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# OPINION

# EXPRESS

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A MONTHLY NEWS MAGAZINE



COVER STORY

# DRAGON TAMED?

**It may appear a diplomatic win in Doklam, but  
India should be cautious**



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# Confused China & Calm India – Doklam stand off

**T**he India, USA, Israel combination has rattled China a lot. Post Prime Minister Narendra Modi recent successful visits to USA and Israel, China has up the ante to disturb India's international progression. It has provoked Pakistan to keep Kashmir valley hot and on the eastern front, PLA has pushed troops on various places on India China 4000KM border to keep India engaged on military front. The way the Chinese government conducted itself during the recent 72 day long Doklam stand-off it would appear that they were following this advice to the letter. There were empty threats, psychological



war in the media, videos of military drills, intemperate statements by official spokespersons, reminders of India's 1962 defeat and aggressive bluster.

On the contrary, both the Indian government and media showed a far more mature response by emphasising that the solution lay not in a call to arms but on the negotiating table. Maintaining diplomatic dignity, MEA's statement on 28th August announcing the agreement to pull out did not in any way show the Chinese down; on the contrary, as was widely observed, India gave China plenty of face-saving room. The Chinese statement by comparison was shrill emphasising that it was the "trespassing"

Indian troops that withdrew first and that Chinese troops shall in future continue to patrol the area. There was only a muted reference to making necessary adjustments in their troop deployments. This probably forced the MEA to come out with a second statement clarifying that disengagement border personnel had been almost completed under verification from both the sides. It was clarified that both troops and road building equipment had been removed by China from the face-off point, implying the PLA's construction of the road towards Jompelri wherein the genesis of the crisis lay, had been put off. Two days later MEA announced that Prime Minister Modi would be visiting China for the upcoming BRICS Summit during 3-9 September.

**Fake God Man and Genuine set back to religion:** The Dera Sacha Sauda has its roots in the Radha Soami sect. Its founder Khema Mal aka Balochistani Shah Mastana, was a disciple of Baba Sawan Singh of the Radhasoami lineage. The Congress and BJP's political and financial support to Dera Sacha Sauda is singularly to blame for the present mess, the mere perception that Ram Rahim was larger than law has fueled the violence. The motorcade of 200 cars, over 1 lakh supporters around court, hapless administration present an extremely sorry picture of the governance that Modi has promised in 2014. It is imperative that Prime Minister must take the situation under his direct control because he is a symbol of maximum governance and people of the country trust him. The compromises in governance even at state level will hurt brand Modi simply because people of Haryana had voted for BJP keeping in view Modi's credibility and face. Lastly, people of the country must own responsibility of following quality religious leadership. India is a land of Jagatguru Adi Shankara, Guru Nanak Dev, Ramakrishna, Vivekananda, Paramhansa Yogananda and many more. We should be careful in selection of Guru and Saints; there should be strict no God Man policy to be adopted by people to discourage fraudulent conman taking over the physiological control of innocent people. Instead of blaming politicians, people must own responsibility for creating social mess and a bad name to the glorious Hindu Sikh religion.

**Fire & Fury:** The two aggressive leaders of USA and North Korea have brought the entire world on its knees. Donald Trump narrative of fire & fury and Kim statement of hitting US by ICBM has resulted in escalation of tensions in entire world. Japan and South Korea are living in constant fear of missile attack but unfortunately China is proceeding with its stale strategy of promoting rouge states namely North Korea and Pakistan by supporting them with funds, technology, business collaboration and nuclear technology transfer resulting in making the world a deadly place to live in. KIM Jong-un may have hidden a secret message to the United States in his blustering boast that he is now ready to lob missiles at Guam. But can President Trump understand it? Surely worlds need better statesman's to overcome this unusual stalemate.

—Prashant Tewari, Editor-in-Chief

COVER STORY

# How to handle resurgent India? China is confused

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# Justice Dipak Misra Sworn In As 45th Chief Justice of India

By Vishnu Sharma

**New Delhi:** Justice Dipak Misra, who led the Supreme Court bench that confirmed death to four convicts in the Nirbhaya gang-rape case in May this year, will succeed Chief Justice JS Khehar as the next Chief Justice of India.

Justice Misra was sworn in as the 45th Chief Justice of India at a brief ceremony in the Darbar Hall of Rashtrapati Bhavan. President Ram Nath Kovind administered the oath of office to Justice Misra.

Chief Justice Misra will hold office for the next 13 months, till 2 October 2018. As per the established practice, Chief Justice Khehar had last month recommended Justice Misra's

elevation as his successor.

Justice Misra was also among the three judges who were up all night in July 2015, giving a historic hearing to decide on terrorist Yakub Memon's last-minute appeal against his hanging. Memon was convicted in 1993 Mumbai blasts, in which 257 people were killed. It was Justice Misra who announced the court's decision at 5 am: "Stay of death warrant would be a travesty of justice. The plea is dismissed," he said. Memon was hanged two hours later.

Chief Justice of the Delhi High Court before he was elevated as a Supreme Court judge in 2011, Justice Misra had been described as a "pro-citizen judge" by his peers. It was, for instance, Justice Misra who had ordered the police to

upload a copy of the police complaints registered by the police, or First Information Report, on their website within 24 hours so that the accused and victim did not have to run around for a copy.

Back in the high court, the judge was also known to entertain public interest litigation but cracked the whip when people tried to waste his court's time, ruling the court wasn't a laboratory where people could come to play at their own whim and fancy.

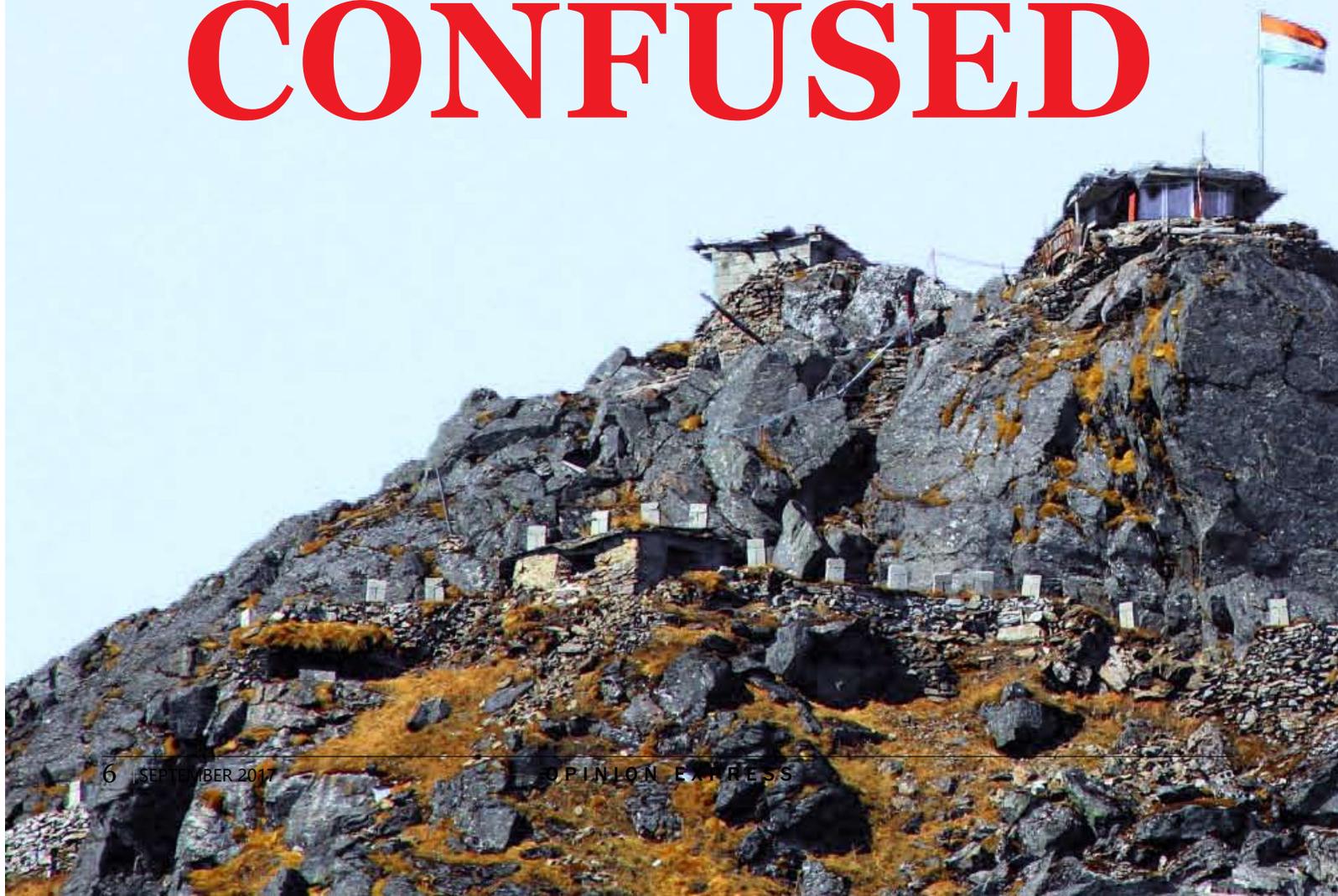
Justice Misra, 64, assumes office following the retirement of Justice JS Khehar as the Chief Justice of India yesterday.

*(AOR Supreme Court & Legal Correspondent)*



COVER STORY

# HOW TO HANDLE RESURGENT INDIA? CHINA IS CONFUSED



# The 72-day stand-off in Doklam is finally over. Showing an unprecedented grit and deft diplomacy, India has managed to confound the dragon. Now, she must show the same maturity to bolster its stand in border disputes with the powerful neighbour

**W**riting in the fifth century BC, the ancient Chinese thinker Sun Tzu gives in his all-time classic on war strategy – The Art of War – a fundamental principle:

“All warfare is based on deception. Hence, when we are able to attack, we must seem unable; when using our forces, we must appear inactive; when we are near, we must make the enemy believe we are far away; when far away, we must make him believe we are near.”

The way the Chinese government conducted itself during the recent 72 day long

spokespersons, reminders of India’s 1962 defeat and aggressive bluster.

On the contrary, both the Indian government and media showed a far more mature response by emphasising that the solution lay not in a call to arms but on the negotiating table. Maintaining diplomatic dignity, MEA’s statement on 28th September announcing the agreement to pull out did not in any way show the Chinese down; on the contrary, as was widely observed, India gave China plenty of face-saving room. The Chinese statement by comparison was shrill emphasising that it was the “trespassing” Indian troops that withdrew first and that Chinese troops shall in future continue to patrol the area. There was only a muted reference to making necessary adjustments in their troop deployments. This probably forced the MEA to come out with a second statement clarifying that disengagement border personnel had been almost completed under verification from both the sides. It was clarified that both troops and roadbuilding equipment had been removed by China from the face-off point, implying the PLA’s construction of the road towards Jompelri wherein the genesis of the crisis lay, had been put off. Two days later MEA announced that Prime Minister Modi would be visiting China for the upcoming BRICS Summit during 3-9 September.

What are we to make out of this in hindsight? The full details of what transpired on the negotiating table shall never be known; there are many information gaps left in the statements put out by the MEA. Has there been any commitment by China not to try building the road in the future? If the area is disputed has insisted all along by the Indian side, and of course Bhutan, why has China been allowed to emphasise that its troops shall continue to patrol the area? Why was there not a corresponding assertion from the Indian or Bhutanese side that the latter’s troops shall also patrol the area under dispute?

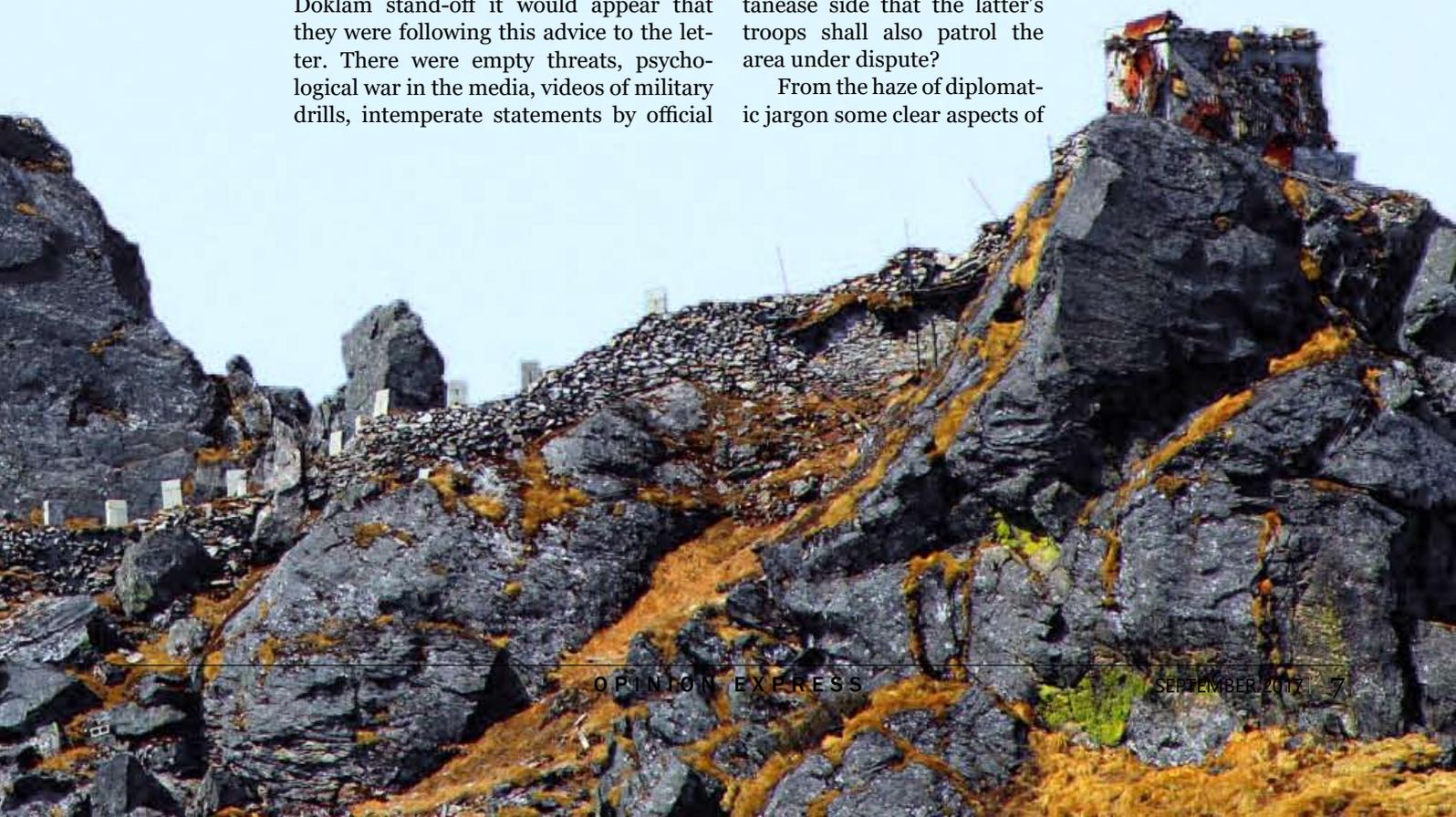
From the haze of diplomatic jargon some clear aspects of

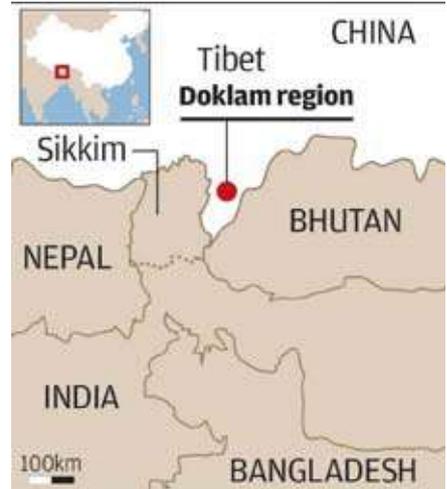
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The way the Chinese government conducted itself during the recent 72 day long Doklam stand-off it would appear that they were following this advice to the letter. There were empty threats, psychological war in the media, videos of military drills, intemperate statements by official spokespersons, reminders of India’s 1962 defeat and aggressive bluster.

