





# EDITORIAL

## The Andaman Express

04 September 2021

### Syed Geelani had his moment in politics

Syed Ali Shah Geelani, who passed away in Srinagar aged 92, was one of Jammu and Kashmir's tallest separatist leaders who believed that the Valley's destiny was linked to Pakistan. If that defined his political vision, it blinded him as well. For, his endorsement of the two-nation theory that considered religious identity as the basis of statehood was and, to this day, remains antithetical to the very idea of a plural democracy. His intransigent, intractable views could draw crowds of supporters but they also glaringly revealed the narrow limits of separatist politics in J&K. Geelani's headline and maximalist agenda — the merger of J&K with Pakistan — allowed little scope for any negotiated settlement that factored in the ground reality of a territorial dispute involving two nuclear-armed states. Moreover, by providing political cover to violence and terror aided and abetted by Islamabad, he failed the people he claimed to represent.

And, yet like most things in the Valley, there was a paradox. Geelani started his political career as a stakeholder in electoral politics — he was twice MLA in the J&K Assembly. His disillusionment with electoral democracy after the rigged 1987 elections was the moral weapon that he, very effectively, used against the political mainstream. However, it also ended up demonising mainstream politics itself, set off a violent militancy and, eventually, marginalised the Hurriyat Conference, a platform of separatists he once led. He denounced then Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf for mooted a plan to settle the J&K issue and exhorted the Valley to embark on a path of hartals and stone-pelting. His strike calendars disrupted normal life in the Valley while his own family lived a relatively sheltered existence. Governments for long indulged him by providing security, allowing him to travel to Delhi for meetings with Pakistan's diplomats, medical treatment and so on.

When the political terrain shifted in 2014, Geelani found himself in the margins. A hard state has since read down Article 370 and diminished J&K to a UT, his brand of politics is subject to the law of rapidly diminishing returns. Geelani had his moment in the late 1990s and 2000s but he lacked the expansive vision to seize it. The Indian state outwitted him and his beloved Pakistan moved on to new assets. In a way, the Valley's head hardliner scripted his own political obituary.

#### Awareness prog on...

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members may register their names in the Education Department so that through SHG members department will procure.

Shri. K Murugan, Managing Director, A & N State Cooperative Bank Ltd., in his key note address informed that the product 'sanitary pad' is one and only product of the islands which will exhibit and market the product through

#### Raising Day celebration...

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Sri Bharu Pratap Yadav expressed that there is imminent need to re-establish our own traditional culture and shall learn from the mistakes from history which caused the decline and degradation of our Rich Culture and Heritage. He also expressed that Bhupuri Samaj is not bounded by state boundaries and considers all Bhupurians as its members whether from any state of the country or from other nations. It is a broader concept as Bhupuri language is being spoken in almost all the states of the country as well

Exhibition cum sales counter. He further informed that the automatic pressure machine will be provided to SHGs members where there work will be complete on time and bank will bring new android app to market the products.

The programme ended with vote of thanks proposed by Shri. Puspita Rani, Sr. Manager, WDC, ANSICB Ltd.

as many foreign countries. He also highlighted that Bhupuri Samaj will provide platform and facilities to all needy Bhupurians and would extend financial support to needy students for higher education including reservation of more seats in professional colleges in various states of the country. Dr. Upendranath Chaudhary proposed the vote of thanks and assured that with the cooperation of people of Andaman Nicobar Islands, the Bhupuri Samaj will scale new heights in the coming years.

## NASA's newest Mars rover snags 1st rock sample for return

NASA's newest Mars rover has successfully collected its first rock sample for return to Earth, after last month's attempt came up empty.

The Perseverance rover's chief engineer, Adam Steltzner, called it a perfect core sample.

"I've never been more happy to see a hole in a rock," he tweeted Thursday. A month ago, Perseverance drilled into much softer rock, and the sample crumbled and didn't get inside the titanium tube. The rover drove a half-mile to a better sampling spot to try again. Team members analysed data and pictures before declaring success.



