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TERRORISM RESURGES
AMID SHIFTS IN STRATEGY

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DIPLOMACY INTENSIFIES TO
HALT ISRAEL-HAMAS WAR

MONEY 10
SENSEX JUMPS TO
TWO-WEEK HIGH

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SMITH EYES IPL
COMEBACK AFTER
SHOW IN MLC
12 SPORTS

Whither Gender Justice? Asks a Nation in Rage



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

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

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

CBI cracks the whip in Kolkata

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

In a major development, the former principal of RG Kar Medical College, Dr Sandip Ghosh, was on Friday detained by the Central Bureau of Investigation for questioning. He was picked up by the CBI while returning from the Calcutta High Court

where he had filed a petition seeking police protection on the plea that his life was under threat. Ghosh — currently in the eye of storm — has been identified by the agitating doctors of the RG Kar Medical College as the “fountainhead” of all evils that plague the once best medical college in eastern India.

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

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

RAJESH KUMAR/MOHIT KANDHARI ■ NEW DELHI/JAMMU

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



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

participate in the elections and vote in large numbers to form a Government that will sustain peace and development, and ensure a brighter future for the youth. “I welcome the announcement of the Assembly elections in J&K made by the Election Commission of India today. In the last 10 years, the Modi Govt through a series of relentless initiatives, has created a new era of peace, development and strengthening democracy in J&K,” he wrote on X. Almost all the parties, including National Congress, BJP,

CPI(M) and DPAP, thanked the Election Commission and said the poll announcement maintained the supremacy of the Supreme Court which had set the September 30 deadline for the holding of the much awaited Assembly elections in J&K. There are 90 seats in the Assembly of J&K post delimitation, with 43 seats in the Jammu region and 47 in Kashmir. Of these, 74 are general seats, nine are for Scheduled Caste candidates, and seven for Scheduled Tribes. Announcing the schedule for the J&K Assembly polls, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar told a Press conference in New Delhi the

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

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



Representative Image

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

CEC said. In the past three cycles, the EC had announced Haryana and Maharashtra elections together. Maharashtra Assembly's term is expiring on November 26. Kumar also hinted that the Maharashtra elections could be held after Diwali. Moreover, since Maharashtra is a large State, the poll panel will have to deploy heavy security over there too for the Assembly elections. Since Haryana's Assembly term will wrap up earlier on November 3, it was easier for EC to club it with J&K. Elections are due in both Maharashtra and Jharkhand by the end of this year. The State polls will see the BJP, the ruling party, go up against a resurgent Congress after a neck-and-neck fight in the Lok Sabha elections two months ago. The Assembly election in Haryana is a litmus test for ruling BJP, which has been ruling the state since 2014. For the BJP, the ground reality this time is quite different from five years ago. Both the parties won five seats each in the Lok Sabha polls and back in 2019, the saffron party won 40 out of 90 Assembly seats in Haryana.

Centre asks for accountability on medical fraternity attacks across the country



ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

INDIA REACHES FOR THE SKIES



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

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI



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

How many mounds? ASI seems helpless

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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



Rakhigarhi village. Mounds 1, 2, 3, and parts of 4 and 5 are already under ASI control, but Mounds 6 and 7 remain privately owned. Mound 6 covers 33 acre, while Mound 7 spans about six acre, both currently owned by farmers are used for agriculture. The lack of preservation at these sites has already impacted the historical evidence. “The skull of the skeleton is badly damaged... The damage

might have been the result of the agricultural activities in the area,” said Manjul, as per a media report. He also pointed out that sand mining by the farmers poses a serious threat to the site. He said while the rest of the skeleton is in good condition, the skull has sustained damage. “Agricultural activities by farmers over the years seem to have damaged part of the skull. This damage may make it challenging to extract a DNA sample for further analysis,” he said. In addition to the skeleton, the excavation unearthed 21 earthen utensils found near the remains. “The skeleton appears to be that of a middle-aged man. Our previous excavations have revealed similar burial rituals

involving utensils, suggesting continuity in these practices,” Manjul noted. The team also discovered a seal from Mound number 3. Rakhigarhi is recognised as one of the largest sites of the Indus Valley Civilization. Current excavations underscore its significance as a major metropolis of ancient times, featuring a well-planned urban layout with distinct residential, industrial, and institutional areas, as well as a cemetery. Signed by Yadubir Singh Rawat, Director General of the ASI, the organisation on August 3, 2024 issued a draft notification seeking public objections and comments that aims to prevent encroachment and mitigate the impact of agricultural activities by declaring the sites of national importance.

CM felicitates police officers and sportspersons on Independence Day

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State government will develop a local body in each district as a model local body with the aim to improve governance and infrastructure at the grassroots level. Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said this on the occasion of Independence Day here on Thursday. Dhami also honoured several officials and athletes for their contributions in various fields on August 15. He awarded the commandant of Uttarakhand State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) Manikant Mishra and superintendent of police of Uttarakashi, Arpan Yaduvanshi with the CM's commendation medal for distinguished work. Besides this, the additional superintendent of police of SDRF, Vijendra Dutt Doval and platoon commander, IRB II, Pratap Singh Tomar was also awarded with the CM's commendation medal for meritorious service. In the field of sports, Dhami honoured athletes who had brought laurels to the State at international events. Priyanshu, who won a gold medal, and Rahul Sarin, who secured a silver medal at the 5th Asian Youth Athletics Championship held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, in 2023, were among those honoured. Their coach, Lokesh Kumar, was also recognised for his contribution in their success. Besides this, the CM also made several important announcements on Thursday. He announced awards



for outstanding farmers and entrepreneurs in the sectors of industry, horticulture and agriculture to encourage excellence in these fields. The first, second and third prizes will be Rs one lakh, Rs 75,000 and Rs 50,000 respectively. He also announced the implementation of the Employee Personal Loan Scheme for regular employees belonging to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Divyang (differently-abled), and Other Backward Classes. This scheme is expected to provide financial support to these employees for personal needs. He also said that there will be an increase in the monthly income limit for eligibility under various pension schemes, including the old age pension scheme, widow pension scheme, divyang pension scheme and abandoned women pension scheme to support vulnerable sections of society. The limit will be raised from the current limit of Rs 4,000 to Rs 6,000 per month. Dhami also announced the formulation of a policy for the comprehensive welfare of senior citizens. The government will also launch the Chief Minister's Fisheries Wealth Scheme with a budget of Rs 200 crore to curb migration from the mountain areas and boost trout fish production. Besides this, he also announced the establishment of one model veterinary hospital in each district at a cost of Rs 75 crore to provide modern veterinary services to the livestock owners. This initiative is expected to benefit approximately 11 lakh families engaged in animal husbandry across the State, he added.

Raturi tells officers to ensure U'hand maintains 1st position in SDG indicators

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief secretary Radha Raturi has directed the officers of the Civil Supplies department to prepare a work plan for distribution of pulses through PDS for removing malnutrition among women and children and to achieve the target of zero hunger. She reviewed the status of the State in different indicators of Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) at the secretariat on Friday. In the meeting she directed that the nodal officers should be appointed by the department concerned in the areas having low indicators. She expressed hope that the top position of the State in the SDG indicators is maintained. The CS said that a special plan should be prepared for the divyang children who have not completed secondary education. She directed that the divyang students should be identified at the Anganwadi levels and special arrangements for imparting education to them should be made. Raturi said that necessary amendments in the entrepreneurship development policy should be made in order to achieve the target of gender equality and participation of women in the workforce. She said that areas having problems of anemia and low body mass index in women and children should be identified and the officers should work with a target approach to resolve the problem. The CS said that the responsibility of the urban development department and pollution control board should be fixed for improving the air quality in the State and efforts for solid waste management and controlling air pollution should be done. Taking stern note of the cases of crime against children, human trafficking and missing children the CS directed the department of home to collect accurate data and

said that prompt action in such cases should be taken. Raturi said that the vigilance department should register all cases of corruption and ensure that the process of investigation should be carried till the charges are proved. The additional chief secretary Anand Bardhan, secretaries R Meenakshi Sundaram, Ravinath Raman, Shailesh Bagauli and others attended the meeting.

Innovation, use of new technology needed in education: Dhami

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami handed over appointment letters to 236 newly recruited primary school teachers in a programme organised at the Education Directorate on Friday. The Education department had recently recruited 473 primary school teachers after the first phase of counselling. The appointment letters to remaining teachers will be given in their respective districts. Congratulating the newly appointed teachers, the CM said that the teachers play an important role in society and the responsibility of building the future of children rests on their shoulders. With good education, a child proves to be a valuable asset for the country and society, he said.

He said that continuous efforts are being made to improve the quality of education in the state. The CM directed the officers that a proposal for the required funds for the repair of school buildings in poor condition should be sent to the State administration soon. Dhami said that use of new technology and innovation are consistently increasing in the field of education and expressed hope that the newly selected teachers will undertake innovative measures in teaching. He said that smart classes, e-learning and digital education have become an important part of education and it should be ensured that teaching is not limited only to the curriculum. The CM averred that recognising the talent of children is necessary and it is important to prepare children on the basis of their talents. Speaking on the occasion the education minister Dhan Singh Rawat said that the process of counselling

for 2,906 posts in primary education is in progress. He said that the department has decided that the schools having more than ten students will have two teachers. Similarly, three teachers will be deployed in the schools having more than 40 students. The schools having 70 and 100 students will have four and five teachers respectively. The minister said that more than six thousand teachers were transferred this year in a transparent manner as per the transfer policy. He said that the counselling of teachers was done for transfer due to which teachers are happy. Secretary of School Education Ravinath Raman, additional secretary Ranjana Rajguru, director general of School Education Bansidhar Tiwari and other officers were present on the occasion.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-AUCTION NOTICE The bids are invited from the registered entities on IREPS by Sr. DCM/Chg./MB (ACO) through e-auction on 02.09.2024 for the allotment of Pay & Use and Parking Contracts in Moradabad Division. The catalogues have already been published on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in and detail of e-auction are available at website www.ireps.gov.in. 2576/2024 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

कुमाऊँ मण्डल विकास निगम लिमिटेड (उत्तराखण्ड सरकार का प्रतिष्ठान) ओक पार्क हाउस, जैनीताल-263001 पत्रांक : 2083 / 10 - निर्माण / 24 - 25 दिनांक : 16.08.2024 अल्पकालीन ई-निविदा सूचना ई-निविदा :- 1- मा-0 मुख्यमंत्री जी की घोषणा संख्या 895 / 2021 "दूनागिरी मंदिर के समीप अत्याधुनिक सार्वजनिक सुलभ शौचालय एवं सामुदायिक भवन का निर्माण किया जायेगा"। 2- मजखाली (राजीवगढ़) जिला-अल्मोड़ा में गैस गोदाम, चौकीदार क्वार्टर, स्टोर कक्ष, शौचालय, बाथरूम तथा स्थल विकास के कार्य। 24.08.24 से उत्तराखण्ड ई-निविदा पोर्टल www.uktenders.gov.in में देखी जा सकती है। ई-निविदा में किसी भी प्रकार का संशोधन निगम वेबसाइट www.kmvn.in के माध्यम से ही किया जायेगा। महाप्रबन्धक (नि)

INDIAN AIR FORCE AIR FORCE SPORTS CONTROL BOARD RECRUITMENT OF OUTSTANDING SPORTSMEN APPLICATIONS ARE INVITED FROM OUTSTANDING UNMARRIED MALE SPORTSMEN TO JOIN INDIAN AIR FORCE AS AGNIVEERVAYU (SPORTS) INTAKE 01/2025 DETAILED ADVERTISEMENT AVAILABLE ON HTTPS://AGNIPATHVAYU.CDAC.IN ONLINE APPLICATIONS ARE TO BE SUBMITTED AT HTTPS://AGNIPATHVAYU.CDAC.IN/CASBSPM FROM 1000H ON 20 AUGUST 2024 TO 1700H ON 29 AUGUST 2024 CBC 10803/11/0009/2425

Controlling of Trains for Power & Traffic Block over Howrah Division

For shifting of Point No. 203 towards Howrah end due to inadequate crossover length over platform no. 8 loop, Power & Traffic Block at Howrah station limit will be necessary on 18.08.2024 (Sunday). Consequently, the following trains will be controlled enroute on 18.08.2024 (Sunday) : 12370 Dehradun-Howrah Kumbha Express for 1 hour, 13022 Raxaul-Howrah Mithila Express for 15 minutes and 13024 Gaya-Howrah Express for 25 minutes. Special Note: Special or late running trains & any further newly introduced train/parcel train/TOD during block period, if any, will be suitably diverted/controlled enroute. Passengers are requested to follow the public address system at stations. Inconvenience is regretted.

Divisional Railway Manager, Howrah EASTERN RAILWAY Follow us at : @EasternRailway @easternrailwayheadquarter

PUBLIC SUMMONS / NOTICE IN THE AHMEDABAD CITY CIVIL COURT AT AHMEDABAD CIVIL SUIT No. 760 of 2023

Plaintiff Advocate-D. J. Khosla Exh. 16 1) UN MEHTA INSTITUTE OF CARDIOLOGY AND RESEARCH CENTER Address - B.J. MEDICAL COLLEGE, CIVIL HOSPITAL CAMPUS, ASARWA, AHMEDABAD V/s. Defendant:- DR. MANMOHAN SINGH CHAUHAN Address- HOUSE No. 1, NAGAL ENCLAVE, GUJRADA, SAHASTRDHARA ROAD, DEHRADUN-248 001. Suit Valued Rs. 800,000/-

Whereas you the Defendant is hereby informed you that the summons issued against you by this court through bailiff and varies mode of service has returned unserved subsequently, and as your current whereabouts are unknown, Hence in the consequence Plaintiff advocate is given application Vide Exh. 14 & 15 and Court ordered on it that this summons/notice is published. The Plaintiff therefore prays as under: 17(A) Decree For Rs. 8,00,000/- (Rupees Eight Lac only) with running interest 18% P.A. from the date of the leaving of the job till realization be passed against the defendant as the Defendant has committed breach of service agreement bond. (B) Cost of this Suit be awarded. Therefore, You the Defendants are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or by a pleader duly instructed, and able to answer all material question - relating to the suit, or who shall be accompanied by some person able answer all such question on the day of 09/09/2024 at 11-00 O' Clock in the forenoon to answer the claim, and as the day fixed for your appearance is appointed for the final disposal of the suit, you must be prepared to produce on that day all the witnesses upon whose evidence and all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your defense. Take notice that, in default of your appearance on the day before mentioned the suit will be heard and determined in your absence. Given under my hand and seal of this Court On this 26 day 07 of 2024 (A.N.Chavda) V.M.Rana (H.S.Desai) Prepare by Compare By Registrar Assistant Superintendent City Civil & Sessions Court, Bhadra, Ahmedabad