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In the crucial national conference of Communist Party of China in mid-October, Xi Jinping is expected to be given a second five-year term at the helm and a continuing, unresolved military face-off with India would have been seen to be a mishandling of the situation and the show weakness against the country that most Chinese believe to be significantly inferior in terms of military or economic prowess.

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the issue emerge. Militarily, for most of the 4000 km long LAC, India has the advantage of holding the higher ground; such was the case in the Doklam area also. In case of an armed conflict China would have needed to vastly outnumber Indian forces, according to some experts by a ratio of 9 to 1 to push back Indian troops. And with snowfall expected in September it would have been difficult for the Chinese despite their superior roads and infrastructure to hold their ground.

China had some domestic compulsions too. In the crucial national conference of Communist Party of China in mid-October, Xi Jinping is expected to be given a second five-year term at the helm and a continuing, unresolved military face-off with India would have been seen to be a mishandling of the situation and the show weakness against the country that most Chinese believe to be significantly inferior in terms of military or economic prowess.

Internationally, China would have lost face in the event of India raising the issue on behalf of Bhutan in the BRICS Summit or alternatively, sending a low level representative delegation instead of personal attendance by the Indian Prime Minister. In fact, both India and Bhutan had absented themselves from the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) meeting in May 2017 much to China's annoyance. In fact some observers had even linked that to the Doklam stand-off.

Diplomatically, there have been reports that there was Russian pressure on both China and India to resolve the issue. Overtly however the rest of the world stayed away from the imbroglio with only Japan openly supporting India on the issue. Notwithstanding the US-China tensions over North Korea there was no mention of the issue by American authorities; it could have been logically expected by India that there would be some support from US

considering Chinese entities/individuals have been placed under sanctions by the Trump Administration over the North Korean issue. Also, US has been supportive of India's role while formulating its Afghan policy. A matter of diplomatic concern for India was that after its initial response rebutting China's claim over Doklam, Bhutan and assiduously maintained a discreet silence throughout the face-off only expressing its hope that the matter would be resolved peacefully. In fact Bhutan's lukewarm attitude nudged Sushma Swaraj into clarifying in the Indian Parliament that apart from the dispute that Bhutan had with China and in which India was treaty bound to help the former, there were Indian security interests also which made it necessary for India to intercede in the area.

It made economic sense for China given its trade and investment imperatives vis-a-vis India's huge market not to aggravate the crisis militarily and have a diplomatic resolution without losing face. In fact during the ongoing crisis there were some faint murmurings on the part of the Indian government proposing changes in the criteria for foreign suppliers of power plant equipment which would hit Chinese manufacturers badly. In fact, the trade imbalance is heavily tilted towards China so India can leverage on this fact to push for course correction. China can ill afford to disturb the vast market like India that offers massive market to Chinese consumer durable and infra companies. Make in India program of Modi government will push Chinese manufacturing sector to limits in the years to come, and it will offer stiff competition to Chinese manufacturing companies soon.

**By Dr Pradeep Bajpai –**  
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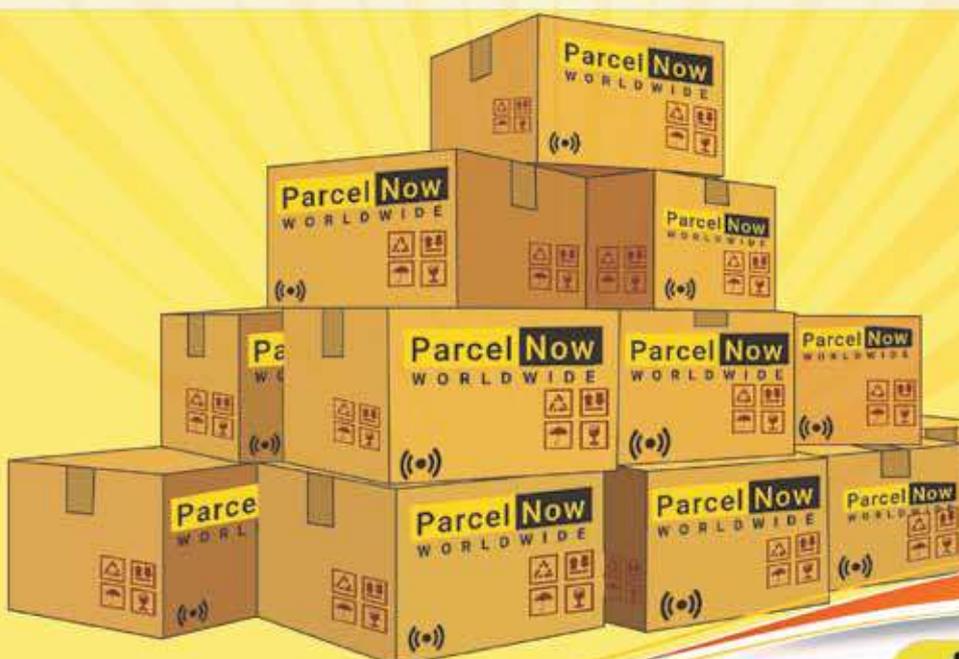
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# BETWEEN INDIA AND CHINA, WHO WON IN DOKLAM?

Both Indian and Chinese media patted the back of their respective negotiators for a 'great victory' in Doklam impasse. But what was the reality? The Opinion Express makes an assessment

By Prakhar Prakash Misra

As it is diplomatically said: “There are no clear winner or loser in our language”. The Ministry of External Affairs on Monday announced “expeditious disengagement of border personnel” at Doklam, signalling that the months-long standoff at the disputed India-China-Bhutan trijunction has come to an end.

In response to queries on Doklam disengagement, the Ministry of External Affairs said, “India has always maintained that it is only through diplomatic channels such matters can be addressed. Our principled position is that agreements and understandings reached on boundary issues must be scrupulously respected”.

India’s official statement is in contrast to the what the Chinese Foreign Ministry said on Doklam, insisting that India has withdrawn troops from Doklam while Chinese troops will “remain in the region” and exercise their “sovereignty over the region”.

This difference in the stand on Doklam between India and China is also reflected by the global media which has reported extensively on the border dispute.

BBC: The BBC, in its report titled ‘China claims victory over India in Himalayan border row’, says that “China says India has withdrawn troops from a disputed Himalayan border area, ending a tense stand-off lasting weeks”.

The BBC report says that India’s foreign ministry confirmed troops were “disengaging” at Doklam after agreement between the two countries.

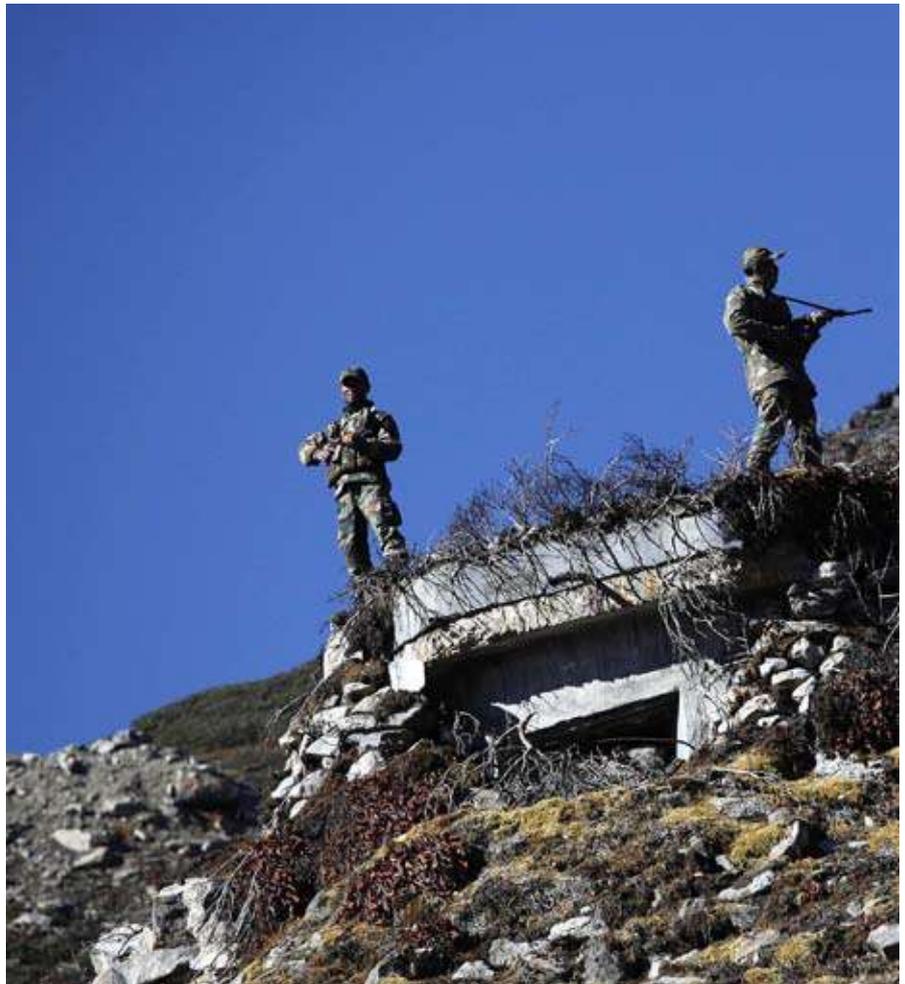
The Washington Post: In the report titled ‘India withdraws troops from disputed Himalayan region, defusing tension with China’, Simon Denyer and Annie Gowen write, “India has begun withdrawing troops from a disputed Himalayan region on the border with China, foreign ministries from the two countries announced on Monday”.

“China had repeatedly and furiously denounced the Indian move as a direct infringement of its sovereignty, demanded an immediate and unconditional withdrawal, and warned that conflict was a real possibility of that didn’t happen,” the The Washington Post report says.

The report then goes on to state that it was “unclear if Beijing offered any concessions in return, such as agreeing to halt the construction of the road”.

The New York Times: The New York Times, in its report titled ‘China and

The Washington Post: In the report titled ‘India withdraws troops from disputed Himalayan region, defusing tension with China’, Simon Denyer and Annie Gowen write, “India has begun withdrawing troops from a disputed Himalayan region on the border with China, foreign ministries from the two countries announced on Monday”.



India Agree to Ease Tensions in Border Dispute’ quotes the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) statement on both countries agreeing to disengagement of border personnel at Doklam. The report, however, states that the “Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed the agreement on Monday, though it vowed to continue to patrol the disputed area”.

The report by Javier C Hernandez says that it was not immediately clear if “Chinese and Indian officials had made progress toward a permanent solution”.

CNN: The CNN report by James Griffiths says both India and China have “agreed to deescalate a months-long territorial standoff in the Himala-

yas, ahead of a major economic summit involving both countries”.

The report quotes China’s official Xinhua news agency as saying that India had withdrawn its personnel and equipment “that had crossed the border back to the Indian side”.

The CNN report titled ‘India, China agree to ‘expeditious disengagement’ of Doklam border dispute’ says the stand-off was “sparked after Bhutan accused China of constructing a road inside its territory in ‘direct violation’ of treaty obligations. China, which does not have formal diplomatic relations with Bhutan, denied the accusation, contending that Doklam is part of Chinese territory”.

*(The writer is political editor)*

# DIPLOMATIC VICTORY

The Summit declaration names Pak-based Lashkar, Jaish as terror concerns

**N**arendra Modi visit to China for BRICS Summit has been a astounding success from an Indian prospective. It is surely a victory for Indian diplomacy that have scripted outstanding victory to include terror in the joint declaration of BRICS SUMMIT 2017. An end to Doka La standoff saved Xi Jinping from an embarrassing face-to-face meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The resolution will have offered relief to the BRICS organisers too, as there was hardly any logic in talking peace and cooperation among the grouping when two of its key constituents are engaged in a military face-off. Both Xi and Modi have set the stage for talks on peace and cooperation

## BRICS Summit 2017

by agreeing to move past Doka La and work on the larger BRICS agenda on cooperation. But all is still far from well.

For India and China, the next point of contention is developing, perhaps not in the form of a military conflict, but something that has all the making of a grand start to a prolonged diplomatic standoff — India's approach to the China Pakistan Economic corridor (CPEC) and One Belt, One Road (OBOR) initiative. China has bet big on CPEC, which it wants to use as a tool to assert significant political and economic influence on Pakistani soil and achieve its long-term goal of regional dominance operating from that base. CPEC is also integral to the OBOR initiative anchored by China.

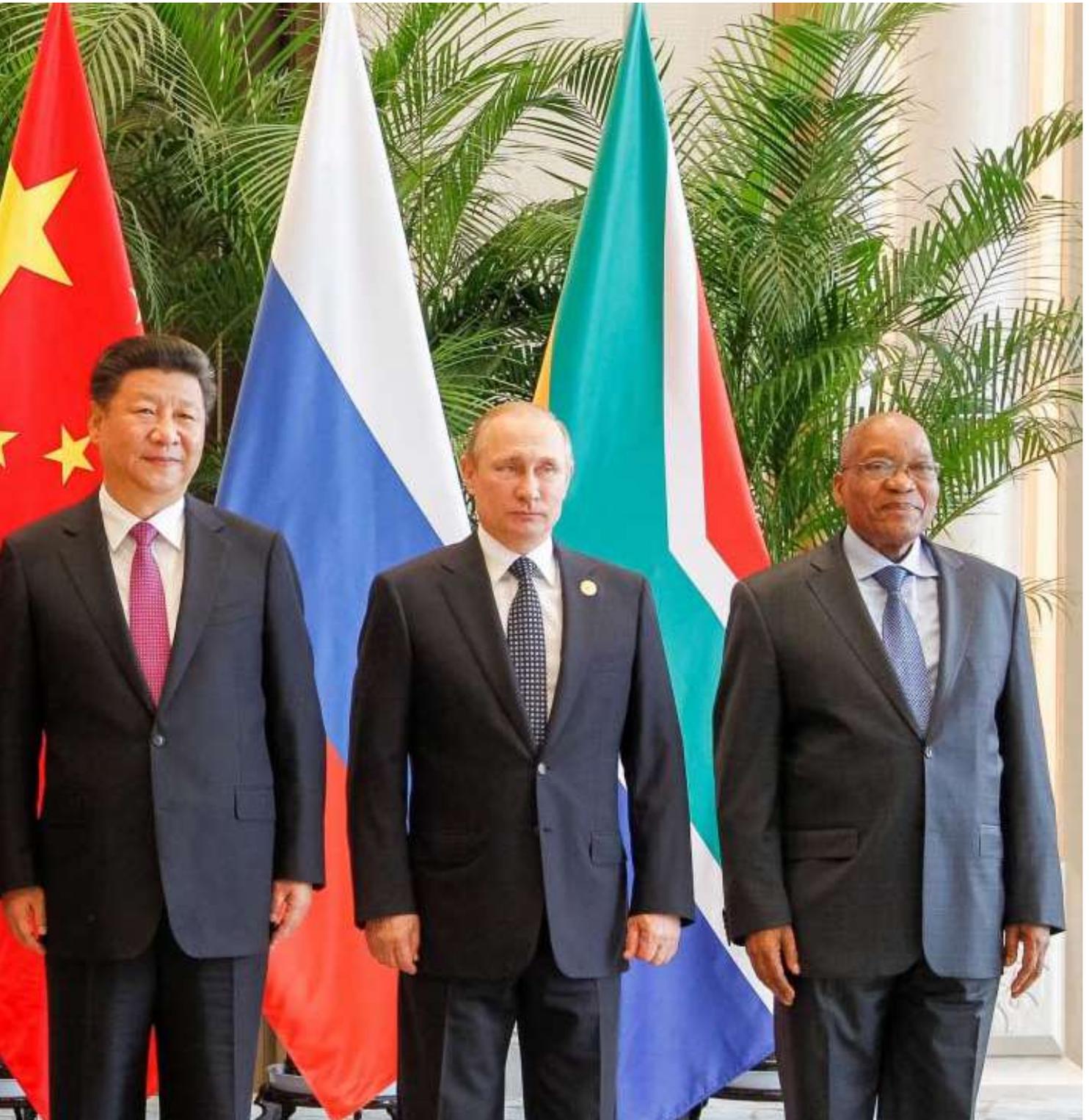


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It wants to grow as a world leader with its economic power and military might. For both CPEC and OBOR, India's co-operation will be crucial for China since no power in Asia can ignore Asia's third largest economy.

