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WORLD 8

5 MORE MURDER CASES FILED

AGAINST B'DESH OUSTED PM



IVA JOVIC **BEATS MAGDA IN** FIRST ROUND

11 SPORTS

## Protests singe City of Joy

Many people, including policemen, were injured in people, including pitched battles intermittently fought at various locations of Kolkata and Howrah between the men in uniform and students protesting against the rape and murder of the lady doctor at a medical college in Kolkata. Several protesters were taken into custody. The students under the banner of a relatively obscure Paschim Banga Chhatra Samaj — with apparent blessings of the Opposition BJP — marched towards the State Secretariat Nabanna to demand the resignation of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee when clashes

Initial jostling turned into skirmishes with the police repeatedly bursting tear gas, charging water jets and resorting to lathicharge as the charged up agitators that included many women refused to relent and turned aggressive. The pitched battles continued for more than five hours giving the police a harrowing time, sources in the administration said, adding additional combat forces and RAF had to be called in from the neighbouring districts.

At various places people profusely bleeding from head were seen being carried away by their coagitators to the hospitals. Similarly the policemen who often got isolated were also attacked. At Babu Ghat a crowd of agitators badly beat up two policemen with lathis, rods, bricks and even shoes. Some even spit on them while



Tear gas shells being used by security personnel to disperse students during their protest march towards West Bengal Secretariat over the alleged sexual assault and murder of a trainee doctor, in Kolkata, on Tuesday

journalists covering the incident tried to intervene by appealing the people not to take law into their own hands. Intensity of the protest was such

that the agitators who were quickly joined by swarms of political activists, moved dangerously close to the seat of State power, Nabanna with the police armed with riot gear having a trying time to push them back. The scene was almost same on both sides of the Hooghly River as the agitators broke through firmly erected barricades one after the other at Mahatma Gandhi Road, College Square, Princep Ghat, Esplanade, Hastings, Santragachi, Vidya Sagar Setu leading to Nabanna, Howrah Maidan, Sarat

### Safety of healthcare workers: Portal floated, public view sought

ARCHANA JYOTI n NEW DELHI

Supreme appointed National Task Force (NTF) to formulate a protocol for the safety and security of healthcare professionals held its inaugural under chairmanship of the Cabinet Secretary on Tuesday.

It decided to conduct broader consultations with stakeholders to identify critical issues and develop comprehensive framework for country.

healthcare field. Soon after the NTF panel also favoured setting up an online portal seeking suggestions from public, the Union Health Ministry shared a link in this regard, posting on the X social platform, "Suggestions to

http://serviceonline.gov.in/dire ctApply.do?serviceId=2987) for seeking suggestions from individuals and different stakeholders across

shouting the hitherto familiar slogan "we want justice.

At Princep Ghat and Mahatma Gandhi Road the police chased away the agitators who were trying to break the cordons. At Kona Express Way too, the police fought intermittently with the agitators who were trying to enter Nabanna area from Howrah side.

In the melee more than 50 people, including policemen were hurt, sources said, adding that the count could go up as "more information from other zones are still awaited.' The police had detained more than 350 people, the BJP sources

While the police accused the agitators of resorting to violence first by throwing bricks the opposite side said the students got agitated as news spread that four of their leaders who had been organising the movement for the several days had "mysteriously gone missing" as they had allegedly been picked up

around midnight on Monday. Incidentally most of the agitating doctors at various medical colleges and the members of the civil society remained indifferent to the Tuesday's march but continued their cease work at their workplaces, sources said. The Tuesday's clashes were the culmination of fortnight long protests by the people from all walks of life against the brutal rape and murder of a lady doctor at the RG Kar Medical College Hospital and allege effort by the Kolkata Police and the powers that be to shield the real guilty.

### PM Modi shares perspectives on **Russia-Ukraine conflict with Putin**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n **NEW DELHI** 

Prime Minister Narendra Modi On Tuesday spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin and shared "insights" from his recent visit to Ukraine. During the telephone talks, Modi reiterated India's firm commitment to supporting an early, abiding and peaceful resolution of the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

A day earlier on Monday, Modi had briefed US President Joe Biden on his visit to Ukraine and conveyed India's full support for the early return of peace to the region through dialogue and diplomacy. As regards talks with President Putin, Modi said in a social media

post, "Exchanged perspectives on the Russia-Ukraine conflict and my insights from the recent visit to Ukraine. Reiterated India's firm support to an early, abiding and peaceful resolution of the conflict." The Prime Minister also said he and President Putin also discussed measures to further strengthen Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between the two

A statement by the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) here said Modi had on Tuesday a telephone conversation with the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir The Prime Minister recalled his

successful visit to Russia last month to participate in the 22nd India-Russia Bilateral Summit. The two leaders reviewed progress on a number of bilateral issues and discussed measures to further



strengthen the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership between India and Russia. They also exchanged views on a

range of regional and global issues of mutual interest. The two leaders exchanged views

on the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict as Modi shared with Putin insights from his recent visit to

He underlined the importance of dialogue and diplomacy as well as sincere and practical engagement between all stakeholders to achieve an abiding and peaceful resolution of the conflict. The two leaders agreed to remain in touch.

Modi's talks with Putin took place days after he met Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in

During his meeting with the Ukrainian President, Prime Minister Modi had said India is "not neutral as it is always on the

### majority mark in Rajya Sabha, 11 elected unopposed

RAJESH KUMAR n NEW DELHI

 $I_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{National} \\ \end{subarray}}^{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{National} \\ \end{subarray}}^{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{National} \\ \end{subarray}}^{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{National} \\ \end{subarray}}^{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{National} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \end{subarray}}_{\begin{subarray}{l} \text{n a major boost to the ruling} \\ \e$ (NDA), nine candidates from the BJP and two from allies have been elected unopposed in the bypolls for the Rajya Sabha. This is the first time that the NDA has reached a majority mark in the Upper House. Currently, it has the support of six nominated and one

Independent member. As nine of the BJP members were elected unopposed, taking its tally to 96 and taking NDA to 112 in the Rajya Sabha. Among the three others to get elected unopposed were one each from NDA allies NCP faction of Ajit Pawar faction and Rashtriya Lok Manch. One member of the Congress also got elected, taking the Opposition numbers in the Upper House to 85. Rajya Sabha has 245 seats, though currently there are eight vacancies — four from Jammu and Kashmir and four nominated. With the House's current strength of 237, the majority mark is 119.

The BJP candidates elected unopposed include Mission Ranjan Dass and Rameshwar Teli from Assam, Manan Kumar Mishra from Bihar, Chadhary Haryana, George Kurien from Madhya Pradesh, Dhirya Sheel Patil from Maharashtra, Mamata Mohanta from Odisha, Ravneet Singh Bittu from Rajasthan and Rajeev Bhattacharjee from Tripura. Congress's Abhishek Manu Singhvi was elected unopposed from Telangana. NCP Ajit Pawar faction's Nitin Patil got elected from Maharashtra and RLM's Updendra Kushwaha made it

## BRS leader Kavitha gets bail in Liquorgate

RAJESH KUMAR n NEW DELHI

a major setback to the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and a big relief to Bharat Rashtra (BRS) leader Kalvakuntla Kavitha, the Supreme Court on Tuesday granted her bail in the nowscrapped Delhi excise policy

A Bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan passed the order after noting that the investigation is over and trial will take a long time to

The bench also questioned the fairness of the prosecution agency (CBI/ED) and criticised their selective approach in treating some accused as approvers. It also

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN n KOCHI

The controversy over casting couch in the

Malayalam film industry took

an interesting turn on Tuesday as Mohan Lal, popularly known as the superstar and South Indian Amitab

Bachchan, quit as president of Association of Malayalam Movie Artists (AMMA), the

All office bearers, including

the executive committee members of AMMA, too,

submitted their resignation

along with Lal as the industry

apex body of film stars.

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leader Kalvakuntla Kavitha asked the ED and the CBI about the "material" they had

to show that Kavitha was involved in the alleged scam. The bench noted that the investigation is complete and

chargesheet/prosecution complaint has been filed in both the CBI and ED cases. Hence, interrogation of the petitioner, who has been behind the bars

the July 1 verdict of the Delhi High Court which had denied

her bail in the two cases. "The appellant (Kavitha) shall not make any attempt to tamper with the evidence or influence the witnesses. The appellant shall deposit her passport with the learned Trial Judge. The appellant

longer necessary.

Also, the trials in both cases

are unlikely to be completed

soon since there are about 493 witnesses to be examined and

the documentary evidence

runs into nearly 50,000 pages.

"The appellant (Kavitha) is

sum of `10 lakh in each of the

cases," the bench said, while

allowing her appeals against

Trial Court and cooperate with the expeditious disposal of the trial," reads the order. Later in the day, a city court issued release warrants for Kavitha, paving the way for her release from jail. The Supreme Court's decision directed to be released has given hope to AAP

forthwith on bail... on convener and Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal whose bail petition is pending in the apex court. Kejriwal's legal team is expected to argue the case on the basis of bail granted to Kavitha and Manish Sisodia in the same case. Special Judge Kaveri Baweja issued the release order for Kavitha after being informed that the politician was granted bail earlier in the day by the SC in both the

industry a bad name.

Lal's decision to quit was preceded by a WhatsApp chat with other office bearers and members of the executive committee. "We can expect more such allegations in coming days and it is better to quit rather than face the charges. Let a new team of office-bearers take over after the general body meeting, reportedly told his colleagues. Though other office-bearers persuaded Lal to continue, the super star of junior and senior artists remained adamant and



Devotees form a human pyramid to break the 'dahi handi', an earthen pot filled with curd, as part of Janmashtami celebrations, at Dadar, Mumbai, on Tuesday

### Mollywood's MeToo movement topples South Indian superstar

is plagued by allegations of sexual misconduct.

A number of stars and directors, including Ranjith, (chairman, Chalachitra Academy), Siddique (general secretary, Amma), Mukesh MLA, Jayasoorya, Manian Pilki Paris V.P. Parlsch, Park Pillai Raju, KP Prakash, Babu Raj (joint secretary, Amma) Babu (former general secretary, AMMA) have been



named by female artists as people seeking sexual favours in lieu of work or inappropriate behaviour or

even attempt to rape.
Those who raised the issue include Bengali actress Sreelekha Mitra, Revathy Sampath, Minu Muneer, Geetha Vijayan and a number giving the Malayalam film resigned.

### daughters in Jammu

**MOHIT KANDHARI n** JAMMU

 $I^{n}$  the absence of any 'son'rise', it is time for the 'Laadli betis' to make their presence felt in the upcoming Kashmir Jammu and Assembly elections.

On Tuesday, two daughters with strong claim to political legacy from the Jammu and Kashmir divisions filed their nomination papers for the first round of polling on September 18.

From Kishtwar, 29-year-old Shagun Parihar filed her nomination as the BJP candidate in the presence of

She is the niece of late BJP leader Anil Parihar. Anil to the upper house from Bihar. Parihar was killed by

terrorists along with his brother Ajeet Parihar while they were returning home on November 1, 2018. Anil Parihar had considerable influence in the area and was an active member of the Swayamsevak Sangh.

"It is the love of the people of Kishtwar that has motivated me to file my nomination. I am confident of my victory. I am also certain that the brothers, sisters, and elders of Kishtwar will support my candidature and ensure my victory by a large number of votes," the BJP nominee told J&K BJP chief Ravinder reporters after filing her Raina. the returning officer in

Kishtwar. She emphasised

that this mandate is not just

for her family, but for the families of all martyrs in the Shagun Parihar, pursuing a

doctorate in electronics, expressed gratitude to the BJP for honouring the families of martyrs who laid down their lives for the nation and the party. She stressed that peace, security, employment, and would be the core areas of her work for the uplift of the mountainous district.

In the Valley, 37-year-old Iltija Mufti, daughter of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) chief Mehbooba Mufti, made her electoral debut by filing the nomination papers from the Srigufwara-

empowerment Bijbehara constituency of south Kashmir.

Bijbehara is a traditional

bastion of the PDP. It has been represented from 1999 to 2018 by senior party leader Abdul Rehman Veeri. "The party has reposed faith in me by fielding me from the Bijbehara Assembly constituency," Iltija told

She said that her grandfather, Mufti Mohammad Sayeed,

media persons in Anantnag

and mother Mehbooba Mufti had also started their political career from Bijbehara. "Today, it is a very emotional

moment for me and I am truly honoured," she said. Mehbooba Mufti has vowed not to contest Assembly

elections until Statehood is restored. In Kishtwar, BJP candidates Sunil Sharma and Tariq Keen also filed their nomination papers from Paddar Nagseni and Inderwal

seats, respectively.

Meanwhile, the BJP on Tuesday named 29 more candidates for the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, taking to 45 the number of

withdrawn.

Kashmir National Conference released a list of 32 candidates which included Omar Abdullah for the Ganderbal Assembly seat, a constituency that he represented from 2009 to 2014 when he was the Chief Minister of the NC-Congress coalition Government.

announced its nominees. The

BJP has made one change

from the now-revised list, which was put out on Monday, as it has named

Baldev Raj Sharma from Shri

Mata Vaishno Devi seat in

place of Rohit Dubey. All

other names are the same for

Monday before being

In Srinagar, the Jammu and

same set constituencies, announced on

## Govt reaches out to PVTGs MLA's judicial remand extended

STAFF REPORTER n RAIPUR

An outreach programme for the Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG) is underway in Chhattisgarh to ensure that the benefits of state and Central government schemes

A government official on Tuesday said that IEC (Information, Education and Communication) camps are underway in 18 tribal-dominated districts in the state for PVTGs from August 23. This would end on September 10.

These camps aim to achieve 100 per cent saturation of immediate activities in all PVTG settlements, including the issuance of Aadhar cards, Jan Dhan accounts, Ayushman



cards, forest rights certificates, ration cards, caste certificates. PM Kisan Samman Nidhi, PM Matru Vandana Yojana, Kisan Credit Cards, Sickle Cell testing and basic health

The beneficiary saturation camps are intensively conducted in all the PVTG settlements and districts.

accounts under PM Jan Dhan, issuing Ayushman Bharat The primary focus of to all eligible

The beneficiary saturation camps are intensively conducted in all the PVTG settlements and districts.

beneficiaries, community certificates to all PVTGs, and conducting Sickle Cell testing in PVTG



STAFF REPORTER n BALODABAZAR

Acourt here on Tuesday extended the judicial remand of Congress legislator Devendra Yadav September 3 in the arson case in Balodabazar city in Chhattisgarh.

Second Civil Judge Class-I Manju Lata Sinha passed the order via video conferencing.

Bhilai MLA Yadav was presented before the judge after the expiry of his judicial custody for a second time. He was arrested on August 17.

Yadav was booked for promoting enmity between

Yadav was booked for promoting enmity between different groups, criminal conspiracy, rioting, obstructing public servants from performing duty and assault.

different groups, criminal conspiracy, obstructing public servants from performing duty and

### Cong condemns cane-charge on party workers at Bhilai-3

The Congress in Chhattisgarh on Tuesday Congress condemned the cane-charge on its party workers at Bhilai-3 on Tuesday. It said they were politely raising slogans when they came under attack.

Former Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel criticized the "police brutality" and warned the Durg Superintendent of Police not to be biased at the government's behest.

PCC chief Deepak Baij said in a statement that everyone has a right to peacefully protest in democracy and it was not fair that the BJP resorts to antidemocratic steps to crush such opposition.

According to Baij, some



youths were beaten brutally while marching towards the SP's office to submit a memorandum on the

the intercropping method and was provided chilli seeds and

Intercropping is a technique that involves

growing multiple crops in the

same field. The goal is to

increase the yield without

affecting the main crop. It can

also reduce the negative effects

cultivate 100 quintals of chilli,

whose market value is Rs 2.3

lakh, and made a profit of Rs

He said that he was able to

obstruction of Baghel's convoy by Bajrang Dal activists.

Baghel and Baij warned of strong agitation by the

According to Baij, some youths were beaten brutally while marching towards the SP's office to submit a memorandum on the obstruction of Baghel's convoy by Bajrang Dal activists.

enrollment and Aadhar card

issuance, opening bank

Congress against the "oppressive policies" of the BJP.

## Retired Justice Uboweja sworn-in as Chief Lokayukta



STAFF REPORTER n

Chhattisgarh Governor Ramen Deka on Tuesday administered the oath of office and secrecy to retired Justice Inder Singh Uboweja as the Chief Lokayukta of Lok Ayog at

a function in Raj Bhavan. Additional Chief Secretary Renu Pillay presided over the oath-taking ceremony.

Following the oath, Governor Deka and Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai congratulated Uboweja.

The ceremony was also attended by Speaker Raman Singh, MP Brijmohan Agrawal and former Chief Lokayukta TP Sharma besides the family members of Uboweja

#### **Authorities to crack** down on tobacco sellers near schools, hospitals



STAFF REPORTER n **BILASPUR** 

Ahead of the Nutrition Month, authorities in Chhattisgarh's Bilaspur are taking steps to crack down on vendors selling tobacco within 100 metres of schools and hospitals.

Collector Awanish Sharan issued directions to remove such stalls on Tuesday.

Authorities have also been imposing fines and taking other disciplinary action against vendors violating the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act

Nutrition Month will observed from September 1 to 30. Camps will be held to educate people about nutrition and conduct health checkups of women and children.

#### Modern techniques financially empowers farmers in C'garh



a grant.

of pollution.

STAFF REPORTER n BALRAMPUR

 $F_{\text{achieving financial success}}^{\text{armers in Chhattisgarh are}}$ thanks to the modern agriculture training and aid provided through the National Horticulture Mission (NHM) Scheme, an official statement said on Tuesday.

Amlu of Balrampur district was facing repeated losses due to lack of advanced technical knowledge and natural disasters.

Through the NHM

Man held for cheating Rs 25L over railway job



STAFF REPORTER n MAHASAMUND

hhattisgarh Police on Chnattisgain Tones
Tuesday arrested a man for cheating an unemployed youth of Rs 25 lakh by promising him a job in the Indian Railways in 2022.

Jitendra Kumar Pandit of

Mahasamund town has been into custody, Mahasamund Superintendent

of Police Ashutosh Singh said. The accused told the police that he took money from Pushpasagar Tandi between April 2022 and July 2022. A court sent him to



#### GOVERNMENT OF CHHATTISGARH, WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER HASDEO BARRAGE W/M DIVISION, RAMPUR/KORBA (C.G.)

PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE -

Procurement Portal: https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in (FIRST CALL) NIT No.: 01/SAC/2024-25 Dated: 23-08-2024 Online Tenders are invited for the following works up to 13-09-2024 at 17.30 Hour

System Tender No NIT. No Date	Name Of Work	Amount
System No-157782 Grup No-1	Renovation Work of Septic Tank. Sewerage Line and Culvert of Irrigation Colony Rampur / Korba.	Tender Invited As Per
	Renovation Work of Septic Tank. Sewerage Line and Culvert of Irrigation Colony Darri/Korba	Tender Invited As Per

The details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Chhattisgarh Integrated e-Procurement Portal (https://eproc.cgstate.gov.in) from Date 30-08-2024, at 17.31 Hours. (IST) onwards.

NOTE: All eligible intrested contractors/bidders are mandated to get enrolled on the Integrated e-procurement portal (https://cproc.cgstate.gov.in) and get approval on specific vendor class from PWD under Centralized Contractor/Supplier Registration in order to download the tender documents and participate in the subse auent bidding process.

Executiv Engineer Hasdeo Barrage W/M Division, G-242502036/4 Rampur/Korba (C.G)

Urban noise pollution has a negative impact on heart health

AGENCIES n

Noise pollution in urban areas has significant, negative impacts on heart health according to studies published on Tuesday.

The studies conducted in France and Germany, respectively, show that people already suffering from heart as



through this corrigendum, all concerned persons and general public are informed that the name of property auction accoun holder published in newspapers or 29.07.2024 as R.K.Trade Vision has been printed due to technical error, in place of R. K.Trade Vision Pvt. Ltd. That's right,

let's read it. All terms and conditions will

well as cardiovascular problems are among the vulnerable groups and will be subjected to debilitating effects on their health owing to this menace.

In Germany's Bremen, 430 consecutive patients with acute myocardial infarctions (MI) who were admitted to a nearby heart centre and were 50 years of age or younger were enrolled in the trial. The researchers found that residential noise exposure levels were higher than those of the general population in the same region when they calculated levels of noise exposure. Individuals who had MI and a low Cardiovascular Disease (CVD) score (greater or smaller than 2.5 per cent) suggests they had less traditional risk factors like diabetes or smoking, showed



considerably higher noise exposure than patients with a high CVD score.

This is important because cardiovascular risk in young people who are otherwise deemed low risk may be underestimated by traditional risk assessment techniques.

An independent French study evaluated the effect of noise exposure on the prognosis following a first "we found a strong association between urban noise exposure, particularly at night, and worse prognosis at

1 year after a first MI" in the

ENVI-MI research", said investigator Professor Marianne Zeller of the University of Burgundy and Hospital of Dijon. Data for 864 patients who

were hospitalised for an acute MI and survived for at least 28 days following the MI were gathered from the French Observatory Database (RICO). A major adverse

cardiovascular event (MACE; cardiac mortality, rehospitalisation for heart failure, recurrent MI, emergency revascularisation, stroke, angina and/or unstable angina) was reported by 19 per cent of the participants at the 1-year follow-up.

The average noise level in A-weighted decibels [dB(A)] for each patient's home address was measured every day. It was found to be 56.0 during the day and 49.0 at night. These levels of noise exposure were deemed to be moderate and typical for a significant portion of the European population. Notably, regardless of air pollution or socioeconomic status, there was a 25 per cent greater risk of MACE for every 10 dB(A) increase in noise during the night (hazard ratio 1.25; 95 per cent, confidence interval 1.09–1.43).
"These data provide some

of the first insights that noise exposure can affect prognosis. If confirmed by larger prospective studies, our analysis could help to identify new opportunities for environment-based secondary-prevention strategies, including noise barriers for high-risk MI patients," Prof Zeller said.

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# Destination Uttarakhand



Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Uttarakhand is scaling new heights of growth and development. I am working with full dedication to ensure that this stream of progress and prosperity continues in coming years as we follow the path of good governance.

> Pushkar Singh Dhami, Chief Minister

#### **UCC TIMELINE**

Announcement: Feb 12, 2022 5-member panel formed: May 27, 2022 2 sub-committees: August 22, 2022 Draft submitted: February 2, 2024 Cabinet approval: February 4, 2024 Table in assembly: February 6, 2024 Passed in assembly: February 7, 2024 9-member panel to draft rules: February 10, 2024

Presidential assent: March 11, 2024 PLANS AHEADS

- 2 sub-committees to submit report before Aug 31
- 1 sub-committee to submit report
- To be implemented around Nov 9 (state foundation day)



### **Opportunities** for growth

Uttarakhand steers ahead towards a promising pathway to economic empowerment, social justice, and growth

he implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in Uttarakhand presents a significant opportunity for economic empowerment and growth.

One of the foremost advantages of the UCC is the simplification of legal procedures related to property and inheritance. Currently, different religious communities in India follow their laws, leading to a complex legal landscape. This complexity can create ambiguities and disputes, deterring investment and economic activities. With the UCC in place, all citizens in Uttarakhand will follow the same set of rules. This clarity will boost investor confidence and encourage both domestic and international investments in the region.

#### Empowering women: Bridging the gender gap

The UCC also holds the potential to significantly empower women economically. In many personal laws, women have traditionally been at a disadvantage regarding inheritance and property rights. The UCC, by providing equal rights to all individuals, irrespective of gender, can rectify these historical injustices.

Empowering women in this way is not only a matter of social justice but also an economic imperative, as it can lead to higher household incomes, improved economic productivity, and overall economic growth.

