

Death in pothole accidents on roads 'frightening': SC

NEW DELHI, JUL 20 /- The Supreme Court today termed as "frightening" the deaths in accident caused due to potholes on roads across the country and said that number of fatalities in such incidents were more than those in terror attacks. While hearing a matter related to road safety in India, a bench comprising Justices Madan B Lokur and Deepak Gupta also said that persons who have lost their lives as a result of accidents caused due to potholes should be entitled to compensation. The bench said it was a matter of "common knowledge" that a large number of people have died in accidents caused due to potholes on roads and authorities, who were supposed to maintain the roads, were not doing their duties properly.

Referring to media reports, the bench said, "So many people are dying in the country due to accident caused by potholes on roads. Reports say that more people have

died due to accident caused by potholes than the deaths in terrorists attacks". It asked the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety, headed by former apex court judge Justice V R Radhakrishnan, to look into this "very serious issue" and file a report within two weeks. "This is obviously a very serious issue and persons who have lost their lives as a result of accidents caused due to potholes should be entitled to compensation," the court observed. The bench also said the committee should give recommendations on potholes on roads as the issue was a part of road safety. "It is frightening. It is about life or death," the bench said, adding, it was not known where one would find potholes on roads which would lead to fatal accidents. During the hearing, the bench also dealt with the issue of compensation paid to the victims of hit-and-run road accidents. A lawyer, assisting the court, said it was not passed on the matter, told the bench that as per

the existing scheme, Rs 25,000 was paid to a victim of hit-and-run accident in case of death and Rs 12,500 compensation was given to a person who was grievously injured in such accident. He said that the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill 2016, which revises the amount of compensation to Rs 2 lakh in case of death and Rs 20,000 for injury in road accidents, was tabled last year in the Parliament and it was passed by the Lok Sabha. Additional Solicitor General Pinky Anand, appearing for the Centre, said the Bill was pending in the Rajya Sabha. The amicus told the bench that since the Bill was pending in the Rajya Sabha for almost a year, the Centre should frame a scheme to give more compensation to the victims of road accidents. "Nobody can say that the Government of India cannot give Rs 2 lakh for deaths and Rs 20,000 for injury in road accidents even if the Bill is not passed or pending," he said. The bench asked Anand as

to how long would the ongoing session of the Parliament would go on. Anand said that the Bill could be taken up in the Rajya Sabha during the ongoing Parliament session. "If it gets adjourned in the Parliament, we will look into it," the bench observed and posted the matter for hearing next month. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2016, was passed by the Lok Sabha in April 2017 and it was thereafter sent to the select committee of the Rajya Sabha, which had presented its report on December 22, 2017. The top court had earlier also raised the issue of deaths in accidents due to potholes on roads, particularly in Mumbai. "In Mumbai, people are dying due to potholes in roads and the officials are counting potholes," the court had observed while hearing a matter related to sealing of unauthorised constructions in the national capital. The court had also said that according to reports, there were around 4,000 potholes in Mumbai. (PTI)

Country's rulers are 'butchers', they save animals and kill humans: Sena

MUMBAI, JUL 20 /- Slamming the Narendra Modi-led NDA government, which faces a no-confidence motion in Lok Sabha today, its ally Shiv Sena said that those ruling the country are "butchers, who save animals but kill humans". In an editorial in its mouthpiece 'Saamna', the Sena doubted the mandate with which the Modi government came to power, alleging elections were won through money, misuse of power and tampering of electronic voting machines (EVMs). "Those ruling the country today are butchers, who save animals but kill humans. There is absolute lack of compassion in the minds of the rulers... Winning elections and remaining in power by hook or crook is not democracy. Majority is never permanent. Country's people are supreme," it said. The Sena, which is in alliance with the BJP at the Centre and in Maharashtra, said even the Opposition knows that it does not have the numbers to dislodge this government. "The no-confidence motion has not been brought to pull down the Modi government, but to give it a sound thrashing," it said. "Winning majority through money means it is people's mandate. It has now become a tool to indulge in dictatorship. In order to seek votes, big promises are made. They play with the sentiments of the people for political gains. But the election jumbal (cheer) never become a reality," it said. The Uddhav Thackeray-led party said the mandate with

