

Bharath bandh against demonetisation: Little impact in Odisha

BHUBANESWAR(K-CN): The Bharat Bandh called by the opposition political parties over demonetisation had very little impact in Odisha with minimal disruptions to normal life in the State on Monday.

With most political parties switching to 'dharna' and "rally" instead of a shut-down, public transport service remained close to normal across the State. Trains operated on time while buses were out on the roads although frequency was low because of a drop in the number of passengers.

Cab services got off to a slow start in the morning but picked up later.

The State government had on Sunday shut down all educational institutions apprehending trouble for the students. However, government and private offices functioned

and so did banks as well as petrol pump stations.

In Bhubaneswar, Congress and Left

a bandh, Congress had announced "Jana Akrosha Divas" to protest demonetisation move.

also staged a dharna in front of the RBI office here.

According to reports, the bandh had

remained open and daily markets operated as usual in Bhubaneswar where the vehicular traffic



parties staged dharna in front of the Reserve Bank of India's regional office here. The opposition parties also staged protests in front of SBI branches across the districts.

Although most parties had called for

Odisha Pradesh Congress committee chief Prasad Harichandan and other Congress leaders picketed outside RBI office and courted arrest.

Members of CPI, CPM, Forward Bloc and Samajwadi Party

had no impact in the Rourkela and the western Odisha pockets. Life was normal in northern districts of Balasore where Congress members staged dharna in front of SBI branches.

Commercial establishments re-

mainly were thin in the morning. The State secretariat, state and Central PSU offices functioned as usual.

The State Police Headquarters said no untoward incident was reported from any part of the State during the day.

Odisha's new health policy to woo private investment

BHUBANESWAR(K-CN): In a bid to provide quality healthcare services and attract investment in the sector in the priority districts, the State Government has formulated a new investment promotion policy.

The Odisha Healthcare Investment Promotion Policy-2016 envisages promotion of private sector investment in the healthcare sector through strategic partnerships besides policy interventions. The policy aims at ensuring improved access and affordability of secondary and tertiary healthcare services. It will provide impetus for growth of private sector healthcare investments to ensure alignment with public health goals and enable making healthcare systems more effective, efficient, rational, safe

and ethical. The new healthcare policy, which will remain in operation for a period of five years until substituted by another policy, will also promote establishment of healthcare institutions for best-in-class infrastructure and technology in healthcare delivery in 11 priority districts.

A senior health official said the Government has identified Balangir, Boudh, Gajapati, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabar-

angapur, Nuapada, Rayagada and Sonepur as priority districts.

"The districts will be accorded all the incentives pro-

vided as per the Industrial Policy Resolution-2015 for healthcare sector investments and treated at par with the priority sector investments. The policy would also provide incentives and exemptions in conjunction with any other applicable existing policy of the State and the Centre," he

said and added that an investor may choose a particular provision from either this policy or any other policy but not both.

Enterprises intending to establish healthcare facilities as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) will be encouraged for development of hospital projects. All incentives, support and assistance under the policy will be applicable for eligible hospital projects to be developed with minimum 50 beds and

above. According to a resolution issued by the Health and Family Welfare Department, subsidy will be provided on capital investments made in the hospital projects. However, the subsidy will not be provided on investments made towards cost of land, working capital and operative expenses.

An existing hospital in the priority districts which upgrades into a multi-speciality hospital or a super speciality hospital will also be eligible to avail incentives on additional capital investments for the expansion of the same line as available for setting up new hospitals, provided the new capacity expansion has at least 50 per cent additional beds of the existing strength and the existing capacity is of at least 100 beds.



Pay 50% tax on unaccounted deposits, or 85% if caught: govt

New Delhi (KCN): Providing a window to black money hold-

mandatorily depositing of 25 per cent of the amount disclosed

deposit 25 per cent of the undisclosed income in a scheme to be notified by the government in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

The money from the scheme would be used for projects in irrigation, housing, toilets, infrastructure, primary education, primary health and livelihood so that there is justice and equality, said the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill. For those who continue to hold onto undisclosed cash and are caught, existing provisions of the Income Tax law will be amended to provide for a flat 60 per cent tax plus a surcharge of 25 per cent of tax (15 per cent), which will amount a levy of 75 per cent.

Besides, if the assessing officer decides he can charge a 10 per cent penalty in addition to the 75 per cent tax.



ers, the government on Monday proposed to levy a total tax, penalty and surcharge of 50 per cent on the amount deposited while higher taxes and stiffer penalty of up to 85 per cent await those who don't disclose but are caught.