#### Economic empowerment: From equality to prosperity

Entrepreneurs and businesses will benefit from standardised laws, reducing the time and costs involved in legal compliance. This can make Uttarakhand an appealing destination for new businesses and startups. encouraging a thriving entrepreneurial environment. Simplified legal processes and decreased administrative obstacles can boost economic activity, job creation, and innovation

Furthermore, the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) can contribute to social harmony and cohesion, which are crucial for maintaining a stable economic environment. A more harmonious society creates an environment that is favourable for economic activities, as it promotes trust, cooperation, and a sense of community. This stability can also attract more tourists, investors, and businesses to

Uttarakhand. Uttarakhand stands to gain significantly in terms of economic development and improved quality of life for its citizens and a promising pathway to economic empowerment and growth.

#### With the Uniform Civil **Uniform Civil Code:** Code, CM Pushkar Singh **Dhami led Uttarakhand** government has taken

**Promoting equality** 



>> Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India and Pushkar Singh Dhami, CM Uttarakhand

The proposed law has 392 sections divided into four parts and seven chapters providing equal rights to women in marriage, divorce, alimony, and inheritance of property, proscribes certain kinds of relationships, bans polygamy, sets the marriageable age for men and women (21 years and 18 years respectively), and makes registration of marriages mandatory

#### **ENSURING EQUAL RIGHTS TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

One of the primary benefits of UCC is the promotion of gender equality, UCC would eliminate disparities and gender biases, ensuring that women have equal rights to property and inheritance, regardless of their religion.

The UCC also promises to uphold children's rights by standardizing adoption laws. Currently, different religious communities have varying practices regarding adoption, with some not recognising it at all. The UCC would establish a uniform legal framework, guaranteeing that

environment, irrespective of their background.

#### PROMOTING SOCIAL HARMONY



ent religious and ethnic communities coexist, the UCC would reinforce the principle that all citizens are equal before the law, thus promoting a more harmonious and integrated society.

#### SIMPLIFYING LEGAL SYSTEM

The implementation of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) would simplify the legal system in Uttarakhand. The presence of multiple personal laws complicates legal proceedings and can result in conflicting judgments. UCC would establish a single legal framework for all civil matters, making the judicial process more streamlined

#### **ECONOMIC BENEFITS**

Uniform civil laws can have positive economic implications. By ensuring that property rights are clear and consistent, a UCC can create a more predictable environment for economic activities This legal clarity can encourage investments and economic development, contributing to the overall growth of the state. Additionally, by securing women's property rights, UCC would empower women economically, allowing them

As Uttarakhand leads the way, it sets a precedent for other states to follow, bringing India closer to the constitutional ideal of equality for all

I congratulate 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 years ahead.

**Anti-Copying Law boosts** 

job creation in U'Khand

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

#### WHAT UCC AIMS

- · Provide security and empowerment to weak, poor, and sensitive section of society.
- . Connect women, children, youth, and the elderly of every section with the mainstream of development.
- · Promote the feeling of unity, integrity, and nationalism through a uniform law.
- . Encourage daughters and sons for higher education by increasing the age of marriage Create a prosperous society by ending evil practices that have been going on for years.
- . Eliminate discrimination between son-daughter and man-woman by giving equal
- rights to people of all communities.

### **Benefits of a Uniform Civil Code** for Uttarakhand's judicial system

Uttarakhand's initiative to implement the UCC is a significant step towards legal simplification, promising numerous benefits for the state's judicial system. Read to know more...

he concept of a Uniform Civil Code (UCC) has long been a subject of discussion in India, aiming to replace the personal laws of various religious communities with a common set of rules applicable to all citizens. One of the primary advantages of the UCC is the simplification of legal processes. Currently, personal laws in India vary significantly among different religious communities, leading to complexities and inconsistencies in the legal system. For instance, laws governing marriage, divorce, inheritance, and adoption differ for different communities.

significant strides towards promoting equality and

ensuring equal rights for

divorce, land, property and inheritance to all

people of Uttarakhand - irrespective of their

faith - has taken the initiative to implement

Uniform Civil Code in the Himalayan state.

With CM Dhami announcing to implement UCC

before November 9 - the state foundation day

- Uttarakhand is on path of becoming the first

state of the country, since Independence, to im-

plement UCC. The law that intends to increase

social harmony, promote gender justice and

empower women, is in compliance with the

provisions of Article 44 of the Constitution.

UNIFIED LAW, UNIFIED GROWTH

Uttarakhand's initiative to implement the UCC

marks a significant step towards realising the

diverse personal laws can perpetuate inequali-

ties and impede social justice. By adopting the

Code, Uttarakhand aims to streamline its legal

system, ensuring all citizens are subject to the

same laws and thus fostering a more inclusive

TIMELINE TO THE HISTORIC BILL

The bill was introduced in the state legislative

assembly on Feb 6 and was passed on Feb 7

assembly. A nine-member panel drafted rules

on Feb 10. Gurmit Singh, Uttarakhand governor,

referred the bill sent by the state government to

approved on March 11. This makes Uttarakhand

President Murmu for her approval, which she

the first state in the country to implement the

Uttarakhand, declared it as a historic day and

UCC. Pushkar Singh Dhami, chief minister,

during a special session of the Uttarakhand

and equitable society.

constitutional mandate of equal rights for all

The state's leadership has recognised that

hief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami led

government, with the vision of bringing

uniformity in the society by providing

same set of laws regarding marriage,

all its citizens

By introducing UCC, Uttarakhand aims to establish a single, cohesive legal framework that applies to all citizens. This uniformity will streamline legal procedures, reduce ambiguities, and enhance the efficiency of the judicial process

#### Legal reforms and social progress

In a country where we have more than 5 crore pending court cases, the UCC

will facilitate quicker resolution of legal disputes. With a standardised set of laws, courts can process cases more swiftly, as judges will no longer need to interpret varying personal laws. This will significantly reduce the backlog of cases and ensure timely delivery of justice. For instance, disputes over inheritance and property rights, which



often involve complex interpretations of personal laws, can be resolved more expediently under the UCC. This efficiency will not only benefit the judiciary but also provide relief to citizens who often endure prolonged legal battles.

The Uniform Civil Code (UCC)

brings about a significant benefit by promoting equality before the law. The implementation of UCC will eliminate discrepancies, ensuring that all citizens are treated equally under the law. Furthermore, laws about parental rights on property, the legitimacy of children born in live-in relationships, and equal property rights will prove beneficial in

> the long term. The UCC represents a move towards gender equality and non-discrimination, upholding the principles of the Indian Constitution and fostering social justice and inclusivity.

#### **Economic growth through** legal uniformity

The Uniform Civil Code aims to improve the transparency and predictability of legal outcomes. This will help citizens gain a clear understanding of their rights and obligations, leading to better compliance with the law. By adopting UCC, the state is aligning with the constitutional vision of uniformity and equality.

After the implementation of the Anti-Copying Law, it has proven to be a game changer in the state

he Anti-Copying Law concerns like cheating, corruption, and favouritism head-on. By establishing stringent measures to prevent malpractises the state has ensured a level playing field for all aspirants. With the law in olace, government examinations have become more transparent and fair.

POSITIVE **EFFECTS** 

**Boosting job** creation: Ever since CM Dhami took charge, 15 thousand jobs have been created. And after the implementation

of the Anti-Copying Law, Uttarakhand has conducted exams and more than 10.000 government positions have been filled, providing employment opportunities across various sectors. The implementation of this law has led to fewer

exam delays and instances of

malpractice, enabling the government to speed up the recruitment process.

Restoring public trust: Candidates now have greater confidence that their hard work and merit will be fairly evaluated, leading to more genuine and competitive participation in government exams. This renewed trust has also motivated

more individuals to pursue gov-

ernment jobs, knowing that the

selection process is unbiased

transparent and fair recruitment

system attracts more qualified

Long-term benefits: A

contributing to the overall development of the state Future prospects: To

and competent individuals to pub-

lic service, ultimately enhancing

the efficiency and effectiveness of

the government workforce. This,

and improved public services.

in turn, leads to better governance

maintain technological infrastructure to and continuously update the law to counter new cheating methods. Additionally, the government must focus on creating awareness among candidates about the law and its benefits

to foster a culture of integrity and honesty. With continued efforts and commitment to upholding the principles of this law, Uttarakhand can look forward to sustained progress and development in the years to come.

and transparent.

## **Ensuring progress**

UCC has some key features that will help the CM Dhami led government promote social justice and equality

**KEY FEATURES OF THE UCC** 

Equal rights for husband and wife Under the UCC, the rights and responsibilities of husband and wife are equal. This ensures that both partners have the same legal standing and obligations in their marriage.

#### **Exclusion of scheduled tribes**

The UCC thoughtfully excludes scheduled tribes from its scope, recognising the importance of preserving their distinct cultural practices and traditions. This respectful approach ensures that the unique identity and heritage are safeguarded

#### Legitimacy of children born in live-in relationships

Children born during a live-in relationship are granted legitimacy under the UCC. These children are entitled to all the rights of a biological child, ensuring that they are not disadvantaged or stigmatised. This provision protects the welfare and rights of all children, promoting their acceptance

#### Equal property rights

The UCC provisions equal property rights for sons and daughters across all religious communities. This ensures that inheritance laws are fair and non-discriminatory, empowering women with the same economic rights and opportunities as men.

#### Uniform marriage age The UCC standardises the minimum age for mar-

riage across all religions, setting it at 21 years for boys and 18 years for girls.

#### Mandatory registration for live-in relationships To provide legal recognition and protection to

live-in relationships, the UCC mandates their registration. This ensures that partners have clear legal rights

and responsibilities.

Equal rights on divorce The UCC ensures equal rights for both husband and wife, guaranteeing fair dissolution of marriage with equitable treatment.

#### Mandatory marriage

registration All marriages to be registered within a stipulated time. This mandatory registration helps maintain accurate records and provides legal clarity and protection to married couples.

#### Equality for men and women of all religions and sects

The UCC ensures equal rights for individuals of all religions and sects, thus fostering inclusivity and eradicating gender and religious-based discrimination.

### Anti-Copying Law: A bold step towards recruitment integrity

The new law underscores the state government's commitment to establish a fair and just recruitment system. Anti-Copying Law addresses the same

n a significant step to uphold the integrity of education and discourage misconduct in competitive exams, the Anti-Copying Law has been implemented in Uttarakhand. This new law entails strict penalties, including the potential for life imprisonment, for individuals involved in or aiding cheating.

#### Anti-Copying Law: A necessary reform

The integrity of job examinations is crucial to maintaining a fair and merit-based recruitment process. However, with the increasing instances of cheating and unfair practices, the need for stringent measures has become more pressing than ever.

The Anti-Copying Law is designed to address this issue comprehensively by introducing stringent penalties for those who engage in cheating. It serves as a deterrent to potential offenders and reassures students, parents, and educators that the government is serious about creating a level playing field for all.

The introduction of an anti-copying law in job exams aims to address this challenge head-on, ensuring that only the most deserving candidates earn their positions. This law not only safeguards the credibility of the examination process but also reinforces the principles

of justice and transparency in employment. Chief minister Pushkar Singh led the Govt. ruling BJP government in Uttarakhand has brought the country's strictest anti-copying law and blamed previous governments for being slack in the matter. "Why has no one in the past tried to tighten the noose around PIC: DIPR, UTTARAKHAND GOVERNMENT

the neck of the cheating mafia? I knew an attempt would be made to intimidate us after we decided to act against the mafia involved in the paper leak. I would like to know in whose government's tenure the accused were sent to iail." Dhami said.

CM Dhami further said, "It will also

have provisions for disqualification of candidates guilty of using unfair means from appearing in any examination for 10 years and confiscation of property of those facilitating cheating," The Uttarakhand Competitive Examination (Measures for Prevention and Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Ordinance came into force after the approv al given by the Governor on February 10.

#### Upholding the sanctity

The bill aims to ensure transparency and fairness in competitive exams in the Himalayan state. The state authorities clarified that the provisions shall remain applicable only in competitive exams and not in school and college exams.

 Any involvement in unfair exam processes may result in life imprisonment and a fine of up to Rs 10 crore for individuals, printing presses, service provider organizations, management systems, or coaching institutes.

Following actions punishable under this law:

· Conspiring with such entities can lead to life imprisonment and a fine of up to Rs 10

Text by: Sarita Shukla

**CONSUMER CONNECT INITIATIVE** 

## BJP targets 10 cr new members in one month | Amit Shah to throw light on new

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

The BJP will launch a fresh membership drive with Prime Minister Narendra Modi scheduled to get the certificate for the renewal of his membership from the party President Jagat Prakash Nadda. The BJP this month set a target of enrolling at least 100 million new members across the country except in the election-bound Jammu and Kashmir, Maharashtra, and Jharkhand. The first phase of the membership drive will go on till September 25 and then a review of the exercise will be carried out before the launch of the second phase on October 1. It will continue till October 15. Party sources said that Sadasyata Abhiyan 2024 will be launched in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on September 2, in the National Capital. According to BJP leaders, Union Union



Ministers, Chief Ministers and elected representatives Sarpanch parliamentarians spearhead the BJP's nationwide membership drive starting from September 2, an exercise which will serve as the launch pad of the party's internal polls leading to the election of its new President. National General Secretary Vinod Tawde, who is also the head of the membership drive, appealed

to people to join the party in a big way. "A strong BJP will lead to the making of a 'Viksit Bharat', he said.

Active members, a term for party workers who can organisational contest elections after making a certain number of new members, will be enrolled between October 16-31. Sources said there was no plan as of now to appoint a working President before a full-fledged President is

elected. They, however, added that the party leadership may take a fresh call depending on organisational needs. Tawde said party workers across the country have been trained for the drive, which

relies heavily on the digital medium. The party is relying on its 10 lakh active members to carry out the exercise, he added. All existing members of the BJP have to renew their membership every six years.

The current drive will be marked by the renewal of existing membership as well as making new members. The BJP had earlier The BJP had earlier announced that the party aims to induct more than 10 crore members during the drive that will not cover the States going to polls in the coming months. The party's membership strength was 18 crore after the last such exercise, and it has expressed hope that the party will cross the figure this time

About 110 million people signed up as BJP members in 2014 and about 70 million in 2019 when the membership drive was opened for a limited period. New members will be made through four methods calling a mobile number (8800002024), scanning QR code, by NaMo app and through the BJP's website. However, in remote areas, the party will use the traditional method with papers to enrol new members.

The campaign will set membership targets for each unit, from Booth to State levels, based on the party's performance in

Notably, State workshops were conducted on August 19 to 21 and district workshops on August 22 to 24, whereas, Mandal workshops had to be conducted on August 25 to 27. On August 31, a meeting of Page Pramukhs is also to be held at all booths to prepare for the campaign.

## criminal laws at police think tank meet



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will attend 54th foundation day of Indian police's think tank Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) as the chief guest on Wednesday where he will deliver Anand Swaroop Gupta Memorial Lecture on "New Criminal Law Citizen Centric Reforms".

The minister will also honour the recipients of the President's Medal for Distinguished Service (PSM) and President's Medal for Meritorious Service (MSM) for the years 2023

A special edition of the Bureau's publication "Indian Police Journal" on new criminal laws will also be released by him during the function, said a statement from the Ministry of Home Affairs.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and guidance of Union Home Minister Shri Amit Shah, BPR&D is committed to transform the Indian Police Forces into SMART forces to successfully meet the challenges of policing as well as internal security by equipping them with the necessary intellectual, physical and organizational

BPR&D has been serving as the think tank of the Indian Police since its inception in 1970 by developing policies and procedures for police and correctional services, exploring new technologies for enhanced service delivery to the citizens, capacity building of law enforcement agencies, promote cooperation and coordination between States and central police organisations, it said.

Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Director General of Central Armed Police Forces (CAPFs), heads of central police organisations as well as senior officials of the Home Ministry and other departments will also attend the inauguration ceremony.

### **NEP advocates access, equity,** quality and Bharat-centric education, says NIOS chief

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) Chairperson Prof Saroj Sharma on Tuesday said the New Education Policy introduced by the Narendra Modi Government focuses on value education so that today's students become a responsible citizens.

Addressing the National Symposium on the National Framework Curriculum (NCF) aligned with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 at Jiva Public School in Faridabad, Prof Sharma said the advocates access, equity, quality and Bharat-centric education. "The NEP envisages creation of "New India". It focuses on value education. The NEP is rooted in our ancient culture and traditions which we need to

preserve," she said. There is a difference between literacy and knowledge. We may be fully literate in a few knowledge can only bring the change in society and prevent untoward incidents like the recent West Bengal traumatic

differentiating that though all were literate and getting good education but knowledge to keep society healthy failed. "I understand there is a

incident,

problem with the education system and most of the things have been addressed in the NEP," Prof Sharma added.

She further said: "India aims to achieve 100 per cent literacy by 2030, and to achieve this NIOS will impart education to students who are not attending regular schools besides covering marginalised



sections into our education system which includes special underprivileged

Addressing the symposium, Shiksha Sanskriti Utthan Nyas Secretary, Dr Atul Kothari, said: "NEP focuses on development of human values. The world knows that it is only India which understands the value system and can teach the world about it. There is a growing demand for this from various countries and institutions. Our educators should prepare for this challenge." Stating that the NEP focuses on a approach education, Dr Kothari said:

'We need to create a model for effective implementation of the NEP."

Addressing the symposium, NCERT's Head of Teacher Education Department, Prof Sharad Sinha, said that bringing out NEP in a diverse and huge country like India was a Herculean task. "There is so much diversity.

There are different school formats like Government schools, private institutions, trust etc, several languages across the length and breadth of vast Bharat, teachers and educators of vivid vision had to be taken into account in making of the epic over 600page National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for School Education," she said.

### BJP alleges scam in land to Trust run by Kharge's family, seeks CBI probe

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n

¬he BJP on Tuesday alleged a "scam" ■ in allocation of a piece of land to a trust run by Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge's family in Karnataka and demanded a CBI probe into the matter.

Addressing a press conference at the BJP headquarters here, party national spokesperson Gaurav demanded Mallikarjun Kharge's resignation as the Congress President and that of his son Priyank Kharge, who is a Minister in the Karnataka Government. He also demanded Chief Karnataka Minister Siddaramaiah's resignation. There is a consistency in the

Congress' acts of corruption. Wherever we will go we will do corruption is the new slogan of the Congress. It will not be wrong to say that the Congress has become synonymous with corruption," Bhatia said. "We saw the MUDA scam and Valmiki Development Corporation scam happening under the nose of Karnataka Chief Minister Karnataka Siddaramaiah. Now a case of allocation of five-acre land to a trust

The land has been allocated to the Kharge family-run trust by flouting of rules, the BIP Spokesperson said, claiming that Mallikarjun Kharge, his wife, his son-in-law Radhakrishna

run by Mallikarjun Kharge and his

family in Karnataka has emerged," he

and sons - Priyank Kharge and Rahul Kharge – are in the trust.

"As per information with us, several companies and organisations had given application for the land but it was allocated to the Kharge familyrun trust by flouting the rules," Bhatia

The BJP spokesperson demanded that Mallikarjun Kharge immediately resign as the Congress President and his son Priyank Kharge as the state "There should be an impartial probe into it by an independent agency CBI to ascertain the truth," he said.

BJP leader Lahar Singh Siroya, also a Rajya Sabha member, had on Sunday questioned the alleged allocation of Karnataka Industrial Area

Development Board (KIADB) land to a trust run by Kharge's family and asked when did they become aerospace entrepreneurs to be eligible for the land. He had also sought to know whether the case was about misuse of power, nepotism and conflict of interest. Karnataka Large and Medium

Industries Minister M B Patil said on Monday that the educational trust run by AÍCC President Mallikarjun Kharge's son Rahul Kharge was allotted a Civic Amenity (CA) plot at Aerospace park at a prescribed price in accordance with the norms. In a statement, Patil dismissed the allegations made by Siroya and insisted that no rules were violated in



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n **NEW DELHI** 

her dictator

resignation, calls

#### A ccusing West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee of shielding those involved in the rape and murder of a trainee doctor in Kolkata, the BJP on Tuesday called her a "dictator" and

demanded her resignation to ensure a fair probe into the The BJP has also demanded that the CBI conduct a polygraph test on Banerjee and Police Commissioner Vineet Goel, who the party alleged had initially said that

the victim died by suicide. The BJP condemned the incident of lathicharge by the West Bengal Police on the students, who had taken out a rally in Kolkata demanding justice for the victim and the Chief Minister's resignation. "Whatever is happening in West Bengal is worrisome. It's akin to tearing the Constitution to shreds. It's clearly visible that if at all there is a dictator in the country, it's Mamata Banerjee," BJP national spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia told a Press Conference at the party headquarters here. He accused Banerjee of shielding those involved in

the rape and murder case,

and demanded that she

immediately resign as the Chief Minister so that a fair

probe into the case can take

place. The BJP spokesperson also demanded that the Police Commissioner, who

had called the case of the

victim's rape and murder a

suicide earlier, should also

resign and face investigation.

"Truth must come out. The

CBI is investigating the case. It should conduct a

polygraph test on Mamata Banerjee and the police

commissioner to ascertain

BJP co-incharge for West Bengal Amit Malviya said

that Sanjoy Roy, accused in

the trainee doctor rape and

murder case, was on that

fateful night riding a bike

registered in the name of the

Commissioner, "as per the

Kolkata Police and the

the truth," he added.

### Monkeypox: Testing kit to deliver result in 40 minutes

ARCHANA JYOTI n NEW DELHI

s Monkeypox increasing-As Monkeypox mercus. India has taken a significant step forward with the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation's (CDSCO) approving a new indigenously developed RT-PCR testing kit that can deliver results within 40 minutes.

The IMDX Monkeypox Detection RT-PCR Assay, by created Siemens Healthineers, is designed to detect both clade I and clade II variants of the virus.

This advancement marks a crucial milestone for India's "Make in India" initiative and is a pivotal addition to the country's arsenal combating the Monkeypox public health emergency.

"IMDX Monkeypox Detection RT-PCR Assay will be manufactured at our molecular diagnostics manufacturing unit in



Vadodara, which has a manufacturing capacity of 1 million reactions per year. The factory is all set to make the kits available," said Siemens Healthcare Private

Explaining about functioning, the company said that "The IMDX Monkeypox Detection RT-PCR Assay is a groundbreaking molecular diagnostic test that targets

two distinct regions in the viral genome, spanning both clade I and clade II variants of the virus.

Hariharan Subramanian, Managing Director, Siemens Healthcare Private Limited, said that the urgency for precise and accurate Integrative Biology, a diagnostics couldn't be more national laboratory of CSIR crucial than now amid the WHO announcement of its second public health during the COVID-19 emergency of global concern pandemic could enhance

more transmissible and has higher mortality rates. The WHO has launched a global Strategic preparedness

The new strain of this virus

(Clad-1) is considered to be

and response plan to stop outbreaks of human-tohuman transmission of mpox through coordinated global, regional, and national efforts. Anurag Agrawal, Scientists and Head, Koita Center for Digital Health at He suggested that Indian Ashoka Dean, BioSciences and Health Research, Trivedi School of Biosciences, Ashoka University highlighted the ongoing need for vigilance and investment in diagnostics and vaccines. The former director of the Institute of Genomics and noted that leveraging the infrastructure developed

containment efforts. Reflecting similar opinion, Gautam Menon, Dean of

cooperation and

Research and Professor of Physics and Biology, Head of Centre for Climate Change and Sustainability (3CS) at Ashoka University stressed the importance of monitoring and tracking travelers, along with keeping up-to-date with the latest epidemiological insights into Monkeypox

medical agencies must lead in understanding the virus's transmission dynamics and potential asymptomatic spread.

India has not recorded any Mpox case so far but as a precautionary step amid rise in cases of zoonotic virus cases in neighbouring Pakistan, the Government has kept the airports on the alert and identified nodal hospitals to handle the cases when needed.

