

**OPINION 6**

UNITED ACTION CAN DEFEAT TERRORISM

**WORLD 9**

NORTH KOREA TEST-FIRES ICBM WITH RANGE TO STRIKE ENTIRE US

**MONEY 10**

ECO ON COURSE TO ACHIEVE 7% GROWTH IN FY-2023: RBI

NEW DELHI, SATURDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



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**SADIO MANE OUT OF FIFA WORLD CUP 11 SPORT**

## Modi for imposing cost on countries aiding terrorism

Addressing global meet on terror funding, PM says proxy wars are also dangerous, violent

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday called for imposing cost on countries that support terrorism. In a veiled attack on Pakistan and China, the Prime Minister said certain countries support terrorism as part of their State policy while some do so indirectly by blocking action against terrorists.

Addressing the third "No Money for Terror" Ministerial Conference on Counter-Terrorism Financing, the PM said organisations and individuals trying to create sympathy for terrorists must also be isolated.

The Union Home Ministry is organising the conference which is being attended by 450 delegates from over 75 nations and multilateral organisations, including Interpol and FATF among others.

"International organisations must not think that absence of war means peace. Proxy wars are also dangerous and violent. There must be a cost imposed upon countries that support terrorism," Modi said.

Certain countries support terrorism as part of their for-



Union MoS for Home Affairs Nisith Pramanik and other officials listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's (inset) address during the third 'No Money for Terror' Ministerial Conference on Counter-Terrorism Financing, in New Delhi on Friday

ign policy and they offer political, ideological and financial support, Modi said, adding, "There can be no ifs and buts entertained in such matters. The world needs to unite against all kinds of overt and covert backing of terror."

It is well known that terrorist organisations get money through several sources and one of them is state support. In present times, ideally there should be no need for anyone to remind the world of the dangers of terrorism, the PM said.

"However, there are still certain mistaken notions about terrorism in some circles," he said, adding, the intensity of the

reaction to different attacks cannot vary based on where it happens and all terrorist attacks deserve equal outrage and action.

"Further, sometimes, there are indirect arguments made in support of terrorism to block actions against terrorists," he said.

"There is no place for an ambiguous approach while dealing with a global threat. It (terror) is an attack on humanity, freedom and civilisation. It knows no boundaries. Only a uniform, unified and zero-tolerance approach can defeat terrorism," the PM asserted.

He said it is significant that

this conference is happening in India as the country faced the horrors of terror long before the world took serious note of it. The delegates have a chance to interact with a country and people who have been firm in tackling terror, Modi said.

"Over the decades, terrorism in different names and forms tried to hurt India. We lost thousands of precious lives, but we have fought terrorism bravely," he said.

"We consider that even a single attack is one too many. Even a single life lost is one too many. So, we will not rest till terrorism is uprooted," he said.

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## LG seals DDC VC's office for 'political misuse'

Saxena asks CM to remove Jasmine Shah from post

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**

The office of Vice Chairman of Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC) Jasmine Shah has been sealed and Delhi Lieutenant Governor (LG) Vinai Kumar Saxena has asked Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to remove him from the post, saying he is misusing the DDC office for "political purposes".

The L-G's move will further escalate his tussle with the Kejriwal Government as Shah is considered close to him. The L-G also directed the Chief Minister to restrict Shah from "discharging his duties" as the Vice Chairman of DDC and from using any "privilege and facilities" associated with its office, "with immediate effect" till a "decision is taken by the CM".

Reacting to the development, Shah said the action taken by the L-G is without his jurisdiction, completely illegal and unconstitutional.

"As per the L-G, I cannot act as a spokesperson for AAP while being Vice Chairperson of DDC. This position of DDC holds the rank of a Minister in the Delhi Government. If the L-G can initiate proceedings against me, tomorrow he can move to dismiss any other



Sealed office of Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi (DDC) Vice Chairman Jasmine Shah, in New Delhi on Friday

Minister or the CM of Delhi for representing AAP at political forums? It is clear that the L-G's order is illegal and unconstitutional," Shah said in a statement. Sources said Shah was given two opportunities to reply to the show-cause notice issued by the director of the planning department on October 17 over charges of "misusing public office" by acting as the "official spokesperson" of the AAP. But he failed to submit a reply, they said.

"Instead, he said the reply was submitted to the minister of the planning department. The L-G office wrote a letter to the Chief Minister's office on November 4, seeking to know his reply. But the Chief Minister's Office, till now, has not replied to the letter.

Thereafter, the L-G wrote on file to the Chief Secretary Naresh Kumar, directing him to request the CM for removal of Shah said sources.

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India's first private rocket Vikram-S built by Skyroot Aerospace lifts off from a launch pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota on Friday

## Cong in damage control on Savarkar after Uddhav's quip

Raut calls Rahul's remark unwarranted, Jairam clarifies Cong former chief didn't attack Savarkar

**TN RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI**

Hours after Shiv Sena MP Sanjay Raut said Rahul Gandhi's remarks on Veer Savarkar were "unwarranted" and that his party did not agree with the latter's stand, Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Friday resorted to damage control exercise by saying that Rahul did not target Savarkar but had only stated a "historical fact", while the former Congress president himself refrained from talking about the Hindutva ideologue.

On a day when Shiv Sena leader Aditya Thackeray played down the controversy, Rahul—apparently chastened by the Sena's criticism of him over his remarks against Savarkar, did not refer to Savarkar in his speech at a rally that he



Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) activists raise slogans during a protest against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi over his controversial remarks about Hindutva ideologue VD Savarkar, in Mumbai on Friday

addressed at Shegaon in Buldhana district of Maharashtra. Instead, the Congress leader singled out the BJP for spreading fear, hatred and violence in the country.

Earlier, though Raut did not mince words when it came to expressing displeasure over Rahul's remarks, Sena leader

Aditya Thackeray sought to play down the controversy by saying, "While I agree with the stand taken by my party leaders Uddhav Thackeray and Sanjay Raut, the issue here is: Should the national parties be fighting over discussing who said what 50 to 100 years ago."

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## ₹500 cr fine for personal data breach in new Bill

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

The Government on Friday came out with the draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022, that seeks to impose a huge penalty for breach of personal data safety. "Seeking your views on draft Digital Personal Data Protection Bill, 2022," said Union Minister for Railways, Communications, Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnav in a tweet.

The Bill was first introduced in Lok Sabha in December 2019 and referred to the JPC. The JPC placed its report in Lok Sabha on December 16, 2021, proposing a single law for dealing with both personal and non-personal datasets.

While withdrawing the bill in the Monsoon Session this year, Vaishnav pointed out that the JPC recommended 81 amendments in a Bill of 99 sections. "Above that it made 12 major recommendations. Therefore, the Bill has been withdrawn and a new bill will be presented for public con-

sultation," he had said.

While the draft personal data protection Bill, issued in 2019 had proposed a penalty of ₹15 crore or 4 per cent of the global turnover of an entity, the present Bill has raised that amount to ₹500 cr.

"The purpose of this Bill is to provide for the processing of digital personal data in a manner that recognises the right of individuals to protect their personal data, the need to process personal data for lawful purposes and for other incidental purposes," an explanatory note of the draft Bill said.

The draft proposes to set up a Data Protection Board of India, which will carry on functions as per the provisions of the Bill.

"If the board determines at the conclusion of an inquiry that non-compliance by a person is significant, it may, after giving the person a reasonable opportunity of being heard, impose such a financial penalty as specified in Schedule 1, not exceeding ₹500 crore in each instance," the draft said.

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## Girl's body in trolley bag found on Yamuna E-way

**PNS ■ LUCKNOW**



found a woman's body wrapped in plastic stuffed in the bag.

Preliminary investigations suggest that the victim appears to be 21-22 years of age. However, her identity could not be ascertained. The Mathura police alerted all police stations in the district regarding the recovery of the dead body. Further investigations are underway.

Just two days back, the headless and nude body of a girl, with her limbs and other body parts chopped to pieces, was recovered in a well in Azamgarh. The police are still groping in the dark.

## Honey-trapped MEA driver held for passing info to Pakistan's ISI

**STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI**

A driver working in the Ministry of External Affairs has been arrested on charges of allegedly passing confidential information to a Pakistan-based person. According to a source, the Delhi Police crime branch arrested the driver on Friday from the Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan.

The suspect would allegedly pass "confidential and sensitive" information related to national security. The source further added that the driver was honey-trapped by an ISI person under the fake name of Poonam Sharma/Pooja. Delhi Police, however, refused to share any details of the case citing concerns over national security.

In September this year, 24-year-old Army Jawan Pradeep Kumar from Haridwar, was honey-trapped by the Pakistani intelligence ISI agent under the fake name of Riya Sharma, and arrested by Rajasthan Police.

## CAPSULE

### 3 JAWANS KILLED IN KUPWARA AVALANCHE

**Kupwara:** As many as three soldiers of Indian Army died in an avalanche in the Kupwara district of Jammu and Kashmir on Friday, said police. According to the Kupwara Police, the incident took place in the Machhil area of the district and three jawans of the Army's 55 Rashtriya Rifles died in the line of duty.

### SHRADHA MURDER CASE: POLICE HUNT IN MAHA, HP

**New Delhi/Mumbai:** Delhi Police on Friday sent teams to Mumbai, Gurgaon and Himachal Pradesh to hunt for evidence in the Shradha Walkar murder case even as the victim's chats with friends and co-workers since two years indicated she was once beaten so badly that she could not get off the bed.

## SC rejects NIA plea for recall of order for house arrest of Navlakha

**PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court on Friday rejected NIA's vehement opposition and ordered activist Gautam Navlakha, accused of having links to Maoists and Pakistan's spy agency ISI, to be placed under house arrest "without fail" within 24 hours.

A bench of Justices KM Joseph and Hrishikesh Roy passed the order after sharp exchanges between the prosecution and the court took place on Friday.

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## Qatar bans sale of beer at WC stadiums in U-turn

**AP ■ DOHA**

Qatar banned the sale of beer at World Cup stadiums on Friday, a sudden U-turn on the deal it made to secure the soccer tournament — only two days before the opening game.

The move was the latest sign of the tension of hosting the event, which is not just a sports tournament but also a monthlong party, in the conservative Muslim emirate where the sale of alcohol is heavily restricted.

It's also a significant blow to World Cup beer sponsor Budweiser and raised questions about how much

control FIFA retains over its tournament.

When Qatar launched its bid to host the the tournament, the country agreed to FIFA's requirements of selling alcohol in stadiums — but the details were only released in September, just 11 weeks before the first kickoff, a suggestion of how fraught the negotiations may have been.

Friday's statement from FIFA said non-alcoholic beer will still be sold at the eight stadiums, while champagne, wine, whiskey and other alcohol will still be served in the luxury hospitality areas of the arenas.

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## India's happiest State draws grand plans to attract tourists

**ARCHANA JYOTI ■ AIZAWL**

High on Happiness index and banking on its "Responsible tourism policy", Mizoram has chalked out grand plans to draw tourists to its lush green hills and forests.

State Principal Secretary (Tourism) Manisha Saxena said Covid-pandemic hit Mizoram quite late, so the State was last one to open up to the tourists. This affected Mizoram's tourism earnings and livelihood of many, she said.

"But now as cases have sharply declined, we have almost started as a blank tourism slate and taking several

steps to cash in on our untapped potential for tourism which has lot to offer from mesmerising landscape, lush green hills to captivating topography," Saxena said at the International Tourism Mart 2022 here.

However, to ensure that tourism development activities do not compromise the fragile ecology of the State, Mizoram has framed the Responsible Tourism Policy, 2020.

With 90 per cent of the State's area under forest cover and its attitude and pleasant climate being strong points, there is an ample scope for eco-tourism and adventure tourism



also, offering a dream destination to enterprising tourists. "The fact that Mizoram has joined other States in the region to hold the edition of the prestigious ITM itself indicates that the state is safe for the visitors," Saxena told *The Pioneer* on the second day of the event.

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NCR-PULSE

**PROTESTERS DEMANDING AHIR REGIMENT IN ARMY CLASH WITH POLICE IN GURUGRAM; SEVERAL HURT, Gurugram:** Over 200 people were detained and several got injured in a clash between police and the protesters demanding the formation of an Ahir regiment in the Army, officials said on Friday. Hundreds of protesters gathered near the Kherki Daula toll plaza at around 10.30 am and tried to block the Delhi-Jaipur highway, they said. When police started detaining them, some of them began pelting stones, police said. In the clash six people including three cops were hurt, police said. After stone pelting, the protesters hid in the streets of Kherki Daula village. The police chased the protesters in streets of the village and detained them. Bollywood singer and rapper Rahul Yadav alias Fazilpuria, who also joined the protest, was also detained by the police but later released.

**TPDDL SIGNS MOU WITH TERI PROMOTING 'URJA ARPAN'**  
New Delhi: Tata Power Delhi Distribution Limited (Tata Power-DDL), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI) to promote Urja Arpan initiative. The collaboration promotes the core strengths of both entities for effective utilization of green energy efficiency.

**GSP GETS HC NOD FOR MANUFACTURING, SELLING CTPR**  
New Delhi: GSP Crop Science gets the final clearance from Delhi High Court to manufacture and sell Chlorantraniliprole (CTPR), which is an insecticide product in India. The Delhi High Court on 14th November 2022, dismissed FMC's application for interim injunction in CS (Comm) 662/2022 (FMC Corporation vs GSP Crop Science).

**ARBITAL AWARD PAYMENT MEET ON DEC 12: DMRC TO HC**  
New Delhi: The DMRC on Friday told the Delhi High Court that the Centre and state government might have a meeting by December 12 to consider the issue of making 50 per cent payment each of the arbitral award, which was passed in favour of Reliance Infrastructure-owned Delhi Airport Metro Express Private Limited. Justice Kameswar Rao was informed by Attorney General R Venkataramani that because of the intervening elections in Delhi, the governments need some more time and a cabinet meeting is required.

# 12 killed as vehicle falls into gorge in U'khand's Chamoli

PTI ■ GOPESHWAR/DEHRADUN

Twelve people, including two women, were killed and three injured as a passenger vehicle fell into a deep gorge in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district on Friday, the State Disaster Response Force said. A Tata Sumo carrying 17 passengers fell into a gorge at Urgan in Joshimath area of the district at around 4 pm, said the SDRF which carried out the rescue operation. The passengers were on their way to Palla Jakhil village from Joshimath when the accident occurred, Chamoli SP



Pramendra Dobhal said. Two of the occupants jumped out of the vehicle in the nick of time, the SP said. The SDRF has recovered all the 12 bodies. The gorge was around 300 metres deep and reaching the spot where the remains of the vehicle lay was difficult, an eye-

witness told PTI over the phone. The vehicle is said to have been overloaded with some occupants also sitting on its roof. Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami expressed grief at the loss of lives in the accident and announced an ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh each to the next of those killed. He spoke to the district magistrate of Chamoli, Himanshu Khurana, over the phone and asked him to ensure that free medical treatment is provided to the injured. According to a list issued

by the SDRF, those killed in the accident were identified as Dalip Singh Chauhan, Sitab Singh Chauhan, Subodh Singh, Vikram Singh, Kashmiri Devi, Lakshman Singh, Tajwar Singh, Rajeshwari, Gajendra Singh, Ranjit Singh and Gabbar Singh and Shiv Singh. Most of those killed were from Kimana, Kalkot, Dumak and Palla villages. The injured included Ajit Yadav from Allahabad, Rohit Prajapati from Hapur and Mahavir Singh. Hemant Chauhan and Jeetpal escaped unhurt, the SP office said.

# Union AYUSH Min inaugurates naturopathy health camps on fifth Naturopathy Day

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Union AYUSH Minister Sarbananda Sonowal on Friday inaugurated naturopathy health camps on the occasion of the fifth Naturopathy Day at Dr Ambedkar International Centre. The camps were organised by Indian Naturopathy Organisation and Surya Foundation in collaboration with Ministry of AYUSH. Surya Foundation and Chairman of INO, Padmashree Jaiprakash Agarwal appreciated the works of naturopathy doctors honoured in the programme. He said because of

such heroes of ours, naturopathy is gaining recognition in the country and abroad, in Nepal and other countries, including China, Singapore. He said that Naturopathy Health and Consultation Camps would be organised, in which people would be counseled about naturopathy and made aware that how they can benefit from their traditional system of curing.

## ₹500 cr fine for personal data breach in new...

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It has proposed a graded penalty system for data fiduciaries that will process the personal data of data owners only in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The same set of penalties will be applicable to the data processor -- which will be an entity that will process data on behalf of the Data Fiduciary.

The draft has proposed a penalty of up to Rs 250 crore in case the data fiduciary or data processor fails to protect against personal data breaches in its possession or under its control. The draft has also proposed a penalty of Rs 200 crore in case the data fiduciary or data processor fails to inform the board and data owner about the data breach.

ry of India and has entered into any contract with any person outside the country. "The Central Government may, after an assessment of such factors as it may consider necessary, notify such countries or territories outside India to which a Data Fiduciary may transfer personal data," according to the draft. The explanatory issued by the Ministry of Electronics and IT listed seven principles on which the bill is based. This includes the usage of personal data by organisations must be done in a manner that is lawful, fair to the individuals concerned and transparent to individuals and personal data is used for the purposes for which it was collected.

## Qatar bans sale of beer at WC...

From Page 1  
But the vast majority of ticket holders don't have access to those areas — though they will be able to drink alcoholic beer in the evenings in what is known as the FIFA Fan Festival, a designated party area that also offers live music and activities. Outside of the tournament-run areas, Qatar puts strict limits on the purchase and consumption of alcohol, though its sale has been permitted in hotel bars for years. "Following discussions between host country authorities and FIFA, a decision has

## India's...

From Page 1  
Mizoram can proudly boast to be the happiest State in India as per the India Happiness Report, 2020 and has a high literacy rate of 91.33. The happiness index is based on six parameters: family relationship and friendship, work-related issues such as income and growth, social issues and philanthropy, religion or spiritual affiliation, Covid-19's effect on happiness and physical and mental health. She said a string of projects are coming up in the state such as a pilot project on a bamboo link road, which would connect the bamboo potential areas in Mizoram with all-weather main roads. The first of its kind in the country, the projects has been sanctioned by the Centre.

**विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय**  
**मध्य प्रदेश भोपाल**  
क्रमांक-विशा/स्टोर/2022-25(315), दिनांक 11.11.2020  
**निविदा सूचना का शुद्धि पत्र**  
**(Corrigendum)**  
विशेष शाखा पुलिस मुख्यालय की निविदा सूचना क्रमांक SB/Store/2022-25 (281), Bhopal, Dated 10.10.2022 द्वारा Under Vehicle Search Mirror (UVSM) & other 15 items के क्रय हेतु ई-निविदा सूचना जारी की गई थी। उपरोक्त आमंत्रित निविदा के माध्यम से क्रय किये जाने वाले उपकरणों के तकनीकी मापदण्डों (Specification) एवं निविदा की समय-सारणी में "आंशिक संशोधन" के संबंध में शुद्धि पत्र (Corrigendum) जारी किया गया है जो website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgepapp> पर तथा विभाग की वेबसाइट [www.mppolice.gov.in](http://www.mppolice.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।  
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G-1937022 सो गज दूरी, मास्क है जरूरी! Email: sec24-sh@mppolice.gov.in

Public Notice  
NOTICE is hereby given that (1) Mr. Bhim Singh, (2) Parasubramaniam Singh Thakur, (3) Mr. Satyendra, (4) Mr. Laxman Singh, (5) Mrs. Yamini, (6) Mr. Nirmal Singh, (7) Mr. Mahinder Kumar and owners of Property bearing Municipal No. 11673, area measuring 75 Sq. Yds., Out of Khassa No. 3570/2/2, Block U, Gali No. 1, situated at Basa Rishah, 5th Nagar Kaveli Bagh, New Delhi by way of Conveyance Deed dated 19.08.2020 Doc. No. 3596 & Relinquishment Deed dated 02.03.2021 Document No. 2008 and Relinquishment Deed dated 02.03.2021 Document No. 2009, Now, (1) Mr. Bhim Singh, (2) Parasubramaniam Singh Thakur, (3) Mr. Satyendra, (4) Mr. Laxman Singh, (5) Mrs. Yamini, (6) Mr. Nirmal Singh, (7) Mr. Mahinder Kumar have intending to sell the above said property to Mr. Vikas Seth and further Mr. Vikas Seth agreed to create mortgage in respect of the said property in favour of our client DDC of F&SI Bank Limited. Further, if any person, body, individual, institution having any claim, title, interest and/or objection in respect of or against or relating to or touching upon said property or part of the property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift, trust, easement, maintenance, inheritance, testamentary disposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title, documents pertaining the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned at below mentioned address within 10 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claim, of such person shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Any objections raised after the completion of the 10 days shall not be binding upon the said property of my Client & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 10 days of the publication to Mr. Manoj Choudhary, Mr. Sudhir Jain (Advocates), Law Veritas North, Unit no 907, 9th Floor, GD-II Tower, (B-08), Netaji Subhash Place, Delhi-110034 or contact at 9068707172/9826228636 (M).

**THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**CHANGE OF NAME**  
I, Dhara Batra D/o Sh. Harvind Kumar Batra R/O H.No- 1127, Sector -15 Escorts nagar, Faridabad Haryana have changed my name to Dhyara Batra.  
PD(90200)C  
I, Mohammed Irsahad Alam S/o. Nurul Hasan, R/o. At-Basara, PO & PS-Majhauia, West Champaran, Bihar, have Changed My Name as Mohammad Irsahad Alam for all future purposes.  
PD(90201)A  
**THANKSGIVING**  
Thank you holy spirit for all blessings celine  
PD(90199)C

**कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, भोपाल**  
**यांत्रिक विभाग (मुख्यालय)**  
**स्मार्ट सिटी परिसर गोविंदपुरा**  
**निविदा आमंत्रण घोषणा-पत्र**  
क्रमांक 230/यां.वि./22  
निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य हेतु दो लिफाफा पद्धति के अनुसार म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में केन्द्रीकृत व्यवस्था के अंतर्गत पंजीकृत डेकेदार परसेन्टेज मोहर बंद निविदाये निर्धारित प्रपत्र पर ऑनलाइन आमंत्रित की जाती है।  
S. No. Tender ID Name of Work Probable Amount of Contract (In Rs.) Earnest Money Deposit (MND) (In Rs.) Period of Completion (in Months)  
1. 2022\_UAD\_207783\_3 LADIES PARK NEAR SHANTINIKETAN, BHARTI NIKETAN, KAILASH NAGAR, ZONE 12, BHOPAL 31473038/- 157365/- 12 months (excluding rainy season)  
1. Interested bidders can view the NIT on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/>  
2. The Bid Document can be purchased only online from 10:30 A.M. (time) 18.11.2022 (date) to 17:30 P.M. (time) 05.12.2022 (date).  
3. The bidder who bids in the tender will have to submit the document of participating firm. Documents of other firm viz any other partnership firm/sister concern etc. will not be valid.  
4. Amendments to NIT, if any, would be published on website <https://www.mptenders.gov.in/> only, and not in newspaper.  
The initial period of 5 (Five) year after completion shall be treated as Defect Liability Period (DLP).  
In. Chief Engineer  
Municipal Corporation Bhopal  
दि.क्र. 864/022/023

**LG seals DDC VC's office...**  
From Page 1  
"I have carefully examined the allegations about misuse of public office of VC, DDCD by Shah in its entirety and the submission on the pre-pages, the facts & records of the case which clearly indicate that activities of Shah prima facie tantamount to misuse of public office of VC, DDCD for personal political activities," Saxena wrote on file. Taking the matter into cognizance, the L-G directed Kejriwal to take necessary action to remove Shah from the office of Vice Chairman, Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi for alleged misuse of public office for personal political purposes. "Till a decision is taken by the CM, as an interim measure Shah is restricted to discharge functions as Vice Chairman, Dialogue and Development Commission of Delhi and to use any privileges and facilities connected with the office," the L-G further wrote. Accordingly, the Planning Department of the Delhi Government on Thursday issued an order, saying the lieutenant governor has ordered Shah to be restricted from functioning as vice-chairman of DDC and from enjoying any privileges and facilities associated with it. An order dated November 17 and signed Vijendra Singh Rawat, Director (Planning), Government of NCT of Delhi, states, "Head of Office/Deputy Secretary DDCD is hereby

## SC rejects NIA plea for...

From Page 1  
"Our order of November 10 shall be given effect to without fail within 24 hours," the bench said. The bench, however, ordered some additional security measures to be put in place at the building where Navlakha (70) will be kept under house arrest. Navlakha is under judicial custody in Talaja Jail in Navi Mumbai in connection with the Elgar Parishad-Maoist link case and on November 10, the apex court ordered for his house arrest due to his medical condition.