But, China may have a tough time in taking India into confidence since the CPEC corridor passes through the contentious part of Kashmir, which is occupied by Pakistan and claimed by India. India has the backing of others. For instance, Sri Lanka has spoken in favour



of India on this issue saying it is difficult for India to accept the CPEC since it passes through the 'heart of Indian interests'. China would have further risked the fate of CPEC and OBOR if it escalated tensions, as India can create hurdles in the path of OBOR. It was one of the major economic reasons it had to put an end to the Doka La conflict as pointed out earlier.

In a recent report, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific (ESCAP), the UN's regional development arm, had warned that the CPEC running through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir could create tensions with India and lead to 'further political instability' in the region. India has so far distanced itself from the OBOR initiative on account of this reason. It did not send a delegation to attend the OBOR meet convened by China early this year. This point of contention is likely to escalate further.

Just recently, army chief General Bipin Rawat had said that the CPEC passing through PoK challenges India's sovereignty. "It is doing so by increasing defence and economic partnerships in the neighbourhood, especially in Pakistan, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

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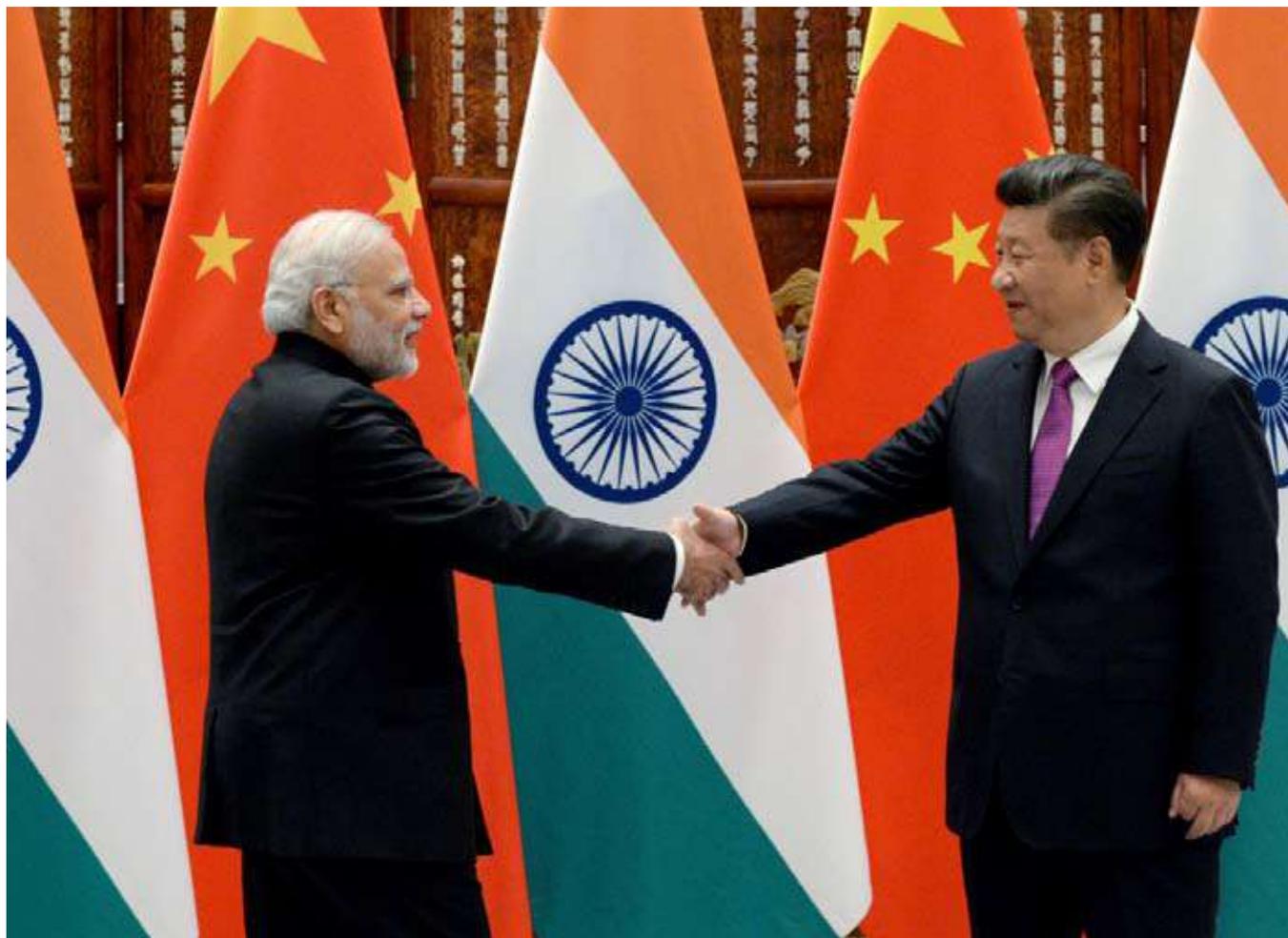
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The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) passing through Pakistan-occupied Kashmir (PoK) challenges India's sovereignty," Rawat had said. China, on the other hand, has maintained that CPEC has no direct links to Kashmir, a claim India has not agreed to. There are good reasons for China to bat for CPEC. China has invested at least \$50 billion so far in the CPEC, and has also promised further investments.

Besides, it also plans to deeply influence the Pakistan region with its power and culture, establishing "a full system of monitoring and surveillance ... built in cities from Peshawar to Karachi, with

24 hour video recordings on roads and busy marketplaces for law and order. A national fibre optic backbone will be built for the country not only for internet traffic, but also terrestrial distribution of broadcast TV, which will cooperate with Chinese media in the 'dissemination of Chinese culture.'" All this will eventually make Pakistan nothing short of a Chinese colony and a surveillance base, which is a threat to India.

The 2017 BRICS Summit may not have much to offer beyond the usual rhetoric and general statements on promise of member cooperation. Particularly for India and China, although





the Doka La problem is off for now, the damage inflicted by the standoff on bilateral trade and economic relations will linger on for a while. Even if Modi and Xi move past the Doka La episode and shake hands in front of cameras, the CPEC issue will loom over the meet.

The Brics grouping on Monday bracketed Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed with global terror groups Islamic State and al-Qaeda, marking a significant diplomatic win in India's efforts to counter cross-border terrorism. Prime Minister Narendra Modi joined Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Brazilian President Michael Temer and South African President Jacob Zuma condemned terror attacks worldwide and said those "committing, organising or supporting" such acts must be held accountable.

This is the first time anti-India groups such as LeT and JeM have been named in a Brics declaration though the five-country grouping has denounced terror in the past. In the run-up to the summit in Xiamen, China's foreign ministry had even suggested the counter-terror efforts of its "iron brother"

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ally Pakistan would not be an appropriate topic for discussion.

The 43-page Xiamen declaration, with 17 references to terrorism, made it clear that India had been able to convince others in the grouping about the threat posed by Pakistan-based organisations as the document also contained references to groups such as the Haqqani Network, Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement and Pakistani Tali-

ban that have targeted Afghanistan and China.

"We deplore all terrorist attacks worldwide, including attacks in Brics countries, and condemn terrorism in all its forms..." said the declaration released after the plenary session of the 9th Brics summit. "We...express concern on the security situation in the region and violence caused by the Taliban, ISIL/DAISH, Al-Qaida and its affiliates including Eastern Turkistan Islamic Movement, Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan, the Haqqani Network, Laskar-e-Taiba, Jaish-e-Mohammad, TTP and Hizb-ut-Tahrir," it said.

The document did not specify which region it was referring to but added: "We reaffirm that those responsible for committing, organizing or supporting terrorist acts must be held accountable." Monday's statement was a marked departure from earlier Brics statements - the declaration issued after last year's summit in Goa referred to terrorism several times but only named one group, the Islamic State.

**Report filed by Prakhar Misra, inputs from mainstream media.**



**HOW CONGRESS & BJP  
FUNDED & PROMOTED  
A MONSTER CALLED  
GURMEET  
RAM RAHIM**

# If Gurmeet Singh turned into a monstrous head of a dera, blame it on the subsequent political dispensations

By Dr Rahul Misra

**I**T is a matter of great concern that in today's well connected world, large scale violence broke out in parts of Haryana and Punjab soon after a CBI court in Panchkula convicted Dera Sacha Sauda chief Gurmeet Ram Rahim Singh of rape. Over 40 people had been killed in Haryana in the violence at the time of writing this story. The BJP government in Haryana stands accused of gross administrative failure. On the eve of the verdict, it allowed lakhs of Dera supporters, or Premis as they are called, to gather at Panchkula. Dera supporters also mobilised themselves at Sirsa, the Dera's bastion. The administrative failure of the Manohar Lal Khattar government stems from its political compulsions. The BJP in Haryana enjoys close ties with Dera Sacha Sauda and this seems to have impaired it from cracking down on Dera goons on time.

## Ram Rahim's Congress relationship

In the past, Congress leader Capt Amrinder Singh has used the might of Dera Empire to win elections. Akali Dal and SGPC is bitterly opposing Dera religious overtone due to Ram Rahim's direct challenge to the authority of Sikh panth. In fact, Badal was regularly pushing for Ram Rahim prosecution on several cases but Ram Rahim was always one up to overcome Badal's challenge. And Capt capitalized the situation by tacitly seeking Dera support and winning previous 2002 assembly elections and in recent concluded Punjab assembly election. In the adjoining state of Haryana, BS Hooda was coordinating political management with Ram Rahim Dera cult to secure two successive victories in the two previous elections. However, Baba shifted his loyalty to BJP post 2014 General Election victory resulting in BJP's huge electoral gains in 2014 Haryana assembly elections. Surely, Ram Rahim Dera is having large following in Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Himanchal Pradesh and West UP but it reflects the weakness of the political system that is dependent on GOD man for easy vote bank to win elections. Modern day politicians are looking for swift and quick results by engaging money and muscle power and God-Man style of quasi politics suits 's modern day politicians.





### Ram Rahim's BJP links

Nothing embodies this failure more than Haryana education minister Ram Bilas Sharma's comment that the Section 144 imposed in Panchkula "did not apply to Dera supporters". He even went to the extent of defending the people who had gathered at Panchkula. He reportedly described the Dera supporters as "simple, peace-loving people" who wouldn't "harm even a plant". Sharma's links with the Dera are well known. He is reported to have recently donated Rs 51 lakh to the Dera as a mark of his support for the cult.

But it isn't just Sharma. A number of leaders in the Haryana BJP have deep ties with the Dera and this close relationship has the blessings of the party's top leadership. The other major backer of Ram Rahim in the Haryana BJP is health minister Anil Vij. Vij donated Rs 50 lakh from Haryana government funds to the Dera's sports project. Another minister, Manish Grover, who holds the portfolios of printing, stationery and urban local bodies, also donated Rs 11 lakh to the Dera from his discretionary fund. The support for the Dera extended even to the Central government, with Union minister for sports Vijay Goel also promising to support the Dera with Central funds. Between the three BJP leaders – Sharma, Vij and Grover – the Dera was given over Rs 1 crore. This is despite the fact that even at the time of the donations, Ram Rahim faced charges of rape and murder.

What is even more sinister is that the BJP's Central leadership – Prime

The other major backer of Ram Rahim in the Haryana BJP is health minister Anil Vij. Vij donated Rs 50 lakh from Haryana government funds to the Dera's sports project. Another minister, Manish Grover, who holds the portfolios of printing, stationery and urban local bodies, also donated Rs 11 lakh to the Dera from his discretionary fund

Minister Narendra Modi as well as BJP president Amit Shah – were active participants in this cosy relationship of the party with Dera. During the campaign for the Haryana Assembly elections in 2014, PM Modi reportedly showered praise on the rape-accused godman while addressing a rally in Sirsa. Apparently, this was the first time that a major political leader had openly invoked the Dera during an election campaign. The Congress and Akali Dal leaders, who often sought support of the Dera in the past, made it a point not to publicly name the Dera or its controversial

chief.

On the other hand, the 2014 Haryana election was also the first time when Dera Ram Rahim chief openly voiced his preference for a political party – the BJP. Before this, Ram Rahim's diktat to vote for one party or the other was communicated through more secretive ways to his followers, mostly through the political wing of the Dera.

According to a report, the deal with Ram Rahim was sealed by none other than BJP president Amit Shah. The report said that Shah met Ram Rahim in the first week of October and "sought his blessings" for the Assembly elections in Haryana and Maharashtra. The report said that six days after the meeting with Shah, BJP general Secretary Kailash Vijayvargiya took 44 BJP candidates for the Haryana polls to meet the Dera chief. Apparently, Ram Rahim showered his blessings on the BJP candidates during the meeting. The Modi government also used Ram Rahim to push its Swachh Bharat initiative. BJP insiders say that Ram Rahim is a valuable political ally for the party, as he commands the loyalty of over 1 crore followers across the country, particularly in Haryana and Punjab.

"Dera commands a large voter base of over a crore, with a large percentage of Dalits. They vote en bloc. BJP leaders have been in regular touch with Ram Rahim and expected him to play a major role in bringing votes the party's way in Haryana and Punjab in the 2019 Lok Sabha elections," a senior BJP leader told Catch on the condition of anonymity. The leader admitted that the Khatkar government had no choice but to go soft on the Dera supporters and let them have their way. "Dera followers are not small in number, in fact they are huge. We have to move very, very cautiously. Patience is the need of the hour. A wrong move and things can go out of control. We have already seen that in the 2016 Jat agitation," the leader said.

### Dera and the RSS gameplan

For the BJP, the Dera's significance isn't just related to elections. It is said to occupy a key place in the broader gameplan of the BJP's parent organisation – the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh. "Sangh's aims are not always associated with the BJP. The BJP is focused on elections, Sangh works for society. Sangh has been cultivating various Deras – Radha Soami Satsang, Dera Sacha Sauda etc – for some years now," a Sangh functionary based in Amritsar



had told Catch during the Punjab elections earlier this year. “The Deras work with the Dalit community, particularly Dalit Sikhs, who are ill-treated by Panthic Sikhs. The Deras help in bringing them back into the Hindu fold,” the functionary added.

The functionary was extremely categorical in saying that the interests of the Sangh were at odds with Panthic politics. “They (Panthic Sikhs) emphasise on the minority nature of Sikhs. We don’t see them in that way. Often even mainstream Sikh leaders take radical positions or appease radical elements. The Deras can help us counter this,” he added. Apparently to pursue this agenda, RSS Sarsanghchalak Mohan Bhagwat spent some time at Mansa in South Punjab in 2014. During his visit, he reportedly met the head of the Radhasoami sect Baba Gurinder Singh Dhillon.

The Dera Sacha Sauda has its roots in the Radha Soami sect. Its founder Khe-

ma Mal aka Balochistani Shah Mastana, was a disciple of Baba Sawan Singh of the Radhasoami lineage. It is clear that in Punjab’s socio-political landscape, RSS and the Deras are on the same side. Even Panthic outfits, mainstream as well as radical ones, realise that such an alliance has taken place. According to Punjab police, the same radical group is said to have been behind the killings of RSS leader Jagdish Gagneja last year and Dera Sacha Sauda supporters earlier this year. The violence by Dera supporters is likely to increase social tensions in Haryana and Punjab. The BJP’s political and financial support to Dera Sacha Sauda is singularly to blame for the present mess, the mere perception that Ram Rahim was larger than law has fueled the violence, The motorcade of 200 cars, over 1 lakh supporters around court, hapless administration present an extremely sorry picture of the governance that Modi has prom-

ised in 2014. It is imperative that Prime Minister must take the situation under his direct control because he is a symbol of maximum governance and people of the country trust him. The compromises in governance even at state level will hurt brand Modi simply because people of Haryana had voted for BJP keeping in view Modi’s credibility and face. Lastly, people of the country must own responsibility of following quality religious leadership. India is a land of Jagatguru Adi Shankara, Guru Nanak Dev, Ramakrishna, Vivekanand, Praramhansa Yoganand and many more. We should be careful in selection of Guru and Saints, there should be strictly no God Man policy to be adopted by people to discourage fraudulent conman taking over the physiological control of innocent people.

