OPINION 6

PROGRESS DEPENDS

ON RETENTIVENESS

WORLD 8

ISRAEL WIDENS EVACUATION

ORDERS IN SOUTHERN GAZA

MONEY 10

GOLD RISES ₹200, SILVER RALLIES

₹1,000 PER KILOGRAM

RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA

Late City Vol.34 Issue 224



*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable DULEEP TROPHY: ASHWIN, BUMRAH TO PLAY 12 SPORTS

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Residents'

responsible

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

In its letter, FORDA listed

five demands including

expeditious acceptance of

resignation of all the

which include the principal, MSVP, Dean, HOD of

pulmonary medicine, ACP of RG Kar MC&H police

outpost, alleging that they

could not perform their duty

of protecting the dignity and

life of a woman who was, in

this case, an on-duty doctor,

no police brutality, swift justice for the deceased and

of

Dr Aviral Mathur, FORDA

president who participated

in the protest at a hospital in Delhi, said, "Our cause is that the incident at RG Kar

Hospital is the worst that

could have happened to any

followed by murder is deeply disturbing. "The services will remain suspended until

the acceptance of demands of Kolkata's RG Kar Medical

College residents as well as

immediate appointment of a

Central agency to investigate

the case and the establishment of a Central

The strike has garnered

widespread support across

Protection Act."

on-duty doctor...

security protocols

healthcare

formation

committee.

demands,

for

expert

workers and

authorities,

Docs strike work over rape, murder in WB

Doctors at various hospitals across India began their indefinite strike from Monday, halting all elective services scheduled, non-urgent procedures and outpatient services until a fair investigation into the alleged rape and mur-der of a Kolkata doctor is concluded and their demands for

safe working environment for

their fraternity is met.

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

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

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

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



Mamata hints at handover of case to CBI

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

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

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

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

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

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

Continued on Page 2



India's flag-bearers shooter Manu Bhaker and men's hockey team goalkeeper PR Srejeesh and others during the closing ceremony of the 2024 Summer Olympics at Continued on Page 2 Stade de France, in Paris, France



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

Terror module busted in J&K

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

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

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

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

Continued on Page 2

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

STAFF REPORTER **NEW DELHI**

In a strongly worded letter, the Tihar jail has taken exception to Delhi Chief Arvind Keiriwal's recent letter to Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena seeking permission to allow Cabinet Minister Atishi to hoist the national flag on the occasion of Independence Day, terming his letter to the LG was "an abuse of privileges" granted to him under the Delhi Prison Rules.

The superintendent of Tihar's jail number 2 cited provisions of the Delhi Prisons Rules, 2018, and advised Kejriwal in a letter "to desist from any such impermissible activity" or his privileges would be curtailed. In a communication, Tihar jail official said it is surprising to note that the contents of the letter... were leaked to the media without any authority which amounts to violation of the prison rules.

Meanwhile, Delhi Cabinet Minister Gopal Rai on Monday directed the General Administration Department to make arrangements for the hoisting of the national flag on Independence Day by his Cabinet colleague Atishi.

Continued on Page 2



SC orders Shambhu border partial opening

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The Supreme Court on

The Supreme Common Monday asked the Punjab Government to persuade the farmers protesting at the Shambhu border since February 13 to remove tractors and trollies from the road, saying "highways are not parking space". A bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan directed the police chiefs of both Punjab and Haryana to hold a meeting along with the Superintends of Police of adjoining Patiala and Ambala districts within one week for partial reopening of the highway at the inter-State Shambhu border.

"We are not directing but we are definitely impressing upon the State of Punjab to immediately persuade the farmers to remove their tractors and trollies. Even parking will create problems.

Now, we are seized with the issue and we are keeping it pending till some respectable, amicable and fair and just solution of all the problems are found," the bench told the Puniab Government.

Underscoring that farmers or the agricultural community don't face difficulty of any kind, the bench said, "After all we are also concerned. Both the States are concerned and everybody is concerned about

'The DGPs of Punjab and Haryana and SPs of Patiala and Ambala along with Deputy Commissioners of both the districts are to meet within one week and lay down the modalities for partial opening of highway, initially for the purpose of ambulances senior citizens, women, girl students, essential services and daily commuters of nearby the court said.

Continued on Page 2

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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



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

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

set of invitees apart from usual protocol-based invitees, on this occasion, the following indicative categories of guests could be invited," the communication said. They are 'Divyangjans'; achievers in

different fields; people who made

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

announced in advance to enable the invitees to prepare for the occasion. The majority of the gathering could be under the category of special invitees under different categories," the communication said. The States and Union Territories

reserved for such achievers. The names of such invitees should be

were told that a system where the for invitee list was generated afresh tion; every year should be instituted so that an opportunity was given to a broad set of people.

It could be considered that a person

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

Explore Sikkim's landscape from home soon

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

Aiming to promote sustainable tourism in the State which has taken various measures to be eco-friendly, this groundbreaking project from India's first Organic State merges travel delight with cutting-edge technology, offering an

Residents prepare to move out over dam collapse fear

immersive tour of the region's stunning

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

The Dzongri trek, a popular trekking route that can be completed in about 6-7 days, is a delight for tourists and adventure trekkerst with pristine views. The VR initiative opens new avenues for experiencing the natural beauty of Sikkim and ensures accessibility to breathtaking locations regardless of adverse weather conditions or natural calamities. Users can virtually trek through the dense forests of the track, encountering zig zag trails in a realistic setting.

An official from the Union Tourism

Ministry praised the State's initiative stating the project aims to contribute to the long-term growth and sustainability of the tourism sector in the region. Continued on Page 2



Family members of the victims mourn after a stampede at Baba Siddhanath temple, in Jehanabad district, Monday morning, Aug. 12, 2024. At least seven

Seven killed in Bihar temple

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

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI erstwhile Travancore State, which, about his reservations about the Presidency's right to generate power Diwan. But research led him to together with the princely State of Kochi and Malabar, constitute the from Perivar River water, the alliance While people in the districts of Kottayam, Idukki, Ernakulam, governments that ruled the newly information hitherto inaccessible to present-day Kerala. all and proved the sincerity of Aiyer, carved out State of Kerala The agreement signed between A probe by P Sujathan, a chronicler squandered the successes won by Aiyer. "The Mullaperiyar Dam agreement of Kerala's history proves that the 1886 agreement between the two

Pathanamthitta and Alappuzha are getting ready for the eventuality of the collapse of Mullaperiyar Dam, the Tamil chauvinist outfits like DMK, MDMK, VCK and AIADMK are busy campaigning that the 130-year-

old reservoir is safe. Ganga Homemakers like Gopalakrishnan and Sheela Das in Perumbavoor are ready with suitcases packed with essential clothing and identification papers to move out to safer places. There is a

sense of uncertainty and unease across these districts, said Anita Prakash, a municipal Councillor. But the Kerala Government is maintaining a stony silence over the warning given by CP Ramaswamy

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

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



had told the then viceroy Lord Mountbaton in 1947 itself.

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

repute in his book "Sir CP's Role in Travancore". Professor Menon was a staunch

critic of Aiyer because of his intransigent approach to all issues Menon, a historian of international of modern-day India speak a lot

States were signed by K KV Rama Ayangar, the Tamil Nadu-born Diwan of Travancore and the Resident Collector of Madras Presidency. The 999-year-long tenancy itself is a mystery as all such agreements are

for a period of 99 years. Ayangar and other Tamils working for the Travancore Maharajah manipulated Pioneer.

the deal in favour of Madras Presidency," Sujathan told The Though by 1941 Ramaswami Aiyer argued in favour of Kerala and made the umpire appointed to arbitrate on

the dispute to nullify Madras

veteran legislature, spearheading a battle for the decommissioning of government

the outdated and dangerous dam. Those who question the legality of the dam are arrested by the DMK government and jailed. Interestingly, Tamil Nadu has done nothing to resolve its water shortage though it has spent crores on lawyers for filing cases in the apex court," said George.

itself has lost its validity following the departure of the British from

India for good. The question why the

Kerala Government signed another

deal with Tamil Nadu leaves much to

be answered for," said P C George,

stampede PNS JEHANABAD (BIHAR)

Kanwariyas, identified as Pyare Paswan (30), Nisha Devi (30), Punam Devi (30), Nisha Kumari (21), and Sushila Devi (64). The identity of one woman remains unknown, the official added. Continued on Page 2

High alert in J&K ahead of I-Day celebrations

In the run-up to the 78th Independence Day celebrations, the entire security grid in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir has now been kept in a state of high alert to ensure peaceful and incidentfree celebrations.

Amid heightened tensions and ongoing counter-terrorist operations in the South Kashmir district of Anantnag, the foot soldiers of the Indian army have been maintaining a tight vigil along the 750 Km-long line of control to foil any fresh infiltration bid by the Border Action Team of the Pakistan army and heavily armed ter-

On July 27, one soldier of the Indian army made a supreme sacrifice while four others received injuries in the BAT attack along the line of control in the Kamakari sector of Macchal in the North Kashmir district of Kupwara.

Meanwhile, preparations are being made across different district headquarters to mark the special celebrations. The entire region is witnessing large-scale participation in the nationwide 'Har Ghar Tiranga campaign'.

In Srinagar Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha Monday joined thousands of citizens from all walks of life in



walkathon from the International Convention Centre to the Botanical Garden to celebrate the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' Utsav.

The Lt Governor said, "Har Ghar Tiranga campaign in J&K has grown to be a people's "Bring home the National Flag

and hoist it with pride and honour. Be a part of the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign," the Lt Governor told the citizens. On the occasion, the Lt Governor released Monograph dedicated to the martyrs and bravehearts of Jammu Kashmir and launched the Tiranga signature cam-

Since January 1, 2024 15 terror attacks have taken place across six districts of the otherwise peaceful Jammu region,

which have resulted in the deaths of 28 people, including 14 security personnel, a village defence guard, and five terror-

To contain the situation, the Union government has already deployed additional troops across the Jammu region to flush out the foreign terrorists from their safe hideouts carved inside the forested areas of Rajouri, Poonch, Reasi, Udhampur. Doda, Kishtwar and Kathua

Two battalions of the Assam Rifles have also been inducted in the Machhedi area of Kathua and other upper reaches. Three thousand additional army troops and 2000 BSF men have been deployed across the region to plug the gaps and launch anti-terrorist operations across different sectors.

Kochi bids tearful adieu to last surviving Jew

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Queenie Hallegua, the last surviving woman member of Kochi's Jewish community is no more. Eighty nine-year old Hallegua, whom people addressed as Queen Hallegua breathed her last early Sunday morning leaving her friends and acquaintances in deep sorrow. She was the daughter of business baron S Koder, who was instrumental in bringing the super market culture to

With the demise of Queenie, Kochi is left with just one Jew, Keith Hallegua, her 65 year old relation. The significance of being Queenie and a Jew could be understood from the fact that there were thousands of Jews in the Queen of Arabian Sea before the formation of the State of Israel. Most of them left Kochi and suburban regions for the Promised Land.

Queenie's father S Koder was part and parcel of Kochi as he was the one who launched a private power supply company in the metropolis much before our politicians spoke of bringing private capital in this sector. The power distribution network named Kochin electric Company was taken over by the State Electricity Board and since then the people understood



the meaning of load shedding and power cut.

The network of super markets Koder & Co at Thiruvananthapuram and Kochi were launched by Koder and the people in the State got their first global shopping experience through

There was a street named Jew Street in Kochi which was the hub of business activities. The Jews were also instrumental in ushering in etiquette, a culture alien to the Malayalis even today. For the Jews, Kerala and India were homes away from home and they always waxed eloquence on this State for the kindness and hospitality with which their ancestors were welcomed to the State by then

Koder Buildings at Kochi built by her father S Koder is a leading tourist attraction in Kochi along with the elegant synagogue. Samuel Hallegua, her husband predeceased her and they are survived by Fiona and David. The last rites were performed as per Jewish tradition and her mortal remains was interred at the Jewish cemetery at Mattancherry. According to Jewish culture, there is a requirement of ten male members for such ceremonies, and the funeral was held following the tradition. Two Jews, who were in Fort Kochi as tourists, also took part in the funeral,. Kochi has lost a loving and dedicated philanthropist.

Rain leads to waterlogging, traffic congestion in Delhi

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

s rain lashed the national A capital on Monday morning, waterlogging and traffic congestion was witnessed by officer goers in different parts of the city on their way to their workplace.

The India Meteorological Department said that a 'yellow' warning was also issued after parts of Delhi recorded rainfall on Monday. Central, south, southwest and east Delhi recorded rainfall during the morning, it added. The met department also said

that the city's Primary weather station Safdarjung recorded 30 mm of rainfall till 8:30 am in the last 24 hours. Other weather stations including Najafgarh recorded 28.5 mm rain, Ayanagar 53.8 mm, Delhi University six mm, Lodi road 34.4 mm, Narela 14.5 mm, Palam 46 mm, Ridge seven mm, Pitampura 10 mm, Pusa 8.5 mm and Mayur Vihar's Salwan public school 59 mm. The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) received 32 complaints regarding waterlogging and tree falling between 6 am to 6 pm. A total of 16 calls regarding waterlogging including Ajmeri Gate, Vijay Naga, Rohini, Nangloi, Prem Nagar, Uttam Nagar, Mayapuri, Vishwakarma



Nagar, Mundka, Greater Kailash, Najafgarh, and Azad Market road. A total of 16 complaints were regarding tree falling from different parts of city including Tughlakabad, Pitampura, Sultanpuri, Jasola, Okhla Industrial Estate, Lodi Colony and Dwarka.

The Delhi Traffic Police advised commuters about traffic diversions due to waterlogging in different areas in a series of post on X. "Traffic is affected on Anuvrat Marg in both the carriageways due to water logging near Qutub Minar Metro Station. Minar Commuters are advised to avoid the stretch and plan their journey accordingly," it stated. The maximum temperature was recorded at 31.6 degrees Celsius, three notches below the normal. Delhi's minimum temperature settled at 24.8 degrees Celsius while the relative humidity at 8:30 am was recorded at 100 per cent.

Meeting convened on flood preparedness by CEO, GMDA

PARVESH SHARMA

Sreenivas, Chief **A**Executive Officer (CEO), Gurugram Metropolitan Development Authority (GMDA) on Monday convened an inter-department meeting in the GMDA office to deliberate on a broad and long-term comprehensive development plan for enhanced flood preparedness during the monsoon season. "GMDA has analysed satellite data collated over a period of five years to identify and map the low lying and potential waterlogging prone areas under Gurugram Manesar

Urban Complex area. Out of the 79 vulnerable spots falling along GMDA master roads in 2020, remedial measures and laying of adequate infrastructure have been taken by the Authority on 63 such locations to provide relief during heavy

We will also identify additional new hotspots where waterlogging has been reported this year which will be shared with the respective departments. A Committee will be formed to chart a cohesive and longterm comprehensive plan to equip the city with adequate and efficient drainage system and to mitigate urban flooding," said CEO GMDA.

Raise Bangladesh issue at international level: AKY to Indian Govt

PNS LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav on Monday said any country that uses the political situation of another country to serve its own designs weakens itself.

Yadav was apparently referring to the situation in Bangladesh though in his post on X, he did not specifically name Bangladesh or India but without elaborating, he mentioned the "failure" of foreign policy. "Many times, interference by any other country at a single level in the internal matters of a country is not considered appropriate on global diplomatic standards, but in such a case, for the all-round protection of the affected country and its culturally related people, that country should activate its silent foreign policy

and take courageous and positive vocal initiatives in collaboration with the world community, so that meaning-ful solutions can be found," Yadav said.

"The government which remains a silent spectator in such a situation should believe that it is the failure of its foreign policy that the conditions in the countries adjacent to it in all directions are neither normal nor favourable for it. This means that from the 'geopolitical' point of view, there has been a grave mistake in its foreign policy. Only by binding a large geographical area with the thread of cul-tural-proximity and mutual understanding and brotherhood can peace be brought to various troubled land blocks of the world," the SP chief said. "World history is a witness that in different countries, violent mass revolutions, military coups and anti-government movements have taken place against the government for various reasons, right or wrong, depending on the test of the time," Yadav posted on

In such a situation, only that country has "risen again" which has not discriminated against anyone on any ground. In another tweet, Akhilesh Yadav said: "No community, whether it is the majority of Bangladesh with a different viewpoint or the minority of Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists or any other religion-sect-belief, should become a victim of vio-

He urged the Indian government to take a strong stance at the international level, saying, anti-quota protests first start-"The Indian government ed in mid-July. the international level, saying,

should strictly raise this issue at the international level as a matter of protection of human rights. This is also a very sensitive issue of our defence and internal security.

A number of Hindu temples, households and businesses were vandalised, women assaulted and at least two Hindu leaders affiliated with the Awami League party headed by Sheikh Hasina were killed in the violence in Bangladesh after she fled the country, according to community leaders in Dhaka. More than 230 people were killed in Bangladesh in the incidents of violence that erupted across the country following the fall of the Hasina

DUBAI PROPERTY EXPO HELD

'Object-1' Developer of Dubai.

INBRIEF

New Delhi: Dubai property Expo was organised by ABOME Real Estate LLC, a Dubai based Real Estate Company along with



NIFTEM-K'S PESTICIDE DETECTION SYSTEM Kangra: National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Kundli (NIFTEM-K), an Institute of National Importance (INI), under the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), Government of India

showcased its groundbreaking innovation, i.e., the rapid pesticide detection system during the 250th Tea Board Meeting, hosted by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry at Palampur, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh

FRUIT TREE PLANTATION DRIVE AT GNDU

Amritsar: Department of Botanical and Environmental Sciences of Guru Nanak Dev University organised fruit tree plantation drive, the faculty, non-teaching staff and students and research scholars of the department planted and adopted more than 40 saplings of fruit trees in front of the department

ALL INDIA RAILWAY TABLE TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP AT NFR

Maligaon: The 70th All India Railway Table Tennis Championship (Men & Women) 2024 -2025 is being organised by the Northeast Frontier Railway. The championship started on 12th August, 2024 at N.F. Railway Indoor Stadium, Maligaon, Guwahati,



If Centre decides to remove 50% cap on quota, Maha parties will support Modi: Sharad

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Nationalist Congress Party (SP) chief Sharad Pawar on Monday lobbed the ball into the NDA government's court on the contentious reservations issue, by saying that if the Centre chose to remove the 50 per cent ceiling on reservations, all political par-ties in Maharashtra would support the Modi-led dispensation.