Nearly three weeks after Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced junking high denomination 500 and 1000 rupee notes, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley introduced a bill to amend the Income Tax law which also provides for black money declarants a

in anti-poverty scheme without interest and a four-year lock-in period.

Those who choose to declare their ill-gotten wealth stashed till now in banned 500 and 1000 rupee notes under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana 2016, will have to pay a tax at the rate of 30 per cent of the undisclosed income.

Additionally, a 10 per cent penalty will be levied on the undisclosed income as well as a surcharge called PMGK Cess at the rate of 33 per cent of tax (33 per cent of 30 per cent). Further, the declarants have to

Manohar Parrikar to be first Indian defence minister to visit Bangladesh

NEW DELHI(K-CN): Defence minister Manohar Parrikar is leaving for a two-day visit to Dhaka on Wednesday to bolster defence cooperation between the two neighbouring nation and also to counter China's growing footprint in the neighbouring nation. Parrikar's visit will be the first ever visit to Bangladesh by any Indian defence minister in the last 45 years. China has delivered a diesel submarine to Bangladesh, the first ever submarine to Bangladesh navy.

Following Parrikar's visit, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is also scheduled to visit to New Delhi to join India's celebration of 1971 India-Pakistan war, which led to creation of Bangladesh. Official sources claim that Bangladesh prime minister, during his visit, will also present award to heroes of Indian armed forces for the deciding 1971 war.

During his visit, Parrikar will be accompanied with vice chiefs of Army, IAF and Navy alongwith Director General of Coast Guard. Parrikar visit is also seen to counter Chinese growing strategic footprints in Bangladesh. Besides meeting Bangladesh Prime Minister and President,

Parrikar will also be visiting Chittagong military academy. Sheikh Hasina also holds Defence portfolio in Bangladesh cabinet. India can also offer building Offshore Patrol Vessel to Bangladesh apart from having regular military exercises between the nation, are some of the key points to be discussed during the visit.

Official sources said that apart from seeking closer cooperation in counter-terrorism, Parrikar led delegation will focus on the new defence cooperation framework that will lead to stepped up military hardware supply, technology transfer and joint exercise and providing training to Bangladesh military.

Bangladesh Navy on early this month received two Type 035G-class submarines from China for \$203 million. The move only goes to further underline the growing bonhomie between Bangladesh and China. Type 035G-class submarines of China's People's Liberation Army Navy. The primary weaponry for Type 035G is Yu-3 torpedo, and French sonar DUUX-5 and its Chinese-built version were used on later units, 12 of which were completed between 1990 and 1999.

Odisha Govt effects reshuffle in senior IAS cadre; Arti Ahuja appointed as Tourism, Culture Principal secy

Bhubaneswar (K-CN): Odisha Govt effects reshuffle in senior IAS cadre; Arti Ahuja appointed as Tourism, Culture Principal secy

Report by Odisha Diary bureau, Bhubaneswar: Odisha Government effects reshuffle in senior IAS cadre. Arti Ahuja appointed as New Tourism, Culture Principal secretary.

IAS Pramod Kumar Meherda replaces Arti Ahuja as Principal Secretary, Health and Family Welfare. IAS Vir Vikram Yadav appointed as secretary, Science and Technology. IAS Chandrasekhar Kumar posted as Managing Director, Odisha State Cooperative Milk Producers Federation (OMFED). Gagan Dhal appointed as Agriculture Production Commissioner.

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It's already known that eliminated contestant Priyanka Jagga is making a comeback on Bigg Boss 10 as a wildcard entry and joining her will be three celebrities — actor Sahil Anand, German-Russian actor Elena Kazan and international model Jason Shah. The three names might not be popular but going by their profiles, it is certain that they will bring a lot of drama to the controversial reality show. Sahil is best known as actor Varun Dhawan's

Deepika stuns in latest trailer of 'xXx'



Deepika Padukone's fierce Serena avatar in her Hollywood debut 'xXx: The Return of Xander Cage' is a treat to our eyes.

Paramount Pictures recently released the latest trailer of the action-adventure film starring Vin Diesel in the lead. The 30-year

old actress is seen in a bold look and her action sequences give us the chance to see a different side of the 'Piku' star in this new trailer of the film. For the Indian audience, Paramount Pictures India also released the trailer in Hindi, Tamil and Telugu.