***(The writer is Associate Editor, The Opinion Express)***

# Promoting India in America

By Ruchi Vaishnav

Photo: Deval Parikh

**A**t a high-profile reception for India's newly-arrived diplomats, Dr. Sudhir Parikh, publisher and philanthropist, launched a think-tank that would advocate for India's development policies.

Dr. Sudhir Parikh, publisher of *Desi Talk* and recipient of India's Padma Shri award, held a reception in Watchung, New Jersey Aug. 25, to welcome the new Consul General of India in New York Sandeep Chakravorty and Deputy Chief Mission in the Indian Embassy in Washington, D.C., Ambassador Santosh Jha. On the occasion, he also announced the launch of a think tank, Parikh Foundation for India's Global Development, that will advocate for India's policies and initiatives as an emerging global player. He urged policymakers, elected officials and Indian-Americans to step-up efforts on this front, and to educate American counterparts and the public.

Among the invited guests were members of the New Jersey state Senate and Assembly, Indian diplomats, as well as Indian-American politicians, entrepreneurs and specialists in different fields of endeavor. "Welcome to my home, it's a very good feeling to have all of you today to meet and greet our ambassadors (from India) ... and also our elected officers of the New Jersey government," said Dr. Parikh. "As you all know the bilateral relations between the United States and India are very vibrant and strong, business between the countries is booming. It is a key aspect of the growing friendship acknowledged by both Prime Minister Modi and President Trump. Today, I am confident that despite of change of elections in the future, may it be in New Delhi or Washington, close ties between India and the U.S. will be a defining relationship in the 21st century," he added.

Despite India being a "natural and dependable ally," Dr. Parikh said, "It has not been easy to reach where we are today. We have worked hard towards this goal," he said thanking all the elected officials in the room without whom it would have been impossible to achieve such a goal, he said.

"I have personally been striving to achieve closer bilateral ties for the last four decades; from the time we managed to help launch India Caucus on Capitol



Assemblyman Jamel Holley, Consul General Sandeep Chakravorty, Deputy Chief Mission Santosh Jha, Assemblyman Jon Bramnick, Dr. Sudhir Parikh, Speaker of the New Jersey Assembly Sheila Oliver, Assemblywoman Nancy Pinkin.

Hill in 1990, the formation of the Washington Leadership Council and then the passage of the India-U.S. nuclear deal, it's all gone a long way to ensure that the U.S. and India see eye to eye on the issues that matter the most," he continued.

Dr. Parikh said Indian-Americans cannot sit on their laurels and must do more to enable the rest of America to understand India better. The question also arises as to what else can the Indian diaspora do here to put a spotlight on India and its initiatives," he said. Over the years many Indian and Indian American organizations have done their bit to push the image of India in America, and many Americans today recognize the contributions of the Indian Americans, Parikh noted. "But more needs to be done on their perceptions of the Indian government's initiatives, and its efforts to expand bilateral ties," Parikh noted. "Perhaps, the first thing would be to start a dialogue, to ensure the initiatives of the Indian government, its efforts to expand bilateral ties, is put in perspective," he said. "The only way perhaps to achieve this would be with firm commitment on a regular basis; To have top experts – policymakers, politicians, intellectuals, to participate in this endeavor," he stressed. "So, I am announcing today my keen interest in launching a think tank focused on the issues, challenges and opportunities of the Indian polity," he said, urging the Indian diaspora to contribute in helping

with this initiative so India can be understood better by all.

Sheila Oliver, former Speaker of the New Jersey Assembly, who is in the running for the next Lieutenant Governor of New Jersey with Democratic gubernatorial candidate Phil Murphy, said she was astonished by the work of Indian-Americans adding that she has been a fan of Deepak Chopra ever since she was a teenager. For many years on my night table I had a book that a friend gave me and it was called "The Seven Spiritual Laws of Success" and as I watched this video I thought; that is why the Indian community is successful, it is why it is philanthropic and it is why it has a global view of the world," Oliver said. "I believe that one of the strongest characteristics of Indian-Americans and of people in India is their connection to spirituality and accepting the fact that there is something greater than themselves," she said.

Assemblyman Jon Bramnick thanked Dr. Parikh for the services that he has provided for the State and the community. At the event, Bramnick presented a Joint Legislative Resolution welcoming and honoring Consul General Chakravorty and Deputy Chief of Mission Jha, praising their contributions to the U.S.-India bilateral relationship and global diplomacy, and lauding the Indian-American community's contributions to the diversity of the state.

*Courtesy Desi Talk Headlines*

# THE ISSUE OF INSOLVENCY

The first part of the debate of the topic : “Are proceedings under insolvency and bankruptcy code, 2016 governed by the provisions of limitation act, 1963”

By Dr UK Chaudhary

**R**ecently, in the case of Neelkanth Township and Construction Pvt. Ltd. Vs. Urban Infrastructure Trustees Limited, it has been held by Hon'ble National Company Law Tribunal (NCLAT) that Limitation Act, 1963 is not applicable to the proceedings under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. In the words of Hon'ble NCLAT, “The next ground taken on behalf of the appellant is that claim of the respondent is barred by limitation, as the debenture were matured between the year 2011-2103, is not based on Law. There is nothing on the record that Limitation Act, 2013 is applicable to I & B Code. Learned Counsel for the appellant also failed to lay hand on any provisions of I & B Code to suggest that the Law of Limitation Act, 1963 is applicable. The I & B Code, 2016 is not an Act for recovery of money claim, it relates to initiation of Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process. If there is a debt which includes interest and there is default of debt and having continuous course of action, the argument that claim of money by Respondent is barred by Limitation cannot be accepted.” This judgement passed by Hon'ble NCLAT has raised an interesting question of law for extensive debate and discussion. The question is whether Law of Limitation Act, 1963 is applicable to the proceedings under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, particularly in view of the order dated 23.08.2017, passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in civil Appeal No. 10711 of 2017, titled as 'Neelkanth Township and Construction Pvt. Ltd. vs. Urban Infrastructure Ltd, as under:



“Heard the learned Senior Counsel appearing for the parties. We do not find any reason to interfere with the order dated 11.8.2017 passed by National Company Law Appellate Tribunal, New Delhi. In view of this, we find no merit in the Appeal. Accordingly, the appeal is dismissed, keeping the question of law viz ‘whether Limitation Act would apply to this proceeding’ open.”

This Article is an attempt to analyse the judgements passed by the Hon’ble National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and Hon’ble National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) and judgements of the Hon’ble Supreme Court and reach some conclusion in this regard.

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (“IBC” or “The Code”) has

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However, like another enactments, the Code has also given rise to many issues which need to be finally settled by the Hon’ble Supreme Court at the earliest. One of such issue which is dealt with herein is ‘whether the proceedings under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 are governed by the provisions of Limitation Act, 1963’?

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been enacted by the Parliament in order to consolidate and amend the laws relating to insolvency and bankruptcy of corporates and individuals. IBC has repealed the Presidency-Town Insolvency Act, 1909 and Provincial Insolvency Act, 1920 and amended several enactments including Companies Act, 2013. The Code aims to reorganisation and insolvency resolution of corporate persons, partnership firms and individuals in a time bound manner for maximisation of value of assets of such persons, to promote entrepreneurship, availability of credit and balance the interests of all the stakeholders including alteration in order of priority of payment of Govern-



ment dues, and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

However, like another enactments, the Code has also given rise to many issues which need to be finally settled by the Hon’ble Supreme Court at the earliest. One of such issue which is dealt with herein is ‘whether the proceedings under Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 are governed by the provisions of Limitation Act, 1963’?

Pursuant to the provisions of sec-

tion 4 of IBC, matters relating to the insolvency and liquidation of corporate debtors shall be covered under IBC where the minimum amount of the default of debt occurred by corporate debtor is rupees one lakh. However, the central government may, by notification, specify the minimum amount of default of higher value which shall not be more than rupees one crores. Further pursuant to the provisions of section 6 of the IBC, where any corporate



debtor commits a default, a financial creditor, an operational creditor or the corporate debtor itself may initiate corporate insolvency resolution process in respect of such corporate debtor in the manner as provided under the IBC.

Pursuant to the provisions of section 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Code, an application for initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process can be filed by the financial creditor, operational creditor and corporate debtor, as the case may

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**Pursuant to the provisions of section 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the Code, an application for initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process can be filed by the financial creditor, operational creditor and corporate debtor, as the case may be, before the Adjudicating Authority in case of default in payment of debt.**



**The provisions of section 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the IBC read with Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016, provide the process for filing of application for initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process and matter incidental and necessary thereto.**

be, before the Adjudicating Authority in case of default in payment of debt. Pursuant to section 5(1) of IBC, adjudicating authority for the purpose of insolvency resolution and liquidation for corporate persons means National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) constituted under section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013. The provisions of section 7, 8, 9 and 10 of the IBC read with Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016, provide the process for filing of application for initiation of corporate insolvency resolution process and matter incidental and necessary thereto. However, the IBC is silent on applicability of Limitation Act, 1963 on the proceeding under IBC before the NCLT and various such other issues. Section 60(5)(c) of IBC confers power upon NCLT to entertain or dispose of any question of priorities or any question of law or facts, arising out of or in relation to the insolvency resolution or liquidation proceedings of the corporate debtor or corporate person under the code notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in any

other law for the time being in force. However, such power is, again, subject to the other provisions of the IBC and the Companies Act, 2013 and the rules made thereunder.

It is evident from the definition of 'adjudicating authority' NCLT is the creation of Companies Act, 2013 as the same is constituted under Chapter XXVII, section 408 of the Companies Act, 2013. Accordingly, NCLT is bound by the provisions of Chapter XXVII, section 408 to 434 of the Companies Act, 2013, to the extent the same are not in contradiction of the provisions of IBC. Even section 424 of the Companies Act, 2013, as amended by the provisions of Eleventh Schedule read with section 255 of IBC, provides that the Hon'ble NCLT and NCLAT shall have, for the purpose of discharging its function under the Companies Act, 2013 or under the provisions of IBC, the same powers as are vested in a civil court while trying a suit in respect of certain matter. The text of amended section 424 of the Companies Act, 2013 is as follows:

"424. Procedure before Tribunal

and Appellate Tribunal

(1) The Tribunal and the Appellate Tribunal shall not, while disposing of any proceeding before it or, as the case may be, an appeal before it, be bound by the procedure laid down in the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by the principles of natural justice, and, subject to the other provisions of this Act or of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016 and of any rules made thereunder, the Tribunal and the Appellate Tribunal shall have power to regulate their own procedure.

(2) The Tribunal and the Appellate Tribunal shall have, for the purposes of discharging their functions under this Act or under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016, the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 while trying a suit in respect of the following matters, namely: -

(a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;

(b) requiring the discovery and production of documents;

(c) receiving evidence on affidavits;

(d) subject to the provisions of sections 123 and 124 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, requisitioning any public record or document or a copy of such record or document from any office; (e) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents;

(f) dismissing a representation for default or deciding it ex parte;

(g) setting aside any order of dismissal of any representation for default or any order passed by it exparte; and

(h) any other matter which may be prescribed.

(3) Any order made by the Tribunal or the Appellate Tribunal may be enforced by that Tribunal in the same manner as if it were a decree made by a court in a suit pending therein, and it shall be lawful for the Tribunal or the Appellate Tribunal to send for execution of its orders to the court within the local limits of whose jurisdiction, -

(a) in the case of an order against a company, the registered office of the company is situate; or

(b) in the case of an order against any other person, the person concerned voluntarily resides or carries on business or personally works for gain.

(4) All proceedings before the Tribunal or the Appellate Tribunal shall be deemed to be judicial proceedings within the meaning of sections 193 and 228, and for the purposes of section 196 of

the Indian Penal Code, and the Tribunal and the Appellate Tribunal shall be deemed to be civil court for the purposes of section 195 and Chapter XXVI of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973.”

From the above provisions it is clear that the Hon'ble NCLT and NCLAT, while dealing with any proceeding under Companies Act, 2013 or the IBC, is bound by the other provisions of IBC and even of the Companies Act, 2013 and the Rules framed thereunder as accepted by the Hon'ble NCLAT in the case of 'Innoventive Industries Ltd. vs. ICICI Bank and Anr and held that “As amended Section 424 of the Companies Act, 2013 is applicable to the proceeding under the I & B Code, 2016, it is mandatory for the adjudicating authority to follow the Principles of rules of natural justice while passing an order under I&B Code, 2016. Further, as Section 424 mandates the ‘Tribunal’ and ‘Appellate Tribunal’, to dispose of cases or/appeal before it subject to other provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 or I & B Code 2016 such as, Section 420 of the Companies Act 2013 was applicable and to be followed by the Adjudicating Authority.”

The above order/judgement of the Hon'ble NCLAT is affirmed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal Nos. 8337-8338, titled as M/s Innoventive Industries Ltd. vs. ICICI Bank and Anr.

In view of the above facts and circumstances, though the IBC is silent on the aspects of limitation, section 433 of the Companies Act, 2013 provides that the provisions of the Limitation Act, 1963 shall, as far as may be, apply to the proceedings or appeals before the NCLT or the NCLAT, as the case may be. The above fact has correctly been noticed by the Hon'ble NCLT, Principal Bench, in the matter of Deem Roll-Tech Limited vs. R.L. Steel & Energy Ltd. While dealing with the question of limitation, it has been held by Hon'ble NCLT that in the absence of any specific bar in the IBC to the application of Limitation Act, 1963 coupled with the provisions of section 433 of the Act as contained in the Companies Act, 2013 which makes Limitation Act applicable to the NCLT, the debt as claimed by the petitioner is barred by limitation and hence cannot be the basis of for invoking IBC before the NCLT. In this regard, provisions of section 60(6) of IBC may also be noted, where reference is made to Limitation Act for the purpose of exclusion of moratorium period for calculating the

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Accordingly, NCLT is bound by the provisions of Chapter XXVII, section 408 to 434 of the Companies Act, 2013, to the extent the same are not in contradiction of the provisions of IBC. Even section 424 of the Companies Act, 2013, as amended by the provisions of Eleventh Schedule read with section 255 of IBC, provides that the Hon'ble NCLT and NCLAT shall have, for the purpose of discharging its function under the Companies Act, 2013 or under the provisions of IBC, the same powers as are vested in a civil court while trying a suit in respect of certain matter.

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limitation period under the Limitation Act, 1963 which demonstrate beyond doubt that parliament never intended to exclude the provisions of IBC or proceedings therein from the applicability of the said Act in certain circumstances and facts of a given case.

Further in the case of State of M.P. v. Bhailal Bhai & Ors., the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has noted that though the provisions of Limitation Act, 1963 do not apply to granting of relief under Article 226, the maximum period fixed by legislature as the time within which the relief by a suit in a civil court must be brought in may ordinarily be taken to be reasonable standard by which delay in seeking remedy under Article 226 can be

measured. The Court may consider the delay unreasonable even if it is less than the period of limitation prescribed for a civil action for the remedy but where the delay is more than this period, it will almost always be proper for the court to hold that it is unreasonable.

### **The relevant para of the aforesaid judgement is as follows**

“The learned Judges appear to have failed to notice that the delay in these petitions was more than the delay in the petition made in Bhailal Bhai's case out of which Civil Appeal No. 362 of 1962 has arisen. On behalf of the respondents petitioners in these appeals (C.A.



