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TERRORISM RESURGES
AMID SHIFTS IN STRATEGY

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DIPLOMACY INTENSIFIES TO
HALT ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

MONEY 10
SENSEX JUMPS TO
TWO-WEEK HIGH

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SMITH EYES IPL
COMEBACK AFTER
SHOW IN MLC
12 SPORTS

Whither Gender Justice? Asks a Nation in Rage



Doctors medical professionals and students stage a protest march demanding justice for a woman doctor who was allegedly raped and murdered at Kolkata's R G Kar Medical College and Hospital at Kartavya Path, New Delhi, on Friday Ranjan Dimri

SAUMYA SHUKLA n NEW DELHI

Nationwide outrage erupted in support of the trainee doctor who was raped and murdered in a State-run hospital in Kolkata last week. On Friday, healthcare workers took out a massive protest march at India Gate and other parts of the city, seeking justice for the victim and demanding stricter laws for safety of health staff, including doctors, at workplace. The evening march towards India Gate brought back memories of the Nirbhaya case when hundreds of thousands of Delhiites had hit

CBI cracks the whip in Kolkata

SAUGAR SENGUPTA n KOLKATA

In a major development, the former principal of RG Kar Medical College, Dr Sandip Ghosh, was on Friday detained by the Central Bureau of Investigation for questioning. He was picked up by the CBI while returning from the Calcutta High Court where he had filed a petition seeking police protection on the plea that his life was under threat. Ghosh — currently in the eye of storm — has been identified by the agitating doctors of the RG Kar Medical College as the “fountainhead” of all evils that plague the once best medical college in eastern India.

the streets to seek harshest punishment for the perpetrators of the crime. However, the police stopped the protesting doctors from making their way to the India Gate from Safdarjung hospital. Anyhow some managed to arrive at the site carrying placards: “Mahila apna haq mangti, nahi kisi se bheek mangti” and “ek do teen char, band karo ye atyachar.” Healthcare workers, including doctors, resident doctors and lab technicians, were present on India Gate as they marched on the Kartavya Path demanding justice for the victim. They termed the crime as “gut wrenching” and pressed for the Central Protection Act for health workers to be enforced. Meanwhile, the Indian Medical Association, the largest body of private medical practitioners across the country, has announced a 24-hour nationwide withdrawal of non-emergency services from 6 am on Saturday. “Out-patient departments (OPD) will not function and elective surgeries will not be conducted. The withdrawal is across all sectors wherever modern medicine doctors are providing services,” the IMA said.

Jammu and Kashmir Get final date for tryst with peace from EC

RAJESH KUMAR/MOHIT KANDHARI n NEW DELHI/JAMMU

For the first time since the scrapping of Article 370 in 2019, the Election Commission (EC) on Friday announced Assembly elections to Jammu and Kashmir in three phases with the first phase to be held on September 18, second on September 25 and third phase on October 1. Results will be announced on October 4. This will be the shortest elections in at least the last two decades in the region. The phase of the J&K election is significant, given that over the last two decades, due to the region's security concerns, polls have consistently been held in at least four phases or more. J&K has been without an elected House for five years now. The last election was held in undivided J&K in 2014. This marks a big step forward in efforts to meet a Supreme Court order — that democracy return to Jammu and the Kashmir Valley by September 30. Union Home Minister Amit Shah welcomed the announcement of Assembly elections there and said the polls will further strengthen the roots of democracy and open the doors to a new period of development for the region. Shah also appealed to the people of J&K to actively



Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar with election commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu during a press conference to announce the schedule for “General Election to Legislative Assemblies 2024”, in New Delhi, on Friday PTI

participate in the elections and vote in large numbers to form a Government that will sustain peace and development, and ensure a brighter future for the youth. “I welcome the announcement of the Assembly elections in J&K made by the Election Commission of India today. In the last 10 years, the Modi Govt through a series of relentless initiatives, has created a new era of peace, development and strengthening democracy in J&K,” he wrote on X. Almost all the parties, including National Conference, Congress, BJP, CPI(M) and DPAP, thanked the Election Commission and said the poll announcement maintained the supremacy of the Supreme Court which had set the September 30 deadline for the holding of the much awaited Assembly elections in J&K. There are 90 seats in the Assembly of J&K post delimitation, with 43 seats in the Jammu region and 47 in Kashmir. Of these, 74 are general seats, nine are for Scheduled Caste candidates, and seven for Scheduled Tribes. Announcing the schedule for the J&K Assembly polls, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar told a Press conference in New Delhi the

three-phase elections to the 90-member J&K Assembly will be held on September 18, September 25 and October 1. The announcement comes a week after CEC along with Election Commissioners, visited the Union Territory. Kumar said elections will be held in J&K after a long time. “The people want change... they want to script a new future,” Kumar said, as he outlined the poll body's plans to hold a safe and successful election in J&K. “We recently visited J&K to take stock of election preparation. Great enthusiasm was seen... people want to participate in the process. People want elections as early as possible...” he said, recalling the “long queues” at polling booths in J&K and Ladakh during the Lok Sabha election. Asked about the decision to hold polls in just three phases, Kumar said the choice was deliberately made to keep the process short, considering the Commission's experience during the Lok Sabha polls, which were criticised for being inordinately long. “In true spirit of keeping that promise, we present the shorter election period in the best possible and conducive environment,” he said. He added that the Commission will ensure due security for all candidates in J&K as requested by political parties.

Haryana set to vote in a new Assembly on October 1, 2024

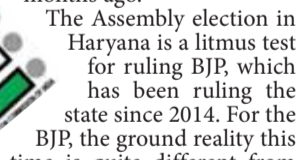


Representative Image

RAJESH KUMAR n NEW DELHI

Given barely two weeks to finalise their candidates, the Election Commission (EC) on Friday announced that the Haryana Assembly polls will be held in a single phase on October 1. The counting of votes will take place on October 4. The 90-seat Haryana Assembly's term is ending on November 3. This will be the first time in nearly 20 years that the two States will go to polls separately. It was in 2004 when Assembly elections were held in Maharashtra alone. Haryana went to polls a few months later in 2005. But since 2009, both States have been going to polls together. In 2019, elections in both Haryana and Maharashtra were held on October 21. While announcing the poll schedule, Chief Election

Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said Assembly elections in Maharashtra, which were held along with Haryana in 2019, will be announced later due to security requirements for Jammu and Kashmir. He said four elections are due this year and by early next year and since Jammu and Kashmir was not in the picture last time (2019-20) the Commission decided to group two Assembly elections together. “There was heavy rainfall in Maharashtra, BLOs (booth level officers) have to complete their work. There are several festivals too that have to be factored in. “Ganesh Festival, Pitru Paksha, Navratri, Diwali, all that put together this is what we thought we could handle as two elections at a time,” the



Centre asks for accountability on medical fraternity attacks across the country



ARCHANA JYOTI n NEW DELHI

In what is being seen as a damage control move amid nationwide protests by doctors following the rape and murder of a 31-year-old trainee medico at Kolkata's State-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, the Centre on Friday instructed the heads of Government hospitals across the country to file an institutional First Information Report (FIR) within six hours of any incidence of violence. The Union Health Ministry has been facing criticism for its failure to provide a safe environment for the medical fraternity despite several cases of violence against healthcare workers reported in the past within hospital premises. In fact, Friday's directive by the chief of the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Dr Atul Goel, to file FIR within six hours of an incident follows a recent circular from the National Medical Commission (NMC), the country's apex medical education regulator, which similarly stated that in the event of any violence, there should be

a prompt investigation by the college management, FIRs should be lodged with the police, and an action-taken-report should be sent to the NMC within 24 hours. In the memorandum issued on Friday, the DGHS stated that “in the event of any violence against any healthcare worker while on duty, the head of that institution shall be responsible for filing an institutional FIR within a maximum of 6 hours of the incident.” “Recently, it has been observed that violence against doctors and other healthcare staff in Government hospitals has become common. A number of health workers suffer physical violence while on duty. Many are threatened or subjected to verbal aggression. Most of this violence is perpetrated by either the patient or the patient's attendants,” the memorandum added. This has been a long-standing demand of resident doctors, as FIRs are not filed in connection with many incidents despite existing mechanisms. The doctors have also been seeking enactment of a Central Protection Act to deter violence against medical personnel on duty. A draft prepared in 2019, following similar outrage over the assault on a doctor in Kolkata, proposed imprisonment for up to 10 years and a fine of up to ` 10 lakh for violence against doctors on duty is still in a limbo. The DGHS advisory also stated that all Central Government hospitals should maintain a registry of such incidents and report them to the Health Ministry.

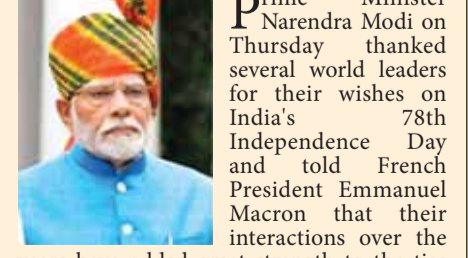
INDIA REACHES FOR THE SKIES



ISRO's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle-03 (SSLV-D3) carrying Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-08) leaves a trail of smoke after it lifted off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh, on Friday PTI

PM Modi thanks world leaders for their support on India's I Day

PTI n NEW DELHI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday thanked several world leaders for their wishes on India's 78th Independence Day and told French President Emmanuel Macron that their interactions over the years have added great strength to the ties between the two countries. He told Macron that they will keep working together to further global good. Modi lauded his UAE counterpart Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum for his personal commitment to strong ties between India and the UAE.

How many mounds? ASI seems helpless

ARCHANA JYOTI n NEW DELHI

With the agricultural activities causing irreparable damage to excavation sites at Rakhigarhi and Rakhishahpur village in Hissar district, Haryana, the Centre has moved to include these sites under its protection. The Archeological Survey of India (ASI) last week issued a notification seeking to declare the two mounds, identified as Mound VI and Mound VII at the villages, known for their significant evidence related to the Indus Valley Civilization. Archaeologists regard Rakhigarhi as one of the largest Indus Valley sites, with valuable artifacts and historical evidence excavated since the ASI began its work in the region in 1963.

The need for Central protection measures gained urgency by recent damage to a skeleton by the farmers in the region. It was excavated by ASI excavation team led by its director Dr Sanjay K Manjul. The skeleton, believed to be over 4,000 years old was found in a cemetery at Mound VII. Currently, Mounds VI and VII are privately owned, necessitating Government acquisition of the land and compensation to the farmers. An ASI official stated that including the sites in the protection list would help preserve historical evidence and ensure that future generations appreciate this ancient civilisation. According to the information available, there are seven mounds at the Harappan site in



Rakhigarhi village. Mounds 1, 2, 3, and parts of 4 and 5 are already under ASI control, but Mounds 6 and 7 remain privately owned. Mound 6 covers 33 acre, while Mound 7 spans about six acre, both

currently owned by farmers are used for agriculture. The lack of preservation at these sites has already impacted the historical evidence. “The skull of the skeleton is badly damaged... The damage

might have been the result of the agricultural activities in the area,” said Manjul, as per a media report. He also pointed out that sand mining by the farmers poses a serious threat to the site. He said while the rest of the skeleton is in good condition, the skull has sustained damage. “Agricultural activities by farmers over the years seem to have damaged part of the skull. This damage may make it challenging to extract a DNA sample for further analysis,” he said. In addition to the skeleton, the excavation unearthed 21 earthen utensils found near the remains. “The skeleton appears to be that of a middle-aged man. Our previous excavations have revealed similar burial rituals involving utensils, suggesting continuity in these practices,” Manjul noted. The team also discovered a seal from Mound number 3. Rakhigarhi is recognised as one of the largest sites of the Indus Valley Civilization. Current excavations underscore its significance as a major metropolis of ancient times, featuring a well-planned urban layout with distinct residential, industrial, and institutional areas, as well as a cemetery. Signed by Yadubir Singh Rawat, Director General of the ASI, the organisation on August 3, 2024 issued a draft notification seeking public objections and comments that aims to prevent encroachment and mitigate the impact of agricultural activities by declaring the sites of national importance.

State Government to double budget in the next 5 years

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has said that Madhya Pradesh will launch four Missions Yuva Shakti Mission, Garib Kalyan Mission, Nari Sashaktikaran Mission, Kisan Kalyan Mission. These Missions will start from November 1, the foundation day of Madhya Pradesh. The Chief Minister announced this while addressing the Independence Day function at Bhopal on Thursday. Yadav observed the parade after hoisting the flag took salute of ceremonial parade. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav honored police officers and personnel for excellent service, commendable service and bravery at the medal decoration ceremony. Yadav extended hearty congratulations and best wishes to the people on the 78th Independence

Day. He remembered the heroes, patriots and freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of India. He said that government is committed to making the administration people-oriented, citizens should become partners in development and social harmony. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the country is moving rapidly towards becoming the third largest economy by completing the journey of becoming the fifth economy of the world. Madhya Pradesh is committed to contributing to the accomplishment of the resolutions of Prime Minister Modi. Yadav said that the government is working towards doubling the budget of Madhya Pradesh in the next five years. In the financial year 2023-24, capital expenditure was Rs 60 thousand 689 crore. This is about 29 percent increase

compared to the year 2022-23. The target of capital expenditure for the financial year 2024-25 has been set at Rs 64 thousand 738 crore. Yadav said that the youth should not be limited to traditional education only, but also have to get education in new technologies like AI, machine learning and coding. For this, an investment of Rs 485 crore has been made in higher education. One college each in 55 districts of the state has been converted into PM College of Excellence. The state government has given priority to skill development. Under the Mukhya Mantri Seekho-Kamao Yojana, a stipend of Rs 6 crore 60 lakh has been provided to 8 thousand trainees. Incubation centers have been set up in major schools to promote innovation and entrepreneurship. More than 60 new industrial units are being set up

in the state at a cost of Rs 10 thousand crore. More than 17 thousand employment opportunities will be created in this. Yadav said that work has been done rapidly to fill the vacant posts of government jobs. In the last 8 months, more than 11 thousand appointment letters have been issued in government jobs. Yadav said that more than 1 crore 67 lakh registered unorganised workers in the state are getting benefit of Mukhya Mantri Jan-Kalyan Sambal Yojana. For this, a provision of Rs 600 crore has been made this year. In the second phase of the scheme, more than Rs 670 crore ex-gratia assistance was transferred to more than 30 thousand 500 worker families. The state government paid an amount of Rs 224 crore to 4 thousand 800 worker families of Indore's Hukumchand

Mill. 7 lakh 50 thousand beneficiaries of the state have been benefited under Pradhan Mantri Shahri Awas Yojana (PM Urban Housing Scheme). About 7 lakh houses have been constructed in rural areas under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana. Free food grains are being provided to 117 lakh eligible families every month. Yadav said that the state government has given assistance for marriage to 62 thousand 583 girls in the year 2023-24 under the Mukhya Mantri Kanya Vivah and Nikah Sahayata Yojana. Under the Ladli Behna Yojana, an amount of more than Rs 12 thousand crore has been transferred to the accounts of one crore 29 lakh sisters in the last eight months. This year, an additional amount of Rs 250 has been released in the account of every Ladli Behna on Rakshabandhan.