A day after pro-quota activists blocked his convoy in Solapur in district western Maharashtra and demanded to know his stand on Maratha reservations, Sharad Pawar asked chief minister Eknath Shinde to convene an all-Party meeting to decide on the way forward to find solution to the vexed reservation issue



"The judiciary has put a 50 percent restriction on reservations in the country, but if there's a problem then all parties in the state should come together and insist the Centre remove it. The Centre has the power to remove the 50 per cent ceiling on reservations. If the Centre decides to increase the reservation cap beyond 50 per cent, we fully back such a decision," Pawar said.

SC orders Shambhu...

From Page 1

It said if both sides are able to resolve such modalities, they need not wait for any order of this court and implement the resolution immediately.

It was hearing the Haryana government's plea challenging the high court order asking it to remove within a week the barricades at the Shambhu border near Ambala where protesting farmers have been camping since February 13. The Haryana government had

set up barricades on the Ambala-New Delhi national highway in February after the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and 'Kisan Mazdoor Morcha' announced that farmers would march to Delhi in support of their demands, including legal guarantee of minimum support price (MSP) for their produce.

The bench posted the matter for resumed hearing on August 22 and said it will pass an order that day for setting up a multi-member committee intervening to an extent, which normally we don't do, we intend to constitute a committee which will go at the

site, hear them (farmers) and both the state governments. Take the views of all the stakeholders and then suggest a holistic view," it said.

The bench appreciated the initiative taken by both the and Harvana governments for suggesting the names of "totally apolitical" people for the proposed panel have rendered "commendable services" in their respective fields.

During the hearing, Solicitor Tushar Mehta, General appearing for the Haryana government, requested the bench to stay a direction of the Punjab and Haryana High Court by which it has ordered a judicial commission to probe the extent of force used by police during a clash between the protesting farmers and Haryana security personnel in February in which a farmer Shubhkaran Singh lost his life. Singh, 21, a native of Bathinda was killed and several police personnel were injured in clashes at Khanauri on the Punjab-Haryana border on February 21.

The bench told Mehta that the panel is headed by a retired high court judge which would only increase the fairness and objectivity of the probe.

Docs strike work over...

From Page 1

At least ten Government hospitals in Delhi, including RML Hospital, VMMC, Safdarjung Hospital, and Lady Hardinge Medical College, among others, have halted elective services. In Maharashtra, Maharashtra Association of

Resident Doctors (BMC MARD) has announced a suspension emergency medical services starting from Tuesday, August 13.

Protests have also spread to other cities, including Chandigarh, Bhubaneswar and Lucknow.

Naresh President, RDA at SCB Medical College and

Tihar jail terms

Kejriwal's letter

Lambasting the Delhi Chief

Minister Arvind Kejriwal,

Delhi BJP said that since the

Jail Superintendent's circular

letter makes it clear that the

Chief Minister cannot issue

any governmental directives

to LG abuse...

From Page 1

Hospital in Cuttack, Odisha, said, "This horrifying incident underscores the severe deficiencies in security systems within our medical institutions.

government last week, taking

the death toll to 560 since the

We demand an immediate, impartial, and transparent investigation. The safety of our doctors and staff must be prioritized."

Dr Alok Bhandari, DMA President said that "We call upon the NMC to urgently comprehensive issue guidelines aimed at ensuring safe and secure working conditions for all doctors across India.

These guidelines must be implemented uniformly in all medical institutions to prevent further tragedies."

from jail, it is evident that

Gopal Rai's letter is

unconstitutional, invalid,

and Ms. Atishi cannot hoist

the national flag. The Delhi

programme is held at Chhatrasal Stadium where

the chief minister addresses

A prior attempt at conveying

this request has not gone down well with the

government's

Independence

the gathering.

Seven killed in Bihar...

From Page 1

District Magistrate Alankrita Pandey confirmed the fatalities and injuries, stating that the stampede took place at the temple around 11.30 pm on Sunday. She said that security personnel at the temple acted quickly to bring the situation under control and keep the casualties low.

"Seven people, mostly kanwariyas, were killed and 16 others injured in a stampede at Baba Siddeshwar Nath temple in Barabar Pahadi area of Jehanabad around 11.30 pm on Sunday. The deceased included six women", she told PTI.

Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar expressed grief over the incident and announced an ex gratia of Rs 4 lakh each for the

authorities at Tihar Jail,

where Kejriwal is currently

lodged in connection with

an alleged excise policy scam

and wrote to the Lieutenant

Governor, stating that Delhi

minister Atishi would hoist

the national flag in his place.

The Lieutenant Governor's

office, however, had denied

communication from the

next of kin the deceased. The Chief Minister also directed the district administration to ensure the best possible medical treatment for the

"The CM has instructed that an ex gratia of Rs 4 lakh each be immediately provided to the next of the kin of the deceased. Kumar has also directed the district administration to provide best possible treatment to the injured," a statement by the Chief Minister's Office said. The injured were taken to medical facilities in Mukundapur and nearby areas, with 10 of them

discharged after first aid. Six others were undergoing treatment in hospitals till the filing of this report.

letter, the Tihar authorities said, "From a bare reading of the above rules, it is clear that your communication does not qualify in the permissible communication which can be sent outside the prison. Only private correspondence with a designated set of people, as defined above, is permissible. Therefore, your letter dated 06.08.2024 has not been sent

to the addressee but has been

which will talk to all the **Explore...** stakeholders and find a solution. "Now that we are

He said that the VR Experience Centre can serve as a model for other regions and act as a technological innovations in the ecotourism industry, thereby solidifying Sikkim's position as a leader in sustainable nature-based tourism practices.

Sikkim's proposed VR-based Ecotourism Initiative aligns with various global projects in their goal to promote sustainable tourism and conservation. In fact, projects involving Virtual Reality (VR) are catching the attention worldwide as an ecotourism

concept. For instance, Google Earth VR allows users to explore various natural wonders and remote locations around the world from their homes. This tool provides a way for people to

experience places they might not be able to visit physically, promoting global awareness and appreciation of different ecosystems. Similarly, the Virtual Reality Gorilla Project (Rwanda) is a great hit among the tourists as an immersive VR experience of trekking with mountain gorillas in the country. It aims to raise awareness about the these conservation of endangered species and the importance of protecting their

natural habitats. Yet another VR project on the 'The Great Barrier Reef VR Experience' in Australia allows users to dive into the Great Barrier Reef, experiencing the underwater world and its biodiversity. The initiative aims to educate people about the threats to coral reefs and conservation

Mamata hints at handover... From Page 1 She was allegedly raped and

murdered. After initial flip-flop — during which hospital authorities as well as a section of the cops allegedly tried to pass it off as a suicide case the police swung into action as the news spread and students went into a combative mode and arrested one Sanjoy Roy a civic police personnel. However referring to the

postmortem reports that

suggested that the victim had

her collar bone, pelvic bone

and fingers broken with other multiple injuries the medical fraternity erupted alleging cover-up by the Government. They said that some highly connected medical intern could be involved in the incident as Roy a lean man could not have done such crime alone. Referring to the incident Banerjee said "I have told the police that if there is any such doubt against anyone - the victim's friends and others - they should be questioned," adding, "Whoever is involved

in the case should be punished

immediately. We want this case

to be fast-tracked because then

the judicial process will be

She said that the Government had removed the Head of the Department, Superintendant, Principal and Vice Principal as also the Assistant Commissioner of Police attached to the Hospital Notwithstanding assurance, the junior doctors demanded Judicial Inquiry, comprehensive security procedure and arrest of the

insiders involved in the dastardly felony. They alleged that a topmost official of the premium medical college was involved in all kind of criminal and corrupt activities including sale in the open market of bio-medical waste generated from the hospital. This official was very close to the State's topmost political family which was why he was thrice transferred from the college but returned to his post as many times.

All the medical colleges and other super-specialty hospitals of the State are controlled by syndicates ... these are illegal parking syndicates, bio-medical waste syndicates, black-marketing of hospital equipment and drugs, appointment rackets of the security staff ... all kinds of crime they are involved in and the money ... maybe tens of crores go to the highest echelon," said Opposition BJP leadership.

Responding to Kejriwal's Terror module busted in...

receiving

chief minister.

The members of the module have confirmed that the three terrorists killed at the Gandoh encounter had taken the help of the module in hiding and traveling without being detected fill they reached the upper reaches. According to a spokesman of the Jammu and Kashmir police, Mohd Lateef is a resident of Ambe Naal, Kathua. He is the kingpin of the entire network of Overground workers (OGWs) in the area. According to police Mohd Lateef acted as a guide and provided logistics etc for the groups of terrorists passing through the area. He engaged and directed others in their role as guide/food provider in the area. The police spokesman said eight other enemy agents have been identified as Akhter Ali S/o Late Rashid Wo Ambe Naal, Tehsil

and District Kathua, Saddam S/o Late Baza R/o Bhadu Billawar, District Kathua, Kushal S/o Late Baza R/o Bhaddu Billawar, District Kathua, Noorani S/o Late Meer R/o Juthana, P/S Rajbagh, District Kathua, Maqbool S/o Mohd LateefR/o Soffain, District Kathua. vii. Liaquat Ŝ/o Haji Lateef, Kasim Din S/o Shahin Din, Khadim @ Qazi S/o Baza Wo Kattal, Bhadu, Billawar.

Kolkata doctor murder: Delhi doctors join indefinite strike

In light of the recent rape and murder of a resident doctor in Kolkata, resident doctors from multiple hospitals in Delhi, including centrally-run facilities All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Ram Manohar Lohia (RML) Hospital and Safdarjung Hospital, have begun an indefinite strike, suspending all elective services on Monday. Resident doctors especially female doctors in RML hospital expressed their feelings about working in state of fear because of the lackadaisical attitude of the authorities while carrying placards with 'Nahi chahiye, Nahi chahiye, agli Nirbhaya nahi chahiye, 'we want a safe environment to work', 'we want justice' and 'Nirbhaya 2.0' written on

Senior Resident Doctor in RML's Neurology department

raised concerns about her safety while working late and said, "How will we work in such an environment where a doctor isn't safe in their workplace? This is not about doctors, this is also about a woman who will have to work in conditions where she doesn't feel safe?"

Urging everyone to come together like they did in the Nirbhaya rape case, she said, The authorities do not care about our safety. Over the period of a year guards were reduced and bouncers, that are there to ensure safety in emergency situation, were removed. Moreover, the guards do not have any weapon to protect

Another protesting doctor recounted an instance when a patient misbehaved with her. Such is our condition that when we scold a patient for misbehaving then he retorts

outside. We used to feel scared going outside but now we are not even safe inside."

According to the Federation of Resident Doctors Association (FORDA), during the indefinite strike, all outpatient departments (OPDs), operation theatres (OTs), and ward duties will be shut, but emergency services will continue to operate as usual, ensuring that urgent patient care remains unaffected.

Female doctors also shared that with the recent incident their family feel worried all the time too. "My mother calls me asking me to be safe but how do I ensure that all the time. This is like our second home. However, even our home isn't safe for us. Everyone talks about women empowerment but when women work authorities don't ensure their safety," Dr Jasmine said. A male doctor claimed that when



in the premier RML hospital the security measures are negligible, how female doctors will work elsewhere.

AIIMS' Resident Doctors' Association (RDA) joined FORDA in its nationwide strike against the trainee doctor's rape and murder in Kolkata. "We also want adequate compensation to be provided to the bereaved family of the victim. The horror of this atrocity, occurring in a place meant to heal and save lives, is a grim reminder of the severe threat faced by those who serve our society selflessly," said Dr Raghunandan Dixit, General Secretary of AIIMS pating in the strike that began at 9 am include the Maulana Azad Medical College, Lady Hardinge Medical College, VMMC and Safdarjung Hospital, Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Institute of Human Behaviour, Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Medical Sciences and Allied Sciences (IHBAS), Dr Baba Saheb Ambedkar Medical College, and National Institute of TB and Respiratory Diseases Hospital.

FORDA General Secretary Dr Sarvesh Pandey said, "We presented our demands to the Health Secretary, including the immediate removal of the principal of RG Kar Medical College, a CBI inquiry, a fasttrack court (trial), and the formation of a committee to implement the Central Protection Act."

national council member of Indian Association's Junior Doctors Network, said, "Unlike every time when the assault on doctors went unnoticed, the doctors nationwide won't stop this time unless justice is served and our demands are met.' "FORDA has decided halting

of elective health services across the nation which is supported by all the doctors and medical associations. At a personal level, we also request the doctors to wear black ribbons as a mark of solidarity in support of the victim who lost

her life," Chauhan added. GTB Hospital RDA president Rajat Sharma said, "This is a matter of national concern and until we see concrete results, we will not back down. We will stand with our fellow students and offer our full sup-

also pointed to security concerns at the hospital. RDA members have also met with Health Secretary Apurva Chandra, where they called for a CBI inquiry into the incident.Meanwhile, patients visiting out-patient departments of various Delhi government hospitals had to return without consultation. The strike has caused hardships to some individuals who had come from NCR towns of Ghaziabad, Gurugram, and Faridabad as early as 5 am to secure a spot in the queue. Lovekush, who brought his 55year-old father Subhash Singh suffering from tuberculosis (TB), said, "My father is a TB patient. As the breadwinner in my family, I have to manage everything, and the day was wasted. I'm returning home with him without any check-

a person at GTB Hospital, he

Police deploying 700 Al-based facial recognition cameras

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to ensure safe celebrations on Independence Day on August 15, the Delhi Police is using the power of artificial intelligence by deploying 700 AI-based facial recognition cameras in the national capital which will automatically detect matches with individuals on the "Watch List" database and alert the control room.

The deployment of advanced AI-powered security systems will enhance surveillance capabilities at and around Red Fort. Besides, the Delhi Police has also beefed up security arrangements by deploying over 3,000 traffic police officers and more than 10,000 police personnel.

Police will also make use of the police's e-beatbook app by making use of its facial recognition system which enables an officer to run a facial scan of a suspect and access his criminal record. DCP South Ankit Chauhan stated, "This will also help in making sure there is heightened surveillance for the big event as it stores all the records." These measures aim to strengthen security and ensure the safety of attendees during the high-profile event.

Additional police teams and paramilitary forces have been

including IGI Airport, railway stations, bus stands, malls and markets. More than 3,000 traffic police personnel will be deployed to regulate the traffic and will be deployed at major junctions across the national capital, and also on roads connecting the border to the Red Fort on the occa-

"Multiple layers of security arrangements will be in place in Red Fort. We have already procured 700 AI-based facial recognition CCTV cameras to ensure robust security arrangements Independence Day," a senior

police officer said. Police said that these cameras will have high-resolution pantilt-zoom features, allowing deployed at various locations police to identify anyone from The recent assassination bid

a distance. These cameras will be installed in and around the fort. The cameras with AIbased 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.

Police will also use a smartphone-based application to verify the identity of people coming to attend the event at the Red Fort, an officer said. 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 VVÎP guests, police said.

Donald Trump has made the role of snipers extremely crucial this Independence Day. Official sources said that in a recent meeting regarding the security arrangements at the Red Fort, the attack on Trump was discussed and Delhi Police Commissioner Sanjay Arora emphasised stringent

security to be put in place. Recently, Delhi Police arrested a wanted terrorist, a member of the Pune module of ISIS, on Friday. "After the development teams have 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 Deputy associations," Commissioner of Police

The DCP further said that the police are making elaborate security arrangements for more than 20,000 to 22,000 guests who will be coming to attend the programme. "We are requesting people and even guests to come to the venue by metro. All the gates of the metro will be open. Besides, multi-layered security arrangements will be made. We are holding meet-

(North) Manoj Kumar Meena

on former US president ings of all the area SHOs to ensure a law and order situation. Police are fully prepared according to the inputs we have received so far," DCP Meena said.

Meanwhile, DCP IGI Airport, Usha Rangnani, said that the team IGI Airport police, in collaboration with paramilitary forces, is committed to ensuring security at IGI Airport in preparation for the upcoming Independence

Shahdara DCP Surendra Choudhary said, "The district is ramping up safety measures ahead of Independence Day with tenant verifications, round-the-clock foot patrols, community vigilance and mock drills are also being conducted to ensure public safety and security."

The areas surrounding the Red Fort will be demarcated as a "no kite flying zone" until the programme is over. Several personnel will be deployed with necessary equipment on strategic locations to intercept kites, police

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. An order to this effect was issued by the Delhi Police Chief.

I-Day celebrations 2024: Traffic police issues advisory

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Traffic Police has issued an advisory for the full dress rehearsal on August 13 for the Independence Day function, announcing road closures and alternative routes. Eight roads -- Netaji Subhash Marg, Lothian Road, SP

Mukherjee Marg, Chandni Chowk Road, Nishad Raj Marg, Esplanade Road and its Link Road, Ring Road from Rajghat to ISBT, and Outer Ring Road from ISBT to IP Flyover -- will be closed from 4 am to 11 am on Tuesday. Vehicles without parking labels

for the rehearsal should avoid C-Hexagon, India Gate, Copernicus Marg, Mandi House, Sikandra Road, W Point, A point Tilak Marg, Mathura Road, BSZ Marg, Netaji Subhash Marg, JL Nehru Marg, Ring Road between Nizamuddin Khatta and ISBT Kashmere Gate, and Outer Ring Road from Nizamuddin Khatta to ISBT Kashmere Gate via Salimgarh bypass, the advisory said.

