now be declared as terrorists

SP Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 9: President Ram Nath Kovind has given assent to a legislation under which individuals can be declared as terrorists and their properties seized, officials said on Friday.
 The Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2019 also provides for putting travel ban on such individuals once they are declared as terrorists.
 The President gave his assent to the legislation late on Thursday night, a home ministry official said.
 The Lok Sabha had passed the amendments Bill on July 24 and the Rajya Sabha on August 2.
 India's most wanted, Lashkar-e-Taiba founder Hafiz Saeed and Jaish-e-Mohammad chief Masood Azhar, are likely to be the first two individuals to be designated as terrorists under the legislation, the officials said.
 The amendments give powers to the Director



General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to attach properties acquired from proceeds of terrorism. Earlier, the law required that the NIA take prior permission from the respective state police chief to attach the proceeds of terrorism. This delays the process as often such properties are in different states, another official said.
 Earlier, officers in the rank of Deputy Superintendent of Police and above were empowered to investigate cases under the UAPA as per Section 43. Now, officers in

the rank of Inspector are empowered to do so.
 The inspector-rank officers have over time acquired sufficient proficiency to investigate UAPA-related cases and this move would quicken the delivery of justice in such cases, which are reviewed by senior officers at various levels.
 Home Minister Amit Shah had said the law, that would be used only to tackle terror, would help agencies remain four steps ahead of terrorists.
 Shah said terrorist acts are committed not by organisations but by individuals.
 Declaring an organisation as a terrorist organisation will not stop the individuals behind it.
 Not designating individuals as terrorists would give them an opportunity to circumvent the law and they would simply gather under a different name and keep up their terror activities, he said.

Jammu and Kashmir will not remain a UT for long: Modi



SP Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 9: As Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday defended his government's decision to revoke provisions of Article 370 in Jammu and Kashmir, a section of residents alleged the way it was done was "extremely undemocratic".
 Some even claimed the Centre only wanted to "win lands and not hearts of Kashmiris". From students to professionals, belonging to both Jammu and Kashmir regions, many were apprehensive that taking away the special status will render the "ecologically sensitive" province "vulnerable" to exploitation due to infrastructure-related activities.
 "With revoking of the Article, floodgates will be opened for the corporate sector to invest in big projects like hotels, flyovers and other big buildings. It will harm our pristine environment, which had so far been left largely unharmed due to the restrictions that come under the Article," said a Kashmiri journalist, who did not wish to be identified.
 He cited the example of Uttarakhnad to support his claim, saying the country saw how houses and hotels built close to rivers damaged the environment in the state.
 "We do not want that to happen in our homeland," he said. Ajaz Ahmad, a Delhi-based physiotherapist who is in his 30s, alleged, "They (the government) only want the land of Kashmir, they do not want to win the hearts of Kashmiris".
 "If they wanted to win our trust, they should have taken us into confidence, discussed about the provisions of the exercise and made us feel secure. Our families are living under siege there. If an emergency arises, our families won't even have access to an ambulance," he said. Reaching out to Kashmiris with messages of hope and optimism, Prime Minister Modi on Thursday assured them of all-round development, early and transparent elections and end to terrorism. He defended his government's move scrapping the provisions of Article 370 and asserted they only gave separatism, corruption, family rule and were used by Pakistan as a tool to spread terror in Jammu and Kashmir.
 In a nearly 40-minute televised address to the nation, three days after the far-reaching decision, Modi also sought to assuage concerns of the people after his government split the state into Union Territories, saying Jammu and Kashmir will not remain a UT for long. With the Kashmir Valley reeling under security clampdown, Modi promised the government is making all sincere efforts to ensure that the people in the region have no difficulties in celebrating Eid which is on Monday. But not many residents of the Jammu or Kashmir region were impressed with the prime minister's speech.

"I think his speech was redundant, verbose and lacking substance, and linking scrapping of Article 370 with development of the state, was misplaced," the Delhi-based Kashmiri journalist alleged. "Whatever the prime minister suggested to bring development, selling Kashmiri shawls and apples and herbs around the world, is anything stopping that? Why link the growth to the revoking of Article 370. Besides, our state is better than other states in many indices, be it literacy rate or health indicators, plus people are well-off, very few people live off the streets," he said. Ajeaz Ahmad Rather, Jawaharlal Nehru Students' Union general secretary said, "They are saying that it has been done with an agenda to bring development. But according to figures, Gujarat is lacking in development as opposed to Jammu and Kashmir in many indices".
 "What the government has done is a grave mistake, and they will regret it later. They have taken away our identity," he alleged. He alleged the situation in Kashmir was "worst form of Emergency" and the move is a "travesty of justice".
 Many Jammu residents were also not enthused by Modi's speech, in which he spoke about the benefits that will accrue to the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.
 "These people, including the youth of J&K and Ladakh, who have been denied a lot of opportunities and benefits, unlike their counterparts in other parts of the country, will now come out of the negative impact of this article and grow," Modi said adding, "The provisions have not given anything except separatism, corruption and family rule to the state, and Pakistan has used it as a tool to spread terrorism. Shah Rukh Ali, 25, an MBA graduate, told PTI over phone from Jammu, "The Centre should have taken the people or at least the mainstream politicians into confidence".
 "How can you put the J&K leaders under house arrest and, decide on fate of people of Jammu and Kashmir, without asking the local people. Is that a democracy?" he asked, adding, this complete communication cut off in the Valley needs to end. A Delhi-based university student from Jammu, said, she thought the revoking of the article and its repercussions are debatable, but the way in which it was scrapped is "extremely undemocratic".
 "Besides, the environmental impact on the state of such a move would be catastrophic. Moreover, if this is seen as a gateway to development, it would only be beneficial to the capital-owning bourgeoisie, who can buy land and open up their businesses, and would not really benefit the common masses. The gap between the rich and the poor would increase," she alleged.

Army chief briefs defence minister on Kashmir

SP Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 9: Army chief Gen Bipin Rawat on Thursday briefed Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on the security situation in Jammu and Kashmir and on Indo-Pak border.
 The Army has been put on high alert along the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir to effectively repulse any possible Pakistani misadventure in the wake of the government scrapping the provisions of Article 370 and deciding to split the state into two Union Territories.
 "The Chief of Army Staff Gen Bipin Rawat briefed Raksha Mantri Shri @rajnathsingh today on developments in Jammu & Kashmir and on Indo-Pak border. Overall the situation is under control and the Armed forces are in a state of high alert and closely monitoring the situation," the Raksha Mantri Office India tweeted.
 On Monday, official sources said top Army commanders in Jammu and Kashmir are closely monitoring the overall security situation in the state to thwart any civil disturbances following the Centre's decision to end special status to Jammu and Kashmir.
 Sources said Pakistan may try to trigger unrest in the Kashmir Valley and there may be spurt in violence including IED blasts and fidevayen attacks following the government's decision to split the state.
 "The security forces are fully prepared to deal with any situation. We will not allow the situation to go out of hand," said a senior military official earlier.



The government revoked Article 370 which gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir and proposed that the state be split into two union territories, Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.
 Union Home Minister Amit Shah announced the decision in the Rajya Sabha, fulfilling the electoral promise of the BJP. While it sent a wave of jubilation among government supporters and others, it also provoked outrage from the NC and the PDP, the principal political parties in Jammu and Kashmir.

Unnau case: Court frames rape charges against expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Sengar

SP Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 9: A Delhi court Friday framed charges against expelled BJP MLA Kuldeep Sengar for allegedly raping a minor in Unnau in 2017.
 District Judge Dharmesh Sharma also framed charges against Sengar's accomplice Shashi Singh for allegedly kidnaping the minor girl, who is presently admitted in AIIMS, Delhi. She was critically injured recently when a truck rammied into her car.
 The court has framed charges under Sections 120 b (criminal conspiracy), 363 (kidnapping), 366 (kidnapping or inducing a woman to compel for marriage), 376 (rape) and other relevant sections of the Protection of Children

from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. Sengar and Singh, however, denied the allegations levelled against them saying they have been falsely implicated in the case and claimed trial.
 The CBI had on Thursday told the court that Sengar and his brother assaulted the father of the girl and framed him in an Arms Act case, in collusion with three state police officials and five others.
 The agency had submitted that the MLA and his "accomplices" got lodged an FIR, accusing the rape survivor's father of possessing a country-made pistol and four live cartridges.
 Earlier, the CBI has told a Delhi court that Uttar Pradesh Police was "lackadaisical" in handling the 2017

case of rape of a minor girl in Unnau allegedly by MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar.
 In its charge sheet filed on July 11, 2018, the probe agency said they were investigating the role of authorities of the district administration and medical hospitals in Unnau district.
 "During investigation, action taken by local police on several complaints on the incidents were also collected which showed lackadaisical approach of local thana police and supervisory police officers," the charge sheet said. The CBI added that further investigation was going on in this matter.
 Sengar's accomplice Shashi Singh has also been named as an accused in the charge sheet for allegedly luring

the minor into going to the legislator's residence.
 According to the charge sheet, on June 4, 2017, Singh had taken the girl to Sengar's residence on the pretext of getting her a job and the MLA allegedly raped her.
 It said Sengar had threatened the survivor to not disclose the incident to anyone.
 The charge sheet further said though the girl tried to report the incident, no action was taken "under the influence" of Sengar.
 It stated that the father of the survivor was "brutally beaten up badly by Sengar's brother Atul Singh Sengar and his henchmen" on April 3, 2018 "in public view for creating terror".

Demoralisation in opposition ranks, BJP has field day

Nirbhay Kumar
New Delhi, Aug 9: Amid continuing demoralization in its main rival Congress, the BJP has managed to break opposition unity in the Rajya Sabha, mustering enough numbers in its favour as and when needed in the just-ended Budget session of Parliament.
 In addition, some opposition members dumped their parties in the middle of the crucial session and announced they were joining the BJP, which has returned to power with a thumping majority in the Lok

Sabha. The pattern of joining the BJP became so frequent that Congress leader Jagan Mohan Reddy remarked that the ruling party had resorted to hostile takeover after creeping occupation.
 Finding huge popular support under the leadership of Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah seized the opportunity and went a step further. Besides masterminding the abrogation of Article 370, it turned Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories.
 The game plan has worked well so far. The issue being emotive, even members of the Congress were divided. The party's Rajya Sabha chief whip, Bhupaneswar Kalita, resigned to support of the government move.
 Lok Sabha and that too quite fresh, the saffron party led by Congress leader Jagan Mohan Reddy and Home Minister Amit Shah seized the opportunity and went a step further. Besides masterminding the abrogation of Article 370, it turned Jammu and Kashmir into two Union Territories.
 The game plan has worked well so far. The issue being emotive, even members of the Congress were divided. The party's Rajya Sabha chief whip, Bhupaneswar Kalita, resigned to support of the government move.
 In addition, India's efforts to transition to more sustainable, less polluting farming practices can provide lessons for other countries facing similar risks and challenges," he said.
 Researchers noted that in November 2017, more than 4,000 schools across India, including Delhi, a city of more than 18 million people. Some of these problems can be resolved by the use of direct sowing technologies in northwestern India, researchers said.

Direct sowing technologies can increase Indian farmers' profits, cut pollution: Study

SP Bureau
New Delhi, Aug 9: Alternative farming practices such as direct sowing technologies could reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from on-farm activities in Northern India by nearly 80 per cent and help lower air pollution in cities like New Delhi, according to a study.
 The study, published in the journal Science, shows that the farmers could also increase their profits if they stop burning their crop straw and adopt no-till practices to grow wheat.
 Researchers, including those from International Maize and Wheat Improvement Centre (CIMMYT) in Mexico, compared the costs

and benefits of 10 distinct land preparation and sowing practices for northern India's rice-wheat cropping rotations, which are spread across over four million hectares.
 The direct seeding of wheat into unploughed soil and shredded rice residues was the best option — it cut farmers' profits through higher yields and savings in labour, fuel, and machinery costs.
 To quickly and cheaply clear their fields to sow wheat each year, farmers in northern India burn an estimated 23 million tonnes of straw from their rice harvests, according to researchers, including those from the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).
 Regulations are in place in



India to reduce agricultural fires but burning continues because of implementation challenges and lack of clarity about the profitability of alternate, no-burn farming, they noted.
 To sow wheat directly without ploughing or burning rice straw, farmers need to purchase or rent a tractor-mounted implement known as the "Happy Seeder," as well as attach straw shredders to their rice harvesters.
 Leaving straw on the soil as a mulch helps capture and retain moisture and also improves soil quality, according to ML Jat, CIMMYT Principal Scientist,

a co-author of the study.
 The study demonstrates that it is possible to reduce air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions in a way that is profitable to farmers and scalable.
 It shows that Happy Seeder-based systems are on average 10-20% more profitable than straw burning options.
 "Our study dovetails with 2018 policies put in place by the government of India to stop farmers from burning, which includes a USD166 million subsidy to promote mechanisation to manage crop residues within fields," said Priya Shyamundar from US-based charity The Nature Conservancy.
 Shyamundar, first author of the study, noted that

relatively few Indian farmers currently sow their wheat using the Happy Seeder but manufacturing of the Seeder had increased in recent years.
 "Less than a quarter of the total subsidy would pay for widespread adoption of the Happy Seeder, if aided by government and NGO support to build farmer awareness and impede burning," she said.
 "With a rising population of 1.6 billion people, South Asia hosts 40% of the world's poor and malnourished on just 2.4% of its land," said Jat.
 "Better practices can help farmers adapt to warmer winters and extreme, erratic weather events such as droughts and floods, which are having a terrible impact on agriculture and livelihoods.

