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Winter haze shrouds National Capital

bitter cold wave, and Adense fog gripped Delhi-National Capital Region on Tuesday, with air quality plunging back into the category drastically reducing visibility across the city. The Air Quality Index (AQI) of Delhi stood at 433 while the minimum temperature was 5.9 degrees Celsius, two notches below normal while the maximum temperature settled at 24.4 degrees Celsius, two notches above normal. The AQI was expected to remain in the 'severe' category for the next

two days. Of Delhi's 35 monitoring stations, 28 recorded the air quality in the 'severe' category, with some breaching the 450 mark that is classified as 'severe plus'. Monitoring stations in Mandir Marg, Jahangirpuri,

Patparganj, Punjabi Bagh, Rohini, ITO, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, DTU, Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, Mandir Marg, Pusa, Shadipur recorded the AQI in the 'severe' category.

The AQI was in the 'severe plus' category in Alipur, Anand Vihar, Ashok Vihar, Bawana, Burari, CRRI Mathura Road, North Campus, Okhla Phase 2, Sirifort, Sonia Vihar and Vivek Vihar. According to India Meteorological Department meteorological conditions are likely to be unfavourable for effective dispersion of pollutants".

The major source of Delhi's pollution was vehicular emission, contributing 18.8 per cent of PM2.5. There was no contribution of stubble burning to Delhi's pollution as the season is over in Punjab and Haryana.PM2.5 remained

levels recorded at 252 micrograms per cubic metre at 4 pm.

Meanwhile, haze and cold wave conditions have caused severe disruption across the region. Thick fog enveloped various parts of the district, severely reduced visibility and created challenges commuters. According to the IMD the national capital registered a minimum temperature of 4.5 degrees Celsius at 5.30 am, which later settled at an average of 5.9 degree Celsius. temperature in certain areas of Delhi went even below 4.5 Celsius. degrees minimum temperature in Pusa was recorded at 3.5 degrees Celsius, while in Ayanagar, the

minimum temperature was

Celsius.At Najafgarh, the

minimum temperature was

4 degrees

at

Celsius. As temperatures dropped

further and fog reduced visibility, the Delhi airport administration implemented low visibility procedures on Moderate Tuesday. Safdarjung reported at airport. Safdarjung airport recorded lowest visibility 350m at 8 am, which improved thereafter becoming 400m at 8.30 am. Palam airport recorded lowest visibility 600 m during 8 am hours to 9 am hours which improved thereafter becoming 700m at 9,30 am.

However, the Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA) authority clarified that flight operations were not affected by the current conditions. A passenger advisory was issued, urging travelers to check with their respective airlines for the latest flight updates. "Low

visibility procedures are in place at Delhi airport. Flight operations remain normal. Passengers are advised to contact their airline for updated flight details," the airport administration posted

Meanwhile, Delhi-NCR schools on Tuesday switched to the hybrid mode of conducting classes following the re-imposition of antipollution measures under the Stage IV of the Graded Response Action (GRAP). According to the revised GRAP schedule, classes for students in grades VI-IX and XI in Delhi, Gurugram, Faridabad, and Gautam Ghaziabad Buddh Nagar must operate in hybrid mode (physical and online) under Stage IV. However, students of class X and XII have to attend school

You are responsible for the mess: **SC** tells Greater Noida Authority

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Considering the plight of the hassled homebuyers, the Supreme Court on Tuesday asked the Greater Noida Industrial Development Authority (GNIDA) to submit a for proposal grievance redressal, and imposed Rs 5 lakh cost on it for failing to file a timely response.

A Bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Sanjay Kumar expressed dissatisfaction over the approach of GNIDA and said, "You are responsible for the mess. Of course, developers made money from the homebuyers. But that does not condone your acts." The Bench said it may order a CBI probe into the whole "mess" if the GNIDA did not come up with a plan to redress the grievances of the homebuyers. "You come up with a plan in 10 days. otherwise we will order a CBI investigation... You will have to ensure that interests of homebuyers are safeguarded. You are also part of the problem. You allowed this mess to be created," the CJI

said. The Bench suggested the GNIDA to take over the entire land, develop the projects and give the flats to the homebuyers. Seeking a detailed affidavit from GNIDA, the Bench asked it to provide information including the date of allotment of the land and the date of execution of the lease deeds in favour of the private seeking

company. Besides comprehensive proposal for the homebuyers, the Bench asked the GNIDA to give information on why the allotment of land was not cancelled when developers violated the terms of the projects.

Senior advocate Shoeb Alam, appearing for over 800 homebuyers, said a PSU was willing to develop the stalled projects and pay up the dues to GNIDA and others, and moreover, no creditors or investors would have to suffer haircuts.

The top court was hearing about 12 appeals arising out of a National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) judgment in relation to the insolvency proceedings of debt-ridden realty firm Earth Infrastructure.

The NCLAT had declined a plea of a batch of homebuyers who challenged the NCLT's approval of Alpha Corp Development's bid to acquire Earth Infrastructure. The NCLAT had on June 8, 2021, approved the resolution plan Alpha Development. The committee

of creditor of the Earth Infrastructure had voted in favour of Alpha Corp with a majority of 99 per cent.

Due to the protracted legal battle, five housing projects, three in Greater Noida and two in Gurugram, of the realty firm are stalled leaving hundreds of homebuyers in the lurch. Earlier, Alpha Corp had said it would invest around Rs 900 crore to complete the three stalled projects Earth Infrastructure that it acquired through the insolvency

process at Greater Noida. The housing projects were launched between 2010 and 2012, but were not completed in the stipulated time period. Approximately 2,900 units were to be developed in these projects. Ananta by Alpha Corp (erstwhile Earth Copia), Sector 112, Gurugram, is a housing project launched in 2011; February Sapphire Court, Greater Noida, is a commercial project launched in July 2010 and Earth Techone, located on Yamuna Expressway in Greater Noida, is a mixed

project launched in June 2012.

II NEET-UG exam be conducted online soon?

recorded

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

With controversies following the medical entrance exams every year, the Centre on Tuesday said the Education and Health Ministry is deliberating whether to conduct medical entrance exam NEET-UG offline, or in online mode, Union expected Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has held two rounds of talks with the Union Health Minister JP

NĔET-UG Currently, conducted offline, wherein students have to solve multiple choice questions on an OMR sheet. The National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) is the largest entrance exam in the country in terms of the number of candidates appearing for the test. In 2024, a record over 24 lakh

Nadda in this regard.

candidates took the exam. While NEET was under the scanner over several irregularities, including alleged leaks, UGC-NET was cancelled as the ministry received inputs that the integrity of the exam had been compromised. Both matters are being probed by the CBI. Two other exams, CSIR-UGC NET and NEET PG - were cancelled at the last moment as a pre-emptive step. Pradhan also said the



National Testing Agency (NTA) will not conduct any recruitment exams from 2025, instead focus only on higher education entrance tests. The agency will be restructured next year and new posts are being created. move is part of examination reforms based on the recommendations of a high-level panel set up earlier this year following alleged leaks in the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) medical entrance exam and a series of cancellations of others due to suspected leaks and other

The administrative ministry of NEET is the Health Ministry and hence we are in talks with them about whether NEET should be conducted in pen and paper available for the MBBS mode or online mode. We course, approximately 56,000 have had two rounds of talks seats are in government

with the Health Ministry led by JP Nadda. Whatever option will be considered best suited for conducting the exam, NTA is ready to undertake the exercise," Pradhan told a Special Press briefing on the current state on primary, secondary, higher and technical education in the

country The Minister said a decision in this regard is expected soon and the reforms will be implemented in the 2025 edition of the exam. "What will be NEET's methodology, what will be the protocol...A decision is expected soon. We will notify it soon," he added. The NTA conducts the NEET every year for admission into medical colleges. A total of 1,08,000 seats are available for the MBSS course. Of the seats course, approximately 56,000

hospitals and about 52,000 are colleges. private Admissions to undergraduate courses in Dentistry, Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha also utilise the results of the NEET for admission

The idea of switching to Computer Based Test (CBT) mode for NEET is not new and has been deliberated several times before. However, came following the paper leak controversy earlier this year. In the line of fire over alleged irregularities in NEET and PhD entrance NET, the Centre had in July set up the panel to ensure transparent, smooth and fair conduct of examinations by NTA.

According to the high-level panel headed by former ISRO Chief R Radhakrishnan multi-stage testing for NEET-UG could be a viable possibility that needs to be followed up. "An acceptable framework with threshholds and test objectives of scoring and ranking at each stage, and number of attempts etc. May be evolved," the panel has recommended in its

A DIGI-EXAM system to check impersonation, multistage and multi-session testing, test centre allocation policy, setting up secured test centres in each district and mobile testing centres in rural and remote areas are among the recommendations made by the high-level panel.

An Imperial legacy

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

he Delhi High Court on The Delni riigh Com-Monday disposed off a 16year-old case relating the trademark of Delhi's iconic 'The Imperial' hotel after the members of Akoi family, who own and operate the hotel, reached a settlement. The settlement acknowledged that he trademark jointly owned by Hardev Singh Akoi (50 per cent) and his brother Jasdev Singh Akoi's children, Raidev Singh Akoi (25 per cent), and Gobind Singh Akoi (25 per cent).

"In terms of the settlement, the families of Hardev Singh Akoi and late Jasdev Singh Akoi admit/acknowledge that as on date, Hardev Singh Akoi [50%], Raidev Singh Akoi [25%] and Gobind Singh Akoi [25%] are the joint and exclusive owners of the trademark: Imperial and that no one will separately apply or have any rights in the trademark: Imperial or any other trade mark, trade name, copyright, whether registered or unregistered, identical or deceptively similar," said Justice Mini Pushkarna of Delhi High Court in the order. The Imperial, New Delhi, is a historic landmark that has witnessed significant events in India's history. Established in 1931, the hotel has been a favourite among dignitaries and celebrities alike. It was marks.



founded by SBS Ranjit Singh, who passed it on to Rajdev Singh. Jasdev and Hardev were the children of Rajdev Singh. It was conceptualised in 1934 and officially opened in 1936 by Lord Willingdon, the Vicerov of India

During India's struggle for Independence, the hotel served as a meeting place for prominent leaders Gandhi _ Mahatma and Jawaharlal Nehru. The Round Table Conferences, crucial discussions between British and Indian leaders, were held there. Post-independence, the hotel continued to be a hub for political and social

gatherings.
The HC also found the settlement terms lawful and confirmed that no other disputes related to the trademark were pending. The parties agreed not to make individual applications for or claim rights in the trademark or any deceptively similar



members

mutually agreed to settle the

present suit amicably," read

family

the order.

The HC accepted the settlement, decreeing the suit based on the agreed terms. It directed that the application, containing the original signatures of all parties, be placed in the case file. The Court also instructed that a decree sheet be drawn up and canceled all pending hearings.
The dispute concerns the

trademark "Imperial" and its which were lion logo, considered symbols of a prestigious hotel's goodwill. Brothers Hardev Singh Akoi and Jasdev Singh Akoi, joint owners of the hotel, disagreed over certain alterations to the trademark and its use.



schools get bomb threats

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

More than 30 schools in Delhi received bomb threats through e-mails on Tuesday, marking the second such alarming incident this week and the fifth within just nine days leaving students, staff, and authorities on edge in the National Capital.

According to police sources, more than 30 schools including The Indian School in South Delhi, Ambience Public School in Safdarjung Enclave, Dilshad Public School in Dilshad Garden and Crescent School in outer Delhi, reported that bomb threats were received by police authorities.

On Monday, around 20 schools including DPS RK Puram, Gyan Bharati School Saket and Ryan International School in Vasant Kunj among others had received threat emails.

Rapper Badshah caught in the wrong lane



PARVESH SHARMA ■ GURUGRAM

The Gurugram Traffic police has issued a Challan of Rs 15,500 against Bollywood rapper Badshah while en route to Punjabi singer Karan Aujla's concert in Gurugram for driving on the wrong side of the road. The singer was reportedly riding a Mahindra Thar to reach Karan Aujla's concert in Gurugram on

December 15, of which he was a part.

It is being said that the singer's convoy, comprising three cars, was reportedly driving on the wrong side of the road and disobeyed traffic norms, this led to outrage on social

However, it is being said that the vehicle did not belong to the rapper and was registered in the name of a youth from Panipat. After the post went viral, Gurugram traffic police took notice and issued a challan.

"3 vehicles of Punjabi singer Karan Aujla's convoy are going on the wrong side towards Airia Mall, and the bouncers are also misbehaving with the people, but Gurugram police are sleeping," an X user wrote. To this, Gurugram police replied, "Challan has

been generated on 16.12.2024 against wrong side driving according to MV Act." "A challan of Rs 15,500 has been issued against one vehicle remaining two of the convoy are being identified. Soon fines under the MV (Motor Vehicle) Act 2019 will be issued against them as well," said a traffic police officer on the condition of anonymity.

Omar Abdullah lays out a welcoming MOHIT KANDHARI JAMMU

hief Minister Omai Abdullah's warm hospitality has become the talk of the town in the corridors of power in Jammu and Kashmir. Last week when the CM hosted members of civil society at his official residence in Jammu he not only threw open the gates of his residence for the common citizens, but also invited a team of Kashmiri Chefs (Wazas) to cook sumptuous Kashmiri Wazwan, a multicourse meal.

It was after a long gap the guests at the official residence also hosted members of different delegations, resource of the Chief Minister were persons heading different treated with non-vegetarian committees, academicians, along with food in Jammu. In addition to this, the newly elected CM other prominent citizens at Sinha were commonly served



his residence.

Post Abrogation of Article 370 and 35-A, the gatherings at the Raj Bhawan hosted by Lieutenant Governor Manoi

A famous local caterer was also engaged by the Union Territory administration to organize

only vegetarian meals/snacks.

lavish dinners and luncheon meetings to suit the taste buds of guests from different walks of life. The famous cuisines of different neighboring states of Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh were also given preference. The traditional meat Kebabs

and other non-vegetarian delicacies were replaced with Veg kebabs and other culinary delights on the regular menu. Sharing his experience of

breaking bread in the company of the CM, an eminent citizen told The Pioneer, "All those who attended the meeting were escorted by the Chief Minister himself inside the dining area where a lavish meal was served. Omar interacted with almost everyone present there and gave them a patient hearing. In the past, he remained occupied with his ministerial colleagues and other VVIP guests. But this time we met a different version of Omar Abdullah. He was more polite, courteous, accommodating". Former Chief Ministers Dr

Farooq Abdullah, Mufti Mohd Saveed, Ghulam Nabi Azad, and Mehbooba Mufti were equally hospitable and frequently met guests at their residences to interact over lunch and dinner meetings.

New doors of development to open in MP and Rajasthan

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said that the Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project will make both the states of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan 'Sujalam-Sufalam'. The Memorandum of Agreement that has been signed here todav between Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and the Central Government is not a general agreement; it will be something to remember for several decades to come. For this, the Government of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan and the public all deserve congratulations. He expressed hope that work on the project would continue uninterruptedly and the project would be completed before time.

Modi addressed the programme marking the completion of one

Government's tenure and the tripartite agreement ceremony for the Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project in Jaipur on Tuesday. The event was graced by the presence of Union Jal Shakti Minister CR Patil and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav. During the ceremony, the Memorandum of Agreement for the project was signed by representatives of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and the Central Government in the presence of Prime Minister Modi. As a symbolic gesture, Prime Minister Modi poured water from a kalash containing water from the Chambal River into a larger kalash. He was then handed a kalash containing water from the Kalisindh River by Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and another containing water from the Parvati River by Rajasthan

Chief Minister Bhajanlal Sharma, which he also poured into the same larger kalash, signifying the unity and collaboration between the states and the Center for the successful implementation of the project.

Yadav said that this is a historic day for both Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. This project is taking shape after 20 long years due to the efforts of Prime Minister Modi. Expressing his gratitude to Prime Minister Modi, Chief Minister Yadav said that like a modern-day Bhagiratha, he has given the gift of water flow to Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh through this project. This is a unique project for the Chambal and Malwa region of Madhya Pradesh. Yadav, while thanking Prime Minister Modi on the occasion of the MoA (Memorandum of Agreement) of the Parvati-

water will be reserved for drinking water and industries. 21 dams/barrages will be constructed under the project. Due to the project, there will be adequate water supply for drinking as well as irrigation purposes in the entire Western Madhya Pradesh including Sheopur, Bhind, Morena, Shivpuri, Guna, Ashok Nagar, Agar, Indore, Dhar, Ujjain, Shajapur, Rajgarh, Sehore etc. 3217 villages of the state will benefit from the project. In Malwa and Chambal region, 6 lakh 13 thousand 520 hectares will be irrigated and drinking water will be available

to a population of 40 lakh. Due to the modernization work of the almost 60-year old Chambal Right Main Canal and distribution system, water will be made available in Bhind, Morena, and Sheopur districts as per the demand of the farmers.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and Rajasthan Chief Minister Bhajan Lal Sharma during a ceremony to exchange letters of agreement for the Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal (PKC) river linking project in

MP rich State in terms of forest wealth: Governor

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

overnor Mangubhai Patel has said that Madhya Pradesh is a rich state in terms of forest wealth. There is a rich store of medicinal herbs here. The Covid pandemic has reacquainted the world with the importance of Ayurveda. He praised the state government for distributing Ayurvedic kadha for the treatment of patients during the pandemic. Governor Shri Patel said that organizing the Forest Fair is a pleasant sign towards spreading awareness about the importance of forest resources, their conservation and promotion. Governor Shri Patel was addressing the inauguration programme of the 10th

On the occasion, Governor Shri Patel along with Chief Minister Dr. Yadav distributed

International Forest Fair.

incentive amount to the beneficiaries under Minor Forest Produce Association. The 10th International Forest Fair is being organized by the Forest and State Minor Forest Produce (Trade and Development) Cooperative Union from 17 to 23 December at Lal Parade Ground, Bhopal. The programme was presided over by Chief Minister Dr. Mohan

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has said that modern medical science has its own importance, but medicines obtained from forests have special utility. Ayurveda helped save people's lives during the difficult times of Corona. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has promoted Indian medical systems. Now the importance of AYUSH has increased again in the medical world. In this regard, events like forest fairs hold great importance. In fact

this International Forest Fair is unique. This fair started in 2001 and gradually it expanded beyond the state to the country and then became global. The fair has created its own identity. Generally, such expansion of fairs related to forests and forest resources is a matter of pride for all of us. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav was addressing the 10th International Forest Fair at Lal Parade Ground, Bhopal on Tuesday. Yadav said that the forest wealth of our state is special. We are fortunate that our forest wealth and the internal environment of the forests are also special and the forests of the state have a distinct identity. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that wild animals are our forest wealth and maintain the beauty of the forests. We have successfully restored leopards in Madhya Pradesh under the leadership of Prime

Efforts underway to replicate Indore model across MP: CM

PNS INDORE

hief Minister Mohan Yadav said that Indore ✓ plays a vital role not only in trade, commerce, and industry but also across various other sectors. He highlighted that Indore has embraced progress by anticipating future opportunities, from information technology to investment, making it a true leader of

Kalisindh-Chambal River

Linking Project in Jaipur on

Tuesday, said that on completion

of one year of the present gov-

ernment of Madhya Pradesh

and Rajasthan, the Prime Minister himself has come to

give gifts to the public of both

Yadav said that the importance

of this project can be under-

stood from the fact that the esti-

mated cost of the Parvati-

Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project

is Rs 72 thousand crore, in

which Madhya Pradesh will spend Rs 35 thousand crore and Rajasthan will spend Rs 37

thousand crore. In this scheme of the Centre, 90 percent of the total cost will be the central

share and the state's share will be

10 percent. The total water stor-

age capacity of the project will

be 1908.83 cubic meters. Also,

172 million cubic meters of

Madhya Pradesh.
Indore, he noted, is a global city and a model in multiple areas—whether it's food, the arts, preserving traditions, or leading the nation in cleanliness. Yadav stated that the Indore Model of hosting Industry Conclaves and Summits is now being implemented across the state.

This initiative aims to accelerate the rapid development of Madhya Pradesh by organizing Industry Conclaves in various

divisions. The Chief Minister made these remarks while addressing a program organized by the NRI Forum in Indore on Tuesday. Speaking virtually from Samatva Bhavan (the Chief Minister's residence), he noted the active participation of 128 representatives from 29 countries, reflecting the global interest in Madhya Pradesh's growth and potential. Yadav stated that Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a historic milestone by initiating river-linking projects for the first time in the country. Madhya Pradesh is a key beneficiary of both projects—the Ken-Betwa Project and the Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal Project—which will significantly improve irrigation and drinking water facilities across vast areas of the state, paving

Project was signed today in Jaipur, with Prime Minister Modi approving ?70,000 crore for the project. Similarly, the Ken-Betwa Project, backed by the Central Government, will see an invest-

partite agreement for the

Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal

ment of nearly ?1 lakh crore. He also noted that the cheetah species, once extinct in Asia, has been successfully reintroduced and conserved in Madhya Pradesh. Additionally, Bhopal now holds the distinction of being the only state capital where tigers can be seen roaming close to the city. The Chief Minister further

that had remained in Britain, out of a total of more than 700 new paths for prosperity.

Yadav highlighted that a triBy following a policy of non-

credited Prime Minister Modi

for successfully bringing back

over 500 tons of India's gold

alignment, Prime Minister Modi has elevated India's reputation on the global stage and strengthened the country's position as a major economic power. India's growth trajectory, Yadav emphasized, is now leading in multiple sectors, reflecting its rising global influence and economic strength. Yadav said that Indore has a distinct identity. During his recent visit to UK and Germany, he met many NRIs who discussed Indore's Chhappan Dukan area and other specialties. Indore adopts the best things of the country and abroad. Indore has many possibilities in terms of future. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav congratulated and

Yadav discussed with the officials of the NRI Forum and got information about the activities

wished the participants of the

NRI Summit.

CM visits Tomar, expresses condolences

Bhopal: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav visited the residence of Energy Minister Shri Pradyuman Singh Tomar in Gwalior and expressed condolences on the demise of his elder brother Shri Devendra Singh Tomar. He paid floral tribute to the picture of late Devendra Singh Tomar. CM Yadav consoled the bereaved family. District in-charge and Water Resources Minister Shri Tulsiram Silawat also paid tribute to late Devendra Singh along with CM Yadav.
Paying tribute to late

Devendra Singh Tomar, Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said that his entire life was dedicated to public service. He was a corporator and leader of the opposition in the Municipal Corporation Council thrice and was very popular among

सरकार पति कारित विकार है विकार है इस साल प्रतिदित 60 करोड़ का कर्म ले

Leader of the Opposition Umang Singhar with Congress party MLAs stage a protest against the increasing debt on the BJP state government during the winter session

DNLU joins hands with CNLU, Patna for research-oriented courses

PNS JABALPUR

harmashastra National Law University (DNLU) Jabalpur signed a Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with prestigious institution Chanakya National Law University (CNLU), Patna to enhance research-oriented courses, including Masters and PhD programs.

Established in year 2018 under the Madhya Pradesh Dharmashastra National Law University Act, 2018, DNLU aims to advance legal education and uphold the rule of law as per the Indian Constitution. JK Maheshwari as its visitor Chief Justice of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh Justice Suresh Kumar Kait as its Chancellor, Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha as its Vice-Chancellor Praveen Tripathi as Registrar. DNLU offers B.A. LL.B. (Hons.), LL.M., and Ph.D.

CNLU Patna, established under several books and plenty of Guided by Hon'ble Judge of the Chanakya National Law papers in national and inter-Act No. 24 of 2006) and included in Section 2 (f) & 12 (B) of the U.G.C Act, 1956. Prof. (Dr.) Faizan Mustafa serves as the Vice Chancellor at CNLU and Prof. SP Singh, as the Registrar.

Prof. Mustafa was the former Vice-Chancellor of NALSAR University of Law, Hyderabad

was the founding Vice-Chancellor of National Law University Odisha (NLUO), located at Cuttack, Odisha. He is also a former director of KIIT School of Law. He sits on the board of directors of technology incubator, the T-Hub. Besides teaching and research works in the field of law, he

and before that he

has also authored Mustafa's achievements include receiving the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fulbright Fellowship and being hon-oured with the SAARC's 'Best Law Teacher Award' in 2014. He has delivered lectures in numerous countries around the world and manages a popular YouTube channel called Legal Awareness WebSeries. The MoU was signed by Prof. (Dr.) Faizan Mustafa Vice Chancellors CNLU and Prof. (Dr.) Manoj Kumar Sinha, Vice Chancellor DNLU in presence of Prof. SP Singh, Registrar

During the signing ceremony, Prof. Mustafa emphasized upon the importance of student and faculty exchange programs as a cornerstone for academic growth and institutional collaboration. He highlighted that such programs would provide students with broader exposure to diverse teaching methodologies, interdisciplinary legal studies, and practi-Mustafa further encouraged DNLU students to actively visit the CNLU campus to attend classes, particularly in key subjects, to gain new perspectives, interact with esteemed faculty, and engage in academic discussions that would enrich their knowledge base and professional skills.

of the Madhya Pradesh State Assembly in Bhopal on Tuesday. Car explodes, boutique gutted as firefighters have a field day

was reported

injured in the

triggered panic

of the Fatima Bi

of a boutique owned by Shamsher Alam before

spreading to two neighbour-

the fire by neighbours. The

him curtail his losses.

