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THE ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR
IN PERSPECTIVE

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NOBOA WINS PRESIDENCY
IN ECUADOR

MONEY 10
INDIA EXPECTED TO GROW AT 6.3
PER CENT IN FY24: FICCI

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THEATRE OF WAR EXPANDS IN WEST ASIA

Humanitarian aid stalled as Israeli siege strains hospitals, water supply

AP ■ RAFAH (GAZA STRIP) / WASHINGTON

Palestinians in besieged Gaza crowded into hospitals and schools on Monday, seeking shelter and running low on food and water. More than a million people have fled their homes ahead of an expected Israeli ground invasion aimed at destroying Hamas after its fighters rampaged through southern Israel. As the enclave's food, water and medicine supplies dwindled, all eyes were on the Rafah crossing between Gaza and Egypt, where trucks carrying badly needed aid have been waiting for days as mediators press for a cease-fire that would allow them to enter Gaza and allow foreigners to leave. Rafah, Gaza's only connection to Egypt, was shut down nearly a week ago because of Israeli airstrikes. Egypt's Foreign Minister Sameh Shoukry said Israel "has not taken a position to open the crossing from the Gaza side". The Israeli government did not respond to a request for comment. With a ground invasion of Gaza expected, Israel was preparing for the potential of a new front opening on its northern border with Lebanon, where it has exchanged fire repeatedly with the Iranian-backed Hezbollah group. The

military ordered residents from 28 Israeli communities to evacuate. Speaking to the Israeli Knesset on Monday, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu warned Iran and Hezbollah, "Don't test us in the north. Don't make the mistake of the past. Today, the price you will pay will be far heavier," referring to Israel's 2006 war with Hezbollah. Meanwhile in Hamas' horrific killings, Israeli trauma over the Holocaust has resurfaced. Women, children and older adults hiding in safe rooms gunned down mercilessly. Homes set ablaze with terrified residents still inside them. Children, some bound, forced into a room and slaughtered. Jews, helpless. For many Israelis and Jews around the world, the horrors committed by Hamas militants during their stunning onslaught on southern Israeli communities is triggering painful memories of a calamity of a far greater scale: the Holocaust. "I have been strict about not using the word Shoah" in any context other than the Holocaust, political commentator Ben Caspit wrote in the daily Maariv, referring to the Holocaust by its Hebrew name. "When Jewish children hide in a protected room and their anguished parents pray that



Israeli armored personnel carriers head toward the border with the Gaza Strip in southern Israel

AP/PTI

they won't cry, so that the marauders won't come in and set the house on fire, it's a Shoah." At present, hundreds of thousands of Palestinians sheltering in UN facilities are on less than 1 litre (1 quart) of water per day. Hospitals warn they are on the verge of collapse, with

emergency generators that power machines like ventilators and incubators down to about one day of fuel and supplies of medicine almost exhausted. Israeli airstrikes have pulverized entire neighbourhoods as Palestinian militants continue to fire rockets into Israel. Israel is widely expected to

launch a ground offensive in order to kill Hamas leaders, recover captives and destroy the group's military infrastructure, much of which is in residential areas. Street-by-street fighting would likely cause mounting casualties on both sides. Israel has ordered more than 1

million Palestinians — almost half the territory's population — to leave Gaza City and the surrounding area for the enclave's south. The military says it is trying to clear away civilians ahead of a major campaign against Hamas in the north, where it says the militants have extensive net-

works of tunnels and rocket launchers. Hamas has urged people to stay in their homes, and the Israeli military on Sunday released photos it said showed a Hamas roadblock preventing traffic from moving south. For a third day, Israel's military announced a safe corridor for people to move from north to south between the hours of 8 am and noon. It said more than 600,000 people have already evacuated the Gaza City area. Hospitals in Gaza are expected to run out of generator fuel in the next 24 hours, endangering the lives of thousands of patients, according to the UN. Gaza's sole power plant shut down for lack of fuel after Israel completely sealed off the 40-km (25-mile) long territory following the Hamas attack. The World Health Organisation said hospitals are "overflowing" as people seek safety. "We are concerned about disease outbreaks due to mass displacement and poor water and sanitation," it said. Four hospitals in northern Gaza are no longer functioning and 21 have received Israeli orders to evacuate. Doctors have refused, saying it would mean death for critically ill patients and newborns on ventilators. The WHO said water shortages caused by Israel's decision to cut off water supplies, com-

bined with a lack of fuel for pumps and desalination stations, put thousands of hospital patients at risk. "Water is needed to ensure sanitary conditions in inpatient wards, in operation rooms, and emergency departments. It is essential for the prevention of hospital associated infections and for the prevention of outbreaks in hospitals," the WHO said. The UN health agency said life-saving assistance for 300,000 patients is currently awaiting entry through Rafah. On the Gaza side, crowds of Palestinians with dual citizenship waited anxiously, sitting on suitcases or crouched on the floor, some comforting crying infants. Meanwhile, US President Joe Biden is considering a trip to Israel in the coming days but no travel has been finalised, a senior administration official said on Sunday. It would be a powerful symbol of sympathy and support following the brutal attack by Hamas. Biden also made his strongest public statements yet to restrain Israel. "I think it'd be a big mistake," Biden said. "Look, what happened in Gaza, in my view, is Hamas, and the extreme elements of Hamas don't represent all the Palestinian people. And I think that it would be a mistake for Israel to occupy Gaza again."

India's first RRTS to debut on Friday

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's inaugural Regional Rapid Transit System is set to debut in the National Capital Region on Friday, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurating the 17.5 km segment linking Sahibabad in Ghaziabad to the Duhai Depot of the 82.15 km Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut section. In a symbolic tribute to the spirit of "Shakti" (women), the first train will be operated by a woman pilot, a fitting gesture that coincides with the auspicious occasion of Navratri. The initial phase of the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor will commence operations, encompassing five key stations: Sahibabad, Ghaziabad, Guldhar, Duhai, and Duhai Depot. This milestone will revolutionise travel between the National Capital and Meerut, as the RRTS corridor will traverse 17 km in just 12 minutes, a journey that typically takes

over 35 minutes by road. Upon full implementation, the project will boast two multimodal transport transit systems. Preparations for this historic event are in full swing, with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath personally inspecting the Ghaziabad site to oversee the project's progress. The Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System initiative is spearheaded by the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC), with the complete 82.15 km Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS slated for full operational status by June 2025. The RRTS trains are equipped with a range of commuter-centric amenities including overhead luggage racks, WiFi, and charging facilities for mobiles and laptops at every seat. Additionally, each train will feature a premium class car, offering wider seats, increased

legroom, and coat hangers, along with vending machines for added convenience. Officials have indicated that ten trains will ply this route, accommodating up to 1,700 passengers. The subsequent phase, extending from Shahibabad to Meerut South, will span 42 km and introduce four new operational stations. RapidX, boasting a maximum speed of 180 km an hour, is poised to be India's fastest train, whisking commuters from Delhi to Meerut in just 55 minutes. The service frequency will be every 5-10 minutes, providing a modern, sustainable, swift, secure, and comfortable mode of travel. Upon the corridor's full completion, the RRTS is expected to slash travel time between Delhi and Meerut by a substantial 40 per cent. For convenience, a dedicated 'Lost and Found' centre has been established at the Ghaziabad RRTS station to

expedite the retrieval of misplaced belongings. If passengers inadvertently leave their items on RAPIDX trains or within station premises, they can promptly seek assistance from station staff. Further inquiries and support regarding lost items can be directed to the RAPIDX Customer Service Centre at 08069651515. Passengers will have a 24-hour window to claim their lost belongings from the station where they were misplaced or left. Following this period, any unclaimed items will be transferred to the designated "lost and found" centre at the Ghaziabad station, operational from 8 am to 8 pm daily. The RRTS trains have been designed with an aerodynamic profile, featuring long noses and plug-in doors to minimize air resistance at higher speeds. Passengers will relish panoramic views through expansive window panes, enhancing their travel experience.



Australia's batter Marnus Labuschagne plays a shot during the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 match between Sri Lanka and Australia at Bharat Ratna Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Cricket Stadium in Lucknow on Monday. Australia beat Sri Lanka by five wickets in their ICC World Cup match here on Monday. Sent in to bowl, Australia dismissed Sri Lanka for 209 in 43.3 overs and then returned to overhaul the target in 35.2 overs, scoring 215 for five in a match that was briefly interrupted by rain. This was Australia's first win of the ongoing tournament. PTI

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Durga Puja: Police to focus on traffic management, heavy vehicles to be restricted

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

As the vibrant spirit of Durga Puja approaches, the district traffic police in Jamshedpur gears up to tackle the annual challenge of traffic snarls during the week-long celebrations. The traffic department, in collaboration with the Central Durga Puja Committee, is formulating a comprehensive strategy to ease the flow of traffic on the bustling streets. The city, witnessing a surge in the number of vehicles, especially two-wheelers, during the festival, poses a formidable challenge for the

traffic police. With limited personnel, the department is exploring innovative solutions to manage the vehicular and pedestrian influx. To enhance their capabilities, the traffic police are contemplating the deployment of two dozen NCC cadets. These cadets may be stationed strategically on roads leading to popular Puja pandals, such as the Kharkai Bridge, a crucial link between Steel City and Adityapur, known for witnessing heavy traffic during the festivities. Heavy vehicle restrictions on the Kharkai Bridge during Puja, imposed by the Serakela Kharsawan



district administration, further necessitated additional personnel. Areas like Telco (HS road), Sonari (near Kagalnagar), Sakchi (Aam Bagan and Kasidih), Bistupur (Rani Kudar), Kadma (Rankini Temple), Burmamines, and Bhuiyandih are expected to experience high traffic, demanding careful management by traffic personnel. The primary objective of involving NCC cadets is to facilitate smooth traffic flow and ensure accident-free festivities. However, authorities emphasize the need for cooperation from revellers to

adhere to traffic rules and contribute to the success of the initiative. While NCC cadets lent their support to manage traffic at specific pandals last year, this year, there hasn't been any official communication from the district administration regarding traffic duties. A traffic constable on the Mango bridge acknowledged that traffic congestion has become a recurring issue, attributing it to the increased number of heavy vehicles due to the expansion programs of Tata Steel and other companies. Poor road conditions fur-

ther exacerbate the problem, leading to vehicle breakdowns. Residents are already feeling the impact, with longer travel times and frustrating traffic jams. The efforts to involve NCC cadets aim to bring relief and ensure a seamless flow of vehicles during the festive period. "We want to make sure that the pujas are 'accident-free' for the people. Proper guidance from traffic police would help the cadets," stated a senior police official, emphasizing the collaborative effort needed for a smoother Puja celebration.

Vijaya Heritage Society Celebrates 25 Glorious Years of Durga Puja

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

In a jubilant moment for the Vijaya Heritage Society Kadma, the community marks a quarter-century of existence with the commencement of its silver jubilee year of Durga Puja celebrations. This significant milestone is met with eager anticipation from the residents of Vijaya's Heritage, Phase I-V, as they prepare for the grandeur of the upcoming festivities. Durga Puja, a revered occasion in the Steel City, holds a special place in the hearts of Jamshepurians. The Goddess Durga, a symbol of power and the embodiment of Universal Mother, is omnipresent during these celebrations, bringing a sense of divine energy to the community. The auspicious Kalash Staphana marked the initiation of the grand occasion on

15th October 2023 at 11:00 am. Notably, on 20th October 2023, Swami Sevatananda from Bharat Sevashram Sangha will grace the occasion as the Guest of Honour, inaugurating the Puja Pandal and unveiling the annual Puja Souvenir. As the 25th year of puja celebrations unfolds, the Durga and Kali Puja committee, alongside enthusiastic residents, is committed to crafting memorable experiences. From blissful morning puja rituals to captivating Sandhya Arati in the evenings, the event promises an array of enthralling cultural programs, including Dandia & Garbha, dance and song performances, and orchestral renditions. The cultural committee, comprising dedicated kids and lady members, has invested considerable effort to ensure the success of the

diverse cultural events. Their hard work reflects in the vibrant cultural tapestry woven for this year's celebration. Expressing gratitude, the Puja Committee acknowledges the tireless efforts of its members who initiated the puja in 1999, laying the foundation for this annual celebration in Vijaya's Heritage complex. Heartfelt thanks are extended to advertisers and patrons whose support has contributed to the splendor of the program. With the blessings of Maa Durga, the community looks back on a journey filled with devotion and camaraderie as they embark on the five-day-long puja celebration. The fervent hope is for Goddess Durga to bestow eternal happiness upon all, uniting the community in joyous celebration of life.

NTPC Swayamsiddha Ladies Club organises Navratri Festival

PNS : RANCHI

Adding more colours to the ongoing festivities like Navratri and Durga Puja Mahotsav, Swayamsiddha Ladies Club (SLC), NTPC Coal Mining HQ, Ranchi organised Navratri Dandiya celebration for the members. The event took off with welcoming of Rekha Jain, President, SLC and lighting of lamps in the august presence of senior committee members, committee members and members. Later members participated in the traditional puja and prayers to Goddess Durga. On the occasion, Jain greeted good wishes and prosperity to all members for the upcoming puja festivals, which was followed by the Dandiya night dance program. She in her address spoke that one alone can't do, it is always the group effort that brings success.

She also sought advice from members to come up with new ideas, suggestions and new initiatives to strengthen the activities of the ladies club and the benefit of society. The members were seen in their traditional colourful attire, enjoyed the festive mood and played group dandiya dance. To make the event a special distribution of competition prizes of Toran making competition and games were organised. Sanchita Konar, Lakshmi Murthy, Purnima Shrikhande, Mansa Verma, Deepa & Parameswari and members were also present.



'Swachata Hi Sewa Hai' drive leaves a lasting impact

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR:

In a vibrant display of commitment to cleanliness and hygiene, Saarthi, a renowned NGO, orchestrated the 'Swachata Hi Sewa Hai' scheme program at UMS Bhatia Basti Kadma. The event, held today, not only aimed at spreading awareness but also celebrated the talent and potential of the students through a captivating dance performance. The school's talented students took center stage, expressing the essence of cleanliness and hygiene through a mesmerizing dance performance. The auditorium echoed with rhythmic beats and graceful movements, transforming the message of Swachata into a visual spectacle. The event was graced by the presence of Neeraj Singh, the BJP State Coordinator, who served as the chief guest. Mr. Singh took the opportunity to commend the students for their remarkable performances and distributed certificates to both participants and the organizing team. Christina, the City Manager of JNAC area, added



her support to the initiative, emphasizing the importance of community-led programs in fostering a sense of responsibility towards cleanliness. Gopesh Kumar Thakur, the Head Master of UMS Bhatia Basti Kadma, shared his passion for creating a better future for the students. He highlighted the untapped potential and caliber that these children possess, underscoring the significance of such events in shaping their lives. Pooja Agarwal, the president of Saarthi, led the charge in organizing the event. The

dedicated team, including Sushanto Singha, Vijay Agarwal, Aparajita Apra, Mintu Singha, Manushi Sharma, Monu, Shubham, Nikhil, Deepak, Rajesh, and Manasvi Sharma, played pivotal roles in ensuring the success of the program. Such initiatives go beyond cleanliness; they serve as a platform for students to showcase their talents. The Swachata Hi Sewa Hai scheme aligns with Saarthi's mission to uplift and empower communities, fostering a spirit of pride and achievement among the talented youth.

CIL's off-take to power sector ahead of the commitment till 15 Oct

PNS : RANCHI

Coal India's (CIL) supplies to thermal power plants of the country shot up close to 6% to 23.5 million tonnes (MTs) during the first fortnight of October 2023 ahead of the festive season. Comparatively the supplies were 22.2 MTs in the same period of October 2022. The growth was posted at a time of sudden surge in power demand and even as unseasonal rains hit hard the operations in coal bearing areas of CIL's subsidiaries based in the eastern region of the country. Chhattisgarh based SECL also bore the brunt of the inclement weather. The coal major's total supplies at 28.6 MTs during the

mitment was 316 MTs to power sector till 15th October FY 2024 against which the company's supplies were ahead by 3 MTs at 319 MTs. CIL is confident of meeting the tasked target to the power sector. CIL's supplies to all consuming sectors were 389.3 MTs during the referred period posting 9% growth compared to 356.6 MTs of the same period last fiscal year. With no letup in the output tempo, CIL's progressive production of 360 MTs till 15th October FY 2024 has logged a robust 11.6% year-on-year growth with 37.6 MTs expansion in volume terms. This growth is again higher than the fiscal's asking rate of around 11%.

