**OPINION 6** 

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# 'RS nomination, Guv's post don't befit ex-CJI'

SC Collegium balanced way of doing things, says UU Lalit

PNS NEW DELHI

A Rajya Sabha nomination or a Governor's posting is not befitting the status of the Chief Justice of India (CJI), the outgoing CJI Uday Umesh Lalit plans said. Justice Lalit made it clear that it was his personal clear that it was his personal

However, his comments would revive the debate on Justice Ranjan Gogoi's nomination to the Upper House of Parliament within six months of his relinquishing the office of the CJI in November 2019.

Talking to *NDTV*, Justice Lalit said while he was not averse to the idea of accepting a Government appointment, he would not accept a Rajya Sabha nomination or a Governor's posting as he believes it's "not a demotion, but not befitting the status of the Chief Justice of

"To my mind, having held the position as Chief Justice of the country, perhaps, I think the position as a nominee Member of the Rajya Sabha is not the correct idea or as a



Former Chief Justice of India Uday Umesh Lalit with his wife Amita Lalit during an interaction with the media at his residence in New Delhi on Sunday

Governor of a State is again not a correct idea," he said to a question on judges, like former CJI Ranjan Gogoi, accepting post-retirement Government

postings.
"That's my personal view. I'm not suggesting that those persons are in the wrong," he added. Justice Lalit mentioned the National Human Rights Commission chief, Lokpal, and Law Commission chief as jobs he wouldn't mind taking up if

"Rajya Sabha is a com-pletely different thing. What I mean to say is that places like

NHRC...wherever there is legislation which the Parliament has passed, and the Parliament has prescribed that so-and-so person with requisite experience who was or is the judge of the Supreme Court or former Chief Justice of the Supreme

Court, we go by the wisdom of

the Parliament," he clarified. The former Chief Justice said he would love to teach law at various levels. "Maybe at the National Judicial Academy as a resource person. Go to some of the law schools as visiting pro-

Justice Lalit also defended the existing Collegium route for the appointment of judges and termed it a "perfectly correct and balanced" way, disagreeing with Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju who recently called the system

"opaque".

"These ("opaque, unaccountable") are his personal views... It's a perfectly, correct and balanced way of doing things. It is a system where every viewpoint is considered," the former CJI said.

"The Collegium system is here to stay and it is an established norm where judges choose judges," he said, adding that the fundamentals of the system can be fine tuned.

Continued on Page 2

## England win T20 WC, break Pakistani hearts



England players celebrate with their trophy after defeating Pakistan in the final of the T20 World Cup Cricket tournament at the Melbourne Cricket Ground in Melbourne, Australia on Sunday

**PTI** ■ MELBOURNE

England's golden generation for white ball cricketers overcame a spirited Pakistan to lift the T20 World Cup trophy with a comfortable five-wicket victory here on Sunday. The Pakistani fans were longing for an encore of 1992 when Imran Khan's team created history at this very venue but batting let Babar Azam's side down as 137 for 8 was never going to be good enough.

England skipper Jos Buttler, who was made white-

ball captain earlier this year, was all praise for his team which has set the benchmark in limited over cricket. "To win the T20 World Cup now, immensely proud of everyone here. It has been a long journey and a few changes, but we are reaping the rewards of how we have played in last few years."

Early on in the tourna<sup>®</sup> ment, the shock loss to Ireland did hurt but the players moved on quickly from that little blip to focus on the road ahead, said star England all-rounder Ben Stokes after scoring a

match-winning 52 in the final. Stokes showed his big match prowess once again with a gritty 50 under extreme pressure to help England to their second T20 World Cup title. He looked back on the team's memorable

campaign.
"With that (defeat to Ireland) being so early in the competition we obviously had to address it, say what had to be said and then let it go," Stokes, who was also instrumental in England's 2019 World Cup triumph, said after the five-wicket win. Continued on Page 2

### **CAPSULE**

**100 NEW MED COLLEGES** IN NEXT FIVE YRS: MIN New Delhi: The Union Health Ministry has drawn a proposal to set up 100 new medical colleges by 2027 by upgrading district hospitals under the

fourth phase of a scheme that

aims to boost the availability of human resources for the health sector in the country. WEATHER PUTS OFF PVT **ROCKET VIKRAM-S LAUNCH** New Delhi: Inclement weather conditions have put off the sub orbital launch of India's first privately developed rocket —

Vikram-S — by three days to November 18, the Hyderabadbased space startup Skyroot Aerospace said on Sunday. P4 **5 BJP LEADERS MAY FIGHT** AS INDEPENDENTS IN GUJ Ahmedabad: At least one sitting Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA and four former Legislators have threatened to contest as Independents after

being denied tickets by the BJP for the forthcoming Gujarat Assembly elections. N KOREA THREAT: JAPAN US, S KOREA TO RESPOND Phnom Penh (Cambodia): US President Joe Biden and the leaders of Japan and South Korea on Sunday vowed a unified, coordinated

response to North Korea's threatening nuclear and ballistic missile programmes, with Biden declaring that the three-way partnership is "even more important than it's ever been" when North Korea is stepping up its

## Priyanka Gandhi cried, asked me about her father's killing: Nalini



Nalini Sriharan, one of the convicts in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case, speaks to reporters during a press conference in Chennai on Sunday after being released from prison on Saturday

PNS CHENNAI

Priyanka Gandhi turned emotional and cried when she met her in the Vellore Central Prison over a decade ago, Nalini Sriharan, one of the convicts freed in the former Prime Minister's assassination case said here on Sunday.

Talking to reporters in Chennai a day after she walked out of jail where she spent 32 years, Nalini told reporters Priyanka Gandhi asked about the killing of her father Rajiv

**Report links** 

to Liverpool FC takeover

PTI ■ LONDON

**Mukesh Ambani** 

Gandhi when she met her in prison in 2008. Nalini said she

divulged whatever she knew. 'Šhe (Priyanka) was an angel. And she made me respect myself because... we were not treated properly in jail. We were not even allowed to sit in front of officers. We had to stand and talk. But when she came to meet me, she made me sit next to her. It was a very different experience for me," she

Continued on Page 2

### **Pet parents to pay ₹10K,** get victim treated in case of attack: Noida Authority

s Noida continues to wit-As Noida continues to witness a rise in cases of dog bites, the Noida Authority has decided to impose a fine of pet dog or cat attacks from March 1, 2023.

The Noida Authority also decided to put the onus of the victim's treatment on the owners of the pets or "pet parents" as they are called these days.

The Noida Authority on

Saturday made it mandatory for pet owners to register their pets by January 31 next year in its latest guidelines. Failure to do so will result in imposition of a fine. After a Board meeting, the Noida Authority issued an order stating that from March 1, 2023, in case of any untoward incident due to a pet dog or cat, a ₹10,000 penalty would be imposed on the owner and the cost of the treatment of the injured person or animal would also be borne

by the owner of the pet. "In case of any untoward incident due to a pet dog/cat, the treatment of the injured



person or animal will be done by the owner of the pet dog/cat along with the imposition of fine of ₹10,000 from March 1, 2023," the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Noida Authority, Ritu Maheshwari,

said in a tweet. "If a pet dog litters in a public place, it will be the responsibility of the animal's owner to clean it," she further added. The Noida Authority also issued detailed guidelines in the meeting to determine the policies. It has also made antirabies vaccination of pet dogs mandatory

Continued on Page 2

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### Zindagi ke saath bhi, Zindagi ke baad bhi.

# According to The Mirror,

Indian billionaire Mukesh Ambani has entered the race to bid for world-renowned English football club Liverpool FC's takeover, reported a leading English daily. Others in the fray include parties from the Gulf and the US. The English Premier

League giants have been put up for sale by their current own ers Fenway Sports Group (FSG), who bought the Merseyside club in October 2010 and have reportedly appointed Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley to assist them in selling the team.

the FSG are willing to sell the club for 4 billion British pound. Ambani has enquired about the club, the English daily reported. Details on P11

## Centre looks to give tribal schools big push by 2026

Tribal Min hopes to enrol 3.5L students, recruit 36K teachers in 740 EMRS

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

he Union Tribal Ministry The Union Iribai Million, hopes to enroll 3.5 lakh students and recruit 36,000 teachers in its 740 Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRS)

for tribal students by 2026 across the country. At present, the existing schools are facing a huge shortage of teachers while many schools are still in the con-

struction stage. Just 5,000

teachers are employed in the it happens, which is likely to be

EMRS. As of November, a total of 688 EMRS have been sanctioned, of which 392 are functional and around 1,05,463 students are enrolled in them.

For recruitment of teach-

ers, the Ministry is pinning its hopes on the restructuring of the National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS) The Government has decided to adopt the CBSE curriculum in these schools to be run through the central fund. The administrative over

haul of the NESTS will be approved very soon", Union Tribal Affairs Minister Arjun

Munda said recently. The Ministry's Joint Secretary Naval Jit Kapoor told The Pioneer, "The process of recruitment of teachers is at the most advanced stage with the

expenditure department. Once

process will become smooth without any problems.' He added that once completed, they will be able to

soon, the teacher recruitment

recruit 36,000 teachers as per the recommended figures for all 740 schools that are proposed to be sanctioned. "By 2026, all the schools

will be operational providing educational benefits to 3.5 lakh students, of which 50 per cent will be girls," said Kapoor. Giving details of the status of the construction of the schools, he said that at least 62

schools are facing land acquisition and other issues. Last year, 32 schools were estab-Eight of these schools are ready for inauguration and construction work is over in

230 schools. Continued on Page 2

## **Punjab Govt tightens** regulations on firearms

### Ban on public display of guns, songs glorifying weapons

The Punjab government on I Sunday banned the public display of firearms, including on social media, and songs allegedly promoting gun culture and violence, as it tightened regulations after facing flak from the Opposition over the law and order situation.

The state government also directed a review of arms licences within the next three months, with no new licence to be issued during the period, and surprise checks, according to an official order.

A complete ban should be imposed on carrying and displaying weapons at public gatherings, religious places, wedding ceremonies and other events, the order said.

Directions were also issued for registration of an FIR against those indulging in hate speech against any communi-



The Bhagwant Mann government has been under fire from opposition parties -Congress, Shiromani Akali Dal and BJP - for the alleged deteriorating law and order situation after a string of sensational

The state witnessed the murder of Shiv Sena (Taksali) leader Sudhir Suri on November 4 and Dera Sacha Sauda follower Pardeep Singh on November 10. Both of them were under police protection.

Earlier the killing of inter-

national Kabaddi player Sandeep Nangal Ambian in Ialandhar in March and the brutal murder of singer Sidhu

There was also a rocketpropelled grenade attack at the Punjab police intelligence headquarters in Mohali and

Moosewala in May had sparked

After the murder of the Dera follower, the opposition parties had said that the state had become the "terror capital" of the country with a reign of

The state's home department, in a missive to the police head, commissioners of police, deputy commissioners and senior superintendents of police, said the chief minister had issued directions to take these steps to maintain law and order in the state.

According to the order, songs that glorify weapons and violence should be completely

There should be a complete ban on public display of weapons including on social media, the order said.

It stated that within three months, there should be a review of arms licenses issued till now and if any arm license is found issued to any wrong person, it should be cancelled immediately

The order further stated that no new arms license will be issued in the next three months. Such a license should only be issued if the concerned official is satisfied at a personal level that it is necessary to

In the coming days, sur-prise checks should be conducted at different places, the

The fresh order comes a day after a major reshuffle in the police department was done by the state government.

## Explosion on railway track in Udaipur; NIA, other agencies investigate

**PTI** UDAIPUR

An explosion occurred on a railway track here on Sunday, hours before the recently inaugurated Asarwa-Udaipur Express train from Ahmedabad was to pass. Police said they are investigating all angles, including sabotage.

Officials said mining explosives were used in the blast at Odha bridge near Kewda Ki Naal, which comes under the Jawar Mines police station of Udaipur.

"Local people informed us about the explosion in the morning. We have found some explosives on the track and efforts are being made to identify those responsible," Station House Officer (SHO) Anil Kumar Vishnoi said.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the blast was reported about 35 km from Udaipur. "We have our best on the spot - ATF, NIA and RPF. The accused will be severely punished," he said.

The bridge restoration team is also on the site.

ating in the probe.

Teams of the Forensic Rajasthan Chief Minister

Science Laboratory and the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) visited the spot and conducted

the matter thoroughly. Mishra said efforts were being made to identify and arrest those responsible. Necessary action is being taken in coordination with railway officials," he said.

The DGP further said that central agencies were cooper-

Ashok Gehlot said the incident

was worrying and ordered

Director General of Police

Umesh Mishra to investigate

investigations. Another police official said

"Superpower 90" detonator was used for the explosion. "The blast appears to be wellplanned. Due to the alertness of the local people, the matter came to light and a major incident was averted," he said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had flagged off the inaugural run of the AsarwaAsarwa railway station in Ahmedabad on October 31.

Following the explosion, the train was halted at the Dungarpur station, a railway spokesperson said.

Udaipur Superintendent of Police Vikas Sharma said all angles, including sabotage, were being probed and the work to restore the tracks was underway. Police and railway officials are also at the spot for the investigation, the SHO said.

### **NCR-PULSE**

**GOVT LIFTS BAN ON BS-III PETROL, BS-IV DIESEL VEHICLES** New Delhi: The Delhi government on Sunday said the ban on BS-III petrol and BS-IV diesel four wheelers will be lifted from Monday. The decision means that all types of vehicles can ply on Delhi roads from Monday without any restrictions. The move will bring a big relief to people who could not ply their vehicles due to restrictions. However, a Delhi government official said a meeting will be held on Monday to decide whether the curbs should continue or not. "The restrictions were in place till November 13 and they have not been extended yet. The AQI (air quality index) has been stable in the last four days in the city. There is a meeting tomorrow to discuss what needs to be done," he said. During a review meeting last week, the Delhi government's transport department had decided that the curbs under stage 3 of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) should remain in place for the next few days instead of a knee-jerk

### SPECIAL CAMPS ORGANISED AT DELHI POLLING STATIONS

New Delhi: The Chief Electoral Office informed that to bolster voter awareness about the ongoing SSR campaign among the general public and to accelerate enrollment of young



organised on 12th and 13th November at all polling stations of Delhi. The CEO further said that citizens who already have a voter ID should verify their name in the voter list on VoterHelpline App or by sending SMS (ECI <space> VoterID number) to 1950. If the name is not found they should file Form-6 for

### Rampant corruption in maintenance of roads, says Akhilesh

amajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Sunday slammed the Yogi Adityanath government for "rampant corruption" in maintenance of He said roads across the

state are full of potholes and it's difficult to make out whether it's potholes on the roads on roads in potholes. Uttar Pradesh ranks on top in terms of poor quality of

roads. The government data tells the actual story of the state of roads where many lives are lost in mishaps," Akhilesh said.

"Yogi Adityanath has been in power for over five years and every year he sets a

new date for making the roads potholes- free, yet nothing has changed at the ground level. Thousands of crore were allocated from the state budget for road repair but the end use of the money is a mystery as roads remain full of potholes," he said.

The SP president, who is also the leader of opposition in the UP Assembly, alleged that the scheme of the state government for making roads potholes-free is, in fact, a scheme of corruption.

He said that in the last few years, deadlines were announced many times for making the roads potholesfree, but nothing happened and the minister was

### SP to make bid to woo Dalit voters

PNS LUCKNOW

To counter the inroads made by the Bharatiya Janata Party among Dalit voters, particularly the Pasi community, the Samajwadi Party will now launch a Dalit outreach programme and concentrate on celebrating the Dalit icons of the community. The efforts of the SP in this regard are also prompted by the perceptible decline of Bahujan Samaj Party and almost nil political activity by the Dalit dominated political outfit to mobalise the Pasi community in the recent

To begin with, the SP is scheduled to hold a programme at the party's headquarters on the death anniversary of freedom fighter Uda Devi Pasi on December 31. The programme, to honour the



sacrifice of the freedom fighter during the revolt of 1857, is a first of its kind for the SP in

The BJP has already announced plans to construct 100-foot tall statue of Uda Devi at Mohanlalganj.

According to a senior SP leader, with the BSP struggling to retain its presence in UP, it has opened an opportunity for the SP to reach out to the Dalit voters of the state. "We are working to ensure that the community chooses us in future elections as an alternative to the BSP," he said

### Telangana woman found murdered in Amroha; Facebook friend held dence in Banswada on

Amarried woman hailing from Telangana was murdered by a youth in Amorha. She was missing from her house for about one week and had came to meet her Facebook friend in Amroha when she was murdered. The police in Amroha, after recovering the body, were tracing her identity when they made a breakthrough after the Telangana police contacted them to enquire about a lady missing from there and her last location being traced in Amroha. The accused will be handed over to the Telangana police for further action.

According to reports, the body of Uzma Begum (32), who went missing from her resiNovember 6, was found in the premises of a private security company in Amroha district. As the woman was unidentified, the cops were trying to confirm her identity. In the meantime, the Telangana police contacted the Amroha cops to enquire about Uzma as her last location was traced in Amroha. The cops subsequently sent her photo which helped them to confirm her identity. Uzma was missing since

she left her home. On suspicion, the Amroha police arrested an employee of the security company, Mohd Shehzad, and questioned him, which revealed the shocking details of how friendship over Facebook led to the murder. Shehzad, 36, also runs

## England win T20 WC, break...

on the way, credit to Ireland for turning up and beating us, but the best teams learn from their mistakes and not let it affect them," said Stokes.

The seasoned Stokes,

They chased down the target in 19 overs to regain the title they had won in 2010 in the West Indies.

Experienced Haris Rauf and young Nasim Shah Cup final.

anchored the chase despite bowled their hearts out to "In tournaments like occasional scratchiness and prevent it from becoming a these you can't carry baggage had a calm Moeen Ali as an one-sided game but Stokes with Ali as the duo put on a 48-run stand for the fifth wicket to nail the win that avenged England's loss to the same rivals in the '92 World

### **GOLDEDGE ESTATE AND INVESTMENT LIMITED** Regd Office:-C-115,Ground Floor, Mansoravar Garden, New Delhi-110015 CIN: L70101DL1992PLC047541

	EXTRACT OF STANDALONE FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER / HALF YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022							
	Rs. in lakhs except per share data							
		STANDALONE						
S. No.		Quarter Ended			Half Year Ended		Year Ended	
140.		30-Sep-22	30-Jun-22	30-Sep-21	30-Sep-22	30-Sep-21	31-Mar-22	
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	
1	Total income from operations (gross)	6.28	6.04	13.03	12.32	25.91	38.78	
2	Total income from operations (net)	6.28	6.04	13.03	12.32	25.91	38.78	
3	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	2.12	2.49	0.69	4.61	9.50	13.37	
4	Net Profit for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	2.12	2.49	0.69	4.61	9.50	13.37	
5	Net Profit for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	1.59	1.86	(0.75)	3.45	7.11	9.99	
6	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]		1.86	(0.75)	3.45	7.11	9.99	
7	Equity Share Capital (Face Value of Rs. 10/- each)	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	
8	Other Equity	-	-	-	-	-	67.18	
9	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)							
	Basic :	0.03	0.036	(0.015)	0.07	0.139	0.195	
	Diluted:	0.03	0.036	(0.015)	0.07	0.139	0.195	

	EXTRACT OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER / HALF YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022							
	Amt. in Rs. except per share dat							
				CONSOL	IDATED			
S. No.	Particulars	Quarter Ended			Half Year Ended		Year Ended	
IVO.		30-Sep-22	30-Jun-22	30-Sep-21	30-Sep-22	30-Sep-21	31-Mar-22	
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Audited)	
1	Total income from operations (gross)	6.28	6.04	13.03	12.32	25.91	38.78	
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3	Net Profit for the period (before tax and exceptional items)	2.12	2.49	0.69	4.61	9.50	13.37	
4	Net Profit for the period before tax (after exceptional items)	2.12	2.49	0.69	4.61	9.50	13.37	
5	Net Profit for the period after tax (after exceptional items)	1.59	1.86	(0.75)	3.45	7.11	9.99	
6	Total Comprehensive Income for the period [Comprising Profit for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]	1.83	1.77	(0.75)	3.45	7.11	9.99	
7	Equity Share Capital	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	512.24	
8	Other Equity	-	-	1	-	-	73.93	
9	Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)							
	Basic :	0.036	0.035	(0.001)	0.070	0.151	0.214	
	Diluted:	0.036	0.035	(0.001)	0.070	0.151	0.214	
Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly Financial results filed with Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the								

For and on behalf of the Boar

Nikhil Bansa

SEBI (Listing obligations and other disclosure Requirements) Regulations 2015. The full format of the Quarterly results are available or

### Priyanka Gandhi cried, asked me about her father's killing...

felt sorry for the families of those who were killed in that blast. "I am very sorry for them. We have spent so many years thinking about it, and

"They have lost their dear ones. I hope they will come out of that tragedy once and for all, any time," she added. Rajiv Gandhi was killed

by a suicide bomber while campaigning for an election Tamil Nadu's Sriperumbudur in May 1991 by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), a Sri Lankan group.

On whether she would meet the family of Rajiv Gandhi, Nalini said "I don't think they will meet me. I think the time has passed for them to see me.'

Denying any role in Rajiv Gandhi's assassination, Nalini

all, really. I know I'm con-Talking separately to a victed. But to my heart, and what happened."

Claiming that she was charged in the case because she was part of the group that plotted it, she said, "They were my husband's friends. So, I got acquainted with them. I'm a very reserved person. I don't talk to them. helped when they need it, like going to shops or theatres or hotels or temples. I used to go with them. That's it. Other than that, I don't have any personal contact, or I don't know their family, where they belong.'

Before her death sentence was commuted in 2001, Nalini said, she expected to be executed any time and prepared seven times to be hanged.

Seven times they put up black warrant (order for execution) they used to wait for said, "I don't have any role at

## Despite winds, Delhi's AQI at 303 due to farm fires

**STAFF REPORTER** NEW DELHI

Winds gusting up to 18 kilometres per hour barrelled through the national Capital on Monday but a high share of emissions from farm fires in Punjab kept the air quality in the "very poor" cat-

Delhi's 24-hour average air quality index (AQI) stood at 303 on Sunday, as was on Saturday. It was 346 on Friday and 295 on Thursday. The city recorded a minimum temperature of 12.6 degrees Celsius and a maximum of 28.2 degrees Celsius. The minimum temperature is expected to dip further from Monday.

Officials at the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said winds gusting up to 18-20 kmph barrelled through the city during the day. But that did not lead to any improve-



impact of stubble burning on Delhi's pollution rose amid favourable transport-level wind speed and direction.

