



Acclaimed Singer Ramneek Enthralled Fans, page 9



Panorama India Celebrates Indian R-Day, page 11



Cirque du Soleil Coming To Ontario Place, page 13

43 Troopers Killed In Kashmir Attack

Suicide Bomber Linked To Terror Outfit JeM Rams SUV Packed With Explosives Into CRPF Bus

SRINAGAR: In the worst ever terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir since militancy erupted in 1989, a suicide bomber on Thursday rammed his SUV packed with explosives into a CRPF bus on the Srinagar-Jammu highway in Pulwama district, killing at least 43 troopers and leaving the security established stunned.

The Pakistan-based Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) claimed responsibility for the horror and released a video clip of the suicide bomber, a 'commander' identified as Adil Ahmad Dar, which it claimed was shot before the young man carried out the strike in Lethpora, about 30 km from here.

While precise details of the attack were still unclear, police sources said the suicide bomber-driven SUV came along the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)

bus when a 78-vehicle convoy carrying 2,547 security personnel was going from the transit camp in Jammu to Srinagar and rammed it into the bus around 3.15 p.m., triggering a deafening explosion.

So devastating was the attack -- one report spoke of 200 kg of explosives, including probably RDX, packed into the SUV -- that the CRPF bus was left in a mangled heap, many of its occupants losing their limbs. The bus was transporting 39 troopers.

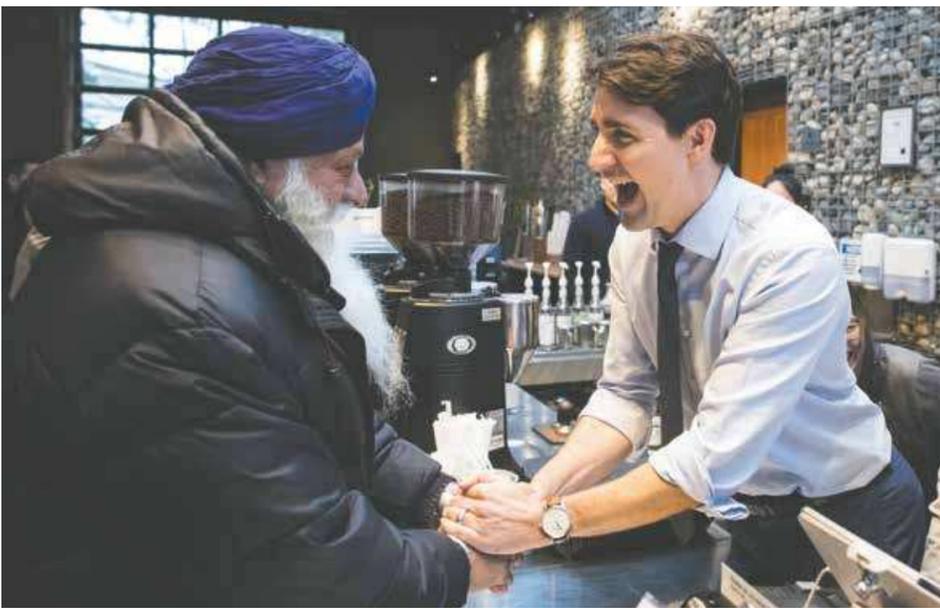
CRPF officials said the bus which was the main target of the militants was destroyed fully while another CRPF vehicle was partly damaged. "It is difficult to believe how anyone in that bus could have survived," said a police officer. Jammu and Kashmir Police chief Dilbag Singh said it

Continued on page 2



Indian paramilitary soldiers stand by the wreckage of a bus after a suicide bomb attack on a trooper convoy in Pampore, Kashmir on Thursday. (AP Photo/Umer Asif)

PM Facing Backlash As SNC-Lavalin Row Swirls



Prime Minister Justin Trudeau greets a customer at a cafe in Burnaby, B.C. while campaigning for Burnaby South Liberal candidate Richard T. Lee-THE CANADIAN PRESS/Darryl Dyck

OTTAWA: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is facing a backlash within and outside his own party after Jody Wilson-Raybould's sudden resignation from his cabinet.

The veterans-affairs minister quit this week amid reports she felt pressured to head off a criminal prosecution of Quebec engineering firm SNC-Lavalin when

she held the justice portfolio.