NRI couple, activist register complaint against online trolling by woman

PNS : RANCHI

An NRI couple and a Jharkhand based scholar/activist facing trolling online. Both of them registered a cyber-complaint against a Gujrat, Himmatnagar based woman and consulted their lawyers. Mr and Mrs Aia who faced trolling by the woman, while speaking to Mr. Aia said, "At first we thought it's a trivial troll and she appeared to be harmless so we ignored her, however her trolling increased drastically. The accused woman started to post my photos with my wife with notorious intentions. She then posted nonsensical and baseless things about both of us, our child, body shamed us and fuelled baseless rumours about my personal, marital and professional life. We both faced a lot of mental harassment by her and hence we approached the Chaturshringi police station, Pune to register a cyber-complaint against the lady, we are also seeking legal help from our lawyer". The same woman has been accused of trolling another woman from Mumbai. The victim had approached Kandivali police station to register a cyber-complaint against the alleged accused. There's one more victim, a Research Scholar woman from Sujangarh, Rajasthan.

"The troll who appears to be a woman has been trolling me and my known persons for a long time. She comments about my personal and professional life on Facebook/Social media directly - indirectly in disguise.

Robbers'gang busted, 6 held in Garhwa

NITYANAND DUBEY : GARHWA

The Garhwa police on Monday claimed to have busted a gang of robbers and arrested six of its members who were involved in separate cases of robberies. The police have also seized Rs 4,500 cash, six mobile phones, one pistol of 7.65 bore along with magazine, two country made 315 pistol, three live cartridges, two empty cartridges and Sansui TV sold from the looted money from their possession. The arrest was made from different places while they were hiding after executing a loot. Those arrested were Babu Khan alias Sarwar Khan, Shahab Khan, Amir Suhani alias Muskan, Riyaj Ansari, Sonu Soni and Anshu Malakar alias Ashutosh Soni all residents of Sonpurva and Tandawa mohalla of the Garhwa town. Superintendent of police Garhwa, Dipak Kumar Pandey said that all arrested confessed their involvement in a road loot of Rs. 1 lakh cash occurred in Sahikana mohalla on October. 11.



Dandiya Beats 2023 at Celebration Banquet on Oct 18

PNS : RANCHI

This event to be held on 18 October 2023 from 06:00 PM to 10:00 PM at J.K Celebration Banquet, By-pass road, Dibdih, Ranchi will include Dandiya-Garba Raas along with live DJ, children's fashion show, best costume etc. There will also be several other activities. Organizers said that the ticket price of this program is Rs 500/-. Entry free for children up to 5 years, ticket

price for children between 6-10 years is Rs300/- along with which food coupon and Dandiya stick are being given free of cost. The atmosphere of the program will be completely family oriented. There will be a lot of fun and frolic. Organizers Mahali Gadi of Wow Events, Avinash Kumar of Gymholic, Giniya Ghosh of Fantasy Cultural Academy, Abhishek Singh were present on the occasion. The radio partner of Dandiya beats 2023 is 92.7 Big F.M. Sponsors are Motimahal Restaurant Argora, Sanatos, Arvind Store Singh More, Aditi Sweets, APSA Salon etc.



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Barhi police seize 5 kg. Opium, arrest three

SHAILESH SHARMA : HAZARIBAG

Barhi police have seized 5 kg. opium during the special checking drive on Ranchi-Patna road. The police have arrested three persons during the checking drive. Hazaribag Superintendent of Police Manoj Rattan Chothey said in a press conference in seminar hall on Sunday that the police received the secret information that some of the persons are coming to Barhi to sell the opium. He further said that a special team was formed under the leadership of Barhi SDPO Nazeer Akhtar. The team immediately started the work and started to check all vehicles coming and going from there. The team member saw that one white car was coming from Ranchi, they ordered the car to stop, as the car stopped

every person started to escape from there. During the checking of the vehicles police found 5 kg opium in the dickey of the car. The team members chased them and arrested all the people who were in the car. The arrested persons are Buland Akhtar of Chatra, Mukesh Prasad of Chandwa of Latehar and Md. Jameel of Barhi, Hazaribag. Police also seized one white colour car and three mobiles from them. The arrested person confessed in front of the police team we are coming here to sell the opium to a party. They have not disclosed the name of that person who is ready to purchase the opium from them. The SP said that we will demand that they be remanded and then deeply investigate all the arrested persons and try to find out the basic roots of this business. There are episodes of huge misconduct here in the orchestra shows. First is molestation of the danseuse. Second is forced dancing to the tune of any particular vulgar song. Third is underpayment to the troupes." About three years ago a

ORCHESTRA SHOW WILL BE UNDER POLICE WATCH : IG

PNS : DALTONGANJ

Cultural programmes post Durga Puja will be under police scrutiny in the 3 districts Garhwa, Latehar and Palamu of the Palamu police range. IG of police Palamu range R K Lakra said "We understand the sensitivity of the musical soiree. Orchestra parties do come and perform till late night. The gathering there is never any more disciplined." IG conceded that "Any mishap in an orchestra show triggers a bigger issue. Let concerned SDOs ensure that organisers of such music dance programmes own full responsibility as for anything going wrong the organisers can't escape their accountability." There are episodes of huge misconduct here in the orchestra shows. First is molestation of the danseuse. Second is forced dancing to the tune of any particular vulgar song. Third is underpayment to the troupes." About three years ago a



Photo Caption: IG of police Palamu range R K Lakra photo by PNS

danseuse was found killed in Bishrampur. The orchestra troupes come from Chhattisgarh, Bengal and Bihar. Asked as to how he as IG police foresee the situation right now in 3 districts here ahead of the Dussehra to which Lakra said "We are vigilant. There is no room for complacency. We hope people will have a peaceful Puja everywhere." More than 100 people

have been detained under section 107 of the CrPC. IG confirming it said police are just ready to seek warrant of arrest against 50 odd people whose day to day activities are under close watch of the police and if any one of these is found in any aberration, then law will take its own course. Reminded that Balumath police station in Latehar district is synonymous with communal fragility to which

he said "Balumath is vulnerable. It's our focussed police station." IG denied that coal money is used here to foment communal disharmony. Coal money has nothing to do with the communal fabric here. It's the criminals who threaten harmony he said. Durga Puja in Palamu's Hariharganj sees hordes of people coming over there from Bihar and on many occasions these outsiders here give peace and harmony a jolt. They did it in 2019, 2017, 2015, 2014, 2013 etc. They raise inflammatory slogans and jeer at people of other faith. IG commenting on it said "My special emphasis is not only on Hariharganj alone. Hussainabad police station is also my priority. These places in Palamu have proximity to Bihar. Let people come here from our neighbouring state but they can't have any liberty to create nuisance as it will be dealt with a very firm hand."

Police raid ahead of Durga Puja uncovers illicit mini-liquor factory

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

In a late-night operation on Sunday, the Jamshepur police, acting on a credible tip-off, successfully uncovered an illicit mini-liquor factory located in Jawahar Nagar under the Mango Thana area. Despite no arrests made during the raid, law enforcement officials seized a substantial quantity of evidence, including numerous cartons filled with liquor bottles, containers of spirits, labels, corks, and various equipment used in the liquor manufacturing process. The unauthorised liquor factory was operating within a double-storied building on Road No 17 in the densely-populated Jawahar Nagar area in Mango. The raid was conducted following specific information received by City SP Rishabh Garg, who directed the Mango Thana to investigate the reported illicit liquor factory. Vinay Kumar, the Mango Thana Officer in Charge, stated that the authorities seized 100 cartons of liquor along with other materials and equipment associated with the liquor manufacturing process. The focus now shifts

to identifying and apprehending those involved in the illicit liquor trade in the highly populated Jawahar Nagar area. OC Vinay Kumar revealed that the confiscated liquor bottles bore stickers representing popular brands of Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL). The production seemed strategically timed to coincide with the upcoming Durga Puja celebrations, indicating a potentially lucrative market for the illegal trade. Authorities suspect that the spurious liquor may have been intended for smuggling into Bihar, where the sale of liquor is prohibited. To assess the potential harm posed by the seized liquor, the police are preparing to send samples to a government laboratory in Ranchi for chemical examination. This step aims to determine the quality and safety of the confiscated stock, ensuring public safety by uncovering any health hazards associated with the illicitly produced alcohol. The investigation is ongoing, with law enforcement agencies committed to dismantling the illegal liquor network and bringing those responsible to justice.

Govt working on providing employment in Public & Pvt Sector: CM

Hands over appointment letters to 827 Trained Graduate Teachers

PNS : RANCHI

The process of large-scale appointments is going on in the state. Appointments have been made in many departments and the recruitment process is going on for many posts. This trend will continue further also. In this connection, appointment letters are being distributed among you today. It is expected from you that as a teacher, you will discharge your responsibilities with full dedication in shaping the future of children and in the development of the state," said Chief Minister Hemant Soren while addressing a gathering at the teacher appointment letter distribution ceremony organized at Dr. Ramdayal Munda Football Stadium, Morhabadi, Ranchi on Monday.

On this occasion, he symbolically presented appointment letters to 24 teachers out of 827 graduate trained



Chief Minister Hemant Soren distributing appointment letters among 827 trained graduate teachers selected for secondary schools by Jharkhand Staff Selection Commission in the teacher appointment letter distribution ceremony at Dr. Ramdayal Munda Football Stadium, Morhabadi in Ranchi on Monday. Pix by Ratan Lal

recruitment phase is going on in government departments. Appointments have been made to the posts of doctor, engineer, veterinarian, AYUSH doctor, agriculture

officer, sports officer, pan-chayat secretary, nurse and clerks etc. At the same time, about 34 thousand youth have received offer letters in private institutions and companies by organizing employment fairs. The government is trying to make the youth here stand on their own feet.

The CM said that our government has taken many such historic decisions, which have become an example for the country. We are giving 100% scholarship to the tribals, Dalits, backward classes and minorities for studying abroad. Through the Universal Pension Scheme, pensions are being given to all the elderly, widows and disabled people. There are many more such decisions, which are working to empower and advance the people here.

The CM said that today is the era of competition. In such a situation, so that the children of government schools are not left behind, government schools are being upgraded on the lines of private schools. Schools of excellence have been opened. Better education facilities are being provided in model schools. Infrastructure is being strengthened in all categories of schools. Initiatives are being taken to provide education to children through digital medium. The hostels are being renovated. It is our endeavour that the children of government schools can also prove themselves better in today's competitive era.

The CM told the newly appointed teachers that along with teaching in schools, they should work to identify the hidden talents of children and hone them. He said that many children are talented in sports, painting, song, dance and music, but they do not get opportunities. In such a situation, you must fulfill your important responsibilities in bringing them forward.

On this occasion, the Chief Minister launched the Ji Guruji App prepared by the School Education and Literacy Department. Through this app, students of government schools of the state can study through audio-video medium with digital content apart from school, they can also study at home.

On this occasion, Ministers Alamgir Alam and Satyanand Bhokta, Rajya Sabha MP Dr. Mahua Maji, Secretary to the Chief Minister Vinay Kumar Choubey, Secretary of School Education and Literacy Department K. Ravi Kumar, Director of Primary Education Neha Arora, SPD Director Kiran K Pasi and Many officials of the district administration including Director of Secondary Education Sunil Kumar were present.

Excise Dept conducts raid, five persons arrested

PNS : RANCHI

The Excise Department team conducted a raid campaign in five police station areas of the State Capital on Monday against illegal liquor trade. The team also took action and arrested five persons for involvement in illegal liquor trade.

Raids were conducted in Gadikhana located in Kotwali police station area, Chutiya police station area Sirmotoli, Samlong in Namkum police station area and Hethu in Airport police station area. During this period, 1200 kg Java Mahua, 197 liters of liquor and a scooter were recovered. While two people managed to escape.

To increase the revenue, the Station In-Charges are running a campaign against illegal liquor trade. Regarding

this, Ranchi DC Rahul Kumar Sinha had issued instructions to Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), SDO Sadar and SDO Bundu. In the instructions issued, it was said that the Excise and Prohibition Department is the source of revenue for the State Government. Ranchi is an important district from the revenue point of view, whose annual revenue is assured at Rs 428 crore. In view of this, the excise department in Ranchi district is lacking in production force and resources.

There are a total 45 police stations in Ranchi district. Therefore, the station in-charge and CO, from their level, should launch an intensive raid campaign against those doing illegal liquor business to increase sales in retail product shops. Also, if com-

JCI Expo Utsav 2023 concludes with fervour



Renowned writer and motivator Shiv Khera talks to audiences during a programme on the concluding day of JCI Expo 2023 in Ranchi on Monday. PNS

PNS : RANCHI

JCI Expo Utsav 2023, started on October 12 at Morabadi Ground, concluded with fervour on Monday. There was great enthusiasm among the people and a large crowd was seen. Asunta Lakra, former captain of the Indian women's hockey team, was the chief guest at the closing ceremony. This programme was conducted by Ashish Bhala and Abhishek Narnauliya.

On Sunday, dance competition Expo Dhanak Dhin Dha was also organized in the expo in which participants from all the groups participated. As part of today's training program, the country's well-known writer and motivational speaker Shiv Khera inspired everyone to always be positive in their lives. He said that there are problems in everyone's life, but only the one who fights those problems and moves ahead becomes successful in life.

President Arvind Rajgarhia said that today he is very happy that Team JCI successfully concluded the Expo Utsav 2023. The credit for the success of the expo goes to the people of Ranchi. This 26th Expo will be remembered by everyone for years and next year we will

VHP seeks abolition of Hindu Religious Trust Board Act

VHP delegation meets Governor



Vishwa Hindu Parishad Officials meet Governor CP Radhakrishnan in Ranchi on Monday. Pix by Raj Bhawan

PNS : RANCHI

Jharkhand Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) unit has urged President Droupadi Murmu to abolish the Jharkhand Hindu Religious Trust Board Act. In this connection, on Monday, Vishwa Hindu Parishad State Vice President Chandrakant Raipat, Sunil Gupta, Dr. Birendra Sahu, Kailash Kesari and Mithlesh Mishra met the Governor CP Radhakrishnan at Raj Bhawan and also submitted a memorandum to the President. Through this, apart from abolishing the Hindu Religious Trust Board, the delegation also appealed to free the temples of Hindu Gods and Goddesses from the control of the state government.

According to Vishwa Hindu Parishad, the state government's control over the religious institutions of Hindus is similar to the British rule before 1947. After independence, except Hinduism, all other religions are completely free to establish and run their institutions without government interference.

According to Vishwa Hindu Parishad, there are concerns regarding many points of the Trust Board Act in Jharkhand. Articles 25, 26 (Constitution of India) do not differentiate between Hinduism and other religions. In such a situation, there is no justification for the state to consider Hindu religion separate from other religions. Except Hinduism, all other religions are free to establish and run their religious institutions. People with integrity are being appointed as presidents and members for the management of various temples and trust committees by the political party in power. It would be wrong to think that a body sitting in the capital would have better knowledge and understanding of the temple matters than the individual trust committees of the

temples. In the present system, people and officials belonging to other religions also become managers and administrators of one or the other temple. According to VHP, governments do not provide any financial assistance to religious bodies, especially in the case of Hindu religion.

The government forcibly intervenes in the matters of Hindu institutions. It also starts charging for such interference. The Trust Board in Jharkhand is just a tool to please the members of a particular political party which only creates anarchy in Hindu religious institutions. In such a situation, it is necessary to abolish colonial laws like the Trust Board. In this way Hindu religious institutions should be freed from control.



Development Commissioner-cum-Additional Chief Secretary Arun Kumar Singh meets Chief Minister Hemant Soren in Ranchi on Monday. He invited the Chief Minister to attend the final match of the Women's Asian Hockey Champions Trophy-2023 to be hosted by Ranchi on November 5 as the chief guest. PNS

Badal instructs officials to resolve people's issues

PNS : RANCHI

Under the public hearing programme at Jharkhand Pradesh Congress Committee (JPCC) headquarter on Monday in the State Capital, State Agriculture Minister, Badal listened to the problems of the complainants from different districts of the State and asked the concerned officials to resolve them and he also instructed them to resolve the issue through telephone. Besides, taking cognizance of the applications of the complainants, immediate written instructions along with special comments were given to the concerned officials.

JPCC Spokesperson, Satish Paul Munjani said that in the public hearing program, people from various blocks of Ranchi, Gumla, Giridih Bokaro, Latehar, Ramgarh districts reached the public hearing with their complaints. In the public issue, mainly the complainants submitted applications to the Minister for resolution of dealer license, medical payment, animal shed, pond construction, animal vaccination, fisheries department, street light, attic agro clinic center and other problems.