Fire Officer Saurabh Patel.

in the vicinity

incident, the

explosion

mosque

fighters.

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Residents in the Aishbagh area were in for a rude shock on Tuesday morning when a parked vehicle caught fire before exploding into a fire-ball. The impact of the blast sent debris flying into the air, eyewitnesses said. While no one was reported

injured in the incident, the explosion triggered panic in the vicinity of the Fatima Bi mosque in the neighbourhood, where the vehicle, a Maruti van, was parked. The cause of the fire that trig-

gered the blast in the LPG cylinder of the improvised vehicle remains unknown. Firefighters from the Pul Bogda fire station arrived on the scene and brought the flames under control. Despite the explosion, the van continued burning for about 15

minutes.

The explosion occurred hours after four firefighters, along with an equal number of water tankers, battled for over an hour to control a fire at the posh 10 No Stop Market in the early hours of the day. The fire, caused by a short circuit, started on the first floor

and one silver medals **STAFF REPORTER** ■ BHOPAL While no one

Rathore wins two gold

S Rathore of Sant Hirdaram Parious sports Silver medals in various sports competitions in the fifth State Masters Games in the age group of more than sixty years. Among the players of this group, Rathore has achieved success in winning two gold and one silver medal by securing first position in both the race competitions and second position in discus throw. The competitions were organized at Devi Ahilya Vishwavidyalaya ground in Indore.

ing shops at 6:30 AM. "Goods worth 45 lakh have Masters Games Association Gen. been totally gutted," said Alam secretary Amanat Khan was the before blaming his losses on director of the competitions. the late arrival of the fire-More than two hundred male and female players of the age Alam, who lives nearby, group of thirty to eighty years arrived at the scene within from different districts of the minutes of being informed of state participated in the compe-

distraught boutique owner Rathore completed 100 meter race in 15.10 seconds and 200 said that a timely arrival of firefighters could have helped meter race in 33.07 seconds. He succeeded in throwing the dis-Refuting the claims, fire officus upto a distance of 27.4 cials said they arrived on the meter in discus throw. Rathore scene soon after receiving information. "We deployed was retired from the post of DGM from Punjab National extra firefighters and engines Bank. He had participated in to ensure that the blaze did Kho-Kho competition in the not spread out of control," said National Games held in 1981 and in athletics in 1980.

Outsourced employees at Hamidia Hospital on strike again for delayed salaries

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

utsourced employees at the Hamidia Hospital yet again struck work on Tuesday after management at the state government run medical facility failed to ensure payment of their wages. The employees have been

remained unpaid for months despite repeated assurances by the management. Though the wages are to be paid by a little known private entity, responsible for supplying staff to the hospital, the contractor has blamed salary

delays on non-clearance of its

demanding salaries that have

dues by the hospital. Notably, the employees had gone on a strike last Tuesday to press for their demands but called off their agitation after the hospital management assured them that their salary backlog would be cleared within a week. The strike today came after the management yet again failed to

keep its word. Protesting employees, most of whom earn salaries of under Rs 10,000 per month, say their families are undergoing tremendous financial strain

due to the lackadaisical approach of the management and the contracting agency. They claim that the delays in wages have resulted in owed rents, and school fees, which they must pay immediately. Meanwhile, the strike, the third since October 10, caused inconvenience at the tertiary medical facility where caregivers were seen wheeling their patients on stretchers across the sprawling campus which is undergoing a facelift involving

hundreds of crores. The sound of the rickety stretchers punctuated an eerie silence at the hospital where staffers and an omnipresent security crew maintained a strict code of silence fearing a loss of liveli-

After much cajoling, a uniformed guard at the facility said that the strike ended after the management sought another week to clear the salaries.

Speaking of the strike, he said that security personnel at the hospital, also outsourced to a private company, get paid on time. The hospital management remained unavailable for comment.



Marking Nirbhaya Day, a Sankalp Suraksha Samman programme was organised jointly by Sangini, the Community Police Scheme, and the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board in the state capital. The event was attended by Dr. Vineet Kapoor, DIG of the Community Police Scheme (Senior IPS), Naki Jahan Qureshi, Joint Director of Women and Child Development, Alok Choubey from the Tourism Board, senior journalist and social worker Zahid Mir.

5.41L underweight children registered at anganwadis

Bhopal: At least 5.41 lakh underweight children were enrolled at anganwadi centres in Madhya Pradesh this year, with Dhar district having the highest number, the state government informed the legislative assembly on Tuesday.

State Minister for Women and Child Development Nirmala Bhuria said of 62.88 lakh children enrolled in anganwadi centres, 5.41 lakh were underweight.

Bhuria provided the data in a written reply to a question by MLA Mohan Singh Rathore. Rathore sought district-wise data on malnutrition among the children and the food provided to

According to government data, 35,950 underweight children, the highest number, were registered in Dhar district, followed by Khargone with 24,596 and Barwani with 21,940.

Bhopal district, including the state capital city, has 12,199 underweight children, while Indore has 11,437. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav's home district, Ujjain, has 12,039 such children, and Niwari had the lowest number of 1,438 children, the data stated.

The minister also shared the food chart offered to the children in anganwadi centres across the state from Monday to Saturday.

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MP's glorious history in upholding parliamentary traditions: Tomar

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

the occasion of the Pradesh Madhya Legislative Assembly completing 68 years of its remarkable journey, a special one-day session was convened. Addressing the House, Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar highlighted the significant role state legislatures play in strengthening the democratic framework and praised the Assembly's illustrious history in upholding parliamentary traditions.

Speaker Tomar recounted that after India gained independence on August 15, 1947, the reorganization of states in 1956 led to the formation of Madhya Pradesh. The first session of the newly formed Assembly commenced on December 17, 1956. He emphasized that over the past seven decades, the Assembly has

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

head of a possible surge

in dog bite cases, which

coincides with the win-

ter, Mayor Malti Rai on

Tuesday told officials to step

up efforts to rid Bhopal of the

She said that a campaign

should be launched to control

the population of stray and pet dogs and to register the

As part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations to control

the spread of disease in urban

areas, the Government of India

launched the National Disease

Control Programme, which

aims to make member cities

Rai reviewed the working of

the Dog Squad and the prepa-

rations being made to control

dog bites in view of a poten-

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

ransport Department has

from April to November 2024

this year. This year, the state gov-

ernment has set a target of rev-

enue income of Rs 5 thousand

500 crores from transport in the

Department earned a revenue of

Rs 4 thousand 606 crores dur-

ing the previous year 2023-24,

which was 14.61 percent more

Department has undertaken

many works to simplify the

process of the Transport

Department. Most of the ser-

vices related to vehicle registra-

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

trilateral agreement will be

signed for the Parvati,

Chambal, and Kalisindh river

The Central Government has

initiated this wonderful project

worth Rs 72 thousand crore for Madhya Pradesh and

Rajasthan. It will provide

drinking water and all types of

irrigation facilities in 13 dis-

tricts of Madhya Pradesh.

Water is a gift of nature but its

proper use is done in the inter-

est of the society through any

government. For the last 20

linking campaign today.

Transport

tion, permit and driving license this arrangement.

The

than the year 2022-23.

state.

earned revenue income

of Rs 3 thousand 54 crores

dreaded rabies infection.

canines.

taken numerous historic decisions that have contributed to the development of the state and the welfare of its citizens. "Today, under the leadership and guidance of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, we are working swiftly towards the vision of a 'Developed India.' In the words of Kunji Lal Dubey, Madhya Pradesh is emerging as the pride of the nation," Tomar stated. Highlighting the Assembly's role in governance, Tomar said the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly has consistently worked towards good governance and the welfare of its people by adhering to parliamentary

People wait for their turn to meet the Director General Police during a public hearing at Police Headquarters in Bhopal on

Step up anti-Rabies drive, Mayor tells officials

and incidents of dog bites

She emphasised the impor-

tance of capturing more stray

dogs and sending them to

sterilisation centres, as well as

launching a campaign for the

registration of pet dogs and strengthening the mechanism

for administering anti-rabies

Rai was speaking at a meeting attended by Additional Commissioner Ranbir Kumar,

Mayor in Council (MiC)

member RK Singh Baghel,

the Corporation's veterinary

officer, health officers, and

officials in charge of the civic

December 18 and 31, the

Mayor said action should be

taken against pet owners who

transparency during vehicle

checking, the Transport

Department has signed a con-

tract with the State Bank of India

to collect the revenue recovered

during checking in a cashless

manner. After the contract, POS

machines have been made avail-

able at all the Transport Offices

and Road Safety and

Enforcement Checking Points in

the state. The department has

also obtained good results from

shots to the canines.

dog squads.

fail to comply.

tial increase in dog aggression Rai also set a daily target for

Revenue income from transport

during the cold weather.

rules, traditions, and processes. evidence for redressal. To empower new legislators, He acknowledged the invaluable contributions of the Assembly's former speakers, deputy speakers, chief ministers, opposition leaders, ministers, committee chairpersons,

pending questions are not nullified when the Assembly term ends, with a review process carried out by the Questions and

tance of integrating technology to enhance transparency, efficiency, and accountability in Assembly proceedings. Initiatives such as the e-Vidhan portal and mobile app have been launched to modernize and digitize the Assembly's operations, enabling it to become fully high-tech.

Reflecting on the Constitution's 75th anniversary in 2024, Tomar recalled Prime Minister Narendra Modi's address to Parliament outlining 11 resolutions. He urged Assembly members to

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nder the guidance of

Prof. (Dr.) Ajai Singh,

Executive Director of

AIIMS Bhopal and initiative of

Member of Parliament Shri

Bharat Singh Kushwah, AIIMS

Bhopal is set to organize a 3-day Mega Medical Camp in

Gwalior to commemorate the

birth anniversary of former Prime Minister and Bharat

Ratna Late Atal Bihari

Vaina Late Atai Binari
Vaipayee. The camp will be held from December 25 to 27, providing critical medical care and expert consultations to residents of Gwalior and surgent and increasing Addicated

rounding regions. A dedicated

team comprising 160 doctors

and paramedics from AIIMS

Bhopal will participate in this

initiative, ensuring high-qual-

ity healthcare to people from

all walks of life. The camp will

uphold these resolutions both as citizens and representatives of the

The Speaker emphasized collaboration between the government and opposition to ensure the smooth functioning of the House and called for more extensive participation in such special sessions in the future.

In the special session, Deputy Chief Ministers Rajendra Shukla and Jagdish Deora, Leader of the Opposition Umang Singhar, former Assembly Speakers Dr. Sitasaran Sharma and Girish Gautam, former Deputy Speaker Rajendra Singh, and former Minister Gopal Bhargava also addressed the House. Speaker Narendra Singh Tomar expressed heartfelt gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for overseeing the signing of the tripartite agreement for the Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal Link Project in Jaipur.



Health services paralysed following the strike of outsourced ward boys, computer operator and lab technicians over nonpayment of their wages at Government Hamidia Hospital in Bhopal on Tuesday.

Alert woman saves 4-year-old girl from ill-intentions

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

lertness of woman saved a four-year-old girl from A bad intentions of the accused who lured her of chocolate and took to a forest near Indrapuri; Piplani police have started searching for the accused who was captured in CCTV footage.

The accused boy took the girl to the forest area in Indrapuri on the pretext of giving her chocolate. The saviour woman passing by spotted the girl crying. Sensing that he was trapped, the accused fled from the spot.

The incident occurred on Monday afternoon around 3 PM. Rakhi Mishra, who lives in Indrapuri, was going to her house spotted the victim crying with a young man near the forest. She stopped them and questioned the girl, the boy with her started running away and when she chased him along with two auto rickshaw drivers, he fled

Piplani police station in-charge Anurag Lal said that investigation is being done in the matter. The case has not been registered

Rakhi Mishra is a housewife. She was returning home after getting a checkup from AIIMS. The accused took the girl to the forest area in Indrapuri on the pretext of chocolate.

Rakhi Mishra said that she was returning from AIIMS after a checkup at around 3 pm. On the road from Indrapuri to AIIMS where there are vacant quarters, the girl was seen crying on the road. She was with a young man and the girl's underwear was in the girl's hand. When I asked the young man, he ran away and she rescued the girl.

She raised the alarm and two auto rickshaw drivers came to help and chased the accused but he managed to escape. After this, three women also came to help and immediately took the girl to Piplani police station. From where the girl's parents were contacted.

The girl's parents and Rakhi Mishra, who saved her, checked the girl thoroughly, they did not feel at all that something wrong had happened to the girl. The mother said that when

asked, the girl said that the young man had touched her inappropriately after taking off her pyjama. However, the girl was found within 1 hour. On the other hand, the police said that the investigation is still going on. The mother said that the girl is fine. I had also gone out for a walk with the girl. She was swinging in the park in front, when my son returned from school, I went to drop her inside. When I came out and looked, the girl was not on the swing. When I asked the girl at the police station, she said that the uncle had said that he would

get her a chocolate, so she went

this matter in the House and

urge the Speaker to direct the gov-

ernment to present a detailed

report on the expenditures of the

past year," Singhar told the media.

with him.

Cong moves House over mounting debt on State govt Between 2021 and 2024, the state the BJP government. "We will raise

Bhopal: On the second day of the winter session of the Madhya Pradesh Legislative Assembly on Tuesday, the Opposition Congress targeted the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) over the mounting state debt, which has report-

edly crossed Rs 4 lakh crore. Congress legislators arrived at the Assembly premises with posters highlighting the rising loan amounts borrowed from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). In a symbolic protest, they carried begging bowls to underscore the state's precarious financial condi-

Accusing the BJP government of pushing the state into financial distress due to its "flawed policies," ballooning debt translates to a burden of Rs 55,000 per citizen. "In just the past two months, the BJP government in Madhya Pradesh has borrowed Rs 7,500 crore.

government secured loans amounting to Rs 1.22 lakh crore from the RBI," Congress legislators Leader of the Opposition Umang Singhar demanded that Chief

Minister Mohan Yadav's government present a white paper in the Assembly detailing the amounts borrowed and their utilization. "The BJP government borrows money every three months, yet there is no visible improvement in the state's infrastructure. The government must clarify where the borrowed funds are being spent,"

tial portion of the loans is being spent on publicity campaigns by

As per reports, the cumulative state debt has surpassed Rs 4 lakh crore, with Rs 7,500 crore borrowed in the last two months alone. The BJP has been in power in Madhya Pradesh since 2003, except for an 18-month period when the Congress briefly governed the state. The winter session, which began

on Monday, has already witnessed Singhar said. He further alleged that a substan-

intense Opposition protests over fertilizer shortages, forcing the Speaker to adjourn the House

कार्यालय, सहायक संचालक उद्यान (प्रमुख उद्यान) भोपाल-मध्यप्रदेश गलाब उद्यान तलसी नगर भोपाल ई-मेल आई.डी.- adhpgbpl@gmail.com

वेबसाईट www.mphorticulture.gov.in

क्रमांक/उ./भं./निविदा/14/24-25/1207 भोपाल, दिनांक :- 10.12.2024 // ई-निविदा विज्ञप्ति सूचना //

कार्यालय सहायक संचालक उद्यान (प्रमख-उद्यान) भोपाल स्थित शासकीय गुलाब उद्यान, में 44 वी अखिल भारतीय गुलाब प्रदर्शनी का आयोजन दिनांक 11 एवं 12 जनवर्र

2025 एवं वर्ष भर (2024-25) मार्च 2026 तक के लिए अन्य प्रदर्शनी/कार्यक्रमों में लाईट एवं टेन्ट व्यवस्था हेतु लाईट एसोसियेशन भोपान की 01.10.2021 एवं टेन्ट व्यवस्था बावत भोपाल टेन्ट लाईट केटर्स एसोसियेशन की दिनांक 01.10.2021 से प्रभावशील **दर** पर कम या अधिक प्रतिशत के आधार पर दरें आमंत्रित की जाती है। विद्युत एव टेन्ट कार्य की दर्रे अलग-अलग प्रस्तुत करनी होंगी।

अत: पूर्व वर्ष अनुसार विद्युत कार्य एवं टेन्ट कार्य हेतु प्रतिशत के आधार पर अलग-भलग दरॅ प्रस्तुत करें।

पोर्टल पर दस्तावेज जमा करने व दरें प्रस्तुत करने का समय ऑनलाईन निविदा जारी देनांक 16.12.2024 शाम 05:00 बजे से दिनांक 24.12.2024 दोपहर 1:00 बजे तक होगा। विद्युत/टेन्ट कार्य हेतु निविदा दिनांक 27.12.2024 समय दोपहर 3:00 बजे उपस्थित निविदाकर्ताओं के समक्ष समिति द्वारा खोली जावेगीं। निविदा वेबसाईट www.mptenders.gov.ir

> सहायक संचालक उद्यान (प्रमुख उद्यान) भोपाल-मध्यप्रदेश

Gricial Home Finance | Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai - 400059, India Branch Office: ICICI Home Finance Co Ltd., Dhan Trident, 3rd Floor, Office No. 322-323, DPC Estate Pvt Limited, Scheme No. 54, Vijaynagar, Indore- 452010 Branch Office: Office No -106, 1st Floor, Pukhraj Corporate, Navlakha Indore- 452001

[See proviso to rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization 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.

(Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

	No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outsta- nding	Earnest	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction	One Day Before Auction Date	SARFAESI Stage
L	(A)	(B)	(D)	(C)	(E)	(F)	(G)	(H)	(1)
		Devendra Soni (Borrower) Neetu (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. LHIND00001479678 & LHIND00001479682	Under Constructed house on Plot No. 107 of Saikripa Colony situated at Khajrana Village of Tehsil and District Indore, Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 1,34,70, 553/- Dece- mber 13, 2024	Rs. 1,56,87, 000/- Rs. 15,68, 700/-		January 21, 2025 02:00 PM 03:00 PM	before	Physical Possession
	2.	Alpa Shah (Borrower) Akhilesh Shah (Co- Borrower) Mahesh Shah (Co-Borrower) Milan Kumar Shah (Co-Borrower) Loan Account No. NHIND0001267454	Block No. 60, Plot No. 6/1, House No. 4/7, Ward No. 24, Anand Nagar, Khandwa, (M.P)	Rs. 2,36,41, 048/- Dece- mber 13, 2024	Rs. 3,35,34, 000/- Rs. 33,53, 400/-		January 21, 2025 02:00 PM 03:00 PM	before	Symbolic Possession

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link-eauctions.samil.in) of our auction agency Shriram Automall India Ltd. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till January 20, 2025 before 05:00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule. The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before January 20, 2025 before 04:00 PM. The Prospective Bidder(s) must also submit signed copy of Registration Form & Bid Terms and Conditions form at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited Branch Office Address mentioned on top of the article on or before January 20, 2025 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd. – Auction" payable at the branch office address mentioned on top of the article.

Ltd.—Auction" payable at the branch office address mentioned on top of the article.

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 9920807300.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit https://www.icicihfc.com/ Authorized Officer, ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, CIN Number:- U65922MH1999PLC120106

members, and Assembly staff. tions to be accepted on the same Tomar also emphasized the day they are submitted, setting a Assembly's efforts towards new precedent in the 16th Assembly. Another innovative women's empowerment, noting the decision to include questions step ensures that responses to from women members and first-

> Further, the Speaker elaborated on the Assembly's public-centric initiatives, citing the "Applications and Petitions Committee." Any citizen whose grievances remain unresolved at the administrative level can approach this committee with

time legislators during every ses-

sion's Question Hour on

Tuesdays. On this occasion as

well, seven women members'

starred questions were addressed.

Tomar mentioned a special initiative where first-time MLAs questions during Zero Hour are given top priority. Provisions have been made for their ques-

each of the dog squads. Each team will now be responsible

for capturing 30 strays and

transporting them to Animal

Birth Control Centres for ster-

The Mayor further directed

officials to strive for better san-

itation in their jurisdictions.

She said spot fines should be

levied on those failing to com-

ply with civic guidelines on the

join hands with us in main-

taining cleanliness," Rai said

during the inspection.

disposal of waste.

ilisation.

References Committee. Tomar underscored the impor-

AIIMS health camps in Bhopal, Gwalior feature 25 specialty and super-specialty OPDs, offering consultations, diagnosis, and guidance across various medical

disciplines including cardiolo-

gy, cardiothoracic and vascu-

lar Surgery, nephrology, neu-

rology, orthopedics, pediatrics, oncology, and general medi-Highlighting the importance of this medical camp, Prof. Singh said, "This Medical Camp is a tribute to Atal Bihari Vajpayee legacy and his unwavering connection to Gwalior. Through this initiative, we aim to bridge the healthcare gap by bringing comprehensive medical services directly to the people. AIIMS Bhopal remains committed to make healthcare accessible and ensuring that the patients we serve during this camp receive continuity of care at our institute.'

Ceremony to honour sportspersons

STAFF REPORTER BHOPAL

Felicitation Encouragement A Encouragement Ceremony for Sports Talents' will be held on the occasion of Mukhya Mantri Jan Kalyan Parv at Tatya Tope Sports Stadium at 12:30 pm on December 18 under the chief hospitality of Chief Minister Mohan Yadav. The programme will be presided over by Sports and Youth Welfare Minister

Earlier in the day, Rai inspect-Vishwas Kailash Sarang. Prior to the ceremony, Minister ed the municipal sanitation effort at Baba Nagar, Shahpura, Sarang reviewed the prepara-Chuna Bhatti, Arera Colony E-7, Lala Lajpat Rai Colony, and tions with the sports officials in 12 Number Stop. Motivating officials, civic his chamber at the Vidhan Sabha and gave necessary Advocating for a sustained workers, and residents, she guidelines for organising the campaign for the registration said, "This is not just about our programme. Minister Sarang rankings, but improvement of the quality of coaches and local public replife in Bhopal. Citizens must resentatives should be invited to

Arrangements for branding and boarding of the programme should also be

A short film based on the achievements of the Sports Department so far will be screened which will show the development of sports in the state and the success of the play-

Distribution of sports scholarship and sports kits to junior players, sports scholarship and sports kits will be provided to talented junior players who win medals at the state level. Distribution of kits to the players of Khelo India Centre, sports kits will also be distributed to the players selected under the Khelo India programme.

at the national and international level from 1 April 2023 till date will be honoured. This honour will be given to encourage their achievements.

the ceremony. The cooperation of people involved in sports activities should be obtained.

Piplani police arrest 4 vehicle lifters, 5 stolen vehicles seized NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY **Open Tender Notice No.-**JHSW-M-NABL-2024-25-24 E-Tender Notice

or interested contractors on behalf of the President of India for the under mentioned work- Name of Work: Consultancy work for NABL accreditation to central C&M lab JHSW, Cost of work: ₹ 7,51,000.00/-(Including 18% GST), Earnest money: ₹ 15,000/-, Time of completion: Twenty Four Months, Online tender closing date and time: 08.01.2025 at 11:00 Hrs. Detailed information about tender and tender format is available at website www.ireps.gov.in. 2142/24 (MG)

E-tenders are invited from experience

seized from the accused and there is a possibility of other stolen vehicles being revealed. Out of the nine vehicles revealed by the accused 7

were stolen from Piplani area. one from Govindpura area while one was stolen from Vidisha. Involvement of other accomplices and buyers of stolen vehicles are under 🖪 North central railways 🗵 @ CPRONCR 🖨 www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

ायालय कलेक्टर एवं जिला दण्डाधिकारी सागर जिला-सागर क्रमांक/9897/रीडर/2024

investigation.