The commuters travelling between north Delhi and south Delhi should take alternative routes of Aurobindo Marg, Safdarjung Road, Kamal Ataturk Marg, Kautilya Marg, SPM Marg, 11 Murti, Mother Teresa Crescent, Park Street,



Mandir Marg, Panchkuian Road, and Rani Jhansi Road to reach their destinations.

In the east-west corridor, vehicular traffic will follow on alternative routes of NH-24, Nizamuddin Khatta, Barapula Road — under AIIMS Flyover on the Ring Road, Nizamuddin Khatta, Ring Road, Mathura Road, Subramania Bharti Marg, Rajesh Pilot Marg, Prithviraj Road and Safdarjung Road, etc and vice versa, will be closed it said.

Old Iron bridge and Geeta Colony bridge towards Shanti Van will also be closed. DND, NH-24 (NH-9), Yudhister Setu, Signature Bridge, and Wazirabad Bridge will remain open to reach Ring Road, it stated. Movement of goods vehicles between Nizamuddin and Wazirabad bridges will not be permitted from August 12 midnight to 11 am on August 13.

Inter-state buses will also not be allowed between Maharana

Pratap ISBT and Sarai Kale Khan ISBT during this period, the advisory said. City buses, including the ones operated by the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC), will not ply on Ring Road from August 12 midnight to 11 am on August 13 and between ISBT to NH-24 (NH-9)/NH T-point on Ring Road and take alter-

native routes, it said. Buses originating from east, north, central, west, south and intending to use Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, Tilak Marg, Subash Marg, Ring Road between Akhara Chandgi Ram and Hazrat Nizamuddin Bridge are directed to avoid these stretches and take alternative routes, as per the advi-

People attending the Independence Day function are advised not to bring cameras, binoculars, remote control car keys, umbrellas, handbags, briefcases, transistors, cigarette lighters, tiffin boxes, water bottles, lunch boxes, etc, it said. Flying of sub-conventional aerial platforms like paragliders, para-motors, hang gliders, UAVs, micro-light aircraft, remotely piloted aircraft, hot air balloons, quadcopters or para jumping from aircraft etc are prohibited over the jurisdiction of Delhi till August 15, the advisory added.

LG holds meeting to review implementation of three criminal laws

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELH

ieutenant Governor Vinai Lieutenani Governo.

Kumar Saxena on Monday held a meeting to review the implementation of the three new criminal legislations, which came into effect from July 1, in the national Capital and stressed upon removing the hurdles at the earliest. Delhi Home Minister Kailash

Gahlot accompanied Saxena during the review, while Law Minister Atishi, who was also supposed to be present, could not attend the review meeting due to some family medical exigency.
"LG reviewed the action taken on decisions taken during pre-

vious meetings held in this regard. Saxena asked officials of all stakeholder departments including Delhi Home Department, GNCTD, Delhi Delica Forancia Science Police, Forensic Science Laboratory, National Informatics Directorate of Prosecution, GNCTD, to come up with specific timelines for completing various projects that are in the pipeline relating to the implementation of the new laws," a statement by Raj Niwas

Various issues were deliberated upon in the meeting, including the training of nodal officers appointed by the Health Department for MedLEaPR (portal for medicolegal cases). "LG was informed that the Health Department, CNCTD because the standard of the control of the standard of the standar GNCTD has onboarded all hospitals of the Central Government in Delhi namely, AIIMS, Safdarjung Hospital, Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, and Lady Hardinge Hospital on MedLEaPR," it added. A total of 186 Delhi

Government doctors and 32 Central Government doctors have registered them on MedLEaPR till Monday and



have created 81 Reports on the portal. Training sessions on June 28, July 2, and July 24 had been organized by NIC for nodal officers and doctors nominated by respective hospitals and institutes. Further, training of 26 doctors of GNCTD has also been conducted by National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) in Gujarat on 30th and 31st July in the first batch.

The procurement of mobile forensic vans for Police and FSL and the necessary infrastructure for providing video conference facilities in all 691 courts of Delhi were also deliberated upon. In both matters, LG has directed the departments to expedite the process, in consultation with all stakeholders departments. LG directed the department to ensure transparency in procurement process," the state-

curement process, the statement said.

It added that the filling of vacancies of 165 junior scientific assistants who would be deployed at the crime scene by FSSL was also discussed. "LG was informed that the process of recruitment of 165 junior scientific assistants on conscientific assistants on conscientific assistants on contractual basis for six months would be completed by September 21, 2024. However, the LG directed the FSL to maintain total transparency

in the matters so that there is no scope for any complaint even in the future," an official said, adding that he further emphasised that steps should be taken for the regular appointment of junior scientific assistants. He stated that the Recruitment

Rules (RRs) for various vacant posts in FSL and Directorate of Prosecution were also discussed. "On the proposal for a new building for the Directorate of Prosecution, the LG asked the Chief Secretary and other officials to explore the possibility of providing a suitable space for the Prosecution Department till new infrastructure is developed for the purpose. The LG asked officials of various departments concerned to conduct a joint inspection of the possible sites," another official stated.

The statement added that the LG was also apprised about the updates on suitable changes in the Inter-operable Criminal Justice System, e-court, e-forensic, SOP for Crime Scene Management, mapping of Special Courts with all Police Stations, and Special Police Stations with concerned Courts, Cadre Restructuring of Directorate of Prosecution and framing of Recruitment Rules

Tihar circular makes it clear Kejriwal doesn't | HC grants interim have authority to issue directives from jail: BJP



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Amid the Tihar Jail Superintendent informing Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal that his letter to Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena regarding the flag hoisting on Independence Day was "an abuse of privileges", Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva on Monday claimed that the letter makes it clear that the AAP supremo does not have the authority to issue any administrative directives from jail. Sachdeva alleged that Delhi and the nation witnessed Arvind Kejriwal spreading anarchy just days before the Republic Day celebrations in 2014. "It is regrettable that ten years later, once again, Arvind Kejriwal is determined to make the Delhi Independence Day celebrations controversial due to his obstinacy," he stated. He mentioned that a few days

ago, the entire social media ecosystem of the AAP spread the news of Kejriwal writing a letter to the Saxena, stating that Minister Atishi would hoist the national flag on August 15. "However, today, a circular let-ter from the Tihar Jail Superintendent has come to light, making it clear that whether it is Chief Minister

Kejriwal or any other prisoner, they are only allowed to send letters from jail concerning their personal and family matters. They are not permitted to issue any governmental directives or requests from jail,"

Sachdeva claimed Sachdeva claimed that Minister Gopal Rai issued a new 'misleading letter' as soon as the circular letter from the Jail Superintendent surfaced stating that as per the Chief Minister's instructions Atishi would hoist the national flag and the con-cerned department should pre-

pare for it. Superintendent's circular letter makes it clear that the Chief Minister cannot issue any governmental directives from jail, it is evident that Gopal Rai's letter is unconstitutional, invalid, and Atishi cannot hoist the national flag," he said, adding that Kejriwal is making the Independence Day flag hoisting controver-

"It would be better if the General Administration Minister, Gopal Rai, consults constitutional experts and the Lieutenant Governor to ensure that the decision made is valid under the Constitution," he

Kejriwal has asked Atishi to hoist flag on I-Day: Rai

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi environment minister Gopal Rai said on Monday said that chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has asked education minister Atishi to hoist the national flag on Independence

Day.
Delhi's Minister of General
Administration Department (GAD), Gopal Rai, has written to the Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) of GAD, conveying Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's desire for Minister Atishi to hoist the national flag at the Chhatrasal Stadium on August 15, 2024 in his stead. Rai issued the directions following a meeting with Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal in Tihar Jail.

In his letter, Rai stated, "I had a meeting with Chief Minister today. He desires that Minister Atishi should hoist the flag on 15th August 2024, at the Chhatrasal Stadium event, in his place... All the necessary arrangements be made accord-

Every year, the Delhi govern-ment's Independence Day function takes place at Chhatrasal Stadium where chief minister Kejriwal addresses the gathering.

Earlier, on August 7, AAP announced that chief minister Arvind Kejriwal has also written to the Delhi LG that Atishi would hoist the national flag in

protection from arrest to former IAS trainee Puja

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court on Monday granted interim protection from arrest to the former trainee Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Puja Khedkar who is accused of fraudulently clearing the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) examination.

Justice Subramonium Prasad granted the interim relief to Khedkar till August 21, while issuing notice to the Delhi Police and UPSC on her peti-tion for anticipatory bail. During the hearing of the case, the court remarked that the trial court while denying relief to Khedkar got bogged down by the allegations against her and did not properly deal with the bail plea. "In the facts of the present case, the court is of the opinion that the petitioner be not arrested till the next date of hearing," Justice Prasad said, adding that Khedkar shall cooperate with the investiga-

The court listed the case for further hearing on August

Khedkar allegedly misrepresented information in her application for the UPSC Civil Services Examination, 2022 to get reservation benefits.

On July 31, the UPSC cancelled Khedkar's candidature and debarred her from future

On August 1, a sessions court here had denied anticipatory bail to her and said there are serious allegations against her, which "require a thorough investigation". During the hearing, the high



UPSC to state the need of her custody in the case when it was a case of "false representation" in a document and Khedkar "was not in the system to tamper with the system" and allegedly committed the offence alone. "Why do you need her custody? The case appears to be

of false representation given by her in her form... All these are in her form only. Where is the question of any-

body else being involved that would require her custody?" the court observed.

While denying the pre-arrest bail, the trial court went on to deal with the alleged offence but did not say anything on why the relief ought to have been refused, the high court

Senior advocate Naresh Kaushik, appearing for the UPSC, said Khedkar was "not an ordinary person" but a "mastermind" who was "equally influential and manipulative", even if not part of the system. "Next four part of the system. "Next four days, if you don't have reason to arrest, don't arrest her," the court told the police.

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

"In its pathological hatred for

Prime Minister Narendra Modi,

the Congress, led by Rahul

Gandhi and his toolkit friends,

The SEBI had sent a notice to

the US-based Hindenburg as

part of its probe on the Supreme

Court's order following the

firm's allegations of stock mar-

ket manipulation against the

Adani group. Hindenburg never

replied but has instead launched

an attack on SEBI Chairperson

Madhabi Puri Buch, he said.

With Rahul Gandhi spear-

heading his party's attack on the

Government over the issue,

Prasad said he has a habit of

throwing unfounded charges

and noted that he never gave his

phone for investigation after an

investigation was ordered over

Dhar. Date: 12.08.2024

has developed hatred for India.

NEW DELHI

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

wider conspiracy. While India is being globally seen as a safe, stable and promising market, the Congress party wants to project that the Indian investment scenario is not safe, he alleged, suggesting that the Opposition party was seizing on the "chits" provided by foreign entities to damage economy. Billionaire investor George Soros is an investor in Hinderburg and he is known for running propaganda against the Government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Prasad said. The Congress

wants stock market, which has

Profit/ (Loss) for the period before tax

Net Profit / Loss for the period after tax

DATED : 12TH AUGUST, 2024 PLACE : DELHI

J&K Bank

ted is mentioned respectively.

Details of Security

Charged covered

under Auction

Reserve price

EMD Amount

Bid Increment

Branch

E-auction

Outstanding Dues

Name & Number of

Contact Person &

Deposit (EMD) & Other Remittance/s

detail/s by RTGS to Account Number

support@ auctiontiger.net).

https://www.auctiontiger.net

Place: New Delh

Earnest Money



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

reports were not brought out

expose the Congress, he claimed.

At the press conference, he also slammed the Trinamool Congress Government in West Bengal over the rape and murder of a doctor at a State-run hospital, alleging that it was trying to cover up the incident. The BJP MP said the State Government should hand over the probe to the CBI.

Amid attacks on minority Hindus in the unrest-hit Bangladesh, the BJP Leader questioned the silence of the Opposition Leader s, including Gandhi, and noted that Modi had spoken about the need to protect them.

The Congress has demanded Buch's resignation and urged the Supreme Court to transfer the Adani probe to the CBI or a Special Investigation Team given the "likelihood of SEBI's compromise".The Opposition party also reiterated that the path forward is to immediately convene a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to investigate the full extent of what it described as the "Modani mega

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, SHOBHA ANIL W/O SHRI ANIL KUMAR R/C F-24, POCKET NO.18, GF, SECTOR-8, ROHINI DELHI, hereby publicly inform that I am the owner o

Shop No. 18 and Shop No. 19, both on First Floor, both situated at CSC, in The Eminabad & Rajasthan C.H.B.S. Ltd., also known as Rajasthali Market, Pitampura, Delhi, I have lost some of the documents

Pitampura, Delhi, Ihave lost some of the documents of my aforesaid shops. The details of missing documents for Shop No.18 are DDA Allotment Cum Demand Letter, DDA Possession Letter, DDA Pescale Blectric Water NOC and GPA-ATS Set D19.6 2000 executed by M/s. Bird Marketing Pvt. Ltd. In favour of Sarfia Ahuja (GPA parts) and Gulshan Kumar Ahuja (ATS Parts) and the details of missing documents for Shop No.19 are DDA Allotment Cum Demand Letter, DDA Possession Letter and DDA Electric Water, DDA Possession Letter and DDA Electric Water, NOC. I have lodged the necessary NCRIFIE, vide LR NOC. I have lodged the necessary NCRIFIE, vide LR Noc. 2003587/2024, Dt.6.8.2024. Any person who may found the same shall contact

Any person who may found the same shall contact ne either at Phone No. 9811666696, or E-mail

igma_anil@yahoo.co.in, or send the same at my

IIT Madras top in NIRF 2024, Centre to launch **IISc** ranked best university

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

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

ings was announced by Union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan on Monday. IISc Bengaluru has bagged the second spot in the "overall" category followed by IIT Bombay while IIT Delhi, which was at the third spot last year in the category, has slipped to the fourth position. Eight IITs have figured in the top ten besides All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi and the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). Among universities, IISc Bengaluru is followed by JNU and Jamia Millia Islamia.

Nine IITs are in the top ten list for engineering colleges with IIT Madras being at the top for

PUBLIC NOTICE

To be known to all that my client, SMT POONAM BATRA W/O SH. GIRDHARI LA BATRA R/O FLAT NO.61, ANTRIKSHA APARTMENTS, VIKAS PURI, NEW DELHI-1100 18, Allottee/Purchaser/ Owner of Flat No.61, ANTARIKSHA CABLE LTD., known a ANTARIKSHA CABLE LTD., Known a ANTARIKSHA APARTMENTS, PLOT NO.21 BLOCK-H, VIKASPURI, NEW DELHI-1100 TO NO.61 (74) 2024/GH.The origina documents i.e. ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT LETTER of the abney said flat has been lost An FLR

ocuments i.e. ORIGINAL ALLOTMENT LETTE if the above said flat has been lost. An F.I.R. CR/LR NO. 1701375/2024 dated 05/05/202 this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crim ranch, Delhi. Amy person(s) claiming any right terest, having any objection or found i lotment Letter of original documents, ma rite/contact with above named person a pove Address/Phone No. 9810471117 with Salvs from the date of publication of this cause from the date of publication of this cause from the date of publication of this date.

above Address/Phone No. 30 LD4/LLLY Williams 15 days from the date of publication of thi notice. The person claiming any right, interest objection with respect to this property.cal

personally inform or write to Astt. Director (GH),DDA,Vikas Sadan,INA, New Delhi-110023



the ninth consecutive year in the category. IIT Delhi and IIT Bombay have also retained their second and third spot respectively in the category. National Institute of (NIT), Technology (NIT), Tiruchirapalli is the only non-IIT in the top ten list.

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

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



ventional energy amidst climate change threats, the Centre is launching a competitive "challenge" under the PM Surya Ghar Yojana (PMSY) to designate Model Solar Villages. In this regard, the Government has announced a central financial assistance grant of Rs one crore to the winning hamlet in each district with the highest renewable energy capacity. "The goal is to promote solar energy use and help villages become self-reliant in meeting their energy needs," said an

official from the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy. The incentive comes under the 'Model Solar Village' initiative under the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana for which the Guidelines for implementation of 'Model Solar Village' under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana were notified by the Ministry on August 9, 2024."

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

This scheme, which aims to expand off-grid solar solutions, is part of a comprehensive approach with three key components: enhancing solar installations on residential properties, commercial/industrial/Government buildings, and creating Model Solar



Villages.

Through this challenge, villages will compete for a central financial grant, designed to accelerate their transition to solar power and establish them as beacons of sustainable energy adoption.

This initiative not only seeks to boost solar energy use but also to inspire other communities to follow suit, added the official. In order to be considered a village under the competition mode, a village must be a revenue village with a population size above 5,000 (or 2,000 for special category states).

The selection process involves a competitive mode where villages are assessed on their overall distributed renewable energy (RE) capacity installed 6 months after the declaration of the potential candidate by the District Level Committee

The Government had given go ahead to the PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Biili Yojana in February this year, with the aim to increase the share of solar rooftop capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity. The scheme has an outlay of Rs 75,021 crore and is to be implemented till fiscal 2026-27.