Munjani said that on the application of all the people who came to the public hearing program, Agriculture Minister Badal Patralekh took immediate action and gave directions to the officers of the subordinate department and directed them to solve the problems without any delay.

State General Secretary Amulya Neeraj Khalkho, Rakesh Sinha, Satish Paul Munjani, Nelly Nathan, Jagdish Sahu, Narendra Lal Gopi, Gulzar Ahmed, Ajay Singh, Rajiv Prakash Chaudhary were mainly present in the public hearing programme.

PNS : RANCHI

The two month long BJP state president Babul Marandi outreach programme christened as Sankalp Yatra will on October 28 at Harmu Maidan, Ranchi. State BJP general secretary Pradeep Verma who is also yatra coordinator said that the Yatra will conclude on October 28 with a public meeting.

Verma said that Sankalp Yatra started from 17th August under the leadership of State President and former Chief Minister Babul Marandi against the failures of the state government, power-supported corruption prevalent in the state, broken law and order, unemployment, women oppression, looting of minerals and appeasement.

He said that as part of Sankalp yatra the State President had resolved to visit all the 81 assembly constituencies of the state and establish direct communication with the public and inform them about the situation in the state. But this Sankalp Yatra of the State President turned into a Jan

Marandi's Sankalp Yatra to conclude



Former commissioner of Kolhan division retired IAS officer Vijay Kumar Singh taking membership from BJP State President Babul Marandi during a programme in Ranchi on Monday. Pix by Ratan Lal

Sankalp Yatra with the immense support of the public. He said that till now this yatra has been completed in eight phases in 71 assembly constituencies. The way the public has flocked to listen to the first Chief Minister of the state and the State President of BJP even during the rainy season, it is clear that the public is fed up with the misdeeds of the Hemant government. Dr. Verma said that currently there is a travel holiday due to Dussehra. The concluding program of the Yatra will be held on 28th October at Harmu Ground in Ranchi.

He said that in the concluding programme, there will be a joint meeting of 6 assembly constituencies Ranchi, Hatia, Kanke, Mander, Khijri and Tamar assembly constituencies in which thousands of workers and the public will gather.

Dr. Verma said that along with the Sankalp Yatra, Meri Maati, Mera Desh program was also being run by the party workers in the entire state in which soil, urns from martyr places, martyrs' villages and historical places were collected from every village for the construction of Amrit Vatika. Soil has been collected by filling it.

Told that 312 urns including all 263 blocks and 49 municipal body areas will respectfully reach Ranchi Harmu Maidan on 28th October and will be sent to New Delhi.

He said that this joint program will fill the 3.25 crore people of the state with a new message and new inspiration.

Dr. Verma said that preparations for the concluding ceremony are going on in full swing. Along with the puja, the workers are also busy preparing for the programme.

Experiential Trip of SBPS students



The students of Sarala Birla Public School, Ranchi had a fun-filled and enriching experiential trip to Kushal Palli Resorts, Ayodhya Hills, Purulia. A special Chau dance performance was organised for the students of our school to educate them about the history and culture of these traditional and local dance forms. After enjoying a scrumptious lunch, the students joined for a pool party to rejuvenate themselves. In the evening, they participated in fun filled activities which fostered the spirit of unity and team work. The entire evening was poignant and filled with music and dance. The day ended on a lighter note with the students enjoying the DJ night. It was a new learning experience for the students which taught them unity, team spirit, time-management and discipline.

Saundh launch retail shop in Ranchi

Saundh, an everyday affordable-luxury label has launched its first ever retail store in Ranchi marking its 32nd exclusive outlet pan India. Saundh's dedication to excelling in this market is demonstrated by the launch of the new store in 2nd Floor Mall of Ranchi, Kumbhartoli - a one stop shop for a dynamic consumer experience. Spread across 900+ sq. ft, the space boasts of elegant interiors that skillfully accentuates the brand's vibrant collections. The store offers Saundh's complete range of ready-to-wear clothing collections, encompassing women's and men's wear. This includes Kurta Sets, Dresses and Kaftans, Tops and Tunics, Jackets, festive bandis, and more. Founder and CEO of Saundh, Sarabjeet Saluja was present on the occasion.

Nadda visits Rajasthan to shore up BJP prospects in poll

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A head of Assembly polls in Rajasthan, BJP president JP Nadda held a meeting with party office bearers of Udaipur division on Monday as former Chief Minister Vasudhara Raje is reportedly not happy with absence of his loyalists name from the first list of candidates released by the party on October 9.

After holding talks in Udaipur, the BJP chief is also to visit Jodhpur to interact with party leaders and workers. Nadda held discussions with senior party workers, present and former MPs and MLAs, office bearers of different morchas and cells of the party in Jodhpur division.

In the first list released by the party for Rajasthan, the BJP included royal scion and Rajasamand MP Diya Kumari and Jaipur Rural MP and former Union Minister Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore which has already created flutter among those denied tickets by the party with some announcing contesting polls as independent candidates. The list of 47 candidates did

not have Raje's followers which has apparently miffed the former Chief Minister.

BJP's decision to field Rajasamand MP Diya Kumari from Jaipur's Vidhayadhar Nagar seat, denying tickets to its five-term MLA and Raje Loyalist Narpat Sijng Rajvi, son-in-law of Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, has unnerved the Raje camp followers, according to sources.

The two-time former CM on Sunday suddenly reached Udaipur and met with Assam governor Gulabchand Kataria at his residence. Kataria has

held Udaipur seat four-times. Kataria, before being appointed as Governor, was leader of opposition in the Rajasthan assembly and has influence over 25 Assembly seats in south Rajasthan.

He is also a former State Home Minister. Raje had a 40-minute discussion with Kataria before leaving for Tripura Sundari. The meeting was confidential and no one in the city had any prior information about her visit.

Confirming his meeting with Raje, Kataria said both belonged to one family and

keep meeting each other. "Nowadays I don't discuss politics as I have changed my line," he said. The meeting, though, has triggered speculations that both the leaders may not be in "sync with the top leadership". Raje proceeded to Udaipur after her meeting.

Elections to 200 Assembly seats is to be held on October 25 and the BJP is set to release its second list for Rajasthan by this week. Some more BJP MPs and Central Ministers are expected to contest Assembly polls, according to sources.

Nadda's visit to Jodhpur holds significance in the run up to the Assembly elections in the State where it seeks to unseat the Congress Government headed by Ashok Gehlot.

"Party is already faced with unrelenting protests against party candidate Devji Patel from Sanchore constituency, the only name the party has announced so far, from 33 constituencies of Jodhpur division", said a party leader.

Six mandal presidents of Jalore have resigned to protest the party's decision to rope in Patel from Sanchore Assembly constituency.



PM to unveil Amrit Kaal Vision 2047 at maritime summit

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the third edition of the three-day Global Maritime India Summit (GMIS), aiming to outline strategic future initiatives, at Mumbai on Tuesday via video-conferencing and unveil "Amrit Kaal Vision 2047".

In line with this futuristic plan, the prime minister will inaugurate, dedicate to nation and lay the foundation stone of projects worth more than ₹ 23,000 crore, that are aligned with this vision for the Indian maritime blue economy, a statement from his office said.

Modi will lay the foundation

stone of the Tuna Tekra all-weather deep draft terminal, to be built at a cost of more than ₹ 4,500 crore at the Deendayal Port Authority in Gujarat.

This state-of-the-art greenfield terminal will be developed in PPP mode.

It is likely to emerge as an international trade hub and will handle next-gen vessels exceeding 18,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs), and will act as a gateway for Indian trade via the proposed India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC), it said.

Over 300 Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) worth more than ₹ 7 lakh crore for global and national partnership in the maritime sector will also be unveiled during the programme.

The summit will be the biggest maritime event in the country, the statement said.

It will witness participation of Ministers from across the globe, representing Europe, Africa, South America and Asia (including central Asia, Middle East and BIMSTEC region), said the statement.

It will also be attended by global CEOs, business leaders, investors, officials, and other stakeholders from across the world.

Several Indian states will also be represented, it said.

The three-day summit will discuss and deliberate key issues of the maritime sector including ports of the future, decarbonisation, coastal shipping and inland water transportation, shipbuilding, repair and recycling, finance, insurance and arbitration, maritime clusters, innovation and technology, maritime safety and security, and maritime tourism among others.

The summit will also provide an excellent platform for attracting investment in the maritime sector of the country, it said.

The first edition of the summit was held in 2016 at Mumbai while the second was held virtually in 2021.

Mulling making AAP accused in excise policy scam cases: CBI, ED tell SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI and ED told the Supreme Court on Monday they are contemplating making the city's Am Aadmi Party (AAP) an accused in the Delhi excise policy cases.

Additional Solicitor General SV Raju, representing the two probe agencies, told a bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and SVN Bhatti he has instructions to State that the agencies are considering making AAP an accused, invoking legal provisions on "vicarious liability" and section 70 of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA).

However, the bench asked Raju to clarify his stand on Tuesday on whether there will be separate charge against the AAP in cases being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation and the Enforcement Directorate.

Raju made the statement while the bench was



SC rejects plea for abortion of 26 weeks old foetus

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday declined to permit a married woman, a mother of two, to terminate her over 26-week pregnancy as the foetus was healthy and the AIIMS medical board found no abnormality with it.

A bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud said the length of pregnancy has crossed 24 weeks, the upper limit for allowing Medical Termination of Pregnancy (MTP), and therefore it cannot be permitted.

The apex court said the foetus is 26 weeks and 5 days old and there is no immediate threat to the mother. There was also no foetal abnormality, it said.

"The length of the pregnancy has crossed 24 weeks and it is approximately 26 weeks and 5 days old. The medical

1st State education achievement survey to cover 11 million students

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The first State Education Achievement Survey will be conducted on November 3 by the national assessment regulator Parakh and will cover 11 million students across the country. According to the Ministry of Education, the survey is aimed at identifying areas requiring improvement in learning will be held across states, targeting school students up to the block level. It will be a precursor to the Education Ministry's annual National Achievement Survey (NAS), which is conducted at the district level.

MoE said that it will be the first survey conducted by the Performance Assessment, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development (PARAKH), an organisation under the NCERT. It is tasked with bringing the school boards across the states and the Union territories on a common platform.

Scheduled for November 3, SEAS (State Education Achievement Survey) 2023 has been designed to enhance the learning standards for students in Classes 3, 6 and 9. Operating at the block level, this survey encompasses a comprehensive range of competencies, spanning the foundational, prepara-



India, UK hold first '2+2' foreign, defence dialogue

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

India and UK on Monday reviewed the entire spectrum of their defence and strategic ties here in the inaugural India-UK '2+2' foreign and defence dialogue at the senior official level. The two sides focused on ways to boost cooperation in a range of key areas such as trade and investment, defence, critical technologies, civil aviation, health and energy.

The two sides also discussed international developments including in the Indo-Pacific region and considered the possibility of enhancing anti-terror collaboration, according to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The 2+2 dialogue at senior official level is a mechanism to discuss and review all aspects of India-UK comprehensive strategic partnership.

The dialogue took place as the two sides are exploring the possibility of a visit to India by British Prime Minister Rishi Sunak later this month.

The MEA said the two sides discussed "possibilities for further collaboration particularly in areas of trade and investment, defence, critical and emerging technologies, civil



REGD. No. D.L.-33004/99

THE GAZETTE OF INDIA

CG-DL-E-11102023-249291

Extraordinary

PART II - Section 3 - Sub-section (ii)

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

[No. 4216] NEW DELHI, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023/ASWINA 18, 1945

MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS

(Northern Railway) (Construction Organization)

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, the 10th October, 2023

(The Gazette Notification in this regard published on 06.09.2023 vide S.O. 3968 (E) may be treated as cancelled in view of some clerical mistakes. This Notification may be read in lieu of above mentioned cancelled Notification.)

S.O. 4387(E).—In Exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (1) of Section 20A of the Railways Act, 1989 (24 of 1989) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Central Government, after being satisfied that for the public purpose the land brief discussion of which has been given in the schedule annexed hereto, is required for execution of the special Railway project namely Development of Freight & Coaching Terminal at Bijwasan in the District South West, Village Bharthal of Delhi state hereby declares its intention to acquire such land.

Any person interested in the said land may, within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notification in the Official Gazette subject to the acquisition of such land for the aforesaid purpose under sub-section (1) of section 20 D of the said Act.

Every such objection shall be made to the competent authority, namely, Additional District Magistrate, South West District, Delhi in writing and shall set out the grounds thereof and the competent authority shall give the objector an opportunity of being heard, either in person or by a legal practitioner and may after hearing all such objection and after making such further inquiry, if any as the competent authority hence necessary, by order either allow or disallow the objections.

Any order made by the competent authority under sub-section (2) of section 20 D of the said Act shall be final.

The land plans and other details of the land covered under this notification are available and can be inspected by the interested person at the aforesaid office of the competent authority.

SCHEDULE

Brief description of land to be acquired with or without structure falling within the District-South West of Delhi for special Railway project namely Development of Freight & Coaching Terminal at Bijwasan

Sl. No.	Name of District/State	Name of Tehsil/Taluka	Name of Village/Hadbast/No./Mustee	Khasra No.	Area to be acquired in Bigha-Biswa
1	South West, Delhi	Kapasheda	Bharthal	511/24	4-16
				521/4/2	1-10
				521/26/1	0-6
				521/4/1	3-0
Total =					9-12 (0.8075 hectare)

[F. No. 190-W/Land/Misc./CSB-I(Kapasheda)]
3209/23 A. K. SINGHAL, Chief Administrative Officer/Construction

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that (i) Mr. Neeru Jain W/o. Late Mr. Sushil Jain and (ii) Mr. Samaksh Jain S/o. Late Mr. Sushil Jain, the owner of Portion of Upper Ground Floor, Area Measuring 100 Sq. Yards, being part of built up property bearing Municipal No. 4586/2B, total measuring 191 sq. yards, situated at 11 Darya Gani, New Delhi-110002, vide Registered Relinquishment Deed Dated 12.04.2018 Book No. 01, Document No. 3620 Executed By Mr. Shikha Jain D/o. Late Mr. Mohan Lal Jain & Smt. Smt. Nazneen mortgaging the said property with SMFG India Credit Company Limited (Formerly Fullerton India Credit Company Limited), General Public, hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest 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. Mr. Praseem Lata, Advocate SG Associates (Law Firm) FF 18, Lotus Pond Plaza, Vishva Khard, Indraprastha, Gurgaon 20114. E-mail: sgassociates@gmail.com, Ph: 91-11-2272-28, 91-11-2272-24, 91-99209837

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that I, Anita Bhatia, W/o Lalit Kumar Bhatia, R/o. 8/13 West Patel Nagar, New Delhi-110008, has Lost ORIGINAL DEMAND CUM ALLOTMENT LETTER, POSSESSION LETTER & NOC against File No. 2005/AA/NA/1369 dated 27.09.05 of LIG flat no. 604, POCKET E, SECTOR-A-10, NARELA, DELHI. The online FIR against has been lodged. SO No: 430/2014 P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi LR No. 860253/2023 Date 04/09/2023. Any person claiming any right interest or have any objection or found the above said original documents may write contact the above named person or call on phone no. 9654806047 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client that Mr. Manish Gupta is the owner of Eastern Portion (said portion) part of Property bearing No. M-112, measuring 50 Sq. Yds, built on Plot No.32, admeasuring 202 Sq Yds, out of Phase No.209, Situated at the area of Village Udhampur, in the aadi of Panacheel Garden, Naveen Shikhar, Huda Shikhar, Delhi-110032. The said property, by virtue of Relinquishment deed dt. 13.06.2023, Registration No. 4578, executed by (1) Mrs. Lisha Gupta (2) Mrs. Jyoti Bansal & (3) Mrs. Seema Aggarwal, legal heirs of late Mr. Shyam Lal Gupta. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner want to sell the said property (portion) to Mr. Shalender Rathore or his nominee, who is taking home loan for purchase the mortgage, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 10 days of the present. Mr. Praseem Lata, Advocate SG Associates (Law Firm) FF 18, Lotus Pond Plaza, Vishva Khard, Indraprastha, Gurgaon 20114. E-mail: sgassociates@gmail.com, Ph: 91-11-2272-28, 91-11-2272-24, 91-99209837

NORTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE

Sr. DEE-TRS-GZB acting for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Tender against Tender No. 230-TRS-GZB-2023-24-18. The details are as under:-

Name of Work	Approx. Cost of work
'Supply & fitment of additional safety sling for traction link of WAP-7/WAP-5 locomotives as per RDSO modification sheet No. RDSO/2023/ELMS/0493 Rev '0' dated 26.07.2023' at Electric Loco Shed, Ghaziabad	₹12,74,400/-

Earnest Money to be deposited ₹25,500/-

Last Date & Time of Submission of tender bid of tender 06.11.2023 at 11:00 Hrs.

