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WORLD 9 ANTI-RACISM PROTESTERS MARCH COUNTERS VIOLENCE IN UK

MONEY 10 RBI KEEPS INTEREST RATE UNCHANGED

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WRESTLER AMAN ENTERS SEMIFINALS 12 SPORTS

Waqf Bill to face JPC scrutiny after Opp outcry



Union Minister Kiren Rijiju speaks in the Lok Sabha during the Monsoon Session of Parliament, in New Delhi, on Thursday

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Amid dissent by the Congress-led Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) which opposed the proposed law in its present form, terming the Bill 'divisive', 'anti-Muslim', and 'unconstitutional', the Waqf (Amendment) Bill, 2024 was introduced in Lok Sabha on Thursday and referred to a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) for further scrutiny.

After introducing the Bill in the Lok Sabha, Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju on Thursday said the government is ready for further scrutiny of the legislation. Defending the Bill, Rijiju said the Central Government's intention is clear and it has nothing to hide from the legislation saying the Waqf (Amendment) Bill does not intend to interfere with the freedom of any religious body and that no provision of the Constitution has been

violated. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said he will talk with leaders of all parties for constituting the JPC. Earlier, moving the Bill, the Minister clarified that this Bill is not intended to interfere with the functioning of religious bodies and is to provide justice to the disadvantaged and poor sections of the Muslim community. Soon after Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju sought leave to introduce the Bill in the Lok Sabha, many

Opposition MPs, who had given notices to oppose the Bill, alleged that the proposed legislation was an "attack on the Constitution and federalism". Calling it an attack on the Constitution and aimed at targeting Muslims, several INDIA Bloc MPs urged the Government to withdraw the Bill. Parties such as Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD), Samajwadi Party (SP), and the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) have criticised the proposed amendments including for inclusion of non-Muslims in waqf governance saying they will encroach on the religious rights. The Bill proposes significant changes to the 1995 law, such as the inclusion of Muslim women on Waqf boards and ensuring verification of land before a board announces it as a Waqf property. The Government also introduced The Mussalman Wakf (Repeal) Bill, 2024.

Responding to the concerns flagged by Opposition members, Rijiju said Waqf Act 1995 did not serve its purpose, hence the amendment was planned. "I want to tell Congress these amendments are being brought to achieve what you (Congress) couldn't," he said. Continued on Page 2

Indian hockey's historic moment at Paris

PTI ■ PARIS

The Indian men's hockey team clinched a second successive bronze medal at the Olympic Games for the first time in 52 years with a come-from-behind 2-1 win over Spain, giving veteran goalkeeper PR Sreejesh a fitting farewell here on Thursday. It was tense last few minutes for the Indians as they faced two short corners within the last minute but the defence stood tall and soaked in the pressure. India, who claimed the bronze in Tokyo Games after a hiatus of 41 years, lived up to the expectations despite not having a perfect build-up to the Games. The last time India won back-to-back Olympic medals was in 1968 (bronze) and 1972 editions (bronze). The bronze medal was also a desperate wait for the Indian



India's goalkeeper Parattu Reveendran Sreejesh, in yellow jersey, reacts as India's players celebrate after winning the men's bronze medal field hockey match against Spain at the Yves-du-Manoir Stadium during the 2024 Olympics, on Thursday

contingent in Paris, which has endured six fourth-place finishes so far, apart from the disappointing disqualification of wrestler Vinesh Phogat. Spain went ahead with

skipper Marc Miralles (18th) converting a penalty stroke while India captain Harmanpreet Singh (30th, 33rd) stole the limelight with a brace. Shrugging off their heart-

wrenching 2-3 defeat against Germany in the semifinal, India came out all guns blazing to dominate the possession in the first quarter. It was an offensive start from India as they penetrated Spain's defence regularly in the first 15 minutes and created the first scoring chance of the match in the sixth minute. Vice-captain Hardik Singh created a fine move from the right and passed the ball into the D to Sukhjeet Singh, whose shot went just wide of the left side Spanish goal as the Europeans survived. The Spanish came with more purpose and intensity in the second quarter and pressed hard on the Indian goal. They took the lead in the 18th minute through a penalty stroke conversion by Miralles after Manpreet Singh conceded an unnecessary foul inside the D. Continued on Page 2

Vinesh retires after Olympics heartbreak

PTI ■ PARIS



Her long-cherished Olympic dream shattered by a cruel twist of fate, a crestfallen Vinesh Phogat bid adieu to her international wrestling career on Thursday, saying she doesn't have the strength to continue anymore. The 29-year-old, who was disqualified for being 100gm overweight ahead of her 50kg category gold medal bout in

the Olympics on Wednesday, announced her decision on social media, seeking forgiveness from everyone who supported her. Addressing her mother Premalata, Vinesh, a three-time Olympian, wrote, "Ma, wrestling has won, I have lost. Please forgive me, your dreams and my courage, everything is broken." "I don't have any more strength now. Goodbye

wrestling 2001-2024. I shall be indebted to you all. Forgive (me)," added the two-time world championships bronze-medallist. Her stunning decision comes a day after Vinesh appealed against her disqualification from the Olympic finals in the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS), demanding that she be awarded a joint silver medal. Continued on Page 2

Ex-West Bengal CM Buddhadeb passes away

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

The last Marxist Chief Minister of Bengal and arguably the 'last surviving icon of pride' for the State's decaying Left force Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee passed away on Thursday morning after a prolonged illness. He was 80 and is survived by his wife Meera Bhattacharjee and son



Suchetan. He was the State's Chief Minister from 2000 to 2011. Bhattacharjee had been in poor health for several years, and was confined to his small two-room apartment on Palm Avenue for the past 8 years mostly reading and writing books. Continued on Page 2



Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus returns to Bangladesh from Paris to take charge of interim Government

Hasina ouster Bangladesh's second independence: Yunus

PTI ■ DHAKA

Muhammad Yunus on Thursday promised to deliver a Government which assures safety to its citizens and urged them to assist him in rebuilding the protest-torn Bangladesh, as the Nobel laureate described the ouster of Sheikh Hasina as the country's "second independence". Yunus, 84, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2006 for his pioneering work on microlending, was appointed by President Mohammed Shahabuddin as the head of the interim Government after Prime Minister Hasina resigned and fled to India following widespread protests against her regime over a controversial quota system in jobs. Yunus, who was in Paris for

the Olympic Games, returned to the country via Dubai on Thursday on an Emirates flight. Army chief General Waker-Uz-Zaman, senior officials, student leaders and civil society members welcomed him at the airport. At an emotional press conference at Dhaka's Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport after his arrival, Yunus said, "Today is a day of our pride. We have got independence for the second time. We have to protect this independence." He expressed gratitude to the youth who made the protest movement against Hasina successful and said he would like to stress first is to "save the country from violence so that we can move forward on the path that the students have shown us."

Registration of temples, mutts, trusts made mandatory in Bihar

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PATNA

The Bihar Government has directed all District Magistrates (DM) to ensure that unregistered temples, mutts, and trusts in their respective areas are registered and details of their immovable assets are submitted to the Bihar State Board of Religious Trusts (BSBRT) for uploading on its website. The BSBRT operates under the State's law department. State Law Minister Nitin Nabin said, "All DMs have been directed to ensure that unregistered temples, mutts, and trusts are registered on a priority basis." He also instructed the DMs to ensure that details of immovable assets of all registered temples and mutts are promptly provided to the BSBRT for uploading on its website. "I recently sent a letter to all DMs in this regard. So far, only 18 districts have submitted data to the BSBRT," he added. The Minister said, "According to the Bihar Hindu Religious Trusts Act of 1950, all public temples, mutts, trusts, and dharamshalas must be registered with the BSBRT. The State Government will



take stringent action against those involved in illegal property transactions of registered temples, mutts, or trusts, as well as against unregistered entities that fail to register with the BSBRT." A high-level meeting with officials from the Law and Revenue and Land Reforms departments will be convened to address these issues. Registration is mandatory to protect the property, including land, of both registered and unregistered temples from unauthorised claims, the Minister said. According to the latest data from BSBRT, there are approximately 2,512 unregistered temples and

mutts in the state, owning 4,321.64 acres. The State has about 2,499 registered temples, which collectively own over 18,456 acres. According to data, the highest numbers of unregistered temples and mutts are in Vaishali (438), followed by Kaimur Bhabhua (307), West Champaran (273), Bhagalpur (191), Begusarai (185), Saran (154), and Gaya (152). Kaimur Bhabhua has 307 unregistered temples and mutts owning around 813 acres, while Khagaria has 100 unregistered entities with 722 acres. Banka district has 78 unregistered temples and mutts with approximately 332 acres.

Forging signs of chief secretaries lands IAS officer in hot soup

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

After granting prosecution sanction against controversial IAS officer Udit Prakash Rai for alleged forging of the signatures of the Chief Secretaries of Delhi and Andaman & Nicobar Administration on his annual performance appraisal reports (APAR) during different periods of his posting, Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena has referred the case to the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for further action. Rai has also been charged with demolishing a heritage structure for construction of his official residence in Delhi's Jal Vihar while he was serving as the Chief Executive Officer of Delhi Jal Board, at a whopping cost of ₹5 crores. According to officials, Rai, a 2007 IAS officer and a blue-eyed boy of Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, had forged the signatures of the reviewing authority, the Chief Secretary of A&N and Delhi between 2017 and 2021. A criminal case of forgery under sections 465/471 IPC has been registered against Rai at IP Estate Police Station on the complaint of Special Secretary (Vigilance), Delhi

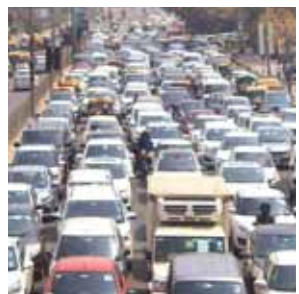


Government. According to Department of Vigilance, Rai, in his APARs for the periods from 01.04.2017 to 08.10.2017 and from 09.10.2017 to 31.03.2018, had also forged the signatures of his then reporting authority, SCL Das, the then Principal Secretary (Revenue) in A&N Administration and the signature of the reviewing authority, Anindo Majumdar, the then Chief Secretary of A&N. Further, in the APAR for period from 01.04.2019 to 30.07.2019, Rai forged the signatures of the reporting authority, Vikram Dev Dutt, the then Principal Secretary (Revenue) in A&N Administration, and the signature of the reviewing authority, Chetan Bhushan Sanghi, the then Chief Secretary of A&N. Continued on Page 2

New measures on anvil for hassle-free journey in Delhi

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

In a move to enhance road safety and ease traffic congestion in the national Capital, a series of strategic suggestions have been put forward. Key proposals include relocating the bus terminal at Kashmere Gate, identifying traffic congestion points and removing bottlenecks, cracking down on illegal plying of e-rickshaws, and preventing overloading in commercial vehicles. These measures aim to ensure that commuters no longer endure hours-long traffic jams, promising smoother and safer journeys across the city. At a meeting on Thursday,



Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena after reviewing the situation on a fortnightly basis has directed the traffic police to expedite the process of sending traffic challans on WhatsApp. The LG expressed concern over illegal parking on

roadside, flyovers, especially by buses which cause inconvenience to commuters and compromise road safety apart from increasing pollution caused by vehicular emission. The LG has also directed for special drives to be carried out to enforce lane driving by buses especially on Ring Road, Airport Road and the national highway stretch with zero tolerance for deviation. Among the ten directives, Saxena stated are, "Traffic Police shall constitute joint teams with Transport Department to check overloading of commercial vehicle and overcrowding of passenger buses." Continued on Page 2

India to monitor winged guests in real-time

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

Migration routes and behaviours of the Bar-headed geese, one of the world's highest-flying birds, having grey bodies, and a few other waterbirds wintering at the famous high-altitude Wular Lake in Jammu and Kashmir are all set to be monitored in real-time through sophisticated solar-powered radio collars to be tagged on their neck. The project, first of its kind in the region will be soon launched by the Dehradun-based Wildlife Institute of India (WII), an autonomous body under the Union Environment Ministry. Wular Lake, one of India's 75 Ramsar-designated wetlands,

is internationally recognised for its ecological significance. Despite facing numerous environmental challenges, it continues to support a diverse array of flora and fauna, attracting wildlife enthusiasts, tourists, and locals alike. The advanced GPS satellite tracking technology integrated into these solar-powered collars will offer real-time insights into the birds' movements and behaviour, particularly during their initial return migration. The lightweight collars, which weigh between 50 and 70 grams, are designed specifically for large geese and features high solar efficiency, thus doing away with the limitations of the radio-collars based on conventional batteries, said a



scientist from the WII on the condition of anonymity. He said the agency is in the process of procuring the solar-powered radio collars. These gadgets will use the Global Positioning System (GPS) to record location, travel patterns, speed, temperature, and magnetic

field strength. They transmit this data to researchers via GSM cellular networks whenever the birds are within range of network towers. GSM, or Global System for Mobile communications, is the standard international cellular protocol used for this purpose, he informed.