Perseverance arrived in February at Mars' Jezero Crater, believed to be the home of a lush lakebed and river delta billions of years ago in search of rocks that might hold evidence of ancient life. NASA plans to launch more spacecraft to retrieve the samples collected by Perseverance; engineers are hoping to return as many as three dozen samples in about a decade.

# RELIANCE AIMS TO BRING DOWN COST OF HYDROGEN UNDER \$1 PER KG: AMBANI

Reliance Industries will by 2030 create or enable capacity to generate at least 100 gigawatts of electricity from renewable sources, which can be converted into carbon-free green hydrogen, its chairman Mukesh Ambani said Friday as he outlined a 1-1-1 vision to bring down the cost of hydrogen to under USD 1 per kg in one decade.

The focus on generating electricity from renewable sources of energy such as solar and wind will help cut carbon emissions in the world's third-largest greenhouse gas emitter.

The same electricity, when converted into green hydrogen, can replace petrol and diesel in automobiles and other fuels in the industry, helping cut down on the use of fossil fuels, carbon emissions and reduce import dependence.

Speaking at the International Climate Summit 2021, India's richest man said Reliance will pursue the target of bringing down the cost of making green hydrogen to under USD 2 per kg initially and ultimately bringing it down to under USD 1 per kg in a decade.

Green hydrogen produced with renewable resources costs between about USD 3 per kg and USD 6.55 a kg. With abundant sunlight, India can generate over 1,000 GW of solar energy on just 0.5 per cent of landmass, he said, adding that the nation has already achieved the 100 GW of installed renewable energy capacity and the target of 175 GW by December 2022 is now well within sight.

Further, the nation is targeting 450 GW of renewable energy by 2030.

"Green Hydrogen is zero-carbon energy. It is the best and cleanest source of energy, which can play a fundamental role in the world's decarbonisation plans," he said.

Hydrogen is the latest buzz for meeting the world's energy needs. Being the cleanest form of energy, it can be produced from a variety of resources, such as natural gas, biomass, and renewable power like solar and wind. It can be used in cars, in houses, for portable power and in many more applications.

Green hydrogen is derived from water electrolysis using renewable energy such as solar wind.

Ambani said hydrogen has a high

gravimetric energy density and can be converted into electricity and heat with zero emissions.

"Although the costs of hydrogen from electrolysis today are high, they are expected to fall significantly in the coming years. New technologies are emerging for hydrogen storage and transportation, which will dramatically reduce the cost of distribution," he said.

He said efforts are on globally to make green hydrogen most affordable fuel option by bringing down its cost to initially under USD 2 per kg.

"Let me assure you all that Reliance will aggressively pursue this target and achieve it well before the turn of this decade," he said. "I am sure that India can set even more aggressive target of achieving under

USD 1 per kg within a decade."

This, according to him, will make India the first country globally to achieve USD 1 per kg in a decade — the 1-1-1 target for green hydrogen.

Calling climate change the most daunting challenge facing human civilisation that can threaten the very existence of life on the planet if uncontrolled, Ambani said the only option is rapid transition to a new era of green, clean and renewable energy.

India, he said, is determined to achieve 'azadi' (independence) from dependence on fossil energy and become 'atmanirbhar' (self-reliant) in new and renewable energy.

India spends USD 160 billion every year on import oil and gas to meet its energy needs. And its energy needs will only grow.

"Although India's per capita energy consumption and emissions are less than half the global average, we are the world's third-largest emitter of greenhouse gases," he said. "Because climate change is a global problem, the clean energy transition calls for the widest possible global cooperation in technology development, investments and fair market access."

Outlining the oil-to-telecom conglomerate's clean energy plans, he said Reliance has already started developing the green energy complex in Jamnagar in Gujarat with an investment of Rs 75,000 crore.

