M: DELHI I LUCKNOW I BHOPAL I BHUBANESWAR I RANCHI I RAIPUR I CHANDIGARH I DEHRADUN I HYDERABAD I VIJAYWADA

One Nation, One Election, One Decision

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

he Centre's call for 'One Nation One, Election' inched closer to realise its dreams of simultaneous polls by paving the way to table the proposal in the Parliament next week after the Union Cabinet on Thursday approved two bills, including one to amend the Constitution to implement 'One Nation, One Election'. Sources said the Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave nod to draft legislations to hold simultaneous polls to the Lok Sabha and Legislative Assemblies only.

While a high-level committee led by former president Ram Nath Kovind had also holding proposed municipality and panchayat polls along with the national and state elections in a phased manner, the Cabinet decided not to touch the subject currently.

Constitution Amendment Bill to hold simultaneous polls to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies will not require ratification by at least 50 per cent of the states, the sources noted. Another Constitution Bill proposed by the Kovind panel was aimed at creating provisions hold simultaneous elections to municipalities and panchayats, along with the elections to the Lok Sabha State Legislative Assemblies, by inserting a new Article 324A. It would have required ratification by half of the State Assemblies.



kept the local body polls out as of now. The second Bill will be an

ordinary one to amend provisions in three laws dealing with Territories that Legislative Assemblies, Delhi and Puducherry, Jammu and Kashmir, to align the terms of these Houses other legislative Assemblies and the Lok Sabha proposed in the Constitution Amendment

The statutes it proposes to amend are the Government September accepted of National Capital Territory of Delhi Act-1991, the Government of Union Territories Act-1963 and the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act-2019. The proposed Bill will be an report submitted to the

But the Union Cabinet has ordinary legislation, not requiring a change in the Constitution and will also not need ratification by the states.

> The Government is keen on Union holding wider consultations have on bills that are likely to be referred to a parliamentary committee. The sources said the Government also wants to consult the speakers of various state legislative Assemblies through the committee. Moving ahead with its 'One

Nation, One Election' plan, Government recommendations of high-level committee for holding simultaneous polls for the Lok Sabha, state Assemblies and local bodies in a phased manner. In its Government in March, just before the general election was announced, the panel recommended implementing 'One Nation, One Election' in two phases.

While the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and its allies are pushing for simultaneous polls, several opposition parties have opposed the idea. The Government is of the view that simultaneous polls will reduce expenditure in the long run and different parts of the country will not be under the Model Code of Conduct throughout the year due to various polls.

Simultaneous polls were held in the country between 1951 and 1967. The concept of simultaneous elections has featured in many reports and studies since 1983, essentially

previous practice conducting polls Congress concurrently. reiterated its opposition to the very idea of simultaneous polls and accused the Government of trying to attention "questions being raised on the electoral integrity of the democratic system". Continued on page 2

ELECTIONS FOR THE LOK SABHA AND ALL STATE ASSEMBLIES CAN BE HELD TOGETHER:

For synchronising the Lok Sabha and Assembly elections, the President shall notify the date of the first sitting of the Lok Sahha after a general election as the "appointed date"

☐ Tenure of all State Assemblies formed via nolls after the "appointed date" and before the expiry of the full term of the Lok Sabha will only be for the period ending up to the subsequent parliamentary polls. After this onetime transitory measure, all Lok Sabha and Assembly polls will be held simultaneously.

Fresh elections could be held to constitute a new Lok Sabha in the event of a hung House or a noconfidence motion or any such

☐ Where fresh elections are held for the House of the People (Lok Sabha), the tenure of the House will be "only for the unexpired (remaining) term of the immediately preceding full term of the House"

When fresh elections are held for state legislative Assemblies. then such new Assemblies unless sooner dissolved - shall continue up to the end of the full



Eye on Polls, Kejriwal announces Mukhya Mantri Mahila Samman Yojna

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

With the Assembly polls drawing closer, after giving five 'revdis' (freebies) including free DTC bus rides to women, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday announced his sixth freebie, of giving monthly assistance of Rs 1,000 to women in Delhi each month, under the Mantri Mahila Yojna. He also 'Mukhya Samman' promised the amount would be raised to Rs 2,100 if the AAP government returned to power. The scheme was approved by the Delhi Cabinet despite objections by the Planning Department and Finance Department.

The scheme needs Rs 4,560 Crore annually for the year 2025-26. The scheme was initially announced in the 2024-25 Budget with an allocation of Rs 2,000 Crore. The scheme, however, seemed to have hit the bureaucratic department flagging budgetary constraints. The scheme is on the lines of 'Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana' in Maharashtra, 'Ladli Behna Yojna' in Madhya Pradesh, 'Grahalaxmi' scheme of Kerala, 'Kalaignar Magalir Urumai' of Tamil Nadu and 'Laxmir Bhandar' of West Bengal that played a major role for the ruling party to defeat anti-incumbency

Addressing a press conference along with Chief Minister Atishi, Kejriwal announced the Delhi Cabinet has approved the scheme and women can begin their registration from Friday. However, he clarified the elections are likely to be announced soon and therefore the money could be credited in beneficiaries' accounts only after the polls as the date for the crucial polls would be announced in the next 10 to

factor.

Delhi Chief Minister Atishi meanwhile, said if the Model Code of Conduct comes into force after January 13, the first installment will be transferred into the bank accounts of eligible women elections.

The Planning Department in its noting said that as against the the estimated Revenue Receipts of Rs 65034.69 Crore during 2024-25, expenditure of Rs 77700 crore (including Expenditure on Programs/ Projects and Other Expenditure) is projected and the gap' between receipts and total expenditure i.e. deficit is proposed to be covered by NSŜF Loan.' and unspent balance. As the opening balance is about to exhausted therefore, implementation' of proposed new scheme involves huge amount of funds i.e. Rs 4560 crore through Loan is not appropriate and good for the financial health of the Government.

Continued on page 2

No surveys, suits related to Places All is not well in the House of Worship Act till hearing over: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

important development, the Supreme Court on Thursday restrained all courts from entertaining fresh lawsuits and passing any effective interim or final in nend seeking survey or to reclaim religious places, especially mosques and dargahs Observing the court couldn't decide the matter without the Centre's response, the Bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and KV Viswanathan asked the Government to file its reply to the pleas and cross petitions in four weeks. It also granted four weeks to other parties to file their rejoinder after the Centre filed its reply.

"As the matter is sub-judice in this court, we deem it appropriate that no fresh suit would be registered and proceedings are undertaken till further orders of this court," the CJI-led Bench said. The order stalls proceedings in about 18 lawsuits filed by various Hindu parties seeking survey to ascertain original religious character of 10 mosques including Gyanvapi at Varanasi, Shahi Idgah Masjid at Mathura and Shahi Jama Masjid at Sambhal where four persons' lives were



snuffed out in clashes.

The special Bench was hearing about six petitions, including the lead one filed by lawyer Ashwini Upadhyay and BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, challenging various provisions of the Places of Worship (Special Provisions) Act, 1991. The 1991 law prohibits conversion of any place of worship and provides for the maintenance of the religious character of any place of worship as it existed on August 15, 1947. However, the dispute relating to Ram Janmabhoomi-Babri Masjid at Ayodhya was kept out of its purview.

There are several cross petitions which seek strict implementation of the 1991 law to maintain communal harmony and to preserve the present status of mosques, sought to be reclaimed by Hindus on the ground that they were temples before

invaders razed them. The Bench made it clear that it would be examining the "vires (legality), contours and ambit" of the 1991 Law and it was imperative to ask other courts to "stay off their hands" till it passed any further

orders.

will not pass any effective interim or final order, including order of survey, till further orders," the Bench said. Senior advocate J Sai Deepak, appearing for a Hindu party, opposed the order restraining all other courts and said the parties should have been heard before such a direction. The CJI said it was quite natural to ask courts to not to pass any order as the Supreme Court was hearing the larger issue. The Bench said if parties insisted then, the matter could be sent to a High Court. "Can the trial courts overreach the Supreme Court," asked the Bench and said the apex court was already dealing with the validity of the law. Notably, the Bench had issued notice to parties, including the Centre, on the lead petition in September, 2022. The Bench also appointed nodal counsel for assisting it in the hearing on the pleas which would be

listed after eight weeks. Continued on page 2

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA NEW DELHI

In a peculiar move, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Thursday jumped to the Well, and aisle of the Rajya Sabha protesting against the Opposition, who too were on their feet, trading charges over a no-trust motion brought against Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar

While a legislative business was schedul Minister Nirmala Sitharaman when the upper house resumed post lunch, BJP MPs immediately raised slogans on the allegations of the Congress leadership's "links" with billionaire investor George

Though Lok Sabha after morning two adjournments resumed post lunch and continued till late evening smoothly discussing a Bill on Management Amendment Bill, Rajya Sabha witnessed yet another 12th day of ruckus, and this time members of the Treasury Benches were more aggressive than the Opposition who until last week were on their feet.

As Dhankar rejected notices by the Opposition when the House started in the morning amidst sloganeering by the Congress, Leader of House Union minister JP Nadda rose to speak and strongly condemned Congress president, and Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge for criticising the Chairman' at a Press conference outside the House on Wednesday.

Citing a rule, Nadda said questioning or criticising a ruling of the Chairman' amounts to contempt of both the House and the Chair. "At a press conference on Wednesday, Khargeji criticised the Chairman. This is objectionable and condemnable. It sets a wrong precedent.



Union Minister Giriraj Singh staged a protest over Congress leader Sonia Gandhi's alleged links with an organisation funded by the George Soros Foundation.

This needs to be condemned by one and all," Nadda said.

Refuting Kharge's allegation made at the press conference that he was not given an opportunity to speak in the House, he said letters were written by the Chairman to the Leader of Opposition (LoP) time and again, asking him to participate and come to the Chairman's chamber. But Kharge did not go to the Chairman's chamber and also did not attend the last meeting of the Business Advisory Committee, he said.

"The Congress has even tried to demean the constitutional post by criticising 'the Chair as a cheerleader on its official social media handle". Nadda pointed out. Nadda then gave ammunition to the Congress as soon as he touched upon the relationship between George Soros and (Congress leader) Sonia Gandhi who were present in the House triggering a

protest by the Opposition leaders.

The Chairman gave the floor to Kharge to respond to Nadda's remarks but the Congress leader could not speak much as the members of the treasury benches were on their feet, sloganeering. "They want to divert attention from the main issue," Kharge said amid intense sloganeering from the treasury benches. Kharge urged the Chair to bring the House in order, but Dhankhar adjourned the proceedings till 2 pm. As the House reassembled at 2 pm, the Trinamool Congress (TMC) sought permission to raise a point of order on the Bangladesh issue to which the Chair said it was not a point of order prompting the party members to raise slogans. Dhankhar then asked former prime minister HD Deve Gowda to speak, however his speech was lost in the din.

Continued on page 2

surplus budget of ₹463.40 Crore **RAJESH KUMAR** ■ NEW DELHI

NDMC presents

n a big relief to the residents of New Delhi, the New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) did not hike the property tax rate in Lutyens' proposal tabled in the council, proposes to ,setting up a 'Veerangna Museum' by Comprehensive Conservation of Gole Market Heritage Building and its adjoining areas, night/staggered timing of cleaning of public spaces new design of school uniforms, tablets for students, smart parking, mist spray kits



on poles for clean air and two

foot over bridges at AIIMS Gate No.1, Aurobindo Marg and Delhi High Court near

Gate No.5.

Presenting a surplus budget of Rs Rs 463.40 Crore projected in 2025-26, the NDMC chairman Keshav Chandra announced that there will not be any hike in the current rates of property tax for the year 2025-26. The council is expecting to collect Property Tax of Rs. 1150 Crore in Revised Estimates 2024-25 and Rs. 1290 Crore in BE 2025-26. According to the budget document, the total receipts of the Budget Estimates (BE) 2025-26 are Rs. 5770.60 Crore against Rs. 5319.75 Crore provided in Revised Estimate 2024-25. The total actual receipts in 2023-24 were Rs. 5005.05 Crore. The BE 2025-26 for the revenue receipts are Rs. 5100.32 Crore against Rs. 4730.31 Crore provided in RE 2024-25 and actual of Rs. 4417.12 Crore in 2023-24 Continued on page 2

Grandmaster D Gukesh is youngest-ever world champion

Indian Grandmaster D Gukesh on Thursday became the youngest World Chess Champion at 18 years, after beating title-holder Ding Liren in the last game of a nerve-wracking showdown to herald a new era of dominance for the country's chess players. Taking forward the incredible legacy of the great Viswanathan Anand, Gukesh became only the second Indian to clinch the coveted prize after the iconic player, who owned the crown five times in his career. After settling into "semi-retirement", the 55-year-old Anand, incidentally, played a pivotal role in shaping Gukesh at his chess academy in Chennai. Gukesh secured the requisite 7.5 points as against 6.5 of his Chinese rival after winning the 14th and last classical time control game of the match that seemed headed for a draw for most part. As winner, he will walk away with a whopping USD 1.3 million (approx Rs 11.03 Crore) from the



China's Ding Liren in the 14th and last game of the FIDE World Chess Championship 2024, in

2.5 million prize purse. "I was dreaming this moment for the last 10 years. I am happy that I realised the dream (and made it) into reality," the soft-spoken Chennai-lad told reporters after the historic triumph here. "I got a bit emotional because I was not expecting to win. But then I got a chance to press on," he added. The triumph was expectedly hailed across India with Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailing it as "historic and exemplary". "This is the result of his unparalleled talent, hard work and unwavering determination," PM Modi posted on X

The reticent teenager grinned widely and raised his arms in celebration after the victory, a stark contrast from the poker face he usually sports while playing. Even on Thursday, when the analysts had proclaimed that the match, in all likelihood, would go into a tie-breaker, Gukesh's face hardly gave anything away as he gained the upper-hand.

Continued on page 2

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The Centre, on Thursday, informed the Parliament a shortage Government officers at the top level, mentioning that there are 1,316 and 586 vacant Posts of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and Indian Police Service (IPS). Union Minister Jitendra Singh said that, out of the total sanctioned strength of 6,858 IAS, there were 5,542 officers in-position, as on January 1, 2024, in a written reply to the Rajya Sabha. There were 4,469 IPS officers working against their sanctioned strength of 5,055, Singh, the Minister of State for Personnel told the RS. Of the 1,316 vacant posts of Scheduled Castes (SCs),

IAS, 794 were meant for direct recruitment, and 522 were promotion posts, he said. Of the 586 vacant IPS posts, 209 were of direct recruitment, and 377 were promotion

Centre needs 2,000 more IAS, IPS!

posts, the Minister said. There are 2,151 Indian Forest Service (IFS) officers inagainst their position, sanctioned strength of 3,193, Singh said. Of the 1,042 vacant IFS posts, 503 were for direct recruitment and 539 promotion posts, he added. The IAS, IPS and IFS officers are selected through the Civil Services examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) annually. minister, also shared details of appointments made to IAS,

IPS and IFS from General,

Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBCs) during the last five vears. During the 2022 civil services

examination (CSE) year, 75 General, 45 OBC, 29 SC and 13 ST appointments were made in the IAS. Similarly, 83 General, 53 OBC, 31 SC and 13 ST were appointed in the IPS during the same period. A total of 43 General, 51 OBC, 22 SC and 11 ST appointments were made in the IFS during CSE 2024, according to the data shared by the minister. Government also stated that Central ministries departments are directed from time-to-time to fill up vacancies in a time-bound

Continued on page 2

Rahul Gandhi meets Hathras victim's family, BJP says attempt to incite unrest

BISWAJEET BANERJEE LUCKNOW

ongress leader Rahul Gandhi visited Bulgadi village in Hathras district to meet the family of a rape victim whose tragic death in had sparked nationwide outrage. Ĝandhi held a closed-door meeting with the victim's family, spending over half an hour listening to their grievances. He refrained from speaking to the media after the meeting and left Hathras shortly afterward.

During the interaction, the family reportedly complained about the conduct of the local Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM). Following this, Rahul Gandhi summoned the SDM, but he did not show up. Gandhi then spoke to the official over the phone in the presence of the grieving family.

Rahul Gandhi's visit to Hathras comes after the victim's father wrote a letter to the Congress leader seeking justice. The letter unfulfilled detailed promises made by the government, including the allocation of a house and a job for the family. "My daughter was gang-raped, her spine was shattered, and her tongue was cut. The administration, without our consent, poured kerosene on her body and burned it," the father alleged in the

The letter further mentions that despite the victim naming all four accused repeatedly, three of them were acquitted. It also described the family's life as akin to living in a prison, surrounded by CRPF personnel and constantly monitored by the police. "We are not even allowed to work; the police question our every move," the father claimed.

Rahul Gandhi's decision to reportedly was prompted by the family's desperate plea. He and his sister Priyanka Gandhi Vadra had earlier met the family on October 3, 2020, promising to fight for

The high-profile visit prompted sharp reactions from Uttar Pradesh Deputy Minister Brajesh Pathak, who accused Rahul Gandhi of trying to incite

"Rahul Gandhi is frustrated and desperate. He seems unaware that the CBI has already investigated the Hathras case, and the matter is now in court," Pathak remarked He highlighted Uttar Pradesh's progress in law and order and infrastructure, asserting that the state was on its way to becoming the top-ranked state in the country. Pathak added, "While Uttar

Pradesh is witnessing an industrial revolution, Rahul

Gandhi is attempting to ignite chaos and riots. I request him to stop playing with the state's peace.

BJP leader Baldev Singh Aulakh also criticized Gandhi's visit, questioning its timing and relevance. "The CBI has closed the Hathras case. Why does he want to provoke unrest now? His visits won't affect Uttar Pradesh as long as Yogi Adityanath is the Chief Minister," Aulakh asserted. He also accused Gandhi of failing to apologize for past atrocities allegedly committed against Sikhs by

Rahul Gandhi's visit comes after a special court acquitted three of the four accused in the Hathras case earlier this year, adding a fresh layer of complexity to the politically charged issue. Rahul and Priyanka Gandhi had met the family on October 3, 2020 and declared they will fight for ensuring justice to the deceased.

his family.

The 19-year-old woman was allegedly gangraped on September 14, 2020. She was moved to Aligarh for treatment and later shifted to Delhi where she died. Her body was hurriedly cremated.

Last month, the Congress MP and LoP had tried to go to violence-hit Sambhal district to meet the victim families but was stopped by the state government

Saini pushes for stricter cleanliness in Gurugram

PARVESH SHARMA

Haryana Chief Minister Naib Singh Saini gave strict instructions to the concerned officials regarding cleanliness in Gurugram that cleanliness should be ensured in the city as per the cleanliness standards.

"The public should not face any kind of problem. Special attention should be paid to cleanliness in the city so that Gurugram can be made clean and beautiful. He will inspect cleanliness during the next month's meeting," Saini said. The CM was chairing a meeting of the District Public Relations and Grievance Redressal Committee in Gurugram on Thursday.

A total of 23 complaints were placed in the meeting, out of which 19 were settled on the remaining The complaints were reserved for the next meeting and the officers were directed to bring the status report with them. Saini said that the Haryana government is serious about public services. Officers of all departments should stay in the field and ensure that the services of their department are provided to the public.

