Technology could fundamentally disrupt the pattern of traditional economic path in developing countries'. Automation threatens 69 per cent of the jobs in India, while 77 per cent in China, according to a World Bank research which has said that technology could fundamentally disrupt the pattern of traditional economic path in developing countries. —As we continue to encourage more investment in infrastructure to promote growth, we also have to think about the kinds of infrastructure that countries will need in the economy of the future.

We all know that technology has and will continue to fundamentally reshape the world,” World Bank president Jim Kim said. —But the traditional economic path from increasing productivity of agriculture to light manufacturing and then to full-scale industrialization may not be possible for all developing countries,” Mr. Kim said in response to a question at the Brookings Institute during a discussion on extreme poverty on Tuesday.

—In large parts of Africa, it is likely that technology could fundamentally disrupt this pattern. Research based on World Bank data has predicted that the proportion of jobs threatened in India by automation is 69 per cent, in China it is 77 per cent and in Ethiopia, the percentage of jobs threatened by automation is 85 per cent,” he said. —Now, if this is true, and if these countries are going to lose these many jobs, we then have to understand what paths to economic growth will be available for these countries and then adapt our approach to infrastructure accordingly,” Mr. Kim said. Automation is not just a threat for India, it is so all over the world. Unless the educated youth are trained in utilizing the land and animal residues (waste) for creating more roads.
India strongly criticized an "unresponsive" Security Council on Wednesday for being indecisive on sanctioning leaders of organizations it itself designates as terrorist entities after China extended its "technical hold" on India's bid for a UN ban against JeM chief Masood Azhar. India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin told the UN General Assembly that the 15-nation Security Council, the "principal organ" tasked with the maintenance of peace and security, has in a variety of ways become "unresponsive to the needs of our time and ineffective to meeting the challenges it is confronted with".

Without naming China, Akbaruddin referred to its technical hold on India's bid against Jaish-e-Mohammed chief Masood Azhar, saying the Council is a body that "ponders for six months on whether to sanction leaders of organizations it has itself designated as terrorist entities". "Then, unable to decide, it gives itself three more months to further consider this issue. One has to expectantly wait for nine months before the process is completed to know if Council members have decided on a single issue," he said in the General Assembly debate on the Report of the Secretary General on the Work of the Organization here.

On March 31 this year, China - a veto-wielding permanent member of the Security Council - had blocked India's move to put a ban on Azhar under the al-Qaida Sanctions Committee of the Council. China was the sole member in the 15-nation UN organ to put a hold on India's application with all other 14 members of the Council supporting New Delhi's bid to place Azhar on the 1267 sanctions list that would subject him to an assets freeze and travel ban. The extended technical hold on it will allow more time.
The Centre has set up a high-level technical team to visit the Cauvery river basin area to assess the ground situation. The team will submit its report to the Supreme Court on October 17. The team, headed by central water commission chairman G S Jha, will hold a preparatory meeting in Bengaluru on October 7. It will visit the river basin area over the next eight days before finalising its report.

Besides Jha, the team, set up in pursuance of the SC's October 4 order, comprises senior officials of the CWC and chief secretary or his representative from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, and a chief engineer each from the two states besides Kerala and Puducherry.

All the three states and Puducherry have been asked by the water resources ministry to tell their officers to reach Bengaluru by Thursday so that the team can hold its first meeting on October 7. The team is expected to visit Hemavathi, Harangi, Krishnarajasagar and Kabini reservoirs in Karnataka and Mettur, Lower Bhavani Dam and Amaravati reservoirs in Tamil Nadu between October 7 and 15.

Farmers and pro-Kannada outfit activists protested in various parts of Karnataka on Monday against the Supreme Court directive to release Cauvery water to Tamil Nadu while chief minister Siddaramaiah convened a meeting of legislature leaders and MPs on Tuesday to discuss the issue. A day-long protest shutdown is being observed in Mandya town. The district authority was forced to declare holiday in schools and colleges in the town, about 100 km from here, due to protesters staging massive rallies and demonstrations, blocking vehicular traffic on the Bengaluru-Mysuru state highway. Though additional police personnel were deployed in the town and on the highway to maintain law and order and prevent untoward incidents.
Union minister of External Affairs Sushma Swaraj, who is known for her active role on social media, helped a teenage Pakistani girl get admission into Jaipur's Sawai Man Singh Medical College (SMS), here on Wednesday. "I thank Sushma Swaraj jee for making my dream come true," said 18-year-old Mashal Maheshwari, who joined SMS college on September 22.