By combining movement and habitat use data with diet studies conducted by other partners, conservationists and habitat managers will be better equipped to develop strategies that accommodate growing populations of these migratory birds. "The decision to select the type of birds to be radio collared will be finalised only after we receive the gadgets," said the scientist. The WII scientists will initiate collaring the geese for over a year-long study to determine the proportion of migratory geese that winter at Wular Lake. The GPS-GSM transmitters will be mounted on the birds' necks, providing valuable data on their travel and resting sites. Continued on Page 2

Coaching centre deaths: Several laws violated, reveals probe

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

A magisterial probe into the deaths of three civil services aspirants in the flooding of a Delhi coaching centre building basement has indicated mala fide violations of several laws by the MCD and the fire department.

The report submitted to the revenue minister on Wednesday said, "The owners and management of RAU's IAS Study Circle are also responsible for the criminal negligence with a dishonest motive of profiteering by indulging in dangerous misuse of the basement without regard to the lives of the students."

Three civil services aspirants died on July 27 after the basement of a building housing the coaching centre was flooded following heavy rain in central Delhi's Old Rajinder Nagar area.

The report revealed that the "violation of rules" in the building was noticed before by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and the fire department but they took no action.

The probe conducted by the district magistrate (central) revealed that the building where the coaching centre was being operated from had permission for "office/business" use, for which a fire NOC (no-objection certificate) was not needed.

However, it did require the fire department's NOC as it was being used for "educational



purpose" and was more than nine metres high, the report said.

On August 4, 2023, after a fire incident at a coaching institute in Mukherjee Nagar, the MCD had issued a notice citing "misuse" of property. "The failure to seal the basement after the issue of misuse notice and not even mentioning the same in the show cause notice and misleading the deputy commissioner of the factual field position of misuse appears to be deliberate misconduct with mala fide intentions on the part of the concerned engineers of the building department of MCD," the report said.

The fire department also failed to refer to the "misuse" of the building's basement as a library to the MCD during an inspection on July 1 this year, it said. "The fire department should not have granted a fire safety certificate dated 9.7.2024 concealing the misuse of the basement as a library in violation

of the building by-laws provisions of MPD-2021. This is a serious lapse on the part of the fire services inspection team which visited the facility on July 1 and made wrong recommendation for issue of fire safety certificate," the report noted.

It also blamed the MCD officials of encroachment on stormwater drains and lack of desilting. It said the drains in the area had not been desilted for five years despite being prone to waterlogging due to their low-lying location. A magisterial probe into the incident was ordered by the Delhi government's revenue minister and a preliminary report in the matter was submitted on July 29. The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has taken over the probe into the incident on a Delhi High Court order. The probe recorded statements of 15 people, including students and officials of various departments.

700 facial recognition CCTV cameras procured to bolster I-Day security

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has procured 700 facial recognition CCTV cameras to ensure robust security arrangements for the Independence Day celebrations in the city.

These cameras will be installed in and around the north and central districts -- particularly the Red Fort from where Prime Minister Narendra Modi will deliver his Independence Day speech -- to monitor VVIP movements and keep a close eye on any suspicious activities, they said.

While the north district will get 346 Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) cameras, the central district will be allotted 354 cameras, officials said.

"These cameras will have pan-tilt-zoom features with high resolutions which will allow police to identify anyone from a distance. These cameras will be installed in and around the fort," a senior police officer said.

The cameras with facial recognition and video analytic systems will ensure foolproof security, the officer said, adding that more than 10,000 security personnel will be deployed at the Mughal-era fort when Modi addresses the nation.

The areas surrounding the Red Fort will be demarcated as a "no kite flying zone" until the programme is over. Personnel will be deployed with necessary equipment on strategic locations to intercept kites, police said. "Of the 700 cameras, 40 will be used for facial recognition, 15 for



detecting intrusions, 10 each for reading registration plates of vehicles and counting people and five for detecting abandoned objects," the officer said. According to police, anti-drone systems will be installed at the Red Fort as is the convention while several anti-terror measures, including installation of air defence guns, are being initiated.

In addition, snipers, elite SWAT commandos, kite catchers and sharpshooters will be positioned at strategic locations for the security of the prime minister and other VVIP guests, they said.

"The Delhi Police has also intensified patrolling and anti-sabotage checks. Hotels, guest houses, parking lots and restaurants are being checked, and the verification of tenants and servants is being carried out. Meetings are also being held with resident and market welfare associations," Deputy Commissioner of Police (North) Manoj Kumar Meena said. The Delhi Police has prohibited flying sub-conventional aerial platforms like paragliders, hang-gliders and hot air balloons in the national capital from August 2-16 for security reasons.

Accept ₹15 cr for Wayanad relief fund: Conman Suresh to Vijayan

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Suresh Chandrasekhar, who is accused in a Rs 200 crore cheating case, has written a letter to Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, requesting him to accept his contribution of Rs 15 crore to the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund and pledged support for further contribution to build "300 houses" following a landslide in Wayanad district.

Chandrasekhar, currently lodged in Mandoli jail here, said he is "highly pained" to see what Kerala is going through and wants to extend support at this time of need. "I am hereby requesting to accept my contribution of Rs 15 crore towards the

relief fund, from my foundation today, addressed in favour of Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund," he said.

The alleged conman stated that apart from the mentioned contribution being done, he also pledged his support for further contribution to build 300 houses for the affected on an immediate basis. Contending that the contribution was from "legitimate business accounts", Chandrasekhar requested the state government to accept the offer and use it for the welfare and rehabilitation of the affected in the landslide tragedy. The Kerala government is yet to respond to Chandrasekhar's letter.



Congress MP demands Centre set up high-altitude sports training centre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Former sports minister and Congress MP, Mr. Ajay Maken, demanded that the Centre set up a high altitude sports training centre in Kodagu district of Karnataka. He said this year, the Kodava Hockey Tournament in Karnataka, made its mark in the Guinness Book of World Records, a feat achieved without any support from the Union Government, while the State Government extended its full support.



Dissolve Delhi Govt that has failed on all fronts: Vijender

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Leader of Opposition in the Delhi Assembly, Vijender Gupta, said a meeting of the BJP legislature party was held on Thursday in the Delhi Assembly. The meeting strongly condemned the Delhi Government for its failure on all fronts. On this occasion, a resolution was passed, demanding the dissolution of the Kejriwal Government by the Lieutenant Governor. Vijender Gupta formally took charge as Leader of Opposition today. Newly elected Lok Sabha MP Ramvir Singh Bidhuri was also present at the occasion. Gupta stated that this govern-



ment has failed completely on all fronts and has no right to remain in power. In a meeting held under his chairmanship at the Leader of Opposition office in the Delhi Assembly today, Vijender Gupta said that the government should have already held a meeting and devised a strategy with all

departments for monsoon preparedness, but nothing of that sort was done. He accused that all AAP leaders are focused on strategizing to secure bail for Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who has been caught in corruption charges. Even after the flood-like situation arose in Delhi, the government has not taken any meaningful steps, raising questions about its competency.

All BJP MLAs from Delhi, including Shri Mohan Singh Bisht, Shri Om Prakash Sharma, Shri Jitendra Mahajan, Shri Anil Vajpayee, Shri Ajay Mahawar, and Shri Abhay Verma, were present at the meeting.

Man held for selling Chinese manjha in Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A 30-year-old man has been apprehended by the Delhi Police for selling Chinese manjha from North Delhi's Sadar Bazar in a bid to curb the sale of the illegal manjha.

According to the police on Thursday, they received a secret information from a reliable source Bazar that a person is roaming on the Road and selling Chinese Manjha near Safique Memorial School Chamelian Road in Sadar Bazar. "On receiving such information, the team sprang into action and without wasting a moment reached at the place of the information at about 04:30 PM, wherein they noticed a suspicious person, having a plastic bag in his hand, who was later identified as 'Junaid', said DCP North Manoj Kumar Meena. He added that the bag was checked and total 15 bundles of Chinese Manjha were recovered from the bag possessed by him. The recovered bundles of Chinese Manjha were taken in police possession through a seizure memo.

Accordingly, a case under section 223(B) (Disobedience to order duly promulgated by public servant) of BNS was registered at Sadar Bazar police station and the accused was arrested as per the procedure of law and further investigation has been taken up.

CM Vijayan thanks Modi for Central help in rescue operations at Wayanad

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

A day after one of the CPI-M AMPs from the State ridiculed Prime Minister Narendra Modi for being indifferent to the natural disaster that struck the State, Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Thursday thanked Modi profusely for the help and care rendered by the Centre in the rescue operations at Wayanad. Addressing the media at the capital city Thiruvananthapuram on Thursday, Vijayan said the Prime Minister is flying down to Kerala on Saturday to make an on-the-spot assessment of the devastation caused by the landslides and deluge at Wayanad. "Our demand to the Prime Minister is that the landslide and flashflood that caused havoc in Wayanad should be declared as a national disaster and the Centre should undertake the full responsibility of the comprehensive reconstruction of the region 'destroyed in the mishap'," said Vijayan.

The other day, John Brittas, MP, had staged a theatrics in Rajya Sabha ridiculing the Modi Government's attitude to Kerala. Vijayan said that he was expecting a positive answer from the Prime Minister about the Center's decision on the comprehensive reconstruction



package. "Till Thursday, we have confirmed that 225 persons were killed in the disaster and the number is likely to go up as and when the detailed list of those went missing and identity of the persons whose body parts would be identified," said the chief minister. The chief minister also asked people and organizations not to send any materials to Wayanad. "We are struggling to dispose seven tons of old cloth sent by well wishers as people in relief camps were reluctant to accept the same," he said. A major portion of the media briefing was used by the Chief Minister to lambast the Union Railway Minister for his refusal to accord permission to the Angamali-Sabarimala Railway line. "The Railway Minister is insulting the people of the State by denying permission for laying this railway track. We will take up the issue with the Prime Minister when he visits the State on Saturday," said Vijayan.

Bronze medal winner Kusale accorded hero's welcome at Pune airport

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

Shooter Swapnil Kusale, who made India and Maharashtra proud by winning a Bronze medal for India in 50m Rifle 3 Positions event in the 2024 Olympics, was accorded a hero's welcome when he arrived at the Pune International Airport from Paris via New Delhi, on Thursday. Thousands of people, who had turned out at the Pune airport to welcome Swapnil, cheered him lustily, amid thunderous shouts of "Bharat mata ki jai". As he walked past the airport lounge, passengers, excited airport and airline staffers went on a spree of "shooting" the Olympian shooter. Once outside the airport, Swapnil was welcomed by Maharashtra's Joint Director of Sports Suhas Patil. His father Suresh Kusale and other family members could not make it to the Pune airport as they were on their way from his home town of Kolhapur to Pune by road at that time.

From the airport, Swapnil headed straight to Shrimant Dagdusheth Halwai Ganapati Temple where he performed aarti to Lord Ganesh. Interacting briefly with the media after taking darshan of



Lord Ganesh, Swapnil said: "Whatever I have achieved is because of Lord Ganpati. That's why I have come here first, before going to my native town of Kolhapur," he said. Twenty-eight-year-old Swapnil is an employee of Central Railway at Pune. Till he took part and won a bronze medal in Paris Olympic, Swapnil was a Commercial cum Ticket Clerk of the Central Railway in Pune. He has now been promoted as an Officer on Special Duty, Sports Cell, Mumbai.

His 57-year-old Suresh Kusale is a teacher in a Zilla Parishad primary school, while his mother, Anita Kusale, is an elected sarpanch of Kambalwadi village. Later on, Swapnil was taken in an open jeep from a nearby junction to the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex at Balewadi in Pune where he was accorded a public felicitation later in the evening.

Jarange-Patil exhorts supporters to defeat leaders opposing quota for Marathas

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

For the second time in less than a fortnight, Shivba Sanghatana leader Manoj Jarange-Patil exhorted his supporters across Maharashtra to take a vow to defeat all those who are opposing reservations for Maratha, in the forthcoming Maharashtra Assembly polls. Addressing a huge rally organised as part of his peace march, Jarange-Patil indirectly hit out at both the ruling BJP-led MahaYuti and Opposition MVA and others leaders, including deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis, NCP (SP) chief Devendra Fadnavis, Chhagan Bhujbal and Raj Thackeray, on the vexed issue of Maratha reservations.

"The leaders who have made it big in life and politics are now speaking against the reservation for the poor Marathas. The community people have now seen through this. One Maratha son (referring to himself) has started exposing them and the people are with him," Jarange-Patil said. Taking serious exception to BJP leaders' objections to his criticism of Fadnavis, Jarange-Patil said: "Why Cannot I speak against your leader... Is he your father, when did he become your father? If you think so then the Marathas will not vote for you".

IN BRIEF

BREAKTHROUGH IN SIVOK-RANGPO RAIL LINK PROJECT

Maligaon: In a major milestone, tunnel no. T-06 (3943 meters long) of the Sivok - Rangpo Rail Project (SRRP), located in Kalimpong District of West Bengal, achieved the breakthrough on 6th August, 2024. There are total 14 tunnels in this project. With the breakthrough of this tunnel, mining activities have been successfully accomplished in 12 tunnels of this project. The length of the Main Tunnel T-06 is 3943 meters, along with an Evacuation Tunnel of length 577 meters situated near the NHPC, Teesta Low Dam Power Station III in Kalimpong District, West Bengal. The Main Tunnel traverses through vulnerable and challenging geological and seismic conditions of the Younger Himalayas.



