**OPINION 6** 

DELHI SINKS IN CESSPOOL

OF GOVERNMENT APATHY

DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL BHUBANESWAR

Late City Vol.13 Issue 209 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

RANCHI RAIPUR CHANDIGARH

RAIPUR, THURSDAY AUGUST 1, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹3 the plant 1864 the plant of the Established 1864

**WORLD 8** 

'CHINA BEHIND 2021

CYBERATTACK ON GOVT AGENCY'

SINDHU STORMS INTO **OLYMPICS SINGLES** PRE-QUARTERFINALS

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## **CM refutes Shah's alert** claim on Wayanad tragedy



Rescue operation underway following landslides triggered by heavy rain in the hilly areas of Wayanad district, on Wednesda

KUMAR CHELLAPAN NEW DELHI/KOCHI

Home Minister Amit Shah on Wednesday asserted that advance warnings on heavy rainfall in Kerala were issued to the Government at least a week ahead of the deadly landslides in Wayanad that have left a trail of death and destruction. Meanewhile, the Kerala Government alleged the Central Government agencies

Meteorological Department, Geological Survey of India failed miserably in issuing early warnings about the rainfall and landslides that struck the Wayanad district.

"On July 18, it was forecast that Kerala's western coast



would experience above-normal rainfall. On July 25, it was forecast that there would be heavy rain. On July 23 itself, eight teams of the NDRF were sent to the region," Shah said. He informed Parliament that the Centre had sent eight teams of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) on July 23 to assist the Kerala

eventuality of any disaster. When the landslides struck Wayanad, the NDRF teams got the green signal from the Collector and relief operations were launched immediately," the Home Minister said.

Shah said about six years ago, experts from IIT-Delhi had suggested relocating people from the landslideaffected areas, but their advice was not heeded to. Even as the death toll in Tuesday's massive landslides crossed the 200 mark by Wednesday evening, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, reacted to Shah's statement.

'This is not the time for blame game. There are 91 people undergoing treatment in various hospitals in the

district while 240 persons are missing. My Government has put 8,107 people in 82 relief camps in the district. Meteorological Department had not issued any red alert about the rainfall or landslides. The red alert was issued by the GSI at 6 am on Tuesday hours after the landslide at Mundakkai. The landslides occurred at 2 am and 4.30 am on Tuesday. The Central Water Commission, which is the agency responsible for issuing flood warning, did

not issue any such warning, alleged Vijayan. He said though the Central agencies had forecast 404 mm rainfall for a period of 48 hours, the region recorded 572 mm rainfall during the period.

# Crackdown on coaching centres mooted in Delhi

fter the tragic death of After the tragic death of three IAS aspirants by drowning in the basement of Rau's IAS study centre in Old Rajinder Nagar area, the Delhi Government is planning to relocate coaching centres in Narela and Rohini and develop it as an education hub. Meanwhile, Lieutenant Vinai Governor Saxena has formed a highlevel committee headed by Chief Secretary to address issues related to the regulation of coaching centres. The committee will prepare an action plan for shifting coaching institutes from various places to well-planned

Amid the IAS aspirants' protest for fourth day in a row against civic authorities and 'coaching mafia' near the Rau's coaching centre, braving scorching heat with their Mains exams less than one and a half months away, Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) Additional Commissioner Tariq Thomas on Wednesday admitted the civic body's responsibility in the death of three students, stating that there are serious structural issues, which need to be addressed.

with Interacting protesting students at UPSC coaching hub in old Rajinder Nagar, the senior civic body official said there can be no



civil services aspirants due to drowning at a coaching centre in Old Rajinder Nagar area, in New Delhi, on Wednesday Ranjan Dimri/Pioneer

excuses for the incident and the agency should have done its duty better. Students who started their indefinite hunger strike on

Tuesday ended it on Wednesday morning after their meeting with Thomas. Saxena has directed the Delhi Police Commissioner for cracking down on coaching institutes which take exorbitant rentals in cash transactions to evade tax. Besides, the Lieutenant Governor has directed that a portal be established, with based Aadhar credentials of all coaching institutes in the city and the enrolled students. This would help create transparent database which would help the Government in shaping the policy framework from time to

### **Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh** killed in Iran

AP BEIRUT

Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh was killed by a predawn airstrike in the İranian capital on Wednesday, Iran and the militant group said, blaming Israel for a shock assassination that risks escalating the conflict even as the US and other nations were scrambling to prevent an allout regional war. supreme leader revenge against Israel.

There was no immediate comment from Israel, which has pledged to kill Haniyeh and other Hamas leaders over the group's October 7 attack on southern Israel. The strike came just after Haniyeh had attended the inauguration of Iran's new president in Tehran — and only hours after Israel targeted a top commander in Iran's ally Hezbollah in the Lebanese capital Beirut. The assassination of Hamas' top political leader was potentially explosive amid the region's volatile, intertwined conflicts because of its target, its timing and the decision to

carry it out in Tehran.

Detailed report on Page 8

## Khedkar's IAS career over

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) on Wednesday cancelled a Indian Administrative Service officer Puja Manorama Dilip Khedkar's candidature in the 2022 (CSE) and barred her from appearing for any future examinations of the commission, after finding she had violated rules by appearing for the exam more times than what was

It said her provisional candidature for the CSE-2022 (Civil Services Examination-2022) has been "cancelled" and she has also "debarred permanently" from all future UPSC examinations or

allowed.

selections.

The UPSC had issued Khedkar a show-cause notice on July 18 for availing "fraudulently beyond the attempts permissible limit provided for in the Examination Rules by faking her identity". She was asked to submit her response to the notice by July 25, but she asked for further time till August 4. The UPSC allowed her till



#### **UPSC** gets new chief

PNS NEW DELHI

Centre The Centre on Wednesday appointed former Health Secretary Preeti Sudan chairperson of the Union Public Service Commission after Manoj Soni resigned from the UPSC's top post early this month, according to an official order. currently

Sudan, member of the UPSC, will take charge on Thursday. A 1983-batch IAS officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, Sudan has served in various capacities.

3.30 pm on July 30 to make her submissions.

According to a statement, the UPSC said it has examined the available records carefully and found her guilty of acting in contravention of the contravention of the provisions of the CSE-2022

It said the 34-year-old was told to submit her response she requested for time till August 4. The UPSC granted her time till July 30 and made it clear that it was the 'final opportunity" and "no further extension in time" would be allowed.

She was also told that if no response is received by the deadline, UPSC would take action. "Despite extension in time allowed to her, she failed to submit her explanation within the prescribed time," the panel has said in the statement.

The UPSC has examined available records carefully and found her guilty of acting in contravention of the provisions of the CSE-2022 Rules. Her provisional candidature for the CSE-2022 has been cancelled and she has also been debarred permanently from all the f u t u r e Examinations/Selections of the UPSC," it said.





### **Remove 18% GST on life, medical** insurance: Gadkari to FM

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari Finance has requested Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to withdraw the 18 per cent goods and services tax (GST) on life and medical insurance premiums.

In his letter to the Finance Minister, Gadkari raised concerns of the Nagpur Division Life Insurance Corporation Employees Union, which had submitted to him a memorandum regarding the issues of the insurance industry.

Referring to the memo, the Minister said, "Levying GST on life insurance premiums amounts to levying tax on the said.

uncertainties of life. The Union feels that the person who covers the risk of life's uncertainties to give protection to the family should not be levied tax on the premium to purchase

cover against this risk." Further, he said the main issue raised by the Union is related to the withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premiums. Both life insurance and medical insurance premiums are subject to an 18 per cent

"In view of the above, you are requested to consider suggestion withdrawal of GST on life and medical insurance premium on priority as it becomes cumbersome for senior citizens as per rules with due verification," he

### r e g a r d i n g use of basement in public buildings. **Caste jibe rocks Parliament**

Students' safety

guidelines issued

The Delhi Government Wednesday issued

guidelines for safety and

security of school students

in the aftermath of the

Rajinder Nagar coaching

centre flooding incident,

which claimed the lives of three UPSC aspirants.

According to the guidelines

issued by the Directorate of

Education (DoE), the

schools — both private and

government run - have to

follow the provisions of

Master Plan for Delhi, 2021

PNS NEW DELHI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Ruling party Opposition members engaged in a verbal duel on Wednesday leading to adjournments of Parliament over the BJP MP Anurag Thakur's remarks a day earlier in the Lok Sabha during his attack on Congress M Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi when the former stated "whose caste is not known talks about caste census".

While Congress has moved a Privilege Motion against Thakur and the Prime claiming Minister that Narendra Modi encouraged a "serious breach parliamentary privilege" by sharing Thakur's speech on social media, Opposition MPs slammed Thakur's speech as an insult to Dalits, Adivasis and OBCs.

As the row erupted in Parliament, the Congress said the Gandhi family's caste is martyrdom but the BIP-RSS will never understand that. Upon protests from the Opposition benches, the Chair, Jagadambika Pal, assured MPs that the comments will be expunged, he said.

The BJP flayed the Congress for escalating the caste row and said what's wrong in asking the



Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi arrives for the Congress Parliamentary Party meeting, at the Parliament House in New Delhi, on

when he can ask about the castes of others, including the Government officials, judges and even journalists. In the same vein, however, the

ruling party clarified that Anurag did not ask about Rahul's caste while speaking on the Union Budget in the Lok Sabha and wondered why the Leader of Opposition took an offence and called it an insult to him when none of the other members raised any objection to the former Union Minister's remarks. Congress MP Charanjit Singh

Channi submitted a notice to move a Privilege Motion against Modi for having posted

Leader of Opposition's caste on social media a video that allegedly contained portions of remarks made by Anurag that were expunged from the proceedings of the House by the Chair. Channi, a Dalit MP of the Congress in the Lok Sabha, submitted a notice to Speaker Om Birla seeking to move a Privilege Motion under Rule 222 of the Rules of Procedure against the Prime Minister.

> Dharmendra Yadav said his party has been saying BJP people have no place in their hearts for SCs, STs, OBCs and Muslims. RJD's Manoj Jha said Thakur had given proof of his feudal mindset.

Party

Samajwadi

## Rain brings Delhi, NCR to

SAUMYA SHUKLA

**NEW DELHI** Sudden rain brought the national Capital and adjoining regions, including Noida and Ghaziabad, to a standstill on Wednesday evening with water woes, traffic congestion and major power cuts albeit there was respite for the residents who had been reeling for days from the muggy and sweltering weather due to high humid levels in the city. While several areas suffered power cuts, loadshedding, at least 10 flights were diverted from the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) airport between 7.30 pm and 8pm. The city has been put on a red alert and the National Flash Flood Guidance Bulletin has included Delhi

in its list of 'areas of concern'.



road during rain near Pusa Road area, in New Delhi, on Wednesday

heavy rain lashing whole of Delhi and its adjoining areas of Noida, Gurugram and

Due to the moderate to

going back to their homes from work due to in several waterlogging places including Chirag Ghaziabad, commuters Delhi, Saket, Sainik Farms, witnessed traffic snarls on Qutub Minar metro station, large stretches of road while Chatta Rail Chowk, Minto

Bridge, ITO, Janpath, Karol Bagh, Gaffar Market, Nauroji Nagar, Pant Marg, Nigam Bodh Ghat, Connaught Place and Mayur Vihar. Rain on Saturday evening

led to flooding in the basement of the Rau's coaching centre which claimed the life of three IAS aspirants, rain Wednesday caused yet again waterlogging outside the institute.

Local MLA Durgesh Pathak reached the site to make sure that the water is pumped out of the low-lying

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena also took to social media and said, "Have cautioned all officers to remain alert in

light of the ongoing heavy

downpour in Delhi. Apart

from ensuring minimum

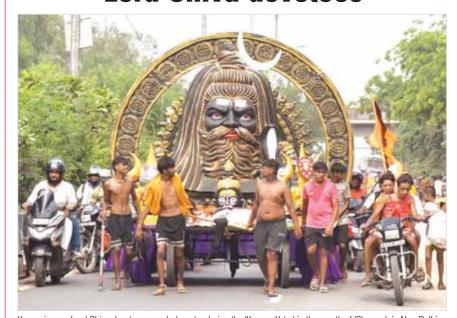
inconvenience to people, advised to thev are specifically address issues at sites prone to waterlogging, including coaching centres."
The Delhi Traffic Police issued an advisory to the commuters in a series of social media post, "Traffic is affected in the carriageway from Moolchand towards Chirag Delhi due to water logging at Chirag Delhi. Kindly plan your journey accordingly," it said. It also advised to plan one's

journey keeping in mind the waterlogging at places, including Railway Under Bridge, Ram Bagh Road, Azad Market, and Anuvrat Marg. Residents in several parts of the city also witnessed power cuts including Sainik Farms,

Patel Chowk, Kalkaji and

Laxmi Nagar among others.

## **Lord Shiva devotees**



Kanwariyas or Lord Shiva devotees carry holy water during the 'Kanwar Yatra' in the month of 'Shravan', in New Delhi, Ranian Dimri/Pioneer

## Ramen Deka sworn-in as **Chhattisgarh Governor**

STAFF REPORTER RAIPUR

 $R^{\text{amen} \quad \text{Deka} \quad \text{on}}_{\text{Wednesday took the oath}}$ of office and secrecy as the 10th Governor Chhattisgarh in a solemn ceremony at the Raj Bhawan in Raipur.

Justice Chief Chhattisgarh High Court Justice Ramesh Sinha administered the oath to

Chief Secretary Amitabh Jain read out the Warrant of Appointment issued by President Draupadi Murmu to appoint Deka as the



Before taking oath, the First Lady Ranee Deka Governor, accompanied by Kakoti and the other family his wife, went to the Kali Mandir at Akashwani Chowk and offered prayers.

Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai, Speaker Raman Singh, members of the state cabinet, former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel,

attended the ceremony.

Deka was born on March 1954 at Sualkuchi in Kamrup, Assam. He received his B.A. degree in philosophy and economics from Pragjyotish College, Guwahati University.

Active in politics since 1977, he was a founding member of the Bharatiya Janata Party in 1980. He was the state president of Assam BJP in 2006.

In 2009, he was elected to the Lok Sabha from Mangaldoi in Assam. He was re-elected to the Lok Sabha in

## Mahtari Vandan amount to be e-transferred today



hhattisgarh Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai will on Thursday e-transfer Mahtari Vandan installment of Rs 1,000 to over 70 Lakh women in the state at an event to be held at Jagdalpur.

The money would be a gift to them for the upcoming Rakshabandhan festival.

The government is committed to uplifting all sections of society, he said. Under this women-centric scheme, rolled out by the Sai

government, married women aged 21 and above are provided a monthly assistance of Rs 1,000 in their bank accounts.

"The goal of enforcing the scheme is to empower women,

foster positive

thinking and

encourage

self-reliance among

them"

The goal of enforcing the scheme is to empower women, foster positive thinking and encourage self-reliance among them, he said.

### Agarwal appointed Raipur ADRM (Op)



STAFF REPORTER

Bajrang Agarwal appointed as the new Additional Divisional Railway Manager (Operations) of South East Central Railway, Raipur Railway Division.

Agarwal is an officer of Indian Railway Stores Service (IRSS) -2005 batch. He was earlier

working as Deputy Chief Material Manager (Administration) in Western Railway.

Agarwal was awarded the General Manager Railway Service Medal in 2015. He obtained M. Tech (Structural Engineering) degree from IISc, Bangalore, in 2017. He has received training on high speed trains from Japan.

### Sai inspects new CM House in Nava Raipur



**STAFF REPORTER** 

hief Minister Vishnu Deo Chief Minister visited Sai on Wednesday visited the newly constructed Chief Minister's house in Sector 24 of Nava Raipur. Sai toured the premises with

The Chief Minister's media advisors Pankaj Jha and Dr. Dhirendra Tiwari were also

## Mahasamund sweeps mixed boxing championship

STAFF REPORTER

Players of Mahasamund district won 27 medals in the Chhattisgarh mixed boxing championship held in Raipur on July 27–28, an official communiqué said on Wednesday.

About 250 male and female players of various ages weight groups participated.

Of the 27 medals, 10 are gold, nine are silver and eight are bronze.

The gold medalists are Vanshika Chauhan, Aarushi Nand, Simran Chauhan, Pallavi Bhoi, Dileshwari Saw, Sabeshwari Sahu, Sahil Kumar, Rajkumar Rohidas, Suryakant Mishra and Trilochan Sahu.

Silver medal winners are



Bhagwantin Nirala, Nurendra Sahu, Sana Khan, Israel Deep, Sanskar Singh Nayak, Bhavni Behera, Priyanka Saw, Yogita Khunte and Hema Saw.

The bronze medals went to Kritika Barik, Hema Patel, Jainish Deep, Dolima Chaudhary, Divya Yadav,

Rachna Saw, Nandika Sahu

and Jeeta Vajpayee. Collector Prabhat Malik

and Superintendent of Police Ashutosh Singh congratulated the players and their coach.

#### Noni Sashaktikaran empowers nearly 6K girls in Mahasamund



**STAFF REPORTER** MAHASAMUND

s many as 5,981 girls in belonging to labourer families have benefited from the 'Mukhyamantri Noni Sashaktikaran Sahayata' Noni

scheme, an official statement said on Wednesday. Under this, girls in the age group of 18-21 receive financial assistance to support their education and other goals.

About Rs 11.96 crore has been distributed to the 5,981 girls - Rs 20,000 each.

# Women's mega drive to plant over 4L saplings



BILASPUR

 $B^{\text{eneficiaries of the Mahatari Vandan}}_{\text{Scheme will plant about 4.25 lakh}}$ saplings in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur district on Thursday.

The drive will be held as part of the Centre's 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam'

The administration has distributed

The drive will be held as part of the Centre's 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign.

plants which will provide fruits as well as shade to women.

Deputy Chief Minister Arun Sao will preside over the programme at the BNS School in Mopka.

After planting the saplings, everyone has been urged to upload a photo https://onetree.digicardmaker.co.in



Chhattisgarh Home Minister Vijay Sharma paid a courtesy call on Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Wednesday. Sharma applauded Assam's peace and prosperity.

#### **कार्यालय कार्यपालन अभियंता, लो.नि.वि.. संभाग क्र0-3.** डी-1/17, सेक्टर-17, नवा रायपुर अटल नगर, जिला-रायपुर (छ.ग.) द्वितीय निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना

दिनांक: 25-07-2024 NIT-08/2024-2025/व ले लि निविदा प्रपत्र क्रय करने हेतु आवेदन :-08/08/2024 अपरान्ह ५.३० बजे तक प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि

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T0005	निर्माण उपसभाग क्रमांक-१ नवा रायपुर के अंतर्गत मेडिकल	5.00
	कालेज कॉलोनी के शासकीय बंगलो आवासों में विशेष मरम्मत,	5000.00
	लघुमूल गौण कार्य, वार्षिक मरम्मत एवं अन्य जमा मद के कार्य	75000.00
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आवेदन के साथ Registation Copy, GST Certificate, Bank Solvency एवं जी.एस.टी. भुगतान का ३ बी प्रस्तुत करना अनिवार्य है निविदा संबंधी शर्ते विमागीय वेबसाईट www.cg.nic.in/pwdraipur में Live Tender के

अंतर्गत निविदा प्रपत्र में उपलब्ध है। इनका अवलोकन संबंधित संभाग कार्यालय में किया जा सकता है। अन्य जानकारी हेतु संभागीय कार्यालय में संपर्क करे। कार्यपालन अभिरांता लोक निर्माण विभाग. संभाग क्र-३ G-242501453/5 रायपुर

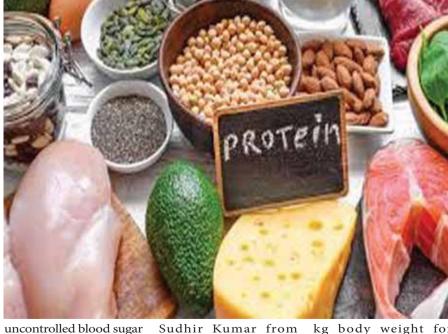
AGENCIES Tncreasing protein

Lintake may not be linked with gastro issues and kidney problems but a high-carb diet can cause severe harm, contended health experts on Monday.In India, protein intake generally low, and a highprotein diet does not ĥarm healthy kidneys. According to the

latest meta-analysis, published in the journal Frontiers in Nutrition, a high protein diet is associated with lower Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD).

The study led by Nanchang University researchers showed a lower CKD risk significantly associated with higher-level dietary total, plant, or animal protein (especially for fish and seafood) intake.

"A high-carb diet often causes acid reflux, while increasing protein intake can mitigate this by lowering carbohydrate consumption. Conversely, a high-carb diet can lead to



Protein-rich diet may raise risk of gastric problems?

uncontrolled blood sugar in diabetics, potentially causing chronic disease." Shashikant Iyengar, Metabolic Health Coach, told IANS.

