



दि न्यू इन्डिया एश्योरन्स कंपनी लिमिटेड

THE NEW INDIA ASSURANCE COMPANY LTD.

पंजीकृत एवं प्रधान कार्यालय : न्यू इन्डिया एश्योरन्स बिल्डिंग, 87, महात्मा गांधी मार्ग, फोर्ट, मुंबई - 400 001.
Regd. & Head Office : New India Assurance Bldg., 87, M.G.Road, Fort, Mumbai - 400 001.
CIN No. L66000MH1919GOI000526

Phone : 022-22708100
22708400

Website : www.newindia.co.in

Ref: No.: NIACL/Inv/2018-19/Postal Ballot

February 20, 2019

To,

The Manager
Listing Department
BSE Limited
Phiroze Jeejeebhoy Tower
Dalal Street
Mumbai 400 001

The Manager
Listing Department
The National Stock Exchange of India Ltd.
Exchange Plaza, 5th floor, Plot C/1,
G Block, Bandra-Kurla Complex
Mumbai 400 051

Scrip Code: (BSE – 540769/NSE – NIACL)

Reg: Notice of Postal ballot

Dear Sir/Madam,

In terms of Regulation 30 of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, we forward herewith a copy of the Postal Ballot Notice issued to the Members of the Company for passing the following resolution:

Item No.	Description of the Resolution
1.	Special Resolution for Approval for continuation of Mr. S.K. Banerjee (DIN 01987541) as Non Executive Independent Director.

Kindly acknowledge receipt and take over the intimation on record.

Yours Sincerely,

For The New India Assurance Company Limited



Jayashree Nair
Company Secretary & Chief Compliance Officer



The New India Assurance Company Limited
Regd. & Head Office: 87, M.G. Road, Fort, Mumbai- 400 001
CIN No : L66000MH1919GOI000526 , IRDA Reg No : 190
Tel: +91 22 22708263; Fax: +91 22 22652811
Email : investors@newindia.co.in ; Website : www.newindia.co.in

Notice of Postal Ballot

Dear Members,

Notice is hereby given pursuant to the provisions of Section 110 and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Companies Act, 2013 (the "Act"), read with Rule 22 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 (including any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force, and as amended from time to time) to seek approval of the members for continuation of Mr. S.K. Banerjee (DIN 01987541) as Non Executive Independent Director, proposed to be passed as a Special Resolution by the Members of The New India Assurance Company Limited ("Company") by way of Postal Ballot including voting by electronic means ("e-voting").

The explanatory statement pursuant to Sections 102 and other applicable provisions, if any, of the Act pertaining to the aforesaid resolution setting out the material facts and the reasons for the proposal thereof is annexed hereto for your consideration, along with a postal ballot form ("Postal Ballot Form").

Resolution :

Approval for continuation of Mr. S.K. Banerjee (DIN 01987541) as Non Executive Independent Director.

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass with or without modification(s) the following resolution as a Special Resolution:

"RESOLVED THAT pursuant to Regulation 17(1A) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, as amended on May 9, 2018 and the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, if any and Rules made thereunder (including any statutory modification(s) or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force), approval of the members be and is hereby accorded for continuation of Directorship of Mr S.K. Banerjee (DIN: 01987541), Non-Executive Independent Director of the Company, till the expiry of his existing term, as per Ministry Order dated 29th September 2017, i.e. upto 28th September 2020 or until further orders from the Ministry of Finance, whichever is earlier."

"FURTHER RESOLVED THAT for the purpose of giving effect to this resolution, Mr. Hemant G. Rokade, Director & General Manager, Mr. C. Narambunathan Director & General Manager, and Ms Jayashree Nair Company Secretary of the Company be authorised to take such steps as may be



necessary to do all such acts, deeds, matters and things, as may be considered necessary, desirable and expedient for giving effect to this resolution and to settle any question or difficulty that may arise with regard to the aforesaid purpose and which it may deem fit in the interest of the Company.”

Registered office:
87 M .G. Road
Fort , Mumbai -
400001

By order of the Board of Directors
For The New India Assurance Co Ltd

Jayashree Nair
Company Secretary

Mumbai
February 6, 2019

Notes:

1. Voting Period commences on and from 9.00 A.M. on Thursday, 21st February, 2019 and ends at 5.00 P.M. on Friday, 22nd March, 2019. Voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time.
2. An explanatory Statement for the proposed Resolutions mentioned above pursuant to Section 102 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with relevant Rules setting out material facts is annexed hereto.
3. All the material documents referred to in the explanatory statement will be available for inspection at the registered office of the Company during office hours on all working days from the date of dispatch of the Postal Ballot Notice until the last date for receipt of votes by Postal Ballot/e-voting.
4. The Notice is being sent to all the members by speed post/registered post/courier service (and also electronically by email to those members who have registered their email-id with the Company/ Depositories), whose names appear in the Register of Members/Record of Depositories as on Friday, 8th February, 2019.
5. Members, whose names appear in the Register of Members/Record of Depositories as on Friday, 8th February, 2019 will be eligible for voting. Person who is not a member as on the said record date should treat this notice for information purpose only.
6. Resolutions passed by the members through Postal Ballot are deemed to have been passed as if the same has been passed in the General Meeting of the members.
7. The Board of Directors, at their meeting held on 6th February, 2019, has appointed Mr. S. N. Ananthasubramanian (COP 1774) and failing him, Ms. Malati Kumar (COP 10980), partner of S. N. Ananthasubramanian & Co., Practicing Company Secretaries, as the Scrutinizer to conduct the Postal Ballot process in a fair and transparent manner. The Postal Ballot Form and the Self-addressed postage prepaid envelope are enclosed for use by the members.
8. Members have option either to vote through remote e-voting process or through the Postal Ballot Form. Members who have received the Postal Ballot Notice by email but wish to vote through Postal Ballot Form can download Postal Ballot Notice and Postal Ballot Form from the Company's website www.newindia.co.in or seek duplicate Postal Ballot Notice and Postal Ballot Form from Link Intime India Private Limited, C 101, 247 Park, L.B.S Marg, Vikhroli West, Mumbai - 400 083, fill the requisite details and send the same to the scrutinizer at Link Intime India Private Limited, Mr. S. N. Ananthasubramanian, / Ms. Malati Kumar (Scrutinizer), Unit- The New India Assurance Company Limited, C 101, 247 Park, L.B.S Marg, Vikhroli West, Mumbai - 400 083.
9. Members are requested to carefully read the instructions printed in the Postal Ballot Form duly completed with the Assent (For) and/or Dissent (Against) in the attached postage prepaid envelope so as to reach the Scrutinizer on or before 5.00 P.M. on 22nd March, 2019, being the last date for receipt of Postal Ballot Form by the Scrutinizer, providing sufficient time for postal transit.
10. The result of the Postal Ballot will be announced on Saturday, 23rd March, 2019 at the Registered Office of the Company and will also be informed to the National Stock exchange of India Limited (NSE) and BSE Limited (BSE) and will be posted on the Company's website www.newindia.co.in
11. Members who are holding shares in electronic form are requested to notify any correction/ change in their name/ address including Pin Code immediately to the Depository Participant. In the event of non - availability of Members' latest address either in Company's record or in Depository Participant's records, members are likely to miss notices and other valuable correspondences sent by the Company.



12. Members who hold shares in physical form are requested to notify any change in their particulars like change in address, bank particulars etc., to the Company's Registrars viz., Link Intime India Private Limited situated at C 101, 247 Park, L.B.S Marg, Vikhroli West, Mumbai - 400 083.
13. Members are requested to kindly mention their Folio Number/ Client ID Number (in case of Demat shares) in all their correspondence with the Company's Registrar in order to obtain reply to their queries promptly.
14. A Member(s) can opt for only one mode of voting i.e. either by remote e-voting or through ballot. In case you are opting to vote by remote e-voting, then please do not cast your vote by ballot and vice-versa. In case a Member(s) cast his/her/their vote both by remote e-voting and a ballot, the vote(s) cast through remote e- voting shall prevail and the vote(s) cast through ballot form shall be considered invalid.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR VOTING

Voting in Physical form:

1. Member desiring to exercise vote by Postal Ballot may complete the Postal Ballot Form (no other form or photocopy thereof is permitted) and send it to the Scrutinizer in the attached self-addressed envelope. The self-addressed envelope bears the address of the Scrutinizer. Postage will be borne and paid by the Company. However, the envelope containing the Postal Ballot Form, if sent by courier at the expense of the member, will also be accepted.
2. Duly completed Postal Ballot Form should reach not later than 5.00 P.M. on 22nd March, 2019. All Postal Ballot Forms received thereafter will be strictly treated as if the reply from the member has not been received.
3. Assent and/or dissent to the proposed resolutions may be recorded by placing a tick mark (✓) in the appropriate column or by writing number of Shares accorded for in the appropriate column(s).
4. This form is to be completed and signed by the member (as per signature registered with the Company). In case of joint holding, this form should be completed and signed by the first-named member and in his/her absence, by the next named member. There will be only one postal ballot form for every folio irrespective of the number of joint-holder(s).
5. In case the form is signed by the Power of Attorney holder for and on behalf of the member, it must be accompanied by a certified copy of the power of attorney. If such power of attorney is already registered with the Company, the Power of Attorney holder should quote the registration number beneath his/her signature. In case of shares held by companies, trusts, societies, etc., the duly completed Postal Ballot Form should be accompanied by a certified copy of the Board Resolution/ Authority.
6. Unsigned and/or incomplete Postal Ballot Forms in any manner shall be rejected.
7. Members are requested not to send any other paper along with the Postal Ballot Form in the enclosed self-addressed envelope since all such envelopes will be sent to the Scrutinizer and any extraneous paper found in such envelope would be destroyed by the Scrutinizer.
8. The attached self-addressed envelope is only for the limited purpose of this postal ballot process and the same should not be used by the members for sending any other correspondence to the Company.