A woman with her child during Independence Day celebrations at Lal parade ground in Bhopal on Thursday. Pioneer photo

BHEL Bhopal celebrates 78th Independence Day

Bhopal: BHEL, Bhopal celebrated the Independence Day with traditional gaiety. On this occasion, SM Ramanathan, Executive Director, BHEL, Bhopal hoisted the National Flag in front of the Administrative Building and wished the people a Happy Independence Day. The Jawans of Central Industrial Security Force, Bhopal saluted him at the function. Sangeeta Ramanathan, President, BHEL Ladies Club, all General Managers, Harish Sahu, Commandant, CISE, all Union representatives, BHECNIS members and employees were present on the occasion. In his address, Ramanathan said that today India is recognized as the largest democratic country in the world. The world has seen the rapid emergence of a powerful and sovereign India in recent years. Today, under the leadership of the Prime Minister, the rapidly growing economy of our country is a topic of discussion for the

world. BHEL has also achieved profitability in harmony with this economic progress of the country and has entered new business areas by diversifying products under the "Atmanirbhar Bharat" and "Make in India" campaign of the Government of India. He told the employees that the current business scenario is very challenging and all our products are facing tough competition, but together we will establish this unit at a new height. He said that the employees of Bhopal unit are capable and ready to provide their excellent services in any situation. The present time demands that we have to maintain this kind of commitment. Our future depends on this, we have to use our today for a better tomorrow. Along with this, he motivated all the employees for success in their future action plan. Earlier on the eve of Independence Day, Sangeeta

Ramanathan, President, BHEL Ladies Club distributed fruits to the patients admitted in Kasturba Hospital. Alpna Tiwari, Head of Medical Services and Dr. Pamela Sachdev, General Manager were also present on the occasion. On the occasion of Independence Day, Bharat Heavy Electricals Cultural and National Integration Committee organized "All India Mushaira" in BHEL Cultural Bhawan. On this occasion, all the members of the committee including BK Singh, President BHECNIS and Avinash Chandra, Vice President BHECNIS were also present. In the Mushaira, renowned poets of Hindi and Urdu world like Mahesh Aggarwal Bhopal, Azhar Iqbal Budhana, Nusrat Mehdi Bhopal, Shri Vijay Tiwari Bhopal, Akbar Taj Khundwa, Jahaj Deobandi and Sufiyann Qazi Khawandi kept the people enthralled with their poetry.

Doctors strike hampering health services in Bhopal, elsewhere in the State

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The health services are badly hit across the state, 17 operations were conducted in Hamidia, 144 in AIIMS in Bhopal. Due to the doctors' strike, a total of 17 operations were conducted in Hamidia Hospital, Bhopal. More than 50 operations are conducted here on normal days. At the same time, 2500 OPD patients come to the OPD daily. 1550 patients arrived here on Friday. Similarly, AIIMS has more than 5 thousand OPDs, 4,460 patients arrived on Friday. 144 operations were conducted. More than 225 operations are conducted here on normal days. OPD will also remain closed in private hospitals in Bhopal from tomorrow. After Hamidia and AIIMS in Bhopal, now OPD will also remain closed in private hospitals from tomorrow.

Dr. Anoop Hajela, President of Association of Health Care Providers of India, MP Chapter, said that only emergency facilities will be available in many hospitals of the city including Akshay Heart, National Hospital, Hajela, Gastro Care and Siddhanta. Routine OPD will be completely closed. Advocate Abhishek Pandey said that the Junior Doctors Association talked about indefinite strike. The High Court Division Bench had given an instruction, in which medical facility comes under essential service. This causes trouble to the patients. Under this, doctors cannot go on any kind of strike. We have filed a PIL against the violation of the High Court order. Dr. Rakesh Malviya, Chief Convener Government Autonomous Doctors Federation, Madhya Pradesh, said that in this entire protest,

many associations across the state stopped work from 12 noon to 1 pm. In this, more than 17 thousand doctors from across the state were on strike. United Doctors Federation, Chikitsa Mahasangh, Progressive Medical Teachers Association Madhya Pradesh, Medical Officer Association Madhya Pradesh, Junior Doctors Association Madhya Pradesh, ESI Medical Officer Association Madhya Pradesh, Medical Officer Medical Education Madhya Pradesh, Home Department Association Madhya Pradesh. OPD remained closed for 1 hour in many private hospitals of Bhopal. Patients were not seen in OPD from 12 noon to 1 pm in many private hospitals of Bhopal. Doctor JP Paliwal from Paliwal Hospital said that we had pen down for an hour today. During this time, we requested the OPD patients, told people why we are

doing this. After this, the patients also cooperated in this. Apart from this, all kinds of emergency facilities remained operational here. Junior doctors in Indore also took to the streets in protest against the rape and murder of a trainee doctor in Kolkata. They protested by sitting on the road. Junior doctors of Bhopal AIIMS staged a street play outside the gate. During this, they described the situation of entry of bullies in the hospital and misbehavior with the doctors. The matter of doctors' strike in Madhya Pradesh has reached the Jabalpur High Court. A PIL has been filed regarding the matter of going on strike by stopping essential services. It will be heard today itself. Narsinghpur petitioner Anshul Tiwari has said that Madhya Pradesh has nothing to do with the Kolkata incident, yet the doctors have gone on strike.

In Raisen district hospital also, about 35 doctors were on symbolic strike by tying black bands from 12 noon to 1 pm. After closing the OPD, all Doctors protested by raising slogans in the hospital premises. Due to which health services were disrupted. Patients were seen getting upset. Dr. Alok Rai said that security should be guaranteed by implementing the Central Protection Act. The situation is worsening due to the strike of doctors in Sanjay Gandhi Medical College and Hospital, Rewa. Patients are not getting treatment here. There is no one to tell how and when to take the medicine. Doctors are also on strike in Indore hospitals. Patients coming to OPD here are not getting treatment. However, Collector Ashish Singh said that health services will not be allowed to stop due to the strike. Alternative arrangements are being made.



Junior Doctors Association members during a rally demanding justice for a female on duty doctor who was raped and murdered in RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, at Government Hamidia Hospital in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

Governor congratulates cops honored with President's Medal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Governor Mangubhai Patel has said that the behavior and attitude of the police in serving the public are important. Police behavior should be sensitive towards the public. The sensitive behavior of the police increases respect for the police in the minds of the public and makes the image of the police public friendly. Governor Patel was addressing the 'Officers and Employees honored with the President's Medal meeting' program. On this occasion, he extended best wishes and congratulated the medal recipients of the Madhya Pradesh Police, Jail and Home Guards and their families. It may be noted that this year, 69 police officers and employees of the state police have been awarded the President's Police Medal. This honor was given for gallantry, distinguished service,

and meritorious service. The program was organized in the Sandipani Auditorium of Raj Bhawan. Governor Mangubhai Patel said that the state police has done commendable work in the direction of environmental protection along with the responsibilities of maintaining law and order. The police have planted 1.25 lakh saplings in a day under the "Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam" campaign. Governor Patel thanked the Madhya Pradesh Police Force for this success. He also called upon the state police to take up the responsibility of taking care of the planted saplings in the future. Patel said that the nature of cyber crimes has changed in the era of information technology. Mostly children, women, rural people and people from deprived sections are becoming victims of cyber crimes. Police will have to play an important

role in cyber awareness. The police will have to be technically and legally proficient, conduct sensitive analysis and take punitive action against cyber criminals. He said that every officer and employee of the state police should perform his duties with complete devotion and commitment. Governor Mangubhai Patel said that in a democratic system, active police are the basis of a strong and healthy society. Security is necessary for the development of society and police is necessary for security. Police will have to keep themselves updated according to time. Now there is a need for predictive policing from reactive policing. He said that in the last six months, the police have taken strict action against Naxal activities. By killing four hardcore Naxalites, Naxal activities have been controlled to a great extent. Governor Patel said that the state police have taken

effective action to strictly suppress anti-social elements and anti-national forces and stop the illegal transportation of cattle. Director General of Police Sudhir Kumar Saxena welcomed Governor Mangubhai Patel with a bouquet. DGP Saxena gave the welcome address. He gave information about the medal recipients, the law and order of the state and the social concern-based work of the police. Additional Director General of Police Sajid Faraed Shapu proposed the vote of thanks. Director General Jail Govind Pratap Singh, Director General Home Guard Arvind Kumar, Principal Secretary to the Governor Mukesh Chand Gupta, senior officers of Madhya Pradesh Police, medal recipients of Madhya Pradesh Police, Home Guard and Jail Department and their families were present in the program.

PIMR leads candlelight march to protest Kolkata rape, murder case

PNS ■ INDORE

On India's 78th Independence Day, the Prestige Institute of Management and Research (PIMR) in Indore expressed solidarity against the tragic rape and murder of a young female doctor in Kolkata. Led by PIMR Director Col S Raman Iyer, students and faculty organized a candlelight march to seek justice and advocate for a collective revival of moral values in society. The march began at the PIMR UG campus, passed through the Brilliant Convention Centre, and concluded back at the campus. Participants, holding candles and mourning the loss, gathered to honor the victim. The marchers carried placards demanding swift and strict action against the perpetrators, and a two-minute silence was observed in memory of the victim. Davish Jain, Chairman of the Prestige Education Foundation, strongly condemned the brutal attack on a young doctor in Kolkata, emphasizing that it is a crime that reflects poorly on our nation's conscience. He affirmed Prestige's commit-

ment to ensuring the dignity and safety of every female student, faculty member, and staff, highlighting the institution's dedication to not only intellectual growth but also moral and ethical development of students. "The candlelight march served not only as a tribute to the victim but also as a powerful reminder of PIMR's dedication to social causes. Through this march, the institute reaffirmed its role in shaping morally conscious individuals who are prepared to stand against injustice and uphold the values of dignity and respect for all", added Dr Jain Col Dr. S Raman Iyer also expressed deep sorrow and outrage, saying that the incident strikes at the heart of the values cherished by society. As a leading academic institution, he emphasized the responsibility to raise awareness, promote moral integrity, and create a safer environment for all. He stressed the importance of instilling strong moral values in students and called for proactive steps from educational institutions and society as a whole to prevent such tragedies.

Protest by AIIMS Bhopal doctors continues

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Doctors are protesting across the country against the rape and murder of a trainee doctor in Kolkata on August 8. After AIIMS in Bhopal, junior doctors of Hamidia Hospital have stopped working from 12 pm on Thursday night. In Indore too, junior doctors are only attending emergency cases. It has been decided to keep OPDs closed in private hospitals in Bhopal and Indore from Saturday. Only emergency services will continue in private hospitals. Here, two PILs have been filed in Jabalpur High Court regarding the doctors' strike. In this, the doctors' strike has been termed wrong. In Jabalpur, Chhindwara, Gwalior, Ratlam, members of the Indian Medical Association are protesting by wearing black bands on their arms in support of the strike. Due to the strike, the condition of health services in most government hospitals has started deteriorating. Patients are lining up for treatment. Pathology tests could not be done. Family members also kept getting upset. To deal with the strike in Bhopal, Gandhi Medical College (GMC) Dean Dr. Kavita N Singh has cancelled the leaves of all doctors.

Independence Day ceremony organized at Raj Bhawan

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A function was held at Raj Bhawan to mark the 78th annual festival of Independence Day. Governor Mangubhai Patel, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and other invited guests exchanged Independence Day greetings during the event. Chief Minister Yadav paid a courtesy visit to Governor Patel at Raj Bhawan before the Independence Day celebrations. The Chief Minister greeted the Governor by presenting a bouquet. Patel appreciated the Army Band Pachmarhi for its wonderful performance at the welcome ceremony. Band leader Major D. Prabhakaran was given a trophy, medals and certificates for each member of the band. The audience at the Independence Day function at Raj Bhawan, Bhopal, was captivated by the sweet melodies performed by the Army Band from Pachmarhi. This impressive performance seamlessly blended patriotic tunes with Indian classical music, ragas, and Western music. Renowned for its remarkable performances, the Army Band Pachmarhi has showcased its talents in countries such as Sudan, Chile, Sri Lanka,

Bangladesh, and Nepal. The band features a total of 60 artists who collaborate in three sections: woodwind, brass, and percussion. These sections work in harmony to create the band's signature sound. The woodwind section includes instruments like the flute, piccolo, oboe, clarinet, saxophone, and bassoon. The brass section features horns, cornets, trumpets, trombones, euphoniums, and tubas. The percussion section brings together a diverse range of instruments, including the glockenspiel, xylophone, vibraphone, chimes, drums, timpani, and more, all working in unison to produce enchanting melodies. An exhibition showcasing portraits of unsung freedom fighters, brave women, and heroes was held during the ceremony. The event was organized by the Culture Department of the Madhya Pradesh Government in collaboration with the Swaraj Sansthan Directorate. Minister of State for Backward Classes and Minorities Welfare, Independent Charge, Smt. Krishna Gaur, MP, State President BJP VD Sharma, Mayor Bhopal Malti Rai, MLA Rameshwar Sharma, MLA Bhagwan Das Sabnani, Chief Secretary Veera Rana, DGP and others were present.



Madhya Pradesh Congress President Jitu Patwari after hoisting Tricolour during Independence Day celebrations at PCC headquarters in Bhopal on Thursday. Pioneer photo

24-year-old youth killed in road accident near Khatlapura

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 24-year-old youth died while his friend escaped with injuries after his bike was hit by a car while overtaking on Khatlapura road in the night on Thursday. One of the youths injured in the accident died during treatment at Hamidia Hospital. The other was discharged from the hospital after initial treatment. Jehangirabad police has registered a case and started investi-

gation in the matter. According to the police, Parvez Qureshi was a resident of Janta Nagar Karond. He used to do fruit business in Nai Mandi. His uncle Munna Qureshi lives in Khatlapura. Parvez had gone to meet him with his friend Huzaifa. After the meeting, he left for home at around 10 pm. He died in a road accident near his uncle's house. The deceased's uncle Munna Qureshi said that Huzaifa has been discharged from the hospital. On the way,

an unknown car hit him while overtaking. The car was moving at a high speed. After the collision, the accused driver fled from the spot without stopping the vehicle. Passersby took him to the hospital. Parvez had a serious head injury. Meanwhile, the police said that a case has been registered and investigation is being carried out. Footage of CCTV cameras installed around the incident site is being checked.

BHOPAL | SATURDAY | AUGUST 17, 2024

Indian Language Festival is an opportunity to save language

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has said that the Indian Language Festival is a wonderful opportunity to save and promote our rich language and cultural heritage. Hindi has had special importance among Indian languages. (Hindi is related to Sanskrit. Sanskrit is prevalent in the entire Indian culture and this cultural and linguistic expansion is the basis of the form of united India. Appreciating the activities conducted by Madhavrao Sapre Museum, Chief Minister Yadav announced to increase the grant being given by the state government to the museum from of Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh. Chief Minister Yadav was addressing the gathering at the launch of the Indian

Language Festival organized by Madhavrao Sapre Smriti Newspaper Museum. **Sapre Museum reference book and Language Satyagraha booklets released** Chief Minister Yadav was welcomed and presented with a shawl, books and a replica of a pen at Sapre Museum. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav released the Sapre Museum reference book and Language Satyagraha booklet. He honored Shri Ashish Agrawal for his special cooperation in the Sapre Museum. Narendra Dutt Gargava was honored for his contribution to Pandit Rameshwar Das Gargava Memorial e-Library and Dr. Jayaprakash Shukla for his cooperation in Krishna Gopal Vyas Science Communication Division.

Dr. Veena Sinha and Dr. Hemant Singh were also honored on this occasion. The program was presided over by School Education Minister Shri Uday Pratap Singh. **Apart from languages, dialects also have special importance** Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that along with languages, dialects also have special importance in Indian culture. The characteristics of dialects are also related to regional history. While Bundeli is full of bravery and valor, the Malvi dialect has its depth. It was influenced by local conditions, but the Malvi dialect maintained its identity always. Hindi is continuously enriching itself by incorporating many languages and dialects. Hindi

has attained its present form after traveling a historical journey of almost a thousand years. During this historical period, many non-Hindi-speaking great persons also supported Hindi. Literateur Madhavrao Sapre also played an important role in this. Chief Minister Yadav said that Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has made special provisions in the National Education Policy to encourage all languages. Libraries have been established in the PM Excellence Colleges being developed in the state, in which books on all subjects are being made available. School Education Minister Shri Uday Pratap Singh said that under the leadership of Chief Minister Dr. Yadav, various activities are being conducted to promote

Sanskrit and regional languages in the state. The state has been a leader in the country in implementing the National Education Policy. **Indian Language Festival is being organized with linguistic harmony, coordination, and all-inclusive spirit** Program coordinator Shri Vijaydutt Sridhar said that the Indian Language Festival is being organized by Sapre Museum with the idea of 'Apni Bhasha par Abhiman-Sabhi Bhashaon ka Samman', linguistic harmony, coordination and all-inclusiveness. Efforts to include the language of the people as much as possible in their daily work along with Hindi and Indian languages are the main dimensions of this event.



