

Docs strike work over rape, murder in WB

ARCHANA JYOTI - NEW DELHI

Doctors at various hospitals across India began their indefinite strike from Monday, halting all elective services scheduled, non-urgent procedures and outpatient services — until a fair investigation

into the alleged rape and mur-der of a Kolkata doctor is concluded and their demands for safe working environment for their fraternity is met.

The trainee medico worked at the State-run RG Kar Medical College and Hospital in Kolkata, and her body was found inside the facility's seminar hall on Friday, sparking outrage the within medical community.

While pause in elective services left many patients visiting the OPDs left them high and dry, emergency care, however, remained operational, to address critical patients needs in the hospitals.

The nationwide indefinite strike is been led by the Federation of Resident Doctors' Associations (FORDA) with the Delhi Medical Association (DMA) also coming out in support of the doctors on strike.

The brutal nature of the crime has intensified calls for justice and has led to the nationwide strike as a mean of expressing solidarity with the victim and demanding systemic changes to ensure the safety of healthcare

NO DUTY

Doctors protest against the sexual assault and killing of a postgraduate trainee doctor in Kolkata, in New Delhi, on Monday Ranian Dimri/The Pioneer

Mamata hints at handover of case to CBI

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

In yet another climbdown Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday set a deadline for the police department to crack the RG Kar Medical College doctor rape and murder case but her act of bending back failed to pacify the agitating junior doctors who insisted on sustained cease work till all their demands were met throwing the health service in the entire State completely out of gear.

Mamata earlier met the parents of the victim at their Sodpur residence in the northern suburbs of Kolkata and said she would wait till Sunday for the police to crack the case failing which she would transfer the case to the Bureau Central of Investigation (CBI).

Emerging from her meeting with the parents of the victim she said, "I am extremely shocked by the incident of a young lady doctor being killed in such a manner ...

this cannot be accepted... have been told by the parents of the victim that there is an insider angle to the case... if so then I ask the police to hasten the investigation process... I give them time till Sunday to crack the case after which I will hand it over to the CBI."

A postgraduate student of the department of chest medicine was in the wee hours of Friday found dead in a semi-nude condition inside the seminar hall of the hospital.

workers, said Dr Sarvesh Pandey, general secretary of the RDA, RML Hospital.

In its letter, FORDA listed five demands including expeditious acceptance of Residents' demands, resignation of all the responsible authorities, which include the principal, MSVP, Dean, HOD of pulmonary medicine, ACP of RG Kar MC&H police outpost, alleging that they could not perform their duty of protecting the dignity and life of a woman who was, in this case, an on-duty doctor, no police brutality, swift justice for the deceased and security protocols for healthcare workers and formation of expert committee.

Dr Aviral Mathur, FORDA president who participated in the protest at a hospital in Delhi, said, "Our cause is that the incident at RG Kar Hospital is the worst that could have happened to any on-duty doctor... rape followed by murder is deeply disturbing. "The deeply disturbing. services will remain suspended until the acceptance of demands of Kolkata's RG Kar Medical College residents as well as immediate appointment of a Central agency to investigate the case and the establishment of a Central Protection Act."

The strike has garnered widespread support across the country.



India's flag-bearers shooter Manu Bhaker and men's hockey team goalkeeper PR Srejeesh and others during the closing ceremony of the 2024 Summer Olympics at Stade de France, in Paris, France



Indian soldiers patrol near the LoC ahead of Independence Day, in Rajouri district. on Monday

Terror module busted in J&K MOHIT KANDHARI 🗖 JAMMU

The Jammu and Kashmir police claimed to have busted an active terror module by arresting at least eight enemy agents responsible for providing food, shelter, and other logistic support to the Pakistani terrorists behind targeted strikes on the security forces across the Jammu region.

The terror module busted by the police is believed to be behind the recent infiltration that has resulted in increased terrorist activities and terrorist movements in the upper reaches of Doda, Udhampur, and Kathua. The police teams carrying out a detailed investigation have also managed to identify the kingpin of the module as Mohd Lateef alias Haji.

The investigations were launched by the police teams after eliminating three Pakistani terrorists in the Gandoh area of Doda district on June 26, 2024.

Tihar jail terms **Keiriwal's letter** to LG abuse of privileges

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

In a strongly worded letter, the Tihar jail has taken exception to Delhi Chief Arvind Keiriwal's recent letter to Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena seeking permission to allow Cabinet Minister Atishi to hoist the national flag on the occasion of Independence Day, terming his letter to the LG was "an abuse of privileges" granted to him under the Delhi Prison Rules. The superintendent of Tihar's jail number 2 cited provisions of the Delhi Prisons Rules, 2018, and advised Kejriwal in a letter "to desist from any such impermissible activity" or his privileges would be curtailed. In a communication, Tihar jail official said it is surprising to note that the contents of the letter... were leaked to the media without any authority which amounts to violation of the prison rules. Meanwhile, Delhi Cabinet Minister Gopal Rai on directed Monday the General Administration Department to make arrangements for the hoisting of the national flag on Independence Day by his Cabinet colleague Atishi.



'At Home' events lined up for icons this I-Day

PTI NEW DELHI

rin of those killed in the line of Kduty, Olympic Games participants and winners, competitive examination toppers and a host of other prominent people are part of a list shared by the Home Ministry with State Governments for extending invitation to the 'At Home' function at Raj Bhavans on Independence Day. Those whose names were ment

set of invitees apart from usual protocol-based invitees, on this occasion, the following indicative categories of guests could be invited," the communication said.

They are 'Divyangjans'; achievers in different fields; people who made exemplary contribution to society, including during the Covid pandemic; eco-warriors; people who performed exemplary vironment conse tion "Swacchagrahi"; references from the state and Union Territories in "Mann ki Baat": Padma awardees: next of kin of martyrs; participants and winners in Olympic Games; and other important sports events of national and international standards. Exceptional educators, frontline health workers, children bravery awardees, women sarpanches, student toppers, best researchers and innovators may also be invited, the Ministry told the States. "At least 25-50 invites may be

reserved for such achievers. The names of such invitees should be announced in advance to enable the invitees to prepare for the occasion. The majority of the gathering could be under the category of special invitees under different categories," the communication said.

The States and Union Territories were told that a system where the for invitee list was generated afresh tion; every year should be instituted so

border partial opening

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELH

Shambhu border.

issue and we are keeping it pending till some respectable, The Supreme Court on The Supreme Course Monday asked the Punjab amicable and fair and just solution of all the problems are found," the bench told the Government to persuade the farmers protesting at the Punjab Government. Shambhu border since February

Underscoring that farmers or the agricultural community 13 to remove tractors and trollies from the road, saying "highdon't face difficulty of any ways are not parking space". A bench of Justices Surya Kant kind, the bench said, "After all we are also concerned. Both and Ujjal Bhuyan directed the police chiefs of both Punjab the States are concerned and everybody is concerned about and Haryana to hold a

Now, we are seized with the

meeting along with the Superintends of Police of "The DGPs of Punjab and Haryana and SPs of Patiala and Ambala along with adjoining Patiala and Ambala districts within one week for Deputy Commissioners of both the districts are to meet partial reopening of the highway at the inter-State within one week and lay down the modalities for partial opening of highway, initially "We are not directing but we are definitely impressing upon the State of Punjab to for the purpose of ambulances, senior citizens, immediately persuade the women, girl students, essential services and daily commuters farmers to remove their tractors and trollies. Even of nearby areas," the court parking will create problems. said.

during Prime Minister Narendra "Mann ki Baat" radio Modi's broadcast, "Swacchagrahi" or foot soldiers who have played a key role in cleanliness drives and women sarpanches (village heads) are also part of the list shared by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs to be invited for the function.

Every Governor and Lieutenant Governor hosts the respective Chief Minister, Ministers, top civil, police officers, prominent citizens with high tea at their official residence –



Raj Bhavan or Raj Niwas - in the evenings of every Independence Day and Republic Day. The event is called 'At Home'.

In a communication to Chief Secretaries of all States, the Home Ministry said the 'At Home' function should be commenced after 6 pm.

'This function represents a diverse

that an opportunity was given to a broad set of people.

It could be considered that a person gets an invite just once.

The Ministry said special attention might be paid to the band at the Governor or the Lieutenant Governor's house. It should play patriotic songs and not simply songs from movies. A system of competition among school bands should be instituted where the winners get to perform during the reception

Explore Sikkim's landscape from home soo

ARCHANA JYOTI NEW DELHI

Coon, visitors worldwide will be able to Sexplore the marvels of the famous Dzongri trek in Gyalshing District, Sikkim in India, from their homes through an innovative Virtual Reality (VR) Ecotourism Initiative.

Aiming to promote sustainable tourism in the State which has taken various measures to be eco-friendly, this groundbreaking project from India's first Organic State merges travel delight with cutting-edge technology, offering an immersive tour of the region's stunning landscapes and breathtaking views.

By providing immersive experiences, VR technology provides a unique opportunity to experience natural environments that might otherwise be inaccessible to many travel enthusiasts to explore natural environments in a way that may not be possible due to geographical, financial, or physical limitations.

The Dzongri trek, a popular trekking route that can be completed in about 6-7 days, is a delight for tourists and adventure trekkerst with pristine views.

The VR initiative opens new avenues for experiencing the natural beauty of Sikkim and ensures accessibility to breathtaking locations regardless of adverse weather conditions or natural calamities. Users can virtually trek through the dense forests of the track encountering zig zag trails in a realistic setting

An official from the Union Tourism Ministry praised the State's initiative stating the project aims to contribute to the long-term growth and sustainability of the tourism sector in the region.



after a stampede at Baba Siddhanath emple, in Jehanabad district, Monday morning, Aug. 12, 2024. At least seven people were killed and 16 others suffered injuries in the stampede PTI

Seven killed in **Bihar temple** stampede

PNS JEHANABAD (BIHAR)

With the loss of over 100 precious lives in the tragic Hathras stampede still fresh in mind, report comes of shocking deaths of at least seven people, six of them women, in another stampede at Baba Siddheshwar Nath Temple in Bihar's Jehanabad district. Sixteen others were injured in the incident, an official said on Monday.

The deceased, most of them Kanwariyas, have been identified as Pyare Paswan (30), Nisha Devi (30), Punam Devi (30), Nisha Kumari (21), and Sushila Devi (64). The identity of one woman remains unknown, the official added.

Residents prepare to move out over dam collapse fear

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN KOCHI

While people in the districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Ernakulam, Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha are getting ready for the eventuality of the collapse of Mullaperiyar Dam, the Tamil chauvinist outfits like DMK, MDMK, VCK and AIADMK are busy campaigning that the 130-yearold reservoir is safe.

Ganga Homemakers like Gopalakrishnan and Sheela Das in Perumbavoor are ready with suitcases packed with essential clothing and identification papers to move out to safer places. There is a sense of uncertainty and unease across these districts, said Anita Prakash, a municipal Councillor. But the Kerala Government is maintaining a stony silence over the warning given by CP Ramaswamy

erstwhile Travancore State, which, together with the princely State of Kochi and Malabar, constitute the present-day Kerala.

The agreement signed between Madras Presidency and the State of Travancore in 1886 is highly discriminatory and detrimental to the interests of Travancore. Travancore was forced to sign on the dotted line by the then Madras Governor conceding the tenancy over Perivar water to the Madras Presidency for a period of 999 years. This was a major fraud committed on a vulnerable Travancore by the British rulers," Ramaswamy Aiyer had told the then viceroy Lord Mountbaton in 1947 itself.

In his notes prepared after meeting the Viceroy, the Diwan pointed out that, while Madras Presidency (the present-day Tamil Nadu) stood to Aiyer, the then Diwan of the make a cool ₹25 lakh profit per year,



Travancore would get a paltry amount of ₹40,000 per year as compensation. "This is gross injustice," Aiyer wrote in his note. The note has been reproduced ad verbatim by Prof A Sreedhara concerning life. His books on history Menon, a historian of international of modern-day India speak a lot

repute in his book "Sir CP's Role in Travancore".

Professor Menon was a staunch critic of Aiyer because of his intransigent approach to all issues about his reservations about the Presidency's right to generate power Diwan. But research led him to information hitherto inaccessible to all and proved the sincerity of Aiyer, A probe by P Sujathan, a chronicler of Kerala's history proves that the 1886 agreement between the two States were signed by K KV Rama Ayangar, the Tamil Nadu-born Diwan of Travancore and the Resident Collector of Madras Presidency.

The 999-year-long tenancy itself is a mystery as all such agreements are for a period of 99 years. Ayangar and other Tamils working for the Travancore Maharajah manipulated the deal in favour of Madras Presidency," Sujathan told The Pioneer.

Though by 1941 Ramaswami Aiyer argued in favour of Kerala and made the umpire appointed to arbitrate on the dispute to nullify Madras from Perivar River water, the alliance governments that ruled the newly carved out State of Kerala squandered the successes won by

Aiyer. "The Mullaperiyar Dam agreement itself has lost its validity following the departure of the British from India for good. The question why the Kerala Government signed another deal with Tamil Nadu leaves much to be answered for," said P C George, veteran legislature, spearheading a battle for the decommissioning of the outdated and dangerous dam. Those who question the legality of the dam are arrested by the DMK government government and jailed. Interestingly, Tamil Nadu has done jailed. nothing to resolve its water shortage though it has spent crores on lawyers for filing cases in the apex court," said George.





PNS DEHRADUN

uttarakhand 02

abuse awareness from nursery level

Considering the increasing substance abuse among youth, the Dehradun district magistrate Sonika urged schools to educate children about its dangers from the nursery level. She empha-

sised that special programmes should be organised in schools to inform children about the negative

STF busts inter-state cyber fraud gang with international links

PNS DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand Special Task Force (STF) and cyber crime police in Ut-tarakhand conducted a major operation, busting an interstate cyber fraud gang oper-ating an illegal call centre in Dehradun. The operation, led by STF senior superintendent of police Ayush Agrawal, was initiated after receiving confidential information about the gang's activities. The police action resulted in the arrest of two men involved in the scam, with international links extending to the USA and Canada. The SSP said that the accused were operating an unauthorised call centre from a private apartment in the Mount View Colony area near Sahastradhara Road. Posing as representatives from reputed companies

like Microsoft and Apple, the gang targeted citizens in the USA and Canada. They would send deceptive pop-up messages to their targets, claiming that the victims' systems were compromised by viewing pornographic con-tent or due to child pornography. The victims were then tricked into believing that their bank accounts were at risk and that their systems were corrupt. Under the guise of offering technical assistance, the fraudsters extorted money from them, Agrawal said. He further said that acting on a tip-off on August 6, the STF team raided the location, but the suspects managed to flee. However, a subsequent operation on August 9, led to the arrest of two suspects, Gautam Bagoria

and Tanishq Verma, at the Jogiwala barrier in Jogiwala Dehradun. During interrogation, the suspects admitted to operating the fraudulent call centre along with three other accomplices. The police seized various items, including three laptops, two mobile phones, two Wi-Fi routers and other equipment from the scene. Investigations revealed that the gang was also connected to other States like Delhi, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh. The SSP said that the arrested men have been charged under multiple sections of the Bhartiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS) and the IT Act. The STF teams are working to nab the absconding accused and dismantle their entire operation, he added.

Transport department | DM urges schools to raise substance challans vehicles for **Rapido's unlicensed** operations

PNS 🗖 DEHRADUN

In response to complaints regarding the operation of two-wheelers by Rapido in Dehradun without an aggregator license, the Transport department imposed challans on 45 Rapido riders during a checking drive on Monday. The regional transport officer (Enforcement) Shailesh Tiwari said that the department formed five teams under the supervision of ARTO (Enforcement) Rajendra Viratiya to conduct an intensive inspection drive on Saharanpur Road, Premnagar area, Chakrata Road and Haridwar Road on Monday. The teams issued challans to operators of 45 vehicles for violations. He stated that according to the Motor Vehicle Aggregator Guidelines 2020 and Uttarakhand On-Demand (IT-based) Contract Carriage Regulations, no individual is permitted to operate as an aggregator without obtaining the necessary license. He said that Rapido has been issued multiple notices by the RTO to obtain a license but it has not complied so far. If it continues to operate vehicles through online services without the proper license, the aggregator will also be fined. The fine can amount to as much as Rs one lakh, he said. He claimed that the department has been consistently acting on complaints that Rapido is operating several private two-wheelers on a rental basis without proper authorisation. He also urged vehicle owners not to use private vehicles for Rapido operations. "Vehicles should be commercially registered for such operations to comply with the law. Severe penalties will be imposed if private vehicles are found operating on a rental basis. Driv ers seeking more information about this are encouraged to contact the RTO," he added.

consequences of drug abuse and motivate them to keep those around them away from such vices. The initiative aims to foster a culture of awareness and prevention among young students, ensuring that they remain vigilant against substance abuse as they grow older. Sonika stated this after administering an anti-drug pledge to the officials present in the collectorate, emphasising the importance of raising awareness about the harmful effects of drugs from an early age. She also directed the officials to ensure the effective implementation of the Drug-Free India Campaign in the district. The police and Education department were told to collaborate closely in organising workshops and awareness

Contraction The Pioneer CLASSIFIEDS PUBLIC NOTICE

I Kashi Ram Petwal S/o Late Shri. B. P. Petwal R/o Masandawala Po. New Forest FRI Dehradun have declared that my D.O.B. 12.02.1967 is wrongly mentioned in my son Army Document Army No. 15798462Y Rank NK Name Sunny Petwal Army AD Record But my Correct D.O.B. is 12.02.1968 Affidavit No. UK 37977477195750W

I Maya Devi w/o Mr. Kashi Ram Petwal R/o Masandawala New Forest FRI Dehradun have declared that my name Maya Petwal & D.O.B. 04.11.1969 is wrongly mentioned in my son Army Document Army No 15798462Y Rank NK Name Sunny Petwal Army AD Record but my correct name is Maya Devi & DOB is 04.11.1968 Affidavit No. UK379491 37 256 825W

I, THETE SUGANDHA M/o Army No.2808860W NK SANDEEP TRYAMBAK THETE, at - VILL- Dhondgavan, POST-Dhondgavan, TEH.-Chandwad , DIST- NASHIK, MAHARASHTRA-422209. I have changed my name from THETE SUGANDHA to THETE SUGANDHA TRYAMBAK inclusion of last name as per my Aadhar No.271497429869 vide affidavit sworn before notary and advocate 12.08.2024 UK Gol

My name is wrongly recorded as Satish Ghanshala in the school records of my daughter Ananya Ghanshala, whereas my correct name is Satish Chandra Ghanshala. Satish Chandra Ghanshala, S/o Mr. Jaya Nand Ghanshala, R/o Village & Post- Suddhowala. Near Panchayat Ghar,

In my military records, my wife's name Madhu has been wrongly recorded. Whereas the correct and actual name of my wife is Madhu Pokhariya. Army number 4191729P, Rank L/NK Vinode Singh S/O Shri Bikram Singh, R/O Vill-Purnagiri Colony, Tanakpur Road (Amou), Khatima, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand. 262308.

5-day camp for scholars from Nepal commences at Patanjali Yogpeeth

added.

cially,

Speaking on the occasion,

Balkrishna said that despite

Nepal and India being two

sovereign States, they are in-

separable and indivisible, so-

spiritually. "The relation of

roti-beti between the two

countries existed for centuries

and will exist for centuries to

In the evening session, the

and Patanjali

guests from Nepal visited Yog

Gram, naturopathy treatment

Gramodyog where they stud-

come," he added.

centre,

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and

PNS DEHRADUN

A five-day 'Prabuddhajan Yoga Vigyan Shivir' for scholars from Nepal commenced in the presence of Yoga guru Swami Ramdev and Acharya Balkrishna at Patanjali Yogpeeth in Haridwar. They also participated in a yoga session presided over by Ramdev. He said that

Uttarakhand Govt working to promote women SHGs: CM

PNS DEHRADUN

Thief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami Ustated that the State government is dedicated to promoting women self-help groups (SHGs) through various schemes. He said this while inaugurating the stalls set up by women SHGs under the Mukhyamantri Sashakt Behana Utsav Yojana and the Chief Minister's Women SHG Empowerment Scheme on Monday During the event, the chief minister highlighted the government's efforts to foster women SHGs in the State through a range of initiatives. He praised the State's women for producing high-quality goods through these groups, noting that local products are gaining recognition and creating new employment opportunities. He added that SHGs have been making Rakhis in preparation for Rakshabandhan and the government is facilitating the sale of these products, urging the State's residents to support local artisans by purchasing their goods. Several SHGs including the Devbhoomi



SHG from Barowala, Vaibhav Laxmi SHG from Dakpathar, Milan SHG from Raipur, Aastha cluster level federation from Sahaspur, Vikas cluster level federation from Hawalbag, Almora, Aastha cluster level federation and Virangana cluster level federation have set up stalls to sell their products in the secretariat.

कार्यालय छावनी परिषद गढी कैंट, देहरादून पत्रांकः x/17/Amrit Mahotsav/x दिनांक 12 अगस्त, 2024 सार्वजनिक सूचना

programmes in schools and colleges on the topic of drug ad-

diction. She urged the Education department to mandate that

teachers regularly educate students from class I to XII about

the harmful effects of drugs. The goal is to create a strong

foundation of awareness so that as students reach adoles-

cence, they are already well-informed and conscious of the

dangers associated with drug use, she added.

छावनी परिषद देहरादून में निवासरत सभी नागरिकों को सूचित किया जाता है कि स्वतंत्रता दिवस की 78 वीं वर्षगांठ के उपलक्ष्य में हर घर तिरंगा अभियान के तहत दिनांक 13 अगस्त से 15 अगस्त तक अपने–अपने घरों में तिरंगा फहराकर आजादी के अमृत महोत्सव कार्यक्रम को सफल बनायें । साथ ही आप https://harghartiranga.com की वेबसाइट पर जाकर दिये गये दिशा–निर्देश अनुसार तिरंगे फहराते हुए फोटो 🖊 सेल्फी भी अपलोड कर सकते हैं।

(a) pnb Housing

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Ghar Ki Baat

CURRENT ADDRESS

नैनीताल दुग्ध उत्पादक सहकारी संघ लिमिटेड

(आई.एस.ओ. प्रमाणित उपक्रम)

लालकुआँ, जिला नैनीताल (उत्तराखण्ड) दूरमाष : 05946 : 268061,268127

''निविदा आमंत्रित सूचना''

क्रय/कार्य/निर्माण कार्य हेतु निविदाएं दिनाँक 28.08.2024 के अपरान्ह 2:00

बजे तक संस्था के प्रशासनिक कार्यालय में पंजीकृत डाक / कोरियर के माध्यम

से आमंत्रित की जाती है। निर्धारित समय तक प्राप्त बन्द निविदाओं को दिनाँक

28.08.2024 की सांय 3:00 बजे उपस्थित निविदादाताओं के सम्मुख खोला

जायेगा। निविदा प्रपत्रों की बिक्री दिनांक 27.08.2024 की सांय 02:00 बजे तक

की जायेगी। अर्नेस्टमनी / निविदा प्रपन्न की धनराशि का विवरण शर्तों व निविदा

फार्म में अंकित है। निविदा प्रपत्र यू.सी.डी.एफ. की बेवसाईड ucdfaanchal.org

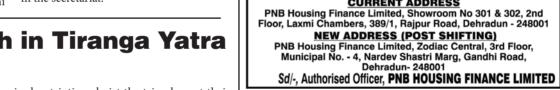
1. दही मटका (प्लास्टिक पैकिंग क्षमता–05 किग्रा एवं 15 किग्रा०) फौईल

2. एल्युमिनियम दूध केन (ढक्कन सहित) 40 ली. क्षमता।

सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि इस संस्था में निम्न सामाग्री

दिनांक : 09.08.202

मुख्य अधिशासी अधिकारी, छावनी परिषद, देहरादून



Arya leads youth in Tiranga Yatra

PNS DEHRADUN

Following the Prime Min-directive, the Sports minister Rekha Arva conducted a Tiranga Yatra as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign here on Monday. The rally started from Gandhi Park, passed

ipants also raised patriotic slogans like "Bharat Mata Ki Jai" during the rally.

Speaking on the occasion, Arya emphasised that this rally symbolises patriotism and unity, aiming to pay homage to the martyrs who through Clock Tower and sacrificed their lives for the nation's freedom. "The na-Darshan Lal Chowk before concluding at Parade Ground. Officials from the tional flag represents our pride, courage and commit-Sports and Youth Welfare department, PRD volunteers ment to the nation and everyone is urged to uphold and school children particithe country's values and pated in the rally. The partic-

hoist the tri-colour at their homes and establishments from August 11 to 15 as part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign," she said.