which this government came to power is doubtful. "When there is a question mark on one's win, one should not talk about majority." "Since the elections are being won only through the use of money, misuse of power and tampering of EVMs, democracy has become a mere scarecrow and the entire fight is now for saving this scarecrow," it added. Although the government is putting its back for accepting the no-confidence motion, it had no choice as it could have otherwise led to the washout of the Monsoon session, it claimed. Stating that the Telugu Desam Party, which moved the no-confidence motion was a part of the NDA and Swabhimani Shethkari Sanghatana leader Raju Shetti, who spearheaded the milk agitation in Maharashtra, was also an ally, the Sena asked the government to "introspect" why they quit the alliance. "After 25 years of alliance, you BJP mistrusted for you ego. But ultimately the ego was crushed after you faced repeated losses in the by-polls in the country," it said, adding that the BJP has launched efforts to forge an alliance with the Sena. "You have been stabbed in the back on issues ranging from Kashmir to 'ache din', from reducing inflation to scrapping the Nanar refinery project in Maharashtra. The promise of 'ache din' was all election campaign plank of the BJP ahead of the 2014 general elections. (PTI)

Govt serious about protecting Aadhaar data: Prasad

NEW DELHI, JULY 20 /- The Government is serious about protecting Aadhaar data and has appealed to people not to give social platforms a blanket consent to their data. Information Technology Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad said today Prasad also said that the government is awaiting a report by a committee of experts on data protection chaired by Justice B N Srikrishna. "Aadhaar today is backed by a proper law passed by Parliament which contains robust security measures and protects privacy," he said. UIDAI continues to ensure the security architecture to ensure there is no breach of data," he said. Even the World Bank and IMF have

recognised Aadhaar as a fine instrument of governance and delivery, he said. Prasad said, "A Committee of Experts on Data Protection, chaired by Justice BN Srikrishna has been constituted to look into aspects pertaining to data protection. The committee has out with a white paper for wider public review and... has also conducted stakeholders consultation meetings and is in the process of finalising its report on data protection framework in India." He said there should be a pragmatic blend of issues of privacy and emergence of digital power. "Today, India is emerging as a digital power. While we completely acknowledge the right to privacy... privacy cannot

become the plea of terrorists and the corrupt. This we have to acknowledge. ...While respecting the mandate of privacy, India is emerging as a big power in digital field that should not be compromised." He also noted that the government has issued a stern warning to Facebook and Cambridge Analytica against use of data and they had apologised. The minister appealed to consumers not to give social platforms blanket permission to use their data. Aadhaar, he said, has evolved as an instrument for promoting good governance and enabling the poor to rightfully secure their due benefits through Aadhaar linked bank accounts which

number 60.22 crore as on June 30, 2018. Aadhaar has been issued to 121.85 crore people and "we do daily authentication of 3.5 crore Aadhaar", he said. Stressing that Aadhaar has become a platform for good governance, he said, some people wanted a technological alternative so that they are not required to use Aadhaar for authentication. "The government took their suggestion seriously. Prasad said for those using virtual ID, authentication is done without using Aadhaar. "We have taken a pragmatic view, those who want to use virtual ID they can and those who cannot operate should be able to use Aadhaar," he said.

Seventh suspect arrested in Gauri Lankesh killing: SIT

BANGALORE, JULY 20 /- The Special Investigation Team probing the killing of journalist Gauri Lankesh has arrested the seventh suspect in the case, according to a senior police official. "A person identified as Mohan Nayak, 50, was arrested from Dakshin Kannada district of Karnataka," SIT investigating officer M V Anethot PTI here. Nayak was arrested on July 18 and produced in the Third Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Court which sent him to six-day police custody, he added. The sixth person arrested by the SIT was 26-year-old Parashuram Wagmare from Simgaoli in Vijayapura district of the state. He was held in June. Wagmare was said to have links with rightwing groups. The SIT previously arrested five people - R T Naveen Kumar alias Hotte Manja, Amol Kale, Manohar Edve, Sujeth Kumar alias Praveen and Amit Deyvekar. Naveen Kumar is from Maddur in Mandya district of Karnataka, while Kale and Deyvekar are from Maharashtra. Edve and Sujeth Kumar are also from Karnataka. Naveen Kumar, who had founded the Hindu Yuva Sena, was the first to be caught in Bengaluru while attempting to sell ammunition. The other four were arrested for planning to kill Kannada writer K S Bhagawan, also known for his anti-Hindutva stand. It was while probing this case that the police suspected their role in Lankesh's killing. Gauri, known for her strong anti-Hindutva stand, was shot dead in front of her house on September 5 last year, triggering a nationwide outrage. (PTI)