### **Women's groups demand action on** sexual violence after Kolkata tragedy

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n NEW DELHI

In response to a series of recent rape cases across the country, a battery of Women's rights groups on Tuesday issued a joint statement demanding urgent action and systemic change to end sexual crimes and break the silence surrounding gender-based violence in the country.

The 35 organizations who made the appeal involved, included the All India Dalit Mahila Adhikar Manch (AIDMAM), All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA), All India Mahila Samskritik Sanghatan (AIMSS), All India Progressive Women's Association (AIPWA), All India Feminist Alliance (ALIFA), All India Lawyers' Association for Justice (AILAJ), calling for an end to sexual crimes and gender-based

The trigger for the outburst was a tragic rape and murder of a 31-year-old medical practitioner at RG Kar Hospital and Medical College in Kolkata. The groups criticised both the brutal nature of the crime and the subsequent handling by authorities, which they allege involved a "cover-up." They also accused the Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee led West Bengal Government of mishandling the case by initially labeling it a suicide and transferring key hospital officials amidst

national protests. The women activists in the statement said that sexual violence cases from various parts of the country including Kolkata, Manipur, Gujarat, Uttarakhand, Bihar, and Uttar Pradesh are a grim reminder of the ongoing



threat to women's safety in India.

The statement also highlighted the challenges of securing justice in an environment where the Government has been accused of releasing and even honouring individuals convicted of heinous crimes, such as those involved in the Bilkis Bano case, the Kathua case, and the violence in Manipur.

Despite the existence of mechanisms to monitor the laws to protect the women, the groups argued that they are often ignored, creating a climate of impunity that allows gender-based violence to continue unabated and cited data from the NCRB, which reports an average of 86 rapes per day in India, with a national conviction rate as low as 27 per

The statement also criticised the recent budget allocations, questioning the lack of funding for monitoring the implementation of key protective laws. The Ministry of Women and Child Development's refusal to disclose whether mandated mechanisms are in place and functioning is seen as further evidence of governmental neglect, the

### CBI to consult AIIMS experts on DNA, forensic reports in Kolkata horror case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE n

he Central Bureau of The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) will consult experts from the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) on the DNA and forensic reports related to the alleged rape and murder of a trainee doctor at RG Kar Medical College, officials said Tuesday. In order to build a watertight case, the CBI will send the reports to AIIMS to seek their opinion in the case, they said.

The reports will also help the agency to ascertain if Sanjay Roy was the only accused who committed the crime or there were others involved, they said. So far, the agency is working on the leads that Roy was the only accused in the crime but involvement of others will only be ruled out after receiving the opinion of AIIMS experts, the officials

said. The rape and killing of the junior doctor in a seminar hall of the hospital has widespread sparked



seminar hall of the hospital's chest department in the morning of August 9 by a doctor who was on

August 9 when the crime was allegedly committed.

the police had also noticed "recent injuries" on his left cheek, abrasion in left hand between his left and ring finger, abrasion over the back of left thigh among others showing signs of struggle.

Kolkata Police had arrested His biological samples like Roy on August 10 based on urethral swab and smear, CCTV footage in which he semen, hair, nail clippings was seen entering the and nail scrapping were seminar hall at 4.03 AM on collected during the medico-legal examination, they said.

Based on CCTV footage, Roy was put through extensive interrogation and High Court ordered the transfer of the probe from

investigation on August 14. The CBI took over all the forensic evidence from Kolkata Police and also subjected Roy, former principal of the medical college Sandip Ghosh, four doctors who were on duty with the victim, and a civic volunteer to polygraph tests to get further leads about the crime.

the Kolkata Police to the

CBI, which started its

The initial reports from CFSL are being analysed and corroborated with evidence to get further direction to the probe, the officials said.

A polygraph test can help in assessing inaccuracies in statements of suspects and witnesses.

monitoring psychological responses heart rate, breathing patterns, sweating and pressure investigators can determine

leads in a case.

post on X̄. if there are discrepancies in their response, these are not admissible evidence during the trial and can only be used to get further

Kolkata

This is serious and needs investigation. Both Mamata Banerjee and Kolkata Police Commissioner must step down immediately for a free and fair probe," he said in a

The CBI should take them into custody, go over their phone records and subject them to polygraph test to unearth the conspiracy behind the young woman doctor's rape and murder, Malviya demanded.

### **Seven killed in rain-related incidents** in Gujarat; more than 6,000 relocated

At least seven persons have died in rain-related incidents in different parts of Gujarat, and heavy showers continued to pound the state for the third consecutive day on Tuesday, throwing normal life out of gear and flooding low-lying areas, officials said. More than 6,000 persons have been relocated to safer places as water levels in dams and rivers rose amid incessant rainfall, they said.

According to officials, seven persons lost their lives in rainrelated incidents on Monday. Four persons were killed in wall collapse incidents in Gandhinagar, Kheda and Vadodara districts, while one person died after a tree fell on him and two others drowned in Anand district.

The administrations Panchmahal, Navsari, Valsad, Vadodara, Bharuch, Kheda, Gandhinagar, Botad and Aravali districts shifted hundreds of people to safer locations as a precautionary measure amid flooding in low-lying areas as water levels rose in rivers and dams.

In Panchmahal, the district administration shifted around 2,000 people, while 1,000



were relocated in Vadodara, 1,200 in Navsari, and 800 in Valsad, among other areas, officials said.

As per data shared by the State Emergency Operation Centre (SEOC), the state has received nearly 100 per cent of its average annual rainfall so far, with Kutch, Saurashtra and south Gujarat accounting for more than 100 per cent of their average annual rainfall this season.

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast isolated extremely heavy rainfall in most parts of the state on Tuesday, in the Saurashtra-Kutch region on Wednesday and Thursday, and heavy to very heavy rains across the state till Thursday. Tankara taluka in Morbi

district received 347 mm of rainfall in 24 hours ending at 6 am on Tuesday, the highest in the state, followed by Morva Hadaf in Panchmahal (346 mm), Nadiad in Kheda (327 mm), Borsad in Anand (318 mm), Vadodara taluka (316 mm) and Anand taluka (314 mm).

At least 24 out of 251 talukas received more than 200 mm rainfall, and 91 talukas received more than 100 mm showers in 24 hours, the SEOC said.

A fresh spell of rainfall on Tuesday battered Rajkot city, inundating low-lying areas, roads and underpasses. Rajkot city alone received 142 mm of rainfall in four hours since 6 am, the SEOC data

### Central team to visit Tripura to assess flood damage: CM

PTI n AGARTALA

Tripura Chief Minister Manik Saha said the Centre will send a team to the state to assess the damage caused by the floods.

At least 26 people died as the floods devastated the state. A total of 17 lakh people were estimated to have been affected, and of them, 1.37 lakh were rendered homeless, officials said.

'Union Home Minister Amit Shah has assured me that he will be sending a central team shortly to assess the damage caused by the floods. The central team will physically visit the flood-hit areas," Saha told reporters on the sidelines of a Janmashtami programme on Monday.

He said the state government will present a "true picture of devastation" caused by the floods when the central team

Saha also expressed gratitude to Madhya Pradesh CM Mohan Yadav and UP CM Yogi Adityanath for extending financial support to the state. Yogi Adityanath has spoken to me and donated Rs 10 crore for restoration works in flood-affected areas. The



also donated Rs 20 crore for restoration works. The Centre will certainly assist Tripura during these difficult times but it is praise-worthy the way other states are also lending a helping hand," he said.

Speaking to the reporters Revenue Secretary Brijesh Pandey said all district magistrates were asked to conduct an assessment of damage caused by the floods. flood has caused extensive damage to roads, buildings, power lines, embankments and farmlands It is estimated that the flood caused damage worth about Rs 15,000 crore, officials said. Despite waters receding in all major rivers, around 70,000 people are still in 471 relief camps, they said.

### Decision on shifting Darshan to another prison likely soon: Min

Government doesn't decide it.

There are certain norms as

they (Darshana and co-

accused) are undertrial, based

on which authorities will

decide," Parameshwara told

reporters in response to a

question. Asked as to when

the authorities would decide,

he said: "They will decide in a

Parappana Agrahara jail, were

suspended on Monday over

preliminary probe into

Also, three FIRs were

registered, including against

Darshan, under sections of the

Prisons Act and the Bharatiya

Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

treatment"

prison

"lapses"

including the Superintendent of

couple of days."

Darshan.

PTI n BENGALURU

Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara on Tuesday said a decision is expected to be taken by authorities in a couple of days on shifting Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa, who is currently in judicial custody at Parappana Agrahara Central jail here in the Renukaswamy murder case, to another prison.

A photograph of Darshan hanging out with three others, including a rowdy-sheeter, on the lawns of the jail had gone viral on Sunday, sparking a

In the picture, the actor is seen in a relaxed mood, sitting on a chair and holding a cigarette and a coffee mug. Also, a purported video of Darshan speaking to a person over a video call from the prison too had surfaced on social media. Parameshwara said an IPS officer has been appointed to review all the systems in the state's prisons.

The Minister said the government cannot take a decision on shifting Darshan to another prison.

"It will be decided by the authorities consultation with authorities from court and others. Noting that certain lapses were found in the prison, Parameshwara said inmates were allowed to move from one barrack to another and it is captured in the CCTVs. "So, action was taken against prison officials." Nine officials have been

suspended, they will be replaced. Even the Chief Superintendent and the Superintendent have been suspended, also others who have helped Darshan and group by supplying them with chairs, coffee, cigarettes...All these things have been captured in CCTV, based on that all of them have been suspended," he said.

The inquiry is in progress, the Minister said, adding, an IPS officer will be appointed for further probe.

Based on the findings given by the officer, we will have to solutions. After going through the report, we will do it," he He added that he has come to

know about a report submitted earlier for reforms in prisons. Also there is a national level report on police and prison reforms submitted during the tenure of the

### MP police arrest main accused in attack on Chhatarpur police station

The Madhya Pradesh police on Tuesday arrested Haji Shahzad Ali, the main accused in the stonepelting incident at a police station during a protest against a Hindu seer in Chhatarpur city, an official

The police had issued a lookout circular for Ali to ensure he didn't flee the

The local administration also razed his palatial house, citing that it was built without due permission.

Hindu seer Ramgiri Maharaj allegedly objectionable remarks against Islam at Shah Panchale village in Sinnar taluka of Maharashtra's Nashik district religious

400 people led by religious leaders came to Kotwali police station on August 21 to submit a memorandum demanding a case against Ramgiri Maharaj, who already faces multiple FIRs in Maharashtra over his alleged objectionable remarks against the Prophet.

The crowd suddenly became aggressive and started pelting stones, it was stated.

Talking to PTI, Chhatarpur's Superintendent of Police (SP) Agam Jain said Ali, the main

accused of the August 21 incident, was arrested from Chhatarpur during the day, and further legal steps will be taken after presenting him in

Jain said the police had formed 10 teams to apprehend the accused. Ali has a criminal record and

has six cases, including murder and offences under the Arms Act to his name, since 1988, the SP said, that administration is also investigating complaints of illegal encroachment lodged

The police are probing to find out where Ali stayed when he absconded after the incident and who was handling his social media account where he shared his videos during this period, Jain said.

Efforts are underway to arrest other absconding accused, ne

Officials had earlier said a case was registered against 46 named and 150 unidentified persons under various provisions of law in connection with the violence. The Congress and All India Majlis - e - Itte hadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief Owaisi condemned the demolition of Ali's house and termed the

administration as "bulldozer

### SC notice to Gujarat Govt on Sanjiv Bhatt's plea in custodial death case

PTI n NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday sought the government's response on former Indian Police Service (IPS) officer Sanjiv Bhatt's plea against his conviction in a 1990 custodial death case in which he was sentenced imprisonment.

Issue notice returnable in four weeks," a bench of Justices Vikram Nath and Prasanna B Varale said. The court also tagged the appeal with other matters related to

Bhatt has moved the top court challenging the Gujarat High Court's January 9, 2024 order dismissing his appeal. The court also upheld the conviction of Bhatt and coaccused Pravinsinh Zala under Sections 302 (murder), 323 (voluntarily causing hurt) intimidation) of the Indian

The high court had dismissed the state government's appeal seeking to enhance the sentences of five other accused who were acquitted of murder but convicted under Sections 323 and 506. While Bhatt and Zala are cancelled the bail bonds of the five other accused who are "We have also gone through

trial court while convicting concerned punishable under section 302 of the IPC," the division bench said while reading out

"From the evidence based on record, we are of the opinion that the trial court has rightly convicted (five) accused...For offences punishable under Sections 323, the judges had

Bhatt and Zala, both police officers, were convicted for murder by the sessions court in Jamnagar on June 20, 2019. On October 30, 1990, then additional superintendent of police Bhatt detained around 150 people following a communal riot in Jamjodhpur town following a 'bandh' call against the halting of BJP leader L K Advani's 'rath yatra' for the construction of a temple

Prabhudas Vaishnani, one of the detained persons, died in hospital after his release. Vaishnani's brother accused Bhatt and six other police officials of torturing him in

custody and causing his

Bhatt was arrested on September 5, 2018, in another case where he is accused of falsely implicating a man for drug possession. The trial in the case is underway.

He is also an accused in a case of alleged fabrication of evidence in connection with the 2002 Gujarat riots cases along with activist Teesta Setalvad and former Gujarat director general of police R B

Bhatt had also hit the headlines when he filed an affidavit in the Supreme Court alleging then chief minister Narendra Modi's role in the 2002 Gujarat riots. allegations debunked by a special investigation team.

He was suspended from service in 2011 and sacked by the Ministry of Home Affairs August 2015

'unauthorised absence'. In the custodial death case, the Jamnagar court sentenced the other five policemen sub-inspectors Dipak Shah and Sailesh Pandya, and constables Pravinsih Jadeja, Jethva and Anopsinh Keshubha Jadeja -- to two

### Over 50 lakh vehicles used Atal Setu in seven months



PTI n MUMBAI

 $M^{
m ore \ than \ 50 \ lakh}_{
m vehicles \ have \ used \ the}$ Atal Setu, the country's connecting Mumbai with its satellite city Navi Mumbai, since it was opened for traffic over seven months Mumbai Metropolitan Development (MMRDA) has said.

In a release issued on Monday, the MMRDA said 50,04,350 vehicles, including Brihanmumbai Transport Supply and (BEST), Navi Mumbai Transport Municipal (NMMT) and Maharashtra Transport Road Corporation's (MSRTC) travelled between January 13 and August 26 on the sea

daily average of 22,000 vehicles (over 227 days). "The vehicles comprise 47.40 lakh cars, 50,020 mini buses and light motor vehicles, 59,799 double-axle vehicles,

73,074 three-axle vehicles,

80,277 four-six axle vehicles

and 503 oversized vehicles," a spokesperson said. The sea bridge - Mumbai - officially named Atal Bihari Sheva Atal Setu linking Sewri in Mumbai and Nhava Sheva in Navi Mumbai, was inaugurated by Prime

Minister Narendra Modi on

January 12, while it was

thrown open to the public "The extraordinary usage highlights the bridge's role in easing congestion and reducing travel time between south Mumbai and key

Atal Setu's impact extends mere connectivity between south Mumbai and other major regions, including the upcoming Navi Mumbai International Airport," the

release said. complete, will soon provide a Seaface to Atal Setu. The development of an elevated road between the Chirle Interchange Mumbai-Pune Expressway promises even commutes between South Mumbai, Navi Mumbai, suburbs, Panvel, Pune, Mumbai-Goa Highway," it

### Effective governance key to achieving our developmental goals: Siddaramaiah

Kanaan Siddaramaiah said effective governance is key to achieving the state's developmental goals and that the government is investing in technology and innovative solutions to enhance transparency, efficiency, accountability

administrative processes. Addressing a meeting with NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Suman Bery here, the chief sustainability is at the core of the state government's development strategy. "We are committed to environmental conservation and implementing policies aimed at reducing our carbon footprint. For example, Karnataka is a leader in renewable energy; 53 per cent of our installed capacity of 32 Giga Wats comes from renewable energy sources. "Our efforts also include protecting natural resources

and encouraging sustainable



agricultural practices. We recognise that environmental stewardship is essential for long-term prosperity and quality of life," he said. The chief minister said the state government is investing in technology and innovative to enhance transparency, efficiency, and

accountability administrative processes. "For example we have a strong set of e-Governance solutions. Using these we were able to roll out the five guarantees in a record time of less than three month. Using our DBT module, we are transferring over Rs 54,000 crore to the beneficiaries directly into their bank accounts," he said. further said that by adopting governance tools and fostering a responsiveness, the government aims to improve service delivery and citizen engagement. "Our partnership with NITI Aayog has been instrumental

in shaping our

development strategies. We appreciate the guidance and support provided and are continue collaborating on various Initiatives. We believe that through shared knowledge, resources, and expertise, we can address the challenges we face and unlock new opportunities for growth," he said. He emphasised on the dedication contributing to the collective vision of a progressive and prosperous Îndia. "We are committed to working together with all stakeholders

to achieve our common goals

and make a positive impact

on the lives of our citizens," he

### Goa Govt mulls hike in fine up to `1 crore for illegal hill-cutting: Min

The Goa government did I not grant permission to state in the last six months and it plans to amend regulations to raise up to Rs 1 crore the amount of fine for illegal hill cutting and other such activities, a minister has

Town and Country Planning (TCP) Minister Vishwajit Rane issued the statement on Monday amid apprehensions that his department was allowing rampant cutting of hills in the eco-sensitive areas like slopes. "In the last six months, no

permission was granted to anyone for hill cutting in the state," he said. The TCP Department is moving to amend regulations so that the minimum fine for any violations, such as hill cutting and other illegal activities, will range from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 1 crore, depending on the size of the plot, he said.

As directed by Chief Minister

Pramod Sawant recently in a

collector, mamlatdar and talathis must take action against such illegal activities, Rane said. The Goa government has pulled up its sleeves in the wake of devastating landslides in Kerala's Wayanad district. In the future, new guidelines will be formulated, including requirement for stabilization reports from engineers, he added.

While the TCP department has not granted any fresh permission for hill cutting, it is also the responsibility of other departments to act for prevention of illegal hill

The minister, who recently drew flak after a real estate giant constructed buildings on a slope of a hill in Reis Magos village near Panaji, claimed that permission for that was not granted by him.
"Regarding the case of Reis Magos, the project's conversion 'sanad' was obtained in 1994 and the change of zone was done in Regional Plan 2001.

### Court convicts man for outraging woman's modesty by winking at her

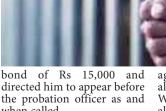
Acourt here has convicted a 22-year-old man for outraging the modesty of a woman by winking at her and holding her hand but refused to impose any sentence on him considering his age and the fact that he has no criminal antecedents.

Magistrate Aarti Kulkarni observed that while the offence committed by the accused, Mohammed Kaif Fakir, deserves a sentence not less than life imprisonment, considering his age and the fact that he has no criminal antecedents, he should be given the benefit of

probation. The order was passed on August 22.

The court said it couldn't ignore the mental agony and harassment the woman underwent, but imposing a sentence on the accused would affect his future and his image in society.

The court convicted Fakir under section 354 (outraging the modesty of a woman) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The court ordered that Fakir be released after furnishing a



directed him to appear before the probation officer as and when called. As per the complaint lodged

at Byculla police station in south Mumbai in April 2022, the woman had ordered groceries from a local shop, and the accused, who worked at the establishment, came to her house to deliver the same. The accused asked the woman for a glass of water, and when she was handing it over, he allegedly touched her hand inappropriately and winked at her.

He touched her hand the second time while handing over the bag of groceries and

again winked at her, she

alleged. When the woman raised an

alarm, the accused ran away. The woman then told her husband about the incident, and they lodged a police complaint. The accused claimed that he

hand by mistake and had no intention to outrage her modesty. The court held that although

had touched the woman's

only the victim and the accused were present at the time of the incident, the evidence and the woman's statement were strong enough to prove the accused's www.dailypioneer.com

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

### **Step in the right direction**

Modi Govt launches assured pension scheme for Central Govt Employees, amid concerns of financial implications

he Modi Government has announced the fixed pension scheme for the central government employees. This must be music to the ears of central employees who were not happy with the ongoing market-linked pension scheme and were demanding its scrapping, In a significant policy shift, the Indian government has approved a new pension scheme guaranteeing central government employees 50% of their base salary as a pension. This move marks a departure from the current National Pension Scheme (NPS), which links payouts to market returns. The newly introduced Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) is set to be implemented from April 1, 2025, and will impact over two million federal employees. The shift towards the UPS stems from growing dissatisfaction with the NPS, which was adopted in 2004 as part of a broader fiscal reform. Under the NPS, employees contribute 10% of their base salary, and the government adds 14%, with the eventual pension amount depending on the market returns from invest-



ments, primarily in federal debt. However, as some states began reverting to the older, more fiscally burdensome system of guaranteed pensions, the Modi government faced mounting pressure to reassess the

The decision to approve the UPS aligns with demands from trade unions and the Opposition parties, who have long advocated for a guaranteed minimum pension. The issue gained political traction during recent general elections, where the lack of pension security under the NPS became a contentious topic. The UPS guarantees that employees who have completed at least 25 years of service will receive 50% of their base salary,

calculated over the last 12 months before retirement, as a pension. This assured payout provides a safety for retirees, addressing concerns about the volatility of marketlinked pensions. While the UPS offers greater security for employees, it also imposes a significant financial burden on the government. The expected cost to the exchequer for the fiscal year 2024-25 is approximately Rs 62.5 billion. This annual expenditure is likely to fluctuate based on the number of employees retiring each year. However, the shift to the UPS raises several concerns. First, the financial sustainability of the scheme is a critical issue. The guaranteed nature of the pension could strain government finances, especially if economic growth slows or tax revenues decline. Additionally, the UPS may lead to disparities between central and state government employees. Moreover, there is a risk that the shift back to a defined benefit pension system could set a precedent for other sectors, potentially leading to broader demands for similar guarantees. This could exacerbate fiscal challenges, particularly in a country where social welfare spending is already under pressure. As India prepares to implement the UPS in 2025, careful management and ongoing evaluation will be essential to ensure that the benefits of the scheme are balanced against its fiscal impact.



painter gives final touches to the Goddess Durga's idol ahead of Durga pooja, in Kolkata

## A new standard for global populism



Kamala prioritises the everyday citizen over corporate interests and her message is getting traction not only in the US but across the globe

he global economic landscape could shift dramatically if the US Democratic Party's presidential nominee. Kamala Harris, succeeds in implementing her bold stance on prices and corporate control. This move could send shockwaves across the world, compelling nations like India to reconsider their current economic models—just as they did during the liberalization era when corporate power surged. It appears the tide is turning, as people worldwide demand freedom from the manipulative tactics that drive up prices. Harris's message is clear: Americans can no longer tolerate skyrocketing costs. Her aggressive, populist economic agenda aims to rein in corporate power and lower the cost of living, potentially setting a new standard for global economic policies.

A 74-year-old Indian blogger after a lavish Indian corporate marriage in July blurted out on Xtwitter, "In my 74 years, I have not seen, or even heard of, a more tasteless, egotistical or pretentious wedding than the recent, 24X7 televised extravaganza.

The perversity and its real portent lie elsewhere."It lies in the way money was expended, at a time when the average Indian has never been worse off economically, when inequality and unemployment have reached record heights, when 67 percent of the GST is paid by 50 percent of its poorest citizens, when the top 1 percent control 40 percent of the country's wealth, when 800 million people have to be provided free/ subsidized foodgrains to sur-

Not much different is the weekend speech of Harris. She says, 'We know that many Americans don't yet feel that progress in their lives. Costs are still too high and it feels too hard to get ahead."