"In addition, India's efforts to transition to more sustainable, less polluting farming practices can provide lessons for other countries facing similar risks and challenges," he said.
 Researchers noted that in November 2017, more than 4,000 schools across India, including Delhi, a city of more than 18 million people. Some of these problems can be resolved by the use of direct sowing technologies in northwestern India, researchers said.

Enemy Property Act violation suspected

Azam Khan's university under ED scanner



SP Bureau

Lucknow/New Delhi, Aug 9: In fresh trouble for SP leader Azam Khan, the ED has initiated a money laundering probe following allegations that a university run by him in Uttar Pradesh's Rampur district has been built over a land taken in violation of the enemy property law, official sources said on Friday.

Enemy properties are the immovable assets left behind by people who migrated to Pakistan since the Partition and to China after the 1962 Sino-Indian war. According to data, there are about 9,280 such properties left behind by Pakistani nationals and 126 by Chinese nationals. These are regulated under the Enemy Property Act.

Khan, a Lok Sabha MP from Rampur and a former state cabinet minister under Akhilesh Yadav's rule, has already been booked by the central probe agency under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), based on at least 26 criminal FIRs filed by the local police on charges of land grab and extortion. The university under

university. The district magistrate or the collector is the deputy custodian of an 'enemy property' in a district. The 'enemy property' in this case is located in Singan Khara Tehsil of the Rampur district and it belongs to Pakistani national Imamuddin Qureshi.

The ED sources said, has also launched a parallel probe under the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) into this instance and is looking into the approvals, mutation of land and funds sourced by the university to allegedly grab the 'enemy property' land in an illegal manner in purported connivance of government officials.

The central probe agency has recently also written to the higher education department of the Uttar Pradesh government to share all documents related to approvals and sanctions given to the university, to take forward its criminal probe under PMLA and FEMA.

This query also prompted the Rampur district administration to register an FIR into this alleged illegal deal on Thursday.

The Naib Tehsildar has stated in his complaint that the entire deal to categorise an 'enemy property' land as a waqf property and its allocation to the Mohammad Ali Jahar University was done in alleged connivance of government staff in order to benefit the university and Khan.

The registrar of the university, the Waqf Board Imam and the then official of the Rampur municipal corporation S M Tariq have been named in the FIR. Khan's name was also put on an online list of 'land mafias' by the district administration recently.

Amid tight vigil, people in Kashmir offer Friday prayers as restrictions eased

SP Bureau
Srinagar, Aug 9: After being confined to their homes for days, people in Kashmir offered Friday prayers in their local mosques as restrictions were eased for the purpose, official said, adding the Valley was largely peaceful barring minor incidents of stone-pelting in the apple-town of Sopore in north Kashmir.

People, who have been virtually kept indoors because of heavy security deployment in the wake of removal of special status for Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcation of the state, were allowed to go to mosques in their localities without being asked any questions by security personnel.

With no untoward incident, the situation, as of now, was reported to be fine in the Srinagar city and south Kashmir, officials said, but added that reports from all areas are yet to arrive. The officials said there were minor incidents of stone-pelting in Sopore town of north Kashmir, 50 km from here, but was contained immediately and the crowd



Dispersed. Restrictions were eased to allow people in Kashmir to offer Friday prayers in local mosques, officials said, as security forces were put on high alert across the Valley in an apparent move to prevent possible protests.

The decision to ease the restrictions was taken after National Security Advisor Ajit Doval directed authorities to ensure that Kashmiris is harassed, they said. Doval, who has been camping here since Tuesday, spoke to locals and security personnel during a quick tour of the sensitive downtown area here on Friday, an official said. The NSA, accompanied by his aides and senior police officers, visited the Eidgah locality and stopped at various places to interact with locals. He later spoke to police

and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel and thanked them for their wonderful work in maintaining law and order. Security forces have been put on high alert across the Kashmir Valley preempting possible protests against the scrapping of special status to Jammu and Kashmir and dividing it into two union territories, another set of officials said.

The clampdown in Kashmir was imposed on Monday, hours before the Centre revoked Jammu and Kashmir's special status and split it into two union territories - Ladakh, and Jammu and Kashmir. Security forces have been deployed in massive numbers across the Valley, particularly in Srinagar city and major towns, and barricades have been erected every 100 metres and only people allowed to pass those with medical emergencies. All telephone and Internet connections have been snipped in the Valley and only three news channels, including the state-run Doodardshan, can be accessed through cable TV networks.

ALLAHABAD BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Strengthened Asset Management, Kolkata
7, Red Cross Park, Kolkata-700001. (033) 2331 1471

Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties
(As per Proviso to Rule 8(e))

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFESI Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(d) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the following Borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notices are hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 in the date mentioned against their names.

The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealing with the properties will be subject to the charge of the UCO Bank, for the under noted amount and interest thereon.

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

Name & Address of Borrower	Date of Demand & Possession Notice	Claim Amount as per Demand Notice	Description of the Immovable / Movable Property
M/s Ditta Enterprise, Prop: Anur Kumar Datta, Address: B-128, Abanagar, Garia, Laskarpur, Kolkata-700153	18.02.2019 09.08.2019	₹83,40,094.35 (Rupees Eighty Three Lakh Fourty Thousand Ninety Four Paise Thirty Five Only)	EMTD of Land Measuring 4 Cotta with a building thereon in Lot No. 1729, C.S. Plot No. 1034(P), Mouza-Kandoban, J.L. No-48, P.S.-Regent Park, 24 Parganas (South). The property stands in the name of Sri Anur Kumar Datta.

Date: 10.08.2019, Place: Kolkata
Authorized Officer, UCO Bank

UCO BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

HAZZA ROAD BRANCH, APPENDIX-IV (Rule-8(1))
91/1, HAZZA ROAD, POSSESSION NOTICE
Kolkata - 700 026 (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the UCO Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(d) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the following Borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notices are hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 in the date mentioned against their names.

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Date: 10.08.2019, Place: Kolkata
Authorized Officer, UCO Bank

Rains batter South India, Kerala worst hit with 22 dead

SP Bureau

Chennai / Thiruvananthapuram / Bengaluru, Aug 9: Rains continued to batter South India on Friday, with landslides and floods throwing life out of gear in Kerala leaving 22 people dead over the past three days and authorities scrambling to evacuate people from low-lying areas.

Over 80,000 flood-affected people were evacuated in Karnataka, as Tamil Nadu asked the IAF to be on standby to be deployed for rescue activities in rain-ravaged Nilgiris district where five people lost their lives in various rain-related incidents.

In New Delhi, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, who represents the Wayanad Lok Sabha seat from Kerala, spoke to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the floods and sought aid.

A year after Kerala was devastated by the deadliest monsoon that led to the worst deluge in the state's history in a century, it was again at the receiving end of nature's fury, prompting government to seek the help of Army and Air Force.

Rail and air services were disrupted with Railways cancelling several services while flight operations at the Kochi airport were suspended till Sunday due to inundation.

The Cochin International Airport (CIAL), where flight operations were initially suspended till midnight Friday after floodwaters inundated the apron area (parking), will now remain closed till 3 PM on Sunday.

A red alert for rainfall has been issued in nine of the 14 districts in the state and all educational institutions will remain closed.

level meeting here on Friday to review the situation, said 22 people have died in rain-related incidents in the last three days.

Landslides and mudslides have been reported from 24 places, he said. "At Meppadi in Wayanad, which witnessed the biggest landslide on Thursday evening, the area between two hills was completely washed away," he told reporters.

Defence sources said the landslide in Meppadi has destroyed houses in Puthumala and nearly 150 people were trapped and have to be rescued.

In Kochi, the Southern Naval Command said it was ready to open its airport for operation of small commercial flights if CIAL airport remained shut for a longer period.

The government has suspended the iconic Snake Boat Race which was scheduled to be held in Alappuzha on Friday in the wake of heavy rains.

Last year, also, the race was suspended due to floods when, it claimed over 400 lives and caused extensive damage.

Meanwhile, in New Delhi, Gandhi spoke to Modi on the flood situation in Kerala and sought assistance for those affected in the state, including in Wayanad.

"Spoke to Prime Minister seeking all possible assistance for the people severely affected by floods and landslides in the state, especially in Wayanad. The PM has assured to provide any assistance required to mitigate effects of the disaster," he tweeted from his Wayanad MP twitter handle.

UCO BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Kolkata Main Retail Branch, APPENDIX-IV (Rule-8(1))
10, B.T.M. Sarani, POSSESSION NOTICE
Kolkata - 700 001 (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the UCO Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(d) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the following Borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notices are hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 in the date mentioned against their names.

The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealing with the properties will be subject to the charge of the UCO Bank, for the under noted amount and interest thereon.

Name of Borrower	Date of Demand & Possession Notice	Claim Amount as per Demand Notice	Description of the Immovable Property
M/s Blue Dreamz Print Media Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Santanu Mohanty, Mrs. Dipanwita Saha, Mr. Santanu Mohanty, Mrs. Moushomi	27.05.2016 09.08.2019	₹2,42,69,547.01 (Rupees Two Crore Forty Two Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Forty Seven and Paise One Only)	Land with a factory shed & security rooms and one temple (under construction) at Plot Nos. P/26, P/27, P/28 & P/29 in the Khargpur Industrial Estate under Kalkindia Gram Panchayat having 48.3 Kathas as detailed hereunder: (i) 67.48 Central at Mouza- Sadaspur, J.L. No. 20, S.D. Plot No. 191, Khatian No. 49, P.O. Rajkhaliganj, P.S. Khargpur (Local), District Paschim Medinipur, registered as Lease Deed No. KOP/2018/2019 dated 20.10.2010. (ii) 1.05 Acre of land at Mouza- Sadaspur, J.L. No. 20, S.D. Plot No. 191, Khatian No. 49, P.O. Rajkhaliganj, P.S. Khargpur (Local), District Paschim Medinipur, registered as Lease Deed No. KOP/2018/2019 dated 20.10.2010. (iii) 10.5 M wide Internal Road, South- Boundary wall of Fender Ltd. East- 10.5 M wide Internal Road, West- Plot No. P/26, Khargpur.

Date: 10.08.2019, Place: Kolkata
Authorized Officer, UCO Bank

UCO BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Broad Street Branch, APPENDIX-IV (Rule-8(1))
40/10 Ballygunge Circular Road, POSSESSION NOTICE
Kolkata- 700 019 (For Immovable Property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the UCO Bank, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(d) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the following Borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notices are hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 in the date mentioned against their names.

The Borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the properties and any dealing with the properties will be subject to the charge of the UCO Bank, for the under noted amount and interest thereon.

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

Name of Borrowers	Date of Demand & Possession Notice	Claim Amount as per Demand Notice	Description of the Immovable / Movable Property
M/s Blue Dreamz Print Media Pvt. Ltd., Mr. Santanu Mohanty, Mrs. Dipanwita Saha, Mr. Santanu Mohanty, Mrs. Moushomi	27.05.2016 09.08.2019	₹1,07,08,286.92 (Rupees One Crore Seven Lakh Eight Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Six and Paise Ninety Two Only)	Property-1: All the Raw Material, Work-in-Progress and Finished Goods lying in factory premises at any other place All Book Debts, Receivables, Consumable Stores & Spares and Movable Plant & Machinery including but not limited to following Machines:- Turkey Printing Solution, Catron Graphics, UpiL, Polimer, Laser Technologies, Power Stabilizer, Turkey Printing Solution, SDS Power Diecast, Lester Technologies, Nig Sign Systems, Athered Erges, Catron Graphics, Generator, Electrical Installation.

Date: 10.08.2019, Place: Kolkata
Authorized Officer, UCO Bank

Indian Overseas Bank
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Sealdah Branch, 146/1, B. B. Ganguli Street, Kolkata - 700012, Ph. 2222 6154

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
(Under Proviso to Rule 8(e) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules)

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (SARFESI Act) and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(1)(d) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued demand notices calling upon the following Borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notices within 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notices are hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general and in particular to the Borrowers(s) and Guarantors(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is" and "Whatever there is" on 16.08.2019, for recovery of Rs.1,26,86,176.00 (Rupees One Crore Twenty Six Lakh Eighty Six Thousand One Hundred Seventy Six Only) on 31.07.2019 plus further interest as per contractual rate of interest due to the INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK, Secured Creditor from Mrs. Shreshth Engineering Pvt. Ltd. and (1) Mr. Santosh Kumar Daddich, (2) Mr. Shrinwas Daddich, (3) Mr. Shrinwas Daddich, (4) Mrs. Sarika Daddich, (5) Mrs. Sarwati Daddich, (6) Mrs. Sarwati Daddich, (7) Mr. Gopal Sharma.