Voting in Electronic Form (Remote E-voting):

In compliance with provisions of Section 110 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 22 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, and Regulation 44 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Company proposes to offer remote e- voting facility for the members to enable them to cast their votes electronically. Members have option to vote either through remote e-voting or through the Postal Ballot. If a member has opted for remote e-voting, then he/she should not vote by Postal Ballot also and vice-versa. For the purpose of remote e-voting, the Company has signed an agreement with the National Securities Depository Limited (“NSDL”) for facilitating remote e-voting.

Members are requested to follow the instructions below to cast their vote through remote e-voting. The instructions are as under:



How do I vote electronically using NSDL e-Voting system?

The way to vote electronically on NSDL e-Voting system consists of “Two Steps” which are mentioned below:

Step 1 : Log-in to NSDL e-Voting system at <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com/>

Step 2 : Cast your vote electronically on NSDL e-Voting system.

Details on Step 1 is mentioned below:

How to Log-in to NSDL e-Voting website?

1. Visit the e-Voting website of NSDL. Open web browser by typing the following URL: <https://www.evoting.nsdl.com/> either on a Personal Computer or on a mobile.
2. Once the home page of e-Voting system is launched, click on the icon “Login” which is available under ‘Shareholders’ section.
3. A new screen will open. You will have to enter your User ID, your Password and a Verification Code as shown on the screen.

Alternatively, if you are registered for NSDL eservices i.e. IDEAS, you can log-in at <https://eservices.nsdl.com/> with your existing IDEAS login. Once you log-in to NSDL eservices after using your log-in credentials, click on e-Voting and you can proceed to Step 2 i.e. Cast your vote electronically.

4. Your User ID details are given below :

Manner of holding shares i.e. Demat (NSDL or CDSL) or Physical	Your User ID is:
a) For Members who hold shares in demat account with NSDL.	8 Character DP ID followed by 8 Digit Client ID For example if your DP ID is IN300*** and Client ID is 12***** then your user ID is IN300***12*****.
b) For Members who hold shares in demat account with CDSL.	16 Digit Beneficiary ID For example if your Beneficiary ID is 12***** then your user ID is 12*****



c) For Members holding shares in Physical Form.	EVEN Number followed by Folio Number registered with the company For example if folio number is 001*** and EVEN is 101456 then user ID is 101456001***
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5. Your password details are given below:

- a) If you are already registered for e-Voting, then you can use your existing password to login and cast your vote.
- b) If you are using NSDL e-Voting system for the first time, you will need to retrieve the ‘initial password’ which was communicated to you. Once you retrieve your ‘initial password’, you need enter the ‘initial password’ and the system will force you to change your password.
- c) How to retrieve your ‘initial password’?
 - (i) If your email ID is registered in your demat account or with the company, your ‘initial password’ is communicated to you on your email ID. Trace the email sent to you from NSDL from your mailbox. Open the email and open the attachment i.e. a .pdf file. Open the .pdf file. The password to open the .pdf file is your 8 digit client ID for NSDL account, last 8 digits of client ID for CDSL account or folio number for shares held in physical form. The .pdf file contains your ‘User ID’ and your ‘initial password’.
 - (ii) If your email ID is not registered, your ‘initial password’ is communicated to you on your postal address.

6. If you are unable to retrieve or have not received the “ Initial password” or have forgotten your password:

- a) Click on “**Forgot User Details/Password?**”(If you are holding shares in your demat account with NSDL or CDSL) option available on www.evoting.nsdl.com.
- b) **Physical User Reset Password?**” (If you are holding shares in physical mode) option available on www.evoting.nsdl.com.



c) If you are still unable to get the password by aforesaid two options, you can send a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in mentioning your demat account number/folio number, your PAN, your name and your registered address.

7. After entering your password, tick on Agree to “Terms and Conditions” by selecting on the check box.
8. Now, you will have to click on “Login” button.
9. After you click on the “Login” button, Home page of e-Voting will open.

Details on Step 2 is given below:

How to cast your vote electronically on NSDL e-Voting system?