"Having the recommended amount of protein is not hazardous for healthy kidneys," added Dr.

Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals (NS:APLH), Hyderabad, in a post on

The top neurologist explained that "for adults (above the age of 18 years), the recommended protein intake is 1 gm, 1.3 gm, and 1.6 gm per

kg body weight for people engaged in minimal, moderate and intense physical activity,

respectively' According to the recent guidelines issued by the Indian Council of Medical Research and National Institute of Nutrition (ICMR-NIN),

recommended dietary allowance (RDA) for protein intake is 0.83g protein/kg/day for healthy men and women (requirements of 97.5 per

cent of the population. However, the target is rarely met by most Indians, said the experts.

Dr Piyush Ranjan, Senior Consultant & Vice Chairman, Department of Gastroenterology, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, told IANS that Dr Ranjan said "overall a balanced diet should include good quality and quantity of proteins. But excess intake especially of animal proteins and commercial supplements may be detrimental."

He noted that recommended protein intake for adults varies between 1-2 mg per kg body weight, and that it depends on the physical activity, age, gender, and comorbid

conditions. Dr Ranjan said animal and vegetable proteins differ slightly in their qualities, and increasing intake may be harmful for people

intake can lead to certain side effects. The most important risk is kidney

already suffering from

"Excessive protein

kidney issues.

damage, especially in people with pre-existing kidney disease. Excess of animal protein can also cause a rise in uric acid causing stones in the kidney," he stated. Further, a protein-

rich diet is also blamed for causing bloating and other gastrointestinal issues. "Among

gastrointestinal side effects altered bowel habits, flatulence and halitosis (bad breath) may be seen with excessive protein intake," Dr Ranjan said.

Iyengar, however, disagrees. He said, "More acid reflux symptoms are found carbohydrate diet. High carbohydrate diets could induce more acid reflux in the low oesophagus and more reflux symptoms in patients with gastroesophageal reflux disease".

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## Viksit Bharat, Sashakt Uttarakhand



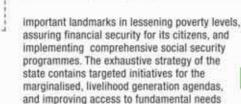
Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are committed to the holistic development of our state, leveraging its natural beauty, rich cultural heritage, and immense potential. Through sustainable policies and strategic initiatives, we aim to foster economic growth, improve infrastructure, and enhance the quality of life for all our citizens. Our goal is to make Uttarakhand a model of progress, where tradition meets innovation, and every individual can thrive in a conducive environment for prosperity and well-being.

Pushkar Singh Dhami

ttarakhand has emerged as a top performer in

ranking alongside Kerala with an impressive

the recently released SDG India Index 2023-24,



score of 79. Under the able leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, the state has worked on comprehensive such as housing, education, and healthcare. development, promoting renewable energy, augmenting These endeavours have collectively healthcare infrastructure, evolving urban surroundings contributed to the top-tier ranking of and preserving biodiversity, underlining its dedication the state in eliminating poverty. to sustainable evolution and effective policy execution, thus attaining a spot among the top five states in

#### ALLEVIATING POVERTY AND

several SDG goals

SAFEGUARDING FINANCIAL SECURITY

The performance of Devbhoomi Uttarakhand in alleviating poverty is admirable, illustrating the state's victorious measures in its mitigation. The SDG India Index underscores that Uttarakhand has attained



Driven by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the state of Uttarakhand, led by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, has demonstrated tremendous achievement in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as depicted in the SDG India Index 2023-24



CM Pushkar Singh Dhami gifting 'Grain of Uttarakhand' to Prime Minister Narendra Mod

#### PROMOTING HEALTH AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL

The state of Uttarakhand has exhibited remarkable advancement in boosting health and well-being. The healthcare system of the state has demonstrated outstanding progress in different health indicators, including mother and child health, immunisation coverage

non-communicable diseases. The focus of the government has been on bolstering healthcare

infrastructure, extending the coverage of health

# SDG INDIA INDEX 23-24 PERFORMANCE OF STATES AND UTs ON SDGs

Uttarakhand has set a standard by leading in essential domains including healthcare, clean energy, reduction in poverty, urban sustainability, and environmental protection

benefits to remote places, and improving the quality of care. Ingenious health agendas and expanded investment in public health have additionally strengthened the ranking of Uttarakhand, positioning it among the highest achievers in this crucial domain

#### PROVIDING AFFORDABLE AND **CLEAN ENERGY SOLUTIONS**

The accomplishments of Uttarakhand in the SDG India Index emphasise its adherence to assuring access to affordable, trustworthy, sustainable, and contemporary energy for everybody. The state has taken noteworthy steps in boosting renewable energy capability, especially in harnessing its hydroelectric potential. Further, Uttarakhand has concentrated on enhancing energy efficiency and extending the electricity grid to rural and isolated regions, assuring overall access to clean energy. These measures have improved energy security

as well as contributed to environmental sustainability, making the state achieve a leading position in this classification.

#### CREATING INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES

The state has undertaken several metropolitan expansion to enhance infrastructure and improve various public services. Introduction of smart cities concept, affordable accommodation schemes, and integration of disaster threat reduction efforts into urban planning have greatly enhanced the quality of life for urban citizens.

**CONSERVING TERRESTRIAL ECOSYSTEMS AND BIODIVERSITY**  I congratulate the Uttarakhand

government on the remarkable progress achieved in the last few years. This has been made possible by sustained policy push and focus on key sectors such as tourism and renewable energy. Alongside, the state has made significant strides in infrastructure development, setting new benchmarks for sustainable growth. Uttarakhand's commitment to harnessing its natural resources and promoting tourism has not only bolstered its economy but also showcased its potential on the global stage. I applaud the state's dedication to inclusive development and look forward to its continued success in the vears ahead.

> Narendra Modi Prime Minister

Illustrated in its high ranking in the SDG India Index. The state has launched strong efforts to save and revive forests, conserve wilderness, and

The rich biodiversity and vast forest cover of Uttarakhand are important assets that the state preserves via different environmental approaches and community-based conservation agendas. Measures to foster sustainable farming and forestry techniques have additionally bolstered the ecological harmony of the state. assuring the long-term health of its natural

The holistic strategy of Uttarakhand for growth, incorporating financial development with social inclusion and environmental administration. illustrates the regulations of the Sustainable

Uttarakhand has undertaken a historic step to introduce the **Gross Environmental** Product (GEP) Index, becoming the first Indian state to introduce such a pioneering endeavour that connects ecology with the economy

## U'khand aces in the introduction of gross environmental product index

recently launched by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami and it evaluates the environmental health of the state based on the quality of four essential elements, viz. air, water, forest, and soil. The GEP shows

relative data from 2020 to 2022, indicating a 0.9% growth, signalling amid expansion.

CM Dhami highlighted the importance of this endeavour in facilitating a balance between financial growth and ecological



Uttarakhand strives to lead by example with the introduction of the GEP Index, in balancing growth with environmental sustainability

conservation. The GEP Index will act as a vital instrument in forming prospective environmental public understanding about the significance of protecting natural resources. The Chief Minister, while emphasising the rich natural legacy of Uttarakhand, highlighted the necessity for effective utilisation

of forest wealth and the revitalisation of water plantation of trees and water conservation measures

The concept of GEP was envisioned by environmentalist Dr Anil Prakash Joshi, It allocates an economic worth to environmental services providing a tangible standard of ecological influence. Uttarakhand strives to lead by example with the introduction of the GEP Index in balancing sustainability. This assures a brighter tomorrow for its residents and establishing a standard for other states to pursue.



Under the leadership of PM Narendra Modi, the 'One District Two Products' scheme launched by CM Pushkar Singh Dhami aims to promote local products and create self-employment opportunities across all 13 districts of the state

## **ODTP Scheme:** A step towards local economic empowerment

ttarakhand's 'One District Two Products (ODTP) Scheme is an innovative initiative launched by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami in October 2021. The scheme aims to promote local products and create self-employment opportunities across all 13 districts of the state.

#### EMPLOYMENT IMPACT One of the key aspects of the ODTP scheme is its potential

to generate employment opportunities at the local level. By developing products based on market demand and utilising modern technology, the scheme creates jobs in various sectors, including packaging, testing, and logistics. The increase in business and export opportunities is expected to further bolster employment, benefiting local farmers, artisans, and

craftsmen. Notable products from various regions include Almora's tweed and Bal Mithai, Bageshwar's copper craft and Manduwa biscuits. Champawat's iron crafts and handwoven products, Chamoli's



products made by local artisans

handlooms, handicrafts and aromatic herbals. Dehradun's bakery and mushroom products, Haridwar's laggery and honey, Nainital's Aipan art and candle craft, Pauri's herbal products and wooden furniture, Pithoragarh's woolen carpet and Munsiyari rajma Rudraprayag's handicrafts temple shapes and prasad products, Tehri's natural fiber and Tehri Nath, Udham Singh Nagar's mentha oil and Moonj grass products, and Uttarkashi's woolen handicrafts and apple-based products.

#### IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

Skill development and design enhancement are also crucial components of the implementation strategy. By equipping local artisans and craftsmen with modern skills and design techniques, the scheme ensures that the products meet contemporary market demands.

#### **MARKET & EXPORT**

POTENTIAL The ODTP scheme aims to position Uttarakhand's local products in both domestic and international markets.

By promoting these products on a larger scale, the scheme seeks to enhance their visibility and demand The government's efforts to improve packaging, branding and marketing are expected to play a significant role in this endeavour. Tourism also plays a crucial role in the ODTP scheme's market strategy. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has encouraged tourists to spend at least 5% of their total expenditure on local products. This initiative not only boosts the local economy, but also promotes state's cultural heritage.

#### **FUTURE PROSPECTS**

The ODTP scheme is a promising step towards the sustainable economic development of Uttarakhand. By focusing on local products and creating selfemployment opportunities the scheme aims to foster economic resilience in the state's rural areas. The successful implementation of this scheme could serve as a model for other states to follow, highlighting the potential of local industries to drive economic growth.

## District-wide crafts get recognition

Local products find national & global platforms



women entrepreneurs (SHG) during Uttarakhand Investor Summit 2023

he 'One District One Product' (ODOP) scheme is an endeavour under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, striving to boost regional products and promote financial evolution in districts across India. By recognising and sustaining outstanding products from each district, the scheme seeks to facilitate manufacturing, help regional craftspeople, and furnish a forum for these products in nationwide and global markets. Recently, Uttarakhand and its border district, Uttarkashi, obtained nationwide acclaim under this scheme, marking a notable accomplishment for the state.

The state's commendation came during the Atmanirbhar Bharat Utsav 2024 awards, where Uttarkashi district

Uttarakhand Silver Meghalaya Bronze won the second award for its production of Red Rice in the agriculture

Different districts in Uttarakhand have been recognised with special products under the ODOP scheme. including Almora's apricot-based products, Bageshwar's kiwi-based products, Chamoli's fish-based products. Champawat's teipatta and spices, Dehradun's bakery products, Haridwar's mushrooms, Nainital's fruit juice and squash (peach, etc), Pauri's citrus-based products (Malta), Pithoragarh's turmeric-based products. Rudraprayag's amaranthas-based products, Tehn's ginger-based products, Udham Singh Nagar's mango-based products, and Uttarkashi's apple-based products

This is supported by the Common Facility Centre (CFC) Scheme, which furnishes up to 90 percent of the project expenditure in economic aid. This allows local producers to improve their production establishments and enhance their product quality. The Marketing Development Assistance Scheme presents economic support to participants of nationwide and multinational exhibits and fairs, letting them demonstrate and market their ODOP-selected products. Further, the Finance Assistance Scheme (Margin Money Scheme) offers assistance to set up projects, assuring that financial limitations do not restrict the

development of local enterprises.

Text by Taresh Dutta

AYUSH POLICY:

TOWARDS WELLNESS



CM's visit to Adi Kailash further promoted the area as a notable pilgrimage destination

PM Narendra Modi's fondness for yoga and meditation has immensely increased the popularity of these age-old practices, especially in Uttarakhand

■he AYUSH Policy of Uttarakhand summarises enterprising strategies to incorporate conventional

wellness and financial development. The policy strives to capitalise on this legacy by enabling the cultivation of over 1,000 rare medicinal plants native to the area. Endeavours such as the Chief Minister Medicinal Plant Development Programme are set to involve 50,000 farmers in growing these plants, promoting sustainable farming approaches, and

healthcare procedures with contem-

porary methods, striving for holistic

augmenting regional revenues. In the domain of AYUSH production, Uttarakhand already has a strong drive, backed by ample raw materials and promising business necessities. The state hosts multiple GMP-certified manufacturing departments making a vast array of AYUSH medicines and consumer items. Under the new policy, more incentives and assistance will be

offered to enable more units to attain WHO GMP certification and adhere to global quality norms. This action is anticipated to greatly improve the sector's contribution to the state's GDP, presently evaluated at Rs 4,000-5,000 crore.

The policy encapsulates strategies to accredit all specified government AYUSH healthcare centers under the NABH (National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers) within five years.

#ExploreUttarakhand



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CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE

# Budget balances growth, livelihood, Rescue operations continue in landslides-ravaged Wayanad cooperative federalism: FM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $F_{ ext{Sitharaman on Wednesday}}^{ ext{inance Minister Nirmala}}$ said the Union Budget strikes a fine balance between growth, employment, and fiscal consolidation, and promotes cooperative federalism.

Replying to the discussion on the Union Budget 2024-25 and Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir Budget in Rajya Sabha, the Minister said the Government is on track to achieve the preannounced fiscal deficit target of 4.5 per cent by 2025-26.

In her reply, Sitharaman also talked about high inflation during the UPA rule while highlighting the measures by the Modi Government on price front. Sitharaman, also a Former Defence Minister, said the Agniveer Scheme to recruit people in the age group of 17.5 to 21 years, is aimed at keeping the armed forces fit,

young and battle-ready.
The Minister, who presented her seventh Union Budget, also said the economic document proposes cooperative federalism. would like to underline that our unflinching commitment



cooperative federalism. The total resources proposed to be transferred to the States in 2024-25 are estimated at ₹22.91 lakh crore. This actually entails an increase of ₹ 2.49 lakh crore over 2023-24," the Minister said.

She said capital expenditure is pegged at ₹ 11.11 lakh crore. "This is the biggest ever allocation for Capital expenditure and it shows increase of about 17 per cent over the RE and provisional actuals of the FY 2023-24,"

"Whereas during our tenure from 2014 to 2024, the allocation for capex has been ₹ 43.82 lakh crore from 2014-15 to 2023-24," she said.

capex allocation was ₹ 13.19

lakh crore between 2004-05 to

On criticism that she only referred to two States in her Budget speech and ignored the rest, Sitharaman said the Budget is for all States, in past also, including the UPA era,

the names of all States were mentioned. emphasised that if a State has not been mentioned in the speech, it does not mean there is no allocation for it.

Several Opposition members had raised issues related to the devolution of taxes to States. To this, Sitharaman it is wrong to calculate devolution based on gross tax receipts, and then claim that the Centre is devolving less than what is suggested by the Finance Commission.

The Finance Minister highlighted that for agriculture and allied sectors the Budget has allocated ₹ 1.52 lakh crore, which is ₹8,000 crore more than the previous year. comparison, in 2013-14, the last year of Congress-led UPA, only ₹ 30,000 crore was allocated for agriculture.

She also took on Congress leader and former Finance Minister P Chidambaram for misleading statement regarding appointment of DGPs in States. Sitharaman countered Chidambaram's contention by asserting that the scheme "is a very reformative step to enhance the capabilities and battle readiness of our armed

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Military personnel on Wednesday intensified search and rescue operations in Kerala's Wayanad district, where landslides have claimed more than 167 lives, with the Army saying that it has recovered around 70 bodies and rescued nearly 1,000 people so far. Extremely heavy rain triggered the landslides in the hilly areas of Wayanad early Tuesday, leaving at least 167 people dead and more than 200

Four columns from the Defence Security Corps (DSC) Centre, Kannur, and TA Battalion are conducting combined rescue operations along with the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and State rescue teams, a senior army official said. Around 70 bodies have been recovered by the Army so far and approximately 1,000 people have been rescued, the official

Humanitarian Two Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) columns, including two medical teams, were airlifted from Trivandrum to Kozhikode by AN32 and C-130 aircraft. They arrived at Kozhikode airport late Tuesday night and stayed overnight, the army said. Movement of fuel and other administrative stores



said. Brig Arjun Seagan, Commandant of the PARA Regiment Training Centre, arrived with his team late Tuesday night. conducted a reconnaissance of a potential bridge site and established a control centre for coordinating the Army's HADR efforts, supported by the commandant of the DSC Centre, they said.

Heavy engineering equipment and rescue dog teams were airlifted and disaster relief teams were dispatched by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on The State Tuesday. Government has requested the deployment of a 690-ft Bailey bridge. Currently, up to 330 feet of the bridge is being moved from the Madras Engineer Group Centre, Bengaluru, by road. The

remaining parts are being airlifted from Cantonment, the Army had said late on Tuesday. The Indian Army

coordinating closely with state authorities to ensure swift and effective relief efforts, the officials said. "Construction of a bridge on the Meepadi-Chooralmala Road will commence, including the induction of earthmoving certain equipment to the other side of the stream utilising air effort," the army said on Wednesday. A navy spokesperson here said that on a request from the Kerala State Disaster Authority Management (KSDMA), the Kochi-based Southern Naval Command (SNC) dispatched a disaster relief team comprising 68 personnel from INS Zamorin

at Ezhimala to the landslide-

hit site on Tuesday

The rescue team comprising skilled personnel along with a medical team and necessary equipment reached the site at 10 pm on Tuesday. Additional teams have been kept on standby for deployment at short notice and will be mobilised as required, he said. An advanced light helicopter (ALH) detachment in search rescue configuration was deployed from Kochi to Calicut at 7.30 am on Wednesday to augment the rescue efforts, the spokesperson said. adverse weather

conditions due to incessant rains pose challenges in the area. All-out efforts are underway to provide immediate relief and support the local populace impacted by the disaster, the

## SC confirms staying premature release of Gawli

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

So ja beta, nahi toh Gabbar aa jayega." Quoting the oftremembered dialogue from the blockbuster "Sholay", the Supreme Court on Wednesday "confirmed" its earlier order staying the premature release of gangster-turned-politician Arun Gawli who is serving life imprisonment in a murder case. A bench of Justices Surva Kant and Dipankar Datta made absolute its June 3 order staying the operation of the April 5 order of the Bombay High Court's Nagpur bench and on November 20.

The High Court had directed State authorities to consider Gawli's application for premature release under the 2006 remission policy. "We are not inclined to grant any interim relief.

The interim stay granted by us is confirmed. Post the appeals for hearing on November 20," the bench said. At the outset, senior advocate Raja Thakare, for appearing Maharashtra Government, submitted that Gawli has over 46 cases, including around 10 cases of murder, against him. The apex court asked the senior lawyer whether Gawli had done anything in last five to eight years.

Thakare replied that the gangster has been behind bars for over 17 years.

Asking whether Gawli is reformed or not, the bench asked, "How society will know that when he is behind the bars? He is 72 years old." Challenging the High Court order, Thakare said there is a requirement under the Maharashtra Control



(MCOCA) for convicts to undergo imprisonment for at least 40 years for remission. This is as per the policy of

Ramakrishnan, appearing for Gawli, said other co-accused had been given bail in the matter and the Bombay High Court was right in granting premature release.

The State Government has changed its remission policy (in 2015) but your lordships have held that the policy will apply which was applicable when he was convicted. The 2006 policy will apply since he was convicted in 2009. This policy allows remission on account of age and infirmity," she said.

At this juncture, the bench observed.

"But madam you should know that not everybody is Arun Gawli. In the movie 'Sholay', there is an iconic dialogue, 'So ja beta, nahi toh Gabbar aa jayega. This can be a case here'.

Elaborating on Gawli's health condition, Ramakrishnan told the court that he is suffering from heart disease and has a lung defect.

To this, the counsel for the Maharashtra Government said this was so because of continuous smoking for 40

## Public mood in party's favour, caution | Northeast reports 196 needed against complacency: Sonia

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

ongress Parliamentary Party chairperson Sonia Gandhi on Wednesday said the 'mahaul (public mood)" is in the party's favour but cautioned against complacency and over confidence after the goodwill generated for it in the Lok Sabha elections. Noting that elections will be

held in four States, the longest serving Congress's former President said leaders to sustain the momentum and goodwill that had been generated for the party in the Sabha elections. Assembly polls in Haryana, Maharashtra and Jharkhand as well as Jammu and

must not become and complacent confident. The 'mahaul' does favour us, but we have to work unitedly with a sense of purpose. I dare say that if we perform well, reflecting the



trend that we witnessed in the Lok Sabha elections, national politics will undergo a transformation," Sonia said at the CPP meet in Parliament. During the general body meeting of the CPP in Central resolution authorising Sonia Gandhi to appoint other office-bearers of the CPP was also passed.

