**OPINION 6** 

SIKHS HOLD TIRANGA

**WORLD 8** 

CHINA, RUSSIA TO COUNTER US'

INDO-PACIFIC STRATEGY

**MONEY 10** 

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# IN HIGH ESTEEM

### NEW DELHI. THURSDAY MARCH 23, 2023: PAGES 12 ₹3 the pioneer

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# Plan for modern Delhi announced

Govt gives infra-focussed ₹78,800-cr Budget

Power subsidy, free bus rides to continue

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot on Wednesday presented a Rs 78,800-crore Budget, giving a major push to transport and infrastructure with an allocation of Rs 21,817 crore ahead of the G20 Summit, and announced a comprehensive plan to make the Capital a "clean, beautiful and modern city".

Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal said the Budget has something for everyone and free schemes like bus ride for women, power subsidy and pilgrimage for senior citizens will continue in the next financial year as well. However, the education and health sectors, two highest priority areas of the AAP dispensation, have not seen a major hike.

The Government has proposed Rs 9,742 crore for the health sector, a marginal decline, while in the last Budget, it was Rs 9,769 crore. The Education

Education Department has been given Rs 16,575 crore. In the 2022-23 Budget, it had the highest allocation of Rs 16,278 crore. An outlay of Rs 9,337 crore in the



Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and Delhi Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot arrive for the presentation of Delhi Budget for the financial year 2023-24, at Delhi Legislative Assembly, on Wednesday Ranjan Dimri I Pionee

transport sector has been proposed for the next financial

However, the Opposition BJP dismissed the Budget as "directionless" and alleged that it is a bundle of lies and has only paper announcements.

In his 150-minute speech in the Delhi Assembly, Gahlot said a comprehensive infrastructure rejuvenation project was being launched in a very significant year when Delhi will be hosting India's first G20

The comprehensive plan includes beautification of 1,400-km roads maintained by PWD, construction of 26 fly overs and three double-decker flyovers, induction of 1,600 electric buses and electrification of all bus depots.

Also, the Government has proposed to construct three world-class inter-State bus terminals, two multi-level bus depots, two modern bus terminals and nine new bus

Continued on Page 10

### Flares, bottles hurled at Indian Mission

High Commission in London responds to stir by pro-Khalistan protesters by putting up bigger Tricolour

PTI/PNS ■ LONDON/NEW DELHI

round 2,000 protesters waving A Khalistan flags descended upon the Indian High Commission here on Wednesday for a planned demonstration and hurled objects and chanted slogans amid a heightened security presence and barricades.

The Indian High Commission countered by unfurling an additional humongous Tricolour on the roof of its building, which seemed to rile the protesters further who then hurled coloured flares and water bottles towards the mission building and at police officers and media covering the

Scotland Yard reacted by further blockading the area outside India House and several additional uniformed and mounted officers on horseback were deployed immediately to the

Unlike the violent disorder on Sunday when India House came under attack, the protesters were barricaded across the road with uniformed officers standing guard and patrolling the area throughout.

The protesters, including turbaned men, and some women and children, had been bused in from different parts of the UK and chanted pro-Khalistan slogans. The organisers used mikes to make anti-India speeches and attack the



Punjab Police for alleged human rights violations. The speeches switched between English and Punjabi to make allegations of Indian media bias for calling them fringe elements and backed by Pakistan's spy agency ISI. Banners for the so-called "National Protest", organised by groups such as the Federation of Sikh Organisations (FSO) and Sikh Youth Iathebandia, have been circulating on social media since before a protest on Sunday, which ended in vioent disorder at India House.

Earlier, India had registered a strong protest over the lack of security measures at its diplomatic mission, which ended in Khalistan flag-waving protesters smashing windows of the Indian High Commission and attempting to pull down the Tricolour. In an apparent tit-for-tat act, India on Wednesday morning removed the barricade security cover of the UK High Commission and its envoy in New

Hours after the Indian action more olicemen and barricades were installed outside the Indian High Commission in London on Wednesday ahead of the planned protest, in an apparent effort to avoid a repeat of the vandalism seen three days ago

Continued on Page 10

### 'Take early action on Judges' appointment'

Collegium worried over Centre holding back recommended names as it hurts their seniority

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Collegium has voiced concern over the Centre withholding or overlooking the names recommended for appointment as judges, saying this disturbs the seniority of the candidates, and asked the Government to take "necessary action" for elevation of those recommended earlier. The Collegium, headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, said a notification for the elevation of persons recommended earlier in point of time should be issued at the earliest.

The Collegium was expressing displeasure on the non-appointment of John Sathyan and Ramaswamy Neelakandan in Madras High Court and also reiterated Harpreet Singh Brar's appointment as Judge in Punjab and Haryana High Court.

The Collegium voiced its concern in a resolution dated March 21 in which it recommended the names of four district judges for appointment as judges of the Madras High Court. The Collegium, which comprises Justices Sanjay Kishan Kaul and KM Joseph, recommended the names of R Sakthivel, P Dhanabal, Chinnasamy Kumarappan, and K Rajasekar.

"By its resolution dated 17 January 2023, the Collegium of the Supreme Court recommended the appointment



Neelakandan. Such a deviation in seniority would be unfair and against the settled convention," the resolution said. The Collegium said that while recommending the name of Rajasekar for elevation, it is of the view that his appointment should be notified after the appointment of Neelakandan is notified.

must be appointed before Rajasekar is

appointed. Otherwise, Rajasekar, who is a judicial officer and younger than

Neelakandan, would rank senior to

'The Collegium is of the considered view that necessary action for the issuance of a notification for the elevation of persons who have been recommended earlier in point of time should be taken at the earliest including the name of R John Sathyan which has been reiterated by this Collegium on 17 January 2023

Continued on Page 10

#### CAPSULE

#### **RAILWAYS RESTORE AC 3-TIER ECONOMY FARE**

New Delhi: Railways on Wednesday issued an order to restore the fare for AC 3-tier economy class travel which had heen withdrawn in November last year when it was merged with AC 3-tier. Despite the restoration in price, Railways will continue offering linen to passengers, the order indicated

#### **MUKESH AMBANI IS RICHEST INDIAN AGAIN**

Mumbai: Gautam Adani's fortunes have suffered a severe setback on concerns over corporate governance and accounting fraud, leading to Reliance Industries' Mukesh Ambani replacing the Ahmedabad-based industrialist as the richest Indian. Adani lost Rs 3.000 crore of wealth every week over the last year and his overall networth is down 60 per cent from its peak, as per the M3M Hurun Global Rich List which pegged Adani's overall fortune at \$53 billion as of mid-

#### **ISRO: CHANDRAYAAN 3, ADITYA L1 SOON**

Ahmedabad: Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman S Somanath on Wednesday said the launch of Chandrayaan-3, India's third lunar mission, and the first solar mission Aditva L1 will possibly happen by the middle of 2023. ISRO is also discussing a possible mission to the Moon in alliance with the Japanese Aerospace Exploration

### PM reviews Covid, influenza situation

Modi stresses on genome sequencing, observing strict Covid protocols

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

Amid a spike in influenza and Covid-19 cases in some pockets in the country in the past two weeks, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday chaired a highlevel meeting and directed officials to enhance genome sequencing while also emphasising on Covid-appropriate behaviour.

India has recorded 1,134 new coronavirus cases, while the active cases increased to 7,026, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Wednesday. The death toll climbed to 5,30,813 with five deaths. One death each has been reported in Chhattisgarh, Gujarat Delhi, and Maharashtra while one fatality was reconciled by Kerala, the data updated at 8 AM stated. The number of districts with 10 per cent or more Covid-positivity has gone up to 14 during March 12-18 against nine in the March 8-14 week. Modi



chaired the meeting to assess the Covid-19 and influenza situation in the country in terms of preparedness of health infrastructure and logistics, status of the vaccination campaign, emergence of new Covid-19 variants and influenza types and their public health implications for the country, a statement issued by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) said.

During the meeting, a comprehensive presentation was made covering the global Covid situation, including the rising cases, by Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan. The Prime Minister was briefed that a slight rise in new cases is being witnessed in some pockets in the country with average daily cases reported as 888 and weekly positivity reported as 0.98 per cent in the week ending March 22. However, 1.08 lakh daily average cases have been reported

globally during the same week. Continued on Page 10

SC to set up Bench to hear plea against remission to



PNS NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on ■ Wednesday agreed to constitute a special Bench to hear a plea against the remission of sentence of 11 convicts in the Bilkis Bano gang-rape case. A Bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices PS Narasimha and JB Pardiwala assured Bano, represented through her lawyer Shobha Gupta, that the new Bench will

be formed. Gupta mentioned the mat-Judge Constitution Bench.

All 11 convicts were granted remission and released on

# Bilkis' rapists



ter for urgent hearing and said that a new Bench needs to be constituted. "I will have a Bench constituted. Will look at it this evening," the CJI said. Earlier, on January 24, the hearing on Bano's plea challenging the remission of sentence of 11 convicts in the gang-rape case by the Gujarat Government could not be held in the top court as the Judges concerned were hearing a matter related to passive euthanasia as part of a five-

August 15, last year.





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Har Pal Aapke Saath

### QR code on tomb keeps son's memories alive ficient to portray what all he did

Family of Kerala doc designed a Web page with his videos linked to the QR code

PTI ■ THRISSUR (KERALA)

QR code placed on a tomb-Astone at a church in Kerala's Thrissur helps one to relive and reminisce on the creative work rendered by a doctor, who died young at just 26. The parents of Dr Ivin Francis decided to place the QR code on the tomb of the youngster at St Joseph Church, Kuriyachira in the central Kerala district to give people a glimpse

into his world as they can watch videos of his performances by scanning the code. His family from Kuriyachira has designed a web page containing all the works of Ivin and linked it with the QR code.

Son of Francis, an officer with a private company in Oman, and Leena, principal of the Indian School in Oman, Ivin was well-versed in music and sports, and found time for it along with his medical course. He was popular among the community with his performances.

Ivin's unfortunate death came in 2021 when he collapsed and died while playing bad-minton. "We wanted his life to be a motivation for everyone and that is how we thought of placing a QR code on his tomb,"



Francis said

Ivin had created profiles of people using QR codes and his parents also decided to do the same for him. "He also used to send me a lot of QR codes for information," the father said. He said the idea of placing a QR code was of Ivin's sister Evelyn

"My daughter told me that just writing something about Ivin on the tomb will not be suf-

We thought he may not be satisfied with just that. So, she said we can have a QR code linked to his profile and place it on the tomb. So, people who scan the code will know what was he and what all he could do. She created the site and QR code in 10 days," Francis said. The doting father said his daughter had asked him not to

inscribe anything on the tomb when he ordered it. "She creat ed the site and OR code and asked me whether that could be printed on the marble tomb. So I asked the maker, and he said it can be printed," Francis said.

He said, "Now, people who

visit the grave can just scan the OR code and can know what sor of a person Ivin was."

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THE PIONEER | NEW DELHI | THURSDAY | MARCH 23, 2023









### शहीदों की चिताओं पर लगेंगे हर बरस मेले वतन पर मिटने वालों का यही बाक़ी निशाँ होगा





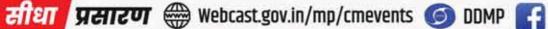
नरेन्द्र मोदी प्रधानमंत्री

# शिवराज सिंह चौहान

मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश द्वारा 23 मार्च, 2023 दोपहर 12 बजे मोतीलाल नेहरू स्टेडियम, भोपाल



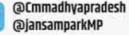














शिवराज सिंह चौहान

मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश

JansamparkMP



**शिवराज सिंह चौहान** मुख्यमंत्री, मध्यप्रदेश

### उपलब्धियां तीन वर्ष की



**लाड़ली बहना योजना** 23 से 60 वर्ष की महिलाओं को प्रतिमाह ₹ 1,000 की आर्थिक सुरक्षा



मुख्यमंत्री कौशल अप्रेंटिसशिप योजना १ लाख युवाओं को प्रशिक्षण के साथ ₹१ लाख तक का स्टाइपेंड



**लाड़ली लक्ष्मी योजना २.०** ४४.५० लाख से अधिक लाड़ली बेटियाँ हईं लाभान्वित



**मुख्यमंत्री इंटर्निशिप योजना** 4,600 से अधिक युवाओं को दी गई पेड इंटर्निशिप



उद्योग-व्यापार की उन्नति ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टर्स समिट से ₹ 15,42,514 करोड़ के निवेश प्रस्ताव, औसत प्रति व्यक्ति आय 2003 में ₹ 11,718 से बढ़कर अब ₹ 1,40,583 हुई



बढ़ती विकास दर 16.43% की औसतन आर्थिक विकास दर के साथ समृद्ध राज्यों में शामिल



**सशक्त अन्नदाता** मध्यप्रदेश गेहूँ निर्यात में नंबर १, कृषि विकास दर २०२२ में १८.८९%



**सुराज कॉलोनियां** भू-माफियाओं से मुक्त कराई गई 23 हजार एकड़ भूमि पर बनेंगे गरीबों के लिए आवास



सीएम राइज़ स्कूल ₹ ६,३०० करोड़ से बन रहे ९,००० आधुनिक सुविधाओं से परिपूर्ण विद्यालय



सांस्कृतिक गौरव की पुनर्थिपना उज्जैन में श्री महाकाल महालोक का लोकार्पण, ₹ 2200 करोड़ की लागत से ओंकारेश्वर में 'एकात्म धाम' की स्थापना, ओरछा में राम राजा लोक, चित्रकूट में दिव्य वनवासी रामलोक और सलकनपुर में श्री-देवी महालोक मंदिर प्रस्तावित

## 'Hike capital budget of Army'

 $F^{
m aced}$  by two hostile neighbours namely China and Pakistan and the ongoing tension at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Ladakh, a Parliament Standing Committee on Defence report has called for a hike in capital Budget of the Army. It will enable it to enhance deterrent capabilities to meet any challenge, the report noted.

The committee appreciated the efforts made by the Defence Ministry towards the indigenisation of military platforms and hoped that the country would see "100 per cent contract value" going to Indian



vendors in the years ahead. The report was tabled in Parliament on Tuesday

Referring to the challenges before the Army, the parliamentary standing committee cited proxy wars, in an apparent reference to Pakistanbacked cross-border terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir

The committee was of the view that funds slated for modernisation of the armed forces should always be incremental. The committee also desired that there should be a separate allocation for committed liabilities and new schemes, under the modernisation/capital bud-

be in proportion to the increase in defence spending of our neighbours. Therefore, the committee recommended that the capital budget of the Army should be increased to have a deterrent capacity to ward off at least two hostile neighbours," it said, in an indirect reference to Pakistan and China.

The committee noted that the capital outlay for the Navy for 2023-24 was projected at Rs 52,804.75 crore. "Against this projection, the committee found that this year's allocation is pragmatic and supportive for the Navy as the ministry actually allocated the same amount as projected, although, this projection is Rs 14,818.21 crore

on the Adani issue and in

return it would drop the call for

an apology over Rahul

Gandhi's remarks in the UK,

asserting there was no question

Jairam Ramesh said efforts are

being made since the last few

days that a "formula" or mid-

dle path is found with both the

of any such compromise. Congress general secretary

in the year 2022-23," it said.

"This also indicates that the requirements of the Navy for the new scheme have decreased, and gone down which may affect its modernisation drive. The committee recommended to be apprised of the reasons for the lower projection in comparison to last year," the panel said.

The committee recommended that from next year onwards a separate statement of the net budget be provided after taking into account the inflation, noting that it is a recurring and unavoidable phenomenon in all aspects of economic theory which applies to

# 'Sensationalist lies': India's High Commissioner to UK on Punjab

SERVICE/AGENCIES NEW DELHI/LONDON

erming the reports on the Terming the reports on the situation in Punjab as "sensationalist lies," Indian High Commissioner to London Vikram Doraiswami said on Wednesday the situation is normal in the State and visitors including from the UK are safe.

He made these observations in the backdrop of ongoing operation in India to nab Amritpal Singh and Waris Punjab De.

While summarizing the situation in Punjab, the envoy truth to sensationalist lies being circulated on social media. The Indian High Commissioner was talking about the law enforcement action against Waris Punjab

said in London "there is no

"The situation for travel is normal and visitors including

"Let me assure all our friends here in the UK, especially brothers and sisters with relatives in Punjab that there is no truth to sensationalist lies being circulated on social media," Doraiswami said in a video address released by the Indian High Commission in London.

It was reported on Saturday that mobile Internet services have been suspended in several districts of Punjab, state police said after launching an operation to arrest the chief of suspected pro-Khalistan outfit 'Waris Punjab De', Amritpal Singh

### India likely to be severely hit by water scarcity by 2050: UN report

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

ome 2050 and India is Lexpected to be the most severely water-hit nation due to scarcity of the precious item with a flagship UN report warning that overall the global urban population facing water scarcity is projected to increase from 933 million in 2016 to 1.7-2.4 billion people within the next 27 years.

The flagship UN report 'United Nations World Water Development Report 2023: partnerships and cooperation for water', released Tuesday ahead of the UN 2023 Water Conference, said that around 80% of people living under water stress lived in Asia; in particular, northeast China, as well as India and Pakistan.

"The global urban population facing water scarcity is projected to increase from 933 million (one third of global urban population) in 2016 to 1.7-2.4 billion people (one third to nearly half of global urban population) in 2050, with India projected to be the most severely affected," the report said, citing data.

No doubt, the observations of the report hold importance for India which is home to 18 percent of the world's population, but has only 4 percent of its water resources. The UN report comes a month after the government's policy think tank, the NITI Aayog had pointed out that India's depen-



dence on an increasingly erratic monsoon for its water requirements is a challenge. Climate change is likely to exacerbate this pressure on water resources, even as the frequency and intensity of floods and droughts in the country

Yet another report by the United Nations Institute for Water, Environment and Health in January 2023 had estimated that India's 3,700 large dams will have lost on average 26 per cent of their initial total storage by 2050.

Against such a bleak scenario, experts have called for setting up strong mechanisms to prevent the global water crisis from spiralling out of con-

'There is an urgent need to establish strong international mechanisms to prevent the global water crisis from spiralling out of control," said UNESCO Director-General Audrey Azoulay. "Water is our common future, and it is essential to act together to share it equitably and manage it sus-

Globally, two billion peo-

ple do not have safe drinking water and 3.6 billion lack access to safely managed sanitation, the report found with Richard Connor, the report's editor-inchief pointing out that "uncer-

tainties are increasing".

"If we don't address it, there definitely will be a global crisis," he said, pointing to rising scarcity that reflects reduced availability and increased demand, from urban and industrial growth to agriculture, which alone consumes 70 per cent of the world's sup-

UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres said in the report that "Water is the lifeblood of humanity.

It is vital for survival itself and supports the health, resilience, development and prosperity of people and planet alike.

Guterres voiced concern that humanity is blindly travelling a dangerous path. 'Vampiric overconsumption and overdevelopment, unsustainable water use, pollution and unchecked global warming are draining humanity's lifeblood, drop by drop."