1. After successful login at Step 1, you will be able to see the Home page of e-Voting. Click on e-Voting. Then, click on Active Voting Cycles.
2. After click on Active Voting Cycles, you will be able to see all the companies “EVEN” in which you are holding shares and whose voting cycle is in active status.
3. Select “EVEN” of company for which you wish to cast your vote.
4. Now you are ready for e-Voting as the Voting page opens.
5. Cast your vote by selecting appropriate options i.e. assent or dissent, verify/modify the number of shares for which you wish to cast your vote and click on “Submit” and also “Confirm” when prompted.
6. Upon confirmation, the message “Vote cast successfully” will be displayed.
7. You can also take the printout of the votes cast by you by clicking on the print option on the confirmation page.
8. Once you confirm your vote on the resolution, you will not be allowed to modify your vote.



General Guidelines for shareholders

1. Institutional shareholders (i.e. other than individuals, HUF, NRI etc.) are required to send scanned copy (PDF/JPG Format) of the relevant Board Resolution/ Authority letter etc. with attested specimen signature of the duly authorized signatory(ies) who are authorized to vote, to the Scrutinizer by e-mail to scrutinizer@snaco.net with a copy marked to evoting@nsdl.co.in.
2. It is strongly recommended not to share your password with any other person and take utmost care to keep your password confidential. Login to the e-voting website will be disabled upon five unsuccessful attempts to key in the correct password. In such an event, you will need to go through the “[Forgot User Details/Password?](#)” or “[Physical User Reset Password?](#)” option available on www.evoting.nsdl.com to reset the password.
3. In case of any queries, you may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Shareholders and e-voting user manual for Shareholders available at the download section of www.evoting.nsdl.com or call on toll free no.: 1800-222-990 or send a request at evoting@nsdl.co.in

Explanatory statement pursuant to Sections 102(1) and 110 of the Companies Act, 2013

As per Regulation 17(1A) of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015 (hereinafter referred to as 'Listing Regulations') as amended vide SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) (Amendment) Regulations, 2018, with effect from 1st April, 2019, no listed Company shall appoint or continue the Directorship of a Non-Executive Director who has attained the age of 75 years, unless a special resolution is passed to that effect.

Mr. S.K. Banerjee (DIN: 01987541) was appointed as Non-Executive Independent Director of the Company under Section 149 and 152 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Schedule IV attached thereto and Rules made there under and pursuant Regulation 17 of SEBI (Listing obligations and disclosure requirements) Regulations, 2015 to hold office upto 28th September 2020 or until further orders from the Ministry of Finance, whichever is earlier”, not liable to retire by rotation.

Mr. S.K. Banerjee (DIN: 01987541) is a Member of “The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India” and a practicing Chartered Accountant since 1978. He also holds a bachelor’s degree in economics and Law. He has an enriched experience of decades in Accounts, Finance, Taxation, FEMA. His guidance on matters related to Accounts, Finance, Taxation, FEMA has been notable and supportive to the Company in dealing with complex matters.

The members are therefore, requested to grant their approval by way of a Special Resolution for continuation of Mr. S. K. Banerjees’ appointment as an, “ Non-executive Independent Director” upto 28th September, 2020 inspite of him attaining the age of 75 years due to his rich experience, expertise and valuable contribution made to the Board of Directors of the Company



None of the Directors, Key Managerial Personnel of the Company or their relatives except Mr S.K.Banerjee is in any way, concerned or interested, financially or otherwise, in the aforementioned resolution.

The Board of Directors of your Company recommends this Resolution for your approval.

Registered office:
87 M.G. Road
Fort, Mumbai -
400001

By order of the Board of Directors
for The New India Assurance Co Ltd

Jayashree Nair
Company Secretary

Mumbai
February 6, 2019



The New India Assurance Company Limited, Mumbai.

Regd. & Head Office: 87, M.G. Road, Fort, Mumbai- 400 001

CIN No : L66000MH1919GOI000526 , IRDA Reg No : 190

Tel: +91 22 22708263 ; Fax : +91 22 22652811

Email : investors@newindia.co.in ; Website : www.newindia.co.in

POSTAL BALLOT FORM

(PL. READ CAREFULLY THE INSTRUCTIONS PRINTED OVERLEAF BEFORE COMPLETING THIS FORM)

Sr. No. :

1. Name and Registered address :
of the sole/ first named member
(IN BLOCK LETTERS)

2. Name(s) of the Joint member (s) :
If any (in block letters)

3. Registered Folio No. / DP ID No.* / :
Client ID No.>(*Applicable to
Investors holding Shares in Demat
form)

4. Number of Shares held :

I/We hereby exercise my/our vote in respect of following Resolutions to be passed through Postal Ballot for the business stated in the Notice dated 6th February 2019 , by conveying my/our assent and/or dissent to the said Resolutions by placing the tick (✓) mark in the appropriate box below:

Item No.	Brief particulars of the resolution	No. Of Shares	I/We assent to the resolution <i>Please tick (✓)</i>	I/We dissent to the resolution <i>Please tick (✓)</i>
1.	Special Resolution for Approval for continuation of Mr. S.K. Banerjee (DIN 01987541) as Non Executive Independent Director.			