Nos. 861 to 867 of 1962) Mr. Andley has argued that the delay in these cases even is not such as would justify refusal of the order for refund. He argued that assuming that the remedy of recovery by action in a civil court stood barred on the date these applications were made that would be no reason to refuse relief under Art. 226 of the Constitution. Learned counsel is right in his submission that the provisions of the Limitation Act do not as such apply to the granting of relief under Art. 226. It appears to us however that the maximum period fixed by the legislature as the time within which the relief by a suit in a civil court must be brought 134--159 S.C. 18 may ordinarily be taken to be a reasonable standard by which delay in seeking remedy under Art. 226 can be measured. The Court may consider the delay unreasonable even if it is less than the period of limitation prescribed for a civil action for the remedy but where the delay is more than this period, it will almost always be proper for the court to hold that it is unreasonable. The period of limitation prescribed for recovery of money paid by mistake under the Limitation Act is three years from the date when the mistake is known. If the mistake was known in these cases on or

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The Court may consider the delay unreasonable even if it is less than the period of limitation prescribed for a civil action for the remedy but where the delay is more than this period, it will almost always be proper for the court to hold that it is unreasonable. The period of limitation prescribed for recovery of money paid by mistake under the Limitation Act is three years from the date when the mistake is known.

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shortly after January 17, 1956 the delay in making these applications should be considered unreasonable. If, on the other hand, as Mr. Andley seems to argue, the mistake was discovered much later, this would be a controversial fact which cannot conveniently be decided in writ proceedings. In either view of the matter we are of opinion the orders for refund made by the High Court in these seven cases cannot be sustained.”

In view of the above discussion and analysis, the judgements passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and the Hon'ble NCLT, Principal Bench, it will be

more appropriate to take a view that provisions of Limitation Act, 1963 shall apply to the proceeding under IBC by virtue of section 433 of the Companies Act, 2013, since NCLT and NCLAT are the creation of the Companies Act, 2013 and hence will be governed by the relevant provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, to the extent the same are not in inconsistency (section 238) with the provisions of IBC, particularly since the IBC is not silent on the aspects of limitation.

***(The writer is senior advocate & President, NCLT Bar Association New Delhi)***

# India - No country for women? **Sadly, Yes!**

By Deana Uppal



**T**he Chandigarh stalking incident viciously repeats the same grim tale of women security in the cosmopolitans of our country. It shows us that we have

learnt nothing from our disastrous past and we are yet to challenge the concept of toxic masculinity that flourishes under muscle, money and political power. Four and a half years have passed since the gruesome rape and murder of young Nirbhaya, a barbaric incident that shook the foundations of this country. A wave of protests spread across the nation, catapulting the civil society into action from its slumber. But has the scene of women security really changed in India? The answer is in a grim negative, in fact it has abjectly worsened. The number of rapes reported each year in Delhi has catastrophically increased post the protests, and the Justice Verma reforms, registering a diabolic increase

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Molestations and incidents of groping have too risen meteorically. 1,387 women were interviewed across the capital and about 40% of the surveyed confessed to have been sexually harassed in a public place, with most crimes occurring during daytime.

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of 277% from 572 in 2011 to 2,155 in 2016, as per the data released recently by the Delhi Police.

Molestations and incidents of groping have too risen meteorically. 1,387 women were interviewed across the capital and about 40% of the surveyed confessed to have been sexually harassed in a public place, with most crimes occurring during daytime. Further 33% had quit venturing out at night, while 17% had gone to the extent of quitting their jobs, rather than face harassment in the public.

When it comes to women security, the country tries to follow a lacuna filled linear approach, divided into two sides.

One that arises from the cultural perspective, in which the feminine is overtly glorified as 'Mother', 'Goddess', 'Shakti' etc. This side advocates an absurd solution- one which scuttles the freedom of women, preaching medieval methods of restrictions on her conduct, behavior, life style even on what she wears, or who she chooses to accompany. This approach has been pivotal in causing life-long social trauma to victims, further victimization of the already oppressed and marginalized, and stigmatization of gender discourses.

On the contrary, there is another so called modern perspective which apes the west for most of its curative solu-





tions. They advocate similar lifestyle for the fair sex as in western nations, completely turning a blind eye to the predicaments encountered there. These same people though also advocate a point of view that differs completely from the west- amongst them are those who campaign for stringent laws, harsher punishments and state of the art security and surveillance in the Indian cosmopolitans. In fact the punishments for rape, molestations and other crime against women lack teeth in the West. For example, in UK a rapist can be let out in 2.5 years from the correctional facility with good behavior.

What this side completely ignores is that when it comes to women security, the west has failed miserably too. As per a report of YouGov.uk- A third of British women have been groped, and the situation is worse in other European nations too. 'End of Violence Against Women Coalition' took out a survey in 2016 which showed that 64% of women of all ages have experienced sexual harassment in the public, which increased to a threatening 85% when the age group was between 18-25. In 2016 there were 2 million female victims of domestic violence, while shockingly 2 women every week were being murdered by ex-partners or relatives.

The solution here cannot be only legal, but cultural- in a systematic and relentless crusade against patriarchy, insecurity, commoditization and domination. What we need is a paradigm shift in our patriarchal mindset respon-

sible for breeding and brewing such diabolic demons. A migration from man centered society to an equitable environment where empowerment sensitization and awareness go hand in hand. A patriarchal society can never be a gender just society.

We need to teach the young men of our nation that, patriarchy has no gender- It has in fact oppressed as many men as women. The power of patriarchy has been to make maleness feared and to make men feel that it is better to be feared than to be loved. Emotional neglect lays the groundwork for the emotional numbing that helps boys feel better about being cut off. Eruptions of rage in boys are most often deemed normal, sometimes even glorified, and it is this rage that is then manifested as not only in acts of violence against women, but in violence of all kinds. This cultural patriarchy has to be condemned and crusaded against at all levels within our society, with intense focus on our family and educational systems.

Also, the 'imperialist white supremacist' patriarchal culture needs to be critiqued too along with the cultural patriarchy embedded in our society, because it is normalized by mass media and rendered unproblematic. The only way forward is adopting the ethos and values of 'spiritual-feminism' which is a wise and loving way of life. It is rooted in the love of male and female being, refusing to privilege one over the other. The soul of feminist politics is the commitment to ending patriarchal domina-

tion of women and men, girls and boys. We need to assert in the young minds that Love will never exist in a relationship that is based on domination and coercion. Men cannot love themselves in patriarchal culture if their very self-definition relies on submission to patriarchal rules. And only when they embrace true feminist thinking and practice, which emphasizes the value of mutual growth and self-actualization in all relationships, will their own emotional well-being be enhanced.

Secondly instead of merely concentrating on barbaric and exemplary punishments- which too undoubtedly act as a deterrent by putting fear in the oppressors' mind- we should also focus on reforming our police and administration, who currently mired by their social stigmas increase the trauma of the victims. The police system especially, needs an overhauling with mass gender sensitization drives. Due to the insensitivity in the police system, several cases of gender violence aren't even reported, which further emboldens the perpetrators. And that is where we must take cue from a city like Mumbai, which has become a beacon of modernisation and women security due to its attitude. It is a city which is used to see women on streets, and in public transports for a long time and that is what causes this attitudinal shift. Exposure and not expulsion of women in the public spaces is the answer.

**(Writer is Indo- British Model & Entrepreneur)**

# LIVING HAPPY AND JOYOUS LIFE

Learning from the lives of Swami Vivekanand and Swami Paramahansa Yogananda

By Prashant Tewari

**B**oth Swami Vivekanand and Paramahansa Yogananda were great masters of humanity. No ordinary man, surely is worthy of this spiritual title. But now and then, there appears on earth one of the noble lineages of God-realized souls to carry out the plans of Divinity and establish righteousness on earth.

## Why Saints?

Saints and sages occupy a central place in the Indian spiritual tradition. The saints and sages are an integral part of what is called Hindu

## SPIRITUAL OPINION

or Sanatan Dharma. Their elevated souls exemplify beliefs and their lives in totality. These elevated souls exemplify the essence of the spiritual treasure trove that is continued in the vast and varied spiritual literature in Sanskrit and in the other languages.. From among the exalted and emancipated souls, first Swami Vivekanand and then Paramhansa Yogananda appeared on the Indian scene to bring solace to the people in the Indian continent and the world at large. Both these masters worked untiringly throughout the period they lived on earth and helped to awaken people from their long slumber of centuries. Their contribution to the cause of uplifting human consciousness is no less than those of great incarnation of God who took birth on earth only under divine command.



## How to live?

It is not our fate that decides where your life is going. It is all about how you take life and where you take it to. All of us are born in this world like beautiful clay models ready to learn all talking, walking, eating, drinking and so many other lessons and habits. We go back from the earth saying good bye to life as hardened solid figure. During the course of life, through experiences gained by growth in the years, we start seeing the world according to our own perceptions. We create meaning, we create friends and enemies. We create our own truth – right or wrong.

The nature of life is to grow towards an ever perfect and joyous expression of itself. Each living cell has a nervous system, no matter how rudimentary. The more develop the nervous system, the more it will express the qualities of the pure consciousness – intelligence, creativity and bliss. Life, its substance and purpose, is an enigma, difficult yet not unknowable.

Presently, the humanity is passing through a very critical phase of transition from old values to new values getting developed through moving forward in the field of information technology. Being in its initial stages of development, the information technology is however, having its adverse effects on the young minds. The family way of life, peace and understanding are getting affected. Technology is being misused by anti social elements bearing far reaching effect on how we live today. ,

## Way of Life?

Hinduism is not a religion commonly understood terms comprising set of dogmas and belief but it is proven way of life which has helped mankind from millennium to know its true nature that of the infinite which is its source. Hinduism is the most tolerant religion in the world because its one transcendent God includes all possible goals

## Why Guru's guidance?

Swami Vivekanand had handsome face, magnetic presence and wonderful oratory. Never before did an oriental make such an impression on the global society. According to him, nothing else is necessary except love, sincerity and patience. Life is only growth i.e. expansion, love. All love is life, it is the only law of life: all selfishness is death and this is true here or hereafter. For more than 100 years the work has continued and Ramakrishna Mission is now a well

# Swami Vivekanand teachings mainly centered on the following ideals:

- Preach unto mankind their divinity and how to make it manifest in every moment of life
- Education is the manifestation of perfection already in man. Education through which character is formed, strength of mind is increased, the intellect is expanded and by which one can stand on own feet
- Whatever you think you will be
- We want strength and more strength in life. With weakness comes ignorance and with ignorance comes misery
- Purity, patience and perseverance are the three essentials to success
- Religion is realization not talk nor doctrine nor theories
- Religion is manifestation of divinity already in man.
- They alone live who live for others.
- The gist of all worship is – to be pure and do good to others
- It is love and love alone that I preach. I base my teachings on the great Vedantic truth of the sameness and omnipresence of the soul of the Universe.







## Paramahansa Yogananda teachings mainly centered on the following ideals:

- Life here on earth appears futile and chaotic until we are anchored in the Divine. Do not concentrate upon ephemeral worldly goals and human attachments.
- Make your inner self a temple of God; Make it a temple of the mystic life of the universe. Then you are king of everything and not attached to anything.
- A man of realization sees God in all.
- Yoga is the scientific process by which every and reunites with Spirits.
- Yoga/Meditation is the highest form of activity that man can perform, and it is the most balanced way to find God.
- Make religion real by scientific methods. When you do you will see that religion is no longer a myth but a scientific certainty.
- No matter what religion you follow, ask yourself? Am I happy? What is my highest duty? How can I find peace and bliss>?
- Plain living and high thinking should be your goal. Your ever readiness to help others without distinction of sex, creed or caste will make your heart big enough to receive all humility. Break the boundaries of selfishness and include in it all living beings and universes – everything.

established institution helping everyone to work for One's own liberalization and for welfare of the world. The mission has rendered yeoman service in all fields for upliftment of masses fulfilling the dream of great Master-Mystic, Prophet, Disciple, Lover of humanity, Patriot, friend, beloved Swami Vivekanand.

### Swami Paramahansa Yogananda –

Paramahansa Yogananda used to explain: Knowing God is not only a privilege and a divine duty but a practical necessity. The guru is the awakened God awakening the sleeping God in the disciple. He gives us all we need to rouse the divine image within: methods that take us beyond the restless mind to touch the infinite consciousness that sustains us: timeless truths for spiritual living amongst the ever shifting values of this world. Swami said – Education must provide life building, man making, and character making assimilation of ideas.

Meditation is strictly prescribed by Yogananda ji to delay cell decay, regulate blood circulation and improvement of heart function. The lungs gets extra oxygen, senses get subdued. Perfect state of meditation being human's true nature, sooner or later; humanity has to learn this lesson to remain on the path to progress. The path of a human life can be identified by -

- 1 Man's Eternal Quest
- 2 Divine Romance
- 3 Journey of Self Realisation

### Why Meditation?

The joy felt in meditation reveals the presence of Eternal joy spread over all creations. The light seen in meditation is the astral light from which our tangible creation is made. – Paramahansa Yogananda Spirituality for a common man may best be termed as science of the soul. It is reaching beyond all sciences. The soul keeps alive and guides our live on earth and is a part/reflection of the infinite consciousness pulsating through whole creation, commonly understood as God. Knowledge of this science can help us lead happy, contented, joyful and purposeful lives on earth. The greatest help to a spiritual life is meditation ( Dhyana ) – Meditation is a instrument of spirituality.

*(Writer is Editor-in-Chief on  
The Opinion Express)*

# HOW MUCH WATER SHOULD YOU DRINK IN A DAY?

Water is the most important ingredient of our daily intake. But, there are varied views about how much should one consume.

Here goes a ready reckoner

By Dr Shiv Kumar

**T**he most basic necessity of life is clean water yet there is a lot of ignorance regarding the basic information about water. It's something we all know we should do, but often fall short of - drinking water. Experts recommend two litres of water a day, but do we actually know what that means? And do we ever really achieve it? There are a lot of rumours and myths around how much water we need to consume in a day, so we've taken a look once and for all at what we really need to be doing. (1.2 litres) or six glasses a day is the minimum quantity that a normal human being must consume but remember you get some of this from food.

## Do tea, coffee, juice count?

■ Normal tea and coffee - Yes they do! Despite their caffeine content they do in fact count towards your water tally. They also have health benefits so don't feel like you have to rule them out. They're dehydrating because they're both diuretic - i.e. they make you a lot - but they contain enough water to

make up for this." Green tea has also been shown to speed up metabolism and aid weight loss. In theory, fruit juice and fizzy drinks do count towards your water intake, but some of them have lots of sugar and calories, which can reduce the health benefits of their extra fluid.

## What the scientists have to say

■ What water does for us - First up, why is everyone so obsessed by water. It allows you to digest your food; it lubricates everything from your joints to your eyes to your mouth to more intimate parts. Sweating helps the body regulate its temperature. At a cellular level, pretty much every part of the body is essentially suspended in water - it's also the key to the body's moving things around. It provides the medium for the body to get rid of toxins and things it doesn't need. In short, if you don't drink water, everything stops, overheats and you die.

■ The myths debunked - In an article for The New York Times, Aaron E. Carroll, Professor of Paediatrics and Assistant Dean for Research Mentoring at Indiana University



School of Medicine, writes: "If there is one health myth that will not die, it is this: You should drink eight glasses of water a day. It's just not true. There is no science behind it." Eating vegetables counts! He says the original advice was people needed the equivalent of eight glasses of water a day. However, scientists included the amount of fluid ingested through other food and vegetables, and never intended for people to drink eight glasses of water on top of their daily food and drink.

■ Don't go over the top - Spero Tsindos, at La Trobe University in Melbourne, sparked controversy by claiming that eight glasses of water a day 'is over the top' and instead of hydrating our body's cells, we just pee most of it out.

### The best way to tell if you're drinking enough water

■ Your pee! 'The best way to tell if you're drinking enough water is to look at the colour of your pee,' says Dr Sarah Brewer. "A pale straw colour shows you're drinking enough – if it's darker than this, you should aim to drink more. Don't count the first wee of the day as it's naturally darker as you've been asleep.