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS PUBLIC NOTICE

I Slochna Devi, my son Army No -2518578A SEP HAPPY DADHWAL unit 3 Punjab C/O 56 APO. My Name Slochna Devi has been wrongly entered in my son's military record. Correct name is SALOCHANA DEVI. It should be updated. मेरे पिता के सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम दीपा दर्ज है, सही नाम दीपा बैरी आधार नं. 915547274043 D/o आर्मी नंबर- JCC-332583A सूबेदार मेजर प्रीति संकर बैरी, गांव- कलारा, पोस्ट- कलारा, तेह-घाटल, जिला-पश्चिम मेदिनीपुर, पश्चिम बंगाल-721146 है। मेरे पिता के सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम सोनिया दर्ज है, सही नाम सोनिया बैरी आधार नं. 729623299666 D/o आर्मी नं.-JC-332583A सूबेदार मेजर प्रीति संकर बैरी, गांव- कलारा, पोस्ट- कलारा, तेह- घाटल, जिला-पश्चिम मेदिनीपुर, पश्चिम बंगाल.-721146 है। मेरे सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरी पुत्री का गलत नाम मधु कुमारी दर्ज है, सही नाम अश्विनी कुमारी आधार नं. 478133324356 D/o आर्मी नं. JC-342430K सूबेदार शिव कुमार, गांव-गहनर, पोस्ट-गहनर, तह-जमानिया (पुराना) बंदोरा (नया), जिला-गाजीपुर, उत्तर प्रदेश-232327 है। मेरे सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरे पुत्र का गलत नाम असाफक अहमद दर्ज है, सही नाम असाफक अहमद आधार नं. 694691875700 N/o आर्मी नं.- JC-292523A नायब सूबेदार अकस अहमद, गांव- करावदिया, पोस्ट- शिकारगंज, तह- चकिया, जिला- चंदौली, उत्तर प्रदेश- 232103 है।

My mother's name is MATHURA DEVI erroneously recorded in my Army documents, whereas the correct name is MATHURI DEVI, the correct name should be recorded in future. Mukesh Bahadur Army No. 5457465F Rank Lance Naik Resident House No. 151 Chaila Chandrabani Dehradun In my army record my daughter's name is mistakenly recorded as SHIWANI TRIVEDI whereas her correct name is SHIVANI as mentioned in all other documents. No. 4077509L NB/Sub Vimal Chandra R/o Bhauwala Dehradun Uttarakhand. vide in-uk30974715127813W Affidavit 09.07.2024 before Dehradun. In my husband's Army Record my daughter's name is mistakenly recorded as ANKITA NEGI whereas her correct name is ANKITA as mentioned in all other documents. UMA DEVI W/o LATE JAGAT SINGH NEGI 4074632Y Rank EX HAV R/O SYAMPUR PREM NAGAR PO. AMBIWALA DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND, vide IN-UK30974715127813W Affidavit 09.07.2024 before Dehradun. In my husband's Army Record my daughter's name is mistakenly recorded as ANKITA NEGI whereas her correct name is ANKITA as mentioned in all other documents. UMA DEVI W/o LATE JAGAT SINGH NEGI 4074632Y Rank EX HAV R/O SYAMPUR PREM NAGAR PO. AMBIWALA DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND, vide IN-UK30974715127813W Affidavit 16.08.2024 before Dehradun. I have changed my name from NIRMALA SINGH to SARITA. In future I shall be known as SARITA, Village - Lakshmipur, Prithvipur, Prithvipur Khera, Dehradun, Uttarakhand - 248198

My name has been erroneously mentioned as VERTIKA THAPA in my father's Army records, which is wrong. My correct name is VARTIKA THAPA, as mentioned in my Aadhaar card and other educational records. From today onwards, I should be known and recognized by the name VARTIKA THAPA. Vartika Thapa, D/O Army Number JC 603321A Sub Deepak Thapa, resident of House No.19, Saraswati Niwas, Lakshampur - Vikasnagar, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

My name has been erroneously mentioned as SHIMRAN TRIVEDI and whereas her correct name is SIMRAN TRIVEDI as mentioned in all other documents. No. 4077509L NB/SUB VIMAL CHANDRA R/o BHAUWALA DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND, vide IN-UK30974715127813W Affidavit 09.07.2024 before Dehradun.

In my Army Record my daughter's name is mistakenly recorded as SHIMRAN TRIVEDI and whereas her correct name is SIMRAN TRIVEDI as mentioned in all other documents. No. 4077509L NB/SUB VIMAL CHANDRA R/o BHAUWALA DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND, vide IN-UK30974715127813W Affidavit 09.07.2024 before Dehradun.

My name has been erroneously mentioned as VERTIKA THAPA in my father's Army records, which is wrong. My correct name is VARTIKA THAPA, as mentioned in my Aadhaar card and other educational records. From today onwards, I should be known and recognized by the name VARTIKA THAPA. Vartika Thapa, D/O Army Number JC 603321A Sub Deepak Thapa, resident of House No.19, Saraswati Niwas, Lakshampur - Vikasnagar, District Dehradun, Uttarakhand.

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POSESSION NOTICE (For Immoveable Property) Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of security interest Act, 2002 (Act No. 54 of 2002) (herein after referred to as "the act") and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a demand notice calling upon the Borrower/Surety/Owner/s of the property as given below to repay the amount mentioned below within 60 days from the receipt of the said notice. The borrower/Surety/Owner/s having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Surety/Owner/s and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rules. The Borrower/s/surety/owner/s attention is invited to provisions of section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets. The Borrower/Surety/ Owner/s in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property, and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of Canara Bank, Clemeant Town Dehradun (2444), Branch for the amount mentioned below.

Table with 4 columns: S. No., Branch & Name of the Borrower/Guarantor, Description Of Immoveable Property, Amount Outstanding. Row 1: Branch: Clemeant Town Dehradun (2444), Property In the Name Of - Mr Arslan Qureshi S/o Shamshad Ahmad... Amount Outstanding: Rs. 1013244 (Rupees Ten Lakh Thirteen Thousand Two Hundred Forty Four Only) + Future Interest... Row 2: Branch: Clemeant Town Dehradun (2444), Property In the Name Of - Mr Arslan Qureshi S/o Shamshad Ahmad... Amount Outstanding: Rs. 3258500.16 (Rupees Thirty Two Lakh Fifty Eight Thousand Five Hundred and Paise Sixteen Only) + Future Interest...

NORTHERN RAILWAY TENDER NOTICE DATED: 16.08.2024 No. 74-W/2/3/WA/Publication SR.DEN/MB acting for and on behalf of The President of India invites E-Tenders. Closing date and time mentioned against each tender. Bidders will be able to submit their original/revised bids up to closing date and time only. Manual offers are not allowed against this tender. Earnest Money (Rs.): 1,99,900.00. Bidding Start Date: 29.08.2024. Validity of Offer (Days): 60 Days. Period of completion: 30.06.2025.

Heavy rain warning issued for four districts

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Light to moderate rain was reported in various parts of the State on Friday though the provisional State capital Dehradun witnessed a dry day. The State meteorological centre has issued a yellow warning (Be Updated) regarding the possibility of heavy rainfall likely to occur at isolated places in Nainital, Champawat, Udham Singh Nagar and Bageshwar districts on Saturday. Thunderstorms accompanied with lightning/intense to very intense spells of rain are likely to occur at isolated places in all districts of the State today. Apart from this, light to moderate rain/thundershowers are likely to occur at most places in Nainital and Champawat districts, at a few places in Haridwar district and at many places in the remaining districts of the State today. The provisional State capital Dehradun is forecast to witness a partly to generally cloudy sky. One or two spells of light to moderate rain/thundershowers are likely to occur, which may be intense in some areas. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be about 34 degrees Celsius and 24 degrees Celsius respectively in Dehradun today. The rain recorded in various places on Friday was 22.1 millimetres in Dehradun, 15 millimetres in Berinag, 11.5 millimetres in Vikasnagar, 11 millimetres in Rudrapur, 8.5 millimetres in Srinagar, eight millimetres in Lansdowne and 5.5 millimetres in Janki Chatti.

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Nurse raped and murdered, accused arrested

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Even as the nation seeks reaction in the alleged rape and murder of a doctor in Kolkata, a nurse in a private hospital in Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar was allegedly raped and brutally murdered. Her body was found over a week later dumped in a vacant plot in Dibdiba village, Uttar Pradesh near the Uttarakhand border and a man has been arrested for allegedly perpetrating the heinous crimes. She was missing since July 30 and her face was mutilated beyond recognition when the police recovered her body on August 8, the senior superintendent of police of Udham Singh Nagar Manjunath TC said. The spot from where the nurse's body was recovered is not far from her residence in UP, near the border with Udham Singh Nagar district. The police started the investigation into the case after the victim's sister lodged a missing complaint on July 31, a day after the incident. Manjunath claimed that the victim was traced with the help of CCTV footage and by tracking the location of her mobile phone. According to him, the victim



left the hospital on the evening of July 30 and was seen taking an e-rickshaw from Indra Chowk in Rudrapur in CCTV footage but did not reach her rented house where she stayed with her 11-year-old daughter. He said that the accused looted all the money from her purse, her mobile phone and other valuables and escaped after committing the crime. The

accused, Dharmendra, who worked as a labourer in Udham Singh Nagar's Gadarpur, was arrested from Rajasthan on August 13 after the police traced the mobile phone of the victim. He belongs to Bareilly. He revealed during interrogation that he followed the nurse while she was returning home from work to rob her as he was in need of money. When she

reached a deserted area, he forcibly took her to the bushes and throttled her with a scarf when she tried to scream. The accused then raped her and crushed her face with a stone. After committing the heinous act, he looted her belongings, including money, a mobile phone and other valuables, before fleeing the scene, the SSP said.

Employee arrested for secretly filming women's washroom in restaurant

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

An employee of Anandam, a popular sweets and restaurant chain in Dehradun, was arrested on Thursday night for allegedly using his mobile phone to secretly record inside the women's washroom. The accused, identified as Vinod Kumar (25), was employed as a cleaner at the restaurant. The Dehradun senior superintendent of police Ajai Singh said that the incident came to light when a woman, who was dining at the restaurant with her husband and other family members, noticed what appeared to be a hidden camera in the women's washroom. She spotted a suspicious device through a cut in the false ceiling of the washroom late on Thursday. She reportedly took a photo of the camera before raising the issue. She went to inform the restaurant manager along with her husband. However, when they returned to the washroom, the device had already been removed, as per SSP. Following a complaint from the woman Khushboo Sharma, the police registered a First Information Report (FIR) against Kumar and the restaur-

ant owner under section 77 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Singh said that Kumar has confessed to recording in the women's washroom on several occasions in the past. Though the accused had deleted all the photos and videos from his phone, the police have sent it to the forensic science laboratory for further examination. The investigation is ongoing, he added. This correspondent also tried to contact the restaurant owner Anand Gupta but he was unavailable. The chairperson of Uttarakhand State Commission for Women (USCW) Kusum Kandwal also visited the site on Friday. She instructed the police to take strict action against the accused, who has been arrested. Kandwal emphasised that owners of hotels, restaurants and malls must regularly inspect their premises to prevent such incidents. She also urged women to be cautious when using public restrooms and changing rooms, advising them to check for hidden cameras.

Kolkata case: Government hospital doctors to boycott work today

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The doctors of the State health services will boycott work on Saturday to register the protest on the brutal rape and murder of a female doctor in Kolkata. To express solidarity with the victim the doctors wore black armbands while work-

ing on Friday. They also took out a candle march on Friday evening from Government Doon Medical College (GDMC) campus in Patel Nagar to Lal Pul.

The PMHS also wrote a letter to the chief minister



Pushkar Singh Dhama expressing concern on the brutal murder of the female doctor and attack by mob on protesting doctors in Kolkata.

The association of government doctors also demanded immediate intervention by the government of India on the issue. The PMHS demanded that security in the government hospitals and health centres should be ensured for the safety of doctors and hospital staff.

The president of the Provincial Medical Health Services (PMHS), Dr Manoj Sharma said that an online meeting of the doctors from all parts of the State was organised on Friday and it was unanimously decided that the members of PHMS will observe a work boycott from 6 am of August 17 to 6

The association of government doctors also demanded immediate intervention by the government of India on the issue. The PMHS demanded that security in the government hospitals and health centres should be ensured for the safety of doctors and hospital staff.

Law and order dead in West Bengal, says BJP

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Bharatiya Janata Party national spokesman Pratyush Kant said that the manner in which the alleged rape and murder of a young lady doctor in West Bengal has been handled shows that law and order is dead in the State. Addressing the media at the BJP State office here on Friday, he said that the incident in Kolkata is not a regional issue as everybody in the nation is concerned and talking about it. He also questioned the silence of the INDI Alliance leaders

tioned what connection the West Bengal government has to those involved in this case. Kant further alleged that goons are committing crimes against women in West Bengal under the TMC government while the government is remaining silent. He stressed that those guilty in this case should receive the strictest punishment for the heinous crime.

Regarding the alleged rape and murder of a nurse in Udham Singh Nagar district, Kant said that the



Congress seeks action from BJP in States governed by it

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The chief spokesperson of the Uttarakhand of Congress, Garima Mehra Dasauri emphasised that the BJP national spokesman Pratyush Kant should adopt the same attitude towards the BJP governments regarding women's safety. Following a Press conference held by Kant at the BJP State headquarters regarding the rape and murder of a female doctor in Kolkata, Dasauri pointed out that if there have been lapses in women's safety in Kolkata under West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee's government, it is justifiable to question it. However, she criticised the biased attitude of BJP leaders who remain silent on heinous crimes, gang rapes and brutal murders of women in States where the BJP is in office, which is highly condemnable.

Dasauri highlighted incidents of violence against women in different locations, including the recent case in Udham Singh Nagar similar to the Kolkata rape case, where a nurse was



raped and murdered. She expressed disappointment that the national spokesman of the BJP did not address these horrific events with the same level of concern. Additionally, she brought attention to a case in Haridwar where a 13-year-old girl was gang-raped and killed by an official from the BJP's OBC cell, stressing the need for

the spokesperson to acknowledge such tragedies. She pointed out the ongoing silence of BJP spokespersons on cases involving party leaders and their relatives in various regions, emphasising the lack of government action in addressing crimes against women. Further, she elaborated that the matter concerning women's safety is deemed a profoundly serious and sensitive subject. It should not be treated casually like a football that the BJP can pass over to the opposition while evading accountability.

on this issue. Kant said that following the murder of the lady doctor, he authorities first told her family members that she had committed suicide. Later, thousands of goons barged into the emergency ward of the hospital where they wreaked destruction. "Is this a major conspiracy to shield the culprits? The State government is meant to support the victim and ensure justice but the scenario seems to be the opposite in this case. The Calcutta High Court has been issuing directions almost daily and pulling up the government. Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi who used to talk a lot about democracy and women empowerment have remained largely silent on this heinous crime. The INDI Alliance leaders have remained silent on this even as people across the nation have expressed their concern," he said.

police had acted swiftly and apprehended the accused. The government should be seen standing with the victim instead of shielding the culprits to ensure that criminal elements fear the law, which is missing in West Bengal, he said.

Kant further questioned why the principal of the medical college was not questioned by the police and why the police initially stated that it was a suicide case. Alleging that a major conspiracy is being orchestrated, he ques-

INDIAN RAILWAY CATERING AND TOURISM CORPORATION LTD.
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Open E-Tender No. 2024/IRCTC/CO/Executive Lounge for Construction, Refurbishing, Operation, Maintenance & Transfer Back of Executive Lounge at Various Railway Station. Last date of submission 29.08.2024 upto 15:00 hrs. and the same shall be opened on 29.08.2024 at 15:15 hrs.

For details visit www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC. Document downloading and participation can only be done on www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC.

In case of any corrigendum/addendum issued on the above advertisement, it will be published only on www.irctc.com and www.tenderwizard.com/IRCTC.

Office Address: GGM/PAT, 11th Floor, Statesman House, B-14B, Bahadurpura Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001; E-mail: mobilcatg.lmd@irctc.com; Tel: 91-11-23311233/64

PIRAMAL CAPITAL & HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
CIN: L65910MH1984PLC032639
Registered Office: Unit No.-601, 6th Floor, Piramal Amiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp. Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kuria (West), Mumbai-400070 - T+91 22 3802 4000
Branch Office: SCO 16-17, 2nd Floor, Fireoze Gandhi Market, Opp. Ludhiana Stock Exchange, Ludhiana 141001

Contact Person: 1. Ashish Handa- 9041042572. 2. Ramesh Kumar- 9991613002. 3. Vishal Ketele- 9584966653

E-Auction Sale Notice - Fresh Sale

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited (Formerly Known as DHPL) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 for the recovery of amount due from borrowers, offers are invited by the undersigned for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever is There Is Basis', Particulars of which are given below:

Loan Code/ Branch/Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Property Address_final	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Outstanding Amount (12-08-2024)
Loan Code No.: 09700006959, Dehradun (Branch), Gaurav Mishra (Borrower), Varsha Mishra (Co Borrower 1)	Dt: 30-07-2019, Rs. 9,34,936/- (Rs. Nine lakh Thirty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Six Only)	All The piece and Parcel of the Property having an extent:- Khata No 5, kha No 232 Kha Min, Mauza Bharuwala Pargana Pachwa Doon Dehradun Dehradun Uttaranchal: 248001 Boundaries As :- North: 20 ft road South :- plot of other East :- plot of other West :plot of other	Rs. 12,50,000/- (Rs. Twelve lakh Fifty Thousand Only)	Rs. 1,25,000/- (Rs. one lakh Twenty Five Thousand Only)	Rs. 17,24,983/- (Rs. Seventeen lakh Twenty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Three Only)
Loan Code No.: 09700006057, Dehradun (Branch), Rais R (Borrower), Shahista S (Co Borrower 1)	Dt: 26-11-2018, Rs. 11,14,519/- (Rs. Eleven lakh Fourteen Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen Only)	All The piece and Parcel of the Property having an extent :- Kha No 1107 Mauza Kanwali Vijay Park Central Doon Dehradun Dehradun Uttaranchal :- 248001 Boundaries As :- North :- plot of other South :- plot of other East :- 16 ft road West: plot of other	Rs. 13,39,000/- (Rs. Thirteen lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Only)	Rs. 1,33,900/- (Rs. One lakh Thirty Three Thousand Nine Hundred Only)	Rs. 26,93,029/- (Rs. Twenty Six lakh Ninety Three Thousand Twenty Nine Only)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 24-09-2024, FROM 11:00 AM TO 02:00 PM (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 23-09-2024, BEFORE 04:00 PM.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in www.piramalfinance.com/e-Auction.html or email us at piramal.auction@piramal.com

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR / MORTGAGOR
The above mentioned Borrower/Guarantor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in section 13(2) notice in full with accrued interest till date before the date of auction, failing which property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost from borrower/guarantor.

Date: August-17-2024
Place: Uttaranchal
Sd/- (Authorised Officer)
Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited

PIRAMAL CAPITAL & HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
CIN: L65910MH1984PLC032639
Registered Office: Unit No.-601, 6th Floor, Piramal Amiti Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction, Opp. Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kuria (West), Mumbai-400070 - T+91 22 3802 4000
Branch Office: Office No. 211 and 212, 2nd Floor Titanium/ Shalimar Corporate Park, Vibhuti Khand, Gormi Nagar, Lucknow - 226010
Vibhavi Jain - 9837536789, 2. Vaibhav Jain - 9837536789, 3. Vishal Ketele - 9584966653

E-Auction Sale Notice - Subsequent Sale

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 for the recovery of amount due from borrowers, offers are invited by the undersigned for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, on 'As Is Where Is Basis', 'As Is What Is Basis' and 'Whatever is There Is Basis', Particulars of which are given below:

Loan Code/ Branch/Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Property Address_final	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Outstanding Amount (12-08-2024)
Loan Code No.: 15000003972, Haldwani (Branch), Rakesh Kumar (Borrower), Nanni Devi (Co Borrower 1)	Dt: 30-04-2019 Rs. 8,66,182/- (Rs. Eight Lakh Sixty Six Thousand One Hundred Eighty Two Only)	All The piece and Parcel of the Property having an extent :- Part Of Khasra No. 130 Min Plot No. A 85, Sukhnagar Colony Village Fulsungi Rudrapur Udhamsinghnagar Uttaranchal :- 263153 Boundaries As :- North :- Road South :- Vacant Plot of East :- Vacant Plot of West :- 20 Feet Wide Road	Rs. 7,70,000/- (Rs. Seven Lakh Seventy Thousand Only)	77,000/- (Rs. Seventy Seven Thousand Only)	Rs. 16,31,670/- (Rs. Sixteen Lakh Thirty One Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Only)

DATE OF E-AUCTION: 03-09-2024, FROM 11:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF SUBMISSION OF BID: 02-09-2024, BEFORE 4:00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in www.piramalfinance.com/e-Auction.html or email us at piramal.auction@piramal.com

STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR/ MORTGAGOR
The above mentioned Borrower/Guarantor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in section 13(2) notice in full with accrued interest till date before the date of auction, failing which property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost from borrower/guarantor.

Date: August 17, 2024, Place: Uttaranchal
Sd/- (Authorised Officer) Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited

Bank of India
Zonal Office, Dehradun: Mahavir Tower, St. Jude's Crossing, Shimla Bypass Road, Seva Kalan, Dist. Dehradun - 248171
Tel No. - 0135-2640046, 2641002, Email: Dehradun@bankofindia.co.in

E-AUCTION NOTICE

"APPENDIX-IV-A" (See proviso to rule 8(6)) Sale notice for sale of Immoveable/Movable property

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immoveable/Movable Assets Under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read with Proviso to Rule 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described moveable/immoveable properties Hypothecated / charged to the secured creditor, the constructive/Physical/Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of Bank of India, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is, Without Recourse" Basis. For detailed terms and condition of sale, please refer to the link provided in (a) <https://www.bankofindia.co.in/> (b) <https://www.ebkry.in>.

DATE OF INSPECTION OF THE ASSETS	LAST DATE AND TIME OF SUBMISSION OF EMD AND DOCUMENTS ON OR BEFORE	DATE AND TIME OF E AUCTION
04.09.2024	Date : 07.09.2024 upto 05.00 PM by ONLINE	Date : 09.09.2024 from 11.00 AM onwards till 05.00 PM with unlimited extensions of 10 Minutes duration

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/Guarantor/ Mortgago	Description of Immoveable/Movable Assets	Demand Notice Date	Name of the Officer/ Auth. No./ Email I.D.	Reserve Price EMD
1.	Branch: Raipur Bhagwanpur Borrower: M/s Omnamo Foods and Agrotech India Pvt. Ltd. Directors: 1. Ruby Goyal 2. Shri Aadesh Goyal, 2. Jitendra Agarwal	1. Khasra No. 104, bearing area 1970 sq.mt & 105 bearing area 1970 sq. mt. with 1/2 shared area 985 sq. mt. having total area 2955 sq. mt. situated at Vill- Bandakhedhi pargana - Bhagwanpur tehsil- Roorkee distt. haridwar. Boundaries: East side: Government drain, West Side: 19 ft wide road, North side: Agri land Khasra No. 101, South side: property of Shri Vinay Sharma & Tarun (Shri Balaji Industries), 2. Entire plant & Machinery	30.05.2023	Mr. Prashant Joshi/ Phone No. 8085434698 E-Mail ID - Dehradun_ARD@bankofindia.co.in	Rs. 4,03,67,350/- Rs. 40,36,735/- Rs. 10,000/-

Terms & conditions of E-Auction are as under:- 1. E-Auction is being held on "as is where basis" "as what is basis" and will be conducted "On Line" before submitting bid. EMD shall be deposited through NEFT/ Fund Transfer in working hours on or before 07.09.2024. 2. For downloading further details Process Compliance and Terms & Conditions, please visit <https://www.bankofindia.co.in>. 3. Website address of our e-Auction Service Provider: M/s PSB Alliance e-auctionportal-psba@psballiance.com Bidder may visit: <https://www.ebkry.in> where "Guidelines" or bidders are available with educational videos Bidders have to complete following formalities well in Advance. Step 1: Bidders/Purchaser Registration Bidder to register on e-Auction Platform (link given above) using his mobile number and email-id. Step 2: KYC Verification Bidder to upload requisite KYC documents shall be verified by e-Auction service provider (may take 2 working days). Step 3: Transfer of EMD amount to Bidder Global EMD Waller/ Online/offline of fund using NEFT/Transfer using challan generated on e-Auction Platform. Step 4: Bidding Process and Auction Result: interested Registered bidders can bid online on e-Auction Platform after completing. Step 1, 2 and 3/Peace note Step 1 to Step 2 should be completed by bidder well in advance before e-Auction date. 3. To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on the properties. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent regarding the encumbrances, title of properties put on auction and claims/rights/dues/affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The e-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank. The Authorised officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third party claims/rights/dues. No claim of whatsoever nature will be entertained after submission of the online bid regarding properties put for sale. 4. Date of inspection 04.09.2024 from 11.00 am to 4.00 pm with prior appointment with mentioned respective branches on the contact numbers given against respective branches. 5. Bids shall be submitted through online procedure only. 6. Bidders shall be deemed to have read & understood the terms & conditions of sale & be bound by them. 7. The Bid price to be submitted shall be above the Reserve price & bidders shall improve their further offers in multiples of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only). 8. It shall be the responsibility of the interested bidders to inspect and satisfy themselves about the property before submission of the bid. 9. The Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) of the successful bidder shall be retained towards part sale consideration and the EMD of unsuccessful bidders shall be refund. 10. The Earnest Money Deposit shall not bear any interest. The successful bidder shall have to deposit 25% of the sale price including EMD already paid, immediately on acceptance of bid price by the Authorised Officer and the balance of the sale price on or before 15th day of sale. The auction sale is subject confirm by the Bank Default in execution of sale certificate such as stamp duty, registration fee, etc. shall be borne by the successful bidder. 11. Neither the Authorised Officer/ Bank nor e-Auction service provider will be held responsible for any internet Network problem/failure/any other technical lapses/failure etc. In order to ward-off such contingent situation the interested bidders are requested to ensure that they are technically well equipped with adequate power back-up etc for successfully participating in the Auction event. 12. The purchaser shall bear the applicable stamp duties/Registration fee other charges etc and also the statutory dues, taxes, assessment charges etc. owing to any body. 13. The Authorised Officer/ Bank is not bound to accept the highest offer and has the absolute right & discretion to accept or reject any or all offer (s) or adjourn/postpone/cancel the e-Auction or withdraw any property or portion there of from the auction proceeding at any stage without assigning any reason there for. 14. The Sale Certificate will be issued in the name of the purchaser (s) applicant (s) and will not be issued in any other name (s). 15. The Successful bidder/purchaser would bear all taxes including TDS @ 1% of sale price payable on purchase of property (if sale price is Rs. 50 lacs/- & above) and the taxes payable to service provider for conduction online sale. Also the fees payable for execution fee, etc. shall be borne by the successful bidder. 16. The sale is subject to rules/conditions prescribed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002. Further details/enquires if any on the terms and conditions of sale can be obtained from the respective branches on the contact number given. 17. This is also a mandatory notice of 15 days as per provision of the SARFAESI Act to the Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors of the above accounts informing them about holding of sale/Auction aforesaid etc

Date: 16.08.2024
Place: Dehradun
Authorised Officer, Bank of India



Patanjali pledges to usher in educational, medical, economic & cultural freedom

PNS ■ HARIDWAR To mark the 78th Independence Day, Yoga guru Swami Ramdev and Acharya Balkrishna hoisted the national flag in the presence of a large number of ascetics, teachers and students. In his address, Swami Ramdev said that they were taking a pledge on the occasion to continue building a robust India on the fulcrum of the dreams dreamt by the heroes of the freedom movement, martyrs and revolutionaries. Students of Patanjali Gurukulam, Acharyakulam and the University of Patanjali presented patriotism-inspired cultural programmes. Some scholars from neighbouring Nepal who have been in Uttarakhand were among those present on the occasion.

He stressed on the need to rebuild the nation's educational foundations on its glorious academic and cultural heritage. "We will sow the seeds of such education through Patanjali Gurukulam, Acharyakulam, Patanjali University and Bhartiya Shiksha Board so that the new generation of the country gets emancipated from the Macaulay-conceived academic system," he added. He also spoke of giving the people freedom in the field of medicine by carrying on with the movement launched through the foundation of Patanjali Wellness, Yoga Gram and Niramayam. Balkrishna said that Patanjali Yogpeeth remains engaged in striving for educational, medical, economic, cultural and ideological freedom aside from liberating the country from the scourges of disease and

building a robust India on the fulcrum of the dreams dreamt by the heroes of the freedom movement, martyrs and revolutionaries. Students of Patanjali Gurukulam, Acharyakulam and the University of Patanjali presented patriotism-inspired cultural programmes. Some scholars from neighbouring Nepal who have been in Uttarakhand were among those present on the occasion.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS

CHANGE OF NAME

I Bhuwan Chandra alias Bhuwan Chandra Bhatronji S/o Bhola Datt R/o, Deghat Paparia Almora Uttarakhand-263659 changed my name to Bhuwan Chandra.

PD(687)A

Doon Cambridge School celebrates I-Day with patriotic fervour

PNS ■ DEHRADUN Doon Cambridge School celebrated Independence Day with joy and gaiety. The celebration started with the speeches delivered in English and Hindi by the head girl and the head boy respectively. The school director HK Chhabra and the chief proctor Avinash Shukla unfurled the national flag together. The director and proctor addressed the commemorative gathering and spoke of the significance of I-Day celebration. This was followed by cultural programmes like poem recital and patriotism-themed dance performance.

the national flag together. The director and proctor addressed the commemorative gathering and spoke of the significance of I-Day celebration. This was followed by cultural programmes like poem recital and patriotism-themed dance performance.

IN BRIEFS

Cultural programmes mark Cantonment Board I-Day celebration

DEHRADUN : The Cantonment Board, Dehradun celebrated Independence Day in the official premises with the students of schools under the board presenting cultural programmes which included dance drama. On this occasion, the chief executive officer Harendra Singh honoured the widow of the Kargil martyr Shiv Charan Prasad, Manju Anthal. Singh in his address exhorted all to work for the nation with honesty and dedication.

NDUSSL celebrates I-Day with contribution pledge to State's development

LALKUAN : Nainital Dugdh Utpadak Sahakari Sangh Limited (NDUSSL) celebrated the 78th Independence Day with vigour and vim. The NDUSSL chairman Mukesh Bora unfurled the national flag and paid glowing tribute to the freedom fighters who sacrificed everything on the altar of Independence. He also gratefully remembered the martyrs who made supreme sacrifice to enable the nation to win freedom. He further said that his organisation has been going all-out to benefit both the milk consumers and milk producers and would continue to contribute its mite to the development of the State and the country.

Century Pulp and Paper observes I-Day with unity vow

LALKUAN : The 78th Independence Day was celebrated with pomp and gaiety by all the employees at Century Pulp and Paper. On this occasion, the chief executive officer of the company Ajay Kumar Gupta hoisted the national flag. While greeting the employees and officers, he stressed on unity among the people seen during the freedom struggle, saying that people's unity can help the nation safeguard the hard-won freedom.

Independence Day celebrated at THDCIL with verve & vigour

DEHRADUN : THDC India Limited commemorated the 78th Independence Day enthusiastically at its corporate office in Rishikesh as well as across all its project sites and unit offices across the country. Speaking on the occasion, the THDCIL CMD RK Vishnoi paid homage to the freedom fighters for the extraordinary sacrifices and indomitable spirit and said that in consonance with that spirit, each member of the THDCIL family is playing pivotal role in the realisation of the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visionary goal of Viksit Bharat@2047. He further said that the PSU has been contributing significantly to the multi-faceted development of the nation, particularly in the fields of energy security, sustainable development, and infrastructure enhancement.

78th Independence Day celebration at KV ONGC

DEHRADUN : Kendriya Vidyalaya ONGC celebrated the 78th Independence Day in its own premises with patriotic fervour. The principal S K Dhiman unfurled the tricolour followed by the singing of the national anthem. The students presented cultural activities mostly based on the theme of patriotism and the gallantry shown by the warriors of the nation. The special programme ended with the principal speaking of the horrors of Partition and advent of independence following sacrifice and struggle of countless freedom fighters and common people.

IIT Roorkee celebrates I-Day with Tiranga Yatra

DEHRADUN : The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee celebrated Independence Day zealously in front of the iconic James Thomason building. The event saw the participation of students, faculty members, officers, employees and their families. The IIT Roorkee director KK Pant hoisted the national flag. In his address, he emphasised the importance of unity, innovation and social responsibility in building a progressive India. Further, he highlighted the IIT Roorkee's role in contributing to the national vision of Viksit Bharat@2047. The cultural performances showcased the diverse heritage and talent within the IIT Roorkee community. In the afternoon, the Tiranga Yatra was organised by Think India, IIT Roorkee.

Minister Joshi unfurls tricolour at UCB

PANTNAGAR : The Agriculture and Soldier Welfare Minister and the chairman of Uttarakhand Council of Biotechnology (UCB) Ganesh Joshi unfurled the national flag in the presence of officers and employees of UCB premises at Haldi in Pantnagar in Udhampur district to mark Independence Day. He also planted a sapling under the campaign 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' to mark the occasion.

UVJNL celebrates I-Day with positive verve

DEHRADUN : UVJNL Limited (UVJNL) celebrated the 78th Independence Day at its headquarters Ujjwal as well as at its other offices across the State with appropriate joy and gaiety. The UVJNL managing director Sandeep Singhal hoisted the tricolour. He felicitated those from UVJNL who have performed well in the recent sporting activities. In his address, he spoke of the UVJNL's achievements and its future roadmap. Also, he mentioned that the corporation had generated record power in July and August this year against odds, attributing it to the workers' hard work supported by the public sector unit's positive work culture.

I-Day celebrated at The Asian School with call to duty to nation

DEHRADUN : Independence Day was celebrated with patriotic enthusiasm at The Asian School, Dehradun. The special occasion started with the hoisting of the tricolour by the principal Ruchi Pradhan Datta in the school premises followed by the singing of the national anthem. The principal in her address remembered emotionally the armed forces which are standing guard on the country's borders with sleepless vigil. She urged all, particularly the students, to fulfill their duty to the nation and the world.

Government of India
Ministry of Corporate Affairs
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE)
ICA Building, 7th Floor,
Plot P-6,7,8, Sector-5, IIT Haryana,
Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050.
Email: roc.pace@mca.gov.in

FORM No. STK -6
PUBLIC NOTICE
[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public Notice :ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/660 Date: -29/07/2024

Reference:

(1) In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (2) companies in the state of Uttarakhand under section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 in respect of:

S No.	Work Item	CIN	Company Name
1	AA9409131	U01100UR2021PTC012664	AAMA KI POTLI AGROSOLUTION PRIVATE LIMITED
2	AA9453248	U74999UR2016PTC007335	RETROHORIZON OIL & GAS ENGINEERING PRIVATE LIMITED

(2) Notice is hereby given that the Registrar of Companies had received applications from the above-mentioned companies under section 248(2) of the Companies Act, 2013 for removal of its/their name (s) from the register of companies either on the ground that they have failed to continue business within one year of their incorporation or on the ground that the company(ies) is/are not carrying on any business or operation for a period of two immediately preceding financial years and has/have not made any application (s) within such period for obtaining the status of a dormant company under section 455 of the Companies Act, 2013 or the company(ies) have obtained the status of dormant company/subscribers to the memorandum have not paid the subscription which they had undertaken to pay at the time of incorporation of a company and a declaration to this effect has not been filed within one hundred and eighty days of its incorporation under subsection (1) of section 10A/ have not been carrying on any business or operations, as revealed after the physical verification carried out under subsection (9) of section 12, but it/they do not wish to continue its/their registration as companies and have, therefore, requested for removal/strike off of its/their names from the register of companies.

(3) Accordingly, the Registrar of Companies proposes to remove or strike off the names of the above-mentioned companies from the Register of Companies.

(4) Any person objecting to the proposed removal or striking off name of the companies from the register of companies may send his or her objection to the office address mentioned here above within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice.

Harishra Sahoo
Registrar
Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit
CBC 07123/11/0338/2425

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

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

The authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Authority Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act, read with Rule 6 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/Amount in Demand (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Sant Ram/ Sanjana Devi/ LBHW000005979053/ LBHW000005979057/ LBHW00006024548/ LBHW00006094733	Plot Built On Khasra No.378/1, Radhika Puram Colony, Village- Dadpur Govindpur, Pargana Rookha, Tehsil And District Haridwar Uttarakhand 249402/ August 13, 2024	April 09, 2024 Rs. 20,13,857/-	Haridwar/ Hanumanagar
2.	Kamla Devi Chauhan/ LBHW00003773112	H No-7, Gandhi Ashram Colony, Vishnu Garden, Village Jogtepur, Pargana Jwalapur, Kankhal, Haridwar, Uttarakhand- 249404/ August 13, 2024	March 30, 2024 Rs. 5,79,231/-	Haridwar
3.	Sudhanshu Baloni/ Anita Baloni/ LBHW00006144268/ LBHW00006162955	Plot No.11, Khasra No.222, Situated At Village Shekhupura, Kankhal, Ward No.25, Pragna-Jwalapur, Inside Municipal Corporation Tehsil And District Haridwar, Uttarakhand- 249401/ August 13, 2024	April 09, 2024 Rs. 24,16,874/-	Haridwar

The above-mentioned borrower(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date : August 17, 2024
Place : Haridwar

Sincerely Authorised Signatory
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

कार्यालय मुख्य महाप्रबंधक, उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, जलभवन, 'बी' ब्लॉक, नेहरू कालोनी, देहरादून।

पत्रांक: 2177/१-निविदा/2024-25 दिनांक : 16/08/2024

ई-निविदा सूचना

उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान की ओर से निम्न कार्य हेतु ई-निविदा, दृ-बिड सिस्टम (तकनीकी बिड एवं कार्मिशियल बिड) आधार पर निम्नानुसार आमंत्रित की जाती है।

निविदा सं.	कार्य विवरण	घरोघर घनराशि रु.	निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड करने की तिथि एवं समय	ई-निविदा द्वारा निविदा प्रपत्र जमा करने की अंतिम तिथि एवं समय	तकनीकी बिड खोलने की तिथि एवं समय	निविदा की वैधता	प्री-बिड मीटिंग की तिथि एवं समय
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	वार्षिक दूर अनुबन्ध आधार पर उत्तराखण्ड राज्य में स्थित उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान के कार्यालयों में डेस्कटॉप कम्प्यूटर एवं सहायकी उपकरणों की आपूर्ति एवं अर्थोपचार।	49,500.00	17.08.2024 from 11:00 am	02.09.2024 upto 5:00pm	03.09.2024 at 11:00 a.m	90 days	20.08.2024 from 11:00 am
2	वार्षिक दूर अनुबन्ध पर 100 जी.एस.एम. साईज 10x19 सेंटिमिटर के पेपर पर डॉट मैट्रिक्स प्रिंटर हेतु प्री-प्रिन्टेड कैसा रसीद मय कार्डों की एवं नम्बरिंग लाल रंग में, की आपूर्ति का कार्य।	13,500.00	17.08.2024 from 11:00 am	02.09.2024 upto 5:00pm	03.09.2024 at 11:00 a.m	90 days	20.08.2024 from 11:00 am

अर्हता:- Only reputed manufacturer/OEM of Computer and peripherals or authorized representative of such reputed manufacturer/OEM are allowed to take part in this tender.

अर्हता:- Only reputed manufacturer/printing firms are allowed to take part in this tender.

ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित सफल जानकारीयें व शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड की वेबसाइट www.uktenders.gov.in पर ऑन लाइन देखी/प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

काशीपुर अर्बन को-ऑपरेटिव बैंक लि., काशीपुर

प्रधान कार्यालय : बाजपुर रोड, आवास विकास, काशीपुर-244713 जिला- ढुमध सिंह नगर (उत्तराखण्ड)
दूरभाष : 05947-276307, ई-मेल: admin@kucb.co.in

सार्वजनिक नीलामी सूचना (अचल सम्पत्ति से सम्बन्धित)

सार्वजनिक को सूचित किया जाता है कि निम्नलिखित सम्पत्ति जिसे बैंक द्वारा दिए गए ऋण की अदायगी हेतु बैंक के पक्ष में संवर्द्धित है।

अर्हता:- Only reputed manufacturer/OEM of Computer and peripherals or authorized representative of such reputed manufacturer/OEM are allowed to take part in this tender.

अर्हता:- Only reputed manufacturer/printing firms are allowed to take part in this tender.

ई-निविदा से सम्बन्धित सफल जानकारीयें व शर्तें उत्तराखण्ड की वेबसाइट www.uktenders.gov.in पर ऑन लाइन देखी/प्राप्त की जा सकती है।

GRIHUM HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS POONAWALLA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED)
REG. OFFICE: 02, 6th FLOOR, ZERO ONE IT PARK, Sr. No.791, GORPADA, MUNDAHA ROAD, PUNE-411036

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT,2002

You the below mentioned Borrowers/Co-borrowers/Guarantors have availed Home loans/Loans against Property facility (ies) by mortgaging your immovable properties in Grimum Housing Finance Limited (formerly known as Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited) as per the Poonawalla Housing Finance Limited changed to Grimum Housing Finance Limited with effect from 17 Nov 2023 (Previously known as Magna Housing Finance Limited and originally incorporated with name of GE Money Housing Finance Public Limited Company) herein after referred as Secured Creditor. You defaulted in repayment and therefore, your loans was classified as Non-Performing Assets. A Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 for the recovery of the outstanding dues sent on last known addresses however the same have returned un-served. Hence the contents of which are being published herewith as per Section 13(2) of the Act read with Rule 3(1) of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 as and by way of Alternate Service upon you.

SR. NO.	NAME OF THE BORROWER/ CO-BORROWER, GUARANTOR AND LOAN AMOUNT	DETAILS OF THE SECURED ASSET	DEMAND NOTICE DATE	AMOUNT DUE IN RS.
1.	MOHD MASOOM, SALMA PARVEEN, MOHD ASJAD MANSOORI, MOHD ADIL LOAN AMOUNT: RS.1146000/- LOAN NO: HF003H21100031	All That Part Of Land Bearing Khata No. 592 (Fasli Year 1417 To 1422), Khasra No. 1145 Kha (Plot No. 23), Area Measuring 75.27 Sq. Mtr, Situated At Mauza Meehuwala Maf, Pargana Pachwadood, Tehsil & Distt. Dehradun. Particularly Mentioned In Sale Deed Executed, Bounded And Butted As Under- East - Land Of Seller, Side Measuring 45 Ft. West - Land Of Seller, Side Measuring 45 Ft. North - Land Of Seller, Side Measuring 18 Ft. South - 17 Ft. Wide Road, Side Measuring 18 Ft	07.08.2024	Rs.1294185 (Rupees Two Hundred Eighty Five Thousand One Hundred Eighty Five Only) together with further interest @ 15.5%p.a till repayment.
2.	DHARMENDRA SINGH, PRIYANKA WIFE OF DHARMENDRA SINGH, JAGDISH SINGH LOAN AMOUNT: RS.2500000/- LOAN NO: LAP055720000005022148	All That Piece And Parcel The Piece Of Residential Use Land Having Its Khasra No 2464m, Admeasuring Area In East 52ft 6inch, In West 53ft 6inch, In North & South 15ft Total Area 795sqft I.E. 73.88sqmtr, Situated At Mouza Ujjain, Tehsil Kashipur, Distt. U.S.Nagar. Boundary As Per Sale Deed Dt. 16-05-2002at Sr. No 1837. Particulars Mentioned In Sale Deed Executed. On East By- Land Of Phool Singh On West By- Land Of Kunti On North By- Kachcha Rasta 11ft Wide On South By- Land Of Harjeet	07.08.2024	Rs.2724394 (Rupees Twenty Seven Lakh Twenty Four Thousand Three Hundred Ninety Four Only) together with further interest @ 15%p.a till repayment.

You the Borrowers/s and Co-Borrowers/s/Guarantors are therefore called upon to make payment of the above-mentioned demanded amount with further interest as mentioned hereinabove in full within 60 Days of this Notice failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to take action under the act to enforce the above mentioned securities. Please Note that as per Section 13(13) of The Said Act, You are in the meanwhile, restrained from transferring the above-secured securities by way of sale, lease or otherwise without our consent.

PLACE : DEHRADUN, UDHAM SINGH NAGAR DATE: -17.08.2024

Authorized Office For Grimum Housing Finance Ltd (Formerly Known As Poonawalla Housing Finance Ltd)

Piramal CAPITAL & HOUSING FINANCE LTD.
CIN:L65910MH1984PLC032639
Registered Office: Unit No-601,6th Floor, Piramal Amli Building, Piramal Agastya Corporate Park, Kamani Junction,Opp. Fire Station, LBS Marg, Kuria (west), Mumbai-400070 -T +91 22 3802 4000
Branch Office: Office No. 211 and 212, 2nd Floor 'Titanium' Shalimar Corporate Park, Vibhuti Khand, Gomti Nagar, Lucknow
Contact Person: (1) Prashant Pandey - 7054013999 (2) Vaibhav Jain - 9837536789 (3) Vishal Ketele - 958496665

E-Auction Sale Notice - Fresh Sale

Pursuant to taking possession of the secured asset mentioned hereunder by the Authorized Officer of Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited (Formerly Known as DHFL) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 for the recovery of amount due from borrower/s, offers are invited by the undersigned for purchase of immovable property, as described hereunder, which is in the physical possession, or "As Is Where Is Basis"; "As Is What Is Basis"; and "Whatever Is There Is Basis". Particulars of which are given below:

Loan Code / Branch / Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Property Address -final	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Outstanding Amount (12-08-2024)
Loan Code No. : 1500003788, Haldwani (Branch), Dinesh Singh Mahara (Borrower), Vinita Mahara (Co Borrower)	Dt: 29-04-2023, having an extent - Part Of Khata No. 190 Mtr, (Rs. Ten lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Six Only)	All The Piece and Parcel of the Property Khasra No. 1035885/1. (Rs. Ten lakh Thirty Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty Six Only) Naitional Uttaranchal - 263139 Boundaries As per:- North - Road 14 Ft wide South - Rest Land of seller East - Land of others West -Rest Land of seller to be proposed road	Rs. 1060000/- (Rs. Ten lakh Sixty Thousand Only)	Rs. 106000/- (Rs. One Lakh Sixty Thousand Only)	Rs. 1373739/- (Rs. Thirteen lakh Seventy Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Nine Only)

DATE OF AUCTION: 24-09-2024, FROM 11.00 A.M. TO 2.00 P.M (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH), LAST DATE OF RECEIVING BIDS: 23-09-2024, BEFORE 4.00 P.M.

For detailed terms and conditions of the Sale, please refer to the link provided in www.piramalcapitall.com/e-auction/hmortg email us at piramal.auction@piramal.com

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER SARFAESI ACT TO THE BORROWER/GUARANTOR./MORTGAGOR

The above mentioned Borrower/Guarantor are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned in section 13(2) notice in full with accrued interest till date before the date of auction, failing which property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost from borrower/guarantor.

Date : 17-08-2024
Place: UP / UK

Sd/-
(Authorized Officer)
Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited

Canara Bank, Regional Office I, IT Park, Plot No. 38, Sahasradhara Road, Dehradun

UNDELIVERED DEMAND NOTICE

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002.

The borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors mentioned below have availed credit facilities From Canara Bank, and secured by way of mortgage of under mentioned property. As the borrower /Co-Borrower / Guarantor failed to adhere to terms and conditions of respective loan agreements and had become irregular and classified as NPA as per RBI guidelines. The bank intends to enforce the said properties mortgaged by you and issued demand Notice under registered post / speed post which were not served. Hence this publication is issued. Hereby borrower / co-borrower / Guarantor are called upon to pay the amount mentioned below with contractual rate of interest, costs, charges etc thereon within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned will be constrained to initiate proceedings u/s 13(4) of the SARFAESI act against the mortgaged property mentioned below to realize the amount due to Canara Bank, Scholars Home (18517) Branch Further you are prohibited U/s 13(13) of the said act from transferring the said secured asset either by way of sale / lease or otherwise. 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 Branch/Borrower/ Guarantor	Details of Mortgaged Property	Nature of Loan/s	Date of Demand Notice	Amount Due As Per Demand Notice
1.	Branch: Scholars Home, Dehradun (18517) 1.M/s Godiyal Construction Works (Borrower) 02. Sai Vihar Jhajra Sudhawal, Dehradun- 24800, Uttarakhand 2. Kiran Nawani (Partner/ Guarantor), W/Ramesh Chandra Nawani Jhajra, Vikasnagar, Dehradun-248001, Uttarakhand) 3. Garima Nawani Godiyal Aalias Garima Godiyal (Partner/Guarantor) W/O Sushil Chandra Gram Sudhawal, Jhajra, Dehradun-248007 Uttarakhand	Residential Property: All that residential house constructed over the land khata Khatuani no 505 for the fasli year 1417-1422 bearing khasra no 476(old khasra no 228 mtr) land measuring area 84.80 sq mtrs situated at mauza Jhajra, Pargana pachwadood, tehsil Vikas nagar, Dist Dehradun. Which is bounded as under: East: Others property , S.m 33 Ft. West: Land of Patwal Ji, s.m 40 Ft. North: 17 ft wide road.s.m 25 Ft. South: Land of Rawat Ji Others S.m 25 Ft. Name of Title Holder:- 1.Smt Garima Nawani Godiyal alias Garima Godiyal w/o Sushil Chandra, 2.Smt. Kiran Nawani W/O Ramesh Chandra Nawani	MSME Term Loan	05.08.2024	Rs 9,35,291.49 (Rupees Nine Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Two Hundred Ninety One and Paise Forty Nine only) as on 05.08.2024 + Interest w.e.f. 06.08.2024 + Expenses - Recoveries after 05.08.2024 (if any) in the loan account A/C 554576800064

Dated : 14.08.2024 Place : Dehradun Authorised Officer, Canara Bank

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

PTI ■ BENGALURU

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



He sought to know why the two nationalised banks were targeted when all the banks are governed by the Reserved Bank of India guidelines. Quoting media reports, Siroya said all the departments have been directed to close accounts and withdraw deposits from these two banks.

Siroya wondered whether a state government could take such a unilateral decision against two nationalised banks and whether or not all the banks are governed by the rules and regulations of the RBI. 'If the state government has problems with the banks, should they not have reached out to the RBI? Can some nationalised banks be more acceptable and some less to the state government? What is the nature of misappropriation that the state government is talking about? Have they probed it? What really is happening within the Government of Karnataka?' the BJP asked.

ISRO targets first Gaganyaan mission launch by December, says chairman

PTI ■ SRIHARIKOTA (ANDHRA PRADESH)

ISRO has targeted to launch the first mission of the ambitious Gaganyaan project by December, a top official said here on Friday. Currently, some of the rocket hardware for the human space programme has reached the Satish Dhawan Space Centre here and the integration of the crew module was going on at the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Trivandrum, ISRO Chairman S Somanath said.



Today's successful mission of LV allows industry to forge a partnership with ISRO for placing satellites into Low Earth Orbit. Besides, it would also allow a company to gain knowledge on rockets, launch vehicles, and satellites in the Small Satellite Launch Vehicle missions.

expectations from ISRO and how to qualify for such missions," he said. From the interactions held with the industry it emerged there was a huge amount of interest for them to learn about space, he added. 'We told them it will be a huge challenge for anyone to learn rocketry from scratch. It is not just transferring technology, we are transferring the knowledge on how things are done (at ISRO). It is not the drawings alone, it is the knowledge behind those drawings we transfer to industry,' according to Somanath, also the Secretary, Department of Space.

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

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Tension erupted in Jalgaon and Nashik cities in north Maharashtra on Friday during a bandh called by a Hindu organisation to condemn the atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh, officials said. In Jalgaon, stones were hurled at a vehicle showroom when Sakal Hindu Samaj, an umbrella body of several outfits, took out a protest march.

Mumbai. The police resorted to a mild lathi charge after two groups clashed during a bike rally of the Hindu outfit in Nashik, an official said. Stones were pelted, and some vehicles were damaged in the clash that erupted after some shops were found open in the Bhadrakali area. The police resorted to a mild lathi charge to disperse the crowd. There is still tension in the Old Nashik area, but the situation is under control now.

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

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

After a humiliating defeat in the Assembly and Lok Sabha polls, the BRS is now planning to reinvent itself and also plans to study from other opposition parties in the country to possibly emulate them, the party's working president K T Rama Rao said on Friday. He also said a team from the former Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao-led regional party would, next month, visit Tamil Nadu to meet some political parties in the southern state, followed by other places.



concluded Lok Sabha polls. Bharat Rashtra Samithi (then Telangana Rashtra Samithi) had won nine seats and secured a vote share of 41.71 per cent in the 2019 Parliamentary elections. The party's vote share declined to less than 17 per cent in the just-concluded Lok Sabha polls. The beleaguered party also witnessed desertions by several leaders including some legislators.



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

PTI ■ JAIPUR

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

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

PTI ■ SHAHJAHANPUR (UP)

The family members of Asaram Bapu's rape victim have demanded an increase in their security after the self-styled godman was granted a seven-day parole. Asaram Bapu was convicted of raping a 16-year-old girl in 2013 in his Jodhpur ashram. In 2018, he was sentenced to life imprisonment.



2015, and another witness was also shot dead in Muzaffarnagar. The victim's father said that "Four years ago, Asaram's followers had put up a banner of Asaram in Shahjahanpur jail and distributed blankets and a threat letter was also sent to my house." The victim's father added that "he and his family are very scared since Asaram came out on parole."

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

PTI ■ BENGALURU

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

The evidence gathered has been sent to Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL), Bengaluru, and some electronic devices were sent to Central Forensic Science Laboratory (CFSL) in Hyderabad, Dayananda said. Speaking to reporters here, he said, "We have got some reports, we are told by the concerned FSL officials that more reports will be sent soon. On receiving them, as part of the further investigation, certain clarifications will be sought if necessary. After that, at the earliest, we will submit the final report to the court."

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

PTI ■ DEHRADUN

Uttarakhand Assembly Speaker Ritu Khanduri on Friday condemned the rape and murder of a trainee doctor in West Bengal and said it is "even sadder" that the incident happened in a state governed by a woman chief minister. The whole nation should raise its voice against the heinous crime, she said and asserted a societal change is needed to curb such incidents.

allegedly raped and murdered while on duty at a state-run medical college and hospital in Kolkata on August 9. While a civic volunteer was arrested in connection with the crime the next day, the Calcutta High Court ordered the immediate transfer of the probe into the crime to the CBI from the Kolkata Police. "If such a heinous crime happens with a woman professional, a trainee doctor in a woman-ruled state like West Bengal, it is even sadder. It is very shameful that such a thing happened in a state which is known for its celebration of Navratri and Durga Puja," Khanduri told PTI. However, she said the responsibility of raising voice against such a heinous crime rests not only with the people of West Bengal but also with the whole country.

KOLKATA RAPE-MURDER



"We ask girls many questions, like where do you keep roaming around? Why do you speak so loudly? Why do you laugh so much? Boys are not asked such questions. "For this, the family and society will have to change their thinking. If a boy talks to his mother loudly or pushes his sister and abuses her, he will have to be stopped," she said.

About reports of atrocities against the Hindu minority in Bangladesh, the Uttarakhand Assembly speaker said it is not right to persecute people because they are in the minority or are weak. On Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami's criticism of the alleged "silence of activists" over the atrocities against Hindus in Bangladesh, she said, "I agree. If a candle march is taken out to protest against one wrong thing, then the same should be done against other things as well."

taken into account," she said. Underlining the need for population control, which she claimed would solve many things, Khanduri said, "Population control will be not only for Muslims but for the whole country and it will benefit everyone." Praising Prime Minister Modi's leadership, she said that for the first time, the voice of women is being heard in the corridors of power and their small needs like toilets and gas stoves are being understood. "Now women are not being treated as just a vote bank confined to their kitchens. They are being given respect," the Uttarakhand Assembly speaker said.

Heavy rainfall is likely in the state from 17 August and clear skies and sunshine will be in most parts during August 17 to 22, the official said. Another round of heavy rains is expected in the last week of August. Over 50 persons who were stuck at Padajhar waterfall in Chittoargarh's Rawatbata on Thursday were rescued by the State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) team. Police said that several people had gone to the water stream in a forest area on Thursday but they were stuck in the forest because the way to the waterfall was submerged in water. A vehicle of the SDRF team also got stuck in mud but 53 people were rescued safely on Friday morning.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

PM roots for women safety

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

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



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in response to the national outrage, has unequivocally condemned the horrific crime. In his address to the nation on Independence Day, he emphasised the government's commitment to ensuring the safety of women in the country. Modi reiterated his stance that there must be zero tolerance for crimes against women, and perpetrators should face the most stringent punishment under the law. But it is not that we do not have strict laws for crime against women but the problem is

their execution. The new amendments to criminal laws have additional features to expedite such cases. The new provisions include the death penalty for rape, video recording of crime scenes, and a witness protection program, etc. all of which could prove to help resolve such cases. However, only time will reveal how effectively these measures will be implemented on the ground and the guilty punished speedily. Women's safety has been a recurring concern in India, and incidents like this continue to raise questions about the effectiveness of existing laws and preventive measures. The Prime Minister's call for the strictest punishment has been widely welcomed, but it remains to be seen how these words will translate into concrete legal reforms. However, having laws is one thing and reforming the society is quite another. The attitude of society towards women must change. Most cases go unreported as the victims are often blamed by society; questions like 'why were you there?', 'what were you wearing?' and so on are posed to her to hold her responsible. The process becomes punishment and the victim has to live with the stigma for the rest of her life. The nation now awaits justice—not just for one young doctor, but for all the women who have suffered in silence.

PICTALK



Artists perform at Sawai Mansingh Stadium on Independence Day in Jaipur

Terrorism resurges amid shifts in strategy



SUDHIR HINDWAN

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

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

Firstly, terrorists want to send a message that despite the abrogation of Article 370 and the central government's commendable efforts, the situation in J&K remains unstable. Secondly, Jammu's vast forest areas provide an ideal base for militants to launch guerrilla attacks and evade security forces. Thirdly, the improved law and order situation in Kashmir has led to a shift in insurgent focus toward Jammu. Lastly, while terrorism in the region had been suppressed for a time, it has not been eradicated, and militants are now re-emerging with increased vigor.

J&K has long been a target of insurgents. Over the years, numerous terrorist attacks in areas like Sopore, Budgam, and Dooru Shahbad have raised serious concerns for security agencies. What is particularly alarming about the recent upsurge is the shift in strategy. Terrorists are no longer just targeting the military and police but are also attacking civilians, indicating their desperation to gain attention. Additionally, there has been no respite between these attacks, as militants seem relentless in their mission of destruction. Unlike in the past, Jammu has now become the epicenter of this terror onslaught due to its proximity to the border. Religion has once again resurfaced as a significant motivating factor for terrorists. The primary goal of these terrorists is to destabilize the region and create a vulnerable atmosphere. The involvement of a neighboring country with a hidden agen-



da cannot be ruled out. For many militants, terrorism provides a livelihood, with individuals willing to sacrifice their lives for monetary compensation. Ajmal Kasab, the infamous terrorist involved in the 2008 Mumbai attacks, is one such example of someone misled into committing heinous acts in exchange for money.

Despite efforts by the central government to address the issue through dialogues with Pakistan and engaging with separatists, insurgent activities continue unabated. Policymakers must recognize that terrorism directly impacts the nation's well-being. Anti-terrorism policies must be flexible and responsive to changing threats, utilizing the latest recommendations and technologies to ensure security.

Today's terrorists are far more organized and professional than those from a decade ago. Although new security measures have been implemented, the threat remains unpredictable. The region's geography provides an ideal base for guerrilla activities, and the militants have become more sophisticated in their strategies, acquiring advanced weapons from across the border. Their use of automatic weapons, grenades, and low-intensity bombs demonstrates meticulous planning and execution. This modern breed of terrorists no longer hides in the



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

shadows. They openly attack, targeting financial hubs and other vital locations, as seen in recent global terror incidents. Terrorists exploit advancements in transportation and weaponry to expand their networks. Suicide squads, in particular, have shocked the security apparatus with their boldness and brutality. Terrorists meticulously plan their attacks, aiming to inspire fear and manipulate the public to achieve their objectives.

In his famous work, "Why Men Rebel," Ted Robert Gurr argues that people driven by intense motivation toward a goal often resort to violence. This is evident in modern terrorism, where militants see their acts as justified sacrifices for a cause. William Henry also noted that some politically motivated acts of terrorism are so deeply rooted in commitment that no sanctions can deter them.

International experts like Professor Yonah Alexander have analyzed the evolution of terrorism. Modern terrorists differ from their predecessors in their use of technology and tactics. Small, sophisticated groups now employ increasingly violent methods to create a psychological impact, aiming to instill fear in the public and force governments to react.

The ultimate goal of terrorism is psychological, not practical. Terrorists seek to alter behavior and bring about societal or

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

(The author, a recipient of the Bharat Gaurav award, is a professor and expert on strategic affairs; views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TUNGABHADRA DAM BREACHED

Madam — Tungabhadra dam crest gate has swept away in the water after its chain link snapped. The ancient name of the river Tungabhadra was Pampa. In the epic Ramayana also, this river was called by name Pampa. Construction of the dam started in 1949 and completed in 1953 is said to be irrigating 12 lakh acres of land. It is more than 70 years since the dam was dedicated to the nation. The fall of 19th crest gate has led to the release of over 1 lakh cusecs of water into the river. By the time the new gate is fixed, much more water will be lost to the river. It is said that the water level has to be brought down to 60 cmft for installing new gate.

This incident must open the eyes of all the riparian states to inspect the dams which have been built decades ago. It goes without saying that like any other national asset, the dams have also their own life. Dams always face water pressure and it would be too high during the rainy season when the rivers carry unprecedented quantity of water. Any laxity shown in the proper maintenance of dams reduces the life of dams. It is said that the crest gate swept away during midnight.

Had it happened during day time, there would have been the possibility of people and animals falling victims to the sudden gushing of water. Former Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has blamed the state government for ignoring the recommendations of the dam committee that came from centre. If it is true that the state government has not taken seriously the recommendations of the committee, the state government must accept the blame.

KV Seetharamaiah | Bengaluru

DISAPPOINTING VERDICT

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

Independence Day pledge



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

commit to achieve them with all sincerity and nationalist spirit. The crucial task before the country is not owning a space station but providing employment to the educated youth who are longing for a job, providing a viable livelihood for the 81.35 crore poor who are depending on free rations, provide easy access to the poor avail quality education and healthcare. If these tasks are attended to the rest of the developments will happen on their own.

The development we are trying to glorify now is creating billionaires on one hand and forcing the poor mass and the middle class sections to keep on tightening their belts. Continuing this trend carries the potential of landing the country in a social and economic crisis. On this day we should also take pledge to improve the country's ranking in global indexes like hunger index, malnutrition, freedom of expression etc.

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

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

Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

RESPECT THE NATIONAL FLAG

Madam — On August 15, all Indians celebrate by singing patriotic songs, posting quotations on social media, and staging emotional plays to instill patriotism in young minds.

However, the enthusiasm often wanes the next day. Selling flags made of paper and plastic, only to have them treated disrespectfully, is wrong. This disrespect must cease. Our focus should shift to the country's needs beyond just one-day celebrations and songs. Though an individual can't change the entire system, collective efforts can. After so many sacrifices by our great leaders, we must question if we're truly an independent nation or only in name.

Md Imadaullah | Muzaaffarpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

How to make disaster relief truly effective

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

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

Like it happened once in 2018, when the whole of Kerala stood up and held hands to rescue and rebuild those caught in the floods, people came together in the aftermath of the recent landslides too. Helping hands were extended from far and wide and relief materials dispatched at short notice. And from hordes of donors came loads of unwanted things too: from used clothes



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

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

truth. Whether in the tragic instances of natural calamity or in war-ravaged parts of the world where people have had to flee and seek refuge in makeshift camps, there is a colossal need for human kindness and generosity. But we often make mistakes in the way we express and extend this willingness to help and save people from aftermaths of misfortunes.

The first thing that comes to our common mind when we talk of aid is heaps of clothes that we dump in collection centres. Although the amount of second-hand wear that people dispose in the name of charity has decreased with awareness campaigns, there still is a huge dearth of information and knowledge regarding the kind of assistance people in relief camps need - be it after a natural calamity or in strife-ridden communities.

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

trail. That a lot of cash gets siphoned off is the public perception. Given this, how do good-natured people who are willing to lend a helping hand to the afflicted make a contribution? What is a trusted channel? It is hard to say with certainty, but the only choice we have is to trust the people who take up such endeavours or be part of volunteer groups that initiates such action.

It is indeed a shame that some devious minds take advantage of this opportunity to make a quick buck and instances of wrongdoing are not unheard of. But at the end of the day, it is one person's misery meeting another person's magnanimity. Creating safe and guaranteed channels of help and support will make more people come forward to restore the lives of those affected. The onus of winning public trust through transparency lies with community leaders, politicians and philanthropists. Even the kindest thoughts and action can go to waste if they are not done with discretion.

(The author is a Dubai-based columnist and writing coach; views are personal)



ASHA IYER KUMAR



FIRST COLUMN

THE DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD OF ARROGANCE

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



RAVI VALLURI

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Afghanistan's struggle after the US withdrawal



NILANTHA ILANGAMUWA

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

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

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

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

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



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

background and the rise and fall of Afghanistan's communist regime from 1978 to 1989. The communist ideology, as practised under Stalin, evolved into a form of tribal feudalism, which some in Afghanistan found more appealing than Western market economies. This alignment facilitated political power for those who exploited socialism for their ends, illustrating how political ideologies can be distorted to serve specific interests, ultimately leading to their downfall. The introduction of communism into Afghanistan profoundly impacted its social structure. Afghanistan, a fragmented region with diverse tribal groups and a mountainous terrain, was ill-suited for a unitary political system. Federalism might have been more effective, but this reality was often overlooked, leading to ongoing violence that the Taliban would inherit. In the 20th century, reformist movements emerged, bringing communist ideologies to Afghanistan. Abdulrahman Mahmudi, an early communist figure, founded the newspaper Nida'-yi-Khalq (Voice of the People) and the Hezb-e Khalq (People's Party) in the late 1940s. Although imprisoned and later dying in 1963, Mahmudi's legacy continued through his family until the 1970s, eventually evolving into a Maoist movement. Prominent leftists like Mir Muhammad Siddique Farhan and Noor Muhammad Taraki also played significant roles, with Taraki becoming a key communist leader after returning from India. The Afghan monarchy, led by Mohammad Zahir Shah, was overthrown in a coup by his cousin General Mohammad Dawood Khan on July 17, 1973. Dawood established the Republic of

Afghanistan but was ousted in 1978 by leftist leaders Noor Mohammad Taraki, Babrak Karmal, and Hafizullah Amin, following the assassination of Mir Akbar Khyber. Taraki's presidency and Amin's prime ministership attempted significant social reforms, but their rapid implementation in a culturally resistant society led to widespread protests. The political struggle culminated in a coup by Amin, who ousted Taraki, later reported as dying of an "unknown illness" but suffocated by guards. Key figures in pre-Taliban Afghan politics included Mohammad Zahir Shah, Mohammad Dawood Khan, Mir Akbar Khyber, Noor Mohammad Taraki, and Hafizullah Amin. Mohammad Zahir Shah, king of Afghanistan from 1933 to 1973, oversaw significant social reforms and modernisation efforts. Educated in Kabul and France, Zahir Shah returned to Afghanistan at age 19 and took on various roles within the monarchy. By the early 1960s, he was a respected ruler who embraced democratic principles and established a new parliament, working to modernise Afghanistan and improve living standards. Many nostalgic images of pre-Taliban Afghanistan reflect the successes of his administration. In 1973, while Zahir Shah was in Italy for eye surgery, his cousin Mohammad Dawood Khan overthrew the government and established a new regime. Zahir Shah spent decades in Italy, during which Afghanistan's progress towards democracy was undone. Dawood's regime, followed by the leadership of Noor Mohammad Taraki and Hafizullah Amin, marked a shift towards Cold War-era conflicts. The assassination of Mir Akbar Khyber, whose killer remains debat-

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

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

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

Brutality against female doctors raises questions on safety in govt hospitals

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

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



RAHUL KAMBLE

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

Parliament elects Thaksin's daughter as Thailand PM

AP ■ BANGKOK

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



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

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

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

Diplomacy intensifies to halt Israel-Hamas war

AP ■ JERUSALEM

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

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

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

Hurricane Ernesto targets Bermuda after hitting Puerto Rico

AP ■ SAN JUAN

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

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

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

Kamala Harris will make one hell of a president: Biden

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

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

Trump refuses to tone down personal attacks on Harris

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

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



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

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

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

China alarmed by US missile system deployed to its North

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

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

AP ■ HARARE

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

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

Pakistan reports 3 Mpox cases

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

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

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

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

Many suspects in Pakistan anti-Christian rampage still at large

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

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

PTI ■ NEW YORK

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



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

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

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

AP ■ WASHINGTON

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

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

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

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

B'desh caretaker govt promises action

PTI ■ DHAKA

Bangladesh's newly-appointed Home Affairs Ministry adviser has vowed to take swift legal action against those who attack or abuse minorities, stressing that there is no place for violence, conflict, or hatred in the country.

Brigadier General (ret'd) M Sakhawat Hussain's assurance came during a meeting with a delegation from the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) Bangladesh at his office in the Secretariat on Thursday, the Dhaka Tribune newspaper reported.

Bangladesh saw a spike in violence against members of Hindu communities following the fall of the government led by Sheikh Hasina, who resigned and fled to India on August 5 following massive protests against her government over a controversial quota system in jobs.

Hussain emphasised that Bangladesh is a country of communal harmony, where people of all religions have grown up together without any divisions.

He said that no one would be spared if they attacked or abused minorities, and swift

Yunus inducts four more advisers

Dhaka (PTI): The interim government in Bangladesh led by Chief Adviser Prof Muhammad Yunus was expanded on Friday with four more advisers joining his team of civil society figures, academics, NGOs and rights group leaders. The new advisers are Wahiduddin Mahmud, an economist, Ali Imam Majumdar, former cabinet secretary, Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan, former power secretary, and Lt Gen Jahangir Alam Chowdhury.

With these four, the strength of the members — all equivalent to ministers — in the interim government's advisory council rose to 21.

Nobel Laureate Yunus and 13 other advisers were sworn in

on August 8, four days after the fall of the Sheikh Hasina-led government last week amid an uprising over government job quota reforms. Two advisers were sworn in on August 11 and one a day after.

President Mohammed Shahabuddin administered the oaths to the four new advisers at Bangabhaban, the seat of the government, a presidential palace spokesman told PTI.

They were sworn in a simple ceremony joined by the council of advisers and officials concerned, he said and added, Yunus is expected to allot their portfolios later.

Wahiduddin Mahmud, former professor of premier Dhaka University, was an adviser to the 1996 caretaker govern-



Majumdar was appointed as special assistant to this interim government's chief adviser on August 12; while Chowdhury is former director general of Border Guard,

Bangladesh. Hasina had resigned and secretly left for India on August 5 in the face of the massive mass upsurge originating from a students' movement over the quota system for government jobs, marking the end of her Awami League regime since December 2008.

Most of the advisers are civil society figures, academics, NGOs and rights group leaders. Globally recognised as 'The Father of Microfinance', Yunus, 84, was declared as the head of the interim government by President Mohammed Shahabuddin after dissolving Parliament, a decision prompted by a demand by the Anti-Discrimination Student Movement.

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

During the meeting, Satyanranjan Baroi, president of ISKCON Bangladesh, requested the adviser to take priority measures for the safety of minorities and presented eight

proposals for ensuring their safety, including enacting laws, establishing monitoring cells, forming a Minority Commission and providing continuous state security for temples. The adviser assured his full support for these matters. The Bangladesh National Hindu Grand Alliance said that the minority community faced

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

Bangladesh's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus who is heading the interim government on Tuesday reached out to the distressed Hindu commu-

nity and urged them to "exercise patience" and assured them that his government would punish those who attacked the minority members.

On Monday, Hossain's ministry set up a hotline asking people to provide information about attacks on temples, churches or any other religious institutions.



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

Palau's president says China is weaponising lucrative tourism

AP ■ WELLINGTON

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

Palau, along with Tuvalu and the Marshall Islands, is one of three Pacific nations to recognise Taiwan as an independent democracy — viewed as a snub by Beijing, which asserts it is part of China. Taipei's allies in the Pacific have dwindled from five countries in 2019; Nauru abandoned its ties in January. Whipps told the AP in an interview late Thursday that, in 2020 while he was running for his current post, the Chinese ambassador to a neighboring country pledged to flood his tourism-dependent nation of 20,000 people with a million visitors if he capitulated to the country's stance. "That continues to be the overture," he said by phone Thursday. "They say, why are you torturing yourselves? Just join us and the sky's the limit."

Whipps refused. "We don't need a million tourists," he added. "It's not always about how much money we get." His stance is vanishingly rare amid Pacific island nations — some struggling to sustain themselves and feeling overlooked by Western powers while their backyards are increasingly the settings for some of the world's most potent contests for influence. Amid

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

"As the number of Taiwan's diplomatic allies in the Pacific dwindles, the obstacles to China's regional diplomacy diminish," said Mihai Sora, Director of the Pacific Islands Program at the Lowy Institute. China's penalties for Palau's intransigence are not new, but they have escalated in the months leading up to November's election in which Whipps will seek another term as leader, he said. In May, he blamed China for a major cyberattack on Palau in which 20,000 government documents were stolen. The claim was unproven, Whipps said, but no other motive or actor had emerged.

Earlier that month, Palau tourism industry representatives were denied visas to enter Macau for a lucrative international industry conference. Then reports appeared in China's state media and an official WeChat channel in June, warning tourists of an increase in safety issues for Chinese visitors to Palau. The remarks, seen by the AP, urged citizens to be cautious when traveling there. Whipps rejected the reports of security problems but said the claims had stuck — visitor numbers from China halved in 2024, now down to 30% of its tourists. Once, 70% of Palau's visitors came from China, but

the country tried to diversify its market after Beijing unofficially blocked its citizens from visiting in 2017.

"Palau has found itself in a position where it relies on Chinese tourists for income," Sora said. "This is a tap China can quite easily turn on and off — and it does."

Support comes from other quarters, however. Unlike most Pacific nations, Palau, a republic that has been independent since 1994, holds close ties to the United States in a free association agreement. Washington provides aid and defense support to Palau and its citizens can live and work in the US. But many analysts say Washington was too slow to recognize China's campaign of influence in the Pacific and took for granted relationships with the leaders of tiny island nations who struggled to address growing economic and climate woes.

Meanwhile, Whipps said, Beijing offered incentives and wooed with red carpets and fanfare some leaders who had never met an American president before a Pacific summit at the White House first held in 2022. Western nations had at times seen Pacific island countries as "dots on a map," Whipps added. Things were changing, he said — this week, Palau hosted New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister Winston Peters, who is also the Foreign Minister, in the highest-profile visit Whipps had received from that country.

Ukrainian officials urge civilians to evacuate eastern town of Pokrovsk

AP ■ KYIV

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

The call for people to get out as soon as possible came as Kyiv's forces are trying to divert the Kremlin's military focus to Russian soil by launching a bold incursion across the border into the Kursk region. The urgency also underscored the high-stakes gamble Ukraine is making by taking the war into Russia with its ongoing assault that started August 6.

The attack was a daring attempt to change the dynamics of the 2½-year conflict, but

it could leave Ukraine's short-handed defense at the mercy of Russia's push.

The Kremlin's forces have had battlefield momentum and superior forces in eastern Ukraine's Donetsk region since the spring.

Evacuations in the Donetsk region around Pokrovsk have become increasingly urgent in recent weeks.

Pokrovsk officials said in a Telegram post Friday that Russian troops are "advancing at a fast pace. With every passing day there is less and less time to collect personal belongings and leave for safer regions."

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy had warned on Thursday that Pokrovsk and other nearby towns in the Donetsk region were "facing the most intense Russian assaults."

Wickremesinghe backed by grand alliance in SL presidential poll

Colombo (PTI): Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, the front runner in the presidential poll scheduled for next month, was on Friday endorsed by a grand coalition of over 30 political parties and groups. This comes after Wickremesinghe, 75, announced himself as the independent candidate on Thursday by handing over nominations to contest the September 21 presidential election.

Wickremesinghe, the leader of the now decimated grand old party, the United National Party (UNP), is backed by the Rajapaksa family breakaways from the Sri Lanka Podujana Peramuna (SLPP).

Pak govt admits tinkering with internet: Report

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

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

Millions of people across Pakistan have been facing trouble accessing internet services for some time now due to limited connectivity, particularly while using mobile data in some regions.

So far, official stakeholders in Pakistan have either been feigning ignorance in response to public outcry and media queries, or claiming that the problems were because of telecom and internet service providers, or even Meta. While talking to reporters after the

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

"The internet should never be slow. We have even been talking about bringing 5G technology to Pakistan. There is no doubt about that, and conversations about higher internet speed are underway," the Dawn newspaper quoted Khawaja as saying. When the minister was asked about the "firewall" — a blanket term used by the public to describe the causes of internet disruption in the absence of any official explanation — she said the issue had been "blown out of proportion."

"The government has been operating a web-management system. The system is now being upgraded." She also called the process "a routine exercise" across the globe to enhance internet security, without giving any detail to substantiate her claims about which other countries have deployed this system.

"It is the right of the government to take measures to protect its interests given the cyber security attacks that Pakistan is facing." This was the first time an acknowledged government's actions, which have been blamed for everything from slow browsing speeds, the arbitrary blocking of social media platforms and WhatsApp connectivity issues on mobile data, the paper said.

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

Tokyo (AP): Flights and trains in the Tokyo area were cancelled Friday, and people were warned of strong winds, heavy rains and potential flooding and mudslides as a typhoon swerved near Japan on its way further north in the Pacific Ocean. Typhoon Ampil was forecast to reach the waters near Tokyo in the evening then continue north, bringing stormy conditions to the northern Kanto and Tohoku regions early Saturday. It had sustained winds of 162 kph (101 mph) with higher gusts Friday morning and was moving north at 20 kph (12 mph), the Japan Meteorological Agency said. Ampil was not expected to make landfall and would weaken to a tropical storm by Sunday.

The Shinkansen bullet trains running between Tokyo and Nagoya were halted for the entire day, according to Central Japan Railway, a common response to typhoons here. Bullet trains serving northeastern Japan and some local Tokyo trains were suspended temporarily or switched to a slower schedule. Dozens of departing and arriving flights were cancelled at Tokyo's two airports, Haneda and Narita, as well as at Kansai, Osaka and Chubu airports. The flight cancellations affect some 90,000 people, according to Japanese media reports. Several highways may also partly close to traffic.

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

windy in Tokyo, and traffic and crowds out on the streets were sparse, mostly because of the Bon summer holiday period, not just the weather. Stores remained open.

verka
for Dairy, For DSI

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.
SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022, EPABX NO. 0172-5041812,66

Notice Inviting e Tender www.verka.coop

e tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items:-

Name of Work/Item	Period/Tentative Qty	
	Khanna	GKB
For Cattle Feed Plant, Khanna & Ghaina - Ke. Bangar		
1. MFP Molecule	25 MT	23 MT
2. Formaldehyde Solution (with drum) 37-40%	45 MT	12 MT
3. Ferrous Sulphate/ Iron Sulphate 30% min	3 MT	1.2 MT
4. Zinc Sulphate zn33% min	10 MT	7.5 MT
5. Manganese Sulphate 32% min,	2 MT	2.3 MT
6. Calcium Chloride	15 MT	12.3 MT
a) Assay 90-95%		
b) pH 5.0-7.0		
7. Sodium Thiosulphate,	4 MT	4.3 MT
8. Copper Sulphate	3 MT	1.6 MT
cu. 24% min,		
9. Magnesium Chloride	5 MT	4 MT
a) Assay: not less than 98%		
b) pH 5% solution: 4.5-7.0		
10. Sodium Butyrate (Assay: 98.0% (min), Lead: 20 ppm (max), Arsenic: 2 ppm (max)	1 MT	1.1 MT
11. Chocolate Feed Flavour with Sweetner, Cattle Feed Grade Free Flowing Powder	5 MT	9 MT
12. HMTBA based chelates	17 MT	18 MT
13. Live Yeast (saccharochoyces cereverial)	20 MT	14.00 MT
14. Potassium Iodide	-	0.105 MT
15. Potassium Carbonate	-	15.00 MT
16. Choline	-	.600 MT
17. By pass fat (rate contract for three months)	150 MT	35 MT

NOTE:
1. For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our website i.e. www.verka.coop & e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.
2. Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on website only.

NA/12/24805/2023/36736 Dated CHD :- 8/16/2024

Dy. General Manager (Purchase)

GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY, AMRITSAR
NOTICE

Applications forms for allotment of hostel Shops/Vehicle Stands from session 2024-25 (Extendable upto 30-06-2029) of University Campus, Amritsar, Regional Campus, Gurdaspur, Regional Campus, Jalandhar & University College, Jalandhar are invited till 28.08.2024. The details, terms & conditions and forms can be downloaded from the university website link:- <https://online.gndu.ac.in/tenders-notice.aspx>

Dean Student's Welfare

NA/12/24801/2023/36732 Dated CHD :- 8/16/2024

verka
for Dairy, For DSI

THE PUNJAB STATE COOPERATIVE MILK PRODUCERS FEDERATION LTD.
SCO 153-155, SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022, EPABX NO. 0172-5041812,66

Notice Inviting Tender www.verka.coop

Tenders are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items:-

Sr.	Name of Work/Item	Period/Tentative Qty
1.	For Dry Fruits	
a)	Badam	06 Months/ 700 kg
i.	Kaju 4 Pc	7950 kg
ii.	Kishmish	670 kg
iii.	Pista	525 kg
v.	Elachi	1000 kg
b)	Augmentation & Re-strengthening of existing 4 No's foundations (60 kl to 100 kl milk silos) of liquid milk plant at Verka Mohali Dairy.	Two Months
2.	For Verka Chandigarh Dairy	
Auction Notice for Vehicles:-		
i.	Innova Vehicle No. CH01-G1-2105, Model-2008, Diesel	01 No.
ii.	Innova Vehicle No. CH01-G1-2821, Model-2009, Diesel	01 No.
iii.	Tata 407 Vehicle No.PB85-E-6730, Model-2007, Diesel	01 No.
iv.	Hero Honda Motor Cycle No.CH04J-2719, Model-2009	01 No.
v.	Hero Honda Motor Cycle No.CH04J-1841, Model-2009	01 No.
3.	For Verka Mohali Dairy	
Annual rate contract for used Polyethylene/Polyim film, assorted used curd/ kheer cup/misc bottles scrap, assorted used matka scrap, misc used Cans (Capacity 10 to 15 Lr.) Scrap, Misc used Cans (Capacity 20 to 50 Lr) scrap and half yearly rate contract for disposal of other unserviceable items lying at Verka Mohali Dairy		
4.	For Verka Bathinda Dairy	
Hiring of Road Milk Tankers for transportation of Milk with/inside Punjab at Verka Bathinda Dairy (Capacity 10 Tons & Capacity 15 Tons and above).		
		03 No's. each
5.	For Verka Palatia Dairy	
a)	Hiring of insulated S.S read milk tankers for milk transportation within Punjab & other states Cap- 15,000 to 30,000 Ltr.	Annual/05 Tankers
b)	Hiring of insulated vehicle for transportation of Fresh Milk and Fresh Milk products for:-	Annual
i.	Route no 2 (Jhabsa).	4MT
ii.	Route no 4 (Bhadurgarh, Urban Estate & Gurbaish colony, Palatia).	3 MT
iii.	Route no 5 (Thapar uni, Bhadson road, Palatia & surrounding area).	4 MT
iv.	Route no 7 (Sirhind, Fatehgarh Sahib, Bhadson Amloh).	3 MT
v.	Route no 9 (Ambala, Mulana and Sahla).	3 MT
6.	For Verka Lughana Dairy	
Job Contract for operation and maintenance of pouch filling machines and tray washer including coding on pouches.		
		Annual
7.	For Verka Amritsar Dairy	
a) Hiring of insulated Single portion Road Milk Tankers for Transportation of Milk from BMC/MCC (cap.10,000 Ltr.)		
b) Supply of Indonesian Steam Coal.		
		2000MT
8.	For Verka Gurdaspur Dairy	
a) Hiring of Vehicles for transportation of Milk from MPC/S/Farms to MCC and Milk Plant. Tata 407/409, Mahindra Max, Mahindra Pick, Bolero Pick, Tata Ace.		
b) Pest Control Services.		
		17 Routes
9.	For Verka Jalandhar Dairy	
a) Supply of Aluminium foil for 450g/500g, 1 kg, 5 kg & 15 kg Matka.		
b) Design, supply, installation, testing & commissioning of ammonia based cold room in Verka Jalandhar Dairy Milkshed area.		
		Annual
10.	For Verka Ferozpur Dairy	
a) Hiring of car (Bolero/ Swift/ Toyota/ Etc or its equivalent).		
b) Design, supply, installation, testing & commissioning of ammonia based cold room with puff panel & its accessories, with civil structure completed.		
		01 Complete Job
11.	For Verka CFP, Bhatian (Khanna)	
Transportation of Molasses from The Buthwal and The morinda co-operative sugar Mills Ltd. to Verka Cattle feed plant, Bhatian (Khanna).		
		Annual
12.	For Verka CFP, Ghanaia Ke Bangar	
Disposal of old bardana jute gunny bags above 50 kgs/ Katta upto 50 kgs and Plastic kattas.		
		1/ Approx. 13-14 Lakh bags

NOTE:
1. For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our website i.e. www.verka.coop & e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.
2. Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on website only.

NA/12/24804/2023/36735 Dated CHD :- 8/16/2024

Dy. General Manager (Purchase)

PPGCL
PRAYAGRAJ POWER GENERATION COMPANY LTD.

Regd Office: Shatabdi Bhawan, B12 & 13, Sector 4, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301
Plant Address: PO-Lohgara, Tehsil-Bara, Prayagraj(Ahmedabad), Uttar Pradesh-212107
Phone : +91-120-6102008/6102009 CIN: U40101UP2007PLC032835

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited invites expression of interest (EOI) from eligible vendors for Hiring of Ambulance (ALS & BLS Type) of 3x660 MW Thermal Power Plant at Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited, Bara, Dist. Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, India.

Details of pre-qualification requirements, bid security, purchasing of tender document etc. may be downloaded using the URL- <https://www.ppgcl.co.in/tenders.php> Eligible vendors willing to participate may submit their expression of interest along with the tender fee for issue of bid document latest by 18th August 2024.

RTP-91/24

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001)
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website- www.pspscil.in
Mobile No.96461-22067

E-Tender Enq. No. 554/P-1/EMP/P-12775 dated 14-08-24

Dy. Chief Engineer/ Headquarter (Procurement Cell-1) GGSSSTP, Roopnagar invites E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_125574_1 to conduct Energy Audit of GGSSSTP Units III to VI having capacities of 4x210MW. For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 14.08.2024/ 5.00 PM onwards.

Note:- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

RTP-91/24

76155/12/3308/2023/36725 Dated CHD :- 8/16/2024

JITF INFRA LOGISTICS LIMITED
CIN NO. : L60231CT2008PLC016434

Registered Office: A-11(7), Uday Society, Sector-3,
Tatiana, Raipur-492099, Dharmsiwa, Chhattisgarh, India
Website: www.jitfindinfra.com, E-mail: contactus@jitfindinfra.com

NOTICE TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF THE COMPANY

For transfer of unclaimed amount of Fraction Shares to the Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Account (As per Section 124 of the Companies Act, 2013).

In terms of requirements of Section 124 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Investor Education and Protection Fund (IEPF) Authority (Accounting, Audit, Transfer and Refund) Rules, 2016 ("the Rules"), as amended, the Company is required to transfer the unclaimed amount of fraction shares which remains unpaid or unclaimed for a period of seven consecutive years, to the IEPF Account established by the Central Government.

A separate communication has been sent to all the Shareholders, who have not claimed the unclaimed amount of fraction shares at their registered email or communication address with the Company.

A list of such shareholders who have not claimed the amount of fraction shares during the period of seven consecutive years and the amount of which are therefore liable for transfer to the IEPF Account is available on the website of the Company at www.jitfindinfra.com.

Shareholders are requested to forward the requisite documents, as per the above-mentioned communication to the Company's Registrar and Share Transfer Agent (RTA), to claim the unclaimed amount. Notice is hereby given that in the absence of receipt of a valid claim by the Shareholders, the Company would be transferring the said amount to IEPF Account without further notice in accordance with the requirement of the said Rules.

Please note that no claim shall lie against the Company in respect of unclaimed amount transferred to IEPF pursuant to the said Rules. Please note that after such transfer, Shareholders/Claimants can claim the transferred amount from the IEPF Authority, for which details are available at www.iefp.gov.in.

For any information/clarifications on this matter, the concerned Shareholders/Claimants may write to the Company at Contactus@jitfindinfra.com or to the RTA of the Company M/S RCMC SHARE REGISTRY PRIVATE LIMITED, B-25/1, First Floor, Okhla Industrial Area, Phase-2, New Delhi - 110020 Phone: 011-26387320, 26387321, E-mail ID: investor.services@rcmc.com.

For JITF INFRA LOGISTICS LIMITED
Sd/-
ALOK KUMAR
COMPANY SECRETARY
M.NO.: A 19819

Date: 16.08.2024
Place: Raipur

Sensex jumps to two-week high

PTI ■ MUMBAI
 Benchmark Sensex spurted by 1,330 points to close at a two-week high while Nifty jumped 397 points to settle above the 24,500 level on Friday as easing fears of a recession in the US triggered buying in IT shares amid a sharp global stocks rally.
 The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 1,330.96 points or 1.68 per cent to settle at 80,436.84, marking its best single-day gains in more than two months. During the day, it zoomed 1,412.33 points or 1.78 per cent to 80,518.21.
 The NSE Nifty surged 397.40 points or 1.65 per cent to close at a two-week high of 24,541.15. As many as 47 Nifty shares closed in green while three closed in red.
 From Sensex firms, Tech Mahindra, Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Motors, UltraTech Cement, Tata Consultancy Services, HCL Technologies, ICICI Bank and Tata Steel were the biggest gainers. Sun Pharma emerged as the only laggard.
 “The stability of the Japanese Yen has been instrumental in driving a global market recovery. Besides that, the strong US retail sales and a decline in weekly jobless claims have helped alleviate fears of a US recession. “Further, the market sentiment has improved due to a decrease in US CPI inflation. On the backdrop of these, the Indian IT firms exhibited strong buying interest,” said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services. In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled significantly higher. European markets were trading mostly in the green. The US markets ended with sharp gains on Thursday. “The Indian frontline indices traded signif-



icantly higher today, mirroring the positive global market sentiment. The gains in the market were broad-based as the midcap and smallcap indices also moved higher. This upbeat market mood was primarily driven by reduced volatility, which stemmed from increased expectations of a US rate cut in September,” Avdhut Bagkar, Technical and Derivatives Analyst, StoxBox, said.
 In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge jumped 1.80 per cent and smallcap index climbed 1.70 per cent. All indices ended higher. IT index soared 2.72 per cent and realty jumped 2.45 per cent. Teck (2.23 per cent), auto (1.90 per cent), commodities (1.89 per cent), power (1.80 per cent), financial services (1.77 per

cent) also closed higher. A total of 2,462 stocks advanced while 1,467 declined and 107 remained unchanged on the BSE. On the weekly front, the BSE benchmark jumped 730.93 points or 0.91 per cent, the Nifty climbed 173.65 points or 0.71 per cent. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 2,595.27 crore on Wednesday, while domestic institutional investors (DIIs) were buyers as they bought equities worth Rs 2,236.21 crore, according to exchange data.
 Global oil benchmark Brent crude declined 1.22 per cent to USD 80.05 a barrel. Indian stock markets were closed on Thursday on account of Independence Day.

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
 Foreign direct investment (FDI) in India's food processing sector declined 30 per cent in the last fiscal to Rs 5,037.06 crore, according to official data.
 The FDI in the food processing sector stood at Rs 7,194.13 crore in 2022-23. According to the data presented by the Food Processing Industries Ministry in Lok Sabha, the FDI in food processing sector stood at Rs 5,290.27 crore in 2021-22 and Rs 2934.12 crore in 2020-21.
 FDI was Rs 6,414.67 crore in 2019-20; Rs 4430.44 crore in 2018-19; Rs 5,835.62 crore in 2017-18; Rs 4,865.85 crore in 2016-17; and Rs 3,312 crore in 2015-16 in the food processing sector.
 In order to enhance foreign investment in the food processing sector, the ministry has taken various measures, including 100 per cent FDI permitted through automatic route for the food processing sector subject to sectoral regulations.
 It has allowed 100 per cent FDI, under the government-approval route, for trading including through e-



commerce, in respect of food products manufactured or produced in India.
 The government has exempted all processed food items from the purview of licensing under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.
 There is a lower GST for raw and processed products. More than 71.7 per cent of food products under various chapter heads/sub-heads are covered in lower tax slabs of 0 per cent and 5 per cent.
 The export of processed foods declined 17 per cent to USD 10,881.81 million in 2023-24 from USD 13,078.3 million in the preceding fiscal.
 For the development of this sector, the ministry is implementing the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) and Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing Industry (PLISFPI) and Prime Minister Formalization of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PFME) schemes.
 All these three schemes are demand-driven and implemented across the country.
 These schemes are aimed at creation of modern infrastructure with efficient supply chain management from farm gate to retail outlet, and to help in providing better returns to farmers, creation of employment opportunities, reducing wastage, increasing the processing level and enhancing the export of processed foods.

SBI hikes lending rate by 10 bps across tenors, raising EMIs for borrowers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
 State Bank of India, the country's biggest lender, has raised the Marginal Cost of Funds-based Lending Rate (MCLR) by 10 basis points (0.1 percentage point), across tenors, making most of the consumer loans costlier.
 This is the third time in a row that the bank has increased MCLR. The benchmark one-year tenor MCLR, which is used to price most consumer loans such as auto and personal, is now pegged higher at 8.95 per cent against the earlier rate of 8.85 per cent, according to the information posted on its website.
 The three-year MCLR is 9.10 per cent, while the two-year is now 9.05 per cent, up 10 basis points. Among others, the rates of one-month, three-month and six-month tenors are in the range of 8.45-8.85 per cent. The MCLR on overnight tenor will be 8.20 per cent against 8.10 per cent.
 The new rates are effective from August 15, 2024, it said. The rate hike has come days after RBI kept its benchmark lending rate unchanged at 6.5 per cent for the ninth consecutive time earlier this month.

Rupee settles flat at 83.94 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI
 The rupee stayed in a narrow range and settled flat at 83.94 (provisional) against the American currency on Friday, as the support from a rally in domestic equities and weak greenback was negated by foreign fund outflows amid geopolitical tensions in the Middle East.
 At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 83.93 and touched the intraday low of 83.96 against the greenback during the session. The local unit finally settled flat at 83.94 (provisional) against the dollar. On Wednesday, the rupee settled 3 paise higher at 83.94 against the US dollar. Forex markets were closed on Thursday on account of Independence Day.
 Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas, said the positive tone in the domestic markets



supported the rupee at lower levels.
 “We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on...Geopolitical tension in the Middle East between Israel and Iran.
 “Traders may take cues from US consumer confidence and housing data today. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 83.75 to Rs 84.25,” he added.
 Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading lower by 0.14 per cent at 102.66. Analysts said the dollar

weakened as market participants were awaiting the US consumer confidence index and housing data to be released later in the day.
 Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, declined 1.20 per cent to USD 80.07 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex surged 1,330.96 points, or 1.68 per cent, to settle at 80,436.84 points. The broader Nifty also soared 397.40 points, or 1.65 per cent, to 24,541.15 points.
 Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) were net sellers in the capital markets on Wednesday, as they offloaded shares worth Rs 2,595.27 crore, according to exchange data.
 On the domestic macroeconomic front, wholesale inflation fell to a 3-month low of 2.04 per cent in July on the decline in prices of food items, especially vegetables, government data released on Wednesday showed.

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

PTI ■ MUMBAI
 India's forex reserves dropped by USD 4.8 billion to USD 670.11 billion for the week ended August 9, the Reserve Bank of India said on Friday.
 In the previous reporting week, the kitty jumped by USD 7.53 billion to an all-time high of USD 674.919 billion.
 For the week ended August 9, foreign currency assets, a major component of the reserves, decreased by USD 4.079 billion to USD 587.96 billion, the data released on Friday showed.
 Expressed in dollar terms, the foreign currency assets include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves.
 Gold reserves declined by



USD 860 million to USD 59.239 billion during the week, the RBI said.
 The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were up by USD 121 million to USD 18.282 billion, the apex bank said.
 India's reserve position with the IMF increased by USD 18 million to USD 4.638 billion in the reporting week, the central bank data showed.

NITI Aayog calls for guidelines, E-KYC to check background of PMMY loan applicants

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
 The government think tank NITI Aayog has pitched for a set of guidelines for assessing the creditworthiness and background verification for those availing loans under the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY).
 The Aayog in a report titled “Impact Assessment of PMMY” suggested encouraging E-KYC authentication for loan underwriting. This will enhance the effectiveness of assessment checks.
 “A set of guidelines for assessing the creditworthiness and background verification must be enlisted to provide a security net to the banks, considering the loans are collateral free and a proper risk check and assessment has a critical role to play in the sustainability of results and success of the scheme,” it said in the report posted on its website.



The majority of borrowers under PMMY are small entrepreneurs who have very limited documents and this makes it difficult for the banks to run verification checks as it requires more staffing and employees.
 The Aayog also suggested that a proper reward mechanism is needed for different banks based on their scale of operation and performance. It noted that a portal enabling real-time upload of beneficiary data will help streamline the beneficiary data collection.
 PMMY, since its inception in 2015 has provided credit support of Rs 18.39 lakh crore to 34.93 crore accounts. According to the report, compared to the pre-

pandemic, the credit disbursements to MSMEs have doubled across segments indicating support for the increasing credit demand by the industry, while the number of NPA accounts and the amount have been increasing year after year with a CAGR of 22.51 per cent and 36.61 per cent respectively from FY 2017.
 The Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) sector plays a defining role for entrepreneurs and is a key driver of socio-economic development in India.
 The sector contributes about 33 per cent (FY 2015 to FY 2019) of the country's total manufacturing gross value of output.
 It accounts for more than 40 per cent of exports and contributes over 28 per cent of gross value added in India's GDP while creating employment for about 11.10 crore people.

Govt to impose stricter safety standards on electric construction equipment vehicles

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
 The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) has proposed new stricter safety standards for electric powertrain construction equipment vehicles including dumpers and excavators from October 1, 2024.
 The ministry in a draft notification has proposed an amendment to the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 with an aim to push electric vehicles (EV) across various sectors.
 “On and after (1st October 2024), construction

equipment vehicles fitted with electric power train shall meet requirements as specified in AIS-174, till the corresponding BIS specifications are notified under the Bureau of Indian Standard Act, 2016,” the draft rule said.
 Electric and hybrid powertrain are being used in construction equipment vehicles. According to the notification, the objections or suggestions which may be received from any person in respect of the said draft rules before the expiry of the aforesaid period will be considered by the central government.

Gold plunges ₹400; silver rallies ₹800

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
 Gold prices plunged Rs 400 to Rs 72,750 per 10 grams in the national capital on Friday, according to the All India Sarafa Association.
 The precious metal had closed at Rs 73,150 per 10 grams in the previous session. The commodity markets were closed on Thursday on the occasion of Independence Day.
 Silver prices rallied Rs 800 to Rs 84,000 per kilogram from Rs 83,200 per kg in the previous close.
 Meanwhile, gold of 99.5 per cent purity declined by Rs 400 to Rs 72,400 per 10 grams. In



the previous session, it ended at Rs 72,800 per 10 grams. On the global front, Comex gold is trading at USD 2,500.90 per ounce, up by USD 8.50 per ounce.
 “Gold rose slightly on Friday as geopolitical uncertainty continued to provide support

for precious metals.
 “However, stronger US retail sales and jobless claim data released on Thursday suggest robust consumer spending, reducing concerns about recession risk in the US and dampening aggressive interest rate-cut expectations,

potentially limiting further gains in precious metals,” Saamil Gandhi, Senior Analyst of Commodities at HDFC Securities, said.
 However, silver was quoting lower at USD 28.66 per ounce in the international markets. “Comex gold closed 0.5 per cent higher at USD 2,492.4 per ounce on Thursday, as mixed US data with easing Consumer Price Index inflation and stronger retail sales did not provide any fresh insights on the US Federal Reserve's monetary policy path,” Kaynat Chainwala, AVP-Commodity Research at Kotak Securities, said.

Finance Ministry permits 15 securities firms to undertake Aadhaar verification of clients

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
 The Finance Ministry has permitted 15 securities firms, including SBICAP Securities, IIFL Securities, and Angel One, to conduct Aadhaar authentication of their customers.
 The Revenue Department under the finance ministry has issued a notification under the Prevention of Money-laundering Act allowing the 15 reporting entities to conduct Aadhaar-based KYC (know your customer) process.
 The 15 entities also include JM Financial Services, Arianth Capital Market, SMC Global Securities, Aditya Birla Money, R.K. Stock Holding, Monarch Network Capital, RKS Securities, Comfort Securities, and OPG Securities Pvt Ltd.



customer) process. The 15 entities also include JM Financial Services, Arianth Capital Market, SMC Global Securities, Aditya Birla Money, R.K. Stock Holding, Monarch Network Capital, RKS Securities, Comfort Securities, and OPG Securities Pvt Ltd.

IFIN reports cumulative loss of ₹5,654 cr in FY14-18: Revised balance sheet

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
 IL&FS Financial Services (IFIN), a group company of debt-ridden IL&FS Ltd, has incurred a cumulative loss of Rs 5,654 crore for the five-consecutive fiscals — from FY14 to FY18, according to the revised balance sheet of the firm undergoing resolution process.
 However, as per the original balance sheet, the company had earned a total profit of Rs 1,015 crore during the five-year period.
 Following the recast, the company is exploring the option of seeking a refund of income tax paid from the Income Tax for these years.
 In June this year, the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) asked the newly-appointed board of the IL&FS group to file a revised balance sheet, along with its two other

subsidiaries. Moreover, its total income also went down to Rs 7,777 crore on an aggregate basis during those five years against Rs 10,297 crore reported earlier, revealed the updated financial results.
 The company's new board has completed the reopening and recasting of financials and the revised accounts as per the direction of the NCLT.
 In June this year, the Mumbai bench of NCLT gave a go-ahead to the newly-appointed board of the IL&FS group with the revised balance sheet, along with its two other subsidiaries — IL&FS Transportation and IL&FS Financial Services.
 The restated account reflected that the company had actually reported a loss of Rs 3,322 crore in the financial year ended March 2018. However, the previous management



had reported a profit of Rs 100 crore in the said financial year. Similarly, it had booked a loss of Rs 1,315 crore during FY17 against a profit of Rs 209 crore recorded originally. On January 1, 2019, the NCLT passed an order permitting reopening and recasting of the financial

accounts of three IL&FS group companies — IL&FS Transportation, IL&FS Financial Services and IL&FS Engineering.
 The order was passed over an application moved by the central government, which had suspended the board of debt-ridden Infrastructure

Leasing and Financial Services (IL&FS) and appointed a six-member panel.
 IL&FS is settling its over Rs 90,000-crore debt through asset resolution. So far, IL&FS has discharged a total debt of Rs 35,650 crore as on September 30, 2023, and maintains an overall debt resolution target of Rs 61,000 crore.
 It is resolving debts through monetisation and termination/settlement of payments by its group entities from concessioning authorities and counter-party to the relevant contract.
 On October 1, 2018, NCLAT superseded the existing board of IL&FS on the recommendation of the Centre after the mega-crisis in IL&FS, which shook the finance industry.
 A new board for IL&FS,

which had a debt burden of Rs 94,000 crore, was appointed to take charge of the affairs and NCLAT conceived a framework for resolution of the crisis-hit group.
 It had also granted protection to the IL&FS companies against recovery of the further dues and provided immunity to the newly-appointed directors of IL&FS against any proceedings for the past actions of suspended directors or any of the officers thereof.
 At the same time, the Centre vide order dated September 30, 2018, directed that the affairs of the company to be investigated by the Serious Fraud Investigation Office (SFIO).
 SFIO commenced an investigation of affairs of IL&FS and its subsidiaries under the Companies Act.

INBRIEF

STUDENTS TAUGHT HOW TO BUILD PAYLOADS
NEW DELHI: About 26 students underwent rigorous training by Space Kidz India for over 9 months before this launch. Students were taught everything about space, gravity in space, role of space stations specially unmanned space stations, satellites, building payloads, role of satellites in the future, coding of satellites, space research etc. They were also given hands on experience in building a payload. Earlier to this SRM Public School signed a MoU earlier in June 2023 with Space Kidz India for the same.

OLYMPIC QUIZ ORGANISED

NEW DELHI: Contributing to the Olympic fervour, and testing the Olympic quotient of employees and their family members, NTPC organised a grand Olympic Quiz at the Power Management Institute, Noida on 13th August, 2024.

TATA POWER TO DEVELOP HYDRO STORAGE PLANTS

NEW DELHI: On August 12, Tata Power, India's largest integrated power company signed an MoU with the Government of Maharashtra's Water Resources Department to develop 2,800 MW of Pumped Hydro Storage Plants. The ceremony was organised in presence of Devendra Fadnavis.



WINGS OF COURAGE

UNVEILING THE IAF'S UNTOLD KARGIL SAGA



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

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

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



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

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

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

A Fashion Show that Celebrates Inclusion and the Human Spirit

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



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



dignitaries. The fashion show was not just about showcasing clothes, it was about creating a world where everyone is celebrated for who they are. The event opened with a soul-stirring performance by Diwakar Sharma, whose melodious voice set the tone for an evening filled with emotion and inspiration. The applause that followed his performance was a tribute to the impact of his music and the significance of the show. As the models took to the runway, it was clear that this was no ordinary fashion show. The designs, created by some of India's most talented designers, including Payal Pratap, Namrata Joshipura, Anju Modi and Payal Jain, were a tribute to the power of hope, diversity and human resilience. Each piece was carefully crafted to highlight the beauty of individuality,

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

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

Photos: Pankaj Kumar



The Call of the Mirror: Reflecting on Reality

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

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



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

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

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

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

Tamil Nadu. "She takes my classes personally and then I have violin also," she added.



if anything goes haywire. "I was waiting that after the Olympic, I will do horse riding. And so many other things I want to do like skydiving, scuba diving. I've waited for so long," she said, inviting another shake of the head from Rana.



Australia's Minjee Lee leads rain-delayed Women's Scottish Open with opening 67

Two-time major champion Minjee Lee of Australia managed a strong wind and caught a break with rare sunshine in a wet Scottish summer with a 5-under 67 for a one-shot lead in the ISPS Handa Women's Scottish Open before play was stopped for the day.



par 5s on the back nine. "Always a happy girl after a bogey-free round," Lee said.



Smith eyes IPL comeback after stellar show in MLC

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

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

But, as a coach, what all I should do or the transition from a player to a coach, I have to mentally prepare for that. So, I will spend the next 2-3 months on that," he said.

Grand chess tour: Nothing changes for Praggnanandhaa, Firouzja leads

Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa could not really change his fortunes for the better and remained in last spot going into the final day of the Saint Louis Rapid and Blitz chess tournament here.



bottom of the tables with only nine rounds remaining in the blitz section.

Increased participation should be our goal in new Olympic cycle: Chef de Mission Narang



Chef de Mission Gagan Narang hailed India's performance in the just-concluded Paris Olympics and said it's time to chalk out a strategic roadmap ahead of the new Olympic cycle to increase the participation in the 2028 Games in Los Angeles.

"There are many learnings and take aways from these performances in Paris. From what I saw at this Olympics, it's only the small margins that we need to close in now to elevate this performance," he said.

SA20 season three player auction to be held on October 1

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



Retired India wicketkeeper batter Dinesh Karthik recently joined Paarl Royals, becoming the first player from the country to join the South African league.

explosive season," Smith stated in a release. "We are also incredibly proud of all the domestic players who have been retained by the teams, including the majority of the rookies who have been incorporated as fully-contracted players for Season 3," he added.