The reserve price will be Rs.46,50,386.25 (Rupees Forty Six lakh fifty thousand nine hundred eighty six and Paise twenty five only) and the earnest money deposit will be Rs.46,50,386.25.

(Short description of the immovable property with known encumbrances, if any)
"All that factory shed and godown room dilapidated structure with tiled shed messagings land hereditaments and premises together with piece or parcel or Raygal Dakhil Swaya Baisath Land or ground thereunto belonging and whereon and on part whereof the same is erected and built together with all easement right together with common user of common passages containing an area of 1,07,08,286.92 sq. ft. or 10.5 Acre of land at Mouza- Sadaspur, J.L. No. 20, S.D. Plot No. 191, Khatian No. 49, P.O. Rajkhaliganj, P.S. Khargpur (Local), District Paschim Medinipur, registered as Lease Deed No. KOP/2018/2019 dated 20.10.2010. (ii) 1.05 Acre of land at Mouza- Sadaspur, J.L. No. 20, S.D. Plot No. 191, Khatian No. 49, P.O. Rajkhaliganj, P.S. Khargpur (Local), District Paschim Medinipur, registered as Lease Deed No. KOP/2018/2019 dated 20.10.2010. (iii) 10.5 M wide Internal Road, South- Boundary wall of Fender Ltd. East- 10.5 M wide Internal Road, West- Plot No. P/26, Khargpur.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the Indian Overseas Bank Secured Creditor's website at www.ioib.in & <https://ioib.auctiontigers.net>.

Date: 10.08.2019, Place: Kolkata
Authorized Officer, Indian Overseas Bank

UCO BANK
(A Govt. of India Undertaking)

Zonal Office, Burdwan S.R. Complex, Police Line Bazar, P.O.-Sprigly Dist.-Purba Bardhaman, PIN-713103

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES
LAST DATE & TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS ON/ BEFORE 23.08.2019 upto 4.00 p.m.
(FOR DETAILED TERMS AND CONDITIONS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE: <https://www.bankauctionward.com>)

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of UCO Bank has taken possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 in the following bank accounts/accounts with right to sell on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS AND AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for realization of the Bank's dues and in exercise of powers conferred upon failure to repay the due, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said properties. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Web Portal (<https://www.bankauctionward.com>)

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE / MOVABLE PROPERTIES

Sl. No.	Branch Name of the Authorized Officer & Contact No.	Name of the Borrower & Guarantor	Date of Demand Notice	Amount due as per Demand Notice	Description of the Immovable / Movable Property & their location	Reserve Price / Earnest Money Bid Increase	EMD submission & Account details
1.	Burdwan Branch	Borrower : M/s Sarjee Properties Pvt. Ltd., (i) Mr. Ramdas Dutta 2. Mr. Debasis Dutta 3. Mr. Debasis Dutta	21.11.2014	Rs. 2,27,42,258.22 plus pending interest and charges.	EMTD of security bond no. 1172 dated 17.02.2009 for Tete Deed no. 4733 of 1989 having area of 20.6 aak at RS record plot no. 320/1330, Khatian no. 1695, P.O. 43, holding no.46, Mouza- Burdwan, Burdwan, West Bengal, PIN-713101, West Bengal.	Rs. 247,78,000/-	Alc.No: 0181910308018 UCO BANK IFS Code: UCOB0001899 No LIEN Account

DATE & TIME OF E-AUCTION SALE: 26.08.2019 (10:30 am - 11:30 am) With Unlimited Auto Extension if someone Bids at the Last 5 Minutes.

TERMS & CONDITIONS:

- The Auction is held on "AS IS WHERE IS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS".
- To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized Officer, there is encumbrance on the property and statutory dues (if any) and are known. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property and tax to inspect & satisfy themselves.
- Statutory dues/liabilities etc. due to the Government/Local Body are not known and shall be borne by the successful bidder, if any.
- In case of sale/bid, the bid amount quoted in his bid form must be improved by at least one bid incremental value, lest the sale shall be cancelled/deferred.
- Successful bidder shall bear the charges (if any) payable for registration of the property as per law.
- Sale will not be confirmed if the borrower tenders to the Bank contractual dues along with other expenses prior to the Authorized Officer issuing Sale Confirmation Letter to the successful bidder. In such case the Bank shall refund without interest the entire amount remitted by the successful bidder.
- The interested bidders who require assistance in creating Login ID & Password, updating data, submitting Bid Documents, Training/Documentation on Online Inter-se Bidding etc., may contact Antares Systems Limited, Help Line No., Mr. Kunal Bhoj 07869913157, Mr. Tausik Ghosh 0967458724, Mr. Sunil Sharma, e-mail ID: kunalbhoj@antaresystems.com, tausik@antaresystems.com and for any query regarding any contract, Mr. -Sunit Shama, Mobile No.-8392805211, Email-burda@antares.com.co.in.
- The Bank has designated its Branch Office as facilitation centre to help the intending bidders/buyers.

(FOR DETAILED TERMS AND CONDITIONS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE: <https://www.bankauctionward.com> or <https://ioib.in>)
This Notice is also to be treated as 15 days Statutory sale notice to borrower and Guarantor under Rule 8(e) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Date: 10.08.2019 Place: Burdwan
Authorized Officer, UCO Bank

Boomerang style feature on WhatsApp soon

S P Bureau

San Francisco, Aug 9: Facebook-owned WhatsApp is now working to bring Instagram's popular Boomerang feature for iOS devices. According to WABetaInfo, a website that tracks WhatsApp updates, the popular messaging platform is working on a Boomerang-style feature for iOS, but the functionality could land on Android devices as well.

Boomerang feature on Instagram currently allows users to endlessly loop a video backwards and forwards, almost like a GIF.

WABetaInfo added that feature that would land on WhatsApp would be similar and would allow users to loop a part of any video that is less than seven seconds in length. It was however, not clear when the feature would roll out for users.

Suzuki launches GIXXER 250 priced at Rs 1.59 lakh

S P Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: Suzuki Motorcycle India Pvt Ltd (SMIPL) on Friday announced the launch of its GIXXER 250 bike priced at Rs 1,59,800 (ex-showroom Delhi).

The latest addition to the GIXXER portfolio, the Suzuki GIXXER 250 is powered by a four-cylinder 249cc engine mounted on an easy to handle chassis developed exclusively for Indian market, SMIPL said in a statement.

It is equipped with six-speed gearbox with dual channel Anti-Lock Brake System (ABS) offering better braking efficiency, it added. "This product is a true reflection of Suzuki's legacy in developing high performance motorcycles of superior quality backed by cutting-edge technology. With this addition to the GIXXER portfolio, we look forward to ride upwards and continue the growth momentum," SMIPL Company Head Koichiro Hirasao said.

He said in the last five years, the GIXXER brand has become synonymous with Suzuki's attributes of quality, style and performance.

Sovereign bond sale needs special safeguard: Report

S P Bureau

Mumbai, Aug 9: Safeguards, including defining of borrowing limits, are essential if India were to raise money from abroad through a sovereign bond sale, a report said on Friday. The sovereign bond issue abroad found a mention in Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's budget speech last month, leading to controversy on whether the country should take the step which was not tested even during the 1991 crisis.

In its report, India Ratings said if the government opts for the sovereign borrowing in foreign currency, it should be accompanied by a "well-crafted policy/special safeguard" as foreign exchange reserves is an accumulation of capital account surplus, rather than a current account.

One way of doing it could be to make it part of the Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act, wherein annual limit as well as the total quantum of sovereign borrowings



in foreign currency is defined," it suggested. It added that India's balance of payment (BoP) position is "highly susceptible" to any adverse domestic or global macro development and warned that the "hedge" nature of foreign investments could be "destabilising" for the economy as has been experienced in the recent past as well, pointing to net outflows of USD 16 billion between April-October 2018.

The rating agency said until now, the government has followed a fairly cautious approach by capping the

FPI limit in government securities (G-Secs). It noted the rationale given by the government for such a borrowing, including the external debt-to-GDP level at sub-5 per cent being among the lowest globally, diversification of resources and lower costs of borrowing.

"In the existing framework, allowing FPIs in the onshore market does not carry the currency or refinancing risk, which is present in foreign currency-denominated debt," it pointed out. In a scenario of depreciating currency,

interest and debt obligations of foreign currency-denominated debts balloon and quite often make it unsustainable.

Hedging currency risks carry significant costs and if opted, may make foreign currency-denominated debt less attractive compared with domestic debt, it said. Monetary policy transmission may also be affected through such a move as the rates will be decided by developments in global financial markets, it said. It can be noted that a wide array of experts, including former Reserve Bank Governors have flagged such a move as a risky bet and advised against going ahead, while some like billionaire banker Uday Kotak has been supporting it.

Amid reports of the Government mulling to raise USD 10 billion in the next few months, former RBI Governor D Subbarao has said he will be ok with the government "testing" the markets but advised against high issuances.

Sensex jumps 255 pts; Nifty tops 11,100

S P Bureau

Mumbai, Aug 9: Extending gains for the second straight session, the BSE Sensex jumped 255 points on Friday on expectations of measures from the Centre to revive economic growth and address tax concerns.

Reports of a meeting between Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) to put together a package to boost investor sentiment to lift the market mood, traders said. After rallying 480 points during the day, the 30-share Sensex settled 254.55 points or 0.68 per cent higher at 37,819.19. It had an intra-day high of 37,807.55 and a low of 37,406.26.

The broader NSE Nifty jumped 77.20 points or 0.70 per cent to 11,109.65. During the day, it hit a high of 11,181.45 and a low of 11,062.80.

Top gainers in the Sensex pack included Maruti, Bajaj Finance, Vedanta, HDFC twins, HUL, Kotak Bank and



ICICI bank, which surged up to 3.36 per cent.

On the other hand, Yes Bank was the biggest laggard, cracking 7.91 per cent. Tech Mahindra, Tata Motors, Tata Steel, ITC and Sun Pharma too fell up to 2.50 per cent. According to experts, expectations of multiple measures from the government to revive economic growth after Sitharaman and finance ministry officials met captains of the industry on Thursday led the rally

in domestic equities. Elsewhere in Asia, Shanghai Composite index, Hang Seng, Kospi and Nikkei ended on a mixed note. Equities in Europe were trading in the red in their respective early sessions.

Meanwhile, the Indian rupee depreciated 12 paise to 70.81 against the US dollar intra-day.

Brent crude futures, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.73 per cent to USD 57.80 per barrel.

Uber reports \$5.2 bn loss in Q2 as growth falls

S P Bureau

San Francisco, Aug 9: Struggling after a lacklustre initial public offering (IPO) in May, global ride-hailing major Uber has posted its quarter two (Q2) results, which is of \$5.2 billion, the biggest loss that the company has ever posted.

The firm reportedly attributed more than half of its loss to expenses related and to stock compensation paid to staffers after its IPO. "Our platform strategy continues to deliver strong results, with Trips up 35 per cent and Gross Bookings up 37 per cent in constant currency, compared to the second quarter of last year," Dara Khosrowshahi, CEO of Uber said in a statement.

In July, the platform reached over 100 million Monthly Active Platform Consumers for the first time. "While we will continue to invest aggressively in growth, we also want it to be healthy growth and this quarter we made good progress in

that direction," Uber Chief Financial Officer Nelson Chai said.

"In Q2, Adjusted Net Revenue grew 26 per cent year-over-year in constant currency and excluding our Driver Appreciation Award, which is an acceleration from Q1," added Chai. Uber had a slow growth in Q1 and lost its \$1 billion. The ride-hailing giant had a rocky start after it became a publicly-traded company. When it issued its initial public offering in May, its stock fell by nearly 8 per cent.

In a document posted on LinkedIn last week as "Exit Uber Marketers," nearly 20 Indians employed with the cab aggregator lost their jobs in the recent round of layoff at the company. Khosrowshahi has been rejigging the team and recently, the company announced the retirement of three board members along with its Chief Operating Officer Barney Harford and Chief Marketing Officer Rebecca Messina.

Hindalco Q1 profit drops 28% to Rs 1,063 crore



S P Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: Aditya Birla Group flagship firm Hindalco Industries on Friday posted 27.9 per cent decline in consolidated profit at Rs 1,062.89 crore for June quarter 2019 on the back of lower commodity prices and the global downturn. The company had posted a profit of Rs 1,474.69 crore in the year-ago period, Hindalco Industries said in a filing to BSE.

Revenue from operations in April-June dropped to

Rs 30,268.20 crore from Rs 31,205.61 crore in the year-ago period. "While profits were impacted by the global downturn and lower commodity prices, Hindalco held its ground and delivered a steady performance," the company said in a statement.

"We continued to maintain our strong position in aluminium and copper in Q1 FY'20 despite headwinds. The resilient performance owes as much to our backward integration, resource security, strong balance sheet, operational

capabilities and rich product portfolio," Hindalco Industries Managing Director Satish Pai said.

"Today, 79 per cent of Hindalco's consolidated EBITDA is non-LME linked, reflecting a balanced and sustainable business model, which will serve us well in all market conditions," Pai said. Novelis led from the front to achieve record quarterly results, and the Indian businesses put up a resilient show amid subdued economic conditions, the company said.