Sonia claimed that the Modi Government had not drawn the right lessons from "their Sabha elections and alleged that it was persisting with its policy of "dividing communities and spreading an atmosphere of fear and animosity

"Fortunately, the Supreme Court intervened at the right time," she said in an apparent reference to the stay on the orders passed by Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand Government asking eateries along the Kanwar Yatra route to display the name of owners.

But this can only be a temporary respite. Look at how the rules have been suddenly changed to permit the bureaucracy to participate in the activities of the RSS. It calls itself a cultural world knows that it is the BJP's political and ideological base," she said.

She also slammed the Union Budget, saying that the pressing demands of farmers and youth in particular, have

## landslides from April to July: Minister in LS

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The northeastern region has reported 196 landslides from April-July this year, accounting for one-third of the total 592 landslides recorded since 2017, according to data shared in Parliament on Wednesday.

In response to a question by BJP MP Kamakhya Prasad Tasa, Union Earth Sciences Minister Jitendra Singh told the Lok Sabha that the Geological Survey of India (GSI) has collected data on 592 landslides that occurred 2024 in different northeastern States, impacting lives and infrastructure.

He said the analysis of the data shows a "mixed trend with periodic ups and downs" in the occurrences of

the exact nature of the trend of landslide incidents, longrange (at least 20 years of) data with exact date of occurrence is required," the minister said. According to the data presented in Parliament, the

'To infer conclusively about

northeastern region reported 28 landslides in 2017-18; 49 in 2018-19; 45 in 2019-20; 65 in 2020-21; 78 in 2021-22; 102 in 2022-23; 29 in 2023-24; and 196 in 2024-25 so far. According to the landslide atlas released by the Indian

Organisation's (ISRO) Centre last year, Northwest Himalayas account for 66.5 per cent of the landslides in India, followed by the Northeast Himalayas (18.8 per cent) and the Western Ghats (14.7 per

Space



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

repairs: Vaishnaw

Railways Minister vini Vaishnaw U Ashwini informed the Lok Sabha in a written reply on Wednesday that the Indian Railways sanctioned 9,784 railway bridges for repairs, strengthening, rehabilitation or rebuilding. Vaishnaw responded to questions raised by nine MPs on whether the Government has identified old railway bridges in Maharashtra which are in dilapidated conditions and the details of the repair work undertaken in the last three

vears. members These concerned about the status of collapse of railway bridges in the last three years and the number of persons killed and injured as a result of that. They also wanted to know the steps taken by Government to repair all the old railway bridges across the country.

"There is a well established system of inspection of railway bridges on Indian Railways. All the railway bridges are inspected twice a

## Govt's helpline got 1.94L child pornography plaints: Min

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Over 76.02 lakh women had sought helpline assistance till May 31 on Government's helpline number while about 1.94 lakh complaints regarding child pornography and rape or gang rape had been registered on the Government's National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP) till April 30, Union Minister Annapurna Devi said on Wednesday in Parliament. In a written reply to a question in the Rajya Sabha, the Women and Child Development Minister said since its inception, the NCRP has received over 16.18 crore

"As of 30, 2024 April approximately 1.94 lakh complaints regarding child pornography and rape or gang rape have been reported," she said.

Till March 31, more than

69.05 lakh cyber tipline reports had been shared with the relevant States and union territories, she said. According to the Minister, the

**Emergency Response Support** (ERSS-112) operational in all 36 States and Union Territories and had handled more than 36.29 crore calls till April 30, with more than 14.36 lakh downloads of the '112 India'



mobile app. The integration of the Women's Helpline (WHL-181) with ERSS is functional in 35 States and Union Territories. Monitoring centres for the Devi said.

Vehicle Tracking Platform (VTP) commissioned in 11 States union enhancing the tracking and safety of public transport,

Integrated Response System Under Emergency Management (IERMS) project, CCTV systems have been installed in railway stations Additionally, nationwide. 2,034 tabs have been procured and distributed to Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel to assist women travelling alone or those in need of help on trains, she said.

AI-based Recognition System (FRS) has been integrated with video surveillance systems at seven major railway stations for a pilot project, the Minister

#### year, one before the onset of monsoon and one detailed inspection monsoon," Vaishnaw said.

## Blind's brain connectivity patterns boost non-visual senses: Neuroscientists

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

ver wondered what enables Ethe blind to develop and refine a "sixth sense"? A groundbreaking study led by Georgetown University neuroscientists has shed light on this remarkable phenomenon, revealing that individuals with blindness exhibit distinctive brain connectivity patterns that enhance their non-visual senses, such as spatial awareness, sound localisation, and tactile perception.

The study demonstrated that regions typically associated with sight in sighted individuals are

repurposed in the blind to strengthen these other senses. This reorganisation allows the develop to extraordinary abilities to navigate and interpret their

environment through alternative sensory inputs. By mapping these unique brain connectivity patterns, researchers aim to advance our understanding of sensory and brain adaptation

plasticity. postdoctoral Led researcher Dr Lenia Amaral and Assistant Professor Dr Ella Striem-Amit, the study provides insight individual differences in brain

organisation. "We don't see this level of

variation in the visual cortex connectivity individuals who can see," said Dr Striem-Amit, who heads the Sensory and Motor Plasticity Lab at Georgetown. "The connectivity pattern in people born blind is more distinct across individuals, like a fingerprint, and remains stable over time.

The study involved a small sample of individuals born blind who underwent repeated functional MRI scans over Researchers neuroimaging techniques to



and found that the visual

exhibited remarkable stability regardless of the task.

"Our study found that these patterns did not change significantly based on the task-whether participants were localising sounds, identifying shapes, or resting, explained Dr Amaral. "Instead, the connectivity patterns were unique to each individual and remained stable over the two-year period. Dr Striem-Amit emphasised

that these findings highlight the brain's plasticity and its ability to develop in diverse ways, especially in the absence

"Our findings suggest that experiences after birth shape

the diverse ways our brains can develop, potentially even for different uses of the visual cortex among those born blind," she said. The implications of this

discovery are significant. It suggests that personalised approaches to rehabilitation and sight restoration could be developed based on an individual's specific brain connectivity potentially optimising sensory and cognitive functions for those with impairments.

The study is published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).

## Karnataka Guv seeks response from CM on MUDA 'scam'

**PTI** BENGALURU

Governor **≁**arnataka Thaawar Chand Gehlot has sought a "response" from Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to allegations relating to the distribution of sites by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority, including to his wife Parvathi, sources in the Congress government said on Wednesday.

The move comes after a delegation of BJP Legislators met the Governor on July 25 and submitted to him a memorandum seeking transfer of the MUDA case to CBI for a probe and resignation of the Chief Minister."Since memorandum is submitted, it

is imperative for the Governor to seek a reply from Chief Minister. Accordingly, the Governor has asked the Chief Minister to respond to it," sources in Raj Bhavan said.

Referring to the Governor's action, Home Minister G Parameshwara said there is reason to believe that it was politically motivated. "He (Gehlot) has been given

some Constitutional powers. He should function within its framework. It will give rise to



doubts if he crosses the threshold. There are threshold. suspicions that politics is happening," Parameshwara told reporters in the district headquarters town of Bagalkote."The Governor has moved further to issue a show cause notice. We will have to consider it as politicallymotivated," he added.

Karnataka Information Technology Minister Biotechnology Priyank Kharge alleged that the Governor is "misused" by the BJP.

"You have seen Governors in

Nadu, earlier in West are Maharashtra and Bengal. In some places these Governors are misusing their Constitutional position. Even the Supreme Court has made observations. Several articles have also appeared on how the Governors are interfering in the functioning of the Government exceeding their limits," Kharge told

> 'It appears, here too, the same thing is happening. Already we have said that I-T (Income Tax Department) and ED (the

being used. Isn't it that they (BJP) are using them (Governors)," the Minister said. According to him, there are no instances of the Governor immediately asking for a reply soon after a memorandum is submitted. "During the Ballari mining scam there were strong evidences for the Governor to act but in MUDA case there is nothing," he said"The BJP has got a standard operating procedure to let the I-T, ED loose (on its opponents) and misusing the Governors,

## Enforcement Directorate) are Gutkha row: HC seeks CM, MLAs' response to privilege breach notice

The Madras High Court on Wednesday asked Chief Minister M K Stalin and a few other DMK MLAs to submit their respective explanation to the show cause notices issued by the Privilege Committee in 2017 for displaying banned gutkha sachets in the Tamil Nadu Assembly, when they were in the opposition.

the opposition.

The DMK MLAs had then displayed the sachets to claim thy were available freely during the then AIADMK regime.

Allowing a batch of appeals from the Secretary, Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly, a division bench comprising Justices. S. M. Subramaniam, and C.

Justices S M Subramaniam and Č Kumarappan set aside the order of a single judge, which set aside the show cause notices issued by the Privilege Committee.

Assembly, the Speaker of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly and the Privilege Committee of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly shall proceed with the show cause notice (SCN), issued to the contesting respondents, by following the due process under the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules and take final decision on merits and in accordance with law as expeditiously as possible", the bench added.

The bench said in view of the legal position and having not convinced with the reasoning given by the single judge for setting aside the show cause notice, it was of the firm opinion that the 'SCN' issued must reach its logical conclusion by following the due process as contemplated under the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules.

The bench said the powers of the Committee of Privileges and the powers of the Speaker of the House would not lapse merely on account of change of Government. The notice issued by the Privilege Committee was relating to disciplinary affairs of the House. Therefore, the proceedings will not lapse merely for the reason that the opposition party turned to be the ruling party.

The nature of proceedings require a decision to be taken on merits by following due process contemplated under the Assembly Rules.



inside the House, cannot be buried, the smooth manner.

The bench said, "it is we the people of India who constituted the Assembly under the Indian Constitution.

The assembly proceedings are to be conducted in the manner prescribed. Actions initiated must be concluded by following the procedures as stipulated under the rules, the bench added.

It said issues such as breach of privileges cannot be washed away after dissolution

of each and every assembly. The Assembly and the Committee of Privileges constituted thereunder must deliberate on the issues relating to privilege breach and arrive at conclusions in the best interest of the Assembly representing the people of Tamil Nadu, the bench added.

The sovereign nature of the Assembly must be respected under all circumstances and the internal conduct should be carried on smoothly for which Rules and privileges have been formulated. And any such breach of the same must be dealt with in accordance with the principles enshrined under the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rules and the Constitution of India, the bench added.It further said the legislative assembly was a floor to voice out the concerns of the people and the privileges were extended to the members representing the people in the Assembly to perform their functions without any

Therefore, by setting aside the 'SCN', undue interference and to carry on the issues relating to disciplinary matters legislative affairs of the House in a

interest of the people for whom the legislative assembly functions.

In a democracy, people were always supreme and the assembly functioning in the interest of the people must ensure that its sovereignty and dignity remain protected under all circumstances, the bench added.

The bench said the privileges were a part of the inherent nature of the House and the dissolution of an assembly does not dissolve the privileges of its members once it was reconstituted.

Similarly, breach of the privileges, if any, does not lapse with the dissolution of the assembly.

It gets carried forward to the new Committee of Privileges to constituted by the Speaker and was left before them for further deliberations. If the argument of senior counsel N R Elango was adopted, that breach of privilege lapses with dissolution of an assembly, the very purpose behind

privileges granted to the members of the

assembly become meaningless. Utter chaos may ensue where every member will be motivated to not take the privileges seriously thereby leading to breaches and after the end of the term, on dissolution of assembly, all such proceedings lapse and this shall go on in an endless fashion, the bench

### **Villages in South** Goa oppose Sunburn fest for promoting drug culture

PTI PANAJI

Several villages in South Goa district have passed resolutions against the Electronic Dance Music (EDM) Sunburn Festival, which is likely to be held by the end of this year, alleging that it promotes drug culture.

The stakeholders of the tourism industry, however, came out in support of the festival, saying that such events generate revenue for the state. Seven villages in South Goa — Chicolim South Goa — Chicalim, Carmona, Nuvem, Varca, Sarzora, Chinchinim and Camorlim — during their Gram Sabha meetings held on Sunday decided to oppose the Sunburn Festival 2024.

These villages passed the resolutions, in which they decided not to give permission for the festival, claiming that it fuels drug culture in the State.

The resolution mentioned that the the Sunburn Festival should not be held in Goa as it is a "hub for sale of drugs and also results in several problems for locals including traffic congestion".

festival traditionally held in North Goa, but it is likely to be held in South Goa this year. When contacted, state Tourism Minister Rohan Khaunte said the Sunburn Festival organisers were yet to apply for permission.

"We will be able to make any statement on the festival only after they apply for it," he said. Meanwhile, Travel and Tourism Association of Goa (TTAG) (TTAG), an umbrella organisation of tourism stakeholders, supported the festival, saying such events generate revenue to the scale

## Zika virus testing can now be done at Rajkot's AIIMS



**PTI** RAJKOT

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Gujarat's Rajkot has been recognised as a facility for the screening of Zika virus, cutting down on the need for swab samples to be sent to the National Institute of Virology (NIV) at Pune in adjoining Maharashtra, an official said on Wednesday.

"Our centre has been recognised for the screening of Zika virus (by Indian Council of Medical Research). We have received kits from the NIV, and are going to begin the tests very soon," said Ashwini Agarwal, professor and head of the department of microbiology at AIIMS Rajkot.

He said the new testing centre at AIIMS will become operational from next week. Agarwal informed that the central government has also sanctioned biosafety laboratory at AIIMS Rajkot that deals with highly infectious and pathogenic organisms. "BSL 3 (biosafety level 3) lab has been sanctioned, and construction will begin next

month," he said. After the centre for Zika virus testing at AIIMS Rajkot becomes operational, results of samples of suspected cases will be known within 24 hours.

When samples from Gujarat were sent to the Pune-based NIV, it took from one week to to a month for confirmation.

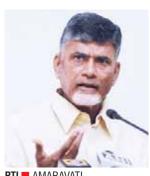
"The centre will make the test results of suspected Zika virus patients known within 24 hours. Samples collected for surveillance purpose will take some time," he said. The Zika virus disease is

transmitted through the bite of an infected Aedes mosquito, which is also known to transmit infections like dengue and chikungunya. The virus was first identified in Uganda in 1947. Thirteen cases of Zika in 1947. Thirteen cases of Zika virus — three from Karnataka and 10 from Maharashtra — were reported till July 22 this year, Minister of State for Health Anupriya Patel had said in the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. In 2023, the country had witnessed 23 cases of Zika virus while two infections virus, while two infections were seen in 2022 and 234 in

Gujarat had last reported three cases of the disease in 2017.
Prime Minister Narendra
Modi had inaugurated
Gujarat's first AIIMS at Rajkot on February 25 this year. Spread across 201 acres, Rajkot

AIIMS is a world-class hospital with 720 beds, including the The multispecialty medical facility was built at a

### CM: Reach out to investors, industrialists who gave up on Andhra



ndhra Pradesh Chief

Andnra riaucsii
Minister N Chandrababu
Naidu on Wednesday directed officials to reach out to industrialists and investors who had forged agreements with the state but later abandoned them due to alleged mishandling by the erstwhile YSRCP government. The Chief Minister highlighted that he himself will step in to woo them back if needed during a review of the Department of Industries today, which delved on the deals signed in the past 10 years. "Negotiate with the industrialists who turned their backs on the state even after forging agreements with it due to the policies of the YSRCP government. If needed, I will personally talk to them," Naidu said in an official press

According to the CM, the erstwhile TDP government between 2014 and 2019 had signed agreements worth Rs 16 lakh crore and alleged that the YS Jagan Mohan Reddyled government had later driven them away with its

Officials informed the CM that land pooling for industrial needs was allegedly diverted for other purposes during the YSRCP regime, which included setting aside 1,382 acres of land for welfare house

The TDP chief underscored that 14,125 acres of land was made available through 64 industrial parks between 2014 and 2019 and observed that only 31 such parks were made available by the YSRCP

government. Noting that this kind of discouraging developments dampened the spirit of investors, Naidu exhorted that there is a new need to instill confidence in industrialists.

Instructing officials to speed up work in the projects which have already taken off, the CM called for the completion of projects worth Rs 1 lakh crore within this year to enable the employment of over 1.3 lakh people. Further, he directed officials to come up with five new policies on industries, MSMEs, food processing, electronics, IT and cloud and textiles within the next 100

Naidu emphasised that the policies should be good enough to attract investments conducive environment.

Moreover, he also directed officials to design policies to turn the southern state into a green hydrogen and green energy hub. Similarly, he called for the drafting of proposals to create four new industrial clusters and procure Central Government approvals, adding that the clusters could come up at Kuppam, Mulapeta, Chilamathuru

Donakonda or Pamuru. Naidu also deliberated on the Rs 11,542 crore bulk drug park at Nakkapalli, Rs 60,000 crore NTPC green hydrogen hub

## ED raids Himachal Cong MLA, CM's associate in fraud case

PTI SHIMLA

The Enforcement
Directorate on Wednesday
raided the premises of
Himachal Pradesh Congress MLA R S Bali, some private hospitals and their promoters as part of a money laundering probe linked to the alleged Ayushman Bharat scheme

About 19 locations in Shimla, Kangra, Una, Mandi and Kullu districts of the state apart from those in Delhi, Chandigarh and Punjab are being searched since morning, they said.

The premises of Bali, a legislator from Nagrota assembly seat, Fortis Hospital in Kangra (promoted by Bali's company Himachal Healthcare Pvt Ltd.), Balaji Hospital in Kangra and its promoter Rajesh Sharma are being raided. Sharma, according to the officials, is a "close associate" of Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu. He gave up his ticket for the recent Dehra assembly bypoll for Sukhu's wife Kamlesh Thakur. She won the bypoll.

Bali is also the chairman of Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation and the vice-chairman of the Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Board.

The money laundering case filed on July 16 stems from a January 2023 FIR registered by the state vigilance and anticorruption bureau against one Kiran Soni, Una-based Shri



others for allegedly generating "fake" AB-PMJAY (Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna) cards.

The ED has alleged that many medical bills were generated on such "fake" cards, causing a loss to the exchequer and the public with the total "proceeds of crime" in this case estimated to be around Rs 25 crore. The agency found that a total of

8,937 Ayushman Bharat golden cards have been scrapped in the state for alleged violation of the AB-PMJAY scheme till now.It alleged that Bankey Bihari Hospital, Fortis Hospital, Shri Balaji Hospital, Sood Nursing Home and Sri Harihar Hospital among others availed "illegal benefits" under the AB-PMJAY scheme.

As many as 373 fake Ayushman cards have been identified and claims of ₹40,68,150 were made for reimbursement from

beneficiaries, the agency found. List of such "fake" beneficiaries included one Rajnish Kumar and Pooja Dhiman who "denied" possession or any information of a PMJAY card issued to them, the ED found. They never underwent any such treatment in any of these

hospitals, the ED claimed.

treatment given to some

Ayushman

The accused hospitals made claims for treatments, surgery, admission which were actually never given or performed upon the patients, it said. In an another instance, Raksha

Devi was "denied" admission in the hospital and her package was "dishonestly and illegally" blocked. The accused hospitals were "de-empanelled" from the Ayushman Bharat scheme for illegal practices and noncompliance of procedures and guidelines, the agency claimed.

and others.

## Gujarat court orders FIR for group's Muslim boycott call

PTI ■ PATAN (GUJ)

court in Gujarat's Patan Adistrict has ordered the registration of an FIR against a group of people for allegedly calling for an economic boycott of Muslims in a village after communal violence in July last

In a recent order, the court of Judicial Magistrate First Class HP Joshi directed the sub-inspector of Balisana police station to register a case on the basis of a complaint by petitioner Makbul Husen Sheikh and complete the investigation in a time-bound

The petitioner had moved the court alleging that some persons in Balisana misused the "unfortunate incident of a communal riot" on July 16, 2023, to incite locals to boycott Muslims and force them out of business by cancelling the rent agreement of their shops.

The move has affected the businesses and livelihood of Muslims living in the area, and some have even been compelled to leave the place, he said in the petition. The court directed that the group be booked under the Indian Penal Code for promoting enmity between different groups (153-B) and circulating or publishing statements containing rumour or alarming news with intent to create or promote the feeling of enmity - 505 (2). At the same time, the court also



made out under the IPC section concerning hate speech - 295 (A) - after the petitioner sought to add it to the FIR. Nearly two months after the riot,

Sheikh told the court, he district the approached superintendent of police (SP) with videos being shared on social media showing some villagers inciting others for an economic boycott of Muslims and forcing them out of rented shops in the village market and other places.

