

TIME AND US

DAILY

SRINAGAR, KASHMIR

SUNDAY

- OCTOBER, 01, 2017
- 10 MUHARRAM 1439 AH
- ISSUE: 228
- VOLUME: 03
- PAGES: 08

WEATHER TEMPERATURE		
STATION	MAX TEMPERATURE	MIN TEMPERATURE
	ACT	ACT
SRINAGAR	29.2	9.1
JAMMU	34.1	22.9
LEH	22.5	3.8
KARGIL	25.6	7.0

SUNSET SUNDAY: 06:17 PM
SUNRISE MONDAY: 06:27 AM

LOCAL FORECAST OF SRINAGAR
Mainly Clear Sky. Maximum & Minimum temperatures will be around 30°C & 11°C respectively.

RNI NO: JKENG/2015/62397 • PRICE RS.3/- (AIR SURCHARGE FOR DELHI, JAMMU & LADAKH 50/- PAISA)

STATE | 3

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BUSINESS | 7

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BIJBEHARA TO GET NEW SDH AT A COST OF RS 18 CR: VEERI

15 INDIANS' DEATH SENTENCE COMMUTED TO LIFE TERM BY KUWAITI EMIR:

LOAN DEFAULT: LISTED COMPANIES GET A BREATH FROM SEBI

BISMALH MAROOF REPLACES SANA MIR AS PAKISTAN'S ODI CAPTAIN

Karbala a lesson for upholding truth, resisting evil: Mehbooba

Says the biggest tribute to Hazrat Imam Hussain (AS) is unity of mankind for its welfare

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30: Chief Minister, Mehbooba Mufti today said the sacrifices rendered by Hazrat Imam Hussain (A.S.) and his companions at Karbala would continue to remind the mankind about the futility of falsehood and deceit and ultimate victory of truth and uprightness.

In her message on the occasion of Ashoora, the Chief Minister said the events at Karbala teach us the lesson of upholding the principles of righteousness in all trying circumstances and denying forces of evil to make us bow or succumb before them. She said the unparalleled courage, sacrifice and patience displayed by Hazrat Imam

See **Karbala**...Pg 02

CM visits Shahadara Sharief, attends annual urs of Hazrat Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah (RA)

Inaugurates website, community kitchen; reviews dev works in Rajouri Distt

RAJOURI, SEPTEMBER 30: Chief Minister, Mehbooba Mufti who was on a day's tour to the area, visited the shrine of Hazrat Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah at Shahadara Sharief and paid her obeisance there.

The Chief Minister joined the annual urs celebrations at the shrine which are being observed on 9th and 10th of Muharram every year.

Mehbooba Mufti also launched the website of the shrine on the occasion.



The website besides giving an in-depth information about the life and teachings of the 18th century saint also provides information about boarding and lodging to the intending pilgrims.

The Chief Minister, who is also the Chairperson of J&K Wakf Council, also inaugurated the community kitchen

See **CM**...Pg 02

Defence Minister visits Leh, inaugurates strategic 'Pratham-Shyok' bridge

'Government is with you all the time in all circumstances'

Leh, Sep 30: Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated 'Pratham-Shyok' bridge in Leh which will connect the region to Karakoram in north eastern Ladakh thus providing vital connectivity on the axis of Road Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Olde (D-S-DBO) for military transport.

While addressing Border Roads Organisation (BRO) officers and jawans the defence minister after the inauguration of the bridge said that construction bridges and roads at such high-altitude terrain is a miracle.

"Constructing roads and bridges in such a rough terrain and in such trying circumstances where breathtaking is difficult is not



short of miracle. Jawans from different states which have varied weather conditions come and serve the nation in such high altitudes with entirely different weather conditions

See **Defence**...Pg 02

For complete integration of J&K with India, Article 370 and Article 35A need changes

Nagpur, Sep 30: RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat Saturday said that for the complete assimilation and integration of Jammu and Kashmir with rest of India, changes should be brought into the Article 370 and Article 35A.

He was addressing RSS

and BJP workers at party headquarters at Nagpur.

He said: "There is a need for partisan, transparent and clean administration in the entire state of Jammu and Kashmir. The determination with which terrorist infiltration and firing from across

the border are being dealt with is appreciated. Provocative actions and the propaganda of separatists is being effectively controlled by curbing their illegal financial sources. The positive effects of strategy to neutralize the terrorists

See **Article**...Pg 02



Recruitment
Human Resources Development Division
Corporate Headquarters, M.A. Road, Srinagar

BANKING ASSOCIATE @ JK BANK

In continuation to notification No-HRDD/Rectt/2017-840 dated 09.03.2017 and pursuant to availability of vacancies, consequent upon non joining and resignations, the following left over shortlisted candidates are hereby offered the position of Banking Associate (Contractual) in order of merit and on basis of vacancies in their respective districts/provinces.

Those interested in our offer from these candidates are advised to approach our following nominated centers from their respective provinces for personally obtaining/submitting their Consent/acceptance letter along with the proof of identity and latest passport size photograph by or before 10th October, 2017.

1103001669	1107007668	1107013687	1107021181	2203020955	2207002384	2207008440	2207012249	2207017611	2207020032
1103018387	1107007913	1107013993	1107021234	2207000122	2207002452	2207008503	2207012253	2207018352	2207020033
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1107006240	1107012848	1107020559	2203019904	2207001833	2207008004	2207011899	2207017273	2207019695	3303000463
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1107007153	1107012946	1107020948	2203020319	2207002031	2207008185	2207012073	2207017566	2207019945	

Nominated Centres

STC Jammu (Consent to be submitted by the Jammu Division Candidates)
S.T.C. Jammu, Townhall, Jammu. Contact No. - 01912562078-9906037687

STC Kashmir (Consent to be submitted by the Kashmir Division Candidates)
S.T.C. Srinagar, Gogji Bagh, Srinagar. Contact No. - 2311263-7298004295

Zonal Office Leh (Consent to be submitted by the Ladakh Division Candidates)
Zonal Office Leh, Main Bazar, Leh. Contact No. - 01982252130-01982252023

In case of any assistance please contact us on phone nos -
7298004547, 01942502677.

HRDD/Rectt/2017-657
Dated: 29.09.2017

MYSTERY:

Fresh braid cutting incidents spark protest, clashes

Srinagar, Sep 30: The fresh braid cutting incident in South Kashmir's Kulgam district sparked a massive protest in the adjoining district of Anantnag on Saturday.

Reports said that there is no let up in these incidents even though village level alert committees have been formed to nab the culprits.

Eyewitnesses told news agency CNS that unidentified criminals appeared in Nihama village of Kulgam district and chopped the braid of mother of three children. The incident sent shock waves among locals. The victim was shifted to Public Health Centre Nihama for treatment.

Report said that as the news spread in the adjoining district, scores of people hit to roads at Lal Chowk Anantnag and clashed with police, who retaliated with tear-smoke shells. The clashes soon spread to other areas of the town including Achabal Adda and old town localities of Reeshi Bazar.

Dozens of braid chopping incidents have been reported in twin districts of Anantnag and Kulgam while police is still clueless though it has announced a reward of Rs 3 lakhs to those who provide credible information about the culprits.



Meanwhile, a massive protest against braid cutting incidents was staged by hundreds of women in Nowgam area in the outskirts of Srinagar city.

Witnesses said that an elderly woman at Bongam Nowgam claimed that three masked men tried to enter into her house. However, she sounded alarm forcing the criminals to flee from the spot. The women hit to roads after a word spread that one of the criminals have been arrested by police.

A police official denied the reports

that they have arrested any culprit. The official said that no braid cutting attempt was made in Nowgam area. Fresh braid chopping incident was also reported from Kakawring village of Charar-e-Sharif here in central Kashmir's Budgam district.

Police identified the victim as Nusrat Bano wife of Bilal Ahmed Thokar. "We have registered a case vide FIR number 93/2017 under section 451, 328, 354 RPC and investigation has been started to nab the culprits," the official said.

Reports said that the braid of

woman identified as Asmat Jan was also chopped off at Chararlipora Padshahi Bagah.

Meanwhile, police reportedly arrested two non locals for questioning after braid chopping rumours in Hadipora, Rafiabab area of north Kashmir, police sources said.

Pertinently, Police have formed a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the matter. So far the police and the authorities have been clueless.

On Friday Jammu and Kashmir Police announced a reward of Rs 3 lakh for credible information to nab people behind braid chopping incidents.

A helpline has also been established so that "people could inform and seek assistance with regard to any braid cutting incident."

Braid-cutting incidents were reported from various north Indian states before reaching Jammu and Kashmir.

Earlier, last month according to police 60 incidents of cutting of braids were reported from Rehari, Kathua, Samba, Jammu, Rajouri, Reasi, Doda and Udhampur districts of Jammu region triggering panic among the people there.

DGP Vaid chairs high level meeting at SKPAU

Upgradation, Infrastructure and other facilities for SKPAU our priority: DGP



Srinagar, Sep 30: The up-gradation of infrastructure and other facilities for all the Training Institutions particularly the Sher-I-Kashmir Police Academy Udhampur (SKPAU) is our priority. This was stated by Director General of Police, Dr. S.P. Vaid during the high level meeting at SKPAU.

The DGP said that the Academy should prioritize its requirements and PHQ will be prompt in meeting those requirements. He said that the requirements which cannot be immediately met out would be fulfilled through modernization and other plans. Dr. Vaid while referring to the deficiencies of staff and infrastructure in the training institutions assured the officers and the heads of training institutes that PHQ was in know of those requirements and steps will be taken accordingly so that they are met.

Director SKPAU Shri Mohd. Sulaiman Salaria, Assistant Director (Indoor), Assistant Director (Outdoor), Assistant Director (Admn.) highlighted the requirements with regard to the infrastructure before the DGP in the meeting. On spot orders were issued with regard to some requirements by the DGP. He directed Special DGP and other officers of PHQ to redress others as quick as possible.

Among others Special DG PHQ Shri V.K. Singh, MD Police Housing Corporation Sh. A.K Choudhary, IGP CID Sh. A.G Mir, IGP Jammu, Dr. S.D Singh, Director SSG Sh. Rajesh Kumar, IGP Railway Sh. M.A Ganaie, IGP Personnel PHQ Sh. J.P Singh, IGP Hqrs. Sh. S.K Gupta, DIG Udhampur, AIsGP PHQ, SSP Udhampur, Principal PTTI Vijaypur and Principal PTS Kathua were present on the occasion.

Hakeem Yaseen pitches for Tossamaidan-Doodhpathri Tourism Circuit

Khanshab, Sep 30: The Chairman JK Peoples Democratic Front and MLA, Khanshab, Hakim Mohammad Yaseen has enjoined upon the tourism department to develop basic tourism infrastructure at picturesque Tossamaidan health resort, in Khanshab constituency, which has been thrown open to public recently after remaining in use as Army Firing range for about 50 years.

He also urged the need to interlink Tossamaidan with Doodhpathri through a bridge at Nallah Sukhnag to develop a beautiful Tossamaidan - Doodhpathri tourism circuit.

During his visit to Sith

Haran and Tossamaidan tourist resort along with the senior officers of district administration Budgam and tourism department, Hakeem Yaseen said that development of these twin tourist destinations in district budgam, besides promoting tourism sector in the state, would also provide employment and livelihood opportunities to the youth and un employed people of the far-flung and backward areas of Khanshab constituency.

Hakeem Yasin asked the concerned engineers and tourism officers to form a comprehensive DPR for development of the proposed Tossamaidan-Doodhpathri Tourist Circuit at an earliest so that funds for this purpose could



be earmarked. He said the proposed tourist circuit would provide varied choice to the foreign as well as domestic tourists including adventure, river rafting, golfing, winter sports and leisure tourism. He also called for upgradation and improvement of Tossamaidan-Brass road which would provide an alternate

approach to this tourist resort. He asked the concerned officers to deploy adequate staff for the twin tourism development authorities of Tossamaidan and Doodhpathri. He asked the concerned officers and engineers to prepare a DPR for tapping Tossamaidan spring water for a new Regional Water Supply Scheme which on completion would provide drinking water facility to about 50 habitations in the area.

