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RAKSHA GOPAL
99.6%
HUMANITIES



BHOOMI SAWANT
99.4%
SCIENCE



MANMAT LUTHRA
99.2%
COMMERCE



ADITYA JAIN
99.2%
COMMERCE

Noida girl first, just short of perfect 100

CBSE CLASS XII RESULT Chandigarh students get second, third spots

NEW DELHI, MAY 28

Talented keyboard player Raksha Gopal struck all the right chords and ended up today with the highest score of 99.6 per cent marks in the Class XII examination conducted by the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) this year.

Raksha, a humanities student at Amity International School, Noida, said she was expecting a “good” result but was surprised to find that she was just short of a perfect 100 — by a mere two marks.

Raksha, who stood first among almost 11 lakh students across India, scored cent per cent marks in English core, political science and economics, and 99 per cent in



“We will not intervene in the moderation policy issue. It is an academic call which boards need to take. They had taken a decision in consultation with each other, they will decide further. But it is not wise to change abruptly midway

Prakash Javadekar, UNION HRD MINISTER

psychology and history.

With 99.4 per cent marks, Chandigarh’s Bhoomi Sawant, a science student, scored the second highest marks. Mannat Luthra, also from Chandigarh, and Aditya Jain from Panchkula — both from Bhawan Vidyalaya in Chandigarh — jointly bagged the third rank with 99.2 per

cent in the commerce stream.

Sawant, a student of DAV School in Sector 8, scored 100 in physics, chemistry, mathematics and computer science and 97 in English.

HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar spoke to the top-pers and congratulated them. The all-India pass percentage has gone down from

83.05 per cent to 82 this year. The board has also started a helpline with toll free number 18000118004 for psychological counselling post the results between 8 am and 10 pm.

Aiming to check high cut-offs in colleges, the CBSE had scrapped the moderation policy under which grace marks are given to students for difficult questions. However, following intervention of the Delhi High Court, the board decided to implement the change from next year.

According to CBSE, a total of 87.5 per cent girls passed the exams compared with 78 per cent boys. While 10,091 students scored more than 95 per cent marks, 63,247 got more than 90. — Agencies

Gen: ‘Dirty war’ in J&K, ‘innovative’ ways work

NEW DELHI, MAY 28

The Indian Army is facing a “dirty war” in Jammu and Kashmir which has to be fought through “innovative” ways, Army Chief Gen Bipin Rawat has said, defending the use of a Kashmiri as a “human shield” by a young officer.

Rawat, in an interview to PTI, said the main objective of awarding Major Leetul Gogoi, when a court of inquiry was finalising its probe into the incident, was to boost the morale of young officers of the force who are operating in a “very difficult” environment in the militancy-infested state.

“This is a proxy war and proxy war is a dirty war. It is played in a dirty way. The rules of engagements are there when the adversary comes face-to-face and fights with you. It is a dirty war... That is where innovation comes in. You fight a dirty war



‘WISH THEY FIRED AT US’

“I wish these people, instead of throwing stones at us, were firing weapons at us. Then I would have been happy. Then I could do what I (want to do)

Gen Bipin Rawat, ARMY CHIEF

with innovations,” Rawat said.

The Army Chief’s Commendation medal to Gogoi, who had tied a man to an Army jeep and used him as a human shield from stone throwers last

month, was criticised by human rights activists, Kashmiri groups and some retired Army generals.

A video of the incident triggered a row with many condemning it. Gogoi was awarded for his sustained efforts in counter-insurgency operations.

“People are throwing stones at us, people are throwing petrol bombs at us. If my men ask me what do we do, should I say, just wait and die? I will come with a nice coffin with a national flag and I will send your bodies home with honour. Is it what I am supposed to tell them as Chief? I have to maintain the morale of my troops who are operating there,” Gen Rawat said.

On the complexity of the security challenge in the state, he suggested it would have been easier for the armed forces had the protesters been “firing weapons

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On the edge in jittery UK

ROHIT MAHAJAN

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

LONDON, MAY 28

The passengers are restive, tired and full of nameless forebodings. We’re at Immigration Control at Heathrow Airport. Less than a week has passed since the Manchester suicide-bombing.

Fear and suspicion hang thick in the air. When their journey started, the passengers were aware that the British intelligence had categorised the security threat in the UK as “critical” — which meant that another terror attack “is expected imminently”.

During the flight, we’d learnt from the news ticker on our screens that all British Airways flights to and from Heathrow and Gatwick had been suspended due to an “IT failure”. Thousands of passengers have been stranded across the world. Exactly what happened? People don’t know, so they speculate. Some suspect “IT failure” was just

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

No mobiles in HP schools and colleges

BHANU P LOHUMI

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

SHIMLA, MAY 28

The Himachal Pradesh Government has pulled the plug on cellphone use in government colleges and high and higher secondary schools across the state, saying it creates nuisance and disturbs academic atmosphere.

In a letter to principals, Director of Higher Education BL Vinta has barred students from using mobile phones in classrooms or on campus, and imposed restrictions on teachers and staff. Vinta has directed principals to designate a zone on the campus such as staffrooms for the faculty to use phones “without causing any disturbance”.

Failure to comply with the directives will be viewed seriously and defaulters will attract disciplinary action, he warned. The decision has been taken since the use of cellphones on campuses “disturbs academic activities and affects the teaching-learning environment”, the letter says.

“Every teacher and staff member carries a phone and uses it either in the classroom or campus, causing disturbance,” said a senior staff member of Government College, Sanjauli (Shimla).

Himachal Government College Teachers’ Association general secretary Dr RL Sharma welcomed the move, saying college students neglected studies by remaining busy on social networking sites.

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