Opposition and

Government relenting.
"This is unacceptable to us, these two things are completely unconnected. One is a reality. The questions we are asking are fundamental questions, this has happened. The BJP's demand of apology is just baseless, it is on false allegations. So

to say that you take back your demand then we will take back the demand for an apology, we are not ready for any such bargain," Jairam said at AICC Press conference.

Jairam however clarified that no one from the government has talked directly to the opposition on the issue and is only being known unofficially. He said Rahul Gandhi has written to the Speaker to be allowed to speak under rule 357 (in the Lok Sabha), saying it is his democratic right and what the speaker decides on it only time will tell.

"But to say that there is a formula, it is not acceptable to us. We are not agreeable to this because the two things are like 'chalk and cheese' between the demand for a JPC and a demand for an apology. The demand for apology that is being repeated, it is being done so that attention is diverted from the Adani issue. Their strategy is 3D -- distort, defame and divert. They distorted Rahul Gandhi's remarks, defamed him and now want to divert attention from the Adani issue," he said.

To a suggestion by TMC

governments can initiate investigation in their own states, Ramesh said, "It is laughable. Those who have given this suggestion, their only intention is to give a clean chit to the government.'

"This is the question at the doorstep of the prime minister. How can state governments probe into these issues, it is the responsibility of the central government. This is a non-serious suggestion. Those who have given this suggestion neither know about the economy nor politics," he said.

### **Railways restores fare of AC 3-tier** economy class travel in trains

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $R^{
m ailways}$  on Wednesday issued an order to restore the fare for AC 3-tier economy class travel which had been withdrawn in November last year when it was merged with

Despite the restoration in price, Railways will continue offering linen to passengers, the order indicated.

The present order has withdrawn an earlier circular in which the fare for AC 3-tier economy class ticket had been made equal to the fare of an AC 3-tier ticket. The reason for the merger was stated to be the cost of linen which was initially not provided in the economy air conditioned class. According to the order, passengers who have



booked tickets online and over the counter will be given a refund of the extra amount for the pre-booked tickets.

The railways, while introducing the 3E as a class in 2021, had September announced that fares in these newly-introduced coaches will be 6-8 per cent less than normal AC 3 coaches, pitching the class of travel as the "best and cheapest AC travel service" in

Before the November 2022 order, passengers could book AC 3 economy tickets under a separate category of "3E" in specific trains where railways offered such seats.

Officials said, currently there are 463 AC 3 Economy coaches compared to 11,277 normal AC 3 coaches.

AC 3 economy coaches have better facilities for passengers than normal AC 3 coaches, officials said.



demand: Cong

President Droupadi Murmu confers Padma Shri on social worker Hirabaiben Ibrahimbhai Lobi from Gujarat during Padma Awards 2023 ceremony at Rashtrapati

# Thapliyal and Mrs. Sumitra Thapliyal are the owners of the Third Floor with roof rights (northern side portion "said floor", area measuring 40 sq. mtrs., built on Property bearing No. 10872; stuited in Gail No. 19, Pratap Nagar Andha Mughal, Delhi-110007 vide Sale Deed dated 15.03.201 (Doc. No. 1761). That, Mr. Sidh Ram Thapliya and Mrs. Sumitra Thapliyal have misplaced the below mentioned documents. a)Original Sale Deed dated 11.01.2013 executed by Mrs. Kusum Sachdev and Mrs. Ravinder Kaur Chhabra in favour of Mrs. Sapna in respect of Third Floor with roof rights (northern side portion), area measuring 40 sq. yds. and the same was duly registered with SRO-I New Delhi, as Document No. 306, Book No. 1. Volume No. 4720, on Pages 154-162 on 11.01.2013. b) Original Sale Deed dated 23.02.2017 obuy registered with STAC-I New Durin, as Document, as Do

#### · CHANGE OF NAME ·

I, Arif Khan S/o. Niyaz Ahmad, R/o. A-130, Abul Fazal Enclave-II, Shaheen Bagh, Jamia Nagar, Okhla, New Delhi-110025 have changed my name to Mohammed Arif Khan.

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Delhi High Court on the policy barring married individuals from applying for Judge Advocate General (JAG), the legal officer in the army, and said considering the "effects of marriage", the bar is a "reasonable restriction placed in public interest and the interest of national security". In an additional affidavit filed in response to a petition chal-

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that Mrs. Gurmeet Kaur is the owner of Back Side Portion of Property bearing No. W2-44. Plot No. 37, admeasuring 37.50 sq. yds., out of Rect. No. 32, Killa No. 19, Situated at Village Khyala, Ravi Nagar, New Delhi, vide registered sale deed dated 23.03.2005 (Document No. 8941). All Persons are hereby informed that Mr. Khurshid & Mrs. Sitara is purchasing the abovementioned property from Mrs. Gurmeet Kaur by way of registered Sale Deed and they are mortgaging the said property with Fullerton India Home Finance Company Limited, General public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/tile in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

s within 07 days of the present.

Mrs. Prasoon Lata, Advocate
SG Associates (Law Firm
7,Basement,Plot No C 78,Sector 2,Noids

Jnit No 7,Basement,Plot No 6,70,500 UP 201301. E-MAIL: sgassociatespl@gmail Ph: 7011172764, 813020

**(1) ICICI B**ank



lenging the embargo, Defence Ministry said the condition of being unmarried for grant of commission to cadets aged 21-27 years is "restricted only for the period of recruitment and pre-commissioned training" which involves a high amount of stress and rigours of military

Satish Chandra Sharma and Justice Sachin Datta granted time to petitioner Kush Kalra to file his response to the Centre's stand. Last year, the high court had asked the Centre to explain the reason behind the policy on an affidavit while remarking that the policy barring married individuals from applying for the

A bench of Chief Justice Constitution and there was no discrimination on the basis of marital status of the candidates.

> right to marry as a fundamental right. In the latest affidavit, the

lar qualification requirements for basic military training and in all types of entries, "unmarried clause" is common. It explained that once the unmarried cadets complete their training and are granted commission, there is no bar on marriage or its "natural consequences" like pregnancy and several service benefits are also given, but during conduct of basic military training that lasts for minimum one year,

Centre submitted that in the Indian Army, both males and females are treated equally and

NPG under PMGatiShakti examines,

The authorities have sought

dismissal of the PIL saying the

Constitution does not stipulate

such provisions are not possi-



#### **New Okhla Industrial Development Authority**

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida 201301 (U.P.) Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com

#### **E-TENDER NOTICE**

E-Tenders are invited from eligible contractors/firm for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.com & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes/amendments & corrigendum etc.

(A) Re-Tender Work:-

SI. No.	Job No.	Name of Work	Tender Amount (in Lacs.)
1.	38/DGM(E&M)/Sr.M (E&M-I)/E.T./2022-23	I reviaing lighting Arrangements Replacement of	44.50

The above tenders can be uploaded by dated 29.03.2023 upto 5:00 PM. Pre-qualification

shall be opened/downloaded on dated 31. 03.2023 at 11:00 AM.

(B) Fresh Tender Work:

(-,	(C) From Foliation treatment					
SI. Job No.		Name of Work	Tender Amount (in Lacs.)			
1.	55/DGM(E&M)/Sr.M (E&M-I)/E.T./2022-23	Supply of Small / Big Crane on rent basis for Traffic Police, Noida	97.97			
2.	41/DGM(E&M)/Sr.M (E&M-IV)/2022-23	Providing Street Lighting arrangement in Sector-18, Noida (Balance Work)	54.01			

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Dy. General Manager (E&M)

Date: March 23, 2023

CENTRAL DELHI.

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CORRIGENDUM

Demand notice publication under SARFAESI Act for Loan Account No. 739005000009/ 739055000002 Name of the Borrower MIS.RAJSHREE

TRADING CO, RAJ KAMAL SHARMA, RAJ KAMAL SHARMA, RAJSHREE SHARMA & were published in Demand notice dated July

20, 2022 and publication dated September 06, 2022 at The Pioneer (English & Hindi) &Symbolic possession notice dated October 19, 2022 and it's Publication dated October 22, 2023 at The Pioneer (English &

Hindi) and Physical possession notice dated February 27, 2023 and it's publication at The Pioneer (English & Hindi) under the

ecuritization, reconstruction of financial asset and enforcement of

Security interest Act 2002 and in exercise of the power conferred under

section 13(2) and 13(4) the Firm name mention is the all above mentioned

notices and it's publicationrespectively. We wish to mention that inadvertently and unintentionally a typographical error has occurred in the said the Firm name is MIS. RAJSHREE TRADING CO, RAJ KAMAL

SHARMA, RAJ KAMAL SHARMA, RAJSHREE SHARMA & Property address is M.C. NO-437, GALI MANDIR WALI NAYA BANS KHARI BOALI CENTRAL DELHIInstead of M/S.RAJSHREE TRADING CO, RAJ KAMAL SHARMA, RAJ KAMAL SHARMA, RAJSHREE SHARMA, M.C. NO-437, FIRST FLOOR GALI MANDIR WALI NAYA

BANS KHARI BAOLI CENTRAL DELHI We therefore, request you to please read the same as M/S.RAJSHREE TRADING CO, RAJ KAMAL

SHARMA, RAJ KAMAI SHARMA, RAJSHREE SHARMA, M.C. NO

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

#### recommends six infra projects PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI** 

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, Saket Daga S/o Sh. Sunil Kumar Jain K/o C-254, Bhabha Marg, Tilak Nagar, Jawahar Nagar, Jaipur, Rajasthan I am the Owner of Property bearing Plot No.57 area measuring 260 Sq. Meters. situated at Block-A, Wazirpur Residential Scheme, Phase -Ill Known as Ashok Vihar, Delhi vide file No. F. 20 (12) 14/LSB\*, lost/misplaced my original Demand Letter, Possession Letter, Site Possession Slip, Perpetual Lease Deed Dand C Form and other documents etc of my said property. Online FIR to this effect has been lodged, vide LR No. 252108/2023 dated 17/03/2023. Any person claiming any right, interest having any objection may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No. 9810338616 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice and can personally inform or write to Director (LAB) R, A-Block, Second Floor, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi The Network Planning **I** Group (NPG) under PM

■ The state of th GatiShakti at its 45th session examined and recommended six Infrastructure projects including that from Railways and Road Transport Highways Ministry.

These projects will be developed in tandem with the PM GatiShakti Principles using the integrated and holistic approach. These projects will also provide multimodal connectivity, seamless movement of goods and passengers as well as increase logistics efficiency

across the country. A project by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy was also examined by the NPG. A one of its kind project for the Inter-State Transmission System for Renewable Energy Projects in Ladakh is a big step towards achieving the Government of India's target of 500 GW capacity from non -

fossil fuels by the year 2030. The Ministry of Railways proposed a project for city ogistics. The project was for

Kanpur Anwarganj Mandhana elevated railway track. It is a City specific project as it will increase line capacity utilization for railways and improve city logistics in the region. The project is located in the heart of Kanpur city wherein 16 Level Crossing (LC) are located in 16 Km stretch with GT road running

parallel to this track. On both sides of the railway track there are important components such as universities, medical college, cardiology centre, cancer centre, good shed, consumption centres, warehouses, agricultural components, among others.

Eventually, it leads to traffic jams and an increase in waiting time of trains, and vehicles. After the construction of this track rail logistics will improve by 4.2 MTPA. Further,

a project by the Ministry of Railways for construction of Rail Bridge across river Ganga in connection with the new railway line connecting Vikramshila - Katareah railway station on East central railway in Bihar State was examined by the NPG. The project is about 40 KM from Bhagalpur alongside a stream on river Ganges. The NPG examined two projects by the Ministry of Roads, Transport and

Highways pertaining to construction of 4 Lane to Bijni to Mandi section including construction of twin tube tunnels of Pathankot – Mandi. The second project pro-

posed by MoRTH was the construction of a 4 Lane of Belgaum - Hungsund -Raichur, as a part of Panaji -Hyderabad

### Modi to kick off **₹1K cr projects** in Varanasi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Varanasi on March 24 and inaugurate and lay a number of projects in his home constituency and address the 'One World TB Summit at Rudrakash Convention Centre.

Prime Minister will dedicate and lay the foundation stone of various projects worth more than Rs. 1780 crores at Sampurnanand Sanskrit University ground, according to the Prime Minister's office.

On the occasion of World Tuberculosis Day, the Prime Minister will address the One World TB Summit.

The summit is being organised by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Stop TB Partnership. Founded in 2001, the Stop TB Partnership is a United Nations hosted organ-



isation that amplifies the voices of the people, communities, and countries affected by TB.

He will launch various initiatives including the TB-Mukt Panchayat initiative; official pan-India rollout of a shorter TB Preventive Treatment Family-centric care model for TB and release of India's Annual TB Report 2023. Prime Minister will also award select States and UTs and Districts for their progress towards ending

### BJP seeks CBI probe into Kerala 'waste mgmt scam'

 $\mathbf{T}$ n the backdrop of a major fire in the waste dump in Cochi in Kerala on March 2 the BJP on Wednesday claimed a major 'waste management scam by the son-in-laws of the UDF-LDF Government' in the state and demanded an investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the alleged corruption. The BJP accused the Kerala Government of "not following rules" speltout by the 'Swachata abhiyan' of Prime Minster Narendra Modi.

Addressing a press conference here , the BJP-in-charge of Kerala and former environment minister Prakash Javadekar said While the solid management rules were notified by the Centre in 2016, the Kerala Government never followed them, leading to a complete "mismanagement" of waste all over the state, he said.

He said the firm chosen for the waste management in Kochi received a Rs 54 crore-contract and it in turn subcontracted the

task to other firms for over Rs 22 crore. "Rs 32 crore went straight into its pocket," the BJP leader claimed. "Goa and Indore have been

among the best examples of managing waste and turning it into wealth. But the Kerala government never tried to do anything in this regard," he said. Javadekar said since Kerala government is not allow permission for the CBI probe, the High court may order such a probe into the alleged scam.

The BJP leader said that corruption involving kin of the Left and Congress functionaries in Kerala led to the absence of a waste-management plan and a consequent fire at a landfill in Kochi which among damages caused innumerous health problems to the Cochin inhabitants, he said.

The former union minister alleged involvement of son-inlaw of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan besides sons-in-law of a former Left Democratic Front (LDF) and a Congress leader in the "monumental" corruption

disaster recently. While the Left is in power in Kerala, the Congress is the main opposition party. Both are now together in looting the state, Javadekar

There are three sons-inlaw, two companies and a big scam. The LDF and the UDF have come together in looting Kerala," he said, claiming that the companies assigned to deal with waste management in the city are linked to the kin of politicians.

Kerala BJP leaders, including Union minister V Muraleedharan and former Union minister K J Alphons, were present at the press conference. "I am directly saying that the chief minister has taken interest," Javadekar said.

BJP has been electorally focusing on Kerala and has recently received support from one of the Bishops in the state. The Prime Minister has recently hoped that the BJP may come to power in Kerala in coalition with others.

### Shah opens Kupwara's Sharda temple virtually

The precincts of a newly L constructed Maa Sharda Devi Temple, located close to the line of control in Tithwal village of North Kashmir district of Kupwara, came alive on Wednesday as large number of devotees assembled here for the first time to worship the idol, made from panch dhatu (five metals).

The 3.5 feet-tall idol of Goddess Sri Sharadamba, was donated by the Sringeri Sharada mutt for installation at the newly-constructed Sharda

The temple, constructed on a piece of land provided by the local villagers in the area, was formally inaugurated by the Union Home Minister Amit Shah through video conferencing. Several dignitaries including Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir Manoj Sinha, were present on the occasion and became witness to the historic occasion. Several



guests including Ravindra Pandita, Founder Save Sharda Committee Kashmir, Kashmiri pandit scholars were given warm reception by the local villagers on their arrival in Tithwal.

Amit Shah began his address by wishing countrymen for the New Year. He said that today on occasion of New Year, the newly constructed temple of Maa Sharda has been opened for the devotees and this is an auspicious sign for devotees from all over India. He said inauguration of Maa Sharda's temple is beginning of a new era. He said that today's beginning will help in bringing back lost glory of this place and

this place will remain the centre of worship and continue to awaken the consciousness of India for ages. "Sharda Peeth has been a historical centre of India's cultural, religious and educational heritage, like Kartarpur Corridor, Government under the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will move forward to open Sharda Peeth for devotees'

The Union Home Minister said that the architecture and construction of this temple has been done according to mythological scriptures under the aegis of Sharda Peeth.

Shah said the idol of Sharda Maa, donated by Sringeri Math, and its installation here, the time period from 24 January till today was like a

The reconstruction of Maa Sharda's temple in Kupwara is a necessary and important step in direction of discovery of Sharda-civilization and promotion of Sharda-script.

### JKCCS' activist held by NIA in terror funding case

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Wednesday arrested the Programme Coordinator of Jammu and Kashmir Coalition of Civil Societies (JKCCS) in connection with the NGO Terror Funding Case. Following the first arrest

made in this case, the NIA arrested Khurram Parvez, the Programme Coordinator of JKCCS and Chairperson of Philippines-based NGO Asian Federation Against Involuntary Disappearances (AFAD), the NIA said in a statement. "Investigations revealed

that Khurram Parvez has been collecting funds under the garb of fighting for Human Rights, from various international entities/ persons based abroad and channelizing those funds for funding terror activities in the Kashmir valley," the agency

He, along with his associates, were also propagating a secessionist agenda through Parvez has already been chargesheeted in another NIA case. He was formally arrested upon production in this case on Wednesday, it said. The case relates to the terror funding of



proscribed terrorist organisations, such as Lashkar-e-Toiba LeT) and Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, by certain NGOs, Trusts and societies based in the Valley. Investigations have revealed that Khurram Parvez and his associates raised funds to support individuals who were involved in pelting stones at security forces personnel and also motivated others to extend similar support, it said.

These trusts and societies, tigation, have utilised the funds raised by them to publish antinational and incriminating materials to cause hatred and Government of India, it added.

### NIA court sentences Bodo militant to life imprisonment

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has secured conviction for life and rigorous imprisonment against a Bodo militant in the 2014 Assam indiscriminate firing case. The NIA Special Court,

Guwahati, on Tuesday sentenced Bodo militant Rabi Basumatary alias Rongjabaja alias Rabi to life imprisonment, along with rigorous imprisonment for 10 years, in various cases of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act in a 2014 case of indiscriminate firing on villagers in Assam, the NIA said in a statement here on

Wednesday. Rabi, who was convicted by the court on March 13, 2023, has been sentenced to life imprisonment in two cases and rigorous imprisonment in two others.