"The lax attitude of the officers towards public facilities will not be tolerated. If any kind of complaint is received from the common citizens, strict action will be taken against the concerned officer," he said. On this occasion, Union

Minister of State Rao Indrajit Singh and Cabinet Minister Rao Narbir Singh, MLA Bimla Chaudhary, Mukesh Sharma, Tejpal Tanwar and various senior officials and dignitaries were present.

Saini, taking suo motu cognizance of the quality of the treated water of all STPs, said that for a clean environment, the quality of the treated water of STPs should be checked regularly. Also, the officers should ensure that

after treatment, the water should be given to the farmers for agricultural work only after

testing it in the lab. Taking cognizance of the complaint of illegal occupation of government land by some people in the village of Sarai Alawardi, the Chief Minister ordered Municipal the Corporation officials to vacate the land by removing all types of illegal occupation with immediate

community building should be constructed on this land so that people can get better facilities for organizing public functions.

On the complaint related to musical fountains and illegal advertising material in Laser Valley, CM said that all the problems related to public lights, CCTV cameras and musical fountains around Laser Valley should resolved.

Congress releases Delhi candidate list

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Congress Thursday released its first list of 21 candidates for the Delhi Assembly polls, fielding city unit chief Devender Yadav from Badli and ex-MP Sandeep Dikshit from New Delhi. Delĥi Chief Minister Arvind Keiriwal is the sitting MLA from New Delhi. The Congress also fielded ex-Delhi minister Haroon Yusuf from Ballimaran, ex-Delhi Congress chief Chaudhary Anil Kumar from Patparganj, national spokesperson Ragini Nayak from Wazirpur and Adarsh Shastri from Dwarka. Among the other candidates, Ali Mahndi will fight from Mustafabad, Abdul Rehman Seelampur, from Chaudhry from Nangloi Jat and Praveen Jain from Shalimar

Railway, IIT-Guwahati collaborate on bridge monitoring technologies

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE GUWAHATI

high level technical discussion and demonstration session was held between N.F.Railway and IIT-Guwahati at the NF Railway (Construction) Headquarters at Maligaon on Wednesday, wherein a number of state-ofthe art technologies for automated bridge monitoring and robotic underwater bridge maintenance were discussed, and detailed roadmap for collaboration between the two

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A year after a security breach in Parliament that

happened on the anniversary

of the 2001 Parliament attack,

sources in the Delhi Police said

they have submitted clinching

evidence and made a

watertight case against the six

The accused, involved in the

incident which took place on

December 13, 2023, have been

booked under the stringent

Activities



aspect was drawn up. According to a Press release by the NF Railway, one of the technologies interesting discussed during the session was an Advanced under water Inspection and Maintenance system of Railway Bridges, which will utilize robotics & AI based systems to address the challenges

esteemed institutions on this

bridge underwater maintenance, including detection of faults retrofitting. Another major area

unique

Tihar jail.

discussion was a Command center based predictive maintenance System for automatic monitoring Railway Bridges, which is a cutting edge initiative aimed at enhancing predictive safetythrough analytics. The session was held in presence of General Manager, Northeast Frontier Railway Chetan Kumar Shrivastava, General Manager, Northeast Frontier Railway (Construction) Arun Kumar Chaudhary and other senior official of NF Railway.

Grandmaster D Gukesh is youngest-ever...

It was a momentary lapse of concentration by Liren in what seemed a drawn endgame and as it happened, the entire chess world was left in a state of shock. The players were just left with a rook and a bishop and Gukesh had two pawns against one trying to make a foray without much success.

However, the ability to keep pushing for more gave Gukesh a distinct advantage over the Chinese and the latter simply collapsed to give the title to Gukesh. Before Gukesh's feat on Thursday, the legendary Garry Kasparov of Russia was the youngest world champion when he won the title at the age of 22, dethroning Anatoly

One Nation, One

Election... one

"The Union Cabinet has cleared the Bill on One Nation One Election. The

views of the Indian National

Congress on this subject had

been forcefully articulated by

its President Mallikarjun

Kharge ji on January 17, 2024.

Nothing has happened since then to modify them," said Congress chief spokesman

Jairam Ramesh. Opposition

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS)

in Telangana stated that it

needs more clarity on the 'One Nation, One Election'

bill, which was approved by

the Union Cabinet, before

taking a stance on the issue.

The BRS had supported the concept in 2017 when a

meeting was convened on simultaneous polls, BRS Working President KT Rama

decision

From page 1

Gukesh had entered the match the youngest ever challenger to the world crown after winning the Candidates

tournament earlier this year. "Every chess player wants to live this dream. I am living my dream," said Gukesh. Gukesh, who won the 14th game against Liren after 58 moves in four hours, is the 18th world chess champion overall. If Thursday's game

was also drawn, the winner was to be decided in shorter duration tie-breaks on Friday. Gukesh had won the third and 11th rounds before Thursday's decisive game, while the 32year-old Liren emerged victorious in the opening and 12th games.

All other games were drawn in the match. "I came here before the Chinese called it a nly and lost the first

From page 1

department/PSU

Centre needs

2,000 more IAS, IPS!...

Singh said the "Government

is aware that every ministry/

facing staff shortage up to 30 to 60 per cent due to nil

recruitment or very less recruitment since 2019.

Vacant posts are being filled

up in mission mode through

the Rozgar Melas launched

by Prime Minister Narendra

Modi on October 22, 2022,

he said. "13 Rozgar Melas have been held at Central

level in 40-45 cities across

Territories. Several lakh

appointment letters have

Rozgar Melas by various added.

various

states/Union

game itself. Luckily while going back I had Vishy Sir (Anand) in the lift and he said 'I had only 11 games left you have 13," Gukesh recalled. Anand was citing his 2006 first match over Veselin Topalov that he had eventually won after losing the first game. Interestingly, Anand had won that match in the last Classical (12th) game, with black pieces. Anand lost the title to Norwegian maverick Magnus Carlsen back in 2013.

It was on the 55th move that the dye was cast. Liren, leaving his sense of danger, went for a rook trade and Gukesh pawed him almost instantly. He knew that it was his title to lose and it took iust three more moves

ministries/ departments.

their attached organisations

and CPSUs etc," he added. Instructions have been

constitute an in-house

committee for identification

of backlog reserved vacancies, to study the root

cause of such vacancies, to

initiate measures to remove

the factors causing such vacancies and to fill them up

through special recruitment

drives, he said. Further, each

required to set up a Special Reservation Cell under the

direct control of the Liaison

Officer to assist her/him in

ministry/department

under ministries/departments of

to

issued

central Government is the central Government to

been distributed in the discharge of duties, Singh

(Prevention) Act (UAPA). The All is not

Kharge then tried to raise a point of order. "The House is not in order. They are making reckless allegations. You are Kharge told the Chair. Amid the din, the Chairman' adjourned the House for the

The Lok Sabha also sat for the entire duration of Question Hour on Thursday, but trouble broke out in the Zero Hour when the chair called Congress member Jothimani to speak leading to first adjournment. When the noisy exchanges broke out between the Opposition and BJP members. As the Congress member made a reference to the alleged links between Adani and the BJP, presiding officer Jagdambika Pal said the businessman's name will not go on records, triggering protests from the opposition. Congress members sought to know whether the rule was selectively applicable for made

trial in the case is yet to start as the Delhi Police's probe is underway. But officials claim that they have sufficient evidence against perpetrators, who were led by Karnataka resident Manoranjan D.

The accused had launched a coordinated gas attack by opening colourful canisters both inside and outside the Parliament house during the Zero Hour

Manoranjan, along with Sagar Sharma, jumped into the Lok and Mahesh Kumawat were Sabha chamber from the arrested on December 15 and

public gallery and opened the canisters that released a vellow gas in the House. Two others -Amol Shinde and Neelam Azad -- sprayed coloured gases from canisters outside the Parliament premises around the same time. They also

Watertight case against six accused in 2023 Parliament attack: Delhi Police

"tanashahi nahi chalegi (dictatorship will not be allowed)". Manoranjan, Sharma, Shinde

shouted

and Azad were arrested on the same day as they were caught soon after their acts. Lalit Jha

NDMC presents surplus budget

According to an official source, one main and supplementary chargesheets have been filed against the six accused, who are lodged in the

December 16 respectively.

They have been booked under sections 16 and 18 of the UAPA and provisions of the Indian Penal Code by the Delhi Police's anti-terror unit, Special Cell.

evidence The forensic submitted against the accused is sufficient to prove them guilty but the probe is

underway as some reports are still awaited from the FSL (Forensic Sciences Laboratory)," an official source said. The accused wanted to discredit India's democracy, gain instant global fame, usurp power and achieve "richness and glory" by targeting the "very symbol of democracy", according to the main chargesheet filed by the Delhi Police in court in June. The police probe has so far ruled out the involvement of any group or organisation in the security breach.

From page 1

accused.

Unlawful

listening and encouraging...

House resumed, references opposition party members. From page 1 The BE for revenue

of ₹463.40 Crore

expenditure in 2025-26 are Rs. 4657.45 Crore against Rs. 4612.70 Crore provided in RE 2024-25 and actual of Rs. 4219.68 Crore in 2023-24. The capital expenditure is projected at Rs. 649.75 Crore in BE 2025-26 against Rs. 263.84 Crore in RE 2024-25 and actual of Rs. 144.20 Crore in 2023-24.

The total revenue receipts from electricity distribution strategic business unit (EDSBU) have been projected in RE 2024-25 at Rs.1706.75 Crore as against actual Rs. 1533.22 Crore in the year 2023-24. The projections for BE 2025-26 are at Rs. 1811.91 crore. "The actual receipts in 2023-24 for Licence Fee from Municipal Properties stood at Rs. 905.41 crore. The Projections for RE 2024-25 are at Rs. 825.16 Crore and BE 2025-26 are at Rs.900.16 crore," said.

As part of our commitment to transparency, efficiency, and modern governance, he proposed transitioning to a 100 digital payment system in NDMC and Streamlined Digital Platforms by Digital

expanding NDMC's existing digital payment channels, including NDMC's mobile app, online portals, and QR

code systems at counters.
The document said for convenience and safety of pedestrians, construction of two foot over bridges at AIIMS Gate No.1, Aurobindo Marg and Delhi High Court near Gate No.5, Shershah Road respectively are being taken up. The work is likely to be started in 2025-26. Based on positive response from the residents/visitors, a project of development of a roundabout opposite New Parliament is in process and likely to be completed in next FY 2025-26. The council has implemented

a range of proactive environment improvement measures especially regarding air pollution. To mitigate the spread of dust, NDMC is also exploring the feasibility of an innovative idea of installation of mist spray on electrical poles in the area.

According to the NDMC Budget, the color and digital design of the school uniform has been finalized by a committee. Fabric selection is in progress. Finalization of Redesigning of uniform is

being taken up with NIFT. The scheme is likely to be implemented in next 2025-26. NDMC plans to upgrade and convert its all existing PTUs/CTUs into state of the art designs having ecofriendly features and efficient

disposal based management. The NDMC introduced a program for night cleaning and staggered times to achieve maximum efficiency with minimum disruption. The logic behind the move is that sanitary workers of the municipality will get enough time to clean the areas, which otherwise becomes

cumbersome during routine working hours. It will reduce disruption to business activity and impediments to citizens and ensure the area is fresh and ready for activities. Heavy machinery and water jets could be used without interruption. The cleaning drive has already started as a pilot project in the Khan Market area and will be implemented in the entire NDMC area.

To promote solar energy to reduce the power bills for the poor and middle class, NDMC encouraged local residents to install roof solar power grids.

NDMC has 234 Nos. of existing solar connections out of which 93 connections are of 3.12 MWp and 234 connections are of 11.30

A "landscape Architect will be engaged designs/development of major

gardens so as to make NDMC a horticulture city of the world," the Budget document said. The NDMC aims to achieve an efficient Parking Management System by upgrading the existing parking lots into Smart Parking installing Intelligent Parking components and developing software etc. for a period of 10 years. The work will likely be started in the next FY 2025-26. In collaboration with Delhi Police, a Safe City Project has been initiated for mutual sharing of the CCTV camera feeds. The work laying of the lease line is at the awarding stage and is likely to be

completed in FY 2025-26. The

dark spots are also being

identified and additional

lights are being installed for

the safety and security of

residents/commuters of the

NDMC area, he said.

women

and

Eye on Polls, Kejriwal announces Mukhya Mantri...

From page 1

As per Revised Estimates 2024-25, an amount of Rs 10995 crore is kept for various subsidy schemes and subsidy like expenditure (GIA to DTC and ways & means advance to DJB), which is around 14.15% of the total projected expenditure of Rs 77700 crore in- RE 2024-25. After adding the amount of Rs 4560 crore of the proposed scheme, the budget for subsidy like schemes will be around 21% of the total expenditure. Therefore, after

there would be extra financial burden over finances of Delhi government in coming years and will hamper the capital expenditure to be incurred on the various developments. "Without a long-term vision, the scheme risks becoming an ineffective short-term measure that fails to deliver sustainable empowerment," it

In its noting, the Finance Department said it is advised to not to bring the draft cabinet note before the

proposed scheme MMSY, verifiable data and road map is prepared for consideration of the Council of Ministers. The observations by the Finance Department was rejected by the Delhi finance Minister who noted in the

cabinet note that this scheme is extremely important for the empowerment of women of Delĥi and Studies across the world from developing countries have shown that direct cash transfer to women has had a positive impact oil all developmental indicators. The Finance Department also stated that the presence expenditure. Therefore, after Council of Ministers till a of a large migrant population meeting chaired by Atishi implementation of the concrete scheme with in Delhi and difficulties in this morning, following

identifying such persons will pose a significant problem in identifying such beneficiaries and may result in heavy burden on the public exchequer over time. "I had previously promised to

give Rs 1,000 to every woman. But some women came to me and said that Rs 1,000 would not be sufficient due to inflation. Hence, Rs 2,100 will be deposited into the accounts of all women," he said at an accompanied by Minister Atishi. This proposal was passed in the cabinet which the scheme has been implemented." "Where will the money come from? I am a magician. I am a magician of accounts. I know where to get the money from. How to spend it. If I say it, I will do it," Kejriwal said.

Kejriwal also slammed the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), saying he wanted to implement this scheme in March, when he was still the Chief Minister, but "they conspired and sent me to jail (in the alleged Delhi liquor policy case)". "After coming out of jail, I worked with Atishi ji so this scheme could

No surveys, suits related to Places of Worship Act till hearing over: SC The mosque committee listed

From page 1

During the hearing, the Bench asked, "How many suits are pending now". One of the advocates said a total of 18 suits pertaining to 10 mosques were pending in several courts across the country. "Ultimately, we will have to hear the arguments," the Bench said, observing the primary issue was with regard to Section 3 and 4 of the 1991 law. While Section 3 deals with the bar of conversion of places of worship, Section 4 pertains to declaration of the religious character of certain places of worship and bar of jurisdiction of courts, etc. The Bench also allowed the pleas of various parties including Muslim bodies seeking to intervene in the

proceedings. Various Muslim including the Mosque parties, Gyanvapi management committee, moved the apex court to oppose several pending petitions that challenge the constitutional validity of the 1991 law.

a series of contentious claims made over the years concerning various mosques and dargahs (shrines), including the Shahi Idgah Masjid in Mathura, the Quwwat-ul-Islam Mosque near Delhi's Qutub Minar, the Kamal Maula Mosque in Madhya Pradesh, and others. It therefore said the petitions challenging the Act were filed with "mischievous intent" to facilitate lawsuits against these religious sites, which the 1991 Act currently protected.

City freezing at 4.5 degrees, lowest of season

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

old-wave conditions have Cgripped north Indian states, including the national capital which is currently freezing at 4.5 degrees Celsius, the lowest of the season. The Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a 'cold wave' alert till Friday. The forecast predicts cold wave conditions to persist at isolated places until the weekend. The Safdarjung weather station recorded this low at 8:30 AM, which is four degrees below the seasonal average. This drop in temperature follows a 0.4-degree decrease in the 24-hour average, continuing a cold wave that has gripped the city for the second consecutive day. At the Palam weather station, the minimum temperature was record-

is three degrees below normal This station also noted a slight drop of 0.2 degrees in the 24hour average temperature. The minimum temperature at the Pusa and Ayanagar stations was reported to be 3.2 degree Celsius and 3.8 degree Celsius, respectively. Meanwhile, the maximum temperature during the day was recorded at 22.2 degrees Celsius, 0.8 degrees below normal, the IMD said. Delhi will continue to reel under cold wave conditions for the coming days, accordto the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast. The Met Office has issued a yellow warning for Friday and Saturday, and forecast that cold wave conditions will persist in isolated places in Delhi. Cold, northwesterly winds up to 16 kmph are likely to blow



According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), the minimum temperatures in early December across the national capital have been recorded below 5 degrees Celsius for the first time in 14 years. IMD said the last time the minimum temperature dipped below 5 degree Celsius was on December 6, 1987, at 4.1 degree Celsius. On December 11, 1996, the minimum temperature was 2.3 degree Celsius. Delhi recorded a minimum temperature of 4.9 degrees Celsius on Wednesday.

IMD defines cold wave conditions to occur when actual temperatures dip below 4.1 degree Celsius or when departures are more than 4.4 degree Celsius in plains, provided the normal minimum is less than or equal to 10 degree

The weather department has advised people to wear several layers of loose fitting, light weight; warm woolen clothing. It also advised to cover your head, neck, hands and toes adequately as majority of heat loss occurs through these body parts. It further stated that an

increased likelihood of various illnesses like flu, running/ stuffy nose or nosebleed, which usually set in or get aggravated due to prolonged exposure to cold. "Do not ignore shivering. It is the first sign that the body is losing heat. Get Indoors," it added. The Air Quality Early Warning System (AQEWS) predicts that Delhi's air quality will remain in the "poor" category until at least Saturday. A bulletin released on Thursday evening stated: "The

poor' from Thursday to Saturday, with the outlook for the next six days also indicating 'poor' air quality." A dip in temperatures prevents the dispersal of pollutants, while an increase in wind speed is favourable.

Smog and mist are likely on Friday morning, with a mainly clear sky during the day. Smog and mist are expected again in the evening and night. Delhi's air quality remained in the "poor" category, with a 24hour average AQI of 288.

Out of 38 monitoring stations, 20 recorded AQI in the "very poor" category, while the remaining stations reported air quality in the "poor" category, according to data from the Sameer app. The cold wave has also hit other states like Rajasthan, Punjab,

Kejriwal is wizard of corruption: BJP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

ed at 6 degrees Celsius, which

Delhi BJP on Thursday launched a sharp attack on AAP Convenor and former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on the 'Mahila Samman Rashi', calling it 'biggest lie of this century'. Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva labelled Arvind Kejriwal a "wizard of corruption," questioning why the AAP government in Punjab, which promised Mahila Samman Rashi before assembly elections, has failed to deliver even after two years in power. Sachdeva stated that before

the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Kejriwal collected forms from Delhi women and promised a grant of Rs1,000 starting September. "However, no funds have been distributed to date," he said, accusing Kejriwal of repeating the same tactics with yet another election approaching and calling it a Women's Honor Grant in



ploy to mislead women with false assurances.

He questioned why Kejriwal delayed cabinet approval for 10 months after initially announcing the grant in February. Highlighting the BJP's achievements, he emphasized that the public trusts only Prime Minister Modi's guarantees. "We have successfully implemented the Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Haryana, even starting disbursements Maharashtra before elections," he said.