■ Tiredness! There are also other symptoms that should let you know you're dehydrated. Fatigue and tiredness, headaches and poor concentration are earlier signs.

### How much is too much?

It's known as water intoxication. It's where a person drinks so much it dilutes the salt in their blood. It can leave you lethargic, light-headed and in extreme cases, it can be fatal. But, this happens very rarely and only tends to occur when people are dehydrated through exercise and they suddenly drink two or three litres in a short space of time.

A new study has highlighted the danger of drinking too much water. Researcher Dr Michael Farrell, from Monash University in Melbourne said: "If we just do what our body demands us to we'll probably get it right - just drink according to thirst rather than an elaborate schedule. "Here for the first time we found effort-full swallowing after drinking excess water which meant they had to overcome some sort of resistance. "This was compatible with our notion that the swallowing reflex becomes inhibited once enough water has been drunk. There have been cases when athletes in marathons were told to load up with water and died, in certain circum-



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stances, because they slavishly followed these recommendations and drank far in excess of need."

### How to up your WATER drinking - tips

- Add flavour to your pitcher of water
- Infuse your drinks if you're not a fan of water, try lemon or fresh fruit flavours. You can also get bottles that do this for you.
- Drink a glass after every toilet break
- Take a sip before every meal
- Use an app to track your water consumption
- You can get a high tech water bottle
- Dilute sugary drinks with water and ice
- Keep a jug next to you
- Invest in a filter
- Choose sparkling or mineral water over soda drinks
- Eat water-rich foods
- Drinking alcohol? Stick to the one-to-one rule
- Mark how much you need to drink on the side of your bottle - set yourself targets

### Can you lose weight drinking water?

One of the simplest ways to lose weight is to drink water before eating, according to research carried out in 2010. A 12-week study, reported to the American Chemical Society, involved 48 people aged 55-75. One group drank two cups of water before each meal and the other didn't. Water drinkers lost 15.5lbs on average, the others 11lbs.

Dr Brenda Davy, senior author of the survey, said: "We found in earlier studies that middle-aged and older people who drank two cups of water right before eating a meal ate between 75 and 90 fewer calories during that meal." In this recent study, dieters who drank water before meals, three times per day, lost about 5lbs more than dieters who did not increase water intake. "People should drink more water and less sugary, high-calorie drinks. It's a simple way to manage weight."

*(With Inputs from Jo-Anne Rowney of 'Mirror')*

# Fun, offbeat things to do in Norway's capital Oslo

By Mithila Mehta

Stunning and dramatic scenery and landscape is found throughout Norway. The west coast of southern Norway and the coast of northern Norway present some of the most visually impressive coastal sceneries in the world. National Geographic has listed the Norwegian fjords as the world's top tourist attraction. The country is also home to the natural phenomena of the Midnight sun (during summer) as well as the Aurora borealis known also as the Northern lights.

The 2014 Environmental Performance Index put Norway in tenth place, based on the environmental performance of the country's policies. Peace and My first impression of Norway's beautiful capital was rather accurate. Oslo is a charming, laid-back city. There's plenty to see and do, but out and out tourist spots are few. Instead, enjoying Oslo is about taking in all those

truly 'Norwegian' experiences.

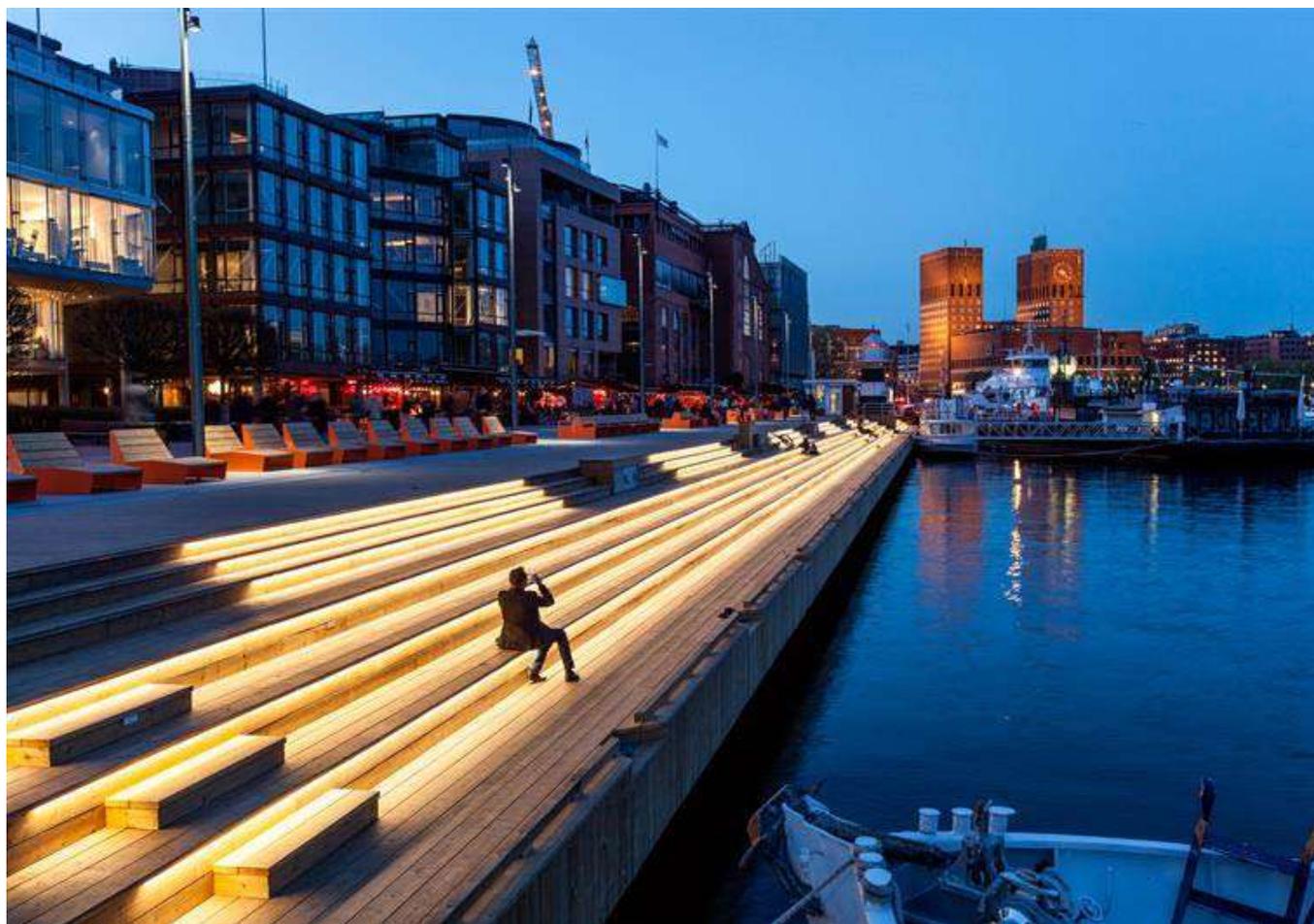
Adventures on a fjord: If you're in Oslo on a bright summer day, you will notice that the city's waterfronts are buzzing with activity. Aker Brygge is Oslo's hip waterfront located on the Oslo Fjord, home to an eclectic bunch of eateries and watering holes. At one end of Aker Brygge stands Akershus Festning, a medieval stone castle and fortress dating back to the 13th century. Don't miss the fjord cruise around the Oslo Fjord. It offers a stunning experience, being enveloped by the vastness of nature.

**Ships in museums:** I'm not really a fan of museums, but enjoyed my time in Oslo's museums. Maybe it's because Norwegians seem to love putting giant ships into museums—each of the three museums we visited boasted of a life-sized ship exhibit!

A silver mine and a ski jump: I'm always looking for unlikely experiences on my travels. So when I heard about

the opportunity to visit The King's Mine (located 500 meters below the ground) near Kongsberg, Oslo, I was sold. The King's Mine was closed in 1958 and has been preserved since. Holmenkollen is home to an eponymous ski jumping hill which has been hosting competitions for over a century. Inside the ski jump is the Holmenkollen Ski Museum, the oldest of its kind in the world. The observation deck on top of the jump tower offers panoramic views of Oslo.

**Visit the Christmas House:** The quaint town of Drobak is located just 40 kilometers from Oslo – a perfect day trip! Drobak is straight out of a fairytale with charming wooden houses painted in bright colours lined up against the picturesque coast. Vintage cars were parked by the sidewalks and every house had a perfectly manicured rose garden. Dozens of sailboats bobbed in the shallow port (it seems that everyone here owns a boat!) Drobak is packed with scores of tiny eateries, cafes, bak-





eries, galleries and shops run by the locals. The town's Christmas House (Julehuset) piled high with festive souvenirs. In here, it feels like Christmas all through the year. There is an adorable traditional-style bakery on the center square called Handverksbakeriet. We had some delicious apple and plum cake, with dessert wine for the Christmas feels!

#### **Walk atop the Opera House:**

Oslo's fabulous opera House was special simply because it let visitors like us simply walk onto the roof of the building and enjoy the view! We saw dozens of locals sunbathing on the roof, while others jumped off the roof into the adjoining water body.

**Hiking and more:** What is a Norwegian's favourite weekend activity? Without a doubt, it is hiking and tenting in the great outdoors! Norway's 'Right of Access' law means that everyone can freely camp anywhere in the open countryside. This translates into Norwegians literally pitching a tent anywhere that catches their fancy! For a true taste of the land, go out tenting in the Norwegian countryside around Oslo.

**Oslo Nightlife:** Norway has a relatively strict alcohol policy and regulations; hence the price-level of alcoholic beverages is high. As a result, the Norwegians tend to have a few (or a lot!) of drinks at home before they go out. Norwegians arrange the infamous "vorspiel" (pre-parties) with friends before they go out.

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The most tourist area of the Oslo and the core of the city, with the main street Karl Johan in the middle, have a wide variety of different pubs, bars and nightclubs that attract all kinds of people. The west-side of the city centre, Majorstuen, Vika and Frogner, is characterized by its fashionable, flashy and beautiful guests that want to see and be seen. In the Grünerlokka district the atmosphere is more relaxed and low-maintained; the guests are still trendy, but more laid-back and carefree. Boat parties are hugely popular in Oslo (why not, given how gorgeous the fjords are).

Explore the sunniest capital of Scandinavia with this 24-hour ticket aboard a City Sightseeing open-top double-decker bus. See all the main sights of Oslo as you hop on and hop off at 17 conveniently located stops around the city.

With great views from the top of the bus, strategically placed stops and an interesting commentary, this truly is the best way to see the main sights of

Oslo.

You can hop on and off as many times as you like aboard this City Sightseeing open-top, double-decker bus. There are 17 stops, and the entire route takes approximately 90 minutes. The bus departs every 30 minutes from each stop. Tickets are valid for 24 hours only.

Oslo, the oldest and sunniest of the Scandinavian capitals, was founded by Harald Hadrade in the 11th century and is surrounded by mountains at the head of a 70-mile (100 kilometer) fjord. You can visit Akershus Fortress, or feel like a real Viking at the Viking Ship Museum.

A single trip to Norway during life time is highly recommended to Indian globe trotter to broaden experience of realizing how beautiful the world is constructed by super natural power. A lot of credit must go to the native people of Norway for adhering to strict environment policy resulting in impeccable clean country.

# PIAGGIO TO UPDATE VESPA RANGE WITH NEW COLOURS

**P**iaggio is gearing up to update the Vespa range for the upcoming festive season. The updation will come in the form of new colours and revised instrument cluster.

The Vespa SXL 150 and the Vespa VXL 150 will get new bright colours in the next few weeks. The addition of bright colours is to add a bit more fun and freshness to the brand. Other than this, the instrumentation of the scooters will get a revised design. The digital instrumentation cluster on both the Vespa scooters is already quite good. With the revised instrumentation, the scooters might look more appealing. The pricing of these new paint schemes are expected to be mar-

ginally more than the standard models.

Vespa no longer sells its 125cc versions, the SXL125 and the VXL125 in India. The Italian manufacturer wants to create a premium space for its Vespa brand. So Vespa will be present only in 150cc space and above. This makes us believe that the Piaggio will fill the void with the introduction of Aprilia SR125, which is bound to get more numbers for the company.

**Sanjay Mendirutta**  
– Corporate Communication Head



© BikeWale Piaggio to update Vespa range with new colours

# A MAJOR CRISIS BREWING IN ASIA – USA VS NORTH KOREA

The recent aggression shown by USA and North Korea may jeopardise world security

**T**he two aggressive leaders of USA and North Korea have brought the entire world on its knees. Donald Trump narrative of & fury and Kim statement of hitting US by ICBM have resulted in escalation of tensions in entire world. Japan and South Korea are living in constant fear of missile attack but unfortunately China is proceeding with its stale strategy of promoting rouge states namely North Korea and Pakistan by supporting them with funds, technology, business collaboration and nuclear technology transfer resulting in making the world a deadly place to live in. KIM Jong-un may have hidden a secret message to the United States in his blustering boast that he is now ready to lob missiles at Guam. But can President Trump understand it?

Recently North Korean media stated Kim had been briefed by his Missile Command on completed plans to test launch missiles and 'bracket' the US Pacific territory of Guam. But Kim stated he would watch the "foolish and stupid conduct of the Yankees" a little more before deciding whether to give an order for the missile test. The US has stated any missiles lobbed toward Guam would be seen as a deeply provocative act. US Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said the United States would "take out" any such missile and declared such a launch could lead to war.

Kim's comments, however, come with an almost hidden tone of moderation. He appears to hold out the offer to defuse the growing crisis — if the United States made a conciliatory gesture. "The US Imperialists caught the noose around their necks due to their reckless military confrontation racket ... (but) he would watch a little more the foolish and stupid conduct of the Yankees spending a hard time of every minute of their miserable lot," the Pyongyang statement reads.

But the question is whether or not



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everybody who needs to understand that understands that. "The problem is that Kim Jon-un is largely the same personality type as Trump — both are paranoid, narcissistic and have huge egos," Dr Hohnen says. "We've never really had leaders like that on both sides before.

"The unknown factor in this is not Kim, its Trump. Kim Jong-un is acting

as we expect him to behave." "We've actually been expecting something like this," she says. "Today's quite an important day in North Korea (celebrations marking the liberation of Korea at the end of World War II). The North Koreans usually do something in terms of military development to coincide with such events."

## DIPLOMATIC CRISIS

Officials have told US media that satellites have observed DPRK mobile missile launcher movement, indicating an intermediate-ballistic missile may be being prepared as part of North Korea's holiday celebrations. The move comes as the United States and South Korea plan to start annual defensive military drills that the North asserts are a severe provocation and a possible preparation for invasion. But South Korea's Yonhap News Agency says President Moon told a gathering he will prevent war in Korea "at all costs".

No US military action on the troubled peninsula was possible without Seoul's consent, he said. US President Donald Trump, who today returned to his residence in New York for the first time since becoming President in January, has phoned regional leaders — including Japan's Shinzo Abe.

“We agreed that Japan, the U.S. and South Korea will coordinate closely, cooperating with Russia, China and other members of the international community to, above all else, prevent North Korea from launching missiles,” Mr Abe said about the call with President Trump. US Secretary of Defence James Mattis warned any further escalation could rapidly lead to war: “Yes that means for a lot of young troops they’re going to be in a wartime situation.”

President Kim Jong-un being presented with plans to launch ballistic missiles towards the US territory of Guam. The map in front of him details the flight path of a missile over southern Japan, while the photo on the back wall shows Guam’s Andersen Air Force Base.

### ‘DELIGHTFUL HISTORIC MOMENT’

Pyongyang’s state media has this morning reported President Kim Jong-un as “praising” his Strategic Force for drawing up a “careful” plan for a “power demonstration” to “envelop” Guam in fire. “The nuclear force of the DPRK is strong in its guts and no one can guess its muscle as the flight trajectory of medium-to-long ballistic rocket Hwasong-12, firing data and the correct hitting-point are made public at home and abroad.”