LOST & FOUND

We, Nitin Kaushal s/o Charanji Lal Kaushal and

Siena Mahagun Mezzaria, Plot No. GH-01/A

Sector-78, Noida, U.P - 201301 have lost origina

Builder Buyer Agreement of Property Bearing No

Flat No. SEM-909, 9th Floor, Shipra Krishna Shristi

Ahinsa Khand-1, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad, Uttar

Pradesh - 201014 dated 18 May 2012 executed

between M/s Shipra estate limited and Jai Krishan

estate developers pvt Ltd and purchaser Nitir

Kaushal & Shipra Kaushal. If any person found it,

It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Seema Kapoor and Mrs. Manju Verma had acquired

Property Bearing No. WZ-19, area measuring 50 sq.

yds., Khasra No. 4/11/2, 10/2, 20/1, 22/2, situatet in the area of Village Khayala in the abadi of Vishn Garden, New Delhi vide GPA deed dt. 29.04.2011

executed by Mr. Suresh Kumar along with ATS & Will

Now Mrs. Seema Kapoor and Mrs. Manju Verma are

the undisputed owners of the above said property

pls contact on 9811218869

Office of The Executive Engineer (Store), Area Store, Mandav Link Road, Dhar (M.P.)-454001 E-mail: areastoredhar@gmail.com, Ph.-07292-222502

No.:EE/Stores/Pur/24-25/NIT No. 01/784

M.P. PASCHIM KSHETRA VIDYUT VITARAN CO. LTD

CUBICAL FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

CIN-L65993DL1990PLC040101, website: www.cubical90.com

E-mail: cubfinser@vahoo.com

The above is an Extract of the Detailsed Format of Quarterly Financial Results filed with th The above is an Extract of the Detailsed Format of Quarteny Finlandial nesults filed with this Stock Exchanges under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclocurs Requirements) Regulations, 2015 The Full Format of the Quarterely Financial Results is available on the Website of Bombay Stock Exchange at www.bseindia.com & on Company

E-Auction Notice

(For sale of immovable property/ies under the SARFAESI Act,

2002) "Appendix, IV-A, Refer Proviso to Rule 8(6)"

particular that the below mentioned property mortgaged to secured creditor (Jammu

Kashmir Bank Ltd), the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of

the Secured Creditor (Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd) under Section 13(4) of the SARFAES

Act, will be sold through E-auction on "AS IS WHERE IS" "AS IS WHAT IS" AND

"WHATEVER THERE IS" basis on below mentioned dates, for recovery of amount a mentioned below due to the secured creditor from concerned borrower(s), mortgagor(s

and guarantors. The Reserve Price is mentioned below and earnest money to b

BS-103-A, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110068 (Borrower cum

Smt. Sangeeta Bansal W/o Sh. Mukesh Bansal R/o BS-103-A, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi-110088. (Guarantor) Maruti Dzire ZXI AMT, Registration No: DL1CX9662,

Mr. Rawi Kant Sharma Mob No-9818636369 Branch Head Shalmar

Bagh, Mr. Javid Mob No-8448933127 In charge Advances: J&K

THE JAMMU AND KASHMIR BANK LIMITED

-Auction is being held on "AS IS WHERE IS" "AS IS WHAT IS" AND "WHATEVER

THERE IS" basis and will be conducted online. The bid document/format containing fu

details of the property and all the terms and conditions can be had from, and submitt on, the website "http://sarfaesi.auctiontioer.net" (contact person Ram Sharma

9978591888, Contact no. 079-68136880/68136837 Mob.: +91 9265562821/18 ema

To the best of knowledge and information of the Authorized officer, there are no encumbrance

on the properties, except specifically disclosed herein. However, the intending bidders should make their own independent enquiries regarding the encumbrances, title of property/ses pu

on auction and claims/rights/dues affecting the property, prior to submitting their bid. The Authorized Officer/Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third part.

claims/rights/dues. The bidders shall satisfy themselves as to the description, condition of

accuracy of the details regarding the propertyles given hereinabove. The e-Auction

any representation of the bank. The property is being sold with all the existing and future

encumbrances whether known or unknown to the bank.

The interested bidders shall submit their offer along with EMD through webs

https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net (the user ID and password can be obtained free of cos by registering name with "http://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net") through their login ID and

Password. The EMD 10% of RESERVE PRICE shall be payable through NEFT/RTGS (EMD remittance details given above) on or before 30-08-2024 at 5.00 PM. Please not

The sale shall be subject to rules/conditions prescribed under the Securitization a

The Authorized Officer is not bound to accept the highest offer and the Authorize Officer has the absolute right to accept or reject any or all offer(s) o adjourn/postpone/cancel the e-auction without assigning any reason thereof.

The other terms and conditions of the e-Auction are available on the webs

Registered Office: Corporate Headquarters M.A Road Srinagar-190001, J&K, India

CIN: L65110JK1938SGC000048; T:+91(0)194 2481 930-35; F:+91(0)194 248 1928; E: info@jkbrnall.com W: www.jkbank.com

S/d- Authorised Officer

Date: 09.08.2024

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Ltd

Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any common contract to the contr

that Cheques/Demand Drafts shall not be accepted as EMD amount

Branch Office: SHALIMAR BAGH Delhi

31-08-2024 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

IFSC CODE: JAKA0smbagh Account Name:- RTGS Interbank Receipts

Name & Address of 1. Sh. Mukesh Bansal S/o Late Sh. Vir Bhan Bansal R/o

Rigid(Passenger Car), Petrol.

Rs.4.05 lakhs as on 31.07.2024

Bank, Shalimar Bagh, Delhi.

Hypothicator)

Rs. 3.83 lakh

Rs. 0.39 lakh

Rs. 0.05 Lakh

Terms & Conditions of E-Auction are as under:

	NOI	ICE II	NAI	IING	IENL	JEKS
inae ae n	er tender	enecification	on diver	helow :-		

ı	Online tender is invited for services as per tender specification given below :-								
I	TS No.	Particular	Unit	App- rox. Qty	Approx Value (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs.)	Tender Fee (Rs.)	Last Date of Online Sub- mission of Bid	Due Date o Online Bid Opening
	1.	Rate Contract Award for Hiring of Crane 15 Ton with driver to for Area Stores which are being operated during 2024-25 for loading-unloading against 100% Testing of material at A/s. Dhar (One Nos).	No.	1	24	Rs.7000/-	1000/-	27.08.2024	28.08.2024

s.gov.in EXECUTIVE ENGINEER (STORE)

1303.4

Ended Ended 6/30/2023 31-03-2024

169.27

DIN-00348616

1303.4

By Order of the Board of Director

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 ead with proviso to Rule 8(6) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforce

Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to Sammaar 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 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 21,62,285/- (Rupees Twenty One Lakh Sixty Two Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Five only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLNOI00285096, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 05.08.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 06.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 9,50,000/- (Rupees Nine Lakh Fifty Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 95,000/- (Rupees Ninety Five Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FLAT NO. UG - 3. UPPER GROUND FLOOR, REAR SIDE MIG FLAT, PLOT NO. F 24, BLOCK - F, SLF VED VIHAR, LONI, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH - 201102.

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

SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED (Formerly known as INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcen 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 Sammas
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 30.08.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 15,71,490/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Seventy One Thousand Four Hundred Ninety only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLEOK00172740, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 07.08.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 08.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from SATISH SINGH and SONI.

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 6,20,000/- (Rupees Six Lakh Twenty Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 62,000/- (Rupees Sixty Two Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

FLAT NO. GF - 3, GROUND FLOOR REAR RHS, PLOT NO. B - 6/14, DLF ANKUR VIHAR, LONI, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH - 201001.

or detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.sammaancapital.com: Contact No : 0124 6910910, +91 7065451024; E-mail id : auctionhelpline@sammaancapital.com. Fo AUTHORIZED OFFICER SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED

Date: 09.08.2024

(Formerly known as INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcen

Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

lotice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) an Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to Sammaai 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 30.08.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M.. for recovery of Rs. 31.67.151/- (Rupees Thirty One Lakh Sixty Seven Thousand One Hundred Fifty One only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLVAS00411929, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 05.08.2024 with applicable future interest terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 06.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from SHARIFUDDIN MALIK and ROSHANARA MALIK.

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 20,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 2,00,000/-(Rupees Two Lakh only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

FLAT NO. S. F. 4 (M. I. G.) ON SECOND FLOOR (REAR LEFT HAND SIDE) (WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS), HAVING AREA 700 SQUARE FEET, EQUIVALENT TO

65.029 SQUARE METERS, IN THE COLONY KNOWN AS SHYAM PARK EXTENSION, CONSTRUCTED UPON PLOT NO. D/9A, BLOCK - D, BALAJI ARCADE - II, SITUATED IN SAHIBABAD, HADBAST VILLAGE JAGOLA, GHAZIABAD - 201010, UTTAR PRADESH. For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.sammaancapital.com; Contact No: 0124-6910910, +91 7065451024; E-mail id: auctionhelpline@sammaancapital.com. For

idding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in.

AUTHORIZED OFFICER SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED (Formerly known as INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement)

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 Sammaar Capital Limited (formerly known as Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd.) [CIN L65922DL2005PLC136029] ("Secured Creditor"), the physical possession which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold or "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 30,08,2024 fro "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 30.08.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 30,16,284/- (Rupees Thirty Lakh Sixteen Thousand Two Hundred Eighty Four only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLNOD00308787, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 07.08.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 08.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from DHARMENDER KUMAR and PRIYANKA DHAMA.

The Persence Price of the Improvehe Property will be Re. 10.00.000/. (Punese Ten

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 10,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 1,00,000/- (Rupees One Lakh only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

FLAT NO. GF - 03, GROUND FLOOR, ADMEASURING AREA 65.03 SQ. MTR., REAR RIGHT HAND SIDE, PLOT NO. B - 59, BLOCK - B, SLF VED VIHAR, KHASRA NO - 409, LONI GHAZIABAD - 250601, UTTAR PRADESH.

NORTH : PLOT NO. B - 60 SOUTH : PLOT NO. B - 58 WEST : PLOT NO. B - 51

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

Place : GHAZIABAD

SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED (Formerly known as INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Inte

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 30.08.2024 fron 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 14,24,402/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakh Twenty Four Thousand Four Hundred Two only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLDCP00297140, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 05.08.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 06.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from PRINCE KUMAR SHRIVASTAVA and DHIRANJAY KUMAR.

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 8,00,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 80,000/- (Rupees Eighty Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price. DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

FLAT NO. FF - 4 (L. I. G.) HAVING COVERED AREA ABOUT 350 SQUARE FEET (32.51 SQUARE METERS) ON FIRST FLOOR (LEFT HAND BACK SIDE) WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, BLOCK - A, PLOT NO. A - 130, SLF VED VIHAR SITUATED IN VILLAGE SADULLABAD, PARGANA & TEHSIL LONI, GHAZIABAD 201001, UTTAR PRADESH.

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

Authorized officer SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED Date: 09.08.2024 Place: GHAZIABAD (Formerly known as INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

-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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcer Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) an

Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable Property mortgaged to Sammaai Capital Limited (formerly known as Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd.) [CIN LE5922DL2005PLC136029] ("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 30.08.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 18,08,922/- (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Eight Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Two only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLDIP00176686, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 05.08.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 06.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from AMIT GUPTA and AMOL KUMAR GUPTA. The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 12,50,000/- (Rupee

Twelve Lakh Fifty Thousand only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 1,25,000/- (Rupees One Lakh Twenty Five Thousand only) i.e. equival 10% of the Reserve Price

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY FLAT NO. FF-2 (MIG) HAVING SUPER COVERED AREA 700 SQUARE FEET

EQUIVALENT TO 65.03 SQUARE METERS ON FIRST FLOOR (LEFT HAND FRONT SIDE) WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, CONSTRUCTED UPON PLOT NO. B 58, BLOCK - B, KHASRA NO. 409 & 410, SITUATED IN SLF VED VIHAR PARGANA LONI, GHAZIABAD - 201010, UTTAR PRADESH.

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

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

LOST & FOUND

Om Prakash Mishra S/o. Late Shri Lakshman Mishra Lost my Original Conveyance Deed of Property No. H-104, First Floor, Block H. Lagoon Islands, Ambience Apartments, Gurgaon, Haryana -122002. Founder Please Contact:

9958534477.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Vidhya Devi had acquired House Bearing no. A-294, area measuring 27.153 Sq., Mtrs., Sector-16, Shastri Nagar Ghaziabad U.P vide Sale deed dt. 05.08.2024 executed by Mr. Munna Lal, Now Mrs. Vidhya Devi is the undisputed owner of the above said property.

Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of shall be treated null and void and also treated as

Date: 09.08.2024 Place: GHAZIABAD

DHAKA and SUNITA DEVI.

Date: 09.08.2024

Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license of infinitative, state, sale, specifically described in section (gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days om the date of publication of this notice claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person supporting documents at below mentioned address.

After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also waived and not binding on our client.
Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate) H No. 26/161, Basement,
Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi 110024

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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement)

"as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 30.08.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 12,83,735-(Rupees Twelve Lakh Eighty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Thirty Five only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLVAS00268009, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 05.08.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 06.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor froi RAJESH KUMAR VERMA and NAGINA.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

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

> SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

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) and Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement

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 o which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of the Secured Creditor, will be sold or "as is where is", "as is what is" and "whatever there is" basis on 30.08.2024 from 04.00 P.M. to 05.00 P.M., for recovery of Rs. 36,41,485/- (Rupees Thirty Six Lakh Forty One Thousand Four Hundred Eighty Five only) pending towards Loan Account No. HHLNOI00353125, by way of outstanding principal, arrears (including accrued late charges) and interest till 05.08.2024 with applicable future interest in terms of the Loan Agreement and other related loan document(s) w.e.f. 06.08.2024 along with legal expenses and other charges due to the Secured Creditor from VIKAS

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 24,00,000/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 2,40,000/- (Rupees Two Lakh Forty Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

FLAT NO. S - 5 HAVING COVERED AREA OF 74.32 SQ. METRES ON 2ND FLOOR (WITHOUT TERRACE RIGHTS) ON THREE FLOOR BUILDING, SITUATED ON PLOT NO. B - 226. KHASRA NO. 1342/2 IN RAM PARK. LONI - 201001 GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH. THE PROPERTY IS BOUNDED AS UNDER: EAST : 30 FEET WIDE ROAD WEST : FLAT OF OTHER NORTH : PLOT NO. B - 225 SOUTH : PLOT NO. B - 227

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to the link provided on the website of the Secured Creditor i.e. www.sammaancapital.com; Contact No: 0124-

6910910, +91 7065451024; E-mail id: auctionhelpline@sammaancapital.com. Fo oidding, log on to www.auctionfocus.in

AUTHORIZED OFFICER SAMMAAN CAPITAL LIMITED (Formerly known as INDIABULLS HOUSING FINANCE LTD.)

APPENDIX IV-A Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Property

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 30.08.2024 from

The Reserve Price of the Immovable Property will be Rs. 8,00,000/- (Rupees Eight Lakh only) and the Earnest Money Deposit ("EMD") will be Rs. 80,000/- (Rupees Eighty Thousand only) i.e. equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price.

- FF - 3, 1ST FLOOR (LHS), PLOT NO. - C - 6, SLF VED VIHAR, LONI, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH - 200111.

sd/-AUTHORISED OFFICER

Work to make India a developed nation: Mandaviya to youth

nion Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Monday urged youth to work with commitment and dedication to become successful and make India a developed nation by 2047. Addressing the "Impact With Youth Conclave 2024" here on International Youth Day, the minister said the 'Mera Yuva Bharat - 'MY Bharat' portal launched by the Centre

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

will become a single window

platform for the youth.

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



highlighted significance of youth in realising the vision of a developed India by 2047, the 100th year of independence, and said the government will leave no stone unturned to ensure the financial security the generation.

The central government is making an effort to empower the youth of the country by creating opportunities for them, he said.

in successful ahead with this goal, you will

people, which I adopted in my life. One common characteristic commitment and dedication with which they worked. Commitment and dedication, along with hard work, and the fourth is goal...Set a goal. Work with commitment and

dedication to achieve the

goal, and nothing can stop

you from being successful," the minister said "Today, on International Youth Day, pledge to be successful for the country "I found two to three points and yourselves. If you move

will make India a developed nation when it celebrates the centenary year of independence," he said. its

The Union minister said around 1.5 crore people have registered themselves on 'MY Bharat', which will become a single window platform for the youth.

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

Users of MY Bharat will be able to connect themselves national international systems, he

'Volunteers will visit 5,000 college campuses and offer a presentation regarding MY harat and how youth will benefit from the internship scheme and other initiatives announced in the Union Budget," he said. Mandaviya said in the last with 12-15 youth groups and youngsters to seek their suggestions to make MY Bharat more robust.

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

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

reminder of the immense contributions young people make to their communities and the world," she said.

'We are committed to improving young people's to skilling, volunteering, innovation, entrepreneurship, and other economic opportunities through our deep and longstanding partnership with the Government of India and by harnessing youth potential through digital platforms such as YouthHub,"

Karnataka to form expert panel to assess condition of all dams

(Tungabhadra) Dam, we have

taken immediate action. I

have spoken to contractors

and we have sent the designs.

In four to five days, we will try

to repair it. We want to save at

least one crop for our farmers,

we are taking all necessary

measures for it. The Chief

Minister is also visiting there

tomorrow. I have also

discussed with the technical

JINDAL LEASEFIN LIMITED

EXTRACT OF STATEMENT OF STANDALONE UN-AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE QUARTER AND THREE MONTHS ENDED 30.06.2024

team," Shivakumar said.

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

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

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

"Yesterday I visited the T B

Speaking to reporters here, he said: "I'm not denying that it was dangerous, for the first time in 70 years such a thing has happened, but there is no need for anyone including farmers to worry." "We will form a committee for the safety of all dams and will send them to all dams. An

expert committee will be formed in a couple of days and will be sent to visit all dams and seek a report from them after assessment," he

After visiting the dam on Sunday, Shivakumar had said that as there was a possibility of damage to the structure of the dam, all the gates were opened from where 38,000 cusecs of water is being released to neighbouring Andhra Pradesh and Telangana, while the inflow is 28,000 cusecs.