Date & Time of opening of tender document 06.11.2023 after 11:00 Hrs.

Website particulars where complete details of tender documents can be seen www.ireps.gov.in

Note: (i) The tenderer/s must be registered on the Indian Railway E-Procurement system (IREPS) site www.ireps.gov.in for participating in the e-tender system. (ii) For all terms and conditions please refer tender document. (iii) No manual offers are acceptable. (iv) Cost of tender document and Earnest money will be acceptable through net banking or payment gateway only.

No.: 230-TRS-GZB-2023-24-18 Dated : 13.10.2023 3214/2023

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

SC agrees to examine AAP leader Raghav plea

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to examine the plea of AAP leader Raghav Chadha challenging his indefinite suspension from the Rajya Sabha and sought the assistance of the attorney general in adjudicating the issue.

A bench comprising Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices J B Pardiwala and Manoj Misra took note of the submissions of senior advocate Rakesh Dwivedi and lawyer Shadan Farasat, representing Chadha, that the suspension cannot extend beyond the particular session during which the decision to suspend the member was made.

The top court issued the notice to the Rajya Sabha Secretariat only on the plea which will be heard on October 30. Besides the Rajya Sabha Secretariat, Chadha had made the chairperson of the committee the parties to his petition. Dwivedi said he was not seeking any interim relief in the petition at the moment.

Army top brass deliberates national security during Commanders' Conference

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Army top brass on Monday here began deliberations on national security challenges including the situation at border in Ladakh and the Line of Control (LOC) facing Pakistan and ways to boost the overall combat capability of the force while kick-starting a five-day conference. Being chaired by Army Chief General Manoj Pande, the commanders are delving into a range of issues, including the ongoing reform process in the 1.3 million strong force, matters relating to jointness among the three services and key geopolitical developments.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is scheduled to address the conference on October 18. Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan and Air Chief Marshal VR Chaudhary are among those addressing the Army commanders.

Ajay Kumar Sood, the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, will also deliver a talk on "Leveraging Technology for National Security".

The Ministry of Defence on Monday here signed a contract for Mid Life Upgrade and Re-Powering of "INS Beas" with Kochi-based M/S Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) at an overall cost of ₹313.42 crores. INS Beas is the first of Brahmaputra class frigate to be re-powered from steam to diesel propulsion. After completion of mid life upgrade and re-powering in 2026, INS Beas will join the active fleet of the Indian Navy with a modernised weapon suite and upgraded combat capability, defence ministry officials said here.

The transformative maiden re-powering project marks a significant stride in the maintenance philosophy of the Indian Navy and repair capabilities of M/s CSL. The project would involve more than 50 MSMEs and would lead to generation of employment for more than 3,500 personnel.

The project will be a proud flag bearer of Atmanirbhar Bharat in consonance with the Make-in-India initiative of the Government of India, they said.



Defence Ministry signs contract for upgrade of INS Beas

Sansad Khel Pratiyogita Kashi-2023 begins

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

After successful conducting of Kashi Sansad Sanskrit Mahotsav (KSSM) in which the Prime Minister Narendra Modi himself attended the closing function to award the winners, Sansad Khel Pratiyogita Kashi-2023 was inaugurated at UP College grounds here on Monday. The sports competition was inaugurated jointly by UP ministers Ravindra Jaiswal and Dayashankar Mishra 'Dayalu' by lighting the lamp and hoisting of flag.



UP Ministers Ravindra Jaiswal and Dayashankar Mishra 'Dayalu' inaugurating Sansad Khel Pratiyogita Kashi-2023 in Varanasi on Monday.

The function was also attended by Mayor Ashok Tiwari, city chief of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Vidya Sagar Rai, District Magistrate S Rajalingam, Chief Development Officer Himanshu Nagpal, ADM (City) Alok Verma, RSO, BSA, Additional Municipal Commissioner and many other senior officials and BJP leaders. The inaugural function began with the presentation of Saraswati Vandana, welcome song and cultural programmes by the schoolchildren.

ing volleyball.

According to the district administration, it is expected that 1,64,250 male and 1,13,227 female players will participate in the competitions at different levels in the district. The competition will run till November 8. There is no age limit in this competition. Competitions of 27 sports and 35 events are being organised from village to city. Transgenders and disabled people will also showcase their talents in this sports event.

According to Chief Development Officer (CDO) Himanshu Nagpal, a good

women's participation in the event is expected as there is enthusiasm among the girls and the attraction of the event will be the participation of 103-year-old Kalavati who will take part in a race event. He said that 2,77,642 people have registered for the event and the number of male participants in the competition is 1,64,250 while of female participants 1,13,227. Besides, 165 transgenders have also registered. The CDO informed that there will be 27 competitions in this sports competition.

The PM during his last visit in the city had launched the

Sansad Khel Pratiyogita Kashi-2023 portal while laying the foundation stone of the International Cricket Stadium on September 23 from his parliamentary constituency. The aim was to connect sports with people, so that youth can also take sports as a career. To showcase the talent of players from village to city, sports competitions are being organised at gram panchayat, nyay panchayat, university and school/college, development block, zone and district levels. The competition will be organised at the district level from November 6 to 8.

2 brothers feared drowned in Ganga

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

Two brothers were feared drowned in the Ganga in the rural area of Puramufi. Their friends raised an alarm and the local boatmen jumped into the river to trace them, but all their efforts went in vain.

Himanshu (20) of Akbarpur Sallahpur under Puramifti is the driver of the chief medical superintendent of Colvin Hospital. On Sunday he went to Fatehpur Ghat on a bike with his younger brother Mahendra Raj. They were accompanied by some neighbours. Suddenly Himanshu slipped into the area where water was deep. On seeing him drowning the younger brother came forward to save Himanshu, but both of them were swept away. Their friends raised an alarm. Some local boatmen responded but they could not save the brothers.

Efforts were made later to trace them but in vain.

NABBED: Samajwadi Party block pramukh from Kaudihar Mohammad Muzaffar tried to dodge the police by wearing a burqa but was nabbed and sent to jail. Muzaffar was wanted in a case of cow slaughter. On May 11, 2022, SO Soraon had intercepted a truck near HP petrol pump in Kurgaon. The truck was from Haryana and had 16 cows out of which eight were found dead. A case had been lodged against unidentified persons in this connection but investigation revealed that Muzaffar was the kingpin of the cow slaughter gang. Aslam has already been sent to jail in this connection. Muzaffar went missing since his name figured in the cow slaughter case. The police raided his hideouts several times, but he managed to escape every time. On a tip off

the police raided a place in the trans-Ganga segment of the district and caught Muzaffar while trying to escape wearing a 'burqa'. After being produced before the magistrate, he was sent to jail.

TIGHT SECURITY: Taking a lesson from the murder of mafia don Atiq Ahmed and his brother Khalid Azem alias Ashraf by sharpshooters in a hospital when they were taken there for a medical examination, the police did not allow mediapersons to interact with yet another kingpin of the crime world, Babloo Srivastava. He had been brought here from Bareilly jail under tight security to be produced in the court in connection with kidnapping and ransom demand of Rs 10 crore.

Babloo was fearing his murder while being transferred from Bareilly jail to Prayagraj court, and requested to record

his statement through video conferencing, but the court had turned down the request of the mafia don, who is quite close the 'D' gang.

Babloo was brought here on Sunday and kept in Kaushambi jail for security reasons. When he was produced in the court on Monday a good number of mediapersons and lawyers had gathered there to interact with him but no one was allowed to meet him.

Babloo was produced in a special Gangster Court here in connection with the kidnapping of a trader Pankaj Mahendra and asking for a ransom of Rs 10 crore. Statements of other criminals involved in this kidnapping — Vineet Parihar, Shachchidanand Yadav, Chandra Prakash and Sandeep Chaudhary have already been recorded by the court.

Bid to ensure foolproof fire security arrangements

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PRAYAGRAJ

In a bid to ensure foolproof fire security arrangements, the officials of the Fire department have asked all puja pandals to follow a set of directives. Moreover, all puja pandal committees must have NOC from the Fire department for setting up pandal.

Apart from security arrangements for visitors, the Fire department has asked committee members concerned not to use synthetic material or ropes to construct puja pandals. Besides, every puja pandal has to leave around 4.5 metre space around it so that people could evacuate puja pandal in case of crisis.

Pandals must have more than three metres height and no pandal should be set up under the electric wire cable. The exit gate must have at least five metres width and distance of pandal from main road must be within 45 metres.

Chief Fire Officer (Prayagraj) RK Pandey told

mediapersons, "We have asked puja pandal committees to hire licensed contractors for lighting of pandals. There should be at least two exit points and both the gates should be opposite from each other". Besides, we have also asked all puja pandal committees to ensure emergency lighting services and there should be no fire crackers show in and around the pandal. Every pandal must have at least two advanced fire-fighting extinguishers and water storage of 200 litres near the pandal, he said.

The CFO said as many as eight teams are being constituted to check puja pandal at frequent intervals in Civil Lines, Naini, Bara, Meja Koraon, Handia, Phulpur and Soraon. Apart from security plan, police have also decided to use separate plan for crowd control or any other emergency, especially during evening hours. Senior cops have advised puja committee to depute additional volunteers to control the crowd thronging the pandals,

especially during peak hours (7 pm to 2 am).

These volunteers are being deployed in shifts to avoid any laxity. All the major puja pandals would be under police scanner and skilled volunteers would be assisting cops to handle emergency-like situation in case of stampede or fire break out.

There will be separate arrangement for water to ensure adequate supply to tackle any accidental fire. There are plans to utilise drone cameras for assessing crowd strength in pandals and also to keep an eye on security measures. Each policeman and private volunteer will be aware about their role and responsibility.

Besides, a reserve water storage facility will also set up to control any fire outbreak. "We are more focused on security arrangements and are coordinating with the local puja pandal committees," said a senior cop.

Majority of visitors throng pandals during evening hours

to enjoy the lighting arrangements and the grandeur of the Goddess while offering puja. There will be shift wise duties of policemen at static locations so that they remain alert to tackle any crowd problem.

On their part, the men-in-khaki have already drafted an elaborate security arrangement plan for Durga Puja pandals to prevent any untoward incident during the festival and the police station concerned will be coordinating with committee members regarding security arrangements. Installation of CCTVs will be mandatory to keep an eye on the visitors and additional security forces have been deployed to maintain law and order.

Puja committees have also been instructed to ensure proper lighting inside and outside the pandals during Durga Puja and Navarata celebrations. A senior cop said, "There will be around 100 small and big puja pandals in the city and security will be reviewed on a routine basis."

BJP to launch voter awareness drive

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

Regional (Kashi) Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president Dilip Singh Patel said that the party will launch a voter awareness campaign from October 29 under the Mission 2024. According to him, in this direction, the state unit of BJP has made a blueprint in which the party's first focus will be on the voter list. "For this, a mega campaign to be known as Voter Chetna Maha Abhiyan will be started simultaneously in the entire state from October 29 in which the party will knock every house," he said, adding that to make the campaign a success, a training camp for party workers has been started at the district level from Monday.



Regional BJP chief DS Patel addressing party workers in Varanasi.

On his return after attending a state level meeting addressed by state chief Bhupendra Singh Chaudhary and general secretary (Organisation) Dharampal Singh, the regional president said that despite the alliance of the parties in the last Lok Sabha elections, BJP had got more than 50 per cent votes. "BJP achieved historic victory in urban body, panchayat and cooperative elections and in

such a situation, the strong organisational structure of BJP is capable of accepting any challenge and giving positive results," he said.

Patel further said that during the campaign, the party workers will approach the concerned employees to add names of the youths in the voter list who have completed 18 years of age, change the residence addresses of married women voters and add new

voters and delete the names of deceased voters. He said that complete information about the proposed campaign would be given to the workers by the senior party office-bearers in the divisional workshops to be held in the coming days so that the work of voter verification can be done successfully and every eligible person can become a voter.

He said that participation of every party office-bearer,

worker and public representative will be ensured in the campaign.

Giving information about the two days training programme being organised at the district level from Monday, he said that training for voter revision will be given through divisional workshops on October 18 and 19. He said that the draft voter list will be published by the Election Commission on October 27.

"After listening to the next episode of 'Mann Ki Baat' programme on October 29, all the party office-bearers, workers, MPs, MLAs and other public representatives will contact every house and get involved in voter verification work. Work has to be done to connect every worker with the campaign," he said, adding that the party would contact each voter by running a special door-to-door contact campaign from October 30 to November 5 and from November 25 to December 3.

He said that by contacting the new voters and connecting them with the party, victory in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections will be easy and BJP would achieve the target of winning 80 seats in the state.

Devotees throng Brahmacharini Temple

VARANASI (PNS): Hundreds of devotees thronged Brahmacharini Devi Temple located near Brahma Ghat in Kotwali area on the second day of Shardiya Navratra here on Monday. Right from the morning hours, there was a long line of devotees in the nearby narrow lanes and only a few devotees were allowed to enter the temple premises at a time to avoid any awkward situation. The devotees waited for a long time to reach the temple and offer prayers.

Heavy rush of devotees was also seen throughout the day at the famous Durga Mandir (Durga Kund) as usual. Rush was also seen at some other temples of goddesses. This holy city is a rare place where there are separate temples of all the nine Gauris and

Devis where the devotees reach to offer prayers on different days during Basantik (Chaitya) and Shardiya Navratra respectively.

Besides, hundreds of devotees rushed to Vindhyaachal in Mirzapur district by Roadway buses or other vehicles to offer prayer on this auspicious occasion. Rush was also seen at Old Durga Mandir at Ramnagar, Sheetla Mata Mandir at Adalpur (near Chunar, Mirzapur) and others. Due to the high level of water in river Ganga, though it was recorded steady during the day, the devotees faced it tough to reach Sheetla Mata Mandir at Old Dashashwamedh Ghat. At both Durga Kund and Brahmacharini Devi temples, elaborate security arrangements were made.

Two commit suicide

PRAYAGRAJ (PNS): Two persons committed suicide in the past 24 hours in the city. In the first case, a 27 year-old youth identified as Yashwant, a resident of Pratapgarh committed suicide by hanging himself from the ceiling at his rented accommodation near Bagh road under the Khuldabad police station. The police said Yashwant was preparing for the competitive exams and had not picked up phone for the past two days. The incident came to the fore when his uncle went to meet him but found door locked from inside. On being alerted, a team of Khuldabad police rushed to the spot and found the youth hanging from the ceiling. The police said foul smell was also coming from the room suspecting that youth might have hanged himself two days back. The body has been sent for the post

mortem. In second case, a 37-year-old man identified as Abhishek of Lukerganj committed suicide by hanging himself at his residence under the same police station. Initial police investigation revealed that he committed suicide due to domestic issues.

PRAYAGRAJ JN BEING REDEVELOPED: Prayagraj Junction is being redeveloped in view of the Mahakumbh to be held in 2025 here. Now work has started on platform numbers 9 and 10 from Sunday. No trains will operate on this route for 77 days. As many as 10 trains have been completely cancelled while around 30 trains were shifted to other platforms. Both these platforms are important because trains go to cities like Mumbai, Delhi and Surat from here. This change may also cause some inconvenience to the passengers.

IIT (BHU) organises campus dialogue

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ VARANASI

An engaging 'Campus Dialogue with Students' was organised by the Research Cell of IIT (BHU) on Monday with Padma Bhushan & Padma Shri Prof Padmanabhan Balaram, former Director of IISc Bangalore. The talk was titled 'Reflections on Science in the aftermath of the coronavirus pandemic.'



Padma Bhushan Prof P Balaram at 'campus dialogue with students' programme at IIT (BHU) in Varanasi on Monday.

He spoke about the history of science and how we advanced from primal beings to using microscopes and telescopes to understand different worlds. He reiterated and explained Dr Richard Feynmann's atomic hypothesis that in the event of a cataclysm where all knowledge were to be destroyed, humans should start their research with the fact that 'all things are made of matter'. The evolution of the pandemic was also talked about where he stressed on the importance of biotechnology in today's world. He considered the research on cells as the greatest feat of biological engineering and also that biology unifies all sectors of science. During his talk, Prof Balaram also discussed the interdisciplinary nature of science and the contributions of various scientists like Erwin Schrödinger, Richard Feynman, Lynn Sagan and many more.