The petitioner said he moved the court after the police did not initiate action against those calling for the economic boycott of Muslims in the village. In an earlier order, the court had

police subsequently submitted a report saying no crime appeared to have been committed. The court, however, refused to accept the report after considering the video clips and

directed the police to inquire into

the matter and submit a report.

statements of affected persons submitted by the petitioner and directed the police to register an FIR in an order passed on July 26. Two groups of villagers had clashed in Balisana on the night of July 16, 2023, over a social media post. Mobs targeted one another with iron rods, pipes and stones, leaving several injured, after which cross-FIRs were registered for rioting, resulting in the arrest of several persons.

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PAPER WITH PASSION

## **Halwa politics**

Rahul Gandhi raises the issue of the caste census in Parliament using halwa as a metaphor

It all began when Leader of the Opposition of Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi used the traditional 'halwa' preparation ceremony following the budget presentation to guestion the involvement of marginalised community members in the budget process. He extended the metaphor by noting that only high caste people are involved in making the halwa who distribute it to the elite sections of population. It did not go down well with the treasury benches and the pandemonium followed. Parliament has been engulfed in chaos over the contentious issue of a caste census for long. This debate not only stirred up intense discussions but also led to a significant clash between Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and former Union Minister Anurag Thakur. Prime Minister Modi backed Thakur. He took to Twitter saying, "this speech by my young and energetic colleague Shri Anurag Thakur is a must-hear. A perfect mix of facts and humour, exposing the dirty politics of the INDI Alliance." Thakur had hit back at Gandhi over



his speech in the Lok Sabha saying people who do not know their caste are asking for caste census. The demand for a caste census has been a long-standing issue taken up by the INDIA bloc. Proponents argue that it is crucial for understanding the socioeconomic conditions of various castes and for formulating targeted welfare policies.

India has a complex caste system that significantly impacts social and economic dynamics. A caste census would help identify disparities and enable the Government to address them more effectively. Indeed, a comprehensive caste census would provide detailed data on the socio-economic status of different castes.

which is vital for creating effective policies and programs aimed at uplifting marginalised communities. Many marginalised communities continue to face discrimination and lack of opportunities. A caste census could highlight these issues and pave the way for targeted interventions to promote social justice. The Opposition, particularly the Congress party, has been vocal in advocating for it. Rahul Gandhi has emerged as a leading voice, arguing that a caste census is necessary for ensuring social justice and equitable development. He contends that without accurate data, the government cannot effectively address the needs of marginalised communities. On the other hand, Anurag Thakur has taken a firm stance against the opposition's demand. Thakur argues that the government is already implementing numerous schemes aimed at social upliftment and that a caste census may lead to further division within society. Thakur accused the opposition of playing divisive politics and undermining the Government's efforts to promote inclusive development. As the pandemonium in Parliament continues, the issue of caste census remains unresolved. The caste census can be a turning point in deciding Government's approach to welfare. The issue should not die in the din of Parliament.



Children play at fountains near Lal Chowk on a rainy day in Srinagar

## Delhi sinks in cesspool of Government apathy SIDHART



Recent tragedies, such as the flooding of a coaching institute basement that claimed three young lives, highlight Delhi's mismanagement



istorical writings many times create a perspective of adulation for some of the most undeserving characters. Take the instance of Bahadur Shah Zafar, the last of the Mughal dynasty, whose rule started in Shahjahanabad and ended at Palam.

He was extended by the British for his connivance with the rebellious soldiers and died in Myanmar.His 'tragedy' is best known by the lines which he penned himself before he died. He wrote, 'kitna hai badnasib zafar dafn ke lie do gaz zamin bhi na mili ku-e-yar m?' (How unfortunate is Zafar! For his burial; Not even two yards of land were to be had, in the land of his beloved.). In the popular culture, it's seldom recalled that he was a worthless leader, incapable of administering, always cribbing and too preoccupied with palace conspiracies.Nearly 150 years later, we in Delhi have a government which is as Zafaresque in its bearing as the Mughal rule in

The day leaders from INDIA block converged in the national Capital in the support of incarcerated chief minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal, the same evening his party ruled Delhi government and the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD)

presided over a catastrophe in the flooded basement of a coaching institute in the heart the

Capital. Nobody among those supposed to be in charge of the city administration seems to be mourning the loss of three young lives.

They in typical Zafaresque style are busy blaming one and all possible. Kejriwal's regents in the Delhi government have done their bit. Minister Atishi Marlena has said that she has ordered a magisterial enquiry, which you can bet would have no clear finding to present. Her colleague Saurabh Bhardwaj has claimed that though he holds meetings with the officials nobody listens to him. Not to leave behind, city's Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena too has joined the charade blaming the city government and the MCD for not taking the necessary initiative to prevent such a tragedy.

In the midst of all this, our modern-day Zafar aka Arvind Kejriwal would be busy penning another sob story in his prison cell about his persecu tion and alleged continuous loss of weight. How do you expect the MCD to be functional when you have a Mayor

KEJRIWAL'S REGENTS IN THE **DELHI GOVERNMENT** HAVE DONE THEIR BIT. MINISTER ATISHI MARLENA HAS SAID THAT SHE HAS ORDERED A **MAGISTERIAL** ENQUIRY, WHICH YOU CAN BET WOULD HAVE NO **CLEAR FINDING TO PRESENT** 

who is unauthorisedly occupying the chair much beyond her term expired? Shelly Oberoi is a beneficiary of the political crisis engulfing Delhi. The Lieutenant Governor scuttled the election of the new Mayor because the file did not have a noted by the Chief Minister, who could not put his pen on the file as he was in jail. That was the technical reason

but the political reason was that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) did not want to have an embarrassment ahead of the Lok Sabha elections losing the Mayoral polls. Now that the polls are over and the BJP has won all the seven Lok Sabha seats in the national Capital, the Lieutenant Governor could have gathered sufficient wisdom to allow an election and have somebody head the municipal body who was authorised to do so.The Municipal Corporation of Delhi works through various committees, including the one responsible for keeping the drains in the city clean. Ever since the AAP came to power in MCD in 2022 with thin majority, the singlest between AAP and BJP has ensured that most of these powerful committees have remained non-functional.

swamped the Civic Centre, the headquarters of the MCD, how does one expect the city to have civic governance? During the last Lok Sabha polls earlier this year, the campaign in the city was cantankerous focusing mostly on mudslinging. It was a campaign where the issues about Delhi were all lost in the bitter cacophony. No wonder even after the polls issues of Delhi remain unaddressed. There is no indication that it will be addressed anytime soon. While Kejriwal continues to play a Zafar albeit his rule does not extend beyond his cell in Tihar Jail, the Centre through its representative is in the role of Nero, the

When such a stalemate has

The Centre should realise that it cannot continue to play Nero but intervene and save it from the kind of destruction that Rome faced.

(The writer is an author and

Roman emperor who once

famously said, "I have only to

appear and sing to have peace

once more in Gaul." Delhi has

been sans governance for sev-

eral years and will take sever-

al years to bring it back on the

president, the Centre for Reforms, Development & *Justice*; views are personal)

#### **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

## Budget prioritises applied research but neglects basic science



BIJU **DHARMAPALAN** 

Promoting applied research at the cost of fundamental sciences, like physics and ecology, could jeopardise scientific progress and innovation

he recent budget emphasises operationalising the Anusandhan National Research Fund (ANRF) for research and prototype development and increasing private participation in generating funds for research. Though these are commendable, the government should consider a few academic and research community apprehensions. One main concern is the declintrend among researchers and policymakers towards supporting basic science research. Basic science, sometimes called fundamental or pure science, is driven by curiosity and the quest for understanding the underlying principles governing the natural world without immediate concern for practical applications. Discoveries made through basic research often lay the groundwork for subsequent advancements.

For instance, a theoretical endeavour to understand atomic and subatomic particles and quantum mechanics initially led to the development of tech- Unfortunately, research in we have built over the peri-



nologies such as semiconductors and MRI machines. This expansion of knowledge is not merely an academic exercise; it creates a foundation upon which applied sciences can build. We need good physics, chemistry, mathematics, and biology researchers to do this. Unfortunately, our teachers fail to convey the application of basic research to the student community. Natural calamities are recurring in every part of our country. Still, we haven't deliberated with our researchers working in the field of ecology, climate studies or the environment. Biodiversity and the environment are the lifelines of our planet, and we need good researchers to study them in the future.

hardly gets the attention of our policymakers. We ĥardly have a national

institution whose mandate is systematics or ecology, though these are part of many institutions as a division. Researching with sophisticated instruments in the lab is comparatively easier than researchers in the field. Why should a researcher spend years in a forest studying wildlife? They are real scientists who are providing yeoman service to the nation. Unfortunately, they are not getting enough recognition or acceptance from our policymakers or society. Because of this, many good researchers passionate about fundamental science research are moving towards more lucrative

This will create a cavity in our future scientific knowledge base. Policymakers should understand that the success we have received in space research or health care in recent times is because of the strength of the fundamental science

systematics, ecology, etc., od. We need to create an environment where basic science education and research are promoted. For this, the government should allot part of the

budget for ANRF exclu-

sively for basic science

research. The huge financial investment required for basic science and the uncertainty of results may deter private entities from funding such endeavours.But if we neglect basic science in the long run, our science will suffer badly.

The stagnation of basic science can lead to a lack of new theories and principles, which hinders the development of innovative technologies and solutions. The government should prioritise basic science research in policy documents and provide necessary support to researchers working in the field. We can address emerging challenges only if we have a robust basic sci-

ence workforce. (The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru; views are personal)

#### **NEED FOR RAILWAY SAFETY AUTHORITY**

Madam — There is an urgent need to establish a railway safety authority as a statutory body with powers to frame safety standards, conduct audits, enforce accountability, and investigate accidents. Improved communication and coordination among railway boards, zonal railways, divisions, and production units are essential. Increased funding for track renewal, bridge repair, signaling upgrades, and coach refurbishment is crucial. Advanced safety systems like Anti-Collision Devices (ACDs), Train Collision Avoidance System (TCAS), Train Protection Warning System (TPWS), and Automatic Train Control (ATC) should be installed to ensure passenger safety and reduce accidents.

The recent derailment of the Howrah-CSMT Express, resulting in two deaths and 20 injuries, underscores the need for these measures. Learning from Japan's Shinkansen, which has maintained a perfect safety record with advanced systems, could be highly beneficial.

Dimple Wadhawan Kanpur

#### TRAGIC LOSS OF LIVES OF IAS ASPIRANT

Madam—The tragic loss of three civil services aspirants who drowned in a rain-flooded basement of a coaching centre in Delhi is heart-wrenching. This incident highlights the apathy and connivance of officials who turned a blind eye to urban planning violations. The coaching centre flouted all safety norms, using its basement as a library despite regulations.

The city's drainage system, clogged due to rampant illegal constructions, exacerbated the situation. A thorough investigation is necessary to fix responsibility. Both state and central governments must learn from this tragedy, review the status of urban bodies, and strictly enforce norms to prevent such violations. It is deplorable that the negligence of authorities and the greed

## Manu Bhaker's historic Olympic win



udos to India's shooting ace Manu Bhaker for making history by becoming the first Indian post-independence to win two medals in a single Olympics. Bhaker and her partner Sarabjot Singh secured bronze in the 10M Air Pistol Mixed Team event, defeating the Koreans

This added to Bhaker's earlier bronze in the Women's Individual 10M Air Pistol event, making her the first Indian since Norman Pritchard

Delhi's state and central governments, which overshadows the tragedy. DVG Sankara Rao | Vizianagaram

#### **CRICKET HAS CHANGED**

Madam — Apropos the article, "The evolution of cricket and umpiring", published on July 22, 2024, this is my response. Cricket has undergone metamorphosis of change and it has become more and more a technology-driven sport like most of the modern day sports. The advent of ODIs and followed by T20Is, including of course the IPL, have all attracted millions of fans across the globe and have taken the game to its highest pedal.

English counties propelled the sport in the late 19th century, and it was around this time cricket went international, with the US and Canada playing each other first, followed by Australia's tour of England, which led to the creation of The Ashes. Perhaps, this period formed the basis of the worldwide status crickof the coaching centre led to such a loss. et now has. Throughout the 20th and

in 1900 to achieve such a feat. Congratulations to the Indian shooting pair for winning the country's second bronze medal at the Olympics. Bhaker's composure amidst the hype is commendable, and she stands as an inspiration for every Indian youth with her dedication and love for the sport. In closing, Manu Bhaker's remarkable achievements at the Olympics have etched her name in history and brought immense pride to India. Her success, alongside Sarabjot Singh, in securing bronze medals in both individual and mixed team events showcases their exceptional talent and teamwork. Bhaker's unwavering dedication and resilience serve as an inspiration to young athletes across the nation. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to both Manu Bhaker and Sarabjot Singh for their outstanding performances and wish them continued success in their future

Bidyut Kumar | Faridabad

Worse still is the blame game between 21st century, cricket retained its core rules, but later became a much more skill-based sport. On top of this, the technological advancements made across the sporting world meant that cricket was changing for players, officials and as well the spectators. 'Ball tracking' is one of the key technological innovations in the game, which not only meant better analysis of a bowler's technique, but also the ability to better read LBWs by tracking the ball's path

Living at a time where T20 internationals have become the most popular of all the three formats, cricket has seen a big surge in viewership. No wonder, being the game's super power, India's recent T20 world cup win at Barbados will only take the game to its extraordinary heights like never before. It is one sport that is liked by every Indian and binds India like no other sport.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

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## **FIRST COLUMN FROM HURT TO HEALING**

By understanding our desires and analysing our actions, we can find ways to heal ourselves



RAJYOGI BRAHMAKUMAR **NIKUNJ JI** 

obody can hurt me without my permission, said Mahatma Gandhi, however, the truth is that most of us hurt each other in our relationships and we do it because we just want to do it. There is no larger reason for it, but it's something that just happens. According to psychologists, most people hurt someone because they want something they think they can't have, or have something they don't want. If we closely observe ourselves, then we would find that most of us are in one of the above two conditions, and we don't know what to do about it, hence we think that the only method of getting what we want is to hurt someone. So, is this the only way out? Is it the right method to follow? We all know it's wrong because it creates a lot of pain on both sides, so why do we do it?

Simply because we don't understand how to have that thing that we badly want or get rid of that thing that we do not need without hurting. There may be numerous reasons for us to hurt people, however the most common of them is 'unfulfilled expectations' which we all experience in our various relationships. Take for example, we just met someone and have fallen in love with him/her. Now before there is any kind of exchange of feelings, we just start dreaming about things that are totally out of context.

After a lot of pursuing, chasing and pushing, when we finally fail to get the desired reply from the other end, we start feeling miserable and then start blaming the person by saying things like 'You



hurt me', 'You broke my heart' etc. We should sit aside in a quiet corner and ask ourselves whether our expectations right from the beginning were realistic. Did the opposite person give us any inclination to believe so that he/she also feels the same as we are feeling? Were feelings of love mutual on both sides? When it was time to understand what he/she was saying, we were building love castles in the air, when it was time to give some space to the opposite person, we were suffocating the person with our forced love & affection. Is this the right kind of behaviour?

Remember! Any kind of one-sided relationship is extremely painful and maleficent because it makes you feel like a spare part in someone else's life as if you aren't as important to them as they are to you. Hence to prevent oneself from such pain and agony, it is best to have clear communication with the person whom you have feelings for. It doesn't matter what kind of a relationship you are in, but you have got to communicate your feelings because when we open the door of a dialogue, we open our hearts.

So always express yourself because carrying the burden of unspoken words can take a toll on you. It's 100 times better to say what you genuinely feel rather than repeating 'I love you' 100 times. However, it's so unfortunate that most of us prefer to bleed from within and stick to our 'no expressing' stubbornness. A wise person would thus always think about these reasons when being hurt rather than wasting time on 'Why me?'

So c'mon don't give up so easily because life is too short for such mundane things, just forget what hurt you but never forget what it taught you. Learn your lessons and move on.

(The writer is a spiritual educator and popular columnist; views are personal)

## Reforming the personal income tax regime



UTTAM GUPTA

In the Budget for 2024-25, Finance Minister has made the 'new regime' of personal income tax more appealing, while continuing to rationalise the capital gains tax structure



n the Union Budget for 2024-25, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has endeavoured to make the 'new regime' of personal income tax (PIT) a bit more attractive besides continuing the process of 'rationalising' and 'simplifying the structure of capital gains tax (CGT) that was started in her budget for FY 2023-24. Sitharaman had introduced the new PIT regime in the Budget for 2020-21.Even while retaining a 5 per cent tax for annual income in the Rs 250,001-Rs 500,000 range (as under the old regime before 2020-21), on income higher than Rs 500,000, the government levied: 10 per cent on Rs 500,001-Rs 750,000; 15 per cent on Rs 750,001-Rs 1,000,000; 20 per cent on Rs 1,000,001-Rs 1,250,000; 25 per cent on Rs 1,250,001-Rs 1,500,000. For income above Rs 1,500,000, the 30 per cent tax continued. Unlike the old regime where persons could claim annual exemptions and deductions on long-term investments up to a maximum of Rs 375,000, none was allowed under the new regime.

However, individuals were given the choice to go either for the new regime or continue with the old regime. In the Budget for 2023-24, she altered the tax new structure to provide for nil tax on income up to Rs 300,000; 5 per cent tax on income in the Rs 300,001-Rs 600,000 bracket; 10 per cent in the Rs 600,001-Rs 900,000 bracket; 15 per cent in Rs 900,001-Rs 1,200,000; 20 per cent in Rs 1,200,001-1,500,000; and 30 per cent on above Rs 1,500,000. Besides, salaried persons and pensioners can also claim a standard deduction of Rs 50,000. This was much better than the 2020-21 package. Under it, a person with an annual income of say Rs 1,500,000 needs to pay Rs 140,000 as tax when compared to Rs 150,000 payable under the old regime albeit with tax breaks. Besides, the former left the person with cash-in-hand of Rs 1,360,000 against only Rs 975,000 under the old regime (after paying tax Rs 150,000 and investment Rs 375,000). Furthermore, under the new (modified) regime a salaried person won't have to pay any tax on annual income up to Rs 750,000.In the Budget for 2024-25, the FM has further tweaked the slabs to provide



IN CASES WHERE THE STRATEGIC SALE IS MOOTED. THE GOVT FACES A BIGGER CHALLENGE AS APART FROM A **FAVOURABLE** MARKET, IT **NEEDS BIDDERS** WITH DEEP **POCKETS** 

for nil tax on income up to Rs 300,000; 5 per cent tax on income in the Rs 300,001- Rs 700,000 bracket; 10 per cent in the Rs 700,001-Rs 1000,000 brackets; 15 per cent in Rs 1000,001- Rs 1,200,000; 20 per cent in Rs 1,200,001-1,500,000; and 30 per cent on above Rs 1,500,000. Besides, salaried persons and pensioners can now claim a standard deduction of Rs 75,000.For a person with an annual income of Rs 1,500,000, these changes will yield an incremental savings of Rs 15,000 over the tax payable as per the 2023-24 budget. She will need to pay only Rs 125,000 as tax. Moreover, a salaried person won't have to pay any tax on annual income up to Rs 825,000 up from Rs 750,000 earlier. Already, nearly two-thirds of those filing IT returns have shifted to the new tax

persons to shift. Coming to CGT, the subsisting tax rates varied widely depending on the asset such as equity shares, bonds, physical assets, listed or unlisted, holding period, etc. This was prone to arbitrage/misuse, evasion and protracted litigation.Last year, the government began the process of reforming it. In the Finance Bill, 2023 passed by the Lok Sabha on March 24, 2023, it amended to change the tax treatment of capital gains from non-equity or debt mutual funds (DMF). DMF is a scheme that invests in fixed-income instruments, such as corporate and government bonds, corporate debt securities, money market instruments etc. that offer capital appre-

Earlier, any capital gain on redemption of units in a debt fund held for three years or longer was treated as long-term capital gain (LTCG) and taxed at a flat 20 per cent with the taxed at 20 per cent. This is up from

benefit of indexation (it adjusts the cost of a person's investment to account for inflation, effectively reducing her capital gains and in turn, her tax liability). Any capital gain on redemption of units before three years was treated as short-term capital gain (STCG) and taxed at an individual's income tax (albeit personal) slab rate.