सागर, दिनांक 23/11/2024 प्र.क. 0075/ब-121/2023-24 मौजा-रजाखेड़ी तहसील व जिला सागर बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा विरुद्ध अरूंघति सोनकर एवं अन्य 02 आम इश्तहार

अभि इसिहारि इस आम इसिहार के माध्यम से सृष्टिव किया जाता है कि इस न्यायालय कलेक्टर एवं जिल्ला चण्डाधिकारी सामर (म.प्र.) के फ्रकरण क्रमांक 0.075/ब-121/20.3-24 प्रमुक्तार वेंक ऑफ बढ़ीया बनाम अरुधंति बनी. में अनावेंद्रकरणण द्वारा ऋण की राशि 7,10,495.79/- रुपए जामा न करने से, आवेंद्रक वेंक ने अनावेंद्रक के विकड़, धारा-14 वित्तीय आसित्यों का प्रित्मृतिक का प्रवत्नेन अधिनिवय 2002 अतर्गत प्रतिमृति हित/कंधक संपत्ति स्थित आधार्तिय मका प्रवत्नेन वित्ता क्षेत्रक से जाया वित्ता वित्ता का प्रवत्नेन अधिनिवय 2002 अतर्गत प्रतिमृति हित/कंधक संपत्ति स्थित आधार्तिय मका प्रवत्नेन अधिनिवय 2002 अतर्गत प्रतिमृति हित/कंधक संपत्ति स्थित अधार्तिय मका सान-1 मारित्ता व जिला-पासर्गति त्वार्थ उत्तर दिशा में -पाक्वता का मकान, व्यक्तिण में 15 पुट बीज़ तत्वार प्रविद्या में -पाक्वता का मकान, व्यक्तिण में 15 पुट बीज़ तत्वार प्रविद्या में -पाक्वता का मकान, व्यक्तिण में 15 पुट बीज़ त्वार में संदीप कुमार का मकान तथा पश्चिम में अरोध का मकान, व्यक्तिण संख्या के पक्ष में प्राप्त मारून, का भीतिक कक्ता/आधिप्रय संख्या के पक्ष में प्राप्त

मकान, का भौतिक कब्जा/आधिपत्व संस्था के पक्ष में प्राप्त करने हेतु आवेदन-पत्र प्रस्तुत किया है। प्रकरण में अना.क. 03 नीलू रानी सोनकर के विकृद्ध जारी नोटिस उनके फौत होने की

नीलु गर्नी सोनकर के विकड़ जागि नीटिस उनके फोत होने को सूचना सहित ग्राप्त हुआ है अतः उनके खै वारिसों को नोटिस जागी कर तलख किया परना प्रीक्षा किये गये नीटिस सहि पत्रे के अध्याव में अध्याव तमें अध्याव में अध्याव तमें किया तमांक वार्षिप ग्राप्त हुवे हैं। अत्याव इस आम इस्तहार के माध्यम में अन्यवेदिका क्रमांक 03 नीलु गर्नी वीनकर के विधिक वाच्यान एवं निमानुसार तालिका में प्रेष्टीन अन्यवेदकरणण पर्व हितबद्ध प्रक्रकारों को सूचित किया जाता है कि ग्रकरण में सुनवायी होतू दिनोंक 23./12/2024 निवत है। प्रकरण में सुनवायी होतू दिनोंक 73./12/2024 विवत है। प्रकरण में सुनवायी होतू दिनोंक ग्राप्त पर्व हितबद्ध प्रक्रकार, नियन सुनवायी दिनोंक को इस न्यावालव में न्यावालवीन समय में उपस्थित होता कर अपना पक्ष ग्रस्तुत कर सकते हैं-अनावेदक का नाम एवं पता . आवेदक का नाम

त, आवंदक का नाम पूर्च पता ।

- बैंक ऑफ बड़ीच 1 - अहंधति सोनकर पूर्व गिता ।

- प्रियक्त अधिकारीविद्याल बादव पता- प्राच्चा कटरा बाजार, सागर (ग.प्र.)

- स्वाचा कटरा बाजार, सागर (ग.प्र.)

- स्वाचा कर प्राच्च के स्वाच्च के स्वाच्च के स्वाच्च के स्वच्च के स्वाच्च के स्वच्च के स्

rises to Rs 3 thousand 54 crores Bhopal: Four vehicle lifters December this year were seizure is underway. In the revealed by the accused. involved in stealing nine stolen process taken so far, a total of vehicles worth Rs 11 lakh the investigation 05 motorcycles have been Motorcycle Yamaha R 15 bear-

have been started in faceless from Piplani, Govindpura and form through NIC's portal Vidisha were arrested by "Vahan" and "Sarathi". Now the Piplani police and recovered applicant does not need to visit five stolen vehicles from their the office after applying online possession. to obtain the service. The Police said that on December department has made its 50 ser-14 while searching for suspects vices faceless. In order to bring

accused. They were questioned in regarding the stolen vehicles who revealed vehicle thefts from the year 2015. The four were identified as Praveen Shukla(20) of Vidisha,

Atharva Tyagi (19) of Vidisha, Sanskar Mishra(19) of Anuppur and Abhishek Singh Baghel(19) of Shahdol. During interrogation, they revealed vehicle thefts in Bhopal and Vidisha in the

ing vehicle registration num-MP38ND8755, Motorcycle Royal Enfield Bullet bearing vehicle regis-

tration MP04QR0103, Motorcycle TVS Apache bearing vehicle registration

registration istration

district. The process of their

MP33MV3602, Motorcycle TVS Rider bearing vehicle number MP04ZQ4370, Motorcycle Splendor bearing vehicle regnumber MP04VM4190 were seized. During interrogation the accused have told that they have hidden two vehicles in their house in Shahdol district and two vehicles in Anuppur

month of July. The vehicle they stole from 2015 to

Entire western MP to benefit from river link project: CM through the modernization

> Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal link project is Rs 72 thousand crores, in which Madhya Pradesh will spend Rs 35 thousand crores and Rajasthan will spend Rs 37 thousand crores. In this scheme of the Centre. 90 percent of the total cost will be the central share and 10 percent state share. The total water-filling capacity of the project will be 1908.83 cubic

> of water will be reserved for 21 dams/barrages will be constructed under the project.

work of about 60-year-old Chambal right main canal and distribution system. The estimated cost of the

number

number

drinking water and industries.

निवत सुनवावी दिनोक पर न्यावालय के समझ उपस्थित न होने पर वह माना जाकर कि आप जारी सुचना से अवगत हैं, अलपव एक प्रतिकृषण का अवसर समात किया जाकर प्रकरण में विकासुनसर अग्रिम कार्यवाही की जावेगी। आम सुचना मेरे हसाक्षर एवं इस न्यायालय की मुहर से आज दिनांक 25.11.2024 को जारी की गई

कलेक्टर एवं जिला दण्डा. सागर (म.प्र.)

Agar, Indore, Dhar, Ujjain, hief Minister Mohan Shajapur, Rajgarh, Sehore etc. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav said Yadav said Tuesday is a ✓ historic day for Madhya this in his message issued Pradesh and Rajasthan. Under before Prime Minister Modi the leadership of Prime left for the Parvati-Kalisindh-Minister Narendra Modi, a

years, the agreement between irrigation water Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh has been postponed

for some reason or another. This is a period of change under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. This project will enable adequate arrangements for drinking water and irrigation in the entire western made available as per the Madhya Pradesh including Sheopur, Bhind, Morena, Morena, and Sheopur districts

Shivpuri, Guna, Ashok Nagar, Chambal river linking project (Jaipur) of Rajasthan.

programme in Dadiya village 40 lakh population will get drinking water along with Total 3217 villages of the state

will benefit from this project. 6 lakh 13 thousand 520 hectares Land will be irrigated

demand of farmers in Bhind,

in Malwa and Chambal region meters. Also, 172 million cubic meters and drinking water will be available to 40 lakh population. Apart from this, water will be

Nadda attacks Congress for amending Constitution for its own benefit

NEW DELHI

 $R_{\mbox{\sc House J P Nadda}}$ attacked the Congress on Tuesday for amending the Constitution for its own benefit and alleged that its past actions of "toppling governments" in states led to staggered polls, creating the necessity for 'One Nation One Election' bill.

Participating in a debate in the Upper House on the "Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India", the BJP president accused the Congress of practising politics of appeasement and attempting to bring in religion-based reservations, a charge which was vociferously contested by the oppo-

Former prime minister and JD(S) leader H D Deve Gowda called upon Parliament to contemplate whether reservation should continue to be given on the basis of caste or it should be changed to economic criteria. The BJP president, meanwhile, also spoke about the Emergency, rejecting the

Congress' claim of having apologised for it. Nadda said if the Congress regrets the step, it should join in observing 'Samvidhan Hatya Divas' on June 25 next year, the 50th anniversary of the imposition

of the Emergency. Nadda quoted B R Ambedkar to say "however good a Constitution may be, if those who are implementing it are not good, it will prove to be bad", and added that the "bad lot has interfered with the Constitution many times". On a day when two bills that

lay down the mechanism to hold simultaneous elections were introduced in the Lok Sabha after a fiery debate, Nadda blamed the Congress for creating a situation that forced the government to take "We have to bring the One

Nation One Election bill because you toppled elected government in states, and elections had to be held,"

He targeted the Congress over issues ranging from Article 370 to triple talaq, and also accused it of not protecting the territorial integrity of the



Nadda also accused the Congress of trying to bring in reservation based on religion. The Leader of the House said Ambedkar had clearly said that reservation should not be structured in the name of reli-

His remarks were objected to by Congress leader Jairam Ramesh, who raised the issue

of reservation given by the Gujarat Government.

Coming to Nadda's defence, Union Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said, "What Jairam Ramesh is saying now is wrong. What the Gujarat chief minister gave was on the basis of economic backwardness. Here it is mentioned religious minorities," she said, referring to a circular purportedly issued by the DoPT under the then Congress-led government.

She added that Ramesh is conflicting the two (reservations given by the Gujarat government and the DoPT circular) and misleading the House. BJP MP K Laxman who heads the party's OBC Morcha backed Sitharaman's Countering Sitharaman, Ramesh said, "We (Congress) have never spoken about religion-based reservation", adding that wherever reservation has been given like in Karnataka it is on the basis of being socially and economically backward not on the basis of religion.

Sitharaman responded to Ramesh, saying that he may come up with any number of clarifications but he is misleading the House on this

. Nadda also claimed that Ambedkar, during the debates of the Constituent Assembly, had said there was no need to include the words 'secular' and 'socialist' in the Preamble of the Constitution.

Speaking on reservation, Deve Gowda said "The House itself has to apply its mind on what all happened in the past and whether we should give reservation only on the basis of poverty in this country," he

People are suffering "even with the reservations that we have given in the past and it has not lifted the people who are still suffering for two-

The former prime minister said the House should think over whether reservation should be continued to given on the same lines as in the past or "only who are suffering with most poverty" and whose living condition is bad should be given priority.

"If the House thinks over and the leaders think over, this can be thought over by the prime minister (Narendra Modi) before taking any decision on the reservation," Deve Gowda said.

He said the Constitution drafted by Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar has withstood the test of time.

Meanwhile, Opposition members from TMC and CPI(M) on alleged that constitutional rights in Manipur had been suspended and slammed the BJP MPs for not raising the issue during the debate on the Constitution.

Ram Nath Thakur, JD(U) leader and Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, said the government strives to implement the principles enshrined

Minister Narendra Modi for giving Bharat Ratna to former prime ministers P V Narasimha Rao and Charan Singh as well as former Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur, a champion of backward empowerment, among others, in 2023, asking who stopped the Congress-party

from doing the same. Criticising the BJP for frequently taking jibes at the country's first prime minister, RJD leader Manoj Kumar Jha said Jawaharlal Nehru is a symbol of parliamentary democracy against authori-

tarianism. In his speech, AAP's Ashok Kumar Mittal pointed out that at a time when Parliament is discussing the journey of the Constitution, a large number of people are not getting sufficient food, lakhs are searching for jobs and 40 per cent of the population do not own houses. He also stressed that despite

challenges, the Constitution has shown the way to the country and will keep doing so even in the next

67 per cent of SSWs belong to SC category: Govt

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Exposing a significant disparity in the representation of Scheduled Castes (SCs) within the workforce engaged in sewer and septic tank maintenance across India, official data has revealed that a staggering 67 per cent of sewer and septic tank workers (SSWs) in India belong to the Scheduled Caste category. These government data were

made available in Parliament by Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment Ramdas Athawale in a written response to a question in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. He said that out of 54,574 val-

idated sewer and septic tank workers profiled under the 'National Action for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem' (NAMASTE) scheme, 37,060 are from the SC category.

The statistics further show that 15.73 per cent of the workers belong to the Other Backward Classes (OBCs),



8.31 per cent are from the Scheduled Tribes (STs), while only 8.05 per cent come from the General category.

In total, 57,758 workers across 33 States and Union Territories have been profiled, out of which 54,574 have been validated. Data integration for states like Odisha and Tamil Nadu into the central NAMASTE database is currently underway. The NAMASTE scheme, launched in 2023-24 by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

(MoHUA), aims to mecha-

nize sewer maintenance and eliminate the dangerous practice of manual scavenging. A total of 16,791 PPE kits and 43 Safety Devices Kits for Response Emergency Sanitation Units (ERSUs) have been distributed. Ayushman cards for health insurance have been issued to 13,604 beneficiaries. Capital subsidies totalling Rs 13.96 crore have been provided to 503 workers and their dependents for sanitation-related projects. An additional Rs 2.85 crore has been released to 226 beneficiaries

from the manual scavenger

category for alternate self-

employment projects. To raise awareness on the hazards of unsafe cleaning practices, 837 workshops have been conducted since the scheme's launch. Efforts to mechanise sanitation work and reduce hazardous manual cleaning have also been prioritised. Under the Swachh Bharat Mission Urban (SBM-U) 2.0, MoHUA has sanctioned Rs. 371 crore to 26 states and UTs for the pro-curement of 2,585 desludging vehicles.Under

NAMASTE programme, the government profiled workers engaged in septic and sewer tank cleaning comprehensively and aims to fully mechanise sewer maintenance and eliminate fatalities linked to

ED restored properties worth Rs 22, 280 crore to victims, says FM

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said the Enforcement Directorate has restored properties worth Rs 22,280 crore to the victims or rightful claimants and asserted that the fight against economic offenders will continue unabated. Replying to a debate on the first batch of Supplementary Demands for Grants in the Lok Sabha, she said Rs 14,131.6 crore worth properties belonging to fugitive Vijay Mallya have been restored to public sector banks.

As regards the Nirav Modi case, properties to the tune of Rs 1,052.58 crore have been restored to PSBs and private banks. In the Mehul Choksi case, properties worth Rs 2,565.90 crore have been attached and will be auctioned. In the National Spot Exchange Ltd (NSEL) case, Rs eliminate fatalities linked to dangerous cleaning practices. | 17.47 crore worth properties were restored to the genuine



investors who were defrauded, said the Finance Minister. "On the PMLA, ED has successfully restored properties valued at least Rs 22,280 crore from major cases... We have not left anyone, even if they fled the country, we've gone after them. ED has collected this money and given back to the banks.

"...So it is important to recognize that we have not left anybody (committing) economic offences. We are after them. We will be making sure that money, which has got to go back to banks, will

go back," Sitharaman said. With regard to foreign black money, the Minister said the Black Money Act of 2015 is actually having a deterrent effect on a lot of taxpayers and they come forward on their own to disclose their foreign assets. She said the number of taxpayers disclosing foreign assets has gone up to 2 lakh in 2024-25, from 60,467 in 2021-22. Under the Act, as of June 2024, demand of more than Rs 17,520 crore has been raised in 697 cases. Total 163 prosecutions have been

Concept of simultaneous polls not new in India: Minister

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

mid ruckus in Parliament **A**over the One Nation One Election (ONOE) bill on Tuesday, the Ministry of Law and Justice said the concept of simultaneous elections is not a new idea in India. Sharing the details of ONOE, the minister said elections to the Lok Sabha and all State Legislative Assemblies were conducted simultaneously from 1951 to 1967 following the adoption of the Constitution. The first general elections to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies were held together in 1951-52, a practice that continued for three subsequent general elections in 1957, 1962, and 1967

The ministry said however, this cycle of synchronised elections was disrupted in 1968 and 1969 due to the premature dissolution of some State Legislative Assemblies. The Fourth Lok Sabha was also dissolved prematurely in 1970, with fresh elections held in 1971. Unlike the First, Second, and Third Lok Sabha, which completed their full five-year terms, the Fifth Lok Sabha's term was extended until 1977 under Article 352 because of the declaration of Emergency. Since then, only a few Lok Sabha terms have lasted the full five years, such as the Eighth, Tenth, Fourteenth, and Fifteenth. Others, including the Sixth, Seventh, Ninth, Eleventh, Twelfth, and Thirteenth, were dissolved "State Assemblies have faced

similar disruptions over the years. Premature dissolutions and term extensions have become a recurring challenge. These developments have firmly disrupted the cycle of simultaneous elections, leading to the current pattern of staggered electoral schedules across the country".

'The High-Level Committee on Simultaneous Elections, headed by former President Ram Nath Kovind, was constituted by the Government of India on 2nd September 2023, received over 21,500 responses, with 80% in favour of simultaneous elections. The responses came from all corners of the

country, including Lakshadweep, Andaman and Nicobar, Nagaland, Dadra, and Nagar Haveli. The highest responses were received from Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala, West Bengal, Gujarat, and Uttar Pradesh", it said. According to the government,

47 political parties submitted their views. Of these, 32 parties supported simultaneous elections, citing benefits like resource optimization and social harmony. 15 parties raised concerns about potential anti-democratic effects and marginalization of regional parties. The Committee consulted Former Chief Justices of India, Former Election Commissioners, and legal experts. A majority supported the concept of simultaneous elections, emphasizing the waste of resources and socioeconomic disruptions caused by frequent elections. The Committee proposed amendments to Articles 82A and of the Indian Constitution to enable simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha, State Assemblies, and local bodies. The Committee recommended implementing simultaneous elections in two phases: Phase 1: Synchronizing Lok Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies elections. Phase 2: Synchronizing elections for Municipalities and Panchayats with Lok Sabha and State Legislative elections within 100

'990 transgenders rehabilitated through shelter homes in last three years' PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

In last three years, 990 destitute transgender persons have been rehabilitated through garima grehs (Shelter homes) and as many as 725 were imparted skill development training. At the same time, 24,015 transgender persons have been issued identity certificates through the National Portal for Transgender persons, the Government informed Parliament on Tuesday.

Additionally, Transgender Welfare Boards and Protection Cells have been set up in multiple states and union territories to address the welfare and security of the community. These efforts are

complemented by healthcare support through the Ayushman Bharat scheme, ensuring a more inclusive and supportive environment for transgender persons in India, said Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment BL Verma, in a written reply to a question in Lok Sabha.

The Minister said that transgender welfare boards and Transgender Protection Cells have been set up in 19 and 12 States/UTs respectively for the welfare and security of the individuals from the community. The protection cells under

Director General of Police aims to monitor cases of offences against transgender persons and to ensure timely



registration, investigation and prosecution of such offences, said the Minister.

The TWBs have been set up in Rajasthan, Mizoram, Chandigarh, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Maharashtra, Kerala, Meghalaya, Manipur,

West Bengal, Tripura, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir and Andaman & Nicobar. The States where protection cell has been set up are Chhattisgarh, West Bengal,

Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Chandigarh, Andaman & Nicobar, Sikkim, Punjab, Mizoram, Jammu and Kashmir and Uttar Pradesh. The Minister also informed that MoU with National Health Authority (NHA) for convergence with Ayushman Bharat scheme of NHA has been done for providing health facilities under Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna (PMJAY) scheme to transgender persons.

Eighteen Garima Grehs, shelter homes for destitute transgender persons have been established in 15 States namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab,

Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal (2 shelters) and Maharashtra (3). The main aim of Garima Greh is to provide shelter to transgender persons with basic amenities like food, medical care, and recreational facilities besides providing support for the capacitybuilding/skill development of the sector, added the Minister. The National Portal for Transgender Persons is an end-to-end online process where the applicant can apply for the TG certificate and also download the certificate after issue without any requirement to go to any office of issue. "This portal has more than 62 Lakh visitors and as of now, 24,015 certificates have been issued.

ED conducts fresh searches against operatives of betting website

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

Enforcement Directorate Tuesday said it has conducted fresh searches against the operatives of a betting website, owned by some Pakistani nationals, that also was involved in "illegal" broadcast of Men's T20 Cricket World Cup matches. The searches were undertaken by the federal agency between December 10-12 in Delhi, Mumbai and Pune in the case against the portal named

'Magicwin'. The ED's case, filed under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), is based on an FIR registered by the cyber crime unit of the Ahmedabad Police in Gujarat. Bank deposits worth Rs 30 lakh were frozen during the raids apart from seizure of "incriminating" documents, the



ED said in a statement. Magicwin, according to the agency, is a "betting" website "guised" as a gaming portal which is "actually owned" by Pakistani nationals. The operations of this website are mostly handled by Indian nationals working or settled in Dubai, it said. "The betting games being shown on the website are originally played in the Philippines and other countries which allow betting activities," it said. However, as per the investigation, the same is "re-telecast" on Magicwin's website by copying

the APIs (application programming interface) of the original games. The agency said betting activities llike deposits, placing of betting and withdrawal are "controlled" by the "owners" of Magicwin. The ED claimed its probe found that that the money, deposited in the bank accounts by the players/betters, was "diverted" through layers of "shell and mule" bank accounts and further the profit part of the owners were invested in crypto assets, withdrawn in crypto assets, withdrawn in cash or sent to Dubai through Hawala channels. The winning amounts of the players/betters were transferred to their bank accounts through merchant accounts of various shell companies maintained with payment gateways. These amounts were also transferred to the player's bank account though domestic money transfer (DMT), it said.

Rajnath says DPSUs will carry forward modernisation, indigenisation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

ministry said.

The defence minister appreci-

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Tuesday here said new Defence Public Sector Undertakings(DPSU) will carry forward modernisation, indigenisation and set new dimensions by incorporating world class technologies.

He made this assertion during a meeting of Consultative Committee for the Ministry of Defence (MoD). The roles and functions of the new DPSUs, created post corporatisation of erstwhile Ordnance Factory Board, were deliberated upon during the meeting. The committee members were apprised on the financial figures, modernisation, capital expenditure, exports, new products developed and ongoing R&D projects, defence

the new DPSUs will carry forward modernisation and indi-



ated the efforts taken by the new DPSUs in indigenisation of critical products, modernisation of production facilities and promotion of MSMEs. He appreciated the fact that post corporatisation, the new DPSUs have shown improvement in productivity and quality. There has been good progress in the sales and profit of these DPSUs in a very short span of time, he added.

Rajnath exuded confidence that genisation, and will set new

dimensions in quality, turnover, profitability and other financial parameters by incorporating new DPSUs will make India 'Aatmanirbhar' in the field of defence production," he said. On the concerns and suggestions of some of the committee members on certain HR-related issues within the new DPSUs, the defence minister assured them that all issues emanating from the corporatisation of DPSUs are being addressed adequately in consultation with all the stakeholders. He appreciated the suggestions, and said that these would be examined for implementation.

Minisgter of State for defence Sanjay Seth, Chief of Defence Staff(CDS)General Anil Chauhan, Secretary (Defence Production)Sanjeev Kumar and other senior officers of MoD were present in the meeting.

PM slams Congress for water disputes | Fundamentalist group

 $P_{\text{Narendra}}^{\text{rime}} \ ^{\text{M}}$ Minister (PM) Narendra Modi on Tuesday hit out at the Congress, saying they talk big in the name of farmers but they neither do anything for them nor let others do anything.

He also alleged the party encourages water disputes among states rather than resolving them, and said the delay in the implementation of the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) is a direct proof of the Congress' intention intention

The ERCP envisages intrabasin transfer of water within the Chambal basin to provide water to 13 deficient districts of eastern Rajasthan.

"The Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project (ERCP) was delayed for so long by the Congress, this is also a direct proof of the Congress' intentions. They talk big in the name of farmers but they neither do anything themselves for the farmers nor let others do anything," Modi

He was addressing the 'Ek Varsh-Parinaam Utkarsh' Varsh-Parinaam Utkarsh' event to mark the completion of the Rajasthan government's one year in office. He also inaugurated or laid the foundation stones for 24 projects related to energy, road, railways and water worth over Rs 46,300 crore. The PM said the Parvati-

Kalisindh-Chambal Project will provide irrigation as well as drinking water facility to 21 districts of Rajasthan and accelerate the development of both Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh.

On various water disputes between states, he said while the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) policy is to promote dialogue, the Congress continues to fan

"The BJP's policy is of

dialogue, not of conflict. We believe in cooperation, not opposition. We believe in solutions, not disruption. Therefore, our government has approved and also expanded the Eastern Rajasthan Canal Project. As soon as the BJP government was formed in MP and Rajasthan, an agreement was reached on the Parvati-Kalisindh-Chambal project," he said.

The PM noted that he had launched a big campaign to bring Narmada water to different parts of Gujarat when he was the chief minister, and charged the Congress and some NGOs adopted various tactics to stop

The Congress never wants to reduce water problems. The water of our rivers used to flow to across the borders, but our farmers did not get its benefits. Instead of finding a solution, the Congress continued to promote water disputes between states," he

PM Modi also said that the BJP is getting huge public support in different states where elections were held. "The nation has given the BJP the opportunity to serve the country for the third consecutive time in Lok Sabha. This did not happen in India in the last 60 years," he

"Today, the BJP's double engine governments are becoming a symbol of good governance. Whatever governance. resolution the BJP takes, it makes honest efforts to fulfil it. Today, the people of the country are saying that BJP is the guarantee of good governance," he said, and lauded the work of Bhajanlal Sharma-led BJP government in the state.

"In the last one year, Bhajanlal ji and his entire team have worked very hard to give new momentum and direction to



PM Narendra Modi with Raiasthan CM Bhaianlal Sharma during the 'Ek Varsh-Parinaam Utkarsh' event.

the development of Rajasthan. This first year has, in a way, laid a strong foundation for the many years to come," he

Modi said people blessed the BJP with the responsibility to serve Rajasthan for multiple terms and party did its best. Bhairon Singh Shekhawat laid a strong foundation of development in Rajasthan, Vasundhara Raje took the legacy forward and now Bhajanlal Sharma's government is engaged in further enriching good governance. Its impact can be

Modi said the Central government is constantly trying to improve the economic condition of villages and focusing on promoting every means of earning there. Rajasthan has ample potential for solar energy and it can become the leading state in the sector, he said.