Maheshwari's family had moved to Jaipur from Pakistan's Sindh province two years ago on a religious visa due to rising atrocities on Hindu minorities. Dr US Agrawal, controller and principal of SMS medical college confirmed her admission but did not reveal the category under which she secured a seat.

The meritorious student, who secured 91% in her Class XII CBSE exams, could not appear in the common entrance exam for medical NEET, due to her nationality. She had tweeted to the Union minister on May 29, 2016, and got prompt reply. "Mashal, don't be disappointed my child. I will personally take up your case for admission in a medical college." Swaraj had said in her tweet.

Later the minister's office asked Maheshwari to submit the documents required for admission. Mashal Maheshwari was reportedly offered a seat in Karnataka but she had requested for one either in Gujarat or Rajasthan. "I would like to become a neurologist or cardiologist and will serve India forever," she said.

Her parents, who studied from Pakistan's Liaquat University of Medical and Health Sciences in Jamshori, are currently employed as medical consultants in a private hospital in Jaipur as they are not allowed to practice here until they get a nod from the Medical Council of India. The family hopes to get an Indian nationality soon. It is certainly an act of compassion and based on merit as well.
India’s latest communication satellite GSAT-18 was today successfully launched by a heavy duty rocket of Arianespace from the spaceport of Kourou in French Guiana. The launch was originally scheduled for yesterday, but deferred by 24 hours owing to unfavourable weather conditions at Kourou, a French territory located in northeastern coast of South America. GSAT-18, built by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), aims at providing telecommunications services for the country by strengthening ISRO’s current fleet of 14 operational telecommunication satellites.

With the weather being clear today, the European launcher Ariane-5 VA-231 blasted off at around 2 am (IST) and injected GSAT-18 shortly after orbiting co-passenger Sky Muster II satellite for Australian operator NBN (National Broadband Network) in a flawless flight lasting about 32 minutes.

GSAT-18 that aims at providing telecommunications services for the country by strengthening ISRO’s current fleet of 14 operational telecom satellites was launched into a Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) about 32 minutes after the lift-off. “GSAT-18 successfully launched by Ariane-5 VA-231 from Kourou, French Guiana,” Bengaluru-headquartered ISRO announced after the mission. GSAT-18 is the 20th satellite from ISRO to be launched by the European space agency and the mission is the 280th for Arianespace launcher family. ISRO Chairman A S Kiran Kumar, who watched the launch from the mission control centre, left shortly after lift-off, and his message was read out later by one of his senior colleagues. “I am really delighted this evening having witnessed another glorious and flawless lift-off of Ariane-5 VA-231 flight that carried GSAT-18 and Sky Muster II successfully.”
The panel report said selectors of men, women and junior cricket were announced contrary to the norms of the Supreme Court verdict. Will the Supreme Court show the door to top BCCI administrators, including BJP MP and Board president Anurag Thakur? A newly constituted Special Bench of Chief Justice T.S. Thakur and Justices AM Khanwilkar and DY Chandrachud will, at 10.30 am, hear the Supreme Court-appointed former Chief Justice of India R.M. Lodha-led Committee's recommendation to oust the entire top brass of the cash-rich cricket body. A panel's latest report has suggested the top court to order the "immediate" supercession of current BCCI office-bearers for blatant violations of the July 18 Supreme Court judgment directing them to implement the panel's recommendations for transparency in cricket administration. —BCCI thinks they are a law unto themselves.

They are wrong. You behave like lords. Fall in line or else we will make you,” Chief Justice Thakur had warned the cricket body when the report was filed in court last week. The court had given the BCCI time till October 6 to respond to the panel's request to replace the current lot of BCCI administrators from with a new crop who will ensure the smooth transition from the old to the new system recommended by the committee”. The committee has sought the court to declare all decisions taken by the BCCI found contrary to the SC verdict of July 18 to be "declare non est and ineffective”.