The programme began with a warm welcome of Prof P Balaram by the Dean (Research & Development), IIT (BHU), Prof Vikash Kumar Dubey and the Head of the Biomedical Engineering Department, IIT (BHU) Prof Sanjeev Kumar Mahto, with bouquet and shawl. The event proceeded with Prof Balaram's excellent and informative talk

on advancing science and research post-pandemic. Afterwards, the curious audience and the speaker had an engaging question and answer session. The questions were interesting, and the answers were vividly descriptive and inspiring.

Post the question-answer session, the eminent scholar was given a memento as a token of respect and appreciation. Assistant professor Aditya Kumar Padhi from the School of Biochemical Engineering concluded the talk with a heartfelt vote of thanks to the guest. The session was hosted by Muskan Gupta, Sophomitra head of the Research Cell, IIT (BHU) and third-year undergraduate student of the

Chemical Engineering department. Deans, senior faculty members, and a staggering strength of over 300 students brimming with curiosity and passion attended the talk.

A renowned scientist and a prolific author, Professor Balaram boasts an impressive career with nearly 1,000 publications and 25,000 citations spanning over five decades. After completing his postdoctoral training at Harvard under the Nobel Laureate Robert Burns Woodward at just 24, he later served as the Director of IISc, Bangalore, for over 10 years. Prof Balaram's legacy shines brightly, symbolising unparalleled dedication and scholarly brilliance in the scientific community.

Millet need of the hour: Minister

CORRESPONDENT ■ MIRZAPUR

Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel before flagging off a rally to make people aware to promote the use and farming of 'Shree Anna' at Vikas Bhawan on Sunday said millet is the need of the hour hence it should be adopted not only in the larger interest of health but also of nature.

She said that the UNO has declared the year 2023 as the International Year of Millets. Regarding the district she said farming of millet is the way to cope with the declining groundwater situation. Addressing the gathering District Magistrate Priyanka Niranjan said millet needs less water for irrigation hence is very suitable for area like Mirzapur. On the occasion other experts also expressed their views and the vote of thanks was proposed by Chief Development Officer (CDO) Srilaxmi VS.

Flagging off the awareness rally taken out by the Agriculture department the minister appealed to farmers to



Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel flagging off the millet awareness rally at Vikas Bhawan on Sunday

not only make others aware but also adopt themselves first. The awareness rally which started from Vikas Bhawan passed through different localities and villages and concluded at the agriculture farm house in Bisundarpur.

INAUGURATED: Union Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Anupriya Patel has inaugurated the Vindhya Darshan Mela app at Vikas Bhawan on Sunday. She praised the initiative of the district

administration which prepared the app for the convenience of the devotees. She said the app had many information, including medical facilities, police assistance, hotels as well as dhabas, rain baseras, toilet facility, CNG/petrol pump, contact number of district administration, medical camp etc. She said the entire information related to the 'darshan' route will be available to the devotee through one click. DM Priyanka Niranjan and CDO

Srilaxmi VS were also present on the occasion.

COUPLES REUNITE: Under Project Milan programme eight couples reunited through the Family Counselling Centre (FCC) located at Police Lines on Sunday. The couples were living separately due to misunderstanding over trivial issues and the case were brought to the police. The police had referred them to the FCC. After separate sittings eight couples agreed to live together. The staff extended their best good wishes to them for a successful life and bright future. Constable Sarna and colleague Sunita were present.

ARRESTED: The Madihan police arrested an accused of raping a minor girl on Sunday. A woman had lodged a case on September 22 in this connection. The police started the investigation. On being tipped off by an informer the police nabbed an accused of Belwan village under Padari police station from the Madihan area on Sunday and sent him to jail.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Underdogs no more!

Buzkashi-playing Afghanistan has braved high odds to make a mark on world cricket, and how!

Ignoring long years of wars, conflicts and turmoil, Afghanistan's cricket team threw up the biggest upset in the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023, vanquishing defending champions England by a convincing margin of 69 runs. This victory marked only their second win in World Cup history. But it changes everything: Afghanistan's battle-hardened cricket team is now firmly established among the sport's elite. Of course, some credit is due to India, which has helped the Afghan team reach this position of strength. The journey of Afghan cricketers was shaped by their early training in Pakistan, with some even starting their crickering careers in refugee camps across the border. As they played in dusty and makeshift grounds, they harboured dreams of representing their country on the international stage. The team from this war-torn country made its T20 and ODI debuts against Pakistan. However, the turning point came when the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) stepped in to play a pivotal role in the swift ascension of the sport within the strife-ridden nation.



In 2015, the Shaheed Vijay Singh Pathik Sports Complex in Greater Noida served as a temporary "home ground" for the Afghans. In the world of cricket, few stories are as captivating and inspirational as the meteoric rise of the Afghan team. Over the past two decades, its journey has been a testament to the indomitable spirit of the Afghans and their unrelenting pursuit of excellence. From its humble beginnings to becoming a formidable force, Afghanistan has not only earned the confidence and respect of major crickering nations but also made a mark in history.

Its remarkable progress in cricket came through their participation in domestic and international tournaments, such as the World Cricket League. Under the guidance of coaches and mentors, Afghan players honed their skills and developed a unique brand of cricket. Their bowlers, known for their pace and spin prowess, have become a force to reckon with, while their batters have shown glimpses of brilliance. One of the defining moments for Afghanistan was gaining Full Member status from the International Cricket Council (ICC) in 2017. It meant they were granted the same status as giants like India, England and Australia. The emergence of the Afghanistan cricket team is a story of resilience and dedication. It has captured the hearts of cricket enthusiasts and earned the confidence and respect of their peers. The fear factor now associated with Afghanistan's spinners and batters is a testament to their remarkable journey. As Afghanistan continues to take impressive strides in international cricket, it is crucial to celebrate its success as a reminder of the power of sports to bring people together, regardless of their background or circumstances. Afghanistan's crickering journey is a story of hope and inspiration, one that demonstrates how determination can lead to triumph in the most challenging circumstances. To rephrase Shah Rukh Khan's famous dialogue from a Hindi movie: "Don't underestimate the grit of a war-torn nation!"

PICTALK



Artists perform during the annual presentation 'Shri Ram', a dance drama on Sampurna Ramayana, in New Delhi

Is it worth going to study in a foreign university?

Most students fall for the smart marketing tactics and the lure of getting good employment overseas, realising little that the jobs are scarce there

For the past few years, the craze for people from India to go abroad to gain admission to foreign colleges and settle there has been on the increase. According to the government, between 2016 and 2021, 26.44 lakh Indian students went abroad to study. The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) estimates show that in the year 2020, 4.5 lakh Indian students went abroad for education and they spent \$ 13.5 billion in this process. In the year 2022, this expenditure was 24 billion dollars that is, about 2 lakh crore rupees. According to the report of Redseer Strategy Consultant, by 2024 this expenditure may reach US\$ 80 billion, that is, 7 lakh crore rupees, when an estimated 20 lakh Indian students will go abroad to study. If we make a state-wise analysis, till the year 2021, among the students going to study abroad, 12 per cent were from Punjab and Andhra Pradesh each; and 8 per cent were from Gujarat. If seen in proportion to the total number of youth, then 7 out of



every thousand youth from Punjab, 4 out of every thousand youth from Andhra Pradesh and at least 2 out of every thousand youth from Gujarat are going to study abroad in Punjab, 30 per thousand in Andhra Pradesh and 14 per thousand in Gujarat. The exponential increase in the number of students going abroad to study is a matter of concern for many reasons. The biggest concern is that these youth are migrating to foreign countries in search of education and employment and this migration is causing a shortage of labour for the economic activities in the country. There has been huge progress in the field of education in the country. If we

look at the admission of students in higher education, then in 1990-91, only 49.2 lakh students took admission in higher educational institutions; but this number reached 414 lakh in the year 2020-21. Broadly speaking, the number of students taking admission to higher education has increased more than 10 times in the last 30 years. If we talk about higher education institutions, we see that in the year 2021, there were 1113 universities and equivalent institutions, 43796 colleges and 11296 standalone educational institutions in the country. As far as the fee for admission into educational institutions is concerned, in most of the Indian educational institutions it's much lower than the fees in foreign institutions and most of the foreign institutions in which Indian youth are taking admission are of very low standard. So, the question arises why do Indian youth spend huge amounts of money and get admission to foreign educational institutions that most of the students who go abroad to pursue higher education, actually don't go to

get a higher degree. The real intent of Indian students going to other countries including Australia, Canada, and European countries including the United Kingdom, is not too keen to get an education. Their real objective is to get employment there. But Indian youth fail to realise that there is a huge shortage of employment in these countries also. In many countries, incidents of violence by local people, against Indians and youth coming from other countries, generally from South Asia, are also being witnessed. Most of the young students leaving the country fail to get employment there and have to return home, due to which they are also facing frustration. The students are not able to realise that today in Canada, Australia and European countries, where they are taking admission to educational institutions, those educational institutions are giving easy admission to Indian students in their institutions, for profit. (The writer is a professor, at PGDAV college, University of Delhi, views are personal)



ASHWANI MAHAJAN

The Israel-Hamas war in perspective

Religiosity woven into war has the automatic effect of rendering the ensuing bloodshed all the more bitter. The results are devastating



PRAFULL GORADIA

The world is used to the spectacle of scholars, academics and social and political activists propagating and conferring for global peace, but it is increasingly difficult to dismiss the notion that peace is little more than an uneasy halt between wars. While civilians somehow cling to some unreal hope, those in charge of the political destinies talk of peace, but actually build and sharpen the weaponry for the next bout.

In the land of origin of the three Abrahamic faiths, Judaism, Christianity and Islam, peace is currently the biggest casualty. Virtually everyone is concerned about the Israel-Hamas war. One, however, does almost immediately ponder as to how Tel Aviv was caught by utter surprise. Needless to add, the Israeli intelligence agency Mossad has been reputed to be one of the most efficient in the world, possibly the best spy agency.

On balance, it appears that Hamas was conscious that there are groups within Israel that desire the Jewish homeland and country to further expand into a Greater Israel, as large and great as possible. Undoubtedly, the Hamas leaders themselves yearn to wipe the Jewish nation out of existence. Curiously, like in love, so in hate; such desires are mutual. With the help of friends and allies, it is likely that Hamas has been, for a long time planning to strike a 'grand slam' at their Jewish neighbour.

Just as the Israeli leaders would like to get rid of Hamas from the country's neighbourhood. All of this lays the grounds for a conflict before the end of which the other side would supposedly be wiped out. A wounded enemy is more dangerous than one who hasn't been wounded. A grand slam, so to say, might have been thought to be necessary. The question is whether Israel too sees the Hamas invasion and barbarity as a great opportunity for "setting things right" in the Middle East.

An organized state in Tel Aviv would certainly be functioning round the clock and would not give its adversaries any chance to destroy it. As luck would have it,



Hamas perceived that its Jewish neighbour was divided over the political divide over the issue of judicial powers enjoyed by the country's Supreme Court. They needed to be reduced or restrained so that the democratically elected Knesset or Parliament could assert its will more effectively.

While the members of the Knesset could not readily reach a settlement, the people of the country took over and protested through public meetings and processions. Such scenes had not been seen ever before and were being played out again and again, on the streets of Tel Aviv and Jerusalem. When the adversary is divided, it is human nature for the other side to smell an opportunity. As we have discussed, the desire of Hamas has been intense. The images of an Israel divided in the streets of its cities would certainly have held out the temptation, to believe that this was the opportunity. A terrorist organization like Hamas is unlikely to be foresighted. In fact, terrorism per se can seldom win. For the simple reason that its adventures, however violent and apparently successful, do not



HAMAS HAS GIFTED ISRAEL WITH A JUSTIFICATION TO BLAME ANY COUNTRY OR ORGANISATION IT CHOOSES AS A PARTNER-IN-CRIME THAT EXPRESSES EVEN MINIMAL SYMPATHY FOR HAMAS

capture territory. And without territory, there is no lasting victory. And yet, terrorist after terrorist gives up his life, merely to temporarily devastate places and people. Evidently, such men or women cannot be far-sighted. To expect the Hamas to be, therefore, to have vision is to expect a bat to have eyesight. Regardless, the attacks launched by Hamas on October 7 Bloody Saturday were thoughtless, to say the least. The consequences from Sunday onwards were foreseeable and yet, were not seen by the terrorist fighters of Hamas. It is not impossible that their escape route may, in an eventuality, be the Mediterranean Sea.

On the other hand, Hamas has gifted Israel with a justification to blame any country or organisation it chooses as a partner-in-crime that expresses even minimal sympathy for Hamas. Israel would also, and not without reason, feel justified to heap destruction on not any the Hamas but also the palaces of Qatar (which reportedly funds Hamas to some extent) and Iran's nuclear toys, as well as bomb places in Syria, most of which are in ruins anyway because of the latter's civil war. Fortunately for

Israel, ammunition has begun flying in from the USA; if necessary, even weapons would flow in. When Israel's Prime Minister says that his country will change the Middle East, he isn't bluffing.

Unfortunately, Israel—and India too—has been battling enemies who look upon war as a religious duty. Religiosity woven into war has the automatic effect of rendering the ensuing bloodshed all the more bitter. Such religious beliefs hold the promise of an eternal heaven with unending gratification of one's natural lust, in the pursuit of which the adherents of those dogmas have little hesitation in unleashing hell on earth.

For India, tightening our security, internal and external, in the wake of the war in Gaza will be imperative, for Hamas' initial boldness could well embolden elements in Pakistan to try something similar. This time, the Arab states have not supported Hamas, as several of them are seeking better relations with Israel and a different future.

(The writer is a well-known columnist, an author, and a former member of the Rajya Sabha. The views expressed are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

INDIA'S DEPLORABLE HUNGER INDEX

Sir—It's shocking news that the Global Hunger Index for 2023 ranks India 111th out of 125 countries, categorizing the level of hunger as "serious." While the Union government has rejected this index as erroneous, it can't be completely dismissed, considering that India ranked 102nd out of 119 countries in 2022. Despite maintaining buffer stocks, people dying of starvation is a disgrace, especially for the world's fifth-largest economy, ranking lower than nations like Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Sub-Saharan African countries. Hoarding food grains while thousands starve is extreme callousness. Hollow government slogans claiming that nobody will die of starvation are contradicted. Furthermore, this alarming ranking on the Global Hunger Index points to a harsh reality: millions of our fellow citizens are struggling to access their daily bread, with their basic human rights being compromised. The fact that India, often celebrated for its rapid economic growth and technological advancements, ranks below countries in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa in terms of hunger is a stark contradiction. It highlights the persistent disparities that exist within the nation and the urgent need for comprehensive policy reform. The government's rejection of this index as erroneous should not serve as a shield to deflect from the pressing issues at hand. It's imperative for the authorities to take this wake-up call seriously and delve into the root causes of this hunger crisis.

They must work towards a more equitable distribution of resources, food security, and social safety nets to protect the most vulnerable among us.

SK Khosla | Chandigarh

INDIA TO HOST 2036 OLYMPIC GAMES

Sir—Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 141st session of the World Olympic Committee in Mumbai, announcing India's readiness to host the 2036 Olympic Games. If the World

India beats Pakistan, again



An 8-0 verdict against Pakistan in World Cup matches has proven that the team from our neighborhood is not up to the challenge at this level. Even the Pakistan hockey team went

down tamely without a semblance of a fight in the Asian Games. The toss proved vital in the ODI games, and after losing it, the team was progressing at a slow pace.

As the team across the border failed to accelerate the scoring, danger lurked. Once Babar, the star batsman, was out, the wickets started tumbling, and the end was in sight. Instead of boosting their scoring with pinch hitters to upset Indian spin bowling, the lower-order batsmen fell into the trap and perished. The Indian batting did not retreat against Afridi but instead wielded the willow with great effect, hitting fours and sixes, bringing the target within reach. Captain Rohit Sharma's batting and his ability to handle both bowlers and field placements received appreciation. In the end, Pakistan was soundly defeated. However, Pakistan has had a great tradition of cricket and this is not the end of it as they can and will bounce back to the height they once were.

