

Link your country's priorities with India's development: Prez to PIO, lawmakers

NEW DELHI, JAN 10 (PTI) President Ram Nath Kovind today asked parliamentarians of Indian origin to link the priorities of their countries with India's development and see how the two can intersect. Addressing the inaugural session of the international conference of PIO (persons of Indian origin) Parliamentarians here, the president said India offers opportunities for huge investment, trade and development. The conference is being attended by parliamentarians from 23 nations. "...it is important for you to link your individual country's priorities to India's development. And to see how these can intersect," he said. The president called the parliamentarians "living bridges" who play an important role in enhancing understanding between

their countries and the country of their parents and ancestors. "Indians are proud of our democracy, fabric of pluralism and diversity. This is our greatest strength. And the Indian diaspora has carried such liberal and civic-minded values with it. 'Instinctively this has made members of the Indian diaspora here, the president said India offers opportunities for huge investment, trade and development. The conference is being attended by parliamentarians from 23 nations. "...it is important for you to link your individual country's priorities to India's development. And to see how these can intersect," he said. The president called the parliamentarians "living bridges" who play an important role in enhancing understanding between

ing overseas. "As a country, we are very proud of what our Pravasi Bharatiya brothers and sisters have done. They have embellished the identity of India and of the Indian people all over the world," he said. They, he said, have remained true to Indian culture and retained a strong and commendable bond with their roots, even when living thousands of miles away. "I would go to the extent of saying that if Indian cuisine and Indian films have a global market today, it is because the diaspora has taken them to distant lands," the president said. The conference is being hosted by the Antar Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad-Bharat along with the PIO Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Ministry of External Affairs. (PTI)

SC to mull over mandatory crime scene videography across India

NEW DELHI, JAN 10 /-- The Supreme Court today said it is looking forward to examine whether videography of any crime scene can be mandatorily done and how it can be an admissible evidence in a court of law. The moves come after the top court shed its cloak of opaqueness last year and successfully prodded the Centre to install CCTV cameras in courts to record judicial proceedings. It said the only point that needed to be decided is that instead of simplifying, the effort does not create any hindrance for the prosecution. "We have to see how the videography of a crime scene, which will become an electronic record, becomes an admissible evidence in the court of law without the requirement of certification under section 65(B) of Indian Evidence Act," a bench of Justices Adarsh Kumar Goel and U U Lalit said. The apex court had earlier framed the question for consideration that "whether the only mode of proof of electronic evidence is as per Section 65(A) read with Section 65(B) or whether the said provisions are additional permissible mode of proof of an electronic record." Section 65(B) of Indian Evidence Act says that electronic records need to be certified by a person occupying a responsible official position for being admissible as evidence in any court proceedings.

Attorney General K K Venugopal, whose assistance was sought by the court said there were various verdicts of the apex court and different high courts which needed to be looked into before going into this aspect. "The point is that instead of simplifying, we do not want to end up creating hindrance for the prosecution," the bench said. The AG cited various verdicts of apex court including State of NCT Delhi versus Navjot

Senior advocate Meenakshi Arora, who was appointed amicus curiae (friend of court) to assist in the matter, said that concept of 'viewership certificate' could be one of the solutions in such situations. The court said that several cases were coming up nowadays with regard to digital receipts of banking transactions and in some of them, banks or the States were the party, an issue which needed to be looked into.

The bench said that similar matters have come up before it and it will be better if all of the cases are heard together and adjourned the hearing. On November 21 last year, the apex court had said it would examine whether electronic records like uncertified receipts pertaining to business transactions with a bank can be relied upon as evidence in judicial proceedings. It had said that currently, electronic evidences were increasingly being relied upon in judicial proceedings and it would see whether digital documentation can be treated as primary or secondary evidence which are admissible only after certification.



President Ram Nath Kovind with the probationary officers from different Railway Services, at Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi on Wednesday

Centre being vindictive against scribe over Aadhaar breach: CITU

NEW DELHI, JAN 10 /-- The Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) today accused the government of taking "vindictive action" by registering an FIR in connection with a newspaper report on alleged Aadhaar data breach. "The CITU denounces the Government's move in registering an FIR against the journalist of Tribune, Rachna Khaira, and her sources for exposing the leakage-prone system fault in Aadhaar administration," it said in a statement issued here. The CITU also welcomed rising protests against the "vindictive action" by the Centre. "Such vindictive action is the reflection of an obnoxious, authoritarian arrogance of the government, as if the king can do any wrong."