The panel report complained of "impediments" in the path of the implementation of the Lodha panel recommendations. The panel highlighted violations in several decisions taken in the meeting, including the unanimous election of Ajay Shirke as secretary of the BCCI for the remaining part of the term.
The housing ministry is in talks with the defence ministry for building around 2 lakh houses for paramilitary forces using prefabricated technology. Similarly, another 37,500 such houses are being planned in Mumbai after a successful pilot project of 200 houses. Housing secretary Nandita Chatterjee said demonstration projects using such technology have been executed in different zones of the country and several states, including Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, Haryana and Maharashtra, have shown keen interest in alternative construction technologies.

Prefabrication is the practice of assembling components of a structure at the manufacturing site before transporting it to the building site. After inaugurating the 'HPL Housing Technology Park' in the national capital, housing minister M Venakaiah Naidu said, "Speedy, safe and sustainable construction using prefabricated alternative technologies is the need of the hour to meet the targets under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and programmes of state governments.

Several such technologies validated by official technical agencies are now available and need to be scaled up in use." Naidu said that with increase in demand, prefabricated construction technologies would become even more cost effective and they need to be promoted in a big way. Police can call a Good Samaritan for examination only once if he opts to be a witness in a road accident. In a recent notification, the road transport ministry has said in case a statement is to be recorded, it should be done in a single examination. Complying with the direction of the Supreme Court order of March, the ministry has added the new provision in the standard operating procedures (SOP) for dealing with.
There is absolutely no doubting the fact that Switzerland is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world and a luxury holiday for most Indians is synonymous with this beautiful country. God has been particularly kind to this fabled land and the Swiss have perfected the art of luring people with the many gems they possess. Most of Switzerland's beauty manifests itself in the mountain peaks dotting the country. Some of them are massively popular while some are hidden in delicate corners for the avid wanderers to discover.

With a few whites here and a few greens there, interspersed with some browns and reds, every little ascent is prettier than the other. While harsh and icy winds will certainly greet you at every step, the astounding views will warm your heart at the same time. The Swiss Alps are neither rugged like the Himalayas back home nor are they daunting like the Andes in South America. These mountain tops are easily accessible unlike several others across the world. They welcome travellers with open arms just like most of the country does. And it is therefore imperative for you to visit the planet's most tourist-friendly destination. I can vouch for the fact that Switzerland is capable of enthralling you in unparalleled ways and leave you wanting for more.

Do visit these mountain tops; the experience is pretty much akin to flying. Almost every geographical beauty we know of has a legend associated with it in some way or the other. Pilatus is no exception. As per a popular story, Pilatus, standing tall at 2132 m south west of Lucerne, was named after the Roman prefect Pontius Pilate whose dead body was discarded into a lake on top and it is apparently haunted. Also available are a plethora of dining options.
“Change would be needlessly disruptive to Maharashtra”. The Maharashtra government has expressed its reluctance to fall in line with the Centre’s plan to change the Indian financial year from April-March to January-December. It has communicated to New Delhi that the change would be “needlessly disruptive to the state of Maharashtra at a time when fixing the economy, and implementing GST and new financial norms should be the priority.” Most countries around the world prefer the January-December fiscal year, but India remains one of the few exceptions.

Over the years, many have argued that that the April-March fiscal year is a colonial leftover that should be abandoned. The previous UPA government had begun efforts to change the Indian fiscal year, and the NDA government has accelerated the process. The NITI Aayog has stressed the urgent need to change the financial year, and in July, the Centre appointed a committee under Chief Economic Advisor Shankar Acharya to examine the feasibility and desirability of changing the Indian financial year. Some states have agreed to the move.