Ck Ramani | Trichy

Olympic Organization accepts this demand, it will be a significant honor for India. India is rapidly emerging as a global superpower, rising from the tenth to the fifth largest economy in a few years. It is expected to be ranked third soon. Hosting the Olympics will introduce India's tourism to the world and be a source of pride for athletes. India's successful organization of the Asian Games and the inclusion of cricket in the World Olympic Games are positive developments. However, India's permanent membership in the UN Security Committee is still pending, which is crucial for maintaining world peace. The Olympics in India will be a momentous occasion with numerous benefits.

Shantaram Wagh | Pune

GAZA'S WORSENING CONDITION

Sir—Gaza and the West Bank are becoming a new battleground as we saw in Bucha, Kyiv, and Donetsk region of

Ukraine at the start of 2023 when Russia invaded Ukraine. The condition of Gaza is dire after the Israeli Air Force occupation. The Iron Sword operation by Israel's defense ministry and the suffering of Palestinians paint a grim picture.

The world is marred by struggles for superiority and ethnic and religious tensions. Gaza has seen no peace for years, only shelling, tears, plight, fear, and anger. Wars persist without solutions, causing destruction and suffering. We must shift our mindset from war to peace, as India opposes the erasure of the Palestinian community. The world needs de-escalation, not war. We must focus on peace in conflict zones, or the world will continue fighting for unnecessary supremacy.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN

MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS YOUR ATTENTION

Forbearance and endurance are paramount keys to achieving success



RAVI VALLURI

Anand was a mere mentee at a celebrated flautist's music school. The youngster was bewitched by a damsel who too was learning to play the flute under the expertise of the legendary musician.

Anand and Bhairavi were ensnared by craving; they were in a tearing hurry to achieve stardom through soulful renditions of the fabled Ananda Bhairavi raga. Their respected Master was however certainly not impressed at the proffer of his novitiates and admonished them.

"One needs enormous tapas to arrive at the world stage," he added.

A Zen Story: Years ago, a greenhorn was learning various nuances of breathing techniques and meditation at a temple of knowledge. After acquiring some basic skills, he approached his monk as to how soon he could graduate from the monastery and begin to spread the knowledge of Zen Buddhism. The impassioned monk was to say impassively, "It will take you ten more years."

"Master, I will practice twice the number of hours, then how long will it take me to become a suzerain of Buddhism?"

"Thirty years," was the bland reply.

Learning to Learn: Forbearance and endurance are paramount keys to achieving success. Tearing hurry and sheer desperation to climb the ladder to achieve fame in any field leads only to severe psychological problems.



Psychotherapy: The intent of a therapeutic approach is to upend the pyramid. It is to ensure the betterment of the victim's life. The therapy reinforces the client's resolve for mitigating distress leading to an improved lifestyle. By adopting a holistic line of treatment, the mind is blessed with positivity, becomes robust and develops the ability to eschew unwelcome habits.

There is astonishing progress in the victim who undergoes a mental transformation; the thinking pattern changes dramatically and becomes empowered to make mindful decisions on the voyage of rehabilitation. Gifted and trained psychotherapists combine their clinical insights and their mental GPS to zero in on suitable psychodynamic therapies.

Dynamics of Rehabilitation and Recuperation: Fundamentally, psychodynamic therapy cogitates that it is an intra-psychic conflict that is primarily responsible for the psychological malady. The fountainhead of the problem lies within the psyche of the individual. Research in the field opines that querulous desires of childhood and unmitigated childhood fears are essentially responsible for intra-psychic disorders. Keeping in mind the above two factors, psychotherapists deploy the technique of free association and eliciting information through visualisation, dreams, thoughts, and feelings to create a database. The cutting edge of the therapy is provided as the therapist glides and floats from the intellectual frame to an emotional plane. Psychodynamic therapy enfranchised the therapist to understand the mind of the patient and provide emotional succour.

Last but not least, the duration of treatment is of tremendous significance. The magnitude of the problem is obviously a key determinant of the span of treatment. However, around 15 to 20 vigorous sessions put the patient well on the road to renascence.

Alternative therapies

Unbridled ambition could also trigger alcoholism, bulimia, heavy smoking, and substance abuse among others. In such cases, alternative therapies such as practising the unique rhythmic breathing technique of Sudarshan Kriya, Vipassana, sessions of yoga and pranayama, and meditation techniques of Yoga Nidra, help in the relaxation of the mind and body immensely.

(The writer is the CEO of Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Ltd and is a faculty at the Art of Living. Views are personal)

Igniting the passion of traditional entrepreneurs



DINESH SOOD

'PM Vishwakarma' is an attempt to empower the self-employed traditional entrepreneurs who contribute to their communities and create employment



Many people strive to secure their dream job and are unwilling to risk becoming an entrepreneur. However, it is notable that professions such as blacksmiths, goldsmiths, potters, carpenters, sculptors, barbers, cobblers, and others are a significant part of India's workforce. These traditional tiny entrepreneurs work with their hands and tools and are usually self-employed individuals whose skills are passed down from generation to generation. This proves that entrepreneurs are born, not made. The culture in which these individuals are raised plays a significant role in shaping their entrepreneurial mindset. They witness the ups and downs of entrepreneurship and choose to live their lives similarly.

Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 'PM Vishwakarma' scheme worth Rs 13,000 crore to promote such traditional tiny entrepreneurs to create more employers than employees. The aim is to integrate traditional tiny entrepreneurs into the domestic and global value chains by providing skill upgradation and modernisation. This will help to enhance their already existing traditional skill sets and make them more relevant, thereby improving their socio-economic status and quality of life.

Successful entrepreneurs are not limited to those who inherit family businesses. An individual's mindset towards entrepreneurship is crucial and develops with age and experience. As people mature, they become aware of the advantages of entrepreneurship and often choose it as a career path. However, how can we motivate those who do not come from entrepreneurial backgrounds to become future employers and contribute to our sustainable econo-



SUCCESSFUL ENTREPRENEURS ARE NOT LIMITED TO THOSE WHO INHERIT FAMILY BUSINESSES. AN INDIVIDUAL'S MINDSET TOWARDS ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS CRUCIAL AND DEVELOPS WITH AGE AND EXPERIENCE

(The writer is a Co-Founder and MD of Orane International and a network member of India International Skill Centres, Views are personal)

my? It is our responsibility to take the necessary steps to make this happen. Can't we start at least with these initial steps?

Home; the parents should start from the early school days of their young ones, read to them the stories of successful entrepreneurs, ones their young buds could relate to and get them acquainted with their day-to-day life attributes and the attributes and benefits they pass on to the society. Well, it is better to tell your bud to aim at making a hospital or hotel than just being a doctor or a chef, in the process, the young mind will keep his trajectory not confined to just being a doctor or a chef but keep his horizons much open and farther even after turning a successful super specialist doctor or a celebrity chef.

Schools; To fuel the entrepreneurship spirit among job seekers, multi-faceted efforts are needed to accelerate the creation of more job providers in the bustling industrial, services and tertiary sectors. Unfortunately, our education system did not focus on the development of essential entrepreneurial skills in school students, while entrepreneurial skill is the main pillar of job providers, intend to march forward.

Thus, to support the entrepreneurial spirit must give a nod to the Business Blaster Young Entrepreneur Programme in schools to encourage school children from class 11 to become entrepreneurs. Successful entrepre-

neurs and unicorns who bring with them years of entrepreneurial experience can play a vital role as mentors and can contribute the angel funding to build entrepreneurial orientation and mindset among the youths, especially school dropouts can be skilled and would equip their budding entrepreneurship to take charge as a job provider.

Colleges; there should be a structured curriculum with frequent seminars and workshops on entrepreneurship, emphasizing hands-on experience rather than just classroom learning. Encouraging idea sponsorships and mentorship from entrepreneurs would be beneficial. Additionally, students should be encouraged to visit actual facilities to better understand the entrepreneurial culture.

Business schools; should place equal emphasis on teaching entrepreneurship as they do on teaching business. Mock drills should be implemented, where students spend an equal amount of time shadowing an entrepreneur as they do during internships with organizations. Evaluations should hold equal weight in determining the student's level of business acumen and entrepreneurial spirit. Skill Development Centres; we have some of the brightest minds who are driving change in skill development. These leaders should focus on imparting entrepreneurship skills with the same energy and dedication as employability skills. Entrepreneurship

Development Institutes; how many successful entrepreneurs have we connected with to mentor our future entrepreneurs? We don't need teachers to teach how to be an entrepreneur; if they knew, they would already be one. We need proven entrepreneurs to guide and support our future entrepreneurs and set them on the path to success. Providing resources is only part of the equation, providing expert guidance is equally important.

Lastly; successful entrepreneurs must step forward and make time in their busy schedules to mentor future entrepreneurs regularly. This can be done for a specific period until the mentee establishes their trajectory, after which the mentor can move on to the next aspiring entrepreneur. This would be a more effective and impactful form of corporate social responsibility.

Entrepreneurship is driven by aspirations that exceed available resources. Entrepreneurs do not start businesses because everything falls into place perfectly. Even the self-employed, or "Vishwakarma" in traditional terms, continue to hone their skills for personal fulfilment and to contribute to their communities. Society as a whole should come together to support these individuals and in doing so, benefit itself. The goal should be to create more employers than employees, and it is hoped that "PM Vishwakarma" will help make this a reality.

Developing argumentative skills with Moot Courts

In a bid to improve the argumentative skills of budding lawyers, law colleges and schools across India are choosing 'Moot Court' competitions

The syllabus of the law universities features 'Moot Court' as a compulsory topic, the marks scored in it playing a crucial role in determining the grade with which the students pass out of the LLB degree examination. Persons outside the legal fraternity or law colleges may stare back when they are asked about Moot Court. "Though Moot Courts are as important and interesting as Mathematics Olympiad, they are yet to get the public recognition. For those interested in legal affairs, this is an event equal in status to the Mathematics Olympiad," said Prof V R Jayadevan, principal, of Government Law College, Thrissur, who successfully conducted an all-India Moot Court event in his college in



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

(The writer is a special correspondent at The Pioneer; views expressed are personal)

the last week of September. Though planned as a low-profile event the Thrissur Moot Court Competition drew 36 teams from all over India. The winners walked away with the Justice T Ramachandran Memorial Trophy. The event saw intense competition as participating undergraduates switched over from one section of the law to another section with elan and poise.

If you ask a person without a legal background what moot court is about, chances are that you will get a grumpy look. No one can blame him/her because persons without knowledge of legal education are not at all familiar with the term. Moot Courts are simulated lessons held in law schools to make budding lawyers ready to face

real-life battles in courtrooms. It is an intellectual bout conceived to test the prowess of law students in their academic pursuits.

The organisers take out subjects of national and international events, put them as a legal issue and ask the students to argue for and against the topic. Classrooms in law schools are converted into real-life courtrooms with all resplendent ambience. These bouts turn out future Jethmalanis, Servais, Narimans and Sorabjees! Those familiar with the nuances of law and legal codes are sure to take a liking to the event. "I always feel that Moot Courts resemble Kathakali, a pantomime of Kerala, which could be enjoyed only by the connoisseurs of art. For those

who are uninitiated about Kathakali, watching it is a futile exercise. There is a saying in Malayalam that watching the art form without knowing the story is a waste of time," said Parvathi Sreejith Valliathan, Assistant Professor, SRM Law School, Chennai. The Thrissur event was the 12th edition of the annual Moot Court competition held by the College. "This year we selected a topic right out of a real-life event. Dharmanchal, a State in the Union of India, enacted Dharmanchal Infrastructure Investment Fund Act 2001. The preamble of the Act states that it was expedient to constitute a fund for investment in infrastructure projects in the State. The Act was similar to the provisions of the

Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Act 1999," explained Prof Sonia K Das, the livewire of the event.

The Comptroller and Auditor General of India took strong objections to the way the KIIIFB was functioning and the availing of loans beyond the repaying capacity of the State. The Articles concerning the federal structure and the freedom of the States were used as weapons by the participants in simulated courtrooms which were presided over by judges who needed the counsels appearing for the petitioners and respondents with questions that went deep into the subject. The expressions on the faces of the audience spoke a lot. They too were taken to the hitherto undebated issues in the Indian

Constitution. "Our intention is to tone up the skills of advocacy," said Prof Jayadevan. The competition witnessed high-pitch arguments and counter-arguments. "Besides arguments, Moot Courts are the path for law students to have practical knowledge in drafting, pleading and conveyancing. The Moot Courts will intellectually stimulate students to develop skills that will be of great importance in future. The participants (addressed as Mooters) should possess sharp analytical skills to dissect complex legal issues, identify key arguments and develop logical frameworks," said Parvathy Kumar, who has more than a dozen Moot Court events to her credit.

Moot Court also have a

number of participants performing various tasks like researching and drafting which are put to the Court for approval/consideration. The participants are hopeful that one day they will be able to compete in the Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court hosted in Washington DC. Considering the fact that there is no empowered body to ask the global community of nations to follow the dictat of the International Court of Justice, it is for the Gen Next to come up with ideas and solutions that make the States obey the orders issued by it. The progress made in science and technology has brought together warring nations of Europe in a hopeful signature. Let the Moot Courts flourish in India.

Leaders from emerging economies arriving for 'Belt and Road' forum

Leaders of emerging market countries are arriving in Beijing for a meeting organised by the Chinese government...

More than a dozen leaders from Africa, Asia and the Mideast were flying into Beijing on Monday...

Under the Belt and Road Initiative, a signature policy of President Xi Jinping, Chinese companies have built ports, roads, railways, power plants...

But the massive Chinese development loans that funded the projects have also burdened some poorer countries with heavy debts.

A flurry of diplomacy is expected on the sidelines of the third Belt and Road Forum, whose main events are on Wednesday...

Kenyan President William Ruto will be seeking additional loans for stalled road projects despite the country's already high public debt...

Russian President Vladimir Putin is expected to attend the forum, as are representatives of the Taliban government in Afghanistan...

"Our own ideas on the development of the Eurasian Economic Union, for example, on the construction of a Greater Eurasia, fully coincide with the Chinese ideas...



Waitresses prepare for meal time at the media center near a display depicting China's Silk Road during the Third Belt and Road Forum...

Kenya seeks more loans despite rising public debt

Kenya's President William Ruto sought \$1 billion more in loans from China Monday...

The Standard Gauge Railway line, which runs from the port city of Mombasa to the Rift Valley via the capital, Nairobi. It cost \$4.7 billion dollars to build but has faced numerous challenges...

However, those plans were cancelled after Kampala pulled out and opted instead for partnership with a Turkish firm...

The president will deliver a keynote address headlined 'Digital Economy as a New Source of Growth' at the High-Level Forum...

Gachagua told a local radio station that the president will be asking Chinese officials to repay the loans slowly, while also borrowing a little money to finish stalled road projects...

The commission will continue to pressure X through notices to become more transparent, Inman Grant said.

"We believe the request for holding a public meeting at Minar-e-Pakistan and the submission of an affidavit by PML-N leader Bilal Yasin to take full responsibility for the public gathering...

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, Republic of Congo President Denis Sassou Nguesso, Papua New Guinea Prime Minister James Marape and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet.

The commission will continue to pressure X through notices to become more transparent, Inman Grant said.

"We believe the request for holding a public meeting at Minar-e-Pakistan and the submission of an affidavit by PML-N leader Bilal Yasin to take full responsibility for the public gathering...

Oz watchdog fines 'X' \$385,000 for not tackling child abuse content

Australian online safety watchdog said on Monday it had fined X — the social media platform formerly known as Twitter — 610,500 Australian dollars (USD 385,000) for failing to fully explain how it tackled child sexual exploitation content.

Australia's eSafety Commission describes itself as the world's first government agency dedicated to keeping people safe online.

The commission issued legal transparency notices early this year to X and other platforms questioning what they were doing to tackle a proliferation of child sexual exploitation, sexual extortion and the livestreaming of child sexual abuse.

"I think there's a degree of defiance there," Inman Grant said. "If you've got a basic H.R. (human resources) system or payroll, you'll know how many people are on each team," she added.

After Musk completed his acquisition of the company in October last year, he drastically cut costs and shed thousands of jobs. X could challenge the fine in the Australian Federal Court.

The commission will continue to pressure X through notices to become more transparent, Inman Grant said. "We can keep stonewalling and we'll keep fining them," she said.

The commission will continue to pressure X through notices to become more transparent, Inman Grant said. "We can keep stonewalling and we'll keep fining them," she said.

'Russia's assault on eastern Ukraine city is weakening'

Dayslong attempt by Russian forces to storm a strategically important city in eastern Ukraine appears to be running out of steam, Kyiv officials claimed Monday...