> She further encouraged the participants to upload their selfies on hargharti

आँचल

सहित ।

पत्रांक 1561–66 / प्रशा / निविदा सचना / 2024–25

से डाउनलोड कर सकते है।

3. टी.टी.ओ. प्रिटिंग रिबन।

Regd. Office: 9th Floor Antriksh Bhawan, 22, K. G. Marg, New Delhi-110001 Ph.: 011-23445200, Website: www.pnbhousing.com CIN NO.: L65922DL1988PLC03385 **NOTICE FOR SHIFTING OF PREMISES TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN** This is the notice to the General Public that we are shifting Following Office Premises on or before 15th Nov. 2024. Dehradun.

lished in a systematic manner in Nepal in coming years," he

World Elephant Day celebrated in Corbett

PNS RAMNAGAR

though India and Nepal are

two countries the cultural her-

itage is the same. "A sanyasi is

a global citizen. I yearn for the

welfare of Nepal as much as I

yearn for the welfare of India.

I dream of Patanjali Wellness,

Gurukulam, Acharyakulam

and university being estab-

 ${f W}$ orld Elephant Day was observed with enthusiasm in the Corbett National Park on Monday. Department officials participated along with school students and nature lovers in an

event in the Bijrani zone which saw naturalists Sanjay Chimyal and Rajesh Bhatt inform students about the important role played by elephants in the environment. Warden Amit Kumar Gwaskoti informed that elephants are vital for the forests, which makes their conservation a necessity. Other forest officials informed about the special characteristics of the pachyderms. The students offered fruits and vegetables to the national park's trained elephants on the occasion. The occasion was also observed at the Kalagarh elephant camp. Following a discussion on various aspects of elephants, the staff fed bananas, sugarcane and jaggery to the pachyderms on the occasion.

UVSP to declare class X & XII improvement exam result today

PNS DEHRADUN

The Uttarakhand Vidyalayi Shiksha Parishad (UVSP) will declare the results of the class X and XII improvement examinations on Tuesday at 11 AM. According to UVSP officials, students can check their marks on the official website of UVSP after the results are announced. It will be recalled that the improvement examinations for classes X and XII under UVSP began on July 18 and concluded on July 24. This year, a total of 21,880 candidates registered for the improvement examination - 10,717 for class X and 11,163 for class XII. The maximum number of candidates from the Haridwar district registered for the UVSP improvement examination is 4964, while the minimum - 369 is from Champawat. The improvement examinations were conducted for nine subjects in class X and 27 subjects in class XII.

BoI to hold NPA Samjhauta Day on August 16 & 17

PNS DEHRADUN

Marking the Independence Day, Bank of India, Dehradun zone, Shimla Bypass Road will organise Samjhauta Day 'Azadi Rin Se' on August 16 and 17. Senior officers of the bank said on Monday that this is an opportunity for the NPA borrowers, who could not repay their loan in time due to distress in business/medical condition or any other genuine reason, to settle the matter under one time set-

tlement (OTS) and it would be organised all at its branches/zones and FGMOs across the country.

The BoI officers further said that special discounts are offered to the NPA borrowers with small value and mid-size accounts, adding that such borrowers should avail this opportunity to free themselves from the pressure of unpaid loans.

ranga.com. The minister praised the Prime Minister Narendra Modi for inspiring the nation with the spirit of unity and patriotism.

STORE MAY PRO	कार्यालय	अधिशासी अभियन्ता, उत्तरात	खण्ड जल संस्थान				
A 14000							
जल संचय-जीवन संचय							
or writin colorist	बूरमाष / फैक्स नं0— 05946—220776 Email: <u>eeujshld@gmail.com</u>						
पत्रांकः 2371/ि	विदा / 153	ःनिविदा सूचनाः	दिनांकः 12/08/2024				

एतदद्वारा उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, हल्द्वानी में विभागीय कार्यों के सम्पादन हेतू उत्तराखण्ड राज्य के परिवहन विभाग में पंजीकृत वाहन के वाहन स्वामी / आपूर्तिकर्ताओं से, वार्षिक दर अनुबन्ध हेतू मोहरबन्द निविदा, टैण्डर बॉक्स के माध्यम से दिनांक 28.08.2024 के पूर्वान्ह 12.00 बजे तक ऑमंत्रित की जाती है जो उसी दिन अपरान्ह 12:30 बजे अधोहस्ताक्षरी अथवा मनोनीत प्रतिनिधि द्वारा निविदादाताओं / प्रतिनिधियों की उपस्थिति अथवा अनूपस्थिति दोनों दशाओं में खोली जायेगी।

	ाविदा ख्या	कार्य का विवरण	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	निविदा धरोहर राशि			
	6/ 24—25	अधीक्षण अभियन्ता कार्यालय के प्रयोगार्थ किराये पर एक स्विफ्ट डिजायर ए०सी० कार उपलब्ध कराना।	Rs.500.00+90.00 (GST 18%)= 590.00	₹ 8300.00			
	7 / 24—25	अधिशासी अभियन्ता कार्यालय के प्रयोगार्थ किराये पर एक स्विफ्ट डिजायर, ए०सी० कार उपलब्ध कराना।	Rs.500.00+90.00 (GST 18%)= 590.00	₹ 8300.00			
		दा प्रपत्र निर्धारित धनराशि जमा करने पर कार्यालय					
	सकते		किसी भी कार्य दिवस म	में क्रय किये जा			
2.	वाहन	का मॉडल वर्ष 2021 से पूर्व का मान्य नहीं होगा।					
3.		दा के साथ परिवहन कार्यालय में पंजीयन, परमिट, फिटनेस, बीमा, प्रदूषण प्रमाण पत्र के वैध i की छायाप्रति संलग्न किया जाना अनिवार्य है।					
4.	वाहन	। का व्यवसायिक पंजीकरण होना चाहिए ।					
5.		दा पृथक–पृथक देनी होगी। निविदा लिफाफे पर निविदा संख्या⁄कार्य का नाम अंकित होना वार्य है।					
6.	वाहन	। 1 मोटर यान अधिनियम 1988 के अन्तर्गत ऑल इंण्डिया परमिट से अच्छादित होना अनिवार्य है ।					
7.	निविद	ादा के साथ धरोहर धनराशि किसी भी राष्ट्रीय बैक ∕ पोस्ट ऑफिस में अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पदनाम से					
	बन्धक	एफ.डी. आर. / सी.डी.आर. / बैंकर्स चैक / एन.एस.सी	के रूप में संलग्न करनी	। होगी। धरोहर			
	धनरा	शि के अभाव में निविदा पर विचार नहीं किया जायेगा।					
8.	एक अ	अथवा समस्त निविदाओं को निरस्त करने का अधिकार अधोहस्ताक्षरी के पास सुरक्षित है।					
9.	निविद	दा के साथ GST एवं PAN की स्वप्रमाणित छायाप्रति संलग्न की जानी अनिवार्य होगी।					
10. निविदा सूचना में उल्लेखित किसी भी तिथि को किसी कारणवश अवकाश घोषित होने पर अगला							
	दिवस	मान्य होगा।					
11	डाक व	टारा निविदा मंगाने पर ऊ. १००.०० मान अविरिक्त देस इ	रोगा । डाक दारा बिलम्ब र	से निविदा प्रपन्न			

- 11. डाक द्वारा निविदा मंगाने पर रू. 100.00 मात्र अतिरिक्त देय होगा । डाक द्वारा बिलम्ब से निविदा प्रपत्र पहुंचने पर विभाग का कोई दायित्व नहीं होगा।
- 12. शेष शर्ते निविदा प्रपत्र के अनुसार मान्य होगी, जो किसी भी कार्यालय दिवस में देखी जा सकती है।

4. प्रिन्टिंग स्टेशनरी । 5. मैन पावर व दुग्ध पैकिंग कार्य । लस्सी कप (मैंगों व स्ट्रॉवरी) 200 ग्राम पैकिंग साईज। . फ्रूट प्रिपरेशन (मैंगो व स्ट्रॉवरी) । 8. ग्लुकोन डेल्टा लैक्टोज (जी.डी.एल. राकेट ब्राण्ड)। 9. हैडिंयागांव दुग्ध अवशीन केन्द्र की चार दीवारी व गेट का कार्य । रीबन (मारकिम इमेज)। इंक कोडिंग (V411–Dइंकए V706D मैकप V901–Q क्लीनिंग सैल्यूशन) हैड बैग (साईज व संख्या) निविदा प्रपन्न में उल्लेखित है। डिनर सैट / उपहार का विवरण निविदा प्रपत्र में उल्लेखित है।

कम्बल, जयपुरी रजाई, मिक्सी/कोम्बो पैक उपहार। (संख्या, वजन एवं इट्म निविदा फॉर्म की शर्तों में उल्लेखित है)

कैटरिंग / व्यवस्था (जी.एस.टी. / एफएसएसआई पंजीकृत फर्म अनिवार्य न्य विवरण शर्ते / निविदा प्रपत्र में उल्लेखित है)

वैंकट हाल / टैण्ट (जी.एस.टी. पंजीकत फर्म अनिवार्य अन्य विवरण शर्ते वेदा प्रपत्र में उल्लेखित है)

स्टीम कोयला (सी ग्रेड बॉयलर उपयोग हेतू)। गत्ता क्रेट (180 ग्रा. व 360 ग्रा. पैकिंग साईज के दही कप हेतू) ।

प्लेन पन्नी (बटर उपयोग हेतु) ।

ऑयल फाईड बॉयलर नं० UR.346 को लकडी एवं कोयला में परिवर्तित रने का कार्य ।

दुग्ध समिति हरिपुर बच्ची एवं पदमपुर में साईलो बंकर निर्माण कार्य। लालकुआं में प्रीकोटेंड शीट गोदाम निर्माण कार्य हेतु।

संस्था के मिल्क बूथ किराये पर दिये जाने है, नियम व शर्त निविदा प्रपन्न में जन है।

विभिन्न मार्गो में दुग्ध उपार्जन / विपणन दुग्ध एवं दुग्ध पदार्थों के परिवहन वितरण कार्य हेतु ।

पशु चिकित्सा हेतु फीड सप्लीमेन्ट/औषधि–(लिवर टॉनिक, यूट्रराइन निक, दूध एवं भूख बढाने, पाचन, सम्बंधी दवा, फिनाइल, बाहरीय परजीवी शक दवा इत्यादि) अन्य विवरण निविदा फार्म व शर्तों में अंकित है।

क्त निविदा प्रपत्र एवं शर्तों से सम्बन्धित जानकारी निविदा सूचना प्रकाशन गरान्त किसी भी कार्यालय दिवस में प्रातः 11 बजे से सांय 3 बजे तक सम्बन्धित नुभाग अथवा प्रशासन अनुभाग से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। एक या समस्त विदाओ को बिना कारण बताये निरस्त करने का अधिकार सामान्य प्रबन्धक के पास सुरक्षित होगा।

(अनराग शर्मा) (मुकेश सिंह बोरा)

सामान्य प्रबन्धक निर्माता ः ऑचल दुग्ध एवं दुग्ध उत्पाद

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोनुसार मेरा गलत नाम रुस्तम खान दर्ज है, सही नाम रोस्तम खान आधार नंबर 487473947234 F/o आर्मी नं. 18020584M लांस हवलदार (एल) सबेश कादरी खान, गांव– दहानासुनी, पोस्ट–गारदपुर, तह – भद्रक, जिला–भद्रक, ओडिशा– 756181 है।

मेरे पति के सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम प्रतिभा पटेल दर्ज है, सही नाम प्रतिभा देवी आधार नं. 999659909418 W/o आर्मी नं. 15176664X नायक शिव मोहन पटेल, ग्राम व पोस्ट–दुआरी, तह. गुड़, जिला रेवा,मध्य प्रदेश 486123 है।

PUBLIC NOTICE

IN MY DAUGHTER LIPIKA RAWAT SCHOOL RECORDS MY WIFE'S NAME MRS. KAMLA DEVI IS ENTERED CORRECTLY WHEREAS MY NAME IS WRONGLY WRITTEN AS RAMESH SINGH RAWAT WHEREAS MY CORRECT NAME IS RAMESH SINGH. IN FUTURE IT MAY BE READ AS ABOVE. RAMESH SINGH S/O-VIKRAM SINGH RAWAT R/O - LANE NO.1, NEAR SHARESH WEDDING POINT, VISHNUPURAM MOTHROWALA, DEHRADUN

NOTICE

Notice is given to Public at large that original sale deed executed by Mr. Narendra Kumar s/o late Shri Ram Kishor Sale deed regarding Khasra NO-128 area 38.03 somtr in favour of Mr. Dilshad Ahmad c/o Mr. Abdul Shami Vide Sale deed dated 26/11/2012. which is duly registered in the office of sub-registrar - I Dehradun in book NO-1, VOL. 4831 pages 379 to 398 at Document No=9701 dated 26/11/2012. that the said sale deed i lost, if found by any person contact to (Pritam singh Ramola Advocate (Contact NO-9412347176)

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अध्यक्ष

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uttarakhand 03

Warning- heavy to very heavy rain likely in parts of State today

PNS DEHRADUN

With light to moderate rain being witnessed in various parts of the State on Monday, the State meteorological centre has warned of the possibility of heavy to very heavy rain in three districts and heavy rain in six districts on Tuesday. The centre issued an orange alert (Be Prepared) regarding the possibility of heavy to very heavy rainfall/thunderstorms accompanied with light-ning/very intense to extremely intense spells of rain likely to occur at isolated places in Uttarkashi, Chamoli and Bageshwar districts. It also issued a yellow warning (Be Updated) regarding the pos-sibility of heavy rainfall/thunderstorms accompanied with light-

ning/intense to very intense Pauri and Nainital districts. districts today. Further, thunderstorms accompanied with lightning/intense to very intense centre director Bikram Singh

spells of rain are likely to said that a saturation level

occur at isolated places in the spells of rain likely to occur at isolated places in Dehradun, Tehri, showers are likely to occur at Rudraprayag, Haridwar, most places in the State's

The State meteorological



has been reached which has remaining districts of the affected the absorption of water in the soil. This may result in landslides and sudden rise in the level of water in mountain streams and other water bodies. He advised travellers to be patient while those living in

proximity to water bodies

should remain alert Singh further said that the weather activity is likely to tone down to normal from August 14 to 18.

Meanwhile, the provisional State capital Dehradun is forecast to witness a partly to generally cloudy sky. Few spells of light to moderate rain/thundershowers are likely to occur, of which one or two spells may be intense/heavy in some areas. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be about 32 degrees

Celsius and 24 degrees Celsius respectively in Dehradun today. The rain recorded in various areas on Monday was 21.5 millimetres in Nainital, 17.5 millimetres in Yamkeshwar, 14 millimetres in Pauri, 11.5 millimetres in Dehradun and 10.5 millimetres in Haridwar.

Water seeping from lake created by debris on Mandakini at Bhimbali

193 roads remain blocked in various parts of State

PNS DEHRADUN

Water has continued to seep gradually from the lake formed on the Mandakini river due to debris from the landslide which occurred at Bhimbali near the bridle path to Kedarnath on Sunday. Meanwhile, at least 193 roads were reported to be blocked in various parts of the State on Monday. Teams of the National Disaster Response Force and State Disaster Response Force, along with others are present at the location. Meanwhile, a total of 193 roads were reported to be blocked in various parts of be blocked in various parts of the State as on Monday evening. Earlier, in the Rudraprayag district one per-son died and one went missing after a pickup vehicle fell about 150 metres down the road into the river on the Kalimath route near Ghaghli. The SDRF and police are searching for the police are searching for the missing person. Eight rural motor roads and two pedestri-an bridges are blocked in the

Three feared dead in separate mishaps in Uttarkashi

PNS UTTARKASHI

Three persons are feared dead in two separate incidents in the Uttarkashi district on Monday. According to officials, two women were swept away in the Bhagirathi while district. One main district road and 10 rural motor roads are blocked in the Uttarkashi disfetching water from the river below Nageshwar Dham in the trict while one other district Dunda area in the afternoon. road and 24 rural motor roads They have been identified as

three persons near Orcha Bend on the Yamunotri national highway. One of the persons sustained minor injuries in the accident though the driver of the jeep died after getting stuck in the mangled vehicle. The SDRF, 108 ambulance and police reached the site along with district officials. The dri



State highway and one rural motor road are blocked in Sonam Singh and Rajeshwari Singh, both from Kunsi village. Udham Singh Nagar district. District officials along with SDRF and police personnel One main district road and 20 rural motor roads are blocked reached the site to search for in Pauri district while 15 rural the women. In the other accimotor roads are blocked in dent, a boulder fell from the mountain on a jeep carrying

ver was identified as Pushkar Singh Maluda from Dhautri in Badkot area of the district. The injured man was taken for primary treatment to the Badkot health centre while the other passenger went home on his own.

Two dead, one injured |Speculations rife on expansion after falling into septic tank pit in Haridwar PNS DEHRADUN

PNS DEHRADUN

critically injured after falling into a septic tank pit while working in an under-construction house in the Manglaur area near Roorkee in Haridwar district on Monday.

The officials informed that the accident took place in the Manglaur Kotwali area where construction work was ongoing. Two labourers, Rashid and Usman were tasked with removing the shuttering of the newly constructed house's roof. After completing the work, they were about to leave when the slab covering a nearby septic tank pit col-lapsed. Rashid fell into the pit Unfortunately, all three were

 $T {\scriptstyle \rm wo}$ labourers lost their the toxic gases accumulated lives and another was in the pit, the officials in the pit, the officials informed

They said that despite the efforts of people, Rashid and Usman could not be rescued and died on the spot. The third person, who was also ravely injured, was taken to the hospital by the police for treatment. The officials informed that the septic tank's hazardous gases report-edly caused the labourers' death.

The police took the bodies into custody and sent them for post mortem. A police constable who also attempted to rescue the victims escaped unharmed, they and in a desperate attempt to informed. The investigation is save him, Usman and anoth- ongoing and further action er villager jumped in as well. will be taken as per the post mortem examination report

& reshuffle of Dhami cabinet

The recent Delhi visits of many senior leaders of BJP Ranipur MLA Adesh Chauhan, Devprayag MLA Vinod Kandari and Karnprayag MLA including that of chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has given rise to speculations about Anil Nautiyal are making rounds as contenders for cabreshuffle and expansion of the Dhami cabinet. It is learnt that inet berths. In recent times, many leaders including former the CM is also keen to fill the cabinet ministers Kaushik and vacant posts of ministers in his Chufal have met Dhami. It is cabinet and drop a couple of non-performing/controversial pertinent to mention here that both these senior leaders were ministers. Speculations are rife that the CM Dhami can ignored by Dhami when he was reelected as CM of the State expand and reshuffle his team after the Assembly elections of after the monsoon session of 2022. Three positions in the the Uttarakhand Assembly. cabinet have been vacant ever Many MLAs of the ruling BJP since Dhami took over the including some former minis-CM in his second stint in ters are said to be in the race for March 2022. After the death of the cabinet berth. The names minister Chandan Ram Dass, of veteran Munna Singh the number of vacancies in the Chauhan, former BJP State cabinet has increased to four. presidents Madan Kaushik and At present there are only two Bansidhar Bhagat, Bishan Singh Chufal, former cabinet ministers (Rekha Arya and Saurabh Bahuguna) from the minister Arvind Pandey, Kumaon region in the cabinet. Dharampur MLA Vinod Similarly, as many as seven districts including Haridwar, Nainital and Chamoli are Chamoli, Lansdowne MLA

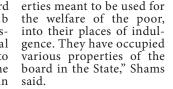
At present the Pauri (Satpal Maĥaraj and Dhan Singh Rawat) and Dehradun (Prem Rawat) and Denradun (Prem Chand Agarwal and Ganesh Joshi) are represented by two ministers each while Champawat is represented by CM Dhami, Udham Singh Nagar by Saurabh Bahuguna, Tehri by Subodh Uniyal and Almora by Rekha Arya in the cabinet. Political observers opine that the central leadership of BJP would take a final decision on the cabinet expansion, reshuffle, its timing and composition. They point out that the central leadership could allow Dhami to drop a couple of controversial ministers. The experts further opine that the CM can expand his cabinet before the elections of urban local bodies (ULBs). "By expanding and reshuffling his cabinet the CM can silence his critics and put to rest the speculations of a leadership ange in the State," a politica

Waqf Board chairman meets Rijiju, seeks CBI probe into board's properties Shams seeks probe into properties of Piran Kaliyar also

PNS DEHRADUN

Tehri district.

Uttarakhand Waqf Board chairman Shadab Shams has sought an investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation into Waqf properties across the nation, especially Piran Kaliyar in the Haridwar district. Amidst the move by the Union government



Seeking a CBI probe, he told the Union minister



Uttarakhand in-charge Dushyant Kumar Gautam and the party's minority cell national head Jamal Siddiqui, informing them about the corruption in the name of Waqf. The leaders spoke about exposing those indulging in such corrup-tion along with undertaking a public awareness campaign. Shams said that he will soon meet chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and inform him about the whole matter.

rendered unconscious due to accordingly, they added.

Ram Singh Kaida, BHEL

Dilip Rawat, Bhimtal MLA

unrepresented in the cabinet. observer opined.

CM tells officials to ensure user friendly portals of departments

PNS DEHRADUN

secretariat on Monday. Dhami directed the offitheir ongoing projects on He said that the depart- viding employment and ments will have to upload self-employment should the data of the previous organise workshops in

that the portals of the officers that he will review departments should be the CM Helpline 1905 and user friendly. He directed the CM dashboard every should hold monthly of the CM dashboard is to meetings on the CM dash-board. He said this while reviewing the CM dash-reviewing the CM dash-ments should identify the ments should identify the board 'Darpan 2.0' at the problems and find their solutions. He said that work should be done at a cials to connect all the fast pace for the welfare of departments to the CM the poor, youth, farmers dashboard and also upload and women. Dhami furthe data of the ongoing ther said that flagship projects of all the depart- schemes of the Union and ments. On a stren note, the the State governments CM directed all the should be mandatorily disdepartments to update played on the CM dashboard. He said that departthe portal in next 15 days. ments associated with pro-

Chief minister Pushkar month by the 7th of every mutual coordination, Singh Dhami has said month. Dhami told the including subject experts including subject experts in the activity. He said that along with higher education, the focus the secretaries that they month. The main objective should be on providing employment to youth.

> The deputy chairman of the State Infrastructure Monitoring Committee Vishwas Dawar, chief secretary Radha Raturi, principal secretaries RK Sudhanshu and L Fanai, special principal secretary Amit Sinha, Head of Forest Force Dhananjai Mohan, secretaries R Meenakshi Sundaram, Shailesh Bagauli, Nitesh Jha, Radhika Jha, Dilip BVRĈ Jawalkar, Purushottam and others attended the meeting.

Selja gives mantra of unity to State's Congress MLAs PNS DEHRADUN

The central leadership of Congress party is continuing its efforts to forge unity in its State unit and prepare for the crucial Assembly by-election in Kedarnath and the elections of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). The Uttarakhand in- charge of Congress, Kumari Selja and in-

Arya, former chief minister Harish Rawat, the deputy leader of Congress Legislature Party (CLP) Bhuwan Kapdi, former PCC presidents Pritam Singh and Ganesh Godival, former speaker Govind Singh Kunjwal and former cabinet ministers Harak Singh Rawat,



charge (Administration) of All India Congress Committee ed to the meeting.

Navprabhat and Surendra Singh Negi. The candidates of the party in the recent Lok Sabha elections were also invit-

that the properties of to amend to the Waqf Act, Piran Kaliyar in Roorkee which has been objected to should also be investiby the opposition and some Muslim preachers, Shams gated by the agency. He met the Union Minority said that a CBI probe of Waqf properties may expose one of the biggest Affairs minister Kiren Rijiju at his residence in the scams in the nation. The national Capital and sought Uttarakhand Waqf a CBI probe into Waqf Board has about 5,300 properties in all States. Shams said that most of the properties of which the properties of the board in majority are occupied by illegal tenants, he Uttarakhand are occupied. added. Shams informed Those who have carried that Rijiju had assured out a loot in the name of him that the matter will Waqf properties for decades are now opposing the be investigated. He also amendment to be made. met the Bharatiya Janata Party national general "Some mafia elements in Waqf have turned the propsecretary and

PUBLICATION REQUIRING ATTENDANCE OF DEFENDANT (Order 5, Rule 20 of the Code of Civil Procedure)

IN THE COURT OF MS. CHARAN SALWAN, CIVIL JUDGE -03, ROOM NO. 279, CENTRAL DISTRICT, TIS HAZARI, DELHI NEXT DATE OF HEARING 27.08.2024 Case No. CS SCJ 748/2023 J.(Civil)- 12

ICICI BANK LIMITED ...Plaintif Against RAMESH CHANDRA ...Defendant

To, 1. RAMESH CHANDRA S/O. GIRISH CHANDRA, R/O. H.NO. 899, GROUND FLOOR, SAROL VILLAGE, SEC-18, NEAR GOVT. SR. SEC. SCHOOL, GURGAON-122001, AND MOD NO. 9639003995 AND MOB. NO. 9639003995 ALSO AT-2. RAMESH CHANDRA 2. RAMESH CHANDRA S/O. GIRISH CHANDRA, R/O. H. NO. 02, VILLAGE BADUVATANA, SALLA BHATKOTE, ALMORA, UTTRAKHANID-263624 THEDEFENDANTABOVENAMED

HEDEPENDANI ABOVENAMED WHEREAS you are intentionally evading service of summons it is hereby notified that if you shall not defend the case on the 27.08.2024 the day fixed for the final disposal, it will be heard and determined ex-parte. Given under my hand and the seal Given under my hand and the seal of the court, this 22.07.2024. Civil Judge- 03 (Central) Tis Hazari Courts,

Circle Sastra, Dehradun.