Sachdeva further accused Kejriwal of being a "mastermind" in corruption, alleging that he prioritizes building lavish residences and increasing electricity bills while neglecting infrastructure and public services like roads, sewage systems, and clean drinking water.

He claimed that Kejriwal would likely blame the Lieutenant Governor for delays in disbursing funds, just as he did with the bus marshals issue. Sachdeva alleged that Kejriwal intentionally creates legal hurdles to play the blame game and avoid accountability.

Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Vijendra Gupta stated that misleading the public with false promises before every election and then forgetting them afterward has become a habit for Arvind Kejriwal. Gupta mentioned that before the 2022 Punjab Assembly elections and the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, Kejriwal made false promises to women in Punjab of providing Rs1100 per

"However, the Punjab government has yet to deliver any money to the women there, who are now running around the offices of the Aam Aadmi Party-led government in frustration," he

The BJP MLA said that on 4 November, he had written a letter to Chief Minister Atishi, reminding her of Kejriwal's earlier promise and demanding immediate financial assistance of Rs1000 for Delhi's women.

"However, Atishi neither responded to the letter nor took any steps to provide the aid. Now, with elections approaching, Kejriwal has floated a new false promise of Rs 2100 in financial assistance to mislead women once again," he said.

Gupta reminded that in March this year, just before the Lok Sabha elections, the AAP government announced Rs1000 per month for women. He questioned, "Why, despite the announcement, no money has been disbursed even after 10 months."

EC emphasises need for rigorous compliance with instructions while updating voter list in city

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{\text{he Election Commission}}_{\text{(EC) told its poll machinery in Delhi on Thursday to}}$ ensure a revision and updating of the electoral rolls, in accordance with statutory provisions, with the involvement of political parties.

The commission emphasised the need for rigorous compliance with its instructions while updating the voter list in Delhi, where elections are due early next year.

The sources said the poll panel has told officials in Delhi that representatives of political parties should be involved in the electoral roll revision process with "fullest transparency and disclosures'

It has said that all complaints and grievances from the political parties should be resolved promptly and factually. The Delhi chief electoral offi-

cer and other officials concerned were also instructed that the lists of claims and with regard to the revision of

objections must be shared with the political parties on a weekly basis and published on the CEO and district electoral officer websites.

Additionally, no deletions are allowed without conducting a field verification and providing the electors with a notice to ensure that they have an opportunity for a hearing, the EC has told the CEO and his officials. The officials have been directed to look into the issues raised by the political parties the electoral rolls and submit factual details for a further review by the commission. This comes against the backdrop of an Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) delegation meeting the poll authority on Wednesday to urge it to halt any deletion of voters' names from the electoral rolls ahead of the Delhi Assembly election.

The term of the Delhi Assembly ends on February 23 and the polls are likely to be held in February itself.

AAP convener writes to CEC hoping poll body would fulfill its 'assurances' with action

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Aday after meeting the Election Commission officials over vote deletion issue, AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday wrote Commissioner Rajiv Kumar

hoping the poll body will fulfil its "assurances" with necessary action. Earlier on Wednesday Kejriwal led a delegation of

the AAP in the meeting with the election commissioners to urge them for not undertaking any mass deletion of voters names before the Delhi Assembly polls. In his letter to the chief elec-

tion commissioner, Kejriwal thanked the Election Commission for hearing concerns over "threat of mass deletions of voters names" in Delhi ahead of the assembly elections. "We were all reassured by

your commitment to uphold the sanctity of the electoral



process and to safeguard the right to vote of each and every voter in Delhi," said Kejriwal citing "assurances", including "no mass deletion of votes in any assembly constituency until the Delhi Assembly polls", given to the delegation.

He also cited various other "assurances", including no deletion based on lists furnished by individuals, field enquiry by the election officials in the presence of representatives of the political parties, in case of deletion of voters names and registration of FIR against individuals for wrongfully filed applications for mass deletion of votes.

"We look forward to your actions and orders based on the above assurances,' Kejriwal said in the letter assuring the AAP as the largest political party in Delhi will always be open to any suggestions and guidance of the Election Commission for safeguarding sanctity of the electoral process.

All-women panel elected at JNU to three seats reserved for teachers in EC

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In a first at the Jawaharlal Nehru University, an allwomen panel has been elected to the three seats reserved for teachers in the Executive teachers body said on

Previously, these seats have seen one or, at most, two women representatives, the JNUTA said. Women in all three posts is

a first. Earlier, it was usually one or two," a member of the JNU Teachers' Association (JNUTA) said. The newly elected members

include Professor Chirashree Das Gupta from the Centre for the Study of Law and Associate Governance, Professor Veena Hariharan from the School of Arts and Aesthetics, and Assistant Professor Santana Khanikar from the Centre for International Politics, Organisation,



Disarmament in the School of International Studies.

The election for Teacher's Representatives to the EC was held on December 9, with an impressive voter turnout of over 90 per cent, as 634 faculty members cast their ballots, as per the

According to the results, Gupta secured 141 votes in the professor category, Hariharan won with 84 votes in the associate professor category, and Khanikar received 121 votes in the assistant professor category

Representing the JNUTA, the all-women panel focused its campaign on key issues such as restoring and strengthening institutional norms and practices that respect teachers' dignity, acknowledge ensure their active participation in university governance. They have pledged to address concerns related to Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) promotions and probation, among other pressing mat-

JNU's EC, the highest decision-making body of the university, comprises 14 members, including the Vice-Chancellor as Chair and the Registrar as Secretary.

While four deans hold permanent positions, other members are selected by rota-

Three seats are reserved for teachers, with one each for a professor, associate professor, and assistant professor, elected through direct voting.

LG approves conversion of 11 temporary Welfare Officer/Probation Officer posts in WCD Department to permanent positions

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lt Governor(LG)V K Saxena has approved the conversion of 11 tempo-

Officer/Probation Officer posts in the Women and Child Development (WCD) Department to permanent positions, Raj Niwas said on Thursday.

Giving details, officials said Saxena, a strong advocate for permanent jobs over temporary or ad-hoc positions in government, in a significant stride towards strengthening child protection services in Delhi gave this nod.

These crucial roles, categorized as Group B posts under Level 6 of the pay matrix (Rs 35,400 - Rs 1,12,400), were established in 2018 to bolster the implementation of the Iuvenile Iustice (Care & Protection of Children) Act, 2015 to address the complex



challenges faced by vulnerable children in the Delhi. The Finance Department, in accordance with OM dated 13.08.2020 had recommended 11 posts of Welfare Officer/Probation Officer for conversion into permanent

The WCD Department had initially sought the conversion of 12 temporary posts. However, after careful consideration, the Finance Department recommended the conversion of 11 posts, with one post being abolished due to prolonged vacancy.

LG addresses culmination of silver jubilee celebrations and foundation day at GGSIPU

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena said on Thursday that he has faced various allegations and personal attacks during his tenure, but these challenges have never deterred him from making strong decisions, even if they attract "unjustified' criticism.

Addressing the culmination of the silver jubilee celebrations and the foundation day of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University in Delhi, he emphasised that his commitment to working for the city's betterment has remained steadfast, despite obstacles.

"Remember, making decisions that positively impact society is not easy. You will encounter unjustified criticism and challenges from those with vested interests in maintaining the status quo.

"There is a saying: 'When making big decisions, it is natural to feel afraid, but choosing not to act out of fear is the wrong move," Saxena told the



The L-G claimed that over the past two-and-a-half years, there have been "numerous attempts to stop me from doing the work I believe is

was subjected to various allegations and personal attacks. But my commitment to working for the betterment Delhi and its residents

I never stopped and continued to work towards my goal." Emphasising the role of the youth in shaping the country's future, Saxena said, "You must be persistent and unwavering in your efforts to achieve your goals, always working in the larger interest of the people." "You carry the responsibility

of contributing to the nation's

the global stage. Let us hope that this university remains a catalyst for hope and change. The occasion also saw the announcement of a dual degree programme in Master of Science in Digital Production for Sustainable

Manufacturing, in collaboration with AGH University

of Krakow, Poland, and plans

to establish GGSIPU's offshore campus in the Republic of Guinea. Highlighting the growth of

the university, its vice-chancellor Mahesh Verma said the dual degree programme offers students the opportunity to pursue two semesters in Poland and two in India. Students will have to pay only the Indian fee for the programme, making international education accessible, the university said in a statement. Several infrastructure projects were also inaugurated during the ceremony, including an amphitheatre with 1,000 seating capacity, a health centre and a guest house for visiting faculty.

Facilities such as an Industrial Robotics Lab, a state-of-theart TV studio, a community radio station and an extension counter of Indian Bank at the East Campus were also launched.

The event was also attended by the L-G's Principal Secretary Ashish Kundra and Nandini Paliwal, the secretary for higher education.

Police identifies more than 20 illegal Bangladeshi immigrants on second day of its verification drive

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Thursday identified more than 20 people on the second day of its verification drive against illegal Bangladeshi immigrants in the national capital, police sources said. The people reside in the Seemapuri area of east Delhi, they added.

Teams from the different police stations are visiting slum areas and Delhi's Kalindi Kunj, Shaheen Bagh and Jamia Nagar to check voter IDs and Aadhar Cards of suspected Bangladeshi immigrants, an officer said.

The Delhi LG Secretariat on Tuesday directed the chief secretary and police commissioner of Delhi to launch a twomonth special drive to identify and take strict action against illegal Bangladeshi immigrants residing in the national capital. "Under our door to door verification, teams are collecting data like Aadhar card number, voter ID card numbers of the



collecting, a record will be maintained which will be sent to Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO) for proper verification," a senior police officer said.

The officer further said beside sending data to FRRO, police will also personally verify to know if the Aadhar card is fake or genuine and enrolled on which year. Police said some of the residents were identified as suspects and there are possibilities of sending them to the detention centre after the com-

pletion of their legal process. Another senior police officer said when teams are checking data by visiting personally, they are also recording the entire conversation using their mobile phones to keep proper record. Beside checking their identifications, we are also checking if anyone is involved in criminal activities by checking police records," said the officer. Delhi has 15 police districts and the directions were issued to all the district heads to conduct the drive for two months, the

officer said.

India's air pollution cost 1.5 Million lives annually, claims new study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

ong-term exposure to fine par-Liculate matter (PM2.5) pollution, a significant environmental and health hazard across India, has claimed a staggering 1.5 million lives reported annually between 2009 and 2019, as per a recent study published in The Lancet Planetary Health iournal.

Highlighting the severe health impacts of toxic pollutants on the citizens, researchers found that the entire 1.4 billion population of the country lives in areas with PM2.5 levels exceeding the WHO recommended threshold of five micrograms per cubic meter for a yearly

The study by the Consortium for Climate, Health, and Air Pollution Research in India (CHAIR-India) also highlighted that nearly 82 per cent of the population, or about 1.1 billion people, resided in regions where the PM2.5 levels surpassed the Indian National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which set a limit of 40 microns per cubic meter annually. PM2.5 refers to fine particulate matter measuring less than 2.5 microns in diameter, and exposure to these pollutants is linked to a range of health problems, including respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. PM2.5 air pollution comes from the burning of fossil fuels and biomass in sectors such as transportation, residential homes, coal-burning power plants, industrial activities, and wildfires. These emissions not only impact people's health but also contribute to the greenhouse gases that are warming the planet.



levels and mortality rates, with a 10micron per cubic meter increase in yearly pollution linked to an 8.6 per cent rise in annual deaths.

The researchers from CHAIR-India, a global consortium of academic institutions including Ashoka University, Karolinska Institutet (Sweden), Harvard University, and Ben-Gurion University (Israel) used data from satellite observations and over 1,000 ground-monitoring stations, and also gathered death statistics from the Civil Registration

The findings underscore the wide-

spread nature of PM2.5 exposure across the country. While the lowest annual PM2.5 level recorded in Lower Subansiri district, Arunachal Pradesh, at 11.2 microns per cubic meter in 2019., the highest levels were recorded in Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh, and Delhi, where PM2.5 concentrations soared to 119 microns

per cubic meter in 2016. The study reveals the pressing need for robust air quality monitoring and stricter pollution control measures in India, given the country's large and consistent exposure to harmful air

Shah to visit Naxal-affected areas of Chhattisgarh



Union Home Minister Amit Shah will be on a three-day visit to Chhattisgarh's Naxalaffected areas from December 14 during which he will review the law-and-order situation in the state and interact with surrendered Naxals and locals, sources said on Thursday. Last week, Chhattisgarh Chief

Minister Vishnudev Sai met Shah here and conveyed to him that the Bastar and Kondagaon districts, once infested by Naxals, were completely free from the extremists and operations were on to wipe them out from other areas.

The Union home minister will be on a visit to Chhattisgarh from December 14-16 during which he will participate in various programmes related to

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

The Trinamool Congress (TMC) has said that West

Bengal Chief Minister Mamata

Banerjee is more interested in dis-

lodging the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government at the

Center than leading the Indian

National Democratic Inclusive

senior INDIA leaders advocating

Banerjee's cause for leading the

opposition alliance, senior TMC

leader Kunal Ghosh said that

"Mamata Banerjee has made it

clear that she is not interested in

any 'chair' in Delhi. She is more

interested in building an alter-

native platform which can defeat the BJP."

Curiously, instead of dwelling on

Alliance (INDIA).

security and peace, sources

Besides chairing a security review meeting in Raipur, Shah will also present the President's Colour Award to the Chhattisgarh Police. He will travel to Jagdalpur, where he will hold interaction with surrendered Naxals, locals and intellectuals, they said.

The Union home minister will also attend the closing ceremony of the Bastar olympics and pay tributes to martyrs in Jagdalpur besides meeting the families of the victims of leftwing extremism. Shah will visit security camps and oversee developmental works besides having lunch with jawans of security forces there.
'President's Colour' is expect-

ed to boost the morale of Chhattisgarh Police after their excellent work in tackling the Naxals over the years, the sources said.

This medal will give new impetus to the sense of duty of these police personnel who are committed to the service and security of the people of the state, they said.

"Under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, operations are being conducted against Naxalism with a 'Zero Tolerance' policy and ultra-modern methods," a source

TMC pitches for Didi to lead INDIA

the Baneriee's cause that was

recently upheld by her party MP

Sagarika Ghosh and often discussed in the TMC mouthpiece

Jago Bangla, Ghosh tended to

shift the fulcrum of discussion on

the Congress' failure to lead the

Opposition in Haryana,

Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and

more recently Maharashtra say-

some self-introspection on the

Incidentally the Bengal Chief

Minister who has been touring

East Midnapore earlier expressed

gratitude to the senior INDIA

leaders for reposing faith on her

but avoided making any assertive

statement on the contentious

"I am grateful to all the leaders

causes of its repeated failures.

ing a time had come when the

Bihar registers officials on skill building platform

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

¬he Bihar government has on boarded over 2.4 lakh officials on an online training platform, according to an official statement issued on Thursday. Under the Mission Karmayogi initiative, an MoU was signed on October 7 between the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) Karmayogi Bharat (a special purpose vehicle), and the Bihar Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development (BIPARD). This agreement aims to strengthen the capabilities of government officials and employ-ees in Bihar so that all public servants can become role-based instead of rule-based, said the statement issued by the Personnel Ministry. This will be achieved through the iGOT (integrated government online training) Karmayogi platform, which is a flagship digital initiative aimed at empowering government servants. It will also function as a robust e-learning hub, the statement said.development for Bihar's civil servants, ultimately ensuring better public service

Road accidents on the rise, says Gadkari PIONEER NEWS SERVICE Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday said here "When I go to

who have honoured me. I wish

good health to all of them. May

they be well, may their party be

well. May India be well," she said

However voicing her frustration post INDIA's repeated

defeats in a number of States as

also in Delhi Banerjee had said

"I created the 'INDIA' alliance. If

those leading it cannot manage

am ready to lead the alliance from

Early this week senior INDIA

leader and RJD patriarch Lalu

Yadav once known for his unwa-

vering faith in Rahul Gandhi said

"Mamata Banerjee should be

chosen as the leader of the

'INDIA' alliance. There's no point

in Congress opposing this. She

should be made the leader."

in a brief statement.

CISF security personnel sanctioned for Noida and Navi Mumbai airports

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

attend international conferences where there is a discussion on road accidents,

He also underlined that he had set a tar-

get to reduce accidents by 50 per cent

when he first took charge as the Road

During a discussion on road accidents

in Lok Sabha, "Forget about reducing

the number of accidents, I have no hes-

itation to admit that it has been

increased. When I go to attend inter-

national conferences where there is a discussion on road accidents, I try to

He was replying to a supplementary

The minister said for things to improve

during the Question Hour.

Transport and Highways Minister.

I try to hide my face.

hide my face.

The Union government has I sanctioned a combined strength of more than 2,800 Central Industrial Security Force(CISF) personnel to guard two soon-to-be operational international airports in Noida and in Maharashtra's Navi Mumbai, official sources said Thursday.

The ministry of home affairs (MHA), under whose command the CISF works, had sanctioned 1,840 posts for the Navi Mumbai airport and 1,030 for the Noida International Airport (NIA) in Uttar Pradesh. The total CISF manpower sanctioned for providing a counterterrorist cover to the two

upcoming airports is 2,870. The sanction of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) manpower is for the first phase airports. The force's strength will be enhanced once these airports finish phase II, sources

The security units, to be headed by Deputy Inspector General rank officers, will take charge once the infrastructure to install security gadgets and other logistics get ready at both the facili-

Being developed by the Adani

Group, the Navi Mumbai International Airport project will be completed în five phases and will have a total handling capacity of 9 crore passengers per annum. The first phase will have a capacity to handle 2 crore passengers per annum. Commercial operations at this

airport, second in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region after the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, are expected to begin by March-April, 2025. The NIA greenfield facility is

being built in the Jewar area of Gautam Buddh Nagar district in Uttar Pradesh, about 75 km from Delhi, and will be the national capital region's second international civil aviation facility after the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport. It is also expected to get operational for passenger operations by April next year.

aviation security force that guards 68 airports at present. It provides a counter-terrorist cover to these facilities, thronged by lakhs of domestic and international passengers every day. The force frisks passengers, checks their baggage and undertakes anti-sabotage, counterterrorist and counter-hijack checks in coordination with other agencies.

The minister added, "When I go to attend international conferences where there is a discussion on road accidents. I try to hide my face

human behaviour in India has to change, society has to change and rule of law has to be respected. Gadkari said he and his family met with

a major accident some years ago and he needed to be hospitalised for a long time. "By the grace of God, I and my

family were saved. So I have my personal experience of accidents. He said parking of trucks on road is a major cause for accidents and many of the trucks don't follow lane discipline. The minister said he has ordered for

making bus body in India. There has to be a hammer near a bus window so that it can be broken easily in case of accidents, he said.

Earlier, Gadkari said road accidents claim 1.78 lakh lives annually in the country and 60 per cent of the victims are in the age group of 18-34 years. He said while Uttar Pradesh leads the chart among states, Delhi tops the list for cities. In UP, over 23,000 people (or 13.7 per cent of the total deaths due to road accidents) died, followed by Tamil Nadu with over 18,000 (10.6 per cent) deaths.

In Maharashtra, the figure stands at over 15,000 (or nine per cent of the total deaths), followed by Madhya Pradesh with over 13,000 (eight per cent) deaths.