According to data from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), farm fires in Punjab dipped from 2,467 on Saturday to 2,175 on Sunday. However, their share in Delhi's PM2.5 pollution increased from 17 per cent on Saturday to 24 per cent on Sunday, according to SAFAR, a forecasting agency under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

However, The AQI of

Ghaziabad stood at 230, Noida at 231, Greater Noida at 234, and Faridabad 272, which comes under poor category. On the other hand, Gurugram reported the AQI at (282), which comes under the "poor" category, as per the bulletin

released by the CPCB. Out of the total 34 stations, most of the stations in the city recorded the AQI in the 'very poor' category are Anand Vihar (334), Jahangir Puri (343), Vivek Vihar (313), Wazirpur (319), Alipur (326), Ashok Vihar (314), R K Puram (318), Narela (404), Shadipur (333), Mundka (308), Nehru Nagar (327), Patparganj (343), Punjabi Bagh (325), Jawahar Lal Nehru stadium (343), Mandir Marg (308), Pusa (343), Rohini (319), Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium (308), Sirifort (308), and Sonia Vihar (333)," data stated.

## **'RS** nomination, **Guv's post don't...**

From Page 1

Justice Lalit, to a question on short tenure of judges in the apex court, said in a country with enormous talent, it is better that judges retire and new judges come in regular-

Asked about the US Supreme Court's system in which a judge is appointed for his or her lifetime, Justice Lalit pointed out that in the US and Canada, a very limited number of matters reach the Supreme Court.

"For instance, in Canada, they admit only 120 matters in a year. So, therefore, their

DIN: 00815132

month. If you go by that, we have, in our court on a Monday, we list about 600 or 900 matters," he said. "Therefore, if you com-

pare the sheer number of matters with which we grapple with, the number is enormous," Justice Lalit said. On being asked about the

steps taken by him for streamlining listing of cases in the Supreme Court, Justice Lalit said his experience of 37 years in the Supreme Court, 29 years as a lawyer and eight years as a judge, helped him in devising measures.

### Centre looks to give tribal schools big...

old scheme.

Kapoor also said that the Eklavya Model Day Boarding Schools (EMDBS) will soon be converted into residential schools as desired by the respective States. Those States which are keen to run the EMRS will be allowed to do so but the Centre is also taking over the schools run under the

The Ministry is facing flak from a Parliamentary panel for the delay in achieving its original target of building 452 Eklavya schools by 2022

The panel on Social Justice and Empowerment, in its report tabled in Lok Sabha in

April, said there is a substantial gap between the number of schools proposed to be sanc-

tioned and the actual sanction.

It also stated that out of 288 schools sanctioned in 1997-98, prior to revamping of the scheme in 2018-19, only 244 schools could be made functional. "...the original target, which aimed that 452 new Eklavya Model Residential Schools (EMRSs) including 12 Eklavya Model Day Boarding School (EMDBS) would be set up in the remaining 462 subdistricts by the year 2022 is nowhere near completion and the target year stands revised as 2025 now."

### **Pet parents to** pay ₹10K, get...

From Page 1 If they fail to do so, pet parents will have to pay a fine of Rs 2,000 every month. The authorities also informed that with the consent of RWA (Residents Association)/AOA(Apartment Owners' Association)/ village

residents, the construction of a dog shelter for sick street dogs" can be undertaken, however, the "maintenance of the same will be the responsibility of the concerned RWA/AOA. It was further informed

that the feeding place in the outdoor area will be marked where necessary and arrangements for food and drink will be made by the feeders/RWA /AOA only.

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# EC issues list of 197 symbols for MCD elections



ne pioneer

BJP O @BJP4India

SAURAV GUPTA NEW DELHI

 $F^{\text{rom Lunch Box to Ludo}}_{\text{and Robot to noodles bowl,}}$ ice cream, a range of daily use items, fruits, vegetables and kitchen appliances are available for candidates contesting for the MCD polls in the national Capital.

The list of 197 poll symbols was issued by the Election Commission in its "Municipal Corporation of Delhi Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 2022".

Some of the unique logos which are free to be taken include Boat with Man and Sail, CCTV Camera, Chakki, Almirah, Clip, Dolli, Ginger, Mike, Peanuts, Pot, Ballon, and Safety Pin, which the people will not be able to forget easily as they use these things in their day to day life.

Several symbols on which the bollywood movies have also been made, with similar titles available for the political parties including Lunch Box, Ludo, Robot, Table, Tube Light, Door Bell, and Brief Case etc.

The 'free symbols' meant for independents and candidates of unrecognised parties. Apple symbol is also accessible,

AAP

@AamAadmiParty

Rings is also available but can-

not be used in Tamil Nadu,

Puducherry, Kerala and

Karnataka, on the other hand,

Football, which is one of the most unique symbol due to its

popularity across the globe,

can't be used in Arunachal

Pradesh, Assam, Manipur,

Mizoram,

Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, and

Andhra Pradesh and

Telangana, political parties

won't be able to use Ice Cream

symbol in Tamil Nadu, and

parties won't be able to operate

with the Iron logo in Andhra

Pradesh and Telangana, it said.
The symbol that cannot be

utilized in Arunachal Pradesh,

Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya,

Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura and West Bengal are

Kettle and Lady Purse at the

same time, it is available to be

Nadu and Puducherry, Saw

will not be available for Kerala,

Spanner and Tongs won't be

utilized in Bihar and

Jharkhand, political parties

can't fight elections with Truck

symbol in Andhra Pradesh

and Telangana, order stated.

Pears can't be used in Tamil

used in other states, it said.

Hat cannot be taken in

Tripura," the order said.

Congress 0

which is one of the most special among all the others as one of the world's largest selling Smartphone brands has a sim-

But it cannot be used by the political parties in some states such as Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tripura, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka.

Auto Rickshaw, is also unique in its own way, as it is one of the most common options for commuters dependent on public transport to go from one place to another. But there is the drawback of this symbol that the parties cannot use it in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Symbols that are available the political parties, but cannot be used in some states are Basket containing Fruits, which can be used in any state and the union territories except Tamil Nadu.

"Cot can be acquired by the parties and can be used in all the states of the country except Kerala, Door Bell can be used in all states and union territories excluding Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand," it said. "Ear Denied ticket, former AAP councillor climbs electricity tower

Miffed over being denied a ticket for the upcoming municipal polls, former AAP councillor Haseeb-ul-Hasan on Sunday climbed an electricity tower in east Del, creating quite a spectacle for people in the area. He alleged that the party leaders had "sold" the tickets for Rs 2 crore to 3 crore.

Naming Atishi, Durgesh Pathak and Sanjay Singh, he alleged that the senior leaders took his original documents on the pretext of fielding him in the polls and refused to hand them back to him.

"AAP leaders have taken my original documents, including my bank passbook, on the pretext of giving me a ticket but they are not returning the doc-uments. Tomorrow is the last day to file the nominations. If anything happens to me or if I die, Durgesh Pathak and Atishi will be responsible," Hasan said in a live video on social media from atop the tower in

Gandhi Nagar.

"Atishi, Durgesh Pathak and Sanjay Singh sold the tickets for Rs 2 crore to Rs 3 crore. They are all corrupt leaders. They returned my documents only after I climbed this tower," he told reporters after getting

The former AAP councillor said he will file his nomination papers soon after deciding "whether to fight the elections independently or switch over to some other party".



There was no immediate reaction from the AAP.

Fire officials said they received information that a person had climbed an electric tower at 10.51 am. Police personnel, along with officials from fire brigade and BSES, and ambulances reached the spot and requested Hasan to climb down. He eventually agreed, a senior police officer had then said.

A video of the incident showed the leader on the transmission tower. A man is heard saying in the clip, "Neeche aa jayo bhaiya... kyun kar rahe ho aise (Please come down, why are you doing that)". Visuals suggested that a huge commotion had ensued in the area following the incident.

Earlier in March this year, Hasan jumped into a drain to clean it and later took a bath with milk. The incident came to light when Hasan visited Shastri Park and found a drain stinking and overflowing.

## Rival BJP, AAP escalate attacks ahead of MCD polls

**STAFF REPORTER** ■NEW DELHI

The political fight between BJP and AAP has now entered into a war of posters ahead of the MCD polls with the former escalating the attack on AAP led Arvind Kejriwal on the Delhi Excise Policy 202122 scam.

In the latest attack, the Delhi BJP has shared a poster, a spoof of Ranveer Singh's movie-- Lootera, swapping the face of Singh with Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish

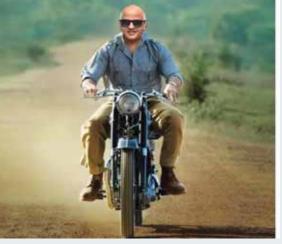
Addressing a press conference , BJP national spokesperson Poonawala targeted Kejriwal on the issue of alleged scams and said a 'Lootera' film directed by the Delhi chief minister was going on in the national capital for the last eight years

Referring to the 2013 Ranveer Singh starrer 'Lootera', the party also shared a poster on Twitter which showcased Sisodia as 'Lootera'.

Poonawala's remarks came day after Kejriwal said the should make Chandrashekhar its national president as he was speaking the same language as the party.
"It's a good chance for

Kejriwal to undergo a lie detector test along with his ministers Satyendar Jain and Kailash Gahlot in a live telecast and prove Chandrashekhar's claims ong," he said.

Jailed fraudster Sukesh Chandrashekhar has written letters to the LG, levelling various allegations of extortion



Mahathug Sukesh Production

against AAP leaders and said he was ready for a lie detector test along with Kejriwal and his ministers.

Poonawala said Keiriwal can prove his honesty through a lie detector test but he would not do it. He could have approached the court for quashing of FIR in "liquor scam" but he did not do so

either, he said. "The cast of Lootera film directed by Kejriwal has Manish Sisodia who is an accused in the liquor scam case," he said and claimed the Kejriwal government's now scrapped Excise Policy 2021-22

caused a loss of Rs 1800 crore to the state exchequer.

"The AAP has never cared to answer the BJP's questions on corruption in the policy that during its 7.5 months operation led to loss of Rs 1800 crore to the government," he said. Kejriwal has also failed to tell the people why he withdrew the Excise Policy 2021-22, he

The alleged irregularities in the policy are currently being probed by the CBI and Enforcement Directorate. Kejriwal had said on Saturday, "This policy was supposed to be extended from July 31.

### **Only 35 nominations filed so** far, heavy rush likely today

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Ahuge rush is expected at the offices of returning officers on Monday as a large number of candidates of the three major parties in the national Capital — the AAP, BJP and Congress — will file their nominations on the last day. So far, just 35 nominations have been filed since the process opened on November

The high-stakes Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) elections for 250 wards will be held on December 4 and votes will be counted on December 7. While AAP has announced the candidates for all the wards, the BJP has also released the names of most of the candidates. The filing of nominations began on November 7 and the last date is November 14. Scrutiny of nomination papers

will be done on November 16, while last date for withdrawal of candidature is November 19. As per SEC data, 28 nominations were filed on Friday, taking the total number to 35.

Of the 28 nominations

filed on Friday, 18 were male and 10 female. Twenty of these were filed by Independents and eight by leaders of four from the BSP, the official Since no nomination

papers were received by returning officers on November 12-13 on account of public holidays, a rush of nominations is expected on November 14, officials said.

In view of this, the state election commissioner has directed all observers, district election officers, senior police officers and returning officers tions in 250 war to ensure that adequate 13638," list stated.

arrangements are put in place, they said. Steps should be taken to maintain law and order around offices of returning officers to prevent any chaos and commotion, they

Authorities have been instructed to ensure steps are taken for crowd and traffic management, maintaining law political parties, including five and order around premises, and putting up waiting facilities Retuning Officers, so as to prevent any chaos and com-

Meanwhile, According to list released by SEC, the total numbers of people who are going to vote in forthcoming civic polls are 14497756, out of which 7889635 are male, 6607063 are female, 1058 are others. "The total polling stations in 250 wards stood at

### Fielded women in 55.2% seats in MCD polls, claims AAP nization. "Most of the workers

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

The AAP on Sunday said that it has fielded women candidates on non-reserved (unreserved) seats in the MCD elections. Out of 250 seats in the civic body, 125 seats are reserved for women, but AAP has given tickets to women in 13 general seats in addition to the reserved seats. It has also given tickets to 30 business leaders. The AAP leaders said that the party has given an opportunity to women in about 55.2 per cent seats, far greater than the 50 per cent reserved seats for women as mandated by the Election Commission.

They further said that these women have emerged as the first choice of the public in the survey conducted by the onground workers of the orga-

belonging to the ordinary families have been given tickets on the basis of their merit. Also, AAP has set an example by giving a ticket to a transgender candidate Bobby Kinnar in Ward 43 Sultanpuri-A seat.

Further, it has given ticket to 218 volunteers of the party. The party has given importance to young faces and therefore there are several candidates who have been given the opportunity to fight the MCD polls," the party leaders said.

"In the survey that was undertaken by AAP, the party took into account the number of women contenders for tickets in general seats and the image of those claimant women among the public?" they said. According to AAP, it has given ticket to at least 30 to traders community leaders. They claimed that the party has received over 1000 applications from businessmen.

In another statement issued late night, the AAP leader said that a panel of lawyers has been working day and night to verify the forms of the candidates. It has got the candidates' forms verified through this panel of lawyers. Symbols are being issued to the candidates only after the satisfaction of the

The party office has been teeming with action as candidates gathered here throughout the day to get their nomination form verified as soon as possible and get the party symbol.

'The nomination forms of the candidates were checked at the AAP office on Sunday and therefore there was a constant movement of people and the place was buzzing with intense

### **Congress releases list** of 250 candidates for civic body elections over dozen of party workers

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Sunday released its list of 250 candidates for the forthcoming Municipal Corporation of Delhi elections. The Congress on Sunday released its list of 250 candidates for the upcoming Municipal Corporation of Delhi elections.

Delhi Congress president announce the approved list of Congress candidates for MCD Election 2022. Best wishes to all warriors," while attaching the list of the candidates.

Sources said that the party has considered recommendations of senior leaders while finalising the names of the candidates. Most of the sitting councillors have been retained. From Timarpur assembly seats,

resigned in protest of ticket distribution. Some former MLAs have expressed annovance over the manner the ticket was distributed but they refused to The list include Nirmala

Devi from Narela, Rai Singh Mann from Alipur, Nitin Tyagi from Burari, Uma Sharma from Sant Nagar, Priya Gulati Khurana from Mukherjee Nagar, Virender Kumar Goyal from Adarsh Nagar, Ritu Singh from Azadpur, Ashok Yadav Bhalswa, Sunita Devi from Jahangirpuri, Seema Yadav from Samaypur Badli, Jagdish Jain from Rohini – A, Shagun Bhadana from Rohini - B.

The 250-ward MCD goes to polls on December 4 and the counting of votes will take place on December 7.

### Absconder in 2018 murder case arrested in Jharkhand

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

26-year-old man abscond-Aing since 2018 in a murder case was arrested from Jharkhand, police said on Sunday. The accused has been identified as Shalu Topno, a resident of Jharkhand, they said, adding that he was carrying a reward of Rs 50,000.

After receiving information about Topno, a police team was sent to Gumla district in Jharkhand from where he was arrested on Friday, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Special Cell) P S Kushwah

The dismembered body of a 15-year-old girl was found in the Mianwali Nagar area here on May 17, 2018. A case was registered and three persons were arrested, but Topno had been absconding since then, police said.

Topno disclosed that he worked in a manpower placement agency and used to bring girls from Jharkhand and Bihar to get them employed as domestic helps, the DCP said. He brought a 12-year-old girl from Jharkhand in 2015 and got her a job as a domestic help here, police said.

### Noida Authority approves proposal for structural audit of high-rise buildings

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NOIDA

The Noida Aumonn, has approved a policy proposal for structural audit of high-rise buildings in the city. The policy defines roles and responsibilities of the builder as well as the residents' association vis-a-vis repair of structures, if found defective during

The decision was taken during the 207th board meeting of the Noida Authority held at its office in Sector 6. The meeting was chaired by Uttar Pradesh Infrastructure and Industrial Development Commissioner and Noida Authority chairman Arvind Kumar with Noida Authority chief executive officer Ritu Maheshwari in presence.

While the policy has been approved by the board, it would take around a week for it to get implemented due to paper work at the local level, a

senior official said. There are around 100 high-rise projects in Noida, many of them having multiple towers, the official added. In relation to structural audit of multi-storey buildings located in authority area, the statement

read: "the structural policy was prepared by the Noida Authority on the demand of flat buyers and AOA (apartment owner's association), in which the Structural Audit Policy has been approved by the Authority Board with partial modifications" According to this policy,

the structural audit report from empanelled IIT or NÎT or expert institutions will be submitted by the developer before the partial or full occupancy certificate is issued," according to the statement.

It stated that even after the issuance of partial or full occupancy certificate, in any project, if 25 per cent or more allottees of AOA or tower complain about structural defects, the committee constituted at the authority level will examine the complaint and decide whether the structural defect is of minor category or comes under major category.

"For structural defects of major category, structural audit will be conducted from expert institutions. Under Apartment Ownership Act, it is the responsibility of the builder to remove the structural defects within two years," it stated.

## DU declares third list for undergraduate admission



**STAFF REPORTER** NEW DELHI

The Delhi University on Sunday declared the third list of seat allocation for undergraduate admission. The total number of students admitted to the varsity so far has gone beyond 61,500 as against 70,000 undergraduate seats.

In the third round of the common seat allocation system (CSAS), admissions will be done to all supernumerary quotas, including extracurricular activities (ECA), sports, CW (children and widows of armed forces), and Kashmiri migrants, along with regular admissions.

"The third CSAS allocation

list has been declared. The

candidates will be given a two-

day window from November

14 to 15 to accept the allocat-

ed seats,"DU registrar Vikas Gupta said. The college will verify and approve the online applications from November 14 to 16. The last date for online payment of admission fees by the candidates will be November 17. After the conclusion of the

third round, the university will open an upgrade window for only supernumerary seats and Christian candidates for St Stephen's College and Jesus and Mary College (JMC) from November 18 to November

"Candidates who would have chosen to take admission in any of the supernumerary quota and wish to opt for an upgrade in the subsequent round of that particular supernumerary quota can do so from 10 am Friday (November

18) to 4:59 pm Saturday. Such candidates will be considered for an upgrade in the supernumerary quota only," the registrar said.

The university will also declare the vacant seats for the first spot allocation round of CSAS on November 20. Candidates can apply for this round from November 21 to

The first spot allocation list will be announced on November 23. The candidates would have to accept the allocated seats from November 24 to 26.The last date for online payment of admission fees by the candidates will be November 27.

'On the declaration of the first spot admission round, the admission of all already admitted candidates will be locked and they will not be considered for upgrades (except supernumerary upgrades)," the registrar said.

"Similarly, the admitted candidates will not be allowed to withdraw their admissions on the announcement of the first spot admission round. In order to be considered in a spot admission round, a candidate will have to opt for 'Spot Admission' through his/her dashboard," he added.

## group B and C non-judicial subordinate staff for Delhi HC

L-G orders DSSSB to recruit

**STAFF REPORTER** NEW DELHI

n a first, Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena has authorised the Delhi Subordinate Services Selection Board (DSSSB) to recruit group 'B' & 'C' non-judicial subordinate staff for the Delhi High

Sources in the Government said that Saxena cleared impediments restricting the DSSSB to recruit only for the Delhi Government and its undertakings, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, New Delhi Municipal Council.

It was also desired by the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court that DSSSB, being a professional government recruiting body, may organise and conduct open examination on behalf of the Court for certain posts, claimed the sources.

The new posts for which the DSSSB can now hold recruitment exams include private secretary, court master, administrative officer, senior judicial assistant, personal assistant among others.

Examinations for selection to such posts are currently conducted by outside agencies following different modes of



recruitment, they said. The DSSSB will also recruit candidates on technical posts of director, system analysts and programmer, they said. The sources said that the L-

G noted that non-systematic and irregular filling up of vacancies at such positions, often creates procedural and

often creates procedural and logistical impediments in the functioning of the Court.

It is these staff that are responsible for processes that include filing of cases, scrutiny, processing, date of hearing of cases dictation of orders and of cases, dictation of orders and computerized updation of dates, procedures and orders amongst others. "Non-availability of ample

staff for disposal of such functions often leads to an overall delay in disposal of cases by the Courts and resultant pendency," they said.



## 'Yatra crushed lies about Rahul' BSF's drone forensic lab at border

All 'untruths' spread about him have been proved baseless. says Kanhaiya

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

Congress on Sunday assert-ed the Bharat Jodo Yatra has exposed "untruths" spread about Rahul Gandhi that have been working overtime for a decade to tarnish his image and hence the success of padyatra can be perceived with the kind of support the former chief has been receiving.

Firebrand Congress leader from Bihar Kanhaiya Kumar said the Yatra has been successful beyond expectations. "When it started, there were a lot of questions about whether people would come or not or whether we will be able to cover 25 KM every day. The last 60 days have passed in a jiffy now,' Kumar said at AICC press conference.

"Yatris have gone beyond physical pain. The yatra has achieved its first objective. Yatris have become comfortable with the yatra, the yatra has become comfortable with the country and the country has become comfortable with yatra," said Kumar. Yatra has achieved its first objective and



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi with supporters during the party's 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', in Hingoli district on Saturday. PTI Photo

undertaken to highlight their issues. It has to now move towards its second objective which is to make the government of the day accountable on issues of the people and country, Kumar said.

Asked if there has been a change in Rahul Gandhi's image due to the Yatra, Kumar said, "So much had been said about Rahul Gandhi. Reporters ask if his image will improve, I would say his reality will be before the people of the country.""All the things that were said about Rahul

Gandhi that he is not serious, will go abroad, will not walk, stay in a container, all this has ended. Crores were spent to malign his image, but his reality has been brought out just by walking on the road," Kumar said. All these untruths created about him have been 'demolished and proved baseless", he said, adding that Rahul Gandhi's reality is now visible to the people.

Kumar said price rise and unemployment were the two main common issues that came up in feedback from people

during the Yatra. He said the issue of protecting federalism was also raised in southern states and the sentiment was that the Centre is not doing justice. Kumar also hit out at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his remarks that he receives "2-3 kg" of abuses every day, and said those spreading hatreds are also playing the "victim card".

The Bharat Jodo Yatra of

the Congress took a one-day break in Maharashtra on Sunday and will proceed from Kalamnuri in Hingoli district to Washim on Monday.

# helps fight menace from Pakistan

 $B^{
m order\,Security\,Force\,(BSF)}_{
m has\,been\,"bombarded"}$  by the onslaught of drone flights from across the Pakistan border on the western front, and instances of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) bringing drugs, arms, and ammunition more than doubled in 2022 in

contrast to the previous year. To tackle the menace, the BSF has established a state-ofthe-art drone forensics laboratory at a camp here to study the flight patterns and take remedial measures, Director General Pankaj Kumar Singh said on

The DG said the results of the drone forensics lab have been very encouraging. Security agencies could track the flight path and even address of criminals involved in this cross-border illegal activity that is rearing its head over the last few years, the BSF chief said on Saturday.

"The BSF has been at the receiving end of the drone menace for quite some time... The versatility of the drone, which is very well known, has been posing problems to us with nefarious elements having found new uses of the drone due to its anonymity and quick flight at sufficient height

bypassing the frontiers," he said. The DG said this while briefing Union home secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla, who was

chairing an online event to inaugurate the forensic lab. The DG said while the BSF detected about 79 drone flights along the India-Pakistan international border in 2020, it increased to 109 last year and more than doubled at 266

The major culprit regions are Punjab which saw 215 flights this year... In Jammu, about 22 flights have been seen," he said. "The problem is grave. We do not have a foolproof solution as of now. They (drones) have been bringing across narcotics, arms and ammunition, counterfeit currency and all kinds of things, the BSF chief said.