Maharashtra remains an exception, senior officials in Maharashtra said. “There are major structural changes taking places in state’s financial system, which are consuming a lot of administrative time and manpower. In this scenario it may not practical to change the financial year. In the view of the above, we request financial year not be changed,” a note to Prashant Goyal, joint secretary, Ministry of Finance, reads. The state has cited fluctuating weather phenomena, implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) and the merger of Plan and non-Plan expenditure as some of the reasons a new financial year would burden the existing infrastructure.
While India’s self-esteem got a boost, the questions will continue until the government satisfies public curiosity. Defending the Congress’s decision to reveal details of the Army actions carried out under the UPA government, he recounts how A B Vajpayee supported the then Narasimha Rao government on countering a Pakistan-backed resolution at the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC). The strikes, frankly, are a matter of our national self-esteem, that we are not a pushover. These are not strikes that will eliminate the root cause of terrorism. We will obviously continue our efforts on every other front, including diplomatic front. Ultimately, the solution has to be found far beyond the Line of Control. We believe there have been some mistakes in handling of Pakistan by this government… but inevitably such things will happen in a dynamic situation.

I don’t think this is a moment in which we should be asking questions, because right now the message should go out that it is one nation, one voice, one sentiment. Nobody is questioning the strikes. There are people in our party who have active minds, and they are saying we need to know more. There are questions being raised here, in Pakistan etc. Why are these questions being raised? If the purpose of the strikes is told, there would be no further discussion. But the purpose is not being told. We have to work out the purpose for ourselves. Tit for tat? But is tit for tat enough? When Israel attacks some place, say nuclear facilities in Iran, they do it with a definite objective, that we will delay the nuclear programme by four years etc. So is there a plan? Like five strikes, and we will be in a much more comfortable position… Since the government has not spoken about any plan.
Over the past year, many American citizens were reportedly duped by operators at nine call centres in the satellite township of Mira Road, about 40 km from Mumbai. Late Tuesday night, Thane police raided these call centres, booked 700 persons and made 70 arrests. According to the investigating team, the victims in the US were threatened with a “taxinvestigation” by Mira Road call centre executives impersonating as American Internal Revenue Services (IRS) officials.

Thane Police Commissioner Param Bir Singh said to escape tax investigation, many Americans agreed to pay between US $500 and $60,000. An audio recording of an employee at one of these call centres, now in the possession of the Thane Police, had him tell his prospective victim: “There is a lawsuit filed in your name regarding tax evasion or tax fraud.” An officer said the call centre employees were trained to speak with an American accent. The nine alleged bogus call centres were located at three different locations, seven in a business park off Western Express Highway, one in a bungalow in Mira Road and one in a small shop in a residential building of the suburb.

“Thirteen employees would begin the conversation telling the listener the badge number and name of the IRS official. They would threaten the Americans saying if they didn’t pay up, then the police would raid their home in the next half hour,” said Singh. Investigations showed the calls were made through Voice Over Internet Protocol (VoIP). “The accused had spoofed the toll number of IRS. So when the victim received a call, Internal Revenue Services would flash on their phone,” Singh said. Victims would be coaxed to purchase a gift card of a specific brand and forced to transfer the money through these gift cards.
Does the quality of healthcare providers that people use vary systematically by socio-economic status (SES) in rural India? A new study published Thursday in the special issue of the Health Affairs Journal said the quality of health care depends mainly on where people live than who they are. Researchers Jishnu Das and Aakash Mohpal, economists with the World Bank, Washington, surveyed more than 23,000 households in 100 villages of Madhya Pradesh and collected data between 2009 and 2011 on the quality of health care providers and primary care visits.

“We were able to study for the first time the key question of whether households that have low socio economic status in rural India receive lower quality care and if so by how much,” Das, who is also a senior visiting fellow at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi told The Indian Express. The findings of the study _Socioeconomic Status and Quality of Care in Rural India: New Evidence from Provider and Household_ show that where people live matters more than who they are. Striking evidence in this study population — the majority of which is poor and illiterate — shows that households can assess the quality of health care providers and actively seek out higher quality. When patients travel farther, they access higher quality care.