He has been convicted under IPC sections relating to murder, attempt to murder and common intention besides relevant provisions of the UAPA

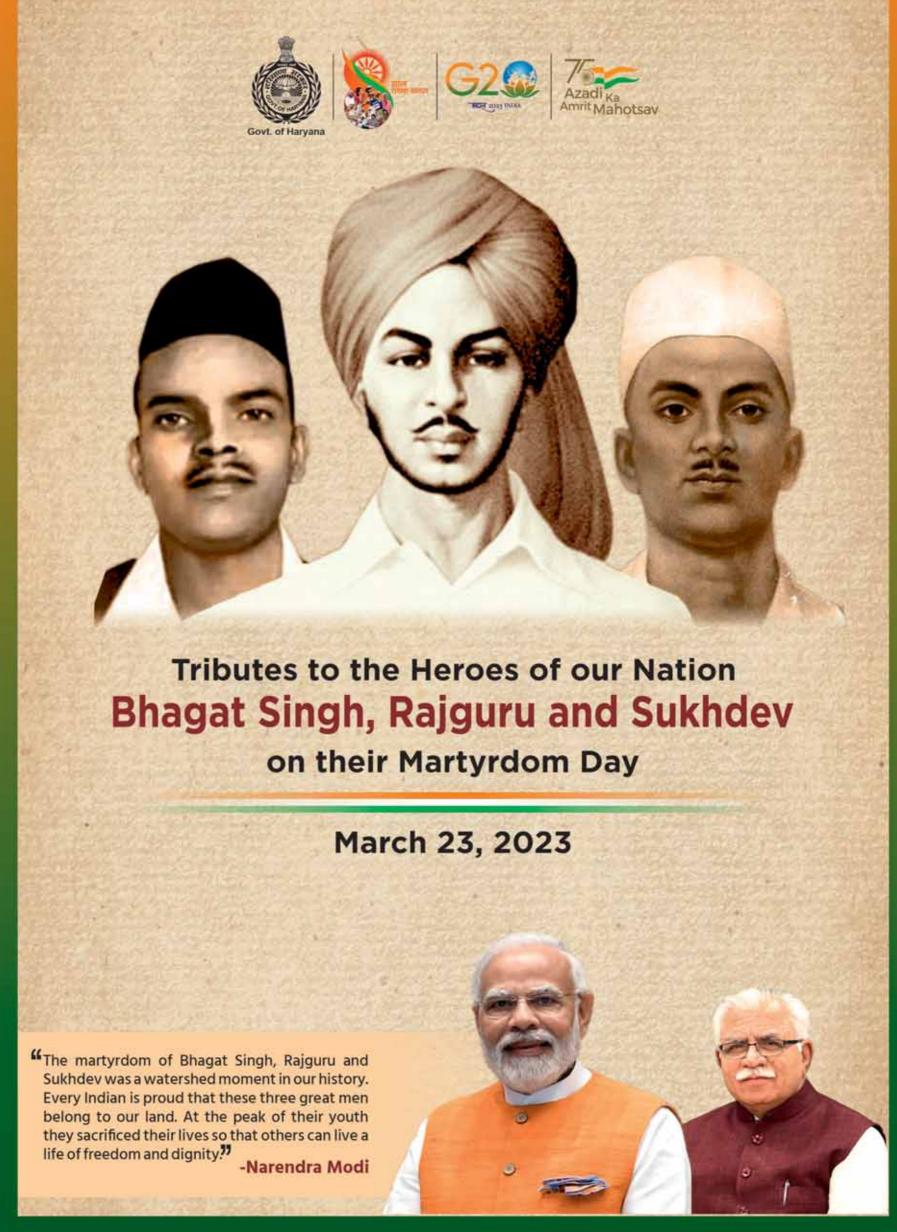
He has also been fined in all the cases, and will have to undergo additional simple imprisonment in case of failure to pay the same. All the substantive sentences will run concurrently, the agency said.



Seven villagers were killed and two grievously injured in the case, in which Rabi was arrested in September 2016 and chargesheeted by NIA in March 2017 through the first supplementary chargesheet.

Investigation in the case had revealed that Rabi Basumutary alias B Rongjabaja was a member of the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB), an armed separatist outfit fighting to obtain a sovereign Boroland for the Bodo people.

On May 1, 2014, Rabi, along with six other NDFB cadres, had entered Balapra village under Gossaigaon police station area of Kokrajhar district of Assam, where they opened indiscriminate fire on the villagers on instructions from top NDFB leadership headed by G Bidai and Songbijit. The Special NIA Court had subsequently registered the case as Special Case



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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

### Already engaged

A prominent US conservative academic says BJP is the most important foreign political party in the world

The Bharatiya Janata Party and the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh rarely figure in public discourse of Western countries. And when it does, it is generally for criticism. However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's nine years in office, and his Government's persistent emphasis on its Hindu core, seem to have changed that. Evidently, those who matter in government and decision- and opinion-making are shedding their blinkers to have a closer look at the Sangh Parivar. The blinkers, needless to say, were often manufactured at the facilities (academia, the mainstream media, et al) run by the Left-liberal establishment. But it looks like the important people in the West want to have a 360-degree view of the saffron family, especially the BJP. This is the reason that a prominent conservative academic, in an opinion piece in the prominent conservative newspaper Wall Street Journal, chose to state that the BJP



"is, from the standpoint of American national interests, the most important foreign political party in the world. It may also be the least understood." The author Walter Russell Mead is "convinced that Americans and Westerners generally need to engage much more deeply with a complex and powerful movement [Hindutva]." It may be mentioned here that Mead is a well-known critic of China. Three years ago, he wrote an article with the self-explanatory headline, 'China Is the Real Sick Man of Asia,' in WSJ. Unsurprisingly, the Chinese Government was incensed; it even expelled three WSJ journalists.

Mead, who teaches at New York's Bard College, is quite bullish not just about India but also the BJP,

which "is headed for a repeat victory in 2024." India is emerging both as a leading economic power and, along with Japan, as the linchpin of American strategy in the Indo-Pacific, he wrote. Therefore, for the foreseeable future the BJP will be calling the shots in a country without whose help American efforts to balance rising Chinese power are likely to fall short. Mead is not exactly a cheerleader of the BJP. He talked about the anti-Government journalists who "can face harassment and worse." He also talks about "anti-conversion laws as well as occasional outbursts of mob violence." Yet, he doesn't find the BJP beyond the pale, for the party may reject many ideas and priorities of Western liberalism, "it embraces key features of modernity" (emphasis added). Further, he is appreciative of the saffron party which "combines a basically pro-market economic stance with populist rhetoric and traditionalist values." This is also a trait that American conservatives generally admire. The WSJ article should not be seen as just an academic's exuberance; the West's deeper engagement with Modi's India was written all over Air India's 70-billion deal to buy 470 aircraft. This could not have been possible without the consent of the big boys and girls of global finance and of politics. Indo-Western engagement has already begun.



# Sikhs hold Tiranga in high esteem

Reckless politics by earlier governments created conditions that bred an insurgency movement but Sikhs have always saluted the Tiranga

ealthy politics is all about disagreements (irrespective of the fact that every ruling dispensation would suggest otherwise), and so it should always be. Dissent and disagreement with a government and its perceived policies is not the same as rebelling against the nation. History is instructive that often dissent against the government can be the highest form of patriotism e.g., dissent against Emergency in 1975. However, something is sacrosanct and beyond the realm of either political usurpation or conversely destruction. These are the foundational 'Ideas of India' as enshrined in the holy book of the land i.e., the Constitution and the defined symbols within, the most sacred of them being the national flag, Tiranga or Tricolour.

Recent images of a Khalistani supporter attempting to pull down the Tiranga at the Indian High Commission in London, were simply deplorable beyond words. The shameful act militated against the inert sense of patriotism that ought to beset all Indians, irrespective of their partisan loyalties, personal identities, and disaffections. That it came from a member of a community that has given more blood and lives to protect the integrity, sovereignty, and dignity of India since time immemorial, made it even more hurtful and unbelievable. Contrast this recent image

with that of the valourous Sikh warriors (8 Sikh Regiment - the irrepressible 'Chardhikala' battalion) who battled their way to the top of Tiger Hill in the Kargil War. These fierce Khalsa warriors with unmatched josh and daredevilry reached atop the Tiger Hill and flew the Tiranga - the price to pay for flying that Tiranga was one officer, four junior commissioned officers and 30 jawans of 8 Sikh who went down fighting and charging with a war cry that sent shivers down the spine of the enemies, 'Bole So Nihal Sat Sri Akal'! To defend their commitment to the flag, their forefathers had refused to surrender and came down fighting to the last man in earlier battles like Saragarhi. concerns with various dis-There is no surprise the latter day Sikh Regiment (along with Sikh Light Infantry) has continued to



be one of the most decorated regiments of the Indian Army due to its fiery traditions. 1st Battalion of the Sikh Regiment, later the 4th Mechanised Regiment, is considered the Commonwealth's most decorated battalion with 245 preindependence and 82 postindependence gallantry awards. Martial Sikhs need no certificate of patriotism. Those who seek to besmirch its fine history written in blood and sacrifice, don't behoove or represent the community's unflinching standards and ethos for eons!

Sikhs may be about 1.7% of the national population but they are almost 20% of the recipients of the highest gallantry award i.e., Param Vir Chakra (with the National Emblem of India in the centre, surrounded by four copies of the Vajra). These men willingly put themselves in the line of fire to defend the Tiranga. They are Lance Naik Karam Singh, Subedar Joginder Singh, Flying Officer Nirmal Jit Singh Sekhon and Hony Capt Major Bana Singh.

Beyond soldering, farming is the mainstay of the Sikh community and they have nad many socio-economic pensations since independence (like any region or ethnicity). Reckless politics by earlier



RECENT IMAGES OF A KHALISTANI **SUPPORTER** ATTEMPTING TO PULL DOWN THE TIRANGA AT THE INDIAN HIGH **COMMISSION IN** LONDON WERE SIMPLY **DEPLORABLE BEYOND WORDS**  governments created conditions that bred an insurgency movement, but that didn't imply that every Sikh who had a genuine grievance against the government wanted to secede or become a Khalistani (as is instinctively and thoughtlessly attributed today). At the height of militancy in 1987, then Naib Subedar Bana Singh of 8th JAKLI had led an impossible assault and wrested control of an almost impregnable peak in Siachen Glacier. Such is the cloth from which the Sikh community is cut - societal and political differences aside, a nation first and foremost, always!

Like many proud Veterans who had guarded the nation with their lives and were later participating in the Farmers Protest a few years back, little did they know that they would be abused as Khalistanis, 'antinationals' by people who would never come remotely close to making the sacrifices that these men and women had made, and even by some among them, who were misguided and truly condemnable. Larger citizenry did not differentiate (unlike in the 80 s) and the dispensation encouraged the wrongful narrative that a Khalistani flag had replaced the Tiranga at Red Fort - it hadn't

replaced the Tiranga and the flag hoisted on the said pole was the sacred Nishan Sahib and not the Khalistani flag. But politics of disparagement ensued and wrongfully diminished a patriotic community, as truth may not have been able to generate the much-needed polarisation!
As a result, the PVC

awardee Hony Capt Bana Singh voiced his disapproval of the Agnipath scheme and even walked with an opposition leader on his Bharat Jodo Yatra - the logic of the proud Indians - "This is our country, and we have to address what issues there are". He rightfully delinked his right to dissent from any suggestions of disagreeing with the 'Idea of India'. Instead, he owned and sought to protect the 'India', which he was proud of by dissenting. Today all his tweets are signed off by emoticons of a folded hand and the Tiranga! The person who sought to remove the Tiranga from the building in London could never claim to represent the clan of defenders of the nation and its Tiranga. This is i.e., the most patriotic, gallant and noblest Sikhs.

(1 ne writer, a military veter an, is a former Lt Governor of Åndaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views expressed are personal)

### Legal remedies for crimes against women



Underreporting of crimes against women makes it difficult to assess the correct prevalence of such crimes and provide relief

omestic violence and crimes against women have been a persistent problem in many countries, including India. Despite various initiatives and measures taken by governments and civil society organizations, these issues continue to affect women in our society. The victims of such crimes often find themselves in a vulnerable position, not aware of their legal rights and reme-

Domestic violence is defined as any behaviour that is designed to control or dominate an intimate partner, including physical violence, sexual violence, emotional abuse, and economic abuse. It is a serious violation of human rights and can have devastating consequences for the victim's physical, emotional, and mental well-being. One of the primary rea-

sons for the persistence of these issues is the patriarchal nature of Indian society. Women are often viewed as inferior to men and are expected to conform to societal norms and expectations. This mindset has led to the normalization of violence against women and the belief or separation to protect them- much to be desired. The in the Delhi High court)

that women are responsible for their own safety.

One of the most effective legal remedies for victims of domestic violence is obtaining a restraining order or protection order. A restraining order is a court order that prohibits the abuser from contacting or coming near the victim or their children. The order can be obtained by filing a petition in court and providing evidence of abuse. Once the order is issued, the abuser can be arrested and charged with a criminal offence if they violate the

order. Another significant legal remedy for victims of domestic violence is obtaining a divorce or separation. In many cases, the victim may need to obtain a restraining order before filing for divorce

selves and their children from further harm. Divorce or separation can provide victims with the legal right to seek financial support and custody of their children. The divorce may also provide for the division of property and assets acquired during the marriage.

One big reason for the persistence of these issues is the under-reporting of crimes against women. Many women are hesitant to report such crimes due to fear of retaliation, social stigma, and lack of trust in the justice system. This under-reporting not only makes it difficult for victims to seek legal remedies but also makes it challenging for authorities to tackle these issues effectively.Crimes against women such as rape, sexual harassment, and trafficking constitute serious offences that can have longlasting consequences for the victim. Victims of these crimes can seek legal remedies to hold the perpetrator accountable and obtain compensation for the harm they have suffered. It is not that we do not have laws though

their implementation leaves

number of crimes identified under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) for instance, Rape (sec.376 IPC), Kidnapping & abduction (sec.363 - 373 IPC), Dowry Deaths (sec.302/304-B of IPC), torture, both mental and physical (sec.498-A of IPC), Molestation (sec.354 of IPC), Sexual harassment (sec.509 of IPC) (referred to in the past as Eve-teasing), Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 and last but not the least, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. Unfortunately, the actual number of such crime is never known as women shy away from reporting it.

Victims can also seek legal remedies through civil lawsuits, which can provide compensation for the harm they have suffered, including medical expenses, lost income, and emotional distress. It is imperative for women to be aware of their constitutional rights and seek help from law enforcement agencies and civil society organizations.

(The writer is an advocate

#### **WORRYING SIGNS IN PUNJAB**

Sir — The drama surrounding the Punjab Police manhunt for fugitive radical preacher Amritpal Singh which has entered its third day, and the spurt in pro-Khalistani activity in countries abroad have brought back memories of 1984 and the Operation Bluestar misadventure that culminated in the assassination of Indira Gandhi. The preacher's supporters filing a habeas corpus petition in the Punjab and Haryana High Court, claiming that he has been spirited away by the police, has only muddied the waters. There is no room for error in the efforts to rein in anti-India elements that threaten to destabilise Punjab.

The reign of terror that prevailed under the Khalistani militants during the eighties must surely haunt all sane individuals in the state. It took many years for Puniab to regain at least part of its lost glory. India cannot afford a re-run of those times when militancy claimed so many lives and almost destroyed the prospects of a state that was once the food bowl of the nation. CK Subramaniam | Mumbai

#### **UNSEASONAL RAINS AND FOOD SECURITY**

Sir — Incidentally, agriculture in India still thrives only on seasonal rain. The farmer, even today, patiently awaits the annual monsoon. But if that rain is unseasonal, it becomes a disaster. In recent days, farmers have been concerned about the rains caused by western disturbances.

At a time when the wheat harvest has ripened in the fields and the farmer is getting ready to pick up the grain from the barns at the market. Likewise, mustard has also ripened. Due to unusual rainfall in many Northern Indian states over the past few days, wheat and mustard crops have been severely damaged. When the mustard seed was ready, it was dispersed because of hail. Furthermore, the mustard which had reached the mandis got wet because of the rain. In fact, because of rising temperatures due to global warming in recent years, there has been a rapid shift in weath-

By and large, clouds of crisis are Sir — It is very imperative for all of us to

### **Parliament logiam continues**

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR** 

Parliament: Charity begins athome' (Thee Pioneer, March 21) assumes a good deal of significance given the acrimony between the Opposition and the Treasury Benchess getting fiercer and in turn leading to the repeated suspensions of Parliamentary proceedings in both Houses-to the detriment of the Exchequer. This time, it is the allegedly defamatory comments Congress leader Rahul Gandhi recently made about the Modi government in the United

This resulted in a controversy that stalled the House of Representatives. Legislators from the ruling regime want to make Mr Gandhi come to the House and apologize. Contrarily, the Opposition leaders are adamant on their demand for a probe into the Adani-Hindenburg issue by the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC). Ironically, these gratuitous adjournments are commonplace in all regimes and have adverse bearing on the precious time of the Members of the Houses as well as on the taxpayers' hard-earned money. Revere columnist's observation that in a matured over-year democracy like India, what matters most is the smooth functioning of the Parliament. For that to happen, some pragmatic and corrective measures

consume salt in food according to taste and

need. Without salt, food is tasteless and

bland. Nevertheless, excessive salt consump-

tion causes death all over the world. Recently a report from the World Health

Organization has explained why salt is prov-

ing fatal. According to this WHO report,

every year around 20 lakh people around

the world die because of eating too much salt. At present the average use of salt per

person in the world is 10.8 grams. While

the WHO has set a maximum limit of 5

That means we are consuming double

grams per person's consumption of salt.

Zeeshaan I Kazipet

threatening our food chain. The frequency, timing and quality of precipitation has shifted. The rains are heavy and short-lived. In the past, sudden temperature rises prior to time were considered harmful to wheat crops. Last year, despite a full harvest, wheat grain remained low because of an early increase in temperature. Therefore, productivity declined, and the farmer suffered.

Rain is expected to fall for a few more days because of western disturbances. In such a situation, where immediate relief is required for farmers, the central and state governments must promote advancing research and research for crops. This will assist farmers in preventing the damage

caused by the effects of global warming. This crisis will turn off the next generation of farmers. A country with a population of 140 million may face a food crisis in the coming decades. For that, farreaching policies must be implemented

Abhijit Roy | Jamshedpur

#### **EXCESSIVE SALT IS DANGEROUS**

the amount of salt. These figures are proof that it is healthy to take salt in limited quantities, not according to taste. If we all reduce the amount of salt, the number of deaths due to heart diseases worldwide every year can be brought down. WHO estimates that consuming less salt can save the lives of 22 lakh people by 2025 and about 70 lakh lives can be saved by 2030.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

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### **FIRST COLUMN**

### **ROBOTIC AUTOMATION IS THE FUTURE**

It will be the main driver of growth in the e-commerce



SANGEET KUMAR

he face of robotics is quickly changing due to new technologies like edge computing, cloud computing, Al and machine learning. Every industry is experiencing a change as a result of the use of robots. For example, robots are used in restaurants to prepare food, in manufacturing to perform tasks like picking and placing, pelletizing, and material movement. They are also used in supply chains and warehouses to perform every conceivable task from sorting to inventory management until the product is ready for delivery.

Industries all over the world have been integrating robotics and automation into their operations because of the introduction of the latest cutting-edge technologies to increase corporate productivity, efficiency, and marketability. The e-commerce sector has grown exponentially during the last two to three years. According to Statista, global retail e-commerce sales were over 5.2 trillion dollars in 2021 and are projected to increase to 8.1 trillion dollars

The disruption of the supply chain caused by the rise in e-commerce sales has driven businesses to find more innovative ways to meet customer demand for speedy delivery.