The NIA had moved the SC on Thursday seeking vacation of its order for house arrest, saying Navlakha, being a charge-sheeted accused in a case involving threat to national security and integrity, does not deserve any extra leeway. "From the investigation carried out, it is established that the petitioner delivered speeches at different forums and programmes on many issues related to the Kashmiri separatist movement and Maoist movement and supported it.

**म.प्र. गृह निर्माण एवं अधोसंरचना विकास मण्डल**  
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ई-ऑफर सुविधा [www.mphousing.in](http://www.mphousing.in) [www.mponline.gov.in](http://www.mponline.gov.in) पर उपलब्ध है।  
कावेरी एनक्लेव दर्पण कॉलोनी, याटीपुर, ग्वालियर में प्रकोष्ठ भवनों का ई-ऑफर द्वारा आमंत्रण नवनिर्मित फ्लैट खरीदने का स्वर्णिम अवसर (जहां है, जैसी है, स्थिति में ऑफर द्वारा एकमुश्त आधार पर विक्रय) (रेरा पंजीयन क्र. P-GWL-17-080)  
ई-ऑफर दिनांक 26.12.2022 तक आमंत्रित।  
63 के.व्ही.ए. का जनरेटर कॉमन लाइट आदि के लिये  
24 फ्लैटों के लिये 2 जीने एवं 2 लिफ्ट की सुविधा उपलब्ध  
क्र. उपलब्ध फ्लैट क्रमांक फ्लैट के साथ सतन पार्किंग स्थल क्रमांक फ्लैट का अनुमानित प्लिन्य क्षेत्रफल (वर्ग मी.) (प्रति भवन) फ्लैट का कोरपेट क्षेत्रफल (वर्ग मी.) मूल्य का अपसेट (रुपये) (प्रति इकाई) धरोहर राशि (रुपये) (प्रति फ्लैट) आवेदन शुल्क (रुपये) (प्रति इकाई) देय + जी.एस.टी.  
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**Modi for imposing cost on countries...**  
From Page 1  
Modi said uprooting terrorism needs a larger proactive response and to make citizens safe no one can wait until terror comes to individual homes. "We must pursue terrorists, break their support networks and hit their finances," he added. Echoing the PM's sentiment, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, addressing a separate session at the conference, said there are countries that seek to undermine, or even hinder, the collective resolve to fight terrorism. Pakistan and Afghanistan are not participating in the two-day conference. China was invited but did not attend the event in its apparent bid not to antagonize either the Taliban that is ruling Afghanistan or the terror cohorts of Pakistan. Beijing has been actively blocking efforts at the UN against sanctioning terrorists of the Pakistani terror groups Lashar-e-Tayyaba and Jaish-e-Mohammad. Over the last two decades, India has repeatedly sought inclusion of several Pakistan-based LeT and JeM leaders in the United Nations Security Council's 1267 committee list but the proposals have been vetoed by China, a permanent member of the Council. Pakistan is accused of providing state backing to terrorist organisations in carrying out attacks in India, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. "We have seen that some countries protect and shelter terrorists, protecting a terrorist is equivalent to promoting terrorism. It will be our collective responsibility that such elements never succeed in their intentions," Shah said. He said no one should ignore terrorists' safe havens or their resources. "We also have to expose the double-speak of such elements who sponsor and support them," Shah said. Shah said financing of terrorism is more dangerous than terrorism and threat of terrorism cannot and should not be linked to any religion, nationality or group. Terrorists are constantly finding new ways to carry out violence, radicalise youth and raise financial resources and the Dark Net is being used by terrorists to spread radical content and conceal their identities, he said. Transformation of terrorism from "Dynamite to Metaverse" and "AK-47 to Virtual Assets" is definitely a matter of concern for the countries of the world and everyone have to work together to formulate a common strategy against it, the Home Minister added.



# Shraddha was hospitalised in 2020 after severe beating by Aftab

## Delhi Police gather proof from Aftab's Gurugram office

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEWDELHI

New revelations in the Shraddha Walkar murder case in the form of her 2-year-old WhatsApp and Instagram chats with her friends and co-workers and a picture of hers with a bruised and swollen face pointed to physical assaults by Aftab Poonawala.

During investigation, it was revealed that Walkar was hospitalised in 2020 with severe back pain in Vasai, Maharashtra. Meanwhile, a Delhi Police team visited the

office of a private firm in Gurugram where Poonawala used to work, to dig out more proof. At least 10 special teams formed by Delhi Police were sent to multiple locations including Mumbai, Gurugram, Himachal Pradesh and Dehradun in Uttarakhand.

In one of the chats, Walkar informed her work manager at a call centre that, "I won't be able to make it today because from all the beating yesterday my BP is low and my body hurts. I don't have the energy to get off the bed."

She also attached a photo of her face with injury marks. Separately, her friend Rahul Rai, too, shared a photo of her with bruises on her nose and that Walkar had gone to the police to complain about being



beaten by Poonawala.

"Sincere apologies for the trouble I have caused to you and the way it impacted work," she further wrote. She even told her colleague that they had met Poonawala's parents and she needed to make sure that "he

moves out today."

Around a week after that, she was in a private hospital between December 3-6, 2020 when she was hospitalised for "severe back pain, neck pain, numbness in lower limb" and the doctor there said she had

"internal injuries" at the time. According to the police, she was admitted to the Ozone Multispecialty Hospital in Vasai. According to police, these chats are from the time when the couple lived together in their hometown Vasai near Mumbai, and reveal a pattern of abuse that ended in murder in May.

In another text from November 23, 2020, Walkar discusses moving out from where she was living at the time. She also added that she would visit the police station and meet the 'mahila manda'. She also attached a photo of herself with injuries on her face, saying she would use it as proof for taking leave from her job. Investigators privy to the probe said Poonawala's phone

will be sent for forensic examination to identify the people he was in touch with after killing Walkar and retrieve deleted data. The police have so far recovered bones. Prima facie, they resemble human bones, sources said.

After leaving Mumbai, the couple travelled to several locations which are being visited by police to ascertain whether something had happened on those trips to trigger the murder. "We will talk to the owners and staff of hotels where the couple had stayed in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand and also make them identify Poonawala," a source said.

On Friday, Delhi Police and forensic teams visited the office of a private firm in

Gurugram where Poonawala used to work. Following a search, the police were seen carrying a plastic bag containing items recovered from the bushes in the vicinity of the office. However, the officials did not reveal the contents of the bag.

Meanwhile, the Saket court has directed the police to complete the narco analytic test of Poonawala within five days, while making it clear that it cannot use any third degree measures on him.

Sources said that Poonawala has given his consent for the narco test by the Rohini Forensic Science Lab. Metropolitan Magistrate Vijayshree Rathore also explained the meaning of the narco analysis test and its con-

sequences for Poonawala.

"The accused is willing for recording his proceedings through his lawyer engaged on his behalf. On questioning the accused further submits that he does not want to engage any private counsel on his behalf," the judge noted in the order, a copy of which was accessed on Friday. Thereafter, the court asked Poonawala whether he was willing to undergo the narco analysis test, to which he answered, "I give my consent". "The consent of the accused is sought through video conferencing recorded and is signed by his counsel... Since the accused has consented for narco analysis test, the application moved on behalf of the Investigating Officer is allowed," the judge said.

# How can there be different laws for AAP and BJP, asks Jasmine

Office of ITDC Chairman Sambit Patra should also be sealed as he is BJP spokesperson: Sisodia

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

After the office of the Vice-Chairman of the Dialogue and Development Commission (DDC) Jasmine Shah was sealed, the AAP on Friday lashed out at the BJP saying that the office of ITDC Chairman Sambit Patra should also be sealed.

While Shah has termed Lieutenant-Governor (L-G) VK Saxena's order completely illegal and unconstitutional, Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia said that the office of ITDC Chairman Sambit Patra who is a spokesperson of the BJP, should also be sealed. Delhi Environment Minister Gopal Rai said that Jasmine Shah has formulated various progressive policies for Delhi and the



BJP sealed his office out of frustration.

"The position of Vice-Chairperson, DDC, holds the rank of a Minister in the Delhi Government. If the L-G can initiate proceedings against me, tomorrow he can move to dismiss any other Minister or the CM of Delhi for representing AAP at political forums? It is clear that the L-G's order is illegal and unconstitutional," Shah said in a statement.

Shah said, "The L-G has said I cannot act as a spokesperson for the AAP while being Vice-Chairperson of the DDC. I have one question for the L-G, Sambit Patra



is a national spokesperson of the BJP while also holding the office of Chairman of ITDC. If my office is being sealed, then why not his? How can two laws operate in the same country - one for AAP and one for BJP?"

"It is clear that the L-G's order has no basis in law. Last month, a PIL was filed in the Delhi High Court, which sought the dismissal of several politically active persons holding positions in Central or State Governments, including Sambit Patra and myself.

The Hon'ble judges asked a single question that neither the BJP nor the Central Government had any answers for - which law or constitu-

tional provision or rules are being violated if these public servants are politically affiliated? The L-G's order today makes no mention of which law or rules are being violated," he added.

Taking to Twitter, Sisodia commented, "Jasmine's office has been locked by the L-G alleging that he is an AAP spokesperson. Then the office of Sambit Patra, who is Chairman ITDC, should also be sealed since he is spokesperson of BJP."

Terming the allegations against Shah as "baseless", Rai said, "DDC has brought many schemes in force. Out of frustration, BJP has given orders to seal the office of Jasmine Shah by making baseless allegations that he is also the spokesperson of AAP." Comparing Shah to Patra, Rai said that Sambit Patra is the spokesperson of BJP despite holding the post of chairman of ITDC, and yet his office is not sealed. This clearly shows that the BJP is completely flustered and they have no clue what to do.

# 33 Shamnath Bungalow's jinx at work again?



SAURAV GUPTA ■ NEW DELHI

The 33 Shamnath Bungalow at the upscale Civil Lines area has yet again proved to be "jinxed", as the office of the Vice-Chairman of the DDC, Jasmine Shah was sealed on the orders of Lieutenant-Governor VK Saxena.

The bungalow was allotted to the DDC, the think-tank of the Delhi Government in 2015, the same year in which the Commission was constituted.

This bungalow has four bedrooms, a huge drawing-cum-dining room, seven quar-

ters for domestic helps, two garages, one storeroom and a spacious guard room. However, 33, Shamnath Marg is no ordinary address as it used to be the official residence of Delhi's Chief Ministers till a decade ago. Then superstition brought about its fall from grace.

In fact, former Delhi CM Sheila Dikshit was also offered the plush bungalow but she turned it down reportedly because of the "jinx", opting to live in a smaller bungalow on Motilal Nehru Marg, instead. Likewise, when Sahib Singh Verma was offered the bungal-

ow, he found its past to be dubious and decided against moving in.

This is because, at least four politicians have stayed at the bungalow so far, but none of them could complete their full term in office.

Delhi's first CM Chaudhary Brahm Prakash, had to quit office before completing his term after he moved into the bungalow in 1952. Madan Lal Khurana, who was allotted this bungalow when he became CM in 1993, had to resign in 1996 due the hawala scandal.

Before Khurana, Choudhury Mange Ram, an Executive Councillor, was allotted the house as his official accommodation, but had to quit before completing his term for "personal reasons". Its other occupant, Deep Chand Bandhu, who was a Minister in the Dikshit Government, died while in office. Bandhu was afflicted with illness and he was advised by his well-wishers not to stay in the bungalow, but he had refused to heed their advice.

The last occupant of the bungalow was 1979 batch IAS officer and Principal Secretary

(Power and Finance) Shakti Sinha.

He opted for voluntary retirement scheme as he felt slighted working under his batchmate, DM Spolia, who was then Chief Secretary, Delhi. Sinha had shifted to this bungalow in April 2013 and vacated it in February 2014.

In 2011, the Government had received a proposal to convert the bungalow into an IAS recreational centre and the PWD made a presentation to this effect but nothing came out of it.

Ultimately, in 2014, the Delhi Government decided to convert the bungalow into a State Guest House.

So, is 33, Shamnath Marg really jinxed? Numerologist Pandit Parmanand Pandey thinks so. "The numerals in '33', Shamnath Marg add up to the number 44 in reference to numerology, which portends loss of power and fame for its occupant.

It may be noted that the number '33' is not bad in itself but when coupled with 'Shamnath Marg', the numbers are just not right for an ambitious person seeking power and fame."

## PICTALK



Former cricketer Sachin Tendulkar and Bollywood actor Ayushmann Khurrana play football with budding athletes during the World Children's Day celebrations at Thyagaraj Sports Complex in New Delhi on Friday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

# SEC to train officers in use of EVMs, roles

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A total of 42 counting centres or strongrooms in consultation with respective District Election Officers/Returning Officers have been finalised by the State Election Commission (SEC) to impart training in the use of EVMs, and roles and responsibilities of various electoral functionaries such as Sector officers, polling officials, etc.

"The Commission has already deployed Master Trainers for this purpose. As per past practice, these counting centres are located in various Government educational institutions such as ITIs, schools, etc. The strongrooms shall be used for safe and secure storage of EVMs," a senior SEC official said.

"The Commission this time is stressing more on ensuring maximum use of postal ballots by service personnel who are deployed on

election-related duties. In this regard, the Commission has appointed a Nodal Officer to facilitate the processing of postal ballots," he said. "Since a significant fraction of election functionaries consist of police personnel, special care will be taken to ensure that all such police personnel who are on election duty are facilitated to enable them to cast their vote with ease and convenience.

Delhi Police after consultation with the Commission has appointed a DCP-level officer as Nodal Officer to coordinate and facilitate the casting of votes through postal ballots," he stated.

The Commission has also intensified its drive to ensure free and fair elections by strictly enforcing Model Code of Conduct. In this regard, a total of 1,18,123 posters, banners, hoardings, and small boards were removed from all over Delhi on November 18, taking cumulative figure to 9,54,580, a senior SEC official added.

# Will develop service app if we win MCD polls: BJP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEWDELHI

If it wins the MCD polls, Delhi BJP will develop an app for faceless delivery of municipal services to the people of the city, convener of the party's MCD election manifesto committee, Satish Upadhyay, said on Friday.

The party will make Municipal Corporation of Delhi 'paperless' and develop 'My MCD', a mobile app, by March 31 next year to render civic services to the public at their doorstep, he said in a press conference.

Upadhyay on Friday released another promissory note for slum dwellers of the national Capital ahead of the MCD polls. He said, "The BJP is collecting suggestions for the manifesto by reaching out to the people through various mediums.

"Apart from groups related to RWAs, business and industrial organisations, youth and women, we also have

direct dialogue with villagers, self-employed people, corporation workers etc."

So far, more than 61,000 people of the national Capital have sent their suggestions through the website and WhatsApp number issued by the Ministry. BJP's theme of 'Sabki Delhi, Sabke Suraj' is becoming very popular among the people, he said.

Earlier in a 'vachan patra,' Delhi BJP had promised to provide flats to slum dwellers in the city under 'Jahan Jhuggi Wahin Makan' policy, just as 3,024 flats were allotted to residents of Bhoomiheen Camp, he said.

The party is yet to announce its manifesto for the MCD polls to be held on December 4.

Upadhyay said that BJP is collecting suggestions for party manifesto interacting with different sections of society such as traders, resident welfare associations, industrial organisations, youths, women, and those living in its villages.

# BJP accuses AAP's MP chief of bribery

AAP leader says will file defamation suit for fabricating false videos before MCD polls

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEWDELHI

The BJP on Friday accused the AAP's Madhya Pradesh in-charge Mukesh Goel of demanding Rs 1 crore from a junior engineer of the MCD for giving gifts to party leaders. The BJP also released an alleged "sting" video of Goel and urged Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal to sack him from the party.

Reacting to the allegations, Goel said the video was a "concocted" one and that his party will take legal action against the same. Goel is fighting the civic body polls slated for December 4 from the Adarsh Nagar ward.

"Goel demanded Rs 1 crore from a MCD junior engineer, saying it was needed for giving Diwali gifts to 100-150 leaders," claimed BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra, while addressing the media.

Reacting to the allegations, Mukesh Goel lashed out at the BJP saying, "I will file a defamation case against BJP spokesperson Sambit Patra and his associates for circulating fake audios and doctored videos. I am ready to be probed by any investigative agency in the country."

Terming the move a political gimmick, Goel said that the BJP has controlled the MCD for the last 15 years and during this period it has been involved in multiple scams and instances of corruption. Now with the



MCD elections just a few days away, it is releasing such fabricated audio clippings to divert attention from its mismanagement of the MCD. Patra also said Goel was the "right hand" man of Kejriwal who never took any decision in the matters of the MCD without consulting him.

"It is clearly heard in the video that Goel is calling the engineer and talking about celebrating Diwali and distributing gifts. Not only this, assurance is also being given in the video to transfer the engineer to the area where maximum collection is made," BJP leader said.

Patra further asked Kejriwal when would Satyendar Jain, Mukesh Goel, Akhilesh Tripathi be sacked from the party?

"Afraid of losing the MCD election, the BJP has resorted to such cheap tactics of releasing fabricated audio clips and making false charges against AAP members.



Delhi Environment Minister and AAP leader Gopal Rai flags off 'garbage campaign' vehicles for the forthcoming Municipal Corporation of Delhi elections in New Delhi on Friday. Ranjan Dimri | Pioneer

# Rai trashes BJP's 3 MCD terms with 'garbage campaign' vans

New Delhi: AAP Delhi unit convener Gopal Rai and the party's MCD election in-charge Durgesh Pathak on Friday flagged off 'garbage campaign' vehicles to highlight the BJP's "garbage mismanagement" ahead of elections to the civic body.

Launching the campaign, Rai alleged that the BJP had "littered entire Delhi" in the last 15 years. The BJP has been in power in Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) — trifurcated in 2012 into north, south and east corpo-

rations and then unified this year — for three straight terms.

The campaign vehicles showcase artificial garbage mountains with a banner that reads "Vote for BJP if you want garbage. Vote for Kejriwal if you want cleanliness". "In the last 15 years, the BJP has littered the entire national Capital. Through this campaign vehicle, we will tell Delhiites that if they want garbage in city, they should vote for BJP; if they want cleanliness, they should vote for Kejriwal," Rai said. SR

# Delhi Cong launches 'Digital Vans' for campaign



Photo by Ranjan Dimri

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEWDELHI

Delhi Congress leader Anil Bhardwaj on Friday said that in the MCD election the party's main issue will be parking management in the national Capital. Meanwhile, Delhi Congress chief Anil Chaudhary on Friday flagged off 'Digital Vans' as part of the party's campaign for the forthcoming civic body elections in the national Capital. According to Bhardwaj, before every election, the AAP and

BJP makes tall claims of resolving the parking issue in the city but no one fulfills the promises made by them after the polls.

The party's theme for the elections is 'Dil Jeeta Hai, Dilli Jeetenge' (We've won hearts, we will win Delhi now.) The campaign was launched in the presence of Subhash Chopra, chairman of the party's campaign committee for the elections, former Delhi Minister Haroon Yusuf and Congress Working Committee member Devender Yadav.



# Terrorism serious threat to global peace, security: Shah

To achieve goal of 'No Money for Terror', the global community must understand 'Mode - Medium - Method' of terror financing and adopt principle of 'One Mind, One Approach': MHA

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said terrorism is undoubtedly the most serious threat to global peace and security, but terror financing is even more dangerous than terrorism itself.

To achieve the goal of "No Money for Terror", the global community must understand the "Mode — Medium — Method" of terror financing and adopt the principle of 'One Mind, One Approach' in cracking down on it, Shah asserted.

Underlining that in the last few years, India under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership has succeeded in cracking down on terror financing, the Home Minister said that the "means and methods" of terrorism are nurtured from such funding. The Dark Net is being used by terrorists to spread radical content and conceal their identities, Shah said.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Union Home Minister Amit Shah during the third 'No Money for Terror' Ministerial Conference on Counter-Terrorism Financing, in New Delhi on Friday. PTI Photo

of virtual assets like cryptocurrency. We need to understand the patterns of these Dark Net activities and find

their solutions," he said. "I believe that financing of terrorism is more dangerous than terrorism itself because the 'means and methods' of terrorism are nurtured from such funding. Financing of terrorism weakens the economy of countries," Shah told delegates at the conference hosted by the Union Home Ministry here.

Taking a swipe at Pakistan and China, Shah said there are countries that "seek to undermine, or even hinder, our collective resolve to fight terrorism." "We have seen that some countries protect and shelter terrorists.... We also have to expose the double-speak of such elements who sponsor and support them," Shah said.

Asserting that no one should ignore terrorist safe havens or their resources, Shah said it is important that this conference, the participating countries, and organisations do not take a selective or complacent perspective of the chal-

lenges of this region. Terrorists and terror groups now understand the nuances of modern weapons, information technology, and the dynamics of the cyber and financial space very well, he said.

Post the regime change in Afghanistan in August 2021, the situation in the South Asian region has changed and the growing influence of Al-Qaeda and ISIS has emerged as a significant challenge to regional security, he said.

"These new equations have made the problem of terror financing more serious. Three decades ago, the whole world had to bear the serious consequences of one such regime change, the result of which we all have seen in the horrific attack of 9/11," he said.