Low socio-economic status households tend to travel farther than high socio-economic status ones to access the same quality care, the study found. The study funded by the Global Health Program of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation was conducted with the Center for Policy Research, New Delhi and the Institute for Socioeconomic Research on Democracy and Development in Delhi. —Thehlerage village in our sample could access 11 healthcare providers”.
HC stays NGT ban on diesel vehicles. Providing a respite to the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation, (KSRTC), private bus operators and owners of diesel vehicles of 2,000 cc and above, the Kerala High Court on Friday stayed the directive of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), Kochi Special Circuit Bench, to the government to ban diesel vehicles older than 10 years in six cities in the State. Justice P.B. Suresh Kumar had earlier stayed the tribunal’s directive restraining the State government from registering new diesel vehicles of 2000 cc and above except that of the public or local authorities. The judge issued the interim order staying the NGT’s directive to ban 10-year-old diesel vehicles in Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Kochi, Thrissur, Kozhikode, and Kannur cities on writ petitions filed by the Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) and the Kerala State Private Bus Operators’ Federation.

The court pointed out that counsel for the KSRTC and the private bus operators contended that the Supreme Court in M.C. Mehta vs. Union of India and others case had prohibited use of diesel vehicles of more than 15 years in Delhi after granting the bus operators reasonable time to replace their vehicles. The court observed that a perusal of the apex court judgment would indicate that the decision was rendered having regard to the air pollution level in the national capital region of Delhi. The court also referred to the arguments of the counsel that the air quality level in the State was far superior to that in Delhi. That apart, no data was available with the tribunal regarding the air quality level prevailing in the six cites. “In the circumstances, the petitioners had made out a strong prima facie case” for staying the NGT order.
India is not as open for business as investors hope, says Singapore’s Prime Minister Lee Hsein Loong, citing land acquisition, over-regulation and legal hassles among the biggest bottlenecks. “For trade to grow, India must make a strategic decision that you want to encourage interdependence and more openness and more trade-based economy,” Mr. Lee, who is on a five-day visit to India, told The Hindu in an exclusive interview. “Your growth rate increased because India was prepared to open up the economy, loosen government control, enable investments and free up the —animal spirits” or entrepreneurship. So TATA, Infosys, Mahindra went all over the world. But you have to allow other countries to operate in India too. It cannot be a one-way exercise,” Mr. Lee said, in a sharp critique of the operating difficulties he said businessmen face when trying to set up industry in India.

While India and Singapore have stepped up contacts as a part of the Modi government’s —Lok east, Act east” policy, bilateral trade between India and Singapore has declined year on year, down 11.2% in 2015-2016 to US $15 billion compared to 2014-2015, with Indian exports dropping 21.2% in a year. In a reference to the court case that has now put on hold a Singapore consortium’s plans to build Andhra Pradesh’s showcase capital Amaravati, Mr. Lee said that Singapore was still hopeful of the project, to develop 6.84 sq km of the capital’s core area as a —smart city”, going through. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had laid the foundation stone for the city project in 2015. “We are working on Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh. We did the master plan and we are bidding for the master developer contract. There is a legal process going on right now. We hope we get the contract."
Vehicular movement along the Tamil Nadu-Karnataka border at Jujuvadi in Hosur, which was stopped due to violence in Karnataka over the Cauvery water issue, resumed on Wednesday after 29 days. Lorries, cars and other vehicles bearing Karnataka registration numbers entered Jujuvadi on the Tamil Nadu side, while vehicles with Tamil Nadu registration numbers entered Attibele on the Karnataka side from Wednesday morning. However, bus services remain suspended, as Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation officials said a decision on resuming the services could be taken only after monitoring the situation. Inter-State movement of buses remained suspended since September 6 and services were operated only for a day on September 11.

As services remained suspended, people from both the sides had to walk for a km and cross the border to board buses. Senior police officials said protection is given to vehicles that enter both the States and normality is expected to resume soon. he weaved a historical novel around a Somalian trader with a jewelled eye, made a mark in crime fiction through Inspector Gowda and earned the title of a feminist writer too.

For now, the multi-faceted author Anita Nair has woven a dreamy tale of love in an equally dreamy setting – the Annamalai hills. And Alphabet Soup for Lovers uses the sensual tug of both tastes and aromas to draw you in; the story is strung together using food as a narrative thread. As for enhancing her experiment with a suggestive tweaking of the taste buds, Nair says she feels food and love are perfectly comparable. –We always talk about food as a basic need and I believe that love is a very basic need too – they have a lot in common. Think of this you have a meal and you’re sated.