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

Three Months Quarter Ended Year Ended 30.06.2024 31.03.2024 30.06.2023 31.03.2024

Viewing districts through ethnic **lens unfortunate: Manipur CM**

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

Singh emphasised the need for "reorganisation of districts" and suggested that it should involve thorough discussions legislators and civil society. "It is crucial to revise district

boundaries based administrative convenience rather than ethnic lines," Singh told the Assembly

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

Addressing concerns raised by Naga People's Front legislator Leishiyo Keishing about the creation of new districts in 2016, Singh acknowledged that while stated purpose was administrative convenience, it often served political interests.

 $P^{\text{reserving the natural habitats for the elephants}} \\ \text{will reduce the human-elephant conflicts that}$

we are witnessing at an alarmingly high rate, said Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on

He was speaking after inaugurating an interna-

tional conference that coincides with World

approaches to human-elephant conflict solu-

At the inaugural event, Siddaramaiah said

Karnataka in particular is susceptible to increased

human-elephant conflicts as the state has the

highest elephant population with 6,395 elephants, which makes approximately 25 per cent of the

"With Karnataka's significant elephant popula-

tion comes the inevitable challenge of human-

elephant conflict. In the last 10 years, the state

reported over 2,500 incidents of human-elephant

conflicts, resulting in over 350 human fatalities

According to him, the conference is a critical plat-

form where to exchange ideas, explore scientif-

ic solutions, and foster international collabora-

"As climate change raises temperatures and

changes rainfall patterns, resources become even

more scarce and elephants get pushed into new

areas, including communal lands. Humans face

their own challenges as they must move deep-

er into elephant territory to collect water or fire-

wood," said Siddaramaiah. Therefore, he said this

is a challenge with significant ecological, social,

and economic implications. In that context, he

said the international conference presents an

invaluable opportunity to learn from one anoth-

er, explore innovative scientific solutions, and dis-

cuss sustainable approaches to fostering coex-

"I am confident that the distinguished delegates

present here will contribute valuable insights and

recommendations to pave the way for a harmo-

nious coexistence between humans and ele-

phants," he added. Eshwar B Khandre,

Karnataka's Forest, Ecology & Environment

istence between humans and elephants.

and substantial crop losses," said the CM.

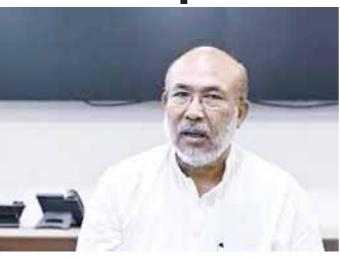
nation's total elephant population.

tion to address the problem.

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Monday.

department.



"While it is clearly mentioned that the Prime Minister Narendra creation of districts is for administrative conveniences, it served as political conveniences as regards to some districts," the

Keishing had highlighted how the formation of the Kangpokpi district in 2016 had affected the political aspirations and other opportunities of many Tangkhul and Rongmei Nagas.

Singh noted that Naga residents Kangpokpi Churachandpur have alleged lack of essential services and illegal taxation, leading them to petition

Preserving natural habitats for elephants helps

reduce human-elephant conflict: Karnataka CM

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

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

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

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

ssam BJP president Bhabesh A ssam BJP president Dilabesh Kalita said on Monday that 10 members have applied for nominations in two Rajya Sabha seats that have fallen vacant in the

All the names are being forwarded to the central parliamentary committee for a final decision, he

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

Among those seeking party tickets are former Union minister Rameswar Teli, ex-MPs Rajdeep Roy and Topon Gogoi, incumbent MLA Manab Deka and for mer MLA Mission Ranjan Das. The state election committee meeting, attended by Union minister Sarbananda Sonowal, CM Himanta Biswa Sarma and state in-charge Harish Dwivedi. among others, discussed the matter in detail. We have decided to forward all the names to the central parliamentary committee for a final decision," Kalita said. The two seats have fallen vacant following the election of Sonowal and Kamakhya Tassa to the Lok

सार्वजनिक सुचना Public Notice सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि मेरी मुवक्किल कैलाश देवी पत्नी स्व0 श्री राजू निवासी खसरा न0 269 गली न0 4 सुशोंत विहार दिल्ली-36 ने अपने बेटे पंकज और उनकी पत्नी सोमवती और पोते यश को अपनी चल व अचल संपत्ति से बेदखल कर दिया है और उनसे अपने सारे रिश्ते तोड़ दिए हैं। अगर कोई उनके साथ किसी भी तरह का व्यवहार करता है तो वे अपनी जिम्मेदारी पर करते हैं।

"Be it known to all that my client Smt. Neeru Uttreja W/o Sh. Surender Kumar R/o 246, Vipin Garden, Kakrola Dwarka Mord, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 disowned her son Jatin Uttreja and his wife Pooja Goswami from all of her movable and immovable properties, shares and assets. Due to their

bad behaviour and misconduct, my client has severed her relationship from them. If anybody deals with them will do so a his/her/their own risk and responsibility. My client shall not be responsible for any ac ANOOP KUMAR

ADVOCATE (D/3042/2011) **PUBLIC NOTICE**

, Sunil Varma, S/o M.K. Varma, R/o 16, Bhargava Lane Sivil Lines, Delhi-110054, I have lost my Property Documents i.e. I was travelling in an auto with a bag containing 2 Allotment Letters which I had taken out for containing 2 Allotment Letters which I had taken out for the purpose of photocopying, one allotment letter was write B/76. Chetak Co-operative Group Housing Society Limited, Delhi which is in the name of Sh. Sunil Varma, the other document was writ A/35, Chetak Co-operative Group Housing Society Limited, Delhi which was in the name of late Arun Kumar Varma. The said properties have been occupied by me and my brother's family from the time of allotment till date. The bag got missipaced while deboarded the auto the description of the bag is that it was a sky blue bag of the brand skybags. I Am filing the current report so that ica net retireve the photo copies of the allotment letters lost pertaining to the properties mentioned above so as to get those properties converted from leasehold to freehold. Lost Dated 24/06/2024, We tried a lot to trace if but could not think if anyone think please return it to the above and first Scomplainant's Details: SO No: 430/2014, Delhi Police PS. Crime Branch, Delhi, LR No. 1847435/2024, Date: 26/06/2024.

North: Common Passage West: Plot No

2 South: Plot Of Other's

This is to inform the general public that Sh. Vinay Verma is in possession of Property No. 4649/A-616/2, lord no. 4-16/2, lord no. 4-16/2, lord no. 4-16/2, lord no. 4-16/2, lord neasuring 100 sq. yds. out of Khasra No. 175 & 894/174, situated in the area of Village Chandrawali ailas Shahdara, in the abadi of New Modern Shahdara Part-1, Illaqa Shahdara, Delhi-110032 through Relinquish Deed dated 06.09.2022 as doc. No.6533 exe by Smt. Shashi Verma, Smt. Meenakshi V Smt. Shalini Verma in favour of Sh. Vinay Ver respect of their share in Property No. A-16/2

Floor without roof rights of aforementioned propert to Sh. Pardeep Kumar Gupta & Smt. Sonu Rar Gupta. Subsequently, Sh. Pardeep Kumar Gupt & Smt. Sonu Rani Gupta are in the process of mortgaging the said is in the process of mortgagin Fullerton India Home Finance Co. Ltd.). An ests of our client. nyone wishes to raise an objection, please do s

within the stipulated 7-day period by contacting Law Veritas: North (Advocates & Legal Consultants) at Office No. 11, 1st Floor, Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301; Landline(s): +910120-3101683; e-mail:



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Mohd. Rashad, S/o. Shariq Ahsan, R/o. R-142, 2nd Floor, Gali No.7, Sir Syed Road, Jogabai Extn., Jamia Nagar, New Delhi- 110025 have changed my name to Muhammad Rashad for all future purposes.

PD(673)A

I, Zeenat Shariq, D/o. Mohammad Sami, R/o. R-142, 2nd Floor, Gali No.7, Sir Syed Road, Jogabai Extn., Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 have changed my future purposes

I, Puneet Jain S/o Suresh Chand Jain R/o A30, Overseas Apartment Sector-9, Rohini Delhi-85 have changed My Name Puneet Kumar Jain for all future purposes

name to Zeenat Jahan for all PD(674)A

PD(675)A

I, Brijesh Dev Tripathi, S/o. Kshama Shankar Tripathi, H.no-45, Gyan Chandra Sharma, Sector-130, Shahpur Govardhanpur Khadar, PO; Kasna, Dist: Gautam Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh-201310 have changed my name Brijesh Kumar Tiwari to Brijesh Dev Tripathi for all future purposes.

PD(676)C

Place: Gurugram

Date: 12 August, 2024

(before Tax, Exceptional and/or extraordinary Items Net Profit/(Loss) for the period before tax -3.01 -7.03 Net Profit/(Loss) for the period after tax -9.22 (after Exceptional and/or extraordinary Items) 9.09 5.29 (Comprising Profit/(Loss) for the period (after tax) and Other Comprehensive Income) 300.89 300.89 534.95 525.86 500.66 Audited Balance Sheet of the previous year Earning per Share (face Value of Rs.10/- each)(not annualised) -0.11 -0.28 -0.23 . The above is an extract of the detailed format of Standalone Un-Audited Financial Results for the quarter and three

months ended June 30, 2024 filed with the Stock Exchange under Regulation 33 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015. The full format of the Financial Results are available on the Stock Exchange website www.bseindia.com. The same is also available on the Company's website www.jindalleasefin.in

The above results duly reviewed by the Audit Committee, were approved by the Board of Directors in their meeting

(SURENDER KUMAR JINDAI

Total Income from Operations Net Profit/(Loss) for the period

ReNew Wind Energy (Jath) Limited

CIN No. U40101DL2012PLC236227 Regd. Office: 138, Ansal Chambers II, Bikaji Cama Place, Delhi-110066

Corporate Office: ReNew.hub, Commercial Block-1, Zone-6, Golf Course Road, DLF City Phase-V, Gurugram, 122009, Haryana, Phone – 0124-4896 670/ 80 Statement of Unaudited Financial Results for the quarter ended 30 June 2024 (Amounts in INR Millions, except share and per share data, unless otherwise state Quarter ended Quarter ended Year ended

	30 June 2024	31 March 2024	30 June 2023	31 March 2024		
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	Audited		
Total Income from Operations	167	85	213	721		
Net Profit / (Loss) for the year (before Tax,						
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	24	(68)	67	129		
Net Profit / (Loss) for the year before tax						
(after Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	24	(68)	67	129		
Net Profit / (Loss) for the year after tax (after						
Exceptional and/or Extraordinary items)	18	(49)	53	95		
Total Comprehensive Income for the year						
[Comprising Profit / (Loss) for the period						
(after tax) and Other Comprehensive						
Income (after tax)]	18	(49)	53	95		
Paid up Equity Share Capital	153	153	153	153		
Reserves (excluding Revaluation Reserve)	1,839	1,821	1,779	1,821		
Secuirties premium	1,366	1,366	1,366	1,366		
Net worth	1,992	1,974	1,932	1,974		
Paid up Debt Capital / Outstanding Debt	2,296	2,295	2,641	2,296		
Debt Equity Ratio*	1.32	1.33	1.54	1.33		
Earnings Per Share (of Rs. 10/- each)						
(for continuing and discontinued operations)						
1. Basic :	1.18	(3.21)	3.45	6.20		
2. Diluted :	1.18	(3.21)	3.45	6.20		
Debenture Redemption Reserve	100					
(In INR Millions)	166	161	180	161		
Debt Service Coverage Ratio*	1.06	0.44	1.49	1.01		
Interest Service Coverage Ratio*	2.08	0.64	2.42	2.10		
Current Liability Ratio*	2.27	2.31	2.64	2.31		
Long Term Debt to Working Capital*	1.44	1.62	1.54	1.62		
Current Liability Ratio*	0.29	0.28	0.24	0.28		
Total Debts to Total Assets Ratio*	0.43	0.48	0.48	0.48		
Debtors Turnover Ratio*	1.19	0.63	0.85	4.32		
Inventory Turnover Ratio*	NA	NA NA	NA	NA I		
Operating margin (%)	40%	(32%)	56%	47%		
Net profit margin (%)	11%	(58%)	25%	13%		
Disclosures pursuant to Regulations 52(4) and 52(7) Securites and Exchange Board of India						

(Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

Ratios have been computed as follows :
- Earning per share = Profit after Tax / Weighted average number of equity shares

Debt Equity Ratio* = Debt (Amount due to Debenture Holders) / Equity (Equity share capital, share premium, loan from Related party and excluding unamortized fees)
Interest Service Coverage Ratio* = Profit before interest, tax and depreciation / Total Interest Expense

Current Ratio*= Current Assets/ Current Liabilities

 Long Term Debt to Working Capital*= Non- Current borrowing including current maturities of Non-current borrowings/ (Current Assets - Current Liabilities excluding current maturities of Non-Current borrowings)

Bad debts to Accounts Receivable ratio*= Bad debts / Average Trade receivables and Average unbilled Revenue

Current Liability Ratio*= Current Liabilities/ Total Liabilities

Total Debts to total Assets* = Total outstanding debts/ Total Assets

Debtors turnover= Revenue from operation/ Average trade receivables and Average unbilled Revenue

Inventory Turnover- The company does not generate revenue from selling of inventory, hence this ratio is not applicable.

Operating margin(%)= (Profit before tax + Finance costs - Other income+ Carbon credit (net of

expenses))/ Revenue from operations + Income from carbon credits

Net Profit Margin (%) = Net profit after Tax/ Revenue from Operations

Debt Service Coverage Ratio* = (PAT based on Project Revenues realised (excluding non-cash adjustments, if any)**+ Depreciation+ Interest (Interest, Guarantee Fees, other financing costs based to the Contract of t

payable under Debenture and Project Documents)) / (Interest + Principal Repayment+Guarantee fee) The above is an extract of the detailed format of quarterly financial results filed with the Stock Exchange(s) under regulation 52 of the Listing Regulations. The full format of the quarterly financial results is available on the website of National Stock Exchange of India Limited and the listed entity (URLs https://www.nseindia.com & https://renewpower.in /renew-wind-energy-limited-jath/)

For the other line items referred in Regulation 52 (4) of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, the pertinent disclosures have been made to the National Stock Exchange of India Limited and can be accessed on the

URLs https://www.nseindia.com & https://renewpower.in/renew-wind-energy-limited-jath/)
The statement has been prepared in accordance with recognition and measurement principles laid down in accordance with the Indian Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" ("Ind AS 34") as prescribed under Section 133 of the Companies Act, 2013 ('the Act') read with Rule 3 of the Companies (Indian Accounting Standards) Rules, 2015 and relevant rules issued thereunder and other recognized accounting practices and policies.

The company is in the business of development and operation of wind power. There is only one

segment (business and/or geographical) in accordance with the requirements of IND AS - 108 "Operating Segments".

The financial results for the quarter ended June 30, 2024 have been approved by the Board of

Directors in their meeting held on 12-August-2024. India Ratings and Care Ratings has assigned long term issuer raing and rating for the outstanding non-convertible debentures of the Company to "IND AA (CE)" with stable outlook and "CARE AA (CE)" with stable outlook, respectively

For and on behalf of the ReNew Wind Energy (Jath) Limited (Sd./-) Balram Mehta Managing Director, DIN: 06902711

Date: 12-08-2024 Place: Noida

Elephant Day. The two-day conference on human-elephant conflict management, which aims to tackle the increased human-elephant conflicts, was organised by the Karnataka Forest The conference will see forest department officials from across India sharing $\bar{knowledge}$ with phant conflict academic researchers and civil society organisations to bring about evidence-based inclusive

ence was initially floated to me,

When the idea of the confer-

excited by the prospect that we'll have a chance to come across so many new ideas and setups, which can open up a whole lot of possibilities for us with regards to the conservation of

Minister who was also present

for the inaugural session on Monday, reiterated that the conference is an attempt towards developing a robust mechanism to address the pressing issue of human-ele-

I was very intrigued by it. I was

elephants," added the minister.

Ali S/o Moharram Ali B/o 95-A. Thatherar Shahpur, PO Shahpur, Muzaffarnagar, U.F 251318 declare that name of mine and m H.No.-562, Mohalla Noorbafan, Shahpu my Adhar Card. The actual name of min

amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE

father has been Wrongly written as Haida Ali Aarfee and Mohrram Ali Argee R/o Budhana, Muzaffarnagar, U.P-251318 ir and my father are Haidar Ali and Moharram Ali respectively which may be

CAN FIN HOMES LTD.

APPENDIX- IV-A [See proviso to rule 9 (1)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets an Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9 (1) 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 describer

immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Can Fin Homes Ltd., Noida Branch, will be sold by holding e-auction on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on 03.09.2024 for recovery of mentioned hereinafter due to canfin homes Ltd. from respective Borrowers and Guarantors as on the respective dates together with further interest and other charges thereon.						
	Name of Borrowers and Guarantor	Amount due as on date	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit	Type of Possession	Description of the property
1.	MRS. INDU & MR. PRADEEP (Borrowers) and JUGESH PASWAN (Guarantors)	Rs. 24,42,725.00 (Rupees Twenty Four Lakh Fourty Two Thousand Seven Hundred Twenty Five Only) as on	8,20,000.00 (Rupees Eight Lakh Twenty	Rs. 82,000.00 (Rupees Eighty Two Thousand Only)	,	First Floor Flat No104 (Without Roof Rights), Sai Home, Plot No. 1A, Khata No. 81, Khasra No. 314, 315, 317, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333 & 334, Village Basai Brahuddin Nagar, Tehsil Dadri, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. Boundaries: East: Flat No. 103

Known Encumbrance-Ni Mrs. Neetu Jain and Rs. 20,07,528/-Flat No. G-2, Back Side (ground Floor) Rs.70.000/-Mr. Sanjeev Kumar 7,00,000/-Lig, Plot No. B-1/12, Dlf Ankur (Rupees Jain (Borrowers) Lakh Seven Loni, Ghaziabad, Up Boundaries: East -Seventy Thousand Five Plot No-b-1/13 North - Other Land and Mr. Pritam Seven Lakl Thousand Hundred Twenty West - Plot No-b-1/11 South - 12 Mtr Sharma Only) only) Eight only) as o (Guarantors 12-08-2024 Known Encumbrance-Nil

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Capital of monsoon misery

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

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

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

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

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



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

Progress depends on retentiveness

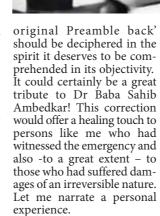


Today, as political discord echoes through our democracy, I find myself reflecting on those dark days of Emergency and the enduring wounds inflicted on our nation's soul

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

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

No apology could erase the wound inflicted on the constitution and the humiliation of the stalwarts who created the constitution of India. Was it not a shameless humiliation inflicted on Baba Sahib Bhim Rao Ambedkar? He had repeatedly opposed the inclusion of the term 'secular in the Preamble of the Constitution. How could any active and alert citizen forget the fact that the 44th Constitution Amendment Act was passed by a Pariiament that was in its arbitrarily-extended sixth year? Practically all of the opposition stalwarts were in jail! Today, any voice that says 'I want my



One senior academic was appointed head of a regional institute in Bhopal in December 1974. In August 1975, he was asked to report to report to his central office New Delhi next day 'for consultations'. I was number two in the institutional hierarchy and had become a full Professor just a year back in August 1974. I assisted him in preparing certain project proposals he would carry that evening for obtaining sanction from New Delhi.