The Adl. Deputy Commissioner, Budgam, Farooq Ahmad, Chief Executive officer, TDA and the concerned engineers and officers accompanied Hakeem Yaseen during the day long tour of the area.

NC committed to safeguarding J&K's interests: Nasir

40 Former Sarpanchs and Panchs of INC and PDP join NC

Srinagar, Sep 30 (KNS): National Conference on Saturday reiterated its commitment to fight against nefarious designs that were conspiring to harm Jammu and Kashmir and deprive its people of their constitutionally guaranteed rights. Addressing a function at Party Head Office, 'Nawa-e-Subha' in Srinagar, National Conference Provincial President Nasir Aslam Wani said the party would leave no stone unturned to fight for the interests and rights of the people and won't allow PDP to compromise on the honour and the dignity of the people.

On this occasion forty Former Sarpanchs, Deputy Sarpanchs and Panchs from Bandipora District joined National Conference in the presence of NC General Secretary Haji Ali Muhammad Sagar, Provincial President Nasir Aslam Wani, North Zone President Muhammad Akbar Lone, Senior Leader Muhammad Sayeed Akhooon, YNC District President Bandipora Dr. Ghulam Nabi and Youth Leader Sameer Iqbal Bhat.

Welcoming the new entrants into the party, NC Provincial President Nasir Aslam



Wani asked them to work with dedication and honesty in serving the people in the face of rampant corruption and misgovernance that had wreaked havoc with the State since the PDP-BJP Government came to power. "People are suffering in the face of unprecedented unemployment, rising inflation and a complete collapse of public utilities and services. Key public sectors are in ruins and people in far-flung areas have been neglected by the Administration. As conscious and conscientious political workers and activists, it is your

duty to reach out to the people in these trying circumstances and work towards the alleviation of their problems and resolution of their grievances", the NC Provincial President said.

Speaking on the occasion, NC Provincial President Nasir Aslam Wani welcomed the new entrants into the party and asked them to work with vigour and honesty to strengthen the party at the grassroots level as it was National Conference alone that stood to safeguard the dignity and political rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir while

other political forces and their Trojan Horses were out to sell their conscience for power. "The entry of a growing number of dedicated and committed political and social activists into the party is a sign of a groundswell of support for the party leadership's fight to protect the State's interests and we can all together defeat those forces who are inimical to the State's integrity and prosperity", the NC Provincial President said on the occasion.

Earlier reputed Trade Union Leader, Ghulam Ahmed Beigh of Makhdoom Sahib, Srinagar joined National Conference along with dozens of his supporters at a function held at NC Head Office, 'Nawa-e-Subha' in Srinagar in the presence of National Conference Provincial President Nasir Aslam Wani.

The new entrants to the party pledged to carry forward the ideals and mission of the Party's Founder, Sher-e-Kashmir Sheikh Muhammad Abdullah and to strengthen the hands of Dr. Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah in countering the nefarious designs of the PDP-BJP Alliance.

Notorious drug smuggler arrested in Handwara

Srinagar, sep 30: Continuing its drive against drug menace, Handwara police has arrested a notorious drug smuggler and recovered contraband substance from his possession.

Acting on a specific information, Handwara police arrested a notorious drug smuggler Farooq Ahmad Dar son of Mohammad Sultan Dar resident of

Lachipora Zachaldara. 01 kilograms of charas was recovered from his possession which was meant to be distributed among the youth of the district. He is considered as main supplier of contraband substances especially in Rajwar and Handwara areas.

A case was registered in Police Station Handwara and investigation taken

up. Pertinent to mention here that Handwara police under the supervision of SSP Handwara has arrested two drug suppliers, seized about 08 Kgs of charas and other contraband substances (Spasmoproxyvan etc) in the recent past which they used to sell among the youth of the district.

Continue from Front Page

KARBALA

Hussain (AS) and his companions at Karbala reinvigorated our faith in a just and egalitarian system. She added Ashoora e Muharram is an occasion to enlighten and guide the whole of mankind forever.

Mehbooba Mufti said the very act of sacrifice teaches us steadfastness for the supremacy of the truth. She said the biggest tribute to Hazrat Imam Hussain (A.S.) would be that we stand united for the welfare and good of human society.

CM

constructed by the shrine management for the convenience of the pilgrims. She interacted with the devotees and sought their feedback about improving services by the shrine management.

Minister for FCS&CA and Information, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali; Minister of State for Hajj & Azaqaf, Syed Farooq Andrabi; MLA, Rajouri, Choudhary Qamar Hussain; Vice Chancellor, BGSBU, Prof. Javed Mussarat; Divisional Commissioner, Jammu, Dr. M K Bhandari; IGP, Jammu zone, SDS Jamwal and senior officers of district administration were present on the occasion.

Later, the Chief Minister held a review of the developmental activities in the district. She enquired about the pace of work on the Medical College at Rajouri besides other developmental works in the district.

Earlier on her arrival at Rajouri, the Chief Minister was received by Minister for FCS&CA and Information, Choudhary Zulfkar Ali; MLA, Rajouri, Choudhary Qamar Hussain; Di-

visional Commissioner, Jammu, Dr. M K Bhandari; IGP, Jammu zone, SDS Jamwal; DIG, Poonch-Rajouri range, Deepak Salathia; Deputy Commissioner, Dr. Shahid Iqbal Choudhary and officers of district administration.

DEFENCE

is applaud-able," Sitharaman said. The 'Pratham-Shyok' bridge is the first major development on the Shyok Gong river which will enhance the travel of locals as well as the army in this strategic region.

"It is the state-of-the-art bridge which will connect people of the region as well as increase travel and communication for strategic transport," the minister said.

Complimenting the army jawans, the defence minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the government in New Delhi are for full support of jawans who protect the nation in all circumstances.

"Government is for full support and backing of the jawans and security forces in the country. We are committed to spend time with the jawans and do whatever is possible for them," she said in her address.

"The government will spend time with jawans across the country and in different regions to feel itself the conditions the jawans live in and realize their needs," she said while recollecting the visit of the Prime Minister Modi to Siachen where he spent his time with the soldiers deployed to protect the country.

The minister said that the people also demand that the government should spend time with the jawans across the country and their palces of deployment.

"I assure you that the government is with you all the time and in all circumstances. We are not only sensitive to your needs and demands but also to your families as well," the minister said.

While lauding the BRO and its men for working in difficult terrain and hostile circumstances, the defence minister said that BRO not only connects people of small hamlets in those areas where the civilian administration cannot reach, but also provides connectivity for the army and strategic locations of the nation.

She said that constructing roads and bridges in difficult terrains will help in development and progress of our nation and its people.

The defence minister met the army commanders during her visit where she was briefed about the strategic locations and the continuous vigil by the soldiers to protect the nation.

Later, Lt Gen S K Shrivastava, Director General Border Roads, presented a memento to the defence minister and thanked her for visiting the area and inaugurating the bridge.

The Chief Engineer Project Himank Brig DM Purvmath apprised the minister about various activities the Project Himank is undertaking in the entire sector in hostile circumstances. He said that that her visit will boost the morale of the BRO personnel in attaining more mile stones in the days to come.

ARTICLE

are now visible on the ground. Problems faced by refugees are still not resolved in J&K. They don't have basic facilities and lead a backward life. Problems of permanent residents

of the state, who migrated from Pakistan occupied J&K in 1947, are still present. The problems of those who were displaced from the Kashmir valley in 1990 are remaining as it is. Necessary constitutional amendments will have to be made and old provisions will have to be changed in J&K. Only when constitutional amendments are done, can residents of J&K be completely assimilated with the rest of the country."

Mohan Bhagwat lauded the armed forces' efforts in dealing with militancy and ceasefire violation by Pakistan in the Valley but said much still needed to be done to bring the state to the mainstream. "For this just work, necessary constitutional amendments will have to be made and old provisions will have to be changed. Then and then only, the residents of Jammu and Kashmir can be completely assimilated with rest of Bharat and their equal cooperation and share will be possible in the national progress," Bhagwat said in apparent references to Articles 370 and 35(A) of the Constitution. While Article 370 gives special status to Jammu and Kashmir, Article 35(A) defines the state's permanent residents and their special privileges.

The fundamentalist Hindu leader said that: "Links between Rohingya and Jihadi elements are coming to light. If such elements come to India, they may have an impact on our security situation. Why do the Rohingya want to come to India? We need to study their background. They will not only put pressure on our jobs, resources but will pose a threat to nation's security. We had not even completely solved the problem of Bangladeshi intrusion when Myanmar's problems have been heaped on us," he said.

Bijbehara to get new SDH at a cost of Rs 18 cr: Veeri

ANANTNAG, SEPTEMBER 30: Minister for Revenue, Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction, Abdul Rehman Veeri today said that PMDP funded Rs 18 crore new Sub District Hospital would be constructed in Bijbehara.

The Minister said that while inspecting the site and taking stock of facilities at existing Bijbehara hospital.

He was accompanied by Deputy Commissioner Anantnag Muhammad Younis Malik, Director Health Services Kashmir Saleem Ur Rehman, Superintending Engineer Anantnag, Fazil Kochak, CMO Anantnag and other officers.

The Minister asked the officers to expedite the process of formulating Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the construction of Hospital equipped with modern facilities.



He also asked them to setup a timeline for various construction works so that it could be completed within deadline.

He inspected the functioning of the institution, besides taking stock of the services being made available to the patients.

The Minister, during the visit in-

spected various units of the hospital and enquired about the facilities being provided to the patients.

The Minister also donated Rs 10 lakh for purchasing Digital X Ray machine for the hospital.

He asked the authorities to ensure proper maintenance of all crucial equipments in the hospital for larger

interest of the patients.

Veeri impressed upon them to maintain utmost levels of sanitation and ensure hygienic environment in the hospital which is pre-requisite for health of the patients. He also directed the hospital to employ proper waste management techniques including conscious waste segregation and disposal.

The Minister also interacted with the patients and their attendants and enquired about the status of services being extended to them in the hospital.

Veeri also asked the officers to start repair and renovation work costing Rs 23 lakh immediately on the existing SDH hospital building.

The Minister also asked the officers to ensure proper roster for night duty of staff and ensure all medical facilities round the clock.

Department of Post to organize a Special Philately Exhibition on 2nd October 2017 in Srinagar GPO

Srinagar, September 30: Department of Posts is organizing a Special Philately Exhibition on 2nd October, 2017 in Srinagar GPO Complex. In this exhibition the renowned Philatelists of Jammu and Kashmir regions Dr Semin Rubab, Shri Aashiq Hussain, Shri Chetan Kohli, Dr Puri, Shri Sanjay Gupta will display more than 2000 rare stamps issued by Postal organization of India and abroad on Mahatma Gandhi.

Sources from Department of Post, J&K Circle, Srinagar informed that best 9 letters chosen in the National Level Letter Writing Competition under the "Dhai Akhar/Letter Writing Campaign which run from 24th June, 2017 to 15th August, 2017 will be awarded Circle level cash awards in the exhibition. The best three letters writers who secured 1st Position in different categories are Kasak Katoch Jammu, Samriti Sharma Sunderbani Rajouri and Aqib Bashir Frisal Kulgam and

will be awarded Cash Award of Rs 25,000- each. Kibra Javaid PCHSS Srinagar, Sanaya Mahajan of KC International School Jammu and Falah Fida Wani Hawal Srinagar who secured second position in the respective categories will be awarded Rs 10,000- each while as Shabir Ahmad St. Paul's Academy Srinagar, Kanhiya Lal Sharma Samba Jammu and Hamid Ali Shah Jammu University will be awarded third prize of Rs 5,000- each in the respective categories.

Sources from Department of Posts said that the letter writing competition was open for all citizens and sizeable number of participants participated in it across the state of J&K. The theme of the Letter Writing Competition was "Dear Babu (Mahatma Gandhi), you inspire me...". A special cover on Dhai Akhar Letter writing campaign will also be released by Department of Posts in the exhibition.