No wonder Republican nominee Donald Trump calls her too liberal.It seems so similar to the echoes of severe price rises and joblessness during the June Lok Sabha elections in India amid rows of mutton, muslim, mandir and mujra, mehngai and berojgari. Yes, Indians and Americans need food, a minimum quality of

life and freedom from organised oppression.Indians are certainly more concerned because with whatever rank in the world economy, it is nowhere near the US.

If the American economy is

not in good shape, Indians can at best be convalescing, post-COVID-19. But the stranglehold of the honchos in India is more gripping than in the US, which has strong anti-trust laws despite the protests from the big. Indian policies suit the big shops more with quite a few trillions being waved off in taxes and other benefits, including tailoring national and stock market policies. Harris instead, despite being the Vice President of the USA, empathising with the American people, says, "The bills add up. Food, rent, gas, back-to-school clothes, prescription medication. After that, for many families, there's not much left at the end of the month. As president, I will take on the high costs that matter most to most Americans."

Those words any Indian voter would love to hear from their leaders. It follows a dozen proposals for improving the lives of Americans. Some like 3 million new housing units to the people seemingly have been picked up from Indian olitical party manifestos. Like India's PM Avas, she proposes to provide up to \$25,000 in down payment support for a million first-time home buy-



**AMERICANS** CAN NO LONGER **TOLERATE SKYROCKETING** COSTS. HER AGGRESSIVE, **POPULIST ECONOMIC AGENDA AIMS** TO REIN IN **CORPORATE POWER AND** LOWER THE COST OF LIVING, **POTENTIALLY** 

**STANDARD** 

**ECONOMIC** 

**POLICIES** 

FOR GLOBAL

An addition is tax incentives for builders, who build affordable rental housing. It could be a welcome scenario for most Indians. As now being debated in India on capital gains tax indexation or also rentals, Harris is keen on preventing corporate landlords from using algorithmic price-setting tools to increase rents by large margins. It is gradually becoming a problem in areas in the national capital regions of Noida, Gurgaon, Delhi's Dwarka, Bengaluru, and Chennai. India has just started feeling it. Medical costs and health insurance fraud are the worst in the US. Many Indian companies now have emulat-

Medical expenses are increasing in India and the US.

Both countries are discussing it intensely and often end up saying the United Kingdom has the best medical facilities. Harris promises to eliminate medical debt for millions of Americans, possibly by using federal funds to buy and forgive outstanding debt from health providers. She wants to limit Americans' annual outof-pocket spending on pre-SETTING A NEW scription drugs to \$2,000.
Thousands of kilometres apart the conditions are so similar! The one difference is that India wants to repeat the US insurance follies and they are trying to change it. Though in some cases like PM

JanAushadhi, India is doing better in providing generic medicines at low prices. Harris does not have that option and says would cap the out-ofpocket cost of insulin at \$35 per month for all.As direct benefit pensions are given to kisans in India, Harris would give a child tax credit that would provide \$6,000 per child to families for the first year of a baby's life.

Indian budgetary novelties introduced as direct benefits or pensions in various ways have fascinated Harris. Each of Harris's proposals, whether in terms of food, medicine, housing or child care is "populist", involving government intervention against corporate interests on behalf of con-

Socialism, direct or indirect, despite big companies ruling the roost, is returning to world politics. What Harris does may just create a flutter, but countries like India, who claim to be the next global leaders, have to trudge more cautiously to safeguard the poor, farmers and the working class. Harris has borrowed quite a few of it from the Indian budget. Now it is India's turn to ensure how it could check the corporates to serve people's interests. The world is changing and India's populism is winning big one's heart.

writer and columnist; views are personal)

(The author is a freelance

### The risk of monetising public education



Commercialisation of these institutions undermines their core mission which is to provide inclusive, affordable high-quality education to all

JNU , Prof. C Santhishree D Pandit recently remarked that the country's top university is facing a financial crunch with little regular income generated from its resources. The VC has decided to repurpose the university's properties with private participation. This culture of looking at public academic institutions as a source of revenue has been rhyming among our policymakers during the past several years.

One reason is the huge prime land area holding maintained by the public sector institutions and another is the change in the shift in societal perception. Today's society evaluates everything based on money. The primary objective of public sector academic institutions is to offer an inclusive and excellent education to all sections of the population. Central to these institutions is the concept of education as a public good a valuable asset that has advantages for society as a whole, rather than solely for individuals. Education, in this view, is not simply a product that can be purchased and



process that moulds individuals into knowledgeable, reflective members of society who are capable of making meaningful contributions to the collective welfare.

Their value should be assessed based on the number of enlightened minds generated by these institutions. As we can see it's these enlightened minds who are driving the wheel of the government machinery, and the nation's progress. Public sector academic institutions have been under growing pressure in recent decades to implement business-oriented strategies, which include prioritising income creation. The transition has been prompted by several circumstances, such as decreases in government financing, increasing operational expenses, and the expanding

impact of market ideology in public policy. Consequently, numerous public universities and colleges have resorted to alternate sources of income, such as raising tuition fees, extending online programs, providing executive education courses, renting out spaces and forming alliances with private indus-

Private parties, if allowed to rent out spaces, should work closely with the academic and research community of the university. It should also help in imparting knowledge and transformation to students.In many NITs, the guest house rate has been increased tenfold, as mandated by the policymakers.

Unfortunately, people who visit these institutions including academicians and parents of students have to pay more than what is the market rate in that area. Although these initiatives can offer significant financial support, they also pose a potential threat of altering the core purpose of public sector institutions. It can be detrimental to maintaining high academic standards and fostering a wide range of intellectual perspecAdditionally, it can generate pressures to give higher priority to programs and research areas that provide greater profits, perhaps overlooking subjects that are less financially rewarding but equally crucial for societal progress. It is vital to provide students with a well-rounded education that encourages critical thinking and broadbased knowledge.

Public sector academic institutions hold a distinct and crucial role in maintaining the social fabric of the nation. Their objective is not to earn financial gain but rather to generate enlightened minds capable of critical thinking, and contribute to the development of the nation.

The great minds working in every field, including the bureaucrats and political leaders are groomed by these public sector institutions. For this to continue, we should not put a price tag on every facility a public sector university offers to the student or society at large.

(The writer is an adjunct faculty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies; views are personal)

#### **CELEBRATING KRISHNA'S BIRTH**

Madam — Krishna Janmashtami, the birthday of Lord Krishna, is a joyous celebration that embodies the triumph of love and divine joy over evil and negativity. This auspicious occasion marks the arrival of Krishna, the eighth avatar of Lord Vishnu, who brought hope and redemption to a world plagued by darkness and despair.

As devotees around the world honor Krishna's birth, they are reminded of his profound teachings in the Bhagavad Gita, which emphasize the importance of spiritual growth, self-realization, and the eternal victory of good over evil. Through vibrant festivities, soulful bhajans, and heartfelt pujas, Krishna Janmashtami celebrates the unconditional love and divine joy that Krishna embodies, inspiring devotees to embrace their own spiritual journey and revel in the bliss of the divine.

Purva Pandya | Ujjain

#### STALIN'S NEW MOVE

Madam — As against the Sanatana Dharma before the Lok Sabha elections, the DMK has changed its stand now by a mix in the Dravidian model by supporting the individual's faith of choice and wanting to help them in their religious pursuits. By inaugurating the two day Global Muthamizhil Murugan Conference, the Chief Minister of TN M K Stalin is bringing in a new colour other than black and red as he's well aware that this will help him in the forthcoming assembly elections to woo the votes of the Hindus by using the Murugan card to play to DMK's advantage. We welcome this change and are happy if something good for the people happens from the leadership of M K Stalin whom I respect for his flexibility of principle if he finds something worth it. One hopes Stalin's new found alliance with the Lord Murugan may bestow the blessings for the people for

the prosperity of the state. A P Thiruvadi | Chnnai

### Unified pension scheme launched



This refers to the news report, "Unprecedent Unified Pension Scheme by Modi Government" (August 25). Though driven by the huge political pressure after jolts in recently held Lok Sabha polls, the NDA Government's decision to roll out a new guaranteed Unified Pension Scheme for its employees is a step in right direction. In fact, pension is a social welfare measure which is granted to ensure that a retired employee lives with dignity in his

old age. Reversing its 21 year old pension reforms partially, the Government has introduced OPS features like assured pensions, inflation-linked

adjustments, family pensions, and a guaranteed minimum pension in the UPS. Employees are still required to contribute 10% of their basic pay and dearness allowance to UPS remains

only major difference between the OPS and the UPS. The government will also contribute to the UPS, which will increase from 14% (currently contributed to NPS) to 18.5%. Thus, the UPS will lead to higher burden on the exchequer. Thus, it remains to be seen whether state governments adopt the UPS, which certainly would not augur well for their financial health.

Manoj Parashar | Ghaziabad

#### PM MODI BROKERS PEACE

Madam — Modi's visit to Kyiv will strengthen India-Ukraine bilateral relationship.Like with Russia in March 24 Modi is likely to have had the message of peace with Zelenskyy about ending the war and restoring peace. The catch is both Russia and Ukraine are not keen in fighting any further but both wanting to end the war on their own terms. Kyiv does not want to compromise on it's sovereignty and territorial integrity which could lead to an instability and and even a revolution in

Kyiv wants to retrieve all the Ukrainian territory occupied by Russia something that Russia is unwilling to do. The US and NATO have rejected Russia's demand to end the war. Under this situation it is extremely unlikely that a peace can be brokered by PM Modi as an one off attempt. Unlike other leaders of the world PM Modi enjoys a special relationship with Putin who in his words has called Modi as his best friend.India also in none of the resolu-

tions passed by the UN has gone against Moscow. While on the same lines has been maintaining good equation with Zelenskyy (post his ire after having a hug with Putin in March 24) through telephone calls and the sidelines meetings in summits. With Modi's Aug 23 personal visit and signing of the trade agreements and India's commitment to be on the side of the PEACE and just a not a neutral country one can expect PM Modi will make attempts for a peace talk between the two warring leaders.Besides, PM Modi's initiative also takes care of the growing Chinese influence in the region and places India at par with it if not above, India must be more proactive in the region to safeguard its own interests. With US already started feeling the heat of recession and a leadership change in the offing one can see the light at the end of the tunnel!

Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

### **FIRST COLUMN**

### LIVE IN THE PRESENT MOMENT, IT MATTERS MOST

One needs to inculcate habits of equanimity, and remaining calm, whatever the circumstance



RAVI VALLURI

•he romance was in the air as India attained freedom from the British yoke. The period was the 1950s as India embarked upon the socialistic pattern to revive the country, which had inherited an impecunious economy. Two bright students from coastal Andhra landed in rain-washed Delhi University to pursue their dreams. To remain connected with their past, they made recurrent trips to the New Delhi Railway Station to receive students arriving in droves from their state and revive those nostalgic moments. When it is repetitively said, "Those good old days!", in one stroke we send a signal to our Universe that the present is not congenial. As Buddha says, "The mind is everything. What you think you become." If we live in the past, we keep fretting and fuming about the missed opportunities and those past impressions create roadblocks in our physical and metaphysical advance-

On completion of their studies, the more aspiring students stayed back and the less enterprising ones returned home. The person in Delhi aspired to be a civil servant like his more illustrious siblings and their children. But destiny had carved out its plan. His friends and acquaintances qualified for the coveted job, a sinecure that eluded him. So, the mind became envious of his siblings, their children and friends and started implanting his failed mission upon his children, much to their discomfiture. How does one reach that state of 'present moment'? Before dwelling on some techniques, it will be useful to read a fas-



cinating Buddhist parable. One afternoon a Buddhist monk was carrying a bucket filled with water in a dense forest. Suddenly he heard a rustle. It was a tiger, smacking its lips and intently looking at the potential prey. The monk ran for his life, with the tiger in pursuit. The monk reached a precipice and had a choice to make, either be devoured by the ferocious tiger or jump off the cliff. Death stared in his face. The monk jumped and fortuitously clung onto a branch of a strawberry tree. He ate the strawberry—considering it to be his last meal and thoroughly relished it. The monk had never had such a meal, as was absolutely in the present moment. A simple yet profound technique of sadhana is to be a witness to all the actions and activities that take place. The actor in us becomes the spectator too. This is what is espoused in the esoteric philosophy of Ashtavakra Gita (a classic dialogue between King Janaka—who himself was a Raj Rishi and the sage Ashtavakra).

Any individual, householder or seeker needs to inculcate habits of equanimity, equilibrium, and equipoise to remain calm, whatever the circumstance or situation, to be contented and remain in the present moment. The protagonist who stayed back in Delhi could fulfil his dreams only partially. His son did qualify for the civil services, but could not join the service of his choice; this was due to excessive pressure applied by family members already in theelite services. Eventually, the son turned into an alcoholic. Perhaps it was because both father and son were not grateful to the Universe and did not adhere to the Law of Gratefulness.

Thus, lives were ruined. Meanwhile, the friend who returned home did not lose his way in the sands of time. He became a trade union leader and politician, living in the present. "Life is one big road with lots of signs. So, when you are riding through the ruts, do not complicate your mind. Flee from hate, mischief, and jealousy," sang Bob

(The writer is a faculty at Art of Living, views expressed are

## Catalyst for cinematic evolution and excellence CHAITANYA K PRASAD

The 70th National Film Awards once again celebrated the rich tapestry of Indian cinema, where diverse languages and cultures converged to showcase the best talent

he National Film Awards: A Platform for The Great Leap ForwardAt the 70th National Film Awards, India's cinematic excellence once again took centre stage, showcasing vibrant and diverse storytelling from across the nation's many languages. Southern cinema emerged as a dominant force this year, with films and artists from the region sweeping some of the most prestigious honours. The Malayalam film 'Aattam' captured the Swarna Kamal for Best Feature Film, while the Kannada blockbuster 'Kantara' clinched the title of Best Popular Film.

Rishab Shetty, the driving force behind Kantara, took home the Best Actor award, sharing the limelight with Nithya Menon and Manasi Parekh, who shared Best Actresses for the Tamil film Thiruchitrambalam' and Gujarati film 'Kutch Express' respectively. Meanwhile, the Haryanvi film 'Fouja' gathered acclaim, earning Pramod Kumar the award for Best Debut Director, while Pavan Raj Malhotra secured Best Pavan Raj Malhotra secured Best Supporting Actor. The epic Tamil drama 'Ponniyin Selvan: I've also made its mark, with AR Rahman's power-packed music earning him the Best Music Director (Background Music) award, alongside wins for Best Sound Design by Anand Krishnamoorthi and Best Cinematography by Ravi Varman. In the Hindi cinema category, 'Gulmohar' Hindi cinema category, 'Gulmohar' emerged as the Best Hindi Film, adding another feather to Sharmila Tagore's illustrious cap with her third National Film Award.

This year's awards not only celebrated individual excellence but also highlighted the ever-evolving and dynamic landscape of Indian cinema. The lifeline and longevity of any artist and any film is fuelled by the adrenaline of 4A's "Acknowledgment, Awards, Appreciation, and Applause". Globally, awards are given for excellence in the celluloid space which has opened a new phase of creativity, innovation perspective perspective-building through storytelling and film narration. Since its inception in 1954, the National Films Awards for Excellence in Cinema have symbolised the journey of excellence and creativity. The awards have offered an equal platform to cinemas of various languages, cultures, diversities, themes, and perspectives, where all the creative energies of India converge to speak the unified language of artistic excellence. These awards in the last seventy-odd years have showcased the gold standard of filmmaking across different verticals reinventing and shaping the diverse landscape of cinema in this country. Each edition of the National Film Awards

has strengthened inclusivity and converged the diversity of celluloid space seamlessly. The National Film Awards are unique in terms of their magnitude, canvas, and spectrum. Every award ceremony has been an opportunity to witness the emergence of different forms and categories of cinema that reflect continuity and legacy. The landscape of the National Film Awards is deep and insightful, promoting diversity, storytelling, and nar-

It has truly elevated parallel, regional, and experimental cinema; voiced social concerns; and embraced and adapted to contemporary standards, content, and style



THIS YEAR'S **AWARDS NOT ONLY** CELEBRATED **INDIVIDUAL** EXCELLENCE **BUT ALSO** HIGHLIGHTED THE EVER-**EVOLVING** AND DYNAMIC

CINEMA

of presentation. Over the years, Indian cinema has witnessed a remarkable evolution, with regional films gaining recognition for their artistic brilliance. It all began in 1954, as the film "Mirza Ghalib" made history as the first recipient of the Best Feature Film

This milestone paved the way for a treasure trove of cinematic gems from various regions. Bengali cinema, in particular, has been a shining beacon, with timeless classics like Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali", "Apur Sansar", and "Charulata" earning the prestigious Swarna Kamal. The legendary Soumitra Chatterjee a revered Bengali actor has been lauded for his performances in classics like "Apur Sansar" and "Charulata," earning him National Film Awards for his works. The spotlight has also turned to

Southern cinema, which has produced its own set of trailblazers. In 1965, the Malayalam master-piece "Chemmeen" captivated audiences and critics alike, winning the Best Feature Film award. LANDSCAPE ful statement with "Chomana Dudi" in 1976, sweeping the Kannada cinema made a power-National Awards for Best Feature Film, Best Actor, and Best Story. Tamil cinema joined this illustrious list in 1990 when Marrupakkam became the first Tamil film to clinch the Best Feature Film award.

The northeastern region of India has also produced its share of winners at the National Film Awards, bringing regional tales to the national stage. "Halodhia Chorai Baodhan Khai", the first Assamese film to win the Swarna Kamal for the Best Feature Film in 1987. Rima Das, a director has been recognized for her movies "Village Rockstars" and "Bulbul Can Sing," which capture the essence of life in Assam by portraying simplicity and resilience. At the 60th National Film Awards, Jahnu Barua's Assamese film "Baandhon" won at the 52nd and the 62nd

egory while "Ko; Yad", a Missing film won the Best Feature Film in the non-Eighth Schedule lan-guage category. At the 62nd National Film Awards the movie "Phum Shang", from Manipur was honoured with the Best Investigative Film award show-casing the contributions of filmmakers from North East India. Such examples also prove that the National Film Awards serve as a crucible for bringing together a convergence of ideas, creativity, and talent. They offer hope that creativity knows no barriers in India, allowing unknown filmmakers and names to become stars. One of the most coveted awards of the National Film Awards is the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, India's highest award in the field of cinema honouring the artists' lifetime achievement. Named after Shri Dadasaheb Phalke, the visionary often hailed as the father of Indian cinema, this award is a tribute to those whose contributions have indelibly shaped the landscape of

the Best Feature Film in the cat-

Indian filmmaking. This award was introduced in 1969 and was presented to Devika Rani. Since then this distinguished honour has been awarded to Waheeda Rehman, Satyajit Ray, B.N. Reddy, L.V. Prasad, Bhupen Hazarika, Sivaji Ganesan, B.R. Chopra, Soumitra Chatterjee, Lata Mangeshkar, Raj Kapoor, Shyam Benegal, Amitabh Bachchan and Rajnikant are some of the renowned names who have been recognized for their lasting impact and their outstanding contribution to cinema. The National Film Awards also spotlight the significance of non-feature films by inspiring emerg-ing directors to experiment and push boundaries.

This platform has nurtured talent, with acclaimed works like "Ek Tha Gaon" and "An engineered Dream", the Marathi film "Girni" and the Bengali film "Aamaar Katha: Story of Binodini" winners

National Film Awards. These awards bring attention to themes and innovative storytelling approaches demonstrating that Indian cinema thrives on creativity and embraces diversity beyond commercial considerations. The non-feature segment of awards over the years has acted as a catalyst for young film-makers who have unleashed their creativity across diverse subjects and narratives. This segment has showcased a unique simplicity, aesthetics and deep understanding of filmmaking and creativity. The recent changes to the regulations for the 70th National Film Awards demonstrate an evident wave of evolution. Changes like renaming awards and merging categories reflect an approach to acknowledging excellence in filmmaking.

The National Film Awards of

India have witnessed several historic moments that have not only enhanced the country's cinematic excellence but also served as a stepping stone to celluloid success and international acclaim. One such landmark was the recognition of Satyajit Ray's "Pather Panchali" in 1956, which won the Best Feature Film award and subsequently brought Indian cinema to global attention. Another significant milestone was Aamir Khan's "Lagaan" in 2001, which not only won the National Film Award for Best Popular Film Entertainment but also earned an Academy Award nomination for Best Foreign Language Film. The National Film Awards have played an instrumental role in shaping the course of Indian cinema. By celebrating a variety of perspectives and pushing boundaries the awards not only recognize exceptional achievements but also inspire upcoming film-makers and artists. (The writer is former additional

DG, DFF and Festival Director, IFFI; views are personal.Inputs provided by Zoya Ahmad and Vaishnavi Srinivasan)

### How personalised and adaptive technologies are shaping the future of education

The future of education is personal, adaptive, and brimming with possibilities for individual success. It's time to embrace this change

he education system is witnessing a revolupromises to reshape how we learn, grow, and succeed. At the core of this transformation lies advanced personalized and adaptive learning a groundbreaking approach set to redefine the educa-

tional landscape. With the global adaptive learning market projected to reach \$5.3 billion by 2025 and the personalized learning market expected to soar to \$19.86 billion by 2030, it's clear that these technologies are more than just a passing

#### Unpacking Personalized and Adaptive Learning

Personalized learning crafts educational experiences that resonate with each student's



unique needs, skills, and interests. It's about creating learning journeys that allow individuals to flourish in their way. Adaptive learning takes this concept further, using AI to adjust content difficulty and style in real time based on student per-

formance. It's like having a high-tech tutor that ensures learning is always challenging but never overwhelming.

The Power of Data-Driven Insights: One of the most exciting aspects of these systems is their ability to har-ness data for good. Through sophisticated learning ana-lytics, educators gain unprecedented insights into each student's progress.
This foresight allows for

timely interventions, ensuring no student falls behind. Predictive analytics even allows these systems to anticipate which students might struggle, enabling proactive support measures.

Customized Learning Paths: Gone are the days of one-size-fits-all education. Advanced personalized

learning creates individual

learning plans that adapt to

each student's unique learn-

ing style.

Whether you're a visual learner who thrives on interactive simulations or prefer diving deep into text-based explanations, these systems have you covered. The flex-ibility extends to pacing as well, allowing students to linger on challenging con-cepts or race ahead in areas they excel.

Engagement, the Secret Sauce of Success: Engagement is crucial for effective learning, and these technologies serve it up in

Interactive content, gamification elements, and multimedia experiences make learning feel less like a chore and more like an adventure. By catering to diverse learning preferences, these systems ensure that every stu-



dent finds their groove and tial to promote equity in education.

stays motivated. Levelling the Playing Field: Perhaps one of the most profound impacts of these technologies is their poten-

Assistive features embedded within these systems support students with disabilities, offering tools like

text-to-speech and customized interfaces. This push for inclusivity ensures that quality, personalized education is accessible to all, regardless of individual chal-

Benefits Challenges Ahead: The benefits of advanced personalized and adaptive learning are clear and compelling. Studies consistently show improved learning outcomes, increased student engagement, and the poten-tial to bridge achievement

gaps. However, it's important to acknowledge the challenges that come with this educational revolution. Privacy concerns surrounding student data and the persistent digital divide are hurdles

that must be addressed thoughtfully.Embracing the Future of EducationThe educational landscape is evolving rapidly, propelled by the transformative potential of advanced personalized and

adaptive learning.
By embracing these technologies thoughtfully and addressing the challenges head-on, we can create an educational landscape where every student has the opportunity to thrive, learn, and reach their full potential. The future of education is personal, adaptive, and brimming with possibilities for individual success. It's time to embrace this change and unlock the potential of every learner.

(The author is director, ODA Class; views are personal)

the pioneer

### Khamenei open to America over nuclear talks

ran's supreme leader opened ■ the door Tuesday to renewed negotiations with the United States over his country's rapidly advancing nuclear program, telling its civilian government there was "no barrier" to engaging with its "enemy." Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's remarks set clear red lines for any talks taking place under the government of reformist President Masoud Pezeshkian and renewed his warnings that Washington wasn't to be trusted.