The PM said north India will

seen in one year," he said.

get direct connectivity to Kandla from the Jamnagar-Amritsar Economic Corridor. "Rajasthan's transport sector will benefit. Big warehouses will be built and new job opportunities will be created,"

"The BJP makes honest efforts to fulfil every promise it makes. The BJP has been getting huge support in states. The country has given the party the opportunity to serve the country for the third time in a row in Lok Sabha," he

He also mentioned the victory of the party in Maharashtra and Haryana assembly elections, and bypolls in Rajasthan.

Talking about women empowerment, he said 10 crore women, including lakhs from Rajasthan, joined Self-Help Groups in the last decade. He also highlighted the government's women-specific programmes such as

the Lakhpati Didi scheme. Namo Drone Didi Scheme and Bima Sakhi Scheme.

The PM encouraged party workers to work towards water conservation and make people aware about it, saying the BJP is not just the biggest political party but a huge social movement.

CM Bhajanlal also addressed the meeting and highlighted the achievements of his government.

Union ministers C R Patil, Bhagirath Chaudhary, Madhya Pradesh CM Mohan Yadav, Rajasthan Deputy Chief Minister Diya Kumari and Prem Chand Bairwa and other leaders were also present in the programme. Earlier, Modi reached the

meeting venue in an open jeep, flanked on his left by the CM and BJP state president Madan Rathore on his right. The vehicle was escorted by a group of women carrying 'Kalash' on head.

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI The Opposition staged a walk out from the

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

has

temple,

Adiscovered in the Muslim-

majority Madanpura area of

reportedly locked for the past decade and filled with soil, came to light after a social media post highlighted its

existence. Members of a Hindu

fundamentalist organisation visited the site and have called

for the temple to be reopened. The group learned about the temple through a social media post that read: "Attention: A Shiva temple lies closed in the lanes of Kashi. This temple is near house number D-31 in Madannura" "Upon visiting the

Madanpura." Upon visiting the location, the leader of the group found the temple locked, with soil accumulated

inside. Local residents were unable to provide clear

information about the temple's

history or the reasons for its

The group has appealed to Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister

human rights violations and police brutality.

youth died in police custody and the killing of a sarpanch in Beed district and demanded an immediate discussion on the issue. Soon after the proceedings began in the House,

death of a Dalit youth in Parbhani and the killing of a sarpanch in Beed district, and asked the Speaker to suspend all the other work and hold discussion on the issue,

Opposition Members like Wadettiwar, Nitin Raut and Sandeep Kshirsagar joined Patole in his clamour for immediate discussion on the twin

discussion on the issue on Tuesday on the ground that it had already been decided to have a considering the seriousness of the incident. However, the Opposition members were not

Yogi Adityanath to intervene and facilitate the reopening of currently locked, no one has been able to confirm been ownership or provide details the temple. The organisation is also seeking clarification on who locked the temple and about its closure. The administration plans to why. In response to the conduct a site inspection to situation, police arrived at the ascertain the facts and scene to maintain order and persuaded the gathered determine the appropriate course of action. In the meantime, police presence has members disperse peacefully. been increased in the area as a Members precautionary measure. fundamentalist group, who

fundamentalist organisation which claims the temple is ancient, has been active in Varanasi, notably it been involved in text detailing the sacred geography of Varanasi. According to the group, the campaigns to remove statues of Sai Baba from temples in Varanasi, asserting that only traditional deities should be Siddheshwar, located south of worshipped in the city's temples.

The local administration is expected to conduct thorough inspection of the temple to verify its historical significance and assess the situation. Further actions will be based on the findings of this inspection and directives from higher authorities.

Opposition walks out of Maharashtra Assembly over custodial death

finds temple in Muslim

majority area of Varanasi

discovered the existence of the

temple via a social media post,

now claim that it is mentioned

in the Kashi Khand, an ancient

Pushpadanteshwar, with a

nearby Siddhiteerth well. However, members of the

group are clueless about the

commissioner of police for the

Kashi Zone, stated that while

the temple is indeed old and

cultural

deputy

temple is identified

significance of the temple.

historical and

Gaurav Banswal,

State Assembly after Speaker Rahul Narwekar refused to allow an immediate discussion on the recent custodial death of Somnath Surevanshi at Parbhani and the alleged murder of sarpanch Santosh Deshmukh and slammed the Devendra Fadnavis government for

On the second day of the ongoing winter session of State Legislature in Nagpur, several opposition leaders Nana Patole, Vijay Wadettiwar, Nitin Raut (all from Congress) and Sandeep Kshirsagar (Sharad Pawar-led NCP) expressed serious concern over the manner in which a Dalit

Nana Patole raised the twin issues of custodial

issues. discussion under rule 101 on Wednesday happy with the Speaker's refused to allow immediate discussion on the issue. They walked out from the House in protest.

The gravity of the issue could be gauged from the fact even Namita Mundada, a ruling BJP MLA from Kej in Beed district also shared the Opposition's concern over the murder of a sarpanch from her Assembly constituency contending that the incident had caused considerable anger among the people of the village where the murder had taken place in broad day-light. She urged Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis to take immediate action for the arrest of the accused behind the murder.

After walking out from the Assembly, the Opposition members staged a protest on the State Legislature premises. Talking to media persons outside the House,

Wadettiwar came down heavily on the Speaker for trying to silence the Opposition in the House. "Despite our repeated pleas for a discussion on the issue, the Speaker refused to let us speak. This is a clear-cut attempt to stifle the voice of dissent from the Opposition and help the government to forsake accountability for its failures," he said. Condemning the custodial death in Parbhani and killing of a sarpanch in Beed district, Raut said: "No one who has true faith in the Constitution can allow such police brutality and a sarnanch

disturbances, innocent citizens, including children, were detained, beaten, and one of the arrested persons died in police custody. This exposes the government's failure to protect

Yogi criticises Priyanka's bag contrasts with Indian labour in Israel

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

Thief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath took a swipe at Congress leader and Wavanad MP Gandhi Priyanka Vadra during the Winter Session of the state Assembly, criticising her for carrying a bag with Palestine written on it. He contrasted her action with the State government's efforts to send skilled youth from Uttar Pradesh to Israel for

"Yesterday, a Congress leader was seen roaming around with a Palestine bag, while we are sending the youth of Uttar Pradesh to Israel," CM Yogi remarked. He highlighted that over 5,600 youths from the state have gone to Israel for construction earning a monthly salary of Rs 1.5 Lakh along with free accommodation and food. He added that the Israeli ambassador had praised the skills of UP's youth and expressed interest in hiring more workers from the state. The CM underscored the government's commitment to skill development, stating that more than 12 lakh youths in Uttar Pradesh have been trained under various programs.

The controversy erupted after Priyanka Gandhi Vadra was seen in Parliament on Monday carrying the bag Responding to the criticism, she dismissed the remarks as patriarchal. "Who is going to decide what clothes I wear now? That's typical patriarchy. I will wear what I

want," she told reporters. The Bharatiya Janata Party's criticism gained traction as leaders such as Rajya Sabha MP Dinesh Sharma accused the Gandhi family of promoting foreign thinking. Union Minister of State Banwari Lal Verma added, "Priyanka Gandhi came with a Palestine bag; she should carry an India bag

instead. Meanwhile, opposition leaders have rallied behind Priyanka Gandhi, defending her against what they termed an unnecessary controversy fueled by political motives.

TMC leader highlights condition of Muslims in West Bengal, calls for qualitative development

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

Trinamool Congress (TMC) MLA and a former IPS officer Humayun Kabir has said that the condition of the Muslims particularly in West Bengal was worse than even the members of Scheduled

growth. Rather, I favour remarks. qualitative development of When asked to comment on fuslims. I think the condition. of the Muslims particularly those in Bengal is not as it visit their areas and look at the condition they live in to realise the parents and two children

their plight," said Kabir, a former deputy inspector general of the West Bengal Police, who joined the TMC ahead of the 2021 Assembly elections.

His statements come just amid a raging controversy over senior TMC minister and Mayor Firhad Kolkata "I not a votary of quantitative Hakim's recent controversial

Hakin qualitative development and should have been. You have to quantitative growth that matters. A family comprising

can sustain in a better manner than a family with five children. But in any case the family has to have the wherewithal and the education to sustain itself. I don't dishonor what a rickshawalla or for that matter a vegetable vendor does but for me the large majority of Muslims can have better qualitative life if they have access to education and economic resources, not : present. So, I think the craving should be for a qualitative development rather than quantitative growth." Kabir's statements could have

impact on the party's Muslim vote base which has been Mamata Minister Chief Banerjee's electoral mainstay, worried insiders said. On Kabir's anguish over the 'below par' quality of life that

the Muslims of West Bengal led senior TMC leader Kunal Ghosh -- who had to clean a lot of mess left by Hakim a day before -- on Tuesday offered explanations comparing the condition of the life le Muslims in the past and the one they lead at present. Their lives had improved quite a bit from what it used to be even a decade ago, he said.



President Droupadi Murmu with a recipient during the first convocation of AIIMS Mangalagiri.

President highlights women's role in medicine at AIIMS convocation

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday said the rising participation of women in the medical profession and their contributions significant demonstrate that India is becoming a truly developed society. Addressing the first convocation of AIIMS (All India Institute of Medical Sciences) at Mangalagiri near here, she said relentless promotion of holistic health and ensuring health for all should be the guiding principle of every medical professional of this institute.

"The rising participation of women in the medical profession and their significant contributions demonstrate that we are becoming a truly developed society. This also highlighted the fact that given limits is developing into an important centre in affordable medical tourism on the world

opportunity, our daughters excel in every field," the President said.

The government has taken up several schemes, including Ayushman Bharat health insurance scheme and made treatment accessible for those facing difficulties in accessing treatment, she said.

Along with the government, it is also the responsibility of a conscious society to ensure that no one should be left out of medical services due to financial or other reasons, Murmu stressed.

The President said Indian doctors, based on their talent and hard work, are in the forefront in the developed nations. She said people from other countries come to India to avail healthcare services.

map, she said, adding doctors of the country play an important role in this regard. She called upon young doctors

to give priority to providing medical care and services to people living in rural, tribal and remote areas. Yogasan and Pranayam have also been accepted from the modern point of view in the context of holistic health care, she noted. Andhra Pradesh Governor S Adbul Nazeer, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Union Minister of State for Ayush (Independent Charge) Prataprao Jadhav, Andhra Health Minister Satya Kumar Yadav and other dignitaries were present.

The foundation for AIIMS-Mangalagiri was laid in 2015 and the first batch of MBBS students were inducted on August 30, 2018, which passed

Protests in Kerala over man's death in wild elephant attack, locals demand action

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Kuttampuzha, a forest-fringe village here, witnessed a protest by local people over the death of a man who was trampled to death by a wild elephant. The deceased man, Eldose (40), a native of Knachery here, met with the tragic end on Monday night while he was walking home after reaching the area by a KSRTC bus in Urulanthanni in Kuttampuzha panchayat. Kuttampuzha panchayat. His disfigured body was later found by a local man.

Local people said Eldose was a bachelor and the only

breadwinner of his family, comprising aged parents and

Angry villagers staged a protest in the area for hours on Monday night alleging the forest officials' lack of effective interventions to address the human-animal conflict.

They did not even allow the authorities to shift Eldose's body from the place till the wee hours of Tuesday, hours of demanding adequate compensation to his family and a permanent solution to the increasing human-animal conflict.

Collector NSK District people's representatives also had to face the heat of the villagers' protest. At one point, the Collector even had to request the angry people with folded hands to allow the shifting of

later assured compensation of Rs 10 lakh to the deceased man's family and announced a review meeting on December 27 to address various matters in this regard.

the body to the hospital.

Meanwhile, forest officials began the digging of a trench to prevent wild animals from entering the village.

The post-mortem procedures of Eldose were completed on Tuesday morning, and the body was kept at his house for the public to pay their homage.

A people's hartal was also organised in Kothamangalam and Kuttampuzha over the incident.

Both the state government and the opposition UDF described the death of the man as "unfortunate"

While Kerala Forest Minister A K Saseendran said the protest staged by local people could not be considered as unjustified, Leader of Opposition V D Satheesan the human-animal conflict has been increasing in forest fringe areas of the

BJP seeks clarity from BJD over MP's questions to President Murmu over Manipur, Sambhal, Odisha

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ BHUBANESWAR

Odisha's ruling BJP on Tuesday sought a reply from BJD president Naveen Patnaik on his party MP Sulata Deo's statement in Rajya Sabha "targeting" President Droupadi Murmu. Deo, while participating in the discussion on the Glorious journey of 75 years of the Constitution of India in the , Rajya Sabha on Monday had "targeted" Murmu, who hails from Odisha, BJP Odisha spokesperson Anil Biswal said. "Honourable President is a daughter of Odisha. She has expressed her anguish over the Kar rape case. But why is she silent on Manipur which is on boil for over the last one-and-a-half years? Why is she silent on Sambhal? There have

been 1,250 rapes in Odisha in the last six



over Manipur, Sambhal and rapes in Odisha.

months. Where is the President? When will she break her silence? Is this what our Constitution teaches us?" Deo had

Reacting to Deo's statement in the Upper House of the Parliament, Biswal in a post

on X said: "The manner in which a BJD Rajya Sabha MP dragged President Droupadi Murmu into petty politics, is not acceptable. She is the pride of Odisha. But, the RS MP's statement has hurt the people of Odisha. "The question arises whether this is the

personal opinion of the concerned Rajya Sabha MP or does BID chief Naveen Babu also agree with this opinion? If there is no consensus, then why is Naveen Babu silent?" Biswal asked. Biswal also alleged that when the BJD

was in power in the state, it had "insulted" the President by causing power cuts during her programmes. "Now, there is an attempt to insult her in the Rajya Sabha. This is not the ideal sign of a political party," the BJP spokesperson

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

A timely assurance

Sri Lanka assures New Delhi that it will not permit anybody to use its territory to threaten India's security

In what must come as music to the ears of the Indian government, the Sri Lankan President has said that his country will not allow anyone to use its territory to threaten India's security. This assurance comes at a time when China is aggressively pursuing 'Mission Indian Ocean' - which targets India. In a joint statement issued Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake made Colombo's position clear during his dialogue with Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi. This assurance is seen as a critical development in India-Sri Lanka relations, especially given China's use of Sri Lanka's Hambantota Port for docking its naval surveillance and spy ships, including the ballistic missile tracking ship Yuan Wang 5. China's growing footprint in the Indian Ocean has raised red flags for New Delhi. The Hambantota Port, now under a 99-year lease to China following Sri Lanka's inability to service its debt, has become a hub for Chinese naval operations. Over the past two years, Beijing has stationed the Yuan Wang



5, a 25,000-tonne satellite and missile tracking ship, at Hambantota multiple times. This vessel, equipped with advanced tracking and communication systems, has been closely monitoring satellite and missile activities in the region, creating strategic challenges for India. In 2022, Sri Lanka briefly delayed the docking of Yuan Wang 5 following Indian concerns but eventually allowed the vessel to dock under the guise of 'replenishment.' Since then, Chinese surveillance ships have regularly patrolled the Indian Ocean, adding to India's apprehensions about Beijing's strategic intentions in the region. The agreement between India and Sri Lanka ensures that Sri Lankan territory, including its waters,

will not be used in any manner that could harm India's security or regional peace. This is a welcome relief for New Delhi, which views such commitments as crucial for maintaining stability in the Indian Ocean Region. This of course hasn't happened overnight. India's steadfast support for Sri Lanka during its economic crisis in 2022 has further solidified the bond between the two nations. President Dissanayake expressed gratitude for India's timely assistance, which was instrumental in stabilising Sri Lanka's economy during one of its most challenging periods. As far as China is concerned it has been courting Sri Lanka for the sole purpose of encircling India and getting a foothold in Indian Ocean. China's influence in Sri Lanka has grown significantly, particularly after Colombo defaulted on its \$1.7 billion loan for the Hambantota Port project. India has consistently raised concerns about the strategic implications of Chinese investments and activities in Sri Lanka. In this background the assurance of Sri Lankan president signals Sri Lanka's intent to balance its ties with both regional powers while safeguarding regional stability. The agreement also underscores Colombo's recognition of the importance of India's security and regional stability and paves the way for a stronger, more strategic India-Sri Lanka alliance in the years to come.



Tourists enjoy paragliding, in Manali

Nepal embraces China's BRI



Nepal's deepening ties with China through the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) have set alarm bells ringing in New Delhi

ndia has cause for extreme worry. In yet another indicator of China's growing sway over Nepal, the two are moving forward to implement Beijing's ambitious Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) in the Himalayan nation. India is not only opposed to this in principle on grounds of sovereignty but also fears it will enable China to increase its already considerable inroads into Nepal.

If 2017 marked Nepal's initial step to coming on board the BRI with an MoU, the year 2024 marks a giant leap for the Himalayan nation in that direction. A framework agreement for cooperation on the BRI was signed during Nepalese PM K P Sharma Oli's visit to China in early December, apart from nine other pacts. With the strategically located Himalayan nation having become a hub for Great Powers contestation, the US too would be uneasy with the latest Beijing-Kathmandu tango. While the US had managed to get Nepal on board its own Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) Compact to fund Kathmandu's power and transport infrastructure, the BRI seems far broader. Kathmandu is trying to play down the framework as just a continuation of the 2017 MoU. The framework, however, underlines Kathmandu and Beijing's renewed push for the BRI, an initiative on which New Delhi harbours deep suspicions for what it perceives as China's hegemonic ambitions through debt-trap diplomacy. Sovereignty is another major concern, with the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), another project under BRI, passing through Pakistan-

India is certainly worried about PM Oli-led Nepal once again moving into China's sphere of influence. The CPN-UML leader is widely seen as being India's influence over Nepal. China, and bilateral ties. The BRI framework agree with India were prickly during ment, incidentally, also his previous stints as the PM. India has yet to host Oli since branches of Chinese banks

occupied Kashmir.

this year for the fourth time, with him first heading for Beijing, in a break from the tradition of visiting New Delhi.Also, showing scant regard for New Delhi's sensitivities, the Oli government recently allowed 220 Buddhist monks from China to travel to Lumbini, the birthplace of Gautam Buddha even as the Nanhai Buddhism Shenzhen roundtable was being held in Kathmandu.

Oli delivered the inaugural address at this roundtable. There were also reports the China-appointed Panchen Lama would travel to Lumbini, though it did not eventually happen. The Oli government's

encouragement of Beijing's concerted moves to claim Buddhism as a shared heritage will not go down well with New Delhi, which has been making its efforts to build on its shared Buddhist heritage with Nepal.

Kathmandu's thrust on greater economic cooperation with Beijing - the BRI is part of this endeavour would also whittle down envisages the opening of he took charge as PM in July and financial institutions in



WITH THE

STRATEGICALLY LOCATED HIMALAYAN NATION HAVING **BECOME A HUB FOR GREAT POWERS** CONTESTATION. THE US TOO WOULD **BE UNEASY** WITH THE LATEST BEIJING-KATHMANDU

Nepal. India has traditionally had deep economic linkages with Nepal, nurtured in no small measure due to reasons of geography - the two neighbours share a long and porous 1,751-km-long

This, along with the landlocked nature of Nepal, has helped India become its largest trading partner. During the 2022-23 fiscal, bilateral trade was pegged at \$8.85 billion. This included \$8 billion of exports from India to Nepal, with \$840 million of exports in the reverse direction. As per the Nepal Rastra Bank, India's share in Nepal's trade accounted for 64.1% in 2022-23.PM Oli sees cooperation on BRI as a means to forge closer economic ties with China, with the framework agreement resolving to deepen the economic partnership by "injecting new momentum to trade, infrastructure and connectivity coopera-

Not a single project under the BRI rubric has been executed in Nepal since the 2017 MoU. Nepal would be hoping that the 10 initial projects, including those meant to boost regional con-nectivity, will now see the light of day. India has its work cut out and should

ensure it does not come across as overbearing. India's approach in the Kalapani-Lipulekh-Limpiyadhura border dispute, where New Delhi ignored Kathmandu's request for foreign secretary-level talks, is a case in

point. It led Oli, in his earlier stint as the PM, to cock a snook at New Delhi by changing his country's map showing the disputed territories as part of Nepal.

Neither did New Delhi show respect due to a close neighbour when it decided to give a quiet burial to the joint 2018 Eminent Persons Group (EPG) report, which suggested that the 1950 Treaty of Peace And Friendship be replaced with a new one?

Nepal has also been unhappy with India's refusal to give overflight rights for aircraft using the Chinese-built Buddha

Gautam International Airport in Lumbini.

India would do well to remember that its domineering approach only serves to alienate a close neighbour further and push it into Chinas ever-willing embrace India should not lose sight of its strategic imperatives.

(The writer is a senior journalist; views are personal)

THE EDITOR

TANGO

Why reading and writing matter more in the age of Al



As AI grows increasingly sophisticated, our commitment to these skills will determine whether we remain active participants in innovation—or passive consumers

and even bolster the

n an era increasingly defined by technological Linnovation, reading and writing-cornerstones of human intellect—are facing a profound transformation. While artificial intelligence (AI) bots like OpenAI's ChatGPT and Google Bard redefine the boundaries of information generation, the necessity of cultivating human literacy has never been more crucial. The transition from

Neanderthals to modern humans (Homo sapiens) involved significant cognitive and cultural advancements, but Neanderthals themselves did not read or write. Reading and writing developed after modern humans became the dominant hominin species. These are not merely communication tools but exercises that keep our cognitive faculties sharp and resilient. When we read, our brains decode symbols, conjuring vivid images, emotions, and concepts. This intricate process activates the left temporal cortex, which is responsible for language processing, and strengthens



underscore that reading enhances memory, concentration, and analytical thinking. Engaging with diverse genres deepens empathy and broadens perspectives, fostering a nuanced understanding of the world.

Writing, on the other hand, is an intellectual partner to reading. Crafting words whether in a journal, essay, or story—requires us to organise thoughts, synthesise ideas, and express them clearly. This process activates the prefrontal cortex, the brain's hub for decisionmaking and problem-solving. Writing is more than an intellectual task; it is therapeutic. Research shows that expressive writing can alleneural connectivity. Studies viate stress, enhance mood, can diminish critical think-

immune system. The tactile act of writing also strengthens memory, embedding information deeply within our minds. Reading and writing foster neuroplasticity, enabling the brain to adapt and form new connections. They are antidotes to cognitive decline and shields against neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's. Regular engagement with these skills cultivates intellectual independence, creativity, and

emotional depth—uniquely human attributes. Yet, as AI bots revolutionise the way we consume and produce information, there is an alarming decline in human literacy. Tools like Book AI, which transforms any book into a conversational chatbot, exemplify AI's capacity to digest and reproduce complex information effortlessly. AI lacks the intrinsic human qualities of creativity, empathy, and ethical judgment. As AI literacy surges, the stagnation of human literacy risks creating a dangerous imbalance. Over-reliance on AI

ing and communication skills, weakening the very attributes that distinguish humans from machines. While the fear of displacement is understandable, the answer lies in shifting our perspective. AI is not an adversary but a powerful partner that can amplify human capabilities and drive innovation. Individuals can leverage their unique strengths to complement AI capabilities by prioritising the development of reading and writing skills. In an environment controlled by artificial intelligence, these abilities are necessary to navigate complicated concepts, understandably articulate them, and affirm human importance. The development of artificial intelligence highlights the significance of human expertise rather than diminishing it. By committing to studying throughout our lives, we can ensure that technology will not replace our humanity but rather improve it. (The writer is an adjunct fac-

ulty at the National Institute of Advanced Studies; views are personal)

Madam - While Travis Head hits a cen-

INDIA STRUGGLES IN BRISBANE TEST

tury again in the Brisbane test, it was a surprising and grave omission of the crafty and successful off-spinner Washington Sundar for the third test at Gabba. While Sundar has been among the wickets in recent tests and also did well with the bat, the head coach and the out-of-form skipper Rohit Sharma couldn't realise the need for a quality off-spinner is a blunder at the moment. The need for the quality off-spinner is mandatory when the Aussies have two solid left-handers, Travis Head and Alex Carey. When Head is the consistent match winner for the Aussies, leaving Washington Sundar out will prove costly for India in this test.

Whenever there were solid left-hand batters, the formulae of the Indian team in the past from the era of Skipper Ajit Wadekar used to play Erapaali Prasanna and S Venkataraghavan proved to be of great success. After Rohit won the toss and put the Aussies to bat first, the Aussies had scored 445, and now the pressure will be on the Indian batters, who may succumb to pressure again, as proved by losing the 4 top order for a paltry 51. After having won the first test under the standby skipper Jasprit Bumrah, Rohit Sharma seems to have not yet learnt the lesson that the composition of the right combinations is important to be in the match. Missing a clever off-spinner can never be an easy task for the team to come back once they lose the grip in the first innings, which is what's happening at present in Brisbane. Bumrah alone can't take the match away from the opponents; this needs to be realised by head coach Gautam Gambhir. By dropping down in the order, Skipper Rohit is unbeaten on zero, and Rahul, with 33 against his name, has been the only consolation for the fans while rain stopped play. Rain God can be the only saviour as it looks for the team to have a sigh of relief. Rohit and Kohli must take a voluntary exit rather than bring the morale down of the team

A P Thiruvadi | Chennai

Rural education needs reform



or a majority of Indian school children especially from rural pockets, a feeling of uneasiness sets in when they hear something in English. They find it difficult to listen to and understand the English language. In a

country like India, classes of mixed-ability

HEALTHCARE REFORMS FOR PUBLIC

Madam— If the AAP government has done one good thing for society by making Mohalla clinics, the BJP has done another by making Jan Aushadi chemist shops. One can now get a free consultation from the AAP clinic and get medicines at nearly one-fifth the rate from a Jan Aushadi shop, thereby catering to the health aspect of a common man.