The next morning, I received a 'lightening call' to take over as Head of the institution immediately, as the incumbent stood removed from his position. It was shocking, and I was just not ready to comply. I was advised by all well-wishers including those from senior bureaucracy and police services to quietly 'take over', without in any way indicating unwillingness.



NO APOLOGY

COULD ERASE THE WOUND **INFLICTED** ON THE CONSTITUTION AND THE **HUMILIATION** OF THE STALWARTS WHO CREATED THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA. WAS IT NOT A

> HUMILIATION INFLICTED ON BABA SAHIB AMBEDKAR?

SHAMELESS

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

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

The academic who was humiliated and removed never got justice during his remaining lifetime of around two decades.

Those who would not like even a mention of emergency could recall how strongly India was proud of the persona of that great intellectual and jurist Nani Palakhivala. He had refused the brief from Mrs Indira Gandhi and fought for the constitution in draconian conditions.

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

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

not represent the soul of a

What he does usually repre-

people or its aspirations.

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

dialogical tradition. The adults and elders must realize what the young of India are getting from them in the years of their growing

(Professor Rajput works in education, social cohesion and religious amity; views *are* personal)

HE EDITOR

Revamping the English literature curriculum



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

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

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

HISTORY
KNOWLEDGE G LITERATURE

English literature programs may have curricula that have not been updated to reflect contemporary literary trends and regional and global issues. The stress on Shakespearean and other literary works doesn't get connected to present-day society. Shakespearean plays and other classical works were written in very different historical and cultural contexts. The social norms, political structures, and everyday con-

cerns of ancient times may

seem foreign to modern read-

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

QUIT INDIA MOVEMENT REMEMBERED

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

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

Jayanthi Subramaniam | Mumbai

PM VISIT REASSURES WAYANAD

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

Bangladesh on boil



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

adversity, they are not alone.

Jakir Hussain | Kanpur

RAHUL GANDHI'S EVOLUTION

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

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

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

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

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

Yugal Kishore Sharma | Faridabad

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

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

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

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FIRST COLUMN

CELEBRATING WORLD LEFT-HANDERS DAY

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Can Muhammad Yunus micro manage Bangladesh-



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

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

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

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

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, known as Bangabandhu, laid the foundation of Bangladesh with his political ideology and dedication during the struggle for independence. Despite overcoming initial challenges, fear has once again taken hold in the country. The chaotic situation exemplifies a state of total anarchy. This is not a revolution; revolutions are meant to improve the lives of people, not to indulge in bloodlust against unarmed citizens with opposing political viewpoints or religious beliefs. However, given the nation's violent history even before its inception, it seems to be passing through yet another despicable period.

Is this merely a student uprising, or is someone manipulating them behind the scenes to exploit the situation? When the political intelligentsia abstains from protests, reducing them to mere emotional outbursts, it fosters an environment ripe for the creation of new, equally monstrous situations. This cycle will inevitably doom us to repeat the same failures. The harrowing video of an unemployed youth wearing a black t-shirt being shot by a policeman only deepened the unrest. Hasina bears blood on her hands; whether direct-



DESPITE OVERCOMING INITIAL CHALLENGES, FEAR HAS ONCE AGAIN TAKEN HOLD IN THE COUNTRY. THE CHAOTIC SITUATION

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LIVES OF PEOPLE, IN BLOODLUST **AGAINST UNARMED** CITIZENS

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

The manipulations behind these shocking events, which unfolded within a month while the Prime Minister was in China, may be revealed in the future, much like how America tried to obscure the genocide in Bangladesh (then East Pakistan) during the early 60s, with Henry Kissinger maintaining a political alliance with General Yahya Khan of Pakistan as a secret route to engage with China.

Commenting on the situation, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, reflecting his country's global ambitions, urged the Bangladeshi people to ensure that 'any decisions made by the interim government need to respect democratic principles, uphold the rule of law, and reflect the will of the people.'
This statement came shortly after

the arrival of F-16 fighter jets in Ukraine, continued arms supplies to Israel, and the brutal killing of

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

Reliable sources with knowledge of the events in Sri Lanka have asserted that India believed Gotabaya Rajapaksa should not resign but should stay in power. This stance resulted in no airlift facilities being provided for a safe exit, forcing the then-President to apt: 'We will coup whoever we flee to the Maldives in an over-50 year-old Air Force plane.

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

Her development projects offered to India, China, Russia, and Japan highlighted bold decisions in her foreign policy. She effectively balanced both India and China, showcasing her capability more effectively than any other South Asian leader in contemporary political history. However, a common trait between these two leaders is their stance on China. Despite unprecedented pressure from the West, both leaders continued to work harmoniously with China. For instance, when Mike Pompeo, then Secretary of State and former CIA Director, criticised China during his visit to Colombo, President Rajapaksa directly told him that "the opinion held by America against China in Sri Lanka is factually wrong." Since then, Rajapaksa's politics began to crumble, pointing to the decisions he made and the protests that fol-

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

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

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

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

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

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



VIVEK SHUKLA

Acute Kidney Injury, Headache Management, the Mystery of Dizziness, Suicide Prevention, Fatty Liver, and issues of reporoductive health.

The event saw the participation of leading doctors from the capital and various states such as Mumbai, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh,

Haryana, and beyond. One of the most anticipated sessions was led by Dr. Shiv there; it circulates through-

Kumar Sarin, a distinguished clinician and gastroenterologist, who captivated the audience with his talk on maintaining liver health. Dr. Sarin emphasised the liver's critical role as the controller and fulcrum of our metabolic well-being, comparing it to a chartered accountant that keeps a meticulous record of our body's intake and expenditure. He highlighted how any surplus, whether from genetic factors or excessive calorie consumption, can lead to fatty liver disease. This condition forces the

pancreas to produce more insulin, which can eventually result in diabetes. Moreover, the excess fat in the liver doesn't just stay

out the body, potentially leading to complications such as gallstones.

Another notable speaker, Dr. Rajeev Sood, the newly appointed Vice-Chancellor of Baba Farid University of Health Sciences and former Dean of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital and PGIMER in Delhi, shared his expertise on managing prostate health. His session provided valuable insights into a topic that is often overlooked but crucial for men's health, particularly as they age. One of the most engaging

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



most vital biological funcly, especially in such forums. tions, essential for a fulfill-He stressed the undeniable ing life. Addressing a packed link between sex and overaudience, Dr. Jumani assertall health, arguing that sexed that sexual pleasure is able eloquence on a subject ual activity is one of the both a personal business Pushpanjali Medicon are

dysfunctions can be managed, allowing individuals of all ages to lead a sexually sat-The success of this unique health conference, where top doctors interacted with both medical professionals

emphasizing that all sexual

and the general public, is indeed a great achievement. The importance of conferences like Pushpanjali Medicon 2024 cannont be overstated.

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

Healthcare conferences like

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

raid — remain unclear. The stunning maneuver that caught the Kremlin's forces unawares counters Russia's unrelenting effort in recent months to punch through Ukrainian defences at selected points along the front line in eastern

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

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

a member of the lower house of the Russian parliament, criticised the military for failing to In this image from a surveillance camera provided by the Ukrainian Presidential Press Office, smoke rises from a cooling tower of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Station in a Russia controlled area in the Energodar, Zaporizhzhia

properly protect the border. He noted that while the military has set up minefields in the border region, it has failed to deploy enough troops to block

region of Ukraine. AP/PT

enemy raids. Regrettably, the group of forces protecting the border didn't have its own intelligence assets," he said on his messaging app channel. "No one likes to see the truth in reports, everybody just wants to hear that all is good.

Pasi Paroinen, an analyst with the Finland-based Black Bird Group open-source intelligence agency, which monitors the war, said the toughest phase of Ukraine's incursion is likely to begin now as Russian reserves He said that "if the Ukrainians are going to advance any further from where they are now, it's going to be a tough battle, unlike the opening moments of this offensive".

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Moscow's offensive

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

Speaking at a meeting with top security and defense officials, Putin said the attack that began last Tuesday appeared to reflect Kyiv's attempt to gain a better negotiating position in possible future talks to end the war. He argued that Ukraine may have

hoped to destabilize the domestic situation in Russia, adding that it has failed to achieve the goal, and claimed that the number of volunteers to join the Russian military has increased. He said the Russian military is driving on with its eastern Ukraine offensive. Russia has seen previous incursions into its territory during the nearly 2 1/2-year war, but the foray into the Kursk region marked the largest attack on its soil since World War II, embar-rassing President Vladimir Putin and constituting a milestone in the hostilities. It is also the first time the Ukrainian army has spearheaded an incursion rather than pro-Ukraine Russian fight-

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

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

Ukraine has already used US weapons to strike inside Russia

Pentagon moves submarine to Middle East

AP WASHINGTON

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

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

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

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

East in light of escalating

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

It wasn't clear Sunday what his latest order means, or how much more quickly the Lincoln will steam to the Middle East. The carrier has F-35 fighter jets aboard, along with the F/A-18 fighter aircraft that are also on carriers. Ryder also did not say how quickly the USS Georgia guided missile submarine

would get to the region. He said Austin and Gallant also discussed Israel's military operations in Gaza and the importance of mitigating civilian

The call comes a day after an Israeli airstrike hit a schoolturned-shelter in Gaza early Saturday, killing at least 80 people and wounding nearly 50 others, Palestinian health deadliest attacks of the 10month Israel-Hamas war.

Israel widens evacuation orders in southern Gaza

AP DEIR AL-BALAH

The Israeli military ordered more evacuations in southern Gaza early Sunday, a day after a deadly airstrike on a school-turned-shelter in the north killed at least 80 Palestinians, according to local health authorities. The airstrike was one of the deadliest attacks in the 10-month war. Hamas appeared to push back

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

Israel has repeatedly ordered mass evacuations as its troops return to heavily destroyed areas where they previously battled Palestinian militants. The vast majority of Gaza's population of 2.3 million people have been displaced, often multiple times, in the besieged territory 25 miles (40 kilomekilometres) wide

The latest evacuation orders

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

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

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

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

"We don't know where to go," said Amal Abu Yahia, a mother of three, who had returned to Khan Younis in June to shelter in their severely damaged home. It was the fourth displacement for the 42-year-old widow, whose husband was killed when an Israeli airstrike hit their neighbors' house in March.

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

"Every time we settle in one place and build tents for women and children, the occupation comes and bombs the area," he said, referring to Israel. "This situation is unbearable."

Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't distinguish between civilians and combatants, says the Palestinian death toll from the war is approaching 40,000. Aid groups have struggled to address the staggering humanitarian crisis, while international experts have warned of famine. The war began when Hamas-

and rampaged through farm- region by month's end.

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

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

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin spoke to Gallant on Sunday, reiterating America's commitment to defend Israel and noting the strengthening of the US military force posture and capabilities in the region, according to the Defense Department. It noted Austin has ordered a guided missile submarine to the Middle East and is telling the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier strike group to sail Israel's defenses on October 7 Lincoln was expected in the against their appeal over the

Pro-democracy HK activists fail to get relief in 2019 case The convictions were linked to

Seven of Hong Kong's most prominent pro-democracy activists lost their final bid to overturn their convictions at the city's top court on Monday over their roles in one of the biggest anti-government protests in 2019.

Jimmy Lai, founder of the now-defunct Apple Daily newspaper; Martin Lee, the founding chairman of the city's Democratic Party; and five former pro-democracy lawmakers were found guilty in 2021 of organising and participating in an unauthorised assembly.

Their convictions dealt a blow to the city's flagging prodemocracy movement during a political crackdown on dissidents following the protests. Last year, the activists partially won their appeal at a lower court, with their convictions quashed over the charge of organising an unauthorised assembly. But their convictions over taking part in the assembly were upheld and they continued their legal battle at the city's top court.

On Monday, judges at the

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

peaceful compared to other

protests that often morphed into violent clashes between police and protesters that Hong Kong, a former British

colony, returned to China in 1997. Its mini-constitution, the Basic Law, guarantees its people freedom of assembly.

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

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

Harris gains ground in key states, continues her fundraising spree

PTI WASHINGTON

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

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

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

more for her presidential bid. The fundraiser was attended by around 700 donors, including several prominent Indian-Americans. In less than a month of her

being on top of the Democratic Party ticket, after incumbent President Joe Biden decided to withdraw from the race, Harris has nearly wiped out the national lead of her Republican rival and former president Trump.

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

Harris has also surged ahead in two battleground states, of weeks, but we have a lot of Wisconsin and Michigan, work to do," Harris said.

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

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

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

Still, "what we know is the stakes are so high. And we can take nothing for granted at this moment," she said. "It's really been a good couple

"The people are ready to use their power," she said.

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

On Saturday, Harris and her running mate, Minnesota Governor Tim Walz Walz, addressed more than 12,000 Nevadans – one of the largest political rallies in modern Nevada political his-

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

Major wildfire rages out of control on fringes of Greek capital

AP ATHENS

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

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

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

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

The fire department said 685 firefighters, backed by 27 teams specially trained to tackle wildfires and including more than 80 armed forces personnel, were battling the flames. More than 190 vehicles were deployed, while 17 water-dropping planes and 16 helicopters were providing aerial support. A children's hospital, a military hospital, two monas-teries and a children's home were evacuated early Monday, while more than two dozen emergency push alerts were sent to cellphones in the area. Several homes were burned, although the exact number was not immediately clear. More evacuation orders were issued for suburbs of the capital as strong winds continued unabated. Department spokesperson Col.

Vassileios Vathrakogiannis said authorities had been faced with more than 40 flareups of the blaze since the early hours of Monday in areas where the flames had somewhat abated.

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

Greece's coast guard ordered all ferries going to and from the

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

more suburbs were put on stand-

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

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

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

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



The billboards will be in sever-

election in November.

battleground states, such as Atlanta, Detroit, Charlotte and Philadelphia, according to the DNC. Many are set up along major interstates and highways, including Interstate 95 and Interstate 10 There is also an advertisement — both in English and Spanish — in the Las Vegas strip, according to the DNC. 'The DŇC is blanketing the

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

Abhi Rahman said in a statement. The Harris-Walz campaign

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

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

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

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

launched its own barrage of advertisements at the end of July, pushing television ads that focus on Harris' record on Police said the two victims immigration and call her a "border czar."

Man held in London for stabbing 2 persons

AP LONDON

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

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

were taken to a major trauma

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

centre. The extent of their

injuries was not immediately

whether the stabbing had any link to the unrest.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Ahmed was sworn in as Bangladesh's new chief justice on Sunday, a day after Obaidul Hassan stepped down as the top judge following an ultimatum by the protesters demanding a revamp of the judiciary. Hassan and five other judges

of the apex Appellate Division on Saturday tendered their resignation, five days after the fall of Hasina's regime amid massive street

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

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

Protestors told to surrender arms

PTI DHAKA

 $B_{\text{Home Affairs Adviser Brigadier}}^{\text{angladesh interim government's}}$ General (retd) M Sakhawat Hussain on Monday asked protesters to surrender by August 19 all illegal and unauthorised firearms, including the rifles looted from law enforcers during the recent violence, according to a media

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

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

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

Hussain said that around 500 people, including students, were killed and several thousand others were injured during the protest.

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

"I said it out of anger. It is not my job," he said. "I never support shutting down any media.

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

Bangladesh' vigil in Houston

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

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

Organisers passionately called on the Biden Administration to

Houston Hindu groups, including Maitri in Houston, Vishwa Hindu Parishad of America, HinduAction, HinduPact, Houston Durgabari Society,

Global Kashmiri Pandit Diaspora, and many more. Participants raised their placards high, bearing passionate messages demanding an end to the violence and atrocities against Hindus in Bangladesh.

The crowd erupted with fervour as slogans like "Stop Hindu Genocide," "Stand Up and Speak Out Now," "Hindu Lives Matter," and "We Won't Run, We Won't Hide, Stop Hindu Genocide" rang out,

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

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

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



Businesses in B'desh hit by cash supply drought

said on Monday

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

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

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

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

Businesses, especially those mainly dealing with cash transactions, said they would be in a tough situation if the cash crisis lingers and restrictions remain next week, The Daily Star newspaper reported.

Ahmed, a former governor of Bangladesh Bank has said that the top priority of Bangladesh's interim government is to bring the economy back on track and restore the people's trust in the

Talking to reporters on Saturday for the first time after assuming office, Ahmed said al manager of a major comthe government's priority is to modity importer and processor, restore the trust of common said not all businesspeople

people in the banks while resuming the operations of the central bank.