Increased demand for e-commerce sales in turn drives up the need for faster delivery, packing, shipping, inventory management, and supply chain management. Advanced and automated warehouses can help meet this demand. The need for automated warehouses has increased significantly in the last couple of years. The global market for warehouse automation systems, which was estimated to be worth \$21.7 billion in 2021, is expected to grow to \$93 billion by 2031, according



In warehouses, robots have a crucial job to do. The employment of robots in warehouses helps with time-consuming and arduous chores like picking stuff up off the floor or sorting products by size, shape, or colour. Most often used in warehouses are piece-picking robots, automated guided vehicles (AGVs), collaborative robots, sorting and shut-

Inventory management plays an extremely important role in warehouse management. Automated storage and retrieval systems (AS/RS) are most frequently used for inventory control and on-demand product storage and retrieval. They are used to expedite material handling and order fulfilment procedures.

Automated robotics systems with Al capabilities aid companies in boosting the effectiveness and speed of supply chain operations. These Al-enabled systems have grown considerably as a result of technological breakthroughs; they now learn from both existing systems and the surrounding system. Robotic systems are becoming quicker, better, and more adaptable thanks to Al and machine learning, which is beneficial for e-commerce fulfilment operations.

Increased demand for online shopping and shifting customer expectations for quicker deliveries are the main causes of the rise in demand for warehouse automation. Emerging technologies like 5G, AI, ML, edge computing, and sophisticated robots will help the e-commerce sector develop at a phenomenal rate in the years to come...

(The writer is cofounder and CEO of Addverb Technologies)

# Moral compass is critical for democracy



Elected representatives must ensure proper and well-informed debates and discussions in Parliament and Assemblies



he manner the Indian Parliament conducted itself in the second half of the Budget session in March 2023 inflicts considerable disquiet amongst all those who revere it as a pious institu-tion that could transform the lives of every Indian and give dignity and better life to those who deserve support and handholding because of exclusion and sufferings inflicted for generations due to historical, social and cultural constraints.

Could such an assembly of responsible people afford to waste their time for weeks together? They all are—officially honourable individuals who are guardians of the Constitution; they are policymakers and lawmakers of the nation. The global image of India is changing fast; it is being viewed with considerable interest; there are high hopes in the international community. The last decade has convinced the powers that be that India is emerging as a self-confident nation; it is no more cowed down by its belligerent neighbours. India is no more willing to suffer 'thousand cuts' and terrorist attacks. The new-found sense of national pride could be seen in practically every nome and hearth in India, in its farms and fields, across the high-end research labs bringing out innovations in areas, extending from artificial intelligence to space

India has enhanced its pace of change with full confidence and self-assurance. It has to make course corrections as well and must recall the Mahatma. 'The Lonely Pilgrim (Gandhiji's Noakhali pilgrimage), a compilation by Manubahan, contains the essence of how Gandhi realised that the national service has nowadays come to mean striving for a big name, according to many now, through which one can get a notice in the papers or is photographed—which is better—or secure

ministership as a reward for going to jail. So everyone wants to grab power in order to rise to a ministership in the end. But how can even good ministers do any notable work without the people's support? The country does require ministers, but a minister can adorn his post only if he deserves it, Gandhi said. He observed, in



THE 75+ **GENERATION** OF INDIANS HAS SEEN AND **OBSERVED THE DECLINE OF** MORAL AND **HUMANISTIC** VALUES IN THE **POLITICAL** CONSEQUENT **DETERIORATIO** N OF THE **CREDIBILITY** OF LEADERS, **ELECTED** REPRESENTATI VES, AND THOSE IN **OFFICE** 

(Professor Rajput works in education, social cohesion and religious

this very context, the presence of 'selfish stinginess' and reiterated that "we must, therefore, train ourselves to keep national interest always before us." And this was not the first time he was referred to

On September 18, 1938, when provincial governments had spent just ten months in 'power', things were not much different! The Mahatma received a letter from a citizen, indicating that the main purpose of the "Congress ministry appears to us to be to worship your idol in public and break it in secret; to worship the symbols of Imperialism in secret and denounce them in public, to play the malefactor towards their opponents when they cannot conquer by truthful and legitimate meth-

Gandhi had condensed this after "toning down the bitterest part." The letter writer had also included a sentence which after 85 years appears prophetic: "The government of a people cannot be run by the common argument of promised boons and by corrupt-ing the electorate with hope."

The lesson to be drawn is clear: the mere scent of power coming to ministers made them leave no stone unturned to shake the moral foundation of good government. In this particular instance, the letter-writer found it strange why Gandhi's "soul should not revolt against such a predatory Ministry for creation of which the moral responsibility is entirely yours".

After over seven decades of Independence, India has more ex-ministers than serving ministers. The taste of having savoured power—exceptions apart—has been highly intoxicating. We have 'Lok-Sewaks' who swear by the name of Mahatma Gandhi but have amassed wealth by means that could be beyond the comprehenPeople have seen the growth and display of affluence that follows politicians becoming elected representatives, ministers and chief ministers. In fact, most panchas and sarpanchas of village panchayats have proved to be good learners from politicians.

The issue before the nation is: why are the elected representatives losing credibility among those who elect them and put them in the saddle of power?

The manner democracy is being conducted was most crudely exposed in the recent election of the mayor of Delhi, which presented a shocking spectacle for every-one who feels a sense of pride in Indian democracy. The entire country witnessed it, as did the world. I found it shameful. Sadly enough, one could cite numerous such instances that have led to the disaffection between the representative and those represented.

said: "If I seem to take part in politics, it is only because politics today encircle us like the coils of a snake from which one cannot get out no matter how one tries. I wish to wrestle with the snake..." He did, and created a model of giving people a voice, a non-violent approach that helped not only India but so many other nations to throw away the yoke of imperialism, the caste system and apartheid.

In one word, he made people trust the moral force. On September 7, 1920, it was so articulated by Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore: "We need all the moral force which Mahatma Gandhi represents, and which he alone in the world can represent." It was this moral force that every Indian was supposed to comprehend, internalise and put to practice.

Obviously, the representatives of people at every stage were—and are—supposed to be the prime torchbearers of the legacy of

Gandhi. Each one of them needs self-introspection; they must analyse the extent to which their conduct is contributing to the national cause, strengthening democracy, and helping the amelioration of the miseries from the life of the 'last man in the line.'

The 75+ generation of Indians has seen and observed the decline of moral and humanistic values in the political sphere, and the consequent deterioration of the credibility of leaders, elected representatives, and those in office. It adversely impacts the very vitals of democracy, its institutions and, above all, the people and their con-

Ministers are put behind bars, but continue to receive all the perks and privileges of the post and position. It is an unheard-of situation in a democracy. How could India ignore resignations on moral ve and those represented.
On May 12, 1920, Gandhi
TT Krishnamachari, KD Malaviya and Lal Bahadur Shastri?

> This generation of elderly citizens often recalls Gandhi and his in-depth comprehension of a free person and a free nation. He acknowledged that the superficial study of the British Parliament had made him think that all power percolates to the people from parliaments. It was not so, he himself realised: "The truth is that power resides in the people and it is entrusted for the time being to those whom they may choose as their representatives. Parliaments have no power or even existence independently of the people."

> One earnestly hopes that the elected representatives realise the source of their power—the people—and ensure proper and wellinformed debates and discussions in Parliament and Assemblies. Following the moral compass could strengthen their role performance and bestow the satisfaction

### Stress among women is rampant but it can be managed

Women can reduce the risk of burnout in their daily lives by following a few simple changes to their lifestyles

tress is a common problem that many women experience in their daily lives. Whether it's due to work, family obligations, or other responsibilities, stress can take a toll on both mental and physical health. According to a Deloitte report in 2022, 56 per cent of Indian women's stress level is higher than it was a year ago. Globally, 53 per cent of women admitted to feeling more stressed than last year.

Due to a shift in hormonal levels (including sex hormones, like estrogen, which can also impact stress hormones, cortisol, and response), females are at a higher risk of developing mood disorders. Since a woman passes through puberty, menstruation, preg-



**DR JYOTI KAPOOR** 

(The writer is the founder

and Senior Psychiatrist,

Manasthali)

nancy, postpartum, and postmenopause, they face a host of different stressors and reactions to stress. However, the good news is that there are many effective ways for women to cut down on stress and improve their overall well-being. In this article, we will explore some of the most effective strategies for reducing stress in a woman's life. **Exercise regularly** 

Exercise is one of the most effective ways to reduce stress for women. Physical activity releases endorphins, which are chemicals in the brain that promote feelings of happiness and well-being. Additionally, regular exercise can help women sleep better, improve their mood, and increase their energy



Practice mindfulness med-

Mindfulness meditation is technique that involves focusing on the present moment and paying attention to your thoughts and emotions without judgment. It has

been shown to be effective in reducing stress and anxiety in women. By practicing mindfulness meditation regularly, women can learn to manage their emotions and respond to stressful situations in a more positive and productive way.

#### Get enough sleep

Sleep is essential for overall health and wellbeing, and it's also crucial for managing stress. When women don't get enough sleep, they may feel irritable, anxious, and stressed. By making sleep a priority and getting enough rest each night, women can reduce their stress levels and improve their mental and physical

#### Connect with others

Connecting with others is a vital way for women to reduce stress in their lives. Spending time with friends and family members, participating in social activities, and engaging in hobbies and interests can all help women feel more supported and less

#### Eat a healthy diet

Eating a healthy diet is essential for overall health and wellbeing, and it can also assist women manage stress. Foods that are high in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants can help reduce inflammation and promote feelings of wellbeing. Also, avoiding foods that are high in sugar and caffeine can help prevent spikes in blood sugar and promote better sleep.

#### Take breaks throughout the

Taking breaks throughout the day is essential for managing stress. By taking short breaks to stretch, walk, or simply relax, women can give their minds and bodies a chance to recharge and refocus. This can help them feel more productive and less

stressed throughout the day. Seek professional help

If stress is becoming over-whelming or interfering with daily life, it may be helpful to seek professional help. A mental health professional can help women develop coping strategies and manage stress in a healthy way.

In conclusion, stress is a common problem for many women, but there are many effective strategies for reducing stress and improving overall wellbeing. By exercising regularly, practicing mindfulness meditation, getting enough sleep, connecting with others, eating a healthy diet, taking breaks throughout the day, and seeking professional help when needed, women can successfully manage stress and enjoy a happier, healthier life.



### China, Russia to counter **US' Indo-Pacific strategy**

PTI ■ BEIJING/MOSCOW

hinese President Xi Jinping Concluded his state visit to Moscow on Wednesday and vowed to build "an equal, open and inclusive security system" with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin to counter the Indo-Pacific strategy pursued by the US.

Xi held an intense round of discussions with Putin after which the leaders signed two joint statements to deepen their 'Comprehensive Strategic Partnership of Coordination for the New Era" and "Pre-2030 Development Plan on Priorities in China-Russia Economic

Xi embarked upon the 3day Moscow trip ostensibly to broker a peace deal and end the raging conflict in Ukraine, as he sought to push a peace talks plan that elicited a frigid response from the US, Kyiv's key ally. The trip, described by Xi as "one of friendship, cooperation and peace," marked his ninth visit to Russia since he first became the Chinese President in March 2013. The joint statement issued in Chinese and Russian languages said the two sides expressed serious concern over NATO's continued strengthening of military security ties with the Asia-Pacific countries, which



#### 'Xi sees Russia as counterweight to US influence'

Washington (PTI): In President Vladimir Putin and Russia, Chinese President Xi Jinping sees a "counterweight" to American and NATO influence on the continent and elsewhere around the world, the White House has said. The statement by John Kirby, National Security Council Coordinator for Strategic Communications at the White House, came as Putin accorded a red carpet welcome to his Chinese counterpart Xi in Moscow and held marathon talks spread over two days on a range of

opposed cobbling together a closed and exclusive bloc struc-

ture in the Asia-Pacific region, creating camp confrontation, in an apparent reference to the Quad alliance comprising the US, India, Australia, Japan and AUKUS, consisting of Australia, the UK and the US. Both sides said the US adheres to the Cold War mentality and pursues the Indo-Pacific strategy, which has a negative impact on peace and stability in the region, it said. China and Russia are committed to building an "equal, open and inclusive security system" in the Asia-Pacific region that does not target third countries, in order to maintain regional peace, stability and prosperity, it said. Both countries expressed serious concerns over the consequences and risks of the trilateral security partnership — AUKUS and related nuclearpowered submarine cooperation programmes on regional strategic stability, it said.

### Civilians killed by Russian missiles, drones

Ukraine's president posted video on Wednesday showing what he said was a Russian missile slamming into an apartment building in the southeastern city of Zaporizhzhia, killing at least one person, after Moscow's forces launched exploding drones before dawn that killed another seven at a student dormitory near Kyiv.

The video posted by
President Volodymyr
Zelenskyy to Telegram
appeared to be from CCTV cameras that captured the moment a missile hit the ninestory residential block by a

showed charred apartments on several stories of the affected buildings, with flames billowing from some of them. Two children were among the wounded, said Zaporizhzhia City Council Secretary Anatolii Kurtiev, adding that 25 needed hospital treatment, with three in critical condition.

"Russia is shelling the city with bestial savagery," Zelenskyy wrote to accompany the video. "Residential areas where ordinary people and children live are being fired at." He appealed for countries to increase pressure on the Kremlin to give up its invasion of Ukraine. The city is about

the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant, Europe's largest which has previously come under threat during the war.

Russia has denied targeting residential areas even though artillery and rocket strikes hit apartment buildings and civilian infrastructure on a daily basis Earlier Wednesday, an overnight drone attack partially destroyed a high school and two dormitories in the city of Rzhyshchiv, south of the Ukrainian capital, officials said. It wasn't clear how many people were in the dormitories at the time. The body of a 40year-old man was pulled from

the rubble on a dormitory's fifth floor, according to regional police chief Andrii Nebytov, adding that more than 20 people were hospitalised. Just hours earlier, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida left Kyiv after meeting Zelenskyy in a show of support for Ukraine. Earlier Wednesday, Chinese leader Xi Jinping left Moscow after meeting with President Vladimir Putin and discussing his peace proposal, which has been rejected by the West as a non-starter. The drone barrage and other Russian attacks on civilian infrastructure drew a scathing

response from Zelenskyy.

"Over 20 Iranian murderous

ous shelling occasions, and that's just in one last night of Russian terror," he wrote in English on Twitter. "Every time someone tries to hear the word peace' in Moscow, another order is given there for

such criminal strikes." Zaporizhzhia's regional administration said two missiles struck the apartment block, saying Russia's goal is "to scare the civilian population of the city of thousands."

"It's hell in Zaporizhzhia," Ukrainian lawmaker Oleksiy Goncharenko wrote on Telegram, adding: "There aren't any military facilities

### Pak court rejects FIA's plea to cancel Imran Khan's bail

**AP** ■ ISLAMABAD

APakistani court on Wednesday rejected the country's top investigating agency's plea to cancel former prime minister Imran Khan's bail in the prohibited funding case, a media report said. Khan, the chief of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party was granted bail by an Islamabadbased banking court in a pro-hibited funding case. The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) in October last year filed a case in the banking court against Khan, 70, and other members of his



party for allegedly receiving prohibited funding. The prohibited funding case was filed by PTI's estranged founding member Akbar S Babar in the Election Commission of Pakistan in 2014. A two-mem-

ber bench comprising Justice Mohsin Akhtar Kayani and Justice Tariq Mehmood Jahangiri conducted the hearing on the plea in the Islamabad High Court (IHC) on Wednesday, according to the Express Tribune newspaper. The court also rejected the request to cancel the bail of co-accused Tariq Shafi, the report said. The FIA filed an application in the IHC on February 28 against the banking court's decision to grant bail to the PTI chief and appealed to the court to annul the decision as it was "against the

### **'Israel attacked Aleppo** airport, no casualties'

Damascus (AP): An Israeli airstrike early on Wednesday targeted the international airport in the northern Syrian city of Aleppo, causing material damage and putting it out of service, Syria's state news agency reported. It was the second attack on the facility this month.

SANA quoted an unnamed military official as saying Israeli warplanes fired the missiles toward Aleppo, Syria's largest city and once commercial centre, while flying over the Mediterranean Sea. It did not mention any casualties. Bassem Mansour, head of Syria's civil aviation, told the pro-government Sham FM radio station the strike damaged the airport's runway and put the facility out of service. Repair work has started, he said, adding that "the airport will resume work within a short period". The Britainbased Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, an opposition war monitor, said that in addition the airport, the airstrike also destroyed a nearby arms depot of Iran-backed militia-

The airport has been a key channel for the flow of aid into the country after the February 6 earthquake hit Turkey and Syria, killing over 50,000 people, including more than 6,000

er lobbying, fraud allegations against the now-defunct

Frump University and charitable Trump Foundation and a

probe by tĥe Manhattan district

Ž	Azadi <sub>Ka</sub> TE	ERN RAILWAY  NDER NOTICE			
	Invitation of Tender through E-Tendering (E-Procurement Systems)				
1.	N.I.T. No.  Name of work with its location	A) Augmentation in capacity of LHS by one tim cleaning of 76 nos. LHS under ADEN/SMQL			
2.	Approx Cost of work NIT-44A-22-23-W-2	As per IREPS Notice			
3.	Earnest Money NIT-44A-22-23-W-2	As per IREPS Notice			
4.	Completion period of work NIT-44A-22-23-W-2	As per IREPS Notice			
5.	Cost of tender on cash/by post NIT-44A-22-23-W-2	As per IREPS Notice			
6.	Date and time for submission of tender and opening of tender	30.03.2023 to 14.04.2023 upto 15:00 hrs Opening of tender 14.04.2023 at 15:00 hrs.			
7.	Similar nature of work NIT-44A-22-23-W-2	As per IREPS Notice			
8.	Website particulars notice board location complete details of tender can be seen and address of the office from where the tender form can ased etc.	Above tender available on IREPS site i.e. www.ireps.gov.in			
NI	NIT - 44A-22-23-W-2 Dated : 21.03.2023 872/23				

HINDUSTAN AUTO FINANCE LIMITED Regd. Office: Cabin No. DA-8, 02nd Floor, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur, New Delhi-110092

Email: hindaf1980@gmail.com, Website: www.hindaf.in NOTICE OF 40TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, REMOTE E-VOTING

AND INTIMATION OF BOOK CLOSURE NOTICE is hereby given that the 40th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of

nembers of Hindustan Auto Finance Limited will be held on Friday, 14th April, 2023 at 02:00 p.m. at the registered office of the Company to transact the businesses as set out in the Notice convening the AGM

The Annual Report for the financial year 2019-20 including the Notice convening AGM along with Attendance Slip and Proxy Form has been sent to members whose emails are registered with their depository participants as at close of business hours on Friday March 17, 2023. Physical copy of the Annual Report along with AGM Notice has been sent by permitted mode to members who have not registered their e-mail address. The emailing and dispatch of Annual Report along with Notice of AGM has been completed on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. The Annual Report along with the Notice convening the AGM is available on the website of the Company at www.hindaf.in website of Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Limited, and on the website of Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) at www.evotingindia.com The shareholders whose email ids are not registered with Company/RTA or with respective DPs may temporarily get their email id registered with the Company by sending e-mail at hindaf1980@gmail.com and follow the registration process as guided thereafter to receive the Annua Report for FY 2019-20 along with the Notice of AGM which inter-alia contains the instructions for attending the AGM. However, for permanent registration o email id, members are requested to approach their respective DPs and follow the process advised by DPs

Pursuant to provisions of Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 ("Act") and the applicable rules framed thereunder and Reg.42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, ("Listing Regulations"), the register of members and share transfer books of the Company will remain closed from Saturday, April 08, 2023 and will end on Friday, April 14, 2023 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of 40th AGM of the Company

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended and Regulation 44 of Listing Regulations, the Members are provided with the facility to cast their votes on the resolutions set forth in the Notice of AGN using electronic voting system from a place other than venue of the AGM ('remote e-voting'), provided by Central Depository Services India Limited (CDSL) and the business may be transacted through such voting. The voting rights of members shall be in proportion to the equity shares held by them n the paid-up equity share capital of the Company as on the cut-off date, i.e Friday April 07, 2023, Any person who is a member of the Company as on the cut-off date is eligible to cast vote on all resolutions set forth in the Notice of AGM using remote e-voting or voting through ballot paper at the AGM.