The CITU welcomes rising protests against such vindictive actions of the government from various organisations and agencies, including the journalists, and the newspaper employees' unions, and urges the government to take a call initiating corrective action, the statement said. "The Tribune correspondent Rachna Khaira and her sources were named in an FIR over her report on the breach of one billion Aadhaar cards data.

The journalist should have been "rewarded" for successfully investigating the faults in the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) system in respect of protecting individual data for preventing intrusion on peoples' right to privacy, which had been upheld by the Supreme Court, the CITU said in the statement. Even though the issue was raised in Parliament, the government did not recognise the faults in the system and its fallouts which raised doubts, it claimed. The CITU has demanded that the government should "withdraw the FIR against the journalist in the interest of fairness and propriety." (PTI)

Meet the artist who 'nails' and frames his artworks

NEW DELHI, JAN 10 /-- Dusted in muted blues, yellows and pinks, the staccato, precise lines on canvases can be mistaken for wood carving from a distance, but Shekhar Joshi uses neither a chisel nor a brush. The Uttarakhand-based artist uses his own nails as a tool for his art, including portraits of legends, architectural wonders like the Qutub Minar and more abstract portrayals such as "Mother and child in space" and "Blue love and anger." "I have devoted myself to this nail art and been doing this for the last 25 years or so. I wanted to create a unique visual vocabulary on the canvas, so I chose this form of expression," said the 56-year-old. The Almorah-born artist, who also paints and sketches in the conventional style, said he has now nearly abandoned the brush for his nails. "Eighty-five per cent of my work is now nail art, but I also paint in oil and acrylic. I now want to fully devote myself to this crazy art form," Joshi, a professor of visual art in the Nainital-based Kumaon

University, has travelled to various parts of the world and "nailed", as he puts it, foreign landscapes and landmarks. "Among Indian monuments, I have done Red Fort and Qutub Minar, and in Canada I sat in front of the iconic CN Tower to capture it in this style. In 1992, I visited Seoul as part of a global fellowship of the Korea Foundation, and adapted the art form of that country into my own later," Joshi told PTI. A collection of 56 of his works made in the last two years are on display as part of a solo exhibition at Delhi's All India Fine Arts and Crafts Society. The exhibition ends tomorrow. "The theme for the exhibition is 'see our motherland' and have tried to span the prehistoric to the contemporary era. So viewers can see the nail art version of the iconic dancing girl of Harappa, sunrise landscape, Kedarnath shrine scenery, as also abstract themes and human emotions such as love and anger," he said. Explaining the painstaking process behind his art works, Joshi said he uses a "small padding coin" held near his nails, first creating an embossed surface and then filling it with colours, all natural. On an average, each canvas takes about two to three hours of concentrated work. His works appear like bas-relief art with his signature "Shekhar" seemingly scratched on the surface. The artist has also authored several books, including "Tribal Arts", "Art and Craft of Uttarakhand" and "Art and Communication". He gifted the late president A P J Abdul Kalam a nail portrait and has also made a similar portrait of Mahatma Gandhi. "I now want to do a series on monuments and heritage buildings of India, old landmarks like colonial-era stations and schools, colleges and hospitals, architectural wonders, iconic worship places and famed institutions," he said. Asked how much he feels he has accomplished as a practitioner of this unique art, he said with a smile, "I have just scratched the surface." (PTI)

Mamata hails Tashkent Declaration, remembers brave soldiers

KOLKATA, JAN 10 /-- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today remembered the soldiers who sacrificed their lives during the Indo-Pakistan war of 1965 that ended with the signing of the Tashkent Declaration on this day. The 1965 armed conflict between India and Pakistan was formally brought to an end by signing this declaration at Tashkent, the capital of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the Soviet Union, on January 10, 1966. "On this day in 1966, the Tashkent Declaration brought to an end the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965. Remembering the brave soldiers who gave their lives for the nation," Banerjee wrote on her Twitter handle this morning. (PTI)



Newly elected Himachal Pradesh Assembly Speaker Rajiv Bindal at his office at the state assembly in Dharamshala on Wednesday.