India, US to hold first '2+2 dialogue' on September 6: State Department

WASHINGTON, JULY 20 /- The inaugural 'two-plus-two dialogue' between India and the US will be held on September 6 in New Delhi, the State Department announced today. Last month, the US had postponed the much-awaited dialogue due to "unavoidable reasons". Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Defence Secretary James Mattis would travel to India for the dialogue. "The United States is pleased to announce that the inaugural US-India '2+2 dialogue' will be held in New Delhi, India, on September 6," State Department Spokesperson Heather Nauert said in a statement. Pompeo and Mattis "look forward to meeting with their Indian counterparts," Minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj and Minister of Defence Nirmala Sitharaman, "to discuss strengthening strategic, security and defence cooperation" as the US and India jointly address challenges in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond, Nauert said. The dialogue was announced last year during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meeting with Presi-

Additional security personnel to be deployed at Metro stations today

KOLKATA, JULY 20 /- Anticipating a heavy rush of commuters on 21.07.2018 in connection with the meeting (observance of "Shahid Divyas" of All India Trinamool Congress, at Esplanade, Metro Railway has reviewed and strengthened the entire

security arrangement to avoid any untoward incident in trains, platforms & Station premises. A total number of 350 RPF personnel including Commandos will be deployed at different Metro Stations to cope with the rush from 10.00 hrs to 18.00

hrs. Apart from the normal daily deployment of 250 staff (approx), an additional number of 104 security personnel will be deployed at 14 metro stations viz. Dum Dum, Shyambazar, Sovabazar, Santanati, Mahatma Gandhi

Road, Chandni Chowk, Esplanade, Park Street, Maidan, Rabindra Sadan, Netaji Bhavan, J.D. Park, Kailghat, Mahanayak Uttam Kumar and Kaly Subhash Stations.

In addition to the above, the following measures have been taken to tackle the rush from 10.00 hrs to 18.00 hrs. Special Squads will perform duty, three lady officers and ten lady constables will be deployed and will move around in different Metro stations. Besides, Dog Squad will be utilised. Commando teams will be deployed at Metro Stations in different groups. The on-duty RPF personnel will ensure smooth flow of passengers at stations without any hindrance. The entire arrangement will be monitored by the Assistant Security Commissioner from the Security Control at Metro Rail Bhavan.

mutual objectives in the region. "Our fundamental objectives are laid out in our Indo-Pacific strategy, and I see many times with several dates having been considered. Last month, the US postponed the dialogue scheduled to be held in Washington due to "unavoidable reasons". The dialogue is seen as a vehicle to elevate the strategic relationship between the two countries. The announcement of the 'two-plus-two dialogue' comes amidst prospects of India being imposed with unintended sanctions that are targeted at Iran and Russia. "Unfortunately, reality is that India has been caught in the crossfire of the Trump administration's secondary sanctions against such nations." Although this is undoubtedly a serious challenge in the bilateral relationship, it is not insurmountable. Both sides will have to make their efforts in finding a solution that preserves both their respective interests," Ronak Desai, vice-chair, India Practice at Steptoe & Johnson LLP told PTI.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
No. 1-11EE/PRI/TENDER/MB/2018-19/643, Mayabunder, dated 19th July, 2018
The Executive Engineer (PRI), N&M Andaman Division-I, Mayabunder on behalf of the Pramukh, Panchayat Samiti, Mayabunder invites sealed bids to tender for (CPWD 'T') from the approved and eligible experienced contractors of appropriate class of APWD/CPWD for the under mentioned work:
1. NIT No. 26/EE/PRI/TENDER/MB/2018-19/19
Renovation of Community hall at Chainpur under PS, Mayabunder.
Estimate cost Rs. 19,11,607/- EMD Rs. 38,232/- & Time of completion 06(Six) Months. The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the O/E on payment of Rs. 500/- . The last date of receipt of application to purchase tender form will be 17/08/2018 upto 4.00 PM. Other details/information can be seen on Website www.and.nic.in
Unique no. 52374
2655/18
Executive Engineer (PRI)
N&M Andaman Division-I
Mayabunder