The remote e-voting period commences on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 09:00 a.m. IST and ends on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 05:00 p.m. IST. During this period, Members may cast their vote electronically. The remote e-voting module shall be disabled by CDSL thereafter and remote e-voting shall not be allowed beyond the said date and time. Once vote on a resolution is cast by the member, he/she not be allowed to change it subsequently or cast the vote again. The detailed procedure for voting has been mentioned in the AGM Notice. The facility for voting through ballot paper shall also be made available at the AGM and members who have not cast their vote by remote e-voting shall be able to exercise their right at the AGM through ballot paper The Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM, but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.

A person who acquires shares and become a member of the Compan after the dispatch of notice of the AGM and holding shares as of cut off date, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com. However, if he/she is already registered with CDSL for remote e-voting, then he/she can use his/her existing User ID and password for casting the votes.

The Board of Director has appointed CS Anju Bansal, proprietor of M/s Anju Bansal & Associates, Company Secretary in Practice (COP No. 17594) as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the 'remote e-voting' process and voting at the AGM in a fair and transparent manner. The results of AGM will be announced by the Chairman or any other person authorised by him and will be submitted along with report of scrutinizer within two days from the conclusion of AGM to Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Limited and also be posted on the Company's website www.hindaf.in.

In case of any queries or grievances regarding e-voting, you may refe the Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") and e-voting manual which is available at www.evotingindia.com under help section. Or contact at 022-23058542/43. In case of grievances relating to e-voting, please contact Mr Rakesh Dalvi, Sr. Manager at 25th Floor, A Wing, Marathon Futurex, Mafatla Mills Compound, NM Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (E), Mumbai-400013; Email nelpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or aforesaid numbe

Place: New Delhi

Date: March 22, 2023

For Hindustan Auto Finance Limited

Rishabh Aggarwa (Company Secretary & Compliance Officer)

NORTHERN RAILWAY

-TFNDER NOTICE

Azadi Ka
Amrit Mahotsav Divisional Electrical Engineer/Traction Distribution, DRM's Office, State Entry Road, New Delhi for & on behalf of President of India, invites ope e-tender under single packet system for the under noted work: "Part-A Design, supply, erection, testing and commissioning of 25 KV OHE modification work inconnection with Provision of Machine siding & over

		KV/230V, 25KVA Auxiliary Transformer inconnection with Electronic Interlocking work at DSJ station			
2	Approx. Cost of Work	Rs. 6600101.05/-			
3	Earnest Money Deposit		Rs. 132000.00/-		
4	E-Tender Bid Online Submission Period		03.04.2023		
5	E-Tender Bid Submission End Date & E-Tender Open Date & Time		17.04.2023 (15.00 Hrs.)		
6	Fund Allocation		deposit work		
7	Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen		www.ireps.gov.in		
_	•				

E-Tender No.: 37-TRD-NDLS-2022-23 Date : 21.03.2023 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

HINDUSTAN AUTO FINANCE LIMITED

Regd. Office: Cabin No. DA-8, 02nd Floor, Vikas Marg, Shakarpur New Delhi-110092 Email: hindaf1980@gmail.com, Website: www.hindaf.in NOTICE OF 39TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, REMOTE E-VOTING AND INTIMATION OF BOOK CLOSURE

NOTICE is hereby given that the 39th Annual General Meeting ("AGM") of members of Hindustan Auto Finance Limited will be held on Friday, 14th April, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. IST at the registered office of the Company to transact the businesses as set out in the Notice convening the AGM

The Annual Report for the financial year 2018-19 including the Notice ing AGM along with Attendance Slip and Proxy Form has to members whose emails are registered with their depository participants as at close of business hours on Friday, March 17, 2023. Physical copy of the Annual Report along with AGM Notice has been sent by permitted mode to members who have not registered their e-mail address. The emailing and ispatch of Annual Report along with Notice of AGM has been completed on Wednesday, March 22, 2023. The Annual Report along with the Notice convening the AGM is available on the website of the Company at www.hindaf.in rebsite of Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Limited, and on the website of Central Depository Services (India) Limited (CDSL) at www.evotingindia.com The shareholders whose email ids are not registered with Company/RTA or with respective DPs may temporarily get their email id registered with the Company by sending e-mail at hindaf1980@gmail.com and follow the emporary registration process as guided thereafter to receive the Annua Report for FY 2018-19 along with the Notice of AGM which inter-alia contains he instructions for attending the AGM. However, for permanent registration of mail id, members are requested to approach their respective DPs and follow he process advised by DPs.

Pursuant to provisions of Section 91 of the Companies Act, 2013 ("Act") and the pplicable rules framed thereunder and Reg. 42 of SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, ("Listing Regulations"), the register of members and share transfer books of the Company will remain closed from Saturday, April 08, 2023 and will end on Friday, April 14, 2023 (both days inclusive) for the purpose of 39th AGM of the Company.

Pursuant to Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014, as amended and Regulation 44 of the Listing Regulations, the Members are provided with the sility to cast their votes on the resolutions set forth in the Notice of AGM using electronic voting system from a place other than venue of the AGM remote e-voting'), provided by Central Depository Services India Limited CDSL) and the business may be transacted through such voting. The voting ghts of members shall be in proportion to the equity shares held by them n the paid-up equity share capital of the Company as on the cut-off date, i.e. Friday, April 07, 2023. Any person who is a member of the Company as on the aut-off date is eligible to cast vote on all resolutions set forth in the Notice o AGM using remote e-voting or voting through ballot paper at the AGM

The remote e-voting period commences on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 09:00 i.m. IST and ends on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at 05:00 p.m. IST. During this period, Members may cast their vote electronically. The remote e-voting module shall be disabled by CDSL thereafter and remote e-voting shall no be allowed beyond the said date and time. Once vote on a resolution is cas y the member, he/she not be allowed to change it subsequently or cast the tote again. The detailed procedure for voting has been mentioned in the AGM Notice. The facility for voting through ballot paper shall also be made available at the AGM and members who have not cast their vote by remote voting shall be able to exercise their right at the AGM through ballot paper The Members who have cast their vote by remote e-voting prior to the AGM may also attend the AGM, but shall not be entitled to cast their vote again.

A person who acquires shares and become a member of the Compan after the dispatch of notice of the AGM and holding shares as of cut-off date, may obtain the login ID and password by sending a request to helpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com. However, if he/she is already registered with CDSL for remote e-voting, then he/she can use his/her existing User ID and password for casting the votes.

The Board of Director has appointed CS Anju Bansal, proprietor of M/s Anju Bansal & Associates, Company Secretary in Practice (COP No. 17594) as the Scrutinizer to scrutinize the 'remote e-voting' process and voting at the AGM n a fair and transparent manner. The results of AGM will be announced by he Chairman or any other person authorised by him and will be submitte along with report of scrutinizer within two days from the conclusion of AGM Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Limited and also be posted on the Company's website www.hindaf.in. n case of any queries or grievances regarding e-voting, you may refer

ne Frequently Asked Questions ("FAQs") and e-voting manual which is vailable at www.evotingindia.com under help section. Or contact at 022 3058542/43. In case of grievances relating to e-voting, please contact Mr Rakesh Dalvi, Sr. Manager at 25th Floor, A Wing, Marathon Futurex, Mafatlal Mills Compound, NM Joshi Marg, Lower Parel (E), Mumbai-400013; Email: nelpdesk.evoting@cdslindia.com or aforesaid num

Place: New Delhi

For Hindustan Auto Finance Limited

Rishabh Aggarwal (Company Secretary & Compliance Officer)

### Donald Trump's potential indictment caps decades of legal scrutiny AP NEW YORK

 $F^{\text{or 40 years, former}}_{\text{President Donald Trump}}$ has navigated countless legal investigations without ever facing criminal charges. That record may soon come to an end. Trump could be indicted by a Manhattan grand jury as soon as this week, potentially charged with falsifying business records connected to hush money payments during his 2016 campaign to women who accused him of sexual encounters. It's one of several investigations that have intensified as Trump mounts his third presidential run. He has denied any allegations of wrongdoing and accuses prosecutors of engaging in a politically motivated "witch hunt" to damage his campaign. An indictment in New York would mark an extraordinary turn in Trump the first former president to face a criminal charge. And it would carry tremendous weight for Trump himself, threatening his long-established ability to avoid consequences despite entanglement in a dizzying number of cases.

Indictment, says biographer Michael D'Antonio, would



abusing the system is so well established, is being caught." "Throughout his life, he has done things for which he could have been investigated and potentially prosecuted and ences that he could act with impunity," he said.

people at the highest level of

business, whose devotion to

Trump first faced legal scrutiny in the 1970s when the Department of Justice brought a racial discrimination case against his family's real estate business. Trump and his father fiercely fought the suit, which accused them of refusing to rent apartments to Black tenants in predominantly white buildings. Testimony showed that applications filed by prospective Black tenants were marked with a "C" for "coloured". Trump counter-sued for USD 100 million, accusing the government of defamation.

The case ended with a settlement that opened the way for some Black tenants but did not acknowledge they had "failed and neglected" to comply with the Fair Housing Act. Since then, Trump and his businesses have been the subject of thousands of civil lawsuits and numerous investigations. There have been probes into his casino and real estate dealings, allegations of bribery and improp-

attorney into sales at the Trump SoHo hotel-condominium in Lower Manhattan.Indeed, according Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington, a government vatchdog group abbreviated CREW, as of November 2022, Trump had been accused of committing at least 56 criminal offenses since he launched his campaign in 2015, not including allegations of fraudulent business dealings. But he has never been formally indicted.

Trump is a master of delay tactics, "finding ways to endlessly delay in the hopes that the investigation and litigation will go away. And he's had remarkable success," says CREW president Noah corruption prosecutor. "It makes accountability absolutely essential because we can't have people in a functioning democracy operating in positions of power with total impunity where they can commit crimes and never have to face any consequences," he

### Indian-American receives National Humanities medal from Joe Biden

US President Joe Biden has presented the prestigious 2021 National Humanities Medals to Indian-American actress and producer Mindy Kaling, with several others, in recognition of her giving voice to a new generation of storytellers, at a White House ceremony. The National Medal of Arts is the highest award, given to artists, arts patrons, and groups by the US government. It honours exemplary individuals and organisations that have advanced the arts in America and inspired others through their distinguished achievement, support, or patronage. Presenting the award to the actress on Tuesday, at the ceremony attended by First Lady Dr Jill Biden, Vice President Kamala Harris and the Second Gentlemen, Biden said that Kaling is the first woman of colour to create, write, and star in a primetime sitcom. He added that the 43-year-old actress empowers a new generation to tell their stories with irreverence and sincerity. "The daughter of Indian immigrants — we know about that, right? Our Vice President is a daughter of Indian immigrants — a mother who was a great scientist," the US President said.

"Above all, she is hardworking

and an adoring mom, just like



her own mom was. And, Mindy, we know your mom is always with you in your spirit. We know that," Biden added. 'Imbued with humour and heart, Mindy Kaling's work across television, film, and books inspires and delights, capturing and uplifting the experiences of women and girls across our nation," the citation of Kaling's award, read by a military aide later, said.

The award honours individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities and broadened citizens' engagement with history, literature, languages, philosophy,

and other humanities subjects. The 11 other distinguished medal recipients were Judith Francisca Baca, Fred Eychaner, Jose Feliciano, Gladys Knight Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Antonio Martorell-Cardona, Joan Shigekawa, Bruce Springsteen. Vera Wang, The Billie Holiday Theatre, and the International Association of Blacks in Dance. Richard Blanco, Johnnetta Betsch Cole, Walter Isaacson, Earl Lewis, Henrietta Mann,

Ann Patchett, Bryan Stevenson,

Amy Tan, Tara Westover,

Colson Whitehead and Native

America Calling were the

recipients of the National

Humanities Medal.

#### California faces more flooding after strong storm

Santa Cruz (US): A strong late-season Pacific storm that brought damaging winds and more rain and snow to saturated California was blamed for two deaths and forecasters said additional flooding was possible Wednesday in parts of the state. Tuesday's storm focused most of its energy on central and southern parts of the state, bringing threats of heavy runoff and mountain snowfall. In the north, intense hail was reported in Sacramento, the state capital.

Locally heavy rain and snowmelt may cause flooding on Wednesday in southern California and central Arizona, the National Weather Service warned. Trees and power lines were reported downed in the San Francisco Bay Area. An Amtrak commuter train carrying 55 passengers struck a downed tree and derailed near the East Bay village of Porta Costa. The train remained upright and nobody was injured, Amtrak and fire officials said. In the Bay Area community of Portola Valley, a man driving a sewer truck was killed when a tree fell onto the vehicle, the California Highway Patrol said. And in the community of Rossmoor, a driver was injured and a passenger died after a large tree fell onto a car, the Contra Costa County Fire Protection District said.

### Kailash Gahlot announces ₹78,800-cr Delhi Budget for 2023-24

**Govt allocates ₹16,575 cr for education** 

The Delhi government will provide new tablets to all teachers, principals and vice-principals, besides setting up new computers in 350 schools in the national capital in 2023-24. The Delhi Budget presented by Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot on Wednesday allocated Rs 16,575 crore for the education department for

the year 2023-24 İn the 2022-23 Delhi Budget, the education sector had received the highest allocation of Rs 16,278 crore.

Providing 20 new computers to each of the 350 schools under the Delhi government and teaching of French, German, Japanese and Spanish languages in Schools of Specialised Excellence are the highlights of Delhi's budget for the education sector.

The minister said more branches of the Ambedkar Schools of Specialised Education will come up in 2023. In 2021, there were 20 schools of specialised education, which will be increased to 37 in 2023.

Gahlot also announced that schools and industries will collaborate to develop professional skills for children at Schools of Applied

According to the Delhi government, around 56 students of the first batch of the Entrepreneurial Mindset sions in the top seven universities of Delhi in courses such as BBA and B.Tech.

The first batch of Delhi's Model Virtual School got students from 14 different states across the nation, the minis-

He further said that in the past eight years, 1,410 teachers, principals and educators were sent to Finland, Singapore and Cambridge by the Delhi government, 1,247 principals received training in IIM Ahmedabad and 61 principals in IIM Lucknow.

State-of-the-art sports complexes have been developed in the last five years, including the International Sports Complex in Kair (Najafgarh), Mundhela Sports Complex and the Pehladpur Sports Complex, Gahlot said.

Projects in the pipeline include a wrestling hostel and relaying of synthetic tracks at the Chhatrasal Stadium, upgrading the Rajiv Gandhi stadium and construction of a squash centre at the Thyagraj stadium, the minis-

He added that there are plans to develop a multipurpose sports complex at Samaspur Khalsa in Najafgarh for which 35 acres of land have already been allocated.

The government has disbursed an amount of Rs 110 crore to more than 9,000 players in the last eight years,



Delhi Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot presents Delhi Budget for the financial year 2023-24, at Delhi Legislative Assembly, on

### Free public bus travel facility for women, pilgrimage for senior citizens to continue

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{he\ Delhi\ government's\ free}_{travel\ facility\ for\ women\ in}$ state-run buses and pilgrimage scheme for senior citizens will continue for the financial year 2023-24. Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot announced on Wednesday.
A total of Rs 4,744 crore

has been allocated for the social welfare department this year, out of which Rs 2,962 crores

have been proposed for the pension of 8.82 lakh beneficiaries including senior citizens, women, disabled and disadvantaged sections, the minister

The free travel facility for women in DTC and cluster buses started on October 29,

During 2021-22, women passengers availed 13.04 crore free trips in DTC and 12.69 crore in cluster buses. The

daily average passenger rider-ship in DTC was 15.62 lakh and 9.87 lakh in cluster buses during the 2021-22 fiscal.

The government also took senior citizens on pilgrimage to 15 places, including Ayodhya, Varanasi, Dwarkadheesh, Puri and Ajmer Sharif, under "Mukhyamantri Teerth Yatra Yojana", Gahlot said.

The Delhi government's budget for various subsidies is pegged at Rs 4,788 crore.

### Local bodies' fund allocation doubled, MCD gets ₹850 cr to clear landfills

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With the AAP coming to power in the MCD, the Kejriwal government has nearly doubled the fund allocation for local bodies in the Delhi Budget 2023-24 while setting a target to flatten the city's three garbage mountains by 2024.

Presenting the budget, Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot announced that local bodies will be given Rs 8,241 crore in the financial year 2023-24, up from Rs 4,374 crore allocated during 2022-23.

He also said a loan of Rs 850 crore was earmarked for the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) for the removal of mountains of garbage.

This is the first budget of the AAP government after the party took over the MCD last

year as it registered its maiden victory in the civic body elec-

"The three garbage mountains of Delhi have been a dark spot on Delhi's image for several decades now. Though the task of clearing these garbage mountains falls in the domain of the MCD, for the sake of the people of Delhi, we will work hand in hand with the MCD and provide them whatever support necessary to ensure that we see the end of the garbage mountains at the ear-

#### ₹6,342 cr for water supply, sanitation

New Delhi: The Delhi government allocated Rs 6,342 crore for water supply and sanitation in its Budget for the financial year 2023-24, which is around 16 per cent less than the Rs 7,610 crore earmarked last

Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot said water availability in the national Capital will be increased from 995 million gallons a day (MGD) to 1,240 MGD by March 2025.