"Profit After Tax was at Rs 1,063 crore in Q1 FY20 compared to Rs 1,475 crore in the corresponding quarter last year," the statement said. The company further said all regulatory approvals for the Alert acquisition continue to progress and are expected to close in the third quarter of 2019-20. Utkal Alumina's brownfield capacity expansion is on track and is expected to be operational by the middle of 2020-21 financial year.

Gems, jewellery exports dip 8.48%



S P Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: Gems and jewellery exports declined by 8.48 per cent to USD 9.7 billion during April-July this fiscal, mainly on account of slowdown in demand in major developed markets. According to data from the Gems and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC), exports stood at USD 10.6 billion in the same period of 2018-19.

The labour-intensive sector contributes about 15 per cent to the country's overall exports. The decline in shipments is mainly due to negative growth in the export of cut and polished diamonds, coloured gem stones, and gold jewellery.

According to the data, cut and polished diamonds exports contracted 17.5 per cent. Similarly, outbound shipments of coloured gem stones dipped by 10 per cent during the first four months of the fiscal. Exports of gold jewellery declined by 4.8 per cent to USD 4 billion. But, exports of gold medallions and coins grew to USD 309 million during the period under review.

India's main export destinations are the US, Europe, Japan and China. America accounts for about one-fourth of the country's total gems and jewellery exports. The gems and jewellery exports declined 5.32 per cent to USD 30.96 billion in 2018-19.

Micro hydro projects in limbo for lack of funds

Vishal Gulati

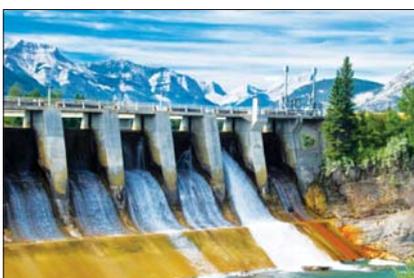
Shimla, Aug 9: Environment-friendly micro hydropower projects were losing steam across the country with the Centre's failure to revive financial assistance for two years to both government and private sector for setting up facilities.

Investors in Himachal Pradesh said that most of the projects have been hanging in limbo since April 1, 2017, when the capital subsidy of Rs 1.25 crore for a project up to 100 kw was abruptly halted. The construction cost of a project of 100 kw capacity varies from Rs 1.5 crore to Rs 2.25 crore. "A total of 55 mini hydropower projects in Himachal Pradesh were almost at a standstill owing to the lack of funds after the scrapping of the Central assistance scheme," independent power producer Amit Walia, who has been allocated a hydro project in the hills of Dharamsala, told.

He said there was no clear-cut timeframe, either of the state or the Central government, on the revival of the subsidy despite declaring all hydro projects as renewable energy. As per the Centre's policy, the micro projects were meant to fulfill power requirements of remote areas in a decentralised manner.

In a communication to Walia on July 30 this year, the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy said the last (financial assistance) scheme had ended in 2017. Now the Ministry will bring in a new scheme very soon, which is under the active consideration of the government, wrote Under Secretary (Small Hydro Power Division) B.S. Negi.

Interestingly, the government scrapped the scheme in 2017 which was declared as the year for



hydropower. Even the Ministry in a communication to Himurja, the state's nodal agency for renewable energy programmes, on July 25, 2018, claimed that it was in the process of revising the small hydropower scheme.

It had asked Himurja not to forward any new proposal for capital subsidy till the new policy was announced. The Ministry, which claimed that the financial assistance scheme was ended in April 2017, in an official communication to Himurja on May 25, 2017, sought documents like detailed project report and statutory clearance of 55 projects for extending the financial support. "On the one hand the Ministry is claiming that the financial assistance scheme came to end on April 1, 2017, and on the other it was seeking documents on May 25 for scrutinizing the proposals for financial assistance. This is something surprising," Walia said.

According to him, the Union ministry seemed no longer looking at formulating a new scheme for reviving hydropower projects in the country. In a reply in the Lok Sabha on July 18, Union Minister R.K. Singh said the clearance of the Ministry was not required for setting up of small, mini or micro hydropower projects.

It only provides incentives in the form of central financial assistance to the eligible project developers as per prevailing scheme guidelines. He said 64 proposals were received by the Ministry for availing subsidy in the last three years. These included 16 from Himachal, seven from Uttarakhand and nine from Gujarat. In a reply to another question in the Lok Sabha, the Minister said the aggregate capacity of small hydro projects commissioned by June 30 in the country was 4,604.81 MW. A total of 116 small projects aggregating to 589.99 MW capacity were

under construction in the country and 1,118 were commissioned. A financial assistance of Rs 46,482 lakh was extended between 2016 and 2019 to projects located across the country.

"We have invested heavily to complete initial formalities relating to the project. The government's plan to financially assist the upcoming projects is lying in a limbo for over two years now. We don't know whether the new scheme would have a provision of central financial assistance or not," asked another state developer Chander Shekhar. Added Avnish Mahajan: "The construction and machinery costs have escalated and till our projects are approved for the central financial assistance the project costs would be abnormally high or even not financially viable." The Union Finance Ministry has asked the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to rework the new hydro policy and reduce dependence on budgetary support, a senior official with the latter told, requesting anonymity. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy website still invites applications for the financial assistance for micro hydro projects. A recent parliamentary committee report cited the sluggish growth in the hydropower sector to "lack of coordination among the ministries, state governments and agencies related with the development of hydro power".

Hydropower during the previous United Progressive Alliance (UPA) regime got a big boost. In Himachal Pradesh, out of the total assessed hydro potential of 27,436 MW, a total of 10,547 MW has been harnessed till December 2018, which is 38.44 per cent of the total potential.

Sterlite Power bags 2 projects worth over Rs 3,000 cr

S P Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: Sterlite Power on Friday said it has won two inter-state power transmission projects worth over Rs 3,000 crore. One of the projects bagged by the company is the Udupi-Kasaragod project which will decongest the ISTS (Inter State Transmission System) corridor and facilitate smoother power flow within Karnataka and Kerala, Sterlite Power said in a statement.

The other win is the GEC project of Lakadibia

Vadodra (WRSS 21-Part B) in Gujarat. The project will help connect the wind energy zones of Bhuj region to the load centres of Gujarat and Maharashtra.

With these wins, Sterlite Power adds renewable transmission to its portfolio in India. "These projects awarded through competitive bidding have secured much lower tariff than the cost-plus tariff estimate and thus play a crucial role in enabling access to affordable power envisioned by the government," Pratik

Agarwal, Group CEO, Sterlite Power said.

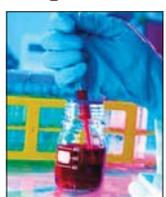
The Udupi project consists of 400 KV transmission line (120 km) from Udupi in Karnataka to Kasaragode in Kerala along with a 400 KV GIS substation. The second project (WRSS-21 Part B) involves laying of 325 km of 765 KV transmission line from 765/400 KV Lakadibia Substation to Vadodra in Gujarat. Sterlite Power is a developer of power transmission infrastructure with projects of over 13,315 circuit kms and 23,885 MVA in India and Brazil.

Alembic Pharma gets tentative nod from USFDA for ophthalmic solution

S P Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: Drug firm Alembic Pharmaceuticals on Friday said it has received tentative approval from the US health regulator for Bimatoprost Ophthalmic Solution, indicated for the reduction of elevated intraocular pressure in patients with open angle glaucoma or ocular hypertension.

The approved product is therapeutically equivalent to the reference listed drug product Lumigan ophthalmic solution 0.01



per cent, of Allergan Inc. The company has received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) for its abbreviated new drug

application (ANDA) for Bimatoprost Ophthalmic Solution 0.01 per cent, Alembic Pharmaceuticals said in a BSE filing.

Quoting IQVIA sales data, the company said, Bimatoprost Ophthalmic Solution has an estimated market size of USD 704 million for 12 months, ending December 2018. The company said it now has a total of 100 ANDA approvals from the USFDA. Shares of Alembic Pharmaceuticals were trading 0.91 per cent higher at Rs 534.75 per share on BSE.

US says no policy change on Kashmir

Lalit K Jha

Washington, Aug 9: The United States on Friday said that there is no change in its policy on Kashmir and called on India and Pakistan to maintain calm and restraint.

"No", replied State Department Spokesperson Morgan Ortugas when asked by reporters if there has been any change in America's policy on Kashmir.

The US policy has been that Kashmir is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan and it is up to the two countries to decide on the pace and scope of the talks on the issue. "And if there was, I certainly wouldn't be announcing it here, but no, there's not," Ortugas said in response to a follow-up question.

She said the United States supports dialogue between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

"It's something that we've called for calm and restraint by all parties. We want to main peace and stability, and we, of course, support direct dialogue between India and Pakistan on Kashmir and other issues of concern," the US State Department spokesperson said.

India had on Monday revoked provisions of Article 370 to take away Jammu and Kashmir's special status, and bifurcating the state into two union territories - Jammu and Kashmir, and Ladakh.

Ortugas said the US was working closely with the two South Asian countries.

"We have a lot of engagement with India and Pakistan. Obviously, we just had Prime Minister Khan here, not just because of Kashmir. That's certainly an incredibly important issue and something that we follow closely. But

we have a host of issues that we work with India on quite closely and that we work with Pakistan on quite closely," she said.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo had met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in Bangkok last week.

Responding to a question on Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan's allegations of human rights violations in Kashmir, Ortugas said, "I really don't want to go beyond what we've said, because it's such a tenuous issue. It's something that we're talking to them about quite closely."

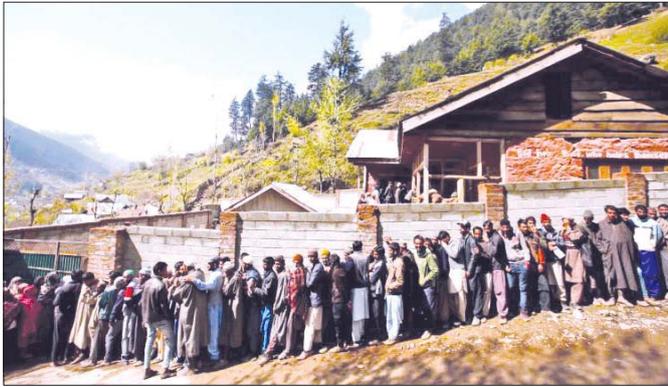
"The United States, whenever it comes to any region in the world where there are tensions, asks for people to observe the rule of law, respect for human rights, respect for international norms. We ask people to maintain peace and security and direct dialogue," she said.

The State Department spokesperson said the US was closely monitoring the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

"There are reports, as you've mentioned, of detentions and restrictions of residents in Jammu and in Kashmir. And again, that's why we continue to monitor this very, very closely," she said. Ortugas reiterated earlier statements that the US was not consulted and informed by India about its decision on scrapping articles 370 and 35A of the Indian Constitution.

"There was no heads up given," she said. Successive US administrations' policies have been to encourage India and Pakistan to resolve their differences through dialogue.

The Trump administration has insisted that Pakistan needs to create conducive conditions for talks by taking irreversible and decisive actions against terrorist and militant groups operating from its soil.



Meanwhile, after Acting Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Alice Wells, another senior US diplomat is heading to India.

The visit was pre-scheduled but it would be used to discuss the current issues, Ortugas said.

"Deputy Secretary of State John J Sullivan will travel to Thimphu, Bhutan, and New Delhi, August 11 through 17th to advance the United States partnership with two nations that are critical to preserving the rules-based order in the Indo-Pacific region," the US State Department spokesperson said.

In Bhutan, she said, Sullivan will explore expanding and deepening the

ties with the government and people of Bhutan.

The deputy secretary will be the highest-level executive branch official from the United States to visit Bhutan in over two decades, Ortugas added. She said Sullivan will then travel to New Delhi to advance the "broad and multifaceted" US-India Strategic Partnership, which is based on a shared commitment to democratic values, economic growth and rule of law.

"There, the deputy secretary will meet Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar and address the India-US Forum," Ortugas said.

UNSC resolution on Kashmir cited by Pakistan has killer clause

Arul Louis

United Nations, Aug 9: The UN Security Council resolution on the Kashmir plebiscite that is invoked by Pakistan has a killer clause that scared away Islamabad right from Day One. It has to withdraw from all of Jammu and Kashmir not only its troops but also its

Ministry, has explained from his ringside perspective why a plebiscite is not possible. Pakistan has sabotaged proposal.

In his 1967 book, "The Kashmir Story", he wrote: "Pakistan never wanted a plebiscite. In spite of a plethora of statements of its leaders to the contrary, acceptance of plebiscite by its government was insincere. All available evidence goes to show that it did everything in its power to prevent a plebiscite from being held. In this endeavour, it achieved complete and unqualified success."

The reason Pakistan was afraid of the plebiscite was that the raiders and troops it had sent in "had indulged in loot, arson, rape, and murder in the State. Scores of villages and towns were destroyed and hundreds of thousands of people uprooted. A large number of women were abducted and sold", he wrote.

"These were hardly the ways of winning the votes," he wrote. Instead of holding the plebiscite when it was proposed - and agreed to by India - "Pakistan wanted to mark time, pinning its faith on the hope that memories are short, time might heal the wounds, and better opportunities might come in the future", Sharma wrote.