In this backdrop, last year's changes in the South Asian region are a matter of concern for everyone. Along with Al-Qaeda, organisations in South Asia such as Lashkar-e-Taiba

and Jaish-e-Mohammed continue to spread terror, he said.

"We also recognise that the threat of terrorism cannot and should not be linked to any religion, nationality, or group," he further said. "The international community has a collective approach that terrorism must be condemned in all its forms. But the forms and manifestations of terrorism are continuously evolving due to technological revolution," he said.

The emerging trends of the illegal trade of narcotics, and the challenge of narco-terror, have given a new dimension to terror financing, he said. "In view of this, there is a need for close cooperation among all nations. Multilateral institutions such as the United Nations and the presence of platforms such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) are most effective in terms of preventing terrorism in the field of combating the financing of terrorism," he added.

## Home Minister raises attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh

New Delhi: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday met his Bangladeshi counterpart Asaduzzaman Khan and raised the issue of attacks on minorities and temples in that country.

Shah also had productive exchanges with Khan on border management and common security-related issues. "Union Home Minister @AmitShah met H.E. Asaduzzaman Khan, the Home Minister of Bangladesh on the sidelines of the 'No Money for Terror' conference. Both sides had productive exchanges on border management and common security-related issues," Shah's office tweeted.

PNS

## IN SHORT

### SC SCOLDS LAWYER FOR APPEARING WITHOUT FILE



New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday chastised a lawyer for appearing before it without the case file. "A lawyer without a brief is like Sachin Tendulkar without his bat. This looks bad. You are in your gown and band but have no paper. You must always have your brief with you," the CJI said.

### INDIA, OMAN NAVAL EXERCISE FROM NOV 20

New Delhi: The 13th edition of bilateral naval exercise between the Indian and Omani navies, Naseem Al Bahr-2022, will commence off the coast of Oman on November 20. The exercise will be conducted in two phases: the Harbour Phase and the Sea Phase thereafter. Naseem Al Bahr was initiated in 1993. The last edition was conducted off Goa in 2019.

### SC SEEKS RESPONSE FROM MP GOVT

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday sought the response of the Madhya Pradesh government to a plea challenging the minimum 40 per cent marks allotted for the interview conducted as part of the selection process for appointment to the post of civil judge conducted by the Madhya Pradesh High Court.

### JUDGE RECUSES FROM ED CHIEF EXTENSION CASE

New Delhi: Supreme Court judge Justice S K Kaul on Friday recused himself from hearing the pleas challenging the amended law allowing extension of up to five years for the ED director, a day after Sanjay Kumar Mishra was given a fresh one-year extension as the chief of the anti-money laundering agency. Though the judge did not assign any reason for his decision announced in an open court, the SC had last year made it clear that Mishra will not be granted any further extension.

### SC TELLS LITIGANT TO ARGUE CASE IN ENGLISH

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday told a litigant, who appeared in person and started arguing his case in Hindi, that the language of this court is English. A Bench of Justices KM Joseph and Hrishikesh Roy provided petitioner Shankar Lal Sharma, who is an elderly man, with a legal-aid counsel after finding that he was not able to get what the court was saying.

### SC SEEKS RESPONSE OF CHHATTISGARH HC ON QUOTA

New Delhi: The Supreme Court on Friday sought response on an appeal challenging a Chhattisgarh High Court order which set aside the state government's 2012 decision to raise the quota to 58 per cent in government jobs and admissions in educational institutions.

## J&K is integral part of India, envoy slams Pak at UNGA

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI/UNITED NATIONS

Taking a dig at Pakistan for repeatedly raising the Jammu and Kashmir issue in the United Nations (UN), India has said it deserves "our collective contempt and perhaps some sympathy as well."

Making this assertion during a plenary meeting of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on Security Council reforms late Thursday, India also slammed Pakistan for its attempts to peddle falsehoods and its "bad habit" of abusing the sanctity of multilateral fora.

These remarks by Counsellor in India's Permanent Mission to the UN Pratik Mathur came in response to Pakistan yet again

raking up the issue of Jammu and Kashmir there.

He said, "I am taking the floor today to exercise India's Right of Reply to respond to Pakistan's continued abuse of this august Assembly" adding while the UNGA is meeting to discuss the "extremely important" topic of UN Security Council reforms, the representative of Pakistan has yet again made "unwarranted references" to Jammu and Kashmir.

"Jammu and Kashmir, let me repeat once again for his benefit, remains an integral and inalienable part of India, irrespective of what the representative of Pakistan believes or covets.

Pakistan's desperate attempts to peddle falsehoods and a bad habit of abusing the sanctity of multilateral forums

deserve our collective contempt and perhaps some sympathy as well," Mathur said.

Earlier in the day, India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj had addressed the plenary meeting, delivering a statement on behalf of the G4 nations of Brazil, Germany, India and Japan.

She had asserted that the longer the Security Council reform is "stalled, the greater its deficit in representation. And representation is — an inescapable precondition for its legitimacy and effectiveness."

The G4 nations said the Inter-Governmental Negotiations process simply cannot be allowed to cocoon itself in perpetuity without letting the collective aspirations of the member states take a definite shape. "We hope this

year's IGN process will not be another missed opportunity," Kamboj had said.

The United Kingdom backed the call for the creation of new permanent seats in the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for India, Germany, Japan and Brazil and also favoured the expansion of the council in both permanent and non-permanent categories.

Enunciating her country's stand on the issue while addressing the meeting on Security Council reform, United Kingdom ambassador to the UN Barbara Woodward said "Our position is well known.

The United Kingdom has long called for the expansion of the Security Council in both the permanent and non-permanent categories."

## EC removes babu as general observer from Guj elections



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Flaunting his posting in the Gujarat election on social media has proved costly for an IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre.

The Election Commission has removed Abhishek Singh as a 'general observer' for the Gujarat Assembly polls for indulging in a "publicity stunt" by posting pictures of his assignment on social media.

Singh was on November 7 appointed as general observer of Bapunagar and Asarwa constituencies in Ahmedabad district for the Gujarat polls.

He had on Thursday posted two photos on Instagram of himself in front of an official car with 'observer' written on it, with the caption 'Joined Ahmedabad as Observer for Gujarat Elections'. In the other photo, he is seen with his

bodyguard and a couple of others in front of the car. He had posted the same set of pictures on his Twitter handle too.

The Instagram post and tweet in question had received over 27,000 and 11,500 likes respectively as of Friday afternoon. Singh describes himself as a public servant, actor and social entrepreneur, apart from an IAS officer, in his social media bio and has over 3 million followers on Instagram and 31,000 on Twitter.

Another IAS officer Krishan Bajpai has been given the additional charge of the two assembly seats. In a strongly-worded letter to the Chief Electoral Officer of Gujarat on Friday, the EC said Abhishek Singh-I, a 2011-batch officer, used Instagram for sharing his posting as a general observer and used his official position as a "publicity stunt".

The poll panel also shared with the CEO pictures uploaded by the officer on the social media platform. Citing the EC communication, sources said the poll panel took "a very serious view" of the matter and relieved Singh immediately of his duties as a general observer.

Singh describes himself as a public servant, actor and a social entrepreneur on his Twitter handle. He has also been debarred from any election-related duty till further orders. The officer was also directed to immediately leave the constituency of which he was given the responsibility and report to his nodal officer in the parent cadre.

All government facilities provided to him to facilitate the discharge of his observer duties be withdrawn, the letter said, according to sources. As Observer of the Commission, you are entitled for TA/DA as admissible on tour.

## India, US review Def ties, regional security

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India and the US on Friday reviewed the entire gamut of their bilateral defence ties and security situation in the region during the talks here between Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar and visiting Secretary of Navy Carlos Del Toro.

Arriving here on Thursday on a five-day visit, he is also scheduled to visit Indian Navy's Southern Naval Command (SNC) at Kochi, wherein he will interact with the Commander-in-Chief SNC and visit India's first indigenous Aircraft Carrier, INS Vikrant at Cochin Shipyard, navy officials said here.

India and the US have traditionally maintained close and friendly relations. The defence relationship between the two countries has been one of mutual trust and confidence, which has transformed after the accord of major 'Defence Partner Status' to India in June 2016.

In addition, both countries have concluded certain foundational agreements, including the Defence Framework Agreement, signed in 2015, which lays a blue print for col-



laboration between the defence establishments of both countries, the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA) signed in 2016, which is a foundational agreement facilitating reciprocal logistics support between the Armed Forces of both countries, the Communications Compatibility and Security Agreement (COMCASA) signed in September 2018.

It facilitates information-sharing between the Armed Forces of both nations and more recently, the Basic Exchange Cooperation Agreement (BECA), which enables sharing of geo-spatial information between Ministry of Defence and National Geospatial Agency (NGA), USA.

The Indian Navy closely cooperates with the US Navy on numerous issues, which include operational interactions such as the MALABAR, last edition held from

November 9-15 off Yokosuka, Japan and RIMPAC 22 series of exercises, training exchanges, exchange of White Shipping Information and Subject Matter Experts in various fields. All these interactions are coordinated through the medium of Executive Steering Group (ESG) meetings conducted annually.

## Russia, India agree to deepen counter terrorism cooperation

New Delhi: India and Russia have held wide ranging discussions on issues on the UN Security Council agenda and agreed to deepen cooperation on counter terrorism at the UN as well as other multilateral platforms.

Secretary (West) in the Ministry of External Affairs Sanjay Verma led the Indian delegation for consultations on United Nations and multilateral issues with Russian Foreign Ministry officials on Thursday here. This was the third round of such consultations to be held between both sides this year.

## '13 Benches to hear 10 transfer petitions pertaining to matrimonial disputes to decrease case pendency'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Chief Justice DY Chandrachud on Friday said the Supreme Court, in its full court meeting, has decided that all 13 Benches will hear 10 transfer petitions pertaining to matrimonial disputes and an equal number of bail petitions daily in a bid to lessen the pendency of cases. He informed about decision at start of the Court proceedings.

"After a full court meeting, we have decided that each Bench will take up 10 transfer petitions, which are family matters, followed by 10 bail matters every day to dispose of all such matters before winter vacation," the CJI said, adding bail matters needed to be given primacy as they pertain to personal liberty.

The Chief Justice said as of now there were 13,000 petitions pending in top court pertaining to matrimonial cases where parties are seeking transfer of cases to a place of their liking.

He said if every bench takes up 10 transfer cases every day then 13 benches will be able to decide "130 cases per day and 650 per week.

## Modi's BA degree case: HC defers hearing till May 3

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court has deferred hearing till May 3 next year a petition by Delhi University challenging the Central Information Commission's order which directed the varsity to allow inspection of records of all students who had passed the BA exam in 1978, the year when Prime Minister Narendra Modi had also cleared it.

The High Court had stayed the Commission's order dated December 21, 2016 on January 23, 2017. Justice Yashwant Varma, in his order passed on November 15, noted that no one appeared for University and adjourned hearing in matter. "Consequently, let these

matters be called again on 03.05.2023," the court said. Besides the University's challenge to Central Information Commission (CIC) order, the court was also hearing other petitions which raised similar legal issues pertaining to disclosure of details of results of certain examinations.

The CIC order was passed on activist Neeraj's application under the Right to Information Act, seeking details related to students who appeared in the Bachelor of Arts in 1978 in DU.

In its challenge to the CIC order, DU has contended that the order of the RTI authority is "arbitrary" and "untenable in law" as the information sought to be disclosed is "third party personal information". The DU

said in its plea that "it was completely illegal for the CIC to direct the petitioner (DU) to disclose an information which is available to it in its fiduciary capacity, that too without rendering any finding pertaining to any pressing necessity or overwhelming public interest warranting disclosure of such information on account of overwhelming/larger public interest sought to be achieved through such disclosure."

DU has earlier told the court that the CIC order has "far-reaching adverse consequences for the petitioner and all universities in the country which hold degrees of crores of students in a fiduciary capacity". It has claimed the RTI Act has been reduced to a "joke" with queries seeking records of

all students who had passed the BA examination in 1978, including that of Prime Minister Modi. The CIC, in its order, had asked DU to allow inspection while rejecting contention of its Central Public Information Officer that it was third party personal information, saying there was "neither merit, nor legality" in it.

It had directed the university "to facilitate inspection of relevant register where complete information about result of all students who passed in Bachelor of Arts in year 1978 along with roll number, names of the students, fathers' name and marks obtained as available with University and provide certified copy of extract of relevant pages from the register, free of cost."

## Maritime search and rescue board meeting held in Gujarat's Kevadia

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Honing maritime search and rescue efforts figured prominently on Friday during the annual meeting of the 20th National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) board meeting at Kevadia, Gujarat.

The apex level meeting was chaired by Coast Guard Director General V S Pathania who is also the Chairman of NMSAR Board. The Chairman, in his inaugural address, highlighted various initiatives undertaken by Coast Guard in coordination with other stakeholders and resource agencies for strength-

ening the M-SAR services under the aegis of the Board, officials said here. He launched the National Maritime Search and Rescue Plan-2022. It serves as a policy document for all participating agencies and stakeholders for directing an integrated and coordinated approach towards the functioning of the M-SAR system.

Apart from deliberations on various maritime safety issues and identifying areas of improvement of SAR services through policy framework and awareness programmes, technical presentations were also delivered by subject experts from Coast Guard, Indian Space Research Organisation

(ISRO), Maharashtra State Fisheries and Karnataka State Fisheries followed by brainstorming sessions and discussions on Agenda Points from the stakeholders.

The NMSAR Board, comprising 31 members from various central ministries and agencies, members of Armed Forces, all Coastal States and Union Territories, meets annually to discuss policy issues, formulate guidelines and procedures, assess efficacy of National Maritime Search and Rescue Plan and services for mariners and fishermen in vast 4.6 million sq km of Indian Search and Rescue Region (ISRR).



# Vikram marks entry of pvt sector in Indian space race

PTI ■ SRIHARIKOTA

India on Friday successfully launched its first privately made rocket, developed by a four-year-old startup, marking the entry of the private sector into the country's space activities which is currently dominated by the state-run behemoth ISRO.

The rocket, Vikram-S launched three payloads in about 500 km low inclination orbit. It later safely splashed into the sea, as part of the mission.

Skyroot Aerospace designed Vikram-S, named in a befitting tribute to the father of the country's space programme Vikram Sarabhai, tasted success in its maiden mission. In the process, the firm became the first privately held company in India

after the space sector was opened for the private players by the Centre in 2020.

"I am happy to announce the successful completion of Mission Prarambh, The Beginning, by Skyroot aerospace," a smiling Pawan Goenka, Chairman of the country's space regulator, Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (INSPACe), said from ISRO's Mission Control Center here.

The rocket achieved an altitude of 89.5 km and a range of 121.2 km, "exactly what was planned by Skyroot Aerospace," he said.

It "worked as planned" and Skyroot Aerospace has demonstrated various capability of sub-systems that will go into the orbital launch vehicle, he added.

The vehicle integrated into the launcher soared after lifting off at the prefixed 11.30 am from the sounding rocket complex at the Indian Space Research Organisation's Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), here, about 115 km from Chennai.

The Mission unveiled by ISRO Chairman S Somanath had three payloads with two belonging to domestic customers and one from a foreign client.

The 6-metre tall rocket is one of the world's first few all-composite ones that has 3-D printed solid thrusters for spin stability of the launch vehicle.

"This is a new beginning for the Indian private sector entering aerospace and a historic moment for all of us," Goenka said.

The three payloads that rode piggyback on the rocket are from Chennai-based start-up SpaceKidz, Andhra Pradesh-based N-SpaceTech and Armenian BazoomQ Space Research Lab.

Pawan Chandana, Skyroot Aerospace co-founder said all the required mission objectives were completed.

"This Prarambh mission as the name signifies is the beginning of a new era in the Indian space ecosystem. Team Skyroot dedicates this successful mission to Dr Vikram Sarabhai, who boldly started the Indian space programme in the 1960s, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for unlocking the space sector to private players," Chandana, also the Mission Director for Friday's launch, said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailed the launch as "historic" and said the accomplishment bears testimony to the immense talent of India's youth who took full advantage of the landmark space sector reforms of June 2020.

"A historic moment for India as the rocket Vikram-S, developed by Skyroot Aerospace, took off from Sriharikota today! It is an important milestone in the journey of India's private space industry. Congrats to @isro & @INSPACeIND for enabling this feat," Modi tweeted.

Union Minister Jitendra Singh, who witnessed the launch today accompanied by ISRO Chief Somanath here, congratulated the nation and said it is indeed a new beginning and a new dawn.



## Farooq ready to hand over baton to son

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Ahead of the maiden Assembly polls in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, octogenarian Dr Farooq Abdullah, currently serving as President of the National Conference has 'suddenly' decided to step down purportedly to bolster his party's poll campaign in a bid to regain lost power.

In all likelihood sitting Vice President of the party and former Chief Minister Omar Abdullah is expected to take over the baton from his father. The young turks of the party were rallying behind Omar Abdullah to lead the party's poll campaign while Omar himself has announced that he will not contest the Assembly elections until and unless Jammu and Kashmir's statehood is restored.

Dr Abdullah had earlier made way for his son in 2002.

He once again became President of the party in January 2009 after Omar became Chief Minister. Dr Abdullah later stepped down in May 2012 while bringing back Omar as Working President of the party. He was reelected party president in October 2017 and was serving the party.

Following the surprise announcement the party General Secretary Ali Mohd Sagar has already set in motion the process of electing a new President of the party by December 5.

According to Tanvir Sadiq, Chief Spokesperson of JKNC, "Dr Farooq Abdullah Sahib has informed his colleagues of his decision to step down as president of JKNC".

"In spite of the best efforts of senior colleagues in the party Dr Sahib was adamant that he wouldn't review his decision", Sadiq added. Referring to the election



process Sadiq said, "In light of this sudden announcement which has caught everyone by surprise, the General Secretary as per the party constitution, has been tasked with conducting the election for party president which will be completed on Dec 5. Until then Dr Sahib continues as President of JKNC", he added.

Compared to other regional political parties the party's poll machinery was gradually gearing up for the Assembly

polls.

Recently the party had also announced a list of party candidates in charge of Assembly constituencies to launch a massive outreach programme of the party in a bid to shore up its image among the electorate. JKNC had won 15 Assembly seats in 2014 Assembly polls, 28 in 2008 and equal number in 2002 Assembly polls. The party also formed an alliance government with the Congress party in 2009.

## Tushar Gandhi, Kargil hero join Rahul in yatra's Maha leg; Cong calls it 'historic'

PTI ■ SHEGAON

Mahatma Gandhi's great grandson, Tushar Gandhi, joined Rahul Gandhi in the Bharat Jodo Yatra at Shegaon in Buldhana district of Maharashtra on Friday morning, with the Congress hailing his participation as "historic". Kargil war hero Nayak Deepchand and Bollywood actor Mona Ambegaonkar too joined Rahul in Buldhana district on Friday.

Deepchand, a native of Hissar in Haryana, lost a hand and both legs at Tololing during the 1999 Kargil War. Deepchand is active in the Adarsh Sainik Foundation and works for the welfare of servicemen who were rendered disabled in the line of duty. Actor Mona Ambegaonkar too

joined the foot-march during the day, the party informed.

The yatra, which has been passing through Maharashtra since November 7, resumed the day's journey from Balapur in Akola district around 6 am and reached Shegaon a few hours later, where Tushar Gandhi, an author and activist, joined it.

In a tweet on Thursday, Tushar Gandhi had said that Shegaon was his birthplace.

"I will join the Bharat Jodo Yatra at Shegaon on 18th. Shegaon is my Birth Station as well. The train my mother was travelling in, 1 Dn. Howrah Mail Via Nagpur had halted at Shegaon Station on 17th January 1960 when I was born!" he had said in the post.

The Congress described Tushar Gandhi's participation in the yatra as historic.



The party described Rahul Gandhi and Tushar Gandhi, the great grandsons of Jawaharlal Nehru and Mahatma Gandhi, respectively, as carriers of the legacy of

the two late leaders. "The two walking together is a message to the rulers that they can put democracy in threat but will not be allowed to finish it off," the party said.

## HC grants bail to Elgar case accused Anand Teltumbde

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Friday granted bail to scholar-activist Anand Teltumbde, arrested in the Elgar Parishad-Maoist links case, noting that prima facie the only case made out against him relates to alleged association with a terror outfit and support given to it, for which the maximum punishment is 10 years in jail.

A division bench of Justices A S Gadhkari and M N Jadhav said Teltumbde has already spent more than two years in jail.

The high court, however, stayed its order for a week so that the National Investigation Agency (NIA), the prosecuting



agency in the case, can approach the Supreme Court. This means that Teltumbde will not be able to walk out of jail till then.

Teltumbde, 73, has been lodged at the Talaja prison in Navi Mumbai since his arrest in the case in April 2020.

The high court granted bail to him on a surety of Rs one lakh. His counsel Mihir Desai sought the court to permit cash bail, which the court allowed.

## Rahul walking with 'tukde-tukde' gang in Yatra: Thakur

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ AHMEDABAD

Union Minister Anurag Thakur on Friday accused Congress leader Rahul Gandhi of walking with 'tukde tukde' and anti-national gangs in Bharat Jodo Yatra.

"Rahul Gandhi is doing Bharat Jodo Yatra with 'tukde tukde and anti-national gangs'. He spoke about Hindu terror, stood with people who tried to divide India in JNU and now he's raising questions on Veer Savarkar. It's Congress' mentality, they don't see anything beyond one family," said Thakur.

Thakur was addressing a public meeting in Mangrol ahead of the Gujarat Assembly polls.

Speaking on the Gujarat



model of development, the Union Minister said that BJP works on the basis of good governance, development and honesty.

"Gujarat model is the number 1 model and development model. Congress did politics only on the basis of divide and rule. They've asked for votes on the basis of caste, community and religion. BJP works on the basis of good govern-

ance, development and honesty", said Thakur.

He said Prime Minister Narendra Modi made Gujarat riot-free and India will progress with Gujarat's progress.

"If Gujarat is riot-free today then it's because of BJP and PM Modi. The more Gujarat progresses, the more India will progress. If Gujarat wins, then India will progress," said Thakur.

## Want resolution of conflict between Raj Bhavan, WB Govt through right solutions: Guv Bose

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Newly appointed West Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose feels that the role of the governor is to act as the "rainbow bridge" between the state and the Centre for "resolution of all conflicts" between the Raj Bhavan and the TMC government through "right solutions".

Bose, who was appointed as the Bengal governor on Thursday, said the differences between the Raj Bhavan and the state government should not be seen as a conflict but as a "difference of opinion" as both are complementary institutions.

"I prefer a resolution of conflicts as for any problem there is a solution and we should arrive at the right solution. We should be able to keep all actors in the game together. Therefore I would say what the Constitution expects - that the governor has to know the way, show the way and go the way," he told PTI in a telephonic interview.