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav with Tribal artists during Shravan Utsav and Rakshabandhan celebrations in Dindori, Madhya Pradesh on Friday. Pioneer photo



Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav pays tributes to Rani Avantibai Lodhi on her birth anniversary in Bhopal on Friday. Pioneer photo

Patel for drawing inspiration from Rani Avantibai's ideals

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Panchayat and Rural Development Minister Prahlad Singh Patel has called upon people to draw inspiration from the ideals of Rani Avantibai Lodhi. He said that the new generation must know the rich history of Kshatriya Lodhi community. Patel said that Rani Avantibai Lodhi bravely fought against the British rule and defeated them. He observed this while addressing a gathering at the Kshatriya Lodhi Mahasabha on the 193rd birth anniversary of Rani Avantibai Lodhi, held at her birthplace, Mankedi, Bargi, Jabalpur. He planted a sapling paying tribute to Rani Avantibai Lodhi. Patel noted that the history of the Kshatriya Lodhi community is glorious. The community has given brave rulers and freedom fighters. Raja Hriday Shah to Rani Avantibai Lodhi, who

demonstrated bravery and defeated the Britishers. Minister Patel emphasized the importance of remembering and honoring the freedom fighters. Efforts should be made to preserve history and traditions. The societies forgetting their history do not last long. Patel said that Rani Avantibai Lodhi's sacrifice, noting that at a young age she fought against the British adhering to her ideals and principles. The future generation must draw inspiration from her. He noted that the Rani opposed the arbitrary taxes imposed by the British on the poor and tribal people and fought against forced collections, defeating the British army twice. On this occasion, Patel called for conducting a research about the community's history and the identification of historians and writers. He also emphasized

the need to honour distinguished individuals from the community like writers, artists, athletes, educators, administrative officers, and businessmen. He said that educating children, especially girls and effacing out social evils would be the real tribute to Rani Avantibai Lodhi. The event commemorating the 193rd birth anniversary of Rani Avantibai Lodhi included the planting of saplings in memory of Rani Avantibai. It was attended by Kshatriya Lodhi Mahasabha's Executive President Minister Patel Kok Singh Navaria, State President and former Minister Jalum Singh Patel, MLA Minister Patel Preetam Singh Lodhi, Minister Patel Prahlad Lodhi, Minister Patel Neeraj Singh, MLA Ramsiya Bharti, Nagar Parishad Paatan President Acharya Jagendra Singh, Minister Patel Shankar Mahto, and Tripti Singh.

CM attends Ladli Behna programme in Dindori

Bhopal: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has pledged unwavering commitment to the comprehensive development of Dindori, ensuring no effort is spared. He announced the creation of new employment opportunities for the district's youth, alongside plans to transform Vikrampur into a thriving industrial hub, fostering industrial growth, trade, and employment in the region. To address Dindori's electricity challenges, a 132 KV sub-station will be constructed in Shahpura. Additionally, 75 BSNL towers will be installed to enhance mobile connectivity. Recognizing Dindori's rich medicinal heritage, an Ayurvedic college will be established to harness this natural wealth. The Gram Panchayat of Gadasarai will be elevated to sub-teshil status,

improving access to revenue-related services. To boost irrigation, the canals in Dindori will be concretized, expanding their reach and efficiency. The compensation for villagers affected by the dams of Upper Narmada, Basunia, and Raghavpur will be increased, ensuring fair recompense for those impacted. For better transportation, a two-lane road will be constructed from Dindori to Mudki, and a bridge will span the Chakrarar river near Bachargaon. The infrastructure of the Narmada river Banks will be developed and beautified, ensuring a comfortable and serene experience for devotees. Lastly, a new building will be constructed for the Municipal Council of Dindori, enhancing the administrative infrastructure and supporting the region's continued growth.

MG Windsor showcases unmatched water wading capabilities

New Delhi: JSW MG Motor India has released a new teaser of its upcoming vehicle and India's first Crossover Utility Vehicle [CUV] - MG Windsor, showcasing its exceptional water wading capabilities. This latest teaser underscores the MG Windsor's engineering excellence and adaptability to Indian road conditions, positioning it as the Intelligent CUV for diverse terrains. The teaser features MG Windsor, confidently navigating through challenging terrains, similar to one during the monsoon season, a common challenge faced by car drivers in India. With a meticulously engineered design, the Windsor effortlessly handles water depths. This capability is made possible by the vehicle's elevated ground clearance and CUV's stance, ensuring a smooth and secure drive even in the most challenging terrains. This teaser follows the recent reveal of the segment-first Aero-Lounge seats, which have already set a new standard for comfort and luxury in the segment. The combination of these cutting-edge features will make the MG Windsor a standout choice for Indian consumers seeking a premium driving experience, without compromising on practicality and performance.

Two-day faculty induction program successfully concludes at Medi-Caps

Indore: Medi-Caps University Indore, Dr Kuber Datt Gautam, Prof Incharge Media, said that Medi-Caps University, known for its significant contributions to the highest echelons of education, has once again demonstrated its commitment to academic excellence through the successful completion of a two-day Faculty Induction Program. Held on August 13-14, 2024, the event was designed to acquaint new faculty members with the university's operations, values, and academic culture. The program commenced with the University Anthem, setting a tone of unity and purpose. Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) D.K. Patnaik warmly welcomed the new members of the academic community, emphasizing the pivotal role that educators play in shaping society. Through a series of inspirational anecdotes, he highlighted the profound impact of dedicated teaching. Pro Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) D.K. Panda further elaborated on the university's mission, vision, and core values, setting the stage for a series of informative sessions. These sessions provided new faculty

members with an in-depth understanding of various university departments, HR policies, IQAC cell, examination protocols, library resources, ERP systems, and other critical facilities. In keeping with the university's strong emphasis on research, a dedicated session focused on the importance of ethical research practices. Faculty members were encouraged to contribute to the university's research endeavors, bolstering Medi-Caps University's reputation as a hub of scholarly excellence. Additionally, participants were briefed on the mentor system, student support services, and the vibrant array of university clubs and activities. A guided campus tour offered new faculty members an opportunity to engage with department heads and explore the university's extensive resources. This tour underscored the institution's commitment to providing a conducive environment for both academic and personal growth. The first day concluded with a stress management session, offering faculty members valuable tools to maintain well-being amidst their professional responsibilities.

Rs 30 lakh ornaments stolen from jewelry shop

Bhopal: Armed miscreants stole jewelry worth Rs 30 lakh from a jewelry shop in D Sector of Ayodhya Nagar, miscreants broke 5 locks of the channel gate, then broke the shutter and entered inside, CCTV footage of the incident revealed the crime. According to the police, more than 6 miscreants had entered the Jain Jewelry Shop located in D Sector of Ayodhya Nagar. The police investigated the spot with the forensic team, when a blockade was also put in the area, the accused fled by dodging the police in Piplani. Jewellery shop operator Vikas Jain said that the shop was closed at 10 pm on Thursday night. Late night around 2.30 am, local people informed about the broken shutter. After this, he reached the spot and informed the police. Checked the CCTV installed in the shop. In the footage, about 7 people were seen breaking the shutter. After the shutter opened, 6 miscreants went inside, while one miscreant was sitting in the car parked outside. They searched the shop. After this, they started searching the counter. Some stuffed cash and jewelry inside shirts and vests, while some in bags. Whoever got hold of whatever, he kept on stuffing it. Ayodhya Nagar Police Station in-charge Mahesh Lillare said that a blockade was done to catch the miscreants. During checking, suspects were found in a Scorpio in Piplani area. When they tried to stop them, they took advantage of the darkness and fled. They are being searched. Police said the jewelers had made strong arrangements for security. Earlier, a channel gate and a shutter inside it were installed.

Police play a crucial role in good governance

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav praised the Madhya Pradesh Police for their commendable work in maintaining order and controlling crime. He emphasized the crucial role that the police play in upholding good governance, acknowledging the dedication of officers and personnel who consistently prioritize their duties. They truly deserve appreciation for their unwavering commitment. Chief Minister Yadav addressed the family felicitation program honoring 69 police officers and personnel who were awarded for their meritorious service and bravery at the state-level medal decoration ceremony on Independence Day. He expressed his admiration for the outstanding performances by the police families and staff during the event. Dr. Yadav also extended his heart-

felt congratulations to the officers and personnel who received the Police Medal. The Chief Minister commended the Madhya Pradesh Police for their unwavering commitment, often risking their lives to fulfill their responsibilities. He recalled the bravery of police personnel who stood at the forefront during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Yadav highlighted that these courageous officers and jawans excel not only in duty but also in the cultural arena. He also instructed that participants of the vibrant cultural program presented at the Chief Minister's residence be recognized with awards. Reflecting on Lord Krishna's tireless efforts to uphold Dharma against Adharma, Yadav drew a parallel to the role of the police in today's world. He emphasized that, much like Krishna, the police work diligently to maintain justice and

order. Dr. Yadav also highlighted that Independence Day is the grandest celebration for all, symbolizing our highest values of freedom. It is a time when the entire nation comes together, filled with a profound sense of patriotism and joy. Director General of Police Sudhir Kumar Saxena stated that, in line with Chief Minister Yadav's directives, the Madhya Pradesh Police have implemented measures to regulate the use of loudspeakers, improve police station facilities, and enhance cow protection efforts. Additionally, the department has made significant strides in promoting officers and reinforcing the importance of the police band. He assured that the Madhya Pradesh Police will remain vigilant and proactive in combating threats, whether they come from dacoits, Naxals, or anti-national elements.

Innovative eLearning course for textile industry

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Apparel Made-Ups & Home Furnishing Sector Skill Council (AMHSSC), in collaboration with 'bluesign', unveiled the Foundation to Apparel Sustainability eLearning course. This concluding event, which began in Tiruppur, marks a significant leap forward in promoting sustainable and ethical practices within India's textile and apparel sector. The ceremony was held at the Radisson Blu MBD Hotel, India's textile and apparel industry is a cornerstone of the national economy, accounting for approximately 2% to the GDP and 18% to the manufacturing output. The sector employs 45 million people directly and supports another 60 million in allied industries. As the world's fifth-largest exporter, India's role underscores the urgent need for sustainable development within this sector.

NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY
Tender Notice
No. JHS-M-DSL-WC-T-05-2024-25 Date: 13.08.2024
For and on behalf of President of India, Sr. Divisional Mechanical Engineer (Diesel) North Central Railway, Jhansi invites open tender through online (E-Tendering) for the following work:-
Description: Repairing & Preventive maintenance of Cab Air Conditioners mounted on roof of Electric Locomotives, at Diesel Loco Shed, Jhansi for three years.
Tender Value ₹ 39,92,268.82/- Earnest Money ₹ 79900.00 Cost of tender Document ₹ 00
Date of closing of tender: 17.09.2024, Completion period: 36 Months
Tenderers will submit the tender online up to 17.09.2024 (15.00 Hrs.). Complete details & for submission of tenders can be seen in Indian Railway website <http://www.ireps.gov.in> 145424 FA
North central railways @CPNCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

केनरा बँक Canara Bank
A Government of India Undertaking
Regional office - 1st Floor, Sai Baba Complex, Near GDA Building, Phool Bagh, Gwalior Ph. 0751-2423126
POSSESSION NOTICE (Rule 8 (1)) For Immovable Property
The Understanding being the Authorised officer of the Canara Bank Under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, in exercise of the power conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issues a demand notice on below mentioned date to the following Borrowers/Guarantors, calling upon them to repay the amount mentioned in the respective Notice with in 60 days from the date of receipt of said notices. The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, Notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on dates mentioned below, the borrowers/Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the properties will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank, for an amount herein below mentioned & Interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provision of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
Name and Address of Borrower/Property owner Outstanding Amount (Rs.) Description of the Property
Branch : Canara Bank, Morar, Gwalior Ph. 89899-92559, E-mail : cb5677@canarabank.com
Borrower- M/s Bhadoria Traders Rs. 19,56,050.78/-
Add: Duraga Colony Birlanagar, Gwalior + Interest and Other Expenses - Recovery
Gird, Gwalior (M.P), Pin: 474005
Prop. Priyanka Bhadoria W/o Bhanu Pratap Bhadoria Demand Notice: 05.06.2024
Add: Duraga Colony Birlanagar, Gwalior Possession Date : 14.08.2024
Gird, Gwalior (M.P), Pin: 474005
Guarantor- Sh. Bhanu Pratap Bhadoria S/o Sh. Mangal Singh Bhadoria
Add: Duraga Colony, Birlanagar, Gwalior Gird, Gwalior (M.P), Pin: 474005
Place: Gwalior Date : 16/08/2024 AUTHORISED OFFICER CANARA BANK
Property Owner : Priyanka Bhadoria
W/o Bhanu Pratap Bhadoria-Immovable Property : Situated At Plot No 7 & 8, Block A Part Of Survey No. 392 Of Village Manpur Gird, Municipal Ward No 06, Patwari Haika No 56, Area 2800 Sqft Situated At Guru Kripa Vihar, Phase-II, Village Manpur Gird Dist Gwalior (M.P), Area-2800. Sq Ft.
Boundaries - East-Way, West-Plot No. 28 & 29, North-Plot No. 9, South-Plot No. 6

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE
ICICI Home Finance
Registered Office: ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra-Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai-400051.
Corporate Office: ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri Kuria Road, J.B. Nagar, Andheri (E), Mumbai-400 059.
Branch Office : Upper Ground Floor, Z-18, M.P. Nagar, Zone -1, Near AT Miracles Hospital, Bhopal (M.P.) Pin Code -462011
Whereas
The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.
As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Home Finance Company Limited.
The above-mentioned borrowers/s/guarantors(s) are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under the Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.
Date : 17.08.2024 | Place : BHOPAL
Authorised Officer, ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower / Co-Borrower / Loan Account Number	Description of property / Date of Possession	Date of Demand Notice / Amount in Demand Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Chhote Ram Shetya (Borrower), Sushma Bai (Co-Borrower), NHVID0000030222.	Gram Behlot Ph.No 24 Gram Panchayat Hardukheddi Ararij No 31/24 Teh And Block Basoda Dist Vidisha Ganj Basoda Ganj Basoda-464221. Bounded By- North: Land of Seller, South: Land of Seller, East: Land of Seller, West: Rasta. Date of Possession : 13-Aug-24	04-08-2022 Rs. 159900	Bhopal -B
2.	Chhote Ram Shetya (Borrower), Sushma Bai (Co-Borrower), NHVID0000030222.	Gram Behlot Ph.No 24 Gram Panchayat Hardukheddi Ararij No 31/24 Teh And Block Basoda Dist Vidisha Ganj Basoda Ganj Basoda- 464221. Bounded By- North: Land of Seller, South: Land of Seller, East: Land of Seller, West: Rasta. Date of Possession : 13-Aug-24	04-08-2022 Rs. 1170102	Bhopal -B

बँक ऑफ बडोदा Bank of Baroda
Regional Stressed Asset Recovery Branch, Gau Mata Chowk, Wright Town, Beside Johri Hospital, Jabalpur- 482002
Phone - +91-761-2409255, Email - sarjab@bankofbaroda.com
AUCTIONING OF GOLD ORNAMENTS
The under mentioned persons are hereby informed that they have failed to pay off the liability in the loan accounts. Notices sent to them by Registered Post. They are therefore requested to pay off the liability and other charges and redeem the pledged securities on or before 20/08/2024, failing which the said securities will be sold by the Bank in public auction at the cost of the borrower at the Bank's premises at 2:00 pm on 20/08/2024 or on any other convenient date thereafter without further notice at the absolute discretion of the Bank.
SN Branch Name Date of Loan Loan Number Name & address of the borrower
1 Kareli Branch Narsinghpur 17/03/2018 38980600000516 Mr. Deepanshu Pathak S/o Mr. Jay Prakash Pathak
05/04/2018 38980500000487 ADD :- Vill Basadehi, Post Kodsia, Kareli, Distt Narsinghpur (M.P.) 487221
22/02/2019 38980600000649
18/09/2019 38980500000788
22/02/2019 38980600000650
Date : 17/08/2024
Authorised Officer, Bank of Baroda

Hindenburg allegations: Dhankhar takes jibe at Rahul

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

In an apparent attack on Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Friday expressed concern that a person holding a constitutional position is asking the Supreme Court to take suo-moto cognisance to give wings to a 'narrative aimed at destroying our economy'.