The amendment dispensed with this distinction in the case of 'Specified mutual funds' (SMFs) which essentially refer to mutual funds where not more than 35 per cent of their total proceeds are invested in equity shares of domestic companies. As a result, gains arising from SMFs irrespective of the period for which the units are held by investors are deemed STCGs and hence, liable to tax at the rate applicable to the slab in which their total income falls.

exchange-traded funds (ETFs), gold funds, outbound mutual funds equity funds etc.In the budget for 2024-25, the FM has gone for a major overhaul of the CGT regime. For all categories of assets – financial or physical, listed or unlisted except debt and non-equity MFs and unlisted bonds, long-term capital gains (LTCG) will attract tax at a uniform rate of 12.5 per cent. The holding period for deciding longterm is 24 months except in the case of stocks, equity mutual funds and REITs/InVITs where the threshold is 12 months. In the case of debt and non-equity MFs and unlisted bonds, the gains will be taxed at the applicable slab rate. For assets held for less than 24 months, short-term capital gains (STCG) will be taxed at the applicable slab rate. However, in the case of stocks, equity mutual funds, listed bonds and

15 per cent levied earlier. Pertinently, for these instruments, even the LTCG tax of 12.5 per cent is higher than the 10 per cent levied earlier.Three broad messages emanate from these changes.

First, these reward long-term investors who will now pay LTCG of 12.5 per cent down from 20 per cent or the applicable slab rate (generally 39 per cent) earlier depending on the asset class. A higher annual exemption limit of Rs 125,000 (up from the existing Rs 100,000) from LTCG from stocks and equity MFs is an added sweetener.Second, while reducing the LTCG tax rate, FM has taken away the benefit of indexation.

This way she has plugged a major source of revenue loss in the real estate sector whereby developers could drastically reduce the tax outgo by taking advantage of indexregime. total income falls. outgo by taking advantage of index-The additional sweetener from the The new tax treatment effective ation. However, owners of old 2024-25 budget will incentivize from April 1, 2023, also applied to houses acquired before 2001 (ancestral property) have been spared as they will continue to get indexation benefits. Third, investors looking for short-term gains pay more as the STCG tax rate on stocks and equity mutual funds now is 20 per cent up from 15 per cent earlier.

These persons being mostly rich persons/high net-worth individuals with surplus funds, Sitharaman's endeavour to collect more tax from them is fully justified. The new CGT regime is undoubtedly a big improvement. However, the government should aim at a structure where irrespective of the asset class, listed or unlisted and the holding period, the capital gains arising therefrom are an addition to her income in the relevant year. Therefore, tax should be levied at the rate applicable to the slab his total income falls in (all sources put together).

(The writer is a policy analyst;

## The OTT platforms are redefining star power and entertainment

These platforms not only showcase diverse stories and talents but also help actors reach a global audience and achieve instant stardom

n today's rapidly changing entertainment landscape, ▲Over-the-Top (OTT) platforms have emerged as a powerful force in redefining how we consume content and perceive celebrity status. These platforms have not only revolutionized the way stories are told but also introduced a new breed of superstars, offering actors opportunities to gain recognition and connect with audiences on a global scale that rivals traditional commercial movie stardom. The accessibility of content through platforms like Netflix, Amazon Prime, and Disney+ has disrupted the established order in both Hollywood and Bollywood. Unlike conventional cinema, where fame often dictated success, OTT platforms prioritize diverse



storytelling and talent. This shift has empowered actors who were previously relegated to supporting roles or lesserknown projects to take center stage and achieve instant fame. For instance, actors like Nawazuddin Siddiqui, Pankaj Tripathi, Vijay Varma, and Jaideep Ahlawat in India, along with Phoebe Waller-Bridge in the West, have risen to stardom through standout perfor-

These digital stages provide a unique opportunity for actors to connect with audiences worldwide, transcending borders and cultural boundaries. OTT platforms have also given rise to a new form of celebrity influence, one that values performance, quality, and character relatability over traditional box office metrics. The popularity of these stars is rooted in their ability to connect with audiences through captivating stories and authentic performances.

This evolution has opened doors for exploring a wide range of genres and unconventional characters, allowing actors to showcase their versatility and depth. By stepping beyond the typical main character archetypes, actors now mances on OTT platforms. have the opportunity to por-

tray complex roles that not only highlight their talent but also solidify their star status and diversify their portfolios. What sets OTT stars apart is their relatability and authenticity, which enhances their appeal. Unlike traditional movie icons who are often seen as larger-than-life figures, OTT stars are perceived as more down-to-earth and relatable. This relatability translates into strong brand value, as audiences feel a deeper connection to these actors and their on-screen personas. OTT platforms also serve as a hub for brand collaborations, where actors endorse products that align with their on-screen personas. This integration of content and commerce has opened up new avenues for revenue generation for actors,



while also boosting their brand image. Additionally, OTT platforms have the distinct advantage of reaching a larger and more diverse audience, further

enhancing their appeal. The influence of OTT platforms is also evident in how they have breathed new life into theatrical releases. There is now a "reverse osmosis"

effect where movies that may have had limited box office runs or regional appeal find broader audiences and renewed popularity when released on streaming services. Moreover, the allure of OTT platforms has attracted big stars and celebrated directors to create original content specifically for streaming audiences. Renowned filmmakers and top-tier actors, who traditionally dominated the theatrical space, are now embracing the creative freedom and diverse storytelling opportunities offered by OTT platforms. High-profile projects like Martin Scorsese's "The Irishman" on Netflix and Sanjay Leela Bhansali's "Heeramandi" are prime examples of this shift. During

when theaters were shut down, OTT platforms not only sustained the entertainment industry but also thrived as the sole infotainment channel for

audiences. The era of DVD rentals and brick-and-mortar video stores has given way to the convenience of streaming services, which offer a vast library of movies and TV shows at the click of a button. Streaming platforms have emerged as launchpads for movies and series that gain immense popularity, often surpassing tradi-tional cinema. Shows like "Stranger Things," "Money Heist," and "Sacred Games" have garnered cult followings, turning their actors into global sensations. The viral nature of streaming content, comthe COVID-19 pandemic, bined with its global accessibil-

ity, can catapult relatively unknown actors and smaller productions into the limelight, achieving a level of fame that rivals big-budget block-busters. OTT platforms also cater to niche audiences by offering content that may not have widespread commercial appeal but resonates deeply with specific viewer groups. This has allowed for a variety of stories and genres to thrive, from indie films to experimental series. By tapping into these niche markets, OTT platforms have redefined the concept of a "hit," allowing for diverse forms of success that go beyond traditional box office. . (The writer is former Addl.

DG DFF & Festival Director IFFI, Views are personal. Inputs: Zoya Ahmad, Vaishnavie Srinivasan)

## Hamas leader Ismail killed in alleged Israeli strike

Haniyeh was killed by a predawn airstrike in the Iranian capital Wednesday, Iran and the militant group said, blaming Israel for a shock assassination that risks escalating the conflict even as the US and other nations were scrambling to prevent an all-out regional war. Iran's supreme leader vowed revenge against

There was no immediate comment from Israel, which has pledged to kill Haniyeh and other Hamas leaders over the group's October 7 attack on southern Israel. The strike came just after Haniyeh had attended the inauguration of Iran's new president in Tehran — and only hours after Israel targeted a top commander in Iran's ally Hezbollah in the Lebanese capital Beirut. The assassination of Hamas' top political leader was potentially explosive amid the region's volatile, intertwined conflicts because of its target, its timing and the decision to carry it out in Tehran. Most dangerous was the potential to push Iran

"We consider his revenge as our duty," Iranian supreme leader Avatollah Ali Khamenei said in a statement on his official website. He said Israel had "prepared a harsh punish-ment for itself" by killing "a dear guest in our home."

and Israel into direct con-

frontation if Iran retaliates.

Bitter regional rivals, Israel and Iran risked plunging into war earlier this year when Israel hit Iran's embassy in Damascus in April. Iran retaliated and Israel countered in an unprecedented exchange of strikes on each other's soil, but international efforts succeed-



ed in containing that cycle before it spun out of control. Haniyeh's killing could also prompt Hamas to pull out of negotiations for a cease-fire and hostage release deal in the 10-month-old war in Gaza, which US mediators had said were making progress. And it could inflame already heightening tensions between Israel and Hezbollah — which international diplomats were trying to contain after a weekend rocket attack that killed 12

rocket attack that killed 12 young people in the Israeli-controlled Golan Heights. Tuesday evening, Israel carried out a rare strike in the Lebanese capital that it said killed a top Hezbollah commander allegedly behind the rocket strike. Hezbollah, which denied any role in the Golan strike, said Wednesday that it was still searching for the body. was still searching for the body of Fouad Shukur in the rubble of the building that was hit in a Beirut suburb, killing two women and two children, according to the Lebanese Health Ministry. There was no immediate reaction from the White House to the killing of Haniyeh. A key question was whether Israel told its top ally

during a visit to Singapore, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said, "This is something we were not aware of or involved in."

Speaking to Channel News Asia, Blinken said he would not speculate about the impact on cease-fire efforts. "But I can tell you that the imperative of getting a cease-fire, the importance that that has for everyone, remains."

In Manila, US Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin said he still had hopes for a diplomatic solution on the Israeli-Lebanon border. "I don't think that war is inevitable," he said. "I maintain that. I think there's always room and opportunity for diplomacy, and I'd like to see parties pursue those opportunities."

But international diplomats trying to defuse tensions were alarmed. One Western diplomat, whose country has worked to prevent an Israeli-Hezbollah escalation, said the double strikes in Beirut and Tehran have "almost killed" hopes for a Gaza cease-fire and could push the Middle East into a "devastating regional war." The diplomat spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the sensitive situation.

An Israeli military spokesman declined to comment. Israel often doesn't comment on assassinations carried out by its Mossad intelligence agency or strikes on other countries. In a statement by his office, Israeli Defense Minister Yoav Gallant said Israel doesn't want war after its strike on the Hezbollah commander in Beirut, "but we are preparing for all possibilities." He did not mention the Haniyeh killing

the US ahead of time about the strike.

Asked about Haniyeh's killing clear success in killing the group's top leadership in Gaza, who are believed to be primarily responsible for planning the October 7 attack, after nearly 10 months of fighting in the

> Earlier this month, Israel carried out a strike in Gaza targeting the head of Hamas' military wing, Mohammed Deif, killing at least 90 Palestinians living in nearby tents, according to Gaza health authorities. Israel said it believed Deif was killed, but neither it nor Hamas has confirmed his death

More elusive has been Hamas' top leader in Gaza, Yehya Sinwar, believed to be the mastermind of Hamas' brutal surprise assault into southern Israel, during which militants killed some 1,200 people and abducted 250 others.

Haniyeh left the Gaza Strip in 2019 and had lived in exile in Qatar. Israel has targeted Hamas figures in Lebanon and Syria during the war — but going after Haniyeh in Iran was vastly more sensitive. But Israel has operated there in the past: It is suspected of running a vearslong assassination campaign against Iranian nuclear scientists. In 2020, a top Iranian military nuclear scientist, Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, was killed by a remote-controlled machine gun while traveling in a car outside Tehran. During Haniyeh's last hours in Iran a close ally of Hamas — he was smiling and clapping at the inauguration ceremony of the new President Masoud Pezeshkian. AP photos showed him seated alongside leaders from the Palestinian Islamic Jihad militant group and Hezbollah, and Iranian media showed him and Pezeshkian

## China flays Haniyeh killings; warns of deeper chaos

Beijing (PTI): Strongly condemning the assassination of the Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh in Tehran, China — which brokered a unity deal between various Palatina grants. a unity deal between various Palestine groups last week — on Wednesday warned that the killing could plunge the region into deeper

Chinese foreign ministry spokesman Lin Jian told a media briefing here that Beijing strongly opposed the assassination of Haniyeh, whose Hamas group took part in the unity talks along with 14 Palestine factions in Beijing sponsored by China. Haniyeh, Hamas' supreme leader, was killed in an airstrike in Teĥran early Wednesday. He was in exile and was on Israel's hit list after the militant group launched a surprise attack on Israel on October 7 last year. "China has always advocated resolving regional disputes through post-war Gaza.

hugging. Haniyeh had met earlier with Khamenei. Hours tating campaign in Gaza until Hamas is completely eliminatlater, the strike hit a residence Haniyeh uses in Tehran, killing him, Hamas said in a state-ment. One of his bodyguards was also killed, Iranian officials

Iran's powerful Revolutionary Guard warned Israel will face a "harsh and painful response" from Iran and its allies around the region because of the killing. An influential Iranian parliamentary committee on national security and foreign policy was to hold an emergency meeting on the strike later Wednesday.

Hamas' military wing said in a statement that Haniyeh's assassination "takes the battle to new dimensions and will have major repercussions on the entire region."

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said Israel will continue its devas-

ed. Israel's bombardment and offensives in Gaza have killed more than 39,360 Palestinians and wounded more than 90,900, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, whose count does not differentiate between civilians and combatants.

After months of pounding, Hamas has shown its fighters can still operate in Gaza and fire volleys of rockets into Israel. But it is unclear if it has the capacity to step up attacks in retaliation over Haniyeh's killing.

Instead, the impact may be regional. Besides a direct retaliation on Israel, Iran could work to hike up attacks through its allies, a coalition of Iranian-backed groups known as the "Axis of Resistance," including Hezbollah, Hamas, mainly Shiite militias in Iraq and Syria and the Houthi

rebels who control much of

He also reiterated China's call for a compre-

hensive and permanent ceasefire in Gaza to avoid further escalation of the conflict. Last

week, the Chinese Foreign Ministry which

coordinated the dialogue among 14 rival fac-

tions, said the declaration was a first step to

promote a "comprehensive, durable and sus-

tainable ceasefire" in the Gaza Strip battered

by Israeli bombing. Chinese Foreign Minister

Wang Yi, who met the leaders' factions, said

the signing of the agreement was "an impor-

tant, historic moment in the Palestinian

cause." He had also said that under the deal the

rival groups had agreed to set up an "interim

national reconciliation government" to govern

Yemen. As a show of support for Hamas in the Gaza war, Hezbollah has been exchanging fire almost daily with Israel across the Israeli-Lebanese border in a simmering but deadly conflict that has repeatedly threatened to escalate into all-out war. The Houthis and Iraqi and Syrian militias have also fired rockets and drones at Israel and at American bases in the region, though most have been intercepted. A strike Tuesday night southwest of the Iraqi capital Baghdad killed four members of one Iranian-backed militia Kataib Hezbollah, which has targeted US bases previously, according to Iraq's Popular Mobilization Forces, a militia coalition. It accused the US of being behind the strike. US officials did not immediately

### 'Palestinians detained by Israeli authorities faced torture'

Geneva (AP): The UN human rights office issued a report Wednesday saying Palestinians detained by Israeli authorities since the October 7 attacks faced waterboarding, sleep deprivation, electric shocks, the release of dogs, and other forms of torture and mistreat

The report said Israel's prison service held more than 9,400 "security detainees" as of the end of June, and some have been held in secret without access to lawyers or respect for their legal rights. A summary of the report, based on interviews with former detainees and other sources, decried a "staggering" number of detainees including men, women, children, journalists and human rights defenders — and said such practices raise concerns about arbitrary detention. "The testimonies gathered by my office and other entities indicate a range of appalling acts, such as waterboarding and the release of dogs on detainees, amongst other acts, in flagrant violation of international human rights law and international humanitarian law," said UN Human Rights Chief Volker Turk in a statement.Findings in the report, one of the most extensive of its kind, could be used by International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutors who are looking into crimes committed in connection with Hamas' October 7 attacks and Israel's blistering ongoing military campaign in Gaza.

## Sudan's military says its top commander survived drone strike that killed five

Sudan's military said its top commander, Gen. Abdel-Fattah Burhan, survived a drone attack on a military graduation ceremony that killed five people in the country's east. The military said in a statement Wednesday that the attack by two drones took place in Gebeit, a town in eastern Sudan, after the ceremony was concluded. Military chief Burhan, who was attending, was not hurt, according to Lt. Col. Hassan Ibrahim, from the military spokesman's Sudan has been torn by war for

more than a year between the military group, the Rapid Dagalo, head of the Rapid flict, but neither side commit- and open roads."

Support Forces. With fighting in the capital, Khartoum, the military leadership largely operates out of eastern Sudan near the Red Sea Coast. Videos posted by Al Araby TV

shows multiple people running along a dusty road at the time of the drone attack, while other footage showed people at the graduation ceremony apparently looking to the sky as the drone strike hit. The assassination attempt

comes nearly a week after Sudan's paramilitary leader said that he plans to attend cease-fire talks in Switzerland next month arranged by the United States and Saudi Arabia.

Support Forces fighting Sudan's army, emphasized at the time that the talks would become "a major step" toward peace and stability in Sudan and create a new state based on "justice, equality and federal rule." The Sudanese Foreign Ministry on Tuesday responded to the U.S. invitation to the talks in Geneva, saying the military-controlled Sudanese government is prepared to take part but said that any negotiation before implementing the Ieddah Declaration "wouldn't be acceptable to the Sudanese people." The Jeddah Declaration of Commitment to Protect Civilians passed

ted to its objectives. Representatives from the Sudanese Army and the RSF, led by Mohamed Hamadan Dagalo, engaged in revived talks brokered by the U.S. and Saudi Arabia in Jeddah, focusing on the delivery of humanitarian aid, achieving ceasefires and paving the way toward a permanent cessation of aggression, among other objectives. In its Tuesday statement, the Sudanese Foreign Ministry accused the RSF of being the only party that attacks cities villages and civilians. The military-controlled Sudanese government demanded sanctions to be imposed on "rebels to stop their continuous aggres-

## Mosque targeted, around 40 police officers injured at UK stabbing site

PTI ■ LONDON

A far-right mob targeted a mosque in north-west England that saw three young girls fatally stabbed during a peaceful vigil in their memory and around 40 police officers suffered injuries in the disorder. According to reports, misinformation being spread on social media about the ethnicity and religion of the 17-year-old male suspect in police custody led to the rioting at the mosque in Southport on Tuesday night. British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who had earlier vistal stabbing attack on a dance were seriously injured, five of including fractures, lacerathe Mosque car park.

studio on Hart Street, condemned the mobs for hijacking the vigil and insulting the grieving community with their actions. "The people of Southport are reeling after the horror inflicted on them yesterday. They deserve our support and our respect," said Starmer.

Those who have hijacked the vigil for the victims with violence and thuggery have insulted the community as it grieves. They will feel the full force of the law," he said. Alice Dasilva Aguiar, 9, Bebe King, 6, and Elsie Dot Stancombe, 7, were named as the victims of whom remain in critical condition in hospital. Merseyside Police have said it

was currently not treating the incident as terror-related. There has been much speculation and hypothesis around the status of a 17-year-old male who is currently in police custody and some individuals are using this to bring violence and disorder to our streets. We have already said that the person arrested was born in the UK and speculation helps nobody at this time," said Alex Goss, Assistant Chief Constable of the force.

The police said 22 of its offi-

and concussion. The rioters set cars belonging to members of the public alight, threw bricks at the local mosque and damaged a local convenience store, and set large refuse bins on

tions, a suspected broken nose

As a result, strict legal orders have been enforced in the area designed to minimise serious violence and giving additional powers to officers to tackle anti-social behaviour. 'Sadly, offenders have destroyed garden walls so they could use the bricks to attack our officers and have set cars belonging to the public on fire,

## satisfied with Harris after Biden drops out: Poll

Washington (AP): Vice President Kamala Harris appears to have energized Democrats in the early days of her candidacy, with the surge in warm feelings extending across multiple groups, including some key Democratic constituencies that had been especially tepid about President Joe Biden, a new poll shows.

About 8 in 10 Democrats say they would be somewhat or very satisfied if Harris became the Democratic nominee for president, according to the survey from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research, which was conducted after Biden withdrew from the race.

In a separate AP-NORC poll,

taken before Biden dropped out but after his debate against former President Donald Trump, only about 4 in 10 Democrats said they were somewhat or very satisfied that he was the Democratic Party's likely nominee for president. The rapidly changing views among Democrats in such a short time span underscore how swiftly the party — from rank-and-file voters to elected officials — has coalesced behind Harris as its standardbearer, motivated by the fresh face at the top of the ticket and newfound confidence in the party's prospects against Trump in November. Gary Hines, a Democrat from Philadelphia, said he wasn't particularly impressed by Harris' first presidential bid but now, she's shown "she's up to the task, can

do the work, has proven that

she's running a strong cam-

paign so far and maybe on a

bigger level, she's somebody



still in the race, he said.

"I really want to go out and maybe knock on doors, which I would've never done," said Hines, 68. "It's jazzed me up quite a bit." Americans are also more likely to say that Harris would make a good president than they were earlier in July a shift that was primarily driven by Democrats. They still see a tough contest looming, though: A majority of U.S. adults, 56%, say that if Trump and Harris are their parties' nominees for the general election in November, Trump is more likely to win.Lauren Schulman, a Democrat from Pompano Beach, Florida, said she admires Biden and what he has accomplished during his presidency. But she said with him at the top of the ticket, "I have just been so terrified that we were going to lose."