"Last year, I had announced our ambitious commitment to make

Reliance a net carbon zero company by 2035. This year, I presented our strategy and roadmap for the new energy business, which will be the next big 'value creation engine' for Reliance and India.

"We have started developing the Dhirubhai Ambani Green Energy Giga Complex over 5,000 acres in Jamnagar. It will be amongst the largest integrated renewable energy manufacturing facilities in the world. This complex will have four Giga Factories, which cover the entire spectrum of renewable energy," he said.

The four Giga factories will include an integrated solar photovoltaic module factory, an advanced energy storage battery factory, an electrolyser factory for the production of Green Hydrogen, and a fuel cell factory for converting hydrogen into motive and stationary power.

"Over the next three years, we will invest Rs 75,000 crore in these initiatives. Reliance will thus create and offer a fully integrated, end-to-end renewables energy ecosystem to India and Indians," he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set the goal to reach 450 GW of renewable energy capacity by 2030. Out of this, Reliance will establish and enable at least 100 GW of solar energy by 2030, he stated.

This, he said, will create a pan-India network of kilowatt and megawatt-scale solar energy producers who can produce green hydrogen for local consumption.



## "15 Lakh Less Jobs In August v/s July": CMIE



Port Blair, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep, 2021: There were 15 lakh fewer job opportunities in August as compared to July 2021 in the country, Mahesh Vyas, Managing Director (MD), Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), told media. "This decline in job opportunities in August is mainly because of decline in job opportunities in the agriculture sector, added Mr Vyas. The latest data from the independent think-tank body highlighted that the national unemployment rate jumped to 8.32 per cent last month from 6.96 per cent in July.

The comments from the industry leader came at a time when the country's economic activity

registered a rebound in the first quarter of the current fiscal, with the gross domestic product (GDP) rising 20.1 per cent, however, the job market is still struggling.

Urban unemployment rose to 9.78 per cent in August from 8.36 per cent in July and 10.07 per cent in June 2021, according to CMIE data. The urban unemployment rate was 7.27 per cent in March, just before the second wave of COVID-19 pandemic hit the country. Rural unemployment also jumped to 7.64 per cent in August from 6.34 per cent in July, primarily due to low sowing during the Kharif season, according to CMIE data.

At least eight states across the

country including Delhi, Haryana, and Rajasthan, are still reporting double-digit unemployment rates. At 35.7 per cent, Haryana had the highest unemployment rate in August, followed by Rajasthan at 26.7 per cent, Jharkhand at 13.6 per cent, Bihar and Jammu & Kashmir each at 13.6 per cent. National capital Delhi registered an unemployment rate of 11.6 per cent last month. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which has maintained an accommodative stance to support the economy, projected an annual growth of 9.5 per cent in the current fiscal 2021-22 — same as estimated by the International Monetary Fund for India.

## Sensex, Nifty Close at Record Highs Powered By Gains In Reliance Industries

Mumbai, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sep, 2021: The Indian equity benchmarks closed at record highs for yet another session powered by rally in index heavy weight Reliance Industries, which rose the most in over three months, to close at an all-time high of 2,390. Surge in Reliance Industries shares contributed 280 points towards the Sensex. The Sensex rose as much as 342 points to hit an all-time high of 58,194.79 and Nifty 50 index touched record high of 17,340.10.

The Sensex advanced 277 points to close at an all-time high of 58,129.95 and Nifty 50 index rose 89 points to close at record high of 17,324. "Nifty 50 index sustains above the level of 17,200-17,250, the market is likely to gain momentum, leading to an upside projection till 17,400-17,450. The momentum indicators like RSI and MACD are positive further strengthening a short-term bullish outlook for the markets," said Ashish Biswas, Head of Technical

Research at Capital Via Global Research. Ten of 15 sector gauges compiled by the National Stock Exchange ended higher led by the Nifty Oil & Gas index's 2.5 per cent gain. Consumer Durables, Realty, Metal, Media and Auto



indices also rose over 1 per cent each. On the other hand, Nifty Financial Services, FMCG, Bank and Private Bank indices closed lower. Mid- and small-cap shares also witnessed buying interest as Nifty Midcap 100 index rose 0.5 per cent and Nifty Smallcap 100 index advanced 0.41 percent.