Joint Masters/LLM degree in IP Law and Management at National Law University, Delhi, the Vice President without naming anyone said, 'Last week, I got extremely worried when a person holding a constitutional position beseeched the Supreme Court to suo-moto invoke jurisdiction to give wings to a narrative aimed at destroying our economy.'

partisan or self-interest above that of our nation. We cannot allow it. If it happens, it is at the cost of our rise. You are law students, I will leave two thoughts with you. One, scratch your brains and find out. Jurisdiction of institution is defined by the Indian Constitution, be it legislature, be it executive, be it judiciary. Jurisdiction of courts is decided.'

moto cognisance even once? Has a remedy been created beyond what is provided in the Constitution? The Constitution provides original jurisdiction, appellate jurisdiction. It provides review also. But we have curative! If you do not focus on these nuances, I wonder who shall do it. Think about it,' he said. Rahul Gandhi had also attacked Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the issue, saying it is now abundantly clear why he is so afraid' of a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) probe. The Congress had said the Supreme Court should take suo moto cognisance of the 'entire scam' and investigate it under its aegis because here the investigating agency SEBI itself is accused of being involved in it.

8 years after demonetisation, counterfeit notes have become rife again: Cong



number of counterfeit notes detected has fallen, this is an eyewash. Counterfeiting has just moved rapidly to higher-value notes, including those that were introduced specifically in the aftermath of demonetisation, Ramesh said in a social media post.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

The Congress on Friday claimed the counterfeit notes have become rife once again and termed as an 'eyewash' the Government's assertion that the overall number of counterfeit notes detected has fallen. The Opposition party also claimed that counterfeiting has just moved rapidly to higher-value notes. Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh asked what has the 2016 demonetisation achieved if neither black money nor counterfeiting has been curbed. 'Eight years after the non-biological PM grounded the economy to a halt through demonetisation, it appears that counterfeit notes have become rife once again.'

'This admission of increased counterfeiting comes shortly after the non-biological PM himself made a stunning admission of the widespread prevalence of black money during the election campaign, accusing his favourites A1 and A2 of bearing tempos and sacks full of black money,' he said. If neither black money nor counterfeiting has been curbed, what has demonetisation achieved, Ramesh asked. The Congress Leader posted a screenshot of a Rajya Sabha question reply by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary which stated that measures have resulted in a decrease in the number of pieces of denomination-wise counterfeit notes detected / reported in the banking system from 3,17,384 in the year 2018-19 to 2,22,639 in the year 2023-24. Ramesh also posted a media report, which cited data submitted to Parliament by the Government to point out that the new series of the Rs 500 note and the Rs 2,000 note -- both introduced after demonetisation in 2016 -- together account for just over 50 per cent of the number of counterfeit currency notes that have been detected.

ISRO's successful launch of SSLV lauded

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday lauded the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s successful launch of Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) and described it as a matter of immense joy. 'A remarkable milestone! Congratulations to our scientists and industry for this feat. It is a matter of immense joy that India now has a new launch vehicle. The cost-effective SSLV will play an important role in space missions and will also encourage private industry. My best wishes to @isro, @INSPACeIND, @NSIL_India and the entire space industry,' Modi said in a social media post. The ISRO successfully launched its third and final developmental flight of Small Satellite Launch Vehicle here on Friday whose payloads can be used in applications like satellite-based surveillance, disaster and environmental monitoring, fire detection, volcanic activity among others. The flight-LV-D3- would also pave the way for the industry to collaborate with ISRO's commercial arm NewSpace India Ltd for taking up launches using the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle.



Home Minister Amit Shah congratulated the ISRO saying this will enhance the sustainability of the earth by facilitating environmental monitoring and disaster management. 'Congratulations to @isro on the launch of SSLV-D3. This will enhance the sustainability of the Earth by facilitating environmental monitoring and disaster management. It is a testament to Bharat's commitment to humanity under the leadership of PM Shri @narendramodi ji,' Shah said in a social media post.

Naqvi bats for Uniform Civil Code

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

Barring for a uniform civil code, former Minister for Minority Affairs and BJP Leader Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi on Friday said there is a need to remain 'cautious' about the 'conspiracy of communal confusion' on a 'secular civil code'. Naqvi said for the last 75 years, India has been waiting for the constitutional guidelines of uniform secular civil code to become a reality but every time this 'inclusive reform has been a victim of communal castigation'. Asked about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's strong pitch for a 'secular civil code', Naqvi said stalwart Leaders in the Constituent Assembly, including BR Ambedkar, were in favour of a uniform secular civil code but 'communal confusion' by some people, with a 'prejudiced mindset, hijacked the constitutional commitment' and the uniform civil code remained a part of the directive principles of state policy. Naqvi said the nation's mood is for making secular uniform civil code free from 'communal confinement.' The secular civil code is the need of the hour for betterment of 'mulk, mazhab and manavta' (country, religion and humanity), he said. Asked about the row over Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi's seat at the Independence Day celebrations at the Red Fort, Naqvi said the Congress should come out of feudal arrogance and stop their 'ruckus over row'. 'The Congress should avoid political commotion on national celebration,' he said.

President, PM pay tributes to Vajpayee on death anniversary

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi paid tributes to former Prime Minister and BJP stalwart Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his death anniversary on Friday. They were joined by other dignitaries, including Union Ministers, and Leaders from different parties in paying homage to Vajpayee at his memorial 'Sadaiva Atal' here. In his tribute, on social media Modi said, 'He is remembered by countless people for his unparalleled contribution to nation-building. He devoted his entire life towards ensuring that our fellow citizens lead a better quality of life. We will keep working to fulfill his vision for India.' A widely-respected politician acknowledged as among the finest orators, Vajpayee played a crucial role in drawing allies for his party in the coalition era of the '90s and became the first Prime Minister from the BJP. His stewardship of the country between 1998-2004 is known for reforms and boost to infrastructure sectors. He passed away in 2018 at the age of 93 years.



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Tech, social media bad for kids; arts, crafts good for mental health: Research

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

If excessive time spent on Technology and social media can hinder children from forming meaningful connections, engaging in arts and crafts may be crucial in combating mental health problems affecting millions globally. These findings, from two recent studies, underscore the importance of protecting tender minds from the negative health impacts of technology while highlighting the benefits of creative activities for mental well-being. Dr Helen Keyes of Anglia Ruskin University in the UK, the lead author of the study highlighted that crafting's positive effects on well-being were more significant than those of employment. The study delved into the meaningful impact of crafting, noting that its positive effects on well-being were more significant than those of employment. The research found that participation in creative activities significantly enhances life satisfaction, happiness, and the belief that life is worthwhile, suggesting that arts and crafts could play a key role in promoting public mental health. 'Crafting provides a sense of achievement and a meaningful route to self-expression, which is not always the case with employment,' she explained. The study evaluated public engagement with various cultural, digital, and sporting activities, controlling for variables such as gender, age, health, employment status, and deprivation levels to assess the general impact of creative arts on well-being. Participants reported higher levels of happiness and life satisfaction, as well as a stronger sense that life is worthwhile, comparable to the benefits of being employed. However, the study did not find a link between crafting and reduced loneliness, potentially due to the solitary nature of some crafts. Dr Keyes emphasised the potential for governments and health services to fund and promote crafting as part of a broader approach to enhancing public well-being. Another study based on a survey of 1,146 parents, revealed concerns over children's technology use, with 50 per cent worried about excessive screen time, 30 per cent about bullying, and 22 per cent about the social impact of the pandemic.

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Army Chief felicitates Army sportspersons for Olympics feat

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi on Friday here felicitated Indian Army sportspersons for their remarkable accomplishments at the Paris Olympics 2024. The ceremony was held at South Block and was not just an occasion to celebrate the achievements but also to acknowledge the pivotal role the Indian Army has played in nurturing sporting talent in the nation. The Indian contingent clinched a total of six medals (one silver and five bronze) at the Paris Olympics, with Subedar Major Neeraj Chopra of the Indian Army winning the only silver medal in Javelin for India. This exemplary performance has etched itself as one of the most remarkable displays of the Indian Army at the Olympic Games. Major highlights of the performance by Indian Army Personnel include Neeraj Chopra - Silver Medal, Subedar Bommandevara Dhiraj in Archery (Recurve) - 4th Position. As India prepares to bid for the hosting of 2036 International Olympics, the Indian Army has been playing a pivotal role in fostering Olympic excellence. In a significant move, the Indian Army established its Mission Olympic Wing (MOW) in 2001, dedicated to identifying and nurturing sporting talent. To further empower the youth and propel them towards global excellence, the Indian Army has set up two Girls Sports Companies and 18 Boys Sports Companies. These initiatives aim to provide a platform for young athletes to hone their skills, build their confidence, and compete at the highest level. Army Chief expressed profound pride in the incredible achievements of the Army's sportspersons. Their discipline, perseverance, and dedication symbolise the core values of the Indian Army. He expressed confidence that the Indian Army sportspersons would continue their quest for excellence and achieve greater heights in the coming days.



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Malayalam movie Aattam bags best feature film award

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

Regional cinema dominated the National Film Awards announced on Friday with best feature film going to Malayalam movie 'Aattam: The Play' and Rishabh Shetty bagging best actor for the Kannada hit 'Kantara'.



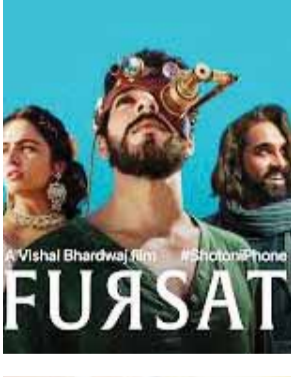
The best actress prize was shared by Nithya Menen, for the Tamil film 'Thiruchitrambalam', and Manasi Parekh for the Gujarati movie 'Kutch Express'. The lone Bollywood presence in the top categories for the 70th edition of the national awards was 'Uunchai' with Sooraj R Barjatya named best director. The adventure film, centred on four aging friends readying to scale Mt Everest, also won Neena Gupta a best supporting actress prize. 'It is yet to sink in. I've got two National Awards in the past and I'm getting another National award after many many years, it's a big thing for me,' Gupta, who bagged awards for the non-feature 'Bazar Sitaram' in 1993 and for 'Woh Chokri' in 1994, told PTI. A big winner in the awards for 2022 was the Haryanvi film 'Fouja', which got Pavan Malhotra a best supporting actor and won two other awards -- best debut film of a director for Pramod Kumar and best lyrics to Naushad Sadar Khan. The awards were announced by Rahul Rawail, head of the jury for the feature film segment, and Nila Madhab Panda, who headed the non-feature film category. 'Aattam: The Play', directed by Anand Ekarshi, revolves around a theatre troupe and the changing dynamics after its only woman member



alleges she has been groped by one of the men. The Kannada blockbuster 'Kantara', which explores the intricate connection between humanity and nature through its folklore-based storytelling, was also named in the category for best popular film providing wholesome entertainment. Best actor Shetty plays the dual roles of a father and son. Sharmila Tagore and Manoj Bajpayee starrer 'Gulmohar', a family drama exploring the meaning of family and home, was judged best Hindi film with its director Rahul V Chittela taking home the award for best dialogue writer



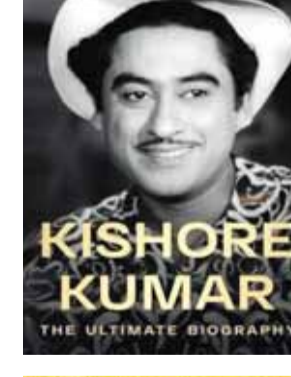
with Arpita Mukherjee. Bajpayee also got a special mention along with music director Sanjoy Salil Chowdhury for Malayalam title 'Kadhikan'. AR Rahman won the National Film Award for best music director (background music) for his work in Mani Ratnam's 'Ponniyin Selvan-Part 1', (songs) for 'Brahmastra-Part 1'. Arijit Singh was named the best male playback singer for the song 'Kesariya' from Ayan Mukerji's 'Brahmastra Part One: Shiva'. The Ranbir Kapoor-Alia Bhatt starrer also bagged the award for best film in AVGC (animation, visual effects, gaming and comic) category.



which was also named the best Tamil film. Pritam got the award for best music director Padma Shri awardee Bombay Jayashri won the award for best female playback singer for the track 'Chaayum Veyil' for 'Saudgi Vellaka CC 225/2009', which also won the best Malayalam film award. Besides the best actress honour for Menen, 'Thiruchitrambalam', a comedy also starring Dhanush, earned the honour for best choreography for Ani Master and Sathish Krishnan. Niki Joshi won the trophy for best costume designer for 'Kutch Express'. Seasoned cinematographer Ravi Varman bagged the best cinematography for Ratnam's 'Ponniyin Selvan', which also took the honour for best sound design for Anand Krishnamoorthi. 'Aattam' won two more awards -- best screenplay (original) for Anand Ekarshi and best editing for Mahesh Bhuvanend. The award for best animation direction (stunt choreography) went to Anbumani and Arivumani, jointly known as Anbariv. The best child artist award went to Sreepath for 'Malikapurram' in Malayalam. From Bengali cinema, 'Aparajito' won the award for best make-up and best production design for Anand Adhya, while best Bengali film went to Kaushik Ganguly's 'Kaberi Antardhan'. The other regional films that won awards include 'Kartikeya 2' (Telugu), 'Baaghi Di Dhee' (Punjabi), 'Daman' (Odia), 'Vaalvi' (Marathi) and 'KGF: Chapter 2' (Kannada). The best Tiwa film award was won by 'Sikaikal'. From the non-feature category, the top honour went to 'Ayna' by director Siddhant Sarin. Filmmaker Vishal Bhardwaj won the best music director for his short film 'Fursat'. 'Just heard about the national award for Fursat. I am deeply happy to get my 9th national award. It's the biggest award of our country. The only one that truly matters. And winning this is the greatest validation of my work! Thank you jury for this. Now I need to strive for a double digit,' the director, who had earlier won the same honour for short film '1232 KMS', said in a statement. The best film critic award went to Deepak Dua. Anirudha Bhattacharjee and Parthiv Dhar won the best book on cinema for 'Kishore Kumar: The Ultimate Biography'.



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70th National Film Awards

'Arbitrary and suspicious': BJP MP on K'taka Govt's decision to snap dealings with SBI, PNB

PTI n BENGALURU

BJP Rajya Sabha member Lahar Singh Siroya on Friday said the Karnataka government's decision to close its accounts with the State Bank of India and Punjab National Bank looked "arbitrary and suspicious" in view of a Rs 187 crore scam in a state-owned corporation through the Union Bank of India.



sector units and universities to withdraw all their deposits and investments in the State Bank of India and the Punjab National Bank and stop any business with these institutions on August 12. The order was reported on August 14.

The BJP MP from Karnataka was referring to the scam in which a former Karnataka Minister B Nagendra was arrested by the Enforcement Directorate and is presently in jail.

Siroya wondered whether a state government could take such a unilateral decision against two nationalised banks and whether or not all the banks are governed by the rules and regulations of the RBI.

ISRO targets first Gaganyaan mission launch by December, says chairman

PTI n SRIHARIKOTA (ANDHRA PRADESH)

ISRO has targeted to launch the first mission of the ambitious Gaganyaan project by December, a top official said here on Friday.



Today's successful mission of LV allows industry to forge a partnership with ISRO for placing satellites into Low Earth Orbit.

expectations from ISRO and how to qualify for such missions," he said. From the interactions held with the industry it emerged there was a huge amount of interest for them to learn about space, he added.

Tension in Maha cities during protest over anti-Hindu violence in Bangladesh

PTI n MUMBAI

Tension erupted in Jalgaon and Nashik cities in north Maharashtra on Friday during a bandh called by a Hindu organisation to condemn the atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh, officials said.

Mumbai. The police resorted to a mild lathi charge after two groups clashed during a bike rally of the Hindu outfit in Nashik, an official said.

BRS on course-correction, wants to learn from other Opp parties in country

PTI n HYDERABAD

After a humiliating defeat in the Assembly and Lok Sabha polls, the BRS is now planning to reinvent itself and also plans to study from other opposition parties in the country to possibly emulate them, the party's working president K T Rama Rao said on Friday.