Initially, the BSF grappled with the challenge of not knowing what to do and even when the drone fell they had "no clue"

where it was coming from or going. We then started getting into the forensics part. We realised that these drones had chips similar to computation devices like computers and mobile phones.

mobile phones.

As digital forensics helps in solving cyber crimes, we got answers here too," Singh said.

The BSF invested about Rs 50 lakh in creating this forensic lab and has deployed a chosen manpower of tech-savyy offimanpower of tech-savvy officers and personnel to run it.
"We found (after forensic

analysis of drones) their flight paths, launching and landing points, timings, GPS (global positioning system) coordinates and even messages they have exchanged and we realized there was an information mine. If we could get into this, we could find the suspect's addresses, locations and much more," Singh said. The Force developed "good coordination" with the Punjab Police over this issue and also provided the BSF with 200 personnel to conduct "depth patrols" at the front to check drones and their droppings, he said.

Citing a success story, where drone droppings happened in the Havelia area of Punjab in March, the DG said a joint investigation and action by the two security agencies led

whom were convicted for narcotics crime. The DG said the force has now begun a new system of incentivizing and giving cash rewards to its border teams who shoot down drones. "Eleven drones have been shot down (by us) this year and we are giving very handsome incentives to teams that bring them down. There is a very good enthusiasm in these teams," he said.

Underlining that the BSF is now undertaking a twopronged approach to check this menace, the BSF boss said, "We are undertaking depth patrolling so that people cannot come to the border to pick up drone droppings.

We are digging deep into drone forensics to extract information about its senders and receivers." The problem is "so acute" and, "this we know by interrogation (of suspects and those apprehended) that wherever our drone teams are deployed... Depth patrols are or anti-drone equipment is installed, the criminals go to other parts to undertake the illegal activity", he added.

The BSF secures over 3,000 km of the India-Pakistan International Border running across Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Jammu.

## Min mulls 100 new med colleges in next five years by upgrading district hospitals

The Union Health Ministry ■ has drawn a proposal to set up 100 new medical colleges by 2027 by upgrading district hospitals under the fourth phase of a scheme that aims to boost the availability of human resources for the health sector.

The colleges will be set up under the centrally sponsored scheme for the "establishment of new medical colleges by upgrading district or referral hospitals" at an estimated cost of Rs 325 crore per college on the basis of central and state share of 60:40, official sources told PTI. The funding pattern for the northeastern and special

90:10 between the Centre and the state. The Department of Expenditure has approved the proposal of the Health ministry, and a cabinet note in this regard has already been drafted, official

In the last three phases, 157 medical colleges were approved, and 93 of them have become functional while others are at different stages of construc-

These proposed 100 medical colleges will be set up in 100 districts which have a population of more than 10 lakhs and where there is no private or gov-ernment medical colleges. "The proposal to set up 100 medical

colleges by upgrading district hospitals in the fourth phase of the scheme has been approved by the Expenditure Finance Committee (EFC), after which a Cabinet note has been prepared," an official source said.

Further, the centrally sponsored scheme has a new component of providing Rs 10 crore each for setting up of nursing colleges attached with the existing 157 medical colleges already approved in the first three phases, the source added.

But this will require amendment in the existing minimum standard requirement regulations of NMC in which such attachment of medical and nursing colleges is not allowed.

## Rajnath calls row over 'lotus logo' of G-20 presidency 'unnecessary'

**Defence Minister** says everyone should realise lotus is India's national flower

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Days after Congress criticised the Government for choosing the lotus as the logo for India's presidency of G-20, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday frowned at unnecessary row " and said everyone should realize that the lotus is India's nation-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday last week



unveiled the G-20 logo, theme, and website and said lotus in the logo "as a symbol of hope in these tough times."

India will assume the presidency of the powerful grouping on December 1. The Prime Minister will attend the G-20 summit in Bali, Indonesia on November 15-16 and is expected to meet some world leaders like US President Joe Biden, and British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak. Chinese President Xi

Jinping will also participate in the summit which is likely to focus on the ongoing Ukraine conflict and its adverse impact on fuel, food and fertilisers supply chains. Congress leader airam Ramesh claimed the lotus was selected as it is the symbol of the BJP and said Over 70 years ago, Nehru rejected the proposal to make Congress flag the flag of India. Now, BJP's election symbol

has become the official logo for India's presidency of G20! While shocking, we know by now that Mr. Modi & BJP won't lose any opportunity to promote themselves shamelessly!" Kanchan Gupta, senior adviser, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting kicked up by some over the use of the symbol. They said that it's a symbol of the Bharatiya shot back and said "Over 70 years ago lotus was declared the Janata Party (BJP). national flower of India when 'There is a limit to which Jawaharlal Nehru was Prime Minister. Do

@Jairam\_Ramesh find that 'shocking' too? Btw, successive Congress Govts have issued currency coins with the lotus symbol. And the National Émblem stands atop a lotus."

Defending the selection of lotus as the logo, Rajnath said at a public event in Jhajjar, Haryana controversies are created over symbols related to of Prithivraj Chouhan statue. our heritage. "You must be aware that a logo was unveiled linked to G-20, the nations having a hold on about 85 percent of the global GDP. Now that

such claims should be pushed. The reality is that in 1950, lotus was declared as the national flower. And they did that because the lotus is a symbol of

India's heritage.
In 1857, when the first freedom struggle was waged, revolutionaries fought with lotus in one hand and roti in another," the defence minisger said after a ceremony unveiling

"Should we forget that the lotus flower is a national symbol? Did the Prime Minister commit a big crime by doing that? An unnecessary row is

## Army chief's France visit aims to boost Defence ties, cooperation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

India and France will review the entire spectrum of their bilateral Defence ties and explore ways to enhance their cooperation during Army chief General Manoj Pande's fourday visit there starting Monday. Giving details of his sched-

ule, Army officials said here on Sunday during the visit, Pande will be meeting his counterparts and senior military leadership of France with an aim to further strengthen defence cooperation between both nations. The ever-expanding defence cooperation engage-ments which encompass a broad spectrum of activities have established a strong bonhomie across every level of the two Armies. Pande's visit will further strengthen the bonds of trust and understanding between the two armies, offi-



During the visit, the Army Chief will be laying wreath at Neuve Chapelle Indian Memorial, which commemorates the sacrifices of 4,742 Indian soldiers during the First World War.

He is scheduled to call on the Chief of the Defence Staff, Chief of the Army Staff, and Commander Commandement des Forces Terrestres (CFT) / Command of the Land Combat Forces, where he will discuss

avenues for enhancing India-France defence relations. The Army chief will visit Ecole Militarie, comprising of various military training establishments in Paris and address senior staff officers attending a course at Ecole de Guerra-T.

He will also be visiting litary Schools at Military Draguignan, which are premier training establishments that train commissioned officers and non-commissioned offi-

## Bad weather puts off Skyroot's maiden rocket launch to Nov 18

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

nclement weather conditions have put off the sub-orbital launch of India's first privately developed rocket — Vikram- by three days to November 18, the Hyderabad-based space startup Skyroot Aerospace said on Sunday.

"Due to the inclement weather forecast, we have been given a new launch window from Nov 15-19 for our Vikram-S rocket launch from Sriharikota, with the most likely date being Nov 18 at 11:30 a.M," a Skyroot Aerospace

spokesperson said.

The launch was earlier scheduled for November 15. The maiden mission of Skyroot Aerospace, named 'Prarambh' (the beginning), will carry payloads of two Indian and one foreign customers and is set for launch from the Indian Space



Research Organisation's launchpad at Sriharikota. The mission is considered as an important milestone for Skyroot as it will help validate 80 per cent of the technologies that will be used in the Vikram-1 orbital vehicle that is planned for launch next year. One of

monitoring closely would be the performance of our solid fuelled rocket engine 'Kalaam -1'," a Skyroot spokesperson said. Spacekidz, a Chennaibased aerospace startup, will fly 'Fun-Sat', a 2.5 kg payload developed by students from India, US, Singapore and the key areas that we would be Indonesia on sub-orbital flight

on board Vikram-S. With this mission, Skyroot is set to become first private space company in India to launch a rocket into space, heralding a new era for space sector which was opened up in 2020 to facilitate private sector participation. Skyroot's launch vehicles are named 'Vikram' as a tribute to founder of Indian space programme and renowned scientist Vikram Sarabhai.

logo has a lotus. A storm was

Set up in 2018, Skyroot has successfully built and it tested India's first privately developed cryogenic, hypergolic-liquid, and solid fuel-based rocket engines using advanced composite and 3D-printing

technologies. Skyroot Aerospace successfully raised \$51 million through a Series-B financing round, in September. It had raised \$11 million in Series-A capital raise in July last year.

### NIA arrests 15th accused in Nettaru murder case



PNS NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has conducted search operations and arrested the 15th accused in the Praveen Nettaru murder case of Karnataka.

The case relates to the murder of Praveen Nettaru, a resident of Bellare and District Secretary of BJP Yuva Morcha, with sharp weapons, by members of Popular Front of India

(PFI), on July 26. The case was initially registered as FIR No. 63/2022 dated July 27at Police Station Bellare, Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka State and re-

registered by NIA on August 4. 'During investigations, it was revealed that a conspiracy had been hatched by leaders and members of Popular Front of India (PFI) to murder Parveen Nettaru to take revenge for the murder of one Masood and to strike terror among the people of society," the NIA said in a statement.

The NIA arrested Shaheed M of Masthikatte Road, Bellare village, Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka under various Sections of the Indian Penal Code and Unlawful Activities Prevention Act.

During investigations, it was found that Shaheed was part of the conspiracy meeting held in his house by PFI to target leaders of certain political organisations, it said. During the searches, incriminating documents were seized from the house of the accused. The NIA had earlier arrested 14

## Dhankhar highlights global concerns on food, energy security at East Asia Summit Vice-President also emphasised the role of EAS in promoting open, inclusive Indo-Pacific



Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar in a meeting with King of Cambodia Norodom Sihamoni, at Royal Palace in Phnom Penh,

Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Sunday highlighted the global concerns on food and energy security, and emphasised the role of the East Asia Summit (EAS) mechanism in promoting free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific with freedom of navigation and overflight.

Addressing the 17th East Asia Summit (EAS) here, the vice president also called for the EAS members' full contribution to the International Year of Millets in 2023.

Vice President Dhankhar underlined the growing global concerns on food and energy security, and emphasised the role of the EAS mechanism in promoting free, open and inclusive Indo-Pacific with

freedom of navigation and overflight. The US, India and several other world powers have been discussing the need to ensure a free, open and thriving Indo-Pacific in the backdrop of China's rising military manoeuvring in the China claims nearly all of

the disputed South China Sea, though Taiwan, the Philippines, Brunei, Malaysia and Vietnam all claim parts of it. Beijing has built artificial islands and military installations in the South China Sea. China also has territorial disputes with Japan in the East China Sea.

The Quad grouping of India, Australia, Japan and the United States has strongly opposed any unilateral actions that seek to change the status quo or increase tensions in the

Indo-Pacific, amidst China's increasingly intimidatory behaviour in the region. Dhankhar, who is in Cambodia on a three-day visit, also briefly interacted with US President Joe Biden on the sidelines of the summit. The ASEAN (Association

of Southeast Asian Nations) summit is taking place amid a geopolitical turmoil triggered by the Ukraine conflict and China's military muscle-flexing in the Taiwan Straits. Cambodia is hosting these summits in its capacity as the current chair of the ASEAN.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of ASEAN-India relations and is being celebrated as the ASEAN-India Friendship Year. The ASEAN comprises countries in Southeast Asia - Indonesia,

Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Brunei, the Philippines, Singapore, Cambodia, Malaysia and Myanmar. Apart from the ASEAN member states, the East Asia Summit includes India, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, New Zealand, the US and Russia External Affairs Minister S

Jaishankar is accompanying Dhankhar, who is leading the Indian delegation to ASEAN-India Commemorative Summit and the 17th East Asia Summit

On Saturday, Dhankhar announced an additional contribution of USD 5 million to the ASEAN-India science and technology fund to enhance cooperation in sectors of public health, renewable energy and smart agriculture.

accused persons.

## BJP faces rebellion ahead of Gujarat Assembly polls

### 5 leaders threaten to contest as

independents **PTI** ■ AHMEDABAD

At least one sitting Bharatiya Janata Party MLA and four former legislators have threatened to contest as independents after being denied tickets by the BJP for the upcoming Gujarat Assembly elections.

While some of these disgruntled leaders have said they will make their next move after consulting supporters, former BJP MLA and the party's known tribal face Harshad Vasava already filed his nomination papers on Friday as an independent from Nandod seat, reserved for Scheduled Tribe

Vasava is the president of Gujarat BJP's Scheduled Tribe Morcha and represented the erstwhile Rajpipla seat between 2002 and 2007 and from 2007

Nandod in Narmada district is currently held by the Congress. The BJP has fielded Dr Darshana Deshmukh from the seat.

Unhappy over the Vasava announcement, resigned from his post in the BJP and submitted his nomination papers for the Nandod seat on Friday.

Elections for the 182 member Gujarat Assembly will be held in two phases on ing of votes will be taken up on December 8.

"There is an original BJP and a duplicate BJP here. We will expose those who have side-lined committed workers and given key posts to newcomers. I have sent my resignation to the party. People of this area know how much work I have done as an MLA between 2002 and 2012," Vasava told reporters after filing his nomination as an independent.

In the neighbouring Vadodara district, one sitting and two former BJP MLAs are up in arms against the party after being denied tickets.

Six-time MLA Madhu Shrivastav from Vaghodia, who has been denied a ticket, said he will contest as an independent if his supporters want him to. The BJP has fielded Ashwin Patel from the seat.

Another former BJP MLA Dinesh Patel aka Dinu Mama of Padra seat in Vadodara district has also said he would contest the election independently. The BJP has given the ticket to Chaitanyasinh Zala. The seat is held by the Congress.

In Karjan, former BJP MLA Satish Patel is unhappy after the BJP decided to repeat sitting legislator Akshay Patel. Akshay Patel had won on

the Congress ticket from the seat in 2017. He joined the BJP in 2020 and won the subsequent bypoll.

"Everyone knows what BJP and we are sure he will



Akshay Patel did as an MLA. My supporters and cooperative sector leaders of Karjan have asked me to fight this election, even as an independent. I was not consulted before the party decided to give the ticket to Akshay Patel," Satish Patel told reporters in Karjan.

"In fact, 80 per cent of the workers and office-bearers of the BJP had recommended my name during the 'sense' exercise. But, I was rejected in the end. We would have accepted any other person as a candidate, but BJP workers and local leaders can never accept Akshay Patel," he claimed. In a damage control exercise, state BJP general secretary Bhargav Bhatt and Minister of State for Home Harsh Sanghavi on Saturday visited Vadodara and met local party workers. Bhatt exuded confidence that the BIP will win all the seats of Vadodara.

"We will convince Dinu Mama not to go ahead with his plans. There is still scope. He has always remained with the

come back. He has yet not filed his nomination as an independent," said Bhatt.

Speaking on the issue, Sanghavi said, "The BJP is like a family and all members of this family are united. We all are one and the BJP will win the election with the support of the

Meanwhile, Arvind Ladani former BJP MLA of Keshod seat of Junagadh, announced on Saturday that he would fight the polls as an independent after the party gave the ticket to present MLA Devabhai Malam.

"People of Keshod are angry because I was denied the ticket by the BJP. People know how much work I have done for Keshod. Thus, people as well as my supporters have asked me to fight as an independent. I will file my nomination on November 14," said Ladani, who was the MLA from 2012 to

The BJP has so far named candidates for Assemblyseats out of the total

### AAP's CM candidate Gadhvi to contest from Khambhalia seat

am Aadmi Party's Gujarat Achief ministerial candidate Isudan Gadhvi will contest the next month's Assembly elections from Khambhalia seat in his home district of Devbhumi Dwarka, the party's national convener Arvind Kejriwal announced on Sunday.

Kejriwal made this announcement through a

"Isudan Gadhvi, who for years raised his voice for farmers, unemployed youth, women, businessmen, will contest election from Jam Khambhalia! Gujarat will get a new and good chief minister from the holy land of Lord Krishna," the Delhi Chief Minister said in the tweet in

Responding to it, Gadhvi tweeted, "The faith you and the people of Gujarat have placed in me, I assure that I will serve the people of Gujarat till my last breath. Jai Jai Garvi Gujarat!"

Gadhvi, a former TV journalist, was named the party's CM candidate on November 4



party's Gujarat unit president Gopal Italia and general secretary Majoj Sorathiya were also

Gadhvi, who hails from an gricultural family from Dwarka district, had received around 73 per cent votes (in the poll for the CM face), leaving Italia and Sorathiya behind in

With this, the AAP has so far announced the names of 175 candidates for the 182member Gujarat Assembly.

Khambhalia will go to polls along with 88 other seats on December 1 in the first phase of two-phase Gujarat elections. For the first phase, the last date of filing nomination forms is November 14 and the last date for withdrawal of forms is November 17.

The second phase of polls will take place on December 5 based on the result of a poll conducted by the AAP. The betaken up on December 8.

### **Cong announces** fifth list of six candidates



**PTI** ■ NEW DELHI

The Congress on Sunday The Congress on Treleased its fifth list of six candidates for the Gujarat Assembly elections scheduled to be held in December in two

The six candidates declared by the party included Manhar Patel from Botad in place of Ramesh Mer.

The total number of candidates declared so far by the party is 109. The Congress had on November 4 released its first list announcing the names of 43 candidates for the elec-

On November 10, the party came out with another list with 46 names. It released a list of seven candidates on Friday but one was a replacement for the earlier announced candidate. A fourth list of nine candidates was released on

Among the candidates named in the fifth list are Jayanti Jerajbhai Patel from Morbi, Jivan Kumbharvadiya from Jamnagar Rural, Chhattarsinh Gunjariya from Dhrangadhra, Mansukhbhai Kalariya from Rajkot West and Divyesh Chavda from

The Congress is seeking to oust the BJP from power in the home state of Prime Minister Narendra Modi where the saffron party has been in power for more than two decades.

Elections for the 182-member Gujarat Assembly will be held in two phases on December 1 and 5. The counting of votes will be taken up on December 8.

### **BJP MP FILES FIR AGAINST GIRI IN CAPITAL-**

## Why Didi mum on Minister who insulted Prez: BJP

SAUGAR SENGUPTA

 $B_{\text{Chatterjee on Sunday filed}}^{\text{engal BJP MP Locket}}$ an FIR in a New Delhi police station two days after Bengal Minister Akhil Giri passed derogatory remarks on President Droupadi Murmu.

Soon after coming out of the police station Chatterjee slammed Chief Minister Mamata Baneriee for still not sacking him as a Minister and not spending a word con"More than a day-and-half

has elapsed but the Chief Minister has remained silent on the matter ... Akhil Giri is a minister in her government and she should have not only condemned him for his statement but also sacked him," Chatterjee said.

The Chief Minister's inaction and silence on the issue only proved that "how insensitive they are about the Adivasi cause ... they may speak a lot about the tribal

people and tribal welfare but they have no regard for the SC-ST community," the Bengal BJP MP said "adding the erring minister should "come to Delhi and sit at the feet of the President and apol-

Struggling hard to retain its second position in Bengal politics the BJP had apparently lapped up Giri's statement and was relentless in its exploitation particularly in the Adivasi region of jangalmahal districts of the State

where the party took out anti-Giri-anti-TMC processions for the second day on Sunday.

Giri in a meeting in Nandigram had a couple of days ago used derogatory lan-guage against him while he was making a statement against State Opposition Leader Suvendu Adhikari.

Referring to how fre-quently Adhikari used unparliamentary words against him Giri said "he always refers to my bad looks ... yes I am not good looking ... whereas he is

a good looking person but how good looking is the President of India ... though we respect the chair of the

However, even as a storm of criticism arose Giri apologised saying "I did not want to derogate the President or for that matter the Adivasis for whom we have high regards ... it was just a reaction to the regular personal attacks being made at me... still if the President feels insulted I proffer my apology to her ... I am

However, he reminded how Adhikari compared him

sorry and regret what I said."

to a crow. "He told an old man like me, a person who looks like a crow ... he calls me halfpant minister ignoring a fact that I am also a part of the Constitution ... I know he is a good-looking person but what can I do if I have been made to look like that ... isn't it an insult to me ... just because I am a small man Í do not have any prestige," Giri said adding "the BJP seems to



exploit it ... they have not faith or love for the Adivasis can be exploited for votes."

### 99% Muslims in India Hindustani by their ancestry, culture and motherland: RSS

 $R^{ashtriya\ Swayams\,evak}_{Sangh\,(RSS)\,leader\,Indresh}$ Kumar on Sunday said 99 per cent Muslims in India are "Hindustani" by their ancestry, culture, traditions and motherland.

He also supported the view expressed by RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat in the past that Indians had common ancestors, hence their DNA is com-

Kumar was addressing the concluding ceremony of the two-day state-level workshop of activists of the Muslim Rashtriva Manch (MRM), the Muslim wing of the RSS, at Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini at Uttan in Thane district.

"We must consider our



supreme and above all other things as per the directives and tenets of the Holy Quran," a release quoted Kumar as say-

"Ninety-nine per cent Muslims in India are Hindustani by their ancestors, culture, traditions and motherland," he said.

As per the release, Kumar referred to RSS chief Bhagwat's

"D means the dreams we get everyday, N denotes native nation and A represents ancestors. We all dream in our mother tongue.

'We have common ancestors and share a common native nation which makes all of us share the common DNA," said Kumar, a member of the national executive committee of the RSS.

A total of 250 activists from more than 40 locations across the state, including women activists, attended the workshop.

MRM national conveners Irfan Ali Pirjade, Virag Pachpore and other officerbearers of the organisation were present on the occasion.

### No need to alter practice of not allowing women of menstrual age into Sabarimala temple: CPM leader

**PTI** ■ ALAPPUZHA

VV strual age group are not allowed into the Lord Ayyappa shrine at Sabarimala as he is an "eternal celibate" and there is no need to alter or subvert this practice, senior CPI(M) leader G Sudhakaran, who had supported the previous Pinarayi Vijayan government on entry of women to the hilltop temple, said on Sunday.

Sudhakaran, speaking to reporters here, said the minimum age for women to enter the temple has still not been changed from "60 years" and it is believed that since Lord Ayyappa is an



eternal celibate, entry of women below that age should not be allowed.

"It is something we all accept and respect. That is how things are going on. There is no need to alter or subvert it," said Sudhakaran, who was also a minister in the previous Vijayan government.

His remarks come just days before the twoMakaravilakku pilgrimage to Sabarimala in Pathanamthitta district is scheduled to commence from November 17.

In 2018, a five-judge Constitution bench of the Supreme Court had, by a majority 4:1 verdict, allowed girls and women of all ages to visit the Ayyappa temple at Sabarimala, saying discrimination on physiological grounds was violative of the fundamental rights as enshrined in the Constitution such as the right to equality.