GNU, NSLF LAUNCH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP

Amritsar: The Guru Nanak Dev University and the S. Nanak Singh Literary Foundation, under the patronage of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Jaspal Singh Sandhu, have announced the launch of an annual scholarship for deserving and high-achieving research students starting from the 2024-25 academic session. This scholarship will be awarded to eligible researchers based on criteria established by Guru Nanak Dev University, with an annual grant amount of Rs. 25,000. The inaugural fellowship was presented to research student Kulvinder Kaur by Prof. Jaspal Singh Sandhu, Kulbir Singh Suri, and Navdeep Singh Suri at a special event marking this significant initiative.



GNU HOLDS WORKSHOP FOR JOURNALISM STUDENTS

Amritsar: Department of Mass Communication, Guru Nanak Dev University organised an interactive workshop in collaboration with Collective Newsroom and British Broadcasting Corporation at Conference Hall, Guru Nanak Bhawan of the University. This workshop was organised under the Banner of BBC India Trainee Scheme. A Team of Senior Journalists and Officials including Iqbal Ahmed, Shruti Arora, Arshdeep Kaur and Ravinder Robin shared their significant insights and experiences related to the field of journalism. Dr. Vasudha Sambhal, head of the department of Mass Communication, honoured the initiation of the event with her welcome remarks and Felicitating guests with Floral Saplings.



Waqf Bill to face JPC scrutiny...

From Page 1
"Because you couldn't do it, we had to bring these amendments... Some people have captured Waqf boards and this Bill has been brought to give justice to ordinary Muslims," he said. He claimed that many leaders in the opposition had privately told him that state Waqf boards had turned into a mafia. "I won't take their names and destroy their political careers," Rijju said. Defending the amendments, Rijju said a joint parliamentary committee had recommended that Waqf Act 1995 should be re-looked. He

said the opposition was opposing for the sake of politics. Rijju said "Opposition is trying to mislead people about intention of Waqf bill. No law can be above Constitution but 1995 Waqf law has such provisions". He said in the earlier law, there was no provision to challenge or review the order or judgement of the tribunal. Now, provision was being made for verdicts to be challenged at higher courts, the minister said. "In our country, no law can be a super law and that can't be above the Constitution.

Ex-West Bengal CM...

From Page 1
Suffering from coronary obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD) his health deteriorated in recent times. Much like his predecessor and senior party comrade Jyoti Basu, the mortal remains of Bhattacharjee too would be donated to Kolkata's NRS Medical College for research work as per his last wishes, CPI(M) central committee member Rabin Deb said adding his eyes too were donated on Thursday. His body would be taken to State Assembly on Friday and from there to the

CPI(M) headquarters for his admirers to express their respect and after that his remains will be handed over to the hospital authorities, CPI(M) State secretary Md Salim said. Besides being a politician Bhattacharjee was also a creative personality. Apart from being a poet, writer and a dramatist Bhattacharjee remained committed to his political ideology. True to his political commitment he made headlines when he refused the Padma Bhushan award announced by the NDA government in 2022.

Vinesh retires after Olympics...

From Page 1
An ad-hoc division of CAS, which has been set up here for resolution of any disputes arising during the Olympic Games, will take up her appeal in the next few hours. She spent a good part of the day at a polyclinic inside the Games village owing to severe dehydration caused by her desperate measures to make the cut, which included going hungry, avoiding fluids and staying up all night to sweat it out. Cuban wrestler Yusneylis Guzman Lopez, who lost to Vinesh in the semifinals, replaced her in

the final against American Sarah Ann Hildebrandt. Hildebrandt won the bout to claim gold and Vinesh is now banking on CAS to be a joint silver-medallist with Lopez. However, the sport's international governing body, United World Wrestling (UWW) has made it clear on its part that the current weigh-in rule will not be changed as of now. On IOA's suggestion that a wrestler's results from the day on which the athlete met the weigh-in requirements should not be disqualified, the UWW President was sympathetic.

Forging signs...

From Page 1
Notably during these periods, Rai was posted as DM in Andaman & Nicobar. Upon his transfer to Delhi, Rai was posted as Director (Education). Considered a close confidant of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, Rai, in his successive APARs for the period from 31.08.2020 to 31.03.2021, forged the signatures of his reporting authority, H Rajesh Prasad, then Principal Secretary (Education), GNCTD, and the signature of the reviewing authority, Vijay Kumar Dev, then Chief Secretary of Delhi. During the course of investigation, it came to light that Rai, deliberately filled his APARs manually, not online, through the SPARROW Portal, citing technical glitches. However, during enquiry, two officers, namely Anindo Majumdar and Vijay Kumar Dev, denied having reviewed the APARs of Rai and confirmed that the signatures on his APARs were forged.

New measures...

From Page 1
He ordered the traffic police to identify vulnerable points of traffic congestion and deploy dedicated teams to ensure smooth flow of traffic on those roads. Further, he stated, "Traffic Police will expedite the process of issuance of challan on Whatsapp which will provide timely information about the challans to violators and provide them facility to pay challan anywhere and anytime. It will also increase the rate of realisation of challans." "Traffic Police, which was earlier directed to ensure putting in place a system where traffic challans are issued on WhatsApp, was further directed to expedite the process," the Raj Niwas official said. The major cause is that Delhi roads are characterised by mixed traffic, which include, personal vehicles, buses, trucks, three-wheelers, two-wheelers, including animal-driven carts and pedestrians. This creates problems for traffic management and leads to delays in movement of the traffic.

Indian hockey's...

From Page 1
Spain kept up the tempo and secured back-to-back penalty corners in the 20th minute but the Indians defended stoutly. In the 28th minute, Spain secured another penalty corner after Borja Lacalle hit the post but it went in vain. Still trailing, India pressed hard on the Spain defence and secured their first penalty corner in the 29th minute but could not convert. Just 21 seconds from half-time, Manpreet compensated for his fault by earning India another penalty corner and this time Harmanpreet was bang on target.

India to monitor winged guests in...

From Page 1
The collars that have been planned to be procured need to be durable, and waterproof with GPS logging intervals ranging from 1 second to 48 hours and high-frequency sensors (up to 50 Hz) that can measure acceleration, magnetism, temperature, and light intensity. In such devices, data storage is

maintained even in the absence of a network connection, and the devices offer remote control for GPS and GSM schedules, night-time GPS hibernation, and geofence settings through an online control panel, a scientist explained about the features of such techs. "Currently, we do not know what exact routes these birds take... With this study, we will

be able to find their major stopovers as well their behaviours," he said. Bar-headed geese, part of the Anser family, are recognized by their unique and striking plumage. They feature a distinctive combination of white and grey feathers, with prominent black stripes on their heads and necks, and bright orange-yellow bills and

legs. Their wingspan ranges from 140 to 160 cm. Although males and females look quite similar, males are slightly larger than females. The birds arriving at Wular Lake each year among others include mallards, greylag geese, pochards, common teal, shovellers, pintails, and gharwals, typically between October and April.



Govt. of Haryana



Mhara Haryana

Non-Stop Haryana

Now our farmers will get a
bonus of ₹2000 per acre
 for current Kharif season

Farmers cultivating less than 1 acre will also get
 ₹2000 directly in their accounts

Farmers may register their crops on
 'Meri Fasal - Mera Byora' portal by 15th August

Farmers' Welfare
 Continuous



NDA BACKS WAQF BILL

Opp slammed for rumour-mongering

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The National Democratic Alliance (NDA) allies (JDU), TDP, Shiv Sena and the LJP backed the Waqf (Amendment) Bill that was introduced in Lok Sabha on Thursday, saying it was aimed at bringing transparency in the functioning of the Waqf Board and was not an attempt to interfere with the running of mosques. The TDP and the LJP also supported the Bill being sent

to a parliamentary committee for further examination. Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju introduced the Waqf (Amendment) Bill and proposed sending it to a joint parliamentary committee after the Opposition parties objected to its provisions. Speaking in Lok Sabha as the Government moved for introducing the Bill, Janata Dal (United) leader and Union Minister Rajiv Ranjan Singh 'Lalan' asserted that the Bill was not anti-Muslim. Defending the Bill, he said, "Several members are making it sound as if the amendment in the Waqf Board law is anti-Muslim. How is it anti-Muslim? Here



example of Ayodhya is being given... Can you not differentiate between a temple and an institution? "This is not an attempt to interfere with mosques. This law is for the institution, to make it transparent... How was the Waqf Board formed?" he said, and himself replied that it was through a law. The minister said if any institution established through law becomes autocratic, the Government has the right to bring a law to ensure transparency, he said. Slamming the Opposition parties, he said, "There is no communal divide. They are spreading rumours." Taking a jibe at the Congress over the 1984 anti-Sikh riots, he asked, "Who killed

thousands of Sikhs?" "The Bill should come and transparency should be brought," he said. Telugu Desam Party (TDP) MP G M Harish Balayogi said his party will not mind if the Bill is sent to a parliamentary panel. "I appreciate the concern with which Government has brought this Bill. The purpose of the donors need to be protected. When the purpose and power get misused, it is the responsibility of the Government to bring reforms and introduce transparency in the system," he said. The TDP MP said there is a requirement for the Government to regulate and

streamline the purpose. "The Bill has been brought and we support it... We believe that the registration is going to help poor Muslims and women of the country, and bring transparency," the TDP MP said, adding his party will not mind if the Bill is sent to a panel of Parliament for further consultation. "If wider consultations are required to remove misconceptions and to educate the purpose of the Bill, we have no problem sending it to the select committee," he said. Shiv Sena MP Shrikant Eknath Shinde also supported the Bill.

Bill aimed at targeting Muslims, draconian law: INDIA Bloc MPs

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Opposition on Thursday strongly protested against the introduction of the Waqf (Amendment) Bill in the Lok Sabha, with several INDIA Bloc MPs calling it an attack on the Constitution and aimed at targeting Muslims. They also urged the Government to withdraw the Bill. Soon after Union Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju sought leave to introduce the Bill, Congress MP KC Venugopal — who had submitted notice to oppose its introduction — accused the Government of violating freedom of religion and

attacking the federal system through it." This is a draconian law and a fundamental attack on the Constitution," Venugopal said. Opposing the Waqf Bill in Lok Sabha, Venugopal said, "We are Hindus but at the same time, we respect the faith of other religions. This Bill is specialized for the Maharashtra, Haryana elections. You do not understand that last time the people of India clearly taught you a lesson. This is an attack on the federal system." "Through this Bill, they are putting a provision that non-Muslims also be members of the Waqf governing council. It is a direct attack on freedom of religion... Next you will go for Christians, then Jains... People of India will not buy this kind of divisive politics now," Venugopal asserted. Samajwadi Party Chief Akhlesh Yadav said the Bill was being introduced to appease the BJP's hardcore supporters.

APPENDIX IV-A
Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property
E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to **Sammaan Capital Limited (formerly known as Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd.)** [CIN : L65922DL2005PLC136029] ("Secured Creditor"), the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold on "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 10.09.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M. for recovery of Rs. 48,10,654/- (Rupees Forty Eight Lakh Ten Thousand Six Hundred Fifty Four only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLNOD00327549, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 27.07.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 28.07.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from **ABADULLAH KHAN and SAHMAH UZMA**. The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 33,00,000/- (Rupees Thirty Three Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 3,30,000/- (Rupees Three Lakh Thirty Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
FLAT NO. 2107, HAVING SUPER AREA OF 930 SQ. FEET, ON 21ST FLOOR, BLOCK CV8, IN THE PROJECT KNOWN AS "CAPE TOWN", SITUATED AT GH-01/A, SECTOR -74 NOIDA, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, NOIDA - 201301, UTTAR PRADESH, WITH ONE COVERED CAR PARKING.

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.sammaanncapital.com; Contact No : 0124-6910910, +91 7065451024; E-mail id : auctionhelp@sammaanncapital.com. For bidding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in.

Sd/-
Authorized officer
SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED
(Formerly known as
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

Date : 01.08.2024
Place : NOIDA

APPENDIX IV-A
Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property
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DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
FLAT NO. G - 4, GROUND FLOOR, REAR LEFT HAND SIDE, PLOT NO. 481, SHALIMAR GARDEN EXTN. -I, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH - 201010.

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.sammaanncapital.com; Contact No : 0124-6910910, +91 7065451024; E-mail id : auctionhelp@sammaanncapital.com. For bidding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in.