Sunny Leone stuns in a bikini as she flaunts her toned body. She made her Bollywood debut with a cameo appearance in The Girl Next Door. Former porn actress has also worked in Hollywood movies Pirate's Blood and The Virginity Hit.

friend in Student of the Year but before entering films, he had a taste of reality TV as he participated in MTV Roadies and Splistvilla. In fact, Sahil appeared on season four of Roadies, which also had current Bigg Boss contestant Bani J. Sahil and Bani's shared history will surely bring a new angle to the game and while Bani is going strong in the house, it will be interesting to see how Sahil's entry affects her stay.



Hot models on TV



Jiiva tells sudhir srinivasan that Kavalai Vendam will be that rare, pure rom-com hardly seen in Tamil cinema

'Bruce Lee has humour, but with a difference'

If you think GV Prakash's upcoming film Bruce Lee, directed by debutant filmmaker Prashanth Pandiraj, is about martial arts, you're mistaken. Prashanth, an associate of Pandiraj of Pasanga (2009) fame, tells City Express that he saw Prakash's maiden acting venture Darling (2015) and thought he should write him a comedy. It was initially called Baasha Engira Antony.

"I was apprehensive; when I approached him, I didn't know if he would like the story/script. But he liked it so much. Eventually, we became good friends. We had a great time on the sets. That must have reflected a lot in the movie. If you saw how

debted to Pandiraj for teaching me a lot about filmmaking techniques," he says.

The story is about how the hero lands in

lenges thrown at him. "The whole story has been laced with light-hearted moments and in fact, there are no action scenes. Prakash

has come out well," he smiles. What more can he reveal about the film? "This will be on the

pealing to the younger lot and we have shown Prakash in a different dimension altogether. Simply put, it's a Hollywood-type villain-story," he laughs.

Prashanth belongs to Tiruchy and is an ardent fan of actor Vijay. "So, the character I created on screen likes him. Personally, Prakash also admires Vijay."

Having shot in and around Tiruchy, the film has Kriti Kharbanda, Rajendran, Bala Saravanan, Mansoor Ali Khan and Anandaraj, among others in pivotal roles. Meanwhile, we hear that the story has a villain, who's shown like someone who hasn't watched a Tamil film at all on screen.



trouble for no fault of his, and faces the chal-

lines of Soodhu Kavvum (2013), ap-

has a natural flair for comedy, and the film

Tata Steel's UK arm to sell Speciality business to Liberty group

MUMBAI(KCN): Tata Steel UK on Wednesday in Britain and in Suzhou and gas industries. "As the Special-



Steel in the statement. Tata Steel UK has invested 1.5 billion pounds (Rs 12,798 crore) over the last nine years and 85 million pounds this year covering a range of sustenance and improvement schemes. "We continue to seek solutions to the company's structural challenges and work with all stakeholders. Among those challenges, there is the need to develop a more sustainable business in Britain and a self-sustaining future for the British Steel Pension Scheme," said Jha.

Monday announced signing a letter of intent with the London-based international business group Liberty House to sell its Speciality Steels business for 100 million pounds (Rs 854 crore/\$124 million).

South Yorkshire-based assets, including the Rotherham electric arc steelworks, the steel purifying facility in Stockbridge and a mill in Brinsworth, besides service centres in Bolton and

Xian in China," the British arm of India's largest private sector steel firm said in a statement here.

Speciality Steels employs about 1,700 people, making steel for the aerospace, automotive and oil and

ity Steels business is independent of the pan-European strip products supply chain, its sale is in line with the restructuring strategy of our UK portfolio," said Bimendra Jha, Chief Executive of Tata

The steel major will work with Liberty for concluding the sale.

"We will also work with trade unions and communicate to its employees on the deal on an ongoing basis," the statement added.

Samsung to reveal shareholder plans amid calls to split company

SEOUL(KCN) : Samsung Electronics Co Ltd said it will disclose plans to boost shareholder value on Tuesday - a move that comes amid pressure

The Seoul Economic Daily, citing an unidentified source, reported on Monday the firm will say it plans to consider a split. Samsung de-

"It's difficult to argue with the logic of Elliott's proposals," said David Smith, head of corporate governance at Aberdeen Asset Management

Note 7 smartphone that the firm projects will cost 6.1 trillion won in profits over three quarters.

Its offices have also been raided by

return of at least 75 percent of free cash flow to investors and the appointment of some independent directors.

New shareholder return plans would also follow a tightening of control by de facto Samsung Group leader Jay Y. Lee, who took over the reins after his father and Samsung patriarch was incapacitated following a May 2014 heart attack.

Samsung Group has sold non-core assets and pushed through a merger of two affiliates in 2015 to consolidate stakes in key affiliates under a company controlled by Jay Y. Lee and his two sisters, as the founding family moves to secure a stable transfer of control.

Lee also recently became a board member at Samsung Electronics.

"Even if Samsung Electronics does not comment on specifics such as the timing of a split, the firm will at least say it will implement ownership structure changes in a reasonable manner," HI Investment said in a report on Monday.



from U.S. fund Elliott Management to split the company in two and provide more in payouts.

The U.S. activist hedge fund, which owns 0.6 percent of Samsung, called on the South Korean tech giant in October to divide itself into a holding vehicle for ownership purposes and an operating company, as well as pay out 30 trillion won (\$26 billion) in a special dividend.

clined to elaborate further on Monday on its plans, although it said last month it is considering buying back more shares.

A split in two has long been a subject of market speculation with analysts noting that such a move could help the Samsung Group founding family heirs to boost their control of the world's top maker of smartphones, memory chips and televisions.

Asia. "A simpler structure is certainly preferable, and yes most would agree they can afford to pay out more.

"What is important is that these changes should benefit all involved, including family, group, and minority shareholders," he said.

Samsung is also keen not to alienate investors at a time when it is reeling from a disastrous withdrawal of the fire-prone Galaxy

prosecutors as part of a widening political scandal involving a confidante of President Park Geun-hye.

Samsung said it will hold a conference call at 9:30 a.m. local time (0030 GMT) on Tuesday to discuss its plan.

Other measures proposed by Elliott, which unsuccessfully challenged a controversial 2015 merger of two Samsung Group affiliates, includes the

Centre to compensate States every quarter for GST revenue loss

NEW DELHI(KCN): States will receive provisional compensation from the Centre for loss of revenue from implementation of GST every quarter, but the final annual number would be decided after an audit carried out by CAG.

The compensation would be met through levy of a cess called 'GST Compensation Cess' on luxury

amount would go to the Consolidated Fund of India and would form part of the overall tax kitty, which as per statute, is divided in a fixed proportion between the Centre and the States.

The remaining 50 per cent would be disbursed among the States in the ratio of their total revenues from SGST in the last year of the transition period.

to a state under Goods and Services Tax (GST) regime and the tax revenue it would have got under the old indirect tax regime after considering a 14 per cent increase over the base year of 2015-16. The draft law would be taken up for consideration by the GST Council headed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley and comprising all state representatives at the next



items and sin goods like tobacco, for the first five years.

Any excess amount after the end of five year tenure in the 'GST Compensation Fund' so created, would be divided between Centre and the States, said the draft GST compensation law made public by the Centre today.

Half of the excess

Any compensation paid to a State found to be in excess of the amount actually due to them after the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) audit would be adjusted against next year's compensation, the draft law said.

The loss of revenue to a state will be the difference between the actual realisation

meeting on December 2-3. The Council, at its earlier meetings, decided on a 4-tier GST tax structure of 5, 12, 18 and 28 per cent.

Luxury items and demerit goods would be taxed at the highest rate and would also attract a cess to create a Rs 50,000 crore corpus for compensating states for loss of revenue.

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Jadeja, Jayant put India in command at 354-7 against England on day 3

MOHALI (KCN): India were 354-7 at lunch on day 3 of the third cricket Test against England at the Punjab

Cricket Association here today.

Ravindra Jadeja's well crafted half century put India in command on the third day of the third Test against England here at the PCA Stadium on Monday.

Resuming on his overnight score of 31, the southpaw showed his full range of shots to bring up only his third 50 in Tests. India, 354-7 at lunch, began the day with R Ashwin taking off straight away. Playing like a top class batsman, he looked set for his third century of the year before falling a wide delivery from Chris Woakes. The ball was there to be hit but a thick outside edge was safely pouched by Jos Buttler at

point. If that partnership frustrated En-

in India after conceding a lead of over 65 runs in the first in-

son, who remained wicketless. Jadeja, who has crossed a

with India leading by 71 runs with 3 wickets remaining in the



gland, then Jayant Yadav, unbeaten on 26, and Jadeja left England frazzled. The wicket is still good for batting but India definitely have the psychological edge. No visiting team has won a Test

nings -- England already trail by 71 runs.

Jayant, who impressed during his debut in Visakhapatnam, opened his account by playing two delightful strokes against James Ander-

number of personal milestones in this innings, also brought out the sword celebration after reaching his 50.