Reliance Industries was the top Nifty gainer, the stock rose 4.15 per cent a day after the Mukesh Ambani-led company acquired controlling stake in Just Dial. With today's surge in Reliance's share price its market capitalisation crossed 15 lakh crore. ONGC, Coal India, Titan, Indian Oil, Hero MotoCorp, Bharat Petroleum, Eicher Motors, Bajaj Auto, Maruti Suzuki, Tata Steel, Asian Paints and Kotak Mahindra Bank also rose between 1-4 per cent.

On the flipside, HDFC Life fell 3.3 per cent to close at 1,734 after the company announced acquisition of Exide Industries' life insurance business. Cipla, Bharti

Airtel, Hindustan Unilever, HDFC, HDFC Bank, IndusInd Bank, UltraTech Cement, Tata Consumer Products, Axis Bank and Mahindra & Mahindra were among the losers. The overall market breadth was positive as 1,726 shares ended higher while 1,474 closed lower on the BSE.

## Biological E gets nod for phase 2/3 clinical trial of its Covid vaccine on children, adolescents

NEW DELHI: Biological E has received approval for conducting phase II/III human clinical trial of Covid-19 vaccine candidate Corbevax on children above five years and adolescents, the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) said on Friday.

Corbevax, an RBD protein sub-unit

vaccine, has been developed with support from the Department of Biotechnology and its PSU Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), it said.

The approval of the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) for conducting phase III comparator safety and

immunogenicity trial in adults came after the Subject Expert Committee's (SEC) review of Phase I and II clinical trials data.

"Additionally, Biological E also received approval on 01.09.2021 to initiate Phase II/III study to evaluate safety, reactogenicity, tolerability and immunogenicity of Corbevax vaccine in children and adolescents," the DBT said.

Mahima Datta, Managing Director, Biological E. Limited, said these approvals would help support its subsequent filings with the World Health Organization (WHO) as well. So far indigenous developed Zyus Cadila's needle-free Covid-19 vaccine ZyCoV-D has received emergency use authorisation from the drug regulator, making it the first vaccine to be administered in the age group of 12-18 years in the country.

The DCGI in July had granted permission to the Serum Institute of India (SII) for conducting phase 2/3 trials of

Covovax on children aged 2 to 17 years with certain conditions.

The development of Corbevax was supported by the Department of Biotechnology and its PSU Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) from preclinical stage to phase III clinical studies, the DBT said. "We look forward to the clinical development of candidate Corbevax for paediatric and adults," DBT secretary Renu Swarup said. Datta said, "We are delighted to receive these significant approvals from the DCGI. These approvals encourage our organisation to move forward and successfully produce our Covid-19 vaccine to meet the vaccination needs."

"We are grateful to BIRAC for their support and we are enthused that these approvals would help support our subsequent filings with WHO as well. We appreciate and acknowledge the contribution of all our collaborators for their continued support in this endeavour," Datta said.



## Ayush Ministry launches AYUSH AAPKE DWAR campaign

Tweeted by @AIRAyush Ministry on Friday launched the campaign AYUSH AAPKE DWAR from more than 45 locations across the country. The campaign aims to distribute medicinal plant saplings to 75 lakh households in one year. The medicinal plants include Jejjita, Stevia, Ashoka, Giloy, Ashwagandha, Lemongrass, Tulsi, Sarpagandha and Amla.