The Council has adopted 18 resolutions concerning India and Pakistan between 1948 and 1971 - when the last one was adopted after the Bangladesh War.

Thereafter, it has stayed away from Kashmir and India-Pakistan issues - an implicit acknowledgment of the 1972 Simla Agreement between then-Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who was Pakistan's president at that time, which laid down that disputes between the two nations were bilateral matters shunting out third party involvement.

After intermittent attempts at resurrecting the plebiscite proposal, the Council dropped its efforts in 1957, even though Pakistan has been raising it without referring to the concomitant demand for it to leave Kashmir.

In its first action on Kashmir, the Council decided on January 17, 1948, to invite India and Pakistan to hold direct talks under the "guidance" of its president. A resolution adopted that day asked the two countries to not aggravate the situation and tone down rhetoric.

On January 20, 1948, the Council set up a three-member commission to investigate the situation in Kashmir and also to exercise "mediatory influence". Later Resolution 47 enlarged it into a five-member panel.

In 1950, the Council passed another resolution on the plebiscite, but without reiterating the demand for Pakistan to withdraw its personnel, only calling for a demilitarisation on both sides. It did not, however, formally rescind Resolution 47's requirement that Pakistan pullback its "tribesmen" and others.

Seeing through Pakistan's ruse of trying to create an impression that it was a spontaneous uprising, the resolution made the withdrawal of the "tribesmen" as the first condition.

Only after a commission set up by the Council was satisfied the Pakistani "tribesmen" had cleared out that India was required to progressively reduce its forces to "the minimum strength required for the support of the civil power in the maintenance of law and order", the resolution said.

This was to be followed by the plebiscite - which never took place because Pakistan refused to comply with the Council resolution. Called Resolution 47, it was proposed by Taiwan, which was then a permanent member holding China's seat, and adopted unanimously.

The resolution, in effect, left it to Pakistan to start the process as it did not have any punitive or enforcement measures like sanction to ensure it was obeyed.

Secretary-General Antonio Guterres drew attention to the resolution when he said in a statement on Thursday that "applicable Security Council resolutions". That effectively puts the issue back into the circular trap.

B.L. Sharma, who was an officer on special duty for Kashmir Affairs in the External Affairs

nationals who are not from there before it can take place. This primary demand of the Council is not mentioned by Pakistan - or its apologists - when harping on the plebiscite part. Islamabad's initial fears about leaving the territory that had seized and being routed in a plebiscite sabotaged it and trapped the Kashmir issue in a 72-year quagmire.

The resolution adopted on April 21, 1948, had proposed a three-step process for the plebiscite and the first required Pakistan to withdraw "tribesmen and Pakistani nationals not normally resident therein who have entered for the purpose of fighting and to prevent intrusion into the state such elements and furnishing of material aid to those fighting in the state".

The resolution spoke of "tribesmen" because Pakistan had sent its military personnel disguised as tribesmen along with some Pashtuns into Kashmir to take over the territory, which triggered Kashmir Maharaja Hari Singh's decision to join India after his initial reluctance.

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UN chief recalls Simla Agreement between India and Pakistan, appeals for maximum restraint

Yoshita Singh

United Nations, Aug 9: UN chief Antonio Guterres has recalled the Simla Agreement of 1972, a bilateral agreement between India and Pakistan that rejects third-party mediation in Kashmir after Islamabad asked him to play his "due role" following New Delhi's decision to revoke Jammu and Kashmir's special status.

Guterres' spokesman Stephane Dujarric said at the daily press briefing that the Secretary General has been following the situation in Jammu and Kashmir "with concern and makes an appeal for maximum restraint".

The Secretary-General also "recalls the 1972 Agreement on bilateral relations between India and Pakistan, also known as the Simla Agreement, which states that the final status of Jammu and Kashmir is to be settled by peaceful means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations".

The emphasis by the UN Chief on the Simla

Agreement, that states that Kashmir is a bilateral issue between India and Pakistan and does away with any third-party mediation, comes just a day after Pakistan's envoy to the UN Maleeha Lodhi met Guterres' Chief of Cabinet Maria Luiza Ribeiro Viotti asking the Secretary General to "play his due role" following India's decision on Monday to revoke Article 370.

Lodhi also met President of UN Security Council for the month of August Polish Ambassador Joanna Wronecka over Kashmir.

"No comments," Wronecka said at the Security Council stakeout at the UN headquarters Thursday, walking away as she was asked about the letter from Pakistan Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi to the Security Council on Kashmir.

It needs to be noted here that the Secretary General did not offer his good offices nor did he make any offer to mediate between India and Pakistan on Kashmir. Instead he referred



to the Simla Agreement, which is a bilateral agreement between India and Pakistan and rejects any third-party mediation in the issue.

Guterres also called "on all parties to refrain from taking steps" that could affect the status of Jammu and Kashmir, comments that come in the wake of Pakistan's decision to downgrade diplomatic relations with India and suspend bilateral trade.

Pakistan also announced

that it will not be sending its High Commissioner-designate to India. Pakistan's new High Commissioner Moin-ul-Haq was expected to leave for India this month to take up his responsibilities.

Dujarric said the "position of the United Nations on this region is governed by the Charter of the United Nations and applicable Security Council resolutions."

When asked if the Secretary General plans to bring the

Kashmir issue to the Security Council, Dujarric replied, "I'm not aware of any plans to brief", adding that the letter from the Pakistani Foreign Minister was circulated to the Security Council at their request.

"There've been contacts from the Secretariat both with Indian authorities and with Pakistani authorities," he said, adding that contacts have been made between the UN Secretariat and the Permanent Missions of India and Pakistan.

When asked to be more specific on the position of the United Nations, Dujarric said "I'm not going to go into more specifics."

On whether the Secretary General thinks that there is a need to monitor the situation in Kashmir closely through a Special Envoy, Dujarric said, "The Secretary-General is following the situation very closely. The Secretariat is following the situation very closely, but I have nothing to announce or to hint at towards the issue of a Special Envoy."

Nagasaki seeks nuke ban on 74th A-bomb anniversary

SP Bureau

Nagasaki (Japan), Aug 9: Nagasaki on Friday marked the 74th anniversary of its atomic bombing by the US at the end of World War II in 1945, with the city's Mayor urging the Japanese government to immediately sign a UN treaty banning nuclear weapons.

A moment of silence was observed at 11:02 a.m., the exact time on August 9, 1945, when a plutonium-core atomic bomb codenamed "Fat Man" dropped by a US bomber exploded over the south-western Japan city, three days after Washington dropped the world's first deployed atomic bomb on Hiroshima, reports Kyodo News Agency.

"As the only country in the world to have experienced the devastation caused by nuclear weapons, Japan must sign and ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons as soon as possible," Tomihisa Tate said.

The Mayor spoke at the annual ceremony held at the Peace Park which was attended by 5,200 people and representatives from around 70 countries including all five recognized nuclear powers - Britain, China, France, Russia and the US - as well as



the UN and the European Union. The Mayor had urged the central government to sign the international treaty at the two previous annual ceremonies, but this year used a stronger and more direct expression.

The treaty was adopted in July 2017 by 122 UN members but is not yet in force as it has not been ratified by the required 50 states.

Japan has refused to sign the treaty along with other countries under

the US nuclear umbrella, as have the world's nuclear weapons states, Kyodo News Agency reported.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe pledged at the ceremony that Japan would continue its efforts to be a "bridge between nuclear weapon states and non-nuclear weapon states" and realize a world without nuclear weapons.

But he did not refer to the treaty. The anniversary ceremonies in the two Japanese atom-bombed cities were held amid rising concerns about a new arms race following the US formal withdrawal last week from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty signed with Russia in 1987.

Tate also called on the US and Russia to "assume responsibility as nuclear superpowers by demonstrating to the world concrete ways to drastically reduce nuclear stockpiles".

An estimated 74,000 people had died as a result of the atomic bombing of Nagasaki by the end of 1945, according to the city.

The combined number of surviving "hibakushi" or survivors from the two atomic bombings stood at 145,844 as of March, down about 9,000 from a year earlier.

China calls on India, Pak to resolve disputes through talks as Qureshi arrives for talks

K J M Varma

Beijing, Aug 9: China on Friday called on India and Pakistan to resolve their disputes through dialogue and negotiation as Pakistan Foreign Minister arrived here to seek Beijing's support after New Delhi revoked the special status to Jammu and Kashmir.

Informed sources here said Shah Mahmood Qureshi is in Beijing to seek, all-weather ally China's support for Pakistan's efforts to ratchet-up the Kashmir issue.

"We call on Pakistan and India to resolve disputes through dialogue and negotiation and jointly uphold regional peace and stability," it said in a written response circulated to the media here.

The pressing priority is that the relevant party should stop unilaterally changing the status quo and avoid escalation of tension," China said without directly referring to India's decision to revoke article 370.



China on August 6 objected to the formation of Ladakh as Union Territory by India, saying it undermined its territorial sovereignty.

Qureshi's visit comes ahead of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's three-day trip here starting from August 11 during which he is scheduled to hold wide-ranging talks with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi.

His visit, the first objected to by an Indian minister to China after Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government commenced its second term, has been scheduled earlier.

Both Jaishankar and Wang would hold the 2nd India-China people-to-people exchange mechanism and address the 4th India-China Media Summit Forum on August 12.



SP Bureau

SRK quips about not making too many hit films

fans, quipped: "Many years ago in 2006-07, I came here when I was a rising superstar, giving hit film after hit film. Now I am back, still a rising superstar not making as many hit films (chuckles) as I would want."

His good friend and filmmaker Karan Johar was also present at the event. Talking about Shah Rukh, Karan said: "He fully represents superstardom. I firmly believe, in the era we belonged to, the term is understood because of him. It's not just about his large heart but his tremendous presence and aura. The fact that he is an outstanding actor is huge icing on the cake."

Karan thanked the people behind the festival for making it what it is. "I have to start by thanking Mitu Bhowmick Lange (director of the festival) who has been such a strong force right through the festival. It's not the films but the people behind the festival who make it what it is. When I see this fantastic panel and the panel is reflective of the glorious courage of our films and changing

face of Indian cinema. It represents three feature films that have changed the way we look at Indian cinema and how it has travelled across the globe and will continue to do so. There is 'Super Deluxe', 'Andhadhun' and 'Gully Boy'. All of these have appealed not only to the diaspora but to international audiences across the globe, making Indian cinema so proud," he said. Also in attendance were filmmakers Zoya Akhtar, Rima Das, Thiagarajan Kumararaja and Sriram Raghavan, and actors Tabu and Arjun Kapoor. "It's been 10

wonderful years of the festival. I'm so grateful for all the guests who have come here year on year and been part of the festival. I'm extremely humbled and excited to have Shah Rukh Khan here as our chief guest and to have the friend of our festival and one of the best film directors of India, Karan Johar. And the esteemed panel of guests," said Mitu Bhowmick Lange.

The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne will go on from August 8 to 15. The festival will screen over 60 films from all across India and the subcontinent in over 22 languages.

The Indian Film Festival of Melbourne kick started their tenth year celebrations in Melbourne on Thursday. Superstar Shah Rukh Khan, the guest of honour at the festival, couldn't help but take a jibe at himself for not making as many hits as he would like to.

SRK had earlier shot for the 2007 blockbuster "Chak De! India" in Australia, and he said that he is happy to be back in the country. The superstar, whose last few releases including "Zero" and "Fan" have failed to live up to expectations of

the Indian Film Festival of Melbourne will go on from August 8 to 15. The festival will screen over 60 films from all across India and the subcontinent in over 22 languages.



Playing Jojo's character emotionally exhausting: Surveen Chawla

Justin Rao

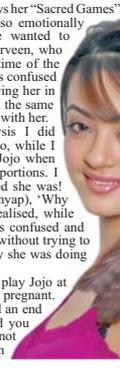
Surveen Chawla says her "Sacred Games" character, Jojo, was so emotionally challenging that she wanted to run away from it. Surveen, who was pregnant at the time of the shooting, said she was confused about Jojo while playing her in the first season but at the same time, she empathised with her. "This is an analysis I did only a few weeks ago, while I was reflecting upon Jojo when I went to dub some portions. I realised how damaged she was! I asked Anurag (Kashyap), 'Why did she do this?' I realised, while I was shooting, I was confused and I let the character be without trying to find a logic as to why she was doing that," Surveen told.

"It was difficult to play Jojo at a time when I was pregnant. You are trying to find an end to your emotions and you don't have it. It is not the best place to be in when you are preg-

nant. I wanted to sometimes just run away from it."

The first season of Netflix's first India original was directed by Anurag and Vikramaditya Motwane, who also served as its showrunner. For season two, Anurag is joined by Neeraj Ghaywan to helm the series. Surveen played Saif Ali Khan and Nawazuddin Siddiqui in the lead.

Surveen said her trust in Anurag Kashyap as a director was one of the reasons for her to say yes to the role. "I have worked with Anurag in the past and I trust him. If he asks me to jump, I will ask him how high? That's it... The season one length didn't matter to me. I had absolute confidence in the fact that they were going to do something fantastic with her." The show starts steaming from August 15.