Sd/-
Authorized officer
SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED
(Formerly known as
INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

Date : 02.08.2024
Place : GHAZIABAD

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 Security 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 8 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 Notice (Rs.)	Name of Branch
1.	Vinod Kumar/ Usha/ LBDEL00004410958/ LBDEL00005749820/ LBDEL00005217120	LIG Flat No. 97, 1st Floor, Pocket-C, Wazirpur Residential Scheme, Ashok Vihar, Phase-IV, New Delhi-110052/ August 07, 2024	April 09, 2024 Rs. 35,27,158/-	Delhi/ NCR
2.	Mukesh Tiwari/ Punit Tiwari/ LBDEL00001900929	LIG, Pitampura 2nd Floor, Block-WP, Category-3/ August 07, 2024	February 28, 2024 Rs. 6,90,249/-	Delhi/ NCR

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 09, 2024
Place : Delhi/ NCR

Sincerely Authorised Signatory
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

PUBLIC NOTICE
The general public is hereby informed that Mr. Sanjay Kumar, Son of Mr. Shrikanth Singh, is the owner of a residential plot/land area measuring 251 square yards (i.e. 209.84 square meters) Kharsa No. 337, in the Village Debra, Pargana & Tehsil Dadr, Dist. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. This property was purchased by Mr. Sanjay Kumar through a Sale Deed bearing No. 2718/2021 dated 27.10.2021. The property is to be financed by Hero Housing Finance Ltd., Branch Laxmi Nagar, Delhi. The original Sale Deed as Document No. 2718/21, Book No. 01, Volume No. 18682, Pages No. 293-312, registered on 28.08.2021, SR-Dadr, bearing the above-mentioned property has been filed Deed dated 27.10.2021. The property is to be financed by Hero Housing Finance Ltd., Branch Laxmi Nagar, Delhi. The original Sale Deed as Document No. 2718/21, Book No. 01, Volume No. 18682, Pages No. 293-312, registered on 28.08.2021, SR-Dadr, bearing the above-mentioned property has been filed Deed dated 27.10.2021. 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Public Notice
Mrs. Sonam Garg alias Sonam Gupta is the owner of Property No. WZ-48 (bearing old No. WZ-76), area measuring 100 sq. yds., i.e. 0.3611 sq. Mrs., situated in the area of village Shakur Basti, colony known as Sri Nagar, Delhi-110034 through Gift Deed dated 05.03.2021 as doc. No. 3494 executed by Mrs. Bimla Devi in favour of Mrs. Sonam Garg alias Sonam Gupta in respect of said Property.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Meenakshi W/o Sh. Akhil Thakur, R/o 58/TF 4th Floor, Sector-5 Part III, Gurugram, Haryana-122001, have changed my name from Meenakshi to Meenakshi Sachdeva for all future purposes and both are same person.

PD(662)C

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
GREATER NOIDA BRANCH, PARI CHOWK, TUGALPUR VILLAGE, GREATER NOIDA, U.P.-201301

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Greater Noida Branch, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 07.05.2024 calling upon the borrower Mr. NEERAJ KUMAR, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.36,85,569.39 (Thirty Six Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Five Hundred Sixty Nine and Paise Thirty Nine Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 07.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 07.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY
B-1803, 18TH FLOOR, BLOCK-B KBNOWS APARTMENT, PLOT No.5B, SECTOR-16, GREATER NOIDA WEST (NOIDA EXTENSION), GREATER NOIDA-201009 Area measuring 1940 sq. ft.

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
SHAHADARA BRANCH, RAILWAY ROAD, SHAHDARA, DELHI-110032

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Shahdara Branch, Delhi under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06.05.2024 calling upon the borrower Mr. Pradyumn Tripathi, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.43,98,027.11/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Ninety Eight Thousand Twenty Seven and Eleven Paise Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 06.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 06.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:
Flat No B-2005, 20th Floor, Block B, KBNOWS Apartment, Plot No.GH-05/B, Sector-16, Greater Noida West (Noida Extension), UP area measuring 1940 Sq. Ft.

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

New Okhla Industrial Development Authority
Main Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.)
Website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in

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

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
GREATER NOIDA BRANCH, PARI CHOWK, TUGALPUR VILLAGE, GREATER NOIDA, U.P.-201301

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Greater Noida Branch under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 07.05.2024 calling upon the Borrower, Mrs. NEHA SINGH W/O DINESH SINGH, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.36,24,165.06 (Thirty six lakh twenty four thousand one hundred sixty five and paise six only)(which represents the principal plus interest due as on 07.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 07.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY:
C-1505, PLOT NO GH-5B, SECTOR-16, NOIDA EXTENSION, KBNOWS APARTMENT, GREATER NOIDA WEST-201009

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
BRANCH OFFICE: GOKULPURI, DELHI-110094

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Gokulpuri Branch, Delhi under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06.05.2024 calling upon the borrower Mr. Arpit Modi, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.43,29,675.35/- (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Twenty Nine Thousand Six Hundred Seventy Five and Thirty Five Paise Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 06.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 06.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
SHAHADARA BRANCH, RAILWAY ROAD, SHAHDARA, DELHI-110032

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

Public Notice
NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that Mr. Neeraj Kumar and Mrs. Sangita (Hereinafter referred to as the Borrowers) are purchasing the property No. 1, One office space one ground floor measurement about 7 Ft X 9 Ft and first floor and above area measuring 197 Sq. Yards, bearing property No. K-152, out of kharsa no. 152, situated in the abadi of Chhajpur East, at the area of village Babarpur, Ilaga Shahdara, Delhi-110032 and property No. 2 Built up Ground floor without roof terrace rights, admeasuring 190 Sq. Yards i.e. 158.85 Sq. Meter, Property bearing no. 20-A/105, out of kharsa no. 152, situated in the area of village Babar Pur, in the abadi of Prem Kishi Farm Chhuja Pur, Babarpur, Ilaga Shahdara, Delhi-110032 (Hereinafter referred to as the Said Property) from Mr. Manoj Kumar Gupta who is the owner of the Abovementioned Property vide GPA, dated 05.10.2022 Vide doc. no. 918, book no.4, vol. no. 966, Page no. 164 to 167, on 07.10.2020, SRO-IVA- Shahdara, New Delhi, property No.2 Vide GPA dated 15.11.2018, doc. no. 2208, book no.4, vol.no. 881, Page no. 118 to 123, on 16.11.2018, SRO- IVA- Shahdara, New Delhi/Delhi. Mr. Manoj Kumar Gupta also Claiming that property No. K-152 and property no. 20-A/105 both are the same with undisputed ownership.

Office of the Superintending Engineer
3rd Circle, Public Works Department, Pithoragarh
Email : sepwdp@rediffmail.com

Letter No. : 3662/458CB-03/2024 Dated : 06/08/2024

National Competitive E-Tender Notice

The Superintending Engineer 3rd Circle, Public Works Department, Pithoragarh invites tender through E-Tendering (Two Bid System) on behalf of "Hon'ble Governor of Uttarakhand" for following works. All other information will be available online from date 12-08-2024 at 5.00 PM onward on website http://www.uktenders.gov.in

Table with 7 columns: Sl. No., Name of Work, Earnest Money (in Lac), Cost of Tender (in Rs.), Validity of Tender (day), Period of Completion (months), Contractor's Category of Registration.

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
BRANCH OFFICE: INDIRAPURAM, GHAZIABAD, U.P.

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Indirapuram Branch Ghaziabad under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06.05.2024 calling upon the borrower Mr. Kunal Bansal, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.40,41,742.11/- (Rupees Forty Lakh Forty One Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Two and Eleven Paise Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 06.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 06.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN
Closely on the heels of the disaster that struck Wayanad that claimed more than 400 lives and made hundreds of families without roof over their heads, Kerala is on its way to perpetuate another major mishap under the pretext of development. Even as the Union Minister for forest Bhupender Yadav declared that the landslide and deluge that devastated Wayanad was a man made disaster because of scant regard for ecology and environment, a team of MPs and MLAs from the State called on Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav and submitted a memorandum seeking the speeding up of the construction of Angamali to Sabari Railway Line which they claim would help pilgrims to the holy shrine of Sabarimala atop the Western Ghats. Devotees of Lord Ayyappa, the presiding deity of Sabarimala are aghast over the enthusiasm shown by the elected representatives of the people pushing for a separate railway line to the holy shrine. "None of these representatives belong to the Sanatana Dharma and most of them consider idol worship as a cardinal sin. There is something more than the ordinary eyes could see behind this demand for the railway line to Sabarimala," said PNS Namboodiri, a former Government official based in Ettumanoor. He told The Pioneer that not

Public Notice
NOTICE is hereby given to public at large that Mr. Neeraj Kumar & Mr. Shankar Lal who is purchasing Plot and admeasuring 110 Sq. Yards, out of Masti no. 7, Killa no. 25(3-10), situated in the revenue estate of Village Moja, Ismilpur, Distt. Fandabad, Haryana from Mr. Govind Ram Awasthi who is the owner of the abovementioned property vide General Power of Attorney Agreement to Sell & WILL dated 28.08.2002 and intend to get the financial assistance from Mooli Oswal Home Finance Limited. If any person(s) /Institution has/ have any objection(s) or claim(s) with respect to the right, title or interest in the said property may please contact us within 07 days from the date of this notice on the address mentioned herein below, failing which my client(s) shall not be held responsible in any manner whatsoever. (Advocate)

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
KASHMERE GATE BRANCH, DELHI-110006

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Kashmere Gate Branch, Delhi under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06.05.2024 calling upon the borrower Smt. Sujata Verma, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.38,65,093.40/- (Rupees Thirty Eight Lakh Sixty Five Thousand Ninety Three and Forty Paise Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 06.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 06.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
BRANCH OFFICE: PATEL NAGAR, GHAZIABAD, U.P.

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Patel Nagar Ghaziabad Branch, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06.05.2024 calling upon the borrower Mohd. Imran Ansaree, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.48,25,012.60/- (Rupees Forty Eight Lakh Twenty Five Thousand Twelve and Sixty Paise Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 06.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 06.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
SHAHADARA BRANCH, RAILWAY ROAD, SHAHDARA, DELHI-110032

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Shahdara Branch, Delhi under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06.05.2024 calling upon the Borrower - Mrs. Ruby Jha, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.40,87,592.03/- (Rupees Forty Lakh Eighty Seven Thousand Five Hundred Ninety Two and Three Paise Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 06.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 06.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India

सेंट्रल बैंक ऑफ इंडिया Central Bank of India
1911 से आपके लिए "सेंट्रल" "CENTRAL" TO YOU SINCE 1911
SHAHADARA BRANCH, RAILWAY ROAD, SHAHDARA, DELHI-110032

POSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable Property)
Whereas, the Authorised officer of the Central Bank of India, Shahdara Branch, Delhi under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) and 13 (12) read with the Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued a demand notice dated 06.05.2024 calling upon the borrower - Mrs. Ruby Jha, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.41,34,913.54/- (Rupees Forty One Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Nine Hundred Thirteen and Fifty Four Paise Only) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on 06.05.2024), plus interest and other charges from 06.05.2024 to till date within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

DATE: 03/08/2024 (Authorised Officer), Central Bank of India



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Daunting task ahead

The interim Govt led by Yunus must restore law and order in Bangladesh as there is chaos and fear all around

As Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus takes charge of the interim government of Bangladesh, he may have the challenging task of restoring peace and law and order in the country. Bangladesh, relatively a young nation, is once again in the throes of instability. The latest chapter in its ongoing saga of unrest, unfolded after the ouster of Sheikh Hasina and subsequent takeover by Nobel laureate Muhammad Yunus. As Yunus steps into power, the country is gripped by fear and uncertainty, prompting hundreds of citizens to seek refuge in India. Recent months saw political violence, protests, and crackdowns on dissent; creating a volatile environment that led to the ouster of Sheikh Hasina and chaos on the roads of Dhaka. The announcement of Muhammad Yunus, a globally renowned figure for his work in microfinance and founder of Grameen Bank, taking over the reins of power comes as a dramatic twist. Yunus, who has faced his share of political and legal challenges in recent years, has long been a critic of the Hasina Government's policies.



The political upheaval has triggered a wave of fear among the populace especially the minorities. Reports indicate that hundreds of Bangladeshis are attempting to cross the border into India, driven by concerns for their safety. The future course of Bangladesh's political landscape under Yunus' leadership is fraught with uncertainty. Yunus has been an advocate for political reform and transparency. His leadership could usher in a new era of governance, focusing on anti-corruption measures and democratic practices. However, implementing these changes in a deeply entrenched political system will be a formidable challenge. Besides, Bangladesh's economy has been under strain due to mismanagement and corruption. Yunus' expertise in economic development and microfinance could play a pivotal role in revitalising the economy, promoting entrepreneurship, and creating jobs. While some may view him as a saviour, others may see him as an outsider with no political experience. Building trust and garnering widespread support will be essential for his administration's success. However, the biggest challenge would be restoring peace and maintaining the law and order. Ensuring law and order during this transition period is paramount. Yunus will need the cooperation of the military and law enforcement agencies to maintain stability and prevent further violence. As Bangladesh stands on the brink of a new political era with Muhammad Yunus at the helm, the road ahead is uncertain. The immediate priority will be to address the fears of the populace and restore a sense of security, especially amongst minorities. All said and done, right now the army will call the shots and till elections are announced nothing can be said about the future of interim government itself. The coming days will be crucial in determining whether Yunus' leadership can guide the country towards stability and prosperity or if Bangladesh will descend into further chaotic unrest.

Government's policies. The political upheaval has triggered a wave of fear among the populace especially the minorities. Reports indicate that hundreds of Bangladeshis are attempting to cross the border into India, driven by concerns for their safety. The future course of Bangladesh's political landscape under Yunus' leadership is fraught with uncertainty. Yunus has been an advocate for political reform and transparency. His leadership could usher in a new era of governance, focusing on anti-corruption measures and democratic practices. However, implementing these changes in a deeply entrenched political system will be a formidable challenge. Besides, Bangladesh's economy has been under strain due to mismanagement and corruption. Yunus' expertise in economic development and microfinance could play a pivotal role in revitalising the economy, promoting entrepreneurship, and creating jobs. While some may view him as a saviour, others may see him as an outsider with no political experience. Building trust and garnering widespread support will be essential for his administration's success. However, the biggest challenge would be restoring peace and maintaining the law and order. Ensuring law and order during this transition period is paramount. Yunus will need the cooperation of the military and law enforcement agencies to maintain stability and prevent further violence. As Bangladesh stands on the brink of a new political era with Muhammad Yunus at the helm, the road ahead is uncertain. The immediate priority will be to address the fears of the populace and restore a sense of security, especially amongst minorities. All said and done, right now the army will call the shots and till elections are announced nothing can be said about the future of interim government itself. The coming days will be crucial in determining whether Yunus' leadership can guide the country towards stability and prosperity or if Bangladesh will descend into further chaotic unrest.