## About 8 in 10 Democrats 'China behind 2021 cyberattack on govt agency'

 $A^{\mathrm{n}}$  investigation has determined that "Chinese state actors" were responsible for a 2021 cyberattack on Germany's national office for cartography, officials in Berlin said on Wednesday. The Chinese ambassador was summoned to the Foreign Ministry for a protest for the first time in decades.

Foreign Ministry spokesperson Sebastian Fischer said the German government has "reliable information from our intelligence services" about the source of the attack on the Agency Cartography and Geodesy, which he said was carried out

Storm disrupts

trains from Paris

Paris (AP): A local storm on

Wednesday interrupted all high-

speed train traffic connecting

Paris to the southeast of the

country as well as Switzerland in

both directions, France's rail

company said, leaving thousands of travellers stranded amid

the Olympics and departures for summer vacation. The SNCF

said all the fast trains leaving

from and arriving at the Gare de

Lyon train station in the French

capital were immobilised due to

a tree that fell on the tracks and

was hit by a train in Burgundy. Regular-speed trains use separate tracks and haven't been affected.

Authorities cut the power off the

track, but initial observations

showed the matter won't be

fixed quickly, the SNCF said,

adding that all on that line were

being brought back to a station in order to help people.

high-speed

"for the purpose of espionage". "This serious cyberattack on a federal agency shows how big the danger is from Chinese cyberattacks and spying," Interior Minister Nancy Faeser said in a statement. "We call on China to refrain from and prevent such cyberattacks. These cyberattacks threaten the digital sovereignty of Germany and Europe." Fischer declined to elaborate

on who exactly in China was responsible. He said a Chinese ambassador was last summoned to the German Foreign Ministry in 1989 after the Tiananmen Square crackdown.Germany's attribution of the cyberattack is the latest case to reflect increasing ten-

Beijing about potential security risks posed by China. In April, three people were arrested in Germany on suspicion of spying for China and arranging to transfer information on technology with potential military uses. And an assistant to a prominent German far-right lawmaker in the European Parliament was arrested on suspicion of spying for China. Three weeks ago, Germany said it will bar the use of critical components made by Chinese companies Huawei and ZTE in core parts of the country's 5G networks in two steps starting in 2026. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's government last year drew up a improve its IT security.

sions between Berlin and strategy for relations with China that refers to a "systemic rivalry" with the Asian power and a need to reduce risks of economic dependency, but highlights Berlin's desire to work with Beijing on challenges such as climate change and maintain trade ties. The strategy drew criticism from Beijing.In the 2021 case, the Interior Ministry said that part of the cartography agency's network was compromised but further malware wasn't found. It said the attacker was successfully kicked out of the network, and the agency which provides official geodata for Germany — undertook a series of measures to

**Carter Center unable to** 

verify Venezuela poll



Opposition leader Maria Corina Machado, left, and opposition candidate Edmundo Gonzalez hold up vote tally sheets from the top of a truck during a protest against the official presidential election results declaring President Nicolas Maduro the winner in Caracas, Venezuela, on Tuesdaytwo days after the election.

**AP** CARACAS

The Carter Center said it was ■ unable to verify the results of Venezuela's presidential election, blaming authorities for a "complete lack of transparency" in declaring Nicolas Maduro the winner without providing any individual polling tallies. The statement Tuesday night by the Atlantabased group is perhaps the harshest rebuke yet of Venezuela's chaotic election process because it comes from one of just a handful of outside groups invited by the Maduro government to observe the

"The electoral authority's failure to announce disaggregated results by polling station constitutes a serious breach of electoral principles," the Carter Center said. The group, which had a technical mission of 17 experts spread out in four cities across Venezuela, added that the election did not meet

international standards and "cannot be considered democratic. The Carter Center's harsh crit-

icism capped a second long day of protests against the results by opponents of Maduro who said their candidate, Edmundo Gonzalez, trounced the incumbent by a more than two-toone margin. Maduro's government hasn't taken lightly to the criticism

and ratcheted up their attacks on their opponents Tuesday, with some allies suggesting the opposition's most influential leader and a presidential candidate be arrested. A day after Maduro was declared the winner by a

National Electoral Council that is loyal to him and the ruling party, the attacks, which were aired on national television, followed the opposition's surprise release of detailed voting data that it said shows that Edmundo González won by a

## **'US-Mexico border arrests** expected to drop by 30%'

San Diego (AP): United States-Mexico border arrests have plummeted about 30 per cent in July to a new low for Joe Biden's presidency, US authorities said, raising prospects that a temporary ban on asylum may be lifted soon. The US Border Patrol is expected to arrest

migrants about 57,000 times during the month, down from 83,536 arrests in June, the previous low mark of Biden's presidency, according to two US Customs and Border Protection officials who spoke to The Associated Press on Wednesday on the condition of anonymity because the figures had not been released publicly. It would be the lowest monthly tally since 40,507 arrests in September 2020, when the coronavirus pandemic slowed movement across borders in many countries, including to the United States.

Even before Biden's Democratic administration invoked powers to suspend asylum on June 5, border arrests had fallen by about half from a record-high of 250,000 in December amid increased Mexican enforcement. Since June 5, arrests have fallen by half again, helping the White House fend off attacks by former President Donald Trump and other lum restrictions took effect.

Republicans that Democrats, including Vice President Kamala Harris, have allowed the border to spiral out of control. The asylum halt would end if daily arrests drop below 1,500 over a seven-day average, a scenario that Customs and Border Protection officials are preparing for with arrests now hovering 1,600 to 1,700 day. The halt would be reinstated if arrests reach a seven-day daily average of 2,500, a threshold of "emergency border circumstances" that was immediately met when the restrictions took effect in June. Immigrant advocacy groups are challenging the asylum measures in court. Under the halt, US authorities deny a chance at asylum to anyone who crosses the border illegally. Unaccompanied children are exempt, and

others may seek asylum-like forms of protection that allow them to stay in the United States with a higher bar and fewer benefits, like the United Nations Convention Against Torture. Asked to comment on July numbers, the Department of Homeland Security on Wednesday referred to a statement last week that arrests had dropped 55 per cent since asy-

## Hasina seeks cooperation from UN, Myanmar's military regime extends to conduct probe into violence

 $B_{\text{Sheikh}}^{\text{angladesh Prime Minister}}_{\text{Sheikh}}$ Wednesday sought cooperation from the United Nations and other international organisations to conduct a proper investigation into the recent nationwide violence during the antiquota agitation to punish the real culprits involved in the attacks.Bangladesh witnessed violent clashes between the police and mostly student protesters demanding an end to a controversial quota system that reserved 30 per cent of government jobs for relatives of veterans who fought in Bangladesh's War Independence in 1971.

"We're seeking UN and other international organisations' cooperation for a fair and proper investigation into the matter," Hasina said, adding that the people involved in the violence must be brought to

Because I know I have no negligence to this end," she was quoted as saying by the Dhaka Tribune newspaper.

Speaking at an event, she came down heavily on those who were involved in damaging public properties alongside killing many people and thus



tarnishing the country's image. "My question is who has gained what (through the mayhem)? Why was there bloodshed?" she

The prime minister said they have already formed a one-member judicial probe commission with an apex court justice before raising any such demand to investigate the mat-

"We have formed the commission with a judge (of the High Court). I have given the order to include two more as manpower and enhance the periphery of the investigation," she

"You (countrymen) have to find out the people involved in the conspiracy to push the country backwards through fishing in troubled water by launching such an incident," she said.

The conspiracies being hatched by the collaborators of the Pakistani occupation forces pushed Bangladesh back time and again, she added.

"These are the most painful

# state of emergency by 6 months

The military regime that seized power in Myanmar 3 1/2 years ago on Wednesday extended the state of emergency in the civil war-wracked country for another six months, saying it needs time to prepare for long-promised elections. The state of emergency was initially declared when troops ousted the elected government of Aung San Suu Kyi on February 1, 2021, arresting her and members of her National League for

Democracy party. The emergency decree empowers the military to assume all government functions, giving the head of the ruling military council, Senior Gen Min Aung Hlaing, legisla-tive, judicial and executive

At the moment, military regime is facing its greatest challenge since taking power, as powerful ethnic minority militias and people's defense forces that support Myanmar's main opposition have taken wide swaths of territory in fierce fighting in recent months. The military is now estimated to control less than half the country, but is holding on tenaciously to much of central Myanmar, including the capital, Naypyidaw, which

Under the country's 2008 constitution, drafted by the army,

the military can rule the country under a state of emergency for one year, followed by two possible six-month extensions before holding elections. Wednesday's extension, however, was the regime's sixth,

and was again rubber-stamped by the NDSC, which is nominally a constitutional administrative government body, but in practice is controlled by the military. It did not announce the details behind its decision. Additionally, such extensions are supposed to be endorsed by the country's president, but current acting president Myint Swe last week authorized Min Aung Hlaing to carry out his duties with the NDSC while he is on medical leave.

The military originally announced elections would be held in August, 2023, but has regularly pushed the date back and has recently said they would take place sometime in 2025. Under the country's constitution, for an election to be held the military has to transfer government functions to the president at least six months before the polls.

The 2021 military takeover was met with widespread non-violent protests. But after peaceful demonstrations were put down with lethal force, many opponents of military rule took up arms, and large parts of the country are now embroiled in conflict.

The fiercest fighting in recent weeks has been in the northeast, where the ethnic militias from an alliance group claimed last week to have seized Lashio, which houses the major regional military headquarters, and Mogok, the center of the country's lucrative gemmining industry.

Reports suggest that regime troops continue to hold the regional headquarters but could be forced from Lashio soon. In Lashio, the main prison gate was reportedly opened over the weekend and more than 200 political prisoners, including Tun Tun Hein, a former deputy speaker of the lower house of Myanmar's parliament and senior member of Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy party, were released. Maung Maung Swe, a member of Myanmar's main opposition group, the National Unity Government — whose leadership operates largely from outside the country told The Associated Press that its forces in Myanmar were providing care for more than 200 of released political pris-

### China sanctions US lawmaker for 'interference' in its domestic affairs

Bangkok (AP): China sanctioned a United States lawmaker on Wednesday for "frequently interfering" in China's domestic affairs.

The sanctions against Rep. Jim McGovern include freezing his assets and properties in China, prohibiting any organization or individual in China from conducting transactions or working with him, and denying him and his family a visa to enter the country according to a statement from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

It's one of several rounds of sanctions against US lawmakers and companies that China has announced as relations have soured between Beijing and Washington.

China previously sanctioned US representative Michael McCaul and ex-representative Michael Gallagher over their support for Taiwan, a selfgoverned democracy that own.McGovern and McCaul introduced a bill calling for stronger US support for Tibet, a region in China where human rights groups have criticized authorities for the treatment of ethnic Tibetans. Relations between the US and China have sunk, starting with a trade war in 2018 and then the COVID-19 pandemic. The US has been increasingly critical of China's human rights record, its handling of the pandemic and its actions towards Taiwan.

### China accuses Japan of 'smear attacks' in recent talks with US, India, Aus

Beijing (AP): China has expressed strong dissatisfaction to Japan about what it called "smear attacks" against China at recent high-level meetings with the United States ings with the United States, India and Australia, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

A ministry statement said that Liu Jinsong, the director general of the Asian affairs department, conveyed solemn representations and serious concern at a meeting the previous day with Akira Yokochi, the deputy chief of mission at the Japanese

"Liu pointed out that Japan's smear attacks on China are self-contradictory to its statement of promoting the strategic and reciprocal relationship between the two countries," the statement said

Meeting in Tokyo on Sunday, Japan's foreign and defense ministers agreed to bolster military cooperation with the US at what are known as "2+2" terparts.

A joinqt statement said China's foreign policy "seeks to reshape the international order for its own benefit at the expense of others" and that such behavior represents "the greatest strategic challenge" in the Indo-Pacific region and beyond. The US-Japan talks were followed by a meeting on Monday of the foreign ministers from the Quad countries — the US, Japan, India and Australia. The joint statement did not mention China by name but expressed



opposition to "the militarization of disputed features and coercive and intimidating maneuvers in the South China Sea." The Chinese government has complained repeatedly about the US deepening ties with other countries in the face of China's rise, which President Joe Biden has made a priority during his four years in office. The Foreign Ministry statement said China urges Japan to stop making irresponsible remarks on ly reference to Taiwan — and called on Japan to stop colluding with "certain countries" to form small circles that lead to confrontation.A Japanese Embassy statement said that Yokochi had expounded Japan's positions at the meeting and made representations on various China-related topics, but it did not provide any details.

Name of Work/Item

For Verka Mohali Dairy

c) Mahindra Campe

For Verka Patiala Dairy

transportation of :-

Punjab and outside Punjab.

Market Committee Khanouri

Civil Hospital Tapa

c) Hiring of:-

Bathinda Milkshed Area.

Hologram i. Type -I

Type-I

For Verka Head office, Chandigarh

Hiring of vehicles:a) Swift Desire/ Venue/ Breeza or Equival
b) Mahindra Pick-up (Capacity 02 Ton)

# Russian military begins 3<sup>rd</sup> round of drills to train troops

 $T^{\text{he Russian military on}}_{\text{Wednesday began a third round of drills with tactical}}$ nuclear weapons, part of the Kremlin's messaging intended to force the West to limit its support for Ukraine. The Russian Defence Ministry said the drills will feature units of the central and southern military districts armed with Iskander short-range missiles. They will practice receiving nuclear weapons from storage and deploying them to designated

spread agitation against Hasina

The unrest has left several

policemen, wounded and

major government installa-

The protests subsided last week

after the apex Appellate

Bangladesh's Supreme Court on

July 21 ordered a massive quota

reform, keeping only seven

per cent of reserve posts instead of the existing 56 per cent.

The government subsequently

issued a Gazette notification in

line with the order saying 93

per cent of jobs would be open

to candidates on merit.

unitary

tions damaged.

Division

launch areas. The maneuvers intended to obliterate entire will also include air force units that will arm their warplanes with nuclear weapons and perform patrol flights. The ministry said the drills are intended to maintain troops' readiness for combat missions. Tactical nuclear weapons include bombs, warheads for shortrange missiles and artillery munitions and are meant for use on a battlefield. They are typically far less powerful than strategic weapons — massive warheads that arm interconti-nental ballistic missiles and are

was recently targeted by small

rocket attacks and two bomb-

ings. The extension of the state

of emergency was granted by

the National Defense and

Security Council, after Ming

Aung Hlaing argued more time is needed to restore sta-

bility to the country and carry

out a census in preparations for

national elections, state-run

The plan for a general election

is widely seen as an attempt to

normalize the military's seizure

of power through the ballot

box and to deliver a result that

ensures the generals retain

Critics have already said the

military-planned elections will

be neither free nor fair because

there is no free media and

most of the leaders of Suu Kyi's

League

MRTV reported.

control.

National

cities. The previous two rounds of the maneuvers were held in May and June. The drills in June were conducted jointly with the armed forces of Russia's ally Belarus. Last year, Russia moved some of its tactical nuclear weapons into neighbouring Belarus, which also borders Ukraine and NATO members Poland, Latvia and Lithuania. Belarus' authoritarian President Alexander Lukashenko has relied on close ties with Russia and provided his country as a staging ground for sending troops to Ukraine in February 2022.Russian President Vladimir Putin and his officials have repeatedly reminded the West about the country's nuclear might in a bid to discourage NATO allies from ramping up their support for Kyiv.The Kremlin has described the drills with tactical nuclear weapons as part of Moscow's response to statements by NATO allies encouraging strikes on Russian territory with Western weapons and the possible deployment of Western

troops to Ukraine. Amid recent battlefield gains in Ukraine, Putin has emphasized that Russia doesn't need nuclear weapons to achieve his goals. But he also reaffirmed that they can be used in the case of a threat to Russia's territorial integrity in line with the country's nuclear doctrine. Russian hawks have urged the Kremlin to change the doctrine to lower the threshold for using nuclear weapons, and Putin said the document could be modified to take into account the evolving

## Boeing names new chief executive officer

Chicago (AP): Boeing named a longtime aerospace industry veteran on Wednesday as its next chief executive, who will take over a company that has been rocked by legal, regulatory and production prob-

Robert "Kelly" Ortberg, a former CEO at aerospace supplier Rockwell Collins, will suc-CEO and president effective August 8, the company said. Calhoun announced in March that he would retire at the end of the year.

Boeing named its new CEO as it reported a loss of more than USD 1.4 billion on falling revenue during the second quarter. The loss was wider and revenue lower than Wall

verka

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

Notice Inviting Tender

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

a) Insulated vehicles for supply of packed milk and fresh milk product in

b) Diesel Cars (Swift Dzires or Equivalent) at Milk Union Bathinda for

a) Fire Wood
 b) Hiring of Passenger Car (Bolero/ Swift/ Dzire/ Toyota/ Etios or equivalent) for marketing activities.

Ining oi.Vehicle for Veterinary Route & Extension work.
Insulated S.S Road Milk Tankers for Milk lifiting from BMC's /MCC's
& sister Dairies Cap. 9000 – 11000 ltrs.
Vehicle Tata 207, Mahindra Maxi truck etc. for transportation of Milk

from Societies/ Farms at MCC Samana (Route No. 14,15 & 28).

Milk through cans from various Societies/ Dairy Farms to MCC/BMC/

Cattle feed and allied products from Verka Sangrur Dairy/ Stores to

For Verka Sangrur Dairy

a) Hiring of Mahindra Maxi Truck Pickup, Bolero Pickup or equivalent for

various Societies/ Dairy Farms/ Macc/ BMCs.
b) Hiring of SS Road Milk Tankers cap.15,18,20,23,25,30 KL for transportation of milk from Verka sangrur Dairy to other Plants of

c) For Design, Supply, Erection, Installation and testing of the PCC and

APFC Panels.
d) Allotment of Verka Milk booths at different location in distt. sangrur, Barnala/ Malerkotla on rent basis.

Civil Hospital Bhadour Civil Hospital Ahemadgarh Govt. Sen. Sec. School Sandhu Patti Barnala

Procurement, Marketing and Depot, Verka Bathinda Dairy

business and defence unit lost money. The disappointing results come at a tumultuous time for Boeing. The company agreed to plead guilty this month to a federal fraud charge in connection with its 737 Max jetliner and two crashes that killed 346 people. Administration increased its oversight of the company after the blowout of a panel on an Alaska Airlines jet raised manufacturing quality concerns. Boeing Chairman Steven Mollenkopf said Ortberg was chosen after a "thorough and

extensive search process" and

"has the right skills and expe-

rience to lead Boeing in its

Qty

25 No's 02 No's

01 No

03 No's

03 No's

03 No

01 No

06 No's

Dy. General Manager (Purchase)

Street expected, as both Boeing's commercial-airplanes earned a reputation for running complex engineering and manufacturing companies, Mollenkopf said. The company waived the mandatory retirement age of 65 for Ortberg, a spokesperson said. Boeing did the same for Calhoun days after he turned 64 in 2021.

> candidate only recently. Others who were reportedly considered for the job included Patrick Shanahan, a former Boeing executive and now ing shortcuts that crimp on

CEO of its most important supplier, Spirit AeroSystems, and another longtime Boeing executive, Stephanie Pope, who recently took over the commercial airplanes divi-

Like Calhoun, who took over as CEO in the wake of the two Max crashes, Ortberg will be inheriting the leadership of a and criticism from both outside and internally. It is pushing back against whistleblower allegations of manufactur-

verka

SCO 153-155. SECTOR 34-A, CHANDIGARH-160022. EPABX NO. 0172-5041812,66

Notice Inviting Tender

rs are hereby invited for the purchase and supply of following items

The company, based in Arlington, Virginia, also is dealing with supply-chain problems that are hindering production, which it hopes to fix in part by re-acquiring Spirit AeroSystems, a key contractor. It is still trying to persuade regulators to approve two new models of the Max aisle 777 jetliner. And it faces a multi-billion-dollar decision on when to design a new single-aisle plane to replace the Max.

www.verka.coop

Period/Tentative

One job

01 year

02 year

Annual 01No.

