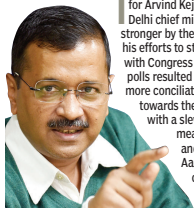


N²⁰¹⁹ NewsMakers

Taking pole position



It was a year of ups and downs for Arvind Kejriwal, but the Delhi chief minister emerged stronger by the end of it. While his efforts to stich an alliance with Congress for the Lok Sabha polls resulted in a loss of face, a more conciliatory approach towards the Centre, coupled with a slew of welfare measures, put him and his Aam Aadmi Party in a comfortable situation



Different strokes of protest

Delhi had a new protest hotspot as scores of differently abled railway job aspirants descended on Mandi House roundabout twice in a span of a month. Traffic was thrown out of gear in Central Delhi on October 23, as over 200 protesters lay siege. They left a day later following assurances from the railways, only to return on November 26. This time, they stayed put for 11 days before being evicted by police

Serial winner's last bow



Frail, but not short on enthusiasm, three-time former CM Sheila Dikshit's new innings as Delhi Congress chief certainly created ripples. The 81-year-old strongly resisted attempts by some party colleagues to forge a pre-poll pact with AAP and led Congress to the second position in five of the seven seats. Her sudden death in June came as a shock

Many storms in his tea cup



Each of his past four years as JNU VC was mired in controversy and 2019 was no different. M Jagadeesh Kumar stirred a hornet's nest by outsourcing entrance exams to NTA and making attendance compulsory for all. Things came to a head when JNU decided to hike hostel fees



Tearjerking story

Onions sold costlier than apples, spicing up city politics. Delhi BJP blamed AAP government, which, in turn, put the ball in the Centre's court. Delhi government's move to sell the essential commodity through 70 mobile vans and 400 ration shops at Rs 23.9 per kg brought temporary relief, only for the prices to shoot up again to reach Rs 120 per kg at certain locations. BJP MLAs wore garlands of onions to the assembly as a mark a protest, sparking a ruckus

Waste, wonder and woes



The wonders of the world came to Delhi in February: metal scrap was converted into replicas of global architectural icons, such as Taj Mahal, Great Pyramid of Giza, Eiffel Tower and Leaning Tower of Pisa, and people made a beeline to the seven-acre park at Sarai Kale Khan. The roads couldn't cope, though, and there were massive traffic jams on Ring Road, prompting the corporation to look for answers to the parking woes

File photos