PICTALK



A priest performs 'aarti' at Bade Hanumanji temple which was flooded after heavy rains in Prayagraj

Rediscovering the true value of life

Amidst climate change and environmental crises, it's time to re-evaluate our priorities and appreciate the irreplaceable gifts that nature freely provides

The best things in life, they say, come free. It is a dubious statement that we may not readily agree to in a world where anything material has a price tag attached to it. The problem is not in the maxim that I opened this piece with; the problem is with our definition of "the best things". We have devised a curious way to assess our lives by putting a numerical value on everything we can possess and call our own. Even as we scamper all over the place trying to fetch luxuries and comfort items, we tend to forget several things which we do not personally possess but are indispensable to our existence. They are more valuable to us than all the material assets of the world put together. Air, sunlight, water, and soil for instance. Many things are too obvious for us to appreciate as I discovered recently when astronauts Sunita Williams and Barry Wilmore got stranded in space. Reports say that her extended stay would affect her body adversely and as per NASA,



it could alter the structure of the eyes and brain, and their function "because low-gravity conditions shift the body's fluids toward the head". Gravity: The natural phenomenon that Newton discovered by chance in late 1666 when he saw an apple fall to the ground isn't something that we pay attention to in our daily lives. We take universal gravitation for granted, just as we take many other conventional things and natural forces as part of our privilege on this planet. The heat wave sweeping across the globe, the unprecedented floods and unseasonal snow are all testimonies of this casual attitude we have adopted towards the most valuable things in life that the universe has granted us. Climate change has been converted to a mere topic of discussion and not as a veritable threat for all species. Who will tell us that we have been presently allowed to live the best versions of ourselves aided by natural resources and no matter how hard we try, we cannot replicate these conditions in another part of the universe anytime soon? We may be vain to declare that space travel will soon become a regular thing thanks to man's daring explorations. We can claim that we are

Cultural identity shapes behaviour

This cultural phenomenon, observed in many parts of the world, highlights the profound impact of inherited values on personal and collective actions



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

In India, several clans have their pedigree narratives. It is a great instrument for creating venerable ideals of behaviour and conduct and, above all, pride in their antecedents. Like many other places in the world, their pedigree is often traced to some other planet or has an anecdote or theory associated with their distinctive pedigree. Some consider themselves descendants of the Sun (Suryavanshi), others consider themselves descendants of the Moon (Chandravanshi), and so the call goes on.

The veracity of these claims is another story altogether, but invariably there is an ideal connected to them, and that is important. For example, the Suryavanshis are supposed to be very committed to their 'word of mouth', and they are supposed to never backtrack from what they have said or promised.

These ideals are important in identity formation and establishing a bottom line of behaviour. They also create a narrative of keeping the clan on track, such as it may be. There are fallouts for rituals, marriages, festivities, and more. Loyalty is not territorial because the clan has, often, migrated from its place of origin but the bonding is clear. Their rituals of festivities and celebrations keep the clan together, even though technology may have played its role in the widespread celebration and observance of clan identities. The protocols are very often strictly adhered to. Often these serve as an unwritten code of behavior.

There is another anecdote linked with planets, especially the Sun. Japan is considered to be the land of the rising sun, and there are anecdotes about special places in many parts of the world related to the sun. Toledo is a good illustration of a place where the sun's rays are said to have met the Earth for the first time. There are other rituals associated with the sun in many parts of the world as well. In



India, planet worship is considered particularly venerable by many components of the population, and the steps in sun worship are a widely shared phenomenon. This practice is often accompanied by pouring water facing the sun. Celebrating obeisance to the sun is popular and has many stories spun around it. It may be useful to remind oneself that, in the belief of many, worship of even other planets is a virtuous thing to do. The point, however, is to recognise that behaviour is determined by one's belief, and this belief may not always be an act of choice but an act of an inherited value system and cognitive association with values that are considered virtuous. This component of tradition, which is common in many parts of the world, is now often referred to, not so complementarily, as the Third World Phenomena. The older the community, the greater their belief and the more grounded their behaviour. In such communities' gender relationships have a strong overlay of traditional beliefs.



LIKE MANY OTHER PLACES IN THE WORLD, THEIR PEDIGREE IS OFTEN TRACED TO SOME OTHER PLANET OR HAS AN ANECDOTE ASSOCIATED WITH THEIR DISTINCTIVE PEDIGREE. SOME CONSIDER THEMSELVES DESCENDANTS OF THE SUN, OTHERS CONSIDER THEMSELVES DESCENDANTS OF THE MOON

Indeed, icons that grow up at times geography-wise and even climate-wise are significant factors in belief systems.

The broad takeaway from this narrative should be a realisation, that what goes into the composition of the human mind and belief system is often not only acquired from formal learning in the classroom but also by inherited and handed down beliefs.

This is an important aspect of learning which deserves far more attention even in formal learning systems. There is an obvious need to understand, all that goes into the making of one's identity and personality make-up.

One of the important dimensions should also be to assess and evaluate the complete personality of a person when recruiting him. The identity that that person carries may have many layers that are important for his work performance. Unfortunately, not enough literature is available to convert all this into assessment instruments. This understanding would help to

explain why there are so many times a situation of grief when a person is recruited on just what could be called his 'professional knowledge'.

It will be worth remembering that professional knowledge is indeed important in the work dimension but that is not a full personality at work. To create a work identity, it is important to selectively integrate the cultural identities of individuals with a focus on the organisational identity of the enterprise concerned.

This is an important dimension of work management that both employers and employees need to pay much more attention to, more than what they have enabled so far. This will help to manage, better, group identities at work and create a culture of resonance for greater productivity and fulfilment all around. The idea of focusing on the 'complete personality', to the extent possible, is worth considering.

(The writer is a well-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BANGLADESH CRISIS

Madam — Amid the backdrop of controversial job reservations and widespread violent protests, Bangladesh has seen its former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed flee the country and seek temporary exile in India, a sanctuary supposedly facilitated by the United Kingdom. The nation now stands on the brink of establishing a new interim regime, led by Muhammad Yunus and supported by student unions and the military. It is deeply disappointing that the international community, with whom Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina had maintained good relations—particularly China, the US, and the United Kingdom—turned a blind eye to her government during this crisis. The violent student protests, demonstrations, and clashes, followed by anti-government forces, went largely ignored by these global allies. China, despite being a close economic partner of Bangladesh, remained a passive observer throughout the turmoil.

India's support for Bangladesh during this tumultuous period is commendable and highlights Prime Minister Modi's political commitment to its neighbor, strengthening bilateral relations rooted in cultural and historical ties. However, it is regrettable that Hindu citizens and temples have borne the brunt of the lawlessness and vandalism, acts seemingly orchestrated to provoke Indian sentiments.

While the caretaker government led by the army appears to be a viable solution at the moment, it remains uncertain whether it can overcome the significant economic losses and extensive damage to national properties caused by the protests. There is hope that peace will prevail in Dhaka and that New Delhi's active involvement will help pave the way for the formation of an interim government, free from being hijacked by the military or anti-India radical elements.

Janga Bahadur Sunuwar | Bagarkote

We are proud of you!



Had the gravitational force acted on Vinesh Phogat been little bit kinder she would have not only lost the silver medal which was in her grab but would have also bagged a gold considering her performance in the tournament so far. Vinesh lost the gold by weighing 100 Grams more than the permit-

ted weight of 50 kgs in the category and also suffered a disqualification from the tournament. It is one of the most unfortunate thing that could have happened to her as a sportsperson, shattering her dreams. Regardless of this she is the golden girl and would be remembered for her superb performance.

While Phogat has been successful in bagging Gold and silver medals in Commonwealth and Asian games, courtesy misfortune Olympics has been eluding her as she suffered an injury in Rio olympics in 2016 while in 2020 Tokyo olympics and in the Paris olympics yesterday she suffered a cruel disqualification! Phogat, you might have lost Gold medal in Olympics, for sure you have won a place in the hearts of all the sports lovers in the world! We are proud of you!!

Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

THE PLIGHT OF SEWER WORKERS

Madam— Kudos to Mr N Sadhasiva Reddy for his letter titled "Death of sanitation workers" (August 7). Our eardrums are constantly bombarded with the triumphant declarations of "conquering" the other side of the Moon, yet all that is provided for a sewer worker risking his life for society's "dirty work" is an ordinary rope. Billions of state funds are invested in mass yoga performances on the streets to showcase the country's "might" to the world, yet the same ordinary rope is the only safety measure for the poorest souls in this "mighty" India. Gigantic statues and bullet train projects are undertaken to "mesmerize" the world, but the faceless manual scavengers who work tirelessly to keep our environment clean receive no more than that ordinary rope.

Those who ignore the plight and suffering of these unsung heroes, without whose essential service our "civilized modern" society would come to a standstill, are nothing short of barbarians.

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

PREAMBLE MISSING IN NCERT BOOKS

Madam — The absence of the "Indian Constitution" preamble in some NCERT textbooks for certain classes should not lead to blame. Instead, consider this as an opportunity to highlight its sacred importance and encourage students to learn it with increased focus.

This can greatly contribute to shaping a clean thought process centered on equality and the socialist republic structure. It would be beneficial if NCERT issued a circular or sent an online message to all schools following the NCERT syllabus, advising them to download the preamble from Google or refer to other NCERT textbooks. Emphasising its sacred points with enhanced focus during teaching can greatly benefit the students. It is very important that today's children know about our freedom struggle and how our Constitution was written.

PV Srinivas Sreelekha | Secunderabad

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN

HASINA'S OUSTER: A BLOW TO INDIA

Ouster of Sheikh Hasina shakes India's strategic balance in the neighbourhood



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

A full-fledged crisis has been lobbed in India's court, with the ouster of PM Sheikh Hasina earlier this week. India's already troubled neighbourhood has now three countries under the firm grip of the armed forces. Pakistan, Myanmar and now Bangladesh, are now the army-ruled troika, on a slippery slope of getting too close to China. Out of the two, it was Bangladesh which has been the crown jewel of India's neighbourhood first policy, having had a visibly pro-India government for the past decade and half. Pakistan has been China's proxy state acting against Indian interests, while Myanmar due to the army rule, has also slipped closer to China. Meanwhile, a pro-China (read anti-India) leader in the Maldives, a not-too-Delhi-friendly regime in Nepal, presents Indian diplomacy as one of its biggest challenges in recent history.

Former PM Sheikh Hasina, despite her dictatorial governance style, enjoyed bipartisan support in India. She used her relations with Narendra Modi and the opposition leaders in India, to come out heavily on extremist forces operating on Bangladeshi soil against India's interests. It is no coincidence that former PM Hasina has travelled to New Delhi thrice in a year. PM Modi, lauded her efforts in upgrading the bilateral relations when she came for a state visit, a first under the new government in the centre. Indo-Bangladesh bilateral grew from strength to strength during Sheikh Hasina's decade and a half-regime, with important long-term infrastructure projects being operationalised by India and increasing new transit and trade corridors between the two



neighbours. India shares, nearly 4000 km of land border with Bangladesh, bringing its 5 states in unique proximity to the neighbour. This land border, the fifth largest land border in the world, acts as a porous conduit for the movement of goods and people during times of bonhomie, as governments maintain strict vigil keeping in mind each other's interests. This was visible during Sheikh Hasina's tenure when cross-border smuggling and terrorism had nearly vanished. This has built a very comfortable position for Indian diplomats, as they have trusted a friendly regime to keep Indian interests in mind. However, with Sheikh Hasina, gone and chances of her never being back in the political arena of Bangladesh looking extremely certain, things are about to change. India has not built bipartisan support for itself in the local Bangladeshi politics.

It has chosen to be cosy with Sheikh Hasina's government and dealt with overtures from the principal opposition party in Bangladesh with nonchalance. The fear was, that showing any affinity to Bangladesh's opposition party may not be taken kindly by Sheikh Hasina. Therefore a public diplomacy narrative emerged, that Sheikh Hasina was 'too close to be comfortable', with India and acting against her nation's interests. A caged opposition in Bangladesh managed to get external support from China, and Pakistan's intelligence agency, both of whom have a huge interest in keeping India under constant stress in the geopolitical affairs of the region. The on-ground situation in Bangladesh currently is against India. The current interim regime has allies who may be infiltrated with extremist elements, with whom India has had bitter experiences in the past. The nature of the protests and subsequent ouster of Sheikh Hasina ensured that any of her policies, including being pro-India would not be taken too kindly by the Bangladeshi citizens. An anti-Sheikh Hasina mood could easily be swayed to anti anti-India mood, which would be detrimental to the long-drawn deep bilateral relationship. It would be a challenge for India to work new bunch of leaders in Bangladesh and remain a crucial strategic allies for the eastern neighbour.