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

Health sector gets ₹9,742 cr

 $T^{erming \ the \ health \ sector}_{the \ "second-most \ crucial}$ pillar" of the Delhi Model, the Arvind Kejriwal government on Wednesday allocated Rs 9,742 crore to the sector for the financial year 2023-24 and

in 'mohalla clinics' to 450. The latest allocation saw a marginal decline as compared to the previous year (Rs 9,769

decided to increase the number

of free diagnostic tests available

Presenting the budget in the Delhi Assembly, Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot said that as many as 15 hospitals are being extended and remodelled at present.

"Along with education, the health sector is the second-most crucial pillar of the Delhi Model. In the last eight years, keeping the people of Delhi healthy and attending to their minor to major ailments has been at the centre of the AAP government's approach to public health," Gahlot said.

### BJP: Budget directionless, repackaging of old promises

The Delhi BJP on Wednesday rejected the annual budget 2023-24 of the AAP government as "directionless" and "repackaging of old promises".

Delhi Finance Minister

Kailash Gahlot presented the Rs 78,800-crore budget, giving a major push to transport and infrastructure with an allocation of Rs 21,817 crore ahead of the G20 Summit, and announced a comprehensive plan to make the national capital a "clean, beautiful and modern city".

Sachdeva claimed that the budget had nothing new to offer.

"Various schemes like road upgradation, Yamuna cleaning,

development of lakes and bus procurement were already repeated many times by the Arvind Kejriwal government in the past months and years," he said. The entire budget was full of repackaged promises and plans of the government that were not fulfilled in the past, he Leader of Opposition in

Delhi Assembly, Ramvir Singh Bidhuri said the budget is a question mark on the AAP government's credibility and that it is directionless. Gahlot talked about zero tol-

budget speech which was the and health and education sectors "worst" joke as two ministers of the Kejriwal government are in nificant allocations over the jail for their involvement in

The finance minister promised that in 2023-24, there will not be a single broken road or footpath, but this government makes such promises several times a year, he said. BIP MP Manoi Tiwari

termed the Kejriwal government's budget 2023-24 as a "copy-paste" of the previous budget. "Kejriwal has no longer any vision, that is why there is nothing new in the budget and people are still suffering from its failures," he charged.

BJP MLA Vijender Gupta were in "disarray" despite sig-

### Focus on transport sector; ₹9337 cr set aside Mohalla buses,

### modern ISBTs, more electric buses planned

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NEW DELHI

'mohalla bus' scheme to Aensure last mile-connectivity, inclusion of more electric buses and development of three ISBTs with airport-like facilities were some of the key announcements made by Delhi Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot for the transport sector Wednesday.

Presenting his first Budget, Gahlot announced an allocation of over Rs 9,337 crore for

decrease from last year's allocation of Rs 9,539 core. While commencing the

transport, roads and bridges, a

announcements for the transport sector, the minister cited the words of former Mayor of Bogota, Gustavo Petro 'A developed country is not a place where the poor have cars, it is where the rich use public transportation'. Petro is also a major

thinker in the field of sustainable urban development.

"This (Petro's) statement is very important in relation to the vision of Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal and the work done in the public transport sector of Delhi in the last eight years. If India is to be develpublic transport system of all big cities to such an extent that even the rich people feel comfortable and proud to use it,"



to construct 1,400 new and modern bus queue shelters (BQS) across the national cap-

"Besides providing a comfortable waiting area for bus commuters, these bus shelters will also have a static display of bus routes and digital screens buses. In view of the G20 summit in Delhi, we will complete this work in a phased manner,"

Registration No. 3945, secured by Mr. Dibavar Sngh, who was owner of the said property by virtue of GPA, Agreement to sell and will dated 60.69.1987. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owners want to sell the said property aborence want to pruchase the same by taking Home loan from our client, if anybody has any objection/s upon the said property, and its ownership / Is If left / sale and intorgage of above owners, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present.

Kurmar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants) 200, flind Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Mot Nagar, N. Delin-15 Ph. 011-41112527-28 kumarrassociates advocate@gmatl.com

Dated - 20.03.2023

transport portfolio, elaborated on the scientific route rationalisation study carried out by the transport department, and how it has laid out extensive set of last-mile connectivity routes that will connect all the major nodes of Delhi's metro and bus network with residential colonies, commeracross the city.

#### Govt aims to meet 25% of power demand through solar by 2025

New Delhi: The Delhi Government's solar policy, which will be notified next month, aims to meet 25 per cent of the city's annual electricity demand through clean energy by 2025, Delhi Finance Minister Kailash Gahlot announced on Wednesday.

Gahlot announced an allocation of Rs 3,348 crore for the power sector, up from Rs 3,340 crore last year, and highlighted that electricity rates have not

874/2023

880/2023

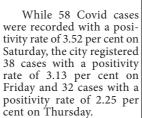
### City logs 84 Covid cases, positivity rate now 5.08%

 $D_{\text{cases with a positivity rate}}^{\text{elhi logged 84 coronavirus}}$ of 5.08 per cent on Wednesday, according to data shared by the health department.

The city has seen an increase in the number of fresh Covid infections over the last few days, amid a sharp rise in H3N2 influenza cases in the countr

Delhi on Tuesday had reported 83 Covid cases with a positivity rate of 5.83 per cent and a fatality.

On Monday, the national capital had recorded 34 cases with a positivity rate of 6.98 per cent. It had logged 72 Covid cases with a positivity rate of 3.95 per cent on Sunday.



The number of fresh cases had dropped to zero on January 16, the first time since the pandemic began

the national capital's COVID-19 case tally has increased to 20,08,171 while the death toll is

Health department data showed that

#### Mail ID: salenr365@gmail.com No. 117-S/Sales/Auction Programme/2023-24 e-AUCTION NOTICE NO. June/2023

E-Auction will be conducted for disposal of Ferrous Scrap, Non Ferrous Scrap, Other Misc Scrap, Condemned Loco, Coaches and Wagons, Scrap Rail and other scrap P Way material. Used lead Acid Batteries/Used oil/Refused oil will be sold only to recyclers registered with State Pollution Control Board. Auction programme is as under

e-AUCTION DATES FOR 'June, 2023.

S. No	Depot conducting auction	Time	1 <sup>st</sup> round	2 <sup>nd</sup> round	3 <sup>rd</sup> round	4 <sup>th</sup> round	5 <sup>th</sup> round
1	Alambagh/Lucknow 0522-2451257	10:00	5	12	19	26	30
2	Shakurbasti 011-27015387	10:00	2	7	14	21	30
3	Jagadhari 01732-252388	10:00	6	13	20	23	30
4	Sr.DMM/LKO 0522-2234756	10:00	6	13	20	23	30
5	Sr.DMM/FZR 01632-244154	11:00	1	8	15	22	30
6	Sr.DMM/UMB 0171-2611203	11:00	2	7	14	21	30
7	Sr.DMM/MB 0591-2413141	10:00	1	8	15	22	30
8	Sr.DMM/DLI 011-23365311	11:00	5	12	19	26	30
1	The details of item to be sold in	auction	will be ava	ailable in cat	alogue at wy	ww irens a	ov in

- 2. The intending purchasers may inspect the scrap material before the auction during working
- hours at nominated locations. 3. To participate in e-auction, purchasers need to get themselves registered with ireps. The
- details on last sold rates in auctions are available at www.railnet.gov.in For further details regarding registration and other conditions of e-auction, please visit Railway
- website 'www.ireps.gov.in'. (Om Kumar)

873/2023 Dy. Chief Material Manager/S&P

(including accrued late charges) and interest till 15.03.2023 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 16.03.2023 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from BALVINDER SINGH HANSPAL, HARMEET KAUR and INDERPREET SINGH.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.indiabullshomeloans.com. For bidding, log on to

Date: 20.03.2023 **AUTHORISED OFFICER** 

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)] Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

APPENDIX IV-A

NORTHERN RAILWAY

Eligibility criteria and specification has been added/edited in above referred tender. A

The corrigendum has been published on website www.ireps.gov.in. Date

**NORTHERN RAILWAY** 

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Rs. 56.26 lacs

Rs. 112500.00

17.04.2023, 12.00 Hrs

17.04.2023, 12.00 Hrs.

Electrical work in connection with strengthening of wiring cabling

earthing with other associated work in dispensaries/hospitals over

Sr. Divil Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

& Sr. Divl. Elect. Engineer/General, New Delhi

30-Elect-57-T-R2-22-23-E3

ender Number 40235047 opening date 06.04.2023.

other terms and conditions remain unchanged

Delhi division

Approx cost of the works in

Date & time of submission

21.03.2023

Bid Security

Opening of tender

of tender

E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets 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.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd. [CIN: L65922DL2005PLC136029] ("Secured Creditor"), the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is' basis on 27.04.2023 from 02.00 P.M. to 04.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 46,16,334/-(Rupees Forty Six Lakh Sixteen Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Four only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLDMT00371858, by way of outstanding principal, arrears

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 28,10,000/- (Rupees Twenty Eight Lakh Ten Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 2,81,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Eighty One Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the

RESIDENTIAL UNIT NO. T-83, DUPLEX TUSCAN FLOORS, AREA MEASURING 1434 SQ.FT., SITUATED IN TDI TUSCAN CITY SITUATED IN KUNDLI, SONEPAT-131028,

INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.

### as SUV catches fire in Noida

Close shave for 2

**STAFF REPORTER** ■ NOIDA

■ Wednesday afternoon after their SUV caught fire on the Elevated Road in Noida, officials said. The incident took place around 3.30 pm near the Uflex company site when the SUV, a Toyota Fortuner, was moving from Sector 18 towards Sector 62, they said.

√wo men had a close shave on

#### Bachao' drive with eye on LS polls **STAFF REPORTER** ■ NOIDA try will gather for the meeting to be held on the martyrdom

The 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the Aam Aadmi Party said it will kickstart a 'Modi Hatao, Desh Bachao' (Remove Modi, Save the Nation) campaign from the Jantar Mantar here on Thursdav

The party will hold a public meeting which will be attended by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Mann, AAP leader and city Environment Minister

"Party workers and supporters from all over the coun-

ravaging countries. With the fresh cases

1,653 tests were conducted on Tuesday.

## AAP to launch 'Modi Hatao, Desh

Counding the poll bugle for

Gopal Rai said on Wednesday.

day of the country's great freedom fighters Shaheed Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev. Aam Aadmi Party will start a 'Modi Hatao, Desh Bachao campaign during this meeting, Rai said at a press conference. The announcement comes a day after posters reading

"Modi Hatao, Desh Bachao appeared on walls and electricity poles across the nation al capital. With the Delhi Police arresting six people and registering 49 FIRs in connection with the posters, Rai said Prime Minister Narendra Modi is

#### REVOCATION OF PUBLIC NOTICE

I Smt. Veena Rathore W/o Late Sh. Rohtash Kumar Rathore has earlier issued a Public "Pioneer" whereby my son namely Kapil Rathore was disowned by me. Since, my son Kapil Rathore has not only tendered apology for his past conduct and behavior but has started taking care of me and therefore. I hereby revoke my above mentioned Public Notice i.e. Notice dated 31.07.2018 which was published in the

newspaper "Pioneer SD/- Manoj Sharma (Advocate) N-8/B, LGF, Jangpura Extn, New Delhi-14 PUBLIC NOTICE

partitle INIS Kilidala Industries 674, 1st Floor , Anand Niketan, New Delhi, Inform the general public that I have given notice of dissolution of the firm M/s Khurana nsudtries to 2" Partner Sh. Gurpreet Singh thatia. Hence the firm M/s Khurana rom now Sh. Gurpreet Singh Bhatia is not entitled to use firm Name M/s Khurana

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client IDFC First Bank limited. that Mr. Sanjoy Kumar Das 8 Mr. Blupendra Sharma are joint owners of Property bearing No.RZC-124, land area measuring 83 Sq. Yds, with roof rights, out of Khasra No.RZC2 Situated in the area of Village Khyala, Debit State, Delhi colony Known as Vishnu Garden, New Delhi 10010 Sq. Said property by virtue of Said deed drade Go.33.201, Registration No. 3945, executed by Mr. Dibwar Sngh, who was owner of the said quonerty by virtue for GPA Acreement in sell Subhash Khurana Sio Sh. Hansraj Khurana R/o Ambala Cantt, Haryana partner M/s Khurana Industries C-74, 1st

ndustries stands dissolved immediately ndustries anywhere- Govt. Department, GST Department, Bank, General Public, Any MES, PWD etc.

**NORTHERN RAILWAY** 

**Principal Chief Materials Manager** 

Headquarters Office, Baroda House, New Delhi-110001

### DoT seeks ₹33,111 cr for BSNL AGR dues

#### Expects PSU to become profitable by FY 2027

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

he Department of Telecom has sought Rs 33,111 crore for payment of adjusted gross revenue dues of state-run BSNL which is likely to be made in the upcoming April-June quarter, according to a Parliamentary panel report.

In a submission to the Standing Committee of Communications and Information Technology, the Department of Telecom shared that against the proposal of Rs 39,725.07 crore for 2023-24, Rs 66,691.82 crore has been allocated to it in the

budget.
"The increased amount is towards the payment of AGR Dues to BSNL, which is a part of its revival package. The Department had proposed an amount of Rs 33,111.00 crore for the AGR Dues. The payment will be made once BSNL claims the amount and is most likely to happen in the first quarter of FY 2023-24," the DoT informed in

a written reply to the panel. The Finance Ministry has allocated a total of Rs 1,08,153.25 crore under Budget Estimates for 2023-24 to the DoT comprising Rs 41,461.43 crore under revenue section and Rs 66,691.82 crore for capital sec-

The government had allocated Rs 44,720 crore for capital infusion in the state-run BSNL and MTNL for the current fiscal which was revised to Rs 33,269.01 crore and out of the total allocated fund Rs 23,873.44

crore have been spent till December 2022.

The DoT has informed the panel that the techno-commercial bids of TCS and ITI were opened by BSNL on November 3 and financial bids of January 13 for procurement of 4G equip ment and as per the cabinet approval Group of Ministers will approve the process of procure-

"Due to indigenous development of 4G stack for the first time in the country and issues in supply chain of chipsets, the deployment will gradually start and completion of projects of all 1 lakhs sites is likely to take 2 years," the DoT submitted.

Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Tues-

day launched a blended learning

platform for higher education in

agriculture, developed by the

Indian Council of Agricultural

Research (ICAR) as part of a

ICAR has developed the

World Bank-funded project.



Stocks are rising on a calming Wall Street Tuesday, even the banks most beaten down by the industry's crisis, amid hopes for more help from the U.S. Government.

The S&P 500 was 0.6% higher in midday trading after halving a bigger gain from the morning. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 131 points, or 0.4%, at 32,376, as of noon Eastern time, while the Nasdaq composite was 0.6%

Markets around the world have pinballed sharply this month on worries the banking system may be cracking under the pressure of the fastest set of hikes to interest rates in decades.

If the S&P 500 squeezes out a gain, it would mark its first back-to-back rise in two weeks. In the U.S., shares of small-

er and mid-sized banks rose after Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen told a bankers' group more government assistance "could be warranted" if risks arise that could bring down the

Earlier this month, the U.S. Government said it would make



It jumped 39.6% Tuesday. depositors at Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank whole, even Other smaller and midthose with more than the sized banks also rallied, includ-\$250,000 limit insured by the ing a 7.2% climb for Comerica Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. and a 7.7% gain for Zions They were the second- and

third-largest U.S. Bank failures Hopes for the banking industry began to turn over the They had struggled as weekend after regulators pushed depositors rushed to pull their

together two huge Swiss banks. Shares of both banks in Such runs can topple a that deal rose Tuesday in Switzerland, including a 9.8% jump bank, and investors have since been hunting for the next one for acquirer UBS.

Credit Suisse, meanwhile, rose 5.3% after tumbling a day earlier.

Credit Suisse had long-standing problems that were rel-atively unique, but all banks on

the shared challenge of navigating a world with much higher interest rates than a year earli-

Central banks have jacked up rates at a blistering pace in hopes of getting high inflation under control.

But such moves act like huge hammers with little nuance. They try to bring down inflation by slowing the entire economy.

That raises the risk of a recession later on. Higher rates also hurt prices for stocks and other investments.

That's one of the factors that hurt Silicon Valley Bank, which saw the value of its bond investments drop with the rise in rates.

The Federal Reserve is beginning its latest meeting on interest rates Tuesday, with an announcement slated for

Earlier this month, much of Wall Street was bracing for the Fed to reaccelerate its hikes and raise by 0.50 percentage points. A string of reports on the economy came in hotter than expected, including data on the job market, retail sales and inflation

have been digitised, he added. The NAHEP has achieved "almost all targets" and signifi-

cantly exceeded more than half

of them. "The quality of students

coming in is better, in that they

PFC SIGNS MOU WITH IISC FOR NEW ENERGY Power Finance Corporation

Ltd (PFC), a Maĥaratna Company and India's leading NBFC in the power sector, has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) to support establishing a state-of-the-art building that will house the Interdisciplinary Centre for Energy Research (ICER). The state-of-the-art building for ICER will foster cutting-edge fundamental and applied research on various energy-related areas, with special focus on green hydrogen

#### IIFL AIMS WORLD RECORD WITH IIFL JITO AHIMSA RUN

IIFL Group, which is one of India's largest financial services conglomerates, aims to create Guinness Book of World record with IIFL Jito Ahimsa Run to be held on April 2, 2023 across 23 countries and 65 cities in India. This is the largest such run for the cause of peace and non-violence. The run is being organized by the ladies wing of Jito (Jain International Trade Organization) and IIFL besides Jito volunteers and supporters across the world.

#### NTPC COMMEMORATES WORLD WATER DAY

NTPC Limited, India's largest power producer, today com-memorated World Water Day through a conference on 'Sustainable Supply Chain with Focus on Water Sustainability', along with prominent supply chain partners and vendors to observe World Water Day 2023. Ramesh Babu V, Director (Operations) and officials from multiple organizations participated in the discussions. The event witnessed the release of the NTPC Water Compendium 2023.

### PFC INKS PLA FOR JPY 2.65 BN WITH JAPAN BANK

PFC recently signed a Project Loan Agreement (PLA) for JPY 2.65 Billion with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) at a ceremony held at JBIC headquarters, Tokyo, Japan. This PLA was executed under General Agreement signed between PFC & JBIC for JPY 30 Billion.

#### Modi launches ITU Area Tomar launches blended learning platform for higher edu in agri

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $P^{\text{rime Minister Narendra}}_{\text{Modi on Wednesday inaugu}}$ rated the new International Telecommunication Union (ITU) Area Office and Innovation Centre here. Modi also unveiled the Bharat 6G Vision Document and launched the 6G R&D Test Bed. ITU is the United Nations'

specialized agency for information and communication tech nologies (ICTs). Headquartered in Geneva, it has a network of field offices, regional offices and area offices. India signed a Host Country Agreement in March 2022 with ITU for establishment of an area office. The area office in India also envisaged to have an Innovation Centre embedded in it, making it unique among other area offices of ITU.

The area office, fully funded by India, is located on the second floor of the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT) building at Mehrauli in New Delhi. It will serve India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Afghanistan and Iran, enhancing coordination among nations and fostering mutually beneficial economic cooperation in the region, a statement said.