02 No's

Annual

One time purchase 200 No's

01 year with extension

upto one year

01 No.

03 years

Cap.10000 Kg- 06 No's

Cap.15000 Kg- 02 No's

Cap.20000 Kg- 02 No's

Cap.10000 Kg-02 No's

01 No. 02 No's

Annual

Annua

#### Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar Tender Notice Reference No. GNDU/Gen/55/2024

The Department of G.N.D.U. Amritsar invites online bids for the following Sr. No. Item Quantity Supply/ Printing of 40 Pages OMR Answer Books 16 Lac Supply / Printing of 20 Pages Answer Book 50,000

Closing date & time: 21-08-2024 at 5:00 p.m. For details log onto: www.eproc.punjab.gov.in Note: Any corrigendum (s) to the Tender Notice shall be published on the

NA/12/24480/2023/36216 Dated CHD :- 7/31/2024



BABA FARID UNIVERSITY OF HEALTH SCIENCES, FARIDKOT Ph.D ENTRANCE TEST (PHDET) Online fresh applications in the prescribed format are invited through

University website w.e.f from 01/08/2024 to 10/08/2024 for admission to Ph.D Courses in faculties of Medical / Allied Health/ Dental/ Nursing/ Physiotherapy/ Pharmaceutical Sciences, alonwith fee of Rs. 3000/- + 18% GST through University payment gateway. The date of Entrance Examination will be notified on University website. For eligibility/detail updates visit at University at: www.bfuhs.ac.in

Note:- The candidates who have already applied for PH.D Entrance Test (PHDET) Session 2022-23 need not apply again. REGISTRAR

nil/12/206/2023/36207 Dated CHD :- 7/31/2024



Tender Enquiry No.320/DIT-1083 dated 30-07-2024 Dy. CE/ IT (O&S) Ground Floor PSPCL Head Office, The Mall, Patiala invites e-tender for Provisioning of MPLS connectivity in 47 towns of PSPCL and PSPCL DC/ DRC. For detailed NIT & tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 30-07-2024, 5:00 PM

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

76155/12/3207/2023/36243 Dated CHD :- 7/31/2024

C-517/24

Govt. Sen.Sec. School Moonal For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our website i.e. www.verka.coop & e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.
 Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on website only.

NA/12/24483/2023/36219

For Verka Jalandhar Dairy
Design, Supply, Installation, testing & Commissioning of 1010 KVA DG set with electrical and civil work For Verka Gurdaspur Dairy a) For backlit glow sign board, double sided glow sign board, non lit flex board, flex change, flex banner, wall painting/ shop painting, vehicle painting, umbrella, A-type standing flex board and vinyl stickers.

b) Allotment of civil Hospital Batala Milk Bar on rent. Period/Tentativ c) Hiring of :-i. Car(Swift Dzire or its equivalent) Diesel Car (05 Seater Bolero camper or its equivalent) For Verka Amritsar Dairy

a) Purchase of polypropylene bottles cap. 180ml with caps.
b) Hiring of Vehicles (3.0 MT, 6.0 MT, 9.0 MT and 15.0 MT) for supplying of Milk Products in the Punjab and other states.
c) Hiring of vehicle for supply of fresh Milk and Milk Products at Local Army 02( Tray capacity 250) and Beas route (Tray Capacity 200) For Verka Ludhiana Dairy
a) Sale of the unserviceable material on Annual Rate Contract basis b) Supply of :upto one year / 01 vehicle for 03 MT & 01 vehicle for Veterinary medicines Single Phase Dairy Barn Ventilation fan with motors. c) Hiring of : 
 Insulated vehicles for supply of packed milk and fresh milk products in Ludhiana city and adjoining towns.

 Half yearly/ 1500 MT Passenger vehicles Innova crystal for Verka Ludhiana Dairy without 01 No. Single Chamber-14 No's Double Chamber-01 No. d) Outsourcing of milk Booth/ Milk Bar at : Park back side Main Shopping Centre Sector 32 A Chandigarh Road, Ludhiana. Macchiwara. 02 Years/12 No's 02 Years/01 No. Mktg. section For Verka CFP, Ghania Ke Banger
Transportation of Verka Cattle Feed and mineral feed supplement to various stations in the state of Punjab.

For Verka Faridkot Dairy
Hiring of :a) Insulated road milk tanker for transportation of milk from MCC's to various Milk Plants in Punjab etc. on rate contract.
b) Pick up or its equivalent vehicle for lifting the milk from MPCS/DF to MCC at Route 5,25,27,62 &18. c) Insulated road milk tanker for transportation of milk from BMC's to various milk chilling Centres/ Milk plants in Punjab etc. on rate d) Diesel Cars for procurement, Marketing & Al Activities in the field. u) Dieset Cars for procurement, Marketing & Al Activities in the field.

i. Bolero Jeep
ii. Swift Dzire or its equivalent

For Verka CFP, Bhattian (Khanna)

Labour Job contract for different activities related with Production, store &

for minimum running of 2000 kms per month on lump sum

For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our website i.e. www.verka.coop & e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.

NA/12/24488/2023/36228 Dy. General Manager (Purchase)

## Stock markets rise for 4th day India's smartphone shipments dip 2% in Q2

Benchmark BSE Sensex to close at a record high while Nifty settled above 24,950 level on Wednesday, level on Wednesday, extending their winning run to the fourth day on gains in metal, power and select auto

The 30-share BSE Sensex settled higher by 285.94 points or 0.35 per cent at 81,741.34 — its all-time closing high — with 20 of its components advancing and 10 ending lower. The index opened higher and jumped 372.64 points or 0.45 per cent to hit an intra-day high of 81,828.04.

The NSE Nifty rose 93.85 points or 0.38 per cent to close at an all-time high of 24,951.15. During the day, it surged 127.3 points or 0.51 per cent to hit a high of 24,969.35.

"The domestic market is attempting to cross above the psychological threshold of 25,000, as subdued Q1FY25 earnings and stretched valuations are curbing the challenge, while positive global trends and sector rotation are supporting the



traction," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial

Services said.

Positive global sentiment driven by expectations of an easing interest rate cycle by the US Fed and the RBI in the medium term, owing to benign inflation, ignited the rally, he added.

As expected, the BoJ raised its interest rate while all eyes are on US Fed policy to be announced later in the

Among the Sensex stocks, JSW Steel, Asian Paints, Maruti Suzuki India, NTPC, Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone, Bharti Airtel, ITC and Tech Mahindra were the major gainers.

Maruti Suzuki rose by 2.28 per cent as the auto major reported a 47 per cent jump in its net profit for the June quarter. Reliance Industries, Motors, Infosys, Mahindra and Mahindra, Bajaj Finance and Axis Bank were the laggards.

Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research) at Mehta Equities, said Nifty ended comfortably in the green ahead of the FOMC outcome, closing just shy of the psychological 25,000 mark, signifying the bulls' continued strength on Dalal Street.

Investors now await key data releases and the FOMC outcome, with expectations

set on Jerome Powell's commentary, Tapse said. The US Federal Reserve (Fed) will announce its fifth interest rate decision for this year later in the night, after a two-day meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC).

might offer hints about a possible rate cut in September shares began ʻIndian Wednesday on a positive note, buoyed by strong cues from other Asian markets amid expectations for additional stimulus measures from

Beijing to support its ailing

economy," Avdhut Bagkar Technical and Derivatives

From this meeting, the Fed

Analyst at StoxBox, said. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed companies jumped to a life-time peak of Rs 462.38 lakh crore (USD 5.52 trillion) on Wednesday helped by a four-day rally in benchmark indices, making investors richer by Rs 5.45 lakh crore.

At the market close, the BSE smallcap gauge fell 0.14 per cent to in the broader market. However, BSE MidCap gauge jumped 0.86 per cent. During the day, both the indices hit their all-time high level.

# 2024 as heatwave, slower demand take toll

India's smartphone shipments fell two per cent year-on-year in June quarter, hurt by the heatwave and slower demand, as per a report by global research firm Counterpoint that showed Xiaomi reclaimed top spot in volume share and Samsung led in value terms. Notably, 5G smartphones captured their highest-ever share of 77 per cent in the overall shipments, according to Counterpoint's Monthly India Smartphone Tracker.

Another key takeaway was that India's smartphone market hit its highest ever Q2 value, driven by the ongoing trend of premiumisation. smartphone "India's

shipments fell 2 per cent YoY in Q2 2024 (April-June)," it

The decline was influenced by a heatwave, a seasonal slump, and slower demand from Q1 2024.

"In response, OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) hosted sales

events in Q2 to clear inventory, leading to a reduced sell-in and a period of degrowth," it said.

On the market's volume dynamics, Senior Research Analyst Shilpi Jain explained that heatwave conditions in various regions led to lower footfalls in offline channels and delayed smartphone purchases as consumers prioritised appliances like air-conditioners refrigerators.

This reduced demand led to

build-up. an inventory However, summer sales at online channels, good harvest and aggressive promotions towards the end of the quarter provided relief to OEMs, helping close the quarter on a better note than

at the beginning. "During the quarter, Xiaomi reclaimed the top spot with a 23 per cent YoY growth in its shipments, driven by a streamlined and focused portfolio that spans from the entry-level to affordable Counterpoint said.

Xiaomi reclaimed the top spot with an 18.9 per cent shipment share, and Vivo followed closely with 18.8 per cent share.

On value dynamics, Research Analyst Shubham Singh said: "In Q2 2024, India's smartphone market achieved its highest ever Q2 value, driven by the ongoing trend

of premiumisation."

Consumers continued to upgrade to higher-value smartphones, supported by better trade-in values and easy financing schemes.

This resulted in a 24 per cent YoY growth in the ultrapremium (over Rs 45,000) segment.

Samsung led the market in terms of value with a 25 per cent share, followed by vivo and Apple.

"Meanwhile, Apple ranked third in value terms. But it is expected to rebound in the next quarter, driven by the recent price cuts across the entire range of iPhones,"

## Toyota to set up manufacturing plant in Maharashtra; likely to invest ₹20 K crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Toyota utomaker AKirloskar Motor on Wednesday said it will set up a new manufacturing plant in Maharashtra at an investment of around Rs 20,000 crore. The company has inked a

Memorandum (MoU) Understanding (MoU) with the Maharashtra government to examine the setting up of a greenfield manufacturing facility at Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar, Toyota Kirloskar Motor (TKM)

Headquartered Karnataka, TKM already has two manufacturing units located at Bidadi

said in a statement.

near Bengaluru. Karnataka automaker, including its group companies, has invested more than Rs 16,000 crore and created close to 86,000 jobs in the entire value chain, it said. Toyota's cumulative export contributions also stand at around Rs 32,000 crore company's export focus,



marks a pivotal point as we stride into the next phase of growth in the country enabling us to contribute to enriching lives with qualitative mobility solutions locally and globally," TKM Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer Masakazu Yoshimura

The proposed investment, once finalised, is expected to be made over a multiyear period, potentially contributing and economic growth in

the region. "Today's MoU signing In a social media post on

X, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis shared the investment figure of Rs 20,000 crore for the plant.

Transforming Maharashtra, Developing Marathwada!Reaffirming its commitment to India; Toyota Kirloskar Motors is set to launch a Green Field Manufacturing Facility in Maharashtra!" he posted.

TKM currently has an production to installed vehicles at its two Bidadibased units.

## Encora expands strategic partnership with Cloud Software Group

 $\begin{array}{ccccc} E_{plans} & \text{has} & \text{announced} \\ \text{to} & \text{expand} & \text{its} \\ \text{strategic} & \text{relationship} & \text{with} \end{array}$ Cloud Software Group to include extended product engineering and support.
The pact includes product

development and engineering services under a managed services model, supporting the evolving needs of global businesses of Cloud Software Group (CSG), a release said on Wednesday.

As part of the existing partnership, Encora has established and operates a 'TIBCO' Center of Excellence (CoE) and Academy in India. The centre employs over 350 engineers

technologies, contributing to the development, quality assurance, and support for the TIBCO platform and other key products.
"With the intent to build on

the strategic existing Cloud Software Group have expanded the scope of Language Model (LLM engagement to include Engineering, among others.



engineering and support," according to the release. While Cloud Software Group provides enterprise with mission-critical software, the Santa Clara, Californiaheadquartered Encora is a technology modernisation and innovation partner to enterprise companies. Encora's portfolio includes digital engineering services,

including engineering development, cloud services, quality engineering, data and analytics, digital experience, Íntelligence Large (LLM)

## SoftBank-backed Unicommerce to float IPO on August 6

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

SoftBank-backed SaaS platform Unicommerce eSolutions Ltd will launch its Initial Public Offering (IPO)

on August 6.
The initial share sale will conclude on August 8 and the bidding for anchor investors will open for a day on August 5, according to the Red Herring Prospectus (RHP).
The issue is entirely an Offer

The issue is entirely an Offer For Sale (OFS) aggregating up to 2.56 crore equity shares by the selling shareholders. Since the IPO is completely an OFS, the entire proceeds will go to the selling shareholders. OFS, Under the

Investment Holdings (UK) Ltd, an affiliate of Japan's SoftBank, will offload 1.61 crore shares and promoter AceVector Limited (formerly known as Snapdeal Limited) will sell up to 94.38 lakh shares.

Founded Unicommerce eSolutions is India's leading e-commerce enablement Software-as-acompany's suite of SaaS According to a Redseer solutions enables end-to-end Report, the Total Addressable



retailers, marketplaces and logistics service providers. It serves a large and growing base of clients in India including Lenskart, Fabindia, Zivame, TCNS, Mamaearth, Sugar, Emami, Portronics, Pharmeasy, Cello, Urban Company, Mensa, Shiprocket, Xpressbees. In February, Unicommerce had said it is expanding its

overseas operations onboarding more clients It is already serving 46 clients in Singapore, the Philippines, Indonesia, the UAE, and Saudi Arabia and is now expanding these operations

management of e-commerce Market (TAM) for players in

SaaS in the transaction processing or nerve centre laver was estimated at about USD 1.2 billion in 2023. This growth is driven by the increasing market potential for core products in this layer, an opportunity to broaden the product portfolio, and prospects in SEA and the Middle East.
Specifical!

Specifically, in India, the TAM for core products in the transaction processing layer was approximately USD 260 million in 2023. IIIFL Securities and CLSA

India are the book-running Shares are proposed to be listed on BSE and the National Stock Exchange.

## Rupee closes 1 paisa higher at 83.72 against US dollar

PTI MUMBAI

The rupee consolidated in a I narrow range and settled for the day higher by 1 paisa at 83.72 (provisional) against the US dollar on Wednesday, as the support from positive domestic equities was negated by month-end Dollar demand from importers. Forex traders said significant foreign fund outflows and overnight surge in crude oil prices weighed on the local unit.

At the interbank foreign market, exchange domestic currency opened 1 paisa higher than the previous

It slipped to 83.75 during the day and settled for the day 1 paisa higher at 83.72 (provisional) against US dollar. On Tuesday, the rupee closed flat at 83.73 against the American currency.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a slight negative bias on month-end dollar demand from importers and oil marketing companies (OMCs). However, a positive tone in the domestic markets and weak US dollar may support the rupee at lower levels," Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas, said. Any fresh intervention by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) may also support the

rupee, he said. "Investors may watch out for the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) meeting outcome on Wednesday and



policy on Thursday. USDINŔ spot price is expected to trade in a range of Rs 83.50 to Rs 84," he said.

In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex rose 285.94 points to hit an all-time high of 81,741.34, while Nifty rallied 93.85 points to a record 93.85 points to a record 24,951,15.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was down 0.36 per cent to 104.17. The US dollar fell on

Wednesday after the Bank of Japan raised interest rates by 15 bps to 0.25 per cent from 0.1 per cent, leading to a sharp surge in the yen. Other Asian currencies, too, appreciated on weakness in the US dollar," Choudhary said. Brent crude — the global oil benchmark — went up 2.26 per cent to USD 80.41 per barrel in futures trade. Foreign institutional investors were net sellers in the capital markets on Tuesday, offloaded shares worth Rs 5,598.64 crore, according to

exchange data.

## Omaxe may challenge Sebi order barring firm, chairman, MD from securities market for 2 yrs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Realty firm Omaxe will challenging challenging market regulator Sebi's order that barred the company, its Chairman Rohtas Goel, Managing Director Mohit Goel and three others from the securities market for two years for misrepresentation in the company's financial statements.

The Sebi order had a negative impact on the company's share prices. The stock of the company on Wednesday declined 4.99 per cent to Rs 152.20 apiece -- its lower circuit limit -- on the

It fell 5 per cent to hit the lower circuit limit of Rs 154.19 per piece on the NSE. Asked about the Sebi order and its future course of action, the Omaxe spokesperson said, "The company has not received any order from Sebi. Once received, the content will be verified and appropriate remedy available under the law, including filing of appeal will be contemplated."

"As per news articles, it appears more in the nature of accounting interpretations, which were duly explained through documentation, market practice and case laws. Rest we will be filing our response to stock exchanges within the stipulated time frame, on receipt of order," the spokesperson added. In its 126-page final order,

Sebi has also restrained three

others -- Sudhangshu S

Biswal, Arun Kumar Pandey,



securities markets. these Additionally, have prohibited from holding any position as Director or Key Managerial Person of

any other listed company for a period of two years". Apart from these, the regulator has levied a fine totalling Rs 47 lakh on 16 entities, including these six. The penalties range from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 7 lakh need to be paid within 45 days.

Sebi said these entities have "acted in concert in order to execute a fraudulent scheme that they tried to portray as normal transactions for the benefit of the company although it was experiencing loss, while also trying to portray these as merely lending activities, thereby trying to maintain the price of the scrip of Omaxe for a period of three years".

The company misrepresented the financial statements during 2018-19, 2019-20 and 2020-21 through its various items -and expenses.

revenue, debtors, advances, "By the act of large-scale

misrepresentation/misstate ment/manipulation financial statements by Omaxe, the scrip price was directly or indirectly manipulated to maintain the value of the collateral kept by the promoter against the loan," Sebi noted.

Furthermore, the fraud was disclosed shareholders of Omaxe, which misled them to remain invested in its shares or deal in its securities. Also misrepresentation of the books and accounts of Omaxe misled the investors in the securities market, it added.

Accordingly, Sebi has barred six entities, including Omaxe, Rohtas Goel, Mohit including Goel, and three others from "accessing the securities and further prohibited from buying, selling or otherwise dealing in securities, directly or indirectly, or being associated with the securities market in any manner, whatsoever, for a period of two years".

The order came after the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) received a complaint against Omaxe alleging that the conducted company fraudulent transactions, diverted/siphoned of funds, misrepresented the financial statements, inflated turnover

As these allegations were serious in nature, the matter was taken up for further examination including a forensic audit into the affairs of Omaxe.

among others.

### Key jute sector issues feature at advisory committee meeting

PTI ■ KOLKATA

The Indian Jute Mills Association highlighted several pressing issues at the 32nd Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting in New Delhi, including the challenges faced by the sector due to declining demand for jute bags, officials said.

Key stakeholders such as representatives from the sugar and plastic industry bodies participated in the meeting on Tuesday. SAC The

recommendations to the Union government on the mandatory use of jute packaging materials, and packaging norms for essential commodities such foodgrains and sugar. The Jute Commissioner's

Office (JCO) stressed upon the need for supporting the sector, the IJMA officials said. An estimated 40 million farmers and 3.5 lakh jute mill workers are dependent on the industry. The representatives of sugar

bodies raised industry concerns about the pricing and quality of jute bags, urging the government to fix rates for sugar jute bags. "They also noted the reluctance by major buyers

like some beverage giants to use jute bags, despite environmental benefits," said industry sources present at the meeting.

The non-compliance with government notifications by the sugar industry was also a



cause for concern, they said. Plastic representatives sought the removal of "discouraging language" about plastic bags in the Jute Packaging Materials Act (JPMA), the sources said.

"The jute industry is operating at 55 per cent capacity, affecting over 50,000 workers. The demand for jute bags is projected to drop to 30 lakh bales for 2024-25," IJMA Deputy Chairman Rishav Kajaria said.

The IJMA also urged the SAC for immediate government intervention in enforcing 100 per cent reservation norms in foodgrain and packaging in 2024-25.

Other key issues discussed at the meeting include revising policies on the use of used jute gunny bags, addressing financial constraints due to the GeM portal pricing cap, initiating investigation into subsidised jute imports, and ensuring strict compliance with labour laws and wage agreements, the officials said. The jute industry contributes over Rs 12,000 crore to the rural economy, but is faced with challenges as raw jute prices fall below MSP levels,

they added.

## Gold rises ₹350; Silver jumps ₹1,100

Gold prices rose Rs 350 to Rs 71,950 per 10 grams in the national capital on Wednesday, taking cues from domestic demand and global trends. In the previous session, the precious metal had closed at Rs

71,600 per 10 grams. Silver prices jumped Rs 1,100 to Rs 85,600 per kilogram on Wednesday. It had closed at Rs 84,500 per kg in the previous trade, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

Meanwhile, gold of 99.5 per cent purity also increased by Rs 350 to Rs 71,600 per 10

grams from the previous close of Rs 71,250 per 10 grams. The commodity market experts suggested that the gold

demand in the Indian markets remains high, driven by the recent import duty cuts and the upcoming festive season. "Participation in gold has been on an increasing trend. The prices of the yellow metal may further firm up correction as some participation continues to increase. We believe that prices of gold will increase from its current prices," Chintan Mehta, CEO of Abans Holdings, said.