(The writer is a political analyst; views are personal)

Bangladesh at political crossroads

The interim government faces a formidable task in restoring law and order, organising free and fair elections, combating corruption and gaining public trust



K S TOMAR

According to British paraspyologist Celia Elizabeth Green, "In an autocracy, one person has his way; in an aristocracy, a few people have their way; in a democracy, no one has his way." This sentiment resonates deeply with the ousted former Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, who refused to acknowledge the clear signs of her impending downfall. Conspiracy theory is gaining momentum which led to ouster of EX PM, Sheikh Hasina which allegedly included the intelligence agencies of America (CIA), Pakistan (ISI) and China which yearned for an alternate government led by EX PM, Khalida Zia who might be on her way of ascendancy to power in future. Another version points out the preference of China and Pakistan to have Anti-Indian government in Dhaka which might alter the regional balance in South Asia.

CONSPIRACY THEORY. There have been numerous speculations and allegations regarding the United States' involvement in attempts to oust Bangladesh's Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Some argue that the U.S. might be seeking a more favourable government in Dhaka due to concerns over human rights, democratic practices, and regional security dynamics. Critics suggest that American interests, particularly in countering China's growing influence in South Asia, might drive such alleged conspiracies.

However, concrete evidence of U.S. involvement in any conspiracy against Sheikh Hasina is lacking. Officially, the U.S. government has maintained a stance of promoting democratic values and fair elections in Bangladesh. Publicly, U.S. officials have expressed concerns about political repression and the fairness of the electoral process under Hasina's administration but stopped short of endorsing any regime change. Sheikh Hasina's administration has leveraged these allegations to bolster nationalist sentiment and consolidate power, portraying itself as a bulwark against foreign interference. This narrative resonates with many Bangladeshis, fostering a perception of external threats to national sovereignty. Ultimately, while suspicions persist, the claims of direct American involvement in a conspiracy to oust Sheikh Hasina remain speculative and unproven. The situation underscores the complex interplay of domestic politics and international relations in Bangladesh.

Hasina's dramatic fall from grace has not surprised many, except perhaps herself. She ignored the rising tide of public discontent and the conspiracies hatched by vested interests aiming to assert dominance in South Asia and undermine India.

Winning 288 out of 300 seats in the January 2024 elections, alongside the arrests of opposition leaders and suppression of dissent, highlighted a significant loss of credibility for Hasina, culminating in widespread revolt and her eventual ouster.

Hasina, a pro-democracy leader who witnessed the sacrifices made by her late father and family, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in Bangladesh, has now left the nation poised for a potential regime dominated by hardliners, anti-India, and pro-China forces, possibly sandwiching this troubled nation between two powers in the future. The interim government faces several challenges:

Restoring Political Stability: establishing neutral ground and engaging in dialogue with all political factions to ensure a peaceful and democratic transition.



Organizing Free and Fair Elections: Ensuring upcoming elections are free, fair, and credible to restore public trust in the democratic process.

Combating Corruption: Initiating anti-corruption drives to target high-profile politicians and business leaders while ensuring fairness.

Maintaining Law and Order: Managing protests and civil unrest carefully, and ensuring security forces act with restraint to avoid human rights abuses.

Ensuring Human Rights: Balancing order with respecting human rights and avoiding authoritarianism. Gaining Public Trust; Building public confidence through transparency, effective communication, and inclusive policies.

International Relations: Engaging with international organizations, donor countries, and regional allies to ensure continued support and investment. The political upheaval in Bangladesh over the past 13 months has been deeply polarizing and emotionally charged citizens.

Experts attribute the whirlwind of violent emotions to an unresolved conflict over the nation's identity—a conflict that must be successfully addressed for the country's survival. There is no denying that Hasina was a secular and reformist figure in Bangladesh.

Her government had been instrumental in ensuring safety and fostering economic growth, making Bangladesh one of the fastest-growing developing nations. Yet, her leadership was marred by accusations of election rigging, suppression of opposition, and human rights violations, which stoked public discontent.

The crisis reached its peak with unprecedented violence and street protests, allegedly orchestrated by Pakistan's intelligence agency ISI, the student wing of Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, and active involvement from Khalida Zia's BNP and Chinese intelligence networks.

Amidst this turmoil, Nobel Peace Laureate Muhammad Yunus was chosen to lead an interim government after consultations with military leaders and key stakeholders. Experts and ex-diplomats agree that the current turmoil is a by-product of the public uprising against Hasina, who fled the country with India's assistance. She is now seeking asylum in Europe, with the UK being a potential destination, though nothing is certain.

Comparative Analysis of Hasina and Rajapaksa's Ousters: There are several similarities between Sheikh Hasina's downfall in Bangladesh in 2024 and the ouster of Sri Lanka's President Gotabaya Rajapaksa in 2022. Both events stem from political, economic, and social factors.

Economic Mismanagement and Authoritarian Governance: Sheikh Hasina faced criticism for stifling dissent and undermining democratic processes. Similarly, Gotabaya Rajapaksa's administration was criticized for authoritarianism and nepotism. Both countries struggled with economic difficulties, rising living costs, and unemployment, leading to public frustration and mass protests.

Debt and Foreign Exchange Issues: Bangladesh experienced increasing national debt and challenges in managing foreign exchange reserves, while Sri Lanka faced a severe economic crisis characterized by foreign exchange shortages and high inflation, leading to widespread hardship.

Public Unrest and International Factors: Both countries saw mass protests against economic hardships and political repression. The international relations of Bangladesh and Sri Lanka were strained due to economic mismanagement and human rights abuses, affecting foreign aid and investment.

Challenges for India: The ouster of Sheikh Hasina presents several

challenges for India: **Political Instability in Bangladesh:** The removal of a stable, pro-India government may lead to political instability, creating a power vacuum that could be filled by elements less friendly toward India.

This could foster anti-India sentiments and alter bilateral relations. **Border Security and Migration:** Political changes might affect cooperation on border management, potentially increasing challenges related to illegal migration, human trafficking, and terrorism.

Economic Relations and Trade: Changes in the political landscape could impact ongoing and future trade agreements, affecting bilateral trade beneficial to both countries.

Geopolitical Dynamics: A new leadership might tilt towards China, enhancing its influence in Bangladesh and affecting India's strategic interests in the region. Counterterrorism Efforts; A change in leadership might alter the level of collaboration on counterterrorism, impacting efforts to combat terrorism and insurgency.

Water-Sharing Disputes: The Teesta River water-sharing agreement, already a contentious issue, might face new challenges with a change in leadership.

India's Strategic Response: Experts suggest India should engage diplomatically with the new leadership, enhance border security, reassess trade agreements, and strengthen regional alliances to counter external influences like China's growing presence in Bangladesh. Navigating these challenges requires a careful balance between immediate stabilization measures and laying the foundation for long-term democratic governance. The success of the interim government in managing these issues is crucial for providing stability to Bangladesh.

(The writer is a strategic affairs columnist and political analyst based in Shimla; views are personal)



THERE IS NO DENYING THAT HASINA WAS A SECULAR AND REFORMIST FIGURE IN BANGLADESH. HER GOVERNMENT HAD BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN ENSURING SAFETY AND FOSTERING ECONOMIC GROWTH, MAKING BANGLADESH ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING DEVELOPING NATION

Khalistan movement is bereft of any vision, survives merely on hatred

Khalistan movement harps upon divisive tactics and has struggled to present a viable vision for a sovereign state nearly fifty years since its inception

Gurupatwant Singh Pannun, of Sikhs for Justice, recently released a video over his X-handle that Chandra Arya, a Hindu Member of Parliament in Canada's House of Commons should go back to India. Arya had earlier criticized the Khalistani extremists for vandalism at BAPS Swaminarayan Temple in Edmonton in Alberta state. The temple was recently found sprayed with anti-India graffiti of recognizably Khalistani variety.

Why do Khalistani always need to assert their existence through hatred of the Hindus? If they are indeed fighting for a sovereign Khalistan, even though no sensible or patriotic Indian would approve of it, they must establish the tenabil-



PRIYADARSHI DUTTA

ity of the idea. Strangely, a movement approaching 50 years has not been able to throw up a credible map of Khalistan. On June 9, 2022, Pannun released a map of Khalistan at an event held at Lahore Press Club which showed Shimla, Himachal Pradesh as the capital of Khalistan. Could things get more ridiculous? The Sikhs comprise less than two per cent of Himachal Pradesh's

population. Their percentage same in Shimla city, which is not contiguous to Punjab where most Sikhs live. The map in addition to Punjab encompassed almost the whole of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh, five districts of Rajasthan, several districts of Uttarakhnad and several districts from Uttar Pradesh.

The net effect of such a map would be to reduce the Sikhs into a minority in Khalistan. In the early 19th century, Maharaja Ranjit Singh could rule over trans-Sutlej Punjab, by the dint of sword, despite the Sikhs comprising no more than 10 per cent of the population (based on Census figures, 1881). This was because the form of government was autocratic in an era of autocr-

racy. Still, the Maharaja had to pursue an inclusive and tolerant policy given the fractured religious demography of Punjab.

In the 21st century, when democracy has triumphed in the sub-continent, do Khalistanis propose to turn the clock back on political evolution? The fact that "Khalistan" should be carved out from the Indian side of Punjab alone makes the motive of its sponsors suspect.

Few Sikhs indeed remain on the Pakistan side of Punjab, from where the bulk of them were ethnically cleansed after the partition. However, the very same fact should prohibit the Sikhs from pursuing any secessionist agenda from the Indian side. The Sikhs concentrated in the fertile terrains of



central Punjab, which fell to the Pakistan side, and took refuge on the Indian side after the partition.

There was a forcible exchange of population between the two halves of Punjab on religious lines. This bolstered their population from 13 per cent in colonial Punjab (Census, 1941) to 33 per cent in East Punjab (Census, 1961). After the reorganization of Punjab (1966), whereby Hindu-dominated Haryana

and Himachal Pradesh were separated, their population share increased to 60.2 per cent in rump Punjab (Census, 1971).

There is no grouse against Sikhs becoming a majority in Indian Punjab, as never before in the history of Punjab. However, there would certainly be a grouse if this majority, of less than two-thirds, wants to secede from the territory of the state.

Questions will be asked why they have not demanded a single square inch of territory from the Pakistan side and all liability is on India which had graciously accommodated the Sikhs after the partition. The Khalistanis could grumble that not conceding a sovereign nation to the Sikhs during the partition itself was an injustice.

This is a bogus argument. None of the districts in colonial Punjab had a Sikh majority, which made the demand for "Khalistan" completely untenable.

As early as December 2, 1942, Master Tara Singh had asked for the bifurcation of colonial Punjab - one dominated by the Muslims and another by Hindu-Sikhs. History aside, "Khalistan" would put the future of Sikhs in jeopardy. Around 30 per cent of wheat procured by authorities and 21 per cent of rice procured during FY. 2021-22 came from Punjab alone. The loss of this assured procurement by the Food Corporation of India will put Punjab under mountains of rice and wheat. The "Khalistan", a landlocked nation sandwiched between

India and Pakistan, will be dependent on trade with both. Even today it can redirect its procurement mechanism profitably towards other states rather than favouring Punjab. However, Punjab, whose 75 population is dependent on agriculture for livelihood would be sorely hit. The loss of a huge pan-Indian market for Punjab will be disastrous in every sector e.g. transportation, hosiery, machine tools etc. The Sikh population in other states of India would be adversely affected. No wonder, the Khalistanis prefer to stroke passions, by ducking these critical questions.

(The writer is an author and an independent researcher based in New Delhi. The views expressed are personal)

Plot to kill 'as many as possible' at Taylor Swift shows in Vienna foiled

AP ■ VIENNA

Austrian security officials said Thursday that the main suspect of the two arrested in a foiled plot to attack now-cancelled Taylor Swift shows in Vienna fully confessed to his plans to "kill as many people as possible outside the concert venue".

his home in Ternitz, south of Vienna, investigators found chemical substances and technical devices that indicated "concrete preparatory acts," said Franz Ruf, Director General for Public Security at the Ministry of the Interior.



Thursday, Friday and Saturday at the Ernst Happel Stadium, which sat empty Thursday morning aside from media filming outside.

of the concerts, Barracuda Music, were in close contact about whether to cancel the three concerts, but in the end it was the organizer who made the call.

Barracuda Music said in an Instagram post late Wednesday that "we have no choice but to cancel the three scheduled shows for everyone's safety." It cited government officials'

confirmation of a planned attack at the stadium. Europe is enamoured by the American superstar, with the German town of Gelsenkirchen renaming itself "Swiftkirchen" before its mid-July concerts.

within the next 10 business days." The same wording was posted under the Vienna dates on Swift's official website.

Anti-racism protesters march counters violence in UK

PTI ■ LONDON

A massive turnout of anti-racism counter-protesters swarmed the streets of London and other UK cities in an effort to outnumber the far-right violent mobs causing mayhem over the past week, described by Scotland Yard as a "show of unity from communities".



revealed that dawn raids were carried out early on Thursday morning to arrest suspected violent offenders from the past few days.

keep Londoners safe. "To those far-right thugs still intent on sowing hatred and division, you will never be welcome here," he said in a post on X.

next few days, and we need to see what happens there," she said. A large chunk of those arrested have already been charged with various offences, including violent disorder, racially aggravated harassment and using threatening words online.