Business owners said their

operations have halted since the second half of July when the widespread protests erupted. Abu Bakar Siddique, an oil wholesaler in one of the largest kitchen markets in Dhaka, Karwan Bazar, said

his bank would not allow more than Tk 1 lakh to be withdrawn. "This is a big problem. As a result, the normal pace of business is being disrupted," the report quoted him as saying. He said most business transac tions are being conducted through bank-to-bank transfers

or real-time gross settlements. Taslim Shahriar, deputy generbusiness

accept cheques.

"We have to pay in cash too, but now, transactions are only taking place through bank-tobank transfers and cheques. The sooner this problem is resolved, the better for us, Shahriar said

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

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

Riad Mahmud, managing director of National Polymer

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

However, he said it will not substantially hinder activities if it lasts a short time.

Over 230 people were killed in Bangladesh in the incidents of violence that erupted across the country following the fall of the Hasina government last week, taking the death toll to 560 since the anti-quota protests first started in mid-July.

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

He announced the portfolios of his 16-member council of adviaction to prevent further atrocjustice. ities and to protect vulnerable

minority communities in Bangladesh. The recent surge in violence

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

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

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

regardless of their religious beliefs!" Amar also shared a heartfelt statement from Deepti Mahajan, co-convener of eves and ears of all Western nations focused on this crisis in Asia, and we demand safety for

all minorities in Bangladesh!" Bangladeshi-origin American woman present at the vigil spoke with palpable

emotion, her voice breaking as she shared, "The horrific acts of violence back home are devastating. When we call home and hear about these brutal acts every single day, it tears us apart. So many innocent lives have been lost! Places of worship have been burned or vandalised, and women have been horrifically abused. This must stop now! We cannot stand idly by while our people suffer."

The gathering was a powerful reminder that the struggle for justice knows no borders. United by love and compassion, they stood together to demand action, to raise their voices against oppression, and to ensure that the plight of Hindus in Bangladesh does

Indonesian leaders hold meeting in future capital

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

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

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



Defense Minister and president-elect Prabowo Subianto (left) and Indonesian Vice President Ma'ruf Amin (right) in the new capital city Nusantara in Penajam Paser Utara, East Kalimantan, Indonesia, on Monday. AP/PTI

Subianto vowed that his administration will continue work on the new city after it takes office on October 20.

'We will definitely finish it, although the outline plan is dozens of years long, like other capital cities also took a very long time. We should not force it, but I am optimistic that in

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

buildings. The government expects to pay only 20 per cent of the planned USD 33 billion budget, relied heavily on private sector investment to build key infrastructure and public facilities. In a bid to lure investment, earlier this month Widodo granted investors in the new capital incentives, including land rights of up to 190 years. Construction of the new city

began in mid-2022, after

Widodo announced a plan to relocate the capital from from pollution and congestion, is prone to earthquakes, and is rapidly sinking.
Officials say it will be a futur-

istic green city centred around forests and parks that utilises renewable energy sources and smart waste management, spread over an area of about 1000 square miles (2,600 square kilometres). "Cool air, clean air, as we dream of that we want a green capital city, be it its energy, electric vehicles, environment, air and everything,

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

Former ISI chief Faiz Hameed taken into military custody

PTI ISLAMABAD

n an unprecedented move, the Pakistan Army on Monday announced that it has arrested former ISI chief Lt Gen (retd.) Faiz Hameed and initiated court martial proceedings against him in connection with a housing scheme scandal

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

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

"In addition, multiple instances of violation of the Pakistan

also been established. The process of Field General Court Martial has been initiated and Lt Gen Faiz Hameed (Retd) has been taken into military custody," it added. Lt Gen (retd.) Hameed was

Army Act post-retirement have

considered extremely powerful when he headed the spy agency from 2019 to 2021.

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

replace Hameed, a move vehemently opposed by Imran Khan and it is believed that it was the beginning of souring of his ties with the powerful military. The Top City case made headlines when on November 8,

2023, Moeez Ahmed Khan, the

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

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

Chinese Bharatnayam dancer makes history; performs 'Arangetram'

ei Muzi, a 13-year-old Let Muzi, a 10 7000 School student scripted history when she performed Bharatanatyam "Arangetram" in China, a landmark in the journey of the ancient Indian dance form that is gaining popularity in the neighbouring country.

Lei made her solo dance debut here on Sunday in front of the celebrated Bharatanatyam dancer Leela Samson, Indian diplomats and a large audience of Chinese fans.

For ardent Chinese fans of Indian classical art and dance forms who devoted their lives to learning and performing them for decades, her debut was a moment of history and a milestone as it was the first-ever "Arangetram" — Bharatnatyam's graduation cer-

emony — in China. For the performers of the ancient dance from South India, Arangetram, as it is

called in Tamil, is their debut performance on stage in front of teachers and experts besides the audience. Only after Arangetram are the

students allowed to perform on their own or train aspiring 'This is the first-ever Arangetram by a student fully trained in China and performed in China and performed in China.

formed in China," said T S Vivekanand, the First Secretary of the Indian Embassy in charge of culture who attended the event. It was a properly done

Arangetram in a very traditional way, he told PTI here. "Lei's Arangetram is the first time that Chinese students

trained by a Chinese teacher have completed in China, which is a landmark in the history of Bharatanatyam inherinoted Chinese Bharatanatyam dancer Jin Shan Shan, who trained Lei, said. Shruti Rawat, the wife of Indian Ambassador Pradeep Rawat,



the Chinese Bharatanatyam dancer who performed her Arangetram in Beijing on

was the chief guest at Lei's Arangetram.

The event was attended by a large crowd of fans who cheered her over the two-hourlong performance during which she danced to several

classical numbers. Besides Leela Sampson, a team of musicians who were flown in from Chennai sang the classical numbers for Lei to perform. She is due to perform in Chennai later this month.

Lei was trained for over 10 years at the Bharatanatyam school run by Jin, who herself was the accomplished Bharatanatyam dancer to have held her Arangetram in 1999 in New Delhi. Jin was one of the numerous Chinese students who were trained by eminent Chinese dancer Zhang Jun.

Lei, also known as Dudu, says she fell in love with Bharatanatyam since she joined Jin's school in 2014. "I completely fell in love with it. I kept dancing till now. For me,

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

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

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

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

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

ICC monitoring events in Venezuela

the allegation.

AP THE HAGUE (NETHERLANDS)

International Criminal Court **L**prosecutors said on Monday that they are "actively monitoring" events in Venezuela, where security forces have launched a crackdown on the opposition in the aftermath of the nation's disputed presidential election.

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

In a written statement to reporters, the office of ICC Prosecutor Karim Khan said it is "actively monitoring the present events and has received multiple reports of instances of violence and other allegations following the presidential election of 28 July in Venezuela". The statement said that Khan's office has "engaged with the

Government of Venezuela at the

highest-level to underline the

importance of ensuring that the

rule of law is adhered to in the

present moment and emphasize that all persons must be protected from violations that may constitute Rome Statute crimes". The Rome Statute is the court's founding treaty and outlines the crimes over which it has jurisdiction. Maduro has called on Venezuelans to denounce election doubters via a governmentrun app originally created to report power outages. He also said the government was refurbishing two gang-dominated prisons to accommodate an

expected surge in jailing of oppo-

Stock markets close marginally lower

Steel, Tata Motors, HDFC

Bank were among the gainers

Hindenburg Research on Saturday alleged that SEBI

chairperson Madhabi Puri Buch and her husband had

undisclosed investments in

obscure offshore funds in Bermuda and Mauritius, the

same entities allegedly used

by Vinod Adani - the elder

brother of group chairman

Gautam Adani - to round-

trip funds and inflate stock

Buch and her husband issued

from the blue-chip pack.

Bank and Kotak Mahindra

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

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

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



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

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

Hindenburg's latest tirade an attack on the credibility of and attempted "character assassination". Adani Group on Sunday

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

them bounced back.
"The Hindenburg allegations now against a key official of the market regulator weighed on the sentiment in early trade, but indices recovered soon to trade higher only to give away all their gains towards the close to end marginally lower on selective

profit taking.
"In case the row heats up further, it could impact sentiment going ahead and profit-taking could continue, although global cues would

still determine the broader market mood," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd, said. In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge climbed 0.51 per cent and midcap

0.04 per cent. o.04 per cent.

Among the indices, utilities declined 1.04 per cent, FMCG by 0.67 per cent, power by 0.62 per cent, and services by 0.41 per cent. Consumer Durables, realty, oil & gas, metal and IT were the gainers

index went up marginally by

the gainers.
A total of 2,126 stocks declined while 1,941 advanced and 118 remained unchanged on the BSE.

In Asian markets, Seoul and Hong Kong settled in the positive territory while Shanghai ended lower. Markets in Tokyo and Bangkok were closed for a holiday. European markets were trading mostly higher. The US markets ended higher Friday.

Institutional Investors (FIIs) turned buyers on Friday after days of offloading equities. They bought equities worth Rs 406.72 crore, according to exchange data.

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

The report also added that customers are now looking for feature-rich and premium products, which is fuelling the value growth in the appliance segment. Now washing machines with capacities of 9kg or above have recorded an "impressive growth rate of 30 "impressive growth rate of 30 per cent", which is driven by consumers seeking enhanced performance and innovative features.

Similarly, the air-conditioner segment is benefiting from similar trends, where demand for energy-efficient and highperformance models has grown by 59 per cent in the split inverter and 5-star segments. "Cooling appliances (refrigerator) have seen an 11 per cent increase in the sideby-side, French door, and 3/4 door segments," it said.

The report also suggests that despite such gains, the relatively low penetration of these products presents significant opportunities for industry expansion.

The smartphone and mobile phones segment had a 6 per cent reduction in volume, it was offset by a substantial 10 per cent increase in overall

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

PTI NEW DELHI

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

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

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

previous close.

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

gold prices to increased demand from local jewellers and a strong trend in the overseas markets.

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

increased their bets on the US Federal Reserve's (Fed) aggressive interest rate cuts this year after recent weak macro data provided further support for the yellow metal,

Gandhi added. According to Manav Modi, Analyst of Commodity Research at Motilal Oswal Financial Services, gold prices Services, gold prices held steady after a sharp rise in the previous session, bolstered by a dip in US Treasury yields, as investors grew confident that the Fed would lower interest rates in September this year. Silver is up at USD 28.01 per ounce in the international

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

As per Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst - Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities, gold prices largely escalating tensions in the Middle East, particularly

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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



Gas produced from difficult fields, such as those in the deep sea, is governed by a different formula and paid a higher rate because of the higher cost involved in its production. That price for six months starting April 1 is USD 9.87 per mmBtu.

adopted last year, it was nomination decided that gas produced ONGC/Oil India Limited, from new wells, even in there would be a premium of legacy fields, would be paid a 20 per cent over APM prices the APM price. Now, that has Indian crude basket price for been notified.

"As per guidelines for domestic pricing,

domestic natural gas price (APM price) was fixed at 10 per cent of the Indian crude basket price as announced by Petroleum Planning and Analysis (PPAC) on a monthly basis. It was provided in the guidelines that for the gas produced from new wells or well When these formulas were intervention fields

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

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

notified the allocation of gas produced from new wells or well interventions from fields nominated fields of ONGC/OIL at a 20 per cent premium over the APM price. "The enhanced price for new gas will make the new gas development projects viable and help the ONGC to augment the production of augment the production of

natural gas from nominated

fields in challenging areas that

require higher amounts of

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

approved the Daman Upside Development project in its nominated field of Mumbai increasing domestic production, and the job has already been awarded for

Rupee falls 2 paise to close at 83.97 against US dollar

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The rupee consolidated in a narrow range and settled for the day lower by 2 paise at 83.97 (provisional) against American currency Monday, as market participants

remained on the sidelines ahead of the release of key domestic macroeconomic Forex traders said the Indian rupee declined on

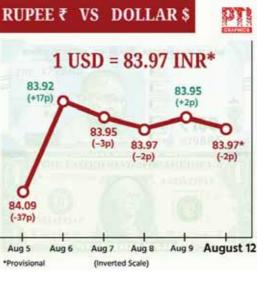
positive tone in the

US dollar and a surge in crude oil prices. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.95 and touched an intraday low of 83.98 and finally settled at 83.97 (provisional) against

The local unit had slumped may further pressurise the 37 paise to settle at an all-time rupee," said Anuj Choudhary low of 84.09 against the US dollar on August 5.

the American currency, lower

by 2 paise from its previous



On Friday, the rupee settled for the day higher by 2 paise at 83.95 against US dollar. 'We expect the rupee to trade

with a slight negative bias on strength in the US dollar and rising global crude oil prices. Selling pressure from foreign investors and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas.

USD/INR pair 84.00 level is acting as a psychological resistance. Market participants are also awaiting cues from the Indian inflation and IIP numbers scheduled to be released later in the day. Moreover

Forex traders said for the

investors may remain cautious ahead of US CPI, retail sales and consumei

confidence data from the US this week. "USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 83.75 to Rs 84.25," Choudhary added.

Meanwhile, the dollar index. which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, advanced 0.85 per cent to USD 80.34 per

concerns over a potential attack by Iran on Israel. Automation Expo to showcase use of AI in

Hindenburg claims baseless, misleading: REITs Association

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

commended Sebi and its leadership for crafting a regulatory environment" that includes comprehensive requirements, time to time.

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

independent In a statement, the association said that since the introduction of REIT (Real Estate Investment Trust) regulations in 2014, India has established a strong and transparent regulatory framework that aligns with global best practices.

"Developed in consultation with all market participants, this framework ensures the highest levels of investor protection for both --domestic and international institutional investors, as well as retail investors," it said. Hindenburg Research on

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

husband Dhaval denied the allegations as baseless and asserted their finances are an open book. Her husband Dhaval Buch is a senior advisor with Blackstone. The Adani Group termed the latest allegations malicious

and based on manipulation of

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

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

IIP growth slows to 5-month

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

Currently, there are four listed REITs on the Indian stock exchanges, collectively managing assets worth over Rs 1.4 lakh crore and serving over 2.4 lakh crore unitholders. These REITs have distributed over Rs 18,000 crore, with the market capitalisation of the asset class reaching about Rs

manufacturing sectors PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ndia's largest exhibition for

NEW DELHI

 \mathbf{I} the automation industry, Automation Expo 2024, slated from August 21 to 24 is all set to be a pivotal event in showcasing how Artificial Intelligence (AI) Robotics are transformative changes across manufacturing production sectors.

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

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

sector is on a significant growth trajectory, with projections indicating a rise from over USD 15 billion to USD 29.5 billion by 2029.

technologies

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

Naveen appointed Director (Operations) POWERGRID Srivastava has consistently

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

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

"He brings a wealth of expertise He is an to the table. electrical accomplished engineer, having graduated in Electrical Engineering (Hons) from the prestigious National Institute of Technology-Durgapur, and has honed his leadership al-111



Management Programme Management Development Institute, Gurgaon, and the Manage Harvard Mentor program at Harvard Business School," said a statement issued

by the firm. With over two decades of leadership skills through a experience in operations, statement.

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

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

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

low of 4.2% in June: Govt data PTI ■ NEW DELHI preceding financial year.

Tndia's industrial production

■slowed to a five-month low of 4.2 per cent in June 2024, mainly due performance of manufacturing sector, though power and mining sectors continue to perform well, as per official data released on Monday.

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

India's Index of Industrial Production grew by 4 per cent in June 2023, according to a statement by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation. As per the data, the mining output

growth accelerated to 10.3 per cent in June against a 7.6 per cent expansion in the yearmonth. manufacturing sector's growth decelerated to 2.6 per cent in June compared to 3.5 per cent a year ago.

The power generation increased by 8.6 per cent in June against a growth of 4.2 per cent in the same month of the last year. As per use-base classification,

the capital goods segment growth fell to 2.4 per cent in per cent a year earlier.

the year-ago period. In June this year, consumer

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

output of primary goods logged a 6.3 per cent growth in June this year, up from 5.3

June 2024 from 2.9 per cent in

durables output expanded 8.6 per cent compared to a 6.8 per cent contraction in June non-durable Consumer

The data also showed that the

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

US WOMEN'S BASKETBALL FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHT

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

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

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

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

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

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

France became the first team to come within a hair of beating the U.S in the Olympics during its record 61-game winning streak that dates back to the 1992 Barcelona Games. Only two other teams had come within single digits of the Americans in those 32 years. "Maybe they won't say it's just easy and we walk in and just win gold," said U.S. Center Brittney Griner. Who broke

down in tears when she was presented her third gold medal. "Maybe they'll stop saying that, because, like I said, we see everybody's best shot. And we saw the shot that France gave us." The U.S. Will get homecourt during the 2028 Olympics, which will be held in Los Angeles. The Americans had played the left two gold had played the last two gold medal games against teams

from the host nation.