Place: _____

Date : _____

E-mail address: _____

Tel.No.: _____

Signature of the Shareholder

ELECTRONIC VOTING PARTICULARS

EVEN (Electronic Voting Event Number)	USER ID	Password
110412		

Notes:

1. Please read the instructions printed overleaf carefully before exercising your vote
2. Last Date for Receipt of Postal Ballot Form by the Scrutinizer: 5.00 p.m. on Friday, 22nd March, 2019.



IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

1. Duly completed Postal Ballot Form should reach the Scrutinizer c/o Link Intime India Private Limited , C-101, 247 Park, L.B.S.Marg, Vikhroli (W), Mumbai – 400 083 not later than 1700 hours(IST). on Friday, 22nd March, 2019. Postal Ballot Forms received after this date will be treated as if the reply from the shareholder has not been received and the same will not be considered for the purpose of postal ballot.
2. Voting rights shall be reckoned on the paid-up value of equity shares registered in the name(s) of Member(s) on the cut-off date i.e. 8th February, 2019. A person who is not a member on the relevant date should treat this notice for information purpose only.
3. A Member desirous of exercising vote by physical Postal Ballot should complete the Postal Ballot Form in all respects and send it after signature to the Scrutinizer in the attached postage pre-paid self-addressed Business Reply Envelope which shall be properly sealed with adhesive or adhesive tape. However, envelopes containing Postal Ballot Form, if sent by courier, registered post or speed post at the expense of the Member will also be accepted.
4. Alternatively, a Member may vote through electronic mode as per the instructions for e-voting provided in the Postal Ballot Notice sent herewith.
5. The Members can opt only one mode of voting, i.e., either by Physical Ballot or e-voting. In case Members cast their vote by Physical Ballot and e-Voting, the voting done through e-voting shall prevail and voting done by Physical Ballot will be treated as invalid.
6. The Self-addressed Business Reply Envelope bears the name of the Scrutinizer appointed by the Board of Directors of the Company, and the address to which the same needs to be dispatched.
7. The Postal Ballot Form should be completed and signed by the Member (as per the specimen signature registered with the Company). Voting rights in a Postal Ballot cannot be exercised by a Proxy. In case of joint holding, this Form should be completed and signed (as per the specimen signature registered with the Company) by the first named Member and in his/her absence, by the next named Member. Holders of Power of Attorney (POA) on behalf of the Members may vote on the Postal Ballot mentioning the registration number of the POA and enclosing an attested copy of the POA.
8. There will be only one Postal Ballot Form for every Folio/Client ID irrespective of number of joint holders.
9. Consent must be accorded by placing a tick mark in the column, 'I/We assent to the Resolution', or dissent must be accorded by placing a tick mark in the column, 'I/We dissent to the Resolution'. Form bearing tick mark in both the columns will be treated as invalid. A Member need not use all his/her votes nor does he/she need to cast his/her votes in the same way.
10. The votes of a Member will be considered invalid on any of the following grounds
 - a) If a form other than the Postal Ballot Form issued by the Company is used.
 - b) If the Postal Ballot Form has not been signed by or on behalf of the Member.
 - c) If the Member's signature does not tally with the specimen signature with the Company.
 - d) If the Member has marked his/her/its vote both for 'Assent' and also for 'Dissent' to the 'Resolution' in such manner that the aggregate Equity Shares voted for 'Assent' and 'Dissent' exceeded total number of Shares held.
 - e) If the Member has made any amendment to the Resolution or imposed any condition while exercising his vote.
 - f) If the Postal Ballot Form is incomplete and incorrectly filled.
 - g) If the Postal Ballot Form is received torn or defaced or mutilated or in a manner such that it is difficult for the Scrutinizer to identify either the Member or the number of votes, or whether the votes are for 'Assent' or 'Dissent', or neither assent or dissent is mentioned or if the signature could not be verified, or one or more of the above grounds.
 - h) Any competent authority has given directions in writing to the Company to freeze the voting rights of the Member.
11. E-Voting: The company is pleased to offer the e-voting facility. The process to be followed is explained in the postal ballot notice.
12. In case of Equity Shares held by companies, trusts, societies etc., the duly completed Postal Ballot Form should be accompanied by a certified copy of Board Resolution/authority and attested specimen signature(s) of the duly authorized signatories giving requisite authorities to the person voting on the Postal Ballot Form.
13. Members are requested NOT to send any other paper along with the Postal Ballot Form in the enclosed postage prepaid self-addressed Business Reply Envelopes as all such envelopes will be sent to the Scrutinizer and any extraneous paper found in such envelopes would be destroyed by the Scrutinizer and the Company would not be able to act on the same.
14. The scrutinizer's decision on the validity of Postal Ballot Form shall be final.
15. Any query in relation to the Resolution proposed to be passed by Postal Ballot may be sent to investors@newindia.co.in.
16. The result of the Postal Ballot will be declared in the newspapers for the information of the shareholders, uploaded on the Company's website www.newindia.co.in and communicated to the stock exchanges where the Company's shares are listed.