Massive drive by ER against e-touting
of Railways Act. It was a day long action-oriented drive which was monitored and supervised on real time basis from Howrah Divisional Headquarters. The mission was planned well-ahead in advance with a proper receipt of prior identification of the culprits. The drive was simultaneously launched at various places by 18 posts of RPF Howrah Division, including Ambika Kalan, Bandel, Bardhaman, Bolpur, Bally, Chandanpur, Dankuni, Fairlie Place, Howrah Goods Yard, Howrah North, Howrah Central, Howrah South, Koliaghat, Rampurhat, Sheoraphuli and Tarakeswar in coordination with Crime & Intelligence Branch taking the unauthorised agents by surprise. Some of the agents against whom action was initiated are Chayya Chobi, Gyan Pith, Laxmi Tours & Travels, Maa Monosa Agency, Dolphin Travels Plus, Aryan Multimedia, Metro Travel Services, H&H Travels, Modern Dresses, Anjali Travels, Afzal Telecom, Bishwakaram e-Services, Darshanam Travels, Dev Tours and Travels, Chakrabarti Travel Agency, Laha Imminent and Reha Papers. 138 No. of User IDs used by these unlicensed agents for such bookings were identified through the prior identification of the history of these User IDs from IRCTC. It was revealed that these User IDs were used for unauthorised bookings amounting to a sum worth of Rs. 1 Crore. Mission Tatkal is a drive initiated by RPF Howrah Division to curb touting in this digital age. Instead of using government approved IDs, these unlicensed agents use multiple personal IDs to buy e-ticket in bulk and are charged a premium resulting in thousands of people don't get tatkal tickets on the IRCTC site. Agents use personal IDs to book tickets simultaneously through the tatkal counter. So, people are forced to buy tickets from agents at a premium. RPF Howrah Division shall continue such drives in the future to fight this menace.

KIDS CORNER

Cornered
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COME ALONG, FRED!

Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery!

You make a good argument, but I'm still missing the point.

WordWheel
No. 328

5x5
Insert the missing letters to complete ten words - five across the grid and five down.

P	N	A		
G	I	G		
W	E	E		
S	E	Y		

WORD BUILDER
229
P G A
P G A
P R E

How many words of three or more letters, including plurals, can you make from the five letters, using each letter only once? No foreign words or ones beginning with a capital are allowed. There's at least one five-letter word.

TODAY'S GOALS:
Good - 15 Excellent - 20 Amazing - 25

SOLUTION 228: are, arm, armed, dam, dame, dead, deer, dem, derma, dram, dream, rear, era, maid, made, mar, mare, mead, ram, ram, read, ream, red, rem

OUR SOLUTION TO PUZZLE 228
(Other combinations may be possible.)

W	I	L	T	S
I	D	I	O	M
S	E	N	N	A
P	A	G	E	S
S	L	O	S	H

Insert the missing letter to complete an eight-letter word reading clockwise or anticlockwise. Solution No. 327: SIGNPOST

JNU to introduce time-table to enable students to opt for multiple courses
NEW DELHI, JUL 20 (PTI) Starting from August, the Jawahar Nehru University (JNU) will introduce a common time-table which would enable students to determine additional courses that they can opt for besides the regular course they are pursuing. Vice Chancellor M Jagadish Kumar said. Kumar also said the JNU will hold its second convocation on August 8, after a gap of 46 years, and will be starting a school of management and entrepreneurship from next year. The time-table will further promote multidisciplinary studies by students by enabling them to opt for multiple courses at a time, in a way that the classes and exams do not clash, Kumar said. This will give mix (students) the freedom and opportunity to choose and give a combination of courses, he said.