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Extract of Statement of Un-audited Financial Results for the quarter and half year ended September 30, 2022								
	(Rupees in lacs)  Quarter ended Half Year ended Year ended							
	.		Quarter ended			Half Year ended		
SI	Particulars	30-09-22	30-06-22	30-09-21	30-09-22	30-09-21	31-03-22	
No.		Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Unaudited	Audited	
1	Total Income from operations	51.51	50.17	32.12	101.69	49.28	140.30	
2	Net Profit for the period (Before Tax,	25.52	12.29	25.75	37.81	36.88	25.40	
	Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)							
3	Net Profit for the period Before Tax	25.52	12.29	25.75	37.81	36.88	25.40	
	(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)							
4	Net Profit for the period After Tax	25.75	12.29	25.75	37.81	36.88	18.77	
	(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)							
5	Total Comprehensive Income for the period	25.52	12.29	25.75	37.81	36.88	18.77	
	[Comprising Profit) for the period (after tax)							
	and other Comprehensive Income (after tax)]							
6	Equity Share Capital	300.10	300.10	300.10	300.10	300.10	300.10	
7	Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserves)	3.31	3.31	3.31	3.31	3.31	3.31	
	as shown in the Audited Balance Sheet as							
	shown in the previous year							
8	Earning Per Share (of Rs.10/- each)							
	(for continuing and discontinued operations)							
	(a) Basic (in Rs.)	0.09	0.04	0.09	0.13	0.12	0.06	
	(b) Diluted (in Rs.)	0.09	0.04	0.09	0.13	0.12	0.06	

Note: The above is an extract of the detailed format of Quarterly and Half Yearly Results filed with the Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Quarterly Results are available on the Stock Exchange Website (www.msei.in and www.bseindia.com) and Company's website www.superiorfinlease.com.

Raineesh Kuma

## Martyr of 1962 Sino-Indian war yet to receive Govt honour

**PTI** ■ ITANAGAR

ittle we know about Havildar Shere Thapa of Indian Army who singlehandedly delayed waves of assault of Chinese Army during the 1962 war in Upper Subansiri sector, Arunachal Chief Minister Pema Khandu had tweeted earlier this year as he unveiled a bust of the unsung hero, who is still awaiting central government recognition.

Thapa of the Indian Army's 2nd Battalion of Jammu & Kashmir Rifles had killed 79 Chinese soldiers alone and injured many more in the battle fought at the Subansiri sector of Arunachal Pradesh in November, 1962, before laying down his life, according to official records

Sixty years on, the martyr, lost in the annals of history, is yet to get his due commendation, rued Thapa's commanding officer 2nd Lieutenant Amar Patil, who retired as a colonel

Lok Sabha MP from Arunachal East Parliamentary Constituency Tapir Gao had in

September last year called on Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi and submitted a letter, requesting him to confer gallantry award posthumously on the havildar.

Born in Nepal in 1928, Thapa had served in JAK Regiment Special Force from December 27, 1945 to December 31, 1956 and became part of Indian Army on January 1, 1957.

He was later appointed as platoon havildar under Subedar Sher Bahadur. "Thapa was deployed in the

protective patrol at Tama Chung Chung ridge near Rio Bridge in Upper Subansiri district to cover the tracks coming from Sino-Indian border," the retired colonel said. "On November 18, 1962

about 200 PLA soldiers sneaked in through the Tama Chung Chung Ridge and ran into the protective patrol of 2 IAK RIF. Havildar Thapa was manning the border from a well-camouflaged vantage point high on the mountains. His gun boomed relentlessly, like a roaring tiger, knocking

down many Chinese. He went on firing non-stop without food (as supply lines were cut off) and sleep for three days, while his lone soldier-friend continued changing the carbines, till the duo ran out of ammunition," Patil told PTI.

The pile of bodies of Chinese soldiers was "so high" that the river failed to carry them, he said. "When the Chinese firing

stopped, Thapa came out of his bunker for a recce. He looked towards the heap of mortal remains with great satisfaction but death was awaiting him. A wounded Chinese soldier fired, killing him instantly," the octogenarian war veteran said.

The gallant action of Thapa delayed the Chinese advance for nearly 72 hours, he stated.

"In the encounter, over 70 Chinese soldiers, including a senior officer, were said to have been killed," the retired army officer said.

Thapa may not have won any award but his bravery is remembered by locals, who hold him in very high esteem,



he underlined

The havildar was survived by wife and two children, but little is known about their whereabouts, Patil said. "People of Arunachal

Pradesh consider Thapa their role model. They feel upset about the fact that he was not given the well-deserved gallantry award by the central government. The Chinese, however, recognized his bravery and had placed a wooden epitaph at the spot where his mortal remains were found with an inscription in Chinese recognising Thapa's fighting spirit," added Patil.

structed a memorial near Rio Bridge, as a mark of tribute to the valiant soldier. A bridge built by the BRO

at Nacho circle in Tama Chung Chung (TCC)-Maza axis of Upper Subansiri district, over turbulent Tsari Chu River has also been named after Shere Khandu had in January

unveiled the bust of the braveheart at his memorial near Rio Bridge, between Limeking and Nacho, where he laid down his life fighting for the country, earning appreciation from

### OICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, Plot No 23, Shal Tower 3rd Floor

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Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of E-Auction	
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)	
1.	Pooja Tiwari (Borrower), Shivam Tiwari (Co-borrower) LBGHZ00005051413	Flat No 1093, 3rd Floor, New LIG Flats Kondli Gharoli Mayur Vihar Phase- III Delhi. Area 301,38 Sq. Ft	Rs. 25,18, 114.1 as on 7th Nov 2022	Rs. 20,50,000/- Rs. 2,05,000/-	November 23, 2022 from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	December 06, 2022 from- 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM	

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

## **Bad politics**

The Congress welcomed the EWS quota a few days ago, but it may change its position over the issue now

he Congress, which lauded the Supreme Court verdict upholding 10 per cent reservation for economically weaker sections (EWS) or poor people in the general category, has been forced to review its stance over the issue. The relook has been triggered because politicians in southern states, particularly Tamil Nadu, are unhappy with the judgment. In fact, an all-party meeting in Chennai, chaired by Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin, "rejected" the 103rd Constitutional Amendment which has the provision of a 10 per cent EWS quota. Importantly, the grand old party also attended the meeting; that is, that the Tamil Nadu unit of the GOP categorically opposed the party's stated stand. Quite apart from underlining the highly centralised structure of the Congress—the high command didn't seek or consider the opinion of its TN leaders—the development also highlights the emotive nature of the matter of reser-



vations. By the way, what is emotive may not be critical; it is not that the EWS quota, or any other one, will root out the problem of employment in the country. Consider this: as per the official data that has been made public, in 2019 and 2020, the first two years after the EWS quota was implemented, just 132 persons benefited from it in Central government jobs. One in a crore! And that too in two years! This in a country where political parties promise to provide jobs in millions.

Quite evidently, the problem of unemployment cannot be solved by reservations; even if the Government decides to reserve all jobs for a bunch of caste groups and communities, there would still be millions seek-

ing employment elsewhere. This is the reason that reservations generated demands for more reservations—and conflicts, because in the ultimate analysis it is a zerosum game. By supporting the EWS, the Congress may have thought that it would secure the support of a section of society, but the problem in a zero-sum game is that a group can gain only at the expense of the other. On Monday, the Congress had welcomed the top court's judgment and claimed credit. Welcoming the SC verdict, party general secretary in charge of communications Jairam Ramesh even tried to take credit for the 103rd Amendment, saying that the process was "initiated by Manmohan Singh government in 2005-06 with the appointment of the Sinho Commission that submitted its report in July 2010." This claim may haunt the GOP now. The Bharatiya Janata Party, which actually introduced the Amendment, may also find the EWS quota hurting its efforts of making forays into southern states. The loss in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Chhattisgarh Assembly elections at the end of 2018 had spurred it to go for the move—apparently, to woo the so-called upper caste voters. Both the Congress and the BJP ought to realise that, as national parties, using polarising tactics—and quotas is one such—will harm them in the long run.



Visitors click pictures of 'rangoli' as part of celebration of 'Kannada Rajyotsava' at Cubbon Park in Bengaluru

## **Mangrove Alliance**

The alliance could go a long way in conserving mangroves to fight a climate change

ndia has done the right thing in joining the Mangrove Alliance at COP27. The Alliance for conserving climate would spread awareness of the need to save mangroves to fight global warming and project it as a viable solution for climate change. At the 27th Session of the Conference of Parties (COP27), the Mangrove Alliance for Climate (MAC) was officially launched with India as a partner. The move is in line with India's goal to increase its carbon sink. Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav has reiterated India's stand. In his address, he said that India is home to one of the largest remaining areas of mangroves in the world — the Sundarbans and has years of expertise in the restoration of mangrove cover that can be used to aid global measures in this direction. Mangroves Alliance is an initiative led by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and has India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Japan, and Spain on board.

> The Alliance, though intergovernmental, would work on a voluntary basis. The participating countries will decide their own commitments and deadlines regarding the planting and restoring mangroves. The members will also share expertise and support each other in researching, managing, and protecting coastal areas.

Mangroves are very important in the global climate context. Mangrove forests — consisting of trees and shrubs that live in intertidal water in coastal areas host diverse marine life. They also support a rich food web, with mollusks and algae-filled substrates acting as breeding grounds for small fish, mud crabs, and shrimps. They act as effective carbon stores, holding up to four times the amount of carbon as other

forested ecosystem. Mangrove forests capture vast amounts of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere and their preservation can both aid in the removal of carbon from the atmosphere and prevent the release of the same upon their destruction. South Asia houses some of the most extensive areas of mangroves globally. India holds around 3 percent of South Asia's mangrove population. Besides the Sundarbans in West Bengal, the Andaman region, the Kuch and Jamnagar areas in Gujarat have substantial mangrove cover. Unfortunately, industrial expansion and building of roads and railways, and natural processes — erosion, and storms, have led to the shrinking of mangrove habitats which needs to be made good. India's presence in the Alliance will help other countries with its experience in conserving Mangroves but India must lead by example.

# Need for Electoral Reforms (Part I)



'We have fought for social justice. We have fought for economic justice... Now we must fight for electoral justice'- Barbara Boxer

ree and fair election constitutes the cardinal principle for the efficacy of a democratic system. Any bottleneck or hindrance to such a concept and its actualization is not only anathematic but vitiates the system as well as its process to make the principle of rule by the people a sham or a fiasco. The election is delineated as a formal group decision-making process by which people choose their representatives and that forms the edifice of a democratic setup. The word election is derived from the Latin word 'e' meaning out of and 'Lectus' meaning chosen. Election to truly manifest or reflect the will of the people, should be free and fair and therefore this electoral dynamics has assumed importance in as much as it has invited many scathing diatribes regarding its effective implementation.

The reasons for which electoral reforms are assuming significance is that the role and functioning of electoral and behavioral dynamics (and anathematic things/situations affecting and transforming the election process into a fiasco) have shown aberrations not only smear the mud of ineffectiveness on the functioning of democracy but also makes the novel (ideal) concept of election/democracy scandalous and condescended. The conceptual definition of democracy in the Lincolnian expression 'of the people, by the people, and for the people' appears as a semantic window dressing. Though it's a gargantuan and humongous effort to reform the process with about 27.5% of the population living under predicaments of poverty and impecuniosity and languishing under the spell of illiteracy, it is the time to pummel and chisel out the concept for good governance. Electoral reforms generally contribute to better participation by the citizens in electoral practices while reducing the role of corruption and enriching and invigorating the functioning of democracy (in India).

A Country beset with a dietnora of diversity and its and unscrupulous politicians unpleasant manifestations con- wielding the power of money cerning religion, caste, language, power rule unethically.

customs and beliefs, rich-poor gap, and diverse cognitive perceptions, etc, becomes a herculean task to mend. But we have a Hobson's choice in hand. The sooner we adopt the change to transform/reform the electoral system, the better it is for the nation. The first and foremost important factor that makes the election process a sham, is the negative role of money power. Not ideas, not principles but the money that reigns supreme in politics. As has been depicted earlier, in a nation where about one-third of the population lives below the poverty line (The literacy rate being equally low), as such money plays the obnoxious (ugly) role of exploiting the conditions of predicaments of the people and human weaknesses and the spirit of the democracy is lost in the quagmire of monetary importance. Purchasing votes taking account of the poverty of the people not only hinder the future of the nation but also stigmatizes democratic novelties and ideals. Though the election commission has fixed expenditure limits for both MP and MLA elections but the clandestine role of money to buy/woo voters belie any legal implication. The povertystricken people sell their ballots



MONEY PLAYS THE OBNOXIOUS ROLE OF **EXPLOITING THE** CONDITIONS OF **PREDICAMENTS** OF THE PEOPLE AND HUMAN **WEAKNESSES** AND THE SPIRIT OF THE **DEMOCRACY IS** LOST IN THE QUAGMIRE OF **MONETARY** 

The other important aspect that ails and affects the electoral process is the criminalization of politics. Though one may not agree with Plato regarding the concepts like philosopher kings it is desired that the ruler/representative of the people should be honest, sincere, and fair bereft of criminality. The criminalization of politics has really affected the process of election and the mode of governance. inalization of politics is the bane of the society and negation of democracy. It is subversive of a free and fair elec-Criminalization of

The criminal elements procure vote/mandate threats/fear psychosis and the occurrence of violence makes a mockery of the system. The entry of criminal elements into parliament and state legislature cripples and makes justice – social, economic, and political a distant chimera. Over the past few years, the influence of criminals in political affairs is on a tremendous rise. In Anukul Chandra Pradhan, vs union of India 1997, Hon'ble Supreme Court observed that the crim-

Politics has other manifestations like booth capturing, intimidating voters, obtaining votes through intimidation, tampering of electoral rolls large-scale rigging, and largescale violence after elections

targeting people for not vot-

ing for the criminal elements. The other important factors affecting electoral dynamics are divisive factors like religion, caste, language, customs, and belief. The multifaceted diversities take a significant role in an already divided society. Still some parts of our country are dominated by the caste factor, and it plays a predominant role in deciding who would rule taking into account people's herd mentality. The perceptional distortion affects the concept of a free and fair process making democracy a fiasco.

Other factors which affect the electioneering process, can be stated as a lack of moral values with the candidates, a Machiavellian approach to the election to win anyhow with unholy alliances and deeprooted conspiracies mars the spirits of democracy. The other most disturbing factor affecting the democratic process is regarding defection of members after elections. Fighting for a party before or during the election and changing the stance and side after getting the mandate of the people is not only obnoxious but also deplorable by any standard assessment.

(This is the first part of the election reform series. The views expressed are personal.)

### LETTERS TO TH

### **OVERHAUL OF THE INDIAN CRICKET TEAM**

Sir —The BCCI reportedly has set its eye on a massive overhaul of the Indian cricket team, following its agonizing exit from this year's T20 world cup, and injecting young bloods into the side ahead of the 2024 edition of the tournament. Sweeping changes with knee-jerk reactions cannot be the antidote for one bad performance, though, unfortunately, it came in a big knockout game. On current form, can the BCCI and the selectors think of not playing Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav, who are aged above 30, in the next world cup unless there is a huge dip in their batting? But for these two batters, and to some extent Hardik Pandya, India wouldn't have reached the last four stages in this T20 world cup.

In fact, among the current Indian players, unquestionably Kohli is physically the fittest, and he has been named the 7th most marketable athlete in the world in 2022 according to a list compiled by SportsPro partner NorthStar Solutions Group, which includes Messi and Ronaldo. Remember, both Jos Buttler and Alex Hales, who lorded over the Men in Blue at Adelaide, are aged above 30, and in all probability, both will represent England in white ball cricket for the next few years at least. In any field, therefore to achieve success a team must comprise the right mix of experience and youth.

NHRC TAKES STAND ON STUBBLE BURNING

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

Sir - The National Human Right Commission after hearing the responses of the chief secretaries of Delhi and three neighboring states on the pollution issue said farmers are burning stubble 'under compulsion" and it is due to the "failure" of the four state governments that stubble burning is happening. Warned over the rise in pollution in Delhi-NCR, the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) had recently asked the chief secretaries of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi to appear before it to

discuss the matter. The Commission, after considering optics of signing Lionel Messi, one of the

### **Children's Day**



India on November 14. The day was chosen as Children's Day after the death of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, adorably referred to as Chacha Nehru by children. He was India's first Prime Minister. Nehru celebrated his birthday on November 14. He was a great advocate for children's rights and for an all-inclusive education system. He believed that children are the future

of the nation, and hence, everyone's well-being

should be taken care of. Earlier, Children's Day was celebrated on November 20, the day World Children's Day is celebrated by the United Nations. However, after the death of Pt. Jawaharlal Nehru, a resolution was passed in the Indian Parliament to mark his birthday as Children's Day. Jawaharlal Nehru died in 1964, and since then to commemorate his birth anniversary, Children's Day is celebrated on November 14. Apart from Nehru's birth anniversary, Children's Day is also celebrated to raise awareness of children's education rights. Schools and colleges celebrate Children's Day with great enthusiasm. Teachers and students of every school and college on this day come out of their daily routines to celebrate the day

Jubel D'Cruz I Mumbai

the responses of the states concerned and the government of Delhi, and the deliberations thereon, thinks that the "farmers are burning stubble under compulsion," and the state governments have to provide harvest machines to get rid of that stubble, but states have failed to provide an adequate number of requisite machines and other measures; as a result, farmers are forced to burn the stubble, causing pollution," With this none of the states can blame the farmers for stubble burning; instead, it is due to the failure of all four state Governments that the stubble burning is happening in the states of Delhi, Punjab, Haryana, and UP, causing enormous pollutants in the air. Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

**MASS LAYOFFS IN BYJU'S** Sir — Byju's, an Indian multinational educational technology company headquartered in Bengaluru and founded in 2011, is in news for quite some time. After laying off 2500 employees on the pretext of avoiding redundancies, the company in a bid to make the edu-tech firm more profitable opened up about the bad

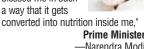
world's highest-paid footballers, as a brand ambassador. Imparting education to all is the need of the hour.

The service of the company was more like a social service than the profit motto for some years. As the Byju's started rising, the management started to push the concept of social service under the carpet. Profit motive became a priority. The staff of the company was given a raw deal. The company adopted the "penny wise and pound foolish" policy and resorted to the tactics of employing freshers in place of experienced ones to cut down expenditure on salaries. The management failed to read the writings on the wall. Byju's founder and chief executive Byju Raveendran has stated that the 5 per cent of the workforce was axed to avoid role duplication and reduce redundancies as the company focuses on profitability. Profitability is the sine qua non of any company for survival. But it should not be at the cost of experienced

KV Seetharamaiah | Bengaluru

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

I don't get tired because every day eat 2-3 kg of gaalis (abuses)...God has blessed me in such





Bankruptcy is a possibility if Twitter doesn't start generating more cash no work from home no free food and 80-

**Twitter Chief** -Elon Musk

> To 15 fabulous vears of excellence... perseverance...amazing per formances with you and the warm

hugs!! Here's looking at you...Looking at you. and looking at you...and still looking at you.

-Shah Rukh Khan





The People's

Liberation Army

I would definitely want to see changes in personnel. I don't want to see certain faces in the next

World Cup. It happened in the 2007 T20 World Cup also. Former cricketer -Virendra Sehwag

(PLA) has neither reduced its forces on the Line of

Actual Control (LAC), nor let up in infrastructure development for faster troop mobility and connectivity.

Manoj Pande —The chief of Army Staff

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### **FIRST COLUMN TAKING DIABETES CARE TO REMOTEST PARTS**

A special article on the World Diabetes Day, November 14



B M MAKKAR

id you know that out of six people living with diabetes in the world, one person is an Indian? Yes, the diabetes population in India now represents a significant portion of the global burden of diabetes. It is one of the world's largest health emergencies in the 21st century, ranking among the top 10 leading causes of death globally. Not only that, it has hit epidemic proportions in many developing economies, particularly India.

Being home to the second-highest number of people living with diabetes in the world, diabetes has become the most dreaded word in India. It is a frightening situation and is expected to worsen in the coming years. This raises two very important questions: do we have adequate access to medicines and technologies required to manage the rise in diabetes cases in India; and how can confluence between the government and private healthcare sector bridge the gap in access to diabetes care in India?

The most common problem that India faces, while addressing any health-related issues, is the lack of knowledge about the subject. Many people who suffer from diabetes are not even aware of it. Those who are aware of the disease are not much interested in consulting doctors to address the problem. According to statistics from several reports, more than 77 million adults in India are living with diabetes, out of which 57 per cent of diabetes cases remain undiagnosed. This creates a huge gap in addressing the core issues associated with diabetes and its care. While Type 2 diabetes accounts for about 95 per cent of all diabetes cases, some research indicates that Type 1 diabetes is also increasing by about three to five per cent every year.



Treating diabetes is a major challenge in India as it requires an adequate health system as well as top-notch ground-level awareness. There are several factors like sociocultural differences, poor medical facilities for diabetes care, and lack of monitoring and follow-up of patients, which directly impacts diabetes care in India. However, the urban and rural segmentation majorly affects diabetes care access to medicine and tech-

According to the IMCR-India DIAB study, the prevalence of diabetes and pre-diabetes was found higher in urban areas as compared to rural areas. In urban areas, the widespread presence of diabetes was 11.2 per cent, while in rural areas it was 5.2 per cent. This data was collect ed from 15 states/UT of the country from the largest nationally representative epidemiological survey conducted by the IMCR (Indian Council of Medical Research).

The amalgamation of Government and private healthcare sectors is the need of the hour. Diabetes management is a huge task in India owing to several reasons. Lack of general awareness is one of the top reasons that create obstacles in the management of diabetes and its complications. The general public, especially in remote areas, neither possess adequate knowledge about the disease nor do they have access to healthcare facilities. The scarcity of healthcare personnel, drugs, and equipment also contribute to delayed or missed diagnoses, which further increases the burden of diabetes in India. Another crucial factor that affects diabetes care in India is the problem of implementing effective management and educational strategies. Therefore, an amalgamation of healthcare professionals and policymakers becomes highly significant.

This may increase the awareness and accessibility of diabetes care to even the remotest parts of India. The government and private healthcare sectors must work together in coordination to address the lack of diabetes care. This can be achieved by implementing appropriate preventative and management strategies

(The author is President, RSSDI, Senior Diabetologist & Obesity Specialist)

# Rupee depreciated, but is not weak yet

SIDHARTH R **KUMAR DASH** 

RBI's actions to bring down inflation would be crucial in determining the exchange rate. The RBI will need to tame inflation to strengthen the rupee

ndia and other emerging countries have far outperformed rich countries against the greenback. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman's take on the falling value of the rupee was not well received. Social media erupted in trolls and sarcastic comments on her statement that rupee is not weakening but

dollar is strengthening.

Falling value of the rupee in terms of the greenback could be synonymous with a weakening rupee, but right now, the FM's statement reflects logic. A weakening rupee would mean a fall in the purchasing power. And if there is such a phenomenon, the rupee's value would plummet against all major currencies. Fall in currency rates against the dollar is now a global phenomenon and is triggered by increasing capital flight to the US.