TREADING WARILY

China, Iran meet amid efforts to preserve N-deal

CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
BEIJING, February 19

THE IRANIAN FOREIGN minister's passionate defence of his country's interests at the Munich Security Conference has made him "a famous person" in China, his Chinese counterpart told him on Tuesday, as the sides met amid efforts to preserve the 2015 nuclear deal with Tehran.

Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif is leading an Iranian delegation to Beijing that includes parliamentary speaker Ali Larijani and the ministers of finance and petroleum, as well as the CEO of the country's central bank.

Germany, Britain, France, China, Russia and the European Union have been trying to preserve the 2015 deal meant to keep Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons in exchange for sanctions relief after the unilateral withdrawal of the US last year. "Yesterday evening I saw on TV how you defended the rights of Iran loud and clear at the Munich Security Conference," Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi told Zarif. "I think an audience of hundreds of millions of Chinese also watched what you said and you are a famous person now."

A perception held by many Chinese that the US seeks to contain their nation's global rise generates sympathy among the public for Iran and other countries, such as Venezuela, identified by Washington as hostile powers.

Zarif told the Munich conference on Sunday that a barter-



Iran Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, left, with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi shake at a meeting at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing on Tuesday —AP

type system known as INSTEX set up last month by France, Germany and Britain to allow businesses to skirt direct financial transactions with Iran, and thereby evade possible US sanctions, fell short of commitments to save the nuclear deal.

He addressed the conference a day after US Vice-president Mike Pence prodded Germany, France and Britain to follow Washington in withdrawing from the deal and to "stop undermining US sanctions".

Wang made no direct comments on China's position on the deal in opening remarks before reporters on Tuesday, but said he was "really delighted" to meet with Zarif, "given the major changes in the Middle East and the international landscape."

"I would like to take this op-

portunity to have this in-depth strategic communication with my old friend to deepen the strategic trust between our two countries and to ensure fresh progress of the bilateral comprehensive and strategic partnership," Wang said. Zarif responded by saying Iran's relationship with China "is very valuable to us."

"We consider the comprehensive strategic partnership between Iran and China as one of our most important relations," Wang said. Prior to parliamentary speaker Larijani's departure from Tehran, China's official *Xinhua News Agency* quoted him as saying that Iran and China have "close and amicable" relations in diverse areas, and that both sides have enjoyed the support of each other in the international arena.

Asked about China's position on the Iran deal and Washington's re-imposition of sanctions, foreign ministry spokesman Geng Shuang said China had made clear its disapproval.

"We have always opposed unilateral sanctions and long-arm jurisdiction," Geng said, referring to US efforts to compel other countries to adhere to measures it imposes outside the United Nations.

China has long sought to balance its relations in the Middle East between rivals Iran and Saudi Arabia — one of its chief suppliers of crude oil — whose de facto leader, Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, is due to visit Beijing on Thursday and Friday for meetings with President Xi Jinping and other Chinese officials.

Iran is also an important source of crude imports to China, which has invested in manufacturing and other industries in Iran. At the same time, China has sought to remain a friend to Israel, which Iran regards with hostility, partly to avail itself of the country's cutting-edge technologies.

Yin Gang, a retired researcher formerly with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said China was feeling a greater sense of urgency and may press Iran to take a "practical attitude" in light of US concerns over its missile program, support for Syria's embattled leader and other US concerns. The Saudi crown prince's visit imposes pressure from the opposite direction, however, Yin said. —AP

Iconic couturier Karl Lagerfeld dead

THOMAS ADAMSON
PARIS, February 20

CHANEL'S ICONIC COUTURIER, Karl Lagerfeld, whose accomplished designs as well as trademark white ponytail, high starched collars and dark enigmatic glasses dominated high fashion for the past 50 years, has died. He was around 85.

Such was the enigma surrounding the German-born designer that even his age was a point of mystery for decades, with reports he had two birth certificates, one dated 1933 and the other 1938. In 2013, Lagerfeld told French magazine *Paris Match* he was born in 1935, but in 2019 his assistant still didn't know the truth — telling *AP* he liked "to scramble the tracks on his year of birth — that's part of the character."

Chanel confirmed that Lagerfeld died early on Tuesday. Lagerfeld was one of the most hardworking figures in the fashion world holding down the top design jobs at LVMH-owned luxury label Fendi from 1977, and Paris' family-owned power-house Chanel in 1983. Indeed, his indefatigable energy was notable: he lost



File photo of Karl Lagerfeld with German model Nadja Auermann (left), Naomi Campbell (second right), and an unidentified model at a fashion event in Paris —AP

around 90 pounds in his late 60s to fit into the latest slimline fashions.