Punjab gov't's debt waiver scheme a 'massive fraud': Sukhbir

CHANDIGARH, JAN 8 /-- A day after Punjab's Congress government launched its farm debt waiver scheme, the opposition Shiromani Akali Dal today accused the ruling party of defrauding farmers by waiving only a part of their loan. "Debt-waiver (scheme) is a massive fraud with the farming community. There cannot be a bigger fraud than this," SAD president Sukhbir Badal told reporters here. The opposition party has decided to meet Punjab Governor V P Singh Badnore on January 12, seeking the dismissal of the Amarinder Singh government. It will also hold a meeting of the core committee of the party on the same day on the issue. In Mansa district yesterday Singh launched his government's farm debt-waiver scheme and slammed opposition parties for spreading a "false propaganda". Farm debt waiver was one

of the key promises of the Congress ahead of the state polls in February last year. Badal said that Singh had promised before the Assembly polls that the "entire debt" of all farmers would be waived. The total amount of debt is about Rs 90,000 crore, he said. "But Captain Sahib waived just Rs 167 crore for 47,000 farmers yesterday. It worked out to be an average of Rs 35,000 per farmer," he said, referring to Singh. Badal also raised questions on the functioning of the two commissions - Justice Ranjit Singh Commission and Justice Mehtab Singh Gill Commission - formed by the Congress government to probe cases of sacrilege and look into the "false cases" registered during the decade-long SAD-BJP rule. He asked the government to appoint a sitting judge of the Supreme Court to look into the matters.

INDIA METEOROLOGICAL DEPARTMENT
METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, SHADIPUR
PORT BLAIR - 744106

LOCAL WEATHER FORECAST FOR PORT BLAIR
AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD VALID TILL 1730 HRS OF 11/01/2018
ISSUE TIME: 1730 HRS IST DATE: 10/01/2018

Rain or thundershower likely to occur at isolated places.

Maximum and Minimum temperature will be around 30°C and 24°C respectively on Thursday 11/01/2018

Maximum Temperature (°C) of Date :	30.4	Sunrise Time for tomorrow (in IST) :	0542
Minimum Temperature (°C) of Date :	24.7	Sunset Time for tomorrow (in IST) :	1712
Relative Humidity (%) at 0830 IST :	082	Rainfall upto 0830 hrs of date (last 24 hrs) in mm :	00.00
Relative Humidity (%) at 1730 IST :	081	Rainfall upto 1730 hrs of date in mm :	00.00
		Rainfall (Progressive total from 1st January 18 upto 0830 hrs of date) in mm :	85.5

M.O. Port Blair
Tele/fax: 229480

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

No. e-tender-DB/CD/D/2017/134 Digiapur, dated: 10-01-2018

The Executive Engineer, Construction Division, APWD, Digiapur invites on behalf of the President of India sealed item rate e-tenders for the following work(s)-

1. NIT No. 39/SE/CC/2017-18 Name of work:- Construction of R.C.C. Bridge (Box type culvert 5 x 5 quadruple cell) near K.K. Batyda House at Ramnagar under SAGY (Re-call). Estimate cost: Rs.4,51,602/- (Four Lacs, Fifty One Thousand, Six Hundred and Two Rupees only). Duration of completion: 12 (Twelve) months. (Tender ID: APWD 269).

The e-tender form and other details can be downloaded from the website. The last date of bid submission will be 29-01-2018 upto 1500 hours. Other details/information can be seen on website www.and.nic.in and www.eproc.and.gov.in

1252/18 EE, CD, APWD, Digiapur.

SHORT TENDER NOTICE

The Executive Engineer, Construction Division, APWD, Kamorta on behalf of the President of India, invites separate sealed item rate tender (in form CPWD-8) from approved and eligible experienced contractor of appropriate class of APWD upto 3:00 P.M. on 23/01/2018 for under mentioned works:-

Sl. No.	Name of Works	Estimated Cost Put to Tender	EMD	Cost of Tender Document	Time Allowed
1.	Improvement of Water supply in Head quarter area at Teressa Island. Sw:- Providing water supply system at Enam village, Teressa Island. (2 nd call)	₹ 80,57,773	₹ 1,61,155/-	₹ 1000/-	08 (Eight) Months

Last date & time of receipt of application :- 16/01/2018 at 4.00 P.m

Last date & time of sale of tender :- 19/01/2018 at 4.00 P.m

Time and date for receipt of tenders :- 23/01/2018 at 3.00 P.m

Time and date of opening of tenders :- 23/01/2018 at 4.00 P.m

The tender forms and other details can be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer, CD, APWD, Kamorta on payment of Rs.1000/- (Rupees One Thousand Only). Other details/informations can be seen on the website www.and.nic.in.

sd
Executive Engineer,
(on behalf of the President of India)
Construction Division,
APWD, Kamorta

No. Ten/DB/CD/KMT/2017-18/1226
dated: 09/01/2018
1244/18