Rawat express concern at slow pace of making Ayushman cards in some districts

PNS DEHRADUN

Ayushman cards in some districts of the State, Health minister Dhan Singh Rawat has directed the Health department officers to find the reasons for it. He has also directed the departmental officers to work in coordi-nation with the Panchayat and Food and Civil Supplies departments for making of the health cards. Rawat said that the pace of making health cards in Haridwar, Tehri, Pithoragarh, Rudraprayag and Chamoli districts is slow. These dis-

(SHA) chief executive officer Anand Srivastava to oversee the task of expediting the making of Ayushman cards sum of Rs 2,474 crore for in Haridwar district. Similarly SHA director (Administration) Dr BS Tolia has been entrusted with the Kumaon division while director Atul Joshi has been given the charge of Rudraprayag, Chamoli and Tehri districts.

Taking note of the slow tricts lag behind others in cards so far and a total of pace of the making of Ayushman cards in some the State Health Authority availed the benefit of free treatment in the hospitals on the panel of the SHA. The State government has paid a treatment under the scheme which otherwise would have been a burden on the patients. There are 101 government and 192 private hospitals in the State that are empanelled in the scheme.

Rawat said that the government intends to make The SHA has issued more Ayushman cards for 100 per than 57.40 lakh Ayushman cent of the State's population.

(AICC) Gurdip Sappal met the Congress MLAs from the State in New Delhi on Monday. The meeting was attended by Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Karan Mahara, the leader of opposi-tion (LoP) in the State Assembly Yashpal Arya and all the 20 MLAs of the Congress party. The Pratapnagar MLA Vikram Singh Negi told The Pioneer that discussions on the upcoming elections of the ULBs and the Kedarnath Assembly by-election were held in the meeting. It is learnt that the State in-charge asked the party leaders and MLAs to shun differences and work for strengthening the party in the State. She also discussed the party's strategy for the upcoming Kedarnath bypoll and the ULB polls in the State. The meeting of the central leaders with the party MLAs comes after their recent meeting with the senior leaders of the party. In this meeting Selja took inputs about the political situation in the State and affairs of the party from the Mahara,

रांजाब नैश्वनल बैंक 🙂 punjab national bank

mail id: cs 8218@pnb.co.in (NOTICE UNDER 13 (2) OF SARFAESI ACT 2002 READ WITH RULE 3 OF SECURITY INTEREST ENFORCEMENT RULES 2002 I being an Authorised Offcer of the Secured Creditor Bank has a reason to believe that all of you the under mentioned notices cannot be served ordinarily as attempted earlier except through this substituted service. As such, all of you the under mentioned notices are hereby informed and called upon through this public DEMAND NOTICE under section 13(2) of the SARFAESI Act with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule 2002 make payment of the amounts due against each of you, as mentioned below, within 60 days, the bank will proceed U/s 13 (4) of the said Act for taking possession of the secured property/ies/Assets mentioned against account and thereafter to sell the same to realize its dues with further interest till realization along with costs as contemplated under the said Act. Needless to mentioned here that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to bank for recovery of its dues, against you. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time

available, to redeem the secured assets.

S. No.	Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgager	Details of Security/Property	Date of Demand Notice	Due Amount
1.	Branch: Paltan Bazar, Dehradun 1. Mrs Karishma Amit Sukhija W/o Mr. Amit Prem Sukhija (Borrower/Mortgager) Add: Ist Floor Shes -thradhara Road, Above Aarav Shop, Kandoli, Dhanaula, Dehradun- 248001,Add: 26/1, Arvind Marg, Old Survey Road, Dehradun- 248001, Add: C-61, Flower Queen, Vegra Desai Road, Adheri (W), Mumbai-58. 2. Mrs. Kavita Prem Sukhija W/o Mr. Prem N. Sukhija (C0-Borrower), Add: Ist Floor Shesthradhara Road, Above Aarav Shop, Kandoli, Dhanaula, Dehradun- 248001, Add: 26/1, Arvind Marg, Old Survey Road, Dehradun- 248001, Add: C-61, Flower Queen, Vegra Desai Road, Adheri (W), Mumbai-58.	comprised in land of Khata n0. 384 (According to Fasli year 1414-1419) Khasara no. 35 Tra having area 57.87 sq.mtrs (total covered) with parking right at ground floor situated at Mauza kandoli, Pargana Central Doon, Distt Dehradun (Uttarakhand) Bounded and Butted as under (As per sale deed),North: Downwards 30 ft wide road, South: Prop of Amit Vij, East: Downwards 25 ft wide road, West: Prop of Others. Sale deed registered in book no 1, Vol 2460, page 280 to 316 of carea 150 or deted 05 01 2015	13(2) on 06.08.2024 for Rs. 13,67,921.18 + Further interest & Other Charges w.e.f 31.07.2024 Date of NPA 30.07.2024	Due Amount as on 06.08.2024 Rs. 13,67,921.18 + further interest & Other Charges w.e.f 31.07.2024
	Date: 12.08.2024	Place : Dehradun	A	uthorised Officer



BJP rejects Cong's JPC demand, says Hindenburg report plot against India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The BJP on Monday rejected the Congress' demand for a JPC probe into Hindenburg's allegation against the SEBI Chairperson, saying it is a sham with an eye on weakening the Indian economy and destroying investment in the country. BJP Leader and former Union Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad reiterated the party's line that the short-selling firm's charge and the Opposition's criticism of the market regulator are

part of a wider conspiracy. While India is being globally seen as a safe, stable and promising market, the Congress party wants to project that the Indian investment scenario is not safe, he alleged, suggesting that the Opposition party was seizing on the "chits" provided by foreign entities to damage economy

Billionaire investor George Soros is an investor in Hinderburg and he is known for running propaganda against the Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Prasad said. The Congress wants stock market, which has given good returns to crores of



jolt the market.

"In its pathological hatred for

Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

the Congress, led by Rahul

Gandhi and his toolkit friends,

has developed hatred for India."

The SEBI had sent a notice to

the US-based Hindenburg as

part of its probe on the Supreme

firm's allegations of stock mar-

ket manipulation against the

Adani group. Hindenburg never replied but has instead

launched an attack on SEBI

Chairperson Madhabi Puri

Buch, he said. With Rahul

Gandhi spearheading his party's

the issue, Prasad said he has a

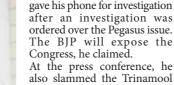
habit of throwing unfounded charges and noted that he never

Court's order following the

small investors, to crash, he said. "After being rebuffed by people, the Congress, its allies and its closest ally in the toolkit gang have conspired together to usher in economic anarchy and instability in India," he told reporters.

The 10-year-old rule of the Congress between 2004 and 2014 was marked by several alleged scams, Prasad noted, as he questioned why such critical reports were not brought out

then. He alleged, "The Congress party Leader ship is involved in creating economic anarchy based on this fictitious report." He, however, asserted that investors have come to realise the "conspiracy" and rejected the attempts to



Congress Government in West Bengal over the rape and mur der of a doctor at a State-run hospital, alleging that it was try-ing to cover up the incident. The BJP MP said the State Government should hand over the probe to the CBI.

Amid attacks on minority Hindus in the unrest-hit Bangladesh, the BJP Leader questioned the silence of the Öpposition Leader s, including Gandhi, and noted that Modi had spoken about the need to protect them. The Congress has demanded Buch's resignation and urged the Supreme Court to transfer the Adani probe to the CBI or a Special Investigation Team given the "likelihood of SEBI's compromise". The Opposition party also reiterated that the path forward is to immediately convene Joint Parliamentary

Committee (JPC) to investigate attack on the Government over the full extent of what it described as the "Modani mega scam".



ICG strengthens surveillance to foil illegal Bangladeshi migration via sea

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELH

Considering the recent polit-ical events in the Bangladesh and emerging situation, Indian Coast Guard (ICG) has aptly positioned operational units for robust surveillance in the region and to foil any attempts of illegal migration through sea routes, officials said here on Monday. Giving details, they said surface surveillance has been enhanced along the Indo-Bangladesh International Maritime Boundary Line or IMBL by Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) and Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs). Layered surface surveillance has been instituted by additional FPVs. All units at sea have been advised to monitor/Board all fishing boats and undertake positive identification of Indian Fishermen. Sea Air coordinated aerial sur-

veillance has been augmented along IMBL by Coast Guard Aircraft especially during dawn dusk hours to track scooting contacts, if any. Additional assets are also kept on standby at Paradip and Haldia for immediate deployment/ response, if any subversive activity is reported. Electronic surveillance has been promptly maintained for all close coast transferring contacts and interrogated. Necessary coordination has been maintained with agencies and stakeholders to prevent any ingress through possible infiltration/ landing points.

So far, no instances of infiltration or any such activity have been reported on the maritime front.

The enhanced surveillance measures will be maintained in the area until the situation improves and stabilises, they said.

SC rejects plea against cancellation of UGC NET examination

PNS NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a fresh plea filed by some examinees challenging the Government's decision to cancel the UGC-NET examination following alleged question paper leak, saying that entertaining it at this stage will create "chaos".

A bench comprising Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and

Justices JB Pardiwala and

Manoj Misra said the

Government is conducting the

exam afresh on August 21 and

the students, who are around

nine lakh, must have some kind

of "certainty now". "The

Supreme Court stepping now

will have a serious effect and

there will be chaos all over," the

CJI said while declining to

entertain the plea filed by

Praveen Dabas and others. The

bench said the exam was held

on June 18 and was cancelled

"Entertaining the plea at the

present stage would only add to

uncertainty and add to utter

chaos," the CJI said, adding the

Central Government must be

"doubly cautious after the

NEET-UG fiasco and thus it

was cancelled. Let this process

a day after that.

Earlier, the top court had dismissed a PIL on the issue, saying it was filed by a lawyer and not by aggrieved candidates. 'Why are you (lawyer) coming? Let the students come here themselves," the CJI had told the lawyer, adding "while declining the above PIL, we express nothing on merits".

nation 04

The bench had asked advocate Ujjawal Gaur, who has filed the PÍL as a petitioner, to focus on some legal matters and leave such issues for aggrieved persons

The earlier plea was also filed against the decision of the Union education Ministry and the National Testing Agency to cancel the UGC-NET exam following inputs that its integrity may have been compromised. The Ministry on June 19 had ordered the cancellation of the UGC-NET exam and handed over the matter to the CBI for an investigation.

IIT Madras top in NIRF 2024, IISc ranked best university

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NFW DFI HI

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras remained on the top spot in the National Institute Ranking Framework, 2024 for the sixth consecutive year, while the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru was ranked as the best university for the ninth year in a row, according to the Ministry of Education. The ninth edition of the rank-

ings was announced by Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan on Monday. IISc Bengaluru has bagged the second spot in the "overall" category followed by IIT Bombay while IIT Delhi, which was at the third spot last year in the category, has slipped Management

to the fourth position. Eight IITs have figured in the top ten besides All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi and the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). Among universities, IISc Bengaluru is followed by JNU and Jamia Millia Islamia.

Nine IITs are in the top ten list for engineering colleges with IIT Madras being at the top for the ninth consecutive year in the category. IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay have also retained their second and third spot respectively in the category. National Institute of Technology (NIT), Technology (NIT), Tiruchirapalli is the only non-IIT in the top ten list. Among management colleges, the Indian Institute of

(IIM)



Ahmedabad has retained its top spot, followed by IIM Bangalore and IIM Kozhikode. Two IITs Bombay and Delhi have also figured in the top ten list for management courses. In pharmacy, Jamia Hamdard rose to the top spot from its second position last year while the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Hyderabad slipped to the second rank. BITS Pilani has retained its third position in the category. Delhi University's Hindu

College and Miranda House have switched positions in the colleges' category with the former bagging the top spot. St Stephen's College is in the third position among colleges. Similarly for law, the National Law School of India University, Bengaluru followed by the National Law University, Delhi and NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad have retained first, second and third spots respectively.

For Architecture and Planning, IIT Roorkee has been announced as the best, followed by IIT Kharagpur and NIT Calicut. Among medical colleges, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi has bagged the top position followed by PGIME, Chandigarh and CMC Vellore

at second and third spot. Among the dental colleges Saveetha Institute of Medical And Technical Sciences, Chennai and Manipal College of Dental Sciences retained the top two positions while the third rank has been bagged by Maulana Azad Institute of Dental Sciences, New Delhi. For research, IISc Bengaluru has been acknowledged as the best followed by IIT Madras and IIT Delhi at second and third spot. For education in Agriculture and Allied Sectors, Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi is at the first spot while ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute,

Haryana has bagged the second rank, followed by Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.

Centre advises news channels to add timestamps on disaster footage

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The Centre on Monday issued an advisory to private news channels to carry a date and timestamp on visuals of natural disasters and major accidents while reporting on such incidents.

The advisory, issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, noted that television channels provide continuous coverage of natural disasters, major accidents over several days but keep showing the footage from the day the incident took place.

The Ministry argued that the footage shown by television channels several days after the



necessarily reflect the realtime ground situation which leads to "unnecessary confusion and potential panic among viewers".

"Therefore, to avoid any misunderstanding among view-ers, all private satellite TV channels are hereby advised to ensure that visuals of disasters, natural calamity or major accidents should prominently dis-play a 'DATE AND TIME' stamp on the top of the footage," the advisory read. The display of date and timestamp will ensure that viewers are suitably informed about the exact date of the footage being telecast and the fact that it does not necessarily reflect the real time position at the location of the incident. The I&B Ministry advisory also "strongly advised" private news channels to ensure adherence to the Programme Code while telecasting such

incidents. The advisory comes in the wake of extensive coverage of the landslides in Wayanad and Himachal Pradesh that claimed several lives recently.





components: enhancing solar installations on residential

properties, commercial/indus-

trial/Government buildings,

and creating Model Solar Villages.

Through this challenge, villages

will compete for a central

financial grant, designed to

accelerate their transition to

solar power and establish them

as beacons of sustainable ener-

gy adoption. This initiative not only seeks to

boost solar energy use but also

to inspire other communities to

follow suit, added the official.

In order to be considered a vil-

lage under the competition

mode, a village must be a rev-

adoption.

(DLC)



Former Foreign Minister K Natwar cremated, leaders pay tribute



Centre to launch contest to designate Model Solar villages

ARCHANA JYOTI - NEW DELHI

In an ambitious new effort to promote solar energy aimed to reduce dependence of conventional energy amidst climate change threats, the Centre is launching a competitive "challenge" under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana (PMSY) to designate Model Solar Villages. In this regard, the Government has announced a central financial assistance grant of Rs one crore to the winning hamlet in each district with the highest renewable energy capacity. "The goal is to promote solar energy use and help villages become self-reliant in meeting their energy needs," said an official from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. The incentive comes under the 'Model Solar Village' initiative under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana for which the Guidelines for implementation of 'Model Solar Village' under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana were notified by the Ministry on August 9, 2024."

The initiative aims to inspire and support villages across India to transition to solar power and serve as models for sustainable energy practices," said the official.

This scheme, which aims to expand off-grid solar solutions, is part of a comprehensive approach with three key

The 10th edition of India- Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise Mitra Shakti commenced on Monday at Army Training School, Maduru Oya, Sri Lanka. The Exercise is scheduled to end on August 25, army said here.

Giving details, officials said Indian contingent comprising of 106 personnel is being represented by a battalion of Rajputana Rifles along with personnel from other arms and services

The Sri Lankan contingent is being represented by personnel from Gajaba Regiment of Sri Lankan Army. Joint Exercise MITRA SHAKTI is an annual training event conducted alternatively in India and Sri Lanka. Last edition was conducted in Pune in November last year. Aim of the Joint Exercise is to enhance joint military capability of both sides to undertake counter insurgency operations in a Sub Conventional scenario under Chapter VII of the



United Nations Mandate.

The exercise will focus on operations in the semi-urban environment. Tactical drills to be rehearsed during the exercise include Response to a Terrorist Action, Establishment of a Joint Command Post, Establishment of an Intelligence and Surveillance Centre, Securing of a Helipad/ Landing Site, Small Team Insertion and Extraction, Special Heliborne Operations, Cordon and Search Operations besides employment of Drones and Counter Drone Systems among others.

The Exercise will enable both sides to share best practices in Tactics, Techniques and Procedures of conducting joint operations.

ing military or surgical opera-

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The mortal remains of L Former Foreign Minister K Natwar Singh were consigned to flames here on Monday as several political Leader s, including External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, joined in paying tribute to him.

Natwar Singh passed away on Saturday night after a prolonged illness, according to his family members. He was 93. His funeral was held in the afternoon at the Lodhi Crematorium amid rains in Delhi. External Affairs Minister Jaishankar, Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma, National Conference Leader Omar Abdullah, Congress Leader and former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda, and several other Leaders, besides many family members, friends and admirers



of Natwar Singh gathered at the crematorium to pay tribute.

Jaishankar offered a piece of wood to the funeral pyre before Singh's mortal remains were consigned to flames. "Many political Leaders came to pay tribute to Natwar sahab," said a family friend who attended the funeral.

The former Union Minister breathed his last at Medanta Hospital in Gurugram near Delhi, where he had been admitted for the past few weeks, they said. Natwar Singh was born in 1931 at Jaghina village in Bharatpur district of Rajasthan.

He was a career diplomat, who brought a wealth of experience in diplomacy to his political career, and a prolific author on subjects ranging from the life of a 'maharaja' to nuances of foreign affairs. During his distinguished career

he wore many hats, and for his service to the nation, the former external affairs Minister was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1984. Shekhawat described the departure of Natwar Singh as an "irreparable loss" both in the fields of politics and diploma-

"Ás a diplomat, the way he served the nation, and the way he worked as a politician for the interest of the nation, both shall be scripted in golden let-ters in the pages of history," he told reporters here.

"Natwar Singh ji was a fearless and courageous man, and he always put forth his thoughts fearlessly and openly whatever was in interest of the nation and the society ... "

well-formed pseudopodia in

the activated platelets resulting

in agglutination which play a

major role in the clotting

In addition, the composite

enhanced calcium release, and

its extrusion," said the authors

Gokul Patil, Rutuja Pawar, and

Vandana Ghormade from the

Furthermore, a significant

increase of the active form of

the protease activated receptor

gene (PAR1 gene-- present in

the platelet membranes facili-

tates thrombin signaling) was

noted in human platelets.

Platelet calcium release and

upregulation of PAR1 on the

platelet surface are critical for

platelet shape change and

aggregation. The study is pub-

lished in the Journal Applied

Polymer Science.

process

institute.

- Annald State

Priyanka concern at Bangladesh minority attacks

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

ongress Leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Monday said news of continuous attacks on minorities in neighbouring Bangladesh was disturbing and expressed hope that the Government there would ensure the safety of Hindus, Christians and Buddhists.

The Congress general secretary said discrimination, violence and attacks on the basis of religion, caste, language or identity were unacceptable in any

civilised society. 'The news of continuous attacks on minorities in neighbouring Bangladesh is disturbing. Discrimination, violence and attacks on the basis of religion, caste, language or identity are unacceptable in any civilised society," Priyanka said in a post

on X. She expressed hope that the sit-

uation in Bangladesh would soon become normal and the interim Government there would ensure the safety and respect for people following Hindu, Christian and Buddhist religions. Bangladesh's interim Leader Mohammad Yunus on Saturday condemned attacks on minority communities in the violence-hit nation, terming them as "heinous", and urged youngsters to protect all Hindu, Christian and Buddhist families

from harm. A number of Hindu temples, households and businesses were vandalised, women assaulted and at least two Hindu Leader s affiliated with the Awami League party headed by Sheikh Hasina were killed in the violence in Bangladesh after she fled the country, according to community Leader s in Dhaka.

Indian researchers create xerogel for blood clot relief

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

enue village with a population size above 5,000 (or 2,000 for Indian researchers have devel-Loped a porous composite special category states). The selection process involves xerogel dressing incorporata competitive mode where viling Silica Nanoparticles and lages are assessed on their calcium, that can help blood clot rapidly and provide relief overall distributed renewable for uncontrolled hemorrhage. energy (RE) capacity installed 6 months after the declaration The composite showed significant improvement in rate of of the potential candidate by the District Level Committee blood clotting in comparison to commercial dressing, said scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) Pune, an autonomous institute of Department of Science and

The Government had given go ahead to the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana in February this year, with the aim to Technology (DST) under the increase the share of solar Union Ministry of Science and rooftop capacity and empower residential households to Technology. Uncontrolled hemorrhage is generate their own electricity. The scheme has an outlay of Rs one of the leading causes of 75,021 crore and is to be impletraumatic death resulting from mented till fiscal 2026-27. accidents or injuries and dur-

tions. More than 40 per cent of trauma deaths are due to severe loss of blood. Gauze, a commonly used first aid material or the natural defences of the human body operating through reduction in blood flow to the injury site, platelet plug formation by fibrin activation and activation of blood clotting pathways are inadequate to

halt severe hemorrhage. Therefore, improved hemostatic materials are urgently required to reduce blood loss

The scientists said that the highly porous spongy xerogel hemostatic dressing supplemented with substances bind to a receptor inside a cell (agonists) like silica nanoparticles (SiNPs) and calcium. They studied composite material and



found that it increased the blood clotting index by 13-fold in comparison to commercial dressing clotting capacity. The well-characterised xerogel

showed presence of multiple pores of around 30 µm size that contributed to the high absorbance capacity of the dressing. The supplements improved the clotting capacity and resulted in quick absorbance of blood.

"Platelets are an important component of blood and contribute to the blood clotting

process. Several factors like change in platelet shape, secretion of calcium, and activation of receptors on platelet surface play a role in the intricate pathway of blood clotting. "The xerogel hemostatic dressing showed enhanced platelet aggregation due to the development of



nation 05

Work to make India a developed nation: Mandaviya to youth

PTI AHMEDABAD

Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister U Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Monday urged youth to work with commitment and dedication to become successful and make India a become developed nation by 2047. Addressing the "Impact With

Youth Conclave 2024" here on International Youth Day, the minister said the 'Mera Yuva Bharat - 'MY Bharat' portal launched by the Centre will become a single window platform for the youth.

This year's International Youth Day, themed 'From Clicks to Progress: Youth Pathways Digital for Sustainable Development, emphasises the importance of digitalisation and the pivotal role young people play in this transformation.

"This is a country with a population of 140 crore. It is our collective responsibility to make India a developed nation. In such a situation, youth have a special responsibility," Mandaviya



people, which I adopted in the my life. One common

the minister said.

"Today, on International Youth Day, pledge to be

successful for the country

Meanwhile, Jarange reiterated fielding 288 candidates from

the Maratha community in

the upcoming Maharashtra

assembly elections if the

government failed to provide

He highlighted significance of youth in characteristic realising the vision of a developed India by 2047, the 100th year of independence, commitment and dedication with which they worked. Commitment and dedication, and said the government will along with hard work, and leave no stone unturned to the fourth is goal...Set a goal. Work with commitment and ensure the financial security the young dedication to achieve the goal, and nothing can stop generation. you from being successful,"

The central government is making an effort to empower the youth of the country by creating opportunities for them, he said. "I found two to three points and yourselves. If you move common in successful ahead with this goal, you will

said.

of

centenary year of its independence," he said. The Union minister said around 1.5 crore people have registered themselves on 'MY Bharat', which will become a single window platform for the youth.

"In the coming days, the MY Bharat portal will become a single-window platform for helping vouth, them determine their future. It will help them with career opportunities, enrolments and applications," Mandaviya told reporters later.

become successful, and we

will make India a developed

nation when it celebrates the

Users of MY Bharat will be able to connect themselves with national and international systems, he said.

was

"Volunteers will visit 5,000 college campuses and offer a presentation regarding MY harat and how youth will benefit from the internship scheme and other initiatives announced in the Union Budget," he said. Mandaviya said in the last

two months, he interacted with 12-15 youth groups and around 500 youngsters to seek their suggestions to make MY Bharat more robust.

The Union minister urged youngsters to prioritise their commitment to the nation alongside their careers. UNICEF representative in

India and co-chair of the UNICEF YuWaah board, Cynthia McCaffrey, stressed the importance of engaging youth in global action. "International Youth Day is a reminder of the immense

contributions young people make to their communities and the world," she said. 'We are committed to improving young people's access to skilling,

volunteering, innovation, entrepreneurship, and other economic opportunities through our deep and longstanding partnership with the Government of India and by harnessing youth potential through digital platforms such as YouthHub," she said.

Viewing districts through ethnic

Karnataka to form expert panel to assess condition of all dams

(Tungabhadra) Dam, we have

taken immediate action. I

have spoken to contractors

and we have sent the designs.

In four to five days, we will try

to repair it. We want to save at

least one crop for our farmers,

we are taking all necessary

measures for it. The Chief

Minister is also visiting there

tomorrow. I have also

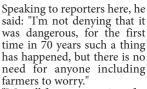
PTI BENGALURU

In the backdrop of one of the crest gates of the Lcrest gates of the Tungabhadra reservoir being washed away, Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Monday said the state government is constituting an expert committee to assess the condition of all dams in the state.

Shivakumar, also the Water Resources Minister, said efforts are on to restore the crest gate at the dam and there is no need for anyone to worry over the issue.

One of the crest gates (19th gate) of the Tungabhadra reservoir near the district headquarters town of Koppal was washed away after its chain link snapped on Friday midnight, following which the downstream areas were put on alert, as a huge quantity of water was being released.

discussed with the technical "Yesterday I visited the T B team," Shivakumar said.



"We will form a committee for the safety of all dams and will send them to all dams. An expert committee will be formed in a couple of days and will be sent to visit all dams and seek a report from them after assessment," he said.

After visiting the dam on Sunday, Shivakumar had said that as there was a possibility of damage to the structure of the dam, all the gates were opened from where 38,000 cusecs of water is being released to neighbouring Pradesh Andhra and Telangana, while the inflow is 28.000 cusecs.

He had also said out of 38,000 cusecs of water being released, 35,000 is flowing from the 19th gate itself.

Day after Maratha protesters' ire, Sharad meets community leaders

Members of a Maratha organisation on Monday met with NCP (SP) leader Sharad Pawar at his residence in Pune and asked him to clear his stand on the quota issue, a day after protesters stopped the SUV of the veteran politician in Solapur district and shouted slogans

during his rally. Reacting to the meeting between Maratha Kranti Thok Morcha leader Ramesh Kere Patil and Pawar, quota activist Manoj Jarange alleged Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and other leaders of BJP were trying to project a rift in the Maratha community.

He dubbed Kere Patil's meeting with Pawar a "trap' to divide Marathas.

"Fadnavis is dreaming to create a rift in the Maratha community, however, his dream will never become a reality," Jarange told reporters in Pune.BJP leaders (Pravin) Darekar and Fadnavis are trying to project Marathas as a divided community on the reservation issue, Jarange alleged.

Maratha agitators Sunday stopped Pawar's vehicle in



Solapur district and later raised slogans and waved black flags at a rally being addressed by the veteran politician in Barshi town. Protesters, seeking the reservation for Marathas in the OBC category, asked Pawar to clear his stance on the issue.

August 29," he said. Jarange has been leading Pawar on Monday appealed to Maharashtra Chief Minister protests demanding OBC certificates for recognising all Eknath Shinde to convene an Kunbis (agriculturists) and their "sage soyre" (blood relatives) as Marathas. all-party meeting to discuss the quota dispute between the and Other Marathas Backward Class communities. In February, the Maharashtra Talking to reporters after Kere legislature passed a bill allotting 10 per cent reservation to the Maratha Patil met him at his residence. Pawar said steps should be taken to ensure the social community in education and government jobs. Jarange, fabric of the state remains good and there is no however, insists inclusion of between Marathas in the OBC bitterness communities. category.

lens unfortunate: Manipur CM PTI IMPHAL

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Monday criticised the mindset of communities which view district boundaries through an ethnic lens, calling it "most unfortunate and detrimental to peace and harmony"

Singh emphasised the need for "reorganisation of districts" and suggested that it should involve thorough discussions with legislators and civil society.

"It is crucial to revise district boundaries based on administrative convenience rather than ethnic lines,' Singh told the Assembly.

the reservation to the Maratha community. "I will take a final decision on He acknowledged complaints that some villages were incorrectly assigned to new districts and called for a statewide survey involving authorities, village community leaders, and legislators to address these issues. Singh added that there are also calls for the rollback of some newly created districts.

Addressing concerns raised by Naga People's Front legislator Leishiyo Keishing about the creation of new districts in 2016, Singh



stated purpose was administrative convenience, it often served political interests.

"While it is clearly mentioned that creation of districts is for administrative conveniences, served as political it conveniences as regards to some districts," the CM said. Keishing had highlighted how the formation of the Kangpokpi district in 2016 had affected the political aspirations and other opportunities of many Tangkhul and Rongmei Nagas.

Singh noted that Naga residents in Kangpokpi and Churachandpur have alleged

lack of essential services and illegal taxation, leading them to petition the Prime Minister Modi for reassignment to more suitable Singh said. "Recently, several Naga residents living in Kangpokpi and Churachandpur districts met me and claimed that they were not receiving essential services, commodities and opportunities in their districts. Additionally, media reports suggested that goods and other taxes have been levied on them.

Singh argued that these issues arose because the new districts were not properly addressing the needs of local communities.

10 names for 2 RS seats sent to central panel, says Assam BJP chief Kalita

PTI GUWAHATI

Assam BJP president Bhabesh Kalita said on Monday that 10 members have applied for nominations in two Rajya Sabha seats that have fallen vacant in the state. All the names are being forwarded to the central parliamentary committee for a final decision, he said. Speaking to reporters after a

state election committee meeting of the party here, Kalita said, "For the two Rajya Sabha seats from the state that have fallen vacant, we have received 10 applications from our senior and esteemed members.

Among those seeking party tickets are former Union minister Rameswar Teli, ex-MPs Rajdeep Roy and Topon Gogoi, incumbent MLA Manab Deka and former

MLA Mission Ranjan Das. 'The state election committee meeting, attended by Union Sarbananda minister Sonowal, CM Himanta Biswa Sarma and state in-charge



Dwivedi, among others, discussed the matter in detail. We have decided to forward all the names to the central parliamentary committee for a decision," Kalita said. final

The two seats have fallen vacant following the election of Sonowal and Kamakhya Tassa to the Lok Sabha

Assam has seven seats in the Upper House, of which six are currently held by the BJP-led ruling alliance, with the saffron party having four seats and one each by its allies AGP and UPPL One seat is held by an Independent MP.

acknowledged that while the Narendra districts.

Four Bangladeshis prevented from entering Assam, says Himanta

PTI 📕 GUWAHATI

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday said police prevented four Bangladeshi nationals from entering India illegally through Karimganj district.

"This morning at 1:30 am, Bangladeshi citizens identified as Motiur Seikh, Mushiar Mullah, Tania Mullah, and Rita Mullah attempted to enter India through the Karimganj sector of the India-Bangladesh border," he said in a post on

"However, police effectively intervened at the zero point and promptly repelled them, preventing their unauthorized entry," Sarma added.

The CM had earlier said that the situation in Bangladesh is

a matter of concern for the Northeast from two angles, with people likely to enter through the border and the neighbouring country might also again become a hub of insurgents from the region. He had maintained that the borders are secure with the

state government maintaining a strict vigil and, as of now, nobody has been allowed to cross into the country from Bangladesh except those who have valid passport, visa and are bonafide citizens of India. Director General of Assam Police GP Singh had said that a high alert has been issued

person can enter the state illegally, with BSF as the first line of defence along the border and the Assam Police

along the Indo-Bangladesh border to ensure that no

as the second line.

Incessant rain affects life in Rajasthan

PTI 📕 JAIPUR

Continuous rain has rain has districts of Rajasthan, including the capital Jaipur. In the last 24 hours, a record 118 mm rainfall has been recorded in Jaipur and the spell is still continuing. A holiday has been declared in schools in many districts, including Bharatpur, Karauli, Dausa and Sawai Madhopur. It has been raining intermittently in the state capital since Sunday afternoon. Heavy rains started at around 5 am on Monday in many areas and continued intermittently till 9 am. Due to this, many lowlying areas were flooded. People were virtually locked in their homes.

In view of heavy rains, the Education Department has declared a holiday in schools on Monday in many districts, including Jaipur. the

According to the Meteorological Centre Jaipur,



118 mm rainfall was recorded on at the Jaipur airport during the 24 hours till 8:30 am on Monday.

Amid rains in many districts of the state for many days and warnings of monsoon remaining active for the next several days, Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma held a meeting of senior officials on Sunday

He directed them to provide all possible and quick relief in the affected areas and to focus

disaster management activities by giving top priority to rescue work. At least 19 people have died in the last 24 hours due to rainrelated accidents in the state. According to the officials of the Disaster Relief Management Department, there is waterlogging in many places due to heavy rains in

Karauli and Hindaun. Meteorological The Department said there is a strong possibility of monsoon excess rainfall.

remaining active in many parts of Jaipur, Bharatpur, Ajmer, and Kota divisions of eastern Rajasthan for the next four-five days and heavy to very heavy rains at some places.

Also, there is a strong possibility of moderate and heavy rains in most parts of the Bikaner division of western Rajasthan for the next three-four days.

From June 1 to Aug 12, Rajasthan has recorded 40 per cent more rainfall than the normal. The normal rainfall recorded during the corresponding period in the the state is 283.9 mm, which has been 397.8 mm this year. Rajasthan has Western recorded 56 per cent more rainfall than the normal, whereas eastern Rajasthan recorded 31 per cent more rainfall, According to MeT department data.

Except Dungarpur and Banswara, almost all districts have recorded normal to

MP BJP working panel member arrested after he 'misbehaves' with CM Yadav's OSD

PTI BHOPAL

 $A^{\text{Madhya}}_{\text{working}} \stackrel{\text{Pradesh BJP}}{=} \operatorname{committee}$ committee member has been arrested after he allegedly created a ruckus and misbehaved with the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) to Chief Minister Mohan Yadav at a party function here, a police officer said on Monday. Hirendra Bahadur Singh, according to a police complaint filed by Naib Tehsildar Nimesh Pandey, hurled abuses, created rumpus and misbehaved with his boss, chief executive officer (CEO) of the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Good Governance and Policy

Analysis, Lokesh Sharma, at the BJP function organised at the institute on Saturday, he said.

Besides heading the state government-run institute, Sharma is also the OSD to

CM at the secretariat, a close aide of Yadav confirmed to PTI. "We served Singh a PTI. notice after registering a case and summoned him to the police station on Sunday where we arrested him," the

police officer said. Singh has been charged with abusing, threatening and trying to obstruct a government officer in discharging his duty, Kamla Nagar police station inspector Nirupa Pandey said. Singh was produced before the Assistant Commissioner of Police's court which sent him to judicial custody the previous day.

The state BJP working committee member was upset over some issue relating to his daughter's job at a facility (run by the MP government), the police said. In the recent LS polls, the BJP won all the 29 seats in Madhya Pradesh.

Preserving natural habitats for elephants helps reduce human-elephant conflict: Karnataka CM

the

PTI BENGALURU

 $P_{habitats}^{reserving} \ the \ natural habitats for the elephants$ will reduce the humanelephant conflicts that we are witnessing at an alarmingly high rate, said Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday.

He was speaking after inaugurating an international conference that coincides with World Elephant Day. The two-day conference on human-elephant conflict management, which aims to tackle the increased humanelephant conflicts, was organised by the Karnataka cent of the nation's total Forest department.

The conference will see forest department officials from across India sharing knowledge with academic researchers and civil society organisations to bring about evidence-based inclusive approaches to humanelephant conflict solutions. At the inaugural event, Siddaramaiah said Karnataka in particular is susceptible to increased human-elephant

with 6,395 elephants, which

elephant population. "With Karnataka's significant elephant population comes

the inevitable challenge of human-elephant conflict. In the last 10 years, the state reported over 2,500 incidents of human-elephant conflicts, resulting in over 350 human fatalities and substantial crop losses," said the CM.

According to him, the conference is a critical platform where to exchange conflicts as the state has the ideas, explore scientific solutions, and foster international collaboration to highest elephant population makes approximately 25 per address the problem.



"As climate change raises temperatures and changes rainfall patterns, resources become even more scarce and elephants get pushed into new areas, including communal lands. Humans face their own challenges as they must move deeper into elephant territory to collect water or firewood," said Siddaramaiah. Therefore, he said this is a challenge with significant ecological, social, and economic implications. In that context, he said the international conference presents an invaluable opportunity to learn from was also present for the

one another, explore scientific innovative and solutions, discuss sustainable approaches to fostering coexistence between humans and elephants.

"I am confident that the distinguished delegates present here will contribute valuable insights and recommendations to pave the way for a harmonious coexistence between humans and elephants," he added. Eshwar B Khandre, Karnataka's Forest, Ecology & Environment Minister who

inaugural session on Monday, reiterated that the conference is an attempt towards developing robust mechanism to address the pressing issue of humanelephant conflict.

"When the idea of the conference was initially floated to me, I was very intrigued by it. I was excited by the prospect that we'll have a chance to come across so many new ideas and setups, which can open up a whole lot of possibilities for us with regards to the conservation of elephants, added the minister.

DEHRADUN | TUESDAY | AUGUST 13, 2024

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Capital of monsoon misery

Thee national capital grapples with waterlogging and a host of issues that accompany the rains

S Eliot wrote, "April is the cruelest month..." in his famous poem *The Waste Land*. He was, of course, speaking of a different context and place, but one might wonder if he would have felt the same had he experienced Delhi in August. This year has brought a good monsoon, but for Delhiites, heavy downpours rarely bring good news. They must brace themselves for waterlogging, traffic snarls, a host of diseases, unclean water, power failures, and what have you. Streets turned into rivers, traffic reached a standstill, and daily life was thrown into disarray. The scene is all too familiar, a recurring nightmare that haunts the city every monsoon. But why does Delhi, with its sprawling infrastructure and resources, continue to grapple with such chaos year after year? More importantly, what can be done to mitigate this annual misery? Heavy rainfall over the past 24 hours has left several key areas in Delhi, including Connaught Place, Minto Road, and the Ring Road, severely waterlogged. Commuters faced long hours in traf-



fic jams, and pedestrians struggled to navigate the flooded streets. The drainage system, overwhelmed by the sheer volume of water, failed to cope, leading to a cascading series of problems: halted public transport and power outages.

The residents of low-lying areas are the worst hit, with water entering homes and causing significant damage to property and belongings. Unfortunately, it's an annual ritual: heavy monsoon showers overwhelm the infrastructure, bringing the city to a standstill. The blame game ensues, followed by knee-jerk responses and funds allocated for improvements. Yet, by the next year, those efforts are washed away, leaving the city again

at the mercy of the weather gods. It is not rocket science to find the root cause of the problem and even fix it. Surely, the authorities would know that but the execution plan is missing. Despite being a metropolitan hub, Delhi's drainage system is outdated and poorly maintained. Besides, rapid and often haphazard urban development has led to the encroachment of natural water bodies and green spaces. These areas, which once absorbed excess rainwater, have been replaced by concrete structures, exacerbating the problem of water runoff. There is an urgent need to remove those encroachments and upgrade the drainage system. But unfortunately, urban planning in Delhi often happens in silos, with little coordination between different departments. This lack of an integrated approach has led to a situation where roads are built without adequate drainage. Delhi needs a multifaceted approach that addresses both the immediate challenges and long-term vulnerabilities: Utilising smart city technologies, such as real-time monitoring of drainage systems and predictive weather modelling, can help in better preparedness and response to heavy rains. While heavy rains are a natural phenomenon, the resulting waterlogging and disruption are largely man-made problems. To tackle this issue, concrete measures and decisive actions must be taken immediately.



Progress depends on retentiveness



Today, as political discord echoes through our democracy, I find myself reflecting on those dark days of Emergency and the enduring wounds inflicted on our nation's soul

t was only in 1956 that I got some idea of how the Constitution of India was framed, and who were the major personalities that constituted the historic Constituent Assembly. The teacher who introduced me to it was a great admirer of Mahatma Gandhi and adored Pandit Nehru and Neta Ji Subhash Chandra Bose. The library had a copy of the constitution of India having the signatures of all of the members of the Constituent Assembly and also images representing Indian culture and heritage. We learnt the Preamble by heart. This teacher-created interest amongst students interested in dramatics, and after hectic preparation of a couple of weeks, a mock Constituent Assembly was enacted in the presence of a huge gathering. This young teacher was also

confident that the ancient Indian culture now be resurrected, and the entire world would know how advanced Indians were in 'thought and deed'! In 1975, I read the constitution in all seriousness, and witnessed how it was being mercilessly mutilated! After nearly five decades, as one peruses the print and electronic media, one witnesses a slugfest between the union government and the opposition, it makes one reflect on the emergency days, and one just can't avoid reflecting on the 18 months of democratic darkness that shattered the lives of millions of the people. It ruined the credibility of Indian

democracy internationally. No apology could erase the wound inflicted on the constitution and the humiliation of the stalwarts who created the constitution of India. Was it not a shameless humiliation inflicted on Baba Sahib Bhim Rao Ambedkar? He had repeatedly opposed the inclusion of the term 'secular in the Preamble of the Constitution. How could any active and alert citizen forget the fact that the 44th Constitution Amendment Act was passed by



original Preamble back' should be deciphered in the spirit it deserves to be comprehended in its objectivity. It could certainly be a great tribute to Dr Baba Sahib Ambedkar! This correction would offer a healing touch to persons like me who had witnessed the emergency and also -to a great extent - to those who had suffered damages of an irreversible nature. Let me narrate a personal experience.

One senior academic was appointed head of a regional institute in Bhopal in December 1974. In August 1975, he was asked to report to report to his central office New Delhi next day 'for consultations'. I was number two in the institutional hierarchy and had become a full Professor just a year back in August 1974. I assisted him in preparing certain project proposals he would carry that evening for obtaining sanction from New Delhi. The next morning, I received a 'lightening call' to take over as Head of the institution immediately, as the incumbent stood removed from his position. It was shocking,

On return, the summarily sacked academic described the ordeal he suffered. As he was to reach the designated office, a peon was waiting with a letter that he swiftly handed over, obtained his signatures on the peon book, and vanished!

I got instructions to ensure that no one even meets him! I insisted that the head of an academic institution should not be humiliated before his students. A lady bureaucrat from the New Delhi office reposed faith in me, but told me that only I, and I alone, would be responsible for any mishap that may occur, and its consequences.

AND THE The academic who was humiliated and removed HUMILIATION never got justice during his remaining lifetime of around OF THE STALWARTS two decades.

WHO CREATED THE Those who would not like even a mention of emer-CONSTITUTION gency could recall how strongly India was proud of OF INDIA. the persona of that great intellectual and jurist Nani WAS IT NOT A Palakhivala. He had refused SHAMELESS the brief from Mrs Indira Gandhi and fought for the HUMILIATION constitution in draconian INFLICTED conditions.

His reflections on emergency ON BABA SAHIB shall remain ever-relevant: "No period in the history of our republic is of more educa-tive value than 1975 to 1977. George Santayana said, Progress far from consisting

in change, depends on retentiveness... Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it. If our basic freedoms are to survive, it is of vital importance that we remember the happenings during emergency when the freedoms were suspended". Is it necessary to 'fight facts' to negate the truth? What we witness all around us in the world of the current-day average politicians was envisioned by Sri Aurobindo in his lifetime: "The modern politician in my part of the world does not represent the soul of a people or its aspirations. What he does usually repre-

sent is all the average pettiness, selfishness, egoism, selfdeception that is about him and these he represents well enough as well as a great deal of mental incompetence and moral conventionality, timidity and pretence". All of these attributes have grown up in gigantic proportions in our times. The only way out is the sincere acceptance of diversity of every imaginable hue, and revert back to the great dialogical tradition.

The adults and elders must realize what the young of India are getting from them in the years of their growing (Professor Rajput works in education, social cohesion and religious amity; views *are* personal)

a Parliament that was in its arbitrarily-extended sixth year? Practically all of the opposition stalwarts were in jail! Today, any voice that says 'I want my

well-wisners including those from senior bureaucracy and police services to quietly 'take over', without in any way indicating unwillingness.

and I was just not ready to

comply. I was advised by all

BHIM RAO AMBEDKAR?

NO APOLOGY

COULD ERASE

CONSTITUTION

THE WOUND

INFLICTED

ON THE

Devotees carry a Lord Ganesh idol for the Ganesh Chaturthi festival, in Mumbai

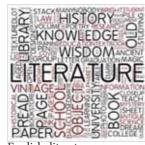
Revamping the English literature curriculum



Once a cornerstone of intellectual pursuit, English literature studies are now facing a troubling decline in popularity among students in India

nce a most demanding course among youngsters, English literature studies has seen a significant decline in the past decade. In many colleges in India seats of B.Literature remain vacant despite its huge potential in this digital age. The policymakers and academicians should brainstorm the reasons and come out with concentre plans to overcome this dilemma. In India, many students see STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) as a subject of intellect and opportunities, compared to humanities.

Emerging fields like data sci-ence, artificial intelligence, and digital marketing are gaining popularity among students due to their perceived relevance and lucrative opportunities. This trend reduces the appeal of traditional literary studies. The perception that a degree in English offers limited career options and lower earning potential can deter students from pursuing it. This view is compounded by a lack of clear and well-promoted career pathways specifically tied to English studies. Many



English literature programs may have curricula that have not been updated to reflect contemporary literary trends and regional and global issues. The stress on Shakespearean and other literary works doesn't get connected to present-day society.

Shakespearean plays and other classical works were written in very different historical and cultural contexts. The social norms, political structures, and everyday concerns of ancient times may seem foreign to modern read-

This historical gap can make it hard for students to see how the themes and issues of these works relate to their own lives. A focus on classic literature without integrating contemporary and diverse voices may alienate students

modern and global literary trends. The rise of digital media and alternative forms of entertainment, such as social media, video games, and streaming platforms, has altered reading habits. Students may be less inclined to engage with traditional literature due to these competing interests. Though science education reformation forms part of national policies, literature education rarely finds its place in national policies, though NEP stresses the need to undertake lit-

erary studies. To make literature more relatable and engaging, integrate a diverse range of texts. Include contemporary works from different cultures, genres, and perspectives. For instance, introducing novels, short stories, and poetry from emerging voices around the world, alongside regional literature, can provide students with a broader view of the lit-

erary landscape. Academicians should link literature with other fields such as history, psychology, sociology, and environmental studies. For instance, studying dystopian novels alongside who are more interested in discussions of climate sci-

ence and environmental issues can provide students with a deeper understanding of both the literature and the real-world issues it reflects. Thrust should be given to include components that prepare students for the job market, such as resume writing, interview skills, and networking opportunities. Connecting literature studies with science and other relevant fields will enhance career prospects. In the age of bots, literature students should even be taught the fundamentals of computer programming.

Revitalising the literary syllabus necessitates a deliberate strategy that incorporates current issues, embraces digital and multimedia resources, fosters interdisciplinary linkages, and emphasises practical skills. Educational institutions can establish a literary program that is relevant and exciting for 21st-century students by using a variety of texts, utilising technology, and regularly updating the curriculum.

(The writer is the Academic affairs, GCU and adjunct faculty at NIAS, Bengaluru; views are personal)

QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT REMEMBERED

Madam — Mahatma Gandhi's relentless efforts were instrumental in India's journey to independence. From the 1930 Dandi March to the 1942 Quit India Movement, Gandhi's leadership was pivotal in challenging British rule. On August 9, 1942, India embarked on a crucial new phase in its fight for freedom a mass uprising against colonial rule that heralded the imminent end of the British Empire in India. Although Gandhi and the Congress

leadership were imprisoned on August 8, the call to "Quit India" ignited a nationwide movement. With the leaders behind bars, the people took to the streets, driven by Gandhi's urgent call to action. Their resolve and sacrifice laid the groundwork for India's eventual independence, a testament to their undying commitment to freedom and self-determination.