Though he spent virtually his entire career at luxury labels catering to the very wealthy, including all of 20 years at Chloe, Lagerfeld's designs quickly trickled down to low-end retailers, giving him an almost unprecedented impact on the entire fashion industry.

At Chanel, he served up youthful designs that were al-

ways of the moment and sent out almost infinite variations on the house's classic skirt suit, ratcheting up the hemlines or smothering it in golden chains, stings of pearls or pricey accessories. They were always delivered with wit.

"Each season, they tell me (the Chanel designs) look younger. One day we'll all turn up like babies," he once told *The Associated Press*.

His outspoken and often

stinging remarks on things as diverse as French politics and celebrity waistslines won him the nickname "Kaiser Karl" in the fashion media. Among the most acid comments included calling President Francois Hollande an "imbecile" who would be "disastrous" for France in *Marie Claire*, and telling *UK's The Sun* that he didn't like the face of Pippa Middleton, the Duchess of Cambridge's sister. "She should only show her back," he advised.

Lagerfeld was also heavily criticised for sending out a negative message to women when he told France's *Metro* newspaper that signer Adele was "a little too fat."

Despite this, he did have an under-reported soft side. He was known to be very kind to his staff at Chanel and was famous for according journalists generously long interviews after each fashion show. He also shared his unmarried life in his Parisian mansion with a Siamese cat called Choupette. —AP

SMART WASTE-DISPOSAL

UK lawmakers call on govt to end throwaway fashion

SONYA DOWSETT
MADRID, February 19

A CROSS-PARTY group of British lawmakers recommended on Tuesday that brands and retailers in the fashion industry should pay a penny per garment to fund better clothing waste collection following an eight-month inquiry into the sector.

The British buy more clothes per person than any other country in Europe, the report published as a result of the inquiry noted, while around 300,000 tons of textile waste are sent to landfill or incinerators in the UK every year.

The inquiry, the first of its kind carried out at parliamentary level worldwide, coincides with growing public awareness of waste and its environmental impact. The fashion industry is big business in Britain, worth £32 billion (\$41 billion) in 2017 and employing 890,000 people in retail, manufacturing, brands and fashion design in the country. But charities, scientists and academics raised concerns during the inquiry that fast fashion — an accelerated business model that sees increased num-



Fashion industry is big business in Britain, worth £32 billion in 2017 and employing 890,000 people in retail, manufacturing, brands and fashion design —REUTERS

bers of new collections every year, often at low prices - was unsustainable.

"Fast fashion" means we over-consume and under-use clothes," said environmental audit committee chair Mary Creagh, who is also a member of parliament. "Fashion retailers must take responsibility for the clothes they produce."

Aside from the penny charge to fund better waste collection, the committee called on the government to implement tax reforms to reward companies

that design products with less environmental impact and to favour reuse, repair and recycling of garments.

It also recommended lessons to design, make and mend clothes should be on the school curriculum, while sales taxes on repair services should be reduced.

"The government must act to end the era of throwaway fashion by incentivising companies that offer sustainable designs and repair services," said Creagh. —REUTERS

Google rebuffs 'toilet paper' search showing Pak flag claims

New Delhi, February 19

TECH GIANT GOOGLE on Tuesday said it had not found any evidence that search for 'toilet paper' on its site was showing images of Pakistani flag.

The clarification came after the screenshots of purported search results posted by some social media users went viral on Facebook and other platforms in the aftermath of the terror attack in south Kashmir's Pulwama.

"While we continue to investigate the matter, we have not found any evidence that Google Images was ranking the Pakistani flag in response to this particular search," Google spokesperson said, adding many news outlets wrote about an old screenshot from a meme website that was inconsistent with Google's users interface and dated back to 2017.

"We have not seen any independent verification that these results ever appeared as depicted," the spokesperson said. —PTI

Enterprising Agriculture
Empowering Progress

Agriculture sector and its ancillary activities contribute 18% towards India's GDP and 50% towards employment. Therefore it is imperative that there is special focus on this sector. India's farmers, especially farmers from Maharashtra, are progressive, despite adverse conditions. There is a need to identify the problems that these farmers face - be it in availing crop insurance, or the conditions of the warehouses; the ability to link agriculture and enterprise, or experiments in agriculture and agro-related fields; or the conduciveness of organic farming - to unearth solutions through constructive discussions to nurture the sector. Continuing its thoughtful, positive and interactive approach, Loksatta's initiative, Badalta Maharashtra's newest session is dedicated to agriculture and agro-based industries, reviewing its current status and future avenues.

बदलता महाराष्ट्र

in association with **MEP** INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPERS LTD.

Date: 21st and 22nd February, 2019.
Entry by invitation only.