Delhi leads the city chart with over 1,400 deaths, followed by Bengaluru with 915 deaths. Jaipur registers 850 deaths due to road accidents.

following international standards in Sagarika moves privilege motion against Rijiju



Ghose said, "Mr. Kiren Rijiju, instead of doing his best to run Parliament smoothly, has chosen to repeatedly insult the

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Trinamool Congress' Rajya Sabha MP Sagarika Ghose on Thursday submitted a privilege motion notice against Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju for making a derogatory remark against opposition leaders in the Upper House. The notice has been signed by 60 leaders from opposition parties, a source

"Yesterday in the house, addressing the opposition, Mr. Rijiju said you all are not worthy of being in this house... The Minister for Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Kiren Rijiju,

instead of doing his best to run Parliament smoothly, has chosen to repeatedly insult the opposition," Ghose told reporters.

"Rijiju has insulted opposition members and used personal terms both inside and outside Parliament. This is totally unbecoming of the high office he holds and amounts to total misuse of his position," TMC's deputy leader in the Rajya Sabha said.

She said she had moved a privilege motion against Rijiju for abusing his office with his "diatribes and unparliamentary language" against opposition. The motion has been signed by senior leaders of all

opposition parties, she added. Opposition MPs are "not worthy of being in the House", Rijiju said on Wednesday while hitting out at opposition parties over their attacks on Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar. "If you cannot respect the chair you have no right to be a member of this House," Rijiju

Sixty MPs from the opposition INDIA bloc on Tuesday submitted a notice in the Rajya Sabha for moving a no-confidence motion against Dhankhar. They have accused him of being "extremely partisan" in his role as the chairman of the Upper House.

Fadnavis reaches Delhi for Cabinet expansion talks

TN RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Maharashtra chief minister Devendra Fadnavis will undertake first-ever expansion of his new Cabinet during the weekend, ahead of the brief three-day winter session beginning in Nagpur on December 16. Ahead of the State Cabinet expansion, Fadnavis met Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Ministers Amit Shah, Nitin Gadkari, Rajnath Singh and National BJP president JP Nadda in New Delhi.

During his two-day visit to the national capital, Fadnavis made courtesy calls to President Droupadi Murmu and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, He also met Union Minister of State Murlidhar Mohol and BJP National General Secretary Vinod Tawde at Maharashtra Sadan.

During his meeting with Shah, Fadnavis is understood have discussed matters relating to the impending State Cabinet expansion. "It was an absolute pleasure to meet and interact with Hon Union and Cooperation Minister Amitbhai Shah at his residence in New Delhi. Also presented him a 'murti' of SwatantryaVeer Vinayak Damodar Savarkar,"

Fadnavis wrote on "X". After his meeting with the Prime Minister, Fadnavis remarked on "X": "Extremely thankful to Hon PM Narendra Modi ji for your valuable time, guidance, bless-



ings and standing firm behind Maharashtra. In the last 10 years, with your support Maharashtra is Number 1 in almost every sector and now aims to take this journey of VIKAS to the next level under your leadership and guidance. You have always been an inspiration to crores of BJP Karyakarta like us to work even

Talking separately to the media, Fadnavis said: "I had a good meeting with the Prime Minister issues related to Maharashtra were discussed. He extended full support to the state government".

During the meeting with Shah, Fadnavis is understood to have discussed various issues relating

to Maharashtra, including the impending State Cabinet expansion and portfolio allocations. Interacting with the media, Fadnavis said: "Our list of ministers would be finalised by the BJP high-command. On the other hand, Shinde Saheb would take a call on Shiv Sena members to be inducted in the ministry. Ajit Dada Pawar will decide on

in the State Cabinet". Interestingly enough, Fadnavis and deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar are in New Delhi. However, deputy chief minister Eknath Shinde has chosen not to accompany Fadnavis to the

who will be there from his party

national capital. Sources close to Shinde attributed Shinde's decision to accom-

pany Fadnavis to New Delhi is that he is not happy with the portfolio allocations proposed by Fadnavis. For, the ruling BJP is not willing to give important portfolios like Home, Urban Development and Revenue to the Shiv Sena (Shinde), a thing that has not gone well with Shinde who was demanding one or two of the three major portfolios

Asked if Shinde had chosen not to accompany him to the national capital because he was upset with the portfolio allocations proposed by the BJP, Fadnavis said: "My purpose of visit is dif-ferent... Ajit Dada's purpose and engagements

different...Shinde Saheb has some work in Mumbai."

On his part, Ajit Pawar said that he along with his wife and Rajya Sabha member Sunetra Pawar, NCP Working President Praful Patel and state party president Sunil Tatkare met NCP (SP) supremo Sharad Pawar and his

wife Pratibha Pawar. "Today is (Pawar) Saheb's birthday... Tomorrow is Kaki's Pratibha Patil's) birthday...we all wished them...some relations are beyond politics...(late Congress stalwart and first Chief Minister) Yashwantrao Chavan has taught us how to do cultured politics and we try to follow ĥim," said Pawar.

Queried if politics was discussed, Ajit Pawar said: "Pawar Saheb discussed issues related to Maharashtra..., right from Parbhani violence to Parliament disruption, state cabinet expansion among others."

Meanwhile, Fadnavis, Shinde and Ajit Pawar have reported arrived at a consensus on the size and division of the State Cabinet. Since the Maharashtra Assembly comprises 288 members, there will be a maximum of 43 ministers in the State Cabinet -- a number that accounts for 15 percent of total members in the lower House of the State Legislature.

In the normal course, the BJP will get 21 ministerial berths in the 43-member Cabinet, while the Shinde Shiv Sena is entitled for 12 ministries and the Ajit Pawar-led NCP will have to be satisfied with 10 berths.

Ajit Doval, Chinese counterpart to hold talks on border issue

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

National Security Advisor(NSA)Ajit Doval and his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi, who is also foreign minister, will discuss later this month here all aspects of the boundary issue between the

The likely meeting under the aegis of Special Representative(SR)talks, will take place as armies of India and China have disengaged a few weeks ago from the Line of Actual Control(LAC)in Ladakh after four years, sources said here on Thursday.

The high-level talks between the two Special Representatives will mark the first parleys since the Galwan valley clash in 2020. The previous SR talks were held in December 2019.

The upcoming dialogue comes in the wake of recent disengagement of troops from both the sides from friction points at Depsang and Demchok. The parleys may see a breakthrough in the broader resolution of the border dispute. The SR talks are expected to involve multilayered

discussions aimed at defining and delineating the LAC more clearly, with the ultimate goal of achieving a lasting resolution.

Sources indicate that the outcome of these talks will determine the timeline for the next Corps Commander-level meeting, which will focus on operational issues regarding the ongoing patrolling

and buffer zones to prevent further confrontations. India and China have engaged in a series of military and diplomatic efforts to de-escalate the situation along the LAC since 2020. The SR level talks represent a crucial opportunity for both nations to address their differences, enhance trust, and establish a more stable framework for managing their contested border.

The SR talks come days after Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held talks with his Chinese counterpart Admiral Dong Jun in Vientiane, Lao PDR on November 20 on the sidelines of 11th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus.

This was the first meeting of the two Defence Ministers following the recent disengagement agreements, and the meeting of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping

on the sidelines of BRICS summit. Rajnath highlighted the fact that amicable relations between India and China, the two largest nations in the world, would have positive implications for global peace and prosperity. Considering that both countries are and will continue to remain neighbours, he mentioned that "we need to focus on

cooperation rather that conflict". Rajnath called for reflecting on the lessons learnt from the unfortunate border clashes of 2020, take measures to prevent recurrence of such events and safeguard peace and tranquility along the India-

Mahakumbh 2025 aims to set four Guinness World Records

The Prayagraj Mela Authority has announced an ambitious plan to set four Guinness World Records during Mahakumbh 2025, the world's largest religious gathering, scheduled to begin on January 13. The proposed records include the largest synchronized sweeping drive, the largest e-vehicle parade, the most handprint paintings created in eight hours, and the largest river-cleaning campaign.

The first record attempt will involve 15,000 volunteers participating in a synchronized cleaning drive. ADM (Kumbh Mela) Vivek Chaturvedi said the effort symbolizes environmental stewardship and

"The drive will highlight the spiritual significance of cleanliness and environmental

preservation," he added. The second initiative will feature a parade of 1,000 e-rickshaws and electric vehicles, promoting eco-friendly transport. "This initiative underscores Mahakumbh's commitment to sustainable transport solutions, reducing carbon emissions, and improving last-mile connectivity, Chaturvedi stated.

The third record will involve 10,000 participants contributing their handprints on canvas, representing unity and diversity. Each print will symbolize the shared spiritual values and collective harmony of Mahakumbh. The final record attempt will



riverbanks at multiple locations. This drive highlights ecological conservation and the spiritual connection between humanity and nature, central themes of the religious gathering.
To ensure compliance with
Guinness World Records'

stringent guidelines, a special coordination team will be formed in collaboration with the Prayagraj Mela Authority. The team will manage logistics, ensure accurate recordkeeping, and oversee procedural adherence. "Our team will coordinate

with Guinness World Records officials to finalize contracts, interpret performance guidelines, and develop Standard Procedures Chaturvedi

that all processes, from participant registration to event execution, will follow approved guidelines.

The records, if achieved, will

reinforce Mahakumbh's legacy as a globally significant cultural and spiritual event, combining tradition with environmental consciousness and community engagement. Mahakumbh Mela 2025 is set to be more than just a spiritual event; it promises to be a major economic driver for Uttar Pradesh. The upcoming Mahakumbh expected to generate ?25,000 crore in revenue for the state. Covering approximately 4,000 hectares, the Mahakumbh is projected to attract 40-45 crore pilgrims, making it the largest religious gathering in the world. The crore already allocated for event management and infrastructure development.

The ghats of Prayagraj, a key site for devotees and tourists, are being given a grand makeover. On the lines of Kashi's ghats, the UP government is renovating seven prominent ghats along the Ganga and Yamuna rivers to offer a more refined and wel-

coming experience. The renovation focuses on creating an environment where visitors can comfortably spend time, reflecting the significance of the Kumbh Mela. The project is being carried out by the Construction and Design Division of Jal Nigam at a cost of Rs 11.01

PM Modi to lay foundation stone for river linking project in MP

PTI BHOPAL

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of the Ken-Betwa river linking project in Madhya Pradesh on December 25, the birth anniversary of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, said Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Thursday.

Yadav was speaking to reporters on the completion of one year of his government in the state.

On December 11, 2023, Yadav was formally elected as the BJP legislature party leader and took oath as the CM two days later. "On the 100th birth anniversary of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who dreamt of inter-connecting the country's rivers to augment water resources, PM Modi will lay the foundation stone of the ambitious Ken-Betwa National River Linking Project on December 25 in MP's Chhatarpur district,"

The project to link the Ken and Betwa rivers will benefit



Tikamgarh, Niwadi, Damoh,

gation in 10.62 lakh hectares in the Bundelkhand region, spread across Madhya Pradesh (8.11 lakh hectares) and Uttar Pradesh (2.51 lakh hectares), besides supplying drinking water to 41 lakh population in MP and 21 lakh in UP, he said. Panna, MP has also decided to imple-

ment the Parvati-Kalisindh-It will provide water for irri-

Shivpuri, Datia, Raisen, Vidisha and Sagar districts of the state, he said.

Chambal river linking project which will benefit Guna, Shivpuri, Sehore, Dewas, Rajgarh, Ujjain, Agar-Malwa, Indore, Shajapur, Mandsaur and Morena districts of the state, said Yadav. This project will provide water for irrigation in 6.13

lakh hectares in MP and PM Modi will lay its foundation stone on December 17 in Jaipur, Yadav said.

2025 as the 'Industries Year' and Modi will inaugurate the Global Investors Summit, which will be held in Bhopal on February 24-25. Ahead of the investors' meet,

the state government has been organising Regional Industry Conclaves across MP and conducting roadshows and conferences in the state and abroad, he said.

Because of these joint efforts, the state has received investment proposals worth Rs 4 lakh crore which will generate 3 lakh jobs, he said. The CM said that on the

completion of one year of the BJP government in MP, two programmes were launched to highlight the development works of his administration and link more eligible people with welfare schemes. 'Jankalyan Parv' (public wel-

festival) Mukhyamantri Jankalyan Abhiyan' (public welfare campaign) will run in December and January.

During Janlakyan Parv, to be held between December 11 and December 26, foundation stones of several develop-

ment works will be laid and several completed projects will be inaugurated, Yadav

As part of the Jankalyan Abhiyan, which will run from December 11 to January 26, people from poor families, youths, farmers and women who are eligible for benefits under various welfare schemes will be identified through a survey and linked with these programmes, Yadav said.

Under the state's popular 'Ladli Behna' scheme, Rs 19,212 crore has been given to 1.29 crore women, the CM

Besides the 1,450-km-long 'Ram Van Gaman Path', the government has also decided to develop 'Shri Krishna Pathey' by connecting all places associated with Lord Krishna, including Sandipani Ashram, Narayana village, Ujjain, Janapav (Indore) and Amjhera (Dhar).

Madhya Pradesh BJP presi dent Vishnu Dutt Sharma and Deputy CMs Jagdish Devda and Rajendra Shukla also addressed the event.

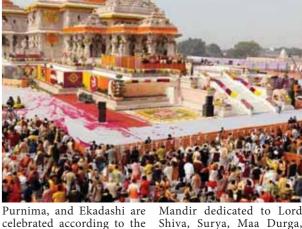
Ramlala's first anniversary to be celebrated over 3 days from January 11

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $\begin{array}{c} P^{reparations} \ for \ the \ first \\ anniversary \ of \ Shri \\ Ramlala's \ consecration \ are \end{array}$ in full swing, alongside the accelerated construction of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi temple. Among the temple's five sanctum towers, the pin-nacle of the Rang Mandap has been fully completed. Champat Rai, General Secretary of Shri Ram

Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust, announced that the temple's first anniversary will be celebrated as per the Hindu calendar on January 11, 2025, corresponding to Paush Shukla Paksha Dwadashi.

He said that the consecration of Shri Ramlala was performed on January 22, 2024, according to the Hindu lunar calendar, and its first anniversary falls on January 11, 2025. "All major Hindu festivals such as Janmashtami, Ram Navami, Vivah Panchami, Shivratri, Mauni Amavasya,



celebrated according to the Hindu calendar, and so will the first anniversary of Shri Ramlala's consecration, Rai saidand added: "To ensure smooth planning, the Trust has formed a four-member committee that will finalize the event details soon". Construction of several temples within the temple com-

plex, including the Saptarishi

Krishna and the Sapt Rishis'

Devi Annapurna, Lord Ganesha, and Hanumanji, has also picked up pace. He added that 18 additional temples are being constructed within the temple complex, with work progressing steadily. The first-floor mandap is nearing completion, where the Ram Darbar will be

After ritual cancelled, bad luck follows Guruvayur temple priest

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN KOCHI

rhe cancellation of Udayasthamana Pooja at the age-old Lord Krishna to strange and unfortunate happenings. The ritual is a unique worship performed on Ékadashi Days from sunrise (Udaya) to sunset (asthamanaa) without break and hundreds of thousands of devotees throng the temple considering it a privilege to offer prayers on that occasion. The Guruvayur Devaswom, the Kerala Government body packed with CPI(M) leaders that administers the temple, describes the Udayasthamana Pooja as the most dearest and coveted of all offerings to Lord Krishna. It is believed that Sage Narada accompanied by Srimad Sankaracharya visited Guruvayur Temple on Ekadashi Day. The Bhagavad Gita was advised by Lord Krishna to Arjuna on . this day. It is also believed that Melpathur Narayana Bhattathirippadu, Sanskrit scholar par excellence, whose life period was from 1560 to 1603 completed the composition of Narayaneeyam (a poetic work of tribute to Lord Krishna) on Shukla Paksha Ekadasi in the month of Agrahayana which makes it the most auspicious time to get Darshan of the presiding

Early this month, the Devaswam issued an order cancelling the Udayasthamana Pooja citing problems associated with crowd control. The Government order drew widespread condemnation with Vedic scholars asking the Devaswam to withdraw the decision as the ritual has been observed from time immemorial. Thousands of people throng the temple from all over the country.

"Hantha! Bhagyam Jananam" (Oh Lord, How fortunate it is to be born in this temple city") is the catchword in

Narayaneeyam, the poetic work eulogizing the virtues of Krishna. Parappanangadi Unnikrishan Panickar, Kerala's ace Vedic scholar, in a release had



not to meddle with the custom and allow the pooja to pro-ceed without trouble. Pandappillil Gopala Menon, Tantrik scholar had sounded alarm bell by forecasting that untoward incidents were bound to happen.

The Government's move to do away with the pooja had the concurrence of Chennas Dineshan Namboodirippadu, the Thanthri (chief priest) of the temple for reasons known to him only. The petition filed by a group of devotees was dismissed by a Division Bench of Kerala High Court on late Saturday. Though they approached the apex court challenging the division bench order, it was too late. But what happened on Tuesday turned to be shocking. A close relation of the Thanthri, who was in the best of her health passed away all of a sudden on Tuesday making Dineshan Namboodirippadu ineligible to enter the temple premise for the next 12 days as he was the one to perform he last

"It is one thing that you believe or not in God. But one should never question or challenge age-old rituals as there are reasons behind every poojas performed in temples," said Dr M G Gireeshan, an electronics scientist working in a defense laboratory at Hvderabad.

Kizhiyedam Raman

Namboodiri, second-in-command to the Thanthri, was weeping while he recounted the incidents that followed post-Kerala High Court decision dismissing the petition by

All that Namboodiri could say "Hantha! Bhagyam Jananam" and "Hare Krishna,

BISWAJEET BANERJEE MAHAKUMBHNAGAR

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath visited Prayagraj on Thursday to oversee preparations for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's highly anticipated visit inaugurate projects worth thousands of crores for Mahakumbh 2025.

During his visit, CM Yogi conducted a comprehensive ground inspection of Mahakumbh Nagar and key sites, including the Sangam Nose, where the Prime Minister is scheduled to perform rituals. He provided clear directives to officials to ensure smooth execution of the events and seamless arrangements for devotees and dignitaries.

Mela Officer Vijay Kiran

Anand briefed CM Yogi on arrangements for the PM's cruise tour, and the Chief Minister provided essential guidelines while emphasizing the need to maintain the Ganga's cleanliness. The Chief Minister also vis-

ited several important loca-

100-bed hospital built in Sector One Parade. During his inspection, CM Yogi reviewed critical areas like the Emergency Ward, ICU, OPD, and the operation theatre. The hospital boasts advanced facilities, including AI-powered cameras in the ICU and a state-of-the-art laboratory. Pleased with the innovations, CM Yogi emphasized the need for proper staffing, availability of medicines, and enhanced ventilation to ensure top-notch care for during the



CM Yogi reviews Mahakumbh preparations ahead of Modi's visit

The temporary hospital, built with support from the Cantt Board and Medanta doctors, is set to serve as a critical healthcare facility for Mahakumbh 2025, including a 10-bed ICU. CM Yogi expressed satisfaction with the arrangements, urging officials to ensure efficient

functioning. At the Akshay Vat Corridor within the Prayag Fort, CM Yogi inspected the ongoing Smart City development work. He appreciated the corridor's beautification and praised highlights such as the child form statue of Shri

artwork.CM Yogi also visited the Bade Hanuman Mandir Corridor on the Sangam coast, where Phase-1 development is underway by the Prayagraj Development Authority (PDA). After reviewing the progress, he for the well-being of all citizens. He urged the PDA to accelerate work to ensure timely completion of the temple corridor. The CM also visited Akharas

in Sector 20, inspecting arrangements at Panchayati Akhara Bada Udasin, Shri Panchayati Akhara Niranjani, and Anand Akhara. He interacted with saints and assured them of his future visit. CM Yogi also reviewed external arrangements at other Akharas to ensure they meet expectations.