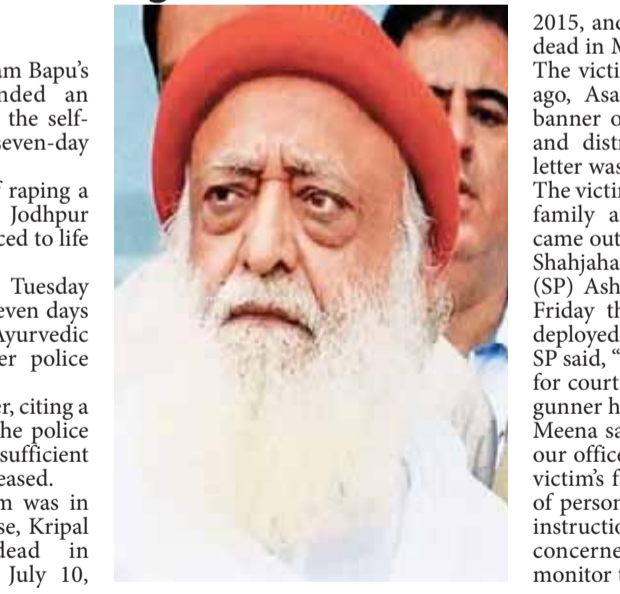
concluded Lok Sabha polls. Bharat Rashtira Samithi (then Telangana Rashtira Samithi) had won nine seats and secured a vote share of 41.71 per cent in the 2019 Parliamentary elections.

of this is important for us to learn from other political parties," he further said. To a query on the Congress Party's allegation that BRS has a "tacit" understanding with BJP, Rao dismissed them saying they are baseless.

Parole of Asaram Bapu: Rape victim's family seeks more security

PTI n SHAHJAHANPUR (UP)

The family members of Asaram Bapu's rape victim have demanded an increase in their security after the self-styled godman was granted a seven-day parole.



2015, and another witness was also shot dead in Muzaffarnagar." The victim's father said that "Four years ago, Asaram's followers had put up a banner of Asaram in Shahjahanpur jail and distributed blankets and a threat letter was also sent to my house."

Renukaswamy murder case: Final report will be submitted to court soon, says top cop

PTI n BENGALURU

Bengaluru Police Commissioner B Dayananda on Friday said the final report in connection with the Renukaswamy murder case in which Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa and others are accused will be submitted to the court by the police at the earliest after getting remaining forensic reports.

The evidence gathered has been sent to Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), Bengaluru, and some electronic devices were sent to Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Hyderabad," Dayananda said.

pending," he added. A court here on Wednesday had extended till August 28 the judicial custody of Darshan and all other accused.

Sad it happened in State where a woman is CM: U'khand Speaker

PTI n DEHRADUN

Uttarakhand Assembly Speaker Ritu Khanduri on Friday condemned the rape and murder of a trainee doctor in West Bengal and said it is "even sadder" that the incident happened in a state governed by a woman chief minister.

allegedly raped and murdered while on duty at a state-run medical college and hospital in Kolkata on August 9. While a civic volunteer was arrested in connection with the crime the next day, the Calcutta High Court ordered the immediate transfer of the probe into the crime to the CBI from the Kolkata Police.

KOLKATA RAPE-MURDER

About reports of atrocities against the Hindu minority in Bangladesh, the Uttarakhand Assembly speaker said it is not right to persecute people because they are in the minority or are weak.

taken into account," she said. Underlining the need for population control, which she claimed would solve many things, Khanduri said, "Population control will be not only for Muslims but for the whole country and it will benefit everyone."

Heavy rainfall is likely in the state from 17 August and clear skies and sunshine will be in most parts during August 17 to 22, the official said.



Downpour in Rajasthan, Bundi's Hindoli records 220 mm rain

PTI n JAIPUR

Heavy rain lashed parts of Rajasthan, including Hindoli in the Bundi district where the rainfall levels exceeded the 200-mm mark. Some places in Jaipur, Dausa, Baran, Nagaur, Jodhpur, Bikaner, Pali and Sawai Madhopur districts witnessed heavy rainfall. Meanwhile, extremely heavy rain was recorded at some places in Ajmer and Bundi districts during the last 24 hours.



PM roots for women safety


PM calls for strictest punishment for crimes against women amidst protests over rape and murder of resident doctor

The streets of Kolkata have erupted in widespread protests following the heinous rape and murder of a young resident doctor, a crime that has left the entire nation in shock and sorrow. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has expressed his firm stance on the issue, calling for the strictest possible punishment for those involved in crimes against women. The victim, a 28-year-old resident doctor at a prominent Kolkata hospital, was found murdered under gruesome circumstances after being raped. The brutal crime has triggered widespread anger, as doctors, students, and activists have taken to the streets to demand swift and severe action against the perpetrators. Placards reading "Justice for our sister" and "Stop violence against women" are being carried by hundreds of protesters across the city, while candlelight vigils continue to spread across the nation. The medical community, in particular, has expressed its fury, with many health professionals going on strike, calling for stronger protection and justice for female healthcare workers, who often face threats and harassment in the course of their duties.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in response to the national outrage, has unequivocally condemned the horrific crime. In his address to the nation on Independence Day, he emphasised the government's commitment to ensuring the safety of women in the country. Modi reiterated his stance that there must be zero tolerance for crimes against women, and perpetrators should face the most stringent punishment under the law. But it is not that we do not have strict laws for crime against women but the problem is their execution. The new amendments to criminal laws have additional features to expedite such cases. The new provisions include the death penalty for rape, video recording of crime scenes, and a witness protection program, etc. All of which could prove to help resolve such cases. However, only time will reveal how effectively these measures will be implemented on the ground and the guilty punished speedily. Women's safety has been a recurring concern in India, and incidents like this continue to raise questions about the effectiveness of existing laws and preventive measures. The Prime Minister's call for the strictest punishment has been widely welcomed, but it remains to be seen how these words will translate into concrete legal reforms. However, having laws is one thing and reforming the society is quite another. The attitude of society towards women must change. Most cases go unreported as the victims are often blamed by society; questions like 'why were you there?', 'what were you wearing?' and so on are posed to her to hold her responsible. The process becomes punishment and the victim has to live with the stigma for the rest of her life. The nation now awaits justice—not just for one young doctor, but for all the women who have suffered in silence.

PICTALK



Artists perform at Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Independence Day in Jaipur

Terrorism resurges amid shifts in strategy



SUDHIR HINDWAN

With militants shifting their focus to Jammu and adopting more aggressive strategies, concerns over national security are once again at the forefront

The recent terrorist attack on Army Captain Deepak Singh, tragically killed a day before India's 78th Independence Day, must be condemned unequivocally. This act of violence, along with the discovery that at least three terrorists were hiding in the Doda district of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), underscores the persistence of militant activities in the region. Unfortunately, this incident is not an isolated one but a continuation of the long-standing saga of terrorism in J&K. Recent attacks in Jammu indicate a significant shift in terrorist activities due to several factors.

Firstly, terrorists want to send a message that despite the abrogation of Article 370 and the central government's commendable efforts, the situation in J&K remains unstable. Secondly, Jammu's vast forest areas provide an ideal base for militants to launch guerrilla attacks and evade security forces. Thirdly, the improved law and order situation in Kashmir has led to a shift in insurgent focus toward Jammu. Lastly, while terrorism in the region had been suppressed for a time, it has not been eradicated, and militants are now re-emerging with increased vigor. J&K has long been a target of insurgents. Over the years, numerous terrorist attacks in areas like Sopore, Budgam, and Dooru Shahbad have raised serious concerns for security agencies. What is particularly alarming about the recent upsurge is the shift in strategy. Terrorists are no longer just targeting the military and police but are also attacking civilians, indicating their desperation to gain attention. Additionally, there has been no respite between these attacks, as militants seem relentless in their mission of destruction. Unlike in the past, Jammu has now become the epicenter of this terror onslaught due to its proximity to the border. Religion has once again resurfaced as a significant motivating factor for terrorists. The primary goal of these terrorists is to destabilize the region and create a vulnerable atmosphere. The involvement of a neighboring country with a hidden agen-



da cannot be ruled out. For many militants, terrorism provides a livelihood, with individuals willing to sacrifice their lives for monetary compensation. Ajmal Kasab, the infamous terrorist involved in the 2008 Mumbai attacks, is one such example of someone misled into committing heinous acts in exchange for money. Despite efforts by the central government to address the issue through dialogues with Pakistan and engaging with separatists, insurgent activities continue unabated. Policymakers must recognize that terrorism directly impacts the nation's well-being. Anti-terrorism policies must be flexible and responsive to changing threats, utilizing the latest recommendations and technologies to ensure security. Today's terrorists are far more organized and professional than those from a decade ago. Although new security measures have been implemented, the threat remains unpredictable. The region's geography provides an ideal base for guerrilla activities, and the militants have become more sophisticated in their strategies, acquiring advanced weapons from across the border. Their use of automatic weapons, grenades, and low-intensity bombs demonstrates meticulous planning and execution. This modern breed of terrorists no longer hides in the

shadows. They openly attack, targeting financial hubs and other vital locations, as seen in recent global terror incidents. Terrorists exploit advances in transportation and weaponry to expand their networks. Suicide squads, in particular, have shocked the security apparatus with their boldness and brutality. Terrorists meticulously plan their attacks, aiming to inspire fear and manipulate the public to achieve their objectives. In his famous work, "Why Men Rebel," Ted Robert Gurr argues that people driven by intense motivation toward a goal often resort to violence. This is evident in modern terrorism, where militants see their acts as justified sacrifices for a cause. William Henry also noted that some politically motivated acts of terrorism are so deeply rooted in commitment that no sanctions can deter them. International experts like Professor Yonah Alexander have analyzed the evolution of terrorism. Modern terrorists differ from their predecessors in their use of technology and tactics. Small, sophisticated groups now employ increasingly violent methods to create a psychological impact, aiming to instill fear in the public and force governments to react. The ultimate goal of terrorism is psychological, not practical. Terrorists seek to alter behavior and bring about societal or

governmental changes through fear. There is an urgent need for preventive measures to address the grievances fueling terrorism, improved security strategies, and an understanding of the social and cultural factors driving people to insurgency. Effective counter-terrorism efforts require not just government action but also community involvement. Citizens can play a critical role in improving security by cooperating with law enforcement agencies. Beyond strict anti-terrorism laws, programs aimed at addressing the root causes of terrorism, such as poverty and lack of education, are essential. Several nations have taken steps to combat state-sponsored terrorism, including economic sanctions, but consensus remains elusive at both the national and international levels. The nexus between drug smuggling and terrorism further complicates matters. To address this, judicial procedures must be streamlined to ensure speedy trials for those involved in drug trafficking and terrorism. India, in particular, can learn valuable lessons from the counter-terrorism efforts of other nations, such as the United States, which has effectively prevented major terrorist attacks since 9/11. (The author, a recipient of the Bharat Gaurav award, is a professor and expert on strategic affairs; views are personal)



THE ULTIMATE GOAL OF TERRORISM IS PSYCHOLOGICAL. TERRORISTS SEEK TO ALTER BEHAVIOR AND BRING ABOUT SOCIETAL OR GOVERNMENTAL CHANGES THROUGH FEAR

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TUNGABHADRA DAM BREACHED

Madam — Tungabhadra dam crest gate has swept away in the water after its chain link snapped. The ancient name of the river Tungabhadra was Pampa. In the epic Ramayana also, this river was called by name Pampa. Construction of the dam started in 1949 and completed in 1953 is said to be irrigating 12 lakh acres of land. It is more than 70 years since the dam was dedicated to the nation. The fall of 19th crest gate has led to the release of over 1 lakh cusecs of water into the river. By the time the new gate is fixed, much more water will be lost to the river. It is said that the water level has to be brought down to 60 cmft for installing new gate. This incident must open the eyes of all the riparian states to inspect the dams which have been built decades ago. It goes without saying that like any other national asset, the dams have also their own life. Dams always face water pressure and it would be too high during the rainy season when the rivers carry unprecedented quantity of water. Any laxity shown in the proper maintenance of dams reduces the life of dams. It is said that the crest gate swept away during midnight. Had it happened during day time, there would have been the possibility of people and animals falling victims to the sudden gushing of water. Former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has blamed the state government for ignoring the recommendations of the dam committee that came from centre. If it is true that the state government has not taken seriously the recommendations of the committee, the state government must accept the blame.

KV Seetharamaih | Bengaluru

DISAPPOINTING VERDICT

Madam — It is both sad and disappointing that the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) has dismissed Vinesh Phogat's appeal to be declared a joint silver medalist, despite her convincing vic-

Independence Day pledge



The editorial, 'Happy independence day' (15-8-24) presents a positive note and it is welcome. India has marched ahead from a scrap level to the level of this day. Right from the day the country got freedom a lot of committed efforts have been put in by successive governments. There is no scope for any individual or a particular party to claim credit. However, independence day is a day to identify the important tasks and

commit to achieve them with all sincerity and nationalist spirit. The crucial task before the country is not owning a space station but providing employment to the educated youth who are longing for a job, providing a viable livelihood for the 81.35 crore poor who are depending on free rations, provide easy access to the poor avail quality education and healthcare. If these tasks are attended to the rest of the developments will happen on their own. The development we are trying to glorify now is creating billionaires on one hand and forcing the poor mass and the middle class sections to keep on tightening their belts. Continuing this trend carries the potential of landing the country in a social and economic crisis. On this day we should also take pledge to improve the country's ranking in global indexes like hunger index, malnutrition, freedom of expression etc.

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

ories. After winning three bouts against top athletes from Ukraine, Japan, and Cuba, Phogat's weight increased slightly after taking refreshments to recover. Despite her efforts to reduce her weight through exercise and even trimming her hair, she missed the limit by just 100 grams. According to Rule 11 of the United World Wrestling (UWW), athletes must weigh in daily, and failure to meet the weight results in disqualification and forfeiture of previous wins. This rule, however, contradicts the Olympic Charter, which encourages the support of women athletes (Bylaws 2.8 and 2.10) and promotes their health and well-being (Bylaw 2.18). The back-to-back scheduling of bouts, without adequate recovery time, led to Phogat's physical exhaustion, violating these principles. If the UWW rule were consistent with the Olympic Charter, her disqualification would not have occurred. Phogat's plea to be recognized as a joint silver medalist is justified, given her previous

performance and the fact that her disqualification was a result of an unfair rule.

Gopalswamy J | Chennai

RESPECT THE NATIONAL FLAG

Madam — On August 15, all Indians celebrate by singing patriotic songs, posting quotations on social media, and staging emotional plays to instill patriotism in young minds. However, the enthusiasm often wanes the next day. Selling flags made of paper and plastic, only to have them treated disrespectfully, is wrong. This disrespect must cease. Our focus should shift to the country's needs beyond just one-day celebrations and songs. Though an individual can't change the entire system, collective efforts can. After so many sacrifices by our great leaders, we must question if we're truly an independent nation or only in name.

Md Imadaullah | Muzaffarpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

How to make disaster relief truly effective

While people across the nation have come together to help, challenge remains in ensuring that assistance truly reaches those in need

The jury is still out on whether the recent landslides in Wayanad is a result of human callousness or nature's own waywardness. Two weeks after the deluge, there is still no confirmed count of lives lost. Survivors and search teams are continuing to sift through the debris to find remains of those swept away. With everything lost, scores are staring at the challenge of finding some means to take life forward. Monsoon doesn't evoke tender sentiments of love and romance any longer. It now denotes death and destruction. It shows how hapless man is before fate and it also bears testimony to human resilience in the face of catastrophe.

An appeal was made to the public to avoid sending vegetables and bread, and chiefly clothes, and instead dispatch other essentials. It was misconstrued by a segment of people and sent wrong signals that the hundreds who had taken shelter in relief camps did not need help anymore as much of it was languishing in the collection centres. Nothing could be further from the



to perishables that cannot be used optimally. A social media post showed volunteers grappling with heaps of material that reflected collective compassion and magnanimity, but also underlined the difficulty of harnessing people's largesse effectively.