Natalie Portman's 'Lucy in the Sky' to release on October 4

SP Bureau

Natalie Portman-starrer astronaut drama "Lucy in the Sky" has finally been given a release date by Fox Searchlight. The studio, now owned by Disney, will release the film in the US on October 4, according to The Hollywood Reporter.

Inspired by true events, the movie explores the theory that astronauts who spend long periods of time in space begin to lose their sense of reality when they return home. Portman stars as Lucy Cola, "who returns to Earth after a transcendent experience during a mission to space and begins to lose touch with reality in a world that now seems too small", according to the film's official plotline. Directed by Noah Hawley of "Fargo" and "Legion" fame, the film also features Jon Hamm, Dan Stevens, Zazie Beetz and Ellen Burstyn.



Tribute film to Rituparno Ghosh gets UN backing

SP Bureau

A tribute film to the late acclaimed Bengali filmmaker Rituparno Ghosh has evinced interest of the United Nations. Under their campaign "Free & Equal", the UN has announced its decision to collaborate with the Indian feature film, "A Tribute To Rituparno Ghosh: Season's Greeting", in order to spread awareness about the cause of LGBTQIA.

Directed by Ram Kamal Mukherjee, "A Tribute to Rituparno Ghosh: Season's Greetings" stars actresses Celina Jaitley and Lillete Dubey in the lead. "I am extremely proud of the fact that the United Nations has agreed to be the film's Social Cause partner under their 'Free & Equal' campaign. The film's release comes at a historic moment for India's lesbian, gay, bi and trans population, following the decision of the country's Supreme

Court to strike down a colonial-era ban on consensual same-sex relationships and previous court judgements affirming the rights of transgender people," said Celina.

Director Ram Kamal Mukherjee expressed, "This was unexpected and yet a pleasant surprise. I was overwhelmed with the UN's detailed feedback on the film. I am sure Rituparno would have been the happiest today."

"Films like this can play a critical role in starting and sustaining those conversations. We look forward to help raise awareness of some of the issues the film touches upon -- from acceptance of same-sex relationships, to the lives of LGBTQIA people in India," said Rikke Hennum, United Nations Free & Equal Campaign Manager. "A Tribute to Rituparno Ghosh: Season's Greetings" deals with a mother and daughter relationship that ends with an unexpected twist in the tale.

Wives on tour: Priyanka posts pics from Jonas Brothers' tour

SP Bureau

Indian actress Priyanka Chopra Jonas has shared photographs from the Jonas Brothers "Happiness Begins" world tour, which kicked off in Miami. After posting a string of Instagram stories and videos from the concert, Priyanka shared the photographs of "I sisters" -- Sophie Turner and Danielle Jonas. She captioned the image: "#wivesontour Danielle Jonas and Sophie Turner." The "Isn't It Romantic" actress had also shared an image of herself along with her husband -- Aishwarya Rai Bachchan.

Nick Jonas, Sophie with Joe Jonas and Danielle with Kevin Jonas. "Family, Happiness Begins sold out tour! Crushed it! So proud of you guys," she captioned it. On the work front, Priyanka is slated that her film "The Sky Is Pink", helmed by Shonali Bose, will have its world premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) on September 13. "The Sky Is Pink" is a love story of a couple -- Aditi and Niren Chaudhary -- spanning 25 years. It is told through the lens of their daughter -- Aisha Chaudhary, who is diagnosed with a terminal illness.



Slice of Italy in Kolkata

Anit Mukerjee

After the closure of Fippos in Kolkata, the one of its kind premier Italian restaurants which once reigned supreme dishing out the choicest Italian pasta at throw away prices to those days, "Fire and Ice", a relatively new Italian restaurant right in the hub of Chowringhee and Middleton Street is here to stay, pampering the food taste buds of the citizens of this metropolis.

Covering a sweeping area, this restaurant also the one of its kind in this city provides accommodations for 120 people which aims to perpetuate the legacy of its earlier predecessor Fippos in maintaining hygiene standard quality food fare. The management is very exacting in its standards in the authenticity of delicious cuisines on offer and maintaining the ethnicity of Naples and Milan in Italy.

To create the desired ambience of Mama Mia representative of the Mediterranean terrain, classic films of the past showcasing such Italian screen icons as Sophia Loren, Alberto Sordi, Anna Magnani, Gina Lollobrigida, Marcello Mastroianni et al that form the décor set against stucco walls adorned with posters and lobby cards. To enhance the romance and nostalgia soft lighting effect coupled with classical music and Italian opera give the winning and dining the appropriate edge. Annamaria Forgiione, the Managing Director and one of the wrong side of sixty is a charming personality who is an expert entrepreneur hailing from Naples has arrived in Kolkata in 2004.

Much earlier in 1995, she established "Fire and Ice" in Kathmandu. This was at the behest of the Italian Ambassador who suggested the idea to her to start an Italian restaurant in India to popularise the cuisine from that country. The basic objective of coming to Kolkata was to initiate a micro-financing project that was implemented by IMC (Indian Institute Mother and Child). This project



Annamaria Forgiione

would loan a cow for the mother and child and the loan would be repaid with the supply of metres of milk that rural women of Bengal would bring to the dairy farm at Sonapur.

Under Annamaria's grooming, these women became more self-reliant and independent learning to make mozzarella cheese thus providing the supply of the commodity to the restaurant which opened its portals to the public in 2005. When asked about the basic objective of bringing authentic Italian cuisine to Kolkata the MD of Fire and Ice stated:

"When I first arrived in Kolkata from Kathmandu, my friends were inviting me to sample some of the local delicacies. I then realized that I had the biggest competitor in the traditional Bengali food which Italian cuisine was no match. It took a lot of courage and patience to adjust to

this changed scenario and gradually within three years, the restaurant began to gain momentum and be recognized and well known". The clientele ropes in mostly businessmen, corporate honchos, and celebrities. The restaurant is known to have entertained the likes of Cricketer Deep Dasgupta, Moon Moon Sen's family, Tollywood actor Ranjit Mullick, Tabla Maestro Bikram Ghosh, British skipper Ian Morgan and dignitaries such as railway minister Dinesh Trivedi, former Governor of West Bengal Gopal Krishna Gandhi and renowned pop singer Ricky Martin.

The preparation of Italian dishes here incorpo-



rates several varieties of pastas with miscellaneous sauces including tomato and cheese sauce as accompaniments. This includes risotto which is a combination of fine grained rice cooked in butter, small onions with mushrooms or chicken liver thrown in seasoned with salt pepper and imported Italian herbs stirred in with grated cheese simply melts in the mouth. Among the pasta dishes served are spaghetti dipped in tomato sauce and garnished with basil leaves is a must try.

Another variety of pasta is soaked in a thick delicious sauce that combines garlic, fresh tomatoes basil garnished with bell peppers and grated mozzarella cheese is simply delicious and easy to digest. As appetizer red and white wine, Champagne and other hard drinks are available before meals a perfect accompaniment with guocchi, dumplings fried in butter. It is also popular for its pizzas made delicate with a thin crust layered in miscel-

laneous bell peppers, fresh vegetables garnished with fat free mozzarella cheese along with imported Mediterranean herbs and spices prepared in virgin olive oil with the fragrance of basil.

Other Italian specialties that are on popular demand are baked Baked served with mixed boiled vegetables and AI fime which combines spaghetti with tiger prawns, the taste of which brings Italy closer to our heart. The pasta dishes are the well chosen fresh ingredients, coupled with the herbs of dried oregano, dried thyme and fresh basil cooked in olive oil with a dash of red wine which augments the flavour that has a touch of North and South Italy -- Milan and Naples. The drinks and the food combined bring in the chemistry of fire and ice by which name the restaurant has been christened. Those who have not been here before, it is really well worth a try to taste a slice of Italy in Kolkata. Bon Appetite.

Ultimate TT Dabang Delhi to face U Mumba in 1st semifinal

SP Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: Dabang Delhi held their nerves to score a tight 8-7 victory over Chennai Lions in the last league tie here on Thursday but will still face table-toppers U Mumba in the first semifinal of the Ultimate Table Tennis on Friday.

Their victory was not enough to stop U Mumba from catapulting themselves to the second position with 42 points, earning a clash against Goa Challengers in the second semifinal on Saturday. Delhi finished at par with the Challengers with 41 points, but won fewer matches than the team from Goa.

Germany's Petrisa Soja (world no. 24) gave the Lions the early lead, whipping India's Kritivka Singh 3-0. She began strongly, attacking the lines to ease to a 4-1 lead in the first set. She held on to that advantage to win it 11-6.

The second set was a much tighter affair with Kritivka keeping pace till 9-9. But at a backhand that stage allowed Petrisa to go for the kill.

The third set too turned out to be a one-sided affair despite an initial fight from Kritivka.

The much-awaited contest between



Dabang Delhi team

Sharath Kamal and Sathian G produced a series of spectacular shots, but it was not a close encounter as was expected.

Sharath played an attacking game but Sathian defended smartly, forcing the World No. 37 to commit errors.

Sathian broke away at 5-5, taking four straight points to make it 9-5 in the first set. That was enough for him to win it 11-8.

The second set too was even but only till 4-4. Sharath slipped into the lead for the first time, making it 6-4. But Sathian quickly caught up and wrapped it up at 11-8.

Sharath fell behind in the third set too, looking at a possible wipe-out at 5-8. But he clawed back to 8-8 and then 9-9 before taking the next 2 points to clinch a crucial point for the Lions.



U Mumba team

Chennai Lions, however, regained the lead, with Sharath and Petrisa making the most of Dabang's decision to field young Naina Jaiswal in mixed doubles. Sweden Jn Persson stood up bravely for his partner but didn't really stand a chance against the veteran pair of Sharath-Petrisa who walked away with a facile 3-0 victory.

Persson got his revenge in the next match, though, with Chennai Lions giving another young Indian, Anirban Ghosh, an opportunity.

Anirban showed his potential, unleashing a few impressive shots but couldn't cope with Persson's experience. He lost 3-11, 5-11, 8-11.

In the final match, Romania's Bernadette Szocs (world no. 14) made Madhurika Patkar 3-0 to give her side the victory.

Nadal, Federer made joint decision to re-enter ATP politics

SP Bureau

Montreal, Aug 9: World number two Rafael Nadal said that he and long-time rival Roger Federer made a joint decision to stand for the ATP Player Council.

The 33-year-old Spaniard, an 18-time Grand Slam singles winner, confirmed the choice by the pair of icons at the ATP Montreal Masters after reaching the quarter-finals by beating Argentina's Guido Pella 6-3 6-4 on Thursday.

Federer, a 20-time Slam singles champion, and Nadal were elected by fellow players to fill two of the vacancies caused by the resignations of Robin Haase, Jamie Murray and Sergiy Stakhovsk prior to Wimbledon.

"We decided to be together out there," Nadal said.

"I will not be alone there. He will not be alone there."

"Both of us can (combine to) be a good power, good help for the sport in some way - hopefully in a better way."

"We are here to help and to know a little bit better what's going on. Last year have been some up and downs in a lot of things." Controversy has arisen over the past months concerning various issues, with ATP Council president Novak Djokovic often on the opposite side of discussions from Nadal and Federer. The world number one Serb has clashed with many fellow players with disagreements centered on the decision to dispense with the services of ATP chief executive Chris Kermode, a popular figure in tennis.

Splits widened at Wimbledon when Djokovic was taken a task over his relationship with the disgraced Justin



Gimelstob. Former player Gimelstob, who has sat on the player council, pleaded no contest to assault charges in Los Angeles earlier this year for attacking a man in front of his wife and children at Halloween in 2018.

Djokovic has come under fire for refusing to rule out a possible return to the board for Gimelstob.

"I have friendly relationship with Justin," said Djokovic at Wimbledon.

An ATP spokesman said that Nadal and Federer, who turned 38 Thursday, will begin their roles with immediate effect and will serve until the end of the existing term, which runs through Wimbledon next year.

"(There have been some) tough moments in terms of discussions - a lot of important things to have to be done," Nadal said in vague reference to various ATP situations.

"I will try and give my opinion after more than 15 years on the tour. I can probably give a different perspective on how the game has to be or things that we can add."

"It's just trying to help the game to be better. If I am there, I believe that I can be helpful."

Djokovic, who won his 16th Slam singles crown last month at Wimbledon, will try to defend his title at the upcoming US Open.

"Novak has been there for a while. We have been there in the past. It's good that players are interested on what's going on in our sport," Nadal said.

"(Over) all of our careers, Roger and I cared a lot about this sport. There are a lot of things that have been going on. We want to be part of it. That's why we are there now."

'One of modern day greats': Tributes pour in for Amla

SP Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: Social media has been flooded with tributes for South Africa's great Hashim Amla following his announcement of retiring from all formats of the international game.

Amla, who scored over 18,600 runs recording 55 centuries and 88 half-centuries in the process, on Thursday, brought an end to his 15-year-old long stellar career.

Former Proteas skipper AB de Villiers took to social media and said: "Unreal career Hashim Amla! So many doubters to early on, but your fighting spirit, humility and incredible one of a kind talent took you to the top of the mountain and ultimately to one of the best players in the world and certainly I've ever seen. Congrats on an amazing career."