This North Korean supplied image purports to show Kim Jong-un being briefed at the KPA Strategic Force HQ on plans to launch ballistic missiles towards the US territory of Guam.

### INTERNATIONAL CONCERN

The European Union’s foreign policy chief has called for “peaceful, not military” means to resolve the Korean peninsula crisis, urging Pyongyang to avoid any “further provocative action” that could stoke tensions. “At such a critical juncture, the European Union supports diplomatic work with our partners aimed at the de-escalation of the situation and achieving the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula through peaceful, not military, means,” Federica Mogherini said in a statement.

The statement was issued after a meeting of a key EU panel which agreed the bloc would reach out to North and South Korea, the United States, China, Russia and Japan. “There is an urgent need for a de-escalation of tensions on the situation on the Korean Peninsula,” Mogherini said. “(...) We there-

fore call on the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) to refrain from any further provocative action that can only increase regional and global tensions.”

USA is building strategic level of coordination with another world power namely India to play an active role in taming rouge states like North Korea and Pakistan. So far, India has followed normal diplomatic language of restraint but the ambitious leadership of Narendra Modi is likely to take more active role in the global affairs to push for permanent t UN Security Council seat.

### DUBIOUS ROLE OF CHINA

People Republic of China is gradually perceived to be the villain of the new world. China have build satellite

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## USA is building strategic level of coordination with another world power namely India to play an active role in taming rouge states like North Korea and Pakistan.

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rouge states namely North Korea and Pakistan, funded and armed them with clandestine nuclear weapon technology to serve its power balance in the new world order. Pakistan is pitted against India by China to curb India’s global emergence and North Korea is pitted against South Korea to check USA knocking its border. In the process, two rouge states with failed governance have ensured that world is no longer a safe place. There is highly likely that nukes may land up in wrong hands namely jihadi’s or terror groups that can extensively damage the humanity in any part of the world.

The unfair trade practices by PRC and reckless low cost manufacturing, dumping cheap goods in the global market have damaged many economies in the world. IPR violation and clone design are standard practice in China that has hurt many thriving multinational companies globally.

Recently US President has ordered probe against China for IPR violation. The world must unite against the Chinese unfair trade practices to secure sovereign right of many indus-

trial nations.

### America is preparing military options in case sanctions fail, says most senior US general

Joint Chief of Staffs chairman says US ready to use ‘full range’ of military capabilities to defend itself against Pyongyang. The Independent US South Korean army soldiers walk by a mock Scud-B missile of North Korea AP

America is preparing military options in case sanctions imposed on North Korea fail, the most senior general in the US armed forces has warned. Joseph Dunford said a “full range” of contingency plans had been drawn up in case diplomatic and economic sanctions did not deter Pyongyang’s development of nuclear weapons. The Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman told South Korean President Moon Jae-in of the preparations during a 50-minute meeting on Monday, according to a US military spokesman. It comes amid heightened tensions over fears Pyongyang is close to achieving its goal of putting mainland US within range of a nuclear weapon.

The two nations exchanged military threats last week, with North Korea warning it has developed a plan to strike the US Pacific territory of Guam. Donald Trump said military solutions to the crisis were “locked and loaded”, days after vowing to unleash “fire and fury” if Pyongyang continued to threaten the US.

Mr Dunford is visiting Seoul to discuss the rising tensions in the region with President Moon Jae-in and Defence Minister Song Young-moo ahead of major joint US-South Korean military drills scheduled for later this month. “He conveyed America’s readiness to use the full range of military capabilities to defend our allies and the US homeland,” said US military spokesman Darryn James. Mr Dunford, who will also meet with leaders in Japan and China, “stressed that North Korea’s ballistic missile and nuclear weapons programmes threaten the entire global community,” the spokesman added. Mr Dunford had earlier told reporters he aimed to “sense what the temperature is in the region” and discuss military options in the event the “diplomatic and economic pressurisation campaign” fails. “We’re all looking to get out of this situation without a war,” he added. Mr Moon separately called for a peaceful solution to the nuclear stand-off, urging that “there must not be another war on the Korean Peninsula”. It comes as

senior US officials attempted to provide assurances with that conflict with North Korea not imminent.

The American military is ready with a plan to strike North Korean missile sites in a pre-emptive attack if Donald Trump decides to do so. The plan involves flying a B-1B heavy bomber from Andersen Air Force Base in Guam accompanied by satellites, drones, higher jets, and aerial refuelling warplanes. Training for the mission has been ongoing, and there have been 11 practice runs for a similar mission since May when the training was accelerated.

“Of the military options ... [President Trump] could consider, this would be one of the two or three that would at least have the possibility of not escalating the situation,” retired Admiral James Stavridis, the former Supreme Allied Commander Europe, told NBC. There are six B-1B bombers positioned in Guam, about 2,100 miles by air to North Korea. The bombers have been heavily used in both Afghanistan and Iraq, and have been updated since then.

The news of the potential operations comes as the relationship between the US and North Korea has become very strained. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and Mr Trump have engaged in a heated back and forth of threats. Recently, Mr Trump promised “fire and fury” if Mr Kim didn’t stop threatening the United States. In response, Mr Kim’s government signalled they were considering an attack on Guam if Mr Trump didn’t cool his tough talk. Both countries appear to be more than willing to push the other further and further with the threats, however, in spite of assurance from US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson, who has said that Americans have no reason to worry about an impending war.

US administration has finally realized that China is the base of North Korea and Pakistan problem. It is China that has clandestinely exported nuclear weapon technology to North Korea and Pakistan and at the same time, they have invested heavily in respective countries to keep the economy rolling ahead despite sanctions and international curbs. The world has realized that China is the backbone of unofficial terror and their irresponsible actions can lead to a major nuclear proliferation that is extremely dangerous to the civil societies globally. It is high time that the global community must put pressure on China to mend its way or get out of the new world order.

# 8 million dead - what nuclear war with North Korea could look like

By Harry J. Kazianis



Missiles are driven past the stand with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and other high ranking officials during a military parade marking the 105th birth anniversary of North Korea’s founding father, Kim Il Sung, in Pyongyang, April 15, 2017. The American public once again has to learn history all over again. When it comes to North Korea, Americans are having to face the prospect of a rogue nation—a human rights abuser on par with Nazi Germany—that is now armed with nuclear weapons that can strike our homeland.

History reminds us we have been down this road before—whether it was with the Soviet Union building a deadly nuclear arsenal in the 1950s or China doing the same in the 1960s. The collective shock and panic you see when it comes to North Korea—and the nightmare reality that they can hit the U.S. with nuclear weapons—is our generation’s “Sputnik” moment. While some are still in denial, the simple facts are now inescapable.

The collective shock and panic you see when it comes to North Korea—and the nightmare reality that they can hit the U.S. with nuclear weapons—is our generation’s ‘Sputnik’ moment.

So, the next question seems obvious: Would Kim Jong Un use his nuclear weapons under the right conditions, say if he felt his survival was threatened? The answer is a resounding yes. Know this: if Pyongyang decided to launch a salvo of nuclear armed missiles towards Seoul, Tokyo, U.S. military bases or the homeland, the carnage unleashed would be unlike anything we have seen since the days of World War II. In such a scenario, millions upon millions of people could

die or become the victims of radioactive fallout, whose injuries could lay dormant for years. It would be, per one senior Pentagon official I spoke to last week, “as if Lucifer opened the gates of hell.”

Gaming out nuclear war scenarios—as horrific as they are—is part of my job working for a D.C. foreign policy think tank. Back in 2013, I took part in a series of wargames to consider what would happen if North Korea and America become entangled in a nuclear

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The collective shock and panic you see when it comes to North Korea—and the nightmare reality that they can hit the U.S. with nuclear weapons—is our generation’s ‘Sputnik’ moment.

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conflict. No matter how we approached such an atomic conflict the results were the same. There was no question millions of people would die—it was just a question of how many. Over the course of several days, experts, journalists, academics and retired Pentagon staffers played out three scenarios of what a war with North Korea would look like – focusing on nuclear weapons use, and concluding one war per day in a sped-up fashion. We started with a scenario that involved atomic weapons release on a small scale and in the next two sessions raised the stakes dramatically.

The first wargame—the smallest and least lethal of the bunch—imagined a conflict in 2020 where U.S. and

allied forces on the Korean Peninsula were attacked by surprise with conventional weapons only by North Korea, responding to intelligence that Washington was considering building forces in the region for a possible attack.

Kim decides to open this imagined Second Korean War by launching a massive artillery barrage on Seoul while raining down 250 or so small- and medium-range missiles on targets all around South Korea and Japan. Allied forces then counter attack, focusing mostly on Kim's weapons of mass destruction, the biggest threat of all, eliminating what they think is all of them.

Eventually, allied forces battle their way up the peninsula and close in on Pyongyang, the capitol of North Korea. But Kim, even with his forces battered and bloody, kept four nuclear weapons hidden from U.S. strikes and decides to attack Seoul and Tokyo. While the allies do win the war, the casualties from the nuclear attacks—with one warhead each making it past allied missile defenses detonating in each city—results in over one million people dead and millions more wounded. Add that to the likely staggering body count totals from what would be a bloody conventional campaign, and you would see a death toll that seems unthinkable today.

As if the above wasn't bad enough, a second scenario involved Kim starting a conflict using nuclear weapons in a sort of atomic "Pearl Harbor." In this exercise, we assume that in 2020 U.S. forces are building in the Asia-Pacific in preparation for a regime change operation, responding to a demand from the international community for North Korea to give up its nuclear weapons—just like the Second Gulf War.

But Kim Jong Un is a student of history. He knows once U.S. forces are in place they will try to take out his weapons of mass destruction and move across the 38th parallel. He decides to attack first. In this wargame, we assumed Kim launched successful nuclear strikes on Seoul, Pusan, Incheon, Tokyo, Sendai and Nagoya, with one nuclear weapon hitting each city and getting past allied missile defenses—he fires more, but this is what actually hits the target. Before the allies can even spring into action, over two million people perish in the atomic fire.

The final wargame was the most dramatic and led to the most loss of



life. We assume a similar scenario in 2020 with allied forces getting ready for a possible invasion, but this time Kim decides to launch a pre-emptive attack on the U.S. homeland. We assume he strikes the target cities in the second scenario, but add on successful nuclear attacks on Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and Portland. We were shocked to discover we ended up with a combined body count of over three million people between losses in Asia and America. Oh, and by the way, this is before America's nuclear counterattack, which would add millions more to the total.

By the time this wargame ended, North Korea went all in with every weapon it had, launching more nuclear attacks along with chemical and biological weapons strikes. When it was over and North Korea was finally defeated, eight million people were killed. Now, to be fair, a wargame does not predict the future and is nowhere near perfect in its analysis. However, experts conduct such exercises many times to game out worst-case scenarios and consider unconventional strategies for dealing with the threats of the future. But one thing we assumed in this scenario is quite haunting: we believed by 2020 Kim would have nuclear weapons that could be mounted on a warhead and could target all northeast Asia and hit the U.S. homeland, something some in the simulation thought was fantasy. Now it is a chilling reality—in 2017.

What can we take away from all of this?

While military options for removing Kim's nuclear weapons, as you can see above, could result in the death of millions, we still have time to make sure North Korea can't keep adding more and more advanced capabilities to its atomic arsenal. The most important thing we can do now is stop the amount of resources flowing into North Korea and enforce the recently passed UN Security Council resolutions—and that means China must finally join the international communities' efforts. If not, North Korea could get its hands on a hydrogen bomb or even more long-range missiles—something we did not consider in our wargames. If that day comes to pass, the above scenarios, played out with smaller atomic weapons, will seem downright optimistic. And that should send a chill up everyone's spine.

*( Harry J. Kazianis (@grecianformula) is director of defense studies at the Center for the National Interest, founded by former President Richard M. Nixon.*

*Associate Editor Dr Rahul Misra comprehensively studied the international and national press on USA North Korea standoff and he has compiled a report taking out best of reports, coverage, interviews to highlight the perception and the reality of the current build up. Inputs from CNN, BBC, Independent and prominent Indian media are incorporated to offer a broader perspective. )*

# More gift packages on way to US, warns North Korea

Despite worldwide criticism for its nuclear misadventure, the rogue nation is unrepenting

**A**mid international uproar over North Korea's latest and biggest nuclear weapons test, one of its top diplomats said on Tuesday it was ready to send "more gift packages" to the United States.

Han Tae Song, ambassador of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) to the U.N. in Geneva, was addressing the U.N.-sponsored Conference on Disarmament two days after his country detonated its sixth nuclear test explosion.

"I am proud of saying that just two days ago on the 3rd of September, DPRK successfully carried out a hydrogen bomb test for intercontinental ballistic rocket under its plan for building a strategic nuclear force," Han told the Geneva forum. "The recent self-defence measures by my country, DPRK, are a 'gift package' addressed to none other than the U.S.," Han said.

"The U.S. will receive more 'gift packages' from my country as long as it relies on reckless provocations and futile attempts to put pressure on the DPRK," he added without elabo-

rating.

Military measures being taken by North Korea were "an exercise of restraint and justified self-defence right" to counter "the ever-growing and decade-long U.S. nuclear threat and hostile policy aimed at isolating my country". "Pressure or sanctions will never work on my country," Han declared, adding: "The DPRK will never under any circumstances put its nuclear deterrence on the negotiating table."

## Army

North Korea has one of the world's largest standing armies, with at least 1,000,000 soldiers. However, although the secretive state does not release full details about its armed forces to the rest of the world, their weapons and equipment are believed to be largely obsolete when compared to major Western nations.

## Tanks

The nation's 3,500-odd tanks outnumber its arch-rival South Korea's fleet by over 1000.

Despite having a larger fleet, most of the North Korean tanks date back to the Soviet era. On the other hand, a major chunk of South Korea's 2,414 tanks are supplied by the U.S., fitted with modern weaponry, and much more efficient.

## Artillery pieces

In terms of artillery, the North Korean army is in possession of over 21,000 pieces of equipment. It is believed that out of the total artillery equipment, many are targeted at Seoul, the South Korean capital city.

## Submarines

North Korea boasts of a fleet of at least 72 submarines — the highest in the world. The nation's nuclear weapons could become immune from destruction in case of a pre-emptive attack, if hidden on board these submarines. In fact, North Korea is reportedly learning the technique of launching nuclear warheads from submarines which, if becomes successful, would allow the country to strike any nation easily.

South Korean marine corps search a



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Military measures being taken by North Korea were “an exercise of restraint and justified self-defence right” to counter “the ever-growing and decade-long U.S. nuclear threat and hostile policy aimed at isolating my country”.

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North Korean combat-class submarine after its discovery on the north-east coast of South Korea, some .62 mile (1 km) south of the demilitarized zone on Sept. 18, 1998.

### **Frigates**

The nation has three frigates (several types of warship) as part of its military possessions. Conversely, the smaller-sized South Korean army boasts of 14 frigates currently. Digital satellite imagery of a Soho-class missile frigate at Singyo-ri patrol base in North Korea.

### **Combat aircraft**

The Korean People’s Air Force has a fleet of 563 combat-capable aircraft. However, in 2014, each of those planes were grounded for a short period due to low maintenance and poor service.

### **Aggressive military posturing**

North Korea have always maintained an aggressive military posturing against countries it considers “unfriendly,” especially next-door neighbor South Korea. Most recently, tension escalated between the two countries in August 2015 when a North Korean landmine injured two South Korean soldiers. It resulted in the two countries engaging in artillery firing along the demilitarized zone, and North Korea beefing up its front-line troop strength overnight. The standoff eased after the two countries reached an agreement following discussions, and North Korea expressed regret over the landmine incident.

Military guard posts of South Korea (bottom) and North Korea (top) stand opposite each other as seen from the border city of Paju, South Korea, on Aug. 21, 2015.

### **Human testing for weapons**



In June 2015, a North Korean scientist defected to Finland. He carried with him 15 gigabytes of information that showcased how the country’s regime used humans to test its biological and chemical weapons.