On the inside, Trudeau's own MPs are nervous, wondering about going into an election campaign with this saga hanging over them and concerned about a lack of communication from the Prime Minister's Office -- and not just about this situation.

Trudeau's repeated claims that Canada's relationship with

Indigenous Peoples is the most important one this country has are being called into question as Indigenous leaders line up behind Wilson-Raybould and decry criticism of her as racist and sexist.

It's a heavy blow to see how she has been treated," said Cheryl Casimer, political executive for the First Nations Summit,

Continued on page 4

Ontario Finances Show \$1B Deficit Reduction

Upsurge In Economic Activity Cited

TORONTO: The Ontario Government's 2018-2019 Third Quarter Finances update reveal a \$1 billion reduction in the Province's deficit, largely driven by increased economic activity from consumers and businesses.

The deficit is now projected to be \$13.5 billion in 2018-19.

Vic Fedeli, Minister of Finance, was joined on Wednesday by Peter Bethlenfalvy, President of the Treasury Board, to provide the update. The report shows improvements in the Province's financial position, demonstrating that Ontario's plan to fix government is working.

Businesses are investing, expanding and hiring in Ontario. This business confidence is helping Ontario individuals, families and communities.

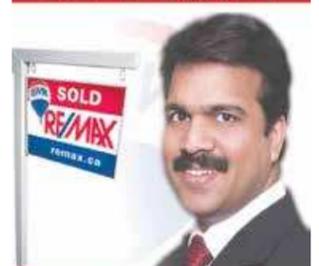
"The third quarter finances show that our government's plan to get Ontario back on track is yielding positive results," said Fedeli. "By working to restore the public's confidence in Ontario's finances, cutting red tape and being open for business and open for jobs, we are giving people across Ontario more confidence in our future, and this confidence is reflected on the bottom line."

The Third Quarter report represents the government's commitment to transparency and accountability, and stands in stark contrast to the previous government, which only released this report three times in the past 10 years despite a legislative requirement to publicly report on the province's finances.

Fedeli noted that the govern-

Continued on page 2

THE TRUSTED NAME IN REAL ESTATE



MANOJ KARATHA
Sales Person
647-22-MANOJ [62665]

PERFORMANCE REALTY INC., BROKERAGE
1140 BURNHAMTHORPE RD WEST, #141,
MISSISSAUGA, ON, L5C 4E9 Tel: 905 270 2000

www.manojkaratha.com

INSURANCE

CAR FOR \$98/MONTH
FOR 2019 TOYOTA COROLLA LE
Multi vehicle, Combined policy, Conviction free, AEB discounts, 51M coverage, L9T SR3, 45 yr old \$500 All perils deductible

LIFE FOR \$12/MONTH
\$250,000 Coverage, Male, 30 yrs, non smoker, 10 yr term, Preferred Plus

LIFE AUTO HOME BUSINESS

CALL NOW TO GET YOUR QUOTE

Sachin (Sam) Narang
Broker, R.I.B. (Ont)

Freedom Insurance Brokers
Call: 416-278-5100

Ottawa Objects To Quebec Immigration Bill

MONTREAL: The federal government is objecting to a Quebec proposal that it be allowed to determine where in the province immigrants settle as a condition of their gaining permanent residency in the country.

Quebec Immigration Minister Simon Jolin-Barrette (pictured here) tabled Bill 9 on Thursday, which lays down a legal framework that would allow the province to be more selective with immigrants. One goal is to have immigrants settle in regions experiencing labour shortages.

The federal government, how-

ever, has the jurisdiction to grant permanent resident status, and it would have to give Quebec more powers for the legislation to have effect.

Federal Intergovernmental Minister Dominic LeBlanc said Thursday in a statement that more analysis on Bill 9 is needed, however we do not support the reintroduction of conditional permanent residency."

The federal Liberals abolished conditional permanent residency in 2017, which had forced some immigrants to live with their spouses or partners in Cana-



da for two years in order to keep their permanent resident status.

Quebec Premier Francois Le-

gault said Friday that Quebec should be able impose conditions on immigrants in order for them to be eligible for permanent resident status. I don't know why we wouldn't be able to regain the power that we used to have," he told reporters.

Jolin-Barrette says the power to impose conditions on immigrants was granted to Quebec in the 1993 Canada-Quebec Accord on Immigration. He said the previous provincial government of Philippe Couillard renounced that right.

Continued on page 3