Abdul Haq welcomes first batch of SHGs from Leh for maiden in-house training

Making women economically Self-Reliant first step towards their Empowerment

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30: Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Law and Justice, Abdul Haq Khan, on Saturday said the state government is making serious efforts to uplift the status of women folk in society and that making them economically self-sufficient is the first step in this regard.

Minister said this while welcoming the first batch of members of newly formed Self Help Groups (SHGs) from Chuchot block of Ladakh to go for in-house training. The 50 member is the first batch of SHGs members who are being trained at the Divisional Training Centre at Singhpora. The Minister was accompanied by Mission Director SRLM Bakshi Javed Humayun, Additional Mission Director Ishfaq Ahmad Wani.

Abdul Haq said earlier the members had to travel to Hyderabad as the department had outsourced the training to a Non Governmental Organisation that was expensive, hectic and time consuming. He said for the convenience of the SHG members, the government has started in-



house training and two training centres have been set up, one each at Kashmir and Jammu divisions.

He said during the in-house training of the newly formed SHGs, the members will be trained how to run the programs under Umeed Scheme and how to increase livelihood opportunities so that before setting up for the journey, the members are well trained to run their groups successfully.

While welcoming the SHG members, Abdul Haq said the first step towards empowerment of women is to make them economically self-reliant.

Praising the perseverance of women and their role in nation building, Khan impressed upon the gathering to be part of various welfare-based programmes of the government and assured them of complete support and hand-holding from the government.

Earlier Mission Director Bakshi Javid Himayun informed the Minister that there are 1409 members in 141 Self Help Groups in Chuchot block. He said 139 SHGs have received a Revolving Fund of Rs 20.85 Lakh and the Community Investment Fund of Rs 55.20 Lakhs.

During the interaction, members from different Self Help Groups shared their experiences of positive change in enhancing their livelihoods and confidence they have attained by associating themselves with the SHGs of UMEED. The Minister appreciated the women for changing their fate and ensured that more blocks shall be brought under the programme on fast-track basis and anticipated a big turnaround in the lives of poor families of the block.

Dy CM reviews progress of power development works under DDUGJY

Directs for effective implementation of power sector reforms

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 30: Deputy Chief Minister Dr. Nirmal Singh today stressed on coordinated efforts for successful and effective implementation of the initiatives undertaken for power sector reforms and infrastructure development to cover all un-electrified villages in the state.

The Deputy Chief Minister was speaking at a meeting convened to review the status of power development works under Din Dayal Upadaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY). The meeting was attended by Chief Engineer PDD (M&RE) Kashmir Shahnaz Goni, Chief Engineer PDD (M&RE) Jammu Ashwani Kumar Gupta, Superintending Engineers of various circles besides Executive Engineers and other concerned officers of the Power Development department.

The Deputy Chief Minister took detailed review about the status of ongoing and pending works for rural electrification taken up under the flagship scheme in targeted districts of Reasi, Ramban, Rajouri and Kishtwar of Jammu province and Bandi-



pura, Kupwara, Leh and Kargil of Kashmir division.

It was informed that the augmentation of infrastructure and rural electrification in these districts is in full swing and target for the electrification of 51 villages will be completed by the end of December, this year.

The Deputy Chief Minister said that state as well as Union Government has prioritized speedy rural electrification in the targeted districts. He said regular review of pace of work has been made mandatory for close monitoring and timeline completion of the projects.

Describing electrification as a prime mover for rural development, he said power is pre-requisite for all industrial activities and contributes

significantly in increasing agricultural productivity, jobs and income generation avenues.

"In the past two years, rural electrification has witnessed an unprecedented progress as it is our aim to provide 24x7 power supply to every village," Dr Singh added.

He also directed the officials to expedite the work of electrification of geographically remote locations that would be connected with off-grid sources of power.

The Deputy Chief Minister also asked the Chief Engineers to convene regular meetings with Project Implementing agencies and concerned engineers so that the process of implementation of the schemes can be properly

monitored and the requisite feedback got.

He added that future reviews shall focus on problems at the village level to expedite and keep close tab on the progress of works.

Meanwhile, reviewing cumulative inspection report of Jammu division, the Deputy Chief Minister was informed that the Department has conducted 28146 inspections till date during which Rs 2.69 crore fine was imposed and 8032 connections involving a load of 12 MW were regularised and brought under the ambit of power tariff.

It was further informed that during similar inspections in Kashmir Division, the Department realized Rs 2.61 crore fine and regularized 12.5 MW load.

Swachhta Hi Sewa; PHE sponsored Roller Skating competition concludes

Sham Lal hails participants for spreading message of 'Clean India'

JAMMU, SEPTEMBER 30- The 2 day Roller Skating competition sponsored by Public Health Engineering (PHE) Department as part of Nation Wide fortnightly Sanitation Campaign "Swachhta hi Sewa" concluded here last evening.

The chief guest at the valedictory function Minister for PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control Sham Lal Choudhary congratulated the participants for becoming the part of flagship clean India campaign.

The MLA Jammu East Rajesh Gupta, Chief Engineer PHE Ashok Gandotra, representatives of J&K State Sports Council, representatives of Youth Services Sports besides senior players of Roller skating in large number were present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister congratulated all the participants of the sports event for spreading the message of Swachhta hi Sewa and making it a grand success. He informed the gathering about swachhta abhian and appealed them to actively participate in making Jammu city neat and clean and realize the dream of clean India.

The aim of the campaign "Swachhta Hi Sewa" is to reinforce the concept of 'sanitation is everyone's business,' besides re-energizing Swachh Bharat Abhiyan by intensifying focus on cleanliness through mass participation.

On the occasion, Minister felicitated skaters Arjun Gandotra, Tarun Gandatra, Josphal Singh, Jasmeet Singh, Ajeet Singh, Dixit Gupta, Abhinav Gupta, Sahil Gupta for bringing laurels to the state as they were part of the 16 member team which represented India in various competitions.

Super senior players who represented the state as well as country at national and international level and brought laurels to the state in the field of Roller Skating Sports were also honoured and awarded with life time achievement award.

Appreciation certificates were also given to all the students who participated in this two day roller skating event.

Sports persons who represented India in Rollball championship namely Hiteshwar Singh, Rakshak Jandail, Ankita Chopra and Gupta were also honoured on the occasion.

Andrabi pays rich tributes to Karbala Martyrs

SRINAGAR, SEPTEMBER 30: Minister of State for Hajj & Auqaf, Syed Farooq Ahmad Andrabi on Saturday paid rich tributes to the Martyrs of Karbala and said that their sacrifices highlighted the firm faith in the Almighty, principles of righteousness, and highest degree of selflessness to uphold truth and human dignity.

The Minister said that sacrifice of Imam Hussain (AS) at Karbala teaches humankind that truth ultimately prevails over falsehood.

He said the sacrifice of the Martyrs of Karbala is a timeless inspiration for all human-beings and an example of how truth and justice always triumphs over oppression and evil despite oppression and injustices.

Andrabi said that sacrifice of Imam Hussain (AS) was a pivotal moment in the history of mankind and proved to be an inspiration for not only Muslims but humanity, in general, to persevere against injustice and tyranny in the pursuit of peace and honor.

ایس پی کالج سرینگر میں پروفیسر بشیر احمد کرمانی کی کتاب "احترام انسانیت" کی رسمِ رونمایی

کلسٹرل یونیورسٹی کے وائس چانسلر ڈاکٹر شیخ جاوید، جسٹس بشیر احمد کرمانی، پروفیسر بشیر احمد نخوی سمیت سرکردہ شخصیات نے کتاب کو ٹرانز آف اور قرا دیا



سرینگر // ایس پی کالج سرینگر میں ایک پروقار تقریب پر مولانا شیخ غلام محمد صدر جمعیت انوار الاسلام کی کتاب "احترام انسانیت" کی رسمِ رونمایی کی گئی۔ اس سلسلے میں جمعیت انوار الاسلام نے احترام انسانیت کانفرنس کا انعقاد کیا تھا۔ کتاب کے موضوع کے حوالے سے سرکردہ شخصیات نے اظہار خیال کرتے ہوئے احترام انسانیت کتاب کو نہایت ہی تحسین و ثناء اور ہونے کے ساتھ ساتھ مفید کوشش قرار دیا۔ تقریب کی صدارت اور کتاب کی رسمِ رونمایی کلیسٹر یونیورسٹی کے وائس چانسلر ڈاکٹر شیخ جاوید اور جمعیت انوار الاسلام کے پروفیسر ڈاکٹر بشیر احمد نخوی ماہر اقبالیات کشمیر یونیورسٹی، مہمان خصوصی سٹیٹ اکیڈمی کیشن جج جسٹس بشیر احمد کرمانی اور دیگر ادیبی، سماجی و مذہبی شخصیات نے انجام دیں۔ جسٹس کرمانی نے اپنے خطاب میں دور بڑا کے حالات و واقعات پر مفصل وضاحت کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ اخلاقی قدروں کو اپنے اپنے گھروں میں تقویت دینے کی اشد ضرورت ہے احترام انسانیت کتاب انسانیت کی روح کو لوگوں میں بیدار کرنے میں معاون بن سکتی ہے۔ پروفیسر ڈاکٹر بشیر احمد نخوی نے احترام انسانیت پر مدلل روشنی ڈالتے ہوئے نوجوانوں میں اخلاقیات کو مدد تقویت دینے پر زور دیا انہوں نے احترام انسانیت کتاب کو طوا و طالبات میں متعارف کرانے پر بھی زور دیا تاکہ وہ مقصد پورے ہو سکے۔ کتاب کو مرتب کیا گیا ہے۔ احترام انسانیت کتاب کے مصنف صدر جمعیت انوار الاسلام مولانا شیخ غلام محمد نے اپنے

تقریبات اخلاقی بیداری کی روح کو آجا کر کرنے میں بھی شرا و رعایت ہوتی ہیں۔ ڈاکٹر انجارج غلام فرانس انوار الاسلام کے چیف آرگنائزر الحاج غلام محمد وانی، معاون بیز زادہ محمد انجنیہا ڈہ جزل بیکری جمعیت انوار الاسلام و صدر ضلع سرینگر فاروق قاضی نے انجام دئے۔ مقررین میں بیز احمد و اعظم کشمیر ڈاکٹر مولوی محمد عمر فاروق کے نامادہ غلام قادر بیگ، محمد شفیع خان، صوفی ٹرسٹ کے صدر بیز مشتاق احمد، امجد ساجد روابط کار کے صدر مولانا سید وارث شاہ نقشبندی، جمعیت فیضان مصطفیٰ کے صدر مولانا محمد عادل نورانی، بیکری بیز اقبال کٹھ، معروف شاعر ایوب صابر، بیز واعظ جامع مسجد گول

DAILY Editorial
Time and US
SRINAGAR J&K

Space for a cut

By cutting the policy repo rate by 25 basis points, the Reserve Bank of India has opted to play safe while nominally acceding to the clamour for softer lending rates. The Monetary Policy Committee's majority decision (one member voted to keep rates unchanged, while another wanted a deeper cut) hinged on its observation that some "upside risks to inflation have either reduced or not materialised", opening up "some space" for accommodation. Specifically, the bi-monthly policy statement refers to the significant slowdown over the past three months in core inflation — retail price gains excluding those for food and fuel. It notes that the monsoon has so far been normal, and the initial roll-out of GST has been "smooth". Yet, the six-member panel has chosen to retain the "neutral" stance, given that it expects the trajectory of inflation to rise from current lows amid a welter of uncertainties. The factors deterring a more abidingly benign view for the path that prices are likely to traverse bear repeating, given the inflation-targeting remit handed to the MPC: the RBI's statement does just that. A conclusive separation of "transitory and structural factors" impacting price gains remains elusive. Prices of inflation-sensitive tomatoes and onions are spiking. Pressures may be building that could spur higher animal protein costs for consumers. The implementation of farm loan waivers by States and the "tail risk" that the fiscally expansive measures could pose to long-term price stability that RBI Deputy Governor Viral Acharya referred to in June, continue to be germane. And there is no clarity on whether and when State governments will implement salary and allowance increases following the Centre's implementation of the seventh pay panel-related hikes.