The prominent good work visible on the ground needs to be applauded for both. The belief that a drug in a normal chemist shop is better than the generic drug being sold by a Jan Aushadi shop (popularly known as 'Modi ki Dukaan' in Patiala) is a myth that can be best removed by the doctors to their patients depending on the degree of moral courage they have to refuse obligations of pharmaceutical companies and give priority to generic rather than tradenamed medicines to their patients. The fleecing private pharmacies need to be brought down to their knees in the interest of the public for their overinflated rates of medicines

R S Narula | Patiala

While the teaching-learning process is done in the local language in rural villages, most of the competitive examinations are held in the English language. The rural atmosphere does-

n't provide these students the opportunity to

speak and learn English. In fact, in many northern villages, English becomes the third language, with the local language and Hindi as the first and second languages, respectively. The policymakers have to bridge the urban-rural divide when it comes to English teaching. An English teacher, teaching in rural schools, has to come up with innovative strategies in the classrooms. Skilled and committed teachers need to be appointed at the primary level, and they should

R Sivakumar | Gandhi Nagar

be upgraded and trained to meet the problems

PURCHASING POWER DECLINES

faced by the learners.

Madam — For the success of any economy, a vibrant market with sound and sustained demands is imperative, as production and market cannot flourish in a dry market. To vibrate the market, people's purchasing power should be increased by ensuring employment and a viable wage. The Indian economy is driven with an objective of enriching the rich, leaving the 81 crore poor in a lurch to manage sustaining life with 5 kgs of free rice per month. Even the small employed section is left without a reasonable increase in wage and faces the untamed inflation. The changes being pushed through in the name of labour reforms are going to pull down demands and create telling effects on the already volatile economy. Such a programme inevitably leads to dwindling demands. Course correction is inevitable to ensure bridging the gap between the poor A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

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FIRST COLUMN REDISCOVER

HAPPINESS

Happiness is a state of mind that transcends life's adversities



RAVI VALLURI

couple first met in an estimable business school in India where they were conferred reputable degrees in management. The couple soon migrated to the land of El Dorado in search of greener pastures, seeking professional and economic security. They were a happy couple as the angels showered gargantuan benediction. Soon, a new dimension to their lives arrived in the form of angelic twins. When the twins turned six months old, it was time to visit the hometown of their parents. They were received by sentimental and misty-eyed grandpar-

The sojourn concluded the mother and twins were afloat on a flight back to their home. However, fate had other plans and a double whammy struck the family. The father never reached the airport as he was killed in a car crash on the way to the airport. The disconsolate woman became a mental wreck, her moments of happiness fastened only in her memory bank and the picture album. The alluring woman was transfigured into stone. A cousin empathised with her distraught mental state and robustly suggested that she undertake the Happiness Course of the Art of Living. After considerable blandishment and extensive persuasion, she enrolled for the course and deposited all her emotions and feelings while undergoing the unique rhythmic breathing technique of Sudarshan Kriya.Life need not be tragic if only we realise that happiness is a state of mind that can



be achieved independent of material success.

As per ancient Japanese mythology, the light from Tsukuyomi, the Shinto God of the moon could induce illusions and delusions. Hecate, the Greek Goddess of the dark moon bestowed visions, but also caused humans to be afflicted with insanity. The human body is made up of seventy per cent of water elements. Full moon water recharges the body, mind and spirit and bestows harmony on our thought processes. Therefore, practising the Full Moon Meditation has a consequential and noteworthy influence on the mind, whereby one is suffused with efficacious thoughts and purges nugatory ones. It was a cathartic experience for the young single mother to emerge from her traumatic experience by unflinchingly practising this technique. It is an established fact that the Sakyan prince. Siddhartha, upon attaining enlightenment on the full moon day metamorphosed into the Compassionate One, Gautama Buddha and made a prescient statement, "Thousands of candles can be lit from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared." How does one define an efficacious emotion called happiness? Happiness is a state of well-being, jollity, blitheness and primarily to be contented in life. The amphitheatre of the mind is a veritable nuclear reactor, where waves of thoughts and emotions arise and subside. These in turn determine our happiness quotient and consequentially the quality of our lives.

There once lived a farmer, who grew apples. He perpetually grumbled that there was not adequate produce to sustain the family. Providentially, there was a spurt in production and apples grew in plenitude. Still dissatisfied, the farmer cavilled that he was now laden with gruelling work, apples were rotting and prices now plunged! Sage Patanjali in his Yoga Sutras has postulated certain cardinal principles to live harmoniously, encompassed in happiness. These are non-violence, truthfulness, no regrets, not accepting invectives or salutations hurled by people, physical cleanliness of the body, inner contentment, forbearance or penance, self-study or examination of the mind and development and finally love and surrender to the supreme cosmic force.

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

Pesticides are poisoning the Punjab soil



Punjab's agriculture is facing a harrowing reality—its lifeblood, the soil, is being contaminated by toxic pesticide residues at alarmingly high levels



t's time to face the disturbing truth about Punjab's agriculture—and it's a nightmare. In districts like Bathinda, Mansa, and Ludhiana, up to 60 per cent of farm soil samples are infested with toxic pesticide residues—including the deadly chemicals endosulfan and carbofuran—at levels far beyond what's even remotely safe. This isn't just a warning; it's a full-blown crisis, a ticking time bomb, the result of irresponsible, reckless pesticide and fertiliser abuse running rampant in our fields.

On World Soil Day—December 5thwe're forced to confront the cold reality of a rapidly disintegrating agriculture system, while the world's been talking about "Caring for Soils: Measure, Monitor, and Manage"! The consequences of this madness are devastating. Our once fertile land is transforming into a barren wasteland, and that's only the beginning. These toxic chemicals aren't just staying in the soil. They're seeping into our food chaincontaminating every bite we take and slowly poisoning us all. But it doesn't stop there. These toxic residues are embedding themselves into our very DNA, passing down a legacy of genetic mutations to our children and grandchildren.

We are breeding a future full of compromised health and genetic decay. This is a catastrophe that will echo across generations. We're not just destroying our present health; we're condemning our children to inherit the consequences of our stupidity and greed. The survival of future generations is at risk, and the clock THE MODERN-DAY is ticking-every moment of inaction is a moment closer to irreversible genetic damage. It's time to wake up, stop burying our heads in the sand, and confront this crisis head-on before it's too late for

the survival of future generations. The Pesticide Management Bill, 2020: India's regulatory framework for pesticides, established in 1968, is woefully outdated and incapable of addressing the modern-day challenges posed by the rampant overuse of agrochemicals. Although efforts to amend this framework have been ongoing since 2008, significant gaps remain in safeguarding farmers, consumers, and the environment. The legislation—still governed by the Insecticides Act of 1968 and the Insecticides Rules of 1971—requires comprehensive reforms to address the multifaceted risks associated with pesticide overuse. The Pesticide



INDIA'S REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR PESTICIDES, ESTABLISHED IN 1968, IS **WOEFULLY** OUTDATED AND INCAPABLE

ADDRESSING CHALLENGES **POSED BY** THE RAMPANT **OVERUSE**

AGROCHEMICALS

Management Bill (PMB) 2020 was introduced to replace outdated legislation, but critical concerns must be addressed. While the bill outlines pesticide registration and licensing procedures, it must protect farmers more adequately from hazardous exposure. Statistics from Pesticide Action Network (PAN) International paint a grim picture: approximately 11,000 deaths globally are attributed to accidental pesting and the state of the stat ticide poisoning annually, with India accounting for a staggering 6,600 fatalities. These numbers highlight critical deficiencies in pesticide usage protocols and safety measures.

Farmers and rural communities often bear the brunt of chemical exposures, especially in agriculturally intensive regions. For instance, Punjab, which heavily depends on rice and wheat cultivation, reports alarming pesticide consumption rates. With an average usage of 77 kg/hectare, significantly above the national average of 62 kg/hectare, Punjab ranks third in India after UP and Maharashtra for pesticide consumption.

A study by the Central Soil Salinity Research Institute (CSSRI) revealed India are affected by salinity, a condition exacerbated by the overuse of agrochemicals. Persistent pesticide application has been found to reduce microbial biomass by 30-50 per cent, compromising soil fertility and diminishing the land's abil-ity to provide essential nutrients to

for Robust RegulationPesticides—insecticides, fungicides, or herbicides—play a vital role in modern agriculture. However, their toxic nature necessitates stringent oversight throughout their lifecycle, from production to disposal. The current regulatory framework lacks provisions for periodic review of registered pesticides based on emerging toxicological data. This oversight exposes the public to significant health risks, particularly in a country where improper handling of pesti-

Training and Awareness: A Neglected Imperative Over the past three decades, the indiscriminate use of pesticides has surged, often driven by aggressive marketing strategies that portray chemical inputs as indispensable for high crop yields. The limited scale of training initia-

tives highlights the need for more current efforts. Between 1994-95 and 2021-22, the Plant Protection Department of Agriculture and Farming Welfare Ministry trained only 585,000 farmers in Integrated Pest Management (IPM), a dismal figure in a nation with over 150 million farmers. According to the International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management, governments and industry stakeholders must provide comprehensive training and information to farmers and retailers. Yet, the implementation of these guidelines still needs to be more robust. Retailers often serve as farmers' sole point of contact, and in many cases, they disseminate misleading or incomplete information. Data Collection: Bridging Critical GapsThe absence of robust data collection mechanisms further undermines India's regulatory ecosystem.

The National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) documents pesticide poisoning deaths only if they are registered as medico-legal cases, excluding countless instances of non-institutional exposure and chronic health effects. This data void impedes effective policymaking and perpetuates a lack of accountability among stakeholders.

Addressing Weak Grievance Mechanisms: One of the most glaring deficiencies in India's pesticide regulation is the lack of accessible grievance redressal systems. Farmers and agricultural workers exposed to pesticides face prohibitive costs and lengthy procedures when seeking justice. Meanwhile, state governments can impose only temporary bans on hazardous pesticides, typically lasting 60 days, exposing vulnerable communities to ongoing risks.

Personal Protective Equipment: A

Forgotten NecessityThe Pesticide Management Bill 2020 neglects the safety of small-scale farmers, who often lack access to affordable, climate-appropriate personal pro-tective equipment (PPE). Farm workers face heightened health risks without mandatory provisions requiring them to supply adequate protective gear, especially in hot and humid agricultural regions. Labelling and Consumer ProtectionIndia's pesticide labelling standards fall short of both domestic and international norms. Safety information is frequently crammed into illegible leaflets, leaving farmers ill-informed about risks and

proper usage. Although the Consumer Protection Act theoretically covers farmers, legal recourse against manufacturers for misleading labels or substandard products is rarely pursued. The Way ForwardIndia can no longer afford to ignore the human and environmental toll of unsafe pesticide practices.

Establishing a robust, farmer-centric legal framework aligned with international standards is the only way forward to ensure safe and sustainable agriculture. A gradual snift towards agro-ecological farm ing methods that emphasise nonchemical pest management is imperative. The government must phase out hazardous pesticides and promote environmentally friendly alternatives to safeguard farmers' health and ensure consumer food safety. Addressing the gaps in the Pesticide Management Bill 2020 and adopting proactive measures, such as mandatory training and the provision of accurate information on pesticide usage and risks, are critical steps towards securing safe and healthier future generations.

(The Author is Vice-Chairman of Sonalika ITL Group, Vice-Chairman of the Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board, Chairman of ASSOCHAM Northern Region Development Council and President of Tractor and Mechanization Association. Views expressed are personal)

India@2024: A resilient economy on the fast track to growth

But challenges such as persistent inflation, a slowdown in the banking sector and environmental concerns continue to pose hurdles

ndia has firmly established itself as the fastest-growing Leconomy among the G20 nations, with a projected GDP growth rate of 6.5 per cent-7 per cent for the fiscal year 2024-25. This remarkable trajectory underscores the nation's economic resilience and immense potential despite global challenges. The year 2024 presents a vivid picture of India's economic landscape, marked by notable achievements and emerging chal-

lenges One of the most significant indicators of progress is the substantial improvement in employment. The unemployment rate has decreased from 6 per cent in 2017 to an impressive 3.2 per cent in 2024, reflecting robust job creation across sectors. Foreign



direct investment (FDI) has also shown a dramatic surge, rising 45 per cent year-on-year to UŠD 29.79 billion in the first half of 2024-25, with key inflows in services, telecom, pharmaceuticals. Complementing this momentum, India's foreign exchange reserves swelled to \$704.89 billion, driven by an \$87.6 billion increase this year alone. This growth includes a \$10.468 billion boost in foreign currency assets and a \$2 billion rise in gold reserves, which now stand at \$65.7 billion.

India's fintech sector continues to shine on the global stage, ranking as the third-largest fintech economy after the USA and the UK. The country also boasts the fourth-largest stock market in the world, with a market capitalisation of \$4.33 trillion, surpassing Hong Kong. A significant milestone in digital payments was achieved with the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), which saw transaction values soar to an astounding Rs 200

trillion in 2024, compared to

Rs 139 trillion in the previous

UPI prowess on a global stage, introducing the system at the Eiffel Tower in Paris as part of a digital payments agreement with France.

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue collection also reached unprecedented levels, hitting Rs 2.10 lakh crore—a substantial 12.4 per cent increase from the previous year. This growth was driven by a robust 13.4 per cent rise in domestic transactions and an 8.3 per cent increase in imports, showcasing the strength of India's tax infrastructure.

Amid these promising figures, certain challenges continue to loom. Inflation, as measured by the Consumer Price Index (CPI), remains persistently high, exceeding 5 per year. India even showcased its cent. The banking sector has



witnessed a slowdown, with credit growth declining to 11 per cent in November 2024 from 20.6 per cent the previous year. Deposit growth also moderated, with banks adding Rs 13.8 lakh crore in deposits late credit growth. between April and November, compared to Rs 16.1 lakh

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) reduced the cash reserve ratio (CRR) by 50 basis points to 4 per cent in December to improve liquidity and stimu-

Qualitative indicators present a mixed picture. India climbed crore during the same period 14 ranks on the UNDP

lighting significant strides in bridging the gender gap. It also improved its position on the Global Innovation Index, rising from 40th to 39th among 133 global economies, driven by entrepreneurial activity, vibrant startups, and successful public-private partnerships. The Human Development Report 2023-24 placed India at 134th among 193 countries, reflecting gains in life expectancy, education, and Gross National Income. However, no progress was seen in the Happiness Index, where India remains at 126th, largely due to dissatisfaction among older citizens, perceived discrimination, and poor health metrics. Moreover, India continues to struggle in environmental performance,

Gender Inequality Index, high-

countries. Challenges such as air quality, biodiversity loss, and greenhouse gas emissions demand urgent attention. As India navigates these complexities, it is also undergoing key transitions. The US economy has entered a new phase, and India sees a shift in RBI leadership, with Sanjay Malhotra taking over as the Governor after Shaktikanta Das's tenure. While the final assessment of FY2024-25 remains pending, India's growth story offers optimism for a brighter future

ranking 176th out of 180

(The writer is an assistant professor at Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, University of Delhi. Views

expressed are personal)

and a strong foundation for the

vision of 'Viksit Bharat@2047'.

Russian general killed by bomb in Moscow

senior Russian general was killed Tuesday by a homb hidden in a scooter outside his apartment building in Moscow, a day after Ukraine's security service levelled criminal charges against him. A Ukrainian official said the service carried out the

Lt. Gen. Igor Kirillov, the chief of the military's nuclear, biological and chemical protection forces, was killed as he left for his office. Kirillov's assistant also died in the attack.

Kirillov, 54, was under sanctions from several countries, including the UK and Canada, for his actions in Moscow's war in Ukraine. On Monday, Ukraine's Security Service, or SBU, opened a criminal investigation against him, accusing him of directing the use of banned chemical weapons.

An official with the SBU said the agency was behind the attack. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorised to release the information, described Kirillov as a "war

The SBU has said it recorded more than 4,800 occasions when Russia used chemical weapons on the battlefield since its full-scale invasion in February 2022. In May, the US State Department said that it had recorded the use of chloropicrin, a poison gas first deployed in World War I,

against Ukrainian troops.

Russia has denied using any chemical weapons in Ukraine and, in turn, has accused Kyiv of using toxic agents in combat. Kirillov, who took his current job in 2017, was one of the most high-profile figures to level those accusations. He held numerous briefings to accuse the Ukrainian military of using toxic agents and planning to launch attacks with radioactive substances claims that Ukraine and its Western allies rejected as propaganda.

The bomb used in Tuesday's attack was triggered remotely, according to Russian news reports. Images from the scene showed shattered windows and scorched brickwork.

criminal and an entirely legit-imate target." Russia's top state investigative agency said it's investigating Kirillov's death as a case of terrorism, and officials in Moscow vowed to punish Ukraine.

Dmitry Medvedev, deputy head of Russia's Security Council chaired by President Vladimir Putin, described the attack as an attempt by Kyiv to distract public attention away from its military failures and vowed that its "senior military-political leadership will face inevitable retribution."

Over the past year, Russia has been on the front foot in the war in Ukraine, grinding deeper into the eastern region of Donetsk region despite heavy losses. Ukraine tried to change the dynamic with an incursion into Russia's Kursk region, but it has continued to slowly lose ground on its own territory. ince Russia invaded, several prominent figures have been killed in targeted attacks believed to have been carried out by Ukraine.

Darya Dugina, a commentator on Russian TV channels and the daughter of Kremlin-linked nationalist ideologue Alexander Dugin, died in a



Investigators work at the place where Lt. General Igor Kirillov, the head of Russia's Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical Defence Forces and his assistant were killed by an explosive device planted close to a residential apartment's block in Moscow on Tuesday

2022 car bombing that investigators suspected was aimed at her father.

Vladlen Tatarsky, a popular military blogger, died in April 2023, when a statuette given to him at a party in St. Petersburg exploded. A Russian woman, who said that she presented the figurine on orders of a contact

sentence. In December 2023, Illia Kiva, a former pro-Moscow Ukrainian lawmaker who fled to Russia, was shot and killed near Moscow. The Ukrainian military intelligence lauded the killing, warning that other "traitors of Ukraine" would

in Ukraine, was convicted in the case and handed a 27-year

share the same fate. On December 9, an explosive device was placed under a car in the Russian-occupied Ukrainian city of Donetsk, reportedly targeting Sergei Yevsyukov, the former head of the Olenivka Prison where dozens of Ukrainian prisoners of war died in a missile strike in July 2022. One other was injured in the blast. Russian authorities said they detained

a suspect in the attack.

Bangladesh official belittles India's role in 1971 Liberation War

 $B_{ment's\ Law\ Adviser\ Asif}^{angladesh\ interim\ government's\ Law\ Adviser\ Asif}_{Nazrul\ has\ criticised\ Prime}$ Minister Narendra Modi's post on X commemorating Victory Day saying, "India was merely an ally in this victory, nothing

Victory Day or "Bijoy Dibosh" is commemorated every year on December 16 when the Pakistan military surrendered to Indian forces in 1971, bringing about the liberation of Bangladesh.

Nazrul's comment was reposted by the office of Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus. Attaching a screenshot of Modi's post that paid tribute to Indian soldiers for their role in the historic victory in 1971, Nazrul wrote on Facebook in

Bengali on Monday, "I strongly protest. December 16, 1971,

marks Bangladesh's Victory

in this victory, nothing more." Yunus' Press Secretary Shafiqul Alam shared Nazrul's post, The Daily Star newspaper reported on Tuesday.

Anti-Discrimination Student Movement Convener Hasnat Abdullah also criticised Modi's

Abdullah wrote on Facebook that this was Bangladesh's Liberation War and it was for the country's independence against Pakistan. He said Modi has claimed it was solely India's war and their achievement, disregarding Bangladesh's existence in their narrative.

When India claims this independence as their achievement, I see this as a threat to our independence, sovereignty and oneness. It's necessary for us to fight against this threat by India. We need to carry on this fight," he wrote. Modi, in a post on X, had said,

'Today, on Vijay Diwas, we honour the courage and sacrifices of the brave soldiers who contributed to India's historic victory in 1971. Their selfless dedication and unwavering

resolve safeguarded our nation

and brought glory to us.

"This day is a tribute to their extraordinary valour and their unshakable spirit. Their sacrifices will forever inspire generations and remain deeply embedded in our nation's his-

Chief Adviser Yunus led Bangladesh Monday in marking the 54th Victory Day, his speech making no mention of founding leader Mujibur Rahman while calling deposed prime minister Sheikh Hasina's administration the "world's worst autocratic government". Rahman's daughter Hasina was ousted from power on August 5 after massive student-led protests against her Awami

League government.

There was also no mention of India's role in Yunus' address to the Nation on Bijoy Dibosh. India commemorates

December 16 as Vijay Diwas when over 90,000 Pakistani soldiers surrendered before the Indian Army, leading to the creation of Bangladesh

India had also backed Bengali guerrillas in the fight against Pakistan Army after West Pakistan's leadership refused to acknowledge the 1970 election victory of Mujibur Rahman's Awami League.
President Droupadi Murmu
and several Indian political

leaders too had paid homage Monday to the heroes of the 1971 war. "A grateful nation remembers

the ultimate sacrifice of our brave-hearts whose stories inspire every Indian and shall remain a source of national pride," Murmu said on 'X'.

Trump says it was 'stupid' for Biden to let Ukraine use US weapons to strike deeper into Russia

AP PALM BEACH

President-elect Donald Trump on Monday suggested that he may reverse President Joe Biden's recent decision to allow Ukrainian forces to use American longrange weapons to strike deeper into Russian territory.

Trump called the decision made by Biden last month "stupid." He also expressed anger that his incoming administration was not consulted before Biden made the move. With the loosening of the restrictions, Biden gave Ukraine long-sought permission to use the Army Tactical Missile System provided by the US to strike Russian positions hundreds miles from its border.

"I don't think that should have been allowed, not when there's a possibility — certain-ly not just weeks before I take over," Trump said during

at a wide-ranging news conference at his Mar-a-Lago resort. "Why would they do that without asking me what I thought? I wouldn't have had him do that. I think it was a big mistake.

Trump's withering criticism of the Biden administration's move comes as the Democratic administration aims to push every last dollar already designated for Ukraine out the door to help repel Russia's invasion before Trump takes office on Jan. 20, with future aid uncertain. But even as Biden tries to

surge weaponry and other aid to Ukraine in his final five weeks in office, the moment underscored that it's Trump who holds the most significant influence over how Ukraine can use its US-provided arsenal in the long run. It's a critical piece of leverage he could use to try to follow through on his campaign pledge to bring about a swift end to the con-Asked if he would consider

reversing the Biden administration decision, Trump responded: "I might. I think it was a very stupid thing to do." The White House pushed back on Trump's criticism, noting that the decision was made after months of deliberations that started before last month's election.

"All I can assure you is that in the conversations we've had with them since the election, and we've had at various levels, we have articulated to them the logic behind it, the thinking behind it, why we were doing it," White House national security spokesperson John Kirby said of the current administration's coordination with the outgoing administration.

Trump's relationship with Russian leader Vladimir Putin has been scrutinised since his

2016 campaign for president, when he called on Russia to find and make public missing emails deleted by Hillary Clinton, his Democratic opponent. Trump publicly sided with Putin over US intelligence officials on whether Russia had interfered in the 2016 election to help him, and Trump has praised the Russian leader and even called him "pretty smart" for

invading Ukraine. Vice President-elect JD Vance has said that while the US has differences with Russia, it was counterproductive to approach Moscow as an

Trump on Monday reiterated his call on both Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Russian President Vladimir Putin to negotiate an end to the war, calling the death and despair caused by the conflict "car-

Australian state proposes ban on protests at places of worship involved in country's

AP MELBOURNE

n Australian state govern-Ament on Tuesday proposed new restrictions on protesters in response to rising antisemitism, including a ban on demonstrations outside places of worship

Victoria Premier Jacinta Allan proposed the new laws after arsonists damaged Melbourne synagogue this month and protestors kept fearful worshippers trapped inside a Sydney synagogue for three hours a week earlier.

"That's not peaceful protest. It's menacing behaviour," Allan

"Antisemitism is a cancer and we must leave no stone unturned to fight the evil of antisemitism, to fight the evil of this racism in all of its forms and also to continue to work to help heal our multicultural community, to help build on that social cohesion and continue to support our strong, united Victoria," she added. The new laws would protect the

right of people to "gather and pray free from fear, harassment and intimidation," her office said in a statement.

The proposed laws, which will be voted on by the state legislature early next year, would establish safe access areas around places of worship and prohibit disturbances of religious gatherings

The laws would also ban protesters flying flags and displaying symbols of groups listed by Australia as terrorist organisations. Face masks used by protesters to conceal their identities and protect against capsicum spray would also be

Anti-Defamation Commission chair Dvir Abramovich, a leading opponent of antisemitism in Australia, welcomed the proposed law.