Trump allies amplify a false claim about Harris' racial identity

AP ■ WASHINGTON

Ohio Sen JD Vance, Donald Trump's running mate, defended on Wednesday a false claim the former president made about Vice President Kamala Harris' racial identity, suggesting wrongly that Harris had downplayed her Black heritage in trying to suggest she's inauthentic.

audience she's in front of, and that's who she is and that's who she's always been." Vance's was the most recent of the Republican criticisms of how Harris portrays herself, in the wake of Trump's comments last week to the National Association of Black Journalists conference in Chicago.

to take the heat that comes with calling out your racism, that comes with calling out your ugliness, so I will pretend that's not what it is." The Harris campaign has declined to comment specifically on Trump's false claim.

ment historically Black colleges and universities, where she also pledged the historically Black sorority Alpha Kappa Alpha.

Policemen in Bangladesh slowly returning to work

PTI ■ DHAKA

Policemen in Bangladesh were slowly returning to work from Thursday in response to the call by the newly-appointed chief, the official media reported, amidst the political turmoil and street violence in the country.

officers to join their respective units within the next 24 hours. People from all walks of life, including different political parties leaders and students, are extending all-out necessary support to the returnee police personnel so they can come to their workplaces safely, according to a press release issued by police headquarters on Thursday.

However, they are not going to their respective workplaces, such as police stations, due to security concerns. Addressing a press briefing at the Police Headquarters on Thursday, IGP Islam said some unprofessional officers did not follow the accepted principles of applying force and violated human rights.

Israeli strike on Gaza home kills 7

AP ■ JERUSALEM

A new report from Human Rights Watch says Israeli soldiers killed at least seven people and severely wounded two, including a 5-year-old, when they attacked a home in Gaza City where a Palestinian family was sheltering from the Israel-Hamas war in December.

Ukrainian forces make significant incursion in Kursk region

AP ■ KYIV

A top official in the Kursk region of Russia that borders Ukraine said Thursday that fighting is continuing in an area where Ukrainian forces made a significant incursion this week.

Putin met with his top defence and security officials to discuss what he called the "indiscriminate shelling of civilian buildings, residential houses, ambulances with different types of weapons".

wounded, Russian news agencies reported. The Ukrainian shelling, meanwhile, killed at least two people — a paramedic and an ambulance driver — and wounded 24 others, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova said in a statement Wednesday.

John Kirby, the White House's national security spokesman, declined to comment on the operation and said the Biden administration has reached out to the Ukrainians to better understand what happened.

Resolve Kashmir issue by peaceful means: UN

PTI ■ UNITED NATIONS

A final settlement of the Kashmir issue should be reached by peaceful means under the UN Charter and full respect for human rights, a spokesperson for UN chief Antonio Guterres has said, recalling the 1972 Simla agreement between India and Pakistan which rejects any third-party mediation.

Kashmir and Ladakh "was, is and shall forever" remain an integral part of the country. The ties between the two countries nosedived after India abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution, revoking the special status of Jammu and Kashmir and bifurcating the State into two Union Territories on August 5, 2019.

in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and full respect for human rights." He added that the position of the United Nations is governed by the charter of the United Nations and applicable Security Council resolutions.

Israeli strike on Gaza home kills 7

World leaders have been pushing for a cease-fire in Gaza, and United States President Joe Biden spoke with Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi on Tuesday about their hopes for a deal calming tensions in the Middle East.

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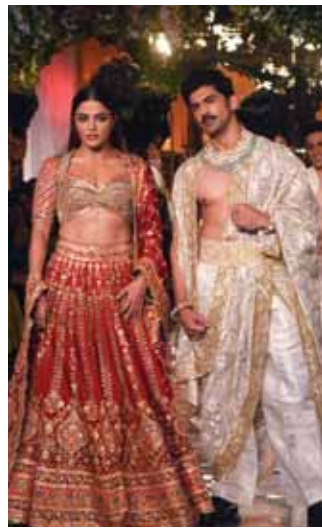
FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (POST LISTING) & e-VOTING. The process of sending emails containing link for Annual Report 2024 and notice of First Annual General Meeting (AGM) (Post Listing) of the Company, scheduled to be held on Friday, 06-09-2024 at 10.00 hours through Video Conference/ Other Audio Visual Means ("VC/OAVM") has been completed.



GLITTER AND GRACE INDIA COUTURE WEEK 2024

With 14 breathtaking shows, Hyundai India Couture Week 2024 spotlighted the artistry of India's finest couturiers. From opulent bridal wear by Abu Sandeep to avant-garde creations by Rahul Mishra. This edition underscored the visionary leadership of FDCI and the boundless creativity of the designers, leaving fashion enthusiasts eager for more, says

SAKSHI PRIYA



The 17th edition of Hyundai India Couture Week 2024 unfolded with 14 breathtaking shows, spotlighting top couturiers who seamlessly fused tradition with modernity. This glamorous event underscored the creativity and craftsmanship of the Indian fashion industry, offering a mesmerising glimpse into the future of haute couture. The Hyundai India Couture Week opened with a breathtaking display by *Abu Sandeep* with *Wamiqa Gabbi* as the 'ASAL' bride and *Taha Shah Badussha* as the 'MARD' groom, setting a high bar for the week's fusion of tradition and modernity. Following this, *Isha Jajodia's* 'Rose room' featured *Ridhima Kapoor* in an elegant golden ensemble, while *Jacqueline Fernandez* dazzled as the showstopper in a dramatic black gown. In *Siddhartha*



Tytlar's 'Caligula's Feast', *Malaika Arora* wowed in a gray and black lehenga adorned with intricate silver and gold embroidery, complemented by *Rahul Khanna* in a richly embellished sherwani and bold



black boots. *Kunal Rawal's* 'Sehra' collection, showcased by *Aditya Roy Kapur*, redefined wedding couture with a modern twist on traditional elegance. In contrast, *Suneet Varma's* 'Nazm'



reimagined Indian decorative arts with luxurious fabrics like metallic tissue and pastel organza, creating a fresh aesthetic. *Dolly J's* 'La Vie En Rose' was highlighted by *Sonakshi Sinha* in a glamorous



pink gown adorned with gold and glitter, whereas *JJ Valaya's* 'MURAQQA' elegantly blended historical richness with contemporary flair. Among the standout moments, *Amit Aggarwal's* 'ANTE VORTA', inspired by the Greek goddess of the future, and *Rahul Mishra's* 'Nargis' Collection, celebrated nature's beauty, with *Lisa Ray* as the showstopper in an exotic ensemble. Additionally, *Jayanti Reddy's* 'Evocative Nawabi Canvas,' featuring *Aditi Rao Hydari*, highlighted Nawabi grandeur, while *Gaurav Gupta's* 'Arunodaya,' with *Khushi Kapoor* and *Vedang Raina*, captured the transformative beauty of dawn. *Rimzim Dadu's* 'Stucco,' showcased by *Sobhita Dhulipala*, impressed with its innovative textures and *Tarun Tahliani's* 'Otherworldly'



pushed couture boundaries with futuristic designs. The week concluded spectacularly with *Falguni Shane Peacock's* 'Rang Mahal,' featuring *Vicky Kaushal* and *Rashmika Mandanna*, marking a memorable end to the fashion extravaganza. As the curtains fall on this year's India Couture Week, the event leaves behind a legacy of innovation and elegance. The week was a tribute to the visionary leadership of FDCI Chairman *Mr. Sunil Sethi* and the dedication of all involved in showcasing the brilliance of Indian fashion. With creativity and tradition celebrated in equal measure, the fashion world eagerly awaits the next chapter, inspired by the extraordinary displays of artistry and craftsmanship from this year's spectacular event. Photos: Pankaj Kumar

A New Chapter in Indian Luxury Fashion

The luxury fashion world has been set ablaze by the recent launch of the *Tiger Toy* collection, a groundbreaking collaboration between *Tiger Marrón* and *KoyToy* by *Kunaal Kyhaan*. This union of two powerhouse Indian brands has redefined the accessories market with its bold fusion of cultural heritage and contemporary design



TEAM VIVA

Industry insiders have been captivated by the collection's audacious blend of influences. The incorporation of Mughal architectural motifs alongside modern pop culture elements represents a daring departure from conventional luxury aesthetics. This innovative approach has fashion critics hailing *Tiger Toy* as a new benchmark for cultural fusion in high-end accessories. The *Arch bag* series has emerged as the standout of the collection. Inspired by the elegant pointed arches of Mughal architecture, these pieces have instantly become classics. The *Maharani* purse

and *Paan Saddle bag*, in particular, have been praised as game-changers, offering a fresh interpretation of traditional Indian elements for the global luxury market. Sustainability is at the forefront of this collection, with *Tiger Marrón* and *KoyToy* showcasing a commitment to eco-conscious fashion. The use of organic vegan leather alongside high-grade natural leathers demonstrates a nuanced understanding of modern

consumer's diverse preferences and environmental concerns. This approach has been lauded as a significant step forward for luxury brands in addressing sustainability without compromising on quality or aesthetics. *Kunaal Kyhaan* Soolekar's involvement has added an extra layer of excitement to the collaboration. His background in architecture and interior design has resulted in innovative structures and shapes rarely seen in handbags and accessories. Fashion enthusiasts have been thrilled to see *Soolekar's* renowned bold yet harmonious style has translated into wearable art. The fashion world has responded with overwhelming enthusiasm to the *Tiger Toy* launch. The collection has successfully bridged the gap between cultural nostalgia and modern functionality, inspiring a new wave of designers to explore their heritage through a contemporary lens. It's clear that the *Tiger Toy* collection represents more than just a line of accessories. It stands as a bold statement about the evolving identity of Indian luxury fashion on the global stage.

This collaboration between *Tiger Marrón* and *KoyToy* has challenged perceptions, pushed boundaries and reshaped the landscape of luxury accessories. As the collection makes its mark, it heralds a new era in fashion - one that celebrates cultural richness, embraces innovation and makes luxury more accessible than ever before. The *Tiger Toy* collection has not just met expectations, it has exceeded them, setting a new standard for what Indian luxury fashion can achieve on the world stage.



A FUSION OF STYLE, WELLNESS AND TIMELESS ELEGANCE

The FDCI Manifest Wedding Weekend is where luxury, creativity and personal expression converge to redefine the art of celebrating love, says **SAKSHI PRIYA**



The Fashion Design Council of India's (FDCI) Manifest Wedding Weekend, stands as a premier event that manifests the height of bridal fashion and lifestyle. The second edition of this event promises an exceptional experience, showcasing a star-studded line-up of India's top designers, jewellers and wellness experts, all coming together to celebrate love and style. The fashion segment of the event was nothing short of spectacular. Attendees were treated to an array of designs from renowned couturiers such as *Asal & Mard* by *Abu Sandeep*, *Gaurav Gupta Couture*, *Amit Aggarwal*, *Dolly J* and *Tarun Tahliani*. Each designer brought their unique flair to the forefront, from the regal elegance of *Abu Jani Sandeep Khosla's* creations to the innovative and avant-garde ensembles by *Gaurav Gupta*. This variety ensured there was something to captivate every taste and preference, making it an essential visit for anyone wishing to make a statement on their wedding day. Jewellery was another



highlight of the weekend, with exquisite pieces from prestigious brands like *Prakshi Fine Jewellery*, *Raj Mahtani Couture Jewellers* and *Archana Aggarwal Timeless Jewellery*. The craftsmanship on display was exceptional, merging traditional techniques with contemporary designs. The inclusion of regional jewellers such as *Kishandas & Co.* and *Shree Jee Jewellers Jaipur* added depth and diversity to the collection, celebrating the rich heritage of Indian jewellery while incorporating modern twists. What truly set this year's event apart were the masterclasses, which provided invaluable insights and practical tips for attendees. *Sumaya Dalmia*, a renowned wellness expert, conducted a compelling session on sustainable living, rather than quick fixes, was enlightening. Her engaging and humorous approach made the session accessible and relevant, offering practical advice on maintaining wellness as part of wedding preparations and

beyond. On the photography front, *Badal Jain* offered a masterclass on capturing the emotional essence of weddings. His perspective on wedding photography as a form of storytelling, rather than mere documentation, encouraged couples to focus on authentic moments and genuine experiences. His approach focuses on documenting real, unposed moments, reflecting the true essence of the celebration. *Jain's* philosophy ensures a sincere and lasting representation of the couple's special day. The FDCI Manifest Wedding Weekend was a celebration of beauty, creativity and personal connection. It seamlessly combined fashion, jewellery and wellness to create a holistic experience for attendees. Beyond the stunning displays and insightful masterclasses, the event underscored the importance of personalisation and meaning in weddings. It celebrated not just the grandeur of the occasion but also the stories and emotions that make each celebration unique.

WRESTLER AMAN ENTERS SEMIFINALS

PTI ■ PARIS

Young Indian grappler Aman Sehrawat rekindled India's hopes of a medal in wrestling, demolishing former world champion Zelimkhan Abakarov of Albania by technical superiority to seal a place in the 57kg free-style semifinal at the Paris Olympics here on Thursday.

Aman was in imperious form as he toyed with Abakarov in the second round. The 21-year-old Indian locked his legs at the start of the second round and turned him over multiple times to earn eight straight points to secure a 12-0 victory.

The bout started with Aman earning a passivity point after his Russian-turned-Albanian opponent did not initiate any attacking move.

Moments later, the Indian effected a left-leg hold to earn two more points to showcase his dominance by going 3-0 up at the end of round 1.