The MPC acknowledges there are moderating forces at work — a second successive normal monsoon that could check food costs and a stable international commodity price outlook — that could help keep the inflation trajectory favourable. On economic activity, the RBI has flagged multiple concerns. A poll of business sentiment in the manufacturing sector shows respondents expect a moderation in July-September from the preceding quarter. Also, the high levels of stress that continue to be reflected in the balance sheets of both lenders and corporate borrowers presage the unlikelihood of any uptick in new investment. With the underlying impulses for growth in industry and services weakening, the onus is now on the Centre and the States to take enabling steps, through policy measures and directed fiscal actions, to give a thrust for the revival of private investment. Surely, as Mr. Acharya cautioned in June, it will serve nobody's interests if the rate reduction doesn't have "the desired amplifier effects on the economy" and ends up only temporarily masking the true problems in the banking and real sectors.

The privacy ruling

By A.G. NOORANI

This is not an attempt to gild the lily, as it were. The implication of the unanimous ruling of a nine-member bench of the Supreme Court on August 24 will seep in only over time as the judgments are closely analysed. A judgment on behalf of Chief Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar, and Justices R.K. Agarwal, S. Abdul Nazeer and D.Y. Chandrachud was delivered by Dr Justice D.Y. Chandrachud. Justices J. Chelameswar, S.A. Bobde, Abhay Manohar Sapre, Rohinton Fali Nariman and Sanjay Kishan Kaul delivered separate judgments. They unanimously passed an order which said: "The right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution."

Article 21 says: "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law."

The implication is plain. The right to privacy is covered not only by Article 21, a fundamental right, it is also "a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution" which embodies all the fundamental rights. The right to privacy is, therefore, the foundation on which all the fundamental rights rest. Take it away from the citizen and he is reduced to a non-person.

There are two aspects that have not received the notice they deserve. One is that the court has buried, beyond exhumation, the doctrine, so dear to Richard Nixon and his tribe, that the Constitution should be read strictly according to the "original intention" of its framers. They were known as the "strict Constructionists", conservatives to the core. To its credit, the Supreme Court of India never for once accepted this view.

The other aspect is that the judgment knocks for a six any law that prevents a citizen from eating beef. Even the Supreme Court will not be able to retrace its steps because all the judges define in liberal terms the contours of the right to privacy in the widest terms. More, five of the nine—a clear majority—explicitly and in so many words uphold a person's right to eat whatever he wishes to eat. Unlike Article 19, which confers fundamental rights on citizens (such as the right to freedom of speech and expression), Article 21 applies to all persons. An American or a European will be entitled to demand his beef steak; an Indonesian, his rendang; and an Indian, his nihari and kebabs, authentic only when made with beef. Mutton is used under compulsion or by ones who know no better. The legendary Tunday Kebabs of Lucknow can now be had freely. It is surely time that the oppressive laws on eating beef are tested on the anvil of this ruling.

Justice Chandrachud said: "The development of the jurisprudence on the right to privacy in the United States of America shows that even though there is no explicit mention of the word 'privacy' in the Constitution, the courts of the country have not only recognised the right to privacy under various Amendments of the Constitution but also progressively extended the ambit of protection under the right to privacy. In its early years, the focus was on property and protection of physical spaces that would



be considered private such as an individual's home. This 'trespass doctrine' became irrelevant when it was held that what is protected under the right to privacy is 'people, not places'. The 'reasonable expectation of privacy' test has been relied on subsequently by various other jurisdictions while developing the right to privacy. Having located the right to privacy in the 'person', American jurisprudence on the right to privacy has developed to shield various private aspects of a person's life from interference by the state—such as conscience, education, personal information, communications and conversations, sexuality, marriage, procreation, contraception, individual beliefs, thoughts and emotions, political and other social groups. Various judgments of the court have also analysed technological developments which have made surveillance more pervasive and affecting citizens' privacy." It is unthinkable that any court outside India would deliver the kind of judgments on cow slaughter that the Supreme Court has over the years.

Right to be let alone
In keeping with these observations, Justice Chandrachud said: "What, then, does privacy postulate? Privacy postulates the reservation of a private space for the individual, described as the right to be let alone. The concept is founded on the autonomy of the individual. The ability of an individual to make choices lies at the core of the human personality...Privacy enables the individual to retain the autonomy of the body and mind..."

"Read in conjunction with Article 21, liberty enables the individual to have a choice of preferences on various facets of life including what and how one will eat, the way one will dress, the faith one will espouse and a myriad other matters on which autonomy and self-determination require a choice to be made within the privacy of the

mind. The constitutional right to the freedom of religion under Article 25 has implicit within it the ability to choose a faith and the freedom to express or not express those choices to the world. These are some illustrations of the manner in which privacy facilitates freedom and is intrinsic to the exercise of liberty." He remarked meaningfully: "Privacy protects heterogeneity and recognises the plurality and diversity of our culture."

Three other judges concurred in this. So did Justice Chelameswar, who said, as explicitly: "I do not think that anybody would like to be told by the state as to what they should eat or how they should dress or whom they should be associated with either in their personal, social or political life." This makes a majority on this explicit ruling. Justice Katju's warning is significant: "The majoritarian concept does not apply to constitutional rights and the courts are often called upon to take what may be categorised as a non-majoritarian view, in the check and balance of power envisaged under the Constitution of India." He was, of course, aware of the majoritarian laws on eating beef.

One is appalled that a top law officer of the BJP regime said that no new rights can be added. Justice Chandrachud listed 15 rights and Justice Bobde 11 which the Supreme Court had spelt out in the past from the text of the Constitution. But it is the outlook and ignorance which shock. The Americans have been through all this. Time and again Chief Justice Marshall would remind fellow justices that "it is a Constitution that we are expounding", a basic law "intended to endure for all ages to come" (McCulloch vs. Maryland (1819) 4 Wharton 316).

Hence the necessity for adapting its meaning to "various crises in human affairs". In 1955, nearly a century and a half

after Justice Marshall's reminder, Chief Justice Earl Warren (whom many regard as one of the greatest Chief Justices after Marshall) sagely predicted that "when the generation of 1980 receives from us the Bill of Rights, the document will not have exactly the same meaning it had when we received it from our fathers" (Earl Warren, The Law and the Future, Fortune, Volume 106, 1955, page 126).

Implicit guarantees
The right to privacy, one can confidently predict, will acquire fresh nuances when the inroads made by the data computer are challenged. None should underestimate the Supreme Court's resourcefulness in meeting the new challenges to freedom, nor its ingenuity in applying the Fundamental Rights.

While the Burger Court retreated somewhat from the frontiers delineated by the Warren Court, in some respects it widened them. In the Richmond Newspapers case of 1980, the court disapproved of a criminal trial being closed to the public in the absence of an "overriding interest" which required it. The significance of the court's ruling lies in the fact that it spelled out for the public a right to attend trials from the First Amendment's guarantee of free speech and free press, as distinct from the Sixth Amendment guarantee of "a public trial" to an accused.

The court declared that "notwithstanding the appropriate caution against reading into the Constitution rights not explicitly defined, the court has acknowledged that certain unarticulated rights are implicit in enumerated guarantees. For example, the rights of association and of privacy, the right to be presumed innocent and the right to be judged by a standard of proof beyond a reasonable doubt in a criminal trial, as well as the right to travel, appear nowhere in the Constitution or Bill of Rights. Yet, these important but unarticulated rights have nonetheless been found to share constitutional protection in common with explicit guarantees. The concerns expressed by Madison and others have thus been resolved; fundamental rights, even though not expressly guaranteed, have been recognised by the court as indispensable to the enjoyment of rights explicitly defined."

In the famous birth control case of 1965, Griswold vs Connecticut, a Connecticut statute made the use of contraceptives a criminal offence. Estelle T. Griswold, executive director of the Planned Parenthood League of Connecticut, and another officer of the League were arrested, tried and convicted of the offence. Each was fined \$100. The Supreme Court set aside the conviction.

The doctrine that it enunciated transcended in importance the facts of the case. It was the high noon of the Warren Court. Delivering the opinion, Justice Douglas said: "Specific guarantees in the Bill of Rights have penumbras, formed by emanations from those guarantees that help give them life and substance... Various guarantees create zones of privacy. The right of association contained in the penumbra of the First Amendment is one, as we have seen. The Third Amendment in its prohibition against the quartering of soldiers 'in any house' in time of peace without the consent of the owner is another facet of privacy.

REQUIEM FOR THE GARDENS

I was late. The sun had started its lethargic descent. I walked carefully on the carriageway of the road. The footpath had been hijacked by gigantic blue-and-green barricades. The sound of drilling pierced my ears while dust annoyingly found a new home on my sandals. A Mumbai underground metro train station was being built here. I glanced at my watch furtively. She was waiting and I was late.

I walk into the building. Nostalgia hits me like a bullet: piercing, painful and yet ineffably cajoling. As a child, my brother and I would often go to the rather quaint neighbouring garden seeking a respite from the exuding evening heat. My mother, dressed in a starched cotton sari, would sit on the wooden benches, knitting and chatting with her friends. I would swing and he would slide, the only playground equipment in those days. The garden was beautifully outlined with magenta-coloured bougainvillea bursts and jasmine vines.

The grassy patches were interspersed with cobble-stone paths, with one additional path on the perimeter to be used by serious exercise buffs. Parrots peeped playfully from the gulmohar trees while an ageing banyan tree spread out its branches majestically, making a canopy of bright green leaves. My brother and I would enjoy chasing the butterflies amidst our own simple, innocuous games.

Today, I glance towards the garden with melancholy eyes. The sublime view has now been distorted with monstrous construction machines and workers. Newspapers had reported that many parks and gardens would be cleared to make way for the train stations for the underground Metro line. The news had appeared irrelevant at that time, but now it directly affects us. Frowning in disapproval, I had simply turned the page to read other, more interesting articles.

Today, however, it smacked me hard on the face. This was my garden, my childhood haven, my green emerald verdant patch, that would shine lustreously in the morning sun. Now it had been reduced to an insignificant muddy patch.

I ring the doorbell. My daughter comes running as fast as her little feet can take her while her eyes sparkle vivaciously. Every visit to my parents' house ended with a customary visit to the garden.

Playtime lost
After an afternoon of bonhomie indoors, she strained to get out and start her main business of the evening. The business of every child—play. However, today not only was I so late, there was no garden left to play in.

My father was standing in the balcony, his face clenched in a storm of emotions. He was looking at the brown



patch. "It is sad to see these beautiful trees being felled. How can they take a garden away just like that?" he asked

with a broken voice. The uncomfortable interlude was interrupted by my daughter's cheerful enquiry about the garden.

My father threw his hands in the air and said, "First you cut trees, take away the greenery and then complain about global warming? What kind of a future will these young innocent children have?"

I wonder the same.
The underground Metro is essential to provide improved travel infrastructure, multi-mode connectivity and economic growth in the over-populated financial hub of Mumbai city. What I am perplexed to see is that every modern development project is an enemy to the natural habitat. Economic progress is vital for every nation. However, surreptitiously hidden below the intoxicating materialistic needs of a society is the careless use of natural resources and unbound chemical emissions. Unchecked, this will create a deep fissure, swallowing the whole society. Economic growth and progress are what we are striving for. Environmental care is slowly regressing to the back of our daily requirements, thus being silenced by the simple ignominy of being left out. Can't a balance be achieved between the environment and economic development?

We all believe in efficient financial planning and insurance plans. What about prudent environmental insurance? Don't our children deserve this too?

Bullet train project demonetisation-like move, will kill everything: Chidambaram

NEW DELHI: Congress leader P Chidambaram on Saturday criticised the bullet train project, saying it will be a demonetisation-like move "which will kill everything else", and suggested that the money should instead be spent on improving rail safety.

The former finance minister's comments come a day after a stampede on a footbridge connecting Mumbai's suburban railway stations of Parel and Elphinstone claimed 22 lives.