दिव्य इन्डिया एश्योरन्स कंपनी लिमिटेड
The New India Assurance Co. Ltd

The New India Assurance Company Limited, Mumbai
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NOTICE OF POSTAL BALLOT NOTICE TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMPANY

MEMBERS are hereby informed that pursuant to Section 110 and other applicable provisions of the Companies Act, 2013, read with Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 44 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, The New India Assurance Company Ltd. (the "Company") seeks their your Members approval by way of postal ballot and e-voting in respect of resolutions as set out in the Postal Ballot Notice dated 6th February, 2019. The Company has on February 19th, 2019, completed the dispatch of the Postal Ballot Notice, along with the Postal Ballot Form to all the Shareholders Members whose names appear in the Register of Members/ List of Beneficial Owners as on 8th February, 2019 ("Cut Off Date"). The Postal Ballot Notices are sent (a) through electronic mail to the Shareholders Members whose e-mail IDs are registered with their Depository Participants/ the Company's Registrar and Transfer Agent; and (b) through Physical mode, along with a postage-prepaid self-addressed Business Reply Envelope to those Members Shareholders Members whose e-mail IDs may not be registered. The Postal Ballot Notices are sent for seeking approval of the Shareholders Members of the Company by Postal Ballot, including voting by electronic means, for the matter mentioned below. The Voting Rights of the Shareholders Members shall be reckoned on the basis of the equity shares of the Company held by them as on the Cut-off Date. Any person who is not a Shareholder Members of the Company as on the Cut-off Date shall treat the Postal Ballot Notice for Information purposes only.

Item No.	Description of the Resolution
1.	Special Resolution for Approval for continuation of Mr. S.K. Banerjee (DIN 01987541) as Non Executive Independent Director.

In compliance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013, read with the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, the Company is providing e-voting facility to the Shareholders Members to cast their vote by electronic means on all the resolutions set forth in the Postal Ballot Notice. The Company has engaged the services of National Securities Depository Limited ("NSDL") for the purpose of providing e-voting facility to all its shareholding. Shareholders Members are requested to note that the voting, both through postal ballot and electronic mode shall commence from **Thursday, 21st February, 2019 (0900 hours IST) and shall end on Friday, 22nd March, 2019 (1700 hours IST)**. The e-voting facility will be disabled by NSDL thereafter.

The Board of Directors have appointed Mr. S. N. Ananthasubramanian and failing him, Ms. Malati Kumar, partner of S. N. Ananthasubramanian & Co., as the Scrutiniser for conducting the postal ballot/ e-voting process in a fair and transparent manner. Shareholders Members are requested to note that the duly completed and signed postal ballot forms should reach the Scrutiniser not later than **Friday, 22nd March, 2019 (1700 hours IST)**. Postal ballots received after the close of working hours on **Friday, 22nd March, 2019 (1700 hours IST)**, will not be considered as valid.

Shareholders Members may opt for only one mode of voting i.e. either by physical Postal Ballot or e-voting. In case a shareholder has voted through e-voting as well as the Postal Ballot Form, the vote cast through e-voting shall be considered valid and the vote cast through physical Postal Ballot shall be treated as invalid.

Shareholders Members who are registered with NSDL for remote e-voting, can use their existing user ID and password for casting votes. Any Shareholder who does not receive the Postal Ballot Form may either send an e-mail to investors@newindia.co.in or may apply to the Registrar and Share Transfer Agent of the Company and obtain a duplicate postal ballot form. The Postal Ballot Notice and the Postal Ballot Form can also be downloaded from the Company's web site : www.newindia.co.in or www.nsdل.com, the web site of NSDL. In case of any queries or Issues regarding e-voting, Shareholders Members may refer the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") and e-voting manual available at www.evoting.nsdل.com under 'Downloads' Section.

The result of the Postal Ballot shall be declared by the Chairman of the Company or any other authorised person of the Company on or before Saturday, 23rd March, 2019 and communicated to the stock exchanges, Depository, Registrar and Share Transfer Agents and shall also be displayed on the Company's web site www.newindia.co.in.

For any queries/ grievances relating to voting by postal ballot or e-voting, Shareholders Members are requested to contact Link Intime India Private Limited, C-101, 247 Park, L.B.S. Marg, Vikhroli (W.), Mumbai-400 083, Tel. No. +91 22 49186270, e-mail id : rt.helpdesk@linkintime.co.in. Shareholders Members can also contact Ms. Pallavi Mhatre, Assistant Manager, 4th Floor, "A" Wing, Trade World, Kamala Mills Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai-400 013, Tel. No. 1800222080/ +91 22 24994600, e-mail id : evoting@nsdl.co.in.

For The New India Assurance Co. Ltd.

Sd/-
Jayashree Nair
Company Secretary

February 20, 2019
Mumbai, India