Jayanthi Subramaniam | Mumbai

PM VISIT REASSURES WAYANAD

Madam- On Saturday, the Prime Minister visited Wayanad, a region recently struck by an unprecedented disaster that claimed around 400 lives and forced thousands into relief camps. His visit uplifted the spirits of the disillusioned and distressed and fostered the hopes .Their eyes were filled with tears emotionally as they recounted their ordeals to him. The visit also expedited the rehabilitation process, with authorities working tirelessly to restore normalcy, as the Prime Minister promised to provide all possible assistance. This gesture has won the hearts of the people, and such initiatives are now expected in the future. In the aftermath of the Prime Minister's visit, the people of Wayanad find them-selves not only comforted by his empathy but also reassured by his commitment to their recovery. The renewed hope in their eyes speaks to the power of genuine leadership in times of crisis. As the region begins to rebuild, the memory of this visit

Bangladesh on boil



his is in response to the news article "Bangladesh: Uncertainty and Chaos Grip the Nation" (August 10). The recent vio-

adversity, they are not alone. Jakir Hussain |Kanpur

RAHUL GANDHI'S EVOLUTION

Madam — Apropos the article, "The Evolution of Rahul Gandhi," published on August 8, this is my response.

Rahul Gandhi, once mocked by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his supporters as "Pappu" and an "entitled dynast," staged a remarkable comeback in the 2024 general elections. He became the central figure of an alliance that successfully penetrated BJP strongholds, particularly in Uttar Pradesh. As the heir to India's renowned Nehru-Gandhi political dynasty, Rahul Gandhi led two nationwide marches against what he termed Modi's politics of hate and fear, revitalizing his Congress party and redefining his own public image.

Rahul Gandhi has repeatedly emphasized that his fight against Modi's BJP is not merely about seizing power but about challenging the party's and the RSS's "Hindu-first" ideology, which contradicts will linger, a reminder that in the face of India's secular principles as outlined in

lence in Bangladesh has tragically impacted hundreds of Hindus. The growing relationship between Bangladesh and India under Sheikh Hasina's leadership has become intolerable to Islamic fundamentalists in the region. Targeting Hindus as part of the anti-national movement in Bangladesh could backfire on the newly elected interim government led by Mohammad Yunus.

This unrest is likely to have negative repercussions on the yarn trade between India and Bangladesh. Unfortunately, international human rights organizations have remained silent in the face of these atrocities against minorities. It is imperative to take immediate action to stop the violence against Hindus in Bangladesh. The call for Hindu unity is resonating strongly both within the country and abroad

Yugal Kishore Sharma | Faridabad

the Constitution. The results of the last general election significantly boosted Rahul Gandhi's morale, prompting people to view him more positively and take him seriously as a leader. They have come to recognize him as a leader focused on real-life issues-such as unemployment, women's safety, the violence in Manipur, NEET exam paper leaks, rising prices of gas cylinders, petrol, and diesel, and casterelated issues. Most importantly, he is seen as the one who will uphold the spirit of secularism in the nation. These factors have collectively reshaped public perception of Rahul Gandhi.

Now, having emerged stronger and as the Leader of the Opposition with substantial support from Opposition MPs in Parliament, Rahul Gandhi, known for his oratory skills, is poised to present significant challenges to Mr. Modi and his party in the days ahead on various issues facing the country

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

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FIRSTCOLUMN

CELEBRATING WORLD LEFT-HANDERS DAY

This day honours the 13 percent who navigate a world designed for the right-handed



RACHNA LAKHPATI

he 13th of August is commemorated as World Left-Handers Day, a day dedicated to the 13% of the world's population who make do in a world that wasn't meant for them. To many of us, lefthandedness is just a fascinating statistic, something we mention in passing or wonder at during a discussion. However, for those of us who lean left, this is a quiet, everyday rebellion against a world that expects us to fit in when we don't quite belong. From the moment we grip our first crayon, left-handers are thrust into a world where ease can be transformed into hand-to-hand combat.

Scissors bite painfully; pens spill over the paper; spiral notebooks are a tangle of discomfort. It's completely out of tune, like music played in a different key. However, this dissonance does not weaken us, but rather it strengthens us. In a world designed for right-handers, lefthanders learn to improvise, create, and, eventually, prosper. This kind of adaptability lends itself to creativity, which is sometimes cited as a virtue among lefties. To us, however, creativity is more than just an artistic talent; it is a survival ability. Being left-handed means seeing the world from a different perspective and approaching difficulties with a different mindset.

Our brains are wired to think beyond the box because, honestly, the box was never meant for us in the first place. It is no surprise that left-handers such as Leonardo da Vinci, Nikola Tesla, and Marie Curie are among history's most recognised thinkers. They did not think differently; they saw differently, creating visions that changed our per-



ception of what is possible. However, it is not only about inventiveness. Being left-handed entails a quiet fortitude, borne of years of adjusting to a world that frequently forgets to include you. Each southpaw has a story to tell: awkward contortions in class, struggles with righthanded instruments, and ink-stained palms. However, these events do not diminish us; rather, they define us. They teach us how to be resourceful, to face challenges with fortitude, and to see beauty in the unexpected.Being rare has a mystical quality about it.

Being left-handed means standing out in a crowd, but more significantly, in life. It represents the fact that normalcy can be overvalued while the difference is powerful.

Can Muhammad Yunus micro manage Bangladesh-



analys s 07

As the world watches, the implications of this power shift resonate far beyond Dhaka's borders; the once peaceful country has plunged into anarchy

outh Asia's youngest nation has been thrust into a new era following a four-day power vacuum, decisively crossing a point of no return. A new messiah has emerged to rule over 171 million people, arriving from Paris in a full-circle moment. Had Hasina remained in power, he would have been sentenced to life for corruption on the very day Hasina fled the country she had ruled for over 15 years. Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus has assumed the role of head of the interim government. A 14-member interim government including a Hindu psychiatrist and a Buddhist human rights activist led by Prof. Yunus has taken charge.

Alarmingly, most of these members are heads of Western-funded NGOs, exposing the true manipulators behind the scenes. It was a nightmare for them to run their NGOs during Hasina's tenure, with many facing harassment, intimidation, and even imprisonment. Now, they have set their yardstick. Nobel laureate Prof. Yunus, who has received the Congressional Gold Medal and the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian honours in the United States, illustrates the adage that, as Americans say, there's no such thing as a free lunch. The coming months will reveal how Dhaka's political shifts will reverberate across borders. Nearly 300 people have been killed in the post-Hasina period, with rampant looting, attacks on minorities, and intimidation of state insti-tutions. Images show disturbing violence, including the burning of Hindu temples. The riots go beyond protests against the Awami League, revealing deeper conflicts. Simultaneously, one should not overlook the deep-rooted anti-India sentiments in Panglach and its diagnora argcathatad Bangladesh and its diaspora, exacerbated by the 'India Out' campaign. Unfortunately, Delhi policymakers may have underestimated this sentiment and placed undue trust in Hasina.

It was a bloodbath, and the incidents that unfolded suggest it was a well-planned political scheme, executed promptly to overthrow Hasina—a time-tested leader, though surrounded by controversies. The humiliating destruction of Bangabandhu's statue starkly echoes the fall of Saddam Hussein's statue in Baghdad.

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, known as Bangabandhu, laid the foundation of Bangladesh with his political ideology and dedication during the struggle for indepen-dence. Despite overcoming initial chal-lenges, fear has once again taken hold in the country. The chaotic situation exemplifies a state of total anarchy. This is not a revolution; revolutions are meant to improve the lives of people, not to indulge in bloodlust against unarmed citizens with opposing political viewpoints or religious beliefs. However, given the nation's violent history even before its inception, it seems to be passing through yet another despicable period. Is this merely a student uprising, or is someone manipulating them behind the scenes to exploit the situation? When the political intelligentsia abstains from protests, reducing them to mere emotional outbursts, it fosters an environment ripe for the creation of new, equally monstrous situations. This cycle will inevitably doom us to repeat the same failures. The harrowing video of an unemployed youth wearing a black t-shirt being shot by a policeman only deepened the unrest. Hasina bears blood on her hands; whether direct-



ly or through those who ordered lethal force against protesters, accountability is imperative. Thanks to India, Hasina narrowly escaped a fate akin to Muammar Gaddafi's. In the January elections, she set a trap with her abuse of power and legislative misogyny, even denying medical treatment to opponents. Her opponents seized on the quota issue as the tipping point. Although she addressed it, she failed to recognise it was merely a façade. Her inability to understand that 15 years is too long for any democracy to be managed alone highlights a grim historical lesson. However, history teaches us a valuable lesson: despite Ferdinand Marcos' ousting, his family's influence persisted, and in 2021, his son made a notable comeback in the Philippines. That's the nature of politics. Consequently, whoever comes to COUNTRY. THE CHAOTIC power next will face a challenging

DESPITE

INITIAL

OVERCOMING

CHALLENGES,

AGAIN TAKEN

HOLD IN THE

FEAR HAS ONCE

Black woman Sonya Massey by law enforcement in her own homejust a few examples that highlight the contradictions in America's respect for the rule of law and international norms.Ironically, many have started comparing the situation in Bangladesh with Sri Lanka. However, there are significant differences between the unprecedented exit of the Bangladeshi Prime Minister this week and the relinquishment of power by President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in Sri Lanka two years ago. One key factor was India's attitude, which was drastically different in these cases.

Reliable sources with knowledge of the events in Sri Lanka have asserted that India believed Gotabaya Rajapaksa should not resign but should stay in power. This stance resulted in no airlift facilities being provided for a safe exit, forcing the then-President to apt: 'We will coup whoever we

mon trait between these two leaders is their stance on China. Despite unprecedented pressure from the West, both leaders continued to work harmoniously with China. For instance, when Mike Pompeo, then Secretary of State and former CIA Director, criticised China during his visit to Colombo, President Rajapaksa directly told him that "the opinion held by America against China in Sri Lanka is factually wrong." Since then, Rajapaksa's politics began to crumble, pointing to the decisions he made and the protests that followed.

Similarly, after successfully concluding a visit to India right after Modi's re-election, Hasina flew to China to initiate more Chinesefunded development projects. By then, her fate at home was already sealed.In this context, Elon Musk's recent comment on Venezuela is want! Deal with it.' Amidst the social media spectacle dominated by profit-driven motives and emotionally manipulative politics, the unemployed youth who ignited change in Bangladesh may soon face this harsh reality. Western ambitions in unstable countries often focus on destruction and manipulation through proxies rather than genuine improvements in livelihoods. The new interim government may well understand this realpolitik. With Hasina's downfall, the direction of the interim government's foreign policy and its approach towards the Global South, including BRICS, remains uncertain. While it may be premature to fully assess this interim arrangement, the situation poses a significant challenge for India, China, and Asia as a whole. (The writer is a journalist and author. Views expressed are *personal*)

The left-handed intellect does not only accomplish what most others avoid; it frequently forges a new path where none previously existed. In art, science, sports, or leadership, a left-hander will do things differently, deviate from the norm, and transform the ordinary into remarkable.As we commemorate World Left-Handers Day, let us remember that being left-handed is much more than a biological quirk; it is a way of life, a sign of creativity, perseverance, and inventiveness that stems from a worldview that sees things not as they are, but as they could be.

Left-handers, living in a right-handed society, remind us that magic sometimes happens in the opposite direction. Here's to the leftiesthe visionaries who prove that being different is not only acceptable but also remarkable. In celebrating World Left-Handers Day, we honor more than just a minority group—we recognize a testament to human adaptability and creativity. Left-handers remind us that thriving often means forging our own path, embracing differences, and finding strength in what sets us apart.

As we acknowledge the challenges lefties face, we also celebrate the unique perspective they bring to the world. Here's to the left-handers, whose quiet resilience and innovative spirit show us that being different isn't just okay-it's extraordinary.

(The writer is a freelance writer; views are personal)

SITUATION situation.

The manipulations behind these EXEMPLIFIES A shocking events, which unfolded within a month while the Prime STATE OF TOTAL Minister was in China, may be revealed in the future, much like ANARCHY. THIS IS how America tried to obscure the NOT A genocide in Bangladesh (then East Pakistan) during the early 60s, with **REVOLUTION;** Henry Kissinger maintaining a REVOLUTIONS political alliance with General Yahya Khan of Pakistan as a secret ARE MEANT TO route to engage with China. Commenting on the situation, **IMPROVE THE** Secretary of State Antony Blinken, reflecting his country's global LIVES OF PEOPLE, ambitions, urged the Bangladeshi NOT TO INDULGE people to ensure that 'any decisions made by the interim government IN BLOODLUST

need to respect democratic prin-ciples, uphold the rule of law, and AGAINST reflect the will of the people.' This statement came shortly after **UNARMED** the arrival of F-16 fighter jets in CITIZENS Ukraine, continued arms supplies to Israel, and the brutal killing of

flee to the Maldives in an over-50 year-old Air Force plane.

In contrast, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh received swift support from India. Second, Gotabaya Rajapaksa came to power through free and fair elections with a significant majority, whereas Sheikh Hasina was reelected after a series of repressions against opposition political parties. Her handling of the elections reflected growing public displeasure. Winning over regional powers and maintaining their support certainly made her powerful and influential.

Her development projects offered to India, China, Russia, and Japan highlighted bold decisions in her foreign policy. She effectively balanced both India and China, showcasing her capability more effectively than any other South Asian leader in contemporary political history. However, a com-

Pushpanjali Medicon 2024: Top doctors share insights on health and wellness

This unique medical conference covered topics ranging from liver health to the often-overlooked connection between sex and wellness

 t's not every day that you see India's top medical professionals gathering under one roof to discuss various health conditions and offer advice on leading a healthy life. This rare opportunity drew people of all ages in large numbers to the capital, eager to hear the insights and wisdom of these

renowned doctors. This significant event was made possible through the tireless efforts of Dr. Vinay Aggarwal, the Past National President of the Indian Medical Association, and his dedicated team, who organized the Pushpanjali Medicon 2024 conference. The conference was meticulously planned to cover a wide range of topics, including Pregnancy-Related



VIVEK SHUKLA

Acute Kidney Injury, record of our body's intake Headache Management, the Mystery of Dizziness, Suicide Prevention, Fatty Liver, and issues of reporoductive health. The event saw the participaliver disease. tion of leading doctors from This condition forces the the capital and various states such as Mumbai, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and beyond. One of the most anticipated the liver doesn't just stay sessions was led by Dr. Shiv there; it circulates through-

Kumar Sarin, a distinguished out the body, potentially clinician and gastroenterolleading to complications ogist, who captivated the audience with his talk on such as gallstones.

Another notable speaker, maintaining liver health. Dr. Dr. Rajeev Sood, the newly Sarin emphasised the liver's appointed Vice-Chancellor critical role as the controller of Baba Farid University of and fulcrum of our metabol-Health Sciences and former Dean of Dr. Ram Manohar ic well-being, comparing it to a chartered accountant Lohia Hospital and PGIMER in Delhi, shared his expertise that keeps a meticulous on managing prostate health. His session provided and expenditure. He highlighted how any surplus, valuable insights into a topic whether from genetic factors that is often overlooked but or excessive calorie concrucial for men's health, parsumption, can lead to fatty ticularly as they age.

One of the most engaging sessions was on the topic "Sex Has No Expiry Date," delivered by Dr. Deepak Jumani, a Mumbai-based expert in sexual health. Dr. Jumani spoke with remark-

pancreas to produce more

insulin, which can eventual-

ly result in diabetes.

Moreover, the excess fat in



that is rarely discussed openly, especially in such forums. He stressed the undeniable link between sex and overall health, arguing that sex-

most vital biological functions, essential for a fulfilling life. Addressing a packed audience, Dr. Jumani asserted that sexual pleasure is able eloquence on a subject ual activity is one of the both a personal business Pushpanjali Medicon are

and a fundamental right, emphasizing that all sexual dysfunctions can be managed, allowing individuals of all ages to lead a sexually satisfying life.

The success of this unique health conference, where top doctors interacted with both medical professionals and the general public, is indeed a great achievement. The importance of conferences like Pushpanjali Medicon 2024 cannont be overstated.

Similar events must be held across the country. Dr Aggarwal argues that such gatherings are vital for fostering closer ties between doctors, patients, and medical professionals.

Healthcare conferences like

more than just formal events; they are epicenters of innovation and collaboration within the medical field. These gatherings offer invaluable networking opportunities with industry peers, critical for both personal and professional growth.

They also provide continuing Medical Education (CME) sessions that are essential for staying updated with the latest advancements in healthcare. Beyond the educational value, these conferences are inspiring and refreshing, offering a chance to recharge while gaining new insights and connections.

(The writer is an author and a columnist; views are personal)



Russians urged to flee Ukraine's cross-border attack Putin: Attempt to stop

AP KYIV

n official in the Kursk bor-Ader region of Russia on Monday urged more residents to evacuate due to the "very tense situation" in the area, where Russian forces are still scrambling to respond to a surprise Ukrainian attack after almost a week of fierce fighting. Russia's emergency authorities say more than 76,000 people have fled their homes in areas of Kursk, where Ukrainian troops and armour poured across the border on August 6, reportedly driving as deep as 30 kilometers (19 miles) into Russia and sowing alarm.

Ukrainian forces swiftly rolled into the town of Sudzha about 10 kilometers (6 miles) over the border after launching the attack. They reportedly still hold the western part of the town, which is the site of an important natural gas transit station

The Ukrainian operation is taking place under tight secrecy, and its goals - especially whether Kyiv's forces aim to hold territory or are staging a

raid — remain unclear. The stunning maneuver that caught

the Kremlin's forces unawares counters Russia's unrelenting effort in recent months to punch through Ukrainian defences at selected points along the front line in eastern Ukraine.

Russia has seen previous incursions into its territory during the nearly 2 1/2-year war, but the foray into the Kursk region marked the largest attack on its soil since World War II, embarrassing President Vladimir Putin and constituting a milestone in the hostilities The advance has delivered a

blow to Putin's efforts to pretend that life in Russia has largely remained unaffected by the war. State propaganda has tried to play down the attack, emphasizing the authorities' efforts to help residents of the region and seeking to distract attention from the military's failure to prepare for the attack and quickly repel it.

Retired Gen. Andrei Gurulev, a member of the lower house of the Russian parliament, criticised the military for failing to



war, said the toughest phase of

Ukraine's incursion is likely to

begin now as Russian reserves

enter the fray.

properly protect the border. He noted that while the military has set up minefields in the that all is good. border region, it has failed to deploy enough troops to block enemy raids. agency, which monitors the

Regrettably, the group of forces protecting the border didn't have its own intelligence assets," he said on his messaging app channel. "No one likes

He said that "if the Ukrainians to see the truth in reports, everybody just wants to hear are going to advance any further from where they are now, Pasi Paroinen, an analyst with the Finland-based Black Bird it's going to be a tough battle, unlike the opening moments of Group open-source intelligence this offensive".

Ukraine's progress on Russian territory "is challenging the operational and strategic assumptions" of the Kremlin's forces, according to the

Institute for the Study of War. It could compel Russia to deploy more military assets to the long border between the two countries, the Washington-based think tank said in an assessment late Sunday.

It described the Russian forces responding to the incursion as "hastily assembled and disparate

The International Atomic Energy Agency said a fire near Ukraine's Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant had "no impact" on the facility's safety.

Radiation levels are unchanged at what is one of the 10 biggest nuclear plants in the world, the UN body said.

Russia and Ukraine blamed each other for the blaze at a cooling tower outside the plant's perimeter, and the IAEA chief said late Sunday that the war continues to imperil the Zaporizhzhia facility.

These reckless attacks endanger nuclear safety at the plant and increase the risk of a nuclear accident. They must stop now," Rafael Mariano Grossi said.

Moscow's offensive

AP KYIV

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday that the Ukraine army's incursion into the Kursk region, which has caused more than 100,000 civilians to flee, is an attempt by Kyiv to stop Moscow's offensive in eastern Ukraine's Donbas

Putin said the attack that began last Tuesday appeared to reflect Kyiv's attempt to gain a better negotiating position in possible future talks to end the war.

He argued that Ukraine may have hoped to destabilize the domestic situation in Russia, adding that it has failed to achieve the goal, and claimed that the number of volunteers to join the Russian military has increased. He said the Russian military is driving on with its eastern Ukraine offensive. Russia has seen previous incursions into its territory during the nearly 2 1/2-year war, but the

activists lost their final bid to

overturn their convictions at

the city's top court on Monday

over their roles in one of the

biggest anti-government

Jimmy Lai, founder of the

now-defunct Apple Daily newspaper; Martin Lee, the founding chairman of the city's Democratic Party; and five

former pro-democracy law-

makers were found guilty in

2021 of organising and partic-

ipating in an unauthorised assembly.

Their convictions dealt a blow

to the city's flagging pro-

democracy movement during

a political crackdown on dissi-

dents following the protests.

Last year, the activists partial-

ly won their appeal at a lower

court, with their convictions

quashed over the charge of

organising an unauthorised assembly. But their convic-

tions over taking part in the

assembly were upheld and they

continued their legal battle at

On Monday, judges at the

the city's top court.

protests in 2019.

marked the largest attack on its soil since World War II, embar-rassing President Vladimir Putin and constituting a milestone in the hostilities. It is also the first time the Ukrainian army has spearheaded an incursion rather than pro-Ukraine Russian fighters. The combat inside Russia

world 08

rekindled questions about whether Ukraine was using weaponry supplied by NATO members. Some Western coun-tries have balked at allowing Ukraine to use their military aid to hit Russian soil, fearing it would fuel an escalation that might drag Russia and NATO into war.

Though it's not clear what weapons Ukraine is using across the border, Russian media widely reported that US Bradley and German Marder armoured infantry vehicles were there. It was not possible to independently verify that claim.

Ukraine has already used US foray into the Kursk region weapons to strike inside Russia

Pentagon moves submarine to Middle East

AP WASHINGTON

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has ordered a guided missile submarine to the Middle East and is telling the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier strike group to sail more quickly to the area, the Defense Department said Sunday.

The moves come as the US and other allies push for Israel and Hamas to achieve a cease-fire agreement that could help calm soaring tensions in the region following the assassination of Hamas political leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran and a senior Hezbollah commander in Beirut.

Officials have been on the lookout for retaliatory strikes by both Iran and Hezbollah for the killings, and the US has been beefing up its presence in the region.

Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder, Pentagon press secretary, said in a statement that Austin spoke with Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant earlier in the day, and reiterated America's commitment "to take every possible step to defend Israel and noted engthening of JS mili

East in light of escalating

regional tensions. The Lincoln, which has been in the Asia Pacific, had already been ordered to the region to replace the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier strike group, which is scheduled to begin heading home from the Middle East. Last week, Austin said the Lincoln would arrive in the Central Command area

by the end of the month. It wasn't clear Sunday what his latest order means, or how much more quickly the Lincoln will steam to the Middle East. The carrier has F-35 fighter jets aboard, along with the F/A-18 fighter aircraft that are also on carriers. Ryder also did not say how quickly the USS Georgia guided missile submarine would get to the region. He said Austin and Gallant also discussed Israel's military oper-

ations in Gaza and the importance of mitigating civilian harm.

The call comes a day after an Israeli airstrike hit a schoolturned-shelter in Gaza early Saturday, killing at least 80 people and wounding nearly 50 others, Palestinian health in one of the

Israel widens evacuation orders in southern Gaza

AP DEIR AL-BALAH

The Israeli military ordered more evacuations in southern Gaza early Sunday, a day after a deadly airstrike on a school-turned-shelter in the north killed at least 80 Palestinians, according to local health authorities. The airstrike was one of the deadliest attacks

in the 10-month war. Hamas appeared to push back against resuming negotiations on Thursday on any new ceasefire proposals. In a statement, it urged mediators United States, Egypt and Qatar to submit a plan to implement what was agreed on last month, based on US President Joe Biden's proposal, "instead of going to more rounds of negotiations or new proposals that provide cover for the occupation's aggression."

Israel has repeatedly ordered mass evacuations as its troops return to heavily destroyed areas where they previously battled Palestinian militants. The vast majority of Gaza's population of 2.3 million people have been displaced, often multiple times, in the besieged territory 25 miles (40 kilomeres) long by about 7 miles (11 deadliest attacks of the 10kilometres) wide The latest evacuation orders

apply to areas of Khan Younis, Gaza's second-largest city, including part of an Israelideclared humanitarian zone from which the military said rockets had been fired. Israel accuses Hamas and other militants of hiding among civilians and launching attacks from residential areas.

The humanitarian zone has steadily shrunk during the war with the various evacuation orders. Hundreds of thousands of people have crammed into squalid tent camps with few public services or sought shel-ter in schools, though the United Nations says hundreds of those have been directly hit or damaged.

Khan Younis suffered widespread destruction during an air and ground offensive earlier this year. Tens of thousands fled again last week after an evacuation order.