Minister of State for Ayush Dr. Mahendra Munjapara launched the campaign from Ayush Bhawan in New Delhi by distributing medicinal plants to staff. On this occasion, Dr. Munjapara appealed to adopt medicinal plants and take care of these as a part of their family.



# GENDER PARITY ELUSIVE IN INDIAN JUDICIARY; MERE 11.96 PC JUDGES IN HIGHER COURTS ARE WOMEN

The Supreme Court recently got nine new judges. The highlight of the latest appointments was that three of the new judges were women. With this, the top court of the country now has the highest ever number of women judges – four out of 33.

However, a look beyond the celebration over the Supreme Court getting three women judges at one go and its bench strength featuring the highest number of women brings to one's notice the dismal number of women in the judiciary at all levels.

Even in the Supreme Court, the percentage of women judges stands at a paltry 12.12 per cent. The overall picture of the higher judiciary, which includes the Supreme Court and the high courts, the figures are not very different. Out of the 677 judges in the higher courts, only 81 are women, which works out to 11.96 per cent, as per the statistics updated by the Union ministry of law and justice on

September 1.

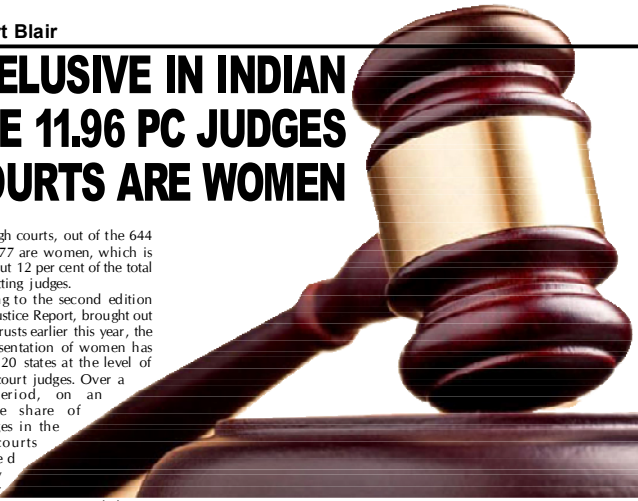
In the high courts, out of the 644 judges, only 77 are women, which is again just about 12 per cent of the total number of sitting judges.

According to the second edition of the India Justice Report, brought out by the Tata Trusts earlier this year, the overall representation of women has improved in 20 states at the level of subordinate court judges. Over a two-year period, on an average, the share of women judges in the high courts increased marginally from 11 per cent to 13 per cent, while in subordinate courts, it went up from 28 per cent to 30 per cent.

As many as 12 high courts and 27 subordinate courts improved their share of women judges, according to the India Justice Report 2020. This

means that while one in three judges in the subordinate courts is a woman, in the high courts, only one in nine judges is a woman. The figures demonstrate that the glass ceiling in the country's judicial system remains

intact. As per the report, the aspirations of gender parity in the justice system remains elusive. At the high end, women's inclusion remains in dismal single digits and so, patriarchy and its violent impacts remain unchallenged.



## US grounds Virgin Galactic spaceflights as it probes mishap on Richard Branson's trip

In a blow to Richard Branson's grand plans, the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has said it was grounding spaceflights by Virgin Galactic while it investigates why the company's July 11 voyage carrying

Branson deviated from its planned trajectory.

This comes after a report by The New Yorker said the flight experienced cockpit warnings about its rocket-powered ascent that could

have jeopardised the mission. The FAA, which is overseeing the probe, said the rocketship carrying Branson and five Virgin Galactic employees veered off course during its descent back to its runway in the New Mexico desert on July 11.

"Virgin Galactic may not return the SpaceShip Two vehicle to flight until the FAA approves the final mishap investigation report or determines the issues related to the mishap do not affect public safety," the FAA said in a statement. The ban comes amid Virgin Galactic's plans to launch members of

the Italian Air Force in a test flight scheduled for later this month.