Finally, CM Yogi conducted a final inspection at Triveni Marg, Ganga Riverfront Road Jhunsi, and Chhatnag Ghat, directing officials to ensure all necessary facilities are in place for the devotees during Mahakumbh 2025. Throughout his visit, CM

Deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya, Jal Shakti Minister Swatantradev Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, Tourism Minister Jaiveer Singh, former minister and MLA Siddharthnath Singh, along with other leaders and officials.

The meticulous inspections and directives issued by CM Yogi aim to ensure a seamless and spiritually enriching experience for the millions of devotees expected to attend the grand Mahakumbh 2025.

Need to prepare NRC like document to differentiate Indians, infiltrators: Assam CM

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

There is a need to prepare an NRC (National Register of Citizens) like document to differentiate Indians and infiltrators, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma said in Puri on Speaking to media persons

after visiting Jagannath temple at Puri, Sarma said the Assam government on Wednesday decided that one should have his/her name registered in the NRC for obtaining an Aadhaar card. If the applicant's name is not there in the NRC, he/she will not get an Aadhaar card, he

"I desire that NRC-type documents should be prepared so that we can easily differentiate who are Indians and who are infiltrators," Sarma said. It is difficult to make fencing on the Bangladesh boundary in Assam and West Bengal because many such areas have rivers. However, the boundary can be secured using technology, he stated.

The government of India has introduced technological interventions in Assam and



Tripura. But, the West Bengal government is not fully cooperating. If Bengal cooperates, we can stop infiltration," Sarma said.

On the alleged attack on Hindu community in Bangladesh, he said, "It is very unfortunate and a matter of concern. But, I am hopeful that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will definitely take some steps at a diplomatic level for the protection of the Hindu people in Bangladesh.

He said the Prime Minister had recently sent Foreign secretary to Bangladesh and hoped that peace would be restored in the country with the efforts made by the PM in a diplomatic way. Slamming the Congress over

the issue, the Assam CM said, "Neither Rahul Gandhi nor the Congress party ever stood with the Hindu community. They will not stand with them in future too. Even many times, communal harmony was disturbed in the country for them."

Speaking in favour of the one nation, one election' system, he said, "In Assam, the Assembly and Parliament elections are being held at different times. During elections, the developmental works usually hamper almost the entire year.'

So, the Prime Minister wants to have 'one nation, one election' so that development works would not hamper, he added.

To implement it, there is a need to bring amendments to the Constitution with a 2/3rd majority in both houses of Parliament. And, the Prime Minister will surely do it, he claimed.

When journalists asked him about the fate of Naveen Patnaik-led BJD, he said, "BJD's era has ended now and the BJP government will remain in Odisha for at least

Widespread rains lash TN PTI ■ CHENNAI

Widespread rains lashed parts of Tamil Nadu on Thursday, prompting authorities to declare a holiday for schools in Chennai and many other districts.

With the water-level fast rising in the reservoirs in the state, the Public Works Department officials opened the shutters of two dams in Chennai suburbs another Thiruvannamalai district.

About 13,000 cusecs water was released from Sathanur dam in Thiruvannamalai, while 3,500 cusecs water from Chembarambakkam dam, and another 1,000 cusecs water was discharged from the Poondi reservoir, as the level of water in these dams dangerously inched towards the full reservoir capacity levels. Following the heavy rainfall warning issued by the IMD, six NDRF teams have been alerted to swing into rescue and relief activity in case of emergency, the government said. It also urged the people in the low-lying areas in the state to remain vigilant and take

appropriate action. Overnight rains lashed Chennai and the neighbouring Tiruvallur, Chengelpet and



Kancheepuram, besides Villupuram and some areas in the Cauvery delta region. Following sharp showers, authorities declared a day's holiday for schools in districts, including Chennai, Tiruvallur, Chengelpet,

Mayiladuthurai Cuddalore. The regional weather office has forecast more spells of rain in Chennai, Tiruvallur,

Kancheepuram, Villupuram,

Ramanathapuram, Thanjavur,

Chengelpet Kancheepuram, Villupuram, Kallakurichi, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur districts in the state, besides the neighbouring union territory Puducherry. In Thiruvannamalai, the Sri Arunachaleswar temple staff

and volunteers braved the

downpour to carry the 6.5 feet high copper cauldron (koparai) with the Lord's name on their lips, to place it atop the 2,668 feet high mountain to light the Maha Deepam on December 13 evening. The lighting of the deepam marks the conclusion of the annual 10-day Karthiga deepam festival at the renowned temple. The Bharani deepam will be lit at the temple on Friday morn-

Wednesday's Well Marked Low Pressure Area over the Southwest and adjoining Southeast Bay of Bengal brought heavy rain in the southern districts as well. The interior districts in the state have also experienced a heavy spell since thtis mornwww.dailypioneer.com

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Empowering young innovators

Prime Minister Modi highlights the role of young minds in tackling real-world challenges with creativity and technology

The best way to predict the future is to invent it, said Alan Kay. And indeed how true it is for a nation. A nation that invents and finds solution to its problems marches on the path to progress. Echoing the same sentiment, Prime Minister Narendra Modi highlighted the pivotal role of innovation in nation-building during his interaction at the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2024, emphasising how young minds are shaping the future through creativity and technological ingenuity. The event, which included participation from over 1,300 student teams across India, showcased groundbreaking ideas aimed at solving real-world challenges. The SIH is a testament to the transformative power of education and innovation in building a self-reliant India. The event not only bridges the gap between academia and industry but also fosters a culture of collaboration and problem-solving. At the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar, which hosted the grand

finale of the software edition for the first time, 25 exceptional teams from 21 states convened to present their innovative solutions.

The hackathon addressed 250 problem statements submitted by 54 ministries, departments, state governments, public sector units (PSUs), and industries, covering sectors like healthcare, sustainability, education, disaster management and agriculture. With a 240 per cent increase in participation compared to the previous year, SIH 2024 is the largest edition to date, involving over 86,000 teams at the institute level and 49,000 at the national level. Among the standout participants was the 'Big

Brains Team' from NIT Srinagar, led by Syeeda Aiemen D Saleem. The team worked on an Al-powered Virtual Reality Friend, a tool designed to assist children with autism spectrum disorder and intellectual disabilities. The project, developed under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, aims to help children enhance social and interactive skills in a simulated environment. PM Modi lauded the team's empathetic approach, emphasising the global relevance of such solutions and their potential to transform lives. PM Modi's interaction with the participants highlighted his vision of leveraging local innovation to address global challenges. He stressed that solutions tailored for India's unique needs could resonate globally, contributing to the world's progress. "Every child has the right to grow and prosper, and innovative solutions like these ensure no one is left behind," he remarked. By providing a platform for young minds to explore, collaborate and innovate, the Smart India Hackathon is shaping the next generation of problem-solvers and leaders. As India aims to establish itself as a global innovation hub, initiatives like SIH play a crucial role in realising this vision, reaffirming the transformative power of education and technology in nation-building.



Young women visit a snow covered park after snowfall in Shimla

AI's boost to the spirit of service



From streamlining efforts to enhancing inclusivity, AI is reshaping how volunteers connect, contribute and make an impact

olunteering has long been a vital pillar of community development, social change, and global solidarity, offering individuals a meaningful way to contribute to society while fostering personal growth. In today's interconnected and fastpaced world, the concept of volunteering is undergoing a dynamic transformation, largely driven by advances in technology. The International Volunteer Day (IVD), celebrated globally on December 5, 2024, under the theme "Economic and Social Development," highlighted the pivotal role of volunteers in shaping a better world. Sub-themes emphasised their contributions to alleviating crises and supporting underprivileged populations affected by natural disasters, man-made crises, or socio-economic challenges. Volunteers have consistently been on the frontlines of crisis management, stepping in where governments and organisations often encounter limitations. Whether during pandemics, natural disasters, or humanitarian emergencies, their role remains indispensable, particularly for vulnerable populations. The advent of advanced technologies, particularly Artificial Intelligence (AI), is significantly reshaping the landscape of volunteerism.

AI enhances the efficiency, inclusivity, and accessibility of volunteering initiatives, ensuring they have a far-reaching impact. By leveraging AI-driven tools, organisations are creating platforms that align volunteer skills with opportunities, reduce mismatches, and optimise efforts. This transformation not only improves the volunteer experience but also amplifies the positive outcomes for com-

AI-powered platforms such as 'HelpFinder" are revolutionising how volunteers are matched with organisations. By analysing data on individual skills, interests, and locations, these platforms ensure that volunteers are placed where they can make the most meaningful contributions. This recision reduces mismatches, boosts retention rates, and fosters a sense of accomplishment among volunteers. During crises, AI-powered systems can quickly analyse data to identify affected areas and volunteer availability, enabling swift deployment to critical zones. For example, during the COVID-19 pandemic, AI-driplatforms "OneRescue" coordinated volunteer initiatives for contact tracing, mental health support, and supply distribution, proving invaluable in mitigating the

Corporate social responsibility initiatives also benefit from AI. Tools like "Benevity" facilitate employee engagement by connecting them with volunteer opportunities that align with organisational goals. These solutions ensure streamlined coordination, impactful volunteering, and sustained enthusiasm among participants. AI-powered chatbots further enhance volunteer experiences by providing instant support, answering queries and assisting with training.

In India, a nation of 1.45 billion people, the ethos of service is deeply ingrained in its culture. Family values, religious teachings, and community traditions emphasise the importance of helping others. Today, AI is augmenting these efforts. Chatbots are used to handle volunteer queries related to vaccination drives. maternal health, women's and children's safety, and more. In the UK, AI-driven systems have optimised food bank logistics and facilitated grocery deliveries to vulnerable indi-



AI ENHANCES THE EFFICIENCY, **INCLUSIVITY AND** ACCESSIBILITY OF **VOLUNTEERING** INITIATIVES, **ENSURING THEY** HAVE A FAR-REACHING IMPACT. BY LEVERAGING AI-DRIVEN TOOLS, ORGANISATIONS ARE

CREATING PLATFORMS THAT ALIGN VOLUNTEER SKILLS WITH OPPORTUNITIES, **REDUCE** MISMATCHES AND **OPTIMISE EFFORTS** viduals, demonstrating how technology empowers volunteers to make a tangible differ-

Innovative applications like "Be My Eyes" enable volunteers to assist visually impaired individuals remotely, while platforms like "GoodSAM" connect trained volunteers with emergency services in real time. For example, volunteers alerted through GoodSAM can provide critical assistance such as CPR or use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) before professional help arrives. Virtual volunteering has further expanded opportunities for professionals to contribute their expertise remotely. Platforms like "Catchafire" and the UN's Online Volunteering Service facilitate mentoring, legal advice, language translation, and more, breaking geographical barriers and making volunteering more inclusive. Digital tools have eliminated traditional obstacles to volunteering, such as physical distance, time constraints, and accessibility issues.

People with disabilities, caregivers, or those in remote locations can now volunteer from their homes. This inclusivity aligns with the 2024 IVD theme, fostering collaboration among diverse communities toward the shared goal of ecoment.

By harnessing the right technology and resources, volunteers can work together to

address pressing global challenges.

In natural disasters like hurricanes, earthquakes, and floods, volunteers equipped with drones and AI tools can map affected areas and deliver supplies more efficiently. Apps like "Zello" enable seamless communication during emergencies, transforming smartphones into walkie-talkies for coordination. In efforts to combat poverty and hunger, volunteers support food banks, organise community kitchens, and deliver resources. Digital tools like "ShareTheMeal," a United Nations World Food Programme crowdfunding app, empower individuals to donate meals with a simple tap, making a significant impact on global hunger. Education is another critical

sector where volunteering, supported by technology, has made remarkable strides. Online platforms have democratised access to education, reaching remote and underserved communities. Initiatives like "Code.org" empower volunteers to teach coding skills, equipping students with the tools needed for a technologydriven future. Gender-focused volunteer programmes address inequality by providing legal aid, counseling and advocacy for women's rights, further demonstrating the transformative power of volunteering.

The writer is Programme Executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti; views are

THE EDITOR

The transformative role of interactive learning in education



This modern approach is not just a shift in teaching strategies but a leap toward preparing students for the dynamic demands of the future workforce

¬he landscape of education has evolved significantly, with technological advancements and the integration of AI, making interactive learning a favoured approach. Because interactive learning fosters engagement, critical thinking and long-term memory, it makes it possible for knowledge to be assimilated more thoroughly.

This is unquestionably an improvement over the conventional approaches, which mostly emphasise rote memory and depend largely on textbook-based techniques. The abilities needed in today's dynamic environment are better suited for interactive learning. Passively absorbing knowledge using conventional teaching approaches results in surface learning, which is ultimately counterproductive. According to National Laboratories Training research, passive learning techniques like reading and lectures only have recall rates

of 5-10 per cent. The Advent of Interactive **Learning:** A more hands-on approach is provided by interactive learning, which combines technology, teamwork, apply STEM principles



and real-world problem-solving. This increases engagement and extends retention. Digital tools, project-based learning, and group discussions are all included in this approach's scope. Students in interactive classrooms outperformed those in traditional lectures by 6 per cent on examinations, according to Harvard University research. Here are some ways that interactive learning approaches work better than conventional strategies:

1.Enhanced Retention: According to National Laboratories Training research, active learning strategies like practice-bydoing and group discussions had higher retention rates, ranging from 50 to 75 percent. Students may directly

through hands-on experiences. According to research from the American Society for Engineering Education, pupils who participated in interactive STEM activities learned much more than those who received standard instruction

2.Encouraging Critical Thinking: Interactive learning promotes creativity and critical thinking by allowing students to investigate other viewpoints and pose questions. According to a McKinsey & Company research, interactive learning environments foster critical thinking and reflection while increasing student engage-ment and fostering productive social interactions. Another immersive method of student engagement is gamification, which boosts students' incentive to tackle challenging issues and permits in-depth learning.

3. Real-World Application: Project-based learning, which links education to real-world issues and increases the applicability of information in practical contexts, is a crucial element of interactive learning. In contrast to students who studied using traditional techniques, students who participated in project-based programs demonstrated superior application of information to real-life circumstances, according to a 2022 research by Edutopia.

4. Future Ready: Through more engaging and relevant instruction, interactive learning equips students to overcome obstacles more effectively than traditional approaches ever could. To educate students for the uncertain and constantly changing times, education must emphasise abilities like problem-solving, teamwork, and flexibility in today's competitive labor market.

Interactive approaches also boost motivation and encourage teamwork, which aids students in honing their communication and teamwork abilities. The global EdTech market is expected to grow to \$404 billion by 2025, according to EdTechXGlobal. Students that use an interactive learning technique not only perform better academically but are also better prepared to handle problems in the real world.

(The writer is Founder Zamit; views are personal)

INDIA'S SOFT POWER POLICY

Madam —The ongoing conflict in Gaza and Israel's military action against Hamas have drawn global attention. In this context, Israeli Ambassador to India, Reuven Azar, praised India's soft power policy, underlining its relevance in international diplomacy. He acknowledged that Israel, due to its heavy reliance on military strength, has lagged in areas like information management and public relations. India has strengthened its global position through diplomacy, cultural influence, and dialogue as key tools of soft power.

Initiatives like yoga, cultural exchanges, and multilateral diplomacy have not only earned India international goodwill but also enhanced its global image. Despite its firm stance against terrorism, India has effectively combined dialogue and public relations to make its policies inspirational for the global community. In contrast, Israel's excessive reliance on military power weakens it in ideological battles, further complicated by adversarial propaganda from Arab media. Military strength alone is insufficient; tools of soft power, such as dialogue, empathy, and media management, are essential for long-term success. India's example demonstrates that balancing soft and hard power not only safeguards national interests but also garners global acceptance. Israel should take inspiration from India's strategy to refine its policies and strengthen its information and public relations framework.

R K Jain | Barwani

TACKLING ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

Madam—Apropos of the headlines 'Identify illegal Bangladeshi immigrants, orders LG' (December 11), it is welcome that prominent Ulemas and Muslim leaders have taken up the issue of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants with the government and thus depoliticised the issue in favour of the Muslim community, Delhi, and the entire country.

UNEP honours Madhav Gadgil



ndia's veteran ecologist and nature scientist Madhav Gadgil has been named as one of the six 'Champions of the Earth' by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) for 2024. He is renowned for his seminal work in the ecologically fragile Western Ghats region of India, which is a unique global biodiversity hotspot. Gadgil made an extensive study on the Western Ghats region, chairing the Western

demonstrations against atrocities on Hindus in Bangladesh and Bangladeshi illegal immigrants. The issue of illegal immigrants, whether from Bangladesh, African countries, or any other country, being detrimental to the integrity of the country, law and order, and social fabric and homogeneity poses potential challenges of demographic change, crime control, drug menace, security, and anarchy.

However, this is a very formidable challenge for the government to work out the strategy and implement it in view of the opposition from the immigrants and their local political harborers. A question will certainly arise why only in Delhi and why not in the entire country. There may be a spate of court cases as well in view of the large-scale illegal issue of identity cards of Aadhar, PAN, or BPL. It is, therefore, imperative that a nationwide strategy should be evolved and implemented firmly. Of course, the political parties following an appeasement agenda and vote bank politics will There are countrywide agitations and leave no stone unturned to disrupt it, but

Ghats Ecology Expert Panel in 2011, and came out with a list of grim and grave findings for the

Western Ghats region. The panel's report, which is popularly known as the Gadgil report, recommended in 2011 that the entire hill range be declared an ecologically sensitive area and recommended a ban on mining, quarrying, industries, new thermal power plants, hydropower projects, and largescale wind energy projects. Gadgil's bold and honest recommendations faced opposition from some of the state governments, political bigwigs, industries, and local communities. Braving all odds, he championed the protection of the earth and the environment. Gadgil's research has helped to protect marginalised people, promote community-driven conservation of

ecosystems and influence policymaking at the

M Pradyu | Kannur it is a national priority and a security

Vinod Johri | Delhi

VOTERS' NAME DELETED

highest level.

Madam — The deletion of the eligible voter's name before the election has encroached about the entire country and is intensifying terrifically. The senior AAP leader Sanjay Singh highlighted an application for the deletion of 3,800 voters's names in just the RK Puram constituency. Such incidents are frequently observed before polls, which wrest the voting rights and thwart them to contribute to choosing preferred leaders. It's an out-and-out violation of the Universal Adult Franchise" in the largest democratic country. It's a grave issue that demands urgent action. The EC must not turn into a complaint tool instead of a neutral body and deploy every effort to address it and ensure the voter's right.