The new order came in leaflets dropped from the sky. As smoke rose on the horizon, hundreds of families carrying belongings in their arms left homes and shelters, seeking elusive refuge. One child car-ried a stuffed Hello Kitty doll as others walked through rubple-filled street

er of three, who had returned to Khan Younis in June to shelter in their severely damaged home. It was the fourth displacement for the 42-year-old widow, whose husband was killed when an Israeli airstrike hit their neighbors' house in March.

She said they went to Muwasi, a sprawling tent camp along the coast, but couldn't find space. Ramadan Issa, a father of five in his 50s, fled Khan Younis with 17 members of his extended family, joining hundreds of people walking toward central

women and children, the occu-Israel. "This situation is unbearable."

doesn't distinguish between Aid groups have struggled to address the staggering humanfamine.

ing communities and army bases near the border, killing around 1,200 people - most ly civilians — and abducting around 250 people. Of the roughly 110 remaining hostages, Israeli authorities believe around a third are

The conflict has threatened to trigger a regional war, as Israel has traded fire with Iran and its militant allies across the region. "I hope that they will think this through and won't get to a point where they will force us to cause significant damage and increase the chances of war breaking out on additional fronts," Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said Sunday.

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke to Gallant on Sunday, reiterating America's commitment to defend Israel and noting the strengthening of the US military force posture and capabilities in the region, according to the Defense Department. It noted Austin has ordered a guided missile submarine to the Middle East and is telling the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier strike group to sail more quickly to the The irea

activists fail to get relief in 2019 case AP HONG KONG The convictions were linked to Seven of Hong Kong's most prominent pro-democracy

Pro-democracy HK

their involvement in a rally in August 2019 that drew an estimated 1.7 million people onto Hong Kong's streets to call for greater police accountability and democracy. The march was relatively

peaceful compared to other protests that often morphed into violent clashes between police and protesters that

vear. Hong Kong, a former British colony, returned to China in 1997. Its mini-constitution, the Basic Law, guarantees its peo-ple freedom of assembly.

When sentencing the seven activists in 2021, a judge at the District Court ruled that the right to such freedom is not absolute and is subject to restrictions ruled constitution al. She ordered Lai, Lee Cheukyan, Leung Kwok-hung and Cyd Ho to be jailed between eight and 18 months. Martin Lee, Margaret Ng and Albert Ho were given suspended jail sentences.

When the appellate court partially overturned their convictions in 2023, it quashed part of the sentences for the four who were given jail terms on the record made after they already served out their sentences

dead.

Gaza. "Every time we settle in one place and build tents for pation comes and bombs the area," he said, referring to

Gaza's Health Ministry, which civilians and combatants, says the Palestinian death toll from the war is approaching 40,000. itarian crisis, while international experts have warned of

The war began when Hamased milita and rampaged through farm- region by month's end.

region. Speaking at a meeting with top security and defense officials,

tary force posture and capabilities throughout the Middle

month Israel-Hamas war.

"We don't know where to go,"

said Amal Abu Yahia, a moth-

Court of Fir Israel's defenses on October 7 Lincoln was expected in the against their appeal over the remaining convictions

Major wildfire rages out of control

Harris gains ground in key states, continues her fundraising spree

PTI WASHINGTON

Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris has voiced confidence in winning the November 5 general elections against her Republican rival Donald Trump, as she gained ground nationally and in several key battleground states. US Vice President Harris, who

is of both Indian and African origin, continues to be on a fundraising spree, taking her campaign coffers to an unprecedented level.

The 59-year-old Democratic leader has also been attracting a record crowd in her rallies. "We will win this election," Harris told a fundraiser in San Francisco on Sunday in which she amassed USD 12 million

more for her presidential bid. The fundraiser was attended by

around 700 donors, including several prominent Indian-Americans

In less than a month of her being on top of the Democratic Party ticket, after incumbent President Joe Biden decided to withdraw from the race, Harris has nearly wiped out the national lead of her Republican

rival and former president Trump. According to Real Clear Politics, which monitors all the major national and state polls, Harris is now leading Trump by 0.5 percentage points in an average of all the national polls.

Harris has also surged ahead in

where Biden was trailing earlier, as per Real Clear Politics. The latest poll by The New York Times said that Harris is leading in three key states -

Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and Michigan — by four percentage points.

Harris told the donors in San Francisco that she is not taking any chances

Speaking about the enthusiasm behind her campaign, Harris said she's "never been one to really believe in the polls, whether they're up or they are down

Still, "what we know is the stakes are so high. And we can take nothing for granted at this moment," she said.

"It's really been a good couple two battleground states, of weeks, but we have a lot of Wisconsin and Michigan, work to do," Harris said.

"The people are ready to use their power," she said. The energy around the country is "undeniable," she added, arguing, "The press and our opponents like to focus on our crowd size, and, yes, the crowds are large." But even better is that attendees are signing up for volunteer shifts in the thousands, she noted. On Saturday, Harris and her

running mate, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz Walz, addressed more than 12,000 Nevadans – one of the largest political rallies in modern Nevada political history.

The rally marked the final stop on a weeklong tour of battleground states launched after she picked Walz to be her running mate.

AP ATHENS

major forest fire was raging About of control on the northern fringes of the Greek capital Monday, triggering numerous evacuation orders for Athens suburbs and outlying areas as strong winds hampered the efforts of hundreds of firefighters and dozens of water-dropping planes

The blaze that began Sunday afternoon was racing through pine forests left tinder-dry by repeated heat waves this summer. June and July of this year were the hottest months ever recorded in Greece, which also recorded its warmest winter ever.

Authorities were faced with "an exceptionally dangerous fire, which we have been fighting for more than 20 hours under dramatic circumstances," Climate

Crisis and Civil Protection Minister Vassilis Kikilias said mid-morning Monday. The fire was burning mainly on two separate fronts, with some parts in particularly difficult to reach areas on a mountain northeast of Athens, Kikilias said.

on fringes of Greek capital

The fire department said 685 firefighters, backed by 27 teams specially trained to tackle wildfires and including more than 80 armed forces personnel, were battling the flames. More than 190 vehicles were deployed, while 17 water-dropping planes and 16 helicopters were providing aerial support. A children's hospital, a military hospital, two monas-teries and a children's home were evacuated early Monday, while more than two dozen emergency push alerts were sent to cellphones in the area. Several homes were burned, although the

exact number was not immediately clear. More evacuation orders were issued for suburbs of the capital as strong winds continued unabated. Fire Department spokesperson Col. Vassileios Vathrakogiannis said authorities had been faced with more than 40 flareups of the blaze since the early hours of Monday in areas where the flames had somewhat abated.

Three Athens hospitals were put on heightened alert to treat any potential injuries. Paramedics and ambulances provided treatment to two firefighters - one for light burns and the other for breathing problems — while 13 civilians were also treated for breathing problems from the thick smoke, Vathrakogiannis said.

ferries going to and from the

nearby port of Rafina, which serves mainly the Cycladic islands and Crete, to be diverted to the port of Lavrion due to the fire. Authorities in nearby suburbs opened at least one sports hall and were providing rooms in hotels for evacuees, while yet more suburbs were put on standby for potential evacuation.

The police department said 380 police officers with 77 vehicles, 36 motorcycles, three buses and four vans were assisting in the evacuations, and by mid-morning had helped move more than 250 people away from the path of the flames. It posted a video on its social media channels showing police officers carrying elderly people in their arms out of houses and to waiting vehicles. against a backdrop of a night sky turned red from the flames and

Greece's coast guard ordered all

Democrats launch first paid ad campaign for the Harris-Walz ticket

AP WASHINGTON

With a solidified presidential ticket stumping across the country and a massive amount of money to spend, the Democratic Party is targeting seven critical battleground states with paid advertising for Vice President Kamala Harris and Minnesota Gov. Tim Walz.

The Democratic National Committee announced the Harris-Walz advertising push on Monday, which includes more than 70 billboards across the key battleground states: Arizona, Georgia, Michigan, North Carolina, Nevada,



Pennsylvania and Wisconsin. al key urban areas across the It's the ticket's first paid adverbattleground states, such as tising blitz since Ŵalz joined Atlanta, Detroit, Charlotte and the campaign — and the first Philadelphia, according to the of many to come in areas that DNC. Many are set up along are poised to determine the major interstates and highoutcome of the presidential ways, including Interstate 95 election in November. and Interstate 10 There is also an advertisement The billboards will be in sever-

both in English and Spanish

— in the Las Vegas strip, according to the DNC. 'The DNC is blanketing the

battlegrounds with a clear message: Vice President Harris and Governor Tim Walz are fighting for working people, and Donald Trump and JD

Abhi Rahman said in a statement.

The Harris-Walz campaign boasts significant fundraising numbers, pulling in USD 310 million in July and entering August with USD 377 million on hand. The Trump campaign in comparison raised more than USD 138 million last month and has USD 327 mil-

lion to spend. The advertising push comes after Harris and Walz completed their battleground state tour last week, attracting exuberant crowds in places such as Pennsylvania, Wisconsin and

Vance are only out for them-selves," DNC spokesperson stop in North Carolina was postponed due to inclement weather from Tropical Storm Debby

Donald Trump's running mate JD Vance shadowed the Democratic pair throughout the week by holding news conferences in many of the same cities Harris and Walz visited. Meanwhile, Trump hosted one rally last week in Montana. The Trump campaign also launched its own barrage of

advertisements at the end of July, pushing television ads that focus on Harris' record on immigration and call her a "border czar."

Man held in London for stabbing 2 persons

smoke.

AP LONDON

Aman has been arrested after an 11-year-old girl and a 34-year-old woman were stabbed in central London, London's Metropolitan Police said on Monday.

The attack occurred in Leicester Square, a magnet for tourists with its shops, theatres and cinemas. The square and surrounding area have an estimated 2.5 million visitors every week

Police said the two victims were taken to a major trauma

centre. The extent of their injuries was not immediately clear. The stabbing occurred as Britain is on edge after violence for the past week as crowds spouting anti-immigrant and Islamophobic slogans clashed with police. The disturbances have been fuelled by right-wing activists who used social media to spread misinformation about a knife attack that killed three girls during a Taylor Swiftthemed dance event.

It was not immediately clear whether the stabbing had any link to the unrest.



New B'desh CJ warns of stern action Hundreds join 'Save Hindus in against 'misdeeds' by judiciary

PTI DHAKA

Bangladesh's newly appointed Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed on Monday warned of stern action if anybody from the judiciary was found to be involved in any "misdeeds".

Speaking at a reception hosted by the Attorney General's Office and the

Supreme Court Bar in the Appellate Division, Ahmed commemorated those killed in the student protests that resulted in the toppling of the government led by Sheikh Hasina last week. "I extend my congratula-tions to the students and the people of the entire country. Î also congratulate those who supported this movement," he said.

"The students have sparked a great awakening against Bangladesh Chief Justice Syed inequality. Due to the revolution of the students and Refaat Ahmed the public, I have been

entrusted with this responsibility, which I will carry out. At this moment, we are standing on the ruins. We have to start anew while standing on this destruction," he said.

The Daily Star newspaper reported the chief justice warned that no irregularity would be tolerated in the judiciary. He added that "stern action would be taken if anybody from the judiciary was

found to be involved in any misdeeds as the policy of oppression that prevailed for so long instead of justice was now over.

"I will work with devotion and honesty. I will do everything to establish justice in the society after the mass upheaval. Our sense of justice has been destroyed over the years," he said.

> Ahmed was sworn in as Bangladesh's new chief justice on Sunday, a day after Obaidul Hassan stepped down as the top judge following an ultimatum by the protesters demanding a revamp of the judiciary. Hassan and five other judges of the apex Appellate Division on Saturday ten-dered their resignation, five days after the fall of Hasina's regime amid massive street protests

His resignation came as protesters of the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement gathered at the apex court

premises. President Mohammed Shahabuddin administered the oath to the chief justice, an event also attended by Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus, who was sworn in on Thursday as the head of an interim government following the ouster of Hasina in the protests that left more than 200 persons dead.

Protestors told to surrender arms

PTI DHAKA

Bangladesh interim government's Home Affairs Adviser Brigadier General (retd) M Sakhawat Hussain on Monday asked protesters to surrender by August 19 all illegal and unauthorised firearms, including the rifles looted from law enforcers during the recent violence, according to a media report. Hussain said that if those arms were

not returned to nearby police stations, then the authorities would undertake a search and if anyone is found in possession of unauthorised weapons, charges would be lodged against them, The Daily Star newspaper reported.

Hussain was talking to reporters at the Combined Military Hospital here after visiting the paramilitary Bangladesh Ansar members who suffered injuries during the mass protest that led to the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.

Hasina resigned and fled to India last week leaving the country in turmoil following deadly protests against her government over a controversial quota

vstem in jobs. Hussain said that around 500 people including students, were killed and several thousand others were injured

during the protest. "A youth was seen in the video taking away a 7.62 mm rifle. That means the rifle was not returned. If you did not hand over (out of fear), hand over the firearms through anyone else," he said. Hussain said they would investigate to identify the youth in civilian clothes who opened fire at Ansar members. However, he toned down vesterday's comments about shutting down media outlets if they publish or broadcast false or misleading news. "I said it out of anger. It is not my job,"

he said. "I never support shutting down any media.

Last Thursday, Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus took oath as the head of an interim government replacing Hasina. A 16-member council of advisers was announced to assist Yunus in running the state's affairs.

Bangladesh' vigil in Houston

HinduAction, HinduPact,

Houston Durgabari Society,

Global Kashmiri Pandit

Participants raised their plac-

ards high, bearing passionate

messages demanding an end to

the violence and atrocities

against Hindus in Bangladesh.

The crowd erupted with fer-

Hindu Genocide," "Stop Hindu Genocide," "Stand Up and Speak Out Now," "Hindu Lives Matter," and "We Won't

Run, We Won't Hide, Stop

Hindu Genocide" rang out,

Diaspora, and many more.

PTI HOUSTON

In a powerful yet peaceful dis-play of solidarity, over 300 Indian-Americans and Bangladeshi-origin Hindus gathered at Sugar Land City Hall in Houston to protest the horrific acts committed by Islamist extremists targeting Hindus and other minorities in Bangladesh.

The air was thick with emotion as attendees united for a cause on Sunday morning that resonated deeply with their identities and beliefs.

Organisers passionately called on the Biden Administration to

Houston Hindu groups, includ-ing Maitri in Houston, Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America, HinduPACT

With the coup in Bangladesh, the 10 million Hindus are sitting on a ticking bomb of genocide," she warned.

world 09

Reports from within Bangladesh reveal unimagin able torture, killings, and the burning of Hindu temples, alongside harrowing stories of women subjected to unspeakable abuse," she said.

This instability poses a grave danger not only to Hindus but also to the very foundations of democracy in countries like India and the US. It is an inevitable threat to Hindus in Pakistan as well. We need the

eves and ears of all Western

nations focused on this crisis in

Asia, and we demand safety for

all minorities in Bangladesh!"

American woman present at

the vigil spoke with palpable

emotion, her voice breaking as she shared, "The horrific acts

of violence back home are dev-

astating. When we call home

and hear about these brutal acts

every single day, it tears us

apart. So many innocent lives

have been lost! Places of wor-

ship have been burned or van-

dalised, and women have been

horrifically abused. This must

stop now! We cannot stand idly by while our people suffer."

The gathering was a powerful

reminder that the struggle for

justice knows no borders.

United by love and compas-

sion, they stood together to

demand action, to raise their

voices against oppression, and

to ensure that the plight of

Hindus in Bangladesh does

not go unheard.

А

Bangladeshi-origin



Businesses in B'desh hit by cash supply drought

largest kitchen markets in

Dhaka, Karwan Bazar, said

his bank would not allow

more than Tk 1 lakh to be

"This is a big problem. As a

result, the normal pace of busi-

ness is being disrupted," the

report quoted him as saying.

He said most business transac

central bank.

withdrawn.

PTI DHAKA

Businesses in Bangladesh are facing a liquidity crunch as the central bank has capped the withdrawal of cash from banks at Tk 2 lakh amidst uncertainty in the country following the fall of the Sheikh Hasin-led government, a media report said on Monday

The Bangladesh Bank set a cash withdrawal limit of Tk 2 lakh (Rs 1.42 lakh approximately) per account on Saturday increasing it from the Tk 1 lakh announced earlier.

The central bank decided this due to security concerns as police are yet to return to work fully, following the clashes between police and students during the widespread protests against Hasina's Awami League-led government over a controversial quota system in

Interim Finance and Planning Adviser Salehuddin Ahmed on Sunday also said that the limit on cash withdrawals was required given the current situation.

Businesses, especially those mainly dealing with cash transactions, said they would be in a tough situation if the cash crisis lingers and restrictions remain next week, The Daily Star newspaper reported. Ahmed, a former governor of Bangladesh Bank has said that the top priority of Bangladesh's

interim government is to bring the economy back on track and restore the people's trust in the banks. Talking to reporters on Saturday for the first time after

tions are being conducted through bank-to-bank transfers or real-time gross settlements. Taslim Shahriar, deputy generassuming office, Ahmed said al manager of a major comthe government's priority is to modity importer and processor, restore the trust of common said not all businesspeople

people in the banks while accept cheques.

"We have to pay in cash too, but resuming the operations of the now, transactions are only tak-Business owners said their ing place through bank-tobank transfers and cheques. operations have halted since the second half of July when the The sooner this problem is resolved, the better for us," widespread protests erupted. Abu Bakar Siddique, an oil Shahriar said wholesaler in one of the

A senior official of another major commodity importer and processor said, "As such, I am unable to pay the full salaries to those who are daily wage earners. I told the workers to wait this week as there is no way I can manage cash now.

Asserting that daily wage earn-ers are facing a very difficult sit-uation, the official said, "It's inhumane for them. If this situation persists for long, it will be very difficult to conduct business

Riad Mahmud, managing director of National Polymer

Group, said he believes the situation will hamper business if it persists, according to the

report. However, he said it will not substantially hinder activities if it lasts a short time. Over 230 people were killed in

Bangladesh in the incidents of violence that erupted across the country following the fall of the Hasina government last week, taking the death toll to 560 since the anti-quota protests first started in mid-July.

An interim government was formed after the fall of the Hasina-led government. Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus was sworn in as the head of an interim government last week following the ouster of Hasina.

He announced the portfolios of his 16-member council of advisors on Friday.

take immediate and decisive action to prevent further atrocities and to protect vulnerable minority communities in Bangladesh.

The recent surge in violence against Hindu communities poses an urgent and alarming threat to peace and stability in the region, and the time to act is now. The organisers passionately called for immediate protection and safety for all religious minorities in Bangladesh, urging the US government to refuse to remain a silent bystander as these heinous crimes against humanity unfold.

They encouraged Bangladeshi Hindus to stay vigilant and unite in monitoring the ongoing situation, taking necessary initiatives collectively in any emergency. The vigil, titled "Save Hindus in Bangladesh," was organised by the Global Voice for Bangladesh Minorities, an umbrella organisation representing major

echoing their urgent plea for justice. Quoting the timeless words of Mahatma Gandhi, "To forgive

and accept injustice is cowardice," along with the poignant words of Martin Luther King Jr., the organisers passionately declared, "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." Achlesh Amar, one of the speakers representing VHP and HinduAction, addressed the packed crowd and said, "We strongly condemn the assault on the Hindu community for their pluralistic beliefs. We stand united in unwavering solidarity with our brothers and sisters in Bangladesh. We demand immediate action from the Bangladeshi government to bring the perpetrators to justice and ensure the safety and security of all its citizens. regardless of their religious beliefs!"

Amar also shared a heartfelt statement from Deepti Mahajan, co-convener of

Former ISI chief Faiz Hameed taken into military custody

Indonesian leaders hold meeting in future capital

Widodo held his first cabinet meeting in the future capital of Nusantara, amid miles of construction sites and doubts about the sustainability of the ambitious mega project.

Tudonesian President Joko

Widodo began working from the city two weeks ago, using an office inside the construction site of the massive new palace in the form of the mythical eagle-shaped Garuda, the symbol of the country. The city is set to hold its first Indonesian Independence Day celebration in less than a week

Appearing with his successor, President-elect Prabowo Subianto, in front of the palace, Widodo insisted that the controversial USD 33 billion construction effort will be worth it. "The Nusantara capital is a canvas that carves the future. Not all countries have the opportunity and the ability to build their capital city starting from zero," Widodo said.

capital city Nusantara in Penajam Paser Utara, East Kalimantan, Indonesia, on Monday, AP/PTI Subianto vowed that his administration will continue work on the new city after it takes office on October 20. 'We will definitely finish it, although the outline plan is dozens of years long, like other capital cities also took a very long time. We should not force it, but I am optimistic that in

five years I think it will function very well," Subianto said. Monday also saw groundbreaking ceremonies for the vice presidential palace, as well as a number of privately funded buildings. The government expects to

In this photo released by Indonesian Presidential Palace, Indonesian President Joko Widodo (centre) talks with Indonesian

Defense Minister and president-elect Prabowo Subianto (left) and Indonesian Vice President Ma'ruf Amin (right) in the new

pay only 20 per cent of the planned USD 33 billion budget,

relied heavily on private sector investment to build key infrastructure and public facilities. In a bid to lure investment, earlier this month Widodo granted investors in the new capital incentives, including land rights of up to 190 years.

Construction of the new city began in mid-2022, after

from pollution and congestion, is prone to earthquakes, and is rapidly sinking.

Widodo announced a plan to relocate the capital from

Officials say it will be a futuristic green city centred around forests and parks that utilises renewable energy sources and smart waste management, spread over an area of about 1000 square miles (2.600 square kilometres). "Cool air, clean air, as we dream of that we want a green capital city, be it its energy, electric vehicles, environment, air and everything, Widodo told reporters.

But the project, which is using land carved out of Borneo's jungle, has been dogged by criticism from environmentalists and Indigenous communities, who say it degrades the environment, further shrinks the habitat of endangered animals such as orangutans, and displaces Indigenous people who rely on the land for their livelihoods

a detailed court of inquiry was undertaken by Pakistan Army, to ascertain correctness of complaints in Top City Case made against Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Retd)," the Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) - the media wing of the army- said in a statement

scheme scandal

PTI ISLAMABAD

n an unprecedented move, the

Pakistan Army on Monday

announced that it has arrested

former ISI chief Lt Gen (retd.)

Faiz Hameed and initiated court

martial proceedings against him

in connection with a housing

"Complying with the orders of

the Supreme Court of Pakistan,

"Consequently, appropriate disciplinary action has been initiated against Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Retd.), under provisions of the Pakistan Army Act," it said. "In addition, multiple instances

of violation of the Pakistan

Army Act post-retirement have also been established. The process of Field General Court Martial has been initiated and Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Retd) has been taken into military custody," it added.

Lt Gen (retd.) Hameed was considered extremely powerful when he headed the spy agency from 2019 to 2021.

He was appointed to the coveted post when then ISI chief and current Army chief Lt Gen Asim Munir was prematurely removed from the post. It was reported then that then prime minister Imran Khan was not happy with Munir.

Later, the army decided to replace Hameed, a move vehemently opposed by Imran Khan and it is believed that it was the beginning of souring of his ties with the powerful military.

The Top City case made headlines when on November 8, 2023, Moeez Ahmed Khan, the

AP 📕 THE HAGUE

(NETHERLANDS)

owner of Top City, filed a petition in the Supreme Court in which he accused Hameed of misusing his authority.

He stated in the petition that on May 12, 2017, at the behest of Gen Hameed, ISI officials raided the top city office and his house and seized valuables, including gold, diamonds and money. He also stated that Sardar Najaf, the brother of Hameed, also contacted him to resolve the issue later. The petition also claimed that Gen Hameed later personally met him to resolve the issue. He alleged that the ISI officials extorted Rs 4 crore cash from him. A three-judge bench of the Supreme Court, which included Chief Justice of Pakistan Justice Qazi Faiz Isa, Justice Attar Minullah and Justice Aminuddin, heard the case and decided to send it to the Ministry of Defence for probing

Chinese Bharatnayam dancer makes history; performs 'Arangetram' ICC monitoring events in Venezuela

PTI BEIJING

ei Muzi, a 13-year-old Lei Muzi, a 10 Jon School student scripted history when she performed Bharatanatyam "Arangetram" in China, a landmark in the journey of the ancient Indian dance form that is gaining popularity in the neighbouring country. Lei made her solo dance debut

here on Sunday in front of the celebrated Bharatanatyam dancer Leela Samson, Indian diplomats and a large audience of Chinese fans.

For ardent Chinese fans of Indian classical art and dance forms who devoted their lives to learning and performing them for decades, her debut was a moment of history and a milestone as it was the first-ever "Arangetram" — Bharatnatyam's graduation ceremony — in China. For the performers of the ancient dance from South India, Arangetram, as it is

called in Tamil, is their debut performance on stage in front of teachers and experts besides

the audience. Only after Arangetram are the students allowed to perform on their own or train aspiring dancers.