That compared with up to 60 attacks a day in the middle of last week, according to Vitalii Barabash, head of the city administration.

A Washington-based think tank broadly concurred with that assessment. "Russian forces continued offensive operations aimed at encircling Avdiivka... but have yet to make further gains..."

Russia's ambassador to the United Nations, Vassily Nebenzia, told a UN Security Council meeting last Friday that the ramped-up attacks in the east amounted to a new

stage in Moscow's campaign in Ukraine. With the looming onset of wintry conditions that will limit military operations...

US National Security Adviser Jake Sullivan said Sunday the Biden administration will ask Congress for a combined aid package for Ukraine and Israel worth more than \$2 billion.

Ukrainian officials have said their troops are holding out against fierce Russian efforts to wrest control of Avdiivka, a heavily fortified city.

Qatar's foreign ministry issued a statement saying it had been involved in recent family reunifications through its embassy in Moscow...

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Court rejects Imran Khan's plea against jail trial in cipher case

Islamabad (PTI): A top court in Pakistan on Monday rejected a plea by Imran Khan against holding his trial in the cipher case in jail, saying in-prison hearing was "in favour" of the former prime minister...

The court in its order recalled that Khan had voiced his reservations relating to his security "numerous times". "If the PTI chairman has reservations about the jail trial, he may approach the trial court," the order stated.

Earlier this month, the court declared that Khan and former foreign minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi would be indicted during the next hearing on October 17, which would mark the official start of the trial. Khan was ousted through a vote of no-confidence in April 2022.

The IHC Chief Justice Aamer Farooq announced the reserved verdict, dismissing the plea against the holding of the cipher case trial in Adiala

script posted on the Kremlin website. The leaders who arrived on Monday included Ethiopian

Nawaz Sharif to unveil 'recovery plan' at Minar-e-Pakistan gathering on Oct 21

Pakistan's self-exiled former prime minister Nawaz Sharif will give a road map to pull the country out of the economic mess," Hamza Shehbaz, the nephew of Nawaz Sharif, said.

He said the PML-N and its allies saved the country while risking their political capital. Had there been no agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Pakistan would have gone bankrupt, Hamza said...

The Lahore district administration on Sunday allowed the Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party to hold a gathering at the Minar-e-Pakistan after the former ruling party sought permission in a bid to whip up support for its supreme leader's return later this week.

He referred to the May 9 incidents to back his point. PML-N leader Malik Ahmed, who was a former aide to ex-premier Shehbaz

Sharif, said October 21 would not be "an ordinary day in fact this would be the day when the country would start its journey towards glory and prosperity". The PML-N is all set to hold the mass public meeting not only to welcome Nawaz Sharif but also to give a befitting reply to the PTI that used the venue to show its massive popularity among the masses, the report said.

In response to the request for holding a public meeting at Minar-e-Pakistan and the submission of an affidavit by PML-N leader Bilal Yasin to take full responsibility for the public gathering in case of any untoward incident, the deputy commissioner's office issued a no objection certificate (NOC) to the party.

fundraising and recruitment tactics after former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's assassination last year. The man accused of shooting Abe allegedly was motivated by the former prime minister's links to the church and blamed it for bankrupting his family.

The government's request is "extremely disappointing and regrettable," said the church's legal affairs department chief, Nobuo Okamura. "We believe the request for a dissolution order is a serious development not only for freedom of religion but also human rights."

The investigation followed months of public outrage and questions about the group's



A harvesting machine mows down rows of corn in fields near Dingelstaedt, Germany, on Monday

Unification Church slams Japan's dissolution request as threat to religious freedom

Tokyo (AP): The Japanese branch of the Unification Church on Monday criticised the Japanese government's request for a court order to dissolve the group, saying it is based on groundless accusations and is a serious threat to religious freedom and human rights of its followers.

Japan's Education Ministry on Friday asked the Tokyo District Court to revoke the legal status of the Unification Church after a ministry investigation concluded the group for decades has systematically manipulated its followers into donating money, sowing fear and harming their families.

The investigation followed months of public outrage and questions about the group's

LIONEL MESSI REMAINS A DOUBTFUL STARTER

AP ■ SAO PAULO

Lionel Messi's involvement in a 1-0 win over Paraguay last week doesn't necessarily mean he'll be fit for Argentina's next game in World Cup qualifying against Peru.

Messi played most of the second half against Paraguay last Thursday despite struggling with muscular pains in the weeks leading up to the game.

But there's no certainty he'll play against Peru on Tuesday despite practicing with the squad.

Meanwhile in Brazil, Neymar is under fire for his lackluster performance in a 1-1 draw against Venezuela last week that ended with some fans throwing popcorn at the Arena Pantanal in Cuiabá. He will have a tough challenge at Uruguay to show he is back in form.

The next World Cup in the United States, Mexico and Canada is expanding to a 48-team format, meaning direct entry to the top six teams in South America. The seventh-place team will contest an intercontinental playoff for a berth.

World Cup winner Argentina leads continental qualifying with 9 points, followed by Brazil (7), Colombia (5), Uruguay, Chile and Venezuela (4), Ecuador (3), Paraguay and Peru (1), and Bolivia (0).

The fourth match day in South American qualifying also features Ecuador against Colombia, Paraguay against Bolivia and Venezuela taking on Chile.

PERU vs. ARGENTINA

Argentina's practice on Sunday didn't show whether the 36-year-old Messi will play against Peru. He took part of the morning session at his national team's training ground, but has



recently felt muscular pains in his right leg that have sidelined him for several MLS matches for his club, Inter Miami.

If Messi plays at Peru, coach Lionel Scaloni might have to remove either Julián Alvarez or Lautaro Martinez from the lineup that beat Paraguay. Keeping the captain in the starting lineup will likely mean Argentina playing Nico Gonzalez again in Lima.

Messi substituted Julián Alvarez in the 52nd minute

against Paraguay, when Argentina was already in the lead. He hit the post twice, but had a low key performance overall at the Monumental de Nuñez Stadium in Buenos Aires.

Peru has lost its latest two qualifying matches in South American qualifying. The squad arrived in silence shortly before dawn so no fans could be at the airport protesting after its 2-0 loss at Chile. Players and coach Juan Reynoso know they will face a much tougher challenge

against the World Cup champion.

"May this defeat today suit us for what is coming," Reynoso said in a news conference after the match in Santiago. "You don't qualify by playing beautiful soccer, you do it by playing well. For us to do that, we need to be a chameleon team that adapts to various circumstances."

URUGUAY vs. BRAZIL

Brazil fans were frustrated with the draw against Venezuela,

a team that has never qualified to a World Cup. The 31-year-old Neymar was the team's most criticized player after that encounter because of several missed passes and floppy finishes.

The Al-Hilal striker was filmed leaving the pitch in anger as some fans threw popcorn at him. Brazil's soccer tradition calls "pipoqueiro" (popcorn man) the players who fail to deliver in big matches. He is likely to face Uruguay at the Centenario Stadium in Montevideo on Tuesday.

Neymar is Brazil's all-time top goal scorer with 79 goals in official matches.

Brazil's new coach Fernando Diniz, who was also criticized after the draw with Venezuela, is likely to make three changes for the next round of qualifying.

Right-back Danilo is injured, and is set to be replaced by Yan Couto. Left-back Guilherme Arana is expected to be replaced with the 24-year-old Carlos Augusto, who will make his national team debut. And striker Richarlison, on a six-match goal drought for the national team, could lose his position to Gabriel Jesus.

Uruguay has not beaten Brazil in World Cup qualifying since 2001. Captain Federico Valverde is optimistic about the match after a 2-2 draw at Colombia. He said he and Real Madrid teammates Vinicius Júnior and Rodrygo of Brazil have spent weeks talking about the encounter.

"We could have gotten a better result, but at least we returned with one point, which always suits us," Valverde said of the draw. Uruguay has been coached by Argentine Marcelo Bielsa since the start of South American qualifying.



Gavi goal against Norway, secures 1-0 win

AP ■ LONDON

Gavi's winning goal for Spain against Norway in a European Championship qualifier on Sunday will likely have been cheered as wildly in Glasgow as it was in Madrid.

The Barcelona midfielder's strike at Ullevaal Stadium in Oslo secured a 1-0 win that means both Spain and Scotland have qualified for Euro 2024.

Gavi's goal came in the 49th minute and ensured the three-time European champions will be at next year's tournament in Germany when they will be among the favorites to lift the trophy for the first time since 2012.

Scotland might not harbor realistic ambitions of winning Euro 2024, but it has arguably exceeded expectations by qualifying from Group A. Indeed, until losing to Spain on Thursday, the Scots had made a 100% start to qualifying.

Scotland has now qualified for back-to-back Euros, having

failed to reach the finals from 2000-2016. In Germany it will be aiming to advance from the group stages for the first time in its history.

Turkey also qualified with a 4-0 win against Latvia at the Konya Metropolitan Municipality Stadium, while Croatia made it back-to-back losses in Group D after a surprise 2-1 defeat to Wales.

CROATIA STRUGGLES

Less than a year after a third-place finish at the World Cup in Qatar, Croatia is making hard work of qualification for the European Championship.

The Croatians went into this latest batch of qualifiers atop Group D, with the chance to put daylight between them and Turkey. But a 1-0 loss to Turkey on Thursday has now been followed by defeat to Wales.

Even with stars like Luka Modric, Josko Gvardiol and Marcelo Brozovic in the team, Croatia was trailing 2-0 to goals from Harry Wilson in each

half. Mario Pasalic halved the deficit, but it wasn't enough to spark a comeback. Wales moved up to second in the group ahead of Croatia in third, with both teams on 10 points.

Yunus Akgun set Turkey on course for victory against Latvia, with substitute Cenk Tosun scoring two and Kerem Akturkoglu also grabbing a goal.

ALBANIA WAITS

Four teams are separated by four points in Group E as results on Sunday meant Albania was left waiting to seal qualification.

Czech Republic's 1-0 win against Faroe Islands leaves it two points behind leader Albania in second place.

Poland drew 1-1 with Moldova to leave those teams three points and four points off the top respectively.

Romania is top of Group I after a 4-0 win against Andorra - ahead of second-place Switzerland, which needed goals in the 89th and 90th minutes to draw 3-3 with Belarus.



Spain coach De la Fuente able to silence doubters

AP ■ MADRID

Spain coach Luis de la Fuente has found a way to turn the doubters into supporters.

Nearly a year after he was appointed amid a wave of skepticism, De la Fuente now has widespread backing at the helm of La Roja, having turned Spain into a contender again and comfortably securing the team a spot in the 2024 European Championship.

Spain qualified for next year's tournament in Germany on Sunday with a 1-0 win at Norway — the team's sixth straight triumph since a loss at Scotland in March had left De la Fuente under pressure just two games into his stint.

"We are always learning," De la Fuente said. "At that moment the analysis was different than it is now. We've just reached an important objective and we have to keep working and learning. We recognize what was done well, but we know there are still things to improve."

The 62-year-old De la Fuente replaced Luis Enrique after the team's loss to Morocco in the round of 16 of the World Cup in Qatar. He was then relatively unknown in Spain after spending years coaching the nation's youth squads.

His first match in charge was a home win in a qualifier against Norway in which Spain struggled from the start, and the subsequent loss to Scotland put

De la Fuente on the hot seat early on. Many didn't think he had the experience to take charge of the national team at the time.

But after the slow start, De la Fuente also helped Spain win the Nations League with victories over Italy in the semifinals and Croatia in a penalty shootout in the final. Spain then routed Georgia 7-1 and Cyprus 6-0 in qualifiers, and defeated Scotland 2-0 at home last week before securing its spot at Euro 2024 against Erling Haaland's Norway on Sunday.

"I'm happy with the work that we've done," De la Fuente said. "When you achieve something like this, things must have been done right. But in soccer one day you are up and the other you are down again, so we have to stay balanced. I'm happy now, but I also stayed composed in the tougher moments."

De la Fuente put Spain back on track in part by betting on the talent of some younger players. He kept players like Gavi, Ansu Fati and Pedri - who played at the World Cup - and brought in others such as 16-year-old Lamine Yamal, the Barcelona sensation.

His experience with the nation's youth squads proved important, and he now has his job secured for a while.

"We have a team for the future, it's what I'm most excited about," he said. "We worked hard to be where we are and we deserve it."

Tom Kim wins PGA Tour, 2nd time in the same season



AP ■ LAS VEGAS

Tom Kim now has something in common with Byron Nelson as the only players to have won the same PGA Tour event twice in the same season.

Kim successfully defended his title Sunday in the Shriners Children's Open when he closed with a 5-under 66 to emerge from a pack of a dozen players who had a chance in the final hour. Kim wound up winning by one shot over Adam Hadwin, who birdied the final hole for a 67.

Kim now has three PGA Tour titles in the last 15 months, at 21 the youngest player since Tiger Woods in 1997 to have three tour wins.

"I really felt confident in myself," Kim said. "I knew that if I did me I was going to be able to do it. I'm stoked to get this one."

He won in Las Vegas a year ago, beating Patrick Cantlay in a play-

off at the TPC Summerlin, when the Shriners Children's Open was early in the season. Now, the Las Vegas event is still part of the same season because the PGA Tour goes to a calendar season starting in 2024.

Nelson won the San Francisco Open in January 1944, and the same tournament in December of 1944, both times at Harding Park. This one was up for grabs until Kim seized control on the par-5 16th.

With an hour left in the tournament, there was a six-way tie for the lead and 12 players were separated by a single shot. The key stretch at the TPC Summerlin was holes No. 13 through No. 16, which ranked as four of the five easiest holes in the final round.

Taylor Pendrith was tied for the lead with a birdie on the 13th, but had to settle for pars the rest of that stretch. K.H. Lee made all pars.

Then, it became a two-man

race between Kim and Hadwin, playing in the final group with Kim holding a one-shot advantage.

Both birdied the 13th, Hadwin with a 35-foot birdie putt that rimmed all the way around the cup before dropping. Both birdied the reachable par-4 15th, Kim with a tough up-and-down and birdie putt from 12 feet, Hadwin narrowly missing a 25-foot eagle attempt.

It turned on the par-5 16th. Kim hit to the fat of the green in two, 50 feet away for eagle. Hadwin knew he missed his shot right after contact and it came up well short and into the water. Hadwin missed a 6-foot par putt after his penalty drop, and Kim three-putted - he had to make a 5-footer on his third one - for par.

"I completely whiffed it, up and out of it, and unfortunately one of my worst swings of the day at the least opportune time," Hadwin said.

"I feel like you dump it in the water there on 16, and I certainly by no means gave the tournament, but I would have liked to have hit a more quality golf shot and put a little bit more pressure on Tom coming down the stretch."

That gave Kim a two-shot lead with two to play, and he closed with solid pars. Kim finished at 20-under 264.

Eric Cole boosted his bid to be PGA Tour rookie of the year by closing with a 62 to finish two behind, along with Alex Noren (65), J.T. Poston (66) and Pendrith (67). Pendrith came into Las Vegas at No. 123 in the FedEx Cup and was projected to move to No. 90, all but assuring a full card for 2024.

Ludvig Aberg, who made his Ryder Cup debut two weeks ago, also shot 62 and tied for 13th.

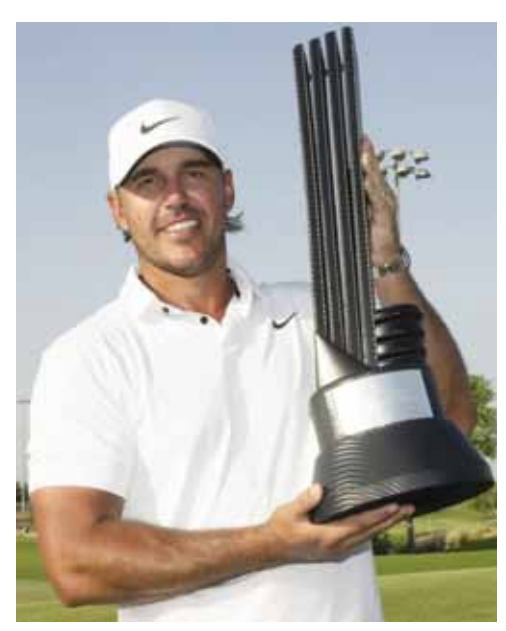
Kim, born in South Korea and raised primarily in Australia, won for the first time in 2023. He had a hot run last summer that included victories in the Wyndham Championship and in Las Vegas, followed by a dynamic debut in the Presidents Cup.