Jakir Hussain | Kanpur

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

FIRST COLUMN

INDIA SHARES ITS VISION FOR WEST ASIA

The Manama Dialogue provided India with a platform to outline its vision for regional stability



KUMARDEEP BANARJEE

ven as Syria was undergoing huge regime change, with a possibility of leaving a long-lasting impact on the geo-political mix of West Asia, India's external affairs minister was delivering a lecture on the changing dynamics of international cooperation at the Manama Dialogue. The Manama dialogue is a platform to bring policy makers. and ministers to discuss and debate the strategic defence, security and foreign challenges of West Asia. The dialogue happening against the backdrop of the fast-changing narrative in Syria provided India with a unique opportunity to weigh on its most pressing concerns in and for the region. Syria has been ruled by the Assad dynasty for nearly 50 years. However, this dynastic rule converted the country, on the border of Turkey and Jordan into a brutal police state. Russia and Iran had been supportive of the Assad dynasty, for strategic reasons. Iran supported the regime, to build its axis of resistance against Israel, while Russia, has air force and naval bases in Syria. Global leaders are watching the Syria theatre closely even as Israel continues its war in the neighbourhood. The storming of Israeli troops in Gaza and Ukraine, distracted Iran and Russia, which led to the exit of Bashar Al Assad last week. However, what is of concern to many would be, the rise of rebel leader Abu Mohammed al-Jawlani,

Syria despite the dynastic rule managed to maintain a secular political outlook where minorities and diverse groups did not feel any discrimination. Many fear that the rebel leader with Al Qaeda credentials, may push the state to a hardline Islamist nation. Almost every nation in the neighbourhood including Israel is watching the unfolding situation care-



fully. Delhi has been agnostic to the regime change, even though the Assad dynasty has been supportive of India's position on Kashmir, and its stance with Islamabad. Any unfriendly regime in the region would weaken India's position and could be a security concern as well

Against this backdrop, the Manama dialogue, with several leaders from the West Asia and the Indo-Pacific, provided an important platform for engagement. Mentioning the ongoing conflicts impacting the region S Jaishankar said, "And this today would extend from Gaza to Lebanon and now to Syria as well. But at the same time, we have to be realistic about competing interests in this region... The second political-diplomatic cooperation that we can think of is really at a time when the world is polarised if not downright violent, how do you prevent an escalation of tensions, how do you prevent conflict from spreading further. In recent times, for all of us, the relationship or absence of it between Israel and Iran has been particularly a source of concern, so some of our diplomatic efforts has focused on that particular aspect. There has been the situation in the Red Sea as well. On a more positive note, the third aspect of the political-diplomatic, I would say, we are also looking at certain trend lines coming out of this region. We have been a supporter of the Abraham Accords and some years ago, we started a grouping called 12U2, which involves India, Israel, the US and the UAE. It is still at a relatively early stage and we certainly hope that in the coming days that its a group that will grow."

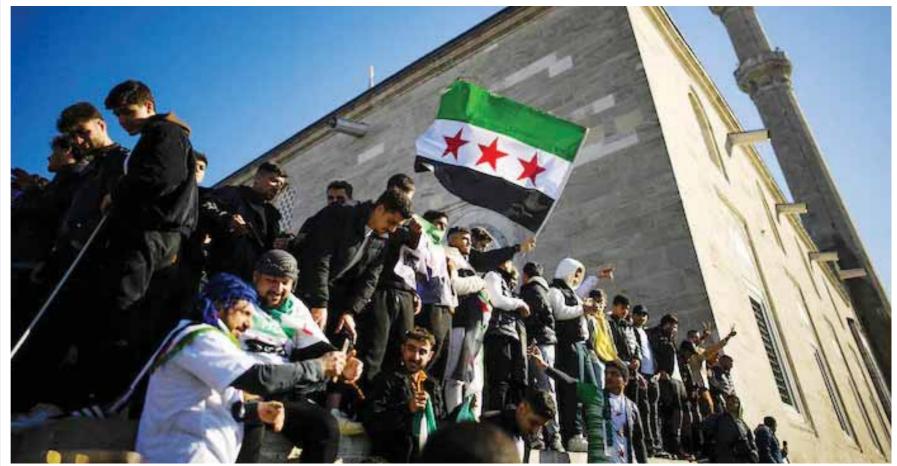
India in the past decade, has a trade-oriented foreign policy outlook, where, it knows that nothing binds countries more than an economic partnership. Mr Jaishankar mentioned that India has nearly \$170- 180 billion with the ten-member Gulf Cooperation Council and significant economic relations with countries in the Mediterranean. A new US president from January would also be a key benchmark to watch out for days to come. The relationships are most likely to be economic and based on mutual

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

The dawn of a new era: Syria's path forward



As Syria comes to terms with Assad's departure, the road ahead promises opportunities for renewal but is fraught with risks that will test the resolve of its new leadership



he fall of Bashar al-Assad's regime and the appointment of Mohammed al-Bashir as Syria's Prime Minister on December 10, 2024, mark a watershed moment in the nation's history, offering a mix of promise and uncertainty. This transition signals the end of an era defined by authoritarian rule, civil war and foreign interventions, ushering in a period of both opportunity and immense challenge. Assad's departure, driven by a combina-

tion of Russian withdrawal and external pressures, has created a power vacuum with significant implications. Mohammed al-Bashir, a moderate politician known for his diplomatic acumen, has pledged to prioritise national reconciliation and reconstruction. His leadership represents a shift from the autocratic governance of the ast toward a more inclusive and reformoriented approach. However, stabilising Syria remains an uphill battle. Despite al-Bashir's efforts, large swathes of

the country remain fragmented, with control divided among Kurdish forces, remnants of opposition groups, and radical elements. Moreover, millions of Syrians continue to suffer from displacement, poverty and inadequate access to basic services, underscoring the dire need for humanitarian aid and international support. Compounding these challenges is Syria's shattered economy, which demands both immediate stabilisation and longterm rebuilding strategies.

The role of covert operations by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in the fall of Assad's regime cannot be overlooked. Since the early years of the Syrian Civil War, the CIA has employed programmes such as Operation Timber Sycamore to train and arm select rebel factions, aiming to counter Assad's government, which had strong backing from Russia and Iran. These operations evolved



to include intelligence gathering, cyberattacks, and psychological warfare. Although they played a critical role in destabilising Assad's regime, the complexities of such interventions also fueled unintended consequences, such as the empowerment of extremist fac-tions. For the US, this strategy yielded key geopolitical advantages, including weakening Iranian influence, reducing Russia's footbold in the region, and bolstering counterterrorism efforts.

AL-BASHIR Prime Minister al-Bashir has outlined a roadmap for Syria's recov-HAS OUTLINED ery, focusing on political, economic, and social reforms.

A ROADMAP Politically, his plans include form-FOR SYRIA'S ing a transitional government representing Syria's divorce of his RECOVERY, and political groups and drafting a new constitution that decentralises power and protects minority POLITICAL, rights. On the economic front, his admin-

ECONOMIC, istration is prioritising infrastruc-AND SOCIAL national investments, and combat-REFORMS ing corruption to lay the foundation for sustainable growth. Socially, reintegration programs aim to facilitate the return of displaced Syrians and rehabilitate former combatants, while expanded healthcare and education services seek to address the needs of the war-affected population.

The fall of Assad and the emergence of al-Bashir have far-reaching implications for the broader West Asia. Regionally, these developments could recalibrate power dynamics, reducing Iran's influence in Syria while opening avenues for normalisation with Israel, partic-

ularly in areas of border security and economic cooperation. On a global scale, Russia's diminished role in Syria marks a strategic loss for Moscow, while China may see opportunities to extend its Belt and Road Initiative into the region's reconstruction phase.

Russia's longstanding support for Assad, which began with its military intervention in 2015, faced significant challenges in recent years. Strained by its involvement in Ukraine and Western sanctions, Moscow has grappled with resource constraints, prompting a recalibration of its Middle Eastern

Domestic criticism of prolonged military engagements has further ressured the Kremiin to scale back its commitments in Syria, leaving Assad vulnerable to internal and external pressures.

Globally, the Syrian transition carries profound security implications. The power vacuum left by Assad's fall risks a resurgence of extremist groups like ISIS and al-Qaeda, which could exploit the instability to regain strength and pose threats beyond Syria's borders. The ongoing refugee crisis also looms large, with continued instability potentially driving more Syrians to seek asylum abroad, challenging neighboring countries and Europe alike.

Additionally, proxy conflicts fueled

by regional rivalries and superpower tensions threaten to entangle Syria in broader geopolitical frictions. The transition from Assad to al-Bashir represents a pivotal juncture in Syria's history, offering a chance for renewal amid deep-seat-

ed challenges. While the road to stability and prosperity is fraught with obstacles, a coordinated international effort combined with meaningful domestic reform holds the potential to guide Syria toward a more peaceful and resilient future. The coming months will be decisive in determining whether this new chapter in Syria's turbulent narrative leads to lasting progress.

The transition from Bashar al-Assad's regime to Mohammed al-Bashir's leadership marks a critical turning point in Syria's history, offering a glimmer of hope amid a legacy of conflict and instability. Al-Bashir's vision for political reform, economic recovery, and course for a nation shattered by years of war. However, the challenges are immense: fragmented control, a dire humanitarian crisis, and a collapsed economy require urgent attention and sustained international support.

On the global stage, the fall of Assad has reshaped regional dynamics, reducing Iranian influence and opening new avenues for diplomacy while exposing Syria to the risks of renewed extremism and geopolitical competition. Whether yria's new leadership can successfully navigate these complexities and steer the nation toward stability depends on the cohesion of its domestic efforts and the willingness of the international community to provide coordinated and meaningful support.

(The writer is an eminent experton counter terrorism and West Asian affairs; views are personal)

Bridging India's urban-rural divide: Empowering rural learners through skilling

India's vast diversity extends beyond culture and language, manifesting in unequal access to education, skilling and employment opportunities

ndia is a country with great linguistic, cultural, racial, social and economic diversity. People living in urban areas have access to opportunities for skilling, education and employment that are not easily available to people in semi-urban and rural areas. Over the last decade or two, there has been considerable growth and development in the skilling and education ecosystem due to a multitude of factors. Governments - both central and state - have realised that the only way India can benefit from its tremendous demographic dividend is by ensuring that individuals in the working age are equipped with the knowledge and skills required to thrive in increasingly global workplaces.



NAGESH SINGH

Central and state skilling entities have created massive systems that reach every district around India and make topquality resources available to hitherto underserved audi-

The corporate sector, leveraging the prevalent Corporate Social Responsibility laws, has also contributed significantly to this by collaborating with government agencies and supporting them with co-

funding, content, certification and job opportunities. The Directorate General of Training (Ministry of Skill Development Entrepreneurship) manages a network of tens of thousands of institutions that collaborate with the corporate sector and civil society to make high-quality skilling available to hundreds of thousands of learners every year. All India Council for Technical Education, through its network of thousands of engineering institutions, offers cutting-edge training and internship opportunities to learners around India, irrespective of their location or socio-economic limitations. Edunet Foundation, for example, makes courseware and

available to learners across engineering colleges, National Skills Training Institutes and Industrial Training Institutes nationally, directly working with lakhs of learners every

These programs are offered in blended mode, leveraging classroom learning, synchronous video, online content and hands-on project work. While there is availability of skilling and education opportunities, there are several issues that limit the benefits of these programs.

The foremost problem is access to technology. Since the courses are offered in blended mode, learners need access to computers with high bandwidth internet connectivity and not just mobile phones. skills across the IT spectrum Almost every household in



phones but larger devices that are more conducive to experiential learning in technolotutions in these areas. gy are not widely available. Both government and corporate stakeholders can make a huge difference by making

current technology platforms

available to learners in rural

areas by donating and/or set-

libraries within the premises of existing educational insti-

The second issue is access to local employment. Most jobs especially the technologycentric ones - are centred around major cities and towns. For learners who are unable to migrate for employ-

ment, this is a huge barrier. Additionally, of course, there are many problems associated with mass migration to urban areas. There is a need to create local career opportunities that allow people to gainfully work wherever they are, without the need to migrate to a larger city or

This may be done by a steady focus on entrepreneurship that creates jobs locally and helps in the development of rural areas. Rural microentrepreneurship, especially focused on agriculture and associated areas, can solve many of the problems associated with mass-migration and lopsided economic development. Local businesses, thus created, will drive the local economy and create local

A stronger focus on rural enterprise will help India by ensuring inclusive economic development. There are several programs by the government and the corporate sector that are trying to achieve this, but they need to be enhanced and made more potent with support from civil society. In an environment where rural learners have access to technology and employment opportunities, skilling initiatives by the government and the corporate sector will make a bigger impact. Learners will be able to learn and earn locally, thereby bridging the urbanrural divide. (The writer is chairman,

Edunet Foundation; views are personal)

Biden commutes roughly 1,500 sentences, pardons 39 people in biggest single-day act of clemency

AP WASHINGTON

President Joe Biden is commuting the sentences of roughly 1,500 people who were released from prison and placed on home confinement during the coronavirus pandemic and is pardoning 39 Americans convicted of nonviolent crimes.

It's the largest single-day act of clemency in modern history. The commutations announced Thursday are for people who have served out home confinement sentences for at least one vear after they were released.

Prisons were uniquely bad for spreading the virus and some inmates were released in part to stop the spread. At one point, 1 in 5 prisoners had COVID-19, according to a tally kept by The Associated Press.

Biden said he would be taking more steps in the weeks ahead and would continue to review clemency petitions. The second largest single-day act of clemency was by Barack Obama, with 330, shortly before leaving office

in 2017. "America was built on the promise of possibility and second

ment. "As president, I have the great privilege of extending mercy to people who have demonstrated remorse and rehabilitation, restoring opportunity for Americans to participate in daily life and contribute to their communities, and taking steps to remove sentencing disparities for non-violent offenders, especially those convicted of drug offenses.

The clemency follows a broad pardon for his son Hunter, who was prosecuted for gun and tax crimes. Biden is under pressure from advocacy groups to pardon broad swaths of people, including those on federal death row, before the Trump administration takes over in January.

He's also weighing whether to issue preemptive pardons to those who investigated Trump's effort to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election and are facing possible retribution when he takes office.

Those pardoned Thursday had been convicted of nonviolent crimes such as drug offenses and turned their lives around, White House lawyers said. They include

chances," Biden said in a state- a woman who led emergency response teams during natural disasters; a church deacon who has worked as an addiction counsellor and youth counsellor; a doctoral student in molecular biosciences; and a decorated military veteran.

The president had previously issued 122 commutations and 21 other pardons. He's also broadly pardoned those convicted of use and simple possession of marijuana on federal lands and in the District of Columbia, and pardoned former US service members convicted of violating a now-repealed military ban on consensual gay sex. Rep. Jim McGovern, D-Mass.,

and 34 other lawmakers are urging the president to pardon envi ronmental and human rights lawyer Steven Donziger, who was imprisoned or under house arrest for three years because of a contempt of court charge related to his work representing Indigenous farmers in a lawsuit against Chevron.

Others are advocating for Biden to commute the sentences of federal death row prisoners. His attorney general, Merrick insurrection, said such a pardon from Biden would be "unnecessary," and that the president shouldn't be spending his waning days in office worrying about

A president has the power to both pardon, in which a person is relieved of guilt and punishment, or commute a sentence, which reduces or eliminates the punishment but doesn't exonerate the wrongdoing. It's customary for a president to grant mercy at the end of his term, using the power of the office to wipe away records or end prison terms.

Before pardoning his son, Biden had repeatedly pledged not to do so. He said in a statement explaining his reversal that the prosecution had been poisoned by politics. The decision prompted criminal justice advocates and lawmakers to put additional public pressure on the administration to use that same power for everyday Americans. It wasn't a very popular move; only about 2 in 10 Americans approved of his decision, according to a poll from The Associated Press-NORC Centre for Public Affairs

Russian forces edge closer to key eastern Ukraine city

 $F^{ighting\,around\,the\,key\,east-}_{ern\ Ukraine\ city\ of}$ Pokrovsk is "extremely intense" after a monthslong Russian push, Ukraine's top military commander said, with analysts estimating Russian forces are now within just a few kilometres of the city.

Ukrainian troops repelled nearly 40 Russian attempts to storm defences around Pokrovsk over the previous 24 hours, the General Staff said in a battlefield report Thursday.

"Russian occupiers are throwing all available forces forward, attempting to break through the defences of our troops," Ukrainian army chief Gen. Oleksandr Syrskyi said in a Facebook post late Wednesday. His forces are out-

numbered, he said. Ukraine's stretched defences in Donetsk have been creaking since early this year under a

fierce Russian drive to capture its neighbour's entire eastern Donbas region. Russian forces are trying to

overwhelm Ukraine's battle-

field defences with sheer numbers of troops and powerful glide bombs that blast fortifications to smithereens.

Pokrovsk, which had a population of about 60,000 before Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022, is one of Ukraine's main defensive strongholds and a key logistics hub in the Donetsk region. Its capture would compromise Ukraine's defensive abilities and supply routes and would bring Russia closer to its stated goal of seizing the entire Donetsk region.

But Ukraine's dogged resistance and Western military aid have rendered the gains costly for the Kremlin in losses of troops and armour.

A major worry for the Kyiv government is that tens of billions of dollars of key US military support to hold Russia at bay may dry up under President-elect Donald Trump.

The Institute for the Study of War estimated late Wednesday that Russian forces have moved to within about 6 kilometres of Pokrovsk, approach-

The Donetsk operation has had "a massive cost" for Russian forces, Washington-based think tank said. Those losses "will temper their ability to translate these gains into more far-reaching

offensive operations" in the months ahead, it said. Though the Russian push has been slow moving, it has recently accelerated in Donetsk and compelled Ukrainian defenders to make localised retreats. Major battlefield victories have eluded the

Russians. Ukrainian media have reported tensions between Ukraine's commanders as the military pressure has built Unconfirmed reports said Syrskyi, the military chief, had personally taken charge of some brigades around Pokrovsk.

A renowned Ukrainian military officer, Serhii Filimonov, commander of the "Da Vinci Wolves" battalion of the 59th Motorized Brigade, described Pokrovsk's defence as a "disas-

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/S SIGNATUREGLOBAL HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U70100DL2008PTC176641) Registered Office: 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, Phone: 0124-4908200, 011-49281700 Email: Compliance@signatureglobal.in

Whereas M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited (hereinafter referred as "Company") is in the process of developing of an Independent Residential Floors namely: "Signature Global Park-|| Phase-||" situated at village- Dhunela, Sector-36. Sohna, District- Gurugram, Haryana over an area measuring 2.70 Acres under License No. 39 of 2019 dated 01.03.2019 granted by Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana and having RERA Registration No. 42 of 2021 Dated 27.07.2021, Extn. No. 16 of 2023 Dated 19.06.2023.

And Whereas the Company has applied for change in Bank Account from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. to Standard Chartered Bank and accordingly the company has obtained In-principal approval for change of bank accounts from Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram. Accordingly vide this public notice, the general public is hereby notified/informed that the following changes in bank accounts:

Previous Bank Accounts	New Bank Accounts
Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.	Standard Chartered Bank
KKBK0000261	SCBL0036025
8045100105	53105107551
8045100099	53105107578
8045951592	53105107586
	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. KKBK0000261 8045100105 8045100099

M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited Date: 13/12/2024

Department website i.e. www.tcpharyana.gov.in).