'This is the first-ever Arangetram by a student fully trained in China and performed in China," said T S Vivekanand, the First Secretary of the Indian Embassy in charge of culture who attended the event.

It was a properly done Arangetram in a very traditional way, he told PTI here.

"Lei's Arangetram is the first time that Chinese students trained by a Chinese teacher have completed in China, which is a landmark in the history of Bharatanatyam inherinoted Chinese tance," Bharatanatyam dancer Jin Shan Shan, who trained Lei, said. Shruti Rawat, the wife of Indian

Ambassador Pradeep Rawat,



Shurti Rawat, wife of Indian Ambassador to China Pradeep Rawat, with Lei Muzi, the Chinese Bharatanatyam dancer who performed her Arangetram in Beijing on Sunday PT

was the chief guest at Lei's Arangetram. The event was attended by a

large crowd of fans who cheered her over the two-hourlong performance during which she danced to several classical numbers. Besides Leela Sampson, a team

of musicians who were flown in from Chennai sang the classical numbers for Lei to perform. She is due to perform in Chennai later this month. Lei was trained for over 10 years at the Bharatanatyam school run by Jin, who herself was the

first accomplished Bharatanatyam dancer to have held her Arangetram in 1999 in New Delhi. Jin was one of the numerous Chinese students who were trained by eminent Chinese dancer Zhang Jun. Lei, also known as Dudu, says she fell in love with Bharatanatyam since she joined

Jin's school in 2014 "I completely fell in love with it. I kept dancing till now. For me,

Bharatanatyam is not only a beautiful art and dance form but also the embodiment of Indian culture," she told PTI.

This fascinates me greatly, as well as the gorgeous and graceful movements during a dance item. Overall, I extremely love Bharatanatyam. For me, it is already a daily activity to do, and I am truly interested in the culture of India," she said.

Jin, who is widely known in China and India and has held numerous performances, said she is proud to see one of her students complete her Arangetram.

'Bharatanatyam has brought us close together. For ten years, Lei has come to my home every weekend to attend classes, which not only let me witness her growth but also made us family," she said.

"It reminds me of how my guru, Leela Samson, taught me when I did my Arangetram," she said. Sunday's Arangetram is a festival for us, Jin said.

and other allegations following the presidential election of 28 July in Venezuela".

International Criminal Court The statement said that Khan's office has "engaged with the prosecutors said on Monday that they are "actively monitor-Government of Venezuela at the highest-level to underline the ing" events in Venezuela, where security forces have launched a importance of ensuring that the rule of law is adhered to in the crackdown on the opposition in present moment and emphasize the aftermath of the nation's disputed presidential election. that all persons must be protect-Forces loyal to President Nicolás

the allegation.

Maduro have rounded up more than 2,000 people for demonstrating against the president or casting doubt on his claims that he won a third term in the July 28 election despite strong evidence he lost the vote by a more than two-to-one margin.

In a written statement to reporters, the office of ICC Prosecutor Karim Khan said it is "actively monitoring the present events and has received multiple reports of instances of violence

ed from violations that may constitute Rome Statute crimes". The Rome Statute is the court's founding treaty and outlines the crimes over which it has jurisdiction. Maduro has called on Venezuelans to denounce election doubters via a governmentrun app originally created to report power outages. He also said the government was refurbishing two gang-dominated prisons to accommodate an expected surge in jailing of opponents.



money 10

Stock markets close marginally lower

Stock markets closed marginally lower in highly volatile trade on Monday as gains in private banks helped benchmark Sensex recoup some of the early losses inflicted by allegations against Sebi chief Madhabi Puri Buch and her husband the US short-seller Hindenburg Research.

The 30-share Sensex closed lower by 56.99 points or 0.07 per cent at 79,648.92 with 18 of its constituents ending with losses and 12 with gains. The index had declined by 479.78 points or 0.60 per cent to a low of 79,226.13 in morning trade due to losses in Adani group shares and blue-chips like Reliance Industries. The benchmark later staged a sharp recovery climbing around 880 points from the day's lows to hit a high of 80,106.18. But at the fag-end, the BSE benchmark

slipped into the negative territory and closed lower. The NSE Nifty dipped 20.50 points or 0.08 per cent to 24,347. Intra-day, it hit a low of 24,212.10 and a high of 24,472.80



Indian market concluded relatively flat, with its initial path being eclipsed by the continuation of the Adani-Hindenburg-SEBI saga. However, the market tried to brush away these noises, taking positive cues from global markets," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

From 30 Sensex firms, Adani Ports, NTPC, Power Grid, State Bank of India, Nestle, Mahindra & Mahindra, Reliance Industries and Tata Consultancy Services were the biggest laggards.

termed

Bank, Infosys, Axis Steel, Tata Motors, HDFC Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank were among the gainers from the blue-chip pack. Hindenburg Research on Saturday alleged that SEBI chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch and her husband had undisclosed investments in obscure offshore funds in Bermuda and Mauritius, the same entities allegedly used by Vinod Adani - the elder brother of group chairman Gautam Adani - to roundtrip funds and inflate stock prices.

Buch and her husband issued

statement Hindenburg's latest tirade an attack on the credibility of SEBI and attempted "character assassination".

Adani Group on Sunday Hindenburg Research's latest allegations as malicious and manipulative of select public information, saying it has no commercial relationship with the SEBI chairperson or her husband. charperson or her husband. All the 10 Adani group stocks declined sharply during the early trade, with Adani Energy Solutions tumbling 17 per cent and Adani Total Gas dropping 13.39 per cent. At close, eight of the group firms ended lower, while two of them bounced back. them bounced back. "The Hindenburg allegations

now against a key official of the market regulator weighed on the sentiment in early trade, but indices recovered soon to trade higher only to give away all their gains towards the close to end marginally lower on selective "In case the row heats up

further, it could impact sentiment going ahead and profit-taking could continue, although global cues would

still determine the broader market mood," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said. In the broader market, the

BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.51 per cent and midcap index went up marginally by 0.04 per cent.

0.04 per cent. Among the indices, utilities declined 1.04 per cent, FMCG by 0.67 per cent, power by 0.62 per cent, and services by 0.41 per cent. Consumer Durables, realty, oil & gas, metal and IT were the gainers A total of 2,126 stocks declined while 1,941 advanced and 118 remained unchanged on the BSE.

In Asian markets, Seoul and Hong Kong settled in the positive territory while Shanghai ended lower. Markets in Tokyo and Bangkok were closed for a holiday. European markets were trading mostly higher. The US markets ended higher Friday. Foreign on Institutional Investors (FIIs) turned buyers on Friday after days of offloading equities. They bought equities worth

Rs 406.72 crore, according to exchange data.

PTI MUMBAI

The rupee consolidated in a

narrow range and settled for the day

lower by 2 paise at 83.97 (provisional)

American currency

market participants

remained on the sidelines ahead of

the release of key

domestic

macroeconomic

declined on

Monday, as

the

against

on

data.

prices.

Major domestic appliances market sees 18% value-based growth in first half of 2024, says report

products, which is fuelling the value growth in the appliance segment. Now washing machines with capacities of 9kg or above have recorded an "impressive growth rate of 30

"impressive growth rate of 30 per cent", which is driven by

consumers seeking enhanced

performance and innovative

Similarly, the air-conditioner segment is benefiting from

similar trends, where demand

for energy-efficient and high-

performance models has grown by 59 per cent in the

split inverter and 5-star segments. "Cooling appliances

(refrigerator) have seen an 11

per cent increase in the side-

by-side, French door, and 3/4

The report also suggests that

despite such gains, the relatively low penetration of

these products presents significant opportunities for

The smartphone and mobile

phones segment had a 6 per

door segments," it said.

industry expansion.

features.

PTI NEW DELHI

The market of major domestic appliances saw an 18 per cent value-based growth in the first half of 2024, helped by a strong demand for essential household items, according to a report from GfK. The growth in MDA (major domestic appliances) market was led by Key categories such as airconditioners and refrigerators, which reported a growth of 30 per cent and 7 per cent, respectively.

'This growth is 3X of growth in 2023 over the previous year," said the report from GfK, which is now an NIQ Company, a leading global market and consumer intelligence firm.

The small domestic appliances market recorded a 29 per cent increase in value, reflecting heightened consumer interest in home convenience products, according to the report.

cent reduction in volume, it The report also added that was offset by a substantial 10 customers are now looking for feature-rich and premium

Gold rises ₹200, silver rallies ₹1,000 per kilogram

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Gold prices rose by Rs 200 to Rs 72,350 per 10 grams while silver prices rallied by Rs 1,000 per kg in the local mar-ket here on Monday amid firm global trends.

In the previous session, the yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity had closed lower at Rs 72,150 per 10 grams on

Saturday, according to the All India Sarafa Association. Silver prices jumped by Rs 1,000 to Rs 83,500 per kg from Rs 82,500 per kg in the

Meanwhile, gold of 99.5 per cent purity also climbed by Rs 200 to Rs 72,000 per 10 grams. In the previous trade, it had ended at Rs 71,800 per

10 grams on Saturday. Traders attributed the rise in gold prices to increased demand from local jewellers and a strong trend in the overseas markets.

overseas markets. On the global front, Comex gold is trading at USD 2,481.80 per ounce, up by USD 8.40 per ounce. "Gold prices rose on Monday as persisting geopolitical concerns about Middle Eastern crises boosted the safe-haven demand for precious metal," Saumil Gandhi, Senior Analyst of Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.

Securities, said. Apart from that, traders also increased their bets on the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) aggressive interest rate cuts this year after recent weak macro data provided further support for the yellow metal,

Gandhi added. According to Manav Modi, Analyst of Commodity Research at Motilal Oswal Financial Services, gold prices Services, gold prices held steady after a sharp rise in the previous session, bolstered by a dip in US Treasury yields, as investors grew confident that the Fed would lower interest

rates in September this year. Silver is up at USD 28.01 per ounce in the international markets.

Traders shifted their focus to the US consumer price index data, due next week, for insights into the Fed's likely monetary policy path, Modi said.

As per Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst -Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities, gold prices largely escalating tensions in the Middle East, particularly concerns over a potential attack by Iran on Israel.

Govt approves 20% premium for gas from new wells for ONGC

PTI NEW DELHI

The government has approved a 20 per cent premium over the regulated or APM price for any natural gas that ONGC will produce from new wells the company government has from new wells, the company said on Monday.

Currently, two pricing regimes govern the majority of the domestic production of natural gas, which is used to generate electricity, produce fertiliser, turn into CNG for running automobiles and piped to households for cooking.

Gas produced from legacy or fields given to state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Ltd, on nomination basis, is priced at 10 per cent of the prevailing price of crude oil that India imports.

This price, subject to a cap price of USD 6.5 per million British thermal units, is called regulated or APM price. So, at the current Indian basket price of USD 77 per barrel, the APM price for gas produced Mumbai High and Bassein fields in the western offshore should come to USD 7.7 per been notified. domestic mmBtu, but it is paid the cap



domestic natural gas price (APM price) was fixed at 10 price of USD 6.5. Gas produced from difficult fields, such as those in the per cent of the Indian crude deep sea, is governed by a different formula and paid a higher rate because of the basket price as announced by Petroleum Planning and Analysis (PPAC) on a monthly basis. It was provided in the guidelines higher cost involved in its production. That price for six months starting April 1 is that for the gas produced USD 9.87 per mmBtu. from new wells or well When these formulas were intervention adopted last year, it was nomination fields decided that gas produced ONGC/Oil India Limited, from new wells, even in there would be a premium of legacy fields, would be paid a 20 per cent over APM prices -20 per ce total of over 12 ner

Directorate General Hydrocarbon (DGH) for approval of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOPNG)," ONGC said in a statement.

The ministry, it said, has now notified the allocation of gas produced from new wells or well interventions from fields nominated of nominated fields of ONGC/OIL at a 20 per cent premium over the APM price. "The enhanced price for new gas will make the new gas development projects viable and help the ONGC to augment the production of augment the production of natural gas from nominated fields in challenging areas that require higher amounts of capital and technology. "This will enhance the

investment capacity in the company to take up development projects, which are otherwise capital intensive and involve a higher degree of ricks requiring commensurate risks requiring commensurate prices," it said. ONGC Board has recently the of

approved the Daman Upside Development project in its nominated field of Mumbai High for Rs 7 800 increasing domestic gas production, and the job has already been awarded for execution.

at 83.97 against US dollar

RUPEE ₹ VS DOLLAR \$

83.95

(-3p)

83.92

(+17p) (

84.09 Moreover Forex traders said (-37p) investors may the Indian rupee remain cautious ahead of US CPI, а Aug 8 Aug 9 August 12 Aug 5 Aug 6 Aug 7 positive tone in the Provisional (Inverted Scale) retail sales and US dollar and a surge in crude oil consumen

83.97

(-2p)

On Friday, the rupee settled for the day higher by 2 paise at 83.95 against US dollar. 'We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on strength in the US dollar and rising global crude oil prices. Selling pressure from foreign investors and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East

per cent increase in overall value Rupee falls 2 paise to close

> Forex traders said for the USD/INR pair 84.00 level is acting as a psychological 1 USD = 83.97 INR* resistance. Market 83.95 participants are (+2p) also awaiting cues from the Indian CPI 83.97 inflation and IIP numbers

scheduled to be

released later in

the day.

the APM price. Now, that has Indian crude basket price for new gas. "As per guidelines for

"The modalities for the same pricing, had to be worked out by the

in

low of 84.09 against the US dollar on August 5.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.95 and

touched an intraday low of

83.98 and finally settled at

83.97 (provisional) against

the American currency, lower

by 2 paise from its previous

The local unit had slumped may further pressurise the 37 paise to settle at an all-time rupee," said Anuj Choudhary Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas.

0.05 per cent his 103 her at Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, advanced 0.85 per cent to USD 80.34 per barrel.

confidence data from the US this week. "USD-INR spot

price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 83.75 to Rs 84.25,"

Meanwhile, the dollar index.

which gauges the greenback's

strength against a basket of

six currencies, was trading

Choudhary added.

Hindenburg claims baseless, misleading: REITs Association Automation Expo to showcase use of AI in

PTI NEW DELHI

Indian REITs Association on Monday said that claims made by the US-based short seller Hindenburg Research suggesting that the REIT framework made by markets regulator Sebi serves the interests of a select few are "baseless and misleading". In fact, the association has

commended Sebi and its leadership for crafting a "rigorous regulatory environment" that includes comprehensive periodic 2014 has been amended from requirements, time to time. reporting

valuations, and strict governance standards. These measures are designed to enhance transparency and protect investor interests, it added. The statement came after the Hindenburg report on Saturday alleged that recent amendments to Sebi's REIT Regulations 2014 were made benefit to а specific multinational financial conglomerate. In this regard, the markets regulator stated

um of

mandatory

gas

independent In a statement, the association said that since the introduction of REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) regulations in 2014, India has established a strong and transparent regulatory framework that aligns with global best practices. "Developed in consultation with all market participants, this framework ensures the highest levels of investor protection for both --domestic and international institutional that Sebi (REIT) Regulations, investors, as well as retail

investors," it said.

Saturday launched a broadside against market regulator Sebi chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch, alleging she and her husband had stakes in obscure offshore funds used in the Adani alleged money siphoning scandal.

Sebi chairperson Buch and her husband Dhaval denied the allegations as baseless and asserted their finances are an open book. Her husband Dhaval Buch is a senior advisor with Blackstone.

The Adani Group termed the latest allegations malicious Hindenburg Research on and based on manipulation of

select public information. The company said it has no commercial relationship with the Sebi chairperson or her husband.

Indian REITs Association, which counts Brookfield India Real Estate Trust, Embassy Office Parks REIT, Mindspace Business Parks REIT, and Nexus Select Trust -- as their founding members, said that the sector's growth has drawn significant interest and participation from prominent over Rs 18,000 crore, with the market capitalisation of the global institutional investors. These investors' participation asset class reaching about Rs not only strengthens the trust 80,000 crore.

and credibility of India's financial system but also provides investors with a dependable and transparent avenue to engage in the country's expanding real estate market.

Currently, there are four listed REITs on the Indian stock exchanges, collectively managing assets worth over Rs 1.4 lakh crore and serving over 2.4 lakh crore unitholders. These REITs have distributed all set to be a pivotal event in

manufacturing sectors PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI ndia's largest exhibition for the automation industry, Automation Expo 2024, slated from August 21 to 24 is

(AI)

and driving



manufacturing and production sectors. The integration of AI with traditional robotics is revolutionising the industry by advance, r maintenance, r torial waste, by advancing predictive reducing and demand improving forecasting. Attendees will experience a comprehensive display of the latest technologies and solutions, featuring both innovative startups and established industry leaders, said Dr M Arokiaswamy, Founder & IED Chairman of Communications.

showcasing how Artificial

transformative changes across

Intelligence

Robotics are

The exhibition to be held at Exhibition the Bombay (BÉC), Nesco, Center Mumbai is supported by associations various including the Technology Development Board, National Small Industry Corporation (NSIC), All India Manufacturers' Organization (AIMO), among others.

Dr BR Mehta, Director Projects at Waaree Group, emphasised the expo's importance in exploring

technologies that can revolutionise manufacturing processes and foster industry collaboration while Dr. Kartik Fojdar, Head — CoE Engineering Instrumentation at Reliance Industries Ltd., spoke about the expo's potential to provide innovative solutions that drive operational excellence. Dr Keyur Vora, Advisor and HOD (C&I) at Adani-Petrochemical Business, underscored the opportunity for discovering new technologies and forging strategic partnerships to operational enhance efficiency. At the same time Dr VP Raman, Engineering Consultant, noted that the expo will offer a unique platform for engaging with leading vendors and system integrators to explore solutions that boost operational efficiency. India's industrial automation sector is on a significant growth trajectory, with projections indicating a rise

from over USD 15 billion to

USD 29.5 billion by 2029.

Naveen appointed Director IIP growth slows to 5-month (Operations) POWERGRID low of 4.2% in June: Govt data

PNS NEW DELHI

Naveen Srivastava has been appointed as Director (Operations) of Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (POWERGRID), a Maharatna CPSE under Ministry of Power, Government of India

Prior to his joining as Director (Operations), he worked as Executive Director (NR-III) handling challenging and flagship works & delivered results consistently in dynamic business environment.

"He brings a wealth of expertise He is an to the table. electrical accomplished engineer, having graduated in Electrical Engineering (Hons) from the prestigious National Institute of Technology-Durgapur, and has honed his leadership al-'' leadership skills through a experience in operations, statement.



General

Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, and the Manage Harvard program at Harvard Business School," said a statement issued by the firm.

Management

Programme at the Mentor With over two decades of

Srivastava has consistently driven success across multiple facets, including Operations and Maintenance (O&M), Testing and Commissioning (T&C), and cutting-edge SCADA and communication technologies, it said. His leadership was

instrumental in completing the renowned underground cabling project in Old Kashi (Varanasi), which garnered accolades from the Chief Minister and international

dignitaries, it said. Further, he played a pivotal role towards commissioning of 765kV Pooling Substation at Bilaspur along with adaptation of new Technologies such as Remote Operation of HVDC Rihand-Dadri Link and others, siad the compnay in a

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

India's industrial production I slowed to a five-month low of 4.2 per cent in June 2024, mainly due to poor performance of the manufacturing sector, though power and mining sectors continue to perform well, as per official data released on Monday.

The factory output growth, measured in terms of the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), was 6.2 per cent in May, 5 per cent in April, 5.5 per cent in March, 5.6 per cent in February and 4.2 per cent in January 2024. During the April-June period this fiscal, the IIP growth was 5.2 per cent against 4.7 per cent in the same period of the

preceding financial year.

India's Index of Industrial Production grew by 4 per cent in June 2023, according to a statement by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. As per the data, the mining output growth accelerated to 10.3 per cent in June against a 7.6 per cent expansion in the yearmonth. The ago manufacturing sector's

growth decelerated to 2.6 per cent in June compared to 3.5 per cent a year ago. The power generation

increased by 8.6 per cent in June against a growth of 4.2 per cent in the same month of the last year.

As per use-base classification, the capital goods segment growth fell to 2.4 per cent in per cent a year earlier.

June 2024 from 2.9 per cent in

the year-ago period. In June this year, consumer durables output expanded 8.6 per cent compared to a 6.8 per cent contraction in June

non-durable Consumer goods production contracted 1.4 per cent during the reporting month against a growth of 0.5 per cent in May 2023. According to the data, infrastructure/construction goods reported a growth of 4.4 per cent in June 2024, down from a 13.3 per cent expansion in the year-ago period.

The data also showed that the output of primary goods logged a 6.3 per cent growth in June this year, up from 5.3

2023.



US WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

AP PARIS

The USA women's basketball players have

L been saying for years that winning in the Olympics isn't easy and France showed at the Paris Games that their comments are more than just rhetoric to keep fans interested. The rest of the world is catching up to the U.S., though Olympic gold should continue to run through America.

The future for USA Basketball looks bright with A'ja Wilson and Breanna Stewart in their prime. Then there also is a extremely talented young group of players who say they want to be in the pipeline, led by Caitlin Clark, Angel Reese, Paige Bueckers and Juju Watkins.

They could help anchor the national team, which is in a bit of a transition with the retirement of Diana Taurasi, who finished her career with a record six gold medals.

The Americans captured their record eighth Olympic gold Sunday medal by the narrowest of margins with a 67-66 victory over France. The

U.S. Won its six games in the tournament by an average of 15.7 points - the lowest during

its streak 'The parity of women's basketball is just only continuing to grow," Stewart said. "So I think, you know, we know it's not easy.

France became the first team to come within a hair of beating the U.S in the Olympics during its record 61-game winning streak that dates back to the 1992 Barcelona Games. Only two other teams had come within single digits of the Americans in those 32 years.

"Maybe they won't say it's just easy and we walk in and just win gold," said U.S. Center Brittney Griner. Who broke down in tears when she was presented her third gold medal. "Maybe they'll stop saying that, because, like I said, we see everybody's best shot. And we saw the shot that France gave us." The U.S. Will get homecourt during the 2028 Olympics, which will be held in Los Angeles. The Americans hed played the last two gold had played the last two gold medal games against teams from the host nation.



Griner said "we'll see" when asked if she'll be playing in the Los Angeles Games.

Even if she doesn't decide to play - she'll be 37 at that point-the U.S. Should return its top two stars Stewart and Wilson, who are only 29 and 28 years old respectively. The pair could potentially play

in a few more Olympics. With the exception of Taurasi, no one on this year's Olympic team would be older than 37 by the time the 2028 Olympics happen

"I think being able to learn from a lot of the veteran players here, knowing it's kind of my time and a lot of our times that, this younger generation is able to kind of take this legacy and continue to push forward and go for nine," said Sabrina Ionescu, who earned her first Olympic gold medal. "This is a program that has always sort of made it that has always sort of made it look easy. But I always said it's not."

The major question potentially is who will be coaching the team in Los Angeles.

Cheryl Reeve could come back to coach the team, although it's

certainly have their endorsement.



Indian shuttlers sign off Paris Games on dismal note

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

India became so used to a badminton medal from the Olympics in the last 12 years that Paris 2024 seems nothing short of a disaster.

Lakshya Sen emerged as a notable bright spot with a fourth-place finish, but the badminton team, Indian including medal contenders such as PV Sindhu and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, returned emptyhanded from the Olympics for the first time in over a decade. The hopes of a medal were not

and also the mental aspect of Games and the 2023 Asia playing at such an event.

Nothing demonstrated it more than Lakshya's implosion first in the semifinals against Viktor Axelsen and then in the bronze play-off against Lee Zii Jia of Chinese Taipei.

Sindhu, who had received Rs 3.13 crore in support, was unable to progress beyond the pre-quarterfinals, missing the chance to become the first Indian to win three Olympic medals

"I am a little disappointed as he could not finish it. I am disappointed that we could not Games, leading to a loss in the medal one badminton. The government, SAI, and TOPS have done their bit. It is high time some of the players also need to take some responsibility," Lakshya's coach and former All England champion Prakash Padukone. demonstrated resilience and The unexpected defeat of skill, finishing fourth -- a former world number one notable achievement for an Satwik and Chirag was the most shocking of all and added Indian male shuttler. His victories over Indonesia's to the dismay, as they were Jonatan Christie and Chinese gold-medal Taipei's Chou Tien Chen were considered commendable, though his contenders. The government had backed losses to eventual champion the players extensively, including Rs 26.60 lakh and Rs Axelsen and Zii Jia from comfortable positions exposed 9.33 lakh sanctioned for Sindhu and Lakshya's training in Germany and France, respectively. Sindhu, a silver some major frailties. As one looks ahead to the Los Angeles Games in 2028, it remains to be seen whether the 29-year-old Sindhu can and bronze winner from the past two editions, had a 12maintain her fitness. However, there is optimism member support team in Saarbrucken during her training ahead of the Games that Lakshya will leverage their but she failed to overcome He Paris experience. With emerging talents like Bingjiao of China. Satwik and Chirag had won two titles in four BWF World Priyanshu Rajawat and Treesa Jolly-Gayatri poised to make an impact, Tour finals this year and numerous medals in major India's badminton prospects events such as 2023 Asian remain promising for the next Games, 2022 Commonwealth four years.