The bullet train project, linking Mumbai and Ahmedabad, is not for ordinary people but an "ego trip for the high and mighty", he



alleged. Chidambaram also suggested that railway minister Piyush Goyal should instead use the Rs 1 lakh crore meant for the project

for ensuring railway safety in the country. "Bullet train will be like demonetisation. It will kill everything else including safety. Railway minister may take pledge on day after. Rs one lakh crore for rail safety, track upgrading, signalling & not for bullet train," he said on Twitter. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Japanese counterpart Shinzo Abe had on September 14 laid the foundation stone for India's first bullet train between the two cities. The Rs 1.10 lakh-crore project is expected to be completed by 2022. The train would cover a distance of over 500 km in around two hours.

15 Indians' death sentence commuted to life term by Kuwaiti Emir: Sushma Swaraj

NEW DELHI: Death sentences handed down to 15 Indians lodged in a Kuwaiti jail have been commuted to life imprisonment by the Emir of Kuwait, external affairs minister Sushma Swaraj said on Saturday.

Swaraj said the Emir has also directed that the sentences of 119 Indian nationals be reduced.

"The Emir of Kuwait has been pleased to commute the sentence of 15 Indian nationals from death to life imprisonment," she tweeted. Swaraj thanked the Emir of Kuwait for his "kind" gesture and said the Indian Embassy in



that country will extend assistance to the Indian nationals who will be released from jails.

Surgical strikes a bid to divert attention: Yechury

VIJAYAWADA: CPI(M) general secretary Sitaram Yechury on Thursday alleged that the surgical strikes initiated by the Modi government were aimed at diverting the attention of people from pressing issues.

Speaking at the Meet the Press programme organised by the Andhra Pradesh Union for Working Journalists, Mr. Yechury said: "Even after six months of the surgical strikes across the border, the attacks from the other side have increased. If several enemy camps along the Line of Control have been destroyed, how come there is an increase in infiltration?"

He also said that the recent strikes on Naga insurgents across the border did not yield any result.

"Non-pragmatic plans" The Left leader said Prime Minister Narendra Modi was coming out with non-pragmatic plans and cited the recently-launched rural electrification programme as an example. "The political climate in the country is changing and youth, who were staunchly behind Mr. Modi, are fast realising their mistakes."

He said the economy had taken a severe



beating and the government's much-publicised initiatives on black money, counterfeit currency, terrorism and scam-free society did not yield any result.

He said the non-performing assets (NPA) of banks reached a whopping 10.5 lakh crore and close to 2 lakh crore in loans were waived. "While farmers are suffering for want of minimum support price, the government is only taking care of the interests of big industrial houses."

He said that under the Modi regime, unemployment had reached a new high. "The countdown for the fall of the Modi government has begun," he said.

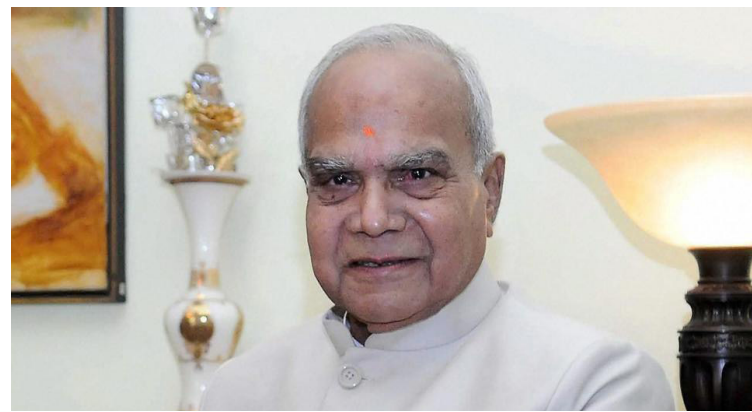
AIADMK tussle may throw up new Tamil Nadu gov Banwarilal Purohit's first big test

CHENNAI: Banwarilal Purohit will likely have the most eventful beginning amongst the five new governors announced by the Union government on Saturday as he takes charge of Tamil Nadu, where a bruising power struggle within the ruling AIADMK has upset calculations in the assembly.

A breakaway faction threatens to dethrone chief minister E Palanisami. The matter is currently in court where a decision could give Purohit his first major task: calling a floor test while all parties keep a close watch on his every move.

Experts say that Purohit's presence in the Raj Bhavan is likely to help the Bharatiya Janata Party. "What they did in Assam is known to everyone," said professor Ramu Manivannan of Madras University.

Political commentator and columnist Gnyani Shankaran concurred with his view and said: "now they will do full time manipulating... The gov-



ernor will be, ultimately, loyal to the centre and the BJP will definitely make use of him." Purohit is a veteran politician from Nagpur, the headquarters of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. He has represented the Congress twice and the BJP once.

The post of Tamil Nadu governor freed last year when K Rosaiah retired. The governor of Maharashtra, C Vidyasagar Rao, was given the ad-

ditional gubernatorial responsibilities of Tamil Nadu, a role that often saw him rushing to Chennai as political developments unfolded in the state.

At least, Tamil Nadu governor house will save a lot on flight bills, said Manivannan.

The principal opposition party, DMK, welcomed Purohit's appointment and said that he hoped the new governor will be fair to all.

"The first litmus test faced by the governor and his political fairness will be how he judges the situation arising out of the 'withdrawal of faith in CM' by 18 MLAs that clearly brought the government into a minority, DMK president Stalin said in a statement.

But Stalin's colleagues hinted at a suspicion that the hidden hand of the RSS could influence Purohit.

"As long as Modi is there, governors behave as politicians and we cannot expect any deviation from that," said TKS Elangovan, DMK MP, without naming Purohit.

BJP state unit chief Tamilisai Soundararajan was confident that the opposition will be proven wrong and governor Purohit will function in a positive manner.

Purohit is a leader from Vidharbha in Maharashtra and a three-time MP from Nagpur. He is also the managing editor of English daily Hitavada, founded in 1911 by Gopal Krishna Gokhale.

Border dispute with China can be resolved through dialogue: Rajnath

NEW DELHI: The India-China border dispute can be resolved through a "structural dialogue" and a positive approach, Home Minister Rajnath Singh said on September 29. Mr. Singh made the remarks while visiting a forward post in Uttarakhand where he met jawans of the Indo Tibetan Border Police. Undertaking the first-ever visit by a senior Minister to the China border after the recent resolution of the stand-off in the Doklam area of the Sikkim sector, Mr. Singh said there has been a "perceptual difference" of the border between the two neighbours for long and that he was sure that this issue will be "resolved" with time. "The border issue will be resolved once we have structural dialogue (with China). What we need is a positive approach (to the issue)," the Home Minister said at the ITBP post located at an altitude of 14,311 feet. Mr. Singh said the Doklam "deadlock" was resolved similarly and without any confrontation.

The 'Mana' ITBP post is located in the Chamoli district of Uttarakhand as the last battalion centre of the paramilitary that serves forward border bases along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). Interacting with the jawans of the force during a Sainik Sammelan at the border post, Mr. Singh also made



the announcement that "light clothing" for winters and to combat frosty weather will be provided to the ITBP troops, who are mostly deployed above the height of 9,000 feet. He assured the troops that issues such as better promotional avenues, exemption of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs) canteens from the GST and enhancement of infrastructure and other facilities for them will be taken up on priority.

The Minister expressed concern that not many promotions have been effected in the force, as he asked ITBP Director-General (DG) R.K. Pachnanada to undertake more steps in this regard. The force has recently promoted about 1,600 personnel across various ranks.

"We are trying to give the best facilities to our jawans... we have recently promoted about 36,000 troops (in the constabulary) in all the CAPFs, including 3,500 from the ITBP.

"These things will keep going on... we will surely look into all your issues," he told the jawans.

Mr. Singh praised the ITBP personnel and called them "multi dimensional" as they render a variety of duties in the internal security domain of the country. "We are proud of you," he said.

The 90,000 personnel strong ITBP is tasked with guarding the 3,488 km long India-China border across five States from Jammu and Kashmir to Arunachal Pradesh.

Elphinstone Road stampede: Prabhu's office denies allegations against minister

new delhi: The office of the commerce and industry minister Suresh Prabhu termed the Elphinstone Road Station Foot Over Bridge (FOB) stampede incident in Mumbai, which left 22 dead and over 30 injured, as "unfortunate", but said Mr. Prabhu, as the railway minister had taken "prompt action" on the letter he received from Member of Parliament Arvind Ganpat Sawant in late-2015 demanding a new FOB at the site after citing safety concerns due to the heavy rush. Rejecting allegations that 'delay' and 'negligence' on the part of Mr. Prabhu was among the reasons that caused the accident, sources in Mr. Prabhu's office told The Hindu that it was due to his initiative that the tendering process for Works Contract in Indian Railways was shifted online with the objective of enhancing transparency and fast-tracking the same.

They said efforts were taken by Mr. Prabhu to expedite the opening up of the tender for five new FOBs, including one at Elphinstone Road of 12 meter width. The sanction for the new FOBs has been granted and the tender will be opened on November 9, they added. While Mr. Prabhu did not directly respond, an official in his office said, "The minister is very saddened at the loss of several innocent lives and had offered his deep



condolences to the bereaved families."

The sources said Mr. Prabhu had received the letter from Mr. Sawant in late-2015, but could reply only on February 20, 2016 as the FOB project (widening, repair and building of a new one and extension of railway platforms) cost was estimated to be around Rs 12 crore, and therefore, needed Parliamentary approval. They said any project costing over Rs 2 crore has to go through such a procedure. Soon after learning about the Parliamentary in-principle nod, Mr. Prabhu, in his reply to Mr. Sawant on February 20, 2016 stated that though the Indian Railways has been going through "challenging times" due to the "adverse effects of the global slowdown",

the proposal for a new FOB at Elphinstone Road and the extension of railway platforms there (in Mr. Sawant's constituency) were "under active consideration." Thereafter, on February 26 that year, sanction was granted for the project, they said. Pointing out that earlier, for most projects, it used to take around three years for the tender to be opened after granting of the sanction, the sources said Mr. Prabhu ensured that the process was expedited.

They added that the time taken for opening a tender for Works Contract has now been reduced to one year (from three years earlier), and the same for Procurement Contracts tender has been brought down to six months.

Advisers must come out of old economic-'isms', overhaul policies: RSS chief

NAGPUR: Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh's chief Mohan Bhagwat defended on Saturday the "bold and courageous" economic decisions taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government but called for an "integrated and holistic policy" that benefits everyone. Addressing a customary gathering to mark the Hindu festival Dussehra (Vijay Dashami) at Reshmibagh, chief of the RSS urged economic advisors "to come out of the same old economicism" and take into account experiences that he called the "ground reality of our nation".

His comments come at a time the Modi government faces strident

criticism for its handling of the economy after India's GDP growth fell for a third consecutive quarter in June and public anger grew over rising fuel prices. The latest round of criticism came from within the BJP, with former finance minister Yashwant Sinha tearing into the current leadership.

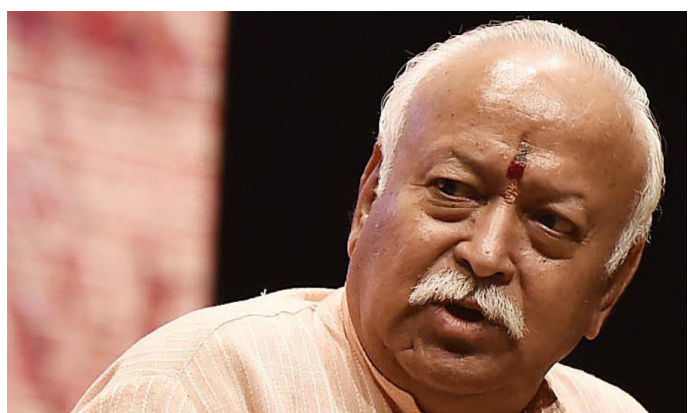
Bhagwat said it is understandable that officials will move on with "global policies and standards, even if they are faulty, artificial, create a mirage of prosperity, cause erosion of morality, environment, employment and self-reliance". "However it is also universally being recognised that all these policies and standards need a

rethinking and nation specific unique models of development should evolve."