Project Approvals

2 Location

Provisions

Apartment Details

Allotment Rate of Apartment

(All inclusive)+ Taxes & other

charges as applicable will be

Payment Terms

Apartment

Board Specifications of the

Applications Timelines

Place: Gurugram

Coloniser/Developer: Sriflex Projects Private Limited.

one Anganwadi-cum-creche of more than 2000 sq. ft

Unit Type

Type-I

Type-II

Type-III

Total

Type I:Total amount of Rs. 1,45,046/-

Type II: Total amount of Rs 1 45 046/-Type III: Total amount of Rs. 1,43,325/-

Booking start from 14/12/224 00:01

Payment closure date 28/12/2024 23:59

Type I: Rs.30,20,533/- per apartment + Taxes as applicable extra.

Type II: Rs.30,20,925/- per apartment +Taxes as applicable extra.

Type III: Rs.29,78,100/- per apartment + Taxes as applicable extra

two-wheeler parking.

S. No.

Sector 4, Sohna, District – Gurugram, Haryana.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECT UNDER THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING POLICY 2013 OF THE GOVERNMENT OF HARYANA

Applications are invited from the general public for booking of Residential Apartments in the Affordable Housing Project proposed to be developed as per terms and conditions of the policy prescribed by the Town & Country Planning Department, Government of Haryana vide Notification No.PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 (Details available at the

Carpet Area

(Sq. Ft.)

644.65

644.65

 $\underline{www.tcpharyana.gov.in}). However, \ possession \ charges \ and \ registration \ fees \ etc \ are \ extra.$

With Application: Booking amount i.e. 5% of Carpet area of apartment:

at the rate specified in Rule 15 of the Rules 2017 by HARERA.

Licence No./Year :133 of 2023 dated 26.06.2023, Building plans approved on 19.03.2024 vide Memo No. ZP-

Project land is 8.76875 Acre, However the same is developed phase-wise as per DTCP Phasing Approval ZP-1862/JD(RA)/2023/41092 dated 05/12/2023. Under the Phase I there were 1105 residential units however land admeasuring 1.9875

acre comprising 270 residential units was mortgaged with DTCP hence 835 units were allotted vide Draw of Lot held on 28/06/2024.

Now balance 270 units are de-mortgaged vide release of mortgage deed dated 20.11.2024 bearing document no 11392 hence the

present offer is for balance 270 units under Phase I, in the present offer of 270 units, 5% (13 units) are reserved for Management

Quota and balance 95% (257 Units) are for general public. Community Facility: - One Community Hall of more than 2000 sq. ft. and

Type I: 2 BHK -108 no. of apartments of 644.65sq.ft. carpet area and balcony with an aggregated area of 99.67sq.ft. with a two-

Type II:2 BHK - 95 no. of apartments of 644.65sq.ft. carpet area and balcony with an aggregated area of 145.74sq.ft. with a two-

Type III: 2 BHK - 54 no. of apartments of 637sq.ft. carpet area and balcony with an aggregated area of 93sq.ft. with a two-wheeler Type II: MQ '2 BHK' - 13 no. of apartments of 644.65sq.ft. carpet area and balcony with an aggregated area of 145.74sq.ft. with a

Total Units of General

Category

108

95

54

257

The above rates are as per the rates prescribed under the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013 of the Government of Haryana vide Notification No. PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 including the amendments thereof (Details available at Department website i.e.

20% of total cost shall be payable on Allotment and the balance consideration amount shall be paid according to the construction-linked payment plan of the project duly approved by HARERA, as applicable in terms of construction stages at the relevant point in time. No interest shall accrue before the due date of payment. Any default in payment shall attract interest

Drawing Room/ Lobby Flooring: Tiles / IPS | | Drawing Room/ Lobby Wall Ceiling finish: OBD / Color Wash | | Bedrooms Flooring: Tiles / IPS | Bedroom Wall Ceiling finish: OBD / Color Wash | Toilet Walls Finish: Tiles Up to 4 feet and OBD/ Color

wash in balance area | Toilet Flooring: Tiles / IPS | Kitchen Flooring: Tiles / IPS | Kitchen Wall Finish : Tiles Up to 2 Feet high

above stone/ Tile Counter and OBD / Color wash in balance area | Fixture & Fittings : Single bowl steel sink & CP / PVC/ PTMT Fittings | Balcony Flooring: Tiles / IPS | Windows: MS Z- section & Glass / Alu steels & Glass | Door Frame / Doors: MS/ Fiber

Door frames with flush Door/ Fiber Door | Common Area Flooring: Stone / Tiles / IPS | Lift Lobby : Stone / Tiles/ IPS | Chinaware: Standard Fittings | Electrical: ISI marked products for wiring, Switches and circuits | Security: Gated Complex

Application form will be filled online by Registration on http://edraw.tcpharyana.gov.in/tcp-dms/home

1862/JD(RA)/2024/10267 & RERA Registration No. RC/REP/HARERA/GGM/814/546/2024/41 dated 15.04.2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Garland, paused federal execu-

tions. Biden had said on the cam-

paign trail in 2020 that he want-

ed to end the death penalty but

he never did, and now, with

Trump coming back into office,

it's likely executions will resume.

During his first term, Trump

presided over an unprecedented

number of federal executions,

carried out during the height of

the pandemic. More pardons are

coming before Biden leaves office

on Jan. 20, but it's not clear

whether he'll take action to guard

against possible prosecution by

Trump, an untested use of the

power. The president has been

taking the idea seriously and has

been thinking about it for as

much as six months — before the

presidential election — but has

been concerned about the prece-

dent it would set, according to

people familiar with the matter

who spoke to The Associated

Press on condition of anonymi-

ty to discuss internal discussions.

But those who received the par-

dons would have to accept them.

New California Sen. Adam Schiff,

who was the chairman of the

congressional committee that

investigated the violent Jan. 6

M/S SIGNATUREGLOBAL HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U70100DL2008PTC176641) Registered Office: 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, Phone: 0124-4908200, 011-49281700 Email: Compliance@signatureglobal.in

Whereas M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited (hereinafter referred as "Company") is in the process of developing of an Independent Residential Floors namely: "Signature Global Park-II" situated at village- Dhunela, Sector-36, Sohna, District- Gurugram, Haryana over an area measuring 8.26 Acres under License No. 39 of 2019 dated 01.03.2019 granted by Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana and having RERA Registration No. 45 of 2020 Dated 09.11.2020, Extn. No. 05 of 2023

And Whereas the Company has applied for change in Bank Account from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. to Standard Chartered Bank and accordingly the company has obtained In-principal approval for change of bank accounts from Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram. Accordingly vide this public notice, the general $public\ is\ hereby\ notified/informed\ that\ the\ following\ changes\ in\ bank\ accounts:$

Particulars	Previous Bank Accounts	NEW BANK ACCOUNTS
Bank Name	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.	Standard Chartered Bank
IFSC Code	KKBK0000261	SCBL0036025
Master Collection Account No. (100%)	8045100105	53105107551
RERA Account No. (70%)	8045100099	53105107578
Promoter Free Account No. (30%)	8045951592	53105107586

M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited Date: 13/12/2024

Total Units of

Management Quota

13

13

No. of Units

108

108

54

270

Indian student dead, 4 injured in UK road accident

32-year-old Indian student A32-year-old Indian student has died in a road accident eastern England's Leicestershire while four other people were hospitalised with serious injuries, according to

police. Chiranjeevi Panguluri died on the spot as a passenger in a car that ended up in a ditch and three co-passengers, one woman and two men, and the driver were all taken to hospital, the Leicestershire Police

PUBLIC NOTICE

reported on Tuesday morning. A 27-year-old man, arrested on suspicion of causing death by dangerous driving, has since been released on bail. "Chiranjeevi Panguluri, 32, was **PUBLIC NOTICE**

ont Side with roof rights area measurin

said of the accident which was

the passenger in a grey Mazda 3 Tamura, which was travelling county bound from Leicester towards Market Harborough, before leaving the road and coming to rest in a ditch," a police statement read.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is publically notified that E-286B, SECTOR-22, NOIDA, DISTT- GAUTAM BUDDHA

llotted in the name of DEFPAK SHARMA S/O

BP SHARMA R/O B-4/28, SAFDARJUNG

NCLAVE, NEW DELHI and will was execute n favour of MR. RAMESH BEHAL S/O LATE HRI HL BEHAL RESIDENT OF E-286B

SECTOR-22. NOIDA. DSITT-GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-201301 nd the will executed at Noida so with the help

of the notice it is informed the transfer of the

BEHAL S/O LATE SHRI H L BEHAL RESIDENT

OF E- 286B, SECTOR-22, NOIDA, DSITT-GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAF PRADESH-201301. If any one has any

bjection he/she may submit his/her

bjection in the Housing Department of Noida.

authority alongwith sufficient proofs within 30

बदनावर, दिनांक 11.12.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reg: Free Hold DDA Built-up MIG Flat No.
39-D, on First floor, Block-BB, Category-MIG,
Situated at Janak Puri Residential Scheme,
Janak Puri, New Delhi-110058; "hereinafter
referred to as "said property"
Be it known to all that our client, Mr. Mukul
Kapur (hereinafter called the "Purchaser")
intends to purchase the said property from Mr.
Ajay Sharma and Mr. Rajeev Sharma
(hereinafter called the "Seller"). In this
connection, the seller have informed the
purchaser that they are the joint owners of the
said property. The seller has further informed
the purchaser that the said property was
owned by Mr. Vishnu Kumar Sharma vide
Conveyance Deed executed by POI through omed by Mr. Vishnu Kumar Sharma vide Conveyance Deed executed by POI through DDA. The said Deed is registered as Document No. 11033, Book No. I, Volume No. 10399, Page No. 78-79 on 01.08. 2002 (SRO-VII). Mr. Vishnu Kumar Sharma expired and the said property was inherited by his legal heirs viz., (1) Mr. Ajay Sharma (2) Mrs. Shalini Bhardwaj; and (3) Mr. Rajeev Sharma. Thereafter, a Relinquishment Deed was executed by Mrs. Shalini Bhardwaj; nand (3) Mr. Rajeev Sharma (7) Mr. Ajay Sharma and Rajeev Sharma in respect of her undivided share in the said property. The said Deed is registered as Document No. 11760 on 25.05.2022 (SRO-IIB-Janak Puri). Thus, Mr. Ajay Sharma and Mr. Rajeev Sharma (Fresent seller) became the joint owners of the said property. The sale have also informed the purchaser that the said property is not mortgaged anywhere and there is no charge or dispute or any litigation pending regarding the said property. Any person including Bank/s, Financia Institution/s, relative/s having any claim what soever into or upon the aforesaic property is hereby called upon to make the same known, in writing with descriptions. property is interby cance upon to make in same known, in writing, with documentar evidence, by Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the address mentione herein below within 07 days of publication of this notice and in the event of no respons having been received to the notice, the title can the seller to the said property shall be deemed to be clear of any charge to

accined to be clear of any charge of encumbrance of any nature whatsoever and any subsequent claim shall not bind ou client/Purchaser, in any manner whatsoever. Shivkant Arora, Advocate M/s Intellective Law Offices A-74, LGF,Defence Colony, New Delhi -110024

To be known to all that I, Deepak Kumar Talukadar S/o Late P. C. t is to inform to the public at large that Mr Shiba Warsi had acquired Upper Ground Floo Talukadar, Flat No.-118-B, Pocket-B, MIG Flat Dilshad Garden, Delhi-110095 have lost my DDA Possession Letter, Electricity and Water NOC issued by DDA against MIG Flat No.-118-B, Pocket-B, Dilshad Garden, Delhi-110095 against (File No. L022(1010)86/DG/NP) An NCR to this effect has been lodged in the police station Delhi (LR No.2376337/ 2024 Dated 07.12.2024) Any person claiming any rights, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents may write/contact me/us at the above address/phone: 9873922945 within 15 days from the publication of this notice. The person

Silica Watsh and adultifed upper lational riodifront Side with roof rights area measuring 70 sq. yrds, Built up property bearing No. J-74-75, Khasra No. 54/6 situated in the area of Village Khureji Khas, abadi of J Exten Laxmi Nagar, Illaqa Shahdara, Delhi vide Regd. GPA dt. 25.11,2019 along with ATS & Will executed by Mrs. Shalini Jain and Now Mrs. Shiba Warsi is the undisputed owner of the said property. OR

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 O7 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. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and vold and also treated as waived and not binding on our client. claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to the this property can personally inform or write to Dy. Director LAB or Director (H-1), D-Block, binding on our client. Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate) H.No. 26/161, Basement, Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, New Delhi -110024. कार्यालय नगर परिषद बदनावर, जिला-धार

क्रमांक/ई-टेण्डर/2197/2024 - ई-निविदा आमंत्रण सूचना (द्वितीय) एतद् द्वारा समस्त समक्ष श्रेणी पंजीकृत ठेकेदार∕फर्म को सूचित किया जाता है कि, निम्नलिखित कार्य की निविदा ऑनलाईन ई-प्रोक्यूरमेंट पोर्टल <u>www.mptenders.gov.in</u> के माध्यम से आमंत्रित की जाती है।

ई-टेण्डर कार्य का विवरण कार्य की अनुमानित निविदा प्रपत्र का निविदा दर प्रस्तृत आई.डी. करने की अंतिम लागत रू. एवं मल्य एवं अमानत क्रमांक समयावधि तिथि एवं समय 2024 UAD Interception & Diversion of Nallahs with STP works Project 1111.00 लाख 30,000/ 26.12.2024 387597 1 of Badnawar town for Balwati river under SBM 2.0 5:30 PM

नोट :- उपरोक्त कार्य के Amendments केवल वेबसाईट पर ही Corrigendum/addendum details अन्तर्गत प्रकाशित किये जावेंगे। अन्य विवरण उपरोक्त पोर्टल पर अथवा कार्यालय में कार्यालयीन समय पर देखे जा सकते है। मीना शेखर यादव राजेन्द्र सिंह पवार (फुदा बापू) अनिता दिपक जादव संतराम चौहान

अध्यक्ष उपाध्यक्ष नगर परिषद बदनावर नगर परिषद बदनावर

निर्माण सभापति

नगर परिषद बदनावर नगर परिषद बदनावर

मुख्य नगर पालिका अधिकारी

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/S SIGNATUREGLOBAL HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U70100DL2008PTC176641) Registered Office: 13th Floor Dr. Gonal Das Bhawan, 28. Barakhamba Road Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, Phone: 0124-4908200, 011-49281700 Email: Compliance@signatureglobal.in

Whereas M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited (hereinafter referred as "Company") is in the process of developing of an Independent Residential Floors namely: "Signature Global Park-I (1)" situated at village- Dhunela, Sector-36, Sohna, District- Gurugram, Haryana over an area measuring 3.91 Acres under License No. 18 of 2021 dated 16.04.2021 granted by Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana and having RERA Registration No. 62 of 2021 dated 11.10.2021.

And Whereas the Company has applied for change in Bank Account from SBM Bank Ltd. to Standard Chartered Bank and accordingly the company has obtained In-principal approval for change of bank accounts from Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram. Accordingly vide this public notice, the general public is hereby notified/informed that the following changes in bank accounts:

Particulars	Previous Bank Accounts	New Bank Accounts
Bank Name	SBM Bank (India) Ltd.	Standard Chartered Bank
IFSC Code	STCB0000065	SCBL0036025
Master Collection Account No. (100%)	20052021001867	53105107527
RERA Account No. (70%)	20052021001874	53105107535
Promoter Free Account No. (30%)	20052021001881	53105107543

M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited Date: 13/12/2024

Place: Gurugram

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/S SIGNATUREGLOBAL HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U70100DL2008PTC176641) Registered Office: 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, Phone: 0124-4908200, 011-49281700 Email: Compliance@signatureglobal.in

Whereas M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited (hereinafter referred as "Company") is in the process of developing of an Independent Residential Floors namely: "Signature Global Park-I (2)" situated at village- Dhunela, Sector-36, Sohna, District- Gurugram, Harvana over an area measuring 1.09 Acres under License No. 18 of 2021 dated 16.04.2021 granted by Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana and having RERA Registration No. 02 of 2023 dated 02.01.2023.

And Whereas the Company has applied for change in Bank Account from SBM Bank Ltd. to Standard Chartered Bank and accordingly the company has obtained In-principal approval for change of bank accounts from Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram. Accordingly vide this public notice, the general $public\ is\ hereby\ notified/informed\ that\ the\ following\ changes\ in\ bank\ accounts:$

Particulars	Previous Bank Accounts	New Bank Accounts	
Bank Name	SBM Bank (India) Ltd.	Standard Chartered Ba	
IFSC Code	STCB0000065	SCBL0036025	
Master Collection Account No. (100%)	20052021001867	53105107527	
RERA Account No. (70%)	20052021001874	53105107535	
Promoter Free Account	20052021001881	53105107543	

M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited Date: 13/12/2024

Place: Gurugram

Eligibility

The applicant should not be debarred from entering into legally binding contract under any prevailing law.

Any person can apply; however, preference will be given to PMAY beneficiaries, including their spouse or dependent children, identified by the Urban Local Bodies Department, Haryana, under the "Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna for All" program. First priority shall be given to the identified beneficiaries of the state of Haryana. Thereafter, for the remaining flats, preference will be given to persons, including their spouse or dependent children, who do not own any flat/plot in any HUDA developed Colony/sector or any licensed

Last date of submission of application form is 30/12/2024 23:59

colony in the urban areas in Haryana, UT of Chandigarh, and NCT.

Any applicant can submit only one application. A successful applicant under this policy shall not be eligible for the allotment of any other flat under this policy in another colony In the event that he/she is successful in more than one colony, he/she will have the choice to retain only one flat. Supportive affidavits and certificates suggesting eligibility are mandatory to be uploaded on the TCP website while submitting the application for allotment.

- The allotment of apartments shall be done through e-draw of lots in the presence of a committee consisting of Deputy Commissioner or his representative (at least of the cadre of Haryana Civil Services), Senior Town Planner (Circle Office), DTP of the concerned district and the representative of colonizer concerned After fixation of date for draw of lots, an advertisement shall be issued by the Developer informing the applicants about the details regarding date/time and venue of the draw
- of lots in the same newspapers on which the original advertisement was issued. For detailed criteria and time-frame to be adopted for scrutiny and allotment, the applicants may also refer to the details in the Affordable Housing Policy, 2013 including the
- indments thereof notified vide No.PF-27/48921 dated 19.08.2013 (Available at the Department website i.e. www.tcpharyana.gov.in).

The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act 2016 and the rules made thereunder have brought significant changes to the real estate sector. The Promoter/Developer is fully committed to comply with the provisions laid down under RERA. The promoter/developer urges every applicant to inspect the site where the project is proposed to be constructed and not merely rely upon or be influenced by any architectural impression, plan, or sales brochure. Therefore, applicants are requested to exercise personal

Judgment prior to submitting an application for booking.