Expansionary fiscal and monetary

policy during the pandemic gave rise to high inflation numbers in the US. The US recorded inflation of 8.2 per cent this September compared to 5.39 per cent in September 2021. The Federal Reserve is now rapidly hiking interest rates to contain inflation which is being described as the most aggressive tightening run by the

Fed in 40 years.

The Fed lending rates now stand at 3.25 per cent, up from 0.25% in January this year. This interest hike has been draining capital towards the US from all over the globe, which resulted in a greater demand for the greenback. Besides, a combination of factors such as the escalation of geopolitical tensions, especially in Ukraine and the impending recession warning by the IMF and other global agencies fuel the dollar's recent surge. This results in a global move to the safe haven of the dollar as investors seek to protect their money, causing the dollar's appreciation.

The dollar has been the most important currency for a long. It has strengthened by about 20 per cent against a bas-ket of global currencies in the last 20 years, reflecting its dominant role in the global financial landscape. A study by the IMF also shows that around 40 per cent of the world's transactions are carried out through dollars. The resilient nature of the US economy, along with the huge volume of trade and finance undertaken through its denomination, maintains the greenbacks superior position even though technological advancements like cryptocurrencies and digital payment systems could undermine the dollar's role in trans-

One year ago, in October 2021, one dollar equaled roughly 75 rupees. With the rates crossing the 83-mark last Wednesday, the rupee has depreciated against the dollar by more than eight per cent in 2022 alone. The RBI has also been stepping up its interventions to minimise the volatility in the Indian foreign exchange market. Since last September,



**EXPANSIONARY** FISCAL AND **MONETARY** POLICY DURING THE PANDEMIC GAVE RISE TO HIGH INFLATION NUMBERS IN THE



global bond prices.

With the hawkish approach of the Fed, the fast-depreciating US. value of the rupee has been of great concern in India, owing to the huge import demand and the potential negative impact on the capital market. In contrast to the falling value of the rupee against the dollar, the rupee has been doing well against other major currencies. The rupee has strengthened by about 11.5 per cent against the British pound in the last year as the rate rose from rupees 104 per GBP last October to 92 per GBP now.

The rupee strengthened against the Euro, too, up from rupees 88 per Euro to rupees 82 per Euro in the same timeline. One Yen, valued at 65 paise last October, is now valued at 55 aise, aiso snowing a strengtnening of the rupee by about 15 per cent. Valuation of the rupee against the Canadian Dollar has been stable at around 60 rupees per dollar and hasn't changed much in the last year. The Indian denomination has also strengthened against Swedish Krona and has remained relatively stable to the Chinese Yuan and Świss Franc in the same period.

ing dollar values. The dollar index, which measures the relative value of the USD against six major currencies of the world, improved from 93.8 the last October to 113 now. In other words, the dollar has appreciated 20.5 per cent against the six major currencies.

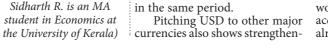
The Japanese Yen has fallen by about 20 per cent from January to September 2022. The British Pound and Swedish Kroner fell by more than 15 per cent and the Euro by more than 10 per cent. The Brazilian Real and Mexican Peso are the only major winners in terms of strengthening against the Dollar. Depreciation of the rupee in terms of the dollar can be therefore attributed to the strengthening dollar against all major currencies around the world rather than a weakening rupee. In fact, the rupee has outperformed the currencies of all major rich countries.

Even with the rupee remaining strong in adverse global conditions, it is still depreciating in terms of the dollar, which has its implications. A majority of international transactions are carried out in terms of dollars, and a depreciating rupee would mean higher import bills. With over a third of the CPI (Consumer Price Index) being imported, these higher import bills will certainly translate into higher inflation domestically. Rising import bills would also mean a wider current account deficit for India, which already does not look very good.

The falling exchange rate has also caused a loss of \$110 billion worth of forex reserves, 67 per cent of which RBI claims is due to valuation changes caused by the strengthening dollar and higher US bond yields. The higher interest rate in the US is also triggering volatility in the Indian stock market, as the interest rate differ-

ence between India and the US has been narrowing in recent months. The persistently high inflation in the US would push the Fed to announce higher interest rates to meet its aimed band of 4.25-4.5 per cent by the end of 2022. This would result in higher capital flight and subsequent depreciation. The RBI has already conducted dollar sales worth \$45 billion to ensure a smooth decline of the rupee. The current forex reserves with the RBI are only enough to cover eight months of import bills, where six months' worth of cover is a bare minimum.

The RBI's actions to bring down inflation to the targeted range would also be crucial in determining the exchange rate. In the long run, the RBI's plan to push for the adoption of rupee for international transactions through Vostro accounts will reduce India's dependence on the dollar. Finally, lower dependence on the greenback, lower and stable inflation and sustained economic growth with higher exports would also ensure a strong rupee in the time



THE ONLY DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE IN CONGRESS WERE THE 1.000 DELEGATES WHO SHOWED COURAGE BY VOTING FOR SHASHI THAROOR. I EXPECT THEM TO JOIN BJP SOON. — ASSAM CM

**HIMANTA BISWA SARMA** 

(Santosh Kumar Dash

is an Assistant Professor

at the Gulati

Institute of Finance and

Taxation [GIFT],

Thiruvananthapuram.





THOSE WHO SHOW COURAGE WILL NEVER JOIN THE BJP, IT IS THOSE WHO DO NOT HAVE THE COURAGE TO FIGHT WHO MIGHT BE TEMPTED TO DO SO. — CONGRESS MP

**SHASHI THAROOR** 

# GHI oversimplifies, magnifies hunger; is misguided

### One size fits all is the problem of the Global Hunger Index; what is needed is an evidence-based response

**⊣**he sensational annual headline is that India is doing abysmally on the Global Hunger Index (GHI) and has slipped much more than its neighbours. Hunger is a complex construct with emotional overtones. However, laypeople and stakeholders instantly connect with the dictionary definition of hunger as having a desire, craving, or need for food, and this term should, therefore, be used with

extreme care. It raises the false specter of widespread and profound dietary energy deficit leading to undernutrition, with potentially inappropriate policy responses. Not less than 1 in 2 Indian children, even among the impoverished, whether thin, stunted or not, are actually over-nourished (or "metaboli-



ANURA KURPAD

(Prof. Harshpal Singh Sachdev is a Senior Consultant at Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science and Research, New Delhi. Prof. Anura Kurpad is Professor of Physiology and Nutrition in St John's Medical College, Bengaluru)

cally obese"), with high blood sugar, or cholesterol or high blood pressure. This is because of excess fat accumulation in a thin body frame, probably from cereal overfeeding.

Further, overnutrition-associated Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) like diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and stroke are rapidly escalating in India, and appearing at younger ages. Undoubtedly, the poorest quintile of the Indian population will have an inability to meet their balanced food requirements. But this is not systematic, and it is this proportion that should be precisely located, quantified, and fed with diverse

and nutritious diets. Unfortunately, the solicited response to these melodramatic headlines is often blunt and universal: to supply an increased

intake of cereals, fortified with chemical nutrients, or even ultra-processed food supplements to enhance caloric and micronutrient intake. The consequence of a muscular, universal, and industrial approach with inappropriate diets and quantities of cereals, rather than a precise focus of feeding with locally available diverse foods, converges with the counternarrative of "metabolic obesity" that is being found in thin or short people.

So, the headlines run diametrically opposite to each other. There are two possibilities: first, there is something amiss with the GHI, and second, for the realistic burden of existing food insecurity, the hunger is for diverse and quality foods, and

even development. Is the Global Hunger Index obesity", analogous to the find-

valid? It is a weighted average of four indicators: the proportion of the population that is undernourished (PoU); the proportion of under-five years children who are 'wasted' and 'stunted'; and the proportion of children

dying before the age of five.

The PoU is the proportion of the population whose energy intake is less than the FAOdefined Minimum Dietary Energy Requirement (MDER). It is a poor indicator, based on one-size-fits-all threshold, oblivious of the variations in body size of populations.

In ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition dietary surveys, a substantial proportion of those consuming less than MDER were overweight (one-third in urban and one-sixth in rural areas) and/or had "metabolic

ings from the national survey on children. The PoU is a broad brush that makes the GHI imprecise, and is a pretense of a robust individual ranking of

The other three indicators in the GHI- of stunting (shortstature), wasting (thinness) and mortality, apply only to under-five-year children, comprising only one-sixth of the population. The underlying casualties of hunger are extremely suspect. There is literally tons of evidence that nutrition (or hunger) per se may be only one of several determinants of these, if at all. Hunger (starvation) to an extent of causing mortality directly is extremely rare or unknown in

the current era. In the first 28-days of life, where half the under-five deaths occur, these are unrelated to

hunger; they occur due to birth asphyxia, sepsis, respiratory distress, etc. Undersize (stunting or wasting) in under-five children does not directly equate to hunger. Other important determinants of these indicators include genetic factors and development (vikas) with elements like water supply, sanitation, preventive and promotive health care, infection control, literacy, access to quality health

In a population overcoming an intergenerational constraint, undersized children are not primarily nutrients-starved, but hungry for overall and equitable development. That brings us to the second possibility of a lack of diversity and quality rather than frank "hunger". The current population diets are cereal dom-

inated, with little diversity and

quality for other macro and micronutrients. Adding a universal 'hunger' to the 'lack of dietary diversity' is a multiplier with damaging consequences: this hunger is addressed by feeding cereal, which will actually reduce diversity and quality.

This irrelevant index creates misdirected shaming and stigmatization, shoving governments to a proliferation of the "malnutrition-industrial complex", which diverts scarce public resources towards a universal supply of cereals and supplements. Instead the need is to focus on evidence-based and directed responses towards overall development and dietary diversity, to address the specifics of undernutrition while equally preventing the escalation of "metabolic obesity" and NCDs.

# AFTER KHERSON SUCCESS, KYIV VOWS TO KEEP DRIVING OUT RUSSIA

kraine's president vowed to keep pushing Russian forces out of his country after they withdrew from Kherson, leaving behind devastation, hunger and booby traps in the southern Ukrainian city.

The Russian retreat from Kherson marked a triumphant milestone in Ukraine's pushback against Moscow's invasion almost nine months ago. Kherson residents hugged and kissed the arriving Ukrainian troops in rap-

turous scenes.
"We will see many more such greetings" of Ukrainian soldiers liberating Russian-held territory," President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said in his nightly video address on

He pledged to the people in Ukrainian cities and villages that are still under occupation: "We don't forget anyone; we won't leave anyone."

Ukraine's retaking of Kherson was a significant setback for the Kremlin and the latest in a series of battlefield embarrassments. It came some six weeks after Russian President Vladimir Putin annexed the Kherson region and three other provinces in southern and eastern Ukraine — in breach of international law — and declared them Russian territory.

Driving toward Kherson from the Mykolaiv region, AP reporters saw downed electrical lines, used projectile casings and the decomposed car-cass of a cow. Several destroyed tanks lined the muddy road.

As Ukrainian forces on Sunday consolidated their hold on Kherson, authorities contemplated the daunting



task of clearing out explosive devices and restoring basic public services in

One Ukrainian official described the situation in Kherson as "a humanitarian catastrophe." The remaining residents in the city are said to lack water, medicine and food. There are shortages of key basics such as bread

because of a lack of electricity.

Ukrainian police called on residents to help identify collaborators with Russian forces during the eightmonth occupation. Ukrainian police officers returned to the city on Saturday, along with public broad-casting services, following the departure of Russian troops.

The national police chief of Ukraine, Ihor Klymenko, said on Saturday on Facebook that about 200 officers were at work in the city, setting up checkpoints and documenting evidence of possible war crimes.

In what could perhaps be the next district to fall in Ukraine's march on territory illegally annexed by Moscow, the Russian-appointed administration of the Kakhovka district, east of Kherson city, announced Saturday it was evacuating its employees.

'Today, the administration is the number one target for Ukrainian attacks," said the Moscow-installed leader of Kakhovka, Pavel Filipchuk. Therefore, by order of the gov-

ernment of the Kherson region, we, as an authority, are moving to a safer territory, from where we will lead the district," he wrote on Telegram.

Kakhovka is located on the left bank of the River Dnieper, upstream of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power

The deputy head of Ukraine's presidential office, Kyrylo Tymoshenko, said six people died on Saturday as a result of Russian shelling.

Writing on Telegram on Sunday, he said four people were killed and one wounded in Ukraine's eastern Donetsk region, two were killed in the Kherson region, and two wounded in the central Dnipropetrovsk region.

media Saturday showed Ukrainian activists removing memorial plaques put up by the occupation authorities. A Telegram post by Yellow

Ribbon, the Ukrainian resistance movement in the occupied regions, showed two people in a park taking down plaques picturing Soviet-era military figures.

Moscow's announcement that Russian forces were withdrawing across the Dnieper River, which divides both the Kherson region and Ukraine as a whole, followed a stepped-up Ukrainian counteroffensive in the country's south.
In the past two months, Ukraine's

military claimed to have retaken dozens of towns and villages north of the city of Kherson, and the military said that's where stabilisation activities were taking place.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba sought to temper the excitement over the Russian retreat from Kherson.

"We are winning battles on the ground, but the war continues," he said from Cambodia, where he was attending a summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told journalists on Sunday that a joint statement on the results of the summit was not adopted, since "the American side and its partners insisted on an unacceptable assessment of the situation in Ukraine and around

The Kremlin is angered by the support Ukraine receives from its Western allies, including the United



hina's military flew 36 •fighter jets and bombers near Taiwan, the Taiwanese defence ministry announced, part of a long-running campaign of intimidation against the self-ruled island democracy that Beijing claims as part of

jets fly near island

its territory. Ten of the aircraft on Saturday flew across the median line in the Taiwan Strait that separates the island from the mainland, the ministry said. It said they included six Shenyang J-11 and four J-16 aircraft.

Taiwan and China split in 1949 following a civil war that ended with the Communist

Party in control of the main-

The island never has been part of the People's Republic of China, but Beijing says it is obliged to unite with the mainland, by force if necessary.

Chinese President Xi Jinping's government stepped up efforts this year to intimidate Taiwan. It has sent fighter planes and bombers to fly near the island and fired missiles into the sea.

On Saturday, Taiwan's military also spotted four Chengdu J-10 fighters, a Y-8 antisubmarine warfare plane and three H-6 bombers southwest of the island, the Ministry of Defence



### UK PM Rishi Sunak sets off for G20 with pledge to call out Russia for invading Ukraine

 $B^{\text{ritish Prime Minister Rishi}}_{\text{Sunak has pledged to "call}}$ out Putin's regime" at this year's G20 over the Russia-Indonesia for the annual summit on Sunday.

The Group of 20 (G20) of the world's biggest economies will bring together world leaders, where Sunak is expected to hold his first meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi since taking charge as the UK's first Indian-origin Prime Minister last month.

India's year-long presidency of the G20 will kick off from December 1.

"(Vladimir) Putin's war has caused devastation around the world - destroying lives and plunging the international economy into turmoil," said Sunak in a statement before setting off for Bali.

"This G20 summit will not be business as usual. We will call out Putin's regime, and lay bare their utter contempt for the kind of international cooperation and respect for sovereignty forums like the G20 represent. In clear contrast to Putin's disruption, the UK and our allies will work together to make meaningful progress solving the economic challenges we face and making lives better for our people," he said.

Sunak will confront Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov in a speech during the G20's first plenary session, when all members are expected to attend, on Tuesday.

According to reports, Downing Street had prepared for the summit assuming Russia's President would be week he wouldn't be attending and that the Kremlin would be sending Russia's foreign minister, Sergei Lavrov, instead.

The annual gatherings were initially established in response to the 2008 financial crisis, cementing the summit as the main global forum for economic cooperation. The meeting next week will take place as the world faces another significant set of economic challenges since 2008 - caused or exacerbated by the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

Talks are set to be dominated by the fallout of G20 member-state Russia's actions, which the western economies believe has unleashed chaos in the global economy and seen energy and food prices sky-

Russia's top diplomat previously walked out of a meeting of G20 foreign ministers in July when challenged over Moscow's actions in Ukraine.

While the traditional group photograph referred to as the "family photo" of world leaders has been ruled out as most do not want to share the frame with Russia, divisions deepened by the Ukraine war mean it is unclear whether a traditional joint statement will be agreed at the end of the Bali summit.

Ukraine war, tensions with China Ioom over big Bali summit

**AP** ■ NUSA DUA (INDONESIA) showdown between Presi-

Ashowaowii between The dents Joe Biden and Vladimir Putin isn't happening, but fallout from Russia's invasion of Ukraine and growing tensions between China and the West will be at the fore when leaders of the world's biggest economies gather in tropical Bali this week.

The Group of 20 members begin talks on the Indonesian resort island Tuesday under the hopeful theme of "recover together, recover stronger." While Putin is staying away, Biden will meet with Chinese President Xi Jinping and get to know new British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Italy's Giorgia Meloni.

The summit's official priorities of health, sustainable energy and digital transformation are likely to be overshadowed by omy and geopolitical tensions centered on the war in Ukraine.

The nearly 9-month-old conflict has disrupted trade in oil, natural gas and grain, and focus to food and energy secu-

The U.S. And allies in Europe and Asia, meanwhile, increasingly are squaring off against a more assertive China, leaving emerging G-20 economies like India, Brazil and host Indonesia to walk a tightrope between bigger pow-Indonesian President Joko

Widodo has tried to bridge rifts within the G-20 over the war in Ukraine. Widodo, also known as Jokowi, became the first Asian leader since the invasion to visit both Russia and Ukraine in the He invited President

Volodymyr Zelenskyy of Ukraine, not a G-20 member, to join the summit. Zelenskyy is expected to participate online.

"One of the priorities for war and geopolitical risk," said Bhima Yudhistira, director of the Center of Economic and Law Studies in Indonesia's capital,



Last year's G-20 summit in Rome was the first in-person gathering of members since the pandemic, though the leaders of Russia and China didn't attend.

This year's event is bracketed by the United Nations climate conference in Egypt and the Nations summit in Cambodia, which Biden and some other G-20 leaders are attending, and the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation meeting in the Bali summit is whether

Thailand right afterward.

The American president vowed to work with Southeast Asian nations on Saturday, saying "we're going to build a better future that we all want to see" in a region where China is working to grow its influence. the leaders of Japan and South Korea to discuss China and the threat from North Korea.

One question hanging over

U.N. Black Sea Grain Initiative, which is up for renewal Nov. 19. The July deal allowed major

global grain producer Ukraine to resume exports from ports that had been largely blocked for months because of the war. Russia briefly pulled out of the deal late last month only to rejoin it days later.

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba on Saturday called for more pressure on Russia to extend the deal, saying Moscow must "stop playing hunger games with the world." As leaders contend with

conflicts and geopolitical tensions, they face the risk that efforts to tame inflation will extinguish post-pandemic recoveries or cause debilitating financial crises.

The war's repercussions are being felt from the remotest vilmost modern industries. It has amplified disruptions to energy supplies, shipping and food security, pushing prices sharply higher and complicating efforts

to stabilize the world economy after the upheavals of the pan-United Nations Secretary-

General Antonio Guterres is urging the G-20 to provide financial help for the developing

"My priority in Bali will be to speak up for countries in the Global South that have been battered by the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate emergency, and now face crises in food, energy and finance — exacerbated by the war in Ukraine and crushing debt," Guterres said.

The International Monetary Fund is forecasting 2.7% global growth in 2023, while private sector economists' estimates are as low as 1.5%, down from about 3% this year, the slowest growth since the oil crisis of the early 1980s.

what insulated from soaring inflation, mainly because it is struggling to reverse an economic slump that is weighing on global growth.

### **Netanyahu vows to be 'PM of everyone'** after Israeli Prez invites him to form Govt

**PTI** JERUSALEM

Benjamin Netanyahu on Sunday promised to be the "prime minister for everyone" after Israeli President Isaac Herzog officially invited the country's longest-serving premier to form the new govern-

Netanyahu, who has won the backing of 64 Members of the Knesset (Israeli Parliament), has been assigned the task to form the next government, a statement from the Presidency said, days after the November 1 election, the fifth in four years, to break the political impasse that had paralysed the Jewish

"I decided to bestow upon you, MK Benjamin Netanyahu, the mandate to form a government," President Herzog told Netanyahu during a meeting at the president's residence.

Israel's longest-serving leader, 73-year-old Netanyahu has won a record five elections to hold office five times - more than any other prime minister in the country's 74-year history.

Netanyahu will have 28 days to form the government. If an extension is required, the President has the legal authority to grant an extension of up to fourteen additional days.

His return to power could see an upward trajectory in Indo-Israel strategic ties.

An advocate of strong bilateral ties with India, Netanyahu was the second Israeli Prime Minister to visit India in January 2018. Prime Minister Narendra Modi made his historic visit to Israel, the first by an Indian Prime Minister, in July 2017 when the 'chemistry' between the two leaders became the



subject of intense discussion. President Herzog said he was "not unaware" of Netanyahu's ongoing corruption trial, but that the court had ruled in the past that this was not a barrier to awarding Netanyahu the

mandate. "Israel requires a government that even if its composition

does not reflect all worldviews and sections of the legislature, nevertheless knows to lead a process of connection and unification — between all parts of our people — and to conduct a responsible, cautious, open, frank, and attentive dialogue with the other branches of government," Herzog said.

President Herzog had on Friday announced that he will ask Netanyahu to form a new government following consultations with leaders of all the political parties that have been elected to the 25th Knesset in the November 1 elections.

The Israeli President started discussions with leaders of the political parties immediately after formally receiving the results of the polls from the Chairman of the Central Elections Committee last



### 4 EU members say they can't take so many migrant arrivals

**AP** ■ ATHENS

 $F_{\text{pean Union nations have}}^{\text{our Mediterranean Euro-}}$ issued a joint statement on a dispute over a deal for Europe to jointly help asylum-seekers.

Italy, Greece, Malta and Cyprus repeated their positions that they "cannot subscribe to the notion that countries of first entry are the only possible European landing spots for illegal immigrants." They added that the number of migrants taken in by other EU member states "only represents a very small fraction of the actual number of irregular arrivals.' The four countries condemned the operations of private charity vessels "acting in total autonomy from the competent state authorities" to save hundreds of

vehemently opposed by

humanitarian groups, legal experts and human rights

directed three ships with mig-

rants to ports in southern Italy,

initially selecting for disem-

barkation only those deemed

vulnerable, including minors

and those with medical condi-

In their statement Saturday,

migrants rescued at sea. Italy's new far-right-led government was locked in a weekslong standoff with humanitarian groups that rescue migrants in the central Mediterranean Sea. It argued that the countries whose flag the ships fly should take in the migrants, not Italy, a position

activists. After ignoring repeated requests for a safe port, Italy

Eventually all were allowed to enter Italy. But a fourth ship, the Ocean Viking, remained in international waters and eventually made its way toward France after nearly three weeks at sea, finally docking Friday at

the port of Toulon. The Ocean Viking episode led to a diplomatic flap between Italy and France, after Italy's new prime minister, Giorgia Meloni, thanked Paris for accepting the migrants before

announced France's withdrawal from a "solidarity" mechanism approved in June to reduce the pressure on frontline countries such as Greece, Italy and Spain by taking in asy-

### Pope denounces 'sirens of populism' as he marks day for poor about them for personal gain. last week and forcing France to search of hope, and many peo-

Pope Francis denounced the "sirens of populism" on Sunday as he called for a renewed commitment to helping the poor, homeless and migrants amid Italy's latest migration debate.

Francis celebrated the Catholic Church's World Day of the Poor by inviting hundreds of poor and homeless people and migrants into the Vatican for a special Mass and luncheon. He denounced the indiffer-

ence the world shows them as

well as the "prophets of doom"

who fuel fear and conspiracies

"Let us not be enchanted by the sirens of populism, which exploit people's real needs by facile and hasty solutions," Francis said. This year's commemora-

tion takes place as Italy once again is at the heart of a European debate over migration, with the far-right-led government of Premier Giorgia Meloni going head-to-head with France over the fate of people rescued in the Mediterranean.

Italy kept four rescue boats sea for days until finally allowing three to disembark



take in the fourth. The standoff sparked a diplomatic row that resulted in France suspending its participation in a European redistribution program and rein-forcing its border crossings with Italy. Francis lamented that the war in Ukraine is only adding to the plight of the poor, who are still reeling from the coronavirus pandemic, as well as from natural disasters and climate

Today also, much more than in the past, many of our brothers and sisters, sorely tested and disheartened, migrate in

the lack of employment or unjust and undignified working conditions," he said. To show concrete acts of solidarity, the Vatican invited some 1,300 people to lunch in the Vatican audience hall after the

ple experience insecurity due to

In addition, free medical checks that had been halted due to COVID-19 were restarted this week in St. Peter's Square, providing checkups, vaccines, blood tests, electrocardiogrammes as well as tests for hepatitis C, tuberculosis and HIV.

France had agreed to do so. French Interior Minister Gerard Darmanin then

## BIDEN-LED DEMOCRATS KEEP CONTROL OF US SENATE AS REPUBLICANS FACE SETBACKS IN CRUCIAL MIDTERM POLLS

dhe Democrats will retain majority control of the US Senate with two of its candidates projected to win their pivotal races against Republican rivals, in a major boost to President Joe Biden, who welcomed the election results on Sunday, saying he was feeling "good" and looking forward to the second half of his term to fulfil the promises made to the American people.

Biden's Democratic Party defied the historical trend of midterm elections breaking against parties in power, cementing its majority in the upper chamber of the US Congress.

In the November 8 midterm election, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto from Nevada is projected to defeat Republican challenger Adam Laxalt, who was endorsed by former president Donald Trump, while Senator Mark Kelly is set to defeat Republican Blake Masters in Arizona.

The result, the best midterm performance for a sitting party in 20 years, means the Democrats will now have 50 seats in the 100-member Senate - with the Republicans currently on 49. Georgia is still waiting on a Senate result and will hold a run-off election on December outright majority. The United States Senate has

100 seats and in the existing Congress, both the Democrats and the Republicans had 50 members each with Vice President Kamala Harris, a Democratic, casting her vote in case of a tie, in her capacity as its chairperson.

In Phnom Penh, Cambodia, for the summit of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, a beaming Biden said of the election results: "I feel good. I'm looking forward to the next couple of years." 'I'm not surprised by the

turnout. I'm incredibly pleased by the turnout. And I think it's a reflection of the quality of our candidates. And the — they're all running on the same programme," Biden said.

Biden, 79, said winning a 51st seat from the Georgia runoff next month would be important and allow Democrats to boost their standing on key Senate committees.

"It's just simply better," Biden said. "The bigger the number, the better."

Retaining Senate control is a huge boost to President Biden over the remaining two years of his first term in the White House and how much leverage his party will ultimately have.

the November 8 midterm polls.

the opposition Republican Party

is struggling to gain the major-

ity in the House of Represen-

tatives, which as per the pollsters,

Republicans had either won or

were leading in 213 seats as

against 203 of the Democratic

Party, with 218 being the halfway

mark. This better-than-expect-

ed performance by the

Democrats is attributed to the

people-friendly policies of

President Biden and the tilt of

the youth towards him.

As of Saturday night, the

looked like a wave for them.

Four days after the elections,

"This election is a victory victory and a vindication for Democrats, our agenda," Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer told reporters in New York. He described it as a victory for the American people.

Once again President Biden defied expectations. These midterm election results show 'best midterm performance for an incumbent President's party in 20 years since George W Bush's GOP gained seats following 9/11," Ajay Bhutoria, deputy National Finance Chair of the Democratic National Committee, told PTI on Saturday after the Nevada election results.

Republicans say they are confident they will secure major-Before the elections, politiity in the House even as they cal pundits and pollsters pre-dicted a "red wave" which was voice dismay that the size of their numbers over Democrats is not to be seen anywhere during likely to be far smaller than prea "red wave" of Republican winners filling the House chamber in January, when the new Congress is sworn in.

The victory is a major boost to President Biden in the second half of his term, both for his legislative agenda and his ability to appoint top judges and other key officials.

"Under President Biden's leadership, Democrats have shown surprising strength. Democrats have also been successful in governors' races, winning in Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania and the Senate seat in Pennsylvania," Bhutoria

"With votes still being counted across the country, Republicans still have the opportunity to win control of Congress. But the results are uplifting for Democrats who were braced for sweeping loss-"This is the first time we

have an Indian American Lt Governor in Maryland - Aruna Miller and we also have 5th Indian American congressman in the house -Shri Thanedar. Overall, people voted for President Biden's call to save and protect the Democracy, abortion rights and economy, restoring the soul of our nation," Bhutoria

## Two historic aircraft collide at Veterans Day show in Dallas

AP DALLAS (US)

 $\Gamma$ wo historic military aircraft collided and crashed Saturday during an air show in Dallas, exploding into a ball of flames and sending black smoke billowing into the sky. It was not clear how many people were on board.

Emergency crews raced to the crash scene at the Dallas Executive Airport, about 16 kilometers from the city's downtown. News footage from the scene showed crumpled wreckage of the planes in a grassy area inside the airport perimeter. Dallas Fire-Rescue told The Dallas Morning News that there were no reported injuries among people on the ground.

Anthony Montoya saw the two planes collide.

I just stood there. I was in complete shock and disbelief, said Montoya, 27, who attended the air show with a friend. "Everybody around was gasping. Everybody was bursting into tears. Everybody was in shock."

Officials would not say how many people were on board the planes, but Hank Coates, president of the company that put on the airshow, said one of the planes, a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber, typically has a crew of four to five people. The other, a P-63 Kingcobra fighter plane, has a single pilot. No paying customers were on the aircraft, said Coates, of Worth. Commemorative Air Force,

which also owned the planes. Their aircraft are flown by highly trained volunteers, often retired pilots, he said. A team of National Trans-

portation Safety Board investigators will arrive at the scene of the crash on Sunday. Dallas Mayor Eric Johnson said the NTSB had taken con-

trol of the crash scene, with local police and fire providing sup-"The videos are heartbreak-

ing," Johnson said on Twitter.

The planes collided and crashed around 1.20 pm, the Federal Aviation Administration said in a statement. The collision occurred during the Commemorative Air Force Wings Over Dallas show.

Victoria Yeager, the widow of famed Air Force test pilot Chuck Yeager and herself a pilot, was also at the show. She didn't see the collision, but did see the burning wreckage.
"It was pulverized," said

Yeager, 64, who lives in Fort

'We were just hoping they had all gotten out, but we knew they didn't," she said of those on board.

The B-17, a cornerstone of

US air power during World War II, is an immense fourengine bomber used in daylight raids against Germany. The Kingcobra, a US fighter plane, was used mostly by Soviet forces during the war. Most B-17s were scrapped at the end of World War II and only a handful remain today, largely featured at museums and air shows, according to Boeing. Several videos posted on social media showed the fighter plane appearing to fly into the bomber, causing them to quickly crash to the ground and setting off a large ball of fire and smoke.

"It was really horrific to see," Aubrey Anne Young, 37, of Leander. Texas, who saw the crash. Her children were inside the hangar with their father when it occurred. "I'm still trying to make sense of it.'



### Saudi Arabia has 'green vision' at COP27, critics unmoved AP SHARM EL-SHEIKH

Hydrogen cars and vehicles that capture their tailpipe pollutants. Computer mice made from recycled ocean waste plastic. Hundreds of millions of trees planted in the desert. Saudi Arabia's vision of an environmentally friendly future is on display just a short drive from the venue of the U.N. Climate summit being held in Egypt.

What's not highlighted in the glossy gallery are the earthwarming fossil fuels that the country continues to pump out of the ground for global export. Fossil fuel emissions are the realy 200 countries have gathered at the annual two-week conference, haggling over how pollution can be cut and how fast to do it. In and around the conference, Saudi Arabia is presenting itself as a leader in green energies and eco-friendly practices, with flashy pavilions, glossy presentations and optimistic assessments of technologies like carbon capture, which can remove carbon dioxide from the air but is costly and years away from being deployed at scale. "We have hugely ambitious goals and targets," Saudi climate envoy Adel al-Jubeir said at the two-day Saudi Green Initiative Forum on COP27's sidelines. "We want to be an example to the world in terms of what can be done.

The effort is part of a large push by Saudi Arabia to make the case that the nation should be part of the transition to renewable energies while holding on to its role as the top global crude oil exporter.

That vision is sharply contested by climate scientists and environmental experts, who argue that Saudi Arabia and the other countries with large reserves of oil simply want to distract the world to continue with business as usual

### UN climate talks reach halftime with key issues unresolved AP SHARM EL-SHEIKH

It's half-way time at the U.N. Climate talks in Egypt, with negotiators still working on draft agreements before ministers arrive next week to push for a substantial deal to fight climate

The two-week meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh started with strong appeals from world leaders for greater efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions and help poor nations cope with global warming.
Scientists say the amount of

greenhouse gases being pumped into the atmosphere needs to be halved by 2030 to meet the goals of the Paris climate accord. The 2015 pact set a target of ideally limiting temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) by the end of the century, but left it up to countries to decide how they want to

Here is a look at the main issues on the table at the COP27 WHAT ABOUT THE U.S.

AND CHINA?

suggested that a planned meeting Monday between U.S. President Joe Biden and President Xi Jinping of China on the sideline of the Group of 20 meeting in Bali could also provide an important signal for the climate talks as they go into the home stretch.

With impacts from climate change already felt across the globe, there's been a push for rich polluters to stump up more cash to help developing countries shift to clean energy and adapt to global warming; increasingly there are also calls for compensation to pay for climate-related losses.

China is the biggest polluter by far right now, but the U.S. Has the most historical pollution over time.

**KEEPING COOL** 

A group of major emerging countries that includes oil-andgas exporting nations has pushed back against explicit references to keeping the target of limiting global warming to under 1.5 degrees Celsius. Egypt, which is chairing the talks, convened a three-hour meeting Saturday in which the issue was raised several times. "1.5 is a substantive issue,"

said Wael Aboulmagd, a senior Egyptian negotiator, adding that it was "not just China" which had raised questions about the get. Still, he was hopeful of finding a way of securing a "maximum possible advance" on reducing emissions by the meet-

**CUTTING EMISSIONS** 



Negotiators are trying to put together a mitigation program that would capture the different measures countries have committed to in order to reduce emissions, including for specific sectors like energy and transport. Many of these pledges are not formally part of the U.N. Process, meaning they cannot easily be scrutinized at the annual meeting. A draft agree-ment circulated early Saturday had more than 200 square brackets, meaning large sections were still unresolved. Some countries want the plan to be valid only for one year, while roadmap is needed. Expect fireworks in the days ahead.

**US-CHINA RELATIONS** 

While all countries are equal at the U.N. Meeting, in practice little gets done without

the approval of the world's two biggest emitters, China and the United States. Beijing canceled formal dialogue on climate following Speaker Nancy Pelosi's visit to Taiwan and relations have been frosty since. U.S. Climate envoy John Kerry said Saturday that he had only held informal discussions with his Chinese counterpart Xie Zhenhua lately. "I think we're both waiting to see how things go with the G-20 and hopeful-ly we can return," he told

### SHUNNING FOSSIL FUELS

Last year's meeting almost final agreement to state that coal should be phased out. In the end, countries agreed on several loopholes, and there are concerns among climate activists that negotiators from nations

which are heavily dependent on fossil fuels might try to roll back previous commitments.

### MONEY MATTERS

Rich countries have fallen short on a pledge to mobilize \$100 billion a year by 2020 in climate financing for poor nations. This has opened up a rift of distrust that negotiators are hoping to close with fresh pledges. But needs are growing and a new, higher target needs to be set from 2025 onward.

Aminath Shauna, the environment minister of the Maldives, said her island nation conservatively estimates that it will need \$8 billion for coastal adaptation. And even that may not be enough, if sea levels rise too much. "It is very disheartening to see that it may be too late for the Maldives, but we still need to address (the issue of finance)," she said.

### **COMPENSATION**

The subject of climate compensation was once considered taboo, due to concerns from rich countries that they might be on the hook for vast sums. But intense pressure from developing countries forced the issue formal agenda at the talks for the first time this year. Whether there will be a deal to promote further technical work or the creation of an actual fund remains to be seen.

perity throughout the region to

resolve challenges from the

South China Sea to Myanmar

and to find innovative solutions

to shared challenges," Biden said, citing climate and health

Hundreds of environmental activists on Saturday called on industrialised nations at the UN climate summit in Egypt to pay for the impact of global warming, the largest demonstration yet that came as German officials raised concerns about possible surveillance and intimidation of delegates and other conference attendees.

**AP** ■ SHARM EL-SHEIKH

Protests have mostly been muted at the conference, known in the seaside resort of Sharm el-Sheikh. Activists blamed high cost of travel, accommodation and restrictions in the isolated city for limiting numbers of demonstrators.

The protesters marched through the conference's Blue Zone, which is considered United Nations territory and governed by the global body's rules. That has given the activists a bit more space to voice their opinions than in the rest of the country, where Egypt's authoritarian government essentially bars protests.

Still, there were signs that Egypt was attempting to exert pressure inside the conference venue. Attendees of events at the German pavilion have complained about being photographed and filmed by people unknown to them in the days after Germany hosted an event there with the sister of a jailed Egyptian pro-democracy activist.

"We expect all participants in the U.N. Climate conference to be able to work and negotiate under safe conditions," Germany's Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "This is not just true for the German but for all delegations, as well as representatives of civil society and the media. We're in continuous contact with the Egyptian side on this."

Hundreds protest at UN summit,

German Govt voices concerns

Egyptian officials didn't immediately respond to a request for comment.

During Saturday's rally, protesters chanted, sang, and danced in an area not far from where the negotiations were taking place. Past climate talks have traditionally seen very large protests at the end of the first week of the two-week summit, often drawing thousands of ly muted, with sporadic and small demonstrations during the first week.

"Pay for loss and damage now," said Friday Nbani, a Nigerian environmental activist who was leading a group of African protesters. Many protesters, alongside several vulnerable countries, have called for "loss and damage" payments, or financing to help pay for climaterelated harms, to be central to negotiations. "Africa is crying, and its people are dying," Nbani

said. Protesters also called for drastic reductions in green-house gas emissions being pumped into the atmosphere. Emissions continue to rise but scientists say the amount of heat-trapping gases need to be almost halved by 2030 to meet the temperature-limiting goals of

the Paris climate accord of 2015. Activists chanted "keep it in the ground" in reference to their rejection of the continued extraction of fossil fuels.

On Friday, some activists heckled U.S. President Joe Biden's speech and raised an orange banner that read, "People vs. Fuels" before being removed. One of the activists, Jacob Johns, had his access to the conference

## Southeast Asian leaders call for unity amid global tensions

**AP** ■ PHNOM PENH (CAMBODIA)

ambodian leader Hun Sen called for unity on Sunday, telling a gathering including Russia, China and the United States that current global tensions have been taking a toll on evervone. The prime minister, whose

country holds the rotating chair of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, said at the opening of the East Asia Summit that it was in the world's common interest to cooperate to solve differences peacefully. The comments come as

regional tensions remain high between the United States and China over Taiwan and Beijing's growing regional aspirations, and while the Russia invasion of Ukraine has disrupted global supply chains, causing rising energy and food prices far

Without singling out any nation by name, Hun Sen said he hoped leaders would embrace a "spirit of togetherness in upholding open and inclusive multilateralism, pragmatism and mutual respect in addressing the existential and strategic challenges we all face."

"Many current challenges and tensions have been hindering our past hard-earned efforts to promote sustainable development and causing greater hardship to people's lives," he said as he opened the meeting, which is running in parallel to the ASEAN group's main sum-

Participants included US President Joe Biden and Chinese Prime Minister Li Keqiang, and it comes just a day before the highly anticipated meeting between Biden and Chinese

President Xi Jinping at the

Group of 20 summit in Bali.

Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov was also taking

work with ASEAN, telling lead-

ers of the strategically vital coali-

part in the meetings, which also included the leaders of Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Japan and others. On Saturday, Biden promised that the US would

tion that "we're going to build a better future that we all want to see" in the region where US rival China is also working to expand

its influence. He promised to collaborate to build a region that is "free and open, stable and prosperous, resilient and secure

"I look forward to continuing our work together with ASEAN and with each one of

security among areas of collaboration Li Keqiang, meantime, told a meeting of ASEAN, China, Japan and South Korea that amid a "turbulent" global security situation, "unilateralism and protectionism are surging, economic and financial risks are ris-

As major economies in East Asia, Li said the group needed to "stay committed to promoting peace, stability, development and prosperity in the region and beyond, and to improving the people's wellbeing.

ing, and global development is

confronted with unprecedented

### British Indian spy Noor Inayat Khan's story hits London stage

The story of Noor Inayat Khan, the British World War II spy whose Indian heritage traces back to the 18th century Mysore ruler Tipu Sultan, has been adapted for a new theatre production for the London

stage.
'Noor', playing at the Southwark Playhouse this month, tells the incredible story of a young Sufi pacifist-turnedwar-heroine as she became the first female undercover wireless operator to be sent from Britain's Special Operations Executive (SOE) into Nazi-occupied

light with the biography, 'Spy Princess: The Life of Noor Inavat Khan' by UK-based author Shrabani Basu, which revealed how Noor faced up to fascism with courage and was posthumously awarded the George Cross for bravery.

of sharing her story – not just as a chapter in history, but in terms of how it speaks to British life right now," said Poonam Brah, the Indian-origin director of the new Kali Theatre stage production which opened last week. "It re-frames the traditional narratives about who

"It is vital to me to be part

War II and what they were defending, and represents the contribution both of the women agents of the SOE and people of



necting us all to our shared history and our sense of belonging in the UK," she said.

As the daughter of Indian

descendent of Tipu Sultan, Noor's natural instinct was against war and was an accomplished musician and a writer of children's stories. But she felt compelled to join the anti-Nazi mission when

Sufi saint Hazrat Inayat Khan, a

offered the job as an undercover agent, played on stage by British Indian actor Annice Boparai. The play, written by Azma Dar, focusses on capturing the intriguing complexity, self-doubt and extraordinary courage up until Noor's torture and death in a concentration camp in Dachau in 1944 with the word "liberty" on her lips.

### **Bomb hits major Istanbul** avenue, kills 6, wounds dozens

**AP** ■ ISTANBUL

challenges.'

bomb exploded on a popular pedestrian Astreet in Istanbul on Sunday, killing six people, wounding dozens and sending people fleeing as flames rose.

Footage posted online showed ambulances. fire trucks and police at the scene on on Istiklal Avenue, a typically crowded thoroughfare popular with tourists and locals and lined with shops and restaurants. In one video, a loud bang could be heard and flames could be seen, as pedestrians turned and ran away. Social media users said shops were shuttered and the avenue closed

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan



its perpetrators would be punished. In addition to the six dead, Erdogan said another 53 were wounded, according to information he received from the Istanbul governor.

Turkey was hit by a string of deadly bombings between 2015 and 2017 by the Islamic State group and outlawed Kurdish groups.

## **'Opportunities for funding** innovative tech remain'

The challenging macro envi-I ronment is set to throw up pockets of opportunities for startups and investors, and funds despite tightening their purse strings will be keen on bargain-hunting for innovative and disruptive technology ventures, according to industry

Early-stage funds will keep a watchful eye on key metrics like path-to-profitability, team and governance, cash flow cycles, and debtor days and guard against over-dependence of ventures on a single client when making investment decisions, experts said while speaking at an investor panel during TiECON Pune 2022 'Future Achievers Conclave'.

"In these tough times, tech is a big enabler for improving profitability or enhancing the ability to drive revenues. We do see better adoption of tech by enterprises and expect some of our portfolio companies to do even better in these difficult times," Abhishek Prasad, Managing Partner of Cornerstone Ventures (CSVP Fund), said during the panel discussion.

Anil Gudibande, the cofounder of 1Crowd, said it is 'back to basics' for many funds, and that some of the better outcomes are expected from their deep tech investments.

1Crowd is an equity crowdfunding platform, focused on connecting

investors with Indian startups and early-stage ventures, with an array of capital solutions and co-investment commitment.

For a startup, with a promising business idea, 1Crowd not only helps raise capital but also provides access to a pool of mentors and partners who can help nurture the business to its potential. Nidhi Saraf, founder and

CEO of Key Venture, while speaking at the event, noted that evaluation metrics and rigour have changed, and startups, which are merely replicating services or products, will find it difficult.

Tough questions are being asked, and plain vanilla model or just replicating a service is no longer acceptable," Saraf

The irrational exuberance and quick term sheets that followed investment decisions will be replaced by greater rigour and scrutiny going forward, amid growing appre-hension over 'funding winter' or downcast investor sentiments towards funding star-

According to the panellists, technology that fuels non-discretionary consumer spending, disrupts markets, or yields cost savings and productivity for enterprises will be attractive.

The comments come at a time when investments and venture capital deal volumes in the startup space have started to taper as global investors turn wary of committing large cheques amid uncertain mar ket conditions.

After a dream run and heady valuations in the past years, the wave of venture capital chasing the Indian startup ecosystem (the third largest startup ecosystem in the world) appears to be ebbing, mirroring slowdown headwinds in Western markets. Spooked by concerns over profitability, cash burn and corporate governance issues, global investors are raising their guard, while market corrections have taken the sheen off some newly-listed startups.

Creation of value needs to be a priority for entrepreneurs before they worry about valuations, Gudibande of 1Crowd said, observing that investing is game of patience. Startups that chase disruptive models to address gaps in areas like financial inclusion, education, healthcare and infrastructure will be attractive, besides sophisticated technology for niche applications.

CSVP Fund expects the next few months to yield pockets of opportunities as valuations turn more realistic.

"Given our pre-series A, Series A stage funding, times will get exciting for us. Over the next 12 months, negotiations will be easier and valuations will get more realistic for us, said Prasad of CSVP Fund, a 50 million dollar fund that has been in operation for about three years with 15 portfolio companies.

## 'Markets to track inflation data, global factors this week'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Inflation data, global trends and foreign fund trading activity are the major factors that would drive the domestic equity market this week, said analysts.

The last batch of the ongo-

ing quarterly earnings would also influence trading, they added.

Unabated foreign fund inflows and a rally in global equities drove the equity benchmarks higher on Friday

The 30-share BSE benchmark Sensex on Friday zoomed 1,181.34 points or 1.95 per cent to settle at 61,795.04 -- surpassing its previous closing peak of 61,765.59 hit on October 18, 2021.

"The sentiment will continue to be driven by the movement of the world markets. The market will be keeping an eye on our domestic inflation statistics," said Pravesh Gour, Senior Technical Analyst, Swastika Investmart Ltd.

Ajit Mishra, VP Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said, participants will be eyeing crucial macroeconomic data -- CPI and WPI inflation for

Besides, the performance of global indices and foreign flow trends will also remain on their radar, Mishra noted. "As we enter the last leg of

the earnings season, companies

bank's managing director Swarup Kumar Saha said.

As far as capital adequacy is concerned, the bank is well-

capitalised at 15.68 per cent and

it can easily take care of busi-

ness growth this year, he told

is a need to build some buffer

on the equity side. So, we

would plan a small amount of

through equity or bonds, say

quarter performance and

momentum of credit demand

and based on that make a

"We will watch our third

₹250 crore or ₹300 crore.

However, he said, "There

PTI in an interaction.

ONGC and IRCTC will announce their numbers along with several others," Mishra added. Investors would also keep

a track on trend in rupee and movement of Brent crude oil.

"A flurry of economic data is due to be announced this week on a global scale. Because the battle against inflation is far from over, market investors will be watching the inflation numbers from the United Kingdom and India with bated breath," said Apurva Sheth, Head of Market Perspectives, Samco Securities.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services, said FII inflows have been a strong pillar for the domestic market in November, which can be estimated to improve further as US treasury yields are on the declining Last week, the BSE bench-

mark jumped 844.68 points or 1.38 per cent.

'Punjab & Sind Bank to take call

### 'I-T dept panels on high-pitched assessments to submit report in about 2 months'

PTI NEW DELHI

The 'local committees' formed to deal with taxpavers' grievances arising out of high-pitched' scrutiny assessments shall submit their report within about two months, the CBDT has reiterated in a public communication. A set of "revised" guide-

lines were issued by the Board in this context in April and these were applicable for cases being scrutinised under both the faceless and non-faceless assessment system. The local committees have been created in each region of the income tax department, that are headed by a principal chief commissioner rank officer (Pr. CCIT), and will comprise three officials of the I-T department in the rank of principal commissioner or commissioner.

The grievances, by taxpay ers who feel their scrutiny assessment has been unfair or high-pitched, can be submitted through the designated email id notified by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) samadhan Faceless Assessment @incometax.Gov.In.

The grievances received shall be forwarded to the local committee of the Pr.CCIT region and after due examination, the committee shall submit a report, preferably within two months from the end of the month of receipt of grievance, the CBDT said.

## Nine of top-10 cos add ₹2 L cr in m-cap



PTI NEW DELHI

Nine of the 10 most valued firms together added over ₹2.12 lakh crore in their market valuation last week, with HDFC Bank and TCS emerging as the lead gainers.

Last week, the 30-share BSE benchmark jumped 844.68 points or 1.38 per cent.

The stock markets were closed on Tuesday for Guru Nanak Jayanti.

From the top-10 pack, Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL) was the only laggard.

The top 9 firms added a total of ₹2,12,478.82 crore to their market valuation last

Among the winners, HDFC Bank added ₹ 63,462.58 crore, taking its valuation to ₹8,97,980.25 crore.

Tata Consultancy Services' valuation jumped ₹36,517.34 crore to reach ₹12,13,378.03

The market valuation of HDFC advanced ₹29,422.52 crore to ₹4,81,818.83 crore and

that of Reliance Industries climbed ₹26,317.30 crore to ₹17,80,206.22 crore.

The market capitalisation (m-cap) of Infosys rose by ₹23,626.96 crore ₹6,60,650.10 crore and Adani Enterprises surged by ₹20,103.92 crore ₹4,56,992.25 crore.

State Bank of India's valuation increased by ₹6,559.59 crore to ₹5,36,458.41 crore and that of Bharti Airtel advanced ₹5,591.05 crore to ₹4,59,773.28 crore.

The m-cap of ICICI Bank moved up by ₹877.56 crore to ₹6,32,192.05 crore. However, the market valuation of Hindustan Unilever

declined by ₹3,912.07 crore to ₹5,88,220.17 crore.

In the ranking of top 10 firms, Reliance Industries

emerged as the most valued company, followed by TCS, HDFC Bank, Infosys, ICICI Bank, Hindustan Ünilever, State Bank of India, HDFC, Bharti Airtel and Adani Enterprises.

### 'Muthoot Finance confident of achieving 10% biz growth in FY23'

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Muthoot Finance, which has posted back-to-back decline in profits in the last two quarters, said it is set to make a comeback having discontinued its low-interest schemes. The country's largest gold

loan company in terms of loan portfolio expects a 10 per cent business growth in current fiscal, George Alexander Muthoot, Managing Director, Muthoot Finance, said. The non-banking finance

company (NBFC) posted a decline of 10 per cent in its net profit from a year ago period at Rs 901.60 crore in quarter In the preceding quarter

ended June 2022, it witnessed a decline of 15.7 per cent in its net profit year on year at ₹825

"If you look at quarter-on-



quarter, last quarter versus this quarter, there is an increase (of 9.3 per cent) in net profit. If you are comparing last year same quarter, yes I would say there is a 10 per cent decline. This has happened because two quarters back, we had started the low interest scheme as trial basis. We did it for one or two quarters and then we stopped

"The impact of that lowinterest scheme is what we saw as decline in net profit in last quarter and this quarter also," Muthoot told PTI in an

### BYJU's expects 3-fold revenue growth in FY'22

New Delhi: Edtech major BYJU's expects to register a three-fold growth in revenue and losses to be halved in financial year 2022, according to a top company official.

BYJU's Founder and CEO Byju Raveendran, at a startup event on Friday, also defended roping in football star Lionel Messi as its global ambassador amid job cuts at the company, saying the decision was taken six months ago.

"Addressing a gathering of entrepreneurs and investors at Tech Sparks 2022, Raveendran said that the company with over 150 million learners, is well on its path to profitability as it expects revenue growth of 3 times and losses to be more excerpt of the event shared by BYJU's with PTI.

BYJU's had booked a loss of ₹4,588 crore and revenue of ₹2,428 crore for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2021.



decision with regard to QIP or other means.

The bank has redeemed Additional Tier 1 (AT1) bonds, he said, adding, now the bank would try other means including QIP, which is cost effective.

The government of India's holding in the bank stood at 98.25 per cent at the end of September 2022. If the bank sale, the holding of the government would decline depending on the quantum.

During the previous two years (2020-21 and 2021-22), the government infused ₹5,500

non-interest bearing recap With the infusion of

₹4,600 crore, the government holding in the bank increased to 98.25 per cent as on March 31, 2022.

On loan growth, Saha said, the bank aims at a 15 per cent rise during FY23 and the current capital base can easily support this.

The Delhi-based lender had shifted its focus to the retail, agriculture and MSME (RAM) segment to de-risk its balance sheet. Corporate segment lending grew by a muted 2.5 per cent in Q2FY23, while retail lending improved by 16

Last week, the smallest public sector bank reported a 27 per cent jump in profit to ₹278 crore in the second quarter of FY23 on the back of reduction in bad loans

Reliance, Nayara to gain from

### credit services biz; aims to double GTV to ₹22K cr in yr **PTI** ■ NEW DELHI

Payworld to enter data-based

 $F_{\text{expects to double the gross}}^{\text{intech} \ \text{firm} \ \text{Payworld}}$ transaction value on its platform to ₹22,000 crore in a year on account of foray into new segments like data-based credit services, a senior company official said.

The company claims to have gross transaction value (GTV) of around ₹11,000 crore at present. "Our annualized GTV run rate is around ₹11,000 crore. We expect to double this in the next 12 months to around ₹22,000 crore," Payworld CEO Amit Tyagi told PTI. Payworld provides a plat-

form to retailers for services Aadhaar-enabled payment services, mutual funds, insurance, FASTags, among others.

The company is now looking to start providing credit based on transaction data of

merchants as well as assisted ecommerce for rural areas, Tyagi said. "We started with payments, money transfer, Aadhaar-enabled payments services etc. When your payments needs are gradually met, the next stage in your financial journey is you want to get some loans, grow your business etc.

that our customers are telling us to take. We have done a few pilots already and are in the process of rolling out it with more partners in the next month," Tyagi said.

### **DICGC** settles claims worth **₹8,516.6 crore** in FY-2022

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation settled claims amounting to ₹8,516.6 crore during 2021-22 of about 12.94 lakh depositors of liquidated banks, merged entities and those placed under restrictions by the Reserve Bank.

All commercial banks, including branches of foreign banks functioning in India, local area banks, regional rural banks, small finance banks and payment banks, are covered under the Deposit Insurance Scheme.

Out of the ₹8,516.6 crore claims settled by the DICGC, ₹5,059.2 crore were towards liquidated and merged banks and ₹3,457.4 crore pertained to banks under All Inclusive Directions (AID) of the RBI, said the annual report of DICGC.

Under AID, restrictions are imposed on withdrawals of deposit

The report said that during the fiscal ending March-2022, claims worth ₹5,059.18 crore were paid to nearly 10.34 lakh depositors of liquidated and merged banks.

A total of ₹3,457.44 crore was paid to about 2.6 lakh depositors of banks under AID, it added. All the claims were

related to co-operative banks. "There were no claims from commercial banks," the report said.

## Apple rolls out beta prog for 5G on Apple devices

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Apple Inc has rolled out a beta programme to enable 5G on Apple devices as the upgrade lets users try out prerelease software.

This software upgrade enables 5G access on Apple devices, as and when service providers Jio, Airtel and Vodafone enable 5G network access, sources said. Apple Users have to enrol

for the Beta Programme on the website, install a profile and download the software. Jio users using iPhone 12

and above, in cities where JioTrue5G has been rolled out, will be invited to the Jio



Welcome Offer. Jio Welcome Offer provides unlimited 5G data at up to 1 Gbps speed to users at no additional cost. However, there is a condition that prepaid users must be on active ₹239 and above plan. All Postpaid users are eligible for this trial. Airtel is not providing any special 5G offer like Jio to their users. In the cities/areas in which the Airtel 5G network has been launched, users can trial 5G services as a part of their existing plan, once they have updated the latest Apple Beta software.

While an email sent to Apple did not solicit an immediate response, the firm had last month stated: "We are working with our carrier partners in India to bring the best 5G experience to iPhone users as soon as network validation and testing for quality and performance is completed. 5G will be enabled via a software update and will start rolling out to iPhone users in December".

### **European energy crisis: Report** PTI MUMBAI ¬he ongoing energy crisis in

The ongoing energy crisis in Europe is expected to benefit Reliance Industries and Nayara Energy as these are among the Asian refiners that produce winter-specification diesel for the European Union, according to a report.

State-owned oil companies are not into exports and that gives an advantage to Reliance — the largest importer of Russian crude and also the largest exporter of diesel from the country — and Russia's R o s n e f t - o w n e d

The energy crisis will only get further aggravated going forward as from next month Opec's 2-million barrel per



day production cut comes into force, and from February 5 the ban on Russian imports of refined products comes into force, say oil analysts at LSG group's market data provider Refinitiv.

According to them, since the war began in Ukraine, Reliance and Nayara have imported almost 10 times more Russian crude from the preinvasion levels, at 2.82 million tonnes per month during

per cent, respectively from

H1FY22, according to the

Already, Indian exports to Europe have been northward after Russia invaded Ukraine

advantage of the strong diesel margins after the invasion and raised their exports to Europe, averaging at 7,30,000 tonnes per month, or 21 per cent of their total exports of 2.64 million tonnes/month, that peaked at 1.1 million tonnes in March against the pre-invasion period average of 5,70,000 tonnes per month, the analysts

### **Jio strongest** telecom brand in India: TRA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Jio is India's strongest telecom brand in India, ahead of Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea Ltd, according to brand intelligence and data insights company TRA.

TRA, formerlý Trust Research Advisory, in its 'India's Most Desired Brands 2022' ranked companies according to their brand strength. Reliance Jio topped the telecom category, followed by Bharti Airtel, Vodafone Idea Ltd and BSNL.

In the apparel category, Adidas was the top brand followed by Nike, Raymond, Allen Solly and Peter England.

BMW topped the automobile list, followed by Toyota, Hyundai and Honda, while LIC was ranked 1 on the banking and financial services index that had State Bank of India at number 2 and ICICI Bank at 3rd. Kent topped the consumer appliances ranking, followed by Livpure and Okaya. In consumer electronics, LG, Sony and Samsung were the top three brands.

ITC topped the diversified conglomerate list, followed by Tata and Reliance.

Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) topped the energy list, followed by Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Adani.

In the food and beverages category, Amul was the top brand, followed by Nescafe while Fogg was the top FMCG brand, followed by Lakme, Nivea and Colgate.

### EID Parry reports standalone PAT of ₹85.13 crore in Q2

 $E^{\mathrm{ID}}$  Parry (India) Ltd, a part of the Murugappa Group, has reported a standalone profit after tax (PAT) of ₹85.13 crore for the July-September quarter, the company said on Sunday. The company made ₹73.19 crore last year. The standalone PAT for the six-month period ending September 30, 2022 grew to ₹98.27 crore from ₹40.09 crore last

financial year. The Chennai-headquartered company is focused on various segments with sugar-manufacturing accounting for most of the business followed by distillery and nutra-ceuticals. In a statement, the company said due to the seasonal nature of the business, figures for the current and previous quarters are not comparable. The standalone total income during the quarter under review went up to ₹757.66 crore from ₹555.14 crore made last year. For the six-month period ending September 30, 2022 the standalone total income surged to ₹1,493.94 crore from ₹1,016.87 crore recorded in the same period last year.

## 'Rising interest rates to mute bond issuance this fiscal

PTI MUMBAI

orporate bond issuance is Ulikely to remain muted witnessing 4-5 per cent growth this fiscal to touch ₹41.42 lakh crore on rising coupon rates, despite the drawdown more than doubling in the second quarter, a report said.

Bond sales more than doubled to ₹2.1 lakh crore in the second quarter from the first quarter, when it was at a multiyear quarterly low of ₹1 lakh crore, as banks issued bonds worth an all-time high of ₹53,900 crore, and NBFCs, traditionally largest players in the market, issuing securities



according to an analysis by Icra Ratings. Non-banking lenders have remained the largest issuers of bonds with a share of 47 per cent in the first half, followed by corporates and banks at 33 and 20 per cent, respectively, down from 50, 40 and 10

The agency attributes the

agency expects ₹3.7-4.2 lakh crore sales in H2 FY23, marginally higher than the year-ago period, taking the volume of outstanding bonds to ₹41-42 lakh crore by March 2023. However, this translates into a muted on-year growth of just 4-5 per cent, net of redemptions, with the incremental issuance rising by ₹7-7.5 lakh crore, up from ₹6.8 lakh crore

report. Thanks to bumper sales which will force issuers to offer in Q2, the overall bond higher coupon rates/higher yields which may lead to increased appetite for investors. issuances rose to ₹3.3 lakh crore in the first half, and the The agency expects the 10-year G-Sec (government securities) yields to harden to 7.7 percent short-term and remain between 7.3 and 7.7 per cent long term, which will also lead to higher yieldsf from corporate bonds. Even as domestic bond issuances more than doubled in

dued due to rising funding

late February. Indian refiners have taken

Domestic refiners have been averaging at 99.86 per cent of their 5.14 million barrel per day (bpd) capacity since the war as against the pre-war average of 94.26 per cent.

muted volume growth to the

rising interest rate regime,

Q2, external commercial bor-

rowings (ECBs) remained sub-

# Mbappe on target for 5-goal PSG

**y**lian Mbappe scored and came through unscathed along with fellow Paris Saint-Germain stars Lionel Messi and Neymar in their final match before the World Cup, a 5-0 Ligue 1 rout of Auxerre on Sunday.

PSG coach Christophe Galtier opted not to rest the attacking trio against the Burgundy side as the champions sought to extend their lead at the top of the table before the break for the tournament in Qatar.

And Mbappe scored the opener after 11 minutes in Paris for his 12th league goal this season after good work by Messi, Moroccan Achraf Hakimi and Nuno Mendes.

Carlos Soler nodded in the second after 51 minutes and then set up Hakimi for the third six minutes later. Renato Sanches and Hugo Ekitike added two more in the final

The Parisians move five points ahead of Lens, who won 2-1 at home against Clermont on Saturday, with Rennes a further five points adrift in For their final match before the

World Cup, the MNM trio -- Messi, Neymar, Mbappe -- took to the pitch but did not really sparkle in a game played without great intensity.

The apathy of the magic trio did

not, however, prevent the champions giving a demonstration of their goal-scoring prowess before a big break until their next Ligue 1 match on December 28 against Strasbourg.

Mbappe's early goal following a beautiful cross from Messi relayed by Mendes, seem to anaesthetize the Parisian forwards.

No question of taking the slightest risk for the World Cup players in



final one for veterans Messi and

### KIMPEMBE RETURN

If Messi made an effort and even found the post with a curled shot from the left after 66 minutes, Neymar measured his pace, collapsing at the slightest contact and playing in slow motion, without any intensity, far from flamboyance of his first part of the season.

Before Paris pulled ahead in the second half, Auxerre proved dangerous on front of Gianluigi Donnarumma's goal with attempts by Mbaye Niang (16) and Lassine Sinayoko (21) to get the equaliser for the side who sit 15th in Ligue 1.

Galtier gave some playing time to French defender Presnel Kimpembe, who came on for the final quarter of an hour having spent a month out with an Achilles tendon injury.

It was good news for the France team and Didier Deschamps nine days before the Blues open their World Cup defence against Australia on November 22.

His arrival coincided with the exits of Messi and Neymar after 74 minutes, not unhappy for once to leave the field prematurely.

Messi, who tasted glory in the Copa America last year, will be hoping to fire Argentina to World Cup glory for the first time since

Mbappe will be one of the key players for defending champions France in Qatar and Neymar will spearhead Brazil's push for a sixth World Cup crown.

The tournament starts with a match between hosts Qatar and Ecuador on November 20.



### Arteta hopes maturing Arsenal not thrown off course by WC

**AP** ■ LONDON

Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta is hoping a sixweek hiatus to the Premier League season does not come at the wrong time for his side after the Gunners moved five points clear at the top on

Arsenal have not won the league since 2003/04 and have failed to even finish in the top

four for the past six seasons.

A return to the Champions League next season appears a formality with Arteta's men 14 points clear of fifth-placed Manchester United

And City's unexpected first home defeat since February to Brentford sets up an intriguing title battle when the Premier League returns after the World Cup on Boxing

Day.
"We showed another kind
"said Arteta." of maturity today," said Arteta.

"In the first 20-30 minutes we struggled to break them down. We were much better in the second half and we had a bit more courage and took risks but also not allowing them to run."

Eight of Arsenal's starting line-up are now headed to Qatar as Arteta confirmed Granit Xhaka's early substitution was just down to illness for the Swiss midfielder.

'I'll touch wood and hope for the best," he added on whether the break could count against Arsenal. When everyone is back

we'll assess where we are and go from there. "I would train tomorrow

but unfortunately they're not

"I wish those going to the World Cup the best and they will look after themselves. I hope they enjoy it because it doesn't get better than playing for your country."

## Dortmund can't afford a financial fight for Bellingham, says CEO

 $B^{orussia} \ \, \text{Dortmund CEO Hans-Joachim} \\ \text{Watzke said his side was powerless to com-}$ pete with Europe's elite for teenage midfielder Jude

Watzke, speaking to German tabloid Bild on Sunday, said Dortmund will look to lock down star teenage midfielder Jude Bellingham after the World Cup in Qatar. "We will have talks (with Bellingham) when

the World Cup is over. We will ask him whether he wants to stay or go," Watzke, who has been in charge of Dortmund since 2005, said. "However, if big European clubs come, we can't

afford a big financial fight."

Bellingham, 19, joined Dortmund from childhood club Birmingham City in the summer of 2020 on a deal which runs until 2025.

Bellingham captained the team on several occasions in the league and Champions League this season and has been named in manager Gareth Southgate's England squad for the upcom-

Watzke also spoke out about the off-season sacking of manager Marco Rose, saying things at the club "just weren't quite right" under the coach.

Watzke said the club had no regrets about the sacking, despite Rose's new side Leipzig sitting in second position and Dortmund languishing in

"Marco Rose is a great coach, but we decid-



ed together to go our separate ways because a few things stood in the way and somehow he never really got off the ground," Watzke said,

Something was there that wasn't quite right. We don't know for sure ourselves (what it was)." While Leipzig are flying high with nine wins in their past ten games, Dortmund have stuttered

this season, particularly away from home where they have lost their last five league games. Watzke backed current manager Edin Terzic

- who came in to replace Rose - saying the 40-year-

"Terzic is ȟigȟly regarded at Dortmund as a whole. I hear from everyone involved how meticulously he works. We're still going to see great

Terzic was made caretaker manager midway through the 2020-21 season, with the club achieving Champions League qualification and

### Nagelsmann lauds 'snake legs' Musiala

**AP** ■ MUNICH

Bayern Munich manager Julian Nagelsmann has lauded forward Jamal Musiala's development, saying the teenager can be "even better" for Germany at the World Cup in Qatar.

Musiala, who grew up in England and represented the Three Lions at junior level but switched allegiance to Germany, set up both of Bayern's goals in their 2-0 win away at Schalke.

Nagelsmann said Musiala, who now has nine goals and six assists in 15 games this season, was committed to developing and improving his game. "Jamal Musiala has

again set up two goals. He half and will hopefully play even better in the World Cup and the second half of the (Bundesliga) season," Nagelsmann told German

"He listens well, also

wants to develop in defence and has developed extreme-

"He has extremely lively

feet, like snake legs - the rebounds always seem to land in front of his feet." Musiala became the youngest Bayern player to

notch up 100 Bundesliga games at 19 years and 259 days on Saturday night. Bayern Munich captain Manuel Neuer said he is "happy" Musiala elected to

play for Germany rather than England. "He is a very important - a key — player. We are happy that he's with Bayern and also

with the national team, Neuer told Sky. Speaking after the match to Bundesliga International, Musiala said the three points would give his side a "good feeling" ahead of the World

Cup break. "It was important that we got the three points to go with a good feeling into the World Cup break."



**AP** BERGAMO

Edin Dzeko fired Inter Milan Einto the top four of Serie A on Sunday with a brace in Sunday's 3-2 win at Atalanta.

Veteran forward Dzeko break to level Ademola Lookman's penalty opener for the hosts, and then forced home his sixth league goal of the season 20 minutes later. Jose Luis Palomino glanced in an own goal an hour into his Atalanta return after being cleared of doping offences,

ensuring that Inter moved level on 30 points with second-placed Lazio and AC Milan.

Palomino pulled a goal back with 13 minutes remaining when he headed in at the right end, but Atalanta's third straight defeat behind league leaders Napoli.

Inter meanwhile are 11 points off the pace but will stay in the Champions League positions until January as long as Juventus don't beat Lazio in the final match of 2022 on Sunday night. Both Lazio and champions Milan, who host Fiorentina at the San Siro, can make the end-of-year gap between them and unbeaten Napoli to eight points with wins in their respective matches.

Sunday is also a big day at Verona will try to pull themselves up from last place against Spezia, who sit just outside the relegation zone. Meanwhile Monza, in their first ever Serie A season, host Salernitana looking to extend the six-point gap separating them from the bottom three.

### Nakashima wins Next Gen ATP Finals

merican Brandon Naka-Ashima beat Czech Jiri Lehecka to lift the Next Gen ATP Finals tennis trophy in Milan on Saturday. Nakashima, ranked 49,

beat 74th-ranked Lehecka 4-3 (7/5), 4-3 (8/6), 4-2 in the tournament which features the eight best players aged 21years-and-under on the ATP The 21-year-old, who won

his first ATP title this year in San Diego, succeeds Spaniard Carlo Alcaraz who triumphed



in the Next Gen tournament last year and went on to claim

the US Open trophy last September.

Alcaraz, 19, became the youngest men's world number one after his US Open victory and would have participated in the ATP Tour Final which starts in Turin on Sunday and not the Next Gen, but withdrew because of an abdominal

Dane Holger Rune, 19, winner of the Paris Masters and now ranked 10th in the world, preferred to be an alternate at the ATP Tour Final rather than compete in the

### Australia to face Switzerland in Billie Jean King Cup final **AP** ■ GLASGOW

ustralia captain Alicia Monk Asaid a first Billie Jean King Cup since 1974 is "for the taking" after seeing off hosts Great Britain in a nail-biting finish to reach Sunday's final against Switzerland. The Brits had defied the odds with a whitewash of Spain on Thursday to reach the last four for the first time in 41 years in front of a home crowd in Glasgow.

But Australia's experience paid off as the final doubles clash went to a champions tie-break won by Storm Sanders and Sam

Stosur. The seven-time winners missed out on the title in 2019, when they lost in front of a home crowd to France.

"We've got the team to get

through tomorrow," said Monk. 'We're still making up for the final we lost a couple of years ago, we know what that feels like. team, we've got great support, so it's ours for the taking." Sanders dampened the enthusiasm of the Glasgow crowd as she saw off Heather Watson 6-4 7-6 (7/3) to take the opening rubber.

But Harriet Dart followed up her victory over 13th-ranked Paula Badosa by upsetting world number 33 Aila Tomljanovic 7-6 (7/3) 6-2 to take it to the wire. Doubles duo Alicia Barnett

and Olivia Nicholls have been the revelation of the week for the hosts on their international debut, but they were just unable to conjure a third victory, losing But we're optimistic, we're a out 7-6 (7/1) 6-7 (5/7), 10-6.

'God we were close," said British captain Anne Keothavong. "I'm just gutted for everyone right now but also I think we have to try and keep things in perspective. What a fantastic week it really has been for the team. Switzerland are aiming to go one better than losing last vear's final to Russia as the 11time champion Czechs were humbled.

Viktorija Golubic saw off Karolina Muchova 6-4, 6-4 before Belinda Bencic won the battle of the number ones against Karolina Pliskova 6-2, 7-

### Report links Ambani to Liverpool FC takeover

PTI ■ LONDON

Indian billionaire Mukesh Ambani has entered the race to bid for world-renowned English football club Liverpool FC's takeover, reported a leading English daily.

The English Premier League giants have been put up for sale by their current owners Fenway Sports Group (FSG), who bought the Merseyside club in October 2010 and have reportedly appointed Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley to assist them in selling the team.

According to 'The Mirror', the FSG are willing to sell the club for 4 billion British pound.

Ambani, chairman and managing director of Reliance Industries and rated by Forbes as the eighth richest person in the world, has enquired about the club, the English daily



erate, however, could not confirm the development.

A statement from FSG read: "There have been a number of received expressions of interest recent changes of ownership from third parties seeking to

ownership at EPL clubs and inevitably, we are asked regularly about Fenway Sports Group's ownership in Liverpool. "FSG has frequently

conditions, we would consider new shareholders if it was in the best interests of Liverpool as a The Anfied outfit has enjoyed immense success under FSG with Jurgen Klopp's side winning a Premier League title, a Champions League, FA Cup,

become shareholders in

Liverpool. FSG has said before

that under the right terms and

Others in the fray include parties from the Gulf and the

Carabao Cup and European Super Cup over the past few

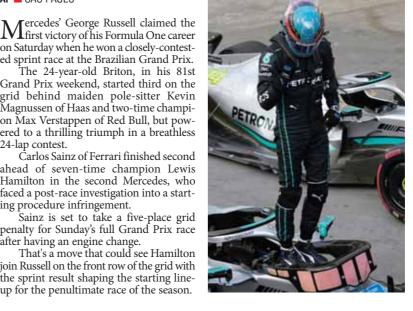
Ambani's company owns Indian Premier League (IPL) cricket side Mumbai Indians and also runs the Indian Super League football event besides being the commercial partners of the All India Football Federation (AIFF).

Mercedes' George Russell claimed the first victory of his Formula One career on Saturday when he won a closely-contested sprint race at the Brazilian Grand Prix.

The 24-year-old Briton, in his 81st Grand Prix weekend, started third on the grid behind maiden pole-sitter Kevin Magnussen of Haas and two-time champion Max Verstappen of Red Bull, but powered to a thrilling triumph in a breathless 24-lap contest. Carlos Sainz of Ferrari finished second

ahead of seven-time champion Lewis Hamilton in the second Mercedes, who faced a post-race investigation into a starting procedure infringement. Sainz is set to take a five-place grid

after having an engine change. That's a move that could see Hamilton join Russell on the front row of the grid with the sprint result shaping the starting lineup for the penultimate race of the season.



Russell notches up first F1 win

Verstappen, who passed Magnussen at the start of lap three, was the only front-runner on medium tyres and was unable to resist Russell's pace and then fell back to fourth after a brush with Sainz. He finished ahead of Red Bull team-

second Ferrari. Lando Norris finished seventh for McLaren ahead of Magnussen, fourtime champion Sebastian Vettel of Aston Martin and Pierre Gasly of Alpha Tauri. "That's how we roll, baby," said a delighted Russell on team radio. "That's how

mate Sergio Perez and Charles Leclerc in the

we roll! Very nicely done. Big points for tomorrow – let's go." His win was Mercedes' first success this

season. Russell earned eight points for his win with Sainz taking seven and Hamilton, subject to any penalty, six. "Mega job guys," said Hamilton. "Congratulations to George that's awesome.' The newly-adopted Brazilian citizen

added that he was hoping to claim a win on Sunday to preserve his record of a victory in every season of his career.

# shine in Delhi's win



Shikhar Dhawan, Himmat Singh and Yash Dhull hit half centuries as Delhi defeated Meghalaya by eight wickets for their second successive win of the Vijay Hazare Trophy here on Sunday

Senior left-arm pacer Pradeep Sangwan, Shivank Vashisht and Nitish Rana took couple of wickets each to restrict Meghalaya to 216 for seven in 50 overs. Outstation player Punit Bisht top-scored with 75 off 80

Delhi raced home in 32.2 overs with openers Dhawan (54 off 42) and Singh (85 off 88) sharing a 72 run stand.

Dhull, at number three, was impressive with an unbeaten 71 off 64 balls.

valuable time in the middle ahead of the series in New Zealand where he will captain a second string Indian team. Veteran India pacer Ishant

Dhawan is getting some

Sharma, who starred in the opening game against Vidarbha, did not play on Sunday.

Brief scores: Meghalaya 216/7 in 50 overs (Nongkhlaw 59; Bisht 75; Rana 2/27, Sangwan 2/43). Delhi 219/2 in 32.2 overs (Dhawan 54, Singh 85, Dhull 71 not out). Delhi win by eight wickets.

In other Group B matches in Kolkata, Karnataka beat Vidarbha by 66 runs while Jharkhand beat Assam by eight wickets. Rajasthan defeated Sikkim by seven wickets.

### **JAGADEESHAN SHINES**

Wicketkeeper-batter N Jagadeesan starred with a knock of 114 off 112 balls in Tamil Nadu's nine-wicket win over Andhra in a Group C match in

Tamil Nadu chose to field after the coin landed in their favour and the bowlers did well to bundle out the opposition for

Openers Jagadeesan (12 fours, 2 sixes) B Sai Sudharsan (73 off 75 balls, 7 fours, 2 sixes) then helped Tamil Nadu cruise to the the target in 32.1

Andhra had looked in a good position at 143 for 1 with opener Abhishek Reddy and captain K S Bharat at the crease. But medium-pacer Sandeep Warrier removed Reddy for 85 (99 balls, 9 fours, 1 six) to a catch by B Aparajith.

Bharat (51, 62 balls, 4 fours, six) was then dismissed by Warrier with the score at 152.

The TN bowlers kept striking at regular intervals with lanky left-arm spinner R Sai Kishore (2 for 27 in 10 overs) choking the scoring while medium-pacer R Silambarasan (3 for 49) and Sanjay Yadav (2 for 34) also did the job for the team.

Chasing 206 for victory, Jagadeesan (12 fours, 2 sixes) and fellow opener Sudharsan forged a good partnership and attacked from the word go. The 177-run stand in just over 28 overs put Tamil Nadu firmly in

Sudharsan was run-out by Ashish but Jagadeesan continued to have a go at the Andhra bowlers and the team romped home in the 33rd over.

There were wins for Kerala. Haryana and Goa. All the first round matches on Saturday

### were washed out. JK, PUNJAB WIN

Young Vivrant Sharma produced a sensational all-round performance to fire Jammu and Kashmir to a 94-run win over Baroda in a rain-hit group D match in Mumbai.

Sharma hit an 87-ball 64 after opening the innings and then returned to snap four wickets with his left-arm spin to emerge as the most valuable player in the 50-over match that was reduced to 49 overs each

due to wet outfield. If Sharma slammed seven fours and a six in his knock, Abdul Samad (64 off 52 balls) and Fazil Rashid (55 off 52 balls) also hit fluent fifties, as JK posted a challenging 282 for six after opting to bat at Bandra Kurla

În response, Baroda folded for 188 in 43.2 overs with Sharma (4/22), Adib Mushtaq (3/33), Sahil Lotra (2/28) and Yudhvir Singh Charak (1/54) being among wickets. Ambati Rayudu was the

top-scorer for Baroda with a 63ball 49, while Ninad Rathva (30), Atit Sheth (29) and Bhanu Pania (28) also tried to keep them in the hunt but failed to extend

In another match, at Dr DY Patil Sports Academy, Punjab rode on Mandeep Singh's unbeaten 111-ball 100 to notch up a six-wicket win over Uttarakhand.

At the Wankhede Stadium, Odisha beat Nagaland by 135 runs, riding on Tarani Sa's fivewicket haul and fifties by Rajesh Dhuper (79) and skipper Abhishek Raut (64).

# Dhawan, Dhull, Himmat | BEN STOKES STANDS UP IN ENGLISH | CRICKET'S BIGGEST MOMENTS: BUTTLER

Ben Stokes can certainly go on to become England's greatest ever cricketer as the star allrounder "stands up in the biggest moments" like he did on Sunday, said skipper Jos Buttler said after the team's T20 World Cup triumph.

Stokes had anchored England's chase against New Zealand in the 2019 ODI World Cup final with an unbeaten 84

On Sunday, Stokes struggled against Pakistani pacers initially but took his team past the line with a responsible 52 not out to help his team win its second T20 World Cup title.

So is he on his way to become England's greatest ever

"Yeah, he can be in the conversation for sure," said Buttler after the famous win over Pakistan at the MCG.

"He (Stokes) always stands up in the biggest moments. He is a man who can take a lot of pressure on his shoulders and perform, and yeah, with him in the middle you know you have got a good chance. 'Yeah, just so proud of him,

pleased for him that he's stood up and done it again," Buttler said with a sense of gratitude.

In the 2016 T20 World Cup final, Stokes was on his hunches after Carlos "Remem-



ber The Name" Brathwaite hit him for four successive sixes to fire the West Indies to their second title. As 'Sweet Caroline' was being played at the MCG after England's win, Buttler couldn't be more happier for Stokes, who has gone through a lot in past few years.

He lost his father in December 2020 and eight months later, he took an indefinite break from the game to "prioritise his mental well being", which also finds a mention in his tell all documentary. "Yeah, it's an amazing story really, isn't it. I think shame he

did his documentary a year early. He could have added that in. Yeah, he has been on an amazing journey." BUTTLER REMEMBERS...

### "I think all these big

moments, like I'll always remember his words to Jofra about how things don't define you. I think he's obviously never let that 2016 final sort of push

him back, and you think of the things he's gone on to achieve in his career since then is just amazing."

The skipper said his premier player just knows how to win big games.

"Yeah, no surprise. He is a true match winner, and he is been there in those scenarios time and time again. He just has a lot of know-how for how to do

What stood out for Buttler was the fact that despite not

never gave up the fight against a quality Pakistan bowling line-

"I think it certainly wasn't his most fluent innings or probably didn't time the ball as well as he can, but you knew he was never going to go down without a fight and stand up and be

there at the end. 'We were immensely lucky to have him, and he's one of the great players of English cricket," said the skipper.

### 'FEELING WILL TAKE TIME TO SINK IN'

Buttler is four and half months into England T20 captaincy and he feels that winning a title within that span will take time to sink in. "I think this seems to take

more time to sink in. It feels different (from the 2019 World Cup win). That's all I can say...Just delighted? Buttler is new to captaincy

but has understood one thing that building relationships is key to a happy and successful

"I think relationships take time. As you get to know people better and better, you build trust. I would say the Pakistan tour for the group, not just myself and the coach, but for everyone involved, it just seemed like a really good tour. A lot of bonds were built."

## You can't carry baggage of defeat: Stokes

**PTI** ■ MELBOURNE

The shock loss to Ireland did hurt but the players moved on quickly from that 'little blip' to focus on the road ahead, said star England all-rounder Ben Stokes after scoring a match-winning 52 in the T20 World Cup final against Pakistan here on Sunday.

Stokes showed his big match prowess once again with a gritty fifty under extreme pressure to help England to their second T20 World Cup title. He looked back on the team's

memorable campaign. "With that (defeat to Ireland) being so early in the competition we obviously had to address it, say what had to be said and then let it go," Stokes, who was also instrumental in England's 2019

World Cup triumph, said after the five-

wicket win. "In tournaments like these you can't carry baggage with you, that was a little blip on the way, credit to Ireland for turning up and beating us, but the best teams learn from their mistakes and not let it affect them," said Stokes.



year, was all praise for his team which has set the benchmark in limited over

"To win the T20 World Cup now, immensely proud of everyone here. It has been a long journey and few England skipper Jos Buttler, who changes but we are reaping the rewards

"It's been a fantastic tournament. We went to Pakistan before coming here, which was a valuable time for the group and this felt a long way after the Ireland match but the character we showed from thereon in must-win Pakistan."

games is amazing.

"He (coach Matty Motts) has fitted in really well. We have got a few Australians in the coaching staff with us in this tournament and he has led the coaching staff really well, gives the players great freedom. Sam Curran became the first spe-

cialist bowler to win the Player of the tournament award for taking 13 wickets in six matches. Besides Curran, Buttler also laud-

ed leggie Adil Rashid, who delivered with wickets in the middle overs throughout the tournament including

"Huge swing in the game, that was a fantastic over from Adil. He has been outstanding for us in the last three games, just the guy who makes things happen and his performance was outstanding," the England skipper said.

"And that man again, Ben Stokes is there at the end. He is the ultimate competitor in anything he does and has the experience to bank on as well. He timed it perfectly, the impetus that he and Moeen Ali had just took it away from

## Maxwell fractures leg in 'freak accident', might miss India tour

ustralian all-rounder Glenn AMaxwell could miss the India tour next year after fracturing his leg in a "freak accident" at a birthday party here. The 34-year-old underwent a

surgery on Sunday after fracturing his left fibula at a friend's 50th birthday cel-It is understood the incident took

place on Saturday in a backyard, where Maxwell and his friend were running "Both slipped and fell, with Maxwell's leg becoming trapped under the other person's, understood to be a friend of Maxwell's," cricket.Com.Au

reported. "Neither were intoxicated and the other person is not believed to have

sustained an injury."

Australia are slated to play four Tests and three ODIs during their tour



It remains to be seen if he recovers in time to participate in the fixtures.

The all-rounder is expected to undergo a lengthy rehabilitation, ruling him out for months.

The injury has ruled Maxwell out from the ÓDÍ series against England, starting on Thursday in Adelaide. He might also miss the Big Bash League, which will go on from December 13 to February 4.

"Glenn is in good spirits. It was an unfortunate accident and we feel for Glenn in the circumstances given he was in great touch in his last few games," Australia's selection chief George Bailey said.

"Glenn is a critical part of our white ball structure and we will continue to support him through his recovery and

Sean Abbott has replaced Maxwell in the squad for the England series.

### Lockie Ferguson & Gurbaz traded from GT to KKR

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Defending champions Gujarat Titans have traded New Zealand pacer Lockie Ferguson and Afghan wicketkeeper-batter Rahmanullah Gurbaz to Kolkata Knight Riders for the forthcoming Indian Premier League season.

The Titans had bought Ferguson for Rs 10 crore at the IPL mega auction earlier this year. The Kiwi played 13 matches for the side and picked 12 wickets that included a four-wicket

The pacer has previously represented KKR, the two-time champions, from 2017 to 2021. Gurbaz, on the other hand, was included in the Gujarat Titans squad in the previous edition as a replacement for England batter Jason Roy, but the 20-year-old did not play any game last season.

### Afghanistan Govt has in principle agreed to resume women's cricket: ICC



PTI DUBAI

The ICC on Sunday said the Afghanistan government supports the world body's constitution and has "in principle" agreed to resuming women's cricket in the country.

Afghanistan cricket, especially the women's game, had plunged into uncertainty last year due to the drastic changes in the political landscape following the takeover of the country by the Taliban.

There were reports that Afghan women, including the country's women's cricket team, were banned from playing sport under the Taliban administration.

The ICC had then set up a

Working Group to review the status of cricket in the country. The Board received an

update from the Afghanistan Working Group detailing a recent meeting with a representative of the Afghanistan government and the Afghanistan Cricket Board in Doha.

The government official reiterated their commitment to fully respect and comply with the ICC constitution, in particular the need for diversity and inclusivity and for the ACB to operate independent from gov-

"The meeting was positive

and respectful and the government representative was clear in his support for the ICC constitution including in principle for women's cricket in Afghanistan," Working Group Chair Imran Khwaja said.

"There are obviously challenges for it to resume but we will continue to work with the ACB to take this forward.

"The Working Group will closely monitor the commitment undertaken by the Afghanistan government and will continue to report back to the ICC Board."

It is an ICC requirement for full members to also have a national women's team, besides the men's side. Afghanistan is one of the

full members of the ICC. The Afghanistan's men team took part in the 2021 and 2022 T20 . World Cup.

The Working Group also includes Ross McCollum (Ireland chair), Ramiz Raja (Pakistan chair) and Lawson Naidoo (SA chair).

### **HOSTS ANNOUNCED**

Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Thailand, Zimbabwe and Namibia and Bangladesh and Nepal are set to host ICC U19 events from 2024-2027, the

world body said on Sunday. The 2024 U19 men's World Cup will be hosted by Sri Lanka while the 2026 edition will be staged in Zimbabwe and Namibia. The 2025 U19 women's

T20 World Cup will be held in Malaysia and Thailand, and the

2027 U19 women's event will

be jointly hosted by Bangladesh and Nepal. The qualification pathway for the 10-team 2024 women's

T20 World Cup was also Eight teams will qualify for the event automatically comprising the top three teams

from each group from the 2023 T20 World Cup, the host Bangladesh (if not in the top three of Group 1) and the next highest ranked teams on the ICC T20I Rankings on February 27, 2023.

The remaining two teams will be identified through the 10-team women's T20 World Cup Global Qualifier.

The qualification pathway for the 14-team men's World Cup 2027 was also decided with ten teams gaining auto-matic qualification.

The 10 will comprise South Africa and Zimbabwe as full

member hosts and the next eight highest ranked teams on the ODI rankings on a date to be confirmed.

The remaining four teams will qualify via the ICC CWC Global Qualifier.

### Gold rush continues for India at Asian Airgun C'ship

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian shooters continued their gold rush in the 15th Asian Airgun Championship in Daegu, Korea, sweeping all the four team event golds on offer on Sunday.

They have so far won as many as 10 gold medals from the competition.

The day began with the men's air rifle trio of Arjun Babuta, Kiran Ankush Jadhav and Rudrankksh Balasaheb Patil beating Kazakhstan 17-11 in the men's 10m air rifle team competition.

The women emulated their male counterparts when Mehuli Ghosh, Elavenil Valarivan and Meghana Sajjanar overcame hosts Korea 16-10 in their team event title decider.

The junior men's team was

Divyansh Singh Panwar, Sri Karthik Sabari Raj Ravishankar and Vidit Jain got the better of hosts Korea with a 16-10 mar-

rifle team comprising Nancy, Ramita and Tilottama Sen then added the icing on the cake when they crushed yet another Korean team, 16-2, in the

men's 10m air rifle team youth title with a 16-8 victory over hosts Korea. It was India-Korea yet again Saturday, in the women's youth team final as Gautami

The junior women's air

on way to her title winning run at the Commonwealth Games in August. The BWF World Tour Finals is scheduled to be held in Guangzhou, China from On Saturday, Sheersh Kashyap, Parth Mane and Abhinav Shaw had claimed the December 14. "Her doctor has advised her to take some more time so

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Double Olympic medallist PV Sindhu has withdrawn

that she recovers completely ahead of the new season. She has discussed about the pros and cons but with so much restrictions in Guangzhou and also keeping new season in mind, she has taken this decision," Sindhu's Bhanot, Hazel and Yukthi Rajendra bagged the gold 16-6 father PV Ramana told PTI.

"She has already started her representative from India at the

from the season-ending BWF World Tour Finals as she is yet to fully recover from a stress fracture on her left ankle. The 2018 edition champion Sindhu had sustained the injury

> training a couple of weeks back and by January she will be fully fit. So in view of all these reasons, she sent a mail to BAI informing about her decision. "She will need to be at her

best for next year which will have Asian Games and also the 2024 Paris Olympics qualification, playing about 22 tournaments will be tough, so she is taking extra care. Sindhu's withdrawal means HS Prannoy remains the only

Sindhu pulls out of BWF World Tour Finals

While Prannoy is ranked third in the Race to Guangzhou ranking, Kidambi Srikanth too has an outside chance if he does

prestigious tournament.

well at the Australian Open super 300 beginning in Sydney on Tuesday. Lakshya Sen had also withdrawn from the Australia event due to a throat infection. COVID-19 cases have been

rising in Guangzhou, forcing authorities to go for stricter

ernment interference, the ICC