### **Biological weapons**

Around the same time, the country released photos showing Kim Jong-un touring a pesticide factory, called Pyongyang Bio-technical Institute. However, many experts believe that it could be a facility producing massive amounts of anthrax to be used in weapons.

### **Chemical weapons**

According to Nuclear Threat Initiative, North Korea is believed to be the third largest possessor of chemical weapons.

### **Cyber-army**

Finally, North Korea’s cybermilitary abilities are yet to be fully discovered. It’s worth noting that the nation’s cyber-army has been blamed by the U.S. for

the massive Sony hack that occurred in December 2014. U.S. disarmament ambassador Robert Wood said that North Korea had defied the international community once again with its test.

“We look forward to working with our partners in the (Security) Council with regard to a new resolution that will put some of the strongest sanctions possible on the DPRK,” he told the conference. “Advances in the regime’s nuclear and missile program are a threat to us all ... now is the time to say tests, threats and destabilising actions will no longer be tolerated,” Wood said. It can no longer be business as usual with this regime.” The White House said on Monday President Donald Trump had agreed “in principle” to scrap a warhead weight limit on South Korea’s missiles in the wake of the North’s latest test. The United States accused North Korea’s trading partners of aiding its nuclear ambitions and said Pyongyang was “begging for war”.

*Courtesy Reuters*

# DIGITAL DASH

India's digital future is bright, despite cynics' prediction to the contrary

By Ambikanand Sahay

Forget the naysayers, prophets of doom and preachers of pessimism who love to find fault, day in and day out, with everything which they see -- even when most others notice a shining silverline in the sky. But they don't matter. India is moving ahead. In spite of them.

How many of us know, for instance, that India happened to be the earliest issuers of coins in the world along with China and Lydia as far back as in circa 6th century BC? How many of us are aware of the fact that India holds the second largest market of smartphones in the world? And how many of us can feel it at this point in time that we might be one of the leaders on Earth's Digital Economy in not too distant a future? Probably, sooner than later.

Indeed, we have made the move. And we are progressing at a rapid speed. Don't be surprised if history repeats itself after a gap of 2600 years! And yes, in the backdrop of what all are happening in the digital sphere, we might lead the way even in money matters. Indications are very much there for all to see. Here is what Prime Minister Narendra Modi says in this context: "The entire Nation has joined hands to make the dream of a Digital India into a reality. Youngsters are enthusiastic, industry is supportive and the government is proactive. India is yearning for a digital revolution."

Modi's words aren't mere rhetoric. Looking at what we have already achieved, India has gone digital to a great extent. Already. If you have time and patience to get yourself acquainted with facts and figures regarding the digital revolution, you would find that a lot many things are happening in this field:

The number of mobile phone users has shot up from 90 lakhs in 2014 to 1.08 crores in mid-2017. Likewise, the number smart phone users have gone up from 22 to 40 crores during the same period. This apart, there has been a rapid increase in the number of internet users -- from 24.3 crores in June 2014 to 50 crores in May 2017. Do you know that 2.5 lakh kilometers of optical fibre



cable lines have already been laid connecting villages and gram panchayats in the country? This figure stood at a mere 358 kilometres in 2014.

The e-commerce sector too has registered a rapid rise -- from a business worth Rs. 1.26 lakh crores in 2015 to Rs. 2.11 lakh crores in 2016. And if you can go by KPMG estimates, this figure is expected to shoot up to Rs. 7.78 lakh crores by the end of 2020.

In the field of IT/Technology, about 4000 new start-ups are seen to be coming up every year. During the past three years, more than 2000 deals worth a sum of Rs. 1.14 lakh crores were clinched.

The show on e-Governance front looks equally bright with the per day transactions shooting up like never before. The daily transactions have now gone up substantially from Rs. 66.25 lakhs to several crores in 2016.

It's interesting to note that more and more people are now doing their transactions through digital payments, particularly since demonetization on November 8, 2016. Per day transactions through BHIM has registered an 8803% rise in the past few months! Payments through other apps have also gone up -- Mobile wallets (104%), RuPay (270%), Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (390%) and IMPS (52%). It's equally interesting to note that the Government now makes payments through

the direct benefit transfer mode in as many as 267 schemes.

Other schemes including e-NAM, Digital Tourism, Jeevan Pranam, Start UP India, Skill India, Swachh Bharat etc are gathering momentum.

What's important in all these figures is that the Indians are beginning to accept the change. And remember what Harold Wilson, former British Prime Minister, used to say: "He who rejects change is the architect of decay. The only human institution which rejects progress is the cemetery."

Rest assured, we are not going to the cemetery. The nation is alive and kicking.

Union Minister Ravishankar Prasad says: "India is well set to become US\$ 1 Trillion Digital Economy in next 7 years ..... It rather looks an easy target .... However, the challenge would be to reach this target in 3-4 years..... I appeal to the industry to join hands with the Government which firmly believes in openness, supportive and proactive approach..... India is committed to take the lead in the ongoing digital revolution in the world, and I would appreciate industry's participation and support in this mission..... Through such discussion, we aim to seek contribution and participation of the private sector as we stride forward to make India a truly global Digital economy."

*(Writer is a veteran journalist)*

# Bumrah in top gear

Thanks to his feat in the Island country, the Indian pace bowler has jumped 27 places to grab fourth position in ICC ODI player ranking

**I**ndia pace bowler Jasprit Bumrah has made handsome gains in the latest MRF Tyres ICC ODI Player Rankings after playing a big role in the team's 5-0 series whitewash over Sri Lanka.

Bumrah has moved up 27 ranks to a career-best fourth position in a list led by Australia pace bowler Josh Hazlewood with South Africa spinner Imran Tahir and Australia pace bowler Mitchell Starc the other two bowlers ahead of him.

The 23-year-old Bumrah, whose previous best was 24th position in June this year, has moved up the table with his player of the series effort of 15 wickets, the best by any bowler in a bilateral ODI series in Sri Lanka. His performances included a career-best five for 27 in the third ODI at Palekelle.

Also gaining in the rankings is India's left-arm spinner Akshar Patel, who has moved up from 20th to 10th position after finishing with six wickets in four matches. Patel has thus closed in on his career-high rank of ninth in October last year.

Hardik Pandya (up two places to 61st), Kuldeep Yadav (up 21 places to 89th) and Yuzvendra Chahal (up 55 places to 99th) are other India bowlers to gain in the rankings.

Captain Virat Kohli has consolidated his position at the top of the rankings for batsmen after his 330 runs in the series, which



Kohli, who is also top-ranked in T20Is, has increased his lead over Australia's David Warner from 12 to 26 points and is now on 887 points – equaling the highest ODI rating points by an India batsman, recorded by Sachin Tendulkar in 1998.



included an unbeaten 110 in the last match in Colombo on Sunday, his second century of the series.

Kohli, who is also top-ranked in T20Is, has increased his lead over Australia's David Warner from 12 to 26 points and is now on 887 points – equaling the highest ODI rating points by an India batsman, recorded by Sachin Tendulkar in 1998.

Rohit Sharma, the second highest run-maker in the series with 302 runs, and former captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni are both back in the top 10. Sharma, who struck two centuries in Sri Lanka, has gained five slots to reach ninth place while Dhoni's 162 runs have lifted him two places to 10th position.

Virat Kohli is now on 887 points – equaling the highest ODI rating points by an India batsman, recorded by Sachin Tendulkar in 1998. Virat Kohli is now on 887 points – equaling the highest ODI rating points by an India batsman, recorded by Sachin Tendulkar in 1998.

For Sri Lanka, all-rounder Angelo Mathews's 192 runs in the series have helped him gain four slots to reach 23rd position while Niroshan Dickwella (up two places to 36th), Upul Tharanga (up one place to 63rd) and Milinda Siriwardana (up 35 places to 89th) are the others to gain.

Mathews has gained one slot among bowlers to reach 52nd position while

## MRF Tyres ICC ODI Team Rankings (as on 4 September, after the India v Sri Lanka series):

Rank	Team	Points
1	South Africa	119
2	Australia	117
3	India	117 (+3)
4	England	113
5	New Zealand	111
6	Pakistan	95
7	Bangladesh	94
8	Sri Lanka	86 (-2)
9	West Indies	78
10	Afghanistan	54
11	Zimbabwe	52
12	Ireland	41

(Developed by David Kendix)

spinner Akila Dananjaya has gained 21 places to reach 80th position. Mathews has also gained one position to be fourth among all-rounders.

Meanwhile, Sri Lanka has been unable to seal a direct qualification place in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019, which it could have done by winning two matches in the series.

Though it is in a strong position to make the grade, the Windies can overtake it by beating Ireland in an upcoming match on 13 September and winning either all five matches against England or the last four matches for a 4-1 win in the series from 19 to 29 September.

The top seven ODI sides apart from host England as on 30 September qualify directly. Teams not getting direct places will get another shot through a Qualifying tournament.

The ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier 2018 will feature the bottom four sides from the MRF Tyres ICC ODI Team Rankings, the top four sides from the ICC World Cricket League Championship and the top two sides from the ICC World Cricket League. The top two sides from the World Cup Qualifier will complete the 10-team line-up for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2019.

India remains in third position but has gained three points to close in on Australia, which is also on 117 points but remains ahead on decimal points.

The ODI rankings predictor function is available here

## RF Tyres ICC ODI Player Rankings (as on 4 Sep, after the India v Sri Lanka series)

### BATTING (top 10)

Rank	(+/-)	Player	Team	Points	Avg	Highest Rating
1	(-)	Virat Kohli	Ind	887	55.75	887 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017
2	(-)	David Warner	Aus	861	44.72	880 v Pak at Adelaide 2017
3	(-)	AB de Villiers	SA	847	53.55	902 v NZ at Auckland 2015
4	(-)	Joe Root	Eng	799	49.37	806 v NZ at Cardiff 2017
5	(-)	Babar Azam	Pak	786	53.88	786 v Ind at The Oval 2017
6	(-)	Kane Williamson	NZ	779	46.98	798 v SA at Centurion 2015
7	(-)	Quinton de Kock	SA	769	43.44	803 v NZ at Wellington 2017
8	(-)	Faf du Plessis	SA	768	43.41	791 v SL at Cape Town 2017
9	(+5)	Rohit Sharma	Ind	764	43.46	773 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017
10	(+2)	MS Dhoni	Ind	749	52.20	836 v Aus at Delhi 2009

### OTHER SELECTED RANKINGS

Rank	(+/-)	Player	Team	Points	Avg	Highest Rating
23	(+4)	Angelo Mathews	SL	625	40.93	707 v Eng at Colombo (RPS) 2014
36	(+2)	N. Dickwella	SL	571*	38.73	605 v Ind atallekele 2017
63	(+1)	Upul Tharanga	SL	502	33.25	663 v NZ at Napier 2006
89	(+35)	M. Siriwardana	SL	431*!	28.76	431 v Ind at Colombo (RPS) 2017
102	(+21)	Manish Pandey	Ind	404*!	49.57	404 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017

### BOWLING (top 10)

Rank	(+/-)	Player	Team	Points	Avg	Eco.	Highest Rating
1	(-)	Josh Hazlewood	Aus	732!	23.85	4.69	732 v Eng at Edgbaston 2017
2	(-)	Imran Tahir	SA	718	23.87	4.66	786 v SL at Johannesburg 2017
3	(-)	Mitchell Starc	Aus	701	20.13	4.81	783 v NZ at Melbourne 2015
4	(+27)	Jasprit Bumrah	Ind	687*!	20.87	4.68	687 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017
5	(-1)	Kagiso Rabada	SA	685	26.30	5.11	724 v Eng at Lord's 2017
6	(-1)	Trent Boult	NZ	665	25.48	5.00	766 v Ind at Delhi 2016
7	(-1)	Hasan Ali	Pak	663*!	22.66	5.47	663 v Ind at The Oval 2017
8	(-1)	Sunil Narine	WI	662	26.46	4.12	791 v SL at Jamaica 2013
9	(-1)	Rashid Khan	Afg	647*!	14.74	3.97	647 v WI at St Lucia 2017
10	(+10)	Akshar Patel	Ind	645*	29.53	4.30	648 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017

### OTHER SELECTED RANKINGS

Rank	(+/-)	Player	Team	Points	Avg	Eco.	Highest Rating
52	(+1)	Angelo Mathews	SL	487	34.10	4.62	649 v Ind at Trinidad 2013
61	(+2)	Hardik Pandya	Ind	456*	35.26	5.46	458 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017
80	(+21)	Akila Dananjaya	SL	411*	22.64	5.28	438 v Ind at Colombo (RPS) 2017
89	(+21)	Kuldeep Yadav	Ind	389*!	20.81	3.97	389 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017
99	(+55)	Y. Chahal	Ind	364*!	24.09	4.14	364 v SL at Colombo (RPS) 2017

### ALL-ROUNDERS (top five)

Rank	(+/-)	Player	Team	Points	Highest Rating
1	(-)	Shakib Al Hasan	Ban	353	453 v Zim at Chittagong 2009
2	(-)	M. Hafeez	Pak	339	438 v Ind at Kolkata 2013
3	(-)	M. Nabi	Afg	329	349 v Ire at Greater Noida 2017
4	(+1)	Angelo Mathews	SL	304	427 v Eng at Colombo (RPS) 2014
5	(-1)	James Faulkner	Aus	299	361 v NZ at Melbourne 2015

# OOMPH QUOTIENT

Glamour girl Piya Sharma is a rock star of showbiz in India

**P**iya Sharma is a very charming and confident anchor, actress and model and human being. The emcee star was born in Patna, Bihar but is a true blue Punjabi from her roots and larger-than-life spirit, attitude and persona. Piya bravely fought all odds and pursued the path of modeling and anchoring, a field of work that may look all easy and glamorous from the face of it, on the outside, but requires tons of hard work. With dedication and commitment exerted by her in 8+ years of her event hosting and modeling career, she is one inspiring self-made woman.

Ms. Super Sharma has done all kinds of print advertisement assignments and marketing campaigns being the face of various product lines and generously endorsing brands. This stunning lady, who loves to add her magic to any event with her alluring presence and work; has walked the ramp and hosted mainstream events like product launches, fashion shows, dealer meets, business meets, conferences and seminars etc for reputed brands like Vodafone, MTS, RBS, Accenture, Max Life, Apolo Munich only to name a few.

She has been a successful ambassador for top notch companies creating brand value and positioning, playing a significant role in several corporate films and brand shoots. You may be surprised and well impressed to know that she has graciously done more than 1000 PR, business and Social events as a lead anchor, model and performer for noted firms including Valvoline, HT Media Ltd., Johnson Tiles, Kargil India etc.

Piya was first getting hands on job experience before realizing that she is meant for something bigger and more impactful. She was the marketing head in an event management company and then one thing led to another, making her one of the most sought after name in the media industry, nationally and internationally. Yes, she has given smashing performances as a host not only on the Indian Soil for Indian and expat companies, but also been an elegant and attractive anchor and overall element for events and productions overseas.

Sharma was a part of acclaimed



2017 Silver Screen drama – ‘Zindagi ki mahek’ on the popular TV Channel Zee TV. Apart from shows, promotional print projects and shoots, she has been an integral part of a Music video called ‘ladki selfie queen’ with singer rapper Abhinniks.

When a lavish gathering like grand birthday parties or big fat Indian weddings comes in mind, you need a confident, mature and beautiful energy to take over and get the show going; and Sharma has been a favorite among known event organizing brands like Katalyst, Akshara Communications, Moksh AEPL Plan my shaadi, Creative Star events, Musical Dream Events,

Saiworx Entertainment, JR Events and many more.

With her Glitz and Charisma she has also handled a versatile range of events like Press meets, exhibitions, seminar etc. She has also taken in the lead in corporate HR activities like employee day, family day celebrations and large scale team building gatherings, off sites trips, R & D events etc. organized by who’s who of the market. In the Pipeline, she has 2 music videos, a few Punjabi and Bollywood movies, along with current media, brand product shoot and social assignment commitments.

***Inputs from Mumbai Bureau & fashion desk of OECEL.***



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