The images shown on TCP Site / offer of Application are indicative designs and for illustrative purposes only. Further designs may vary in form and finish for the above project details. Špecifications can also be accessed at the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority website, i.e., https://haryanarera.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/S SIGNATUREGLOBAL HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U70100DL2008PTC176641) Registered Office: 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28, Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, Phone: 0124-4908200, 011-49281700 Email: Compliance@signatureglobal.in

Whereas M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited (hereinafter referred as "Company") is in the process of developing of an Independent Residential Floors namely: "Signature Global Park-III (2)" situated at village- Dhunela, Sector-36, Sohna District- Gurugram, Haryana over an area measuring 1.55375 Acres under License No. 40 of 2019 dated 01.03.2019 granted by Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana and having RERA Registration No. 64 of 2021 Dated 13.10.2021,

And Whereas the Company has applied for change in Bank Account from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. to Standard Chartered Bank and accordingly the company has obtained In-principal approval for change of bank accounts from Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram. Accordingly vide this public notice, the general public is hereby notified/informed that the following changes in bank accounts:

Particulars	Previous Bank Accounts	New Bank Accounts
Bank Name	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.	Standard Chartered Bank
IFSC Code	KKBK0000261	SCBL0036025
Master Collection Account No. (100%)	8045100075	53105107594
RERA Account No. (70%)	8045100082	53105107608
Promoter Free Account No. (30%)	8045951608	53105107616

M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited Place: Gurugram

PUBLIC NOTICE

M/S SIGNATUREGLOBAL HOMES PRIVATE LIMITED (CIN: U70100DL2008PTC176641) Registered Office: 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28, Barakhamba Road,

Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001, Phone: 0124-4908200, 011-49281700 Email: Compliance@signatureglobal.in Whereas M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited (hereinafter referred as "Company") is in the process of developing of an Independent Residential Floors

namely: "Signature Global Park-III" situated at village- Dhunela, Sector-36, Sohna, District- Gurugram, Haryana over an area measuring 4.74 Acres under License No. 40 of 2019 dated 01.03.2019 granted by Director, Town and Country Planning, Haryana and having RERA Registration No. 40 of 2020 Dated 09.11.2020, Extn. No. 06 of 2023 Dated 20.03.2023 And Whereas the Company has applied for change in Bank Account from Kotak

Mahindra Bank Ltd. to Standard Chartered Bank and accordingly the company has obtained In-principal approval for change of bank accounts from Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority, Gurugram. Accordingly vide this public notice, the general public is hereby notified/informed that the following changes in bank accounts:

Particulars	Previous Bank Accounts	New Bank Accounts
Bank Name	Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.	Standard Chartered Bank
IFSC Code	KKBK0000261	SCBL0036025
Master Collection Account No. (100%)	8045100075	53105107594
RERA Account No. (70%)	8045100082	53105107608
Promoter Free Account No. (30%)	8045951608	53105107616

M/s Signatureglobal Homes Private Limited Place: Gurugram Date: 13/12/2024

national slogan in Bangladesh

the pioneer

 $B_{\text{has stayed a High Court}}^{\text{angladesh Supreme Court}}$ verdict that declared 'Joy Bangla' — popularised by Bangbandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman — as the country's national slogan.

Rahman's daughter Sheikh Hasina was ousted as prime minister on August 5. Recently, the country's central bank decided to remove Rahman's image from currency notes.

Following the change of government, the state moved to suspend the High Court's ruling and on December 2 filed the leave to appeal petition with the SC seeking stay on the High Court verdict of March 10,

A four-member bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed on Tuesday passed the order on the ground that the sion and the judiciary cannot interfere in this issue.

The full bench of the Appellate Division headed by Chief Justice Syed Refaat Ahmed passed the order following a leave to appeal petition filed by the government challenging the High Court judgement, newspaper Daily Star said on

"Joy Bangla' will not be considered as the national slogan following this Appellate Division order," said Additional Attorney General Aneek R Haque, who appeared for the government during the hearing. After ousted prime minister Sheikh Hasina fled the country following a students' protest on August 5, an interim government headed by Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus took over on August 8. Following the change of gov-

national slogan is a matter of the government's policy deci-suspend the High Court's ruling and on December 2 filed the leave to appeal petition with the SC seeking stay on the High Court verdict of March 10, 2020.

> It had declared 'Joy Bangla' as the country's national slogan and ordered the government to take necessary steps so that the slogan is used at all state functions and academic institutions' assemblies.

> Later, on February 20, 2022, the cabinet led by Hasina issued a notice recognising it as the national slogan and the Awami League government issued a gazette notification on March 2022, news portal RisingBD.com said.

On December 1 this year, the apex court stayed another High Court verdict that justified August 15 as the national mourning day and public hol-

appear as key in efforts to form

a more stable government.

PUBLIC NOTICE
My Wife late Prinki Goyal booked a Flat 1808

Tower C-7, in project called Supertech Ec

GREATER NOIDA, now after her Demise

have requested to M/s Supertech Limited to

has an objection, in this regard- he/she may contact to M/s Supertech Limited office a

Plot No C-2, Sector 96, Noida, Uttar Prades

201303 within 15 days of the Publisher

notice MANISH JINDAL (co- Applicant)S/

Plot no. GH-01 ,SECTOR-16E

Mujibur's Joy Bangla' no longer | Israeli strikes on Gaza kill at least 33

Tsraeli strikes pounded the **L**Gaza Strip overnight and into Wednesday, with one attack ripping through a home where displaced people were sheltering in the isolated north. The strikes killed at least 33 people including children, Palestinian health officials said. The Israel-Hamas war has no end in sight, even after Israel reached a ceasefire with Lebanon's Hezbollah militants and attention shifted to the overthrow of Syrian President Bashar Assad by insurgents.

they hope to end the war in Gaza before the inauguration in January, but ceasefire talks have repeatedly stalled.

The strike on the home killed 19 people in the northern town of Beit Lahiya near the border with Israel, according to near-by Kamal Adwan Hospital, which received the bodies. Hospital records show that a family of eight was among those killed: four children, their parents and two grandparents.

The Israeli military said it targeted a Hamas militant in the vicinity of the hospital. It said

PUSHPA BHAWAN, SOUTH DELH

ELHI, VIDE FILE NO.F-18(363)78/SHB. Ine riginal documents i.e. DDA Orginal, Demand etter, Possession Letter, Fite Possession, Slip, for From Water And Electricity, & All Payment hallan of the above said flat has been lost. An J.R. /NCR/LR NO.2388061/2024 dated 11/12/024 to this effect has been lodged in PS. Irime Branch, Delhi Any person (s)claiming any ight, interest, having any objection or found in jossession of original documents, may write/ ontact with above named person at above Address/Phone No.9213368/78 within 15days 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 Astr. Director (Housing) DDA, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023

DA, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023

Information is given to general public at large that Mrs Seema w/o Mr. Gaurav who is/are purchasing the Built-

Seema w/o Mr. Gaurav who is/are purchasing the Bult; up Third Flore with roof rights, on property bearing A-4, block A, area measuring 41.2/3 sq. yds., khas-ra no. 6/9/1. Situated at Village Khayala, colony Sham Nagar, New Delhi-110018 from Mrs. Subhadra w/o Mr Mohan Chakardhar who was the owner of property by wirtue of Sale deed dated 08.09.2016 (Doc. No 8761) executed by Mrs Tejinder Kaur w/o Rajinded Sinch Intend to mortrage the same against the finan.

Singh Intend to mortgage the same against the finar cial assistance from Shubham Housing Developme

inance Company Limited, Surviving Membe

Certificate of Gopal Singh, Gian Kaur, Attar Singh Harjinder Kaur, Harbhajan Singh & Ramneek Kaur ar

Harjinder Kaur, Harbhajan Singh & Ramnesk Kaur ar not available with Seller i.e Mrs. Subhadra. To com ply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this put-lic notice that if any person(s) having any objectio regarding ownership and/ or creating mortgage of th said property is/are hereby requested to intimate i writing to the undersigned within 07 days at belon addresses.

Advocates & Consultants A-98, Sector-9, New Vijay Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.)-201009, MOB- 9999826427, 9999721152

PUBLIC NOTICE

o be known to all that I, RAJIVA MISRA S/0 H. JAGDISH CHANDRA MISRA R/o D-62

SH. JAGDISH CHANDHA MISHA R/O D-65: IFS Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. (known as IFS Apartments), Mayur Vihar. Phase-1, Delhi-110091, allottee of lat No.D-62. IFS Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. (known as IFS Apartments), Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi-110091, have applied for conversion of the said flat from leasehold to freehold in my layour. Vide application. No.

avour, vide application N D41807GH/CON/ 13082024, in DDA. Th

priginal allotment letter and possession letter issued by the IFS CGHS LTD.

espect of the above said flat has been hisplaced/lost An FIR to this effect has

been lodged in the Police Station Crime Branch, New Delhi vide LR No 1978199/2024 dated 29/07/2024.

any person(s) claiming any right, interest aving any objection or found in possession of the above said original documents, may

write/contact with above named person

hove address/phone No. 959914672

within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming an ight, interest, objections with respect t

is property can personally inform or writ

o the Dy. Director, (GH) or Director (RL) /ikas Sedan, INA, New Delhi

(RAJIVA MISRA)

NCR LAW ASSOCIATES

US administrations have said reports about the number of casualties in the strike were inaccurate, without elaborating. The military says it tries to avoid harming civilians and accuses militants of hiding among them, putting their lives in danger. The hospital said another strike near its entrance on Wednesday killed a woman and her two children. The hospital director, Dr Hussam Abu Safiya, said Israeli drones struck nearby residential blocks overnight, causing explosions that sparked panic among the facility's more than 120 sick and wounded patients.

"We have received distress calls

PUBLIC NOTICE
This is to inform the general public that
EHPS-02, Emerald Hills, Sector-65,
Gurugram-122018, has received
in-principle approval from the Directorate

of Town and Country Planning, Haryana for the upgradation of its Primary School site (1.029 acres) into a Senior Secondary School in Block-C of the Residential Plotted Colony, Sector-62 & 65, Gurugram Manesar Urban Complex, developed by Secondary Lindau Ltd.

Objections, if any, regarding this upgradation may be submitted in writing within 30 days from the date of this notice to the Senior Town Planner, Gurugram.

The earlier approved site plan is available on the official website and site office for

Issued b

EHPS-02. Emerald Hills

Emaar India Ltd.

from neighbors and trapped people, but we're not able to leave the hospital because of the continued risk," he said. "We are witnessing a massive loss of life, with many martyrs in the targeted areas.

Another strike in the decadesold Nuseirat refugee camp in central Gaza killed at least seven people, according to the Awda Hospital. The dead included two children, their parents and three other relatives, it said. Later, the hospital said another attack hit the same camp, killing four people and injuring 16 more.

There was no immediate com-

on the other strikes. In Lebanon, where near-daily Israeli attacks have continued despite the ceasefire, at least five people died Wednesday in Israeli strikes in the south according to Lebanon's Health Ministry and state news agency. Elsewhere in southern Lebanon. Israeli forces withdrew from a strategic town and handed it back to the Lebanese army in coordination with UN peacekeepers, the two militaries said It appeared to be the first Israeli pullout from a Lebanese border town captured during the ground invasion.

Demand

Notice

CORPORATION OF UTTARAKHAND LTD. 29, IIE, Sahastradhara Road (IT Park), Dehradun

STATE INFRASTRUCTURE & INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

Phone No. 0135—2607292, 2708100, Website : www.siidcul.com

E-Tender Notice

SIIDCUL invites E-Tender from interested bidders for Allotment of Multispecialt ospital, Plot No.R1, R2, in IIE IT Park, Extension, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradu (Approx. 23137 sqm area).The bidders must furnish complete information as pe the procedure laid down in the bid document. Detailed bid document can be downloaded from website of SIIDCUL www.siidcul.com &/o https://uktenders.gov.in from 13.12.2024 to 08.01.2025. Further any corrigendum regarding the bid shall only be published in website only. Interested bidders can only submit the complete bid document on e-tendering website https://uktenders.gov.in on/ before mentioned due date i.e 08.01.2025 and

Macron seeks political deal to name new PM, restore France's stability

 $F^{\text{rench President Emmanuel}}_{\text{Macron is seeking a politi-}}$ cal deal that would allow him to both name a new prime minister and "guarantee the stability of the country," following the resignation of ousted Prime Minister Michel Barnier, a spokesperson for the outgogovernment said Wednesday.

Maud Bregeon, the spokesperson, said Macron insisted there was at the moment no "broader" political alliance than the current one between his centrist allies and conservatives from The Republicans party, which does not have a majority at parliament. She was relaying comments made by Macron during a weekly

Cabinet meeting.
Last week, the French president vowed to stay in office until the end of his term, due in 2027. The move followed a historic no-confidence vote prompted by budget disputes in the National Assembly left France without a functioning government

Barnier's government has been tasked with handling current affairs pending the appointment of a new prime minister. Two options are still being considered by Macron, Bregeon

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that of Smt. Ram Devi Wo Sh. Megh Singh is the owner of PLOT NO. 137, AREA MEASLARING 83 SQ. YDS. OLT OF KHASRA NO. 5732, SITUATED AT VILLAGE KAREAWAL NAGAR IN THE ABADI OF KAMAL VIGAR EXTN ILLAGA SITUATED OF KAMAL VIGAR EXTN ILLAGA SITUALIDAN DELIH, by virtue of GPA dated 09.12.2005, as Doc. No. 26149, ATS & Will, executed by Sh. Mohd Yusuf, same to be finance by SMFG India Credit Company Limited, (Fornerly Fullerton India Credit Company Limited), General public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/interest/ title in the said property or any nuccey informed that if anybody has an charge-interest (lite) in the said property or an kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned is writing on the below mentioned address with 7 days of the present. Rahul Raj Pathak, Advea SG Associates (Law Firm FIR, Lotis Pond Plaze, Yaibhay Khandinfanpranc Marabadd Limali: gassociatespl@gmail.com. Ph; 70/1172764, 0/2044403

PUBLIC NOTICE eneral public is hereby imormed that my client named wi Ivraj Sarin S/o Mr. Dev Kumar Sarin is intending to sell th Yuvraj Sarin S/o Mr. Dev Kumar Sarin is intending to sell the rehebitod Residential First Floor (without roof right) covered area measuring 110 Sq. Mirs. Built on Plot No. Ill-4/26 Situated in Residential Colony Rachna Vaishall Ghaziabad Fehsi & District Ghaziabad Ultar Pradesh to Mrs. Pooja Sehgal & Mr. Ravinder Jain, and the same is to be financed & mortgaged with Mrs. Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Ltd and previous owner shall have no objection reparding mortgage of aforesad property by Mrs. Pooja Sehgal & Mr. Ravinder Jain.

Finance Ltd am present after a diresaid property by terms. Frograding mortgage of aforesaid property by terms. Sehgal & Mr. Rawinder Jain.

Who so ever believes and finds any claim or an interest, directly or indirectly over the aforesaid property than he/she may raise the objection within 7 days from the date of this publication af the below mentioned address, falling which, if shall be assumed that there are no claims or issues in respect of the aforesaid property.

Raghav Tiwari, Advocate

Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-110001

Mob.: +91-8076188328

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is for general information that I, IKSHULA ARORA D/O VIDYA BHUSHAN ARORA W/O TAMAN DHINGRA R/O B-6/1 AND 2, SECTOR-11, ROHINI NORTH WEST DELHI, DELHI-110085 declare that name of mine and my father has been wrongly written as IKSHULA and V B ARORA in my all educationa documents. The actual name of mine and my father are IKSHULA ARORA and VIDYA BHUSHAN ARORA, which may be amended accordingly.

PUBLIC NOTICE owner of the PROEPRTY NO. RZ--20/350, PLO NO.20, AREA 25SQ. YDS. KHASRA NO.350 VILLAGE NASIRPUR, COLONY KNOWN A WEST SAGARPUR, NEW DELHI-110046 an WEST SAGARPUR, NEW DELHI-110046 and Smt. Rozi Parween Have Not Originals 1. Death and Survivor Certificate of Smt. Shakhambari Negi. And It is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same and apprise his claim to undersized within R days of this publication.

AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION

th. No. 760, Dwarka Court Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75

Mobile: - 9899013918

a way to "broaden the alliance." she said, implicitly suggesting some leftists could join the government in addition to government a majority in the

The other option would be to

Macron did not provided any firm deadline for naming a new prime minister, she said. Since last week, Macron has

201301 (U.P.), Mob. 9711299949



CHANGE OF NAME

I, Brahmpal Singh Malik, Father of- No.16012405A Hav Amit Kumar Malik, R/o- Vill+Post-Paswara, Teh- Mawana, Dist-Meerut, U.P.- 250106, have changed my name from Brahmpal Singh Malik to Brahampal, vide affidavit dated PUBLIC NOTICE 12/12/2024 before Notary Public

PD(1060)C I, Rambiri Devi, Mother of- No. 16012405A Hav Amit Kumar

Malik, R/o- Vill+Post- Paswara, Teh- Mawana, Dist- Meerut, U.P.- 250106, have changed my name from Rambiri Devi to Rambiri, vide affidavit dated 12/12/2024 before Notary Public Delhi

PD(1061)C

I. Sama Praveen, W/o- IC-471939N Sub Firoz Ahmad Khan, R/o- Ghosia Kalan, Ghusia, Rohtas, Bihar- 802212, have changed my name from Sama Praveen to Sama Parveen, vide affidavit dated 12/12/2024 before Notary Public Delhi

PD(1062)C I, Smt Sohan Kaur, W/o-No.13671181X Ex-Nk Durga Singh, R/o- Manpura Machedi, Dist-Jaipur, Rajasthan-303805, have changed my name from Smt Sohan Kaur to Sohan Kanwar, vide affidavit dated 12/12/2024 before Notary

Public Delhi

PD(1063)C

I, Sonu, W/o- No.16012405A Hav Amit Kumar Malik, R/o-Vill+Post- Paswara, Teh-Mawana, Dist- Meerut, U.P.-250106, have changed my name from Sonu to Sonu Devi, vide affidavit dated 12/12/2024 before Notary Public Delhi

PD(1064)C

I, Manju Bahuguna W/o Shri Krishan Bahuguna R/o B-5, Kewal Park, Near Suraj Nagar, Azadpur, Delhi -110033. Hereby declare that Manju Kala and Manju Bahuguna are one and the same person.

PD(1065)C

MADHYA PRADESH POWER TRANSMISSION COMPANY LIMITED

Block No. 3, Shakti Bhawan, Rampur, Jabalpur-482 008 Ph.: (0761) 270-2164, 2154, 2171, Fax: 0761 2665593, E-mail: mptransco@nic.in

Online Tenders are invited against TR-47/2024 for Printing & Supply of Wall Calendar for year 2025 & TR-54/2024 for Procurement of 33 KV C&R Panels for Two feeder, further details please visit our website www.mstcecommerce.com/eproc & http://www.mptenders.gov.in

& www.mptransco.in M.P. M./117775/2024 //Save Energy// CHIEF ENGINEER (PROCUREMENT)

held talks with politicians from the left and the right, includ-The first one would be to find ing Socialist leaders who now

centrists and conservatives. That could give the future

make a deal with opposition parties on the left so that they commit not to vote any noconfidence motion — even though they would not be governing parties, Bregeon

SH. VIJAY KUMAR JINDAL R/O D 20/2 JAWAHAR PARK ,KHANPUR, DELHI . DIWAKAR JHA (ADVOCATE)Ch. No. 45, Sul Registrar Compund, Sector-33, Noida-

PUBLIC NOTICE

I VIVEK KAKKAR S/O MR. M.N KAKKAR R/O 7/4 , ansari road , darya ganj , new DELHI . have purchase Unit No. 707 in Tower B 16, in project called Supertech Eco Village-2 Plot no. GH-01 ,SECTOR-16B, Greater Noida., have lost the original Allotment Letter dated 15 December, 2012, AND all Receipts, of the abor aid property, I have requested M/s SUPERTECH IMITED to issue the duplicate Allotment lette Receipts, