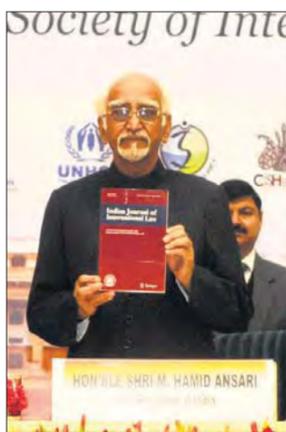




OUTDOORS

Forecast: Morn mist, later cl sky
Rainfall Nil
TEMPERATURE
Max: 23.9 (-2); Min: 14.7 (+1)
HUMIDITY
Max: 92% | Min: 55%
SUNRISE | **SUNSET**
06:19 hrs | 17:11 hrs

THUMBNAILS



VP Hamid Ansari releasing the "Indian Journal of International Law", at the inauguration of World Congress on International Law. In Delhi on Friday. = SNS

Spectrum case: SC quashed the 2G court order summoning Sunil Mittal and RK Ruia in 2002 spectrum case. Bench said legal principles were wrongly applied by court. Spectrum auction is to start from 25 Feb. P4

Supreme Court nod to Sahara: The Supreme Court allowed the Sahara Group to take steps to raise a loan of \$1,050 million from abroad for raising Rs 10k cr to ensure the release of Subrata Roy from jail. P2

Governor's rule in J&K: Governor's rule was imposed in Jammu and Kashmir with PDP and BJP failing to cobble up the required number to form a govt, triggering a blame game among political parties. P2

Tharoor demand: Expressing concern over the way investigation was being done into the death of his wife Sunanda Pushkar, Shashi Tharoor demanded a professional police probe without any political pressure. P2

Bengal DA: Mamata Banerjee announced an additional 7 per cent hike in DA for state govt employees with effect from 1 Jan. This comes with an additional burden of Rs 2100 crore per year on the state exchequer. P5

Manisana dead: Former Chief Justice of Gauhati HCRK Manisana (82) died after a heart attack in Imphal on Thursday, his family said. He had accidentally hit a pillar in his house at Sega Road and was rushed to hospital.

INDICATOR

Sensex	27,458	+183	▲
Nifty	8,284	+49	▲
Gold	25,810	-10	▼
Silver	36,650	-300	▼



THIS IS LAUGHABLE

P14



DON OUTDONE

STEVE SMITH ECLIPSES ONE OF BRADMAN'S RECORDS

P12

WHAT CAG SHOULD NOT DO

SATURDAY INTERVIEW P7



CHARLIE HEBDO SUSPECTS SHOT DEAD

FRENCH COPS STORM HOSTAGE SITES ■ THREE TERRORISTS AND THREE HOSTAGES KILLED ■ ONE HOSTAGE FREED

THE INDEPENDENT AND AGENCIES
Paris, 9 January

Three terrorists who seized hostages at separate locations and ignited fear across Paris were killed today along with three of their hostages as gunmen clashed with thousands of French security forces.

City officials scrambled to protect residents and tourists from further attacks, shutting down a famed Jewish neighbourhood, putting schools under lock down and urging residents to stay indoors and remain vigilant.

France has been on high alert since the country's worst terror attack in decades - the massacre on Wednesday in Paris at the satirical newspaper *Charlie Hebdo* that left 12 people dead.

Two al-Qaida-linked brothers suspected in the *Charlie Hebdo* killings came out of their hideaway with guns blazing today, a French police official said. Brothers Cherif Kouachi, 32, and Said Kouachi, 34, were killed in a shootout and their hostage was freed, authorities said.



French commandos evacuate hostages after launching an assault at a kosher grocery store in Porte de Vincennes, Paris, on Friday. =AFP

Another gunman who took at least five hostages today afternoon at a kosher grocery in Paris also died in a nearly simultaneous raid there, said Gael Fabiano of the UNSA

police union. The gunman was identified as Amedy Coulibaly.

Two police officials also confirmed Coulibaly's death and one said three hostages also died at the

grocery. The two police officials were not allowed to give their names to speak about the quickly developing situation. None of the officials could say what happened to the

woman listed on a police bulletin as his accomplice. Security forces stormed the Paris grocery minutes after their counterparts assaulted the printing plant north

east of Paris where two brothers suspected in the *Charlie Hebdo* killings had holed up.

Moments later, several people were seen being led out of the Porte de Vincennes grocery store but security forces could still be seen moving around. It was not clear exactly how many hostages had been at the store or how many were freed.

Minutes before the storming, the gunman in a Paris kosher grocery store had threatened to kill his five hostages if French authorities launched an assault on the two brothers, a police official said. The two sets of hostage-takers know each other, said the official, who was not authorised to discuss the rapidly developing situations with the media.

By today afternoon, explosions and gunshots rang out and white smoke rose outside a printing plant in Dammartin-en-Goele, northeast of Paris. Security forces had surrounded the building for most of the day.

After the explosions, a police SWAT forces could be seen on the roof of the building and one police helicopter landed near

it. Audrey Taupenas, spokeswoman for the town near the Charles de Gaulle airport, said the brothers had died in the clash.

Trying to fend off further attacks, the Paris mayor's office shut down all shops along Rosiers Street in the city's Marais neighbourhood in the heart of the tourist district. Hours before the Jewish Sabbath, the street is usually crowded with shoppers, French Jews and tourists alike. The street is also only a kilometre away from *Charlie Hebdo*'s offices.

At the kosher grocery near the Porte de Vincennes neighbourhood in Paris, the gunman had burst in shooting just a few hours before the Jewish Sabbath began, declaring "You know who I am," the official recounted. The attack came before sundown when the store would have been crowded with shoppers.

The official said the gunman is also believed to be responsible for the roadside killing of a Paris policewoman yesterday.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Modi spoke to the French President and condemned the attack.

Rajapaksa voted out; Sirisena in

'BID TO SHIELD EX-MCI CHIEF'

PRESS TRUST OF INDIA
Colombo, 9 January

In a stunning verdict, Sri Lankan voters today ousted President Mahinda Rajapaksa from power, ending a 10-year rule that was marked by allegations of family rule, corruption and authoritarianism and chose in his place his one-time minister Maithripala Sirisena, who has vowed to deliver the promised change.

Hours after the results were declared, 63-year-old Sirisena, who led a revolt and defected to the Opposition camp on the eve of the announcement of the elections, was sworn in as President symbolising a smooth transition of power. Sworn in along with him was his new Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe, who till now was the leader of Opposition. Both of

them took the oath of office at a ceremony in the Independence Square. Supreme Court Justice K Sripathan administered the oath to Sirisena. "I will ensure I deliver the change I promised. I will strengthen Sri Lanka's foreign relations to maintain friendly relations with all nations," Sirisena said.

"We will have a foreign policy that will mend our ties with the international community and all international organisations in order that we derive maximum benefit for our people," he said. Sirisena said he will not seek a second term. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Modi congratulated him on his victory and said he looked forward to working with him to take the bilateral ties to a new level.

SEE ALSO PAGE 9

New Delhi, 9 January: An "unholy political-MCI office-bearers' nexus" stands in the way of the country's healthcare delivery system which is essential for the well-being of the common man, according to Dr Kunal Saha of the NGO, People for Better Treatment (PBT). Dr Saha alleged that the main reason for the abysmal condition of medical education and practice of medicine in India is that the former Medical Council of India president Dr Ketan Desai and his associates are still running the entire healthcare delivery system. "While Dr Desai's licence to practise medicine remains suspended and he is free on bail facing serious criminal charges for bribery and corruption, top leaders of IMA and MCI are trying to shield Dr Desai, said Dr Saha. SNS

ARPITA PROTESTS AGAINST BRATYA'S POLICIES

Old allies fall apart

STATESMAN NEWS SERVICE
Kolkata, 9 January

In a dramatic way a rift has come to the fore between Trinamul Congress MP and theatre personality Arpita Ghosh and state minister and notable theatre personality Bratya Basu, who were in the vanguard of the protest movement by artistes against the previous Marxist government which was overthrown in the 2011 Assembly poll.

Ms Ghosh virtually accused the minister of having been instrumental in not allowing anti-establishment plays to be staged in state-controlled theatres. "It was the minister and not me who headed the relevant committee and as such I can no longer take the respon-



Natyaswajan could not reach anywhere near the goal for which it was formed. It had a bias towards Trinamul

ARPITA GHOSH

sibility of deciding whether certain plays were to be staged or not," she said in an interview to a TV channel. "If power goes to the head, it is very difficult to bring it down," she said in an obvious reference to the minister. "When courtiers speak



more than the monarch, then it's the latter's job to ask them to be quiet," she said aiming her barb at the minister.

When asked for his reaction on the development, thespian Soumitra Chattopadhyay said "I have no idea what Natyaswajan is and therefore I have nothing to react". Disgusted at the existing state of affairs, Ms Ghosh washed her hands of Natyaswajan, a group of theatre personal-

ities, which had supported the Trinamul Congress' clarion call for "paribartan" (change).

"Natyaswajan could not reach anywhere near the goal for which it was formed. It had a bias towards the Trinamul", Ms Ghosh admitted.

"Owing to its (Natyaswajan) proximity to power, many sycophants and incapable people crowded around it. My name had been used in many places though I disliked it," she said.

Ms Ghosh's exit from Natyaswajan comes in the wake of the departure of notable theatre personalities - Mr Manish Mitra and Mr Debesh Chattopadhyay. "My friends have left it for valid reasons," the Trinamul MP said.

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