'Today, the Victorian government has declared war on hate and antisemitism — and it's about time," Abramovich said in a statement.

'Victoria has drawn a line in the sand and sent a thunderous

message to the hate-mongers, the graffiti cowards, the firebombers, and the social media trolls: Your days of terrorising our communities are over," he added.

The arson attack on Adass Israel Synagogue on December 6 marked an escalation in targeted assaults in Australia since the war between Israel and the militant Hamas group started over a year ago in the Gaza Strip. Authorities have declared it a terrorist act, which increases resources available to inves-

A federal law passed in January banned the Nazi salute and the public display of Nazi symbols in response to growing antisemitism, and the government appointed special envoys this year to combat antisemitism

and Islamophobia Australia is an increasingly multicultural society. The latest census in 2021 found that Australians born overseas or with a parent born overseas formed a majority for the first

China executes official largest corruption case

Thina on Tuesday executed Li Jianping, a former official in Uthe north Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, who was convicted in the largest-ever corruption case in the country totalling to over USD 421 million.

The death sentence of Li, former secretary of the ruling Communist Party working committee of the Hohhot economic ic and technological development zone, was initially issued in September 2022 and upheld on appeal in August 2024.

Tuesday's execution followed the approval of the Supreme People's Court and was carried out by a court in Inner Mongolia, state run Xinhua news agency reported.

Li, 64 was found guilty by an intermediate court earlier of embezzling a staggering three billion yuan (over USD 421 million) in illegal gains — the largest sum involved in a single corruption case in China's history, according to earlier reports in the Chinese official media. Since he came to power in 2012, Chinese President Xi Jinping made the anti-corruption campaign the main plank of his governance model.

Official media accounts say over a million party officials, including two defence ministers and dozens of military officials, were

punished and prosecuted in the campaign. In his speech delivered at the plenary session of the Central Commission for Discipline Inspection (CCDI) in January this year, contents of which were released for the first time on Sunday by party theoretical magazine Qiushi, 71-year-old Xi has called on cadres to confront corruption head-on so that interest groups cannot prey on the ruling Communist Party.

Pope reveals apparent bombing plot during his 2021 visit to Iraq

AP ■ ROME

Pope Francis turned 88 on Tuesday and marked the occasion with revelations that he almost didn't make it. According to excerpts of his upcoming autobiography, suicide bombers had planned to attack him during his 2021 visit to Iraq, but were killed before

Italian daily Corriere della Sera on Tuesday ran excerpts of "Hope: The Autobiography," written with Italian author Carlo Musso, which is being released in more than 80 countries next month. The New York Times ran other excerpts Tuesday, Francis' 88th birthday. In the Italian excerpts, Francis recalled his historic March 2021 trip to Iraq, the first ever by a pope. COVID-19 was still raging and security concerns were high, especially in Mosul. The devastated northern city had been the headquarters of Islamic State militants, whose horrific reign had largely emptied the region of its Christian



communities According to the book, British intelligence informed Iraqi police as soon as Francis arrived in Baghdad that a woman wearing explosives was heading toward Mosul and was planning to blow herself up during the papal visit. "And that a truck was heading there fast with the same intention, Francis says in the book.

The visit went ahead as planned, albeit under tight security, and became one of the most poignant of all of Francis' foreign trips: Standing in the wreckage of a Mosul church,

Francis urged Iraq's Christians to forgive the injustices against them by Muslim extremists and to rebuild.

In the book, Francis said he later asked his Vatican security detail what became of the

suicide bombers. The commander replied laconically They're no longer here," Francis writes. "Iraqi police had intercepted them and made them explode. This

struck me as well: Even this is the poisonous fruit of war." The book, originally planned to be published after Francis death, is coming out at the start of the Vatican's big Holy Year, which Francis will officially inaugurate on Christmas Eve. According to Italian publisher Mondadori, "Hope" is the first autobiography ever published by a pope. Francis, however, has published other first-person, memoir-style books or book-length interviews with biographers and journalists, including "Life: My Story Through History," published earlier this year.

Grassroots funding for Ukraine's military declines as groups looks for creative ways to raise money

The concert took place in an ■ old movie studio in Kyiv, the location kept secret until the final moment in case it was the target of a Russian attack. More than 1,000 soldiers and young people gathered to listen to the artists who joined forces with a military brigade in an innovative effort to raise funds for Ukraine's embattled troops. This was the first and only live performance of the charity album "Epoch," a collaboration between the 3rd Assault Brigade and eight Ukrainian

The project's ambitious target is to raise 50 million hryvnias (about USD 1.2 million) to buy an M113 armoured personnel carrier to help get infantry to

wounded for medical treatment. Since it launched on streaming platforms a month ago, the initiative has raised 9 million hryvnias (around USD

Grassroots fundraising for Ukrainian fighters dates back to 2014, the year Russia first annexed the southern region of Crimea and Moscow-backed separatists launched an uprising in eastern Ukraine. At that time, Ukraine's defence was made up of a regular army supported by volunteer battalions who weren't financially supported by Kyiv's government. Self-funding was critical.

Now, advertisements pasted along the sidewalk in Kviv ask for donations to help fill financial gaps across the military. By

the front and evacuate the scanning a QR code, people can help buy anything from body warmers and drones to armoured cars for soldiers defending the nearly 1,000kilometre front line. But some charities are seeing a

decline in individual donations in part because of the economic situation in the country. Oleksandr Borodyn, one of the project's organisers, says the idea for the collaboration came from the challenge of continuing to drum up funds to support troops as the war is on the cusp of marking a three-year milestone.

To raise the same amount of money as at the beginning of the war, you need much more effort. That's why we came up with the idea that a musician could donate his or her art, and

that art would earn money for the army," said Borodyn, a press officer for the 3rd Assault Brigade. The initiative comes as US President Joe Biden is rushing out billions of dollars more in military aid before Washington's support for Kyiv's defences is thrown into question when Donald Trump takes office next month Monobank, one of the largest

platforms to process donations, says that in the first 1,000 days of war, nearly 10.5 million unique users made donations totalling around 77 billion hryvnias (about USD 1.8 billion) to various fundraising organisations. But some charity groups are

finding that voluntary funding

isn't what it was in the first year

of the full-scale invasion. The

ing financial situation, which limits their ability to contribute to supporting the military," said Ôleh Karpenko, deputy director of the Come Back Alive Foundation. Three years of war has had a

devastating impact on Ukraine's economy. According to a World Bank report released in May, the number of Ukrainians living in poverty has grown by 1.8 million since ernment can't meet.

Come Back Alive foundation 2020 to about 9 million, or 29 per cent of the population. supports troops with anything To help the most vulnerable, from military training to buythe government launched a ing drones and electronic warfare to repel attacks. In the first winter support programme at year of the conflict, they raised the beginning of December and more than 5.7 billion hryvnias within days, around 6.5 million (USD 184 million). So far in people had applied to receive 2024, the figure is nearly 3.6 bilthe one off 1,000 hryvnia (USD lion hryvnias (USD 89 million). 24) payment to help cover util-"Many people report a worsenities, medical services and cellphone costs. According to Karpenko, local

initiatives and smaller-scale fundraising efforts mean many people direct their contributions toward helping specific soldiers or military units they know personally. That reduces the amount received by larger organisations, which he says can promptly address urgent battlefield needs that the gov-

"International support also plays a significant role in donation levels," Karpenko said. "When aid from international partners decreases, it strongly demotivates Ukrainian society. People lose motivation to donate when they perceive a lack of willingness from partners to actively supply weapons." Staring up at the large monitors set up on either side of the stage in the form of the three diagonal line symbol

that there is a war going on in

Ukraine, let's keep donating,

let's keep doing everything we

can," Kalenchenko said.

of the 3rd Assault Brigade, 26year-old Oksana Kalenchenko thinks that events like the concert are hugely important in continuing to generate support. "It's a reminder to somebody

The collaboration album features young artists from Ukraine's rock, rap and alternative scene, and many of the lyrics reflect events and the reality of living through the conflict. 'We want to show the reflec-

tion of contemporary artists to the situation in Ukraine, and in general to Ukraine at war . That's why the project is called Epoch, because it is a transmission of the era we are living in," Borodyn said. What also unites all the songs

is language. Since the start of the full-scale invasion on February 24, 2022, Ukrainian music has experienced somewhat of a revival with many artists shunning the traditional Russian pop scene that dominated the post-Soviet era.

Political strife erupts over South Korean court as it is set to determine fate of impeached Yoon

AP SEOUL

South Korea's acting leader vowed Tuesday to convey to the world that things are back to normal following parliament's impeachment of conservative President Yoon Suk Yeol, but rival parties began squabbling over the mechanics of a court ruling to determine whether to formally unseat or reinstate him.

The country's liberal opposition-controlled parliament voted to impeach Yoon last Saturday over his short-lived December 3 martial law imposition, suspending his presidential powers until the Constitutional Court determines whether to uphold or overturn the decision. If Yoon is dismissed, a national election must be held to pick his successor within two months

Prime Minister Han Ducksoo, who became acting leader, has taken steps to reassure the US and other countries and stabilise markets. Presiding over a Cabinet Council meeting on Tuesday, Han said he will "continuously do my utmost to inform the international society that Republic of Korea is fast regaining stability and maintain confidence with part-

But the country's intense political strife appears to be far from over, as the rival parties began bickering over whether to fill three vacant justices' seats at the Constitutional Court.

To formally end Yoon's presidency, the nine-member court panel needs support from at least six justices. But since three seats remain vacant following retirements, a unani-

Yoon's impeachment is required to throw him out of

office for good. Three of the court's nine justices are directly appointed by the president. Three others are nominated by the Supreme Court head and another three by the National Assembly, and their formal appointments by the president has widely been a formality. The three seats that are currently open are to be nominated by the National Assembly - two by the Democratic Party and the other by Yoon's ruling People Power

The court can rule on Yoon's case only with the current six justices. But the main liberal opposition Democratic Party, which led the impeachment efforts against Yoon, has said it would speed up the process of restoring the court's nine-justice system to promote fairness and public confidence in its ruling. But PPP floor leader Kweon

Seong-dong, a Yoon loyalist, created a stir Tuesday as he voiced his objection to a Democratic Party push to fill the three vacancies. He said it would be inappropriate for Han, the acting leader, to appoint justices nominated by parliament, saying such authorities solely rest with the presi-

"An acting president can appoint Constitutional Court justices when there is a presidential vacancy, but not when the president's duties are just suspended," Kweon said.

Many observers say the court's current six-member configuration is advantageous for Yoon's

mous decision in favour of chances to return to office, as it would only require a single justice rejecting the parliament impeachment. They note Cheong Hyungsik, one of the six justices, is a clear conservative who was directly appointed by Yoon.

> The Democratic Party quickly dismissed Kweon's argument as "absurd and utterly nonsensical" and urged PPP to abide by

> a November agreement between the rival parties to nominate the three Constitutional Court justices. Party lawmaker and spokesperson Jo Seoung-lae said PPP has "blatantly revealed their true intention to obstruct the constitutional trial."

There was no immediate response from Han, who during the Cabinet meeting stressed that the government will cooperate with the ruling and opposition parties to stabilize the economy.

There is no clear definition about what an acting president can and cannot do over the appointments of court justices. The Democratic party accuses PPP of trying to drag out the impeachment trial at the Constitutional Court, which has up to 180 days to determine Yoon's fate.

Time is a crucial issue for Democratic Party leader Lee Jae-myung, who is favored by polls to win a presidential byelection in the event of Yoon's ouster but grapples with his own legal troubles. Lee could possibly be prohibited from running for president if the appellate and Supreme courts uphold his lower court conviction for election law violation in November.

Yoon faces allegations of rebellion and abuse of power over his martial law introduction. Investigative authorities want him to appear for questioning later this week, but officials at Yoon's office and residence on Monday refused to receive requests for his appearance.

The martial law declaration, the

first of its kind in more than 40 vears, drew hundreds of troops who tried to encircle parliament and prevent lawmakers from voting on the decree. Many lawmakers still managed to get inside a National Assembly chamber and voted to overturn Yoon's decree unanimously, forcing Yoon's Cabinet to lift it. Yoon's decree, which harkened back to an era of past military-backed dictatorships, has sparked massive street protests calling for his ouster and resulted in his approval rating plummeting. Yoon's defense minister, police chief and sev-10070, owner's of DDA SFS FLAT NO.1344, on Third Floor, Pocket B&C, Sector-A, situated at Vasant Kunj, Dethi, Vide DDA FIR No.397106)1 987/SFS/KG/II. The original documents I.e. Allocation and fifth and final Demand Letter and Possession Letter, Site Possession Slip, NOC Water and Electricity and other documents relation of the of the above said property have been lost or misplaced by us and not traceable inspite of his best efforts. An F.I.R./NCR to this effect has been lodged in the Police Station, Crime Branch, Delhi (IR No. 2407792/2024 dated 17.12.2024). eral other senior military commanders have been arrested over their roles in the martial

law enforcement. Supporters of Yoon worry that his early exit would severely hamper the country's conservatives and cause them to likely lose a presidential by-election to the liberals, like they did in 2017, when then-impeached conservative President Park Geun-hye was ousted and arrested over a corruption

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all that my client Sh. Sukhdev Singh Gulati S/o Late S. Tara Singh Gulati R/o House No.36, Third Floor, Road No.64, West Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi-110026, have severed all relations & debarred/disowned his son Sarabjot Singh Gulati and his daughter in law Lavisha Kaur Gulati from his all moveable and immoveable property(s) due to their misconduct. Anybody dealing with them will do so at his/her/their own risk, my client will not be responsible for their any

PRAVEEN RASTOGI

Judge rejects Trump's bid to dismiss hush money conviction because of SC immunity

Ajudge Monday rejected President-elect Donald Trump's bid to have his hush money conviction dismissed because of the U.S. Supreme Court's recent ruling on presidential immunity. But the case's overall future remains unclear. Manhattan Judge Juan M. Merchan's decision eliminates one potential off-ramp from the case ahead of Trump's return to office next month. His lawyers have raised other arguments for dismissal, however.

Prosecutors have said there should be some accommodation for his upcoming presidency, but they insist the conviction should stand.

A jury convicted Trump in May of 34 counts of falsifying business

PUBLIC NOTICE

We, Raghbir Singh Sandhu and Smt. Navpreet Singh both R/o DDA SFS Flat no. 1344, Third Floor, Sector-A, Pocket B&C, Vasant kunj, Delhi-110070, owner's of DDA SFS FLAT NO.1344, on

Delhi (IR No. 2407792/2024 dated 17.12.2024). Any person(s) claiming any rights, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above Address/Phone No. 9368310038 within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director LAB (Housing/SFS) or Director (Housing/SFS), D-Block, Third Floor, Vikas Sadan, New Delhi.

CORRIGENDUM - 1

AGAINST E-TENDER NOTICE

NO.: KYQ-CDO-ETP-02-24-25;

DATED: 30-11-2024

E-TENDER NOTICE NO. KYQ-CDO

ETP-02-24-25; dated: 30-11-2024

ETP waste water recycling plant fo

euse of discharge water of

nechanized laundry/Kamakhya a

may be treated as CANCELLED of

Administrative reasons. For detail

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Sr. CDO, Guwaha

Particulars of BRIDE

PIN: 400081 Maharashtra, India

lease visit www.ireps.gov.in

CONSULATE GENERAL OF INDIA, MILAN
Pza Paolo Ferrari, 08-20121 Milan - Italy Tel. (3902) 8057691; Fax: (3902) 72002226

Email: cons.milan@mea.gov.in TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The following persons have applied for the solemnization of their marriage in this Consulate Anybody objecting to the same may contact the Consulate within one month from the dat

Particulars of BRIDEGROOM

Rajasthan
H. No. 50 Ward No.9 Balaji

Pada, Mohanpur, Dausa PIN: 321612 Rajasthan, India

hush money payment to porn actor Stormy Daniels in 2016. Trump denies wrongdoing. The allegations involved a

scheme to hide the payout to Daniels during the final days of Trump's 2016 presidential campaign to keep her from publicising — and keep voters from hear-ing — her claim of a sexual encounter with the married thenbusinessman years earlier. He says nothing sexual happened between them.

A month after the verdict, the Supreme Court ruled that expresidents can't be prosecuted for official acts — things they did in the course of running the country — and that prosecutors can't cite those actions to bolster a case centred on purely personal, unofficial conduct.

Supreme Court opinion to argue that the hush money jury got some improper evidence, such as Trump's presidential financial disclosure form, testimony from some White House aides and social media posts made while he was in office. In Monday's ruling, Merchan denied the bulk of Trump's claims that some of

The judge said that even if he found that some evidence related to official conduct, he'd still find that prosecutors' decision to use "these acts as evidence of the decidedly personal acts of falsifying business records poses no danger of intrusion on the authority and function of the

prosecutors' evidence related to

official acts and implicated

immunity protections.

Trump's lawyers then cited the Even if prosecutors had erroneously introduced evidence that could be challenged under an immunity claim, Merchan continued, "such error was harmless in light of the overwhelming evidence of guilt." Prosecutors had said the evidence in question was only "a sliver" of their case.

Trump communications director Steven Cheung on Monday called Merchan's decision a "direct violation of the Supreme Court's decision on immunity, and other longstanding jurisprudence?

"This lawless case should have never been brought, and the Constitution demands that it be immediately dismissed," Cheung said in a statement. The Manhattan district attorney's

office, which prosecuted the case, declined to comment.

It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Jebul Nisha had acquired Built-up Plot bearing No. 40-43, area 50 sq. yrds., Khasra No. 18/22, situated in the area of Village Razapur Khurd Colony known as Nohan Garden, Block-A2, R-III, New Delh vide GPA Dt. 17.03.2004 along with ATS and regd. will executed by Mr. Sagir Ahmad and Mr. Naushad Ali and Now Mrs. Jebul Nisha is the undisputed owner of the said property.

Any person / firm / institution / company having any claim or right in respect of the said Property by way of inheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license, gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at below mentioned address supporting documents at below mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client. Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate) Ho. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi -110024

IN KATIHAR DIVISION

Tender Notice No.: N-2024-K-27, Date: undersigned for the following work; Nam of the Work : S&T work in connection with Upgradation of goods vard facilitie like CCTV, lighting arrangement circulating area development and drainage along with other ancillary works at Katiha & Ranipatra. **Tender Value** 60.08.577.48/-; Earnest Money ₹1,20,200/-; Date & time of closing tender at 15:00 hrs. and opening at 15:30 hrs. on 06-01-2025. For complete information with the tender document o hrs. on 06-01-2025 in the website http://

DRM (S&T), Katiha MORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Notice is hereby given that my client Sushil Tandon is the owner as well as Partner of Mis Doon Caterers is in process to avail the working capital against his property bearing no. Municipal Corporation no. 5198 (Part) in Ward no. XV, area measuring 60 sq.vds., situated at Gali Bal kishan Dass Basant Road Pahar Gan, New Delhi-110055 purchased from Prem Gupta and Krishna Gupta, vide Sale deed dated 02.09.2012 (doc. No. 4133). He Confirmed that below mentioned Sale Deed is not available in original with him and for the same, he already done a FIR on dated 35/52005 Original Sale Deed dated 29.02.1997 executed by Jail Ram Gurnani for self and attorney of (1) Devendra Kumar Gurnani, [2) Sant Kumar Gurnani, [3) Kamla Gidvani, (4) Vidya Pattan in favour of Prem Gupta and Krishna Gupta (Doc no 1231)
All personis having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable): registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien charge, ledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 14 days from the date hereof, falling which the claim or claims; if any of such person or persons will be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate) d/or abandoned. Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate) Unit No. FF-2, First floor, Mahaluxmi Metro Tower Sec-4, Vaishali, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 9810063351

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

onward on website http://www.uktenders.gov.in

National Competitive E-Tender Notice

The Superintending Engineer 3rd Circle, Public Works Department Pithoragarh invites tender through E-Tendering **(Two Bid System)** on behalf of "Hon ble Governor of Uttarakhand" for following works. All other information will be available online from date 23-12-2024 at 5.00 PM

SI. No.	Name of Work	Earnest Money (in Lac)	Cost of Tender (in Rs.)	Validity of Tender (day)	Period of Completion (months)	Contractor's Category of Registration
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
PD	PWD Champawat					
1	Improvement work of Shaheed Shiromani Chilkoti (Gaudi- Kimtoli) motor road in Champawat assembly constituency of Champawat district. Under Honorable Chief Minister's announcement no. 148/2024.	14.32	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120	12	Category 'A' and above for Road works in State Govt./ Govt. of India/Govt. undertaking.
2	Improvement work of internal roads of Tanakpur in Champawat assembly constituency of Champawat district by hot mix DBM/BC Under Honorable Chief Minister's announcement no. 168/2024.	9.28	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120	12	Category 'A' and above for Road works in State Govt./ Govt. of India/Govt. undertaking.
3	Improvement work of motor road from Banbasa Canal Gate to Devipura Dhanush bridge under Banbasa area of Champawat assembly constituency of district Champawat. Under Honorable Chief Minister's announcement no. 158/2024.	2.86	5000.00 +18% G.S.T.	120	09	Category 'B' and above for Road works in State Govt./ Govt. of India/Govt. undertaking.

Taipei mayor urges China to lessen confrontation

AP ■ TAIPEI (TAIWAN)

The China-friendly mayor of Taiwan's capital, Taipei, on Tuesday called for less confrontation between the sides, even as Beijing continues to send warships and fighter jets to intimidate the selfgoverning island democracy. Chiang Wan-an was speaking Tuesday at the 15th Taipei-Shanghai Twin-City Forum, which is not sanctioned by Taiwan's government, whose official position is that Taiwan is already an independent country with no reason to unify with China.

Chiang put a somewhat romantic twist on his remarks, saying "I am a Taipei mayor high expectations for whether there is peace, tension, or development across the strait. I think there should be more . lights on fishing boats at dawn and less noise of (war)

ships and (war) planes." Between Monday and Tuesday, China sent 10 military aircraft and seven aircraft toward Taiwan, according to Taiwan's Defence Ministry. Four of the aircraft crossed the middle line of the Taiwan Strait that forms an unofficial border

AP WELLINGTON (NEW

Apowerful magnitude 7.3 Aearthquake struck just off

the coast of Vanuatu on Tuesday,

causing widespread destruc-

tion in the South Pacific island

nation as the injured began

arriving at a hospital and uncon-

largest city in Vanuatu — a

group of 80 islands that is home

to about 3,30,000 people. It

was followed by a magnitude 5.5

aftershock near the same loca-

tion, with tremors continuing

throughout the afternoon and

It was not immediately clear

how much damage was caused

as phone lines and government

websites remained down. In

the first official information

published on social media, the

Geohazards Department said its

monitoring systems remained

evening.

ZEALAND)

Earthquake causes

damage in Vanuatu

between the sides.

China considers Taiwan part of its territory, to be brought under its control by force if necessary, although economic ties between the sides – especially with China's finan cial hub of Shanghai — remain robust, with an emphasis on high-tech. Shanghai's representative, Vice Mayor Hua Yuan, told the 102 participants that, "the people of the two sides are all one family.

Taiwan banned nine Chinese reporters from the gathering, saying they were superfluous along with a Shanghai official for Taiwan affairs, in response to new, harsh new penalties targeting "diehard Taiwan independence separatists." Council said Beijing's move had severely disrupted already meagre bilateral exchanges and put Taiwanese residents in China at risk.

Faced with China's massive military, Taiwan has been upgrading its defences with latest version F-16 fighter jets, missiles, submarines and artillery. On Monday, Taiwan began unloading 38 US-made MIA2T tanks that represent a quantum leap in Taiwan's out dated land defences

offline due to power outages.

Residents were urged to stay

away from coastlines for at least

24 hours — and until tsunami

and earthquake monitoring sys-

tems were operational once

again. No confirmed reports of

damage or casualties were pro-

vided, but accounts detailing

added. But the nation is not

equipped for a mass casualty

Video shared by the Vanuatu

Broadcasting and Television

Corporation showed crowds

outside the hospital. Phone

numbers for the police, the

hospital and other public agen-

A video posted on social media

appeared to show crumpled

buildings in Port Vila, including

one that had collapsed onto its

lower floors and cars parked on

event, McGarry said.

cies did not connect.

the street below

PUBLIC NOTICE

Since Mr. Manish Gupta seeking a home loan from of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. for the property i.e. Property area measuring 117.5 Sq. Yds. bearing Plot No. 746, having land situated at Shalimar Garden Exten-1, Hadbast Village Pasonda, Tehsil and Distf. Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh; Herein after referred to as the "said property". That, (1) Mr. Umakant Sharma, (2) Mrs. Kusumlata Sharma, (3) Mrs. Suman Lata Sharma, (4) Mrs. Archana Sharma & (5) Mrs. Alka Sharma, is the legal heirs of the Deceased Late Mrs. Laxmi Devi who become owner through Sale deed 1856 dated 06.02.1985. That, Mrs. Laxmi has executed a Will & GPA No. 58381, dated 02.12.1996; 3 dated 06.01.2015 respectively in favour of Mr. Umakant Sharma in respect to said property. There is no objection to Mrs. Kusumlata Sharma, Mrs. Suman Lata Sharma, Mrs. Archana Sharma & Mrs. Alka Sharma that they don't have any share in the between Seid property enter to either the property of the professor.