Globally, Comex gold is trading higher at USD 2,465.50 per ounce, up by USD 13.60 per ounce from the previous close. "Comex gold extended gains following a 1 per cent gain yesterday, holding well above USD 2,400 per ounce buoyed primarily by safehaven buying in response to the recent airstrike in Beirut by Israel," Kaynat Chainwala, at Kotak Securities, said.

the pioneer





## Sindhu storms into Olympics women's singles pre-quarterfinals

**PTI** PARIS

ce Indian shuttler PV Sindhu Astormed into the pre-quarterfinals of the Olympic women's singles competition after beating Kristin Kuuba of Estonia in straight games here on Wednesday.

The two-time Olympic medallist won 21-5 21-10 in her second and last Group M match that lasted 33 minutes.

The 29-year-old Sindhu, who had beaten Maldives' Fathimath Abdul Razzaq 21-9 21-6 in her first match, topped the group.

The winner of each of the 16 groups qualifies for the round of 16. "I'm very happy. It was important for me to top the group. I would be playing against He Bingjiao mostly. I hope I take this confidence and go

forward. It's not going to be easy,

especially in the next coming

rounds, so I have to be prepared and be 100%," Sindhu said after the match.

The Indian ace has previously won a silver medal in the 2016 Rio Games and a bronze in the Tokyo edition.

"I think it's one match at a time and obviously I want that medal and I feel really happy when people say that we want a hat-trick from you, we want that medal from you.

"But at the same time, it comes with a lot of responsibilities, lot of pressure but it's important for me to just stay calm and just keep going and just one match at a time because yeah, you can't expect easy wins, you have to fight hard to earn

Just like in her first match, Sindhu did not have to toil much, as the gulf in class between the two players was evident.

The Estonian, ranked 73rd in the

world as against the 13th position of the Indian, was completely out of sorts in the first game which Sindhu pocketed in 14 minutes.

The 27-year-old Kuuba gave a fight in the second game, making a lot of retrievals, but Sindhu was just too good for her.

Kuuba took a 2-0 lead but Sindhu quickly seized the initiative and levelled the score. But Kuuba did not throw in the towel and engaged the Indian in longer rallies.

There was one rare moment when Sindhu was stretched to the maximum near the net and Kuuba smashed the shuttle beyond the reach of the Indian.

But the vastly experienced Sindhu was in her elements soon after.

Two cross-court smashes gave Sindhu a 15-6 lead and from there on, it was all over for the Estonian, who saved two match points before surrendering.

# Sen stuns Christie to enter men's singles pre-quarterfinals

**PTI** PARIS

Tndia's Lakshya Iprogressed to the prequarterfinals of the Olympics men's singles badminton competition with a stunning straight-game win over Indonesia's world number 4 Jonatan Christie in the final match here on Wednesday.

22-year-old from The Almora, a 2021 world championships bronze medallist, displayed great maturity and tactical acumen to outwit Christie, the reigning All England and Asian champion, 21-18 21-12 in what turned out to be a lopsided contest.

Sen is likely to face compatriot HS Prannoy in the pre-quarterfinals. Prannoy will face Vietnam's Le Duc Phat later in the day.

Sen had defeated Kevin Cordon, a Tokyo Olympics

ALL INDIA COUNCIL FOR TECHNICAL EDUCATION

semifinalist, in the opening Group L match on Sunday which was "deleted" after his

Guatemalan opponent pulled out due to a left elbow injury. A gold medallist at the 2022

Commonwealth Games, Sen

beat Julien Carraggi of before

The only time the Indian had

defeated Christie was four

years ago at the Badminton

Asia Team Championships

and came into this match with

a dismal 1-4 head-to-head

However, Sen rose to the occasion on Wednesday and

showed great maturity as he

He tried to keep the shuttle

flat and target the weak

forehand of Christie, who

looked to slow down the

rallies and used his cross

court shots at the corners to

trouble the Indian, albeit

without much success.

went about his business

facing

Belgium

Christie.

count.



SI. No.	Name of the post	Pay Scale & Grade pay as per 6th CPC	Pay Matrix & Level as per 7th CPC	No.of Posts
1	Advisor-I (Group-A)	PB-4,Rs.37400-67000 G.P. Rs. 10000	Rs.144200-218200 Level-14	01
2	Advisor-II (Group-A)	PB-4,Rs.37400-67000 G.P. Rs. 8900	Rs.131100-216600 Level-13A	02
3	Director (Group-A)	PB-4,Rs.37400-67000 G.P. Rs. 8700	Rs.123100-215900 Level-13	02
4	Assistant Director (Group-A)	PB-3,Rs.15600-39100 G.P. Rs. 6600	Rs.67700-208700 Level-11	03

the Council All other details such as eligibility criteria, qualifications

experience, procedure for online submission and general terms and conditions of appointment will be available at AICTE's website (https://www.aicte-india.org/bulletins/advertisements) 01.08.2024. Interested candidate may apply online for the above post on or before 30.08.2024 by uploading the requisite supporting document. The Council reserves the right to increase or decrease the number of vacancies or to cancel the advertisement without assigning any reason thereto

Advt. No. Admin (Estt.)/AICTE/07(01)/2024 Prof. RAJIVE KUMAR Member Secretary, AICTE CBC21300/12/0006/2425



In the first game, Christie opened up a 5-0 lead and soon moved to 8-2. However, Sen regrouped quickly, kept the shuttle flat and waited for his

opponent to make mistakes. It worked as he moved to 7-8 before a thunderous forehand smash earned the

Indian a slim one-point advantage. Sen engaged Christie in fast and flat exchanges to move to 14-12, and the latter slowed down the pace with a gruelling rally, which he won with a push at the backline. The Indonesian drew parity at 16-16 with a precise cross-court smash, which a diving Sen couldn't reach and soon eked out a twopoint lead at 18-16. A straight smash from Sen was followed by a wide smash from Christie, and it was 18-18.

A perfect flat push and then an incredible behind-the-back return in the middle of the next rally gave Sen game point and he converted it easily to earn the bragging rights.

#### **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**

IDFC FIRST (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) | CIN: L65110TN2014PLC097792 Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031. Tel: +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002

following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

No.	Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Section 13 (2) Notice
1	82460036	Property	Rajeshwar Prasad Narang     Bundeshwar Kumar     Sharda Singh Nawrang	29.05.2024	INR 21,16,951.28/-
Des	norte Address	. All That Dia	on And Doroni Of Bronnets Area	0 10 1000 /0 07	2 Line Cityoted At New Phoere

No. 333/9 (part Of Old Khasra No. 333/8), New Village Name: Chhote Sipat (old Village Name: Spat Chhota), New P. H. No. 06 (old P. H. No. 05), RNM-Vikaskhand, Tehsil: Malkharouda, District : Jangir-Champa. sgarh-495690, And Bounded As: East: Farm Of Mahadev, West: P. W. D Road, North: Farm Of Kaitholic Church South: Balance Land Of Saller

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, mated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited) as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs charges etc., within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to nitiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged propertie mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited). Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of ease or otherwise.

**Authorized Officer IDFC First Bank Limited** and presently known as IDFC First Bank Limited)

### Olympics bet against climate change with **Seine swimming**

**AP** PARIS

With plans for athletes to swim the Seine River through the heart of Paris, Olympic organisers climate change's extreme weather. For several days it appeared they would lose by ditching the swimming portion of triathlon races.

wasn't until early Wednesday, after the men's race had been postponed a day and test events called that organizers announced the most recent tests showed the water met standards to allow swimming.

scientists Some and engineers said organizers were taking a huge gamble at a time when heavy rains have increased with humancaused climate change, especially in Europe. The rains run off from the urban environment and contribute to higher bacteria levels in the city's famed river.

"They just gambled, flipped the coin and hope for a dry season and it turned out to be the rainiest in the last 30 years," said Metin Duran, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at Villanova University who has researched stormwater

management. Organisers "had worked through most of the scenarios related hacking computer physical threats without fully assessing implications of extreme events associated with climate," said University of Arizona climate scientist Kathy Jacobs, who directs the Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions. "It's definitely time to take climate threats seriously."

If any city could be expected to be mindful of the challenges of climate change, it's Paris. It's where the most significant climate agreement in history was struck almost a decade ago to try to limit Earth's warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7)degrees Fahrenheit) above industrial levels.

### कारपोरेट कार्य मंत्रालय

त्वरित कॉर्पोरेट समापन प्रसंस्करण केंद्र ( सी-पेस ), आई.आई.सी.ए. बिल्डिंग, 7वी मंजलि. प्लाट 7-6,7,8, से.-5, आई.एम. टी. मानेसर, गडगाँव, हरियाणा - 422050

Email: roc.cpace@mca.gv.in



Government of India Ministry of Corporate Affairs Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (C-PACE) IICA Building, 7th Floor, Plot P-6,7.8, Sector-5, IMT Manesar. Gurgaon, Haryana - 122050. Email: roc.cpace@mca.gov.in

Date: -10/07/2024

FORM No. STK --6 **PUBLIC NOTICE** 

[Pursuant to sub-section (2) and sub-section (4) of section 248 of the Companies Act, 2013 and rule 7 of the Companies (Removal of Names of Companies from the Register of Companies) Rules, 2016]

Public Notice :ROC/C-PACE/STK-2/248(2)/2024-25/526

In the matter of striking off or removal of names of (1) companies in the 248 of the Companies Act. 2013 in respect of

S No. Work Item		CIN	Company Name				
1	AA8573151	U15100CT2005PLC017828	SHRI BAJRANG AGRO PROCESSING LIMITED				
(2) Notice is hereby given that the Degistrar of Companies had received applications from the above m							

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

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

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

Irkan Tirkey

CBC 07123/11/0255/2425

**Assistant Registrar** Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit

PUBLIC NOTICE

PICICIBank | Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020 | CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loa facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA). A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served and are therefore being notified by way of this Public Notice.

Sr. No.	Co-Borrower/Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Asset to be enforced	Outstanding as on Date of Notice	Date
1.	Abhishek Agrawal/ mamanchand Agrawal/ Rathod Complex, 1st Floor, Jail Road Near Krishna Apartment, Sai Nagar District Raipur Chhattisgarh Raipur- 492001/ LBBL100006586468/ LBRPR00005596281/ TBBL100006582425/ LBRPR00005596282	Flat/ Family Unit No. 206, 2nd Floor, "Ashoka Impression Block/ Building D, Phase 2", Part of Kh. Nos. 713/1, 715/2, (716/2), 715/3, (716/3), 714/4, (716/4), P.H. No. 109/39, Ward No. 27, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Ward, Mouza Mova, Town, Tahasil and District Raipur, Chhattisgarh (admeasuring an Area of Total Built Up Area 2146.43 Sq. Ft., Carpet Area 1356.30 Sq. Ft	June 07, 2024 Rs. 36,89,136/-	25/04/ 2024
2.	Anuradha Bairagi/ Kuldip Vashishtha/ Mig 602, Block No. 1 6th Floor, Shankar Nagar Bahwna Nagar, Hb Colony, District Raipur Chhattisgarh Raipur- 492001/ LBRPR00004902182	Flat No. E.W.S 81, Second Floor, Block No. 07, Part of Khasra No. 524 and 522/ 1196, Chhattisgarh Grih Nirman Mandal, Raipur, Phase 2, Shankar Nagar, Mouza Kachna, Housing Board Colony, P.H. No. 110/40/43, R.N.M. Raipur- 1, Tahsil And District Raipur, Chhattisgarh (Admeasuring an Area of 349.48 Sq. Ft. / 32.48 Sq. Mtr	June 27, 2024 Rs. 9,56,024/-	06/04/ 2021
3.	Venkatesh Sharma/ Poonam Sharma/qtr 1A, Road No. 88, Sector 06 Ward No. 46, Bhilai, Tehsil Durg District Durg Chhattisaarh Bhilai- 490006/	Khasra No. 1560/ 77, P.H. No. 14/19, Kurudh Ward No. 14, Kailash Nagar Inside Part, Nagar Palik Nigam Bhilai, Mouza Kurudh, R.N.M. Durg- 01, Tahsil and District Durg, Chhattisaarh Admeasurina an Area of 0.02	June 29, 2024 Rs. 18,09,564/-	04/04/ 2024

Hectare= 1800 Sq. Ft.= 167.28 Sq. Mtr LBBLI00003159543 These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (a applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction o Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: August 01, 2024 Place: Raipur Sincerely, Authorised Signato For ICICI Bank Ltd.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE Ranch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd, Landmark Building, 4th Floor, 228A, AJC Bose Road, Kolkata 700020 CIN No: L65190GJ1994PLC021012, www.icicibank.com

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in

exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited. Description of Property/ Date of Demand Name of Notice/ Amount Name of the

INO.	Account Number	Date of Symbolic Possession	in Demand Notice (Rs)	Branch
	Jyoti Sahu/ Pradeep Kumar Sahu/ H. No. 36/529, Gaulipara	Flat No. LIG/ 672, Second Floor, Block No. 56, Part of Khasra No. 639/1, Old Khasra No. 613/7, 613/4, 48, 613/41, 44, 613/46-82, 613/49, 50, 52, 613/142, 643/1, 3, 5, 657/1, 2, 639/1, 2, 647/1, 2, 648, 683/3, 644, 645, 655, 654/2, 640/1, 641, 642, 634, 643/2, 4, Ramkrishna Paramhansa Ward No. 02, P.H. No. 107/36, R.N.M. Raipur I, Dindayal Awas Yojna, Kabir Nagar, Griha Nirman Mandal Raipur, Mouza Kabir Nagar, Housing Board Colony, Sondogri, Tahsil and District Raipur, Chhattisgarh (Admeasuring an area of 495 Sq. Ft. 46.00 Sq. Mtr. Date of Symbolic 29.07.2024	March 27,2024 Rs. 9,62,881/-	Raipur
	No-I I G 422, Forth Floor, Block No-18 Housing Board Colony,	Flat No L.I.G 318, 2nd Floor, Block 14, Situated At Khasra No. 1185/1/th & 1211/1/ka, Mouza Khamhardih, Shankar Nagar, P.H.N 113/63, R.N.M Raipur-01, Under Kushabhau Thakre Ward No. 26, (New Ward Pandit Motilal Nehru Ward No8, Kanidka Ward No. 17, Deen Dayal Housing Scheme, Housing Board Colony, Nagar Palika Raipur, Tehsil and District Raipur, Chhattisgarh, 492001 (Admeasuring an area of Covered area 542.41 Sq. Ft. Date of Symbolic 29.07.2024	February 28,2024 Rs. 14,31,934/-	Raipur

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd. Date: August 01, 2024

#### AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED (A SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL BANK) Regd. Office: 19-A, Dhuleshwar Garden, Ajmer Road, Jaipur - 302001, Rajasthan, (India). (CIN:L36911RJ1996PLC011381)

APPENDIX-IV-A- [See proviso to rule 8(6)] Sale notice for sale of immovable properties

auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s)/ Co-Borrower (s)/Mortgagor (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of AU Small Finance Bank Limited (A Scheduled Commercial Bank), the same shall be referred herein after as AUSFB. The Secured Assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is hat is", and "Whatever there is" basis through E-Auction for recovery of amount mentioned in the table below along with further interest, cost, charges and

expenses being due to AUSFB viz, Secured Creditor. t is hereby informed you that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net

Loan A/c No./ Name of Borrowers/Co Borrowers/ Mortgagors/Guarantor	Date & Amount of 13(2) Demand Notice	Date Of	Description of Property	Reserve Price For Property	Earnest Money For Property	Date & Time Of E-Auction	Date of Bid Submission		Contact Person and Property Visit Date
(Loan A/C No.) L9001060117795190, Manoj Kumar Chandra S/O Gore Lal Chandra (Borrower & Mortgagor), Gore Lal Chandra S/O Jagat Ram Chandra (Co-Borrower) Raj Kumar Chandra S/O Gore Lal Chandra (Co-Borrower & Mortgagor) Note: Matter pending in DRT SA, Jabalpur, Case No. SA 613/2024, Case Title - Rajkumar Chandra VS AUSFB	19-Dec-19 Rs. 16,63,376/- Rs. Sixteen Lac Sixty Three Thousand Three Hundred Seventy Six only as on 18-Dec-19	27-Mar-24	Survey No. Kh 913/2 915/1 916/1, Ph No 14, Rnm Jaijaipur, VillSalni, Th Jaijaipur, Dist Janjgir Champa, Chattisgarh Admeasuring 360 Sq. Mtr.	Rs. 15,70,000/- Rs. Fifteen Lakh Seventy Thousand Only.	Rs. - 1,57,000/- Rs. One Lakh Fifty- Seven Thousand Only.	to 4.00 PM with unlimited extension	On or Before 09-Sep- 24	AU Small Finance Bank Ltd., Branch Address: - TP Nagar, Korba, Transport Nagar, Chhattisgarh Indira Commercial & Residential Complex, Plot No 82 TP Nagar Korba, Chhattisgarh 495677	Gopal Das Bairagi & Deepak Jain, 7610210556 9773358234 auctions@ aubank.in 06-Sep-24
(Loan A/C No.) L9001060123387590, Mukesh Kumar S/O Chhagan Lal Tamrakar (Borrower), Chhagan Lal Tamrakar S/O Horilal Tamrakar (Co-Borrower)	15-Dec-22 Rs. 12,66,487/- Rs. Twelve Lac Sixty-Six Thousand Four Hundred Eighty- Seven Only As	10-Jun-24	Property Sitauted At Ph No 28, Kh No. 1042, Mauja Devkar, Te Saja, Dist Bemetara, Chattisgarh Admeasuring	Rs. 12,10,000/- Rs. Twelve Lakh Ten Thousand Only.	Rs. 1,21,000/- Rs. One Lakh Twenty- One Thousand	2.00 PM to 4.00 PM with unlimited extension of 5 minutes	On or Before 09-Sep- 24	AU Small Finance Bank Ltd., Branch Address: - 1st Floor, Raipur Road Sunder Nagar Bemetara - CG. 491335	Gopal Das Bairagi & Deepak Jain, 7610210556 9773358234 auctions@ aubank.in 06-Sep-24

The terms and conditions of e-auction sale:

(1). The E-Auction sale of Secured Asset is on "as is where is", "as is what is", "whatever there is" and "no recourse" basis for and on behalf of the Secured Credito viz. AUSFB and there is no known encumbrance which exists on the said property.

(2). For participating in online e-auction sale, Bid document, copies of PAN Card, Board Resolution in case of Company and photo ID, address proof are required to be submitted along with EMD, which is payable by way of RTGS/NEFT/DD in the name of MSME AUCTION POOL ACCOUNT OF AU Small Finance Bank Limited, Current account No. 1921201121711599 A USMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED Fifth and Sixth Floor Sunny Big Junction STC Khasra No. 64 to 67, Gram Sukhaipura New Control of the CAtish Market Jaipur 302020, IFSC Code: AUBL0002011, Once an Online Bid is submitted, same cannot be withdrawn, Further any EMD submitted by bidder will be required to send the UTR/Ref no./DD no. of the RTGS/NEFT/DD with a copy of cancelled cheque on the following email IDs i.e. auctions@aubank.in

(3). All Interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net & https://www.aubank.in/bank-auction for further details including Terms & Conditions, to take part in e-auction sale proceeding and are also advised to contact Mr. Bhanu Pratap Singh, Contact Number 9358002663 and e-mail of auctions@aubank.ii

Please Note: This is also a 30 days notice Under Rule 8(6) read with Rule 9(1) to the Borrowers/Co Borrowers/Mortgagors of the above said loan account about sale through tender / inter se bidding on the abovened date. The property will be sold, if their outstanding dues are not repaid in full by the borrower in the **Authorised Officer** given notice period. Date: 31/07/2024 AU Small Finance Bank Limited Place: Chhattisgarh

महतारो महतारी वंदन से मातृशक्ति का सम्मान माँ को समर्पित है "एक पेड़ माँ के नाम" 1 अगस्त 2024 ₹1000 की छठवीं किश्त जारी प्रदेश की महतारियां आज करेंगी पौधरोपण माननीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री विष्णु देव साय मुख्यमंत्री, छत्तीसगढ़ मुख्यमंत्री श्रीविष्णुदेवसाय सेजुड़ने के लिए QR CODE स्केन करें विष्णु के सुशासन से सँवर रहा छत्तीसगढ़ हमने बनाया है, हम ही सँवारेंगे छतीसगढ़भ्रम्भ्र जनसंपर्क Visit us: 🐧 ChhattisgarhCMO 🦧 ChhattisgarhCMO 🧔 ChhattisgarhCMO 📮 ChhattisgarhCMO 🐧 DPRChhattisgarh 🦎 DPRChhattisgarh 🐞 www.dprcg.gov.in