According to a report by Nicholas Schmidle in The New Yorker, about a minute into the July 11 flight that had taken off from the desert in New Mexico, the on-board systems showed that the flight was veering off course. "According to multiple sources in the company, the safest way to respond to the warning would have been to abort," Schmidle wrote.

Virgin Galactic acknowledged the space plane dropped below the protected airspace for one minute and 41 seconds. However, the company added that "at no time did the ship travel above any population centres or cause a hazard to the public."

It further said: "Our pilots responded appropriately to these changing flight conditions exactly as they have been trained and in strict accordance with our established procedures."



## ITBP Recruitment 2021, Apply 65 Constable Vacancies @ itbpolice.nic.in

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How to apply Indian Airforce Recruitment 2021

First, Visit the official website "indianairforce.nic.in"

Find the required advertisement.

Click and view the notification carefully and check the eligibility.

Apply through offline mode, take the printout of the application form and fill the required details correctly.

Send the filled application form to the concerned centres within the due date.

The notification link is given below for any reference.

The brief details of educational qualification, age limit, selection process, apply mode and how to apply process are discussed above. For more details for this recruitment, candidates may visit the official website "indianairforce.nic.in". Stay tuned with daily recruitment in to get more latest job updates.

**10 TIPS TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS DO NOT RISK YOUR LIFE**

- 1. Stay at home unless you have to. Avoid going to crowded places, public transport, and social gatherings.
- 2. Wash your hands often and thoroughly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- 3. Avoid touching your face, especially your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- 4. Disinfect surfaces you touch often, like cell phones, keys, and door handles.
- 5. The COVID-19 outbreak is a global health emergency. Stay at home and avoid public places.
- 6. If you must go out, wear a face mask and avoid close contact with others.
- 7. Avoid public transport, especially crowded trains and buses.
- 8. Avoid going to crowded places like markets, malls, and public transport.
- 9. Avoid going to crowded places like markets, malls, and public transport.
- 10. Listen to your local authorities for advice and follow their instructions.

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## IN CONVERSATION

## INDIAN MILITARY UNDER TARGET BY CHINESE ORIGIN SURVEILLANCE SYSTEMS

Alarmed over an alert by the apex security and intelligence agencies, flagging serious concerns on 'possible threat' of data loss through surveillance cameras especially Chinese origin installed at various military establishments across the country, the Indian navy headquarters has asked all its bases and units to remove this closed-circuit television (CCTV) surveillance systems.

According to internal communication, reviewed by The Week, the Integrated Defence Headquarters of Ministry of Defence (MoD), one of the market leaders in surveillance cameras is Hikvision, which has 41 per cent Chinese government holding and it is operating in India through an Indian company's collaboration. The modules of these cameras systems are supplied by the Chinese firm, however, these products are marked as 'Made in India', MoD letter claims. And, according to an estimate, Hikvision enjoys over 35 per cent market share in India. Besides, bagging a contract to install 1.5 lakh CCTVs cameras in Delhi, the Chinese firm is believed to have supplied solutions to Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC). Moreover, it is also one of the vendors for Bharat Electronics (BEL) that works on highly sensitive and classified defence projects in India.

The Week has first reported (in July) about a high-level inquiry is being underway over the installation of cheap quality surveillance devices in high-security buildings, including South Block, North Block and Sena Bhawan. The National Security Council Secretariat and the Defence Intelligence Agency have raised security concerns about the possible threat of data loss

through surveillance cameras, especially Chinese-origin and Hikvision cameras.

It has emerged that data loss can occur even if the cameras are not connected to an external network. This loss (data) could be through programmed or coded servers or embedded hardware for wi-fi or SIM-



based connectivity, or during maintenance or replacement from the memory/cache of the CCTV and other surveillance systems," the note stated. Because of the alert, the naval headquarters has asked its all formations to "discontinue" procurement of CCTV cameras and surveillance systems from Hikvision. And simultaneously ordered the replacement of existing Hikvision surveillance systems and CCTVs from its locations to be done in a phased manner.