Sharma, Mrs. Archana Sharma & Mrs. Alka Sharma that they don't have any share in the above said property neither had objection regarding the same transaction.

Now, I would like to announce to general public that any person who is having any right, title or interest against that property/share or documents may come to our Delhi office within seven days and render their claim with documentary valid evidence. If any, else the same would be treated as unclaimed and unrebutted and mroved forth accordingly.

unrebutted and moved forth accordingly.
M/S PASS & ASSOCIATES LLP
B-132, L.G.F, Malviya Nagar
New Delhi-110017, Mob: 9991116006

ATHE PIONEER O

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Nidhi Goyal, W/o Abhay Pandey, resident of F-7/7, third Floor, Arjun Marg, DLF City Phase 1, Sector 26A, Gurugram, HR 122002, have changed my name from "Nidhi Neogi" to "Nidhi Goyal". Henceforth I would be known by the name of "Nidhi Goyal" for all future purposes.

PD(1088)A I, Mem Baty, Mother of- JC-471486N Sub Maj Bhim Singh, R/o- Vill- Bahwalpur, PO- Fatehpur Billoch, PS+Teh- Ballabhgarh, Dist-Faridabad, Haryana-121004, have changed my name from Mem Baty to Mem Vati, vide affidavit dated 17/12/2024 before Notary Public Delhi.

PD(1089)C I, Ashok Kumar S/o Late Sh. Raghunath R/o G-1552, Gaur Cascades, Rajnagar Extension, Ghaziabad-201017 (U.P.) have changed my name from Ashok Kumar to Ashok Kumar

JJ Colony PD(1094)C

LOST & FOUND

I, HEMLATA W/o LATE SH. SURYA MOHAN THAKUR have lost my original Share Certificate of FLAT NO.B-502, SWAMI DAYANAND CGHS LTD., PLOT NO.5, SECTOR-6, DWARKA, NEW DELHI, finder please contact: 9811558356

PD(1091)A

Public Notice

It is hereby informed to the General Public that Tarun Sharma Son of my Client Sh. Satendra Sharma, S/o- Sh. Ram Gopal Sharma, R/o- Flat No-B2-102, Uninav Bliss, Opposite AVS City Palace, Raj Nagar Extension, PO-Raj Nagar Extension, Distt-Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201017 who is married and has left his Wife and son with my Client and is living Seprately from my Client, Tarun Sharma is out of my Client's Control and used to quarrel with him, due to which my client has broken all relations with his son Tarun Sharma and my client has evicted his son Tarun Sharma from all his Moveable & Immoveable Properties and ended all relations with him. In future if anyone will deal or do any kind of transaction with Tarun Sharma, then the person dealing with him will be responsible on his own, my client or his family will not have any responsibility for the same. Vikas Sharma Advocate Sector-12, Distt. Court Faridabad Information is given to the general public a large that my client Mrs. **Milan Devi** w/o Mr Rajender Saah who is the owner of Plot No. 2A area measuring 50 Sq. yds. i.e., 41.80. Part o Khasra No. 124, situated at Village Ilaychini Pagana & Tehsil Loni, District Ghaziahad. II P ons of Mr. Chander Pal (Doc. No. 5513), A person(s), institution(s) having any claim and/o objection in respect of the said property sha communicate the same to the undersigned a our address within 07 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claim, o such person(s)/institution(s) shall not be bindir pon the said property or purchaser, Mohd, K

REBUILDING BRIDGE WORKS

E-Tender Notice No. 110/W-2/ APDJ Dated: 13-12-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Tender No. 35-AP-II-2024 Name of Work: Rebuilding of Br. No.- 12A (1x1.83 M Brick Arch) by 1x2.50 m RCC Box culvert at Km-20/7-8 between Fakiragram Jn.-Golakganj Jn." Tender Value: ₹2,25,27,199.76/-. **Earnest Money:** ₹2.62.600/-. Date & Time of closing of Tender: 13.00 hrs. on 08-01-2025 & will be opened at 15.00 hrs. on 08-01-2025. The complete information with the tender documents of above e-tender will be available in the website www.

DRM(W), Alipurduar Jn NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

2024 Dated: 11-12-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Tender No. 1. Brief Description of work: Track Maintenance work and other ancillary work for the period of 2 years under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Barsoi Jn. Tender Value: ₹5,64,49,141.37/-Earnest Money: ₹4,32,300/-Tender No. 2. Brief Description of work: Track Maintenance work and other ancillary work for the period of 2 years under the jurisdiction of ADEN/Maida Town. Tender Value: ₹9,99,01,736.89/-. Earnest Money: ₹6,49,500/-. Date & Time closing of Tender: 15.00 hrs. of 09-01-2025 & opened at 15.30 hrs. of 09-01-2025. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available upto

www.ireps.gov.in DRM (W), Katiha NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Serving Customers With A Smile

STATION DEVELOPMENT WORKS

E-Tender Notice No. 113 /W-2/APDJ Dated: 13-12-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Tender No. 29-AP III-2024, Name of Work: At Dalgaor (DLO) - Development of Goods Yard Merchant Room, Goods office, Labour Rest Room, CCTV, Toilets, Water Dust Proof wall, alternative entry to Goods siding connecting road in connection with station development Tender Value: ₹10,46,91,339.56/-Earnest Money: ₹6,73,500/-. Date & Time of closing of Tender: 13.00 hrs. of 03-01-2025 & will be opened at 15.00 hrs. of 03-01-2025 hrs The complete information with the tender documents of above e-tender will be available in the website www.ireps.gov.in

DRM(W), Alipurduar Jn NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

15.00 hrs. of 09-01-2025 in website

PUBLIC NOTICE otice is hereby given on behalf of Mrs. Archana in w/o late Naresh Chandra (Naresh Chandra), Ms. Anshul Jain D/o late Naresh Chand ain, Ms. Shubul Jain D/o late Naresh Chand ain and Ms. Varnika Jain D/o late Naresh Anand Jain stating/declaring that late Naresh hand Jain stating/declaring that late Naresh hand Jain was the owner of RESIDENTIAL FLATO-FF-1 FIRST FLOOR FRONT SIDE M/C MTHOUT ROOF RIGHTS PLOT NO. 132/41 AND 32/42, OUT OF KHASRA NO 844MI, SIROH OKL AVE VIRANDAVAN GARDEN VIII AGE 132/42, OUT OF KHASRA NO 844MI, SIROHI ENCLAVE VIRANDAVAN GARDEN VILLAGE PASONDA PARGANA LONI NEAR RAJBAGHETRO STATION TEHSIL & DISTT GHAZIABAD. U.P. vide Sale Deed dated 26.02 2018 bearing document no 1445, Book no.l, Volume no 13321 pages 171 to 214, regd. on 26.02.2018 SROGhaziabad unfortunately Naresh Chand Jain was expired on 22.05.2021 (vide Death Certificate bearing regd. no.MCDOLIR-0221-14004 regd. or 26.05.2021) and during his lifetime he had availed a loan facility from Piramal Capital and Housigniance Limited Loan account no.11900002862 pan taculity from Piramal Capital and Housin-inance Limited Loan account no.11190000286; ifter demise of late Naresh Chandra (Naresh Chan dain), Ms. Anshul Jain D/o late Naresh Chan lain, Ms. Unnati Jain D/o late Naresh Chan lain and Ms. Varnika Jain D/o late Naresh Chand Jain are the only surviving members of the Naresh Chand (vide Surviving members of the Naresh Chand (vide Surviving members) tificate dated 09.09.2021 bearing certifica no.2966/2021) and there is no other survivir member of late Naresh Chand Jain. To comp nember of late Naresh Chand Jain. To comply he legal requirements of Piramal Capital and fousing Finance Limited, we give this public lotice that if any Person having any type of laim/right/title/ interest/over the said property may inform in writing, at the address mentioned ledow, about his objections, within 7 days from oday, failing which it shall be presumed that the laid property is free from all type of incumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal LLF Plot No. 136, (Basement) Uday Park. lew Delhi-110049, Contact # 011-40046316 MADHYA PRADESH JAL NIGAM

(A Govt. of Madhya Pradesh Undertaking)

"8" Arera Hills, Bhopal-462004 Ph.: 0755-2579034, 2579874, Fax: 0755-2579873, www.mpjalnigam.mp.gov.in E-mail: mpjalnigam@mp.gov.in, CIN-U41000MP2012SGC028798 NIT No. 23-35/SQC/Proc./MPJNM/2024-25 Bhopal, Dated: 16.12.2024

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Madhya Pradesh Jal Nigam (MPJN) intends to engage Unified Agency for Supervision and Quality Control (SQC) & Third-Party Inspection (TPI) for Multi Village Drinking Water Supply Schemes (MVDWSS) under Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) in Madhya Pradesh on man-month basis through Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method.

Bids are invited online through Madhya Pradesh Government E-Procurement Portal. NIT Zone Total Duration **EMD Total** PAC **Document** Villages No. (Rs. PAC (months) (Rs. Fee (Rs.) Cr.) (Rs. Lakh) Cr.) Singrauli 696 6.22 23 Rewa 11.37 24 11.37 30,000 Sidhi 1001 5.15 212 2.99 Khargone 24 Indore Barwani 754 4.41 11.30 24 11.30 30.000 Indore 307 3.90 25 Jabalpui Jabalpur 1394 5.69 11.19 24 11.19 Mandla 627 5.50 Panna 974 6.13 26 10.04 24 10.04 Sagar 30,000 Damoh 439 3.91 Bhopal Bhopal 410 3.66 27 10.03 24 10.03 30,000 Gwalior Guna 1870 6.37 Mandsaur 818 4.18 28 Ujjain 9.06 24 9.06 20,000 Neemuch 905 4.88 24 29 Gwalior Gwalior 1160 7.93 7.93 7.93 20,000 7.73 Chhatarpur 7.73 24 30 592 7.73 20,000 Sagar 7.54 24 7.54 31 Rewa Rewa 2118 7.54 20,000 Jabalpur 32 Chhindwara 1254 7.31 7.31 24 7.31 20,000 33 Sagar Sagar 7.30 7.30 20,000 Satna 34 Rewa 1961 6.69 6.69 6.69 20,000 Indore Jhabua 539 3.10 6.62 35 24 6.62 20,000 Ujjain Ujjian 3.52 712

Interested bidders can view/download/purchase the bid document online from M.P. Government E-Procurement Portal. Uploading of detailed bid documents of individual RFPs will be up to 24.12.2024. Bidding process dates mentioned as critical dates on M.P. Government E-Procurement Portal will be applicable. Corrigendum/Addendum in NIT, if any, would be published on portal only and not in newspapers.

M.P. Government E-Procurement Portal - https://mptenders.gov.in

MANAGING DIRECTOR M.P. Madhvam/117830/2024

firmed reports of casualties widespread destruction filtered Malik. Henceforth I would be emerged. out on social media and in inter TRACK MAINTENANCE WORK A tsunami warning was called known by the name of Ashok AT KATIHAR DIVISION Crowds outside the hospital: off less than two hours after the Kumar Malik for all future quake. With communications Dan McGarry, a journalist based E-Tender Notice No. KIR/Engg./52 of purposes. still down hours later and offiin Port Vila, told The Associated PD(1090)C cial information scarce, wit-Press he heard of one death I, Malti Singh, W/o. Chhaviraj ness accounts of casualties began from a police officer outside Vila Singh, R/o 19-M-Block to surface on social media and Central Hospital. McGarry saw Anandvas through patchy phone calls. three people on gurneys "in Shakurpur Delhi-34, have The earthquake happened at obvious distress," he said. Doctors were working "as fast as just before 1 pm at a depth of 57 changed my name from kilometres and was centred 30 they could" at a triage centre Rajkumari to Malti Singh. kilometres west of Port Vila, the outside the emergency ward, he

Tata Steel introduces India's first all-women shift at Jharkhand iron mine

Tata Steel has operationalised an all-women shift at its Noamundi iron mine in Jharkhand's West Singhbhum district, an initiative introduced in the country for the first time, a company statement said.

Women employees were engaged in all the mining activities of the shift, including heavy earth moving machinery, shovel, loader, drill and dozer operators, and shift supervision, it said. "This initiative, the first of its

kind in India, underscores the unwavering company's commitment to creating an equitable workplace and empowering women traditionally male-dominated industries," the steelmaker said in a statement on Monday.

The all-women shift was flagged off by Mines Safety Deputy Director General (SÉ Region, Ranchi) Shyam Sundar Prasad on Monday,



marking a new beginning of support of the government in promoting an equitable workplace, it said.

Prasad emphasised commitment of government to a progressive workplace and mentioned that the decision by the Director General of Mines Safety to permit the deployment of women in all

shifts in mining in 2019 was a key step in the right direction. He also appreciated Tata Steel's effort in taking the lead as a responsible corporate house in promoting such a

Tata Steel vice president (raw material) D B Sundara Ramam said, "This allwomen shift represents a

earth-moving machinery and participate in the mining ecosystem. The initiatives were met with

overwhelming enthusiasm and women were deployed across roles such as dumper, shovel, dozer, grader, and drill operators, the company statement said.

They underwent extensive training, including technical operational simulator sessions, safety protocols, and physical fitness, before joining the workforce in April 2022.

Over 2,100 applications were received by the company and 24 operators were selected, according to the statement. In a groundbreaking move earlier this year, the authorities of the Noamundi Mine diversified its workforce inducting

transgender operators of heavy earth-moving machinery, reinforcing the steelmaker's commitment to inclusion and equality.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari hails food delivery economy as key job creator





PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari on Tuesday said the food delivery economy is very important for India as it generates employment.

Addressing Zomato's 'Sustainability and Inclusivity: Role of the Platform Economy' conference, road transport and highways Minister said that at present India has 77 lakh delivery workers and this number is likely to touch 2.5 crore by

"Giving employment to 2.5

crore youths of this country is really a big thing for the country.

The most important priority for all of us is to create jobs," he said.

The minister also appreciated online food delivery platform Zomato for providing employment to a lot of unemployed youth of the country.

He also expressed concerns about the number of road accidents and said the delivery boys have high chances of meeting accidents as they have to deliver the

items in a limited time frame.

Gadkari said that in India, 45 accidents and 20 deaths take place per hour.

The maximum lives lost are between the age bracket of 18

'The two-wheeler deaths are 80,000...and deaths due to non-usage of helmet is 55,000," he said.

He further said 10,000 deaths take place due to driving on the wrong side.

The Road accidents can be avoided by providing proper training, the minister said and congratulated Zomato for training 50,000

Bharti Global's acquisition of 24.5 per cent stake in BT approved by UK government

PTI ■ LONDON

The UK government has approved Bharti Global's acquisition of a 24.5 per cent stake in BT following a detailed national security assessment of the process since the Indian multinational and British telecom major announced the deal back in August.

The Cabinet Office said its decision comes into force on Monday after an assurance that BT would set up a National Security Committee to oversee strategic work.

The order noted that Bharti Televentures UK Limited acquired 24.5 per cent of the issued share capital of BT -9.99 per cent on August 12, 2024, and 14.51 per cent on November 18, 2024.

"Following a detailed national security assessment,

of Lancaster has made a government's domestic and Final Order pursuant to section 26 of the National the 2021, which comes into force Cabinet Office said in a is a trigger event under section 8(8) of the Act. The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster has approved the Acquisition, on the basis that BT will establish a National Security Committee within BT to oversee strategic work that BT performs which has an impact on or is in respect of the national security of the United Kingdom," it said. The Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, which refers to Cabinet Office Minister Pat McFadden, stated that the final order is "necessary and proportionate" as it mitigates the risk to national security in relation to BT's role in

international initiatives in telecommunications Security and Investment Act sector; ensuring the UK's cyber security; and acting as on 16 December 2024," the a strategic supplier of services to many parts of the statement. "The Acquisition UK government, including services which are in support of UK national security.

Back in August, Chairman Sunil Bharti Mittal had described his company's investment in an "iconic" British company as a "significant milestone" for Bharti Enterprises.

The group said it hopes the investment will further help create new synergies in the telecom sector between India and the UK in the areas of artificial intelligence (AI) and 5G R&D and core engineering among others, "offering great potential to collaborate on industry best practices and emerging technologies".

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

for the Indian mining industry. It is a testament to

the resilience and capability of

women breaking stereotypes.

It is also a reflection of our

belief that diversity and inclusion are essential for

driving innovation and operational excellence."

He said the steelmaker will

continue to create more

opportunities for women,

especially in the mining

'This initiative marks a

significant addition to the 100

glorious years of mining at Noamundi," he said.

The journey began in 2019

with the launch of Tata Steel's

flagship diversity initiative,

"Women@Mines", making it

the first company in India to

deploy women in all shifts at

its mines, following the

Centre's landmark relaxation

of the Mines Act, 1952, the

The steelmaker had launched

initiatives to recruit and train

statement said.

ecosystem.

The income tax department on Tuesday said it is sending SMS and emails to taxpayers and non-filers where it has identified mismatch between transactions reported in Annual Information Statement (AIS) and income disclosed in ITRs for the financial years 2023-24 and

2021-22. In a statement, the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) said it has launched an electronic campaign to assist taxpayers in resolving mismatches between the income and transactions reported in the AIS and those disclosed in Income Tax Returns (ITRs) for the financial years 2023-24 and 2021-22. This campaign also targets

individuals who have taxable income or significant high-



mismatch in ITR filed and Annual Information Statement

CBDT launches campaign to intimate taxpayers on

their AIS but have not filed ITRs for the respective years. The initiative is part of the implementation of the e-Verification Scheme, 2021. As part of this campaign, informational messages have been sent via SMS and email to taxpayers and non-filers where mismatches have been identified between transactions reported in AIS and ITRs filed. Information Annual

Statement (AIS) comprehensive view of information for a taxpayer.

Taxpayers can access AIS on the income tax department portal and provide feedback on information displayed in AIS. AIS shows both reported value and modified value (i.E. Value after considering taxpayer feedback).

The CBDT said that the purpose of this campaign is to remind and guide individuals who may not have fully disclosed their income in their ITRs to take this opportunity to file revised or belated ITRs for FY 2023-24, the last date of which is

For cases pertaining to FY 2021-22, taxpayers can file updated ITRs by the limitation date of March 31,

Taxpayers can also provide their feedback, including disagreeing with information reported in the AIS, through the AIS portal accessible via the e-filing website.

Last month, the CBDT launched a campaign under which messages were sent to taxpayers who have not disclosed high-value foreign income or assets in their ITRs for AY 2024-25.

These messages intended for individuals identified through information received under bilateral and multilateral agreements, suggesting that they may hold foreign accounts or assets, or have received income from foreign

Sugar output down 17 per cent due to late start of factories

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ugar production declined 17 Oper cent to 61.39 lakh tonnes till December 15 of the current marketing year that started in October, mainly due to fall in output in Maharashtra, according to industry body ISMA.

The production data excludes diversion of sugar towards ethanol. Sugar production

December 15, 2024, in the

current 2024-25 marketing year (October-September) reached 61.39 lakh tonnes as against 74.05 lakh tonnes in the corresponding period of the preceding year, Indian Sugar and Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) said in a statement. Notably, this year sugar factories in Karnataka started late by around 7-12 days while in another major state Maharashtra, mills started

compared to last year. As per the data, sugar production in Uttar Pradesh increased to 23.04 lakh tonnes from 22.11 lakh tonnes. In Maharashtra, the output declined 16.78 lakh tonnes from 24.45 lakh

tonnes. Karnataka saw a decline in sugar production to 13.85 lakh tonnes from 17.56 lakh tonnes.

ISMA said that "this year diversion towards ethanol is estimated to be higher at around 40 lakh tonnes against around 21.5 lakh tonnes diverted last

Sebi mulls service platform for tracking inactive, unclaimed mutual fund folios

Markets regulator Sebi **IVI**on Tuesday proposed developing a service platform for investors to trace inactive and unclaimed mutual fund (MF) folios.

proposed platform called Mutual Fund Investment Tracing Retrieval Assistant (MITR)would be developed by the Registrar and Transfer Agents (RTAs), Sebi said in its consultation paper.
The proposed platform investors

would encourage investors to search for forgotten MF investments, update KYC as per the current norms and



reduce the risk of fraudulent redemptions.

reduction unclaimed mutual

folios and contribute redemption/transfer. ecosystem.

The regulator noted that over a number of years, mutual fund investors sometimes lose track of investments considering investments might have been made in physical form with bare minimum KYC details.

The investments in openended growth option mutual fund schemes may remain invested perpetually until and unless investor/his nominee/legal approaches concerned asset management (AMC)

a Due to the non-availability The platform can be hosted Recovery (DR). address, it is also possible that these MF folios may not appear in the unitholder's Consolidated Statement.

Thus, inactivity in mutual fund folios could be on account of investors losing track of their investment, demise and such inactive folios may become susceptible to fraudulent

redemptions. To address the concern, Sebi said, "The service platform is proposed to be developed by the RTAs to provide investors with a searchable database of inactive and/or unclaimed mutual fund

folios at an industry level". ComputerAge Management Services Ltd (CAMS) and KFin Technologies Ltd as agents of AMCs - and can be available through a link on the website of MF Central, AMCs, AMFI, the two QRTAs and Sebi.

The QRTAs should be and severally jointly responsible for compliance with all the applicable regulations, including system audit and cyber security audit.

Further, they should ensure that the platform complies with the guidelines for Business Continuity Plan

inactive folios as those

folios where the investor might have remained invested in an open-ended scheme and has either chosen not to redeem or simply might have lost track of the investment. Although, there is

consequence for those folios appearing in the platform where the unitholder is aware of the investment and has chosen to remain invested.

Securities Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has sought public comments on the proposal till January 7.

Parliamentary panel urges government to

implement legally binding MSP for farmers

that

Department of Agriculture

and Farmers Welfare declare a

roadmap for implementing

MSP as a legal guarantee at

the earliest," the report stated.

Currently, the government fixes MSP for 23 commodities

based on the Commission for

Agricultural Costs and Prices

The panel argued that a legally binding MSP would

not only safeguard farmers'

livelihoods but also promote

rural economic growth and

committee's

recommendations include:

national

(CACP) recommendations.

Gold jewellery consumption to grow 14-18 per cent in FY25 in value terms: Report

PTI MUMBAI

The domestic gold jewellery consumption in value terms is expected to continue its growth momentum in the current financial year and is likely to witness an on-year rise of 14-18 per cent, a report said on Tuesday.

Rating agency Icra in a report said in FY25, gold jewellery consumption growth is pegged at 14-18 per cent in value terms, led by favourable realisations.

In 2023-24, gold jewellery consumption growth had witnessed a growth of 18 per cent in 2023-24, primarily driven by realisations even as volume growth was subdued. According to the report, while gold prices were improving volatile, consumer sentiments and festive-led demand aided consumption growth in the

recent months Moreover, a sharp 900 bps cut in import duty in the Union Budget in July 2024, and consequent correction in gold prices for a brief period led to some pre-buying of jewellery as well as

is generally a seasonally weak quarter, it

This, coupled with higher number of auspicious and wedding days, favourable monsoons aiding

better rural output, is likely to help jewellery demand growth in H2 FY25, it added. 'The organised market is projected to record a healthy YoY expansion of 18-20 per cent in FY25. Planned store additions with focus on tier II and III cities, rising gold prices, shift in preferences towards branded jewellery and some likely pre-buying in the fourth quarter of FY25 on account of higher number of auspicious days in the first quarter of FY26 shall drive

The customs duty cut is also expected to disincentive unofficial imports, thus supporting the growth in organised trade," Icra Vice President and Sector Head -Corporate Ratings, Sujoy Saha said. Revenue growth

bars and coins during the realisations with gold prices second quarter of FY25, rising by 14 per cent YoY, the rising by 14 per cent YoY, the report said, adding that the same trend is expected to continue this fiscal as well. So far in the current fiscal, the average gold price has risen by a sharp 25 per cent. There were occasional corrections in prices, once after the cut in customs duty in late July 2024 and then in November 2024, following the US elections and currency movements.

The continuing uptick in the gold prices for the last seven quarters has been stimulated by the evolving global economic and geopolitical scenario, and rising investment demand for gold, anď it said.

On the supply side, organised jewellers are expected to add 16-18 per On organised cent to their existing retail network in FY25, said the report. Most large jewellers are opting for the franchise model to expand into new markets given the twin benefits of low capital expenditure and knowledge for organised jewellery in of the local market with the FY24 had been supported by franchisee-partner, it stated.