But he said he felt the pressure to live up to the expectations, and it turned this year into a grind. He was a distant runner-up in the British Open, though he injured his ankle during the week that kept him from defending his title in the Wyndham Championship.

"It's been a grind trying to figure it out," Kim said. "My first full season, trying to live up to expectations of a great year. It's been humbling sometimes."

The victory moves Kim to No. 11 in the world ranking.

Isaiah Salinda, who got into Las Vegas as a Monday qualifier, had a 63-67 weekend and tied for seventh, which gets him into the next full PGA Tour event Nov.



Brooks Koepka defends LIV Golf title

AP ■ KING ABDULLAH ECONOMIC CITY (SAUDI ARABIA)

Brooks Koepka held it together at the end for a 2-Bunder 68 and defended his title at LIV Golf-Jeddah with a birdie on the second playoff hole to beat Talor Gooch on a day when both had reason to celebrate.

Koepka had to birdie two of his last three holes to finish at 14-under 196 and tie with Gooch, who closed with a 62. With his playoff loss, Gooch moved past Cameron Smith and won the season points title and the \$18 million bonus.

Koepka not only won \$4 million from the tournament, his victory bumped Bryson DeChambeau out of the top three in the season standings. Koepka picked up an additional \$4 million for finishing third in the points race.

DeChambeau fell back Sunday with a 70. Smith had a 66 and tied for 24th.

The LIV Golf League wraps up its second season next week at Doral in South Florida with the team championship.

Koepka ends his year with two LIV Golf titles, along with his fifth major at the PGA Championship.

Rod Pampling ends a marathon day at SAS

AP ■ CARY (NORTH CAROLINA)

Rod Pampling of Australia had to play 33 holes Sunday in the rain-delayed SAS Championship and it was worth every step when he finished off a 68 and then closed with a 5-under 67 for his second career PGA Tour Champions title.

The SAS Championship was the final tournament before the Charles Schwab Cup playoffs begin for the top 72 players. Pampling's victory moved him up 13 spots to No. 17.

11th, just enough for him to move up seven spots and finish at No. 71 in the Schwab Cup to qualify for the post-season.

Pampling finished with a bogey for a two-shot victory over Steven Alker, who moved up to No. 2 in the standings behind Steve Stricker.

The Australian finished off 15 holes of the second round in the morning with back-to-back birdies, and then he played bogey-free in the final round until the end, when it only affected his margin of victory.



Pampling said. "It was a long day. We knew what we were going to be in for. Just eat the food, take your time. Thankfully, it wasn't too quick out there."

Pampling had a one-shot lead over Alker, Paul Broadhurst and Vijay Singh when the second round was finished. Singh and Broadhurst fell back early in the final round, and Pampling had three birdies in a four-hole stretch around the turn to seize control.

"We've been working hard," Pampling said. "We got rid of our bad

stuff about a month-and-a-half ago. Been closer and closer and this week it was just a great ball-striking week, putting well, everything. It's a great feeling to win again."

Ernie Els had a 68 and tied for third with Mario Tiziani, who closed with a 65.

Tiziani, the brother-in-law of Stricker, split time this year playing on the PGA Tour Champions, managing his wife's brother and occasionally caddying for Stricker. He made it to the postseason for the second straight year.



Zampa bags four wickets against Sri Lanka

PTI ■ LUCKNOW

Leg-spinner Adam Zampa roared back to form with a four-wicket haul as Australia bowled out Sri Lanka for 209 in the World Cup here on Monday.

An out-of-form Kusal Perera (78) got some much-needed runs while Pathum Nissanka struck 61 for his second consecutive fifty.

Australia benefitted from the timely return to form of Zampa, who had been having an awful tournament. The wrist spinner enjoyed an excellent outing to help bundle out Sri Lanka in 43.3 overs.

Looking on course for a 300-plus score, the 1996 winners faced a bizarre batting collapse and went from 125 for no loss to 209 all out.

There were lots going on in the field as Mitchell Starc aborted his delivery stride thrice to warn Perera to not leave his crease early on at the non-striker's end.

Perera was also struck in the head by a Marcus Stoinis bouncer which caught the Sri Lankan off guard.

But the experienced southpaw didn't let the blow deter him and went on to send Stoinis' slower cutter down the ground to bring up his fifty.

With both openers pilling on the runs, the Australian bowlers looked clueless. But



skipper Pat Cummins kept shuffling his bowlers in search of that first breakthrough.

Cummins, who has been far from his best with the ball, stood up at the opportune moment to give Australia the breakthrough they needed.

Cummins cramped Nissanka for room and the Sri Lankan hit it high and in front of square only for David Warner to run and complete a stunning catch.

Cummins bowled a peach of a delivery five overs later to clean up the other set batter in Perera, who picked the wrong line to swing his bat.

The dismissal marked the beginning of Australia's dominance as the Sri Lanka batting unravelled and the five-time champions grew in confidence.

Zampa got rid of the in-form Kusal Mendis. But the wicket belonged to Warner who ran across from deep midwicket, covering about 25ms to complete a spectacular diving catch.

Sadeera Samarawickrama, Chamika Karunaratne and Maheesh Theekshana were Zampa's other victims with Mitchell Starc pitching in with two wickets.

Apart from the openers and Charith Asalanka's 25, no other Sri Lankan batter reached double digits.



Cricket is included in 2028 Olympics

PTI ■ BENGALURU

For long, cricket remained a statistical global sport sans a true global footing. A solid fan base of 2.5 billion and an ever-swelling TV revenue formed its axis to be labelled as a sport with a worldwide appeal, second only to football.

However, in reality, all of it is parked in the Commonwealth countries and even among them India alone helm around 70 per cent, if not more, of those numbers.

But now, all this could change as cricket, in its T20 avatar, has made its re-entry into the Olympic fold through the 2028 edition at Los Angeles, and it is a mutually beneficial association from sporting and commercial angles.

From a sporting perspective, the Olympics provides an unmatched platform for cricket, perhaps even bigger than a World Cup.

Standing on the podium wearing an Olympic medal around the neck is an unmatched feeling for any sportsperson, as it is a reverential warm handshake with history that dates back to 1896.

"It is an excellent piece of news for cricket to be part of the Olympics. It will certainly add to the global image of cricket," says Keith Joseph, president of the Caribbean Association of the National Olympic Committees (CANOC), who gave a strong backing to ICC's efforts to get cricket included in the LA Olympics.

"T20 provides an excellent platform too in terms of duration and connection with younger audiences. That USA will be co-hosting the T20 World Cup in 2024 will also work as a very good precursor to cricket ahead of the Olympics," he points out.

However, expecting cricket to match the universal appeal of football, something the sport always cherished, just because of an Olympic appearance is quite naive.

Sample this: The ICC men's T20 ranking list features 87 nations in the men's section and 66 in the women's segment. But the FIFA ranking list touches 207 men's teams and 186 women's outfits, the numbers reveal the vast gulf between the two sports.

Of course, this is not to deny that the T20 format has helped cricket to reach some hitherto

unexplored corners of Africa, Europe and Latin America.

"Yes, it is a good first step to take cricket to a global audience. As the USA is a big market and there is a strong presence of sub-continent crowd. But as of now, it has been included only in Los Angeles, and hopefully it will figure in Brisbane as well (in 2032).

"It is important because Australia is a traditional cricketing nation, and being able to play there will be a big boost to the sport. It may even open doors to cricket being a permanent Olympic sport," opines a veteran BCCI administrator.

However, cricket had to leap over several self-imposed hurdles to make its return to the Olympics.

Both the officials and players did not want to follow several clauses, especially the one pertaining to their whereabouts that is mandatory for random dope testing, laid out by the IOC, IOA, WADA etc.

England, the champion side when cricket was last staged in the Olympics in 1900, was another country which was initially reluctant to take this plunge.

"Yes, there were some difficulties in reaching an understanding for some time over certain issues such as the whereabouts clause.

"However, most importantly, the BCCI and ICC and few other boards have found a common ground to take cricket to a global stage," said the administrator.

Beyond the sporting field, the IOA also might have thought about the crowd-pulling power of cricket, especially in the USA, a country with a large Asian diaspora.

An industry insider, whom PTI contacted, said the million eyeballs that cricket ensures will have a massive influence on the purchase of broadcasting rights of the LA Olympics.

"It is great news (cricket in Olympics) if you are a businessperson. America has a large section of Asian expats, who are crazy about cricket and they will fill the stadium and of course will follow the game on TV or streaming apps.

"Since cricket is in LA, our estimate is that the selling price of broadcasting rights might see at least a 20-30 per cent jump from the existing one, which is huge for a single edition," the expert said.

South Africa looks strong against Netherlands



PTI ■ DHARAMSALA

South Africa are making quite a statement at the World Cup, playing entertaining cricket and plundering tons of runs as they steamroll rival teams.

As the Proteas take on the Netherlands in this hilly paradise on Tuesday, the perennial under-performers and 'chokers' have shown in the last two games their determination to go the distance in the tournament.

Their 102-run win against Sri Lanka in the opener in New Delhi after putting a record 428/5 on the board, followed by 134-run victory against five-time champions Australia in Lucknow, have made South Africa the team to beat in the competition.

From staying under the radar in the lead-up to the ODI showpiece to becoming high-flyers, the Proteas have started playing to potential and will be firm favourites against the Dutch.

Unlike the Australian and England cricket teams, whose patchy performance so far has left a lot to be desired, the South Africans have come out with full combat capabilities - with the likes of wicket-keeping stalwart Quinton de Kock, top-

order batter Rassie van der Dussen and Aiden Markram making a massive impact here.

The trio smashed a century each against Sri Lanka to pile up a mountain of runs with Heinrich Klaasen and David Miller playing useful cameos in the 428-run total.

Though their bowlers did take a beating from the Sri Lankans, they hit back with full force against the Australians in the next match. A second consecutive century by De Kock and a massively improved performance from tall pace bowler Marco Jansen and Kagiso Rabada floored Pat Cummins' side.

The 177-run loss for the five-time champions following the humiliating loss to India in the opener has put the Kangaroos on the mat.

The Proteas would look to attack with even more firepower against the Netherlands, a side that has very few recognisable faces in mainstream cricket. But they have posed a challenge occasionally, like the huge upset they made during the 2009 T20 World Cup, defeating England at Lord's.

Last year, the Dutch eliminated the Proteas, handing them a shocking 13-run defeat in the Super 12 stage of the T20 World Cup in Australia. The Scott Edwards-led side will certainly take inspiration from that victory, though T20 and 50-over formats are like chalk and cheese.

But, on a cricket field, where miracles happen, the Dutch too would want to aim for a victory for the ages after seeing Afghanistan overrun defending champions England on Sunday night in New Delhi.

The Proteas, once bitten twice shy, would be looking to opener De Kock, Rassie van der Dussen and Aiden Markram to once again set the stage on fire and then give their bowlers a big total to defend.

OTHER SPORTS

Injured Prannoy withdraws from Denmark and French Open

PTI ■ ODENSE (DENMARK)

Star Indian shuttler HS Prannoy has pulled out of the Denmark Open Super 750 tournament due to a back injury that troubled him during his maiden bronze medal-winning run at the recently-concluded Asian Games.

The 31-year-old Indian had battled excruciating back pain to secure India's first medal in men's singles in 41 years at Hangzhou but now he will have to sit out for two to three weeks due to the injury.

"We are not looking at playing any tournament this month. Something also came up in the MRI as well, so I will have to be out for 2-3 weeks, so I will not be able to play Denmark and France," Prannoy told PTI.

"I will need to rest and then start with rehab."

In his absence, India's charge will be led by Lakshya Sen, who will be back on the



court after playing a vital role in India's first-ever silver medal in men's team event at the Asian Games.

World No. 15 Sen, who remained unbeaten at the Asian Games, will open against Thailand's Kantaphon Wang-

charoen and is likely to meet sixth seed Shi Yuqi of China in the second round.

Two-time Olympic medalist PV Sindhu too will look for a good outing after a semifinal finish at the Arctic Open last week. She will be up against

Scotland's Kirsty Gilmour.

World No. 20 Kidambi Srikanth, who is also desperately looking to accumulate ranking points to make the cut for the Paris Olympics, will take on China's Weng Hong Yang in his opening game.

It is going to be a tricky affair for the former world No. 1, who has blown hot and cold throughout the season.

Priyanshu Rajawat, currently ranked No. 30 in the world, will also have his task cut out as he faces world No. 14 Lee Zii Jia, who is brimming with confidence following his title-winning run in the Arctic Open.

Newly-crowned world No. 1 pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, who claimed an epic gold at Hangzhou, is pitted against Malaysia's Ong Yew Sin and Teo Ee Yi.

MR Arjun and Dhruv Kapila will also miss out after the former suffered a back injury at Hangzhou.

The women's pairing of Treasa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, however, will be back on the court after the Asian Games and will take on Thailand's Benyapa Aimsaard and Nuntakarn Aimsaard.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER
JHARKHAND POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LIMITED
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(CIN: U45200JH2002SGC012154)

e-Procurement Notice No. 17 / 2023-24

Letter No. - CE/3452/947 **Date: 13.10.2023**

JPHCL, Ranchi invites Percentage rate / item rate bids on approved Bill of Quantity from contractors registered before the publication date of this NIT (For F2) interested in registration with JPHCL (For SBD) in appropriate class for the works mentioned below:

Sl. No.	Tender Reference No.	Name of Work	Approximate value of work (in Rs.)	Cost of BOQ (in Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs.)	Period of Completion	For	Type of Bid
1	JPHCL/GR 01/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of Ghaghidih Jail A- Type Kakshapal Qtr. (Block C) and B Type Qtr. (Block A) in the district of East Singhbhum	11621447.00	10000.00	233000.00	150 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
2	JPHCL/GR 02/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of Ghaghidih Jail A- Type Kakshapal Qtr. (Block D) and B Type Qtr. (Block B) in the district of East Singhbhum	11621447.00	10000.00	233000.00	150 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
3	JPHCL/GR 03/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of C Type Quarter at Jharkhand Home Guard Hazaribag in the district of Hazaribag	17007958.00	10000.00	341000.00	180 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
4	JPHCL/GR 04/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of B Type Residential Quarter (G+1) and B Type Residential Quarter (G+2) at Jharkhand Home Guard Campus Hazaribag in the district of Hazaribag	11273516.00	10000.00	226000.00	150 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
5	JPHCL/GR 05/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of A Type Residential Quarter, District Commandant Residence and Commandant Residence Quarter at Jharkhand Home Guard Campus Hazaribag in the district of Hazaribag	16757627.00	10000.00	336000.00	150 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
6	JPHCL/GR 06/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of Magazine and Administrative Building at Jharkhand Home Guard Hazaribag in the district of Hazaribag	12923985.00	10000.00	259000.00	150 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
7	JPHCL/GR 07/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of Barrack No - 1, 2, 3 and 4 at Home Guard, Dhurwa in the district of Ranchi	13461999.00	10000.00	270000.00	120 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
8	JPHCL/GR 08/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair/ Renovation Work of Guest House, Magazine Building and Canteen with Construction of Toilet at Home Guard, Dhurwa in the district of Ranchi	10803650.00	10000.00	217000.00	120 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
9	JPHCL/GR 09/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair Work of A-Type Quarter, B-Type Quarter, C.O. Residence II and C.O. Residence at Home Guard, Dhurwa in the district of Ranchi	16060680.00	10000.00	322000.00	150 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
10	JPHCL/GR 10/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair/Renovation Work of Prashasanik Bhawan (Block B) at Home Guard, Dhurwa in the district of Ranchi	10486588.00	10000.00	210000.00	120 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2
11	JPHCL/GR 11/ NIT17/ 2023-24	Repair/Renovation Work of Prashasanik Bhawan (Block A) and Prashasanik Bhawan (Block C) at Home Guard, Dhurwa in the district of Ranchi	11992533.00	10000.00	240000.00	150 days	Only registered Contractors	Percentage rate/F2

2. Bid document with detailed terms and conditions will be available online on e-tendering portal <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> from 18.10.2023 at 11:00 AM to 30.10.2023 up to 5:00 PM. Bids must be submitted online only at the e-tendering portal <http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in> on or before 5:00 PM on 30.10.2023. Hard copy of Earnest Money, Cost of BOQ and Affidavit must be submitted in the office of undersigned on or before 4:00 PM on 31.10.2023. Technical Bids received online will be opened at 11:00 AM on 01.11.2023.

3. Estimated Cost may vary.

4. Corrigendum/Addendum, if any, will be published only on the above mentioned Website.

Sd/- Chief Engineer, JPHCL, Ranchi