Bose's predecessor and the current Vice President, Jagdeep Dhankhar has been at loggerheads with the Mamata Banerjee government on various issues, including the law and order situation in the state since he had assumed office in July 2019.

Asked for his comment on resolving the differences between the Raj Bhavan and the TMC government in West Bengal, Bose said the governor has to act as a "rainbow bridge between the state and the Centre".

Bose exuded confidence that he would get the state government's support and aim for it to act as the bridge.

"Both (Raj Bhavan and the state govern-



ment) are complementary institutions. The founding fathers of the Constitution certainly did not want to create a sinecure. Certainly there was a purpose. The purpose of a governor has been clearly defined in the Constitution. The governor is to act as a rainbow bridge between the state and the Centre," he iterated.

"The governor's role is to ensure that the government functions within the framework of the Constitution and all facilities should be provided to a democratically elected government to bring succour to the people. I don't see any conflict as far as the concept is concerned," Bose, a retired IAS officer, said.

Speaking on the issue of growing conflict between the governor and state governments led by non-BJP parties in the country, he said these are "differences of opinions" and should not be seen as conflicts.

"I do not see it as conflict but as the difference of opinion. A different point of view and difference of opinion is basic to democracy. Difference of opinion does not mean weakness of democracy but the strength of democracy".

He continued, "In a pluralistic society like ours, there should be free flow of expressions on whatever opinion people have on issues. Democracy is so powerful in India; there is no situation that democracy cannot take care of. The Constitution is there; it provides all answers to the perceived conflicts".

On allegations by the opposition parties that under the BJP regime at the Centre, the Raj Bhavan has turned into an 'extended party office of the saffron camp', the new governor said, "An allegation is an allegation, I go by facts".

## UP bypolls to see direct contest between BJP, SP-RLD alliance

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

With the marginalisation of the Bahujan Samaj Party and decimation of the Congress in Uttar Pradesh, the state politics is now bipolar with the BJP being in power and Samajwadi Party the main opposition.

The bipolar character of Uttar Pradesh politics is reflected in the bypolls to Rampur and Khatauli assembly seats and Mainpuri Lok Sabha constituency.

The three constituencies will witness a direct contest between the BJP and the SP-RLD alliance now that the November 17 deadline to file nominations has passed and the BSP and Congress have decided against fielding candidates. In the UP assembly elections in March earlier this year, the BSP had won only one seat while the Congress had managed to win two seats.

The Congress has been out of power in UP since 1989 and lost nine consecutive elections to UP assembly.

The bypoll in Mainpuri was necessitated following the death of SP founder Mulayam Singh Yadav while the Rampur Sadar and Khatauli




Assembly seats fell vacant after the disqualification of sitting MLAs Azam Khan and Vikram Singh Saini following their conviction in separate cases.

While 13 candidates have filed nominations in Mainpuri, the BJP and SP are locked in a direct fight. The contest is mainly between SP's Dimple Yadav and BJP's Raghuraj Singh Shukya. The other candidates who have filed their nominations include Ramakanta Kashyap of Om Prakash Rajbhar's Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party and independents.

In Khatauli, the contest is between BJP candidate Rajkumari and Madan Baiya of SP-ally RLD. Fourteen candidates have filed nominations from the Muzaffarnagar constituency.

Only three candidates have filed nominations from Rampur Sadar — SP's Asim Raja, BJP's Akash Saxena and independent candidate Rajender Singh.



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21 beautiful years.  
We've been blessed to have your Laughter  
And your wonderful, loving presence  
Every precious moment  
You are Always in our hearts  
Gun Nidhi & Manju Kapur Dalmia  
Agastya, Katyayani & Maya  
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19.5.1980 - 19.11.2001

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**ICICI Bank** | Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, 3rd Floor, Plot No-23, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, Delhi-110005

The following borrower/s have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loans facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loans have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). A notice was issued to them under Section 13 (2) of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 on their last known addresses, however it was not served and hence they are hereby notified by way of this public notice.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Property Address of Secured Asset / Asset to be Enforced	Date of Notice Sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	The Kore Projects & Logistics Pvt Ltd, Sanjeev Kumar Singh, Arvind Mishra, Pratibha Singh, Sandhya Mishra, E-55 2nd Floor Suncity Sector 54 Gurgaon Haryana. A/c No:-039905005489 & 039955000009	Flat No.7252 First Floor Sector B, Pocket 10 Vasant Kunj New Delhi 110070	02-Sep-2022, Rs. 1,35,91,651.81/- & Rs. 31,34,607.67/-	28/01/2022
2.	Kiran International, Anita Chauhan, Raj Kumar Chauhan, 832, Pocket 1, Radhika Apartment Sector-14, Dwarka Delhi. A/c No:-025005500902	Oda Lig Flat-832, Third Floor Phase-II, Grp-3, Pocket-1, Radhika Apartment Sector-14, Dwarka Delhi	18-Oct-2022, Rs. 18,57,034/-	27/07/2022

The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above borrower/s and/or their guarantors (as applicable) are advised to make the payments of outstanding within period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice else further steps will be taken as per the provisions of Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date : November 19, 2022  
Place : Delhi/ NCR

Authorized Officer  
ICICI Bank Limited

**SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE**

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Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Vinay Arora/ Anuradha Arora/ LBDEL00001822560 / LBDEL00002431494	Apartment- 151, 1st Floor, Gaur Homes Elegente, Block-E, Govind Puram, Ghaziabad 201001/ November 15, 2022	June 24, 2022/ Rs. 8,59,559/-	Delhi/ NCR
2.	Kapil Bhatia/ Namita Bhatia/ LBDEL00001452034	Mig Flat- G-3, Ground Floor, Plot No- 139 Radhey Shyam Park, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh/ November 15, 2022	March 25, 2021/ Rs. 14,86,818/-	Delhi/ NCR
3.	Manju/ Rajeev Kumar/ LBDEL000005141373	Flat No-D-302, 3rd Floor, Anand Dham Opposite Tulsi Niketan Pergana Loni, Kh No-454/1 444/2m VII Brahmampur Alias Bhopura Ghaziabad/ November 15, 2022	June 24, 2022/ Rs. 10,71,135/-	Delhi/ NCR
4.	Ruchi Goyal/ Brij Bhushan Goyal/ LBFDB00005293742/ LBFDB00004923389	Flat No- C-1106, Floor-11, Mulberry County, Tower D, Sector-70, Faridabad/ November 16, 2022	June 25, 2021/ Rs. 27,86,269/-	Delhi/ NCR
5.	Bishwjeet Biswas/ Jyoti Biswas/ LBFDB00005141300	Flat No-D-103, Floor-1 Mulberry County, Tower D, Sector-70, Faridabad/ November 16, 2022	August 30, 2021/ Rs. 27,86,269/-	Delhi/ NCR
6.	Kamlesh Kumar/ Archana Singh/ LBFDB00004904282	Flat No- F-1201, Floor-12, Tower- Terra Lavinium, Sector-75 Faridabad/ November 16, 2022	May 07, 2022/ Rs. 14,99,114/-	Delhi/ NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s) guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : November 19, 2022  
Place : Delhi/NCR

Authorized Officer  
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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Rahul's fetish

He seems to be obsessed with Savarkar, and this is straining his party's ties with allies in Maharashtra

Rahul Gandhi's unrelenting criticism of saffron icon VD Savarkar is increasingly becoming doctrinaire; it is certainly not political or politic. This may be because some of his advisers are Leftwing zealots who are more interested in ideological purity than political gains. Gandhi surely is unmindful of the political costs his party may have to pay for his fetishistic animus towards Savarkar. Shiv Sena (Uddhav) leader Sanjay Raut has already cautioned Gandhi about this, pointing out the Congress leader's Bharat Jodo Yatra is on the issues like inflation and unemployment. In such a situation, Raut said, there was no reason to bring up the topic of Savarkar. Not only Shiv Sena but even Congress leaders in Maharashtra have been shocked by Gandhi's statement on Savarkar, Raut said, adding that Savarkar is widely respected in the state. The Shiv Sena leader has a point: why rake up something that annoys your partners and displeases people? In his hard stance against Hindutva, Gandhi may be trying to prove an ideological point, but he must never lose sight of the political costs the stance may incur. As it is, the grand old party has lost a lot of political capital in the country; in fact, the Bharatiya Janata Party's rise is coterminous with and related to the decline of the GOP. The correlation is not without causality: the BJP has gained primarily at the expense of the Congress.

Rahul and his coterie fail to realise that the secular-communal dialectic, which set the political narrative for decades in the country, has faded into oblivion; there is no point resurrecting it. In fact, given a chance, the BJP would not be loath to such resurrection, for it would mean delving into abstractions—'real meaning of secularism,' history, culture, cultural nationalism, et al. In short, all the subjects that divert the mind from the real issues of inflation, joblessness, and Morbi. Besides, Rahul's salvos on Savarkar also appear to be off the mark, for he is trying to attack Hindutva; and Hindutva, as we witness it unfold, is much different from what Savarkar had in mind. Savarkar was an atheist who ridiculed the concept of cow protection. While it is true that Savarkar coined the term 'Hindutva,' what we find in practice is the one forged in the crucible of RSS. It was Madhav Sadashiv Golwalkar, the second RSS chief, who defined and shaped Hindutva. From 1940, when he became the RSS boss, till his death in 1973, he provided the ideological nous and organisational moorings to the Hindutva movement. This is the reason that in the entire Sangh Parivar, he is known as 'Guruji.' In other words, Rahul's aggression against Savarkar is fundamentally flawed. And of course, as we mentioned earlier, it is fraught with political risks. It is admirable on the part of Rahul that he doesn't view politics only from the perspective of winning elections; but excessive focus on moral and doctrinal matters can badly hurt political prospects.

### PICTALK



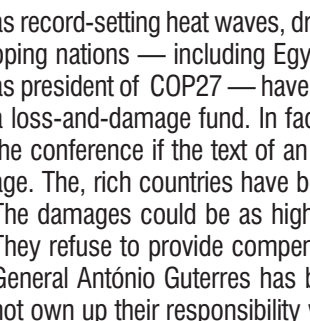
Artists perform during inauguration of the 21st World Congress of Accountants in Mumbai

## Polluters must pay

Developing countries and the West led by the US are at odds over climate change compensation in COP27

The United Nations Climate Change Conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt, has turned into a battleground of a sort with two sides clearly demarcated by their interests. On one side are developed countries led by the United States of America and on the other are developing nations. The fight of course is over the issue of who pays to clear the mess the planet is in. The pollution has led to climate change and rise in temperature of the planet. A small change in temperature has brought big and fundamental change in the economies of the developing countries. They are facing vagaries of weather which is resulting in catastrophes on a global scale. And it is no secret that the developed countries are to blame when it comes to polluting the planet earth. Of course new entrants to the polluters club are India and China, both from the developing countries. Now the premise of developing countries is simple. The climate has changed due to the pollution that comes from the developed countries and they happen to be the worst victims. They have neither money nor technology to fight the menace. So they should pay the money to the developing countries.

Indeed developing countries disproportionately suffer the worst climate-change-related natural disasters, in part due to geographic location and vulnerable infrastructure. These countries have for years been calling for compensation for the effects of climate change, known as "loss and damage," in climate diplomacy speak. As the impact of climate change becomes more severe, those demands have intensified. After a year of dramatic disasters linked to climate change, such as record-setting heat waves, droughts and tropical hurricanes, representatives of developing nations — including Egyptian Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry, who is serving as president of COP27 — have said a successful outcome this time will have to include a loss-and-damage fund. In fact, small island nations have threatened to walk out on the conference if the text of an agreement does not include a fund for loss and damage. The rich countries have been shying away from owning the responsibility so far. The damages could be as high as \$400 billion per year by the end of this decade. They refuse to provide compensation for loss and damage. Even the U.N. Secretary-General António Guterres has backed the developing nations. If the rich countries do not own up their responsibility we are heading for more trouble in times to come.



# United action can defeat terrorism

To defeat terrorism a comprehensive approach involving all concerned nations is required with active involvement of the United Nations.



JL KOUL JALALI

Way back in 1986 India had proposed a draft document at the UN on comprehensive convention on international terrorism, but it was not implemented because of lack of unity among member states even on definition of terrorism. Having been hit hard the most, particularly by cross border terrorism, India made persistent efforts in the United Nations and outside of it during the past over half a decade to ensure united action against the scourge. The efforts have started to bear fruit. United Nations Security Council's counter terrorism committee in its special meeting held at Mumbai on 28th at Taj Mahal Palace Hotel and at Delhi next day on 29th of October unanimously urged all member states of UN to ensure zero tolerance against terrorist activities and vowed to deal with menace more vigorously. India hosted the meeting in its capacity as the Chairman of the Committee. Representatives of all fifteen member countries of the Security Council attended the special meeting. The special meeting concluded with adopting Delhi Declaration to defeat menace of terrorism.

In his message to the meeting, UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres called for global efforts to deal with challenge of use of new technologies by various terror groups. Terrorists and others posting hateful ideologies are abusing new and emerging technologies to spread disinformation, foment discord, recruit and radicalise people, mobilise resources and execute attacks, he said. The Delhi Declaration expressed concern over increasing use of internet and other information and communication technologies including social media platforms for terrorist purposes and said innovations in financial technologies and crowd funding platforms present a risk of misuse for terror financing and noted with concern increasing global misuse of unmanned aerial systems by terrorists to conduct attacks on critical infrastructure.

The counter terrorism committee stressed the need to effectively counter efforts by the Islamic State and Al Qaeda and other affiliates to incite and recruit for terrorist acts and condemned the continued flow of weapons, military equipment, and unmanned aerial systems and improvised explosive devices for terrorist acts. The Delhi Declaration opposed association of terrorism with any religion, nationality, civilisation, or ethnic group and called on member states to continue their efforts towards comprehensive convention on international terrorism. Terrorism poses serious threat not only to international peace and security but also to human rights and to social and economic development. In his speech at the special session of the meeting on countering the use of New and Emerging Technologies for terrorist purposes, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar pointed out that the key conspirators and planners of 26/11 Mumbai terror attack continue to remain protected and unpunished. He said that when it comes to proscribing some terrorists, the United Nations Security Council has been regrettably unable to act in some cases because of political considerations. This was obviously a reference to China which has blocked UNSC sanctioning Pakistan based



ALL ACTS OF TERRORISM ARE CRIMINAL AND UNJUSTIFIABLE WHATEVER THEIR MOTIVATION BE. TERRORISTS REQUIRE MONEY TO OPERATE. WITHOUT FUNDING THEY CANNOT PURCHASE WEAPONS, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

terrorists a number of times. We must rise above our political differences to address this scourge. All acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable whatever their motivation be. Terrorists require money to operate. Without funding they cannot purchase weapons, equipment and supplies and services. An important aspect of combating terrorism is that terror financing should be effectively curbed. The counter terrorism sanctions regime of the United Nations has been effective as it has put on notice countries that turned terrorism into a state funded enterprise.

In his inaugural address to the special meeting, the External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said international co-operation and concerted action against terrorists and their sponsors including through dismantlement of terrorist safe havens, sanctuaries, training grounds and financial and ideological as well as political support structures are critical imperatives to defeat this scourge.

To achieve these goals fully, it is essential to reform the United Nations Security Council and as a first step it needs to be made fully representative of the whole world. At present it lacks full representation glaringly with no representation for the

whole continent of Africa and with no permanent representation for India with 1.5 billion population. Even with the unrestricted world body as it stands at present as a beginning such a reform of the Security Council may have some positive impact to curb the tendency to hold the world hostage through use of or threat of use of veto power.

In the absence of broader reforms, it may introduce some qualms in turning countries like Pakistan, the epicenter of terrorism into an ally or deriving political advantage through encouragement of fundamentalist and radical forces. This further strengthens the case for urgent reforms and restructuring the world body to sensitise it about requirements of the present day world beset with problems like epidemics, climate change, piles of nuclear, biological and other weapons of mass destruction, terrorism and other matters and issues threatening even survival of mankind. It also lays bare the need for a World Parliament which alone can tackle the dangers facing mankind in a more effective manner.

(The writer is a former IIS officer/accredited freelance journalist/producer. The views expressed are personal)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### GOVT FILES REVIEW PETITION

Sir — The Central government rightly on Thursday, November 17 filed a review petition in the Supreme Court against its November 11 order allowing the release of six convicts including Nalini Sriharan in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. The move comes amid severe criticism from the Congress Party. The Centre said the order granting remission to the convicts, who had assassinated the former prime minister, was passed without affording it an adequate opportunity for hearing despite it being a necessary party to the case. The government highlighted the alleged procedural lapse, saying the convicts seeking remission did not formally imp-lead the Centre as a party which resulted in its non-participation in the case.

On November 11, the Supreme Court set free Nalini Sriharan and five other remaining convicts who are serving a life term for about three decades in the Rajiv Gandhi assassination case. The former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi was assassinated by a woman suicide bomber named Dhanu at a poll rally in Sriperumbudur in Tamil Nadu on the night of May 21, 1991. The Congress termed as "totally unacceptable and completely erroneous" the apex court order and said it has shocked the nation's conscience.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

### DEMO RULES

Sir — Democrats kept control of the U.S. Senate, repelling Republican efforts to retake the chamber and making it harder for them to thwart President Joe Biden's agenda. The fate of the House of Representatives was still uncertain as Republicans struggled to pull together a slim majority there. Senator Catherine Cortez Masto's victory in Nevada gave Democrats the 50 seats they needed to keep the Senate.

Her win reflects the surprising strength of Democrats across the U.S. Seeking re-election in an economically challenged State that has some of the

## Give Martyr status to Bhagat Singh



There were times when the people of the country wanted freedom from the clutches of Britishers and they were treated ruthlessly by the rulers. Punjabis were among the front runners who participated in the freedom movement bravely and made most of the sacrifices and con-

tributions for independence. Bhagat Singh is one of them and giving due respect to the martyrs, who sacrificed themselves for the freedom of India. The Chief Minister, Punjab, Bhagwant Singh Mann had asked people to install the photo of Bhagat Singh along with B.R.Ambedkar, which was instantly followed by one and all. The recent remarks of Simranjit Singh Mann, MP were also condemned over his remarks on Bhagat Singh, calling him as a terrorist.

Frankly speaking, it is very unfortunate that the Punjab government has not thought of first passing a resolution of giving the status of Martyr - Shaheed - for which every one has been asking. Now, it is the right time to prefix Shaheed with Bhagat Singh which will be a great tribute to him and will also redress the grievances of followers and lovers of Bhagat Singh

Harish Monga Dido | Ferozepur

### POPULATION EXPLOSION

Sir —Apropos, '8 Bn and Counting' (Nov 17). It's not a normal day when your birth becomes a milestone in human development. The birth of a baby born in the Dominican Republic contributed in humanity's shared responsibility to the planet. Every 4th or 5th person in the world is either identified as an Indian or a Chinese.

As the Global population reaches 8 billion, it is possible to achieve equal opportunities and resources for all? Millions of people are living in poverty, and still do not have access to proper health facilities, sanitation facilities, education, and social protection. It would contribute to an increase in overall escalating consumption and exploitation of resources. It has magnified the environ-

mental impacts of economic development. Even COVID-19 mortality had a very small effect on the size of the global population. There are many suggestions by the experts to curb the negative effects of rising population. Some are outright bizarre while others have some merit in them. They range from taxing the childless, to stop the over exploitation of resources by the affluent. The population should not be seen as a menace but as a great resource. The problem lies not in the population but in its management. For instance they say more people means more wastage and more litter. But there are countries which have successfully dealt with it, for instance in Singapore there is no wastage. It is a zero litter country, it does so by making good use of technology whereas in Delhi we have garbage mountains. People are asset and they should be treated with respect and not as unwanted creatures. 8 bn pair of hands can achieve anything.

Tashi Baheti | Ujjain

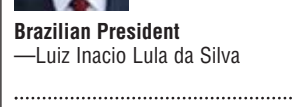
## SOUND BITE

The Congress has always denied the contribution of Sardar Saheb and is now taking the name of Sardar Patel out of compulsion of elections.



Union Home Minister —Amit Shah

The world is missing Brazil...Brazil is back...to defeat deforestation and global warming.



Brazilian President —Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva

Now everyone goes back to their phone to use social media. Pehle rishte bante the ab sirf filmein banti hai (Earlier, we would make relationships now only films are made).



Actor —Anupam Kher

Umran has been a very exciting talent and this kind of exposure is definitely going to help him, it is about how he takes things forward if he wants to grab the spot consistently.

Former cricketer —Zaheer Khan

Rajasthan government would hold job fairs for the youth in every district.



Rajasthan Chief Minister —Ashok Gehlot

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com





## FIRST COLUMN

## STUDYING ABROAD IS TEDIOUS BUT FRUITFUL

Considering the current global scenario, delays seem inevitable



VIBHA KAGZI

Planning your educational journey abroad can be tedious but extremely rewarding. There are a million factors to consider before you start your application process and a million more until it is complete. From selecting the correct course and university to mapping out the application process, everything needs to follow a strict timeline for a successful admit, this includes the visa application process as well, which is arguably one of the most crucial aspects of the college admission process.

Delay in visa acceptance is not a new phenomenon. However, it has been especially tough in the past couple of years. Considering the fact that the world came to a standstill due to the Covid-19 pandemic, it is no surprise that the visa acceptance experienced a steep fall as well.

Recently, although most travel restrictions have been lifted and many countries are beginning to issue new visas to hopeful students and working professionals, many are experiencing major delays in receiving answers to their applications. Typically, students receive a response on their visa applications within three to four weeks. However, some recent applicants have had to wait six long months to receive a response, and the response they receive is not a favourable one. Countries such as Germany, Canada, the UK and the US, which are the major educational destinations for students, are reporting severe delay in issuing visas.



Several reports state that approximately 45,000 students moved to Canada in 2021, and up to half of them were from India. However, this rate has steeply declined in 2022. The scenario with the US visa applications is no different. In 2020, approximately 1.1 million international students were enrolled in institutes across the US, almost 20,000 less than 2019. This number has since seemingly decreased.

A number of students had to start their courses online, which is taking a toll on their mental health. There have been reports where students are forced to push their admission to the next term or forfeit it completely due to their visa not arriving on time.

Many of these students come from average Indian families and it is no surprise that pursuing education abroad puts a lot at stake for them. Students have to pay their tuition fees well in advance before they move abroad, which is a huge financial investment. In such cases, delays in visa arrivals put a huge burden on the entire family. Moreover, students tend to take gap years before they start their college application process, a delay in visa threatens the loss of another year or term before they can start their education again.

But hope is not lost! Many international universities are allowing students to allow five to six weeks for late arrivals on campus. They are also offering students to push their admissions to the next semester completely in case of further delays. International visa authorities have also acknowledged the frustration and disappointment of students and have promised to implement different measures to reduce the wait time. Similarly, government officials in India are also working with the international authorities to ensure a quick and timely visa application process. Moreover, several embassies are focusing on clearing their student visa backlogs before they start issuing travel/tourist visas, which certainly help in reducing the timeline for the student visa.