Ravindra Jadeja (70) and Jayant Yadav (26) were at the crease at the break

1st innings.

Brief Score:

England 1st innings: 283

India 1st innings: 354/7 in 114 overs (R Ashwin 72, RA Jadeja 70; Ben Stokes 3/65).

Time to Switzerise India's Politico-Electoral System

Bhubaneswar (KC-N): Indian Parliament is in session since 16th November, 2016. On the opening day obituaries were expressed against a sitting member of the Lok Sabha who passed away recently and to show respect to him the House got adjourned. This way no respect should be paid to any leader because one day's sitting of the Lok Sabha costs heavily to the exchequer.



The demonetization of high value notes of Rs. 500/- and Rs. 1000/- came into effect on the midnight of November 8, 2016. The aftermath of demonetization has caused sufferings to the people. Parliament should debate and discuss this and Prime Minister Modi should have told his mind to the Members of the Parliament while answering all their questions and removing all their misgivings. But instead of doing that he has chosen to ignore the Parliament and he has been indulging in his hyperbolics and rhetorics. It is something strange that the Prime Minister instead of leading from the front is absenting himself from both the Houses of the Parliament and taking digs at his critics while addressing meetings outside the Parliament.

At the state level the Chief Ministers are conducting themselves

as the dictatorial monarchs of the past. As a rank blind believer Mr K. Chandrasekhar Rao,

President of TRS and Chief Minister of Telangana has already spent Rs. 7 crore on conducting "Yangyas" and feeding 100s of Brahmins to ward off evil spirits. With the same nervous mind he has donated Rs. 3.5 crore worth of gold ornaments to deities to provide "protection" to him. But he is very much haunted with a sense of insecurity. "Z plus" security is not enough for him. He consulted Vastu Pundits and accordingly he built his official "palatial" residence on a 9-acre piece of prime land by spending 50 crore rupees from the state exchequer.

To live in peace and with the greatest degree of security, the Telangana Chief Minister chose the propitious hour of 5.22 am on Thursday (24.11.2016), to enter his new official residence. This

propitious hour was decided by his trusted Pundit and Vastu advisor Sri Ramanuja Chinna Jeeyar Swamy. The entry into new palatial building happened amid the chanting of hymns from Hindu scriptures by the priests under the supervision of the above-named Swamy. Before occupying his chair, the CM asked the Hindu seer Sri Ramanuja Chinna Jeeyar Swamy to adorn it first. Telangana CM's new house has bullet-proof bathrooms, state of the art facilities. This is the level of super stupidity and the craze to live in excessive luxury at the cost of the State that has been exhibited by the CM of the new State of Telangana. Such leaders are never seen in Swiss Democracy.

In Switzerland there is no provision for "Monocratic" Political Office. The Swiss Democracy is neither Presidential nor Prime Ministerial. The Swiss Political Executive is a National Coalition of 7 ministers -- each enjoying equal status. Nobody is anybody's shadow in Swiss Political Executive. The Chairmanship of the 7-Member Swiss Federal Council is rotational. The post of Chairman is held for 1 year only on the principle of seniority. The Vice-

Chairman becomes the Chairman the next year. It goes on year after year. None of the members of the Federal Council is ever haunted by any sense of insecurity. There is no Party Government in Switzerland as we have in India. Here in India each Party is essentially either dynastic or controlled by the culture of the High Command. State-level Party like the BJD, TMC, TRS, DMK, Anna DMK, Shiv Sena, BSP are extremely dictatorial and often very much whimsical. The situation in India all the more horrible because of the First-Past-the-Post (FPTP) System of Election. Here a Party captures 52% of seats with 31% of the vote as it has happened in case of BJP in 2014 General Elections to the Lok Sabha. The Naveen Patnaik-led BJD (Biju Janata Dal) has captured 80% of the seats of Odisha Legislative Assembly against 43% of popular vote. Without getting even 50% of popular vote in the 2014 elections to the Telangana Legislative Assembly, the TRS (Telangana Rastriya Samati) captured more than 75% (90 out of 119) of seats of the State Legislative Assembly. This is not at all possible in Switzerland. Seats are obtained in Swiss Parliament according to

the parentage of votes polled in the election. So all Political Parties and the voters in Switzerland enjoy Political Justice in full. After the election to the Lower House of the Swiss Parliament, the members of the Federal Council are elected proportionate to their Party-seats in the Legislature. There is no Official Opposition or Leader of the Opposition in Switzerland. There is no "Ho-Hallah" or Disruption in the Swiss Legislature. Proceedings go on smoothly. Because every Political Party is given its due in the system. "Collective wisdom" prevails in Switzerland. There is no scope for egoistic leadership in Switzerland as we have in India---both at the State Level and National Level. So India must throw away this black money-based and pride-based dictatorial corrupt democracy and the same must be replaced by the electoral system and the political system of Switzerland. Unless we Switzerise our system there would be more of K. Chandrasekhar Raos and more of disruptions in our Parliamentary and Legislative proceedings. So the Freethought Party of India bats for wholesale "Switzerisation" of Indian Polity.