Surveillance cameras are being used extensively for security for military establishments. And, the data from such surveillance systems can be used for AI (artificial intelligence) based on facial recognition, number plate recognition

and object recognition. "Compromise of a CCTV system could also compromise the security of military establishment," the note further stated.

Indian navy headquarters has also directed its units for procurement of surveillance cameras is only through Govt e-Market (GeM), which has removed Chinese origin products from its portal as per the directives of the Department of Promotion of industry and internal trade (DPIIT). Citing a threat to national security, Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the union government last year had banned 267 Chinese apps, including the wildly popular TikTok and PUBG.

Certain directives have been issued to address security concerns. Like, surveillance cameras and the respective storage devices are "not" to be connected to the internet, and all CCTVs are to be configured on a dedicated air-gapped network and, in no circumstances, be connected to the internet. Moreover, storage devices are to be fixed at locations manned by armed forces personnel with suitable security measures.

"CCTVs or storage devices are not taken outside naval premises for repair and maintenance and maintenance of old/defective CCTVs is to be monitored by units," naval headquarters stated while adding that surveillance cameras with wi-fi/Bluetooth/wireless/ 4G or 5G connectivity are prohibited. Cameras with USB or Ethernet connectivity only are allowed to be installed at naval locations.

Moreover, the defective surveillance cameras are to be destroyed and not be handed over to anyone responsible for their maintenance.

OPEN SECRET



## HARVINDER SINGH WINS BRONZE, INDIA'S FIRST ARCHERY MEDAL IN PARALYMPICS

TOKYO: Harvinder Singh on Friday notched up India's first ever archery medal in the Paralympics, holding his nerves to down Kim Min Su of Korea in a thrilling shoot-off for the men's individual recurve bronze in the ongoing Games.

World No. 23 Singh was the first athlete from India to win a gold medal at a major para competition in the 2018 Asian Games. An economics scholar from the Punjab University, Patiala, Singh collected three shoot-off wins on the day, starting with his triumphs in the opening rounds.

**INDIA AT TOKYO PARALYMPICS**

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
2	6	5

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In the bronze play-off, the 31-year-old was leading 5-3 before the Korean clinched the fifth set shooting a perfect 10 to force a shoot-off where the Indian responded in style shooting a perfect 10 against Kim's 8 for a 6-5 (26-24, 27-29, 28-25, 25-25, 26-27) (10-8) win.

In the semifinals, Singh lost to world number 10 Kevin Mather of the USA 6-4 in an intense five-setter (25-28, 24-24, 25-25, 25-24, 24-26).

Singh, who hails from a small village Gufia Cheeka near Kaithal in Haryana, was stretched to the fullest in the first two rounds, but he showed tremendous resilience to overcome his fancied opponents via shoot-offs.

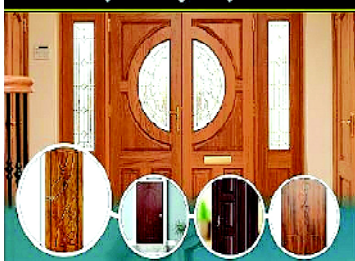
In the first round of 32, Singh squandered a 4-0 lead

against Stefano Travisani after shooting a 7 in the third set as his Italian rival made it 5-5 (27-24, 26-22, 26-27, 25-25, 25-27) to force a shoot-off.

Singh clinched the issue - 6-5 (10-7) - in style, shooting a perfect 10 in the tie-breaker as his rival managed just a 7. In the last-16, Singh pipped former world number one Bato Tsydendorzhiev of Russia, once again by the thinnest of margins 6-5 (8-7).

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**Limit social gatherings and time spent in crowded places**

**Avoid close contact with someone who is sick**

**Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces**

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Ph : 03192-249888

Cell : 9932080286, 9434281888

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