Modi's BJP is the political arm of the RSS and the chief's comments could potentially have an impact on government policy.

The RSS chief did not name specific decisions of the government such as the rollout of the Goods and Services Tax and last November's note ban — both identified as factors by independent experts for the growth slowdown. But Bhagwat's thrust on the government working for all was clear.

The government must ensure that "tremors and instability" that are a natural outcome of econom-



ic reforms should have minimum impact on the informal sector, he said. "Crores of people get jobs or employments through these sec-

tors. Most of the people standing in the last line of the society are also from these sectors. While reforming and cleaning the eco-

nom systems, although some tremors and instability is expected, it should be kept in mind that these sectors should feel the minimum heat and ultimately they should get the maximum strength."

He also spoke on cow protection, an issue that he said must be looked at not merely as a matter of religion, and expressed his opposition to sheltering Rohingya refugees from Myanmar.

"Rohingyas were driven out from Myanmar mainly because of their violent and criminal separatist activities. Any decision regarding them should be taken by keeping in mind that they will definitely be a threat to national

security and integrity," he said. Bhagwat also praised the Narendra Modi government for tackling incidents like the Doklam standoff with China as well as international diplomacy.

On farmers, Bhagwat said loan waivers were not the solution for the crisis in the farm sector and insisted on minimum price guarantees.

Senior BJP leader and former deputy prime minister LK Advani, Union minister for transport, shipping and water resources, Nitin Gadkari and Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnis also attended the three-hour programme.

Do you reuse oil to fry food? It can be the reason for heart disease

Emphasising that India's heart disease epidemic increased due to dietary patterns, doctors on Friday urged people to avoid reusing any oil for frying food products as it increases the proportion of trans fats, a major source of heart diseases.

According to the doctors, including from AIIMS, fats in food items are of four types – saturated, unsaturated, mono and trans, with the last most dangerous and their presence in any oil going up if it is cooked for a long duration or as soon as it emits smoke. Vanaspati has the highest content of trans fat content. "Our (Indian) people simply do not have any idea of what they are eating. Trans fats which are the most harmful and leading cause of heart diseases is entering into the body of humans in so many ways. One should choose cooking oils which are well balanced and has less than 4 gms of saturated fats," said Sundeeep Mishra, Professor of Cardiology at AIIMS, on the occasion of World Heart Day. Mishra, who has several studies on the matter, says that boiling oil for hours and reuse of refined oil leads to the increase of trans fats. Suggested that though mustard oil and olive oil were among the "good" oils which should be mostly used for cooking, the doctors even suggested mustard oil should be mixed with ghee to balance its fats, while olive oil should only be sprinkled on cooked food and not be used for frying as it leads to increase in trans fats. Nikhil Tandon, professor of Endocrinology at AIIMS stated that one person should have only 0.5 litres of fats every month. "Our food habits are such that heart disease becomes common. Even in market, biscuits and bhujias are cooked in vanaspati so that they can be preserved for long. This again leads to intake of trans fats, a leading killer," he said. Stating that other types of oil such as coconut by people in southern India used for cooking were making them acute heart patients, doctors also warned against using palm oil as it also has a high content of trans fat. WHO says Cardiovascular diseases (CVD) are the major cause of mortality globally, as well as in India. They are caused by disorders of the heart and blood vessels, and includes coronary heart disease (heart attacks), cerebrovascular disease (stroke), raised blood pressure (hypertension), peripheral artery disease, rheumatic heart disease, congenital heart disease and heart failure. Doctors also said that an interesting study by AIIMS showed only 13 per cent of educated individuals pay any attention to what they are consuming, and the number of heart bypass surgeries among youth has also increased.



WHO SAYS YOU CAN'T BUILD MUSCLE ON A VEGAN DIET? IT HAS ALL THE PROTEIN YOU NEED

Here's something we've all possibly heard in our lives at least once: To achieve fitness, you need to be on a non-vegetarian diet. Vegetarians can manage, too, but it's impossible to get ripped if you are on a vegan diet. Stop! Don't believe that. The reason why fitness enthusiasts don't trust a vegan diet to help you build muscle is because it is believed to have less protein than what one can get from a non-vegetarian or a vegetarian diet. However, recent fitness research studies have proven that this is a misconception.

Therefore, we got in touch with fitness experts Ashish Gupta, Vicky Tuli and Deepak Jha, who helped us separate fact from fiction, and tell you how you can get that lean body on a vegan diet. 1) It's a myth that your muscles respond better to protein acquired from animals as compared to protein acquired from plants. As long as you get protein as per your required weight, regardless of the source, it's fine.

Even if you are on a vegan diet, basic principles of building muscles apply – eating protein after workout,

eating fewer carbohydrates in the night and eating balanced meal of fat, protein and carbohydrates.

Being on a vegan diet is totally different for your digestive system. It takes time for your system to get used to a vegan diet. You will need to eat more often as compared to any other diet. You will also get hungry more often. Ease into veganism as you may experience gas and bloating initially. The reason for this is that most fitness enthusiasts are on high protein diet, which is low in fibre-content as compared to vegan

diet. Therefore, your gut takes time to adjust. You need to increase your intake of fruits and vegetables if you are a vegan. You can consume chickpeas and legumes before workout to fuel your body for exercise. Quinoa and buckwheat can be used as a post-workout meal for muscle recovery. Opt for protein shakes if your sole aim is increasing muscle size. It's unsustainable to solely focus on muscle growth if you are a vegan; this is a fact. Sugar, aerated drinks and processed food are a strict no if you are a vegan. For energy and

carbohydrates, include flaxseeds, chia seeds, walnuts and flaxseed oil. They are also an excellent source of essential fatty acids. To boost your metabolism, consume green tea with cinnamon. Since you are leaving milk, chicken, cheese, cottage cheese and eggs when you turn vegan, soy is simply a must have ingredient.

Don't skip leafy greens. They increase the production of nitric oxide in the body, which helps deliver oxygen and protein to the muscles. Remember these things, and you're good to go!

Does your teenage daughter have sleeping problems This could explain why

New Australian research has revealed that a worrying number of young people are experiencing sleep problems, as well as some of the reasons for the disturbances. Carried out by researchers from James Cook University and the University of Queensland, the study tracked more than 3,600 young people from the age of 14 until they were 21.

The results showed that just over a quarter of the 14-year-olds reported sleep problems, with more than 40% of those still having sleep problems at 21. However what causes these problems is different at different ages according to Dr Yaqoot Fatima from JCU's Mount Isa Centre for Rural and Remote Health.

"Maternal factors, such as drug abuse, smoking, depression and anxiety among mothers are the most significant predictors of adolescent sleep problems in their children, at 14-years-old," Dr Fatima explained.



"For all people studied, being female, having experienced early puberty, and being a smoker were the most significant predictors of sleep problems at 21 years." Depression or anxiety during adolescence were also factors

for sleep problems between the two ages. "It's a vicious circle. Depression and anxiety are well-established risk factors for sleep problems and people with sleep problems are often anxious or depressed," said Dr Fatima.

In line with other recent studies, the research also highlighted the negative effect of electronic media on sleep, with Dr Fatima explaining that, "In children and adolescents, it's found to be strongly associated with later bedtime and shorter sleep duration, increasing the risk of developing sleep disturbances." Although Dr Fatima did describe the results as worrying, as they revealed a high incidence of persistent sleep problems which can go on to cause other health problems, the findings did also suggest a solution. "Even allowing for Body Mass Index and other lifestyle factors, we found that an active lifestyle can decrease future incidence and progression of sleep problems in young subjects. So, early exercise intervention with adolescents might provide a good opportunity to prevent their sleep problems persisting into later life." The findings can be found published online in the journal Sleep Health.

Want to say bye to dark patches? Lemon, baking soda and raw papaya are your answer

Do you get conscious due to dark patches on the knees, elbows or ankles? Well, stock up on lemon, baking soda and raw papaya to get rid of them, say experts.

Amit Sarma, Managing Director, beauty brand Soulflower, and beauty expert Bharti Taneja list some tips to get rid of dark patches on elbows, knees and ankles. Bleach your knees, elbows and ankles. Additionally if the patch is a bit more darker, you could use lemon. Squeeze the lemon and put some sugar in it. Now, rub gently to remove darkness. You can also use salt instead of sugar.

Take a tablespoon of salt, add a few drops of lemon juice and a few drops of honey. Mix it well and scrub your dark patches. It will not only provide you relief from dark patches but also give you soft skin. Take a tablespoon of grated raw pa-

paya. Add calamine and a few drops of pineapple juice to it and scrub. Use it regularly to get the best results. Apply potato juice and leave it overnight. Repeat it for a couple of weeks and see the difference. Baking soda works effectively to get rid of dark patches. Take baking soda and add a few drops of milk to make a thick paste. Apply it, see the results.

The most effective and fruitful method is multani mitti (fullers earth) that has the potential to not only reduce the skin darkening but also fight skin infections. Mix a few drops of ylang ylang essential oil with castor carrier oil, and apply on the dark patch. They are rich in vitamin E and work efficiently on the skin. Opt for cold pressed oils as they help maintain all the essential nutrients in the oil which otherwise could be lost when heated.

India has registered decline in infant mortality rate in 2016: Government

India has registered three points decline in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) to 34 per 1,000 live births in 2016 from 37 per 1,000 live births in 2015, an official statement said on Friday. According to the SRS Bulletin, last year, the IMR only saw a two point decline. "Not only this, India also recorded a major drop in birth cohort, which has for the first time come down to below 25 million. India has registered 90,000 fewer infant deaths in 2016 as compared to 2015. The total number of estimated infant deaths have come down from 9,30,000 (9.3 lakhs) in 2015 to 8,40,000 (8.4 lakhs) in 2016,"

said the statement. SRS Bulletin says that the gender gap in India for child survival is reducing steadily. "The gender difference between female and male IMR has now reduced to less than 10 per cent giving a major boost to the 'Beti Bachao Beti Padhao' scheme of the Government," said the statement, adding that its strategic approach has started yielding dividends and the efforts of focusing on low performing states is paying off. "Among the Empowered Action Group states and Assam, all states except Uttarakhand have reported decline in IMR in comparison to 2015. The decline is reported

as four points in Bihar, three points in Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand and two points decline in Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Rajasthan," said the statement. These remarkable achievements in merely one year is also the result of countrywide efforts to increase the health service coverage. The coverage has been through various initiatives of the government that includes strengthening of service delivery; quality assurance; RMNCH+A; human resources, community processes; information and knowledge; drugs and diagnostics, and supply chain management.

This is how our eyes sense moonlight, daylight

Neurons in the retina of the eye share the job of sensing the ambient light level in our environment, enabling us to sense the overall degree of illumination. In retina, there are light-sensing neurons -- known as M1 ganglion cell photoreceptors -- which are specialised for "non-image" vision that is used to set our body clocks, regulate sleep and control hormone levels.

Although the cells appear visually indistinguishable from each other, they are tuned to respond to different light levels, and take turns signalling to the brain as these levels change.

As a result, the brain gets information about light intensity from the identities of the cells that are active, not just signal size, the researchers said.

"The bottom line is that nerve cells have more in their toolkit than we previously thought, and divide labour in ways we didn't expect," said Michael Do, from the F.M. Kirby Neurobiology Centre at Boston Children's Hospital.

"Some cells signal vigorously in twilight and



others in full daylight. Together, they cover a broad range of light intensities in the environment," added Elliott Milner, a doctoral student at Harvard University, in the paper reported in the journal Cell. Further, as the light level goes up, a protein called melanopsin in the M1 cells captures more and more photons of light. This causes the voltage across the cell membrane to become more positive, that is, it "depolarises". As the voltage becomes more positive, the cell

generates more electrical spikes (also known as action potentials), which are the signals that are sent to the brain. However, in certain disorders like epilepsy, the cell loses its ability to fire spikes when the membrane voltage gets too positive.