Mourinho off in Man Utd draw, Sanchez fires Arsenal

LONDON(KCN): Arsenal registered a win against Bournemouth while Manchester United succumbed to a draw against West Ham.

Manchester Uni-

Trafford, but his bench created the biggest stir as formerly exiled midfielder Bastian Schweinsteiger made an unexpected return to the match-day

Jesse Lingard saw a goal chalked off for offside after Mkhitarian had hit the post, while United were indebted to goalkeeper David de Gea for a crucial late



ted vs West Ham

Manchester United manager Jose Mourinho was sent off as his side lost more ground in the Premier League title race by drawing 1-1 with West Ham United on Sunday.

After Diafra Sakho's second-minute opener was cancelled out by Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Mourinho was sent to the stands for kicking a water bottle in protest at Paul Pogba's booking for diving.

It was United's fourth successive home draw in the league -- a first since 1980 -- and left them 11 points below leaders Chelsea in sixth place.

Elsewhere, Alexis Sanchez scored twice as Arsenal kept pace within the leading pack by winning 3-1 at home to Bournemouth.

Mourinho made six changes to his starting XI at Old

squad.

West Ham needed just 90 seconds to go ahead as Dimitri Payet's free-kick from the right was headed in by Sakho.

In the 21st minute, Pogba's deep cross was nodded in by Ibrahimovic, who has now scored seven league goals this season.

Moments later referee Jonathan Moss booked Pogba for diving after the France midfielder took evasive action as Mark Noble moved in to tackle him.

Mourinho reacted by furiously kicking a water bottle and was duly sent to the stands for the second time this season.

Wayne Rooney, whose next goal will equal Bobby Charlton's 249-goal club scoring record, and Henrikh Mkhitarian came on for United in the second half.

save to deny Ashley Fletcher.

United will hope their luck changes when West Ham return to Old Trafford in the League Cup quarter-finals on Wednesday.

Arsenal vs Bournemouth

Arsenal ended a run of three straight draws in all competitions with victory over Bournemouth at the Emirates Stadium. With England midfielder Jack Wilshere watching from the stands due to the terms of his loan from Arsenal to Bournemouth, the home side took a 12th-minute lead courtesy of a horror moment from Simon Cook.

In seeking to play the ball back to goalkeeper Adam Federici from the right, he undercooked his pass horribly, giving Sanchez the time to pick his spot and put Arsenal ahead.

Chennaiyin desperate to turn clock back

CHENNAI(KCN): Chennaiyin FC might be feeling a sense of deja vu. Last season they were poor in the opening games before going on to lift the trophy with a string of dominant performances towards the end. This year, the task may not be that easy as they have lost the players who made the difference last time -- Elano Blumer and John Stiven Mendoza.

Though Chennaiyin finally broke their NorthEast United FC jinx with a 1-0 victory in October, there is a sense of confusion in Marco Materazzi's camp as they gear up for the second leg at the Jawaharlal Nehru

Stadium in Chennai on Saturday. The hosts and their opponents are on 14 points, with NorthEast placed sixth, a spot above on goal-difference.

If the lack of spark in attack is one area of concern, the fading backline is something that needs addressing as well. Apart from the 18-year-old Jerry Lalrinzuala, the defence has not been up to the mark. Bernard Mendy has shown signs of slowing down. Marquee player John Arne Riise has not impressed either.

NorthEast United are more relaxed as they have a game in hand. Victory against Pune four days back

has lifted their spirits. But just one away from this season -- a 1-0 verdict in Pune -- does not make for good reading. Suspension of Rowlin Borges means the midfield needs a bit of tweaking. "This will be a crucial game for both. Only Mumbai are safe. All others have a chance. I feel our performance this season has not been that bad but the scoreline suggests the opposite. The stability is better than what it was a few weeks ago. Our target is to win, just like Chennai did in Guwahati," said coach Nelo Vingada.