But his comments mirror those around the time of Iran's 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, which saw Tehran's nuclear program greatly curtailed in exchange for the lifting of economic sanctions. Yet it remains unclear just how much room Pezeshkian will have to maneuver, particularly as tensions remain high in the wider Middle East over the Israel-Hamas war and as the US prepares for a presidential election

"We do not have to pin our hope to the enemy. For our plans, we should not wait for approval by the enemies," Khamenei said in a video broadcast by state television. "It is not contradictory to engage the same enemy in some places, there's no barrier." Khamenei, who has final say on all state matters, also warned Pezeshkian's Cabinet, "Do not

Khamenei, 85, has occasionally urged talks or dismissed them with Washington after then President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew the United States from the deal in 2018. There have been indirect talks between Iran and the US in recent years mediated by Oman and Qatar, two of the United States' Middle East interlocutors when it comes to Iran. Khamenei's remarks came a day after Qatar's prime minister visited the country.

Asked for comment, the US State Department told The Associated Press: "We will judge Iran's leadership by their actions, not their words."



"We have long said that we ultimately view diplomacy as the best way to achieve an effective, sustainable solution with regard to Iran's nuclear program," it said. "However, we are far away from anything like that right now given Iran's escalations across the board, including its nuclear escalations and its fail-ure to cooperate" with the International Atomic Energy Agency, the United Nations nuclear watchdog."If Iran wants to demonstrate seriousness or a new approach, they should stop nuclear escalations and start meaningfully cooperating with the IAEA," it said. Since the deal's collapse, Iran has abandoned all limits that the deal put on its program, and enriches uranium to up to 60 per cent purity — near weapons-grade levels of 90 per cent. Surveillance cameras installed by the IAEA have been disrupted, while Iran has barred some of the Vienna-based agency's most experienced inspectors. Iranian officials also have increasingly threatened that they could pursue atomic weapons. Meanwhile, tensions between Iran and Israel have hit a new high during the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. Tehran launched an unprecedented drone-and-missile attack on Israel in April after years of a shadow war between the two countries reached a climax with Israel's apparent attack on an Iranian consular building in Syria that killed two Iranian generals and others.

## 'US, China aim to avoid conflict in Beijing talks'

 $T^{\text{he United States and China}}_{\text{are working to ensure the}}$ does not veer into conflict, a top White House official said Tuesday as the two sides started talks on a relationship that has been severely tested during President Joe Biden's term

Jake Sullivan, the US national security adviser, is meeting over two days with Wang Yi, a senior foreign policy official for Chinese leader Xi Jinping, in a scenic lake area on the northern outskirts of Beijing. "President Biden has been very clear in his conversations with President Xi that he is

important relationship responsibly," Sullivan said in brief remarks to media before the talks began.

The goal of his visit, which lasts through Thursday, is limited — to try to maintain communication in a relationship that broke down for the better part of a year in 2022-23 and was only nursed back over several months. No major announcements are expected, though Sullivan's meetings could lay the groundwork for a possible final summit with Chinese leader Xi Jinping before Biden steps down in January. Wang, the director of the Communist Party's Central Foreign Affairs Commission

US relationship has gone through twists and turns in

The key," he said, "is to keep to the overall direction of mutual respect, peaceful co-existence, and and win-win cooperation."

According to Da Wei, a US and international relations expert at Tsinghua University in Beijing, it's important for the two countries to avoid any crisis in the remaining months of the Biden administration, as it could set the tone for US-China ties under the next one, The goal of this visit is not reaching new breakthroughs or progress but to continue the stable momentum of China-

through strategic communication, and to avoid new crises in the next few months," he said. The Biden administration has taken a tough line on China, viewing it as a strategic competitor, restricting the access of its companies to advanced technology and confronting the rising power as it seeks to exert influence over Taiwan and the South China Sea. Already frosty relations went into a deep freeze after then-Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi, a senior US lawmaker, visited Taiwan in August 2022. Hopes of restoring ties were dashed the following February when a sus-pected Chinese spy balloon

being shot down by the US military. Sullivan has been Biden's point person for often unannounced talks with Wang, who is the foreign minister as well as the ruling Communist Party's top foreign policy official. Wang had initially stepped down as foreign minister when he took the party post, a more senior position, but he returned about seven months later, in July 2023, after his successor was removed for reasons that have not been made public. At a meeting between Sullivan and Wang in Vienna in May 2023, the two countries launched a delicate process of putting relations back on track. Since

and Thailand. This week will mark their first talks in Beijing.China's Foreign Ministry said this week that relations with the US remain at "a critical juncture." It noted that the two sides are talking on climate and other issues, but it accused the US of continuing to constrain and suppress China. Canada announced on Monday that it will match America's 100 per cent import tariff on Chinesemade electric vehicles, after being encouraged to do so by Sullivan during a meeting with Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Cabinet

### 'Hasina's ouster watershed for student activism'

The recent student move-ment in Bangladesh, culminating in the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, marks a watershed moment in the nation's political landscape, fuelled by a 70year legacy of student activism from the 1952 Language Movement to the Liberation War and beyond.Political analysts and observers view the recent student protests, which many in Bangladesh have christened as the "Bangla Spring" — taking a cue from the Arab Spring — or the "Monsoon Revolution," as a watershed moment in Bangladesh's political landscape, driven by the same spirit of activism that has characterised student movements in the country for over 70 years, even before its independence in 1971, when it was known as East Pakistan. The latest movement, which

began in July 2024, was sparked by the Court's decision to reinstate a controversial job quota system, a move that reignited long-standing frustrations among students and the general public.

The reinstatement of the job quota system, which had been abolished in 2018 due to student protests, sparked widespread demonstrations led by students that ultimately led to the collapse of the government led by long-time prime min-

### 5 more murder cases filed against B'desh ousted PM

der cases have been filed against Bangladesh's ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina taking the total number of cases filed against the Awami League leader to 71, a media report said on Tuesday. Four of the new cases were filed in Dhaka and one in Rajshahi against the 76-year-old deposed former prime minister, several former ministers and police officials, The Daily Star newspaper reported. In the first case, Hasina and 48 others were booked for the death of one Dulal alias Selim in the city's Jatrabari area on August 3 during mass protests. The victim's brother Mostafa Kamal filed the case against the Awami League president and others with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Md Saddam

Over several weeks, the protests escalated, resulting in nearly 450 deaths and the detention of thousands, including hundreds of students. Despite harsh government crackdowns, the persistent student-led movement forced Hasina to resign after 16 years in power, marking a



ister Asaduzzaman Khan, tary Obaidul Quader, former Awami League lawmakers Shamim Osman and Ramesh Chandra are among the

The Daily Star said. In the second case, Hasina along with 21 others was booked on the charge of killing one Mansur Miah, a machine operator of Buriganga Filling Station at

Bangladesh's youth and highlighting the enduring impact of student activism in the

"The students' movement has always played a vital role in charting the course of Bangladesh's history and policies even before the Liberation War of 1971. But this time, the

July 19. In the third case, Hasina and 91 others were sued for the death of one Miraz Hossain at Sanarpar in the city's Demra area on August 5. The victim's brother Khorshed Alam filed the case with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Belal Hossain. The fourth case was filed against Hasina and 40 others for the death of 21-yearold Nahidul Islam at Mirpur-10 on July 19. The victim's brother Md Sabuj filed the case with the court of Dhaka Metropolitan Magistrate Mehedi Hasan. Quader, Asaduzzaman, Chowdhury Abdullah Al-Mamun, Hasina's sister Sheikh Rehana, son Sajeeb Wazed Joy, Harun Or Rashid and former DMP commissioner are among the

ferent and on a scale that had never been before.""The witnessed 'Monsoon Revolution,' as it is being called, marks a turning point in Bangladesh's history, driven by the same spirit of resistance that has characterised student movements for over 70 years," former Major General Muniruzzaman, the president former junior minister for Arafat was arrested a day after left-leaning Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JASOD) information and broadcasting Mohammad Ali Arafat, an

Ex-minister held

police on Tuesday arrested accused in several cases, including one filed over the killing of a student during the anti-government protests. Police said they arrested Arafat from the upmarket Gulshan area in the national capital. They were preparing to produce Arafat to a court with a petition seeking remand custody.The arrest came amid speculation that he might have left the country during or after the ouster of the Awami League regime on August 5 in a student-people mass upsurge as he was active on social media while other ministers or party leaders were unseen in the public domain.Two weeks ago, Bangladesh Bank's Financial Intelligence Unit (BFIU) ordered banks to freeze the

of the Bangladesh Institute of

Peace and Security Studies, a

He pointed out that the recipe

movements in Bangladesh lies

in the "secular nature and ide-

ology of the movement and

the mass participation of peo-

ple cutting across social, reli-

think tank, told PTI.

president Hasanul Haque Inu was detained from a relative's house in Dhaka while police sought a court order for him to be placed under a 10-day remand for questioning in a murder charge.JASOD was one of the key allies of the past government, with the Workers Party of Rashed Khan Menon being another. Menon was also arrested in a

case and was placed on a fiveday police remand by a Dhaka court. Former law minister Anisul Huq and expremier's private sector affairs adviser and business tycoon Salman F Rahman were the first who were arrested from Dhaka's main river port Sadarghat terminal area as they were allegedly trying to leave Dhaka on a boat in dis-

lines.""The students' movement, be it the 1952 Language Monsoon Revolution, would never have tasted success had they not been secular. Because if they had only catered to one community or creed, it would never have taken the shape of a mass movement," he point-

### Starmer warns of 'painful' budget ahead in speech

 $B_{\text{Starmer on Tuesday gave}}^{\text{ritish Prime Minister Keir}}$ the first indication of some tough tax measures in store in the October budget in the first keynote address of his premiership since taking charge at 10 Downing Street last month.In a planned speech at the Rose Garden before a gathering of apprentices, medics and other professionals, Starmer declared the state of the public finances was left in a much worse condition by the previous Conservative Party regime than the Labour government had expected.

He declared that his job was now to fix the foundations which would involve "shortterm pain for long-term good" and admitted that "unpopular" decisions would have to be

'There is a Budget coming in October and it is going to be painful. We have no other choice given the situation that

romisea that this government would serve people like you apprentices, teachers, nurses, small business owners, firefighters, those serving our community and our country every day," he said, with reference to the Downing Street gathering.

The keynote, timed a week before Parliament resumes after its summer recess next week, was designed to assert that "it won't be business as usual because we can't go on like this

"Things will have to be done differently. We will do the hard work to root out 14 years of rot, reverse a decade of decline and fix the foundations. Between now and Christmas, we will carry on as we started: action not words. We will introduce legislation and take decisions to protect taxpayers' money," said

Referencing the recent farright riots across different parts of the UK, the former barrister and chief prosecutor said the

ie sickness" left in the wake of the former government's "cynical conflict of populism" but also revealed that the cure was to be found in the "coming together of a country". When, after the hard work of clearing up the mess is done, we have a country that we have built together, built to last, that belongs to every single one of us... This is our country. Let's fix it - together," he noted. Addressing media queries after the speech, Starmer reiterated that the tough economic decisions ahead were down to a GBP 22 billion "black hole" left at the end of 14 years of Tories

We were being honest about the situation before the election, we set out very clearly what we would be doing with tax rises," he said, stressing that his commitment not to put up income tax, National Insurance or VAT "remains the position" and "those with the broadest shoulders should bear the heav-

### Israeli military rescues hostage abducted in October Hamas attack

Jerusalem (AP): The Israeli military said Tuesday that it has rescued one of the scores of people abducted in Hamas' October attack, which ignited the

ongoing war in Gaza. The military said Qaid Farhan Alkadi was rescued "in a complex operation in the southern Gaza Ŝtrip." It did not provide further details.

The 52-year-old is from Israel's Arab Bedouin minority and was working as a guard at a packing factory in Kibbutz Magen, one of several farming communities that were attacked on October 7. He has two wives and is the father of 11 children. Israel's Channel 12 showed Alkadi's family members sprinting through the hospital where he was brought after they

received the news. Hamas-led militants abducted some 250 people in the October 7 attack, in which some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, were

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 40,000 Palestinians, according to local health officials, who do not say how many were fighters. It has displaced 90 per cent of Gaza's 2.3 million people from their homes and caused heavy destruction across

the besieged territory. Hamas is still holding around 110 hostages, about a third of whom are believed to be dead. Most of the rest were released in exchange for Palestinians imprisoned by Israel during a cease-fire last November.

Israel has rescued a total of eight hostages, including in two operations that killed scores of Palestinians. Hamas says several hostages have been killed in Israeli airstrikes and failed rescue attempts.

The United States, Egypt and Qatar have spent months trying to negotiate an agreement in which the remaining hostages would be freed in exchange for a lasting cease-fire.

#### French judge extends police custody for Telegram CEO

Paris (AP): A French investigative judge extended police custody for the CEO of the popular messaging app Telegram, Pavel Durov, prosecutors said on Tuesday. Durov was detained Saturday at Le Bourget airport as part of a judicial inquiry opened last month involving 12 alleged criminal violations. They include complicity in selling child sexual abuse material and in drug trafficking, fraud, abetting organized crime transactions and refusing to share information or documents with investigators when required by law. A statement from the Paris prosecutor's office said Durov's police custody order was extended on Monday evening for up to 48 hours. After that, authorities must release or charge him, the prosecutor's office said in an earlier statement. Durov is a citizen of Russia, France, the United Arab Emirates and the Caribbean island nation of St

# Turkish-backed authorities

Turkish-backed authorities, his wife and rights groups said Tuesday. Journalists and activists called Bakr Qassim's arrest part of an ongoing crackdown on them. Local authorities did not immediately comment.Qassim, who has reported and taken photos for French news agency Agence France-Presse and Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency, was arrested Monday afternoon in al-Bab city in northern Aleppo province as he and his wife finished work. Britain-based opposition monitor The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said he was

dragged and beaten while asking the reason for his arrest. It said he was presented with "a number of charges, including preparing press reports for several parties. His wife, Nabiha Taha, and the

opposition monitor said he was held by Turkish-backed authorities in Hawar Kilis village along the border with

US judge pauses Biden's plan

arrest Syrian journalist

Idlib(AP): A local journalist in rebel-held northwestern Syria

Local military police held Taha released following from journalists and residents, she said in a video. Taha said Qassim was taken to another

location and his current circumstances were unknown. We call on the local authorities in northern Syria to immediately release our correspondent Bakr Qassim and allow him to resume his work freely," AFP editor-in-chief Sophie

Huet said in a statement. Journalists and activists in northwestern Syria said they would stage a protest later Tuesday calling for the release of Qassim and other journalists and activists they say are arbitrarily detained. They also call for the release of activist Karam Kellieh, who was arrested two months ago and whose whereabouts remain unknown.

Northwestern Syria is the last rebel bastion in the war-torn country. Idlib province is under al-Qaida-linked Hayat Tahrir al-Sham, and northern Aleppo province is under Turkish-

### WH pressured FB over some COVID-19 content during pandemic: Zuckerberg

Mark Zuckerberg says senior Biden administration officials pressured Facebook to "censor" some COVID-19 content during the pandemic and vowed that the social media giant would push back if it faced such demands again.

In a letter to Rep Jim Jordan, the Republican chair of the House Judiciary Committee, Zuckerberg alleges that the officials, including those from the White House, "repeatedly pressured" Facebook for months to take down "certain COVID-19 content including humor and satire." The officials expressed a lot of frustration" when the company didn't agree, he said in the letter. "I believe the government pressure was wrong and I regret that we were not more outspo-



ken about it," Zuckerberg wrote in the letter dated August 26 and posted on the committee's Facebook page and to its account on X

The letter is the latest repudiation by Zuckerberg of efforts to target misinformation around the coronavirus pandemic during and after the 2020 presidential election, particularly as allegations have emerged that some posts were deleted or restricted wrongly. also think we made some choices that, with the benefit of hindsight and new information, we wouldn't make today," he said, without elaborating. "We're ready to push back if something like this happens

In response, the White House said in a statement that, "When confronted with a deadly pandemic, this Administration encouraged responsible actions to protect public health and safety. Our position has been clear and consistent: we believe tech companies and other private actors should take into account the effects their actions have on the American people, while making indepen-

dent choices about the infor-

warn this year's US election could be swamped by misinformation on social media with the proliferation of artificial intelligence and other tools to produce false news stories and content that could mislead voters. Facebook in early 2021 appended what Zuckerberg called labels with "credible information" to posts about COVID-19 vaccines. That's after it moved in April 2020 — just as the virus had led to global shutdowns and radical changes in everyday life - to warn users who shared misinformation

Conservatives have long derided Facebook and other major tech companies as favoring liberal priorities and accused them of censorship.

#### Dam collapse in Sudan kills at least 30

Cairo (AP): The collapse of the Arbaat Dam in Sudan's eastern Red Sea state over the weekend flooded nearby homes and killed at least 30 people following heavy rains, a UN agency said. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said late Monday, citing local officials, that the actual number of fatalities from the collapse on Sunday might be higher. Additionally, about 70 villages around the dam were affected by the flash flooding, including 20 villages that have been destroyed.

The Árbaat Dam, which is about 38 kilometers northwest of Port Sudan, was massively damaged because of heavy

#### on spousal legal status Houston (PTI): A Texas court has put a temporary pause on President Biden's ambitious plan to fast-track permanent residency for illegal migrants married to American citizens,

a move that could hamper the hopes of approximately half a million such spouses, including several thousands Indian-Americans. In June, President Joe Biden issued a massive immigration

relief to non-citizens offering a path to citizenship to the non-citizen spouses and children of American nationals. Biden had directed the Department of Homeland Security to take action to ensure that US citizens with non-citizen spouses and children can keep their families

This new process will help cer-

children apply for lawful permanent residence - a status that they are already eligible for - without leaving the country, the White House said.

On Monday, US District Judge J Campbell Barker issued the two-week-long administrative stay on the same day the Department of Homeland Security began accepting applications for the so-called Parole in Place programme, which would grant work authorisation, permanent residency and eventually citizenship to spouses and stepchildren of US citizens who have been in the country for at least 10 years. "The claims are substantial and warrant closer consideration than the court has been able to afford to date," Barker wrote in his nine-page

states arguing that the programme would "incentivise illegal immigration and will irreparably harm" the states, the New York Post reported. The lawsuit, filed on Friday, further contended that the Biden-Harris Administration dissatisfied with the system Congress created, and for blatant political purposes — has yet again attempted to create its own immigration system." Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, who noted in the complaint that the Lone Star State has had to pay tens of millions of dollars annually to cover the costs of illegal migrants living in Texas, called the ruling "just the first step" in what may be a lengthy

order, which followed a lawsuit

filed by 16 Republican-led

## Ukraine troops control nearly 500 sq miles of Kursk region

The chief of Ukraine's army said ON Tuesday that the ly 1,300 square kilometres (500 square miles) of Russia's Kursk region since their surprised incursion three weeks ago. Gen Oleksandr Syrskyi also

said that Ukraine has captured 594 Russian prisoners in its "The enemy drags troops from

other directions, in such way weakening them. They attempt around our offensive group of troops and plan counteroffensive actions," Syrskyi said, commenting on the situation in the Kursk region. The seized territory is roughly the size of Los

His claim, which could not be independently confirmed, came hours after Ukraine endured a second consecutive barrage of nighttime air and

missile attacks from Russia. killed and 16 injured in the attacks, which President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said included 81 drones, as well as cruise and ballistic missiles. He said four people died, but the governor of the Zaporizhzhia region later said a fifth person had died there from burns in

"We will undoubtedly respond to Russia for this and all other

The Kursk operation, the largest incursion into Russia since World War II, forced some 130,000 residents to evacuate their homes. Russia has sent reinforcements into the region, but it was not clear to what extent these movements might be weakening Russia's position in eastern Ukraine, where it was making slow advances in efforts to gain ground in the Kharkiv region. The Russian Defence Ministry said Tuesday that Ukraine has suffered heavy casualties in – some 6,600 troops either killed or injured - and that more than 70 tanks have been destroyed along with

### 5 people killed in missiles and drones strike across Ukraine

Nighttime Russian drone and missile attacks struck across Ukraine, killing at least five people on Tuesday, a day after a heavy barrage pounded energy facilities throughout

Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the attacks included 81 drones, as well as cruise and ballistic missiles and that 16 people were injured. He said four people died, but the governor of the Zaporizhzhia region later said a fifth person had died there from burns in

'We will undoubtedly respond to Russia for this and all other attacks. Crimes against humanity cannot go unpunished." Zelenskyy wrote on X. In the Kyiv region, which had struggled with blackouts after Monday's onslaught, five air alerts were called during the night. The regional administration said air defenses destroyed all the drones and missiles but that falling debris set off forest

After the Monday barrage across Ukraine of more than 100 missiles and a similar number of drones, Prime

scores of armoured vehicles. Those figures could not be independently confirmed.

In the Kyiv region, which had struggled with blackouts after Monday's onslaught that targeted energy facilities throughout the country, five air alerts were called during the night. The regional administration said air defences destroyed all the drones and missiles but that falling debris set off forest

After Monday's barrage across Ukraine of more than 100 missiles and a similar number of drones, Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal said "the energy infra-

Minister Denys Shmyhal said "the energy infrastructure has once again become the target of Russian terrorists" and urged Ukraine's allies to provide it with long-range weapons and permission to use them on targets inside Russia. President Joe Biden called Monday's Russian attack on energy infrastructure "outrageous" and said he had "reprioritized US air defence exports so they are sent to Ukraine first." He also said the US was "surging energy equipment to Ukraine to repair its systems and strengthen the resilience of Ukraine's energy grid."

The Russian Defence Ministry said the attacks used "longrange precision air- and sea-

become the target of Russian

terrorists" and urged Ukraine's

allies to provide it with long-

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The Russian Defence Ministry

said the attacks used "long-

of Ukraine's energy grid."

cials reported four Ukrainian missiles were shot down over the Kursk region, where

Russian forces are fighting Ukrainian troops that made a surprise incursion this month. The fighting in the region has raised concerns about the nuclear power plant there. International Atomic Energy Agency chief Rafael Grossi arrived inspected the plant on Tuesday, but did not immediately give a public assessment.

drones against critical energy

infrastructure facilities that

support the operation of

Ukraine's military-industrial

complex. All designated targets

In Russia, meanwhile, offi-

based weapons and strike drones against critical energy infrastructure facilities that support the operation of Ukraine's military-industrial complex. All designated targets were hit."

In Russia, meanwhile, officials reported four Ukrainian missiles were shot down over the Kursk region.

The fighting in the region has raised concerns about the nuclear power plant there. International Atomic Energy Agency chief Rafael Grossi arrived inspected the plant on Tuesday, but did not immediately give a public

#### Japan protests after Chinese plane violates its airspace

AP n TOKYO

Japan's top government spokesperson said on Tuesday a Chinese military aircraft had briefly entered Japanese airspace the day before, calling the incident an "absolutely unacceptable" territorial violation and safety threat Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi said that a Chinese Y-9 reconnaissance plane briefly entered Japan's southwestern airspace Monday, forcing its military to scramble fighter jets. He added that it was the first time the Japanese Self Defense Force detected a Chinese military aircraft in Japan's airspace. The Chinese military aircraft's

incursion into Japan's airspace not only is a serious violation of our territorial rights but also a safety threat," Hayashi told a regular news conference. "We found it absolutely unaccept able." The Chinese Y-9 reconnaissance plane circled above Danjo Island off the southwestern coast of Japan's main southern island of Kyushu for two minutes, the Joint Staff of the Japanese Self Defense Force said late Monday, adding that officials were analyzing the latest Chinese military activity. The Joint Staff said Japan scrambled fighter jets and warned the Chinese plane to

Hayashi stressed that China's military activity around Japan in recent years has become "increasingly expanding and intensifying." Hayashi said Japan will continue watching Chinese military activity and do its utmost to respond to possible anti-airspace violations. The Foreign Ministry said in a statement that Japanese Vice Foreign Minister Masataka Okano summoned acting Chinese Ambassador Shi Yong to strongly protest the airspace violation. Okano also demanded that China take steps to avoid such incidents.