This system may have evolved to help the brain distinguish light levels more precisely, based on which cells are "talking" and not only their general volume. It also may conserve energy, the researchers noted.

Maruti Suzuki is upbeat to post a double-digit growth this year: RS Kalsi

The Suzuki Motor Gujarat plant, which kicked off its production early 2017, will start double shift operations from October. This will ease the capacity in both the Gurgaon and Manesar facilities.

In a recent interaction with ET-Auto's Shobha Mathur, RS Kalsi, Senior Executive Director of Maruti Suzuki India, told that the car-maker is optimistic of posting a double-digit growth this year. Edited Excerpts:

RC Bhargava recently claimed Maruti Suzuki will post a double-digit growth in next three years. What will be the growth drivers?

A couple of things. First, we have a strong product portfolio with a price point targeting each segment of the customers. Second is our network. We are expanding our network in an aggressive way. Nexa already has 275 outlets.

Our existing channel has around 2,200 outlets, and third, we are focusing on our service and ownership experience. All this gives us a confidence that we will continue with double-digit growth. This year, so far, we have clocked a growth of

18 per cent in the first 5 months, which is quite a robust growth and our market share has also crossed 50 per cent.

How is the rural market performing? What is its contribution to the total sales? We have experienced a strong monsoon and the overall sentiment is positive. The first five months of this year, we have grown close to 19 per cent in the rural market. Overall, about 33-35 per cent of the contribution comes from the rural regions, and the dividing line between rural and urban is now becoming very thin. With more exposure, we are seeing a trend shift in the rural markets, apart from the positivity that they are generating.

Which are the models driving growth in this region?

The Vitara Brezza is positioned as an urban compact SUV with lot of sportiness and glamour, but surprisingly it has found acceptability not only in the urban but in the rural market as well. Other models like the Swift and the Wagon R are also gaining popularity. Earlier it was the Alto or the Omni, which used to be their favourite models.



About a third of the Vitara Brezza sales come from the rural side and two-thirds from the urban markets. In recent months, the Baleno has posted the sales of 19,000 units per month, up from 10,000 units it sold earlier. How do you see its sales panning out with the Gujarat facility on stream? We are trying to reduce the waiting list of the Baleno, the Dzire and the Vitara Brezza. Our plant in Gujarat has started production and we are getting 10,000 vehicles on an average per month -- all these are of the Baleno. The plant will go into double shift from October onwards. So we will be getting more vehicles from there. The avail-

ability is good and is helping us in reducing the waiting period. Nevertheless, the waiting time today is of 18 weeks, which used to be 24 weeks or 6 months earlier. We are working in that direction so that our customers don't have to face the inconvenience of waiting for a long period. Does that mean, the Baleno production will also be double now?

It will not just double but certainly it will be in the range of 15,000-17,000 vehicles, and we are intending to sell that numbers.

Is the Baleno able to sustain its initial momentum in the export markets?

There are a lot of repeated orders for the Baleno and the vehicle has been liked all over the world, where we are exporting. There is a positive feedback on the performance of the vehicle, so it is going strong.

Post-GST, the Ciaz hybrid sales have fallen. Is a similar impact seen on the Ertiga hybrid?

Smart hybrid vehicles were put in a concessional duty category by the GST Council, and with this kind of tax structure the prices have gone up to Rs 80,000-100,000. The au-

tomobile market is price sensitive, therefore, consumers are shifting from smart hybrids to petrol.

Earlier our diesel sales were 70 per cent and petrol 30 per cent, but now the order is reversing. The Ertiga is also seeing a similar trend.

Will Maruti Suzuki be making more petrol vehicles?

Yes, we have to respond to the market fluctuations so as the demand for petrol is increasing vis-à-vis smart hybrid vehicles. We will be changing our production line with the market requirements.

What traction Maruti's first LCV, the Super Carry, is drawing?

We are moving cautiously in the commercial vehicle segment, as it is a different area for us. From passenger cars, where we were providing personal mobility, we are now providing livelihood to customers.

We did a pilot last year in few select states and we are now ramping up to the national level. We have already scaled up to 100 outlets at an all India level and the product is finding favour. We are collecting continuous feedback from the current users.

Deadline for selling pre-GST goods extended to Dec 31



MUMBAI: The government has extended the deadline for sale of pre-GST goods with stickers of revised rates by three months to December 31, Consumer Affairs minister Ram Vilas Paswan said on Friday. The decision came after several companies and retailers body CAIT highlighted that they are still left with huge unsold stocks of pre-GST goods and need more time to clear that. After implementing GST from July 1, the government had allowed use of stickers with revised rates, alongside the printed MRP for pre-packaged items to reflect changes in selling price for three months till September 30. The unsold items had an MRP which included all taxes of pre-GST era but with the implementation of new regime, some of the final retail prices have undergone change due to increase or decrease in tax incidence.

"On packaged commodities, industry can display revised MRP due to GST implementation using sticker/ stamping/ online printing up to December 31 2017", Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution minister Ram Vilas Paswan tweeted. A senior consumer affairs ministry official said the deadline has been extended following demand from several companies like Wipro, HPL and other non-food companies.

Since food items have expiry date for consumption, there were not many representations from such companies, the official added. Traders body CAIT today claimed that goods worth Rs 6 lakh crore may become redundant if the last date for using MRP-labelled old stock is not extended beyond September 30. "The government hereby further permits the manufacturers or packers or importers of pre-packaged commodities to declare the changed retail price (MRP) on the unsold stock manufactured/packed/imported prior to July 1, 2017 after inclusion of the increased amount of tax due to GST, if any, in addition to the existing retail price (MRP), up to December 31, 2017," said a government communication.

Businesses had held discussions with consumer affairs ministry regarding unsold stocks, which took up the matter with the revenue department.

Tata Motors bags Rs 1,120 crore order for 10,000 e-cars from EESL

NEW DELHI: Tata Motors BSE 0.04% has won the first contract to supply electric vehicles to replace petrol and diesel cars used by the government and its departments as part of a plan to cut demand for fossil fuels and reduce carbon emissions.

Tata Motors quoted the lowest price for the vehicles, which will be supplied at Rs 11.2 lakh each, inclusive of the goods and services tax and a five-year warranty. Mahindra & Mahindra, the other contender, can win part of the order if it matches the bid by Tata Motors.

"Tata Motors won the tender and will now supply the electric vehicles in two phases," Energy Efficiency Services Ltd, an arm of the ministry of power, said in a statement on Friday.

The first 500 electric vehicles will be supplied to EESL in November and the remainder will be delivered in the second phase, it said.

The price bid by Tata Motors is 25% lower than that of a similar electric vehicle with a three-year warranty, EESL said. Mahindra quoted Rs 13 lakh and has the option of matching the bid of Tata Motors to win 40% of the contract, EESL managing director Saurabh Kumar said. The process of giving Mahindra the chance to match the bid will be initiated on Tuesday.

The third bidder, Japan's Nissan Motors, which undertook to supply 500 e-vehicles from its showrooms in that country, was disqualified as it did not meet the technical specifications.

There were three players who bid



for the tender. Tata Motors bid the lowest and will be given 60% of the order," Kumar told ET.

Nissan was disqualified because it did not provide details of what it was offering, he said. "We will talk to Mahindra to lower their cost. If they agree on lower prices, they will be given the remaining 40% order. In an alternative situation, the entire order will go to Tata Motors," he said.

The final award will be given around the middle of October, after EESL receives a response from Mahindra, he said. The EESL tender provided us the opportunity to participate in boosting e-mobility in the country and at the same time accelerate our efforts to offer a full range of electric vehicles to Indian consumers," said Guenter Butschek, CEO of Tata Motors.

Tata Motors will supply the electric version of its Tigor sedan, for which batteries will be imported, Kumar said. However, the company has offered to supply only 250 cars of the 500 sought in the first phase, he said.

India plans to replace its petrol and diesel-run vehicles with an all-

electric fleet by 2030.

EESL floated a global tender in August for 10,000 e-vehicles as part of a plan to replace the five-lakh petrol and diesel cars used by the government and its agencies over a 3-4 year period. Niti Aayog, the government's think tank, is working on a comprehensive policy to incentivise electric vehicle manufacturing. Making India's passenger mobility shared, electric and connected can cut its energy demand by 64% and carbon emissions by 37% in 2030, it said in a report.

This would result in a reduction of 156 million tonnes of oil equivalent in diesel and petrol consumption for that year, which, at \$52 a barrel of crude, would imply a net saving of about Rs 3.9 lakh crore in 2030.

EESL will identify a service provider agency through bidding to carry out end-to-end fleet management of the procured vehicles.

The agency selected will also be responsible for coordination between appointed agencies, monitoring and supervision, reporting, complaint redressal and payments.

Loan default: Listed companies get a breather from Sebi

MUMBAI: Markets regulator Sebi has put off implementation of its directive "until further notice" that required listed firms to inform exchanges if they default on loan payments to banks and financial institutions.

In a circular, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said it has decided to defer implementation of its earlier directive "until further notice".

Last month, the regulator had directed listed companies to disclose from October 1 any payment defaults to banks and financial institutions within one working day of such a miss.

The move came against the backdrop of the government and the Reserve Bank of India stepping up efforts to tackle the menace of bad loans amounting to over Rs 8 lakh crore. "Corporates in India are even today primarily reliant on loans from the banking sector. Many banks are presently under considerable stress on account of large loans to the corporate sector turning into stressed assets, non-performing assets (NPAs). Some companies have also been taken up for initiation of insolvency and bankruptcy proceedings," Sebi had said. In order to address this critical gap in the availability of information to investors, Sebi had asked listed entities to inform exchanges in case it defaulted on payment of interest, instalment obligations on debt securities and loans from banks and financial institutions and external commercial borrowings (ECBs).

"The entities shall make disclosures within one working day from the date of default at the first instance of default in a specified format," Sebi had said.

Currently, Sebi's listing guidelines require specific disclosures on delay or default in payment of interest or principal on debt securities, including listed non-convertible debentures, listed non-convertible redeemable preference shares and foreign currency convertible bonds. Similar disclosures are not stipulated with regard to loans from banks and financial institutions.

In July, the regulator had asked listed banks to make disclosures if provisioning and NPAs assessed by the RBI exceeded 15 per cent of published financials.

Sebi had said such disclosures should be made along with the annual financial results filed immediately following communication of such divergence by the RBI to the bank. The move was aimed at helping banks recognise their stressed assets as non-performing more uniformly.

Market suffers second straight weekly loss, plunge 638 points



The benchmark Sensex witnessed sharp losses for the second consecutive week, falling 638.72 points to end at 31,283.72, while the broader Nifty slid below the key 9,800-level at 9,788.60 on heavy FPI sell-off along with volatile rupee.

The market felt the global uncertainties with FPI offloading Indian stocks considerably during the week, while rupee falling to over six and half month lows pressured the stocks, the key F&O expiry week and government stimulus plan affecting fiscal deficit concerns added to stock turmoil.

The FII diluted whopping 8,427.99 crore as per provisional data during the week trade appropriating global unpredictability due to North Korean jitters. Also the key EU powerhouse Germany's Angela Merkel worst election result won with uneasy coalition of far-right, anti-immigration Alternative for German (AfD) party fluctuated the market. The volatile rupee dropped to six and half month lows on surging US dollar reacting to President Trump's new Tax Plan overhaul and strong data, it was clogged by soaring crude oil to 7-month highs also attributed to the stock slide. However, stocks did pullback on recovering rupee and massive inflows from domestic funds, while receding fiscal deficit worries on government's unchanged stance on budgeted borrowing plan along with hectic short covering owing to September derivative expiry supported the key indices. After opening at 31,986.40, the Sensex traded in a range of 32,016.52 and 31,081.83 before closing the week at 31,081.83, showing a fall of 638.72, or 2.00 per cent. The Sensex lost 350.17 pts or 1.09 per cent during previous week. The Nifty started the week at 9,960.10 and hovered between 9,960.50 and 9,687.55. The index ended the week at 9,788.60, losing 175.80 points or 1.76 per cent. Barring Metal sector which gained, Selling was led by Capital Goods, HealthCare, FMCG, Power, Banks, IPO, IT, Teck, PSUs, Auto, Oil&Gas and Realty counters. The second line shares of midcap and smallcap companies also witnessed substantial selling.