Former Pakistan speedster Shaoh Akhtar paid tribute to Amla and tweeted: "The great Hashim Amla has surprised the world with his announcement to retire from all forms of cricket, what a legend and what a great human being and great brand ambassador of the one respect to you wish you best of luck."

"First time I played against Hashim Amla was in U-19 World Cup in New Zealand. He showed the glimpse of



his class by playing an outstanding inning against us, surely he finished his international career by being one of the greats of South African cricket. Happy retirement brother," tweeted Irfan Pathan.

Former Proteas skipper Shaun Pollock tweeted: "Congratulations to Hashim Amla on a fantastic international career... what an amazing journey it has been since seeing you for the first time in the Kingsmead nets in the late 90's... well done."

Former South Africa wicketkeeper Mark Boucher had only one word to say, but it was more or less an apt

summation of the man and his career. "Hashim Amla respect! No words to describe."

Former Australian cricketer Lisa Shalekar pondered what a South African line-up without two of its all-time greats - Dale Steyn and Hashim Amla - would look like.

"Wow two modern greats of the game have now retired first Dale Steyn and now Hashim Amla. Thoroughly enjoyed what they were able to do on the field. Going to take me some time to get used to the new South Africa team!"

"One of the greats of the modern era. Congratulations, Hashim Amla on a fantastic career, wish you the best in retirement," wrote former Indian cricketer Mohammad Kaif.

Amla remains the only South African cricketer to score a triple century in Test cricket. In 124 Tests, Amla scored 9,282 runs at 46.41 with 28 centuries and 41 fifties.

His ODI career was equally successful as he was ranked among the best batsmen in the format, holding the South African record of 27,000. He was also the quickest to 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, 5,000, 6,000 and 7,000 ODI runs. In 181 ODIs, Amla collected 8,113 runs at 49.46 with 27 hundreds and 39 half-centuries.

He also climbed to the top of the ICC rankings in both Tests and ODIs.

Mohun Bagan condemn raising of East Bengal's centenary gate

SP Bureau

City football giants Mohun Bagan on Thursday condemned the incident in which some persons wearing their club jerseys brought down East Bengal's overhead gate erected to commemorate the centenary celebrations at the club tent.

"We have come to know from social media that some supporters wearing Mohun Bagan jerseys have brought down the overhead gate which was erected by East Bengal to commemorate the centenary celebrations. We condemn this nasty and unethical behaviour in the strongest of words," Mohun Bagan said in a statement.

The green and maroon brigade management added that they will bear the entire expense required to re-erect the gate.

"We have sent a letter to Kalyan Majumder, General Secretary of East Bengal Club, condemning the act and have requested them to re-erect the gate, the cost of the same will be borne by us."

"Further, we have also lodged a complaint at the Maidan police station to take appropriate action as per law. Our Finance Secretary Debashis Dutta had personally called Debarata Sarkar to condemn the act."

"We once again condemn such act and appeal to supporters of both the clubs to maintain mutual respect and harmony so that the image of the clubs and football are not tarnished," the statement added.

A social media video which went viral on Twitter showed some persons wearing the Mohun Bagan club colour bringing down the East Bengal gate with its centenary logo on it.

Bystanders were seen watching the incident unfold in front of their eyes.

East Bengal recently kickstarted their centenary celebrations with the Foundation Day on August 1 by awarding cricket legend Kapil Dev with the Bharat Gaurav award, East Bengal's highest honour.

Besides Kapil, a galaxy of Indian football soccer stars including Bhunia, Sunil Chhetri, former India skipper Sourav Ganguly, actor Soumitra Chatterjee and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee were present on the occasion.

Tokyo 2020 construction worker dies, heatstroke suspected

SP Bureau

Tokyo, Aug 9: A worker at a Tokyo 2020 Olympics construction site has collapsed and died, organisers said reportedly of heatstroke as the Japanese capital swelters through a blistering heatwave.

The 50-year-old man was found lying on the ground under a scorching sun on Thursday afternoon at the site where he had been laying electric cables.

He was rushed to hospital but later confirmed dead, according to Tokyo 2020 organisers on Friday.

Organisers said the cause of death has not been officially established but several local media cited police as saying they suspect heatstroke. Police were unable to confirm the reports immediately.

The death is the third related to Tokyo 2020 Olympics construction workers after one suicide from overwork stress and another killed in an accident. Tokyo's hot and humid summer weather is a major concern for Olympic organisers, particularly after a heatwave that engulfed the city last year.

After a long rainy season this year, the Japanese capital has again been hit by a deadly heatwave. Last week more than 18,000 people had been hospitalised nationwide due to the weather with 57 dying.

Having fought depression, hoopster Muskan now keen to realise dream

Debayan Mukherjee

Orlando, Aug 9: She has been the cynosure of all eyes in the Indian girls' team at the ongoing Jr. NBA Global Championships, but teenager Muskan Singh has had to battle gender disparity and depression to come this far and now she is ready to realise her dream.

Hailing from Patna, Muskan, all of 13, comes from a place where the notion of a girl playing basketball is as distant as Florida is from Bihar. Therefore, ever since she picked up the ball at the age of six, Muskan has been subjected to taunts ranging from her wearing a sleeveless jersey while playing to mistle with boys in her vicinity. Even her coaches who introduced her to the nuances of the sport, did not stop short from demotivating her at an early age, which pushed her to the point of depression, banded at the age of 11. "It's like people will say a lot of things. They will demotivate you so much, even if it's your coach," Muskan told IANS on the sidelines of the U-14 meet where 10 boys and 10 girls are representing India.

"Since I used to wear sleeveless clothes and play, people were like 'see your inner and this is no way for a girl to dress,' said the pocket-sized sport guard blessed with blistering pace. "It was so depressing, I almost slipped into depression. It affected my game and studies. During this time, I had the backing of my parents and that kept me going."

"It was so bad that I started going to the court and instead travelled 10 kms to go to another court," Muskan practised for almost six years at the Mata Rani Mandir B.m.p. 1 Gorkha Battalion Campus where her father, Ghanshyam Singh, is a police constable.

"The coach who works in an m.p. used to stay near our place. I was six years old when I first picked up a basketball. I used to trouble everyone at home by playing with that ball." Then my parents spoke to the coach who then invited me to play at the campus just like that for time-pass. I did not want to go at all. I had three coaches Niranjan Kumar, Bhupal Singh Rana, Krishna Battalio Campus where her father, Ghanshyam Singh, is a police constable.

Ilkay Gundogan signs contract extension with Manchester City

SP Bureau

London, Aug 9: Ilkay Gundogan, Pep Guardiola's first signing as Manchester City manager in 2016, signed a three-year contract extension with the Premier League champions on Friday the club announced.

The 28-year-old German international midfielder - who was entering the final year of his present contract and will now be tied to the club to 2023 - played a pivotal role in City landing a domestic treble last term having also impressed in their 2018 title-winning campaign.

"Ilkay's new deal is more excellent news for our Club." City's director of football Txiki Begiristain told the club website.

"He has shown how important he is to the

my father." Muskan took part in the junior NBA skills challenge in 2017 and got selected, but the call-up for the East Zone team selection in Kolkata never came.

"I got to know about it (skills challenge) from friends. My coaches (Abhijit Yadav, Dhaseeraj Ranjan) told me about it too. I got selected in the tryouts but the call for East Zone team to be made in Kolkata did not come that year."



"In 2018 I again appeared for the skills challenge and again for months I had to wait for a call-up in the East Zone team. Finally I got a call from them and I thought it was a prank," she said, chuckling. Muskan was then picked for the nationals where she represented East Zone and caught the eye of the selectors who picked her for the final list of 40 boys and girls for the second edition of the basketball tourney.

Muskan, who top-scored in the girls' first game against Latin America with 13 points and played in the other two outings as well, then made the final cut from the two-day selection camp at the NBA Academy India in Delhi NCR. "I cannot forget those days where I would talk to myself, saying don't give up. Only my family and friends supported me. I have proved a lot of people wrong to come here. I have to make the most of this opportunity," she said. Muskan was part of the 36th youth national basketball championship this year in Coimbatore and now dreams of representing India on a regular basis.

"I want to play for India going forward. I want to play the Asia Cup. I went for U-16 nationals in Coimbatore. I hope I get selected," concluded the P.V. Sindhu fan.

team and has played a huge part in everything that we have achieved so far. "We are thrilled he has committed his long-term future to Manchester City." Gundogan, who cost City around 20 million pound when they signed him from Borussia Dortmund, said he was looking forward to more success with City.

"I have hugely enjoyed the last three years here at City and everyone at the Club has helped make me feel at home from my very first day," he said.

"I think we have played some great football over the past few seasons and have enjoyed a lot of success."

"It's a pleasure to be a part of the Club and I'm really excited about what we can go on to achieve in the next few seasons."

Serena, Osaka book US Open final rematch in Toronto quarter-finals

SP Bureau

Toronto, Aug 9: Serena Williams and Japan's Naomi Osaka booked a rematch of last year's US Open final in the WTA Toronto quarter-finals after straight-set triumphs here.

Reigning US and Australian Open champion Osaka broke at love in the final game to defeat Polish teen Iga Swiatek 6-2, 6-4 after one hour and 51 minutes on Thursday. World number 10 Williams was broken twice and dropped the first three games in 10 minutes then battled back to defeat Russia's 48th-ranked Ekaterina Alexandrova 7-5 6-4 in 91 minutes.

That set the stage for Williams, a 37-year-old American who will try for a record-tying 24th Grand Slam singles title at the upcoming US Open, to again face Osaka after the controversial finish to their Grand Slam showdown last year in New York.

It would be the first match between Osaka and Williams since the Japanese star defeated her childhood idol 6-2, 6-4 in last year's US Open final, a match marred by an on-court dispute between Williams and the umpire that led to a game penalty against Williams. Osaka was booed by some fans during the awards ceremony and later dubbed what should have been the moment of glory a "plaque bitwrestle."

Williams spoke after her match but before she knew who she would face in the quarter-finals, saying either Osaka - who could return to the world number one ranking next week - or Swiatek would be worthy foes. "It will be a good match, whoever wins," Williams said. "Both players are playing bitwrestle."

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"(Alexandrova) hit really, really hard but she was hitting a lot of winners, so I was just happy I was able to just fight through that," Williams



said. Alexandrova broke Williams again to open the second set, but the US star pulled level in the sixth game and broke again in the 12th to advance after 91 minutes. "I'm feeling good," Williams said. "Just hopefully just being able to stay in the rhythm and playing this week and next week would be good."

Williams said she is struggling with the transition from clay to grass in hardcourts but that wasn't the case. "I definitely feel like it takes a while to get back into the rhythm," she said.

"So it definitely feels different, especially for me. Usually I don't feel that huge of a difference, but for whatever reason I do this year."

Czech third seed Karolina Pliskova kept the pressure on Osaka in the battle to take the world number one ranking by also reaching the quarter-finals. Pliskova eliminated Estonia's Anett Kontaveit 6-3 7-5 to set up a last-eight clash with rising Canadian star Bianca Andreescu, who ousted fifth-seeded Dutchwoman Kiki Bertens 6-1 6-7 (7/9) 6-4.

Pliskova, 27, must reach the final to have any chance of taking the top spot next week. Otherwise, Osaka will claim the number one berth. French Open champion Ashleigh Barty's stint as the world's top-ranked player was assured of ending after she was knocked out on Tuesday.

Defending champion and fourth seed Simona Halep of Romania, coming off a Wimbledon title last month, beat Russia's Svetlana Kuznetsova 6-2 6-1 to book a quarter-final against Czech qualifier Marie Bouzkova, who ousted Latvia's Jelena Ostapenko 6-2 6-2.

BCCI finally comes under IAA, becomes National Sports Federation

Saumojoti S Choudhury
New Delhi, Aug 9: Ending years of defiance, Indian cricket's governing body, the BCCI, on Friday agreed to come under the ambit of the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), becoming a National Sports Federation in the process despite being financially autonomous.

Sports Secretary Radeshwamy Jhulaniya, who along with NADA DG Navin Agarwal met BCCI CEO Rahul Johri along with the Board's GM (Cricket Operations) Saba Karim here on Friday, said that the Board has given in writing that it would adhere to the anti-doping policy of NADA.

"All cricketers will now be tested by NADA," Jhulaniya said. The implication of this development is expected to be massive as BCCI now becomes a designated NSFI and face a more pressure to come under the Right to Information (RTI) Act as per government norms.

"The BCCI raised three issues

before us about the quality of the dope testing kits, competence of pathologists and sample collection. We assured them that whatever facilities they want, we will provide but there will be some charge for it. But that higher facility will be equal for all NSFs. BCCI is no different from others. They have to follow the law of the land," Jhulaniya said.

"The BCCI will agree to the law of the land," said Johri, adding, "We have raised quite a few issues which the sports secretary said will be addressed by them. We have agreed to bear the differential cost of high quality testing."

The BCCI had been vehemently opposed to signing up with NADA, claiming that it is an autonomous body, not a National Sports Federation and does not rely on government funding.