According to Japan's military, it scrambled jets nearly 669 times between April 2023 and March 2024, about 70% of the time against Chinese military aircraft, though that did not is 'the biggest disruptor of peace'

The Philippine defense chief

said Tuesday that China is

"the biggest disruptor" of peace

in Southeast Asia and called for

stronger international censure

China Sea, a day after China

blocked Philippine vessels

from delivering food to a Coast Guard ship at the Sabina Shoal.

Defense Secretary Gilberto

Teodoro Jr spoke at an inter-

national military conference

organized in Manila by the US

Indo-Pacific Command amid

a spike in clashes between

China and the Philippines in

the disputed South China Sea

China is "the biggest disruptor

Southeast Asia, Teodoro told

the conference, which was

of international peace"

and in its airspace.

"The antidote is a stronger collective multilateral action against China," Teodoro said, adding that diplomats and defense officials should determine those stronger steps.

Philippine defence chief says China

Pressed by reporters to be more specific, Teodoro said a UN Security Council resolution condemning and ordering a stop to Chinese acts of aggression would be a strong step but acknowledged the difficulty of pursuing that. "The world is not that perfect," Teodoro said.

There was no immediate reaction from Chinese officials. China, like its geopolitical rival the US, is one of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and has power to veto such an adversarial step.

attended by military officials The Association of Southeast and senior diplomats from the Asian Nations has paid "attention" to China's aggressive US and allied countries. He later told reporters on the actions but should do much sidelines of the conference more, Teodoro said. The 10that international statements of nation Southeast Asian bloc concern against China's includes the Philippines, increasingly assertive actions in Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei, the disputed waters and elsewhich have South China Sea claims that overlap with each

"ASEAN, to remain relevant and credible, cannot continue to ignore what China is doing in the South China Sea,

Teodoro said. In the latest incident in the South China Sea, Philippine officials said China deployed an excessive force" of 40 ships that blocked two Philippine vessels from delivering food and other supplies to Manila's largest coast guard ship in the disputed Sabina Shoal in the latest flare-up of their territorial disputes in the busy sea passage. China and the Philippines blamed each other for the confrontation on Monday in Sabina Shoal, an uninhabited atoll both countries claim that has become the latest flashpoint in the Spratlys, the most hotly disputed region of the sea passage that is a key global trade and security route. China and the Philippines have separately deployed coast guard ships to Sabina in recent months on suspicion the other may act to take control of and build structures in the fishing

### China calls for more support for Ukraine peace plan with Brazil

hina called on Tuesday for Umore countries to endorse its peace plan for Ukraine, after a round of diplomacy with Indonesia, Brazil and South

Envoy Li Hui called the three countries representative of the Global South and "important forces in promoting world peace" who share similar positions with China. "They have maintained communication with both Russia and Ukraine and stay committed to a political settlement to the crisis through dialogue and negotiation," said Li, China's special envoy for Eurasian affairs.

China and Brazil issued a joint peace plan earlier this year that calls for a peace conference

field. China and Russia were absent from a peace summit hosted in Switzerland in June. Russia was not invited while China chose not to attend.

Initially, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said China had pressured other countries to not attend the peace summit. But since then, Ukraine has recognized China's role in a peace process, given its close relationship with Russia, with the Ukrainian foreign minister paying a visit to the country in July, the first since the war began.

While a diplomatic dialogue between Russia and Ukraine so far appears out of reach, the war has shifted. In August Ukraine opened a new front in the war by attacking the Russian oblast nerable. Zelenskyy has said the aim was to create a buffer zone to protect Ukraine from attacks. Li noted the incursion and criticized Western support for Ukraine. "All sides are worried that the West continues to relax conditions for Ukraine to strike the Russian territory with aided weapons," Li said. "And recent developments on the battlefield confirmed these kind of worries." The US and NATO have called China an enabler of Russia in the war. NATO Secretary-General Stoltenberg then said China provides equipment, microelectronics and tools that are enabling Russia to build the missiles, to build the bombs, to build the aircraft, to build the weapons they use to attack

### Nishan-e-Imtiaz (Military) awarded to top Chinese general

ommander of the Ground Forces of the People's Liberation Army of China General Li Qiaoming was on Tuesday conferred the Nishane-Imtiaz, one of the top honours in Pakistan, for his "unwavering commitment" in promoting close cooperation between the militaries of the two all-weather friends. Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif and Army Chief General Asim Munir participated during a special investiture ceremony at the President's House and attended by service chiefs and parliamentarians. The citation at the ceremony

highlighted General Li Qiaoming's four-decade career, noting his significant contributions to the Chinese military. His intellect, administrative skills, and dedication have earned him a reputation as a courageous and capable officer, crucial in promoting peace and stability in China and beyond," the staterun news agency Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) said. "General Li is renowned for his exceptional professionalism and skills in maintaining peace and stability around China. As a friend of Pakistan, he greatly strengthened Pak-China military relations with unwavering commitment," it said.

Earlier on Monday, Qiaoming met with Prime Minister Sharif and discussed various aspects of the Pakistan-China friendship, particularly the bilateral defence and strategic partnership, the report said. Sharif underscored that Pakistan and China are All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partners and trusted friends and highlighted that the deeprooted ties between the two nations enjoy broad public, political, and institutional support in Pakistan, "making them indispensable for the progress and development of both countries." The Prime Minister expressed satisfaction at the deepening military-to-military exchanges and noted that the defence and strategic ties between Pakistan and China are vital for peace and stability in the

### Malaysian ex-leader charged with sedition for mocking former king

Former Malaysian Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin was charged Tuesday with sedition over a speech he made that allegedly questioned the integrity of the country's previous king. Muhyiddin, who led Malaysia from March 2020 until August 2021, pleaded not guilty in a court in northeast Kelantan state. According to the charge sheet, Muhyiddin made the seditious remarks last month during a by-election campaign in Kelantan.

Nine ethnic Malay state rulers take turns as Malaysia's king for five-year terms under the country's rotating monarchy, which began when Malaysia gained independence from Britain in 1957. The monarchy plays a largely ceremonial role, but are revered by the nation's majority Muslims.

In his speech on August 14, Muhyiddin had questioned then-King Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah minister following a hung Parliament in November 2022. Muhyiddin had claimed he nad the backing of majority lawmakers.

Muhyiddin's Islamic nationalistic bloc received strongerthan-expected support from Malays, who account for twothirds of Malaysia's 34 million people. Sultan Abdullah appointed then-opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim as prime minister after Anwar cobbled up support from rival parties to

form a unity government. Sultan Abdullah from central Pahang state, who ended his reign on Jan. 30 this year, didn't comment on the case. But his son issued a strong rebuke to Muhyiddin, saying his remarks were dangerous and could divide the people and undermine the royal institution. Muhyiddin was questioned by police following complaints against him. He had denied insulting the royalty, saying his remarks were factu-

sworn oath of support by 115 lawmakers in the 222-member

Zaid Malek from Lawyers to Liberty, a human rights and law reform group, slammed the use of the colonial-era Sedition Act against Muhyiddin. He said questioning or criticizing the exercise of constitutional power by the king wasn't seditious. The law, introduced by the British in 1948, criminalizes speech or actions with an undefined "seditious tendency," including that which promotes hatred against the government and monarchy or incites racial discord. "The king is a constitutional monarch, and not a feudal ruler. His exercise of his power can thus be debated, questioned or criticized. This is the very bedrock of our system of constitutional monarchy," Zaid said. Anwar had backtracked on his pledge to repeal the Sedition Act, which has long been used to suppress dissenting voices, he added.

istan Prime Minister PShehbaz Sharif Tuesday strongly condemned the terrorist attacks in the restive Balochistan province as he reiterated the unwavering resolve of his government to root out

terrorism from the country. Heavily armed Baloch gunmen killed at least 37 people in separate attacks in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province on Monday, as insurgent attacks spiked in the region bordering

Iran and Afghanistan. Chairing a Cabinet meeting a after violence in Balochistan stunned the country, Sharif strongly condemned the terrorist incidents that resulted in the death of innocent Pakistanis including the security personnel, state-run Radio Pakistan reported. He said the sacrifices rendered by the people and the Armed Forces of Pakistan in the war

committed for complete elim ination of terrorism from the

Prime Minister Sharif said all available resources would be provided to the Armed Forces to curb terrorism. He said time has come to eliminate terrorism. "We need to move forward towards this path with firm resolve," he said.

He said doors of dialogue are open for those who believe in Pakistan and its Constitution. However, no talks will be held with the enemies and terrorists, he added. Referring to the terrorist incidents, he said it is no secret now that the terrorists of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, operating from Afghanistan, are behind terrorist attacks. He said the government has already sensitized the Afghan government on the issue.

He said the terrorist acts being carried out in Balochistan are

against terrorism will not go aimed at creating anarchy and Balochistan on Tuesday to supdisrupt the steps being taken by the government for development of the country. However, their nefarious designs could not terrorize the people and disrupt the development process. Prime Minister Sharif stressed the need for forging unity, saying such despicable designs are only meant to impede the country's progress, ongoing CPEC

PM Sharif reiterates 'resolve' to

and China. He announced to soon visit Balochistan to hold in-depth deliberations on the situation and decide on immediate measures to deal with it.

projects in Balochistan and

undermine the time-tested

friendship between Pakistan

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Mohsin Naqvi visited

root out terrorism from Pakistan ment in its efforts to tackle mil itancy. "My aim to visit is to let you all and the people of . Balochistan know that the federal interior minister is standing behind the Balochistan chief minister. Whatever decision he (chief minister Bugti) makes, we will support him," he told the media in Quetta flanked by Chief Minister Mir Sarfaraz Éugti.

Naqvi ruled out any fresh operation, saying that a police station house officer was enough to tackle the law and order with proper and timely response. They are terrorists and our civil armed forces, armed forces, and the police know how to combat them," the minister

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Contact No. 96461-20640)

from 23-08-2024 at 17:00 Hrs. onwards. Note:- Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

76155/12/3350/2023/37011 Dated CHD :- 8/27/2024



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#### If anything happens to me, Army chief & DG ISI responsible: Imran Khan former prime minister's trial in cases Wazirabad, and the night before the herded in a desired direction, not

 $P^{akistan's \ jailed \ former \ prime \ minister \ Imran \ Khan \ on \ Tuesday \ reit$ erated that the Army and the ISI are responsible for his condition and expressed fear for his life.

Khan, 71, lodged at the Adiala Jail since last year, also blamed the current dispensation for being averse to criticism, for deteriorating law-and-order situation across the country, and also for ruining Pakistan's cricket that is facing repeated defeats. In a post on X from jail, Khan repeat-

ed claims about rigged elections and said only a government with a genuine mandate will be able to plan for fundamental reforms. "The ISI controls all administrative

matters related to my imprisonment. I'm saying it again: if anything happens to me, the Army Chief and DG ISI will be responsible," the founder of the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party said in a detailed post on X.

Khan's comments come two days after the Pakistan government said that the concerning the violence on May 9 last year might go to the military courts. The events and vandalism on May 9 last year invited the application of the Army Act since military installations were attacked and damaged," Government spokesperson for legal affairs Barrister Aqeel Malik had said. On May 9 last year, violent protests

erupted after Khan's arrest by paramilitary Rangers from the premises of the Islamabad High Court in connection with an alleged corruption case. His party workers allegedly vandalised a dozen military installations, including the Jinnah House (Lahore Corps Commander House), the Mianwali

airbase and the ISI building in Faisalabad. A mob also attacked the Army headquarters (GHQ) in Rawalpindi. Khan's longish post on X started with

"reminding" the nation of the two attempts on his life: first in Wazirabad, Punjab province and then again at the Judicial Complex in Islamabad. The ISI stole the CCTV footage from attack in Islamabad, the ISI had taken control of the area where it happened, 'In their panic, they have made my

conditions in jail even tougher. The staff assigned to ensure that my food isn't poisoned has been changed for the fourth time," he wrote. He also described the conditions of his

and his wife Bushra's cell - 'rats fall from the top when she prays - and said the court has been informed about it. Khan further said that he had already explained why the Islamabad rally was postponed and how it had nothing to do with "contacts with the establish-

This entire government runs on lies; I don't even read the news about them. I have no contact with the establishment. If we do hold talks with them, it will only be for the sake of the country and the constitution," the PTI supremo added.

Drawing a parallel to the situation that unfolded in Bangladesh, he also came up with a curt comment: "Cattle can be

humans" and said, "The Army Chief, Chief Justice, and Police Chief were all loyal to the Prime Minister (in Bangladesh), but when the people took to the streets, they won their

Anyone critical of the regime is labelled a digital terrorist. When internet services were shut down, people protested, but those in power couldn't handle the criticism. No one is permitted to even voice their problems. The nation blames a specific institution for this,"

the law-and-order situation across the country is deteriorating," the PTI leader asked and described terror attack incidents in KP and Balochistan. The former cricketer-turned-politician rued about "the embarrassing defeat against Bangladesh" on Monday and said it set a new low.

He also lamented the current condition of cricket in Pakistan, saying: "The blame for all of this collapse falls on one

What are his qualifications? Under him,

# Markets settle almost flat GCCs offering up to 20 per cent higher salaries than IT services: Report

Stock market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty ended on a flat note after a volatile session on Tuesday due to the emergence of profit-taking near record high levels amid rising geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and Ukraine.

The NSE gauge, however, hit a new lifetime peak of 25,017. According to traders, profit booking in metal, consumer durable and FMCG shares negated gains in telecom, teck and IT stocks. After oscillating between highs and lows, the 30-share BSE Sensex eked out a marginal gain of 13.65 points or 0.02 per cent to settle at its 81,711.76 consecutive session of rise. During the day, it hit a high of 81,919.11 and a low of 81,600.51. The NSE Nifty ended almost flat, up 7.15 points or 0.03 per cent, at 25,017.75 — its ninth straight

market domestic witnessed profit-booking near record highs. While the positive expectations regarding a potential rate cut by the Fed in September remain, the recent geopolitical tensions

session of gains.

**NSE NIFTY** AUGUST 27, 2024 GAINERS

among the laggards.

up by 0.50 per cent.

telecommunication

per cent).

In the broader market, the BSE

midcap gauge climbed 0.58 per

cent, and smallcap index went

1.13 per cent, teck (0.70 per

cent), financial services (0.68

per cent) and healthcare (0.44

On the other hand, metal,

consumer durables, power,

commodities and consumer

discretionary were among the

momentum due to weak

session lacked

and rising crude oil prices have made investors cautious amid high valuations. "Further, the recent shift in FII stance towards the domestic market and the anticipation that the RBI will align with the Fed's actions are expected to foster a positive outlook in the near term," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services. On the Sensex chart, Bajaj Finserv, Maruti, Larsen & Toubro, Bajaj Finance, Infosys, Axis Bank and ICICI Bank were the biggest gainers.

In contrast, Hindustan Unilever, JSW Steel, Titan, NTPC and Tata Motors were

Asian indices prompted local investors to book profit towards the fag-end, indicating that intraday volatility will continue amid growing geopolitical tensions and sluggish global growth," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities In Asian markets, Tokyo and Hong Kong settled in the

positive territory, while Seoul and Shanghai ended lower. European markets were trading higher in mid-session deals. The US markets ended mostly lower in the overnight

trade on Monday.

PTI n NEW DELHI

India and Oman are at an

advanced stage and both

sides hope to conclude the

pact early, Indian Ambassador to Oman Amit

The pact will give a significant push to bilateral

trade and investment ties

between the two countries, he

The pact, officially known as

expected to boost Indian

exports to the west Asian

petroleum products, textiles,

electronics, pharmaceuticals,

machinery, and iron and

especially

Agreement

Comprehensive

(CEPA),

by eliminating

Partnership

Narang said on Tuesday.

ended almost unchanged from

its previous close. Weak US

market cues and subdued

There are both headwinds and tailwinds for the market now. Headwinds are coming from the escalation of geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and Ukraine. Brent crude has shot up above USD 81. The strongest tailwind comes from the expected rate cuts by the Fed which will spill over to other central banks, including the RBI," said VK Vijayakumar, Chief Investment Strategist, Geojit Financial Services.

Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in India are offering up to 20 per cent higher salaries as compared with the IT services, especially at entry and mid levels, a report said on Tuesday. According to the report by TeamLease Digital, India has over 1,600 GCCs employing over 1.66 million professionals. It is poised to welcome 800 new GCCs in the next 5-6 years, which shows the country's growing prominence as a global tech

GCCs are centralized units established by multinational companies to manage specific functions processes, leveraging cost advantages, a skilled workforce, and favourable skilled business environments in strategic locations worldwide. GCCs play a vital role in efficiency and innovation across sectors such as IT, finance, and research and development. On the other hand, IT

development, encompass production, and management emerging as the dominant

hardware, networks, and services that enable organizations in the creation, management and optimization of or access to information and business

GCCs are rapidly surpassing the IT sector in the talent market, especially at entry and mid levels. They offer salaries that are, on an average, 12-20 per cent higher than those in IT services and non-tech industries," TeamLease Digital CEO Neeti Sharma said

premium wage underscores the growing influence of GCCs as they attract top talent from the IT sector to fuel their expansion, signalling a shift in market dynamics where GCCs are

force, she added. The 'Digital Skills and Salary Primer for FY25' report is based on an analysis of 15,000 job roles from the 3 sectors, including GCCs, IT services and non-tech sectors.

Currently, in GCCs, there are more opportunities for people with 0-10 years experience. The senior level has a wider salary gap for many of the functional areas, and the premium for niche skills is also higher.

The report further showed that there is a growing trend of setting up GCCs in tier-II cities like Kolkata, cities like Kolkata, Ahmedabad, and Vadodara, which indicates

geographical diversification of tech opportunities across the country. Skills that are seeing

increasing demand in GCCs are PyTorch, AWS, DevOps, Kubernetes, Hyperledger Blockchain, Tableau, SQL and ServiceNow, the report

added. In GCCs, the percentage of women tech professionals is expected to increase to 35 per cent from the current 25 per cent by 2027.

commodities

Narang said.

Over 200 global players to take part in Bharat Battery Show 2025



PTI n NEW DELHI

Over 200 global players are likely to showcase cuttingedge battery and charging infra technologies at the Bharat Battery Show in January 2025. Industry body India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA), in a statement, said it is organising the Bharat Battery Show at the second Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025.

According to the statement, the Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 led by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is set to be held on January 17-22, 2025, across three major venues — Bharat Mandapam, Yashobhoomi (IICC) Dwarka, and India Expo Center & Mart, Greater Noida.

IESA, as a key industry partner, has been entrusted with the organisation of the Battery Tech Pavilion, Recycling Pavilion, and Charging Infra Pavilion under the umbrella of the Bharat Battery Show.

Bharat Battery Show — part of the Bharat Mobility — will be organised at the central Delhi venue Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, from 19 to 21 January

The Bharat Battery Show (an expo on batteries and charging) will feature cutting-edge technologies in battery storage, battery recycling, and charging infrastructure, reflecting IESA's commitment to driving the adoption of clean energy and sustainable mobility solutions

IESA said that it is expecting 200+ global players to showcase their cutting-edge battery and charging infra technologies during this event. Some of the key firms already confirmed include Amara Raja, Replus Engitech, Epsilon Advanced Materials, Advik Hitech, Amphenol FCI, Bry-(Ásia), Elcom International, EMO Energy, Indo Maestrotech Systems, Neenjas Electric, Polyprotic Chemicals, Huge Hippo Energy, MNE

### Rupee falls 5 paise to close at 83.92 against US dollar

The rupee depreciated by 5 paise to close at 83.92 (provisional) against the American currency Tuesday, on overnight jump in crude oil prices and a surge in commodity prices. However, positive domestic

markets and a soft US dollar cushioned the downside, forex traders said. At the interbank foreign

exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.91 and touched an intra-day low of 83.95 against the US dollar. The domestic currency finally settled at 83.92 (provisional), 5 paise lower from its

previous close. On Monday, the Indian rupee settled for the day 3 paise higher at 83.87 against the American currency.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a slight positive bias on rise in global risk sentiments amid dovish Fed speak and absorbing inflows.



rising expectations of a rate cut by the Fed in September. "However, geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and rising crude oil prices may cap sharp upside. Traders may take cues from US consumer confidence data," Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP

Forex traders said the rupee is likely to remain within a narrow range as the Reserve Bank of India has been actively intervening in the market,

which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.05 per cent lower at 100.79.

Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, declined 0.87 per cent to USD 80.72 per barrel. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex rose 13.65 points, or 0.02 per cent, to close at 81,711.76 points. The Nifty closed 7.15 points, or 0.03 per cent, up at 25,017.75 points.

Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net buyers in the capital markets on Monday, as they purchased shares worth Rs 483.36 crore, according to exchange data. Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday said the central bank is constantly working on

'Discussions for a bilateral CEPA with Oman are at an systems, to make the advanced stage. We hope to platforms country's financial sector conclude these discussions strong, nimble and customer early and once this is done, this will be a significant push



to bilateral, not just trade, but also bilateral investment ties," Narang said.

Addressing an event organised by Ficci here, the Indian Ambassador to Oman highlighted significant potential for enhancing direct shipping links between the two nations as a large part of Indian exports to Oman come not directly but through the UAE. He said the India-Oman bilateral trade, which crossed USD 12 billion in 2022-23, has moderated and settled at USD 8 billion in FY24.

"Between 2021 and 2023 the

bilateral trade between India and Oman more than doubled... We went from USD 5 billion to cross USD 12 billion.

"In the past financial year, the bilateral trade has moderated little bit, it has settled to USD 8 billion... Moderation is mainly on account of over dominance of hydrocarbons in the bilateral trade," Narang

"India imports a lot of oil and fertilisers from Oman and this decline in the value terms of the trade this year is a reflection of the decline in values of these

part of Indian exports to Oman come not directly but through the UAE and these are not reflected in the India-Oman bilateral trade but in India's trade with the UAE, adding that there is potential for enhancing direct shipping Currently, I understand that

He pointed out that a large

there are two shipping lines... There is therefore huge potential for direct shipping to reduce cost of bilateral trade and that will have a significant impact in further improving our bilateral trade figures," Narang said. Addressing the event virtually, Indian Ambassador

to the UAE Sunjay Sudhir said India will soon upgrade its political engagement with the GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) as a whole in the very near future. The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) brings

together six Arab countries - Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the

#### components, Hioki, Glida, batteries, Ipower Molsynth, among others. Auto majors to offer 1.5-3 per cent discount on

### India ranks 31st in JLL's Global Real Estate Transparency Index

Global property consultant JLL on Tuesday said that India's top real estate markets 'transparent' zone for the first in stitution a lisationcommercial assets improvement in data access. JLL has released its 'Global Real Estate Transparency Index, 2024', which showed that India's tier-I markets have entered into the 'transparent' zone for the first time with a composite score of 2.44. India ranks 31st in the list of 89

"India has made a remarkable leap forward in JLL's Global Real Estate Transparency Index 2024, reaching the transparent tier for the first This progress is a result of

The consultant noted that

institutionalisation in the



improved access to diverse real estate data sets, it said. "India is the top global improver in the 2024 index, making significant strides in transaction processes and market fundamentals," JLL said, the country is leading the global front in enhancing transparency, with expanded data coverage and improved data quality across various property sectors.
There are 13 countries

featured in the hightransparency zone. The United Kingdom is at the

the global list, followed by France, the United States, Netherlands, New Zealand, Ireland, Sweden, Germany, Japan, Belgium Singapore. Finland leads 22 countries that figure in the 'transparent' zone, followed by Hong Kong SAR, Denmark, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Poland, Norway, Czech Republic, Luxembourg, Hungary, Portugal, Chinese Taipei, South Korea, UAE-Dubai, South Africa, China-Tier 1, India- Tier 1, Thailand, Malaysia, Romania countries are in 'semitransparency and opaque zones. "India is the top global improver, with greater data coverage and quality across both core and niche property sectors — ranging from industrial to data centres - as institutionalisation in the

"A more proactive financial regulator, new climate risk streamlined building regulations and digitised land records have also contributed to its leading cities entering the 'Transparent' tier," the report mentioned.