7th Pay Commission: Know what's the latest development on pay hike of minimum salary

The PM Narendra Modi led Union Cabinet which had earlier approved the recommendations of 7th Central Pay Commission panel is expected to meet once again in the month of January. The meet will take place to decide on the pay hike of the minimum salary of Central government employees, according to a report in OneIndia.com.

It was cited in various media reports that Ministry of Finance is planning to raise the minimum pay hike from Rs 18,000 to Rs 21,000 under 7th Pay Commission.

Earlier, on September 12, it was reported that a committee has been formed to look into various pay related anomalies arising out of the



implementation of the Seventh Central Pay Commission's recommendations. The 22-member panel will be headed by Secretary, Department

of Personnel and Training (DoPT) and it will have members from both the official and staff side, news agency PTI reported.

It has been decided to set up the anomaly committee of the National Council (Joint Consultative Machinery) consisting of representatives of the official side and the staff side to settle any anomalies arising out of the implementation of the Pay Commission's recommendations, an order issued recently by the DoPT said.

From the government side, it will have Member (Staff) Railway Board, secretaries of Department of Telecommunications and Department of Posts, as its members.

Besides them, Financial Adviser, Defence Ministry, two joint secretaries from DoPT and another Joint Secretary (Personnel) in Finance Ministry will also be part of the panel. A Deputy Secretary of the DoPT will be Member-Secretary of the panel which has 13 people from the staff side, the order said.

The Centre has accepted most of the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission, to be implemented from January 1, 2016.

In the month of June, in a bonanza to 48 lakh central government employees, the Union Cabinet approved recommendations of 7th Central Pay Commission with 34 modifications.

Pakistan's Azhar Ali keeps Sri Lanka at bay in first Test

ABU DHABI: Azhar Ali once more rescued Pakistan's batting with a fighting half century on the third day of the first Test against Sri Lanka in Abu Dhabi on Saturday. (PAK vs SL SCORES)

The one-drop batsman was unbeaten on 74 but saw Babar Azam fell for 28 in the last over of the day as Pakistan finished on 266-4 on a Sheikh Zayed Stadium pitch which has started to assist spinners.

Pakistan still trail the Sri Lanka first innings total of 419 by 153 runs with six wickets intact.

Pakistan had pinned their hopes on Ali in the post Younis Khan and Misbah-ul-Haq era who retired in May this year after shouldering team's batting for nearly seven years.

A cautious Ali made sure Pakistan

do not concede a big lead in the first innings, having hit only one boundary in his 26th Test half century.

In all Ali has so far hit three boundaries during his 297 minutes of batting. He added 79 for the third wicket with Asad Shafiq who made 39 to take the fight to Sri Lanka's three-pronged spin attack.

Veteran left-arm spinner Herath was the most successful bowler with 2-47. Azhar reaches 5000 Test runs

When on 32, Ali also completed 5,000 Test runs in his 61st Test. He became the eighth Pakistan batsman behind Younis Khan (10,099), Javed Miandad (8832) Inzamam-ul-Haq (8829), Mohammad Yousuf (7530), Salim Malik (5768), Misbah (5222) and Zaheer Abbas (5062) to reach the milestone.



But it was the opening pair of Shan Masood and Sami Aslam who set the platform for a big total by putting together a solid 114-run opening stand after they resumed at 64 without loss.

Sri Lanka, however, hit back by removing both openers in the space of two runs. Aslam, recalled after being dropped from the West Indies tour on disciplinary grounds earlier this year, was trapped leg-before

by off-break bowler Dilruwan Perera. He hit four boundaries in his seventh Test half century.

Two runs later Masood attempted a sweep shot off the wily Herath but missed the ball and was bowled round his legs.

Pakistan had luck on their side with the reviews as both Ali and Shafiq survived confident appeals. Ali wisely reviewed a leg-before decision off Perera, but the ball hit his bat before the pad. Shafiq was given not out on a review when he was stumped off Herath on one. It was Herath who finally dislodged Shafiq when a sharp turner caught an edge off Shafiq's bat, deflected from wicketkeeper Niroshan Dickwella's thigh to slip where Lahiru Thirimanne took the catch.

Bismah Maroof replaces Sana Mir as Pakistan's ODI captain



After a miserable show in the World Cup staged in England where Pakistan failed to bag a single win, Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Saturday (September 30) came up with a few drastic changes, both in their team's leadership and management in a bid to bring in better results in their game.

Sana Mir, who led Pakistan in the mega event in July, has been removed as captain of the ODI squad and has been replaced by Bismah Maroof, who is already the leader of the Twenty20 outfit. Mir picked up six wickets in their seven outings at the World Cup as their team bowed out without a single win in England. Mir, who is the first Pakistani woman to take 100 wickets in ODIs, will however be available for selection in both formats of the game.

Mir, who led Pakistan to two Gold medals in the Asian Games in 2010 and 2014, is regarded highly for mentoring a lot of youngsters in the country. The off-spinning stalwart first assumed the captaincy duties in Women's World Twenty20 2009 and after the winless campaign in England earlier this year, her leadership came in for scrutiny from within the management.

Sabih Azhar, Pakistan's coach during the World Cup, called the skipper "self-centred and egotistical" and argued that she had a negative impact on both the senior and younger members of the outfit.

Mir, who stepped down from her role as Pakistan's T20I captain in 2016, had also noted that she didn't want to continue "with the current set-up of the Women's Wing in any capacity". Earlier this week, Mark Coles took over the coaching duties from Azhar ahead of Pakistan's series against New Zealand in the United Arab Emirates. Apart from a change in leadership in the 50-over format, PCB has also disbanded their selection committee and the process of electing a new one will be underway soon.

The board is also due to name a new general manager of their women's cricket wing, to replace former GM Shamsa Hashmi. The Pakistan team will also appoint a new team manager, and until then Ayesha Ashkar will undertake the responsibilities.

PCB Chairman Najam Sethi revealed that the board had spent a lot of time in reviewing the entire structure of women's cricket in the country and he is hopeful that the changes would help in taking their women's cricket forward. "These are well thought out decisions taken after a comprehensive internal review."

I am hopeful that we will transform women cricket into a well-knit unit both on field and at the management level. Sana Mir has great contributions towards Pakistan's Women cricket.

She has played an instrumental role for women's cricket in Pakistan. She has led the team with great respect and had always used her best abilities to serve women's team."

Ben Stokes will be a target for the Australian media, says Toby Roland-Jones

MUMBAI: Ben Stokes can still be a part of England's touring party to Australia for the upcoming Ashes 2017-18, but has also issued a warning that the vice-captain will be a media target, feels England bowler Toby Roland-Jones. Following the nightclub brawl in Bristol which shook England cricket last Sunday, Ben Stokes and Alex Hales were handed indefinite suspensions by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB).

Stokes was retained by England in their Ashes squad, but pending a police enquiry and ECB clearance, his participation in the series in Australia remains under doubt. Roland-Jones told BBC Five Live, "We've had various small chats about their (Australian) media and my little understanding is that they'll certainly try and make a target of him and the most they can out of the situation." "Knowing him a little bit, as I do, I would have no problems about him going over there and still being able to perform and having a massive impact for that England team," he said.

England suspended Stokes and Hales after a video surfaced in which the former can be seen punching a man outside the Mbargo nightclub in Bristol.

"I think it (incident) is a timely reminder. These days with phones, social media and the access that people have, at any time when you are in the public domain, you are there to be seen and recognised, particularly someone as high-profile as Ben is in our sport." According to ESPNcricinfo, the England team management has been reluctant to impose a 'curfew on players', fearing that it goes against their freedom of expression.

But Roland-Jones also warned against the pitfalls of self-governance. "It breeds a culture in sport of self-governing within the dressing-room, on and off the field, and I think that has really aided this England team, certainly from the little I've experienced of it."

"I think the key thing is firstly timing, and knowing that if you drink too much that can impact your performance and preparation, and that is in no way accepted by the management. But when you are celebrating a series win, or enjoying casual beers in the dressing room, that breeds I think a really positive culture as well." But there's a line there and unfortunately in certain instances it becomes pretty black and white when it is crossed," he added.

Roland-Jones suggested that players must be held accountable for their actions. "It's a difficult one when situations arise like this, because naturally people start to query decisions, but as sportsmen we are adults and at some stage everyone has to be held responsible for their own actions," he said.

"You want to be able to celebrate at the right times but also it's about finding a way of keeping an element of control when you are in the public eye, and knowing that every action can have a repercussion," he added.



Mahela Jayawardene, Kumar Sangakkara in line for Sri Lanka Cricket roles



COLOMBO: Former captains Kumar Sangakkara and Mahela Jayawardene in all likelihood will be drafted in the high-powered committee, formed to revive country's cricket, which has been on a downward spiral.

According to sources in the Sri Lankan sports ministry, Sangakkara and Jayawardene may join Aravinda de Silva and corporate honcho Hemaka Amarasinghe in the committee.

The committee will recommend corrective measures to sports minister

Dayasiri Jayasekera short and long term measures. There will also be a senior sports ministry official in the committee. Amarasinghe twice headed politically appointed interim committees to run the cricket administration since the late 1990s.

The move was sequel to a recent meeting of all stakeholders conducted by the ministry to check the disastrous performance of the national team.

Sri Lanka team recently had been whitewashed 0-9 by Virat Kohli-led

India with defeats against Zimbabwe and Bangladesh.

The Thilanga Sumathipala headed Sri Lanka Cricket came under severe criticism from the fans, which culminated in ugly demonstrations at grounds during the Indian series.

Jayawardene had called for an overhauling of the domestic club championship where he believed there are too many mediocre sides lowering the standard of the competition. Both former greats could not be reached for comment.

Umesh Yadav wants rotation policy for Indian pacers to continue

NAGPUR: India fast bowler Umesh Yadav on Saturday lauded skipper Virat Kohli's rotational policy for fast bowlers, stating that using a select group of pacers for Tests and limited-over format helps them stay fresh throughout the year. "I think it's good for the fast bowlers. If you continuously play Test cricket, it's a lot of load for a fast bowler. Playing in sub-continental conditions is very tough. Slow wicket, no pace and bounce. It's very hard for the fast bowlers to come to one-day cricket with the same intensity," Umesh said while addressing the media a day ahead of the fifth ODI between India and Australia.

"When you have played a long season, recovery is very crucial. You can play a lot of matches but your fitness can take a hit. There are more chances of injuries and breakdowns. I think the management is doing a good job in balancing our workload." On a personal front, however, Yadav admitted that being a senior player, he must put in that extra bit to continue playing across all three formats. Yadav, who featured in the series for the first time in the last ODI, picked up four wickets but leaked 71 runs, including 24 in his last two overs. "I know we gave 15-20 runs extra, we should have controlled that. But still, Mohammed



Shami and I just played our first game after a long (time), but we are senior bowlers and have to take the responsibility for the same," said Yadav, who will be playing on his home ground. He seems to have cemented his spot in the five-day format though having featured in 15 of the last 16 Tests have India played at home and away. Asked

if it was a conscious decision to focus on a particular format, Yadav said, "It depends... If you have a lot of Tests scheduled throughout the year, you'll have to take a call (about your preferred format). But you can't say I want to play only Tests, because if you don't have many Tests scheduled in a year you won't have much to do for the

rest of the year. The body, too, needs match practice to get better."

He, however, stated he relishes the challenge of the longer format more given that it allows him time to settle down and work on his plans. "It feels good to play Test cricket because you have time. You have various situations. I like those challenges. I like the fact

that pitches are different and want to take wickets on various surfaces. I'm more than happy to play Test cricket. If I play both formats, I know it will be good for me. I'm in an age where the more cricket I play, it's good for me. I shouldn't regret later on that I focused only on one format. I would love to play all formats."