Reliance NU Suntech wins 930 megawatt solar project, 465 megawatt battery storage deal

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

Reliance Power on Tuesday said its arm Reliance NU Suntech has secured a solar project of 930 MW and 465 MW battery energy storage system (BESS) project from Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI). The project will see the second largest deployment of grid storage batteries at a single site in Asia, ftor China expenses. after China, a company statement said. According to the statement, Reliance Power subsidiary, Reliance NU Suntech Private Ltd (Reliance NU Suntech) received a Letter of Award from SECI for its proposed Solar 930 MW and 465 MW/1860 MWh BESS

projects. The competitive tariff with an assured supply of peak power for 4 hours daily will be a relief for DISCOMs that have had to consistently buy power from the power exchanges during peak hours at the cap of Rs 10 per unit. Reliance NU Suntech won the 930 MW solar energy contract in an e-reverse auction held on December 9, 2024. As per the terms of the tender, Reliance NU Suntech will also install a minimum storage capacity of 465 MW/1,860 MWh charged by solar power. The company, among India's leading power generators, secured the largest individual allocation out of the five companies vying for a total quoted capacity of 2,000 MW of Inter State Transmission System (ISTS) connected solar power projects with 1,000 MW/4,000 connected MWh energy storage systems. SECI will enter into a power purchase agreement with Reliance NU Suntech for 25 years and the solar power procured will be sold to multiple discoms in India. Reliance NU Suntech will develop the project on a buildown-operate basis. Reliance Power Limited, part of the Reliance Group, is one of India's leading private sector power generation companies. The company has an operating portfolio of 5,300 MW, which includes 3,960 MW Sasan Power Ltd - the world's largest integrated coal-based power

recommends

enhance

security.

The



Aparliamentary panel on Tuesday recommended the government implement a legally binding minimum support price (MSP) for agricultural produce, arguing that such a measure could significantly reduce farmer suicides and provide crucial financial stability.

The Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal headed by Husbandry Processing, headed by Congress MP Charanjit Singh Channi, submitted comprehensive report to Parliament highlighting the potential benefits of a legally guaranteed MSP.
"The committee strongly

implementing a robust MSP system to mitigate farmer suicides, providing compensation to farmers for

managing establishing Commission for Minimum Living Wages for Farm Labourers, introducing a debt waiver scheme for farmers and farm labourers, and renaming the agriculture department to include farm labourers. The committee emphasized that assured income through

MSP would farmers to agricultural practices, potentially productivity sustainability

The panel also suggested the government provide statement in Parliament after each crop season, detailing the number of farmers selling produce at MSP and the gap between MSP and market

It may be noted that a legal guarantee of MSP for agricultural produce was one of the key demands of protesting farmers in 2021 that forced the government to withdraw three farm laws and set up a committee on MSP to look into the matter.

Spain drawn with Italy, Belgium and Portugal in Euro 2025 group

and Portugal.

Forld Cup winner Spain will chase a sweep of major women's soccer titles at the European Championship after drawing a group with Italy, Belgium

A European title would complete the set for Spain women after winning the inaugural UEFA Nations League in February for coach Montse Tomé, who took over when the team and federation was in turmoil after the 2023 world title win in Sydney. Tomé is the only female coach in Spain's Euro 2025

Euro 2025 host Switzerland will open the 16-nation tournament against Norway on July 2 in Basel. The group also includes Iceland and Finland.

The past two European champions, titleholder

England and Euro 2017 winner the Netherlands, landed in a strong group with top-seeded France and Wales. France and England reunite next July 5 in Zurich after coming through the same qualifying group, in which they traded away wins in a five-day spell and France finished on top of the standings. "We had some beautiful

matches in May and June. It's a very good challenge," France coach Laurent Bonadei said.

Germany, the record eighttime European champion, was drawn with Denmark, Poland and Sweden, the inaugural winner in 1984. Basel's St. Jakob Park stadium also will host the final on July 27. More than 700.000 tickets are publicly available for the games being hosted in eight Swiss cities.

has Switzerland responsibility to continue the



momentum in European women's soccer after three successful major tournaments.

France hosted the 2019

Women's World Cup, won by the United States; host England won the Euro 2022 final against Germany watched by more than 87,000 fans at Wembley Stadium; and Spain and England played for the 2023 world title at the first 32-team tournament, hosted by Australia and New Zealand. For me it is the perfect moment for this tournament to come here," said retired

great Dickenmann, a two-time Champions League winner with Lyon.

"It will be a game-changer for us," Dickenmann told The Associated Press. "It's going to be really important for the Swiss population but also for the Swiss media, Swiss politics, on any level that takes part in football." Switzerland will start against

Norway — which lost the 2023 World Cup opening game against New Zealand – one month after the same teams meet in a Nations League group that also

includes Iceland. Switzerland coach Pia Sundhage said she aimed to field her best team in what will be a final competitive warmup for Euro 2025.

"Confidence can take any team anywhere," said Sundhage, the Swedish veteran who led the U.S. To back-to-back Olympic titles in 2008 and 2012.

England coach Wiegman has won the past two Euros titles, after leading her native Netherlands to the 2017 title, and suggested it will be an open and exciting tournament in Switzerland. "It's not just three or four countries" who can win, Wiegman said.

FIFA set to announce its top players in men's Americans now paid to play in Ryder Cup and women's soccer in 'The Best' awards

AP ■ DOHA

 $R^{\text{eal}\ \text{Madrid}\ \text{star}\ \text{Vinícius}}_{\text{Júnior}\ \text{is about to find out}}$ if he'll be finally getting his hands on a big global player award.

FIFA's "The Best" awards take place on Tuesday, when the top men's and women's soccer players of 2024 will be announced based on voting by fans, the current captains and coaches of all national teams, and representatives. It is FIFA's version of the older and more prestigious Ballon d'Or prize.

Vinícius is on an 11-player shortlist for the best men's player, having been so disappointed to lose out to Manchester City midfielder Rodri for the Ballon d'Or in October that he and his Madrid team snubbed the ceremony in Paris in protest. The FIFA ceremony starts at



Haaland.

1700 GMT in Doha, where Madrid and Vinicius traveled Monday for Intercontinental Cup final against Pachuca.

Rodri is also on the shortlist, along with Kylian Mbappé and Lionel Messi — last year's winner of the FIFA prize on a tiebreaker over Erling

Barcelona playmaker Aitana Bonmati won the best women's player for 2023 and is seeking back-to-back FIFA prizes as one of four Spain players on the 16-woman shortlist.

Bonmati has won the Ballon d'Or for two straight years,

Ashok Sharma (893) became the secretary, while Harish Singla (1328) was elected for

the treasurer's post and Amit Grover (1189) won the joint

secretary position.

and won the Spanish league, Spanish cup and Champions League with Barcelona in

The contenders have been selected based on their performances from Aug. 21, 2023, to Aug. 10. 2024.

FIFA said the award winners have been decided by an "equally weighted voting system" between fans, the captains and coaches, and the

The best men's and women's coaches and the best men's and women's goalkeepers will also be announced, along with the best men's and women's 11s and the Marta and Puskás Awards for the best goals in women's and men's soccer, respectively. Among those attending the gala dinner at the Aspire Academy in Doha will be FIFA President Gianni **AP** WASHINGTON

Americans will be paid to play in the Ryder Cup for the first time under a new PGA of America program that gives them a \$200,000 stipend and \$300,000 for them to distribute to charity.

The \$500,000 directed to each of the 12 players and the captain is an increase from the \$200,000 — strictly for charity that began when the payfor-play issue first arose in 1999 ahead of the Brookline matches.

U.S. Captain Keegan Bradley said in a text he would be giving his entire allocation to

"We added the \$200,000 stipend out of respect for the players ... So the players could have a say in where the money goes. It's recognition for all the players have done for the Ryder Cup over the years," President Don Rea said in a letter to past Ryder Cup captains, noting the stipend



would be separate from what players get for expenses. The PGA of America board met in person last week and approved the payment

scheme. 'We've had so many meetings for a long time and it hasn't gone up since 1999. We're talking 25 years that it's been at \$200,000," Rea said in a telephone interview, adding

that \$500,000 "seemed like the right place to land." Everyone is appreciative of what the players are doing for

the Ryder Cup.' appreciation

includes direct payment for their services, a change not only in the amount but 40% of it without stipulation where it

The original deal in 1999 was \$200,000 for each player, with half of that going to a college golf program and the other half to a charity of the player's choice. For the Rome matches in 2023, the entire \$200,000 went to whatever charity or foundation the players chose. Rea noted in his letter to past Ryder Cup captains that it was similar to what the PGA Tour does for the Presidents Cup.

The Presidents Cup changed from players choosing a charity to players and captains getting \$250,000 without stipulation starting in 2022. The PGA of America

announced its decision in a statement on its social media channels. "The players and captains, past

and present, are responsible for the Ryder Cup becoming the most special competition in golf and one of the most indemand events on the international sports scene," the PGA said. While no players asked to be

compensated, the PGA of America Board of Directors has voted to increase the allocation to the members of the U.S. Ryder Cup team from \$200,000 to be directed to charities unchanged since 1999 — to \$500,000, with \$300,000 of that to be directed to the charity or charities of the players' choice. The balance is

Rohan Jaitley re-elected as DDCA president

were required to win.

year run.

Kumar

defeated

In 2020, Rohan was elected

unopposed after Rajat

Sharma resigned midway

during his term. A year later,

he defeated advocate Vikas

Singh to claim a full three-

(1,246)

Rakesh



PTI NEW DELHI

Incumbent Rohan Jaitley defeated **⊥**comfortably former India cricketer and Lok Sabha MP Kirti Azad to be elected as the President of the Delhi and Districts Cricket Association (DDCA) for a third successive term. The 35-year-old Rohan, son

of former Union Minister late Arun Jaitley, secured 1,577 votes compared to Azad's 777 in the race to the top position, which comes with a three-year term. His father had served as DDCA president for 14 years. As many as 2,413 votes were

cast from among the 3748 members, and 1,207 votes

All office-bearers are elected for a three-year term.

Singh (1050), Navdeep M (1034), Shyam Sharma (1165), Tushar Saigal (926), Vikas Katyal (1054), Vikram Kohli (939) claimed the directors' post, which goes to polls every year.

A member of the 1983 World Cup-winning team Azad, who represents Bardhaman-Durgapur constituency for the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress party, had alleged corruption in the DDCA in the run up to the polls.

Rohan had the backing of former BCCI acting He had alleged that the DDCA spent as much Rs 17.5 president CK Khanna, who is on installing floodlights when the much considered an influential figure in Delhi cricket as he bigger Narendra Modi Stadium in Ahmedabad did controls more than 1,000 the same for Rs 7.5 crore. Khanna's daughter Shikha He had also accused the

votes), incumbent DDCA administration of spending Kumar Bansal (536) and Sudhir only a fraction of the approximately Rs 140 crore it Kumar Agarwal (498) to received from the BCCI in claim the vice-president's the last financial year.

A year of chaos and heartbreaks for Indian wrestling but not without hope for future



Hockey India League announces free entry for matches in Rourkela and Ranchi

Hockey India on Tuesday announced free entry for fans for both men's and women's matches of the Hockey India League to be played at Rourkela and Ranchi.

The eight-team men's HIL in a new format will start on December 28 at Rourkela's Birsa Munda Stadium and will conclude on February 1, 2025. The women's edition comprising four teams will be held at Ranchi's Marang Gomke Jaipal Singh Munda Astro Turf Stadium from January 12-26. Additionally, HI said select

matches of both men's and women's categories will be held at alternate venues to "expand the league's reach".

"By foregoing revenue from ticket sales, Hockey India aims to build a stronger connection between the sport and its passionate supporters, encouraging more people to experience the thrill of live hockey," HI said in a media release.

HIL governing committee chairman Dilip Tirkey said, "By offering free tickets, we are ensuring that everyone, regardless of financial status, has the opportunity to experience live hockey at its

West Ham share points with Bournemouth after late drama on England's south coast Ham took the lead thanks to the Premier League. Both sides struggled to break a VAR-assisted penalty.

AP ■ BOURNEMOUTH

 $E_{\text{free kick in the last}}^{\text{nes Unal scored a superb}} \stackrel{\text{down their opponent and goalkeepers}}{\text{goalkeepers}} \stackrel{\text{opponent and goalkeepers}}{\text{made timely}}$ minute of normal time to

saves at each end.

But in the 87th m Bournemouth in a 1-1 home when it looked like a 0-0 Paqueta made no mistake draw against West Ham in draw was on the cards, West from 12 meters.

After a video review, referee Chris Kavanagh adjudged the ball to have struck Tyler Adams' hand and Lucas

रायसेन, दिनांक 16.12.2024

कार्यालय नगर पालिका परिषद रायसेन (म.प्र.)

क्रमांक/1386/न.पा./निर्माण/2024-25,

-:: ई-निविदा सूचना ::-

a stipend.

निम्नलिखित कार्य हेतु केन्द्रीयकृत प्रणाली में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट <u>https://www.mptenders.gov.in</u> पर देखा जा सकता है।

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2024_UAD_388719_1	CONSTRUCTION OF SHOP AT WARD NO 16 NEW BUS	18 month	12,500.00 &	dt.
Dt. 16.12.2024	STAND GROUND FLOOR AND FIRST FLOOR NO OF SHOP 34	& 105.02	52,510.00	20.01.2025

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(श्रीमती सविता जमना सेन) 318218

क्रमांक 2166

G-20355/24

नगर पालिका परिषद रायसेन

मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी नगर पालिका परिषद रायसेन

कार्यालय अधीक्षक यंत्री, ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा भोपाल मण्डल भोपाल प्राना सचिवालय भोपाल

दुरभाष (फोन) 0755-2738774, E-Mail_ID -- sereshbhopal@mp.gov.in

निविदा विज्ञप्ति क्र.-: 04/2024-25

दिनांक :- 17.12.2024

मण्डल अंतर्गत निम्नलिखित कार्यो हेतु ऑनलाईन निविदायें आमंत्रित की जाती है। उल्लेखित कार्यो का विस्तृत विवरण वेबसाईट https://mptenders.gov.in पर देखा जा सकता है।

क्र.	ग्रायांसे संभागीय कार्यालय	सिस्टम टेण्डर नम्बर	आमंत्रण का क्रम	कार्य का नाम	निर्माण कार्यो की अनुमानित लागत (लाख में)
1	भोपाल	2024_RES _388832_1	प्रथम	गौशाला निर्माण कार्य ग्राम पंचायत बरखेडी अब्दुल्ला, विकासखण्ड फंदा जिला भोपाल।	1135.05
2	भोपाल	2024_RES _388833_1	प्रथम	डिजाईन, सप्लाई, इंस्टालेशन, ट्रांसपोर्टरेशन, टेस्टिंग और कंमिशनिंग ऑफ इक्पिमेंटस 15 किलोवाट पावर रूफटॉप सोलर पॉवर प्लांट (on grid) complete item पर ग्राम पंचायत मुंगालिया छाप वि.खं. फंदा, एवं ग्राम पंचायत नजीराबाद, गुनगा, ललरिया और धमर्रा वि.खं. बैरसिया।	35.25

उपरोक्त निविदाओं के निविदा प्रपत्र (टेण्डर डाक्यूमेंट), वेबसाईट https://mptenders.gov.in पर ऑनलाईन भुगतान कर क्रय किये जा सकेगें। ऑनलाईन निविदा प्रपत्र क्रय प्रारंभ करने की तिथि 19.12.2024 समय 19.12.2024 **समय 1**8:00 **बजे** है। निविदा (बिड) प्रपत्र प्रस्तुत करने का **अंतिम दिनांक 0**3.01.2025 **समय 18:00 बजे** तक है। विस्तृत निविदा सूचना व अन्य जानकारी वेबसाईट पर देखी जा सकती है। संशोधन संबंधी सूचनाएँ केवल वेबसाईट पर दी जावेगी। पृथक से प्रकाशन नहीं किया जावेगा।

> अधीक्षण यंत्री ग्रामीण यांत्रिकी सेवा भोपाल मण्डल भोपाल

The two maintained all along that their fight against alleged sexual harassment of women

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 \mathbf{I}^{n} an ideal world, politics and sport are not meant to be mixed. But then the world of Indian wrestling was far from ideal in 2024 with Vinesh Phogat's Olympic dejection and the neverending administrative chaos pulling down a once

flourishing sport.
From the time when Wrestling Federation of India elections were held, exactly a year back, to the recent National Championships in Benglauru, Indian wrestling has seemed like a rudderless

Not too long ago, wrestling had developed into a sport that promised unprecedented Olympic success but cut to Paris 2024, Aman Sehrawat's bronze medal was what saved the delegation the blushes

after Phogat's seemingly destined gold slipped through her grasp due to a cruel twist of fate.

She was, for better or for worse, the most intriguing story of Indian wrestling this

She punished herself to fight in a lower weight category after her preferred class was already booked for the Olympics, downed the then unbeaten Japanese legend Yui Susaki in her opening round in Paris and then ended up disqualified for being 100gm overweight on the morning of

the final. A day later, she gave up on her sporting career, declaring that the fight had left her.

She wasn't done though. Following an emotionally overwhelming homecoming which included a custom-made gold medal from

Haryana's khap panchayats, Phogat joined the Congress fought the state assembly elections and managed to become an MLA

in her maiden electoral outing from Julana constituency. She wasn't the only one in her fraternity who decided on politics as future. Bajrang Punia too joined the

Congress but he did not get

His position was that of a Kisan morcha head and his wrestling career was left stalled after coping a fouryear ban for failure to submit dope samples during training camps. This was after he failed to qualify for Paris, a new low in the career of the celebrated grappler, who fetched a bronze in the Tokyo

the same returns as Phogat.

wrestlers by former WFI head Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh was an apolitical one. But their fellow protestor and

Rio Olympics bronze-winner Sakshi Malik sought to dispute that soon after they joined congress. She went on to allege in her book that the the duo's "greed" punctured their protest against Sharan Singh

Next generation affected by chaos

The likes of Anshu Malik and Antim Panghal, who were touted as the next big thing in Indian wrestling, cut a sorry figure in Paris but Aman carried forward the rich legacy of the Chhatrasal stadium by winning the men's freestyle 57kg bronze.

BHOPAL | WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 18, 2024

Rahul, Jadeja fifties help India avoid follow-on in Brisbane Test



L Rahul and Ravindra Kadeja were determination personified as their fighting fifties helped India avoid the follow-on on the fourth day of the weather-hit third Test against a menacing Australia

Jasprit Bumrah (10) and Akash Deep (27), who showed

193 runs. But they wouldn't mind that one bit as Australia

will now have to bat again and forcing a result in three sessions looks an improbable target, considering the

Brisbane weather pattern. The city is bracing up for rain and a thunderstorm or two on Wednesday.

A quick word of appreciation is also required for No. 10 Bumrah and No. 11 Akash Deep for knocking down the 33 runs required to go past the follow-on mark of 246. The much-awaited moment came when Akash crunched

boundary. When these two joined forces, India were reeling at 213 for 9 after Jadeja was dismissed off a Cummins'

Pat Cummins over gully for a

But while resuming from a

someone to offer fight, and Rahul, India's standout batter in this series so far, did

Rahul displayed admirable technical nous to withstand the stern test posed by the Australian bowlers to take the game deep into the day.

A nine toes down Rahul and an equally feisty Jadeja added 67 runs for the sixth wicket, and it was the first sign of India's fight.

massive fortune too for Rahul when Smith spilled a regulation catch at second slip off the first ball of the day from Cummins.

Rahul was on 33 then. A quick look upwards and a silent prayer showed how which he exploited to the hilt, notching his 17th Test fifty.

Once he woke up from a bit Once he woke of morning haziness, Rahul looked a class apart from the rest of his colleagues.

The Aussies employed three slips and a gully, leaving the vast expanse of the ground to play his favourite shot -- drive through the cover or in front of the point.

dangerous was a proposition as there was enough movement and bounce for the Aussie pacers.

that shot until the bowlers pitched the ball well up in his driving arc.

The Bengaluru man's sagacity shone in how he defended too -- all soft hands and playing close to the body. Cummins tested him with that fifth stump line outside

off, but Rahul either left the ball wisely or merely tucked his bat behind his pads. However, a remarkable But Jadeja carried on and he

added 53 runs for the seventh wicket with Nitish Reddy to keep India afloat. The 36-year-old scored a

good chunk of runs either down the ground or square of the wicket, enabling him to collect runs without the risk of getting caught behind or in the cordon.

Jadeja brought up his 22nd fifty in Test cricket off 89

balls and the innings was also dotted with sweep shots that he effectively employed against off-spinner Lyon.

Nitish should also be patted for giving some solid company to Jadeja as batting for time was more important than the volume of runs considering the weather situation in this Test.

However, a slice of misfortune ended Nitish's stay as he dragged Cummins' climbing delivery back onto his stumps. Jadeja also soon departed while trying to farm the strike with Bumrah.

He looked to smash Cummins' rising delivery out of the ground but Mitchell Marsh settled nicely under the ball to give a heap of frayed nerves to Indian fans. But Bumrah and Akash added 39 runs to put the smiles back on their faces, as Aussies dearly missed the metronomical Hazlewood, who was ruled out of the series with a calf



that seems meandering towards a draw.
Jadeja (77, 123b, 7x4, 1x6)
and Rahul (84, 139, 8x4) were the heavy-lifters in India's 252 for nine when bad light forced a early close to the day.

appreciable gumption, are holding the fort for India. The visitors trail Aussies by

51 for four, India needed precisely that.

There was a moment of

wafer-thin overnight score of much he valued that reprieve,



खेलों के विकास का उभरता केंद्र मध्यप्रदेश



1300 खिलाड़ियों को ₹ 1 करोड़ की खेलवृत्ति का अंतरण एवं १०४१ खिलाड़ियों को किट वितरण

मुख्यमंत्री

डॉ. मोहन यादव

18 दिसम्बर, २०२४ | दोपहर १२:३० बजे टी.टी. नगर स्टेडियम, भोपाल



- ₹ 846 करोड़ से भोपाल में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय स्पोर्ट्स कॉम्प्लेक्स का निर्माण प्रगति पर
- 18 खेलों की 11 खेल अकादमी (भोपाल, ग्वालियर, शिवपुरी एवं जबलपुर में)
- हर विकासखंड में स्पोर्ट्स कॉम्प्लेक्स का होगा निर्माण
- 114 स्टेडियम निर्मित एवं 33 स्टेडियम निर्माणाधीन
- वन डिस्ट्रिक्ट-वन स्पोर्ट्स कॉम्प्लेक्स अंतर्गत प्रदेश के सभी जिलों में बनेंगे खेल स्टेडियम



New Zealand beat England by 423 runs in the 3rd test

¬aptain Ben Stokes was Cunable to bat because of a hamstring injury on Tuesday as England slumped to a 423run loss to New Zealand before tea on the fourth day on the third cricket Test. Stokes strained his left

hamstring while bowling on the third day and could not take the field as England was bowled out for 234 as it chased an impossible target of 658 for victory. New Zealand's winning

margin matched its largest test win by runs of a 423-run win over Sri Lanka in 2018 and prevented England from completing a series whitewash. England had an unassailable 2-0 lead in the

series after winning the first test by eight wickets and the second by 323 runs. "You can't fault any of the energies or efforts we put into this game, particularly in the field," Stokes said. "It's obviously not ideal to end the tour on this note but we've come here against a New Zealand team which is very strong and full of confidence after beating India in India 3-0. So to come here and lift

we played some very good cricket." England resumed its second innings Tuesday at 18-2 after losing the wickets of Ben Duckett and Zak Crawley late on day three after New Zealand, leading by 204 on the first innings, was

that trophy at the end proves

dismissed for 453. Joe Root made 54 and Jacob

Bethell 76 in a 104-run partnership for the third wicket which briefly fanned England's hopes that it might somehow endure for two full days to draw the match. But dogged perseverance is not a feature of England cricket in the "Bazball" quick-scoring era and instead it maintained a policy of all-out attack before the final wicket fell midway through the second session.

After lunch Gus Atkinson blasted 43 from 41 balls with seven fours and a six and Ollie Pope made 17 but wickets fell steadily and the result became inevitable. "I think anytime you finish a

series with a win when you've been behind is pleasing," New Zealand captain Tom Latham said. "We weren't at our best in those first two games but the way we came here on a wicket that was slightly different to the first couple and we adapted was

very pleasing."
New Zealand's win owed a great deal to the contribution of Mitchell Santner in the first innings who made 76 batting at No. 8 and worked with Matt Henry, Tim Southee and Will O'Rourke to add 116 runs for New Zealand's three wickets. That allowed New Zealand to reach 347 after losing the toss and being sent in.

Santner's last-wicket stand with O'Rourke which lasted 77 minutes at the end of the first day and the start of the second was a display of resilience which had been missing from New Zealand's

performances in the first two Santner then took 3-7 while New Zealand's presumptive new-ball pairing of Henry and O'Rourke shared seven wickets as England was bowled out for 143 in a session and a half in its first

innings. Southee has been the spearhead of New Zealand's attack for many years, mostly in combination with Trent Boult. But this was his 107th and final test before his

retirement international cricket and Boult no longer is contracted by New Zealand Cricket.

That means Henry and O'Rourke likely will share the new ball from now on in a New Zealand pace attack which will be strengthened when Kyle Jamieson returns from a back injury. Kane Williamson scored 156,

his 33rd test century and his fifth in consecutive tests in Hamilton, to anchor New Zealand's second innings of 453 in which Will Young and Daryl Mitchell both made 60 and Santner made 49. Santner took 4-85 in the second innings.

Brook was named Player of the Series for his centuries in the first two tests which were vital in turning those matches in England's favor. He scored 171 in the first test vital and 123 in the second, both at times when England had lost early wickets.

"I'm still trying to enjoy my cricket, work hard and get better every day," Brook

सीधा प्रसारण D-11126/24