Aman was on song in round 2 and Abakarov, world champion in 2022, bore the brunt. The Indian's superb agility against the 31-year-old Albanian was on display as he attacked the left leg to bring him down.

He then effected a 'fitley' (leg lace), turning the Albanian around several times to end the contest with more than two minutes to go. Abakarov contested the last two points awarded to Aman but the referee ruled in favour of the Indian and awarded him a point.

Aman will meet Japanese top seed Rei Higuchi in the last-four round later in the day.

Earlier, Aman ensured himself an easy passage into the quarterfinal with a dominating performance against North Macedonian rival Vladimir Egorov.

The 21-year-old Indian, an Asian Championship gold medallist and the only male wrestler from the country to qualify for the Olympics, was amazingly agile as he kept his defence intact while regularly overpowering his 29-year-old former European champion with leg holds to win the bout on technical superiority (10-0).

Egorov seemed to be in a bit of bother after the first round, requiring medical attention on his knee following Aman's all-out attack.

But the Macedonian could not stage a comeback with Aman effecting a takedown to earn two



more points and go 10-0 up with more than two minutes remaining on the clock.

ANSHU MALIK LOSES: Woman grappler Anshu Malik displayed great determination but could not breach the defence of USA's vastly experienced Helen Louise Maroulis, losing 2-7 in the 57kg pre-quarterfinals.

It was a rematch of the 2021 World Championship final in Oslo where Anshu had to settle for silver against the American.

Anshu's hopes of qualifying for the bronze-medal bout now hinge on 'repechage' provided Helen, the 2016 Rio Olympics gold medallist and Tokyo Games bronze medallist, reaches the final.

Anshu was up against one of the most reputed wrestlers in the world, but she fought with a lot of gumption to concede just two points in the first round. Helen attacked Anshu's left leg and then pushed the Indian to the mat to take a 2-0 lead.

The Indian then held Helen, a three-time world champion, at bay in the first round before the American came back to showcase her pedigree in the second and win despite getting a warning.



AP ■ LE BOURGET (FRANCE)

For many athletes at the Paris Olympics, the fun was just beginning after they were done competing.

During the second full week of the 2024 Olympics, going home wasn't an option. Now that the pressure of having to compete is gone, it was time to become a fan: Enjoy Paris and watch other sports.

"I'm a huge track fan," said triathlete Morgan Pearson, who won the silver medal with the U.S. Team in the mixed relay on Monday. "I hope to go to some of those races. I'm a huge Olympic fan in general."

American sport climber Zach Hammer, who was finished competing on Tuesday, also was headed to the track. "I would definitely be excited to watch the men's 200-(meter) with (Noah) Lyles. He's one of my favorite athletes," he said. "I'm definitely excited to get the full Olympic experience, and I'll go watch whatever there is to watch. It will definitely be cool to see Americans competing on the

Athletes stick around Paris Games to watch other sports, get full experience

biggest stage." U.S. Rower Jacob Plihal was among those who stayed in town after competing during the first week.

"Hopefully I can watch a little handball if that's still going, maybe 3x3 basketball," he said. "I don't know what the schedules are. I've been focused on the racing but I'm excited to stick around and watch other sports, cheer Team USA on and get to know some athletes at the (Olympic) Village."

Another American sport climber, Sam Watson, who broke the speed world record in an elimination heat on Tuesday, was making the most out of his stay at the village. He was challenging fellow athletes to chess games and trying to get selfies with a member of



every delegation at the Games. Some of the American women rowers who competed last week were at the women's basketball game between the U.S. and Nigeria on Wednesday. Molly Thompson-Smith, a

British sport climber, was interested in watching some of the other smaller sports that don't often get much attention. She said "it's been really cool to kind of learn how they work and all the weird things about them."

Thompson-Smith added that she "did see a bit of beach volleyball" but "I think everyone wants to see the athletics, just to see something like that and feel the atmosphere of the crowd would be incredible. But I'm open to seeing anything now ... I'm here to make as many memories and see as much as I possibly can."

Rower Viktorija Senkute, who won Lithuania's first medal at the Games last week, was sticking around to watch her boyfriend, Simonas Maldonis, compete in canoe sprint. Athletes can watch their own discipline with their accreditation, but need tickets for other sports. Some said they can get them through their national Olympic committees, or with the

International Olympic Committee, which gives each athlete one free ticket per day.

There was an additional Olympic experience for athletes this time in Paris, as for the first time in the Summer Games organizers gave them a place to be closer to fans and celebrate their medals. In the new Champions Park, athletes got a chance to parade with their medals and interact with fans.

"I feel as if this year they've done a really good job of treating after winning athletes with memories that we're going to cherish forever," French rugby player Aaron Grandier Nkanang said after going to the Champions Park. "We're just in front of the Eiffel Tower, and there's thousands of people out to come and cheer us on."

Panghal likely to get three-year ban for indiscipline: Source

PTI ■ PARIS

Wrestler Antim Panghal, who caused embarrassment to the Indian Olympic contingent by trying to facilitate her sister's entry into the athletes village through her accreditation card, is likely to be banned for three years by the IOA, a source told PTI on Thursday.

Panghal had crashed out of the Olympics after losing her opening bout in the women's 53kg category on Wednesday. "IOA (Indian Olympic Association) officials discussed the issue that caused embarrassment to all. It is considering a three-year ban on everyone involved, including the coaches," a source in the Indian contingent told PTI.

"First, we need to ensure that she reaches home. The decision will be announced only after she reaches India," the source added. Panghal is set to take a flight to Delhi this evening. The IOA decided to send her and her support staff back after the disciplinary breach was brought to its notice by the French authorities. The body, however, asserted that the ban has not yet been imposed.

"A ban has not been imposed as yet," said an IOA official. Speaking with PTI before her flight back to India, the 19-

year-old said, "I did not intend to do anything wrong. I was not well and there was confusion. All of this happened due to confusion."

Later, in a video, she admitted that she had to go to the police station but only for the verification of her accreditation card. "It was not a good day for me. I lost. A lot is being spread about me, that's not true. I had high fever, and had taken permission from my coach to go to the hotel with my sister."

"I needed some some of my belongings which were in the Games Village. My sister took my card and asked the officials there if she could take my belongings. They took her to the Police Station for accreditation verification."

She also denied that her coaches were drunk and got into an altercation with a taxi driver over fare.

"My coaches had stayed back at the venue and when they wanted to come back, we booked a cab for them. My coaches did not have enough cash and due to the language issues, led to an argument with the taxi driver."

"Since they came to collect some Euros from the hotel room, it took some time and led to the situation. I already have had a bad time, please don't spread rumours. Please support me," she said.

Weinberg helps US beat Australia 11-10 in men's water polo quarters

AP ■ NANTERRE

Adrian Weinberg made two blocks in a penalty shootout to help the United States beat Australia 11-10 in the quarterfinals of the men's water polo tournament at the Paris Olympics.

Hannes Daube and Alex Bowen each scored two goals in regulation as the U.S. Reached the semifinals at the Olympics for the first time since 2008. Daube and Bowen also converted their penalty shots in the tiebreaker. "It was exhausting," U.S. Attacker Marko Vavic said. "Both of us fighting for our country, each trying to get to the semifinal. It's what we've been dreaming about since we were kids. Everyone put it down on the line."

It was the third straight win for the U.S., which will play Serbia on Friday at Paris La Defense Arena. Serbia is trying to become the third men's team to win three consecutive Olympic gold medals.

Croatia will face Hungary in the other semifinal. Croatia beat Spain 10-8 in the first quarterfinal of the day, and Hungary edged Italy 12-10 in another game that went to a penalty shootout. Serbia advanced when captain Nikola Jaksic skipped home a perfect shot from deep with 3 seconds left, lifting his country to a 12-11 victory over Greece.

"We finally looked like the team that came here to win it," Jaksic said. "We didn't give up from the first to the last moment."

Angelos Vlachopoulos had just tied the game for Greece with 6 seconds remaining.

"In this moment, I really hope this is a dream right now, just a nightmare and I will wake up and play again," Greece's Dimitrios Skoumpakis said. "Every guy on this team really tried a lot. We worked very hard, but this is the sport."

The U.S. Rallied after a tough sequence in the first quarter. Max



Irving had a goal waved off when the game was stopped for a video review and U.S. Attacker Johnny Hooper received a brutality foul, taking him out for the rest of the contest.

Luke Pavillard converted a penalty shot to give Australia a 3-1 lead.

Australia also got a 4-minute power play that it turned into two more goals and a 5-2 advantage.

But the U.S. Went ahead 6-5 when Daube scored with 6:03 left in regulation. After Pavillard scored two straight for Australia, Bowen's man-

up goal with 32 seconds remaining tied it at 7.

Irving also connected for the U.S. In the tiebreaker before Vavic closed it out for the U.S., beating Australia goaltender Nic Porter after they played together in college at Southern California.

"I didn't even look at him until I went up to shoot," Vavic said. "He was trying to eye me down and talk to me about the pressure before I got there. "He was chirping me, but I just tried to keep my composure and luckily I stuck it."

Pavillard scored four times for Australia in regulation on four shots. He also converted his penalty shot in the tiebreaker.

"Full credit to the U.S.," Porter said. "They really pulled it out of the fire there. It was our game to win, and they snatched it from us for sure."

Kristzian Manhercz scored five times for Hungary in its quarterfinal win, and Gergo Zalanki had three goals. Manhercz and Zalanki also made their penalty shots in the tiebreaker.

Francesco di Fulvio and Gonzalo Echenique each scored three goals in the loss. When it was over, Italy's Nicholas Presciutti directed a middle finger toward Hungary's players.

AP ■ PARIS

Oleksandr punches his way to Paris Gold

Oleksandr Khyzhniak was one minute away from winning an Olympic gold medal three years ago when he was rocked by one miraculous punch. Khyzhniak went down, the fight was stopped and the most fearsome boxer in Tokyo had to settle for silver.

The middleweight from Ukraine decided he would wait three years to make it right. Khyzhniak got his epic redemption Wednesday night at the Paris Games with a gold medal finally around his neck - but only after he paid for it in time, sweat and pain.

Khyzhniak beat Nurbek Oralbay of Kazakhstan 3:2 in a thrilling final at Roland Garros, securing the championship that evaded him in heartbreaking fashion in Tokyo. The fighters unloaded on each other for three action-packed rounds, but Khyzhniak

clinched the win by dominating a final three minutes filled with a jaw-dropping number of uppercuts, combinations and power punches for an Olympic fight.

When Khyzhniak's hand was raised, the 29-year-old dropped to his knees in cathartic relief. Even though he is an obvious blue-chip professional prospect, Khyzhniak put any other chapters of his life on hold because he was determined to do what he couldn't in Tokyo.

Khyzhniak spent the last three years thinking about his loss to Hebert Sousa of Brazil, a game competitor who clearly wasn't the best middleweight in a stacked division in Tokyo. Khyzhniak was up 20-18 on all

five cards after two rounds in their gold medal bout, meaning he only had to avoid a stoppage or a point deduction to win.

But Khyzhniak simply couldn't stop himself from coming forward relentlessly. He knows no way to fight other than to throw as many punches as his arms can muster for nine minutes of bruising, bleeding pressure.

So Khyzhniak kept coming forward, and the artful Sousa floored him with what might have been just a flash knockdown in the pros but was enough to persuade the Olympic referee to stop the bout.

After the loss, Khyzhniak devoted himself to an Olympic comeback, winning every



amateur bout he took since Tokyo. When the Olympics eliminated the 75-kilogram division in which Khyzhniak fought in Tokyo, he even moved up to 80 kilograms - now called middleweight.

Although he has been probably the most exciting fighter in his second Olympics, Khyzhniak didn't steamroll through his four bouts in Paris. He was tested in his early fights before he reached the semifinals against Arlen Lopez, the two-time Olympic gold medalist from Cuba.

The veteran amateurs put on a memorable show worthy of their combined star power, but Khyzhniak won with another phenomenal third round. He simply wouldn't stop pressuring Lopez, who finally

ran out of stratagems to keep the Ukrainian star off him.

In the final, Khyzhniak faced a dynamic prospect in the 24-year-old Oralbay, whose twin brother also fought at Paris. Oralbay had ample skill and punching power to challenge Khyzhniak, and the fighters were essentially even on the scorecards heading to the third round.

And what a round it turned out to be. Oralbay bled from a cut near his right eye early in the third, but the fighters unloaded on each other for three minutes. All five judges favored Khyzhniak, who snapped Oralbay's head back on his neck multiple times with pinpoint-perfect uppercuts. Khyzhniak was the second

gold medal winner at Roland Garros on Wednesday, joining Erislandy Alvarez of Cuba. Alvarez edged Sofiane Oumih of France 3:2 in an exciting lightweight bout - but it couldn't match the emotion and savagery on display between Khyzhniak and Oralbay, who fights one weight class below his twin brother.

Earlier on the card, Lin Yu-ting of Taiwan advanced to the women's featherweight gold medal bout with her third straight victory while dealing with widespread scrutiny regarding misconceptions about her gender.

Tokyo gold medallist Bakhodir Jalolov of Uzbekistan shut out Nelvie Tiafack of Germany to move within one victory of becoming the first two-time super heavyweight gold medalist in Olympic history. The 30-year-old Jalolov, a 14-0 professional, will fight Ayoub Ghadfa of Spain for gold.