Bharat 6G Vision Document is prepared by Technology Innovation Group on 6G (TIG-6G) that was constituted in November 2021 with members from various ministries/departments, research and development institutions, academia, standardization bodies, telecom service providers. and industry to develop road map and action plans for 6G in India.

office, innovation centre

blended learning ecosystem as part of the five-year National Agricultural Higher Education Project (NAHEP) concluding this year. India and the World Bank have contributed USD 82.5 million (about Rs 600 crore) each for this project that aimed at strengthening the national agriculture education system in the country.

"The blended learning is an extension of Krishi Megh. I believe it will strengthen the foundation of Krishi Megh and will help in meeting the require-ment of digital learning," Tomar said at the launch of this platform at the three-day international conference here.

Krishi Megh, which is a data recovery centre of ICAR, enables the farmers, researchers, students and policymakers to be updated with latest information regarding agriculture and research. For India to become a developed nation by 2047, the minister said the blended learning ecosystem will play a key role

Blended learning is a combination of offline and online learning in a way that one complements the other.

in this journey.

ICAR Director General Himanshu Pathak said, "I believe the World Bank will further promote research and education. ...To address the challenges of climate change and low productiv-



equipped to combat all problems and experiment to learn new things which can be done through a blended learning

that could fall. Much focus has

been on First Republic Bank,

which shares some similar traits

with Silicon Valley Bank, and its

stock had lost 90% for the month through Monday.

ÍCAR Deputy Director General (Agricultural Education) R C Agrawal said it has been the ICAR's endeavour to enhance agricultural higher education in alignment with guidance from the National Education Policy 2020 and the

Now, all agricultural universities have access to e-learning and e-governance applications. They all have smart classrooms, video conferencing facilities and virtual reality experience labs, he

About 86 per cent of agriuniversities have academic management systems; 90 per cent have wi-fi on campus and 92 per cent have high-speed internet connectivity. The e-content, using virtual and augmented reality, is highly immersive. Assessments, including short and long answer type questions

have higher cut-off scores, the graduates have higher placement rates and the research is more effective," Bekzod Shamsiev, Senior Agriculture Economist at The World Bank, said. The next challenge is to transform digital learning into digital agriculture. Agricultural universities have an important

It should lead to better trading systems and market information, efficient supply chain logistics and provide information for better policy making and regulation, Shamsiev added.

role to play in promoting preci-

sion farming, environmental

monitoring and automation of

agricultural processes, he said.

### PM reviews.

From Page1

The action taken on the directions given by Modi during the last Covid review held on December 22, 2022 was also briefed, the statement said. He was informed that availability and eight buffer drugs and one influenza drug is being monitored. A mock drill was also conducted on December 27, 2022 in 22,000 hospitals, and many

remedial measures taken by hospitals thereafter. The Prime Minister was also apprised on the influenza situation in the country particularly with respect to the higher number of cases of H1N1 and H3N2 being noted in the last few

Modi directed officials to enhance whole genome sequencing of positive samples with the designated INSACOG genome sequencing laboratories. This will support tracking of newer vari-

ants, if any, and timely response, the PMO said. He emphasized Covid-appropriate behavior,

including wearing of masks in hospital premises by all --patients, health professionals and health workers. He also stressed that wearing of masks is advisable when senior citizens and those with co-morbidities visit crowded areas, the statement

### Fresh FIR filed against Amritpal

Against Amritpal Singh for extortion and rioting following a complaint by the 'granthi' of a gurdwara in Jalandhar where the pro-Khalistan preacher changed his clothes and fled on a bike to escape the police crackdown on his outfit.

Police said the fugitive spent around 45 minutes at a gurdwara in Nangal Ambian village.

Ranjit Singh, the granthi (Sikh priest), said in his complaint with police that the Waris Punjab De chief and his three aides entered the gurdwara and demanded clothes of his son at gunpoint to change The priest his appearance. The priest said Amritpal Singh threatened

to kill him and his family when he refused to give clothes. tol and .315 bore rifle, said

Following the complaint, police have registered a case against the radical preacher and four of his unidentified aides under various IPC sections including 386 (extortion by putting a person in fear of death), 506 (criminal intimida-

under the Arms Act at Shahkot police station in Jalandhar. Meanwhile, a fresh image of the fugitive surfaced online and showed him on a motorized cart with his bike and the

tion) and 148 (rioting) and also

person who rode it. It was not clear whether the bike ran out of fuel or developed some fault.

#### Mamata offers prayers at Shree Jagannath Temple

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee Banerjee Wednesday offered prayers at the Shree Jagannath Temple here and offered a huge flag, which was tied atop the 12thcentury shrine, seeking the welfare of all people.

Banerjee, accompanied by senior government officials from her state and Odisha, entered the temple at 4 pm and had a darshan of the sibling deities- Lord Balabhadra, Devi Subhadra and Lord Jagannath. "She offered prayers to the deities standing alone near the 'Bhitar Katha' (inner cordon). She is a devotee of Lord Jagannath," said Ramakrushna Dasmohapatra, her priest.

### Ahead of polls, NCP chief calls meeting of Opposition leaders

**PTI** ■ NEW DELHI

 $A^{\text{mid talks of opposition}}_{\text{unity in the run-up to the}}$ 2024 Lok Sabha elections, NCP supremo Sharad Pawar has invited leaders of various opposition parties here on Thursday 23 to discuss issues of common interest and efficacy of EVMs. Sources said the meeting

will take place at 6 pm. Pawar has held that in the interest of free and fair elections, electronic voting machines (EVMs) need to be accurate and any doubts over their efficacy must be addressed by the Chief Election

Commissioner. Experts have

said that any machine with a chip inside can be hacked and we cannot allow democracy to be hijacked by unscrupulous elements. Therefore, in the interest of free and fair elections, we must sit together and listen to the views expressed by eminent IT professionals and cryptographers, Pawar said in his letter to the opposition leaders.

Leaders of several opposition parties are likely to attend the meeting keeping in view Pawar's stature. The meeting comes in the wake of several efforts being made to bring unity in opposition ranks to help take on the BJP together.

From Page1

refused to comment on the

removal of barricades here and

said "We do not comment on

security matters." The Delhi

Police on Tuesday and

Wednesday removed extra bar-

ricades outside the UK High

Commission here but the secu-

rity remains intact, officials

outside the British High

"The security arrangements

British High Commission

### Earlier, the Collegium expressed displea-

'Take early ...

sure on Intelligence Bureau report against John Sathyan citing his social media posts, publishing articles critical of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "The names which have been recomreiterated names ought not to be withheld or overlooked as this disturbs their seniority whereas those recommended later steal march

Loss of seniority of candidates recommended earlier in point of time has been noted by the collegium and is a matter of grave concern," the Collegium stated.

The Collegium also reiterated its recommendation of appointment of Harpreet Singh Brar in Punjab and Haryana High Court. Senior Advocate Brar was recommended as Judge in July 2022. "Collegium is of the view that Harpreet Singh Brar is fit and suitable for appointment as a Judge of the High Court of Punjab and Haryana.

The Collegium has also taken note of the fact that, besides being a senior advocate, the candidate has a wide-ranging experience of practice before the High Court," said the Collegium., reiterating Brar's appointment.

Flares, bottles hurled at Indian Mission

### Plan for modern Delhi...

As many as 1,400 new and modern bus queue shelters will also be built in the national Capital. Six-point action plan for a clean Yamuna and clearing all three garbage mountains of Delhi are also among the major schemes announced by the AAP Government on Wednesday. In the 2023-24 Budget, the Government has set aside Rs 2,034 crore for the beautification and upgrade of PWD roads

Gahlot announced that the Municipal Corporation of Delhi will be given Rs 8,241 crore in the financial year 2023-24, up from Rs 4,374 crore allocated during 2022-23. He also said a loan of Rs 850 crore was earmarked for the civic body for the removal of mountains of garbage. The Government announced that it will set up 100 mohalla clinics. tests in mohalla clinics will increase from 256 to 450 in the next financial year.

The Delhi Government's Budget size for the financial year 2022-23 was Rs 75,800 crore and Rs 69,000 crore in the preceding year. The 2023-24 Budget is almost two and a half times the expenditure of Rs 30,940 crore in the year 2014-15, and 8.69 per cent higher than the revised estimates for

Addressing a post-Budget Press conference, Kejriwal said this is because Delhi has an honest Government. "Finally, the Budget was presented today. It has something for everyone. We have so far invested heavily in the education, health and electricity sectors and this will continue. This Budget focuses on a clean, beautiful and modern Delhi," he said. "We have achieved so

much despite so many hurdles. This shows our excellent administrative skills. Delhi would have seen much more progress had it got full state-hood," the Chief Minister said.

The presentation of the Budget was delayed by a day as the Centre sought clarifications, including "higher allocation" for advertisements and 'lower capital expenditure" in the annual financial statement. On Tuesday, the Union

Home Ministry gave its approval to the Budget even as Kejriwal alleged that the whole issue was created by the Centre to satisfy its ego. The Budget estimate of Rs 78,800 crore includes Rs 56,983 crore under revenue expenditure and an outlay of Rs 21,817 crore under capital expenditure. Gahlot said the share of capital expenditure as part of the overall Budget has also risen to 27.68 per cent in the budget. The years.

AAP Government has ear marked Rs 557.2 crore for advertisements in the next financial year.

crore for the construction of finance minister said.

It has proposed Rs 320

three double-decker flyovers, which will come up at Bhajanpura-Yamuna Vihar, Azadpur-Rani Jhansi intersecand Saket-Pul Prahaladpur. Vehicles will run on the lower deck while the Metro rail will run on the upper deck. "By the end of the year 2023, Delhi will have the largest fleet of electric buses among all the States of India. By the end of 2025, Delhi will have a fleet of 10,480 buses," the While announcing the

Mohalla bus scheme for ensur-

ing the last mile connectivity in

the city, he said 100 feeder e-

buses will be procured in 2023-

24 while 2,180 in next two

Commission here are intact. However, barricades placed on the pathway towards the commission, that created hurdles for commuters have been removed," officials said. While the British embassy is located at Shantipath in high security zone Chanakyapuri, its High Commissioner Alex Ellis lives

at Rajaji Marg. Sources said

Delhi Police have removed

barricades "that created hur-

dles" for commuters outside the British High Commission here but the security of the diplomatic mission remains intact. India on Sunday night summoned British Deputy High Commissioner Christina Scott and demanded an explanation over the complete "absence of security" after videos of pulling down of the Indian flag at the Indian Mission in London during a protest by pro-Khalistan

elements emerged on social

Following that, top British officials said the UK Government will take the security of the Indian High Commission "seriously", as they condemned as "disgraceful" and "completely unacceptable" the vandalism at the Indian mission by a group of protesters waving separatist Khalistani flags. Since the weekend, several uniformed officers have been patrolling the area in Aldwych and Metropolitan Police vans have been stationed at India Place. Wednesday's planned demonstration claims to be in response to alleged discriminatory actions of the police in Punjab. The Indian High Commission in London has been working to counter disinformation circulating around developments in Punjab, related to enforcement action against the separatist group 'Waris Punjab De'.

friends here in the UK, especially brothers and sisters with relatives in Punjab, that there is no truth to the sensationalist lies being circulated on social Indian media." High Vikram Commissioner Doraiswami said in a video posted on Twitter. "The situation in your ancestral home-

"Let me assure all our

ed. The elected Chief Minister of the State and the local police authorities have put out detailed information, including interviews on television, please watch these. Do not believe the small handful of people putting out fiction and disinformation," he said. In an update on the enforcement action since March 18, Doraiswami said that the Punjab Police launched an operation against elements of 'Waris Punjab De' against whom criminal cases have been recorded, in particular against Amritpal Singh, the chief of this organisation. He added that the consti-

land is not what is being report-

tutional rights to a legal defence for all those arrested will be protected and reiterated that all communication services. including mobile telephone networks and internet, are up and running in the state.

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# z beat India in 3rd ODI, seal series

**⊣**he Indian batting unit once again choked under . relentless pressure from the Australian spinners as the visitors clinched the three-match ODI series 2-1 with a comfortable 21-run victory, here on Wednesday.

Chasing a stiff target of 270 on a tricky pitch, India were all out for 248 in 49.1 overs as Australia came back in the series after losing the first ODI by five wickets.

The series defeat is an indicator that the Indian team is far from prepared for the World Cup and there are too many loose ends that needs to be tied.

The match turned out to be an anti-climax in the final 15 overs as Australian spinners Adam Zampa (4/45) and Ashton Agar (2/41 in 10 overs) snared as many six Indian wickets, giving away only 86 runs in the 20 overs between them.

The Chepauk track got slower and slower and post 35th over in the Indian innings, it became very difficult to hit the big strokes. Once Zampa bowled a cou-

ple of googlies to force Hardik Pandya (40 off 40 balls) and Ravindra Jadeja (1 off 33 balls) hit against the turn, the writing was on the wall.

It was Zampa's best figures against India and he certainly was the hero for the Aussies.

Incidentally, Australia were the last international team to beat India in a bilateral ODI series back in 2019. The scoreline back then was 3-2. Since that series defeat four years back, India have won seven back-toback bilateral ODI rubber at

It was three games in a row that the Indian top-order flat-



tered to deceive and that too in home conditions. They could have been blanked 3-0 in the series had Australia scored at least 235 in the opening ODI.

The highest run-getter for India in the series was KL Rahul with 116 runs and that tells the

Between overs 35 to 43, India managed only 31 runs and that was where the game turned

Skipper Rohit Sharma (30

off 17 balls) started well but played one pull shot too many to be holed out at deep square leg fence while an alert Alex Carey's decision to convince Steve Smith into taking a DRS saw the back of Shubman Gill (37 off 49 balls). Rahul (32 off 50 balls) joined Virat Kohli (54 off 72 balls) and the duo added 69 runs in 15.3 overs but were never able to dominate as such on a track that got slower with

Kohli's first boundary came in his 21st delivery, a pull shot off Agar and two balls later of Tamil Nadu he hit a regal six off Agar over extra cover.

Rahul's first boundary came in his 45th ball when he hit Zampa over his head for a four. Next over, Starc fired from wide off crease but the length ball was hit for a straight six. However a ball fired by Zampa into the blockhole was dug-out by Rahul but Abbot timed his jump well to hold onto it at the boundary. Then it was the turn of Agar to quickly send back Kohli and the out-of-form Survakumar Yadav (0) for his third first-ball

duck in as many games. From 146 for 2, India had slumped to 185 for 6 when Pandya and Jadeja joined forces with the Australian close-in fielders making it infinitely dif-

But Pandya, however, maintained a 100-plus strike-rate

opposition.

Earlier, a fine opening spell by Pandya and a probing effort by Kuldeep Yadav put a tight leash around the Australian batters before its tail wagged considerably to take the visitors to a fighting 269 all out in 49 overs after opting to bat first.

The five wickets added 131

to keep Australia in the game.
While Pandya (3/44 in 8 overs) shaved off the top half, Kuldeep's (3/56 in 10 overs) rhythm and guile on a helpful Chennai track was the biggest takeaway as the latter's delivery to remove Carey was the ball of the series. It was a classical leftarm wrist spinner's leg-break that beat the southpaw all ends up and Kuldeep's ecstacy was there to be seen.

India were in control after egging Australia back at 138 for 5 but a 58-run stand between Carey and Marcus Stoinis for the sixth wicket and 42 for the eighth wicket between Sean Abbott (26) and Ashton Agar (17) took them close to 250 while Mitchell Starc and Adam Zampa added 22 precious runs for the final wicket.

What looked like a good toss to win for Australia after Mitchell Marsh (47 off 47 balls) and Travis Head (33 off 31 balls) put on 68 for the opening stand didn't seem so as Pandva bowled three different deliveries in his first three overs to completely seize the momentum in favour of the hosts.

David Warner (23 off 31

balls) and Marnus Labuschagne (28 off 45 balls) paid dearly for their indiscreet shot selection off Kuldeep's bowling before Carey (38 off 46 balls) played his first innings of substance on the final day of a long near two-



### Short break for India's white ball players before joining IPL teams

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian players, who are part of the ODI series against Australia, will get a short break for three to four days before joining their respective IPL camps with the tournament starting from March 31.

Defending champions Gujarat Titans and Chennai Super Kings will play in the opening match of the season in Ahmedabad.

It is understood that all the players, who are in the World Cup scheme of things, will have their workload management monitored and hence the rest is going to be paramount.

"Some players might join their IPL camps directly but they will have an option of taking a three-four day break and relax at home before touching base with their respective IPL teams," a BCCI

source told PTI on conditions

of anonymity.
Even if the players directly join the training camp, it is unlikely that they would be training for at least next 72

#### **IYER TO MISS ENTIRE** IPL, DOUBTFUL FOR WC

Shreyas Iyer is all set to undergo lower back surgery and will not take any part in the IPL, according to sources in the board. The decision is being taken keeping the player's best interest in mind as a surgery right now will give him an outside chance of at least making a comeback before the World Cup in October, although chances of making it for the marquee event also looks dim at the moment.

Jasprit Bumrah and Prasidh Krishna are the two players who have already undergone back surgery.

### Fleming to be Texas Super Kings coach in MLC

passage of time

PTI DALLAS

 $F^{ormer\ New\ Zealand\ captain\ Stephen}$  Fleming will be the coach of Dallas-based Major League Cricket (MLC) club Texas Super Kings (TSK), which announced its partnership with IPL side Chennai Super Kings (CSK).

Four-time IPL champions, CSK had recently said that they would make a "major announcement" with regard to their association with the new T20 tournament in the US.

TSK said in a statement that CSK will bring "operational expertise" and help "Texas compete on the field".

"The (Texas Super kings) team will be led by coach Stephen Fleming. Fleming is a former captain of the New Zealand national cricket team and head coach of Indian Premier League team Chennai Super Kings. as captain of the New Zealand team in 2005, said a TSK statement.

Fleming is a long-serving CSK head coach and has guided the Chennai franchise to four IPL titles.

CSK join Delhi Capitals and Mumbai Indians as the third IPL side to get associated with the six-team MLC, scheduled to begin on July 13.

The six MLC teams are San Francisco Unicorns, Lost Angeles, MI New York, Seattle Orcas, Texas Super Kings and Washington DC.

Delhi Capitals, co-owned by GMR Group, are partnering with Seattle Orcas to "help build and operate a world-class cricket team", while Mumbai Indians have joined the US cricket revolution by acquiring the New York franchise.

Meanwhile, all six MLC teams completed the domestic player draft at the Space Center in Houston, where they selected nine players each from more than 100 cricketers eligible to represent the "US cricket commu-

nity".

The remainder of each team's player roster will be filled with top T20 cricketers from across the world.



### New IPL Rule: Captains allowed to name playing XI after toss

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

he captains of IPL teams can name their I playing eleven after the toss instead of handing over team sheets before the spin of coin, stated the new playing conditions issued by the BCCI.

According to playing conditions clause 1.2.1: "Each captain shall nominate 11 players plus a maximum of 5 substitute fielders in writing to the IPL Match Referee after

"Other than set out in Clause 1.2.9 no player (member of the playing eleven) may be changed after the nomination and prior to the start of play without the consent of the opposing captain."