Samantak Das, and Economist Research, India, JLL, said, institutional "Increasing participation, along with a push for transparency, has led to the adoption of best industry practices in India's Notably, he said four existing listed REITs have driven commercial assets, while standardised valuation processes and REIT regulations have fostered market-based approaches.

"Regulatory enhancements such as RERA and the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code have improved investor protection, while digital land registry records and strict monitoring by RBI and SEBI have created a robust regulatory landscape," Das

Karan Singh Sodi, Senior Managing Director (Mumbai MMR & Gujarat) and Head -Alternatives, India, JLL said, India's ascent to the transparent tier in JLL's Global Real Estate Transparency Index underscores the industry's cohesive efforts and governmental backing.

### purchase of new vehicles against scrappage certificate

A head of the festive season, several passenger and manufacturers have agreed to offer discounts of 1.5-3 per cent on new vehicle purchase against scrapped old vehicles after a meeting with Union Minister Nitin Gadkari, an official statement said on Tuesday.

The statement further said Mercedes Benz India has offered a flat discount of Rs 25,000, which will be over and above all existing discounts. Union Road Transport and Highways (RT&H) Minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday chaired a meeting with the SIAM delegation at Bharat Mandapam, where he addressed pressing issues in the automobile industry.

"During this interaction, responding positively to the advice of the minister RT&H manufacturers are willing to offer discounts for a limited period of two years and



recognising importance Modernisation and Circular Economy, multiple Commercial Manufacturers and multiple passenger manufacturers have agreed to offer discounts for a limited period against a certificate of deposit (Scrappage Certificate)," the statement

It said commercial vehicle

passenger vehicle manufacturers are willing to offer discounts for a limited period of one year.

The statement noted that these discounts will further vehicles, thereby ensuring the plying of safer, cleaner and more efficient vehicles on

As per the statement, passenger manufacturers namely Maruti Suzuki India Ltd, Tata Mahindra Motors, Mahindra, Hyundai Motor India, Kia Motors, Toyota Kirloskar Motor , Honda Cars, JSW MG Motor, Renault India, Nissan India and Skoda Volkswagen India, will offer discount of 1.5 per cent of the ex-showroom price of new car or Rs 20,000, whichever is less, against the passenger vehicle scrapped by the owner in the last 6

### Gold climbs `550 to `74,350 per 10 gm; silver rallies 1,200

Gold prices climbed Rs 550 to Rs 74,350 per 10 grams in the national capital on Tuesday on the back of fresh demand from local jewellers. The precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity had closed at Rs 73,800 per 10 grams in the previous session on Friday.

Silver prices also rallied Rs 1,200 to Rs 88,200 per kilogram on Tuesday from Rs 87,000 per kg in the previous close, according to the All

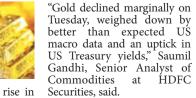
India Sarafa Association. Meanwhile, gold of 99.5 per cent purity also jumped Rs 550 to Rs 74,000 per 10 grams.



yellow prices due to a pick-up in demand by local jewellers and retailers in the domestic

The bullion markets were closed in New Delhi on Monday on account of Krishna Janmashtami.

In the Asian trading hours, gold is trading at USD 2,543.90 per ounce, down USD 11.30 per ounce.



According to Manav Modi, Senior Analyst, Commodity Research, MOFSL, gold prices fell but remained in sight of record highs it hit last week as the prospect of lower US interest rates battered the US dollar and presented a brighter outlook for metal markets. Further, bullion surged to

record highs last week, as

market participants welcomed

dovish comments from the Federal Reserve. Some safe haven demand also buoyed gold as ceasefire talks between Israel and Hamas yielded few results, while hostilities in the Middle East persisted, Modi added. Additionally, silver was quoted lower at USD 30.34 per ounce in the global markets. "Traders will focus on the US

consumer confidence data going to be released later on Tuesday which will provide more insights on the direction of the bullion prices," Navneet Damani, Group Senior VP of Commodity Research at Motilal Oswal Financial Services (MOFSL), said.

#### Coal India's contribution to Govt exchequer rises 2 per cent in April-July PTI n NEW DELHI 4,417.12 crore was made to

 $S_{ ext{Ltd's}}^{ ext{tate-owned}}$  Coal India to the government's exchequer rose 2.06 per cent to Rs 20,071.96 crore in the April-July period of the ongoing fiscal year. Coal India Ltd (CIL), which

accounts for over 80 per cent of domestic coal output, paid Rs 19,666.04 crore to the government exchequer in the year-ago period, according to provisional figures of the coal

Total levies paid to the government in July went up to Rs 4,992.48 crore from Rs 4,789.42 crore paid a year



Centre and state governments include royalties, GST, cess on coal, and other levies. Coal production generates substantial revenue for both production state governments.

Of the total amount paid to the government exchequer in the first four months of FY24,



crore to Maharashtra, among

mineral foundations (DMFs) -- which are meant to support people affected by various projects -- and two per cent of

produced by the coal the state government of Jharkhand, followed by Rs 4,319.67 crore to the Odisha government, Rs 3,950.41 crore to Chhattisgarh, Rs 3,526.27 crore to Madhya Pradesh, and Rs 2,086.35

State governments are entitled to receiving 14 per cent of royalty on the sale price of from increased employment, coal and 30 per cent of the royalty as contribution towards the proposed district

companies and also the În case of captive, commercial mines, states are also entitled

to receiving the revenue share offered by the auction holder in a transparent bidding process. Apart from this, state governments also benefit

land compensation, increased investment in allied infrastructure like railways, road and several other economic benefits.

Coal India is aiming to produce 838 MT of coal in the ongoing financial year.

#### **PARALYMPICS**

## INDIA EYE RECORD HAUL WITH LARGEST **EVER CONTINGENT IN FRAY AT PARIS**

Battered by life but not beaten by its many challenges, an 84-strong contingent of Indian paraathletes, the largest ever in the country's history and a heady mix of youth and experience, would be eyeing an unparalleled gold rush when the Paralympic Games begin here on Wednesday.

India won a record 19 medals, including five gold, in the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021 for a 24th-place finish in the overall rankings. Three years on, the country's target is more than 25 medals with a doubledigit haul in gold.

What has fuelled this ambition is the size of the contingent the exceptional performances in the past one

India won a record 111 medals, including 29 gold, at the Hangzhou Asian Para Games last year.

This was followed by unprecedented success at the Para Athletics Championships in May where the country snared 17 medals, including half a dozen gold for a sixth-place finish in the

overall standings. Several medal winners in

PTI ■ SAINT LOUIS (USA)

Crandmaster D Gukesh

🗕 piayed out a nard-

seed and local favourite

Fabiano Caruana, while

Frenchman Alireza Firouzja stretched his lead

by a full point after the

part of the Grand Chess

The other Indian in fray, R

seventh game on the trot to

score. Ian Nepomniachtchi

Praggnanandhaa decided

With just two rounds to

across world champion

Ding Liren of China, has

five points in his kitty and

Caruana continues to trail

As many as five players --

Wesley So of United States,

Nodirbek Abdusattorov of

Vachier-Lagrave of France,

Praggnanandhaa -- share

the third spot on 3.5 points

A half point behind are

Liren and Nepomniachtchi

Maxime

Giri is still at the bottom of Gukesh (Ind, 3.5).

him a full point behind.

Uzbekistan,

Gukesh

to save his energy.

draw

**GRAND CHESS TOUR** 

Firouzja consolidates lead

**Gukesh holds Caruana**;



holding javelin thrower Sumit Antil (F64) and rifle shooter Avani Lekhara (10m Air Rifle Standing SH1). Both of them would be defending their gold medals won in Tokyo.

The Games, as much a celebration of sporting skills as human endurance, club athletes with similar functional abilities in terms of movement, coordination and balance into various classifications. The "degree and nature of their eligible impairments" decide these groups.

For India, the para-athletics Hangzhou are in this team has been a major medal giver in the past and this time top stars like world record- too, it is expected to be the

the table on 2.5 points.

Praggnanandhaa

seventh round of defense and the Chennai-Sinquefield Cup, which is a based player had to be

Praggnanandhaa, drew his lasted a mere 19 moves.

remain on a fifty per cent Firouzja, who came up

of Russia was happy with a complicated middle game

come, Firouzja, who put it knocked down a couple of

while Dutchman Anish (Usa, 4) drew with D

nothing as white against

Nepomniachtchi's Petroff

content with repetition of moves very early in the

middle game. The game

The day belonged to

with fine resources in a

The Italian opening has

Frenchman and he

pawns when Liren erred in

the middle game allowing

the white to invade his

Results round 7: Alireza

Firouzja (Fra, 5) beat Ding

Praggnanandhaa (Ind, 3.5)

Nepomniachtchi (Fid, 2.5);

Nodirbek Abdusattorov

(Uzb, 3.5) beat Wesley So

Vachier-Lagrave (Fra, 3.5)

drew with Anish Giri (Ned,

2.5); Fabiano Caruana

3.5);

camp. The rest was easy.

Liren (Chn, 3);

been doing well for the

against Liren.

biggest contributor with as many as 38 names in fray.

Other top medal contenders include the likes of para-archer Sheetal Devi, who shoots with her legs as she was born without arms, landmine blast survivors Hokato Sema (shot and Narayana Konganapalle (rower) and several other accident amputees.

India is competing in 12 sports this time, as against nine by a 54-member team in Tokyo. Shooter Manish Narwal and shuttler Krishna Nagar are also among those who would be looking to defend their gold medals won in Tokyo.

Antil, whose left leg was amputated owing to an accident when he was 17, had also won gold in the para world championships in May and he is hoping to cross the 75m mark in Paris at the same venue where his able-bodied counterpart Neeraj Chopra won an Olympic silver earlier this month.

Lekhara was the best performer in Tokyo with one gold and a bronze and one of the two athletes to win two medals, the other being Singhraj Adhana (silver and bronze). Adhana, however, could not make the current

woman to win a Paralympic gold medal. She is now primed to join the club of three medal winners in the Paralympics.

Paralympics Committee of India (PCI) President Devendra Jhajharia, a javelin thrower, is the most decorated Indian Paralympian with two gold (2004 Athens and 2016 Rio) and a silver (2021 Tokyo).

Joginder Singh Bedi won three medals in the 1984 Paralympics (silver in shot put, a bronze each in javelin and discus throw).

Deepthi Jeevanji (women's 400m T20; intellectual disability), Rio Olympics goldmedallist Mariyappan Thangavelu (men's high jump -T63), whose right leg was disabled after being run over a bus, and Yogesh Kathuniya (men's Discus Throw - F56), born with a neurological disorder that damaged his nervous system, would be also aiming to add to their existing Paralympic

medal tally. Shuttler Krishna Nagar (men's singles SH6), who has overcome the disadvantage of his short height, is also looking good to defend his gold medal won in Tokyo, more so after winning the title in the World Badminton Championships in Thailand in

February. The other gold winner in Tokyo, Pramod Bhagat, is, however, serving suspension after whereabouts failure.

Suhas Yathiraj (Men's Singles SL4 and Mixed Doubles SL3-SU5), who won a silver in Tokyo, will again be a medal contender. In para-archery, Sheetal and Harvinder Singh will be among the medal contenders. Harvinder had won a bronze in Tokyo in men's individual recurve open. Sheetal, the first and the only international para archery champion without upper limbs, bagged two gold medals in a stunning performance in the Asian Para Games in women's in individual compound and mixed doubles, and a silver in the women's doubles compound event.

In table tennis, after winning a silver in class 4 event in Tokyo, Bhavinaben Patel will hope to better the colour of the medal. The wheelchair-bound player is competing in women's singles S4 and women's doubles D10 events.

Antil and shot putter Bhagyashri Jadhav, who won a silver in the F34 event in Asian Para Games, will be the joint flag bearers at Wednesday's Opening Ceremony to be held outside a stadium for the first time in the history of Paralympic Games.



**US OPEN** 

# 16-year-old Californian Iva beats Magda in first round

**AP** ■ NEW YORK

va Jovic, a 16-year-old Ifrom California, became the youngest American to win a women's main-draw match at the U.S. Open since 2000, eliminating 2023 Australian Open semifinalist Magda Linette of Poland 6-4,

"Surprised, but not surprised," Jovic said on Monday about the result against someone who's been ranked in the top 20.

"I just had a plan about what I was going to do before we started, and there weren't that many needs for crazy adjustments, because it was going well," Jovic said.
"So just kind of sticking to

Katrina Scott of the U.S. Was 16 when she won a match at the U.S. Open four years ago. Last year, Mirra Andreeva of Russia was 16 when she did

Here's one indication of Jovic's youth: She still is planning to enter the junior later in the tournament. Here's another: Jovic is still in school, taking online courses through a program she described as convenient and ... Very

Jovic grew up participating in a bunch of sports, including gymnastics and swimming. which she began learning alongside her older sister on

apartment complex in Torrance, California, they "I want to be the best that I can be," Jovic said. "Just get

courts built atop the

Just keep working. I'm on a good path, but there's a lot more to do." She earned a wild-card entry

for the main bracket at the year's last Grand Slam tournament by winning the U.S. Tennis Association Girls' 18s national championship. She also paired with Tyra Grant there to take the doubles title, which gave them a wild card for women's doubles at Flushing Meadows; the USTA granted Jovic and another American teen, Kaylan Bigun, a spot in the mixed doubles field, too.

Jovic and Grant teamed up to win junior doubles titles at the Australian Open in January and Wimbledon in July; they also were the runners-up at the French Open in June.

Jovic's favorite players are Grand champion Novak Djokovic he's Serbian, and so are her roots; after the English conference concluded Monday, she answered questions in Serbian - and Tokyo Olympics gold medalist Belinda Bencic.

"Djokovic, I mean, do I need to say? We all know how great he is," Jovic responded. "And then Belinda, she just takes the ball so early and her footwork is very cutting the angle, so she just her opponents feel kind of suffocated. That's what I

Jovic would love the chance to have a conversation with Djokovic, but their lone interaction so far was when she asked if he would mind posing for a photo.

### Coco begins her US Open title defense with an easy win after a two-match losing streak

**AP** ■ NEW YORK

The chant rang out in cavernous Arthur Ashe Besides Firouzja's victory, Abdusattorov halted So's party with a clinical performance. In the other Stadium at the U.S. Open before Coco Gauff's first service game of her first match game of the day, Maxime of her first Grand Slam Vachier-Lagrave drew with tournament as a defending champion: "Here we go, Coco! Gukesh continued with his uncompromising play but Here we go!" found Caruana adequately

Coming to Flushing Meadows off a series of early exits at prepared in an İtalian other events, Gauff already was opening game. The Indian was much down 1-0 to Varvara Gracheva worse in the ensuing on Monday, having dropped endgame but Caruana the match's initial game at love missed out on his 39th by making four groundstroke turn when he could have errors. What followed was a tough, tight game, featuring 14 otten a real advantage fought draw yet again, Exchanges at regular signing peace with top intervals thereafter points across eight minutes thereafter and three break chances for ensured the draw for the

PTI DUBAI

on Tuesday.

The important part, of course, was that Gauff saved all of those break points, claimed that game, and suddenly was in complete control on the way to a 6-2, 6-0 victory that not only

Tndia will take on West

**L**Indies and South Africa in

their two Women's T20 World

Dubai, the International

Cricket Council announced

India will take on West Indies

on September 29 while

Harmanpreet Kaur and Co.

Are slated to play South

All 10 teams that have

qualified for the Women's T20

World Cup will participate in

the practice games, with every

side playing two warm-up

games each. The warm-up

fixtures will start on

September 28 with Pakistan

taking on Scotland and Sri

Lanka facing Bangladesh.

Africa on October 1.

Cup warm-up fixtures in



put the 20-year-old American expectations that I have on told ner - and everyone else that her game is in better shape than it appeared lately.

The last couple of weeks were tough, and I was like, I have to do this and do that, but I don't have to prove anything to anyone except myself. So ... (these) two weeks are just proving all the

India to face West Indies, South Africa in

October 1 in Dubai.

Women's T20 World Cup warm-up matches

Defending champion Australia will face arch-rival

England on September 29,

followed by West Indies on

The warm-up fixtures will be

20 overs per side and will not

have international T20 status,

allowing teams to field all

members of their 15-player

No two sides who belong to

the same group will take on

each other in the warm-up

India has been clubbed in

group A alongside Australia,

Sri Lanka while group B comprises England, South

Africa, West Indies, Scotland

The competition, starting

October 3, was moved to the

and Bangladesh.

New Zealand, Pakistan and

in the second round but also myself," the No. 3-seeded Gauff I have many more years coming back here and I'm not going to win every year. Just that perspective and just having the belief that I can but not the expectation that I

Day 1 at the year's last Grand Slam tournament went about as well as possible for Gauff

UAE by the ICC following

the ongoing political unrest in Bangladesh, the original

September 28: Pakistan v

September 28: Sri Lanka v

Bangladesh (ICCA1, Dubai)

September 29: New Zealand v

South Africa (Sevens, Dubai)

September 29: India v West

September 29: Australia v

September 30: Sri Lanka v

September 30: Bangladesh v

Indies (ICCA2, Dubai)

England (ICCA1, Dubai)

Scotland (Sevens, Dubai)

Pakistan (ICCA2, Dubai)

October 1: West Indies

October 1: England v New

Australia (Sevens, Dubai)

Zealand (ICCA2, Dubai)

**WARM-UP FIXTURES:** 

Scotland (Sevens, Dubai)

Ben Shelton, a semifinalist a year ago who beat 2020 champion Dominic Thiem 6-4, 6-2, 6-2. It was the last U.S. Open match for Thiem, who turns 31 next week and is retiring after this season. "Obviously she plays with a lot of passion," Shelton, 21, said

featured in Ashe, 13th-seeded

about Gauff. "You could tell that she cares out there. She's into it every time that she's on the court. I think that's something that the people

Gauff was not the only past U.S. Open champ on Monday's Ashe began with 2017 winner Sloane Stephens blowing a huge lead against Clara Burel and losing 0-6, 7-5, 7-5 after taking the first nine games, followed by Novak Djokovic whose collection of 24 Slam titles includes last year's in New York - against Radu Albot.

### better every day, honestly. Nigeria hires German coach Bruno in bid to get World Cup qualifying back on track

PTI ■ LAGOS (NIGERIA)

Nigeria hired German coach Bruno Labbadia on Tuesday to lead the men's national soccer team in a bid to get its flagging World Cup qualifying campaign back on track. "The appointment is with immediate effect," said Mohammed Sanusi, the general secretary of the Nigeria Football Federation.

The 58-year-old Labbadia has been out of work since April 2023 when he was fired by Stuttgart after failing to arrest its slide to the bottom of the Bundesliga.

Nigeria is second from bottom its 2026 World Cup qualifying group after failing to win any of its opening four games. The Super Eagles drew 1-1 with both Lesotho and Zimbabwe in November last year before Portuguese coach José Peseiro led the team to the final of the Africa Cup of Nations. Nigeria lost the final to the host nation Ivory Coast in February.

The NFF promoted Peseiro's assistant, Finidi George, to the top position in April after the Portuguese departed. But, the former right winger was unable to improve the team's fortunes in World Cup qualifying.

George oversaw a 1-1 draw with South Africa followed by a 2-1 defeat in Benin in June. then reportedly George resigned after not being told of the NFF's plans to appoint a

work. The NFF did not publicly acknowledge the resignation. Labbadia only oversaw two

wins from his 12 games in charge of Stuttgart during his second stint at the club - one each in the league and German

successor, Sebastian Hoeneß, ultimately saved Stuttgart from relegation and led the team to a club-record points total last season.

Labbadia previously coached Hertha Berlin, Wolfsburg, Hamburger SV, Bayer Leverkusen and Darmstadt. As a goal-scoring forward, he helped Bayern Munich and Kaiserslautern win Bundesliga

### Duleep Trophy: Indisposed Siraj ruled out, Jadeja allowed more rest

PTI ■ MUMBAI, AUG 27 (PTI)

Seamer Mohammed Siraj Will miss the Duleep Trophy's first round games due to illness while veteran all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has been allowed an extended period of rest by the BCCI's national selection committee, which announced a few changes to the participating squads on Tuesday.

The first round of the Duleep Trophy, comprising two matches, will be held from

taking on India B at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru and India C facing off against India D at the Rural Development Trust Stadium A in Ananthapur. Siraj, who was a part of India's last away assignment in Sri Lanka, along with Umran Malik have both been ruled out of the first round games

September 5-8 with India A

and have been replaced by Navdeep Saini and Gaurav Yadav respectively. "Both Siraj and Malik are



suffering from an illness and matches for Pondicherry in are not expected to be fit in time for their Duleep Trophy fixtures," the BCCI informed in a release. "All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja has also been released from the Team B squad," the board added.

Jadeja was last seen in action in the T20 World Cup final in June against South Africa and was rested from the ODI series in Sri Lanka.

The 32-year-old Yadav, who hails from Madhya Pradesh, took 41 wickets in seven the last season of Ranji Trophy to finish as the second highest wicket-taker in the country's premier

#### **REVISED SQUADS:**

India A: Shubman Gill (c), Mayank Agarwal, Riyan Parag, Dhruv Jurel (wk), KL Rahul, Tilak Varma, Shivam Kotian, Dube, Tanush Kuldeep Yadav, Akash Deep, Prasidh Krishna, Khaleel Ahmed, Avesh Khan, Vidwath

Kaverappa, Kumar Kushagra, India B: Abhimanyu Easwaran

(c), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Sarfaraz Khan, Rishabh Pant (wk), Musheer Khan, Nitish Kumar Reddy\*, Washington Sundar, Navdeep Saini, Yash Dayal, Mukesh Kumar, Rahul Chahar, R Sai Kishore, Mohit Awasthi, N Jagadeesan (wk).

India C: Ruturaj Gaikwad (c), Sai Sudharsan, Rajat Patidar, Poreĺ Abishek Suryakumar Yadav, Indrajith, Hrithik Shokeen, Manav Suthar, Gaurav Yadav, Vyshak Vijaykumar, Anshul Khamboj, Chauhan, Mayank Markande, Aryan Juyal (wk), Sandeep

India D: Shreyas lyer (c), Atharva Taide, Yash Dubey, Devdutt Padikkal, Ishan Kishan (wk), Ricky Bhui, Saransh Jain, Axar Patel, Arshdeep Singh, Aditya Harshit Thakare, Tushar Deshpande, Akash Sengupta, KS Bharat (wk),



## HOPEFULLY, WE WILL BREAK FINAL BARRIER IN T20 WC: HARMANPREET

PTI NEW DELHI

Harmanpreet Kaur remained optimistic that India can grab their maiden global title in the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup, and said conditions in the UAE could work to their advantage.

The International Cricket Council has recently shifted the showpiece, to be held between October 3 and 20, to the UAE from Bangladesh owing to the political unrest in the latter nation.

"Whenever we play on this kind of stage (World Cup), we always want to do well. We have always done well in the past as well, and hopefully, this time we will break that final barrier and go all the way," Harmanpreet told PTI

Harmanpreet was on Tuesday appointed as the captain of the Indian team for the T20

The 35-year-old did not read too much into the venue shift, and said the conditions in the UAE are quite similar to

India. "We have not played much cricket in the UAE. But the conditions in the UAE are game in the World Cup.