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

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

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

"I think being able to learn from a lot of the veteran players here, knowing it's kind of my time and a lot of our times that, this younger generation is able to kind of take this legacy and continue to push forward and go for nine," said Sabrina Ionescu, who earned her first Olympic gold medal. "This is a program that has always sort of made it that has always sort of made it look easy. But I always said it's

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

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

does a second stint. Only Geno Auriemma, who coached in 2012 and 2016, has done that. If the U.S. Goes another direction, there's a few potential candidates. Assistant Kara Lawson, who won gold as a player in 2008 and also guided the inaugural 3x3 U.S. Team in 2021 to first place could be on the list. A trio of WNBA coaches experience with Curt Miller, Basketball: Stephanie White and Tanisha Wright also could be

considered A dark horse could be Las Vegas Aces coach Becky Hammon. She hasn't been involved with USA Basketball at all yet and played for Russia in the 2008 Olympics. Yet no WNBA coach has been more successful the last few years than Hammon, who has led the Aces to back-to-back

WNBA championships. With the Aces' core of Wilson, Kelsey Plum, Chelsea Gray and Jackie Young potentially back in 2028, Hammon would certainly have endorsement.

polish existing structures rather than erect new ones.
"It's a no-build games," Evans said. After Paris' innovative opening ceremony on the Seine River, LA plans

to open with a traditional, stadium-based approach at SoFi Stadium in neighboring Inglewood that also

incorporates the century-old Memorial Coliseum in Los Angeles itself. Home to two NFL teams, SoFi has

hosted a Super Bowl and several Taylor Swift concerts since opening in 2020. It

will become what organizers say is the

largest Olympic swimming venue ever. Its opening ceremony role means swimming will come after track and

Intuit Dome, the soon-to-open Inglewood home of the NBA's Clippers,

would be the games' newest major

venue and is the planned home for Olympic basketball. The Lakers'

downtown Crypto.Com Arena will

The toxicity of swimming in the Seine

became a serious issue in Paris. That

could put renewed focus on the Long

Beach area waterfront when it hosts

marathon swimming and triathlon

host gymnastics.

field for the first time since 1972.



Indian shuttlers sign off Paris Games on dismal note

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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

Lakshya Sen emerged as a notable bright spot with a fourth-place finish, but the badminton team, including medal contenders such as PV Sindhu and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, returned emptyhanded from the Olympics for the first time in over a decade. The hopes of a medal were not again eyeing a hat-trick of medals, the ever-tenacious HS Prannoy (men's singles) had finally made it to his debut Olympics, and Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto (women's doubles) seemed in decent form.

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

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

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

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

playing at such an event.

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

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

"I am a little disappointed as he could not finish it. I am disappointed that we could not Games, leading to a loss in the badminton. The government, SAI, and TOPS have done their bit. It is high time some of the players also need to take some responsibility," Lakshya's coach and former All England champion Prakash Padukone.

The unexpected defeat of former world number one Satwik and Chirag was the most shocking of all and added to the dismay, as they were gold-medal considered contenders. The government had backed the players extensively, including Rs 26.60 lakh and Rs

9.33 lakh sanctioned for Sindhu and Lakshya's training in Germany and France, respectively. Sindhu, a silver and bronze winner from the past two editions, had a 12member support team in Saarbrucken during her training ahead of the Games but she failed to overcome He Bingjiao of China.

Satwik and Chirag had won two titles in four BWF World Tour finals this year and numerous medals in major events such as 2023 Asian Games, 2022 Commonwealth

and also the mental aspect of Games and the 2023 Asia Championships.

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

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

Ashwini and Tanisha, who received Rs 1.5 crore each in support, exited the tournament after failing to win any match

in the group stage. Despite the setbacks, Lakshya demonstrated resilience and skill, finishing fourth -- a notable achievement for an Indian male shuttler.

His victories over Indonesia's Jonatan Christie and Chinese Taipei's Chou Tien Chen were commendable, though his losses to eventual champion Axelsen and Zii Jia from comfortable positions exposed

As one looks ahead to the Los Angeles Games in 2028, it remains to be seen whether the 29-year-old Sindhu can

some major frailties.

Paris experience.

maintain her fitness. However, there is optimism Satwik-Chirag Lakshya will leverage their

With emerging talents like Priyanshu Rajawat and Treesa Jolly-Gayatri Gopichand poised to make an impact, India's badminton prospects remain promising for the next

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

AP ■ LOS ANGELES

It's Los Angeles' turn for the torch. Mayor Karen Bass accepted the Olympic flag at the Paris closing ceremony Sunday, before handing it off to a key representative of LA's local business - Tom Cruise - who in a prerecorded trek via motorcycle, plane and parachute kicked off the countdown to 2028. The city will become the third in the world to host the games three times as it adds to the storied years of 1932 and 1984. Here's a look forward and

back in time at the Olympics in LA.

LA'S OLYMPIC TRILOGY: Los
Angeles got the 2028 games as a
consolation prize when Paris was
picked for 2024 picked for 2024.

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

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

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

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

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

arrives back in LA Monday, spent these games in Paris along with organizers and city officials, learning what it takes to host the world's largest sporting

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



IOC President Thomas Bach hands the Olympic flag to Los Angeles Mayor Karen Bass during the 2024 Summer Olympics closing ceremony at the

Olympics are an opportunity to make transformative change," Bass said at a press conference ahead of the closing VENUES OLD AND NEW, PLUS A

races. Its cleanliness history is mixed but its ocean waters got consistently high marks in a 2023 analysis by nonprofit Heal the Bay. The Long Beach shore was home to the 'As we've seen here in Paris, the

journey of the flag begun by Cruise was

pre-recorded performances during Sunday's ceremony of the Red Hot Chili Peppers, Billie Eilish, Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre, though it was easy to mistake for LA's Venice Beach, where the SWIMMING STADIUM: Amid a journey of the flag begun by Cru stadium-and-arena boom, LA will shown ending moments earlier.

The contest for most gold medals at the Paris Olympics ended in a 40-40 tie between China and the United

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

gold for China. Who was supposed to lead the medal count at the Paris Games?

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

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

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



predictors wrong by sneaking into third place with 20 golds among its 45 medals. France and Australia were in

the top five as predicted, but the other way around.

Skateboard star Keegan Palmer helped Australia go fourth with 18 golds among 53 medals, while fifth-place France tallied 16 golds among its 64 medals. Britain got more medals than in Tokyo - 65 to 64 - but had less golds and was seventh overall behind Netherlands.

Here's a closer look at the some of the nations: GREAT HAUL OF CHINA. TEAM DOMINATES **DIVING:** When Cao Yuan defended his title in the men's 10-meter platform Saturday, it gave his nation an unprecedented sweep of the

diving gold medals.

China won all eight golds handed out at the Olympic Aquatics Centre.

China won five golds in each of shooting, table tennis and weightlifting, with China's victory in the team event in table tennis giving the country its 300th gold in Olympic GOLDS GALORE FOR USA

ON TRACK, BUT NO MEDAL IN WOMEN'S MEDAL POLO: Sydney WATER McLaughlin-Levrone broke her own world record in the 400-meter hurdles as the U.S. Won 14 golds in track and

Noah Lyles won a historically close men's 100-meter race, and Gabrielle Thomas took the women's 200. Quincy Hall won the men's 400 at a Stade de which France, accustomed to hearing the American national anthem. Gymnastics star Simone Biles

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

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

competition at the Paris

FRANCE EXPECTATIONS: Led by the brilliant performances of Léon Marchand, who finished with five medals overall, Les Bleus won one more gold than Atlanta in 1996 and nearly doubled their 33 medals overall from the Tokyo Games three years ago.

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

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

AP ■ PARIS

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

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

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

Lyles said his temperature reached no higher than 99 degrees. The only reason he would have pulled out is if the symptoms of bronchitis had become worse. "Then asthma joining in on that

and making it even worst, that was our worst fear," he said. "We were back in the medical bay underneath the track. Their biggest concern was me getting bronchitis because we didn't want something to get infected and the asthma really starts to take form. We really

had to jump on top of that." Lyles added: "If that was the case, I probably would have had to get a trip to the hospital, for sure. During the Paris Olympics, the 27year-old Lyles has had a whirlwind experience. He became the world's

fastest man in the 100 meters before his decision to race in the 200. He faced some criticism about his participating in the race and possibly infecting others, but the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee had no issues with Lyle has embraced becoming

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

Along with asthma, Lyles said he dealt with dyslexia, anxiety, depression and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. Those are all prime bullying targets right there," he said. "I was getting bullied in school. It was

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

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

"It's not the critic who counts because it's always easy to be a critic," she said. "I know people see his confidence as cockiness, but

Olympic medals, she was proud of

what do you want people to do? It makes me feel sad for those people who feel like they have to criticize somebody who has big goals and puts those goals out there.

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

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

building himself up with the help of his family - particularly his mother. Even before her son's higher you go up the ladder, the more your underwear shows. People are going to have opinions. .. But everybody who has ever met me comes away saying Oh my gosh, I feel so inspired." Lyles has since tested negative for

asked. "As my mom used to say, the

COVID-19 and now he's looking to make a bigger name for himself. He'll still be preparing hard for the World Athletics Championships in Tokyo in September, but he'll look to branch out in the next year into other opportunities such as fashion, music, buying a new house and enjoying his relationship with track athlete Junelle Bromfield.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



ensure the team is best served,"

Michael Bracewell returned to the squad for the first time in 18 months after an Achilles Spin bowling all-rounder injury, which was followed by a

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

armers Mitchell Santner, Ajaz Patel and part-timers Glenn Phillips and Ravindra.

resilience to rehabilitate from his injuries and force his way back into the BLACKCAPS

"His all-round skills, and ability to take the ball away from the left-hander make him

we expect will be turning wickets in India and Sri Lanka," he added.

Pacers Will O'Rourke and Ben Sears have been rewarded with maiden overseas Test call-ups. The 23-year-old O'Rourke claimed 11 wickets in his first two Test outings, including the

best match-figures by a New Zealander on Test debut (nine for 93 v South Africa in February) before a groin injury ruled him out of the second Test against Australia.

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

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

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

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

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

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



PTI ■ BENGALURU

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

The Duleep Trophy was earlier scheduled to kick-off with two sets of first round matches at Anantapur in Andhra Pradesh from September 5, but now one of those games has been shifted to the M Chinnaswamy Stadium here to reduce the

230 kms away from Bengaluru

and the city is not connected

"The decision has been made

to accommodate some of the

top players, so that they get a

feel of the red-ball cricket

ahead of the (Test) series

against Bangladesh," a source

close to the development told

PTI. India are slated to play

two Test matches against

Bangladesh - from September 19 at Chennai and from

September 27 at Kanpur. While it is up to Rohit and

Kohli to play in the event,

some other prominent players

such as Ravindra Jadeja, Axar

Patel, KI, Rahul, Shubman Gill,

Shreyas Iyer Kuldeep Yadav etc

are expected to be available for

this tournament fully or

via flight.

tournament at any stage as they are expected to join the India squad directly ahead of the Bangladesh series. The selectors are also deciding on giving a go to Rishabh Pant in the Duleep Trophy, and if it

However, Bumrah and Ashwin

are unlikely to take part in the

happens then this will be his first red-ball assignment after coming back from that horrific car accident in 2022. Since his return, Pant has been a part of India's white-ball set-

up and the wicketkeeper batter also donned the national jersey in the T20 World Cup. Mohammed Shami, who has been recuperating from a surgery, will not feature in the

tournament. top players will also be subject to the dates of the preparatory camp that the team management is mulling to

Tests against Bangladesh. But the decision to shift the match also align with the shared vision of the BCCI and the team management that the top players should feature in domestic cricket competitions whenever they are free from

hold in Chennai ahead of the

It may be recalled that India's T20I skipper Suryakumar Yadav (Mumbai) and out-offavour wicketkeeper batsman Ishan Kishan (Jharkhand) made themselves available to play the Buchi Babu Trophy, starting from August 15.

national duty.

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

PTI ■ LONDON

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

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

"Despite having a wife and two daughters whom he loved and loved him he did not get better," Thorpe's wife was quoted as saying by 'The Times'.

"He was so unwell in recent times and he really did believe that we would be better off without him and we are devastated that he acted on that and took his own life."

A ceremony was held before the start of a match between the Farnham Cricket Club and the Chipstead Cricket Club last Saturday in memory of Thorpe, which was attended by his wife and their daughters Kitty (22) and Emma (19).

"For the past couple of years, Graham had been suffering from major depression and anxiety. This led him to make a serious attempt on his life in May 2022, which resulted in a prolonged stay in an intensive care



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

"Despite glimpses of hope and of the old Graham, he continued to suffer from depression and anxiety, which at times got very severe. We supported him as a family and he tried many, many treatments but unfortunately work," she said.

ily is now considering starting a foundation in his name. Thorpe's daughter Kitty said he

was "not the same person" after a point and that he "could not see a way out". "He had loved life and he loved

us but he just couldn't see a way out. It was heartbreaking to see how withdrawn he had become, she said. "It was strange to see this person trapped in the body of

Dad. That's why we've been so

happy that the many reflec-

tions have been about his life

before this illness took over. "I am glad that's how everyone does remember him, rightly so, as the complete character he was," Kitty added.



South Africa and West Indies

settle for a draw in rain-hit 1st test The report added that the fam-

 $B^{\text{oth South Africa and West}}_{\text{Indies had hopes of}}$ winning the rain-hit first Test before having to settle for a

South Africa set West Indies a target of 298 runs on the fifth and final day at Queen's Park Oval, with Alick Athanaze leading the hosts' chase with

West Indies finished on 201-5 in its second innings as each team started to run out of overs to get the required runs or wickets amid light checks in the evening session.

South Africa had earlier resumed on 30-0 from five overs in its second innings - an overall lead of 154 - and declared at 173-3 from 29 was bowled by Kemar Roach on the last ball before the declaration, which came in the morning session.

Rain had affected every day so

far - only 15 overs were bowled on the first day - and lunch was called five minutes early Sunday with West Indies 11-1. The start of the afternoon session was also delayed and, despite Athanaze reaching his half-century, a draw still seemed the likeliest result with West Indies 121-3 at tea. The hosts needed 177 more runs in a maximum of 34 overs remaining.

West Indies quickly lost Kavem Hodge, caught behind for 29 in a wicket maiden for left-arm spinner Keshav Maharaj Jason Holder came out to join

shared a 65-run partnership before Maharaj effectively ended the chase having Athanaze caught for 92 after top-edging to Kyan Rickelton. With no more than 10 overs left and West Indies at 192-5, still 106 runs from victory, the hosts proceeded to score only three runs in the next three

The draw was agreed after Holder (31 not out) smashed a six to lift the West Indies to 201-5.

Maharaj took 4-88 in 26.2 South Africa scored 357 in its

first innings and West Indies

The second and final Test starts on Thursday at Providence, Guyana.

High hopes, disappointing show: Indian boxers come a cropper at Paris

The Indian boxing contingent, that featured boxing two reigning world champions in Nikhat Zareen and Lovlina Borgohain, entered the Olympics hoping for an unprecedented medal haul, only to crumble under pressure, leaving behind a trail of disappointment in a medalless campaign.

Boxing became a medal hope for India after Vijender Singh's historic bronze at the 2008 Beijing Games. MC Mary Kom added a women's bronze to it in Although the 2016 Rio Games

saw the boxers return without a medal, Borgohain clinched a bronze at the Tokyo Olympics to revitalise the sport.

Expectations were high from Paris and observers of the

medals, could be expected from the six boxers who qualified.

Two-time world champion Zareen (50kg), Borgohan (75kg), and 2023 world championship bronze-medallist Nishant Dev (71kg) bronzewere all seen as strong podium contenders

POOR SHOW: But when it came to actual competition, the Indians never seemed to have the momentum needed to go deep into the tournament. With the exception of Nishant,

who was denied a podium finish after a contentious result in his quarterfinal, the rest struggled with Borgohan and Zareen unable to overcome formidable opponents, and Amit Panghal (51kg) failing to match his previous form. Borgohain, Panghal and

game felt at least one, if not two Nishant needed just two wins

to secure medals Although Borgohain and were handed challenging draws, with both encountering formidable opponents in their second rounds. However, given that they entered as reigning world champions, the two were expected to overcome such challenges or, at the very least, put up a resilient fight.

However, they succumbed rather meekly to their Chinese counterparts.

Zareen, who was considered a potential gold medallist, was markedly off-colour in the second round and later revealed that she had been taking some extreme measures to stay inside the prescribed weight limit, that left her exhausted for actual competition.



She opened her campaign with a scrappy win and then lost to Wu Yu in the second round. Borgohain once again fell to old foe Li Qian, who seems to have the Indian's number, having defeated her in three of their four meetings. Among the men,. Panghal

looked a pale shadow of his

sharp and aggressive self against Zambia's Chinyemba, who lost in the very next round.

Jaismine Lamboria, who came in after dropping down to 57kg weight class from her more comfortbale 60kg division, expectedly lost to Tokyo Olympics silver-medallist

Nevertheless, Preeti Pawar delivered commendable performance in her bout against reigning world silver-medallist Yeni

Marcela Arias.

GOVERNMENT FUNDING: A total of 17 national camps and 23 foreign exposure trips were conducted in the buildup to the Paris Olympics for nine core TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme) boxers and 20 development pugilists. Sports Ministry spent

Rs 60.93 crore on this. Significant funds were also allocated to individual athletes, most notably Rs 91.71 lakh for Zareen, Rs 81.76 lakh for Borgohain, Rs 65.90 lakh for Panghal, and Rs 65.86 lakh for

COACHING INSTABILITY AND SELECTION POLICY: The Boxing Federation of India's inability to provide a stable environment was a key issue in the build-up to the Games. Since the Tokyo Games, coaches have come and gone, denying the boxers the stability that is crucial to an

Olympic campaign. Women's High Performance Director Raffaele Bergamasco was the first to depart right after Tokyo followed by men's HPD Santiago Nieva in May

2022. Narendra Rana succeeded CA Kuttapa as the men's head coach, only for Kuttapa to be reinstated later.

Bhaskar Bhatt was briefly appointed as the women's head coach before he quit the position in June 2023 while HPD Bernard Dunne, who was appointed in October

2022, stepped down from his

Olympics, boxing in a lurch. Foreign coach Dmitruk was the last coach

post four months before the

The new selection policy that replaced the trial system was

appointed in February last

also a talking point. Panghal remained out of the national team until the last qualifier with Deepak Bhoria getting the nod based on the assessment system that relied on camp performance as well

as competitive results to

evaluate the boxers. However, Panghal was sent to the final qualifier, and while he secured a quota, the Haryana boxer struggled to shake off the rustiness after being away from international competition for an extended

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