Championships.

The government spent a total of Rs 5.62 crores on the celebrated Indian duo for the Paris cycle but they were upset by Malaysia's Aaron Chia and Yik in the Soh Wooi quarterfinals, prompting their Danish coach Mathias Boe to quit coaching.

Prannoy, a bronze-medallist at 2023 World the Championships and Asian Games, received Rs 1.8 crore for training but was hindered by Chikungunya ahead of the

Satwik-Chirag

and

Gopichand

From Paris to Los Angeles: How city preparing for 2028 Olympics

AP LOS ANGELES

It's Los Angeles' turn for the torch. Mayor Karen Bass accepted the Olympic flag at the Paris closing ceremony Sunday, before handing it off to a key representative of LA's local business - Tom Cruise - who in a pre-recorded trak wie meterswele plane and recorded trek via motorcycle, plane and parachute kicked off the countdown to 2028. The city will become the third in the world to host the games three times as it adds to the storied years of 1932 and 1984. Here's a look forward and LA'S OLYMPIC TRILOGY: Los Angeles got the 2028 games as a consolation prize when Paris was picked for 2024

picked for 2024.

Back in 1932, LA hosted its first Olympics. The city was the only bidder for the games at a time marred by the Great Depression and the absence of several nations. Yet memorable sport moments came from athletes including American athlete Babe Didrikson Zaharias, who won golds in the new women's events of javelin and hurdles. Financial and cultural success gave 1984 a reputation as the "good" Olympics" which made seemingly every major world city want their own. Emphasizing both the modern and the classical with a hand from Hollywood,

the games opened with decathlon champion Rafer Johnson lighting the torch, a guy in a jetpack descending into the Memorial Coliseum and theme music by "Star Wars" maestro John Williams.

With Eastern Bloc countries boycotting, the U.S. Dominated. Carl Lewis and Mary Lou Retton are among the athletes who became household names. A young Michael Jordan led the men's basketball team to gold.

The games renewed, for a while, the global reputation of a city that had been erceived to be in decline.

"We want our games to be a modern games, youthful, full of the optimism that Southern California brings to the world and the globe," Janet Evans, fourtime Olympic gold medalist in swimming and chief athlete officer for the LA 2028 organizing committee, told The Associated Press in Paris.

PASSING THE TORCH: Bass, who arrives back in LA Monday, spent these games in Paris along with organizers and city officials, learning what it takes to host the world's largest sporting event.

Joining her were LA28 Chairperson Casey Wasserman, an entertainment executive, and LA councilmember Traci Park, chair of the city Olympic committee.



2024 Summer Olympics closing ceremony at the Stade de France AP/PT

"As we've seen here in Paris, the Olympics are an opportunity to make transformative change," Bass said at a press conference ahead of the closing ceremony

VENUES OLD AND NEW, PLUS A **SWIMMING STADIUM:** Amid a journey of the flag begun by Cru shown ending moments earlier.

successful the last few years than Hammon, who has led the Aces to back-to-back WNBA championships. With the Aces' core of Wilson, Kelsey Plum, Chelsea Gray and Jackie Young potentially back in 2028, Hammon would

polish existing structures rather than erect new ones. "It's a no-build games," Evans said.

) sports 11

extremely rare that a coach

does a second stint. Only Geno

Auriemma, who coached in 2012 and 2016, has done that.

If the U.S. Goes another

direction, there's a few

potential candidates. Assistant Kara Lawson, who won gold as a player in 2008 and also

guided the inaugural 3x3 U.S.

Team in 2021 to first place

could be on the list. A trio of

Stephanie White and Tanisha

A dark horse could be Las Vegas Aces coach Becky Hammon. She hasn't been

involved with USA Basketball

at all yet and played for Russia in the 2008 Olympics. Yet no

WNBA coach has been more

coaches

with

Curt

have

USA

Miller,

could be

WNBA

experience

Basketball:

considered

Wright also

PARIS 2024

After Paris' innovative opening ceremony on the Seine River, LA plans to open with a traditional, stadium-based approach at SoFi Stadium in neighboring Inglewood that also incorporates the century-old Memorial

Coliseum in Los Angeles itself. Home to two NFL teams, SoFi has hosted a Super Bowl and several Taylor Swift concerts since opening in 2020. It will become what organizers say is the largest Olympic swimming venue ever. Its opening ceremony role means swimming will come after track and field for the first time since 1972.

Intuit Dome, the soon-to-open Inglewood home of the NBA's Clippers, would be the games' newest major venue and is the planned home for Olympic basketball. The Lakers' downtown Crypto.Com Arena will host gymnastics.

The toxicity of swimming in the Seine became a serious issue in Paris. That could put renewed focus on the Long Beach area waterfront when it hosts marathon swimming and triathlon races. Its cleanliness history is mixed but its ocean waters got consistently high marks in a 2023 analysis by nonprofit Heal the Bay.

The Long Beach shore was home to the pre-recorded performances during Sunday's ceremony of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Billie Eilish, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre, though it was easy to mistake for LA's Venice Beach, where the journey of the flag begun by Cruise was

again eyeing a hat-trick of medals, the ever-tenacious HS Prannoy (men's singles) had finally made it to his debut Olympics, and Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto (women's doubles) seemed in decent form.

Sind

As for Lakshya and Satwik-Chirag, they were seen as potential podium finishers even before the first match was held.

During the Paris cycle, badminton received considerable support too, including 13 national camps and 81 foreign exposure trips, funded under the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)

The Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Mission Olympic Cell allocated Rs 72.03 crore, the second-largest funding among the nearly Rs 470 crore spent Índia's Olympic on preparations across 16 disciplines.

significant Despite the investment, the results in Paris fell short of expectations, highlighting the unpredictable nature of Olympic competition

AP PARIS Ashwini and Tanisha, who

The contest for most gold medals at the Paris Olympics ended in a 40-40 tie received Rs 1.5 crore each in support, exited the tournament after failing to win any match in the group stage. Despite the setbacks, Lakshya between China and the United States.

But the U.S. Topped the medals table with a whopping 126 overall, compared to 91 for China. At the Tokyo Games, the U.S. Also edged China in the medal count, finishing with 113 overall and 39 golds, compared to 89 medals with 38 gold for China. Who was supposed to lead the

medal count at the Paris Games?

According Nielsen's to Gracenote virtual medal-table forecast, which collected data from big results competitions since the Tokyo Games, the top five for overall medals in Paris was going to be as follows: The U.S. (112 overall medals); China (86); Britain (63); France (60) and Australia (54)

The U.S. Did top the medals table. However, the U.S. And China both upped their gold and overall medal counts. Japan proved the virtual

US again beats China in Olympic medals table after they tie for gold



predictors wrong by sneaking into third place with 20 golds among its 45 medals.

France and Australia were in the top five as predicted, but the other way around. Skateboard star Keegan Palmer

helped Australia go fourth with 18 golds among 53 medals, while fifth-place France tallied 16 golds among its 64 medals. Britain got more medals than in Tokyo - 65 to 64 - but had

less golds and was seventh overall behind the Netherlands.

Here's a closer look at the some of the nations: GREAT HAUL OF CHINA.

close men's 100-meter race, TEAM DOMINATES and Gabrielle Thomas took the AS DIVING: When Cao Yuan women's 200. Quincy Hall won defended his title in the men's the men's 400 at a Stade de 10-meter platform France, on accustomed to hearing the Saturday, it gave his nation an unprecedented sweep of the American national anthem. diving gold medals.

added to her growing fame with four more medals, and the swimmers, led by another Olympic great in Katie Ledecky, grabbed eight golds. The men's and women's basketball teams won their tournaments, both beating France in the finals. The U.S. Women survived the biggest challenge of their unprecedented run to eight straight Olympic gold medals with a 67-66 win to close out competition at the Paris

Games. But the U.S. Women's water polo team went home empty handed after high expectations.

EXCEED FRANCE **EXPECTATIONS:** Led by the brilliant performances of Léon Marchand, who finished with five medals overall, Les Bleus won one more gold than Atlanta in 1996 and nearly doubled their 33 medals

overall from the Tokyo Games three years ago.

Rugby star Antoine Dupont got the ball bouncing by leading France to gold in the rugby sevens, then Marchand took over

Gymnastics star Simone Biles

grew

which

China won all eight golds handed out at the Olympic

China won five golds in each of

shooting, table tennis and weightlifting, with China's victory in the team event in

table tennis giving the country its 300th gold in Olympic

GOLDS GALORE FOR USA

ON TRACK, BUT NO MEDAL IN WOMEN'S

McLaughlin-Levrone broke

her own world record in the

400-meter hurdles as the U.S.

Won 14 golds in track and

Noah Lyles won a historically

POLO: Sydney

Aquatics Centre.

history

MEDAL

WATER

field

Lyles feared bronchitis after positive COVID test, but now pushes through with new career goals

AP PARIS

A sthma didn't stop Noah Lyles from taking on the 200 meter at the Paris Olympics, even after testing positive for COVID-19. Despite fears of bronchitis and conflicting reports about his fever, Lyles won a bronze medal just two days after his positive test. He was concerned more about the virus' severe symptoms than his temperature, which his coach Lance Brauman claimed rose to 102 degrees.

"Anytime I've had COVID, it's never been about the temperatures. It's always been about the body aches, the chills, the headaches and the cold," Lyles told The Associated Press on Sunday. He spoke during an interview about his new Visa campaign involving his mother, experience. He became the world's

Keisha Caine Bishop, who narrated a 30-second reel with her son.

back in the medical bay

underneath the track. Their biggest

concern was me getting bronchitis

because we didn't want something

to get infected and the asthma really starts to take form. We really

had to jump on top of that." Lyles added: "If that was the case, I

probably would have had to get a

During the Paris Olympics, the 27-

year-old Lyles has had a whirlwind

trip to the hospital, for sure.

had become worse.

fastest man in the 100 meters before his decision to race in the Lyles said his temperature reached no higher than 99 degrees. The 200. He faced some criticism about his participating in the race and only reason he would have pulled possibly infecting others, but the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee had no issues with out is if the symptoms of bronchitis "Then asthma joining in on that and making it even worst, that was our worst fear," he said. "We were

Lyles competing. Lyle has embraced becoming somewhat of an anti-hero. He's used to hearing the criticism about him being overly confident, but he notes that many don't understand his journey toward improving his self worth.

Along with asthma, Lyles said he dealt with dyslexia, anxiety, depression and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder.

Those are all prime bullying targets right there," he said. "I was getting bullied in school. It was very hard, and I was already not



doing well because I'm not a traditional learner. It was very hard going through that. Going through the school system, it made me feel Lyles pushed through the skeptics,

like I was stupid. I felt like none of my gifts I have now were worth anything.

building himself up with the help of his family - particularly his mother. Even before her son's Olympic medals, she was proud of him.

"It's not the critic who counts because it's always easy to be a critic," she said. "I know people see his confidence as cockiness, but what do you want people to do? It makes me feel sad for those people who feel like they have to criticize somebody who has big goals and puts those goals out there.

His mother said, "It's better to have goals and put them out there and not achieve them, than to sit there all your life and wonder, What if?' Lyles often leans on his mother's advice when skeptics are speaking his name.

'You're still going to count on me to win the day, aren't you?" he

asked. "As my mom used to say, the higher you go up the ladder, the more your underwear shows. People are going to have opinions. .. But everybody who has ever met

me comes away saying Oh my gosh, I feel so inspired."

Lyles has since tested negative for COVID-19 and now he's looking to make a bigger name for himself. He'll still be preparing hard for the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo in September, but he'll look to branch out in the next year into other opportunities such as

fashion, music, buying a new house and enjoying his relationship with track athlete Junelle Bromfield.

"I'm excited to see where the road takes me," he said. "And to be honest, I'm also excited to see what plans God has, because I can only think so far.



New Zealand pick 5 spin options for Tests against Afghanistan, Lanka

PTI AUCKLAND

ew Zealand on Monday named a strong squad, which includes five spin bowling options, for next month's one-off Test against Afghanistan and the ensuing two-match rubber against Sri Lanka.

While the one-off Test against Afghanistan will be played in Greater Noida, India, from September 9-13, the Black Caps will fly to Sri Lanka for the two ICC World Test Championship matches, starting September 18 and 26, respectively.

Veteran pacer Tim Southee will lead the side which includes the likes of Kane Williamson, Devon Conway, Glenn Phillips and Rachin Ravindra, while Tom Latham continues to be the vicecaptain.

However, head coach Gary Stead hinted that if conditions call for a different balance, the skipper too may have to sit out for a game or two.

"Test tours to the subcontinent can ask some really tough questions of pace bowlers due to the nature of the pitches and the heat and humidity," Stead said.

"While we're going over with an open mind around conditions, there is an understanding that all our bowling options may be needed across the different Tests.

"Tim and I have discussed this, and the need during these overseas tours to balance the work-loads of the pace

bowlers, including himself, to ensure the team is best served," he added.



Spin bowling all-rounder injury, which was followed by a

Michael Bracewell returned to the squad for the first time in 18 months after an Achilles

oartially

broken finger in February, had kept him out of action. Bracewell will shoulder the spin duties alongside left-

armers Mitchell Santner, Ajaz Patel and part-timers Glenn Phillips and Ravindra. "Michael had to show plenty of

resilience to rehabilitate from said his injuries and force his way back into the BLACKCAPS "His all-round skills, and ability to take the ball away from the left-hander make him across all three formats," Stead

a great asset, especially on what we expect will be turning wickets in India and Sri Lanka," he added.

sports 12

Pacers Will O'Rourke and Ben Sears have been rewarded with maiden overseas Test call-ups. The 23-year-old O'Rourke claimed 11 wickets in his first two Test outings, including the best match-figures by a New Zealander on Test debut (nine for 93 v South Africa in February) before a groin injury ruled him out of the second Test against Australia.

Sears, on the other hand, debuted in the second Test against Australia in March, claiming four for 90 in the second innings.

New Zealand currently occupy the third spot in the ICC WTC points table behind last edition's finalists, Australia and India.

"We know how important the points in Sri Lanka will be to our chances of pushing for a final spot in England next year. "We managed one win from the two Test series in challenging conditions in Bangladesh last December and are keen to build on that.

The whole squad is looking forward to test their skills in the longest form of the game in the sub-continent," he said. SQUAD:

Tim Southee (captain), Tom Blundell, Michael Bracewell, Devon Conway, Matt Henry, Tom Latham, Daryl Mitchell, Will O'Rourke, Ajaz Patel, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitchell Santner, Ben Sears, Kane Williamson, Will Young.

Duleep Trophy first round match shifted to Bengaluru; stars barring Ashwin, Bumrah to play



logistical inconveniences.

Graham Thorpe took his own life after battling with depression and anxiety, reveals wife

However, Bumrah and Ashwin PTI LONDON are unlikely to take part in the tournament at any stage as they are expected to join the India squad directly ahead of the Bangladesh series.

Former England cricketer Graham Thorpe took his own life after a struggle with depression and anxiety fuelled by his failing health in the last two years, his wife Amanda has revealed.

The 55-year-old passed away on August 5. Thorpe's demise was announced by the England and Wales Cricket Board and now his wife has revealed in an interview to former England captain Michael Atherton that he had a long mental and phys-ical battle with himself before he took his own life.

"Despite having a wife and two daughters whom he loved and who loved him he did not get better," Thorpe's wife was quoted as saying by 'The Times'. "He was so unwell in recent times and he really did believe that we would be better off without him and we are devastated that he acted on that and took his own life."



unit," she said His wife revealed that despite his work assignments, Thorpe continued to suffer.

"Despite glimpses of hope and of the old Graham, he continued to suffer from depression and anxiety, which at times got very severe. We supported him as a family and he tried many, many treatments but unfortunately none of them really seemed to



South Africa and West Indies settle for a draw in rain-hit 1st test PORT OF SPAIN (TRINIDAD) overs Tristan Stubbs hit 68 and Athanaze at 127-4 and

With some of the India regulars, except pacer Jasprit Bumrah and senior spinner Ravichandran Ashwin, likely to appear in the first round of the Duleep Trophy, the BCCI has decided to shift one of the opening matches from Anantapur to Bengaluru. Senior batters Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma also might get an exemption, and the choice of appearing in the tournament is entirely on them.

PTI BENGALURU

The Duleep Trophy was earlier scheduled to kick-off with two sets of first round matches at Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh from September 5, but now one of those games has been shifted to the M Chinnaswamy Stadium here to reduce the

230 kms away from Bengaluru and the city is not connected via flight. "The decision has been made

to accommodate some of the top players, so that they get a feel of the red-ball cricket ahead of the (Test) series against Bangladesh," a source close to the development told PTI. India are slated to play Test matches against two Bangladesh - from September 19 at Chennai and from

September 27 at Kanpur. While it is up to Rohit and Kohli to play in the event, some other prominent players such as Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, KL Rahul, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer Kuldeep Yadav etc are expected to be available for this tournament fully or

top players will also be subject to the dates of the preparatory camp that the team management is mulling to hold in Chennai ahead of the

tournament.

Tests against Bangladesh. But the decision to shift the match also align with the shared vision of the BCCI and the team management that the top players should feature in domestic cricket competitions whenever they are free from national duty.

The selectors are also deciding on giving a go to Rishabh Pant

in the Duleep Trophy, and if it

happens then this will be his first red-ball assignment after

coming back from that horrific

Since his return, Pant has been

a part of India's white-ball set-

up and the wicketkeeper batter also donned the national jersey

been recuperating from a

surgery, will not feature in the

car accident in 2022.

in the T20 World Cup. Mohammed Shami, who has

It may be recalled that India's T201 skipper Suryakumar Yadav (Mumbai) and out-offavour wicketkeeper batsman Ishan Kishan (Jharkhand) have made themselves available to play the Buchi Babu Trophy, starting from August 15.

A ceremony was held before the start of a match between the Farnham Cricket Club and the Chipstead Cricket Club last Saturday in memory of Thorpe, which was attended by his wife and their daughters Kitty (22) and Emma (19).

"For the past couple of years, Graham had been suffering from major depression and anxiety. This led him to make a serious attempt on his life in May 2022, which resulted in a prolonged stay in an intensive care

work," she said. The report added that the family is now considering starting a foundation in his name. Thorpe's daughter Kitty said he

was "not the same person" after a point and that he "could not see a way out". "He had loved life and he loved

us but he just couldn't see a way out. It was heartbreaking to see how withdrawn he had become," she said.

"It was strange to see this per-son trapped in the body of Dad. That's why we've been so happy that the many reflections have been about his life before this illness took over.

"I am glad that's how everyone does remember him, rightly so, as the complete character he was," Kitty added.

Both South Africa and West Mindies had hopes of Winning the rain-hit first Test before having to settle for a draw.

South Africa set West Indies a target of 298 runs on the fifth and final day at Queen's Park Oval, with Alick Athanaze leading the hosts' chase with 92

West Indies finished on 201-5 in its second innings as each team started to run out of overs to get the required runs or wickets amid light checks in the evening session.

South Africa had earlier resumed on 30-0 from five overs in its second innings - an overall lead of 154 - and declared at 173-3 from 29 was bowled by Kemar Roach on the last ball before the shared a 65-run partnership before Maharaj effectively ended the chase having Athanaze caught for 92 after declaration, which came in the morning session. Rain had affected every day so top-edging to Ryan Rickelton. With no more than 10 overs

far - only 15 overs were bowled on the first day - and lunch was called five minutes early Sunday with West Indies 11-1. The start of the afternoon session was also delayed and, despite Athanaze reaching his half-century, a draw still seemed the likeliest result with West Indies 121-3 at tea. The hosts needed 177 more runs in

Maharaj took 4-88 in 26.2 a maximum of 34 overs overs. South Africa scored 357 in its remaining. West Indies quickly lost Kavem first innings and West Indies

overs.

201 - 5

Hodge, caught behind for 29 in 233. The second and final Test starts on Thursday at a wicket maiden for left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj.

Jason Holder came out to join Providence, Guyana.

left and West Indies at 192-5,

still 106 runs from victory, the

hosts proceeded to score only

three runs in the next three

The draw was agreed after

Holder (31 not out) smashed a

six to lift the West Indies to

High hopes, disappointing show: Indian boxers come a cropper at Paris

PTI NEW DELHI

The Indian boxing contingent, that featured two reigning world champions in Nikhat Zareen and Lovlina Borgohain, entered the Olympics hoping for an unprecedented medal haul, only to crumble under pressure, leaving behind a trail of disappointment in a medal-

less campaign. Boxing became a medal hope for India after Vijender Singh's historic bronze at the 2008 Beijing Games. MC Mary Kom added a women's bronze to it in 2012.

Although the 2016 Rio Games saw the boxers return without a medal, Borgohain clinched a bronze at the Tokyo Olympics to revitalise the sport. Expectations were high from Paris and observers of the game felt at least one, if not two

medals, could be expected from the six boxers who qualified. Two-time world champion

Zareen (50kg), Borgohan (75kg), and 2023 world bronzechampionship counterparts.

medallist Nishant Dev (71kg) were all seen as strong podium contenders

POOR SHOW: But when it came to actual competition, the Indians never seemed to have the momentum needed to go deep into the tournament. With the exception of Nishant, who was denied a podium finish after a contentious result in his quarterfinal, the rest struggled with Borgohan and Zareen unable to overcome formidable opponents, and Amit Panghal (51kg) failing to match his previous form. Borgohain, Panghal and

Nishant needed just two wins to secure medals.

Although Borgohain and Zareen were handed challenging draws, with both encountering formidable opponents in their second rounds. However, given that they entered as reigning world champions, the two were expected to overcome such challenges or, at the very least, put up a resilient fight. However, they succumbed rather meekly to their Chinese



Zareen, who was considered a potential gold medallist, was markedly off-colour in the second round and later revealed that she had been taking some extreme measures to stay inside the prescribed weight limit, that left her exhausted for actual competition.

She opened her campaign with a scrappy win and then lost to Wu Yu in the second round. Borgohain once again fell to old foe Li Qian, who seems to have the Indian's number, having defeated her in three of their four meetings. Among the men,. Panghal looked a pale shadow of his

sharp and aggressive self against Zambia's Patrick against Chinyemba, who lost in the very next round. Jaismine Lamboria, who came in after dropping down to 57kg weight class from her more comfortbale 60kg division, expectedly lost to Tokyo silver-medallist Olympics

Nesthy Petecio. Nevertheless, Preeti Pawar (54kg) delivered commendable performance in her bout against reigning world silver-medallist Yeni Marcela Arias.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING: A total of 17 national camps and 23 foreign exposure trips

were conducted in the buildup to the Paris Olympics for nine core TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) boxers and 20 development pugilists. Sports Ministry spent Rs 60.93 crore on this.

Significant funds were also allocated to individual athletes, most notably Rs 91.71 lakh for Zareen, Rs 81.76 lakh for Borgohain, Rs 65.90 lakh for Panghal, and Rs 65.86 lakh for Nishant.

COACHING INSTABILITY AND SELECTION POLICY: The Boxing Federation of India's inability to provide a stable environment was a key issue in the build-up to the Games. Since the Tokyo Games, coaches have come and gone, denying the boxers the stability that is crucial to an Olympic campaign.

Women's High Performance Director Raffaele Bergamasco was the first to depart right after Tokyo followed by men's HPD Santiago Nieva in May 2022

Narendra Rana succeeded CA Kuttapa as the men's head coach, only for Kuttapa to be period.

reinstated later. Bhaskar Bhatt was briefly appointed as the women's head coach before he quit the position in June 2023 while HPD Bernard Dunne, who was appointed in October 2022, stepped down from his post four months before the Olympics, leaving Indian boxing in a lurch. Foreign coach Dmitriy

Dmitruk was the last coach appointed in February last

The new selection policy that replaced the trial system was also a talking point.

Panghal remained out of the national team until the last qualifier with Deepak Bhoria getting the nod based on the assessment system that relied on camp performance as well as competitive results to

evaluate the boxers. However, Panghal was sent to the final qualifier, and while he secured a quota, the Haryana boxer struggled to shake off the rustiness after being away from international competition for an extended