The primary concern was the contentious 'Whereabouts Clause' with regards to Out of Competition Testing, something that all star India players have been wary of as they considered it an invasion of



their privacy. The 'Whereabouts Clause' requires every athlete to fill up a declaration form wherein he/she would have to mention three specific dates in a year when they are not competing but are available for NADA's Dope Control Officer (DCO) for sample collection.

If any athlete fails to appear on all the specified dates, it invites sanctions for breach of the World Anti-doping Agency (WADA) Code.

The premier example of this is West Indies' all-rounder Andre

Russell who was banned for one year by the Jamaican Anti-Doping Agency.

Till date, Sweden-based International Dope Testing Management (IDTM) has been collecting the samples and submitting them to the National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL). "IDTM is no longer the authorised agency," Jhulaniya asserted. Earlier, the sports ministry has steadfastly maintained that the BCCI had to come under the NADA ambit.

It recently held back clearances for the tours by South Africa A and women's teams and it was speculated that this was done to pressure the BCCI into accepting anti-doping norms.

The move seems to have worked as Johri confirmed that the cricket board has now got clearance for the A as well as the women's series after having waited for close to six months. "We have received the clearance," Johri said.

BCCI's fresh stance makes it clear that Johri got the go ahead

from the Supreme Court-appointed Committee of Administrators (CoA), headed by Vinod Rai, to sign the agreement on dotted lines.

Earlier in March, the BCCI had agreed to get into conditional tri-parite agreement with NADA and ICC. Jhulaniya had, however, made it clear that the Board cannot sign any agreement with a government body without the ministry's consent.

NADA hadn't signed that previous agreement in which the BCCI stated that their "chaperons" will collect the samples instead of NADA's designated DCOs. The Board said it didn't trust NADA DCOs "due to stories of goof-ups that consistently appear."

With the BCCI officially coming under the NADA ambit, the possibility of agreeing to RTI is becoming more and more real even though Johri sidestepped the query.

"The RTI issue is a different subject altogether. It was not in today's meeting agenda," Johri said.

BCCI questions Manohar's position in tax battle with ICC



Baidurjo Bhose

New Delhi, Aug 9: The Shashank Manohar-led International Cricket Council (ICC) has warned the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) that it will deduct a part of the BCCI's annual revenue share if it doesn't get tax exemption for the 2016 World T20 that was held in the country. BCCI officials bearers have questioned how Manohar having been at the helm of affairs in the board at that time decide to turn his back on India.

Speaking to IANS, a senior BCCI official pointed out that it was Manohar who was the board president when the World T20 was played in the country in 2016 and having been well aware of the way the tax policy works in India, it was abysmal that the now ICC Chairman has decided to push the Indian board's back against the wall. "Shashank knows the facts better than the other ICC people because he himself was the BCCI President during the T20 World Cup and took all the financial decisions.

"You can't ignore the fact that the agreements were drawn up during the phase when the BCCI was getting a lion's share of the ICC revenues." They ended up changing the revenue model but did not consider its effects on India. If Australia is required to only make best endeavours for tax exemptions, why should the BCCI be required to ensure total exemption?" the official enquired. Another official echoed the sentiments and said that the ICC Chairman should have recused himself when a call was being made on the matter. "Why did Shashank ensure that Vidarbha Cricket Association was paid a certain amount during that World Cup for organising the women's games and other matches even though it did not require that much of a cost? He has won the maximum hats in this entire transaction or sequence of events and he should have recused himself," the official pointed.

Another official warned that if things continue as they have, there could soon be a case of members looking for an alternative. "ICC has become a directionless organisation and if they are not careful, the cricketing world may be looking at developments not conducive to its health," the official said. ICC Chairman, N. Srinivasan had worked out a financial model that saw BCCI receiving around \$570 million. But soon after he stepped aside, successor Manohar went on to restructure ICC, and the Big Three model - wherein India, England and Australia were given the giant share of revenues earned - was abolished. The former BCCI chief had time and again made it clear that India only depended for what it brought to the table as many questioned the board getting the lion's share of revenues.

Earlier, a senior board official had said that the ICC was free to move future tournaments out of India if it felt that was the way forward as matters related to tax needed the government's approval and external pressure would not help.

"We will abide by what the Tax Department and the Ministry decides on this. We would love for the World Cup to take place here, but if the ICC wants to play hard ball, they must be ready for everything. If they want to take the ICC tournament out of India, it's fine. Let BCCI then take the revenue out of the ICC and see who loses more." Those in-charge of administration are trying to take policy decisions without jurisdiction to do so. The ICC will find it difficult to hold the BCCI to those decisions since a lot of these decisions do not have the approval of the board," the official told IANS.

Gill becomes youngest cricketer to score double ton; India in driver's seat

SP Bureau

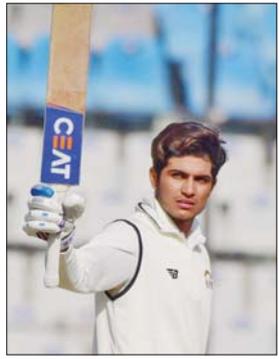
Tarouba (Trinidad and Tobago), Aug 9: Shubman Gill became the youngest Indian cricketer to score a first-class double century and combined with skipper Hanuma Vihari to put India A in the driver's seat against West Indies A in the third one-day test here.

The 19-year-old Gill, being seen as the next big thing in Indian cricket, scored an unbeaten 204 off 250 deliveries to break former India opener Gautam Gambhir's record on the third and penultimate day of the ongoing match.

Gambhir was 20 when he notched up 218 for India Board President's XI against the Zimbabweans in a four match in 2002.

India A resumed at the overnight score of 23 for three, and Gill, starting at 2, reached his century just at the stroke of lunch. His overnight partner Shahbaz Nadeem fell for 13, after resuming on five, early in the day.

Captain Vihari (118 not out) then joined Gill in the middle and the two resurrected the Indian innings after the top-order collapse.



for 4 soon after Gill scored his double ton. At stumps, West Indies A were 37 for no loss, chasing a massive 373 for victory on the final day of the four-day match.

Gill bounced back strong from his first-ball duck in the first innings and his unbeaten knock of 204 was laced with 19 fours and two sixes with a strike rate of 82.25. While Vihari, who had earlier bailed out India in the first innings with a half century, continued in the same vein, hitting 10 boundaries and a maximum.

Earlier, West Indies A bowled out India A for a meagre 201 in the first innings on the opening day of the match before folding for 194 in their first essay.

Gill's impressive knock comes days after he failed to find a spot in India's tour of the West Indies. India have already pocketed the series by winning the first two games of the series.

Brief Scores:
 India A: 201 and 365/4d in 90 overs (Shubman Gill 204 not out, Hanuma Vihari 118 not out, Chemar K Holder 2/88)
 West Indies A: 194 and 37/0 in 15 overs (Jeremy Solozano 20 batting).

Start-stop match worst thing in cricket: Kohli

SP Bureau

Providence (Guyana), Aug 9: Start-stop matches are the "worst" thing in cricket and can lead to injuries, a frustrated India skipper Virat Kohli said after their series-opener against the West Indies was washed out on Thursday.

The series-opener was first reduced to 43-over-a-side and then 34-over-a-side but was eventually abandoned after a second rain interruption. West Indies scored 54 for one in 13 overs before the match was called off. "It's probably the worst thing in cricket, the start-stop game. The more stops you have, the more you have to be careful about injuries on the field. Some of the pitches can really test you," Kohli said after the match was called off.

Asked about the challenges of playing in the Caribbean, Kohli said while "some pitches offer good pace and bounce, others could be on the slower side." "So you have to assess them and play accordingly," the Indian captain said.

Merritt equals course record for PGA lead, Tiger woeful

SP Bureau

New York, Aug 9: Troy Merritt matched the Liberty National course record with a nine-under par 62 to grab a one-stroke lead after the opening round of the US PGA Northern Trust tournament.

On a day when Masters champion Tiger Woods struggled to a 75 and shared 116th among 120 starters, it was 33-year-old American Merritt who stole the show with a bogey-free day on Thursday.

"That putter was hot today and the greens were rolling beautifully and (I) just took advantage of it," Merritt said.

World number two Dustin Johnson was one stroke back with Kevin Kisner and Spain's Jon Rahm sharing third on 64. Third-ranked Rory McIlroy, world number four Justin Rose, Webb Simpson and Tony Finau were on 65.

Merritt equaled the record at the Jersey City, New Jersey, layout set by compatriot Kevin Chappell in the third round of the 2013 Northern Trust. He also boosted his chances of moving on in the US PGA playoffs, with only the top 70 in season points advancing from this playoff opener to next week's second event at Medinah, where only the top 30 in season points will qualify for the season-ending Tour Championship in Atlanta in two weeks.

Merritt entered this week's 72nd in points, two outside the field to move on, but as the only player outside the top 30 among the eight leaders, he will leap to fourth in points if he can win the title.

"This week it's a little bit different with just trying to get into next week," Merritt says.

"Now we can shift our focus from winning the golf tournament." Merritt began on the back nine, sinking birdie putts from 22 feet at the par-3 11th and 19 feet at the par-4 12th, then two more from inside 10 feet for a run of four consecutive birdies.



a 12-footer for birdie at the first to keep his momentum, then ran off three birdies in a row starting with a 13-footer at the par-3 fourth and with an approach inches from the cup at 14.

A title would be the third of Merritt's career after the 2015 National and last year's Barbasol Championship. He settled for second two weeks ago at the Barracuda Championship.

It was a year ago that Merritt had a blood clot removed from his left arm and it was in January that he had a rib removed to prevent thoracic outlet syndrome, a compression of blood vessels that led to the clot.

For fifth-ranked Woods, meanwhile, it was a day of misery battling back stiffness in only his fifth start since winning the Masters in April.

birds, five bogeys and a double bogey after a morning start.

Woods, a 15-time major champion whose 81 career PGA titles are one shy of Sam Snead's all-time record, admitted his frustration, saying his back was a bit stiff and his game was not quite right.

"It was just off. I was just trying to feel it, trying to find it, and then could never get it," Woods said. "I had my opportunities to turn it around and I didn't do it. I just didn't play well. I just didn't hit any good shots and didn't make any putts."

Woods, who won last year's Tour Championship, ranks 28th in season points, but is likely to miss the cut Friday and fall out of the top 30. That means he will go to next week's BMW Championship at Medinah needing to overtake rivals merely to earn a chance at defending his title in the season finale at East Lake.

Rain washes out first India-West Indies ODI

SP Bureau

Providence (Guyana), Aug 9: Rain played spoilsport as the first One-Day International between India and the West Indies was called off after the home side scored 54 for one in 13 overs here.

The stop-start match, which was reduced to 34-over-a-side, was abandoned after a second rain interruption. After waiting for more than an hour and a half, the umpires were forced to call off the match on Thursday.

Opener Evin Lewis and Shai Hope were batting on 40 and 6 respectively when the match was called off after Indian captain Virat Kohli won the toss and asked the West Indies to bat.

The other opener Chris Gayle was out in the 11th over after scoring 4 off 31 deliveries in an agonisingly slow knock. He had come into the match 12 runs short of Brian Lara's 10,405 ODI runs, the most by a West Indies batsman.

The match was already reduced to 43-over-a-side contest even before a ball was bowled as wet outfield due to rains had forced the toss to be delayed. The match began two hours later from its scheduled start.

West Indies made a quiet start with Bhuvaneshwar Kumar and Mohammed Shami exploiting the conditions well to tie down Gayle and Lewis before the first rain interruption.

India did not take the DRS when Lewis looked plumped in front of wicket in the fourth over off Shami's bowling. Replays showed the ball would have gone on to hit the stump but India did not opt for a review. Lewis was on 1 then.

Kohli-Rohit rift stories are here to stay feels Gavaskar

SP Bureau

New Delhi, Aug 9: India skipper Virat Kohli might have looked to clear the air on the issue of a rift in the Indian team before the team's departure to the US, but former India skipper Sunil Gavaskar has said that the duo of Kohli and Rohit Sharma can shout from the top of the roof, but stories of rift will continue to do the rounds.

"Virat and Rohit can shout from the rooftops as much as they can but this story won't end. Every time Rohit fails there will be those who will nod their heads knowingly and wink, hinting he deliberately got out. Nobody even gives a thought to the fact that if a player fails he is likely to be dropped and so he would be hurting his own chances and so while it can be suppressed when the cricket is on, the rest days between games is where the story gets fanned further. Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma are professionals and they will put their heads down and go out to win matches for India but the story won't stop even 20 years later," he explained.

Kohli in his pre-departure press conference ended up pointing fingers at the media for "disrespectfully bringing personal lives into the picture". He went on to add that media personnel should enter the dressing room and witness for themselves the kind of



healthy atmosphere that's there.

But sadly not all players think on Kohli's line. The leak of the news that one of the senior players had his family stay with him for longer than the stipulated period and the further clarification that it was done without the permission of skipper Kohli and the coach created an atmosphere of mistrust in the dressing room.

In fact, even during the first half of the T20I series, Kohli posting pictures with teammates had fans asking him about Rohit's absence. It has also been learnt that one of the senior members in the team refused to post an 'All is Well' message on social media to douse the fire.

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