"The bowlers are working really hard as a team and, hopefully, in this World Cup



conditions

"We will see how the conditions play out (there) and try to adjust ourselves to the conditions as soon as possible," said Harmanpreet, who led India to the final of the 2020 T20 World Cup.

Irrespective of the playing conditions, she wanted the

New Champions League

format promises more

our defeats and break those barriers that are pushing us back. Hopefully this time we can express ourselves in a more positive way in the World Cup," she said.

Harmanpreet also backed the Indian bowlers, who floundered in the recent Asia Cup final against Sri Lanka, to deliver in the World Cup.

really hard as a team and,

where 32 teams were put into

eight groups of four teams

from a seeded draw. The top

two in each group advanced

to the pre-quarterfinals.

Groups gave each team six

games from September into

December, playing each rival

once at home and once away.

In comes a single-standings

league - 36 teams each

playing eight games against

eight different opponents

The top eight in the

standings go directly to the

pre-quarterfinals in March.

Teams ranked ninth to 24th

go into the knockout playoffs February. The

against

bottom 12 teams are

In the playoffs, teams ranked Nos. 9-16 are

seeded in the draw to

play second legs at

unseeded teams Nos.

Who gets the four

Two for countries

collectively had the

best record in UEFA

club competitions in

the previous season.

extra places?

whose

through January.

we tick all the boxes. Harmanpreet, who

Mumbai Indians to WPL victory last year, said the key to winning the World Cup will be to keep themselves in the present.

"It is always important for us to play good cricket, keeping ourselves in the present. Whatever the situation is in front of us...we go there and

so the fifth-placed teams in

Serie A and the Bundesliga

The fifth-ranked national

league (based on five years of

results in UEFA club

competitions) gets a third

direct entry. That is currently

France and Brest was third in

An extra place goes to the

qualifying rounds path for national champions from

lower-ranked countries.

They now play for five total

qualifying places instead of

qualified: Bologna

Borussia Dortmund.

### Jeev, Jyoti among Indian stars to compete in country's inaugural Legends Tour

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian golfing greats Jeev Milkha Singh and Jyoti Randhawa will be among 64 international players vying for top honours in the inaugural HSBC India Legends

Championships to be played at Jaypee Greens course at Greater Noida from August 30 to September 1.

The first Legends Tour tournament in the country, which will have USD 0.5 million as prize purse, will also see 2005 US Open champion Michael Campbell of New Zealand in action.

The winner of the HSBC India Legends Championship is set to take home USD 74,250, while the runner-up will receive USD 49,000. The thirdplace finisher will pocket USD

The event will be played over 54 holes and it will be preceded by a star-studded Pro-Am event on August 28 and 29, which will see top golfers play alongside amateurs.

The Legends Tour is a professional golf tour for male golfers aged 50 and over, run by the PGA European Tour. It began as European Senior Tour

as Legends Tour in 2020. Jeev is the host of the tournament, co-sanctioned by the Professional Golf Tour of India (PGTI). The event will

Randhawa qualified after winning the Legends Tour's tough and challenging Qualifying School finals in challenging Turkey. "Since I am the host, I will ensure that I don't win the see a participation from 17

press conference to launch the tournament. "It's great for the country's golfers and for world golf in general. Golfing career is over when you are 40 or 45. But with the Legends Tour, you tournament this weekend," the can have a second innings after 52-year-old Jeev joked at the reaching 50 years.

#### KIFS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Registered Office: 6th Floor, KIFS Corporate House, Beside Hotel Planet Landmark, Near Ashok Vatika BRTS, ISKON - Ambli Road, Ambli, Ahmedabad, Gujarat - 380054 Corporate Office: C-902, Lotus Park, Graham Firth Compound, Western Express Highway, Goregaon (East), Mumbai - 400063, Maharashtra, India, Ph. No.: 991 22 61796400 E-mail: contact@hishousing.com Website: www.kifshousing.com CIN: U65922GJ2015PLC085079 RBI COR: DOR-00145

OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 (SARFAESI ACT)

In respect of loans availed by below mentioned borrowers/guarantors through KIFS HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED, which have become NPA with below mentioned balance outstanding on dates mentioned below. We have already issued detailed Demand Notice dated as mentioned below. Under Sec. 13(2) of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post / Speed Post/ Courier with acknowledge due to you which has been returned undelivered / acknowledgment not received. We have indicated our intentior of taking possession of securities owned on one of you as per Sec. 13(4) of the Act in case of your failure to pay the amount mentioned below within 60 days. In the event of your not discharging liability as set out herein above the Bank / Secured Creditor may exercise any of the right conferred vide section 13(4) of SARFAESI Act and while publishing the possession notice auction notice, electronically or otherwise, as required under the SARFAESI Act, the Bank/Secured Creditor may also publish your photograph. Details are hereunder:-

8r. Vo.	Application No/LRN	Name of Borrower / Co- Borrower / Guarantors & Date of NPA	Demand Notice Date Amount Outstanding	Detail of Secured Assets:					
1		Mr. Dhaneshwar Sharma (Applicant) Mrs. Lalita Sharma (Co-Applicant)	Demand Notice Date	Part Of Khasra No.240/2, Ph No.105/61, Chandrasekhr Azad Gokul Nagar Stage Sector Phase Ward No.52, Landmark-					
		NPA: July 09, 2024	August 22, 2024	Mathpurena, Raipur, Chhattisgarh, 492013. As Per Sale Deed:					
	011280		O/s. Rs.1643560/-	East: Plot Of Sahu Ji, West: Road, North: Plot Of Rajkumar Dhiwar, South: Plot Of Shau Ji					
2	/ 2345 / LNHLRAI	Mr. Santosh Kumar Agrahari (Applicant) Mrs. Meenakshi Devi (Co- Applicant)	Demand Notice Date August 22, 2024	Part Of Kh No 1727, 1728 & 1729 PHN 107/37/49 Rnm Raipur, Near Station Chowk Towards Gudiyari Underb NA Landmark NA NA Gudiyari Chhattisgarh Chhattisgarh 492011. As Per Sale					
	009117	NPA: July 09, 2024	O/s. Rs.1609176/-	Deed: East: Road, West: Boundary wall Of Railways, North: Godown Of Surendra Hora, South: House Of Prem Kumar Kattar					
he	e above mentioned Borrowers/Guarantors are advised (1) To collect the original notice from the undersigned for more and complete details and								

(2) To pay the balance outstanding amount interest and costs etc. within 60 days from the date of notice referred to above to avoid further action under the SARFAESI Act.

Date: 28.08.2024 | Place: Chattisgarh



#### 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

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

 $Notice is hereby \ given to the \ public in \ general \ and \ in \ particular \ to \ the \ Borrower \ (s)/Co-Borrower \ (s)/Mortgagor \ (s) \ and \ Guarantor \ (s) \ that \ the \ below \ described \ the \ below \ described \ that \ the \ that \ that \ the \ that \ that \ the \ that \ the \ that \ th$ 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 what is", and "Whatever there is" basis through E-Auction for recovery of amount mentioned in the table below along with further interest, cost, charge and expenses being due to AUSFB viz. Secured Creditor.

 $It is hereby informed you that we are going to conduct public E-Auction through website \\ \textbf{https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net}$ Loan A/c No./ Name of Date & Amount

	Mortgagors/Guarantor	Demand Notice	Possession	Property	Property	Property	E-Auction	Submission	Submission	Visit Date
	(Loan A/C No.) L9001060118175793, Bhushan Lal Sahu S/O Puniram (Borrower & Mortgagor), Shanti Lal Sahu S/O Puniram (Co- Borrower), Bhuvneshar Lal Sahu S/O Puniram (Co-Borrower), Dudhnath Sahu S/O Kusu Ram Shau (Co-Borrower)	24-May-21 Rs. 9,69,022/- Rs. Nine Lac Sixty Nine Thousand Twenty Two Only As On 22-May-21	23-Mar-23	Property Situated At- Ph No.30, Kh No. 1890, Rnm Birra Tehsil Champa, Distt. Janjgir Champa (Chhatiishgarh) Admeasuring 648.33 Sq.Mtr.	Rs. 7,00,000/- Rs.Seven Lac Only	Rs. 70,000/- Rs. Seventy Thousand Only	25-Sep- 24 2.00 PM to 4.00 PM with unlimited extension of 5 minutes		AU Small Finance Bank Ltd., Branch Address: - Ground Floor, Tiwari Complex Kera Road Naila Janjgir - 495668	Gopal Das Bairagi & Deepak Jain, 7610210556 9773358234 auctions@ aubank.in 19-Sep-24
- 1	wh	f								

(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 AU SMALL FINANCE BANK LIMITED Fifth and Sixth Floor Sunny Big Junction STC Khasra No. 64 to 67, Gram Sukhaipura New Atish 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 Numbe 9358002663 and e-mail of auctions@aubank.in Please Note: This is also a 15 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 above-mentioned date. The property will be sold, if their outstanding dues are not repaid in full by the borrower in the given notice period. Date : 27/08/2024

Public Notice For E-Auction For Sale of Immovable Properties

AP GENEVA

The new Champions League format this season will see more teams playing more games for more prize money. On Thursday, the Union of European Football Associations makes the draw in Monaco for the match schedule of the new single-standings phase that replaces the traditional group stage.

The first new Champions League format since 2003 promises more of almost everything that Europe's and wealthiest influential clubs wanted from UEFA. There are four more places in

a 36-team lineup; at least eight games each instead of six; Champions League games scheduled in January for the first time; a prize money rise of at least 25% to a minimum of 2.5 billion euros (USD 2.8 billion).

There also was more evidence, at UEFA's European Championship this summer, that constant expansion of international competitions is leaving players tired and unable to perform at their best yearround. The new league phase in European club soccer's marquee event will have 144 total games compared to 96 in the group stage last season.

The "key aims," UEFA said, is to "improve competitive balance and sporting interest and in the process increase the number of meaningful matches - matches with something at stake for both sides throughout the

competition." In the eighth and final round, all 36 teams play on the same January 29 evening to finalize the standings which will decide which eight teams advance directly to the prequarterfinals - and with what seedings in a tennis-like knockout bracket - as well as which 16 go into a new knockout playoff round in

qualification should be strategy, Stéphane Anselmo.

change such successful competition?

The road to agreeing on the format was rocky. A controversial first proposal in 2019, favoring storied clubs, was stopped by a backlash from mid-ranked clubs and domestic leagues. There was intense turmoil sparked by the failed Super League launch in April 2021 by most of the same club officials who negotiated Champions League reform with ÚEFA.

What is the new format? Out goes the group-stage

February, and which 12 are simulated

possible with an average of 7.6 points, which means two victories and two draws," said UEFA's head of competitions

Money, mostly, though that's not the only reason. The Champions League in Europe has for the past 32 years showcased the highest quality play in world soccer. It let UEFA steer billions of euros (dollars) of prize money to clubs that pay the highest transfer fees and salaries.

Still, influential officials at European Association (ECA) got bored of the group stage, saying it was too repetitive and lacked drama. They wanted more games against stronger opponents that would be more valued by broadcasters, viewers and new fans worldwide. Their leverage over UEFA was potentially launching their breakaway competition.

Final format approval came in May 2022 - when Real Madrid, Barcelona and Juventus were exiled from the talks and still pursued UEFA in court - and it was broadly what the rebel Super League clubs had negotiated.

Possession Notice (For Immovable Property) Rule 8-(1)
Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Officer of IIFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Lid.) (IIFL-HFL) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, a Demand Notice was issued by the Authorised Officer of the company to the Demander of the Company to the orrower/Co-Borrowers mentioned herein below to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has **taken possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of pow conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said Rules. The borrower in particular and the public in general are here cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of IIFL HFL fo an amount as mentioned herein under with interest thereon. "The borrower's attention is invited voivisions of sub-tion (3) of section 13 of the Act, if the borrower clears the dues of the "IIFL HFL" together with all costs, charges and

expenses incurred, at any time before the date fixed for sale or transfer, the secured assets shall not be sold or trans ferred by "IIFL HFL" and no further step shall be taken by "IIFL HFL" for transfer or sale of the secured assets.							
Name of the Borrower (s) /	Description of the Secured Asset (Immovable Property)	Total Outstanding Dues (Rs.)	Date of Demand Notice	Poss			
	All that piece and parcel of A plot of land arising out of			-ssio			
	Khasra No. 52/2, Shraddha Vihar, Wake Mauja		12-	23-			
	Boriyakhurdh, Phn 71, Rnm Raipur-1, Tehsil And Dist Raipur, Chattisgarh, 492015. Area Admeasuring (IN		Jun-	Aug			
Mrs. Laxmi Dewangan	SQ. FT.): Property Type: Land_Area, Carpet_Area,	Hundred and	2024	2024			
	Built_Up_Area, Super_Built_Up_Area Property Area: 675.00, 480.00, 640.00, 640.00.	Ninety Three Only)					
For, further details please contact to Authorised Officer at Branch Office:1st Floor, Lal Ganga City Mart, Banja							
Chowk, Opposite Hotel Amit Regency, Raipur, CG 492001 or Corporate Office: Plot No.98, Phase-IV, Udyo							

Vihar, Gurgaon, Haryana nur Date: 28-08-2024 Sd/- Authorised Officer, For IIFL Home Finance Ltd.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

Pranch 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 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.

wit	with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.								
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch					
	Anthony/ Ward No.38 Near Om Shanti Cottage Hemu Nagar Chhattisgarh Bilaspur	Mouza-Torwa Patt Ph No 22, SE No. 245 Ward No 34hemu Nagar Part Of Khasra No 1217/2, R.N.M Bilaspur, B.K. Bilha Tahasil And District-Bilaspur Chhattisgarh Bilaspur Main Po. (Admeasuring An Area Of Total Plot Area 1962 Sq.ft./ Date Of Physical 22.08.2024	August 31, 2019 Rs. 24,64,985/-	Bilaspur					

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.

Date: August 28, 2024

Sincerely Authorised Signatory Place: Bilaspur

For ICICI Bank Ltd.

Sale of Immovable property mortgaged to IIFL Home Finance Limited (Formerly known as India Infoline Housing Finance Ltd.) (IIFL-HFL) Corporate Office at Plot No. 98, Udyog Vihar, Phase-IV. Gurgaon-122015 (Haryana) and Branch Office at 1st Floor, Lal Ganga City Mart, Banjari Chowk, Opposite Hotel Amil Regency, Raipur, CG 492001 under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002/hereinafter "Act") of IIFL-HFL had taken the possession of the following property pursuant to the notice issued US/13(2) of the Act in the following loan accounts/prospect nos. with a right to sell the same on "AS IS WHERE IS, AS IS WHAT IS BASIS and WITHOUT RECOURSE BASIS" for realiza-

tion of IIFL-HFL's dues, The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the website: www.iiflonehome.com							
Borrower(s) / Co- Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount		Description of the Immovable property/ Secured Asset Possession		Reserve Price		
1. Mr. Rajan Kumar	12-Apr-2024 Rs. 6,48,425/-(Rupees Six		nd parcel of the property Diverted Land Part Of	08-Aug-2024		Rs.11,83,000/- (Rupees	
2. Mr. Radheyshyam	Lakh Forty Eight Thousand			Total	Outstanding as	Eleven Lakh Eighty Three	
Sharma	Four Hundred and Twenty		Yatityatanlal, Ward No 4,	On Date 07-Aug-2024		Thousand Only)	
3. Mrs. Shila Devi	Five Only)	Ph No 108/38/37, Raipur, Cg, 492001		Rs. 6,43,670/-		Earnest Money Deposit	
(Prospect No	Bid Increase Amount Rs. 25,000/-	Area Admeasuring (In Sq. Ft.):			es Six Lakh Forty	(EMD)	
IL10067296)		Property Type: Land_Area, Carpet_Area Property Area: 924.00,		Tillioo Tiloudulla Olik		Rs. 1,18,300/- (Rupees One	
1210001200)	(Rupees Twenty Five Thousand Only)	600.00			dred And Seventy Only)	Lakh Eighteen Thousand Three Hundred Only)	
Date of Inspection of property 27-Sep-2024 1100 hrs -1400 hrs.			EMD Last Date 30-Sep-2024 till 5 p		Ime of E-Auction 4 1100 hrs-1300 hrs.		
14 - 4 D 4 - FMD 4							

Mode of Payment:- EMD payments are to be made vide online mode only. To make payments you have tovisit https://www.liflonehome.co and pay through link available for the property/ Secured Asset only. Note: Payment link for each property/ Secured Asset is different. Ensur you are using link of the property/ Secured Asset you intend to buy vide public auction. or Balance Payment - Login https://www.iiflonehome.com >My Bid >Pay Balance Amount TERMS AND CONDITIONS:-

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

To participating in e-auction, Intending bidders required to register their details with the Service Provider https://www.iflonehome.com well in advance and has to create the login account, login ID and password. Intending bidders have to submit / send their "Tender FORM" along with the payment details towards EMD, copy of the KYC and PAN card at the above mentioned Branch Office.

The bidders shall improve their offer in multiple of amount mentioned under the column filed lorcease Amount". In case bid is placed in the last 5 minutes of the closing time of the auction, the closing time will automatically get extended for 5 minutes.

The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the bid amount (after adjusting EMD) within 24 hours of the acceptance of bid price by the AO and the belance 75% of the bid amount within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale by the secured creditor. All deposit and payment shall be in the prescribed mode of payment.

in the prescribed mode of payment.

The purchaser has to bear the cess, applicable stamp duty, fees, and any other statutory dues or other dues like municipal tax, electricity charges.

In a purchaser has to bear the cess, application is tamp duty, rees, and any other stautory dues or other dues like municipal tax, electricity charges, land and all other incidental costs, charges including all taxes and rates outgoings relating to the property.

The purchaser has to pay TDS application to the transaction/payment of sale amount and submit the TDS certificate with IIFL HFL.

Bidders are advised to go through the website https: //www.iiflonehome.com and https://www.iifl.com/home-loans/properties-for-auction for detailed terms and conditions of auction sale & auction application form before submitting their Bids for taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.

For details, help procedure and online training on e-auction prospective bidders may contact the service provider E mail ID:care@iiflonehome.com, Support Helpline Numbers:@1800 2672 499.

For any query related to Property details, Inspection of Property and Online bid etc. call IIFL HFL toll free no. 1800 2672 499 from 09:30 has to 18:00 has between Monday to Eriday or write to email; care@iiflonehome.com.

For any query related to Property details, inspection or Property and Unline bild etc. Call IIFL FIFL toll free no. 1800 2672 499 from 09:30 hrs to 18:00 hrs between Monday to Friday or write to email:- care@iiflonehome.com
 Notice is hereby given to above said borrowers to collect the household articles, which were lying in the secured asset at the time of taking physical possession within 7 days, otherwise IIFL-HFL shall not be responsible for any loss of property under the circumstances.
 Out-further the notice is hereby given to the Borrower/s, that in case they fail to collect the above said articles same shall be sold in accordance with Law.
 In case of default in payment at any stage by the successful bidder / auction purchaser within the above stipulated time, the sale will be cancelled and the amount already paid will be forfeited (including EMD) and the property will be again put to sale.

12.AO reserves the rights to postpone/cancel or vary the terms and condition of tender/auction without assigning any reason thereof. In case of an dispute in tender/Auction, the decision of AO of IIFL-HFL will be final.

STATUTARY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002 The Borrower are hereby notified to pay the sum as mentioned above along with upto dated interest and ancillary expenses before the date of Tender/Auction, failing which the property will be auctioned/sold and balance dues if any will be recovered with interest and cost.

-36	ln	du	sIn	d	Bai	nk
760		<b>U U</b>	<b>J</b>			

Savitri Tower, 3A, Upper Wood Street, Kolkata 700017

Appendix - IV [see rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (for Immovable/movable property)

Sd/- Authorised Officer, IIFL Home Finance Limited

**REGIONAL OFFICE:** 

WHEREAS. The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Industrial Bank Ltd, under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued Demand Notices on the date mentioned against said account calling upon the respective Borrower / Guarantor to repay the amount as mentioned against said account within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice. The borrower / Guarantor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Guarantor and the public in general that the undersigned has taken Physical Possession of the property described herein below in exercise of power conferred on him under section 13(4) of the said Act read with the rule 8 of the said rule on the date mentioned against said Borrower/ Guarantor.

lace:-Raipur, Date: 28-Aug-2024

The Borrower/ Guarantor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to the charge of the <b>Industrid Bank Ltd</b> for the amount mentioned below against the respect Guarantor and interest thereon. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.						
Name of the Borrower / Guarantor / Mortgagor	Date of Demand Notice & Date of Physical Possession	Amount outstanding				
Borrower: M/s Vaishnavi Trading Company, Mr. Gobinda Prasad Sharma and Mrs. Nitu Sharma	All that Flat bearing the Flat No. 303 in the 3rd Floor, Block-B, Built up Area 1450 sq. ft., situated of "Om Shree King Code", Part of survey / Kh. No. 141/1 & 150/1, Area 0.042 Hect., Kh. No. 152, Area 0.060 Hect., Kh. No. 153, Area 0.053 Hect., Kh. No. 154/1, Area 0.030 Hect., Kh. No. 162/3 & 207/33, Area 0.232 Hect., part of Kh. No. 162/7 & 207/47, Area of 0.036 Hect., Total admeasuring Area 0.453 Hect. Or 48760 sq. ft. & survey/ Kh. No. 151/2-3-4-5-6, Area 0.045 Hect. and 151/7, Area 0.042 Hect., Total Area 0.087 Hect. or 9363 sq. ft., Total Land Area admeasuring 58123 sq. ft., situated at Khamhardih, Shankar Nagar, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Ward No. 27, RIC-Raipur-1, P.H. No. 110, Tah. & District Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001 and bounded by as per map attached with Sale Deed.  **The details/description of property is more specifically described in the Sale Deed duly registered on 20.03.2017 in Book NoA-1, Volume No 72845 at Serial No7840 of SRI in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh in the name of Mr. Gobinda Prasad Sharma.	19-10-2022 & 22-08-2024	Rs. 70,49,271.99/- (Rupees Seventy Lakhs Forty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Seventy One and Paisa Ninety Nine Only/-)			
Borrower: Mr. Gobinda Prasad Sharma, M/s Vaishnavi Trading Company and Mrs. Nitu Sharma	All that Flat bearing the Flat No. 303 in the 3rd Floor, Block-B, Built up Area 1450 sq. ft., situated of "Om Shree King Code", Part of survey / Kh. No. 141/1 & 150/1, Area 0.042 Hect., Kh. No. 152, Area 0.060 Hect., Kh. No. 153, Area 0.053 Hect., Kh. No. 154/1, Area 0.030 Hect., Kh. No. 162/3 & 207/33, Area 0.232 Hect., part of Kh. No. 162/7 & 207/47, Area of 0.036 Hect., Total admeasuring Area 0.453 Hect. Or 48760 sq. ft. & survey/ Kh. No. 151/2-3-4-5-6, Area 0.045 Hect. and 151/7, Area 0.042 Hect., Total Area 0.087 Hect. or 9363 sq. ft., Total Land Area admeasuring 58123 sq. ft., situated at Khamhardih, Shankar Nagar, Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar Ward No. 27, RIC-Raipur-1, P.H. No. 110, Tah. & District Raipur, Chhattisgarh-492001 and bounded by as per map attached with Sale Deed.  **The details/description of property is more specifically described in the Sale Deed duly registered on 20.03.2017 in Book NoA-1, Volume No 72845 at Serial No7840 of SRI in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Raipur, Chhattisgarh in the name of Mr. Gobinda Prasad Sharma.	19-10-2022 & 22-08-2024	Rs. 44,03,789.96 /- (Rupees Forty Four Lakhs Three Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty Nine and Paisa Ninety Six Only/-)			
Date - 22 00 2024			Cd/ Authorized Office			