There is also scepticism with regard to monetary help: trust is lacking and not many believe that the funds are allocated rightly and to the needy because there are no means to trace the money

trail. That a lot of cash gets siphoned off is the public perception. Given this, how do good-natured people who are willing to lend a helping hand to the afflicted make a contribution? What is a trusted channel? It is hard to say with certainty, but the only choice we have is to trust the people who take up such endeavours or be part of volunteer groups that initiates such action. It is indeed a shame that some devious minds take advantage of this opportunity to make a quick buck and instances of wrongdoing are not unheard of. But at the end of the day, it is one person's misery meeting another person's magnanimity. Creating safe and guaranteed channels of help and support will make more people come forward to restore the lives of those affected. The onus of winning public trust through transparency lies with community leaders, politicians and philanthropists. Even the kindest thoughts and action can go to waste if they are not done with discretion. (The author is a Dubai-based columnist writing coach; views are personal)



ASHA IYER KUMAR



FIRST COLUMN

THE DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD OF ARROGANCE

Arrogance can lead to both greatness and self-destruction. The key lies in mastering it



RAVI VALLURI

Our mythology (particularly The Ramayana and The Mahabharata) is brimming with several well-stocked illustrations in respect of characters plagued with hubris, hurtling them down to their nemesis. We are aware of the conceited Ravana and the unbridled ambitions of Duryodhana. An angry and arrogant mind gets blurred and smudges the vision of an individual. Consequently, he behaves in a groundless manner, which has calamitous and baleful consequences for the person and those in his companionship. Is it possible to associate with such individuals who are prone to filibustering and arrogance?

The answer is an emphatic NO since there is no dialogue, only a monologue or a harangue by the self-conceited person. This drains our energy levels, a situation we would like to circumvent to save ourselves and our minds. The human mind assumes unnatural patterns and behaves in a volatile manner. A volcano of anger and arrogance erupts unexpectedly. Such individuals are veritable prisoners of their image, which is conceited and egotist. Mike Tyson, who earned epithets like Iron Mike, the Baddest Man on the Planet and Kid Dynamite outside the Ring, was convicted of rape and consuming marijuana and suffered from bipolar disorder.

He has had several brushes with the law. Tyson strongly felt that he was stigmatised by American society and that US society has not been constructed on the principles of justice, but on rape, grime, slavery, and injustice. He married thrice, besides various dalliances and philandering. He underwent reformation. He was proselytised and sought refuge in 'Allah'.



He converted the raw energy of anger and arrogance in the boxing ring where he was extremely successful. The mythological figures mentioned earlier, who were victims of anger and arrogance, bore bruised egos resulting from bruised feelings and emotions, alongside a deep sense of hurt and resentment. Ravana lusted after Sita and felt slighted that his sister Surpanakha was cold-shouldered and disfigured by Lakshmana. All his life Karno bore the cross of being called a shudra, his many talents, and abilities notwithstanding. Duryodhana remained perpetually infantile, given to juvenile behaviour.

Besides, he was under the delusion that the powers that be of Hastinapur would have never agreed to his accession after his father Dhritarashtra abdicated the throne. The feelings of hurt, playing a victim, jealousy, and injury, get metamorphosed in such personalities into deep-seated vexation and anger, leading to false bravado and arrogance.

The anger and arrogance get vitiated into negative thoughts, leading to self-destruction under the strain of self-delusion. However strange it may appear, there is a flip side at the end of the spectrum, where individuals have deployed emotions of anger and arrogance to become achievers. "Anybody can become angry—that is easy, but to be angry with the right person and to the right degree and at the right time and for the right purpose and in the right way—that is not within everybody's power and is not easy," wrote Aristotle.

Who does not miss the swagger of Vivian Richards, and the ferocity of the pace of Dennis Lillee and Thomson? Several politicians, industrialists, writers, artists, kings and monarchs could channelise this energy of anger and arrogance to become highly victorious and triumphant. "To be a tennis champion, you must be inflexible, you must be stubborn, you must be arrogant, and you must be selfish and self-absorbed. Kind of tunnel vision almost," says Chris Evert. Therefore, arrogance is a double-edged sword. Often it subsumes the personalities to self-destruction as they lack the power of self-discrimination and self-examination, thus becoming victims of guilt and persecution complex.

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

Afghanistan's struggle after the US withdrawal



NILANTHA LANGAMUWA

As Afghanistan observes the third anniversary of the contentious US withdrawal, the country continues to face upheaval, struggling with a severe humanitarian crisis under Taliban

Experts from the United Nations have issued a statement regarding the situation in Afghanistan, commemorating three years since the United States and its allies' shameless and disgraceful withdrawal, betraying the Afghan people. Based on historical patterns, this represents yet another instance of a nation being abandoned, leaving its people in a dire state while the US and its proxies maintain indirect control. The irony is striking: the very group once branded as terrorists by the West is now, paradoxically, expected to govern, despite having been considered freedom fighters not long ago. The UN experts express grave concern over ongoing human rights violations under the Taliban regime, highlighting systemic discrimination, segregation, and severe marginalisation of women and girls.

As we confront three years of this precarious status quo, it is evident that isolationism is inadequate. The international community must seek effective engagement strategies to address the complex realities in Afghanistan, moving beyond mere diplomatic or punitive measures. In this context, it is crucial to reassess Afghanistan's historical trajectory, where the land has been used as an instrument by powerful actors, often at the expense of one of the most vibrant and resilient human communities. In the aftermath of the September 2001 attacks, the world bore a heavy cost as the United States' 'war on terror' led to the deaths of over a million unarmed civilians in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan, ostensibly in pursuit of justice for the three thousand lost lives. This tragic toll exposes the brutal reality of US foreign policy, which relies on organised violence against perceived threats to its dominance, highlighting the need for a significant realignment. The disgraceful withdrawal from Afghanistan, marked by the abandonment of billions of dollars worth of weapons, exemplifies the catastrophic failure of this approach.

Meanwhile, a recent UNICEF report reveals the severe mental health crisis afflicting Afghan children, with over 24 per cent suffering from anxiety—ten times the global average—and 15 per cent battling depression, underscoring the profound psychological trauma inflicted by the ongoing conflict. Western civilisation often positions itself as the pinnacle of human development, a hubris that has led to immense destruction. The US's quest for global dominance sowed the seeds of terrorism; groups now labelled as terrorists, such as the Afghan Mujahideen, were initially supported by the US through covert operations like Operation Cyclone, with British intelligence aiding in what became one of the most costly US operations. During the Cold War, the US, in its zeal to counter Soviet influence, allied with any force against the USSR, turning a blind eye to human rights and legal norms. While seeking to replicate the Soviet Union's Vietnam misstep, the US supported the Mujahideen in Afghanistan via Pakistan. In 1987, President Reagan praised Mujahideen's progress and promised ongoing support for a free Afghanistan.

Yet, subsequent US actions revealed stark hypocrisy and a readiness to use ruthless tactics for political advantage. The Afghan crisis offers crucial insights into global power dynamics. Understanding the Soviet invasion requires recognising its complex



background and the rise and fall of Afghanistan's communist regime from 1978 to 1989. The communist ideology, as practised under Stalin, evolved into a form of tribal feudalism, which some in Afghanistan found more appealing than Western market economies.

This alignment facilitated political power for those who exploited socialism for their ends, illustrating how political ideologies can be distorted to serve specific interests, ultimately leading to their downfall. The introduction of communism into Afghanistan profoundly impacted its social structure. Afghanistan, a fragmented region with diverse tribal groups and a mountainous terrain, was ill-suited for a unitary political system. Federalism might have been more effective, but this reality was often overlooked, leading to ongoing violence that the Taliban would inherit. In the 20th century, reformist movements emerged, bringing communist ideologies to Afghanistan. Abdulrahman Mahmudi, an early communist figure, founded the newspaper Nida'-yi-Khalq (Voice of the People) and the Hezb-e Khalq (People's Party) in the late 1940s. Although imprisoned and later dying in 1963, Mahmudi's legacy continued through his family until the 1970s, eventually evolving into a Maoist movement. Prominent leftists like Mir Muhammad Siddique Farhan and Noor Muhammad Taraki also played significant roles, with Taraki becoming a key communist leader after returning from India.

The Afghan monarchy, led by Mohammad Zahir Shah, was overthrown in a coup by his cousin General Mohammad Dawood Khan on July 17, 1973. Dawood established the Republic of

Afghanistan but was ousted in 1978 by leftist leaders Noor Mohammad Taraki, Babrak Karmal, and Hafizullah Amin, following the assassination of Mir Akbar Khyber. Taraki's presidency and Amin's prime ministership attempted significant social reforms, but their rapid implementation in a culturally resistant society led to widespread protests.

The political struggle culminated in a coup by Amin, who ousted Taraki, later reported as dying of an "unknown illness" but suffocated by guards. Key figures in pre-Taliban Afghan politics included Mohammad Zahir Shah, Mohammad Dawood Khan, Mir Akbar Khyber, Noor Mohammad Taraki, and Hafizullah Amin. Mohammad Zahir Shah, king of Afghanistan from 1933 to 1973, oversaw significant social reforms and modernisation efforts. Educated in Kabul and France, Zahir Shah returned to Afghanistan at age 19 and took on various roles within the monarchy. By the early 1960s, he was a respected ruler who embraced democratic principles and established a new parliament, working to modernise Afghanistan and improve living standards. Many nostalgic images of pre-Taliban Afghanistan reflect the successes of his administration.

In 1973, while Zahir Shah was in Italy for eye surgery, his cousin Mohammad Dawood Khan overthrew the government and established a new regime. Zahir Shah spent decades in Italy, during which Afghanistan's progress towards democracy was undone. Dawood's regime, followed by the leadership of Noor Mohammad Taraki and Hafizullah Amin, marked a shift towards Cold War-era conflicts. The assassination of Mir Akbar Khyber, whose killer remains debat-

ed, facilitated Taraki and Amin's rise to power. Taraki's government, which came to power in April 1978, was seen as a new dawn but soon became mired in violence and discord. The administration's failure to address the needs of Afghan refugees and internal dissent led to widespread dissatisfaction. Taraki's efforts to implement rapid social reforms, aimed at expediting the revolution, only intensified internal strife and fuelled extremist opposition, further destabilising the country. In August 1978, Noor Mohammad Taraki, addressing the growing Islamic protest movement, remarked: "From the moment our party assumed power, capitalist and reactionary forces have sought to undermine us using religion as a weapon against our progressive agenda. This tactic is outdated and flawed. These forces, driven by imperialistic agendas, aim to overthrow our government, believing they can succeed swiftly. But we are resilient, and their conspiracies are merely remnants of failed efforts against progressive movements." Taraki's statement reflects the early resistance he faced, which he struggled to address effectively.

Internal strife within his party, particularly with Hafizullah Amin, compounded his challenges. Taraki, who once praised Amin's ambition, soon discovered Amin's dangerous intentions. Despite Taraki's belief that Soviet support would safeguard his power, his political naivety and disregard for social realities created a fertile ground for extremist groups nurtured by Pakistan. This eventually led to Amin's rise and the Soviet intervention. To be continued

(The writer is a journalist and author. Views expressed are personal)



DURING THE COLD WAR, THE US, IN ITS ZEAL TO COUNTER SOVIET INFLUENCE, ALLIED WITH ANY FORCE AGAINST THE USSR, TURNING A BLIND EYE TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND LEGAL NORMS

Brutality against female doctors raises questions on safety in govt hospitals

The brutal assault on a resident doctor in Kolkata has sent shockwaves across the nation raising questions about systemic negligence

In 1973, Aruna Shanbaug, a 25-year-old nurse at Mumbai's KEM Hospital, was brutally assaulted—raped and strangled with a metal dog chain—which left her in a vegetative state for the next 43 years. Five decades later, history has repeated itself with the horrific rape and murder of a 31-year-old resident doctor at Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College. Both crimes occurred within hospital premises, underscoring the vulnerability of female medical staff in supposedly secure environments. The question is inevitable: has the state failed these women—and society—yet again?



RAHUL KAMBLE

disrupted medical services, as they demand justice and action. While a "civic volunteer" was arrested, there is growing suspicion that more individuals were involved in this gruesome crime. What's particularly alarming is that the assailant may have been a regular visitor to the hospital, raising the likelihood that he had prior interactions with the victim. The nature of her injuries, as revealed by the

post-mortem report, suggests that this was not only an act of sexual violence but also one of intense personal vengeance. Crimes of this brutality—especially those involving rape—are not isolated incidents in India. In 2022, the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) reported an average of 90 rapes per day. However, authorities acknowledge that the actual number could be much higher, as many rapes go unreported due to societal taboos. Unofficial estimates suggest that over 100 rapes occur daily in India, with a staggering 80% of them classified as brutal. Despite the shocking frequency of such attacks, society and the state have failed to address the root causes effectively. The 1973 case of Aruna

Shanbaug was a grim precursor to today's epidemic of violence against women. After being raped and left for dead by a ward boy, she remained in a coma for 43 years, lovingly cared for by her colleagues. Her assailant, however, served only seven years in jail. Aruna's case remained in the media spotlight for decades, yet no sweeping reforms were made to improve the safety of female medical staff. Hospitals like RG Kar Medical College continue to lack basic security protocols, leaving women vulnerable to heinous acts of violence. Despite the public outcry that followed Aruna's case, and the more recent protests in Kolkata, most state-run hospitals have not implemented adequate safety measures. The issue of relying on "civic



volunteers" instead of trained security personnel has long been a problem in government-run hospitals. These volunteers are often paid meager wages and supplement their income through unofficial means. Many have political affiliations, which give them a degree of immunity from disciplinary action. Year after year, issues related to hospital safety—such as malfunctioning CCTV cameras, poorly lit areas, and inadequate

security staff—are flagged but seldom addressed. These failures have made doctors, especially women, increasingly vulnerable to attacks. The horrific gang rape of a young woman in Delhi in 2012 led to promises of reforms, yet most of these remain unfulfilled. The Nirbhaya Fund, created in the aftermath of that tragedy to improve women's safety, remains largely underutilized. Between 2013 and 2022, less than half of its allocation was spent. The gap between intentions and outcome remains wide, and women continue to pay the price for this failure. The implementation of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition, and Redressal) Act of 2013 has been half-hearted at best. Women in the

medical profession are especially vulnerable—not only to sexual assault but also to intimidation and violence from patients, hospital staff, colleagues, and even senior faculty. In many government hospitals, security is virtually nonexistent in certain sections, leaving female staff, including doctors and nurses, at the mercy of anyone who wishes them harm. There is a pressing need for the government to regulate security protocols in medical institutions across the country. Promises on paper are insufficient; action must follow. Hospitals must invest in safe lodging for female doctors, and legislation protecting doctors from violence must be passed without delay. The Supreme Court of India, in May 2023,

criticized authorities for failing to ensure a secure workplace for women. Such failures are not just administrative oversights—they are a direct threat to the lives of women in the medical profession. The case in Kolkata, where the city ironically ranked as the safest in India in 2024 according to NCRB data, exposes a troubling disconnect between official statistics and the grim reality on the ground. The tragic deaths of women like Aruna Shanbaug and the young doctor in Kolkata serve as stark reminders that much remains to be done to protect women in India. Their stories should not just be a cause for temporary outrage but a call to action for systemic change. *(The author is a freelance writer, views are personal)*

Parliament elects Thaksin's daughter as Thailand PM

AP n BANGKOK

Thailand's Parliament elected Paetongtarn Shinawatra, the youngest daughter of the divisive former leader Thaksin Shinawatra, as the country's new prime minister Friday. Paetongtarn becomes Thailand's third leader from the Shinawatra family, after her father, who was ousted by coup before returning from exile last year, and her aunt Yingluck Shinawatra, who lives in exile. Paetongtarn also became Thailand's second female prime minister after her aunt and the country's youngest leader at 37. She is the leader of the ruling Pheu Thai party but was not an elected lawmaker, which was not required for her to be a candidate for prime minister. Paetongtarn was the sole nominee and got a majority of the votes in Parliament with the voting ongoing. The last prime minister had been removed by the Constitutional Court two days ago over an ethics violation.



Thaksin is one of Thailand's most popular but divisive political figures and was ousted by a military coup in 2006. He is widely seen as a de facto leader of Pheu Thai, the latest in a string of parties linked to him. His residual popularity and influence is a factor behind the political support for Paetongtarn.

Her public entry into politics came in 2021 when the Pheu Thai party announced she would lead an inclusion advisory committee. She was appointed as leader of Pheu Thai last year, after she was named one of its three prime ministerial candidates ahead of the polls. When Paetongtarn was on the campaign trail for Pheu Thai, she

acknowledged her family ties but insisted she was not just her father's proxy. "It's not the shadow of my dad. I am my dad's daughter, always and forever, but I have my own decisions," she told a reporter. However, her father's shadow is too big to be dismissed and her work will not be easy with him continuing to call political shots for Pheu Thai, said Petra Alderman, a political research fellow at England's University of Birmingham. "Thaksin was a political force to reckon with, but he was also a liability," she said. "He has a tendency to overplay his political hand, so serving in his shadow has never been easy." Paetongtarn's nomination followed the removal of Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin on Wednesday after less than a year in office. The Constitutional Court found him guilty of a serious ethical breach regarding his appointment of a Cabinet member who was jailed in connection with an alleged bribery attempt.

Diplomacy intensifies to halt Israel-Hamas war

AP n JERUSALEM

International diplomacy to prevent the war in Gaza from spreading into a wider regional conflict intensified Friday, with the British and French foreign ministers making a joint trip to Israel while internationally mediated cease-fire talks in Qatar were expected to enter their second day. The new push for an end to the Israel-Hamas war came as the Palestinian death toll in Gaza climbed past 40,000, according to Gaza health authorities, and fears remained high that Iran and Hezbollah militants in Lebanon would attack Israel in retaliation for the killings of top militant leaders. "This is a dangerous moment for the Middle East," British Foreign Secretary David Lammy said. "The risk of the situation spiraling out of control is rising. Any Iranian attack would have devastating consequences for the region." Lammy and French Foreign Minister Stéphane Séjourné were expected to hold a joint meeting with Israeli Foreign Minister Israel Katz and Strategic Affairs Minister Ron Dermer. "It's never too late for peace," Séjourné said. "We must at all costs avoid a regional war, which would have terrible consequences." International mediators believe the best hope for calming tensions would be a deal between Israel and Hamas to halt the fighting and secure the release of Israeli hostages. The United States, Qatar and

Egypt began a new round of talks Thursday, meeting with an Israeli delegation in Qatar. Hamas, which didn't participate directly in Thursday's talks, accuses Israel of adding new demands to a previous proposal that had U.S. and international support and to which Hamas had agreed in principle. Israel accuses Hamas of adding its own new demands. White House National Security spokesperson John Kirby called the talks an important step. He said a lot of work remains given the complexity of the agreement and that negotiators were focusing on its implementation. A U.S. official briefed on Thursday's talks called the discussion "constructive." The official was not authorized to comment publicly and spoke on condition of anonymity. Qatar said the talks would continue Friday. The war began when Hamas-led militants stormed across the heavily guarded border on Oct. 7, killing around 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting 250 to Gaza. More than 100 were released during a weekend ceasefire in November, and around 110 are believed to still be inside Gaza, though Israeli authorities believe around a third of them are dead. Israel's devastating retaliatory offensive has killed 40,005 Palestinians, Gaza's Health Ministry said Thursday, without saying how many were militants. Israel's military spokesperson, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, said Thursday that Israel had

killed more than 17,000 Hamas militants in Gaza in the war, without providing evidence. Diplomats hoped a cease-fire deal would persuade Iran and Lebanon's Hezbollah to hold off on retaliating for the killing of a top Hezbollah commander in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut and of Hamas' top political leader in an explosion in Tehran that was widely blamed on Israel. Kirby said that Iran has made preparations and could attack soon with little to no warning — and that its rhetoric should be taken seriously. The mediators have spent months trying to hammer out a three-phase plan in which Hamas would release the hostages in exchange for a lasting cease-fire, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza and the release of Palestinians imprisoned by Israel. Both sides have agreed in principle to the plan President Joe Biden announced on May 31. But Hamas has proposed amendments and Israel has suggested clarifications, leading each side to accuse the other of trying to tank a deal. Hamas has rejected Israel's demands, which include a lasting military presence along the border with Egypt and a line bisecting Gaza where it would search Palestinians returning to their homes to root out militants. In a reminder of how the violence has spread from Gaza, masked Israeli settlers in the occupied West Bank stormed the village of Jit, setting homes and cars on fire Thursday, Israeli and Palestinian media said.

Hurricane Ernesto targets Bermuda after hitting Puerto Rico

AP n SAN JUAN

Hurricane Ernesto has barreled towards Bermuda after leaving hundreds of thousands of people in Puerto Rico without power or water as sweltering heat enveloped the US territory, raising concerns about people's health. A hurricane warning was in effect for Bermuda, with Ernesto expected to pass near or over the island on Saturday. The Category 1 storm was located about 450 miles (730 kilometres) south-southwest of Bermuda on Thursday afternoon. It had maximum sustained winds of 90 mph (150 kph) and was moving north at 13 mph (20 kph) over open waters. "I cannot stress enough how important it is for every resident to use this time to prepare. We have seen in the past the devastating effects of complacency," said National Security Minister Michael Weeks. Ernesto was forecast to near Category 3 hurricane status on

Friday and then decrease in strength as it approaches Bermuda, where it is expected to drop between 6-12 inches of rain, with up to 15 inches in isolated areas. "All of the guidance show this system as a large hurricane near Bermuda," said the National Hurricane Center in Miami. Ernesto is then expected to pass near or east of Atlantic Canada on Monday. Meanwhile, the spinning storm on Thursday was generating southern winds in Puerto Rico, which have a heating effect as opposed to the typical cooling trade winds that blow from the east. "We know a lot of people don't have power," said Ernesto Morales with the National Weather Service as he warned of extreme heat and urged people to stay hydrated. More than 290,000 of 1.4 million customers remained in the dark Thursday evening, more than a day after Ernesto swiped past Puerto Rico late Tuesday as a tropical storm before strengthen-

ing into a hurricane. A maximum of 735,000 clients were without power on Wednesday. Hundreds of thousands also were without water as many questioned the widespread power outage given that Ernesto was only a tropical storm when it spun past the island. "I haven't slept at all," said Ramón Mercedes Paredes, a 41-year-old construction worker who planned to sleep outdoors on Thursday night to beat the heat. "I haven't even been able to take a shower." At a small park in the Santurce neighbourhood of the San Juan capital, Alexander Reyna, a 32-year-old construction worker, sipped on a bright red sports drink that friends provided as roosters crowed nearby above the slap of dominoes. He had no water or power and planned to spend all day at the park as he lamented the lack of breeze, a slight film of sweat already forming on his forehead: "I have to come here because I cannot stand to be at home."

Kamala Harris will make one hell of a president: Biden

Washington (PTI): US President Joe Biden has said that Kamala Harris will make "one hell of a president" as they appeared together in their first public event since she replaced him as the Democratic Party's presidential nominee. Biden and Harris appeared on Thursday at Prince George's County Community College in Maryland, just outside Washington DC. The Democratic Party event celebrated the Biden administration's newly announced deal to cut the cost of 10 common prescription drugs for millions of Americans. The meeting also offered a glimpse of their dynamic, weeks into a realignment of the party ticket. "I have an incredible partner in the progress we made," President Biden said. "She's going to make one hell of a president," an untethered Biden said, praising his deputy who will be challenging the former president

and the Republican Party's candidate Donald Trump in the November 5 election. Harris, 59, became the first-ever woman of colour to be on the top of a presidential ticket of a major American political party when Biden withdrew from the race for the White House last month and backed her. She is also the first ever Indian American to be nominated as presidential candidate of either the Republican or the Democratic Party. Harris's mother, Shyamala Gopalan, was Indian and her father, Donald Jasper Harris, a Jamaican; both immigrants to the US. During the event, Biden, 81, brought the crowd to their feet multiple times. "There's a lot of love in this room for our president," Harris said. "Few leaders in our nation have done more, on so many issues, including to expand access to affordable health-care, than Joe Biden," she said.

Trump refuses to tone down personal attacks on Harris

PTI n WASHINGTON

Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump has said he is "entitled" to personally attack his Democratic rival Kamala Harris because he doesn't "have a lot of respect for her", as he dismissed calls from allies to refocus his campaign on policy issues in his bid to reclaim the White House. Trump, 78, said he is "angry" at Vice President Harris, 59, over the Biden administration's handling of issues ranging from inflation to immigration. "I don't have a lot of respect for her. I don't have a lot of respect for her intelligence. I think she'll be a terrible president. I think it's very important that we win. And whether the personal attacks are good or bad she certainly attacks me personally," the former president told reporters at his golf club in Bedminster, New Jersey on Thursday. Trump was responding to questions from his party members urging him not to



Republican presidential nominee former President Donald Trump speaks at a news conference at Trump National Golf Club, Thursday in Bedminster, N.J. AP/PTI

make personal attacks on Harris, who is the first woman of colour running for the presidency. "As far as the personal attacks (against Harris), I'm very angry at her because of what she's done to the country. I'm very angry at her that she weaponised the justice system

against me and other people. (I am) very angry at her. I think I'm entitled to personal attacks," he said. "She (Harris) actually called me weird. He's weird, it was just a sound bite, and she called J D (Vance, his running mate) and I weird. He's not large."

China alarmed by US missile system deployed to its North

Manila (AP): China expressed its "very dramatic" alarm over a mid-range missile system that the US military recently deployed to the Philippines, and warned it could destabilise the region. But Manila's top diplomat said Friday he reassured his Chinese counterpart that the weaponry was only in the country temporarily. Philippine Foreign Secretary Enrique Manalo said his Chinese counterpart, Wang Yi, expressed China's concern over the US mid-range missile deployment to the Philippines during their talks last month in Laos on the sidelines of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations meetings with Asian and Western countries. "We discussed it and, well, they made it very dramatic," Manalo said in response to questions during a news conference in Manila.

S African leaders to meet in Zimbabwe amid Mpox, political tensions

AP n HARARE

African leaders will meet in Zimbabwe on Saturday for a scheduled summit of the 16-nation Southern African Development Community that may discuss the rising issue of mpox outbreaks across the continent but is less likely to tackle international concerns about the human rights record of its host. This week, the World Health Organisation declared the mpox outbreaks in Africa a global health emergency. The SADC region includes Congo, which has more than 90 per cent of mpox cases. Mpox has been present in central and West Africa for years, but it has been detected in more than a dozen African countries this year, including some where it was never previously reported. Scientists have also identified a new form of mpox in Congo that might be more infectious. WHO raised concerns it might start to spill over international borders, and Sweden has reported its

first case of the new variant. South Africa's Democratic Alliance party, which is part of the coalition government, has urged South African delegates at the SADC summit to raise the issue of mpox. South Africa and other southern African nations have reported only a few cases, but the Democratic Alliance said Congo's large outbreak "shows just how fast the situation can change". As heads of state or their representatives began arriving for the summit in the Zimbabwean capital, Harare, there was criticism from United Nations human rights figures and other groups over an alleged political crackdown by the government of Zimbabwe, where more than 160 activists and opposition members have been arrested in recent months. On Thursday, the UN's human rights office released a statement on behalf of a range of experts calling for the release of dozens of activists and opposition members who have been jailed. The statement said three

Pakistan reports 3 Mpox cases

Islamabad (PTI): At least three patients with mpox virus have been found so far in Pakistan, it emerged on Friday as the government decided to strengthen the screening system at the airports. The mpox detection in Pakistan is the first in Asia and it might be more easily transmitted. The World Health Organisation has declared the spread of mpox a global health emergency. All three patients belong to the Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province in the northwest, the militancy-whacked region bordering Afghanistan. Salim Khan, the director general of health services for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa said that two patients were

detected on their arrival from the United Arab Emirates, while a third patient's samples had been sent to the National Health Institute in Islamabad for confirmation. According to the spokesperson of the Federal Ministry of Health, the last patient in whom this virus was found belongs to the Mardan district of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa. It is not yet clear which strain of mpox the said patient contracted and whether it is the same variant that was first confirmed outside of Africa in Sweden. "Contact tracing of the affected person has been started and samples of more people are being obtained," the spokesman said. Officials said that all three patients were

being quarantined and their contact tracing was going on. Pakistan's Ministry of Health also issued an advisory on the disease on Thursday, which states that "the screening system at airports and entry points is being further strengthened." Prime Minister's Coordinator for Health Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed Bharath says that federal hospitals have been instructed to take precautionary measures and the Ministry of Health and Border Health Services are "alert to deal with any kind of situation." The WHO declared the outbreak of mpox in parts of Africa as a cause of international concern and a threat to public health. International and Human Rights Watch, over 160 activists have been arrested recently. Many, including a mother and her 1-year-old baby, have been

held in pretrial detention for weeks. Zimbabwe's president, Emmerson Mnangagwa, is set to take over the rotational leadership of SADC, but there has been little diplomatic pressure on the 81-year-old's administration from neighbours in SADC, even though rights groups have alleged he has overseen a crackdown before and since last year's presidential election, where he was reelected for a second term. Ahead of Saturday's summit, Zimbabwe has paved over damaged and potholed roads, planted palm trees along highways and even promised uninterrupted electricity and water supplies for delegates, while Zimbabweans are often hit by blackouts and water cuts. Analysts doubt that regional leaders will step up and use this summit to caution Zimbabwe over its rights record. "They avoid the difficult issues," said Antony Reeler, a Zimbabwean researcher and political analyst.

Many suspects in Pakistan anti-Christian rampage still at large

Multan (Pakistan) (AP): Most of the suspects in a rampage last year against minority Christians in eastern Pakistan over alleged blasphemy are not in custody and authorities have failed to deliver justice to the victims, a human rights group said on Friday. "More than 90 per cent of the suspects of the attack in Jaranwala, in Punjab's Faisalabad district, are still at large," Amnesty International said in a statement on the anniversary of one of Pakistan's worst attacks on Christians, in which churches and homes of Christians were destroyed. The violence erupted after Muslims alleged that they saw a local Christian and his friend desecrating pages from a Quran. The attack drew nationwide condemnation. No one died, as terrified Christians quickly fled to safer places. Amnesty International said it obtained its information from police after filing a Right to Information Request. It said of the 5,213 accused, 380 were arrested and 4,833 were still at large. It said of those who were arrested, 228 were released on bail and 77 others had the charges against them dropped. It said trials of the suspects have not started and about 40 per cent of victims who lost property are still awaiting government compensation. Abid Khan, the regional police chief, said investigators have referred the cases of suspects linked to the violence to an anti-terrorism court, and their trial was expected to start soon. "Despite the authorities' assurances of accountability, the grossly inadequate action has allowed a climate of impunity for the perpetrators of the Jaranwala violence," Babu Ram Pant, Amnesty International's deputy regional director for South Asia, said in the statement.

India's I-Day celebrated with fervour across New York City

PTI n NEW YORK

The hues of the Indian tricolour, India's rich cultural heritage and strong bilateral relations with the US resonated across the city as the country's 78th Independence Day was celebrated here with patriotic fervour. A slew of events commemorating India's Independence Day were held across the city on Thursday highlighting the strong people-to-people ties between India and the US as well as India's rich heritage. Flag hoisting ceremonies were held at the Consulate General of India in New York, Permanent Mission of India to the UN, Times Square and lower Manhattan in the presence of members of the Indian diaspora and city officials. Minister of



State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita, who was in the city before travelling on to Latin America, addressed members of the diaspora at the flag hoisting ceremony in the Consulate and Times Square. Leading diaspora organisation Federation of Indian Associations NY-NJ-CT-NE (FIA) held a special

Independence Day celebration at the iconic New York City destination Times Square, which was seeped in the hues of the Indian tricolour, as patriotic songs reverberated through the air and the country's rich cultural heritage was on full display. Consul General of India in New York Binaya Pradhan hoisted the tricolour at the Consulate as well as at Times Square. Margherita told members of the diaspora that "as I address you for the first time on American soil, I am struck by the profound connection between our two great nations". Echoing the message of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Margherita said that India and the US, two of the world's largest democracies and economies, share a bond that goes beyond mere diplomatic ties.

TikTok compares itself to American news outlets as it fights forced sale or ban

AP n WASHINGTON

TikTok on Thursday pushed back against US government arguments that the popular social media platform is not shielded by the First Amendment, comparing its platform to prominent American media organizations owned by foreign entities. Last month, the Justice Department argued in a legal brief filed in a Washington federal appeals court that neither TikTok's China-based parent company, ByteDance, nor the platform's global and U.S. arms — TikTok Ltd. and TikTok Inc. — were entitled to First Amendment protections because they are "foreign organizations operating abroad" or owned by one. TikTok attorneys have made the First Amendment a key part

of their legal challenge to the federal law requiring ByteDance to sell TikTok to an approved buyer or face a ban. On Thursday, they argued in a court document that TikTok's U.S. arm doesn't forfeit its constitutional rights because it is owned by a foreign entity. They drew a parallel between TikTok and well-known news outlets such as Politico and Business Insider, both of which are owned by German publisher Axel Springer SE. They also cited Fortune, a business magazine owned by Thai businessman Chatchaval Jiaravanon. "Surely the American companies that publish Politico, Fortune, and Business Insider do not lose First Amendment protection because they have foreign ownership," the TikTok attorneys

wrote, arguing that "no precedent" supports what they called "the government's dramatic rewriting of what counts as protected speech." In a redacted court filing made last month, the Justice Department argued ByteDance and TikTok haven't raised valid free speech claims in their challenge against the law, saying the measure addresses national security concerns about TikTok's ownership without targeting protected speech. The Biden administration and TikTok had held talks in recent years aimed at resolving the government's concerns. But the two sides failed to reach a deal. TikTok said the government essentially walked away from the negotiating table after it proposed a 90-page agreement that

detailed how the company planned to address concerns about the app while still maintaining ties with ByteDance. However, the Justice Department has said TikTok's proposal "failed to create sufficient separation between the company's U.S. operations and China" and did not adequately address some of the government's concerns. The government has pointed to some data transfers between TikTok employees and ByteDance engineers in China as why it believed the proposal, called Project Texas, was not sufficient to guard against national security concerns. Federal officials have also argued that the size and scope of TikTok would have made it impossible to meaningfully enforce compliance with the proposal.

B'desh caretaker govt promises action

Bangladesh's newly-appointed Home Affairs Ministry adviser has vowed to take swift legal action against those who attack or abuse minorities...

Yunus inducts four more advisers

Dhaka (PTI): The interim government in Bangladesh led by Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus was expanded on Friday with four more advisers joining his team...



Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus in a meeting with his advisers on Friday.

Bangladesh. Hasina had resigned and secretly left for India on August 5 in the face of the massive mass upsurge originating from a students' movement over the quota system for government jobs...

legal action would be taken. He said that there is no place for violence, conflict, or hatred and that the country believes in peace.

attacks and threats in 278 locations across 48 districts since the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government on August 5 and termed it as an "assault on the Hindu religion."



Participants prepare a kite during Denpasar international kite festival in Sanur, Bali, Indonesia on Friday

Palau's president says China is weaponising lucrative tourism

Beijing weaponised tourism to the Pacific archipelago of Palau over its allegiance to Taiwan and its accusations that China was behind a major cyberattack there...

territory, resources and political sway, Beijing's pressure on the three hold-out countries was increasing, analysts said.

Ukrainian officials urge civilians to evacuate eastern town of Pokrovsk

Military authorities in the eastern Ukrainian town of Pokrovsk on Friday urged civilians to speed up their evacuation because the Russian army is quickly closing in on what has for months been one of Moscow's key targets in the war.

it could leave Ukraine's short-handed defense at the mercy of Russia's push. The Kremlin's forces have had battlefield momentum and superior forces in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk region since the spring.

Pak govt admits tinkering with internet: Report

Pakistan government has confirmed that it was upgrading its "web management system" to cope with cyber security threats amid speculation about the installation of a so-called "firewall" that could be leading to internet disruptions in the country...

Senate Standing Committee on Information Technology and Tele-communication meeting on Thursday, Minister of State for Information Technology and Telecommunication Shaza Fatima Khawaja said the government had sought a report from Pakistan Telecommunication Authority and other institutions over the internet disruption.

Flights, trains cancelled in Tokyo area as a strong typhoon swerves nearby

Tokyo (AP): Flights and trains in the Tokyo area were cancelled Friday, and people were warned of strong winds, heavy rains and potential flooding and mudslides as a typhoon swerved near Japan on its way further north in the Pacific Ocean.

Airports and train stations had been packed Thursday with people moving up their plans to avoid disruptions from the typhoon.

Wickremesinghe backed by grand alliance in SL presidential poll

Colombo (PTI): Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, the front runner in the presidential poll scheduled for next month, was on Friday endorsed by a grand coalition of over 30 political parties and groups.

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Sensex jumps to two-week high



The Indian frontline indices traded significantly higher today, mirroring the positive global market sentiment. The gains in the market were broad-based as the midcap and smallcap indices also moved higher.

In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge jumped 1.80 per cent and smallcap index climbed 1.70 per cent. All indices ended higher. IT index soared 2.72 per cent and really jumped 2.45 per cent.

2,236.21 crore, according to exchange data. Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 1.22 per cent to USD 80.05 a barrel. Indian stock markets were closed on Thursday on account of Independence Day.

Benchmark Sensex spurted by 1,330 points to close at a two-week high while Nifty jumped 397 points to settle above the 24,500 level on Friday as easing fears of a recession in the US triggered buying in IT shares amid a sharp global stocks rally.

कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, (यांत्रिकी शाखा,) भोपाल. निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना. निम्न कार्यों हेतु म.प्र. लोक निर्माण विभाग में पंचोक्त टेकदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदा आमंत्रित की जाती है।

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FDI in food processing sector down 30% to 5,037 cr in 2023-24

Foreign direct investment (FDI) in India's food processing sector declined 30 per cent in the last fiscal to Rs 5,037.06 crore, according to official data. The FDI in the food processing sector stood at Rs 7,194.13 crore in 2022-23.

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED. Corporate Office: 167-169, 2nd floor, Near Little Mount Metro Station, Saipet, Chennai - 600015. DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002. Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said act) read with rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the said rules).

India's forex reserves drop USD 4.8 bn to USD 670.11 bn

India's forex reserves dropped by USD 4.8 billion to USD 670.11 billion for the week ended August 9, the Reserve Bank of India said on Friday. In the previous reporting week, the kitty jumped by USD 7.533 billion to an all-time high of USD 674.919 billion.



WINGS OF COURAGE

UNVEILING THE IAF'S UNTOLD KARGIL SAGA



Through rare footage and powerful testimonies, riveting documentary, 'Kargil 1999: The Untold Story of the Indian Air Force' pays tribute to the bravery and strategic brilliance of Indian air force in Operation 'Safed Sagar'

Kargil 1999: The Untold Story of the Indian Air Force' is more than just a recounting of military history; it is a tribute to the indomitable spirit of India and the brave men and women who defend our skies. As the nation marks the 25th anniversary of the Kargil victory, this documentary stands as a fitting homage to their legacy. This Independence Day, DocuBay streamed a new documentary, 'Kargil 1999: The Untold Story of the Indian Air Force'. Produced by Media Indica in association with Juggernaut Productions, this film sheds light on the critical and often overlooked role the Indian Air Force (IAF) played

during the Kargil War. The documentary delves into the heart of Operation 'Safed Sagar', revealing the untold stories of courage, innovation, and strategic brilliance that defined the IAF's contribution to the conflict. Through the eyes of veterans and officials, viewers will be taken behind the scenes of daring missions that were instrumental in securing India's victory. What sets this documentary apart is its access to rare footage and personal diaries that provide a unique perspective on the Kargil War. The documentary takes a 360 degree look at the IAF's cutting-edge aircraft, including the Mirage and MiG, in



action and gains a deeper understanding of the technological advancements that played a pivotal role in the conflict.

Featuring first-hand accounts from iconic figures such as Air Chief Marshal Tipnis, Air Chief Marshal Dhanoa, Air Marshal Padamjit Singh Ahluwalia, Air Marshal Narmadeshwar Tiwari, and Group Captain Nachiketa, the documentary weaves together a powerful narrative of valor and sacrifice. Combined with stunning visuals, these stories offer an emotional and inspiring portrayal of the Kargil War. "We are honoured to collaborate with the Indian Air Force to bring Kargil 1999: The Untold Story of the Indian Air Force to our audiences," said Girish Dwibhashyam, COO of DocuBay. "The film will not only delight defence and aviation

enthusiasts but will also be a gripping tale that will enthrall audiences worldwide." Richa Pant, Creative Director and Producer at Media Indica, shared the challenges faced during production: "Shooting this documentary on Operation Safed Sagar has been incredibly demanding. Our research team spoke to over 40 veterans, and matching their stories to historical facts was a daunting task. We had an overwhelming amount of material, yet only 55 minutes to tell this important story." The film will stream from 15 August 2024. Indeed, it would be a compelling way to celebrate India's spirit and the bravery of its armed forces.

A Fashion Show that Celebrates Inclusion and the Human Spirit

In a heartwarming celebration of individuality, the Tamana Foundation and FDCI came together for a fashion show that was a heartfelt tribute to the beauty of diversity and inclusion. It honoured the strength of individuality and left an indelible mark, inspiring and uplifting all who attended, says SAKSHI PRIYA



In a spectacular fusion of fashion and philanthropy, the Fashion Design Council of India (FDCI) recently co-hosted an unforgettable fashion show with the Tamana Foundation. The event, titled "Walking Tall, Walking for Hope, Walking for Inclusion," was more than just a display of stunning designs; it was a powerful celebration of inclusivity, diversity and the human spirit. The highlight of the evening was the participation of Tamana herself and the students of the Tamana Foundation, a non-profit organisation dedicated to supporting individuals with developmental and multiple disabilities, who graced the runway with their confidence and grace. The Tamana Foundation, established in 1984 under the inspiring leadership of Shayama Chona, a Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri awardee, has grown from a humble tent with just three students into a beacon of hope for hundreds with special needs. Named after the Hindi word for "aspiration," Tamana is dedicated to ensuring that every individual, regardless of ability, receives the care and support they deserve. The foundation has since expanded to three centres in New Delhi, offering comprehensive programmes that include education, therapy, and vocational training for those on the autism spectrum and with other developmental challenges. The event was honoured by the presence of Sunil Sethi, Chairperson of FDCI, Ram Mohan Naidu, Minister of Civil Aviation and other esteemed



dignitaries. The fashion show was not just about showcasing clothes, it was about creating a world where everyone is celebrated for who they are. The event opened with a soul-stirring performance by Diwakar Sharma, whose melodious voice set the tone for an evening filled with emotion and inspiration. The highlight of the evening was the participation of Tamana herself and the students of Tamana Foundation. Their inclusion walk, accompanied by designers and educators from various prominent schools, was a moment of pure joy and pride. Each student, dressed in their finest,

with intricate embroidery, vibrant colours and innovative silhouettes that captured the essence of the evening. Payal Pratap's collection, featuring monotonous with a pop of red and multicoloured embroidery, was a standout. Anju Modi's chic shift dresses and asymmetrical silhouettes, paired with silver oxide jewellery, added a touch of elegance to the runway. Namrata Joshipura's collection, with its black and golden palettes, corsets and draped skirts, exuded charm and sophistication. The use of satin skirts and black gowns, combined with minimalistic makeup and sleek ponytails, created a look that was both modern and timeless. Payal Jain's maximalist bohemian prints and denim pieces added a burst of colour and energy to the runway, showcasing the designer's ability to blend traditional elements with contemporary styles. The showstopper of the evening, however, was not a designer or a celebrity but Tamana herself and the students of Tamana Foundation. Their inclusion walk, accompanied by designers and educators from various prominent schools, was a moment of pure joy and pride. Each student, dressed in their finest,

walked the runway with a smile that lit up the entire room. The audience was visibly moved, with many wiping away tears of happiness and admiration. The evening was beautifully rounded off with a touching speech from Tamana, which expressed the spirit of the foundation and left a lasting impact on all who attended. This fashion show was a celebration of life, diversity and the power of inclusion. It was a reminder that, while we may all be different in many ways, at our core, we share the same humanity. The credit for this beautiful and inspiring event goes to the talented designers, the dedicated Tamana Foundation team and the visionary leadership of FDCI Chairperson Sunil Sethi, who continues to use fashion to drive social change and a special acknowledgment to Shayama Chona, President and Founder of Tamana, whose unwavering commitment has profoundly transformed lives and established Tamana as a beacon of hope and inclusion. The Tamana Fashion Show 2024 was a heartfelt celebration of the human spirit, radiating beauty, hope and unity. It beautifully demonstrated how fashion can be more than just clothing; it can be a powerful force for bringing people together and inspiring change, creating a world where everyone, regardless of their abilities, feels valued and celebrated. The event was a moving reminder of the strength and joy that come from embracing our shared humanity.

Photos: Pankaj Kumar



The Call of the Mirror: Reflecting on Reality

'The Call of the Mirror' invites viewers to engage deeply with art, enriching a space for introspection and connection. Each artwork challenges and enriches, offering a personal journey through diverse and compelling perspectives, SAKSHI PRIYA

In the hustle and bustle of daily life, it's refreshing to encounter moments that invite us to pause and reflect. "The Call of the Mirror," curated by Rohit J. Kapoor, offers such an opportunity. This group art show provides a rare chance for people to step away from their routines and engage profoundly with art that speaks directly to the heart. What makes this exhibition truly special is its range of voices and perspectives. Each artist brings something unique to the table, encouraging visitors to explore different aspects of the human experience. For instance, Asha Thadani's powerful photographs address challenging social issues, inviting viewers to confront and reflect on topics like caste and child labor. Suvajit Mondal's ceramics, meanwhile, offer a more meditative look at our relationship with nature, encouraging us to think about our impact on the world around us. The blend of traditional and modern art forms adds another layer of intrigue. From Maulik Oza's beautifully crafted



ceramics to Sergey Vinogradov's surreal portraits, *The Call of the Mirror* showcases a wide range of artistic expression. This mix not only highlights the artist's versatility but also mirrors the evolving landscape of art itself. What really stands out about

this exhibition is how it engages viewers on a personal level. It's not just about admiring art from a distance; it's about seeing oneself reflected in the works and exploring how they resonate with personal experiences and emotions. This interactive element transforms the experience, making it a journey of self-discovery as much as it is a visual feast. *The Call of the Mirror* is more than an exhibition, it's an invitation to slow down, reflect and connect with art in a meaningful way. It serves as a reminder of art's power to mirror our lives and inspire personal insight. For anyone seeking a deeper connection with art, this exhibition offers a compelling and enriching experience.

BHOPAL | SATURDAY | AUGUST 17, 2024

Horse riding, bharatnatyam and skating on Manu's mind during break from shooting

PTI n NEW DELHI

Her shooting hand bruised by repeated pistol recoils during unrelenting training, Manu Bhaker will take a well deserved three month break. But it will be no vacation.

more than a distant memory now, and also her plans to indulge in everything that she put on hold for her Olympic dreams.

As she revealed her bucket list for the "holiday", Rana had a faint smile on his face and he also made it a point to shake his head in disapproval at the very mention of horse riding.



Manu Bhaker (left) and her coach Rana Singh (right) looking at a medal.

has not healed till now," Rana said. "So rest is mandatory for the hand, and we had decided much before the World Cup (Final was awarded to New Delhi)...

shooters from across the world in October in Delhi, and also likely skip the national championships and the camps that will follow to tend to her injured hand.



Smith eyes IPL comeback after stellar show in MLC

Bolstered by his strong show at the Major League Cricket, veteran Australian batter Steve Smith is hopeful of making a return in the Indian Premier League next year.

Have to prepare mentally to transition from player to coach: Sreejesh

Indian hockey's goalkeeping stalwart P R Sreejesh, who was given a grand welcome on his arrival at the international airport here, said he will be spending the next 2-3 months to mentally prepare himself to transition from a player to a coach.

SA20 season three player auction to be held on October 1



The player auction ahead of the third season of the SA20 will take place in Cape Town on October 1 with a total of 13 slots left to be filled, announced Graeme Smith, the league commissioner.

ditional players joining local heroes like Aiden (Markram), KG (Kagiso Rabada) and Heinrich (Klaasen) sets up an explosive season," Smith stated in a release.

Rabada, Trent Boult, Azmatullah Omarzai, Dewald Brevis, Ryan Rickelton, George Linde, Nuwan Thushara, Connor Esterhuizen, Delano Potgieter, Rassie Van Der Dussen, Thomas Kaber, Chris Benjamin.

several MLAs, welcomed Sreejesh at the airport. People holding up placards with his photo cheered him on as he came out of the airport.

Government of India Ministry of Corporate Affairs Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE) IICA Building, 7th Floor, Plot P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar, Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050.

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Canara Bank advertisement containing an E-Auction notice for movable and immovable properties, listing various lots with details on location, price, and terms.

Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC) advertisement for an Open E-Tender for construction and maintenance of Executive Lounges.