However, considering the current global scenario, delays seem inevitable. Although the tide is slowly turning and government officials are trying their best to find a timely solution to this concern, students are also doing the best from their end by keeping their universities updated regarding their visa application status and preparing for contingency plans in cases of delays.

(The author is a certified at Coach of Life, USA)

## We can curb pollution, not damage to lungs

Policy reforms should be initiated to ensure that environmental concerns are prioritised over commercial gains



KAMAL NARAYAN OMER

Every year the third Wednesday of November is observed as COPD Day. The day strives to raise awareness on the condition, risk factors and also on the importance of a pollution free environment for healthy living. The COPD theme this year rightly proclaims "Healthy Lungs - Never More Important" as the Covid-19 infection has not only created havoc on environment and human life but also compromised our lung health. Hence, the time to fix them is most certainly now before it is too late.

Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a broad term for a range of progressive lung diseases. Any form of lung damage can result in a multitude of problems, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema. The bad news is that lung deterioration is a condition that is non-reversible and also there is no treatment available. Lifestyle changes and medical intervention can simply help the patient to avoid flare ups and improve their quality of life.

Children, especially premature kids, and those with weak immune systems and asthma are more prone to develop COPD at a later stage in life. According to WHO, every day almost 93 per cent of the world's children under the age of 15 years (1.8 billion children) breathe air that is so polluted it puts their health and development at serious risk. The WHO estimates that in 2016, 600,000 children died from acute lower respiratory infections caused by polluted air.

The Delhi government's recent order on the closure of primary schools in Delhi owing to the dangerous level that the AQI has dipped to has brought the debate back to the environmental concern of cleaner and safer air and finding sustainable solutions to the pollution problem. Instead of opting for short-term knee jerk solutions it is imperative that we ensure long term sustainable solutions to the ever growing problem of pollution.

The adverse health impact of air pollution is an immediate public health concern in the country and the government should look to address the concern in the most effective manner. In India, industrial emission is majorly responsible for air pollution, followed by combustion by vehicles and then household emissions and burning of crop waste in rural areas. With Indian metros topping the list of most polluted cities in the world, the problem can no longer be overlooked. The government has already taken noteworthy steps when it comes to environmental degradation - from promoting cleanliness drives of rivers to banning the usage of plastic, the government has time and again shown its commitment towards environmental causes.

However, the issue of air pollution has not been redressed impactfully and the resultant damage is a threat to our lungs



ACCORDING TO THE WHO, EVERY DAY ALMOST 93 PER CENT OF THE WORLD'S CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF 15 YEARS (1.8 BILLION CHILDREN) BREATHE AIR THAT IS SO POLLUTED IT PUTS THEIR HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENT AT SERIOUS RISK

(The author is CEO, IHW Council)



— an organ that processes life with every breath that we inhale. Hence, healthy lungs are a non-negotiable aspect of a healthy body and a non-toxic and safe air plays a key role in ensuring strong and healthy lungs.

Policy reforms should be initiated to ensure that environmental concerns are prioritised over financial and commercial gains. If the government is able to look for sustainable options in a well-planned and coordinated manner, the future would be able to take care of economic progress along with mitigating harmful pollution caused by industrialisation. Also, civil society should play a proactive role in creating awareness on the negative impact of pollution on human health and also on other causes of COPD.

Apart from air pollution, smoking tobacco is the major cause of COPD and also results in serious harm to the human body, especially to lungs. Long-term exposure to air pollution has countless adverse effects on human health, patients with chronic respiratory diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma are especially vulnerable to the negative impact of air pollutants. Air pollution can also aggravate and trigger asthma, thereby increasing respiratory disorders because of decreased lung health.

Many researches indicate that women in developing countries are more prone to COPD because of

household cooking smoke hence it is important that they keep their lung health good by switching to healthier fuel and prioritizing their health over family needs. It is also important that we break marketing myths related to the use of electronic cigarettes and vaping. People usually fall for such gimmicks and jeopardize their health just to follow the trend and appear stylish and fashionable.

It is quite evident that COPD, air pollution and lung health are inevitably linked to each other and hence a comprehensive approach that involves all relevant stakeholders should be initiated. The government needs to make sure that in policy matters on health and environment they seek the participation of health professionals, and engage in inter-sectoral policy making for better outcomes. The government also needs to popularise the use of cleaner and greener sources of energy instead of using fossil fuels. Also, better waste management techniques in metros as well as for crop waste in rural areas need to be initiated.

In order to minimise the risk of air pollution on kids, schools and playgrounds should be located away from busy roads, factories and power plants. Policy interventions in this regard can pave the way for better tackling the problem of air pollution and a holistic approach can provide better results.

But the onus of this change should not be the responsibility of

the government alone; a preventive lifestyle is a must to keep away from lung disorders. The role of lifestyle modifications at the individual level can successfully combat air pollution and the resulting disorders, including COPD. From limiting the use of fossil fuels by opting for greener vehicles to quitting smoking, small lifestyle modifications can go a long way in ensuring healthier and happier lungs.

Indulging in breathing exercises as well as including some sort of physical activity in your daily routine can add vitality and strength not only to your lungs but to your mental-wellbeing also. It has been scientifically proven that people who have anxiety disorders or stress are more prone to trigger asthma and COPD. So, emotional wellbeing is equally important when it comes to managing COPD, along with a healthy diet and non-sedentary lifestyle. Small steps in the right direction can play a major role in encouraging lung health and managing air pollution; car-pooling, using mosquito nets instead of dangerous repellents, keeping indoor plants and most importantly quitting any form of smoking, which is harmful for your family as well as the environment. In keeping with the WHO's vision of "a world in which all people breathe freely", let's strive to leave a safer and healthier planet for our future generations.

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

WE DON'T AGREE WITH WHAT RAHUL GANDHI HAS SAID. WE RESPECT VEER SAVARKAR BUT THE BJP SHOULD ALSO HAVE TO SAY WHY THEY WERE IN POWER WITH PDP.  
— SHIV SENA (UDDHAV FACTION) LEADER  
UDDHAV THACKERAY



WE, THE CONGRESS PARTY, CONSIDER HIM (BIRSA MUNDA) OUR IDOL. FOR THE BJP AND RSS, SAVARKAR JI, WHO WROTE MERCY PETITIONS TO THE BRITISH AND ACCEPTED PENSION, IS AN IDOL.  
— CONGRESS LEADER  
RAHUL GANDHI

## Ukraine war: Small numbers of troops on either side

The next real strategic target for Ukraine will almost certainly be a drive from Zaporizhziye south to the Black Sea coast

The recovery of the city of Kherson is the third big victory for the Ukrainian armed forces in three months: first, the reconquest of all of Kharkiv Oblast (province) in September, then the partial destruction of the Kerch Strait Bridge linking Crimea with Russia in October, and now the liberation of Kherson. So where next?

The decisive factor in shaping this war has been the relatively small numbers of troops engaged on either side. When the Nazi and Soviet armies were waging their titanic battles back and forth across Ukraine in 1941-43, there were several million soldiers fighting on each side, with tanks, planes and artillery to match.



GWYNNE DYER

Once a breakthrough occurred, in those conditions, the front could move hundreds of kilometres before it settled down again. Many cities changed hands not once or twice but four times. This time around, it's very different: the armies have got small again.

The Russians invaded last February with fewer than 200,000 men. Even now, after considerable reinforcements but also large losses, their army in Ukraine is 250,000 at most. Ukraine's army has grown at least as fast, but from a much lower starting point, and probably now has about the same number at the front.

The problem is that the 'front', the line of contact between Ukrainian and Russian troops, is about one

thousand kilometres long. That means that each side has an average of only 250 soldiers per kilometre, or one for every four metres.

In reality, more than half these soldiers will be behind the front manning artillery, driving trucks with supplies, staffing field hospitals and so on, so the men at the actual line of contact are spread out to around one every ten metres.

Allowing for the fact that the Ukrainian front was actually much shorter for most of the Second World War—it was usually a relatively straight line, not drawn out in a great U-shaped curve like the current line of contact—we can safely say that the density of manpower per kilometre of front was ten times

higher than that it is now.

This has major implications for the way the current war is fought. The front is manned so sparsely that it is fairly easy to get a breakthrough—but the attacking forces are also much smaller, so they can only hope to hold the new ground they have gained if they stop their advance fairly soon.

We saw this factor in play in the Ukrainian northern offensive in September. They managed to lure a lot of Russian troops away by feigning a major offensive on Kherson (then still Russian-occupied) in the south, and their attack in the north took the Russians completely by surprise.

The Ukrainians quickly advanced about 75 km on a

broad front—and then they stopped, although the Russian troops in front of them were still fleeing. They were spreading themselves too thin, and making themselves too vulnerable to even a modest Russian counter-attack.

The great offensives of 1941-43 advanced hundreds of kilometres before they stopped, but those were different days. The Ukrainian army has the upper hand, but its offensives will continue to take modest bites out of the Russian positions rather than concluding in some dramatic and sweeping move that ends the Russian occupation.

So where will they attack next? Certainly not from newly liberated Kherson across the Dnipro river: it would cost too many lives to

cross under fire. The Russians have been adding fortifications on the eastern front in Donetsk and Luhansk for almost a decade, and an offensive there would also be a slow and painful business.

There may soon be a significant further Ukrainian advance in the far north of the line, building on the success of the September offensive, but that would probably be mainly an attempt to draw Russian forces north.

The next real strategic target for Ukraine will almost certainly be a drive from the region of Zaporizhziye south to the Black Sea coast. That would leave all the Russian forces in what's left of Kherson province and Crimea totally dependent on supplies coming across the

badly damaged Kerch Strait Bridge from Russia.

Starve them out, and Ukraine will have recovered almost all of its pre-February territory. That's the point at which negotiations would finally become possible. Many different peace deals would then be available.

If the Russian army actually collapses—unlikely, but certainly imaginable—then the borders all go back to the pre-2014 map. If it's still standing, then maybe Ukraine gives up the Donbas in return for recovering Crimea, or the other way around, or perhaps it has to accept merely a return to the pre-February 2022 status quo.

The course of the fighting will decide which option actually materialises.

(Gwynne Dyer's new book is The Shortest History of War)



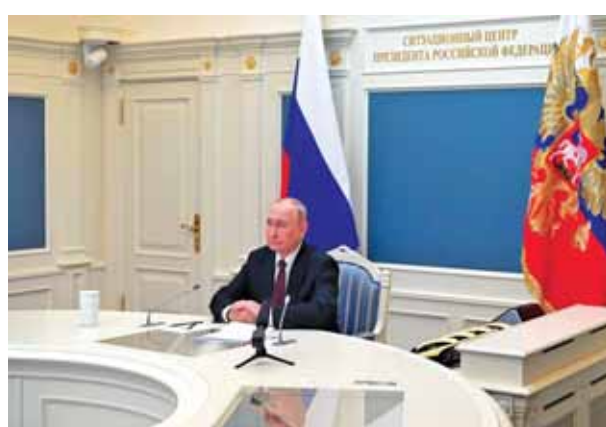
# Where's Putin? Leader leaves bad news on Ukraine to others

AP ■ TALLINN (ESTONIA)

When Russia's top military brass announced in a televised appearance that they were pulling troops out of the key city of Kherson in southern Ukraine, one man missing from the room was President Vladimir Putin. As Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu and Gen. Sergei Surovikin, Russia's chief commander in Ukraine, stiffly recited the reasons for the retreat in front of the cameras on Nov. 9, Putin was touring a neurological hospital in Moscow, watching a doctor perform brain surgery. Later that day, Putin spoke at another event but made no mention of the pullout from Kherson -- arguably Russia's most humiliating withdrawal in Ukraine. In the days that fol-

lowed, he hasn't publicly commented on the topic. Putin's silence comes as Russia faces mounting setbacks in nearly nine months of fighting. The Russian leader appears to have delegated the delivery of bad news to others - a tactic he used during the coronavirus pandemic. Kherson was the only regional capital Moscow's forces had seized in Ukraine, falling into Russian hands in the first days of the invasion. Russia occupied the city and most of the outlying region, a key gateway to the Crimean Peninsula, for months. Moscow illegally annexed the Kherson region, along with three other Ukrainian provinces, earlier this year. Putin personally hosted a pomp-filled Kremlin ceremony formalizing the moves in September, pro-

claiming that "people who live in Luhansk and Donetsk, Kherson and Zaporizhzhia become our citizens forever." Just over a month later, however, Russia's tricolor flags came down over government buildings in Kherson, replaced with the yellow-and-blue banners of Ukraine. The Russian military reported completing the withdrawal from Kherson and surrounding areas to the eastern bank of the Dnieper River on Nov. 11. Since then, Putin has not mentioned the retreat in any of his public appearances. Putin "continues to live in the old logic: This is not a war, it is a special operation, main decisions are being made by a small circle of professionals," while the president is keeping his distance," political analyst Tatyana Stanovaya wrote in a



recent commentary. He discussed bankruptcy procedures and car industry problems with government officials, talked to a Siberian governor about boosting investments in his region, had phone calls with various world leaders and met with the new president of Russia's Academy of Science. On Tuesday, Putin chaired a video meeting on World War II memorials. That was the day when he was expected to speak at the Group of 20 summit in Indonesia - but he not only decided not to attend, he didn't even join it by video conference or send a pre-recorded speech. The World War II memorial meeting was the only one in recent days in which some Ukrainian cities -- but not Kherson -- were mentioned. After the meeting, Putin signed decrees awarding the occupied cities of Melitopol and Mariupol the title of City of Military Glory, while Luhansk was honored as City of Labor Merit. Independent political analyst Dmitry Oreshkin attributed Putin's silence to the fact he has built a political system akin to that of the Soviet Union, in

which a leader - or "vozhd" in Russian, a term used to describe Josef Stalin - by definition is incapable of making mistakes. "Putin and Putin's system ... is built in a way that all defeats are blamed on someone else: enemies, traitors, a stab in the back, global Russophobia -- anything, really," Oreshkin said. "So if he lost somewhere, first, it's untrue, and second -- it wasn't him." Some of Putin's supporters questioned such obvious distancing from what even pro-Kremlin circles viewed as a critical developments in the war. For Putin to have phone calls with the leaders of Armenia and the Central African Republic at the time of the retreat from Kherson was more troubling than "the very tragedy of Kherson," said pro-Kremlin

political analyst Sergei Markov in a post on Facebook. "At first, I didn't even believe the news, that's how incredible it was," Markov said, describing Putin's behavior as a "demonstration of a total withdrawal." Others sought to put a positive spin on the retreat and weave Putin into it. Pro-Kremlin TV host Dmitry Kiselev, on his flagship news show Sunday night, said the logic behind the withdrawal from Kherson was "to save people." According to Kiselev, who spoke in front of a large photo of Putin looking preoccupied with a caption saying, "To Save People," it was the same logic the president uses - "to save people, and in specific circumstances, every person." That's how some ordinary Russians can view the retreat, too, analysts say.

## Ukrainian experts to participate in probe into missile strike in Poland



Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said that experts from his country will participate in a probe into an incident involving a missile that hit Poland earlier this week resulting in the deaths of two civilians. "Yesterday (Wednesday), we received confirmation that our specialists will participate in the investigation. Until the investigation is completed, we cannot say for sure which missiles or their parts fell on Polish territory," Xinhua news agency quoted the President as saying on Thursday. On Tuesday, about 100 mis-

siles were fired by Russia against Ukraine, Zelensky said, voicing his belief that some of those missiles could have crossed the Ukrainian-Polish border. "We have seen pictures of funnel diameter. It could not be only the remnants of anti-missile systems," he said. On Wednesday, Oleksiy Danilov, the secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defence Council (NSDC), said that Kiev requested access to the site of the explosions in Poland for representatives of the Defence Ministry and the State Service for Emergencies. Zelensky's announcement comes as investigations continue into the blast on Tuesday

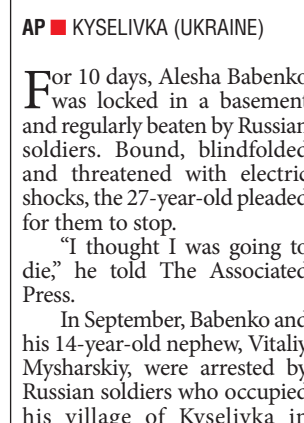
night on a farm in Przewodow, 6 km from Poland's border with Ukraine. Earlier on Tuesday, Ukrainian air defence systems were activated after Russia launched what is believed to be its biggest wave of missile strikes in the nine months since the invasion on February 24. In response to the incident, Polish President Andrzej Duda said that it was an accident, adding that Warsaw did not consider the incident an attack on the country since the fallen missile was probably fired by Ukrainian Air Defence Forces. On Wednesday, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said that the missile was probably Ukrainian.

## Russia-Ukraine grain deal extended in win for food prices



A wartime agreement that unblocked grain shipments from Ukraine and helped temper rising global food prices will be extended by four months, the United Nations and other parties to the deal said on Thursday, preventing a price shock to some of the world's most vulnerable countries where many are struggling with hunger. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky called the 120-day extension a "key decision in the global fight against the food crisis". Struck during Russia's war in Ukraine, the initiative established a safe shipping corridor in the Black Sea and inspection procedures to address concerns that cargo vessels might carry weapons or launch attacks. The deal that Ukraine and Russia signed in separate agreements with the UN and Turkey on July 22 was due to expire on Saturday. Russia confirmed the extension but said it expected progress on removing obstacles to the export of Russian food and fertilisers. Ukraine and Russia are key global suppliers of wheat, barley, sunflower oil and other food to countries in Africa, the Middle East and parts of Asia where millions of impoverished people lack enough to eat. Russia was also the world's top exporter of fertiliser before the war. A loss of those supplies following Russia's February 24 invasion of Ukraine had pushed up global food prices and fuelled concerns of a hunger crisis in poorer countries. While the extension prevents a price shock in developing nations that spend far more on food and energy than richer countries, threats persist from droughts in places like Somalia and the weakening of currencies around the world, which makes buying imported grain more expensive. "I was deeply moved to know that in Istanbul, Turkey, Ukraine, Russia and the UN had come to an agreement for the rollover of the Black Sea Grain Initiative, allowing for the free exports of Ukrainian grains," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said. The Turkish Defence Ministry said the decision to extend the deal came after two days of talks in Istanbul between delegations from Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and the UN that were held in a "positive and constructive" atmosphere. Russia had voiced dissatisfaction with the deal facilitating exports of Russian grain and fertiliser, hinting that it might not approve an extension and even briefly suspending its part of the deal late last month. It cited risks to its ships following what it alleged was a Ukrainian drone attack on Russia's Black Sea Fleet. Although Western sanctions against Russia for its invasion of Ukraine did not target food exports, many shipping and insurance companies were reluctant to deal with Moscow, either refusing to do so or greatly increasing the price.

## 'I thought I was going to die': Abuses widespread in Ukraine



For 10 days, Alesha Babenko was locked in a basement and regularly beaten by Russian soldiers. Bound, blindfolded and threatened with electric shocks, the 27-year-old pleaded for them to stop. "I thought I was going to die," he told The Associated Press. In September, Babenko and his 14-year-old nephew, Vitaliy Mysharskiy, were arrested by Russian soldiers who occupied his village of Kyselivka in Ukraine's southern region of Kherson. They had been taking photos of destroyed tanks and sending them to the Ukrainian army. Seated this week on a bench outside his home, Babenko was visibly shaken as he recounted the trauma of being thrown into a car, driven to the city of Kherson and interrogated until he confessed. As violence escalates in Ukraine, abuses perpetrated by Russia have become widespread, according to the United Nations and human rights groups. The situation is particularly concerning in the Kherson region, where hundreds of villages, including the main city, were liberated from Russian occupation in early November. It was one of Ukraine's biggest successes in the nearly 9-month-old war, dealing another stinging blow to the Kremlin. The UN says it is attempting to verify allegations of nearly 90 cases of enforced disap-



pearances and arbitrary detentions in Kherson, and is trying to understand if the scale of abuse is larger than already documented. Ukrainian officials have opened more than 430 war crimes cases from the Kherson region and are investigating four alleged torture sites, Denys Monastyrskyi, Ukraine's minister of internal affairs, told state television. Authorities have found 63 bodies bearing signs of torture near Kherson, Monastyrskyi said. He did not elaborate, saying the investigation into potential war crimes in the region was just beginning. On Wednesday, Associated Press reporters saw the inside of one of these alleged torture sites in a police-run detention centre in Kherson. Russian soldiers appeared to have left hastily, leaving flags and portraits of Russian President Vladimir Putin scattered under broken glass on the floor. Neighbours described a steady flow of people in handcuffs being brought in, with bags over their heads. The ones who were allowed to leave walked out without shoes or personal effects. Maksym Nehrov spent his 45th birthday in the jail, detained by Russians because he was a former soldier. "The most terrifying thing was to hear other people being tortured all day," he said. Walking along the corridor of the now-empty prison, he recalled that every time he somehow disobeyed the Russians they would hit him with an electric shock to the neck and head. Throughout the war, liberated Ukrainian villages have revealed thousands of human rights atrocities perpetrated by Russian soldiers. Bodies were strewn across the streets in Bucha and Irpin, suburbs of the capital, Kyiv, after Russia withdrew in April.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
General public to hereby informed that Mrs. Seema Sharma W/o Mr. Mukesh Sharma is intending to sell Residential Plot No. 20, area measuring 98 Sq. Yards i.e., 81.83 Sq. Meters, comprised in Kharsa no 196 Situated at Village Surpur, Pargana Darfi, Tehsil & District Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, to Mrs. Prabhavati, to be financed & mortgaged by Mrs. Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Pvt. Ltd. The Original Sale Deed dt. 03.06.2008 vide doc. No. 6757/2008 pertaining to the aforesaid property has been lost and L.R. Application no. 994687/2022 has been registered on 18.11.2022 with Delhi Police. Any person(s) found in possession of aforesaid original sale deed, then kindly contact the undersigned along with original property document, within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid sale deed shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.  
Rajesh Thwait (Attorney)  
Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi - 110001  
Mob.: +91-987168328

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Known to all that my client ABHISHEK GAIRATHI is owner of property i.e. Residential Plot Having Area Measuring 266 Sq. Yds., i.e., 222.40 Sq. Mtrs., Out Of Kharsa No. 347, M, Situated At Village Halodra, Pargana Dankaur, Tehsil & Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, to Mrs. Prabhavati, to be financed & mortgaged by Mrs. Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Pvt. Ltd. The Original Sale Deed dt. 03.06.2008 vide doc. No. 6757/2008 pertaining to the aforesaid property has been lost and L.R. Application no. 994687/2022 has been registered on 18.11.2022 with Delhi Police. Any person(s) found in possession of aforesaid original sale deed, then kindly contact the undersigned along with original property document, within 7 days from date of this notice on below address, failing which, the claim as per aforesaid sale deed shall be treated as null and void in respect of the subject property.  
AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION  
Ch. No. 760, Dwarka Court Sector-20, Dwarka, New Delhi-75  
M:- 9899013918

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Known to all that my client Rajesh Kumar purchasing property i.e. Portion of Plot No. 21, area measuring 25 Sq.Yards, Kharsa No. 190 Min, Village Pasanda, Pargana Loni, Tehsil and District Ghaziabad, from Saleem and mortgaging the same with DMI Housing Finance Pvt.Ltd.Saleem not having Originals L.G.P.A. in favour of Md.Yaseen Khan Z. Surviving Member certificate of Md.Yaseen Khan, It is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same and apprise his claim to undersigned within 8 days of this publication.  
AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION  
Ch. No. 760, Dwarka Court Sector-20, Dwarka, New Delhi-75  
M:- 9899013918

**Uttarakhand Police Headquarters**  
12 Subhash Marg Dehradun

**E-Tender Notice**

Sl. No.	Details of E Tender	Bids Number	Last date & Time for receipt of tender	date & Time for opening of technical offer	Pre Bid meeting
1	Installation and commissioning of Smart & Intelligent Command and Control Room	DG-3(Mod)-1-2022	05.12.2022 17:00Hrs	06.12.2022 11:00Hrs	22.11.2022 11:00 Hrs

For more Information of E-tender Please Login <http://uktenders.gov.in> IG, P&M Police HQ, Uttarakhand Dehradun  
No: DG-3(Mod)-1/2022

**कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण शाखा, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल ससाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम, चम्पावत**  
पिन-262523 फोन : कार्यालय : 05965-230044 E-mail: [executivechampaawat@gmail.com](mailto:executivechampaawat@gmail.com)

पत्रांक - 1863 / निविदा / 580 दिनांक : 15.11.2022

**अत्यकालीन निविदा नोटिस**

अध्यक्ष उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल ससाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम की ओर से अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु निर्दिष्ट श्रेणी में उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से मुहरबन्द निविदायें दिनांक 29.11.2022 को अपराह्न 12.00 बजे तक आमंत्रित की जाती हैं, जो उसी दिन 2.00 बजे अपराह्न कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण शाखा, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, चम्पावत में उपस्थित निविदा-दाताओं या उनके मनोनीत प्रतिनिधि के समक्ष अधिशासी अभियन्ता द्वारा या अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि के द्वारा खोली जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र दिनांक 26.11.2022 से दिनांक 28.11.2022 तक प्रातः 10.00 बजे से सांयः 5.00 बजे तक प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं।

क्र.सं	कार्य का विवरण	कार्यक्रम का नाम	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	घरोहर घनराशि	निविदा विक्रय की अंतिम तिथि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	पंजीकृत श्रेणी
1	सर्किट हाउस टैंक (400 कि०ली०) से कलैक्ट्रेट क्षेत्र को जोड़ने हेतु पाइप लाइन का कार्य	जिला योजना	2000.00+ 18% GST	47,500.00	28.11.2022	2 माह	"डी" एवं उच्चतर
2	ककनई पेयजल योजना के अन्तर्गत योजना के मरम्मत एवं रखरखाव कार्य।	जिला योजना	500.00+ 18% GST	7,300.00	28.11.2022	2 माह	"डी" एवं उच्चतर
3	पुल्ला बाजार पेयजल योजना के अन्तर्गत योजना के रखरखाव कार्य।	जिला योजना	500.00+ 18% GST	2,900.00	28.11.2022	1 माह	"डी" एवं उच्चतर

नोट :- बिना घरोहर घनराशि के कोई भी निविदा निर्गत नहीं की जायेगी तथा निविदा की अन्य शर्तें कार्यालय के नोटिस बोर्ड में देखी जा सकती हैं।

"जल संवय जीवन संवय" "हमारा संकल्प, हर घर नल से जुड़" "मातृक पहनाहा है जरूरी" "आपस में हो दो गज दूरी"

अधिशासी अभियन्ता

नगर निगम गुरुग्राम के नवन कर रिकॉर्ड अनुसार युनिट आई० डी० न० 273C4359U27P339, 273C4359U27P339B, 273C4359U27P339B पता 144, 145, 146, GF, Sushant Vyapar Kendra, Block C, Sushant Lok Phase 1, Gurugram, जो कि Sh. BHAGWAN SINGH के नाम दर्ज है। जो कि SALE DEED न० 16348, 16349, 16350 दिनांक 08-01-1996 के अनुसार Sh. BHAGWAN SINGH मालिक है। Sh. BHAGWAN SINGH की मृत्यु दिनांक 29-11-2012 हो चुकी है। मृत्यु प्रमाण पत्र संलग्न है। मृत्यु के उपरांत MRS GEETA W/O LATE Sh. BHAGWAN SINGH, WILL दिनांक 12-05-2011 के अनुसार मालिक है युनिट आई० डी० न० 273C4359U27P339, 273C4359U27P339B, 273C4359U27P339B पता 144, 145, 146, GF, Sushant Vyapar Kendra, Block C, Sushant Lok Phase 1, Gurugram, नगर निगम के क्षेत्र में स्थित है। MRS GEETA W/O LATE Sh. BHAGWAN SINGH द्वारा दिए गए आवेदन पत्र के अनुसार Sh. BHAGWAN SINGH की मृत्यु दिनांक 29-11-2012 के उपरांत युनिट न० 273C4359U27P339, 273C4359U27P339A, 273C4359U27P339B का मैं कानूनी वारिस हूँ। इसलिए युनिट के सम्पत्ति कर रिकॉर्ड के अनुसार नाम दर्ज किया जाये।

**UN: West Africa next in line for tied-up Russian fertiliser**

AP ■ GENEVA

Top UN official said Friday that West Africa is next in line to receive crucial Russian fertiliser that has been prevented from being exported from European ports to needy countries, largely over private-sector concerns about financing and insurance for such deliveries. Rebeca Grynspan, the head of the U.N. Trade office, hailed "very good news for the world" that Russia, Turkey, Ukraine and the world body had a day earlier extended a four-month deal to ease the export of Ukrainian grain and foodstuffs through the Black Sea. The war in Ukraine has helped drive up prices for food and fertiliser around the world. The extension had a quick impact on market prices and earned the UN some breathing space as talks continue. "But we have said very clearly that we are still not where we want to be," Grynspan told a U.N. Briefing in Geneva. "There is still work to be done and especially in the fertiliser area because there, still, we are seeing a fertiliser crunch."

**Imprisoned Russian activist honoured with human rights award**

AP ■ GENEVA

An imprisoned Russian opposition activist who was honoured by a human rights advocacy group dedicated his award to the thousands of people who have been arrested or detained in Russia for protesting President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. UN Watch, a Geneva-based organisation that promotes human rights and tries to ensure that the United Nations does, too, gave Vladimir Kara-Murza its highest human rights award. The Morris Abram award commemorates the group's founder -- a civil rights advocate, diplomat and delegate to the United Nations. Kara-Murza's wife, Yevgeniya, accepted the award on his behalf during a ceremony late Thursday and read a letter from her husband that hailed the journalists, lawyers, artists, priests, politicians, military officers and others "who have refused to say silent in front of this atrocity, even at the cost of personal freedom." "Since February, over 19,000 people were detained by police across Russia for anti-war protests," the letter said. "I want to dedicate this award to all of them." Kara-Murza, 41, cited recent figures from Memorial, a Russian human rights group that shared this year's Nobel Peace Prize, that there are now some 500 political prisoners in Russia. "In the time of my own imprisonment, I've had the opportunity to witness firsthand, just how incomplete this figure really is," he wrote. "And

**Sweden: Traces of explosives found at Baltic Sea pipelines**

AP ■ HELSINKI

Swedish investigators found traces of explosives at the Baltic Sea site where two natural pipelines were damaged in an act of "gross sabotage," the prosecutor leading Sweden's preliminary investigation said Friday. Mats Ljungqvist of the Swedish Prosecution Authority said the investigators carefully documented the area where the Nord Stream 1 and 2 pipelines ruptured in September. The parallel undersea pipelines run from Russia to Germany. "Analysis carried out shows traces of explosives on several of the foreign objects that were found" at the site, Ljungqvist said in a statement. The prosecution authority said the preliminary investigation was "very complex and comprehensive" and further scrutiny would show whether anyone could be charged "with suspicion of crime." Investigators in Sweden, Denmark and Germany are looking into what happened. Danish officials confirmed in October that there was extensive damage to the pipelines caused by "powerful explosions." The leaks occurred in international waters but within the exclusive economic zones of Denmark and Sweden. Investigators have not given indications of whom they think might be responsible.

**UN: West Africa next in line for tied-up Russian fertiliser**

AP ■ GENEVA

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VP Harris assures Asian leaders US 'here to stay'

AP ■ BANGKOK

US Vice President Kamala Harris assured Asian leaders Friday that "the United States is here to stay" as she pitched Washington as a reliable economic partner committed to the region and its prosperity.

Harris told leaders at the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit that the U.S. is a "proud Pacific power" and has a "vital interest in promoting a region that is open, interconnected, prosperous, secure and resilient."

"The United States has an enduring economic commitment to the Indo-Pacific, one that is measured not in years, but in decades, and generations," she said. "And there is no better economic partner for this region than the United States of America."

Harris postponed the start of her speech after receiving news that North Korea had fired an intercontinental ballistic missile that landed near



Japanese waters, convening an emergency meeting of the leaders of Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and Canada in which she slammed the missile test as a "brazen violation of multiple U.N. Security resolutions."

"It destabilizes security in the region and unnecessarily raises tensions," she said.

"We strongly condemn these actions and again call on North Korea to stop further unlawful destabilizing acts," Harris said. "On behalf of the United States I reaffirmed our

ironclad commitment to our Indo-Pacific alliances."

Her remarks at the broader APEC forum capped a week of high-level outreach from the U.S. to Asia as Washington seeks to counter growing Chinese influence in the region, with President Joe Biden attending first the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit in Cambodia, then the Group of 20 summit in Indonesia.

Biden also pushed the message of American commitment to the region, and met one-on-one with Chinese leader Xi Jinping.

Following that meeting, he said there "need not be a new Cold War" between the two nations, while underlining that when it came to China, the U.S. would "compete vigorously, but I'm not looking for conflict."

Many Asian countries began questioning the American commitment to Asia after former President Donald Trump pulled the U.S. out of the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade deal, which had been the centerpiece

of former President Barack Obama's "pivot" to Asia.

The Biden administration has been seeking to regain trust, and take advantage of growing questions over strings attached to Chinese regional infrastructure investments that critics have dubbed Beijing's "debt trap" diplomacy.

One case that observers have cited as a cautionary tale is that of Sri Lanka, which has been mired in an ongoing economic crisis.

Sri Lanka borrowed heavily from China over the past decade for infrastructure projects that have failed to earn enough revenue to pay for the loans. The resulting debt has contributed to the country's economic problems even though China was not its biggest creditor.

In October, Sri Lanka began debt restructuring talks with China, an important step toward finalizing an International Monetary Fund rescue of the island nation off the southern tip of India.

North Korea test-fires ICBM with range to strike entire US

AP ■ SEOUL

North Korea fired an intercontinental ballistic missile that landed near Japanese waters Friday in its second major weapons test this month that showed a potential ability to launch nuclear strikes on all of the US mainland.

The North's ongoing torrid run of weapons tests aim to advance its nuclear arsenal and win greater concessions in eventual diplomacy and they come as China and Russia have opposed US moves to toughen sanctions aimed at curbing North Korea's nuclear program.

The South's Joint Chiefs of Staff said it detected the ICBM launch from North Korea's capital region around 10:15 am and the weapon flew toward the North's eastern coast across the country. Japan said the ICBM appeared to have flown on a high trajectory and landed west of Hokkaido.

According to South Korean and Japanese estimates, the North Korean missile flew about 6,000-6,100 kilometers (3,600-3,790 miles) at a maximum altitude of 1,000 kilometers (620 miles).



Japanese Defence Minister Yasukazu Hamada told reporters the altitude suggests the missile was launched on a high angle. He said depending on the weight of a warhead to be placed on the missile, the weapon has a range exceeding 15,000 kilometers (9,320 miles), "in which case it could cover the entire mainland United States."

Hamada called the launch "a reckless act that threatens Japan as well as the region and the international community." He said Japan would continue to cooperate closely with the United States, South Korea and other countries to coordinate a joint response to North Korean

provocations. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff called the launch "a grave provocation and serious threat" to undermine international and regional peace and security. It said South Korea maintains readiness to make "an overwhelming response to any North Korean provocation" amid close coordination with the United States.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, in Bangkok to attend a regional summit, earlier told reporters the missile was believed to have landed at sea inside Japan's exclusive economic zone west of Hokkaido, Japan's main northern island.



Australia sticks to US nuclear subs despite French criticism

AP ■ CANBERRA

Australia's prime minister said Friday he remained committed to building a fleet of submarines powered by U.S. nuclear technology despite the French president describing the plan as a "confrontation with China."

The previous Australian government infuriated President Emmanuel Macron last year by canceling a contract for a French-built fleet of conventionally-powered submarines worth 90 billion Australian dollars (\$66 billion) and opting instead for nuclear-powered versions in a deal secretly brokered with the United States and Britain.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese has stood by the so-called AUKUS agreement to embrace nuclear technology since he came to power at elections in May. Whether Australia opts for a version of the U.S. Virginia-class or British Astute-class submarine will be announced in March.

"We are proceeding with the AUKUS arrangements, there's nothing ambiguous about it," Albanese told reporters at a Bangkok summit that Macron is also attending.

Threats to peace dominate Asia-Pacific leaders' summit

AP ■ BANGKOK

Threats to peace and stability were dominating the agenda at a summit of Pacific Rim economies Friday in Bangkok, as leaders warned that war and tensions among the big powers threaten to unravel the global order.

Underscoring the risks, North Korea fired an intercontinental ballistic missile that landed near Japanese territorial waters, and Japan said the weapon may have the range to strike anywhere in the United States. North Korea is under UN sanctions for past weapons displays but has not faced fresh sanctions this year because U.S.

Attempts were opposed by China and Russia in the Security Council.

US officials said Vice President Kamala Harris would meet with the leaders of Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand and Canada to discuss the missile launch, the latest of many such provocations from North Korea that raise the risks of conflict.

"Geopolitical tensions are detracting from peace and stability and undermining the rules based international order, which we all agree are essential," Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese told fellow leaders of the 21-member Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation

forum who began a two-day summit Friday.

APEC's long-term mission is promoting regional economic integration, but more immediate exigencies often dominate the agenda. That's true in Bangkok, as leaders appeal for an end to Russia's war on Ukraine and consider strategies for nursing along economic recoveries from the coronavirus pandemic while contending with food and energy crises, the need to cut the carbon emissions that cause climate change and other urgent tasks.

"The circumstances we face today as economic leaders, multiple overlapping global crises, could not be more pressing as



they inundate our region," Albanese said.

Speaking to a business conference on the sidelines of APEC, French President Emmanuel Macron echoed that call for a restoration of the global order and an end to con-

frontation, both in Ukraine and also in Asia, where he said friction between the biggest economies, the U.S. and China, was forcing countries to take sides.

"There is no stability or peace except one based on inter-

national order and respect," said Macron, who was invited to the APEC summit as a guest by the host country, Thailand.

The rise of Asia to become an engine for global growth owes its success to trade "governed by common rules, global rules," Macron said, saying multiple crises may have taken the world to a "tipping point."

The APEC gathering is the third back-to-back meeting of world leaders this week after the summits of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations last week in Cambodia and the Group of 20 leading economies, which wrapped up Wednesday in Indonesia.

In Bangkok, host Thailand

has the challenge of trying to bridge divisions and forge a consensus. Prime Minister Prayut Chan-ocha has sought to embed the concept of sustainability into APEC's agenda.

"We need to change our ways of life and ways of doing business," Prayut said in opening the leaders' meeting on Friday focused on sustainable economic growth.

China's Xi seeks new diplomatic inroads with Asian leaders

AP ■ BANGKOK

Chinese President Xi Jinping has used his first face-to-face meetings with America's Asia-Pacific allies since 2020 to try to forge diplomatic inroads as Washington pushes back against Beijing's influence in the region.

Xi has not backed away from China's longstanding claims to Taiwan and most of the South China Sea. But his comments to various leaders at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Bangkok this week have focused more on Beijing's pivotal economic role for its neighbors.

As China's stature has risen, its diplomacy has grown more nuanced than the high-handed



approach that has sometimes sparked resentment in the past.

"Xi Jinping's diplomatic engagements and the supporting chorus of propaganda messages have sought to put forward a softer, smiling facade in what appears to be an effort to reduce friction and tensions, particu-

larly with the U.S. And European countries that have become increasingly critical, frustrated and committed to competing with China," said Drew

Thompson, a visiting senior research fellow at the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy at the National University of Singapore.

China's influence in Myanmar could tip scales towards war in South China Sea



THE CONVERSATION ■ PERTH

The fate of Myanmar has major implications for a free and open Indo-Pacific.

An undemocratic Myanmar serves no one's interests except China, which is consolidating its economic and strategic influence in its smaller neighbour in pursuit of its two-ocean strategy.

This includes US\$2.5 billion in a gas-fired power plant to be built west of Myanmar's capital, Yangon, that will be 81% owned and operated by Chinese companies.

Among the dozens of infrastructure projects China is funding are high-speed rail links and dams. But its most strategically important investment is the China-Myanmar Economic Corridor, encompassing oil and gas pipelines, roads and rail links costing many tens of billions of dollars. The corridor's "jewel in the crown" is a deep-sea port to be built at Kyaukphyu, on Myanmar's west coast, at an estimat-

ed cost of US\$7 billion.

This will finally give China its long-desired "back door" to the Indian Ocean.

Natural gas from Myanmar can help China reduce its dependence on imports from suppliers such as Australia. Access to the Indian Ocean will enable China to import gas and oil from the Middle East, Africa and Venezuela without ships having to pass through the contested waters of the South China Sea to Chinese ports.

About 80% of China's oil imports now move through the South China Sea via the Malacca Strait, which is just 65 kilometers wide at its narrowest point between the Malay Peninsula and Indonesia's Sumatra.

Overcoming this strategic vulnerability arguably makes the Kyaukphyu port and pipelines the most important element of China's Belt and Road initiative to reshape global trade routes and assert its influence over other nations.

NORTHERN RAILWAY OPEN E-TENDER NOTICE. For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Fr.), Northern Railway, Delhi Division invites sealed e-tender on 'SINGLE PACKET SYSTEM' for following work from experienced and capable tenderers.

Invitation of Tenders through E-Procurement system. Principal Chief Materials Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi-110001, for and on behalf of the President of India, invites e-tenders through e-procurement system for supply of the following items:

BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi. NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR SHORT TERM PURCHASE OF POWER FOR THE PERIOD 01st April 2023 TO 30th SEPTEMBER 2023.

UJVNL. H.O.: 'UJWAL', Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. Road, Dehradun-248006. Letter No.846. E-Tender Notice Dated 18.11.2022.

SBFC Finance Limited. Address Unit No. 103, First Floor C&B Square, Sangam Complex, 127, Andheri-Kurla Road, Village Chakala, Andheri (East), Mumbai 400059.

Public Notice. This is to inform the Public that Auction of pledged Gold ornaments will be conducted by SBFC Finance Ltd. on 25th November 2022 at Delhi District branch - 7, 1st Floor, above Lok Saini, Lajpat Nagar 2, New Delhi - 110024.

Notice Inviting Tender. SSA-15015/128/2022-ESTABLISHMENT-SSA. Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha Axom, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19, Assam invites following bids through GeM portal.

PUBLIC NOTICE. REHEJA DEVELOPERS LIMITED. Whereas, M/s. Standard Farms Pvt Ltd, M/s. N A Buildwell Pvt Ltd, M/s. Reheja Icon Entertainment Pvt Ltd, M/s. Paragon Buildcon Pvt Ltd etc., in collaboration with M/s. Reheja Developers Limited, under the Migration Policy dated 18/02/2016 and as amended dated 24th Jan, 2018 & 25th Aug, 2022 and other amendments of Town and Country Planning Department, has proposed to migrate an area measuring 55,744 acres vide LC no. 4468 (11,262 acres), LC no. 4469 B (13,10 acres), LC no. 4470 (7,3875 acres), LC no. 4471 B (5,18194 acres) and LC no. 4472 B (18,81252 acres) from the parent License No. 25 of 2012 and License No 19 of 2014, granted for setting up of Residential Plotted Colony, for obtaining 5 licenses to develop Affordable Plotted Colonies (DDJAY-2016).

Edelweiss ASSET RECONSTRUCTION CO. LTD. CIN - U67100MH2007PLC174759. Registered Office: Edelweiss House Off CST Road Kalina, Mumbai 400098.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY. Public Notice for E-auction sale of immovable property under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Table with columns: Description of Secured Asset, Reserve Price, EMD. Includes details for land being parcel of industrial plot of all things being Plot No. 24, admeasuring 100 sq. mtr. in Sector 18, Electronics City, Gurgaon.



# Eco on course to achieve 7% growth in FY-2023: RBI



PTI ■ MUMBAI

With headline inflation beginning to show signs of easing, the domestic macroeconomic outlook appears to be resilient and on a course for about 7 per cent GDP growth in the current fiscal though India is still sensitive to global headwinds, an RBI article said on Friday.

The article published in the latest RBI bulletin also said the outlook for the global economy remains clouded with downside risks. Global financial conditions have been tightening and deteriorating market liquidity is amplifying financial price movements.

Markets are now pricing in moderate increases in policy rates and risk-on appetite has returned. In India, supply responses in the economy are gaining strength, it noted.

"With headline inflation

beginning to show signs of easing, the domestic macroeconomic outlook can best be characterised as resilient but sensitive to formidable global headwinds," the article said.

Urban demand appears robust, while rural demand is muted but more recently picking up traction, it added.

The article has been prepared by a team led by RBI Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra.

The RBI, however, said the opinions expressed in the article are those of the authors and do not represent the views of the central bank.

The article further said based on high frequency indicators, "our nowcasting and full information models peg" real GDP growth in the July-September quarter between 6.1 per cent and 6.3 per cent.

"If this is realised, India is on course for a growth rate of

about 7 per cent in 2022-23," it said and added that in the third quarter supply responses in the economy are gaining strength.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) data for the second quarter of 2022-23 will be released by end-November.

It also noted that the cumulative procurement of rice during this kharif marketing season has already crested last year's collection.

Although wheat procurement has declined quite sharply, the good news is that rabi sowing is up year-on-year backed up by good northeast monsoon rainfall and reservoir water storage levels.

In the financial sector, it further said system liquidity is normalising in consonance with the stance of monetary policy but it is still in surplus mode, with the RBI absorbing about ₹1.5 lakh crore on a daily basis on average.

# Benchmarks slip for 2nd day; close flat for the week

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The Sensex and Nifty stayed on the back foot for the second straight session on Friday as investors offloaded auto, finance and energy stocks amid a lacklustre trend in global markets.

After tumbling over 400 points during the session, the 30-share BSE Sensex recouped most of the losses to end 87.12 points or 0.14 per cent lower at 61,663.48. Similarly, the broader NSE Nifty dipped 36.25 points or 0.20 per cent to end at 18,307.65.

Mahindra & Mahindra was the top laggard among the Sensex constituents, shedding 2.46 per cent, followed by Maruti, Bajaj Finance, IndusInd Bank, NTPC, Bharti Airtel, ITC and Wipro.

In contrast, Hindustan Unilever, Asian Paints, HCL Technologies, SBI, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Infosys were among the winners, rising up to 0.99 per cent.

The market breadth was negative, with 20 of the 30 Sensex stocks closing in the red. "Domestic market is now focusing on global trend for future direction due to lack of domestic triggers. Negative vibes in developed market and aggressive comments from Fed officials have shaken the ongoing optimistic trend across the



globe.

"Despite a late attempt of recovery, the domestic market largely traded with a negative shade in all sectors except PSU banks," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. On a weekly basis, the Sensex dipped 131.56 points or 0.21 per cent, while the Nifty declined 42.05 points or 0.22 per cent.

"Next week FOMC meeting minutes are due which would provide further cues to the market. This week though Nifty shied away from its all-time high, it is hoped that next week, Nifty would scale to those levels.

"Volatility index too is at 1-year low and at comfortable levels which is supporting the positive sentiments," said Siddhartha Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd.

# Sebi plans to introduce new SCORES system with revamped website, app

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Capital markets regulator Sebi is planning to overhaul the existing investors complaint system SCORES by introducing a newer version of its website and mobile application features.

In this regard, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has invited expressions of interest (EOIs) from interested parties to replace the old system with a new version, according to a notice on Friday.

SCORES (SEBI Complaints Redressal System) is an online platform designed to help investors lodge their complaints pertaining to the securities market, mainly against listed companies and registered intermediaries.

It was made operational in June 2011. All complaints received through SCORES are dealt with in a time-bound manner.

In the latest version, interested candidates would develop a new website and mobile application for investors to lodge their grievances in a more efficient and easy manner.

Complainants will have the facility to check status of complaints, send reminders and lodge appeals against closed complaints.

The system should have the capacity to show a full audit history of the movement of complaints to all stakeholders -- complainant, entity and Sebi



officials, the regulator said. The new SCORES system (web and mobile platforms) will be developed in bilingual format -- English and Hindi -- and an option to add support for new languages in future should be kept, it added.

The interested bidder is required to develop Application Programming Interfaces (APIs)

for market infrastructure institutions -- stock exchanges and depositories -- as well as a chat-bot to access complaints-related information. They need to maintain and support the new system for 5 years.

Interested candidates can submit the applications by December 9, the regulator added.

# Kolte-Patil Developers, two other settle case with Sebi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Kolte-Patil Developers Ltd and two others on Friday settled with markets regulator Sebi, a case pertaining to the alleged violations of listing and disclosure rules, on payment of over ₹63 lakh towards the settlement amount.

The other two applicants who settled the case are -- G L Vishwanath and Manasa Vishwanath, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in an order.

This comes after three applicants proposed to settle the alleged violations of LODR (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations "without admitting or denying the findings" through a settlement order.

"The instant adjudication proceedings initiated against Kolte-Patil Developers Limited (KPD), G L Vishwanath and Manasa Vishwanath vide aforesaid Show Cause Notice ...Dated February 3, 2022, are hereby disposed of," Sebi said.

In its show cause notice issued to the entities, KPDL made wrong disclosures of Related Party Transactions on three occasions in two half-yearly disclosures of financial years 2018-19 and 2019-20.

Also, the Pune-based real estate firm allegedly did not disclose amendments to the Memorandum of Association (MoA) and Articles of Association (AoA) within 24 hours from the passing of the shareholder resolution in March 2019 and allegedly failed to comply with rules pertaining to independent directors and it allegedly did not have a minimum number of independent directors in the audit committee.

LODR Regulations specify that an independent director should not be related to promoters or directors of the company or subsidiary. However, two independent directors on the board of the company -- G L Vishwanath and Manasa Vishwanath -- were directly related to each other, being husband and wife.

Pending adjudication proceedings initiated through show cause notice, the entities filed applications with Sebi to settle the case and the markets regulator recommended to settling the case on payment of the settlement amount. Accordingly, Kolte-Patil Developers paid ₹41.92 lakh, while G L Vishwanath and Manasa Vishwanath remitted ₹10.72 lakh each.

# Gold gains ₹45; silver advances by ₹316

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold price rose by ₹45 to ₹53,220 per 10 gram in the national capital on Friday following gains in prices of the precious metal in the international market, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the precious metal had ended at ₹53,175 per 10 gram. Silver also gained ₹316 to ₹61,732 per kg.

In the international market, gold traded in the green at USD 1,766 per ounce while silver quoted flat at USD 21.22 per ounce.

"Stronger international gold prices pushed the local gold prices upward today," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

Spot gold prices (24 carats) in Delhi markets were quoted at Rs 53,220 per 10 gram, up ₹45 per 10 gram, Parmar added.

# Rupee falls by 10 paise to 81.74 against USD on forex outflows, firm crude

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee depreciated by 10 paise to close at 81.74 against the US currency on Friday, marking its third straight day of losses amid a lacklustre trend in domestic equities and firming crude oil prices.

However, a weak dollar in the overseas markets restricted the loss, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened up at 81.59 and later erased all its early gains. During the session, it witnessed a high of 81.52 and a low of 81.78.

The domestic unit finally settled at 81.74 against the American currency, registering a fall of 10 paise over its previous close of 81.64.

The rupee logged its first weekly fall in four weeks due to weakness in Asian currencies. The rupee declined by 96 paise



or 1.18 per cent in the week to Friday.

"Rupee continued to trade in a narrow range and volatility remained low in the past few sessions. Despite economic calendar being a little heavy, reaction on the rupee has been muted.

"The greenback gained momentum after as US Treasury yields increased and investors eyed hawkish comments from Federal Reserve officials," Gaurang Somaiya, Forex & Bullion Analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services, said.

# Paytm shares end over 1% higher

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of One97 Communications, Paytm's parent firm, on Friday ended over 1 per cent higher, a day after falling sharply.

In morning trade, the stock had declined over 2 per cent after SoftBank divested 4.5 per cent stake in the firm for ₹1,631 crore through an open market transaction.

The stock dipped 2.23 per cent to ₹527.50 during the day on the BSE. But it recovered all the lost ground and ended at ₹546.30 apiece, higher by 1.25 per cent. On the NSE, it fell 2.38 per cent to ₹526.90 during the day. The stock ended at ₹546.40 per share, a gain of 1.22 per cent. Shares of One97 Communications tumbled nearly 11 per cent on Thursday.

Earlier this month, the lock-in period ended for the pre-offer investors that had invested in Paytm.

# FM urges AIIB to scale up investment in renewable energy, smart technologies

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Friday asked the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) to scale up investment in renewable energy and smart technologies and also urged the multilateral agency to set up a regional office in India.

AIIB President Jin Lique called upon the finance minister here and discussed various issues of relevance to the bank.

"While appreciating AIIB's growing portfolio in India, FM Smt. @nsitharaman suggested that @AIIB\_Official should scale-up #investments and mobilise private finance in India's key priority areas including #RenewableEnergy, #EnergyEfficiency and climate #SmartTechnologies," the finance ministry said in a tweet.

India is a founding mem-



ber of AIIB with the second-highest voting share. India holds 7.74 per cent equity in the multilateral bank, next only to China (29.9 per cent).

"As India is the largest client of @AIIB\_Official, FM Smt. @nsitharaman reiterated that AIIB should plan to set up a regional presence in India to facilitate dialogue and outreach to the project authorities," the ministry added.

AIIB began its operations in Beijing in January 2016 and has since grown to 105 approved members worldwide.

# HCL to ramp up Malanjkhand production, sets ₹350crore capex target for FY-2023

PTI ■ KOLKATA

Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL) was ramping up copper ore production from the Malanjkhand project in Madhya Pradesh to 2.2 million tonnes from the current 1.6 million tonnes and it will be eventually increased to five million tonnes in the next 6-7 years, a company official said.

HCL was targeting to increase its total copper ore production to 12.2 million tonnes per annum by FY'29 in its first phase of expansion from 3.57 million tonnes in FY22 and was targeting 3.9 million tonnes in the current fiscal.

The state-owned integrated copper miner said it has



lined up ₹350 crore in capex for the current fiscal and of that, ₹250 crore would be pumped into the Malanjkhand project. HCL was also awaiting lease renewal from the Jharkhand government to reopen the Rakha mines which was closed in 2001-02 due to operational reasons.

"Our capex for the current fiscal is ₹350 crore and we are expecting to exceed. There is a shortfall in production from

Malanjkhand due to difficult terrain, but this year it will come up in shape. We are looking at 2.2 million tonne ore production from 1.5-1.6 million tonne of output now," said an HCL board member who does not wish to be quoted.

"This year both open cast and underground mining (UG) is taking place but from the next fiscal, the entire production will be from UG mining. We want it to ramp up production to five million tonnes in the next 6-7 years," he said.

With the government targeting to increase domestic mineral production, HCL seeks to re-open the Rakha mine in Jharkhand which has a peak rated capacity to produce 3 million tonnes.

# Renewable energy storage expensive; coal, gas power forms base load at present

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister R K Singh on Friday said electricity generated from coal and gas forms the base load as round-the-clock supply of renewable energy is not viable at present due to expensive storage.

The power minister while addressing a seminar on National Bioenergy Programme here also said eventually coal and gas-based energy will be phased out.

"Battery storage cost is ₹10 per kWh. Solar power is ₹2.30 kWh. You cannot have round-the-clock (renewable energy) without storage...You need some base load and that (base load at present) will come from coal, gas etc," he said.



About phasing out coal, he suggested that it cannot happen at the cost of ₹14 per kWh.

India has set an ambitious target of having 500GW renewable energy capacity by 2030.

"We will phase out coal and gas (energy source). That will happen," he stated.

The minister said India has already installed 107 GW

of renewable energy capacity and it touches 153 GW with inclusion of 47 GW of large hydro power plants.

He also said around 70GW of renewable energy generation capacity is under construction.

He opined that adding capacity of biomass is more difficult than that of solar and wind and that "it is a challenge for all of us".

During the seminar, all the stakeholders discussed and deliberated on the challenges, opportunities and initiatives in the bioenergy sector.

Singh also unveiled a compendium of the National Bioenergy Programme and launched the Biogas & Bio-Urja Portal.

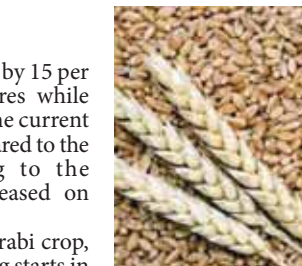
# Wheat sowing up 15% so far, slight fall in pulses coverage

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Area sown to wheat has risen by 15 per cent to 101.49 lakh hectares while pulses acreage has declined in the current rabi (winter) season so far compared to the year-ago period, according to the Agriculture Ministry data released on Friday.

Sowing of wheat, the main rabi crop, begins in October and harvesting starts in March-April. Besides wheat, gram and mustard are other major crops grown during the rabi season of the 2022-23 crop year (July-June).

According to the latest sowing data, wheat has been sown in 101.49 lakh hectares till November 18 of this rabi season as against 88.46 lakh hectares in the year-ago period. The higher area under



wheat has been reported from Punjab (7.18 lakh ha), followed by Rajasthan (4.24 lakh ha), Uttar Pradesh (2.59 lakh ha), Maharashtra (1.05 lakh ha), and Gujarat (0.67 lakh ha), data showed.

However, the area sown to pulses remained lower at 73.25 lakh hectares so far this rabi season as against 76.08 lakh hectares in the year-ago period. Among

pulses, gram was planted in 52.57 lakh hectares as against 52.83 lakh hectares in the said period.

In the case of oilseeds, about 66.81 lakh hectare was sown to six types of oilseeds, higher than 59.22 lakh hectare in the year-ago period. Much of the area was sown to rapeseed and mustard at 63.25 lakh hectares as against 55.13 lakh hectares in the said period.

Coarse cereals were sown in 19.24 lakh hectares as against 19.80 lakh hectares, while rice in 8.03 lakh hectares as against 7.21 lakh hectares in the said period, the data showed.

Total coverage under all the rabi crops remained higher at 268.80 lakh hectares as on November 18 of this rabi season, higher than 250.76 lakh hectares in the year-ago period.

# Federal Bank ties up with JCB India to finance heavy equipment buyers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Federal Bank on Friday said it has tied up with JCB India to finance the prospective buyers of heavy construction equipment and boost its loan portfolio. The private sector lender said it has inked a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with JCB India, a leading manufacturer of earthmoving and construction equipment. This arrangement will boost the financing options for JCB's customers in India, Federal Bank said in a release.

Under the arrangement, Federal Bank is the preferred finance partner of the construction equipment manufacturer, where JCB's customers can avail loans from the lender at competitive interest rates. With the government's focus on infrastructure development continuing to remain strong, there will be various opportunities to create synergies between the teams from JCB India and Federal Bank, Deepak Shetty, CEO and Managing Director of JCB India, said.

**BUSINESS BRIEF**

**IITF KERALA PAVILION GRABS EYEBALLS**  
New Delhi: The 6,000 square feet Kerala Pavilion at the India International Trade Fair at Pragati Maidan in Delhi is grabbing a lot of attention as it displays the state's historical trade relations with the rest of the world, especially the Gulf countries. Along with Uttar Pradesh, Kerala is also the focus state this time. The pavilion designed in Kerala's unique architectural style is on the first floor of the hall number 5 at Pragati Maidan.

**PAINTINGS BY CHILDREN ON SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE**  
New Delhi: At the 27th Session of Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, the India Pavilion hosted a side event on "Transformative Green Education: Experiences from India". Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav released a book calendar, postcards, bookmarks, and posters, all based on paintings by Indian schoolchildren on sustainable lifestyles, collected by the National Museum of Natural History.

**CROP DOCTOR SOLUTIONS FOR FARMERS**  
New Delhi: Syngenta, a leading science based global agrotech company, on Friday announced the introduction of Crop Doctor feature in its Cropwise Grower App, an AI-powered tool offering swift, simple and effective solutions for farmers to identify pest or disease attack and get an instant remedy. Syngenta also completed the Drone Yatra in 13 states, completing a milestone of 17,000 km to create awareness of drone spraying among farmers. "We work on supporting farmers by further improving the way crops are grown and protected, and to work with partners to find solutions that address environmental, societal and economic challenges. The newly added Crop Doctor feature in the Cropwise Grower App will be very helpful for the farmers," Susheel Kumar, MD and Country Head, Syngenta India Pvt Ltd, said.

**INSURANCEDEKHO, LIC PARTNER TO SELL POLICIES**  
New Delhi: Insurtech player InsuranceDekho has partnered with the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to sell the policies offered by the insurance behemoth. LIC products will be immediately available for all customers on its platform pan-India, InsuranceDekho said. The company said it will leverage the best technology, POSP partner practices, and innovation to set new benchmarks for insurance advisors and customers, Ankit Agrawal, CEO and Co-founder of InsuranceDekho, said. LIC is India's most trusted insurance provider and by joining hands with them, the company's vision of establishing 100 per cent penetration in the remotest towns of the country will become easier to manifest, he said.

**MARUTI SUZUKI LAUNCHES ALTO K10 CNG VERSION**  
New Delhi: Maruti Suzuki India Senior Executive Officer - Marketing & Sales, Shashank Srivastava said the company has sold more than 10 lakh S-CNG vehicles so far and "the addition of S-CNG to the popular Alto K10 will allow further widespread adoption of our environment-friendly technology".



# WONDER WOMAN

## Manika Batra becomes first Indian to reach Asian Cup TT semifinals

PTI ■ BANGKOK

Star paddler Manika Batra on Friday became the first Indian to reach the semifinals of the Asian Cup Table Tennis tournament with a 4-3 win over higher ranked Chen Szu-Yu of Chinese Taipei here.

World number 44 Manika beat Chen, ranked 23rd in the ITTF chart, 6-11, 11-6, 11-5, 11-7, 8-11, 9-11, 11-9 in a hard-fought women's singles quarterfinal match at the Hua Mak Indoor Stadium.

Manika has already ensured the best finish by an Indian in the 39-year-old history of the Asian Cup, after Achantha Sharath Kamal and G Sathiyam had finished sixth in 2015 and 2019 respectively.

The ace Indian paddler had earlier shocked world No. 7 Chen Xingtong of China in a round of 16 match on Thursday.

Manika will meet world number five and second seed Mima Ito of Japan in the semifinals on Saturday. The other semifinal will be played between world number four Wang Yidi of China and Hina Hayata (world number six) of Japan.

The \$200,000 event features the top 16 players in the men's and women's singles from the continent based on world rankings and qualifications.

Manika had the right measure of her Chinese Taipei opponent, despite losing the first game to register her second win in the tournament.

With Friday's win, the unseeded Manika improved her win-loss record against the Taipei paddler to 2-4.

"She (Szu-Yu) is a great player.



I lost to her in the World Championships (Team) recently. But this time, I changed my strategies, and they paid off. Today's win has given me confidence and I will play with all focus back tomorrow," said Manika.

After a scratchy first game, Manika took control of the match and dictated terms against her higher-ranked opponent.

The Indian got everything going for her -- the blocks, the placements, the backhand and forehand scorches and the cross-court shots.

With run-away hits in the second, third and fourth games, Manika surged to a 3-1 lead. But a time-out in the fifth at 7-7 brought the Taipei woman back in the game and she went on to win it 11-8.

Manika should have killed the match in the next when she led 8-5. But Szu-Yu closed the gap to be a point behind, forcing Manika to take a time-out.

On her return to the table, the Indian managed to go ahead 9-7, but on Manika's serve, the Taipei player levelled 9-9 and finished the game off in style to level the match 3-3.

In the decider, Szu-Yu took four points on the trot from 2-2 to go up 6-4, a two-point lead and a distinct advantage. But, Manika fought back after the change of sides to make it 7-7 and held two match points at 10-8.

But the sixth-seed Szu-Yu managed one more point before Manika shut her out, claiming the last point.

Meanwhile, men's singles first-round losers G Sathiyam and Sharath Kamal, who finished in the 9-16 position brackets, will receive \$2,250 each.



## France sweat on Benzema, Varane ahead of World Cup opener

AP ■ DOHA

the first match."

Defending champions France are hoping Karim Benzema and Raphael Varane will be fit enough to feature in their opening World Cup match against Australia, with teammate Adrien Rabiot insisting both are "determined to play".

Benzema has been struggling with a thigh problem while Varane is recovering from a leg injury.

Both players trained apart from the rest of the France squad during a session open to the media at the home stadium of Qatari champions Al Sadd on Thursday evening.

"Karim and Raphael are doing really well," Rabiot said on Friday. "They trained apart because that was the protocol that was in place for them."

"They are good and are really keen to play, but I don't know if they will be involved in

Real Madrid striker Benzema, who last month won the Ballon d'Or, played less than half an hour of football in his club's last six games before the World Cup.

Manchester United centre-back Varane has not played a game since coming off in tears against Chelsea on October 22.

The 34-year-old Benzema's lack of recent match practice means Olivier Giroud could come into the side when France begin the defence of their trophy against the Australians in Al Wakrah next Tuesday.

"It is clear that it is better when you are playing and putting games together but I think Karim's case is different," said Rabiot.

"It is less of a handicap for a striker than for a midfielder, and he is a top-level player who knows how to handle himself. "I think it's more down to

how he is feeling personally. But if he is not there for the first match he will be there for the second."

France, who are already without key midfielder Paul Pogba and N'Golo Kante in Qatar due to injury, will also play Denmark and Tunisia in Group D.

Juventus midfielder Rabiot is set to profit from the absence of Pogba and Kante and play a central role in Didier Deschamps' side.

Four years ago he missed out on a place in the victorious 2018 World Cup squad and refused to be included on a standby list.

"Four years have passed since 2018," said the 27-year-old. "It is true that it was a major disappointment and I have worked really hard to be here this time."

"I am grateful for all that has happened since my return to the team."



## BCCI sacks entire selection panel

AP ■ DOHA

The BCCI on Friday sacked the entire four-member senior national selection committee led by Chetan Sharma after the Indian cricket team failed to reach the final of the T20 World Cup in Australia.

On Friday, the BCCI invited applications for the position of national selectors (Senior Men). The last date of application is November 28.

That Chetan will be sacked was first reported by PTI on October 18 after the BCCI AGM but it is learnt that his committee has not even been told about the sacking.

The new chairman's job

mandate has an interesting description of "selecting captain in each format" which suggests that BCCI might be moving towards split captaincy in near future. Chetan (North zone), Harvinder Singh (Central Zone), Sunil Joshi (South Zone) and Debasish Mohanty (East Zone) have had the shortest stint as senior national selectors in recent times.

Joshi and Harvinder were appointed national selectors in February 2020. After the AGM in January 2021, Chetan took over as chairman of selectors with Mohanty and Kuruvilla joining him.

A senior national selector normally gets a four-year term

subject to extension. There was no selector from West Zone after Abbey Kuruvilla's tenure ended.

Once, India lost in the semifinal of the T20 World Cup, the writing was always on the wall that Chetan was on borrowed time. During Chetan's tenure, India had also failed to reach knock-out stage in the 2021 edition of T20 World Cup and lost the World Test Championships final.

"For Chetan to save his job, India needed to win the T20 World Cup. Nothing less could have saved him. But once, he was asked to select four squads at one go (New Zealand and Bangladesh away series) which

was unprecedented, one could read between the lines," a BCCI insider, who has been tracking the developments, told PTI on conditions of anonymity.

There are multiple reasons that the BCCI mandarins were unhappy with Chetan and his committee's shoddy performance. It is believed that Chetan was never assertive when it came to certain decisions.

Some of the reasons believed to have led to his sacking are: not being able to have a settled squad, allowing eight international captains in just one year with some select seniors turning workload management into a joke.



## Sadio Mane ruled out of FIFA World Cup

AP ■ DOHA

Senegal star Sadio Mane has missed his race to be fit for the 2022 World Cup and has been withdrawn from their squad, the country's football federation announced on Thursday.

Mane was voted second in the Ballon d'Or last month behind Karim Benzema and the 30-year-old Bayern Munich forward will be sorely missed by the African champions.

The emblematic Mane scored the winning penalty in a shootout victory against Egypt in the African Cup of Nations final and repeated the feat against the same opponents to qualify the Lions of Teranga for the World Cup.

Mane picked up his shin injury playing for Bayern earlier this month but was named in the World Cup squad in the hope he could regain fitness.

But on Thursday Senegal said the former Liverpool star would not make it.

"Unfortunately, today's (Thursday) MRI shows us that the improvement is not as favorable as we imagined and unfortunately we have to withdraw Sadio from the World Cup," said team doctor, Manuel Afonso in a video on the official Senegal

Twitter account.

Senegal had hoped their talisman would be fit in time for their opening game on November 21 against the Netherlands.

They will also take on hosts Qatar and Ecuador in Group A.

**TITE REPLACEMENT IN JAN**

Brazil will only choose the next coach of their national team in January, the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) said on Thursday, denying rumors of talks with the likes of Pep Guardiola to replace outgoing boss Tite.

Tite, who has coached the "Selecao" since 2016, has announced he will leave the post after the World Cup, leading to a flurry of speculation in Brazil on who could be next.

But the CBF "is 100-per cent focused on winning a sixth World Cup under Tite's command," it said in a statement.

CBF president Ednaldo Rodrigues, who took office in March, "has never spoken with any football director about the coaching job after the World Cup," it said.

"Any news to the contrary is a lie," Rodrigues said in the statement.

"That issue will only be addressed in January."

## Youth World Boxing C'ships: Rhythm eases into QFs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's Rhythm produced a power-packed performance to enter the men's +92kg quarterfinals while four Indian male pugilists marched into the last-16 stage on third day of the Youth men's and women's World Boxing Championships in La Nucia, Spain.

Rhythm started off the bout aggressively against Latvia's Miks Berzins. His relentless attack from the word go left no room for his opponent to recover as the referees intervened just after a few minutes in the first round before announcing the Indian winner of the round-of-16 match with Referee Stops Contest verdict.

This came after Jadumani Singh Mandengbam (51kg) and Bharat Joon (92kg) began the day's proceedings for India with dominating wins in the men's round-of-32. While Jadumani outpunched Azerbaijan's Amin Mampmadzada 5-0, Bharat thrashed Spanish boxer Ruben

Ibanez by a similar margin. Later, youth Asian champion Vanshaj, who hails from Haryana, extended his winning run at the prestigious championships when he blanked Japan's Masatake Yoshizumi by unanimous decision in the 63.5kg last-32 bout.

Aman Rathore (67kg) too had an easy outing as he knocked out Puerto Rico's Alexis Soto convincingly by a 5-0 margin.

Rockey Chaudhary was the lone Indian pugilist to end up on the losing side on Day 3. He lost to Halil Dogru of Turkey by 1-4 in the 80kg category.

Six Indians, including two women, will be in action on the fourth day of the tournament. Nikhil (57kg), Harsh (60kg) and Sahil Chauhan (71kg) will play their respective round-of-32 matches while Mohit (86kg) will play in the pre-quarterfinals.

Ravina (63kg) and Kunjarani Devi Thongam (60kg) will fight in the women's pre-quarterfinals.

## Man United takes 'appropriate steps' after Ronaldo interview

AP ■ DOHA

Manchester United has "initiated appropriate steps" in response to Cristiano Ronaldo's explosive interview with Piers Morgan.

The Premier League club's legal team was waiting to review the full footage of the 90-minute discussion in which Ronaldo criticized United manager Erik ten Hag, teammates and the owners.

"Manchester United has this morning initiated appropriate steps in response to Cristiano Ronaldo's recent media interview," the club said on Friday.

"We will not be making further comment until this process reaches its conclusion."

The 37-year-old Ronaldo is in Qatar to play in his fifth World Cup with Portugal. But his future at Old Trafford looks to be over, with the forward's position widely considered untenable even before the full interview aired on Wednesday and Thursday.



A potential exit has been complicated by the limited number of clubs being able to meet his reported salary of about 500,000 pounds (\$590,000) per week. But if he is found to be in breach of contract, a possible outcome could be the cancellation of his deal.

United officials were not aware any interview had taken place and had to wait until it was broadcast on TalkTV before

determining the club's legal position.

United also said it wants the process to be concluded swiftly. Ronaldo's comments have added to an acrimonious few months since Ten Hag took charge at the end of last season.

United's manager already cut the Portugal international him from his squad and forced him to train away from the team when he refused to come on as

substitute against Tottenham. "I think he don't respect (me) the way I should deserve," Ronaldo said.

"But it is what it is. That is probably why the game against Tottenham, I left. ... This is why I say I don't have respect for him, because he don't show respect for me."

"This is why we are in that situation. I have to be honest that things are not going well because of that. Because the empathy don't exist."

Ronaldo, who failed to secure a move to a Champions League club in the offseason, paved the way for a potential departure in the January transfer window.

"Maybe it's good for Manchester and probably is good for me as well to have a new chapter," he said. "Probably. But I don't know."

"If I will be back, I will be the same Cristiano. But I hope people will be on my side and let me shine like I did at all the clubs and all years."

## India end 15th Asian Airgun C'ship with a whopping 25 Golds

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Dominant India ended their campaign at 15th Asian Airgun Championship in Daegu, Korea with a rich haul of 25 Gold medals, including the two available on the final day on Friday. Manu Bhaker and Samrat Rana won the 10m Air Pistol Mixed Team Junior event while Rhythm Sangwan and Vijayveer Sidhu took the Gold in the corresponding senior event.

In a show of complete dominance, India won 25 out of the 28 events in the competition scheduled over eight days.

Sangwan and Sidhu completely outshot Kazakhstan's Valeriy Rakhimzhan and Irina Yunusmetova 17-3 in the Air Pistol Mixed Team final. They had topped the qualification round with a score of 579 with the Kazakhs finishing second with 577, thereby setting up the gold medal



clash. A second Indian pair of Shiva Narwal and Yuvika Tomar also made it to one of the Bronze medal matches, finishing fourth in qualifying with a score of 573. They eventually went down 6-16 to the Korean pair to miss out on a medal.

In the junior Air Pistol Mixed Team event, the Indian duo of Bhaker and Rana shot 578 in the qualification to finish second behind Uzbekistan's Nigina Saidkulova and Mukhammad Kamalov, who shot 579. However, the Indian duo turned the tables on the Uzbeks in the final with a crushing 17-3 victory.

India's second pair in the event, Sagar Dangi and Esha Singh also made it to one of the two Bronze medal matches, finishing third in qualification with a score of 576.

However, they too lost out on a medal, going down 14-16 in a tight contest against Korea's Lee Seungjun and Yang Jiin.

## Portugal Thrash Nigeria 4-0 in friendly

AP ■ LISBON

Talisman Cristiano Ronaldo was absent through illness but Bruno Fernandes' brace helped Portugal made light work of Nigeria with a 4-0 friendly win on Thursday.

Fernando Santos's Portugal warmed up for the World Cup with victory in Lisbon.

It only took nine minutes to break the deadlock against Nigeria, who failed to qualify for the World Cup for the first time since 2006.

Two of Ronaldo's Manchester United team-mates combined for it, with Diogo Dalot setting up Fernandes to finish after racing on to a fine Joao Felix pass.

Felix, often sidelined at Atletico Madrid, was in sparkling form to ensure Ronaldo was not missed, while Fernandes assumed the captain's penalty duties to net his second before the



break. A frosty dressing room interaction between Ronaldo and Fernandes had made headlines earlier in the week, but it was the midfielder who stepped up to take the spotlight against Nigeria. Fernandes fired wide just before the

break, wasting a good chance to complete a first half hat-trick.

Ronaldo, his country's record appearance maker and the men's international all-time top goalscorer with 191 strikes, is set to return for Portugal's World Cup opener against Ghana on

November 24, although the team thrilled supporters without him before they depart for Qatar.

Nigeria could have pulled themselves back into the game but Rui Patricio stopped Emmanuel Dennis' penalty in the 81st minute after a Dalot push just inside the area was penalised.

Benfica forward and Portugal debutant Goncalo Ramos tapped home from Raphael Guerreiro's unselfish cut-back for the third a minute later.

Joao Mario tucked away the fourth after a brilliant move, involving Felix again and a silky touch from Ramos, a perfect finale for an impressive, dynamic attacking display to answer criticism labelling Santos's football negative.

It was also a way of quietening the noise around Ronaldo, although that is rarely possible for long, as the veteran forward recovers and readies himself to play at his fifth World Cup.



# IND VS NZ: FIRST T20I WASHED OUT

PTI ■ WELLINGTON

The first T20 International of the three-match series between India and New Zealand was called off without a ball being bowled as incessant rain made the ground unplayable here on Friday.

The rain did stop for a bit but barring a short period of dry spell, it continued to pour throughout at the Sky Stadium.

The match was ultimately called off at 8.52pm local time, about an hour less than the cut-off time of 9:46pm for a five-over a side shootout.

India are slated to play two more T20Is, followed by three ODIs as part of their tour of New Zealand.

Both the teams had come in following their exit from the semifinal stage of the T20 World Cup in Australia. While India lost to eventual champions England, New Zealand were defeated by Pakistan.

In the absence of regular skipper Rohit Sharma, premier all-rounder Hardik Pandya is leading the Indian T20 side with wicketkeeper batter Rishabh Pant serving as his deputy.

"Boys were quite excited to play. NZ is a great country, great place to play. Unfortunately to not get a game. A lot of people came quite early as well, we were excited but this is something we as professional cricketers need to accept," Pandya said.

Besides Rohit, star batter Virat Kohli and opener KL Rahul have also been rested for the tour.

The likes of Shubman Gill, Umran Malik, Ishan Kishan and Sanju Samson have been given a chance as senior players have been rested.

The entire coaching staff, including head coach Rahul Dravid, has also been given a break after the T20 World Cup.

NCA head VVS Laxman has been appointed as the Indian coach for the tour.

The next T20 will be played in Mount Maunganui on Sunday.



## NZ tour is about role clarity and opportunities for new guys: Hardik

PTI ■ WELLINGTON

Having moved on from the T20 World Cup disappointment, India stand-in captain Hardik Pandya on Friday said the ongoing limited-overs tour of New Zealand is all about role clarity and opportunities for new players in the set-up.

Hardik, who is leading the side in place of regular skipper Rohit Sharma in the three-match T20 series, said the Indian team doesn't believe in dwelling on the past.

"These guys are young by age, but not by experience. They have played plenty of IPL and got good amount of Internationals as well. I think the youngsters of today don't get intimidated by not having played too much cricket.

"If the situation demands, me and the more experienced players will play different roles, but this tour is for the new guys to get more clarity, opportunities and a chance to express themselves," Hardik said after the first T20I was washed out here without a ball being bowled.

"The World Cup is done, I've left it behind. The disappointment will be there, but we can't go back and change things. We're now looking forward to this series," he added.

The three-match T20 series will be followed as many ODIs.

New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson said the ongoing series is a good platform to test players like Adam Milne, who didn't get a shot in the T20 World Cup where both the Kiwis and

India exited in the semifinal stage.

While India lost to eventual champions England in the semifinals, New Zealand were shown the door by Pakistan.

"It is about getting better, especially in the knockout matches. The likes of Adam Milne were in the T20 World Cup squad but didn't get an opportunity, so this is a good time to get them some game time," he said.

"We'll start fresh, this is a new series both sides are looking forward to. We both wanted to get to the final, but we've got a week to rest and get ourselves ready for this."

Asked about the second-string Indian squad here, Williamson said: "I've got no doubt they all will be big players for India, I've seen them all

in the IPL. They've got great quality irrespective of the names they put out."

Williamson said the upcoming three-match ODI series against India will be great opportunity for young Kiwi players to impress upon the selectors and stake a claim in next year's 50-over World Cup.

"Most teams gear up towards major events that are not too far away, and the ODI format will now be a great opportunity for guys to come in."

"I'm sure there will be plenty of opportunities for guys to shine. We'll have to wait and see what surfaces present us, and we need to adjust," he signed off.

The second T20I of the series will be played in Mount Maunganui on Sunday.

## Sundar hopes Lancashire stint and rehab at NCA will come handy in NZ



PTI ■ WELLINGTON

Back to the T20I scheme of things after an injury lay-off of more than a year, off-spinning all-rounder Washington Sundar feels his stint at the English county side Lancashire can help him do well in the ongoing limited-overs series in New Zealand.

After enduring a long injury lay-off for most part of the year, Washington made a return to the ODIs last month against South Africa at home and is hoping for a good show in the limited overs tour of New Zealand.

"I have spent a lot of time at the NCA, my stint at Lancashire was amazing before I got injured, so I've worked a lot on my body, particularly my shoulder," Washington said on

Friday ahead of the first T20I against New Zealand which was washed out.

"New Zealand is one of my favourite countries, the weather and the people are really pleasant. Since we got here, we spent a lot of time going to restaurants and walking to shops. We enjoy doing those things, enjoy our privacy out here."

Washington's tryst with injuries started in July, 2021 when he had a fractured finger while batting for Combined Counties against the visiting Indian team in a warm-up game. He missed the entire domestic season and after that he was down with COVID-19 before the white ball series in South Africa in January this year.

In February-March, he

missed the twin white ball home series against the West Indies and Sri Lanka because of hamstring injury. During the IPL in April-May, he split his webbing and missed five games for Sunrisers Hyderabad.

After an extensive rehabilitation, the BCCI played a role in getting Washington a county deal with Lancashire.

Then again, a left shoulder injury, sustained during a 50-over game for Lancashire, ruled him out of the three-match ODI series against Zimbabwe in August.

He said he will never play football for warm-up before matches.

"It was a weird accident that happened five or six years ago. I was playing football, and broke my ankle. I will never play football in my life! There are so many things to do other than just play football."

Talented opening batter Shubman Gill said his earlier experience of playing in New Zealand could come in handy here.

"I came here for the U19 World Cup. Made my ODI debut here in 2019. Good to come back (to New Zealand). Definitely, I have fond memories coming back to New Zealand. Whenever I know I'll be going to New Zealand it brings a smile," Gill said.

"I have been able to execute a few things I have been working on. It's always about me looking to score than look for four or six. I want to play less dot balls, I want to keep ticking, ones, twos etc."

"I've always felt that hitting sixes isn't about power; it's about timing. It's all about where I am meeting the ball. It's more about you waiting for the ball rather than swinging hard at the ball."

## Don't mind playing few extra games due to lost opportunities in COVID times: Sodhi

PTI ■ WELLINGTON

The cramped international calendar has been under the lens for some time now but senior New Zealand spinner Ish Sodhi doesn't mind playing a few extra games to compensate for the matches he lost out on during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Less than a week after the T20 World Cup ended, Australia and England are engaged in an ODI series while a new-look Indian team under Hardik Pandya is on a limited-overs tour of New Zealand.

The first T20I of the three-match series between India and New Zealand was washed out here on Friday.

Asked if the busy itinerary is putting a lot of pressure on players, Sodhi disagreed.

"To be honest, I haven't looked at schedules hell of a lot, but it looks in last few years we have to put a lot of cricket in short space of time and whether that's something to do with COVID or having missed out on a lot of cricket," Sodhi told reporters after the tour opener against India was abandoned.

But Sodhi, who has played 86 T20Is for the Black Caps with 109 wickets to his credit, is happy that there is a lot of cricket happening at the moment.

"I think first and foremost



we are happy to be playing the amount of cricket we are playing, having missed out on a quite a few series in last two years has been challenging.

"As a cricketer, in the last few years, we lost out on a few games which we could have potentially played. Yes, if we could sneak in a few matches, it would be great," he feels but is aware that workload management would always be an important criterion.

"Lot of international teams have a lot of depth and associations are finding time to give players rest as it really is an

important part of game," he added.

Cricket is a weather-dependent game and there has been calls from some quarters to have matches with convertible closed roof so that rain can't play a spoilsport.

But the leg-spinner loves it in current form as weather patterns does add to the intrigue of the game.

"At the end of the day, you can't control the weather. Actually, the weather plays an important dynamic in the game of cricket and if there's a bit of weather around, you have to

count for that as a tactic," Sodhi stated.

"And generally when there is rain, you get a bit more idea about DLS (Duckworth-Lewis System) or what you are chasing. If playing under cover (roof) is more beneficial, then it's up to people who decide."

The current bowling attack of New Zealand is one of the best they have had since the inception of T20s and Sodhi feels blessed to be part of that elite bunch.

"I think all aggressive bowlers are in our attack. We are blessed to have 150-click bowlers such as Adam Milne and Lockie Ferguson, supplemented by great 'old kids' (Trent Boult and Tim Southee), who might not have pace but are wily with their variations," he said.

With Mitchell Santner, an orthodox left-arm spinner, holding one end up, Sodhi's duty is to attack, which the wrist spinners do better as they get to turn the ball off the surface more than finger spinners.

"Santner is incredibly economical on best of days and so role that fits in for me is that of aggressive one. If you look across the board, internationally lot of teams are looking at leg spinners in their sides because they can turn the ball both ways, they have got mystery and under lights can be quite hard to pick," Sodhi explained.

## FRITZ BEATS AUGER-ALIASSIME, FACES DJOKER IN SEMIFINALS

AP ■ TURIN

Taylor Fritz advanced to the final four of the ATP Finals by beating Felix Auger-Aliassime 7-6 (4), 6-7 (5), 6-2 at the year-end tournament.

The American will face five-time champion Novak Djokovic in the semifinals.

The match went with serve until the final set when Fritz broke twice in the final three games, either side of holding to love, sealing his spot in the next round on the first of two match points as fellow tournament debutant Auger-Aliassime sent a backhand wide.

Prior to the sixth game of the final set, the only other break points had come in the second game of the second set when Fritz had to stave off three of them against his Canadian opponent.

Casper Ruud had already booked his place in the semifinals but he lost 7-5, 7-5 to the already eliminated Rafael Nadal to leave the Norwegian 0-8 against top-three players.

The top-seeded Nadal had lost his first two matches in the tournament and avoided equaling his career-worst streak of five straight defeats.

"I have been practicing well," Nadal said. "Just probably not enough



## Men's tennis tour payouts up \$37.5M to above \$215M in 2023

AP ■ TURIN

Player compensation on the ATP Tour and the lower-level ATP Challenger Tour will rise to a record \$217.9 million combined in 2023, thanks to a \$37.5 million increase announced that is the largest single-season jump for the men's tennis circuit.

On-site prize money will go up \$18.6 million on the ATP Tour, boosted by the growth of Masters 1000 tournaments in Madrid, Rome and Shanghai from eight- to 12-day events. The Masters 1000s in Canada and Cincinnati will both expand to 12 days in 2025.

The ATP is also increasing its 2023 bonus pools to \$21.3 million, an 85% increase from 2022.

Prize money for the ATP Challenger Tour is set to go up 75% next season, from \$12.1 million to \$21.1 million.

The ATP Tour said in June it was establishing a new profit-sharing formula that would result in more money going to players.

This is all apart from whatever potential growth in compensation might come next year at the four Grand Slam tournaments — the Australian Open, French Open, Wimbledon and US Open.

matches to be at the level that I needed to be. Not enough confidence, probably, after six tough months. That's how it is.

"I accept that the season didn't end the way that I wanted, at least I finished with a positive victory," he continued.

"It's important, the last official match of the season, so I am happy for that."

Nadal won the Australian Open and French Open to take his tally of Grand Slam titles to a record 22, but he has played just nine singles matches since withdrawing from Wimbledon a day before his semifinals match because of a torn abdominal muscle.

"I can't ask for more: 2022 has had a tough six months, two Grand Slams, and finishing the year in a high spot in the rankings. So, I can't complain at all," the 36-year-old Nadal said. "At my age, to be able to achieve and be competitive means a lot for me."

For 2023, the Spaniard said he wants to "start the season with the right energy, the right attitude, to reach the level that I need to be competitive from the beginning. Let's try it, I am excited about it."

Ruud will face the winner of Friday's match between Stefanos Tsitsipas and Andrey Rublev.

## Won't stop Green from playing in IPL: Cummins

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Australia skipper Pat Cummins says while he would love Cameron Green to focus all his energy playing for the national team, he will not take away the opportunity to compete in the IPL from the young all-rounder.

The 23-year-old, touted as the future of Australian cricket, had impressed on the tour of India while opening the innings in the absence of David Warner. He had smashed two blistering half-centuries and averaged 39.22 for the series with a strike rate of 214.54.

Green's power-hitting prowess and his genuine pace with the ball is likely to have teams bidding for him aggressively if he decides to enter the IPL auction next month.



"Yeah potentially (Green will enter his name in the IPL auction). We'll wait and see, I

think the auction is a little while away," Cummins told SEN Radio.

"Selfishly as a captain, I'd love for him to save all of his energy for Australia."

"But how can you tell someone to say no to that kind of opportunity?" Cummins added.

Cummins, who leads the Australian Test and ODI side, himself has opted to skip the lucrative league due to a packed international calendar.

Australia's busy 2023 Test cricket schedule involves a Border-Gavaskar Trophy in India (February-March) and Ashes in England from June 16 to July 31 while the 50-over World Cup will be held in India in October-November next year.

The IPL auction is set to take place in Kochi on December 23.

## It was probably the best I've felt in about six years: Smith

PTI ■ ADELAIDE

Star Australian batter Steve Smith is hopeful of a big summer, saying he feels in the best form with the bat in six years after a 12-month process to adjust his technique.

Smith scored an unbeaten 80 off 77 balls to help Australia cruise to a six-wicket win over world champions England in the first ODI here on Thursday.

It was an innings "close to perfection" for the former skipper.

"(It) was probably the best I've felt in about six years," Smith told reporters on Friday.

"I was just in really nice positions and I felt really good, I honestly haven't felt that way in six years or so."

"It's been nice to score some runs in that time and we're always looking for perfection, and for me yesterday was as close to perfection as I will get," he added.

The 33-year-old revealed he



has been working for the past year to get his hands and feet "in sync" in a bid to rediscover his best stance and technique.

"I've been working on a few things, it's almost been a six-

months in sync together."

Smith featured in one game for Australia during the recently-concluded T20 World Cup. He scored four runs in the match against Afghanistan.

However in the ODI against England, Smith looked in imperious touch and was caught by the cameras mouthing "I'm back, baby" to batting partner David Warner during the innings.

"(Thursday) was probably the first time I've actually had extended time in the middle with that change. It's hard to base something on one innings but it felt as though things clicked for me like they did at the WACA (in a Test against England) in 2013. Hopefully it's the start of a big summer," Smith added.

Smith has an average of 60 from 87 Tests with 28 centuries and 36 fifties.

After the series against England, Australia will host the West Indies and South Africa.

## ERIGAI POSTS FIRST WIN; PRAGGNANAN DHAA LOSES

PTI ■ SAN FRANCISCO

Indian Grandmaster Arjun Erigaisi posted his first win while compatriot R Praggnanandhaa lost in the fourth round of the Meltwater Champions Tour Finals on Friday.

While Erigaisi beat Azerbaijan's Shakhriyar Mamedyarov 3-1 for his first victory in the tournament, Praggnanandhaa went down 1-2 to American GM Wesley So.

Meanwhile, world No.1 Magnus Carlsen of Norway continued his imperious form, to thrash Dutch GM Anish Giri 3-0 while Quang Liem Le (Vietnam) halted the winning run of Polish GM Jan-Krzysztof Duda, handing him a 3-1 loss.

Carlsen is on top of the standings with an all-win record after four rounds and 12 points.