This effectively means that after the toss, if a skipper feels that he needs to change his eleven as per demands of the situation, he is free to do that till the match

The other significant change in playing conditions is penalising unfair movement by the wicketkeeper in case there is shift in position before the batter meets the

In the event of unfair movement by the wicket-keeper, either umpire shall call and signal dead ball and inform the other umpire the reason for doing so. The bowler's end umpire shall then: "award the one-run penalty for Wide or No ball, if applicable or award 5 Penalty runs to the batting side. Inform the captain of the fielding side of the reason for this action. Inform the batters and, as soon as practicable, the captain of the batting side of what has

The "Impact Substitution" where a new player can be introduced during the match from the five designated substitutions had already been announced by the tournament committee.

### Siraj slips from top spot to third in ODI rankings



PTI DUBAI

Pacer Mohammed Siraj was on Wednesday dethroned from the top spot by Australia's Josh Hazlewood in the latest ICC rankings for ODI bowlers, as the Indian slipped to third place.

Another Australian pacer, Mitchell Starc, who impressed during the first two ODIs of the three-match series in India, also moved up to join Siraj at joint

Siraj, who returned with impressive figures of 3/29 to help India win the first ODI against Australia, was expensive in the second ODI giving away 37 runs in three overs and consequently lost his position as the top-ranked bowler.

The right-arm pacer had copped the brunt of the attack

by Mitchell Marsh and Travis Head during the second ODI in Visakhapatnam. Siraj, who has had a successful run across formats in recent past, was crowned as the world No. 1 bowler in ODIs in January this year.

Starc claimed three wickets in Mumbai to stage Australia's fightback while his 5/53 in the second ODI in Visakhapatnam powered the visitors to a 10wicket win. Hazlewood, who missed

the entire tour of India consisting four Tests and three ODIs, became world No. 1 bowler in ODIs for the first time ever.

"Hazlewood, whose careerbest second position was attained for the first time in June 2017 and which he had kept since August 2022, is No. 1 in ODIs for the first time," the ICC

Mohammad Shami, who produced a match-winning spell in Mumbai, also moved five spots up to reach to 28th in the

KL Rahul's unbeaten 75, which helped India recover from a poor start and win the first ODI by five wickets, helped him move up three places to get to the 39th spot.

In the ODI ranking among

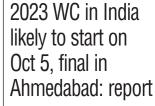
batters, India's Shubman Gill -who made 'marginal progress' -- and Virat Kohli remained fifth and seventh respectively, while one place to ninth.

New Zealand's Kane Williamson moved up to the second spot among batters in Test cricket following his dominant show with the bat against Sri Lanka, with the former skipper notching up scores of 1, 121 not out and 215 in the two-match series which the Kiwis won 2-0.

With his sixth double ton in Tests, Williamson is now just one behind Kohli (seven) as players with most scores over 200. Australia's Marnus Labuschagne remains the top ranked batter in Test cricket.

New Zealand's left-handed batter Henry Nicholls, who made 200 not out in the Wellington Test and was involved in a massive 363-run stand with Williamson in what was Test cricket's 2,500th match, jumped up 20 spots to reach to 27th.

Sri Lanka captain Dimuth Karunaratne occupies the 10th



**PTI** ■ NEW DELHI

The 2023 ODI World Cup in India is likely to start on October 5 with the final to be held at the Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad on

The BCCI has shortlisted at least a dozen venues for the 10team marquee event, which will see 48 matches, including three knockouts across the 46-day period, an ESPNcricinfo report

The 11 other shortlisted venues, according to the report, are Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Dharamsala, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Lucknow,

Indore, Rajkot and Mumbai. Except for the final match, which is set to be played at the world's largest stadium in Ahmedabad, the BCCI has not specified the venues for any

games as yet. The list of 12 cities, however, does not include Mohali and Nagpur, which had hosted a Test match against visiting Australia recently.

India had won the title when it last hosted the 50-over World Cup in 2011.

### WORLD NO 1 ALCARAZ RETURNS TO MIAMI AFTER RAPID RISE

AP MIAMI

World number one Carlos Alcaraz heads into this week's Miami Open looking to defend both his title and top ranking and admitting even he has been surprised by his dizzying rise to the top of the sport.

A year ago, the 19-year-old came to Miami on the back of wins on clay in Croatia and Brazil and hoping to make his mark on the hard courts. His victory in South Florida launched a remarkable

The highlight was his US Open triumph which made him the youngest player to become world number one and he returns to Miami after last week's win in Indian Wells, achieved without dropping a set in the tournament.

'It's all been very fast, when I got to Miami last year I was around number 20 and a year later I am coming in with the number one ranking. That is something very

special. I fulfilled my dreams quicker than I expected," he told reporters on Tuesday. Because of his victory in Miami last year, Alcaraz must win at the Florida event again if he is to hold on to his number one spot, but he says he feels no pressure in that regard or to meet newly raised expectations.

"Í don't feel the pressure too much. I know the things I have to do. I need to play relaxed and not mind if I lose or if I play well or not,"

"My goal is always the same. To feel comfortable on court. To enjoy playing tennis and try to have great thoughts when playing. That is why I am playing at a good level. I am enjoying every single second and playing relaxed. That is what I am thinking about on court," he added.

As at Indian Wells, world number two Novak Djokovic is missing after being refused entry to the United States due to his lack of a COVID vaccine and Alcaraz says he misses the Serb's presence,



along with the injured Rafael Nadal. "I'm a professional tennis play-

er, but also I'm a huge fan of tennis and I always want to watch the best players in the world, like Rafa, like Djokovic," he said. "I played a couple of times

against Rafa and I wish to play

against him more and with

Djokovic as well. I wish to play against him more times, you know, I hope we get them back soon," he

but obviously in every tournament I want them to be playing and Far from feeling the weight of

following in the footsteps of the 'Big

Three' of Djokovic, Nadal and the

now retired Roger Federer, Alcaraz says he is trying to draw lessons from their successes

"You have to improve, you have to get better every day. That's why the big players, the Big Three, for example, did all through their careers - to improve every day a little bit," he said.

Alcaraz can expect plenty of support from the crowd in Miami, which includes many Spanishspeaking fans.

"It's so special to come back here and feel the same energy that I felt, for example, last year," he said. "I have great supporters here,

a lot of people supporting me. I remember last year it was unbelievable you know, with the crowd. I feel like I am at home, you know," he added.

The top seed will begin his title defence against Argentine Facundo Bagnis or a qualifier and could face two-time Miami champion and former world number one Andy Murray in the third round.

#### I'VE NEVER FELT THAT **MUCH HATE: SABALENKA** understand that there's so many people

**AP** ■ MIAMI GARDENS

Belarus' world number two Aryna Sabalenka says she has faced "hate" in the women's tour locker-room but hopes tensions with Ukrainian players will eventually ease. Australian Open champion Sabalenka lost to Kazakhstan's Elena Rybakina in Sunday's Indian Wells final and at the media day for this week's ATP-WTA Miami Open was asked about her recent comments on "tensions" in the locker-room between Ukr-

ainian and Russian and Belarus players. "It was really, really tough for me because I've never faced that much hate in the locker room," said Sabalenka.

"Of course, there are a lot of haters on Instagram when you're losing the matches, but like in the locker room, I've never faced that," she added.

"It was really tough for me to

who really hate me for no reason, like no reason. I mean, like I did nothing, she said. Sabalenka said sometimes the tension had gone beyond awkward silences and abrupt conversations. "I had some, not like fights, but I had

some weird conversations with, not the girls, but with members of their team. It was really, it was tough. It was tough period. But, now it's getting better," she said. In comments at Indian Wells Sabalenka had said she had been in a dispute with Ukrainian Lesia Tsurenko's coach Nikita Vlasov. Tsurenko was due to play Sabalenka at Indian Wells but withdrew before their match. The Ukrainian said she had a "panic

attack" and had also been upset with a conversation about the war and the position of Russian and Belarusian players with WTA CEO Steve Simon.



# **CHINA·YUNNAN**

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OPENING-UP

China's development benefits the world, and China cannot develop itself in isolation from the world. We must solidly promote high-level opening up, not only making good use of the global market and resources to develop ourselves, but also promoting common development of the world.

-Excerpt from Chinese President Xi Jinping's speech at the closing meeting of the 1st session of China's 14th National People's Congress

### "An open China welcomes investors from all over the world"

"An open China welcomes investors from all over the world," said Premier Li Oiang of the State Council of China on March 13 when he met with Chinese and foreign reporters and answered their questions at a press conference of the first session of the 14th National People's Congress. This year, China will further expand opening-up in alignment with high-standard international trade rules, Li was also quoted as saying.

According to Li, opening-up is a basic state policy for China. No matter how the external situation may evolve, China will stay firmly committed to pursuing this policy. Data shows that most foreign companies are still optimistic about their development prospects in China

PEOPLE

Alexander Lomanov, head of the Center for the Asia-Pacific Studies of the Institute of World Economy and International Relations at the Russian Academy of Sciences, said that as the world's second largest economy. China is committed to fostering an open and inclusive world economy and creating new opportunities for the world with its own new development, which will inject confidence and momentum into the world's economic

recovery. Last year, China's utilized foreign investment totaled over US\$189 billion, which is again a record high, and almost US\$50 billion higher than that of three years ago. According to White Paper on the Business Environment in China 2023 recently

released by the American Chamber of Commerce in South China, more than 90 percent of the participating companies select China as one of the most important investment destinations, and 75 percent of the participating companies plan to reinvest in China in

Nuno Matos, Global Chief Executive Officer of Wealth and Personal Banking of HSBC Group, said that years on, China has always been committed to promoting the opening up of its financial sector to the outside world and boosting innovation-driven sustainable development. He believes that foreign investors can play an important role in the development of green financial markets, and that "the depth of China's capital markets means

it has genuine potential to become a global leader in green financial markets."

Gustavo Biscassi, Director of External Affairs of Vale, a Fortune 500 company in Brazil, said that in recent years, China's business environment has continued to improve with relevant laws and regulations put into place and customs clearance getting increasingly efficient, which has benefited multinational enterprises, including Vale. "At some ports, customs clearance time has been significantly reduced from two to three days in the past to a few hours now, allowing us to deliver high-quality iron ore products to Chinese customers more efficient-

China sets its GDP growth target for 2023 at

around 5 percent, which is higher than not only the expected economic growth of the world but also that of emerging markets and developing countries for

On January 1, 2023, China's "Catalogue of Encouraged Industries for Foreign Investment" (2022 Edition) came into effect. Compared with the previous edition, the new edition of the catalogue has a net increase of 239 entries, the largest number of newly added entries in recent years. The industries included in the catalogue can enjoy preferential policies such as tariff exemptions and priority land supply:

"Chinese Business Environment Research Report 2204" shows that foreign companies are generally satisfied with China's business environment, with 90.22 percent of foreign companies reporting "moderately satisfied" or higher ratings for access to business premises and taxation, and 88.26 percent reporting "moderately satisfied" or higher ratings for market

the same period. China's

strong economic growth

will further boost the

world's economic recov-

ery. (Xinhua and People's

### "I'm impressed by an everchanging China"

"When I first visited China in 2005 as the Egyptian Transport Minister, I could feel the rapidly developing Chinese economy. I've visited China more than 30 times so far, and I'm deeply impressed by an ever-changing China," said former Egyptian Prime Minister Essam Sharaf. He also pointed out that China's development achievements are not only reflected in its rapidly changing cities, but also in its people's ever-improving quality of life.

"Undoubtedly China couldn't have made these achievements without the strong leadership of the Communist Party of China." For Sharaf, the CPC has won the trust and support of the Chinese people by adhering to the vision of people-centered development. The "people-centered" approach is the secret of the CPC's success in governance. It has "built the consensus of the whole society and pooled the strength for progress" As one of the earliest Egyptian readers of Xi Jin-

ping: The Governance of China, Sharaf attended the seminar on the launch of the Arabic edition of the book back in 2014. In his view, the Belt and Road Initiative, Global Development Initiative, and Global Security Initiative proposed by President Xi Jinping are global public goods that will help promote the building of a community with a shared future for mankind. China's initiatives and actions "not only chart the course for improving global governance and upholding multilateralism, but also bring hope for prosperity and development to other developing

(People's Daily)

#### NEWS

### China adjusts visa and entry policy for foreigners

China has decided to adjust the country's visa and entry policy starting from 00:00 hours on March 15, 2023. It resumed the entry function of visas issued before March 28, 2020 and still within the validity period. Hainan entry visa exemption, Shanghai

cruise ship visa exemption, visa exemption for foreigners from Hong Kong and Macao to enter Guangdong, and visa exemption for ASEAN tourist groups to enter Guilin, Guangxi were also restored

(Xinhua)

#### **FORUM**

### Int'I forum held in Yunnan, focusing on global development

The 2023 International Forum on Poverty Governance and Global Development (IF-PGD) kicked off March 18 in northwest Yunnan's Nujiang

Lisu autonomous prefecture. With the theme of "new blueprint for rural revitalization and exciting opportunities for global development", the forum was divided into four parts: the opening ceremony, the main forum, the themed sub-forums and a round table for ambassadors.

More than 190 ambassadors, envoys, officials, experts and scholars from 20 countries and 4 international organizations attended the 3-day forum. They gave keynote speeches and held themed discussions on consolidating poverty-reduction achievements, enabling rural high-quality development through sci-tech, and revitalizing rural areas via green development. (Yunnan Daily)

#### BUSINESS

### **Business Chinese** proficiency promotion program for Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry in India kicks off

The second business Chinese proficiency promotion program, co-sponsored by the Chinese Consulate General in Kolkata, the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Foreign Affairs Office of the Yunnan Provincial People's Government, and Yunnan University, kicked off on March

The leaders of relevant institutes in China and India, as well as the instructors and participants, attended the opening ceremony online. As is learned, the participants attending this program are medium and senior management personnel sent by the Bengal Chamber

India. Upon completion of the 60-hour program, which will last for 15 weeks, the participants will be awarded the Business Chinese (A2) certificate. In recent years, India and

of Commerce and Industry in

China have been increasing bilateral trade and industrial cooperation. Making the most of its advantages, Yunnan Province has been closely communicating with South and Southeast Asian countries. It is hoped that the participants will play an active role in expanding China-India cooperation in various fields and strengthening friendly exchanges between the two countries. (Yunnan Daily)

#### A LIFESTYLE CALLED YUNNAN



values of humanity "Life is limited, but serv-

The spirit of Lei Feng

reflects common

ing the people is limitless. If one person can put the limited life into limitless cause of serving people, his or her life will become limitless."

This is one of the most Feng, a humble township government messenger, civil servant and later army truck driver in the 1950s and

March 5, marks the annual Lei Feng Day across China. As a national role model who epitomizes the spirits of selflessness, diligence, humility and dedication, he has been commemorated and learned by Chinese people for decades.

Lei Feng, however, never walks alone. Every country around the world has its own heroes and role models that keep encouraging and inspiring the public despite time changes

Therefore, we invite 6 young representatives from the Lancang-Mekong countries to share the stories of "Lei Feng" in their hearts.

#### Zhang Shiqin (China) Lei Feng has left us with

innumerable stories and memories. As a teacher from the Yulong Middle School in northeast Yunnan's Lijiang, I find him particularly inspiring because education can never be bettered without the devotion of every teacher.

#### Choun Lin (Cambodia) Lei Feng is not just a prod-

uct of his own era. Selflessness, dedication, helpfulness, modesty... All these spirits which he shows are invaluable human assets that should and passed on by people from around the world.

be highly recognized, learned

#### Santisouk Lachanphet

In China, Lei Feng is an dedication. To the people in Laos, Kaysone Phomyihane is such a figure like Lei Feng. As the former president of Laos, he dedicated his entire life to the liberation of Lao people and the development of our country.

#### Sai Myo Min Tun (Myan-

People primarily remember Lei Feng by his "selfless service for the people". This reminds me of Khaing Hin Wai, a renowned actress and philanthropist in Myanmar who has helped many orphans and disabled children. To me, she is genuinely the "Lei Feng of Myanmar."

#### Arunee Anusuriya (Thai-

I totally understand people's feeling for Lei Feng here in China, because we have the same admiration and respectfulness for our beloved King Bhumibol the Great. What he did for his whole life was to make Thai people live a better life.

#### Trinh Nguyet Lan (Vietnam)

"Serving others without any thought of self-interests" was Lei Feng's motto. In Vietnam, the story of Vo Thi Sau has inspired one after another generations. As a young female guerilla, she sacrificed her life for the nation's independence at the age of 19.

#### Who is Lei Feng?

Lei Feng is one of the most enduring and symbolic figures of modern China. The spirits he showed -----selflessness, hardwork, humility and dedication for example have made him a national role model since the 1960s. Lei Feng was born in a poor family in the countryside of Hunan province in 1940. He worked as a messenger and civil servant before joining the People's Liberation Army at the age of 20. Lei Feng died in an accident when he was 22.

### VIEWS

### China's innovation-driven development starts with QR codes

In the plan for the reform of bodies of the State Council approved by the ongoing first session of China's 14th National People's Congress, one point attracting the attention of foreign media is the re-establishment of the Ministry of Science and Technology.

For me, an Indian working in China, this is China's latest step to strengthen the spirit of innovation and pursue self-improvement in science and technology. When I came to China from India six years ago, I was soon drawn to the vibrant and fast-paced innovation

One summer day after I first arrived in China, I suddenly wanted to try a bowl of cold noodles that a friend of mine had recommended. When I seated myself at a

restaurant, I noticed a board on the table with a QR code on it. I took out my phone and scan the code, and a menu popped up on the screen. Without calling the waiter, I was able to browse the menu, order the food, and check out. It was an amazing experience!

In China, the ubiquitous "black and white squares" are the door opening to a world of convenience. From paying utility bills to renting a bicycle and taking the subway, the QR codes have revolutionized the way people interact with the world. You can even scan a code to pay for the fruit you buy from a street vendor.

The "black and white squares" are an epitome of China's digital economy that has been injecting important impetus in China's

innovation-driven development. The digital economy has always been covered by the government's annual work report for the past five years. During this year's Two Sessions, China announced the establishment of the National Data Administration.

Innovation has changed every aspect of Chinese people's life. From the high-speed rail network to life-saving medical technology, the fruits of technological progress have benefited every corner of the country. Telemedicine, for example, can overcome the barriers of time and distance and allow people in remote areas to access high-quality medical care, saving lives and improving the health of

millions of people. China's high-speed trains

and convenient. The intercity trains operating between Beijing and Tianjin can travel at speeds of up to 350 kilometers per hour, and a single ride takes only about half an hour. I have traveled to many countries, but I do not think that any other country can match China in terms of transportation infrastructure.

are amazingly comfortable

From infrastructure to cutting-edge technology, high-quality innovation is changing Chinese people's life in ways previously unimaginable. As a foreigner who has been living in China for many years, I believe that China's innovations will also make my life better. (This article is originally written by Shameem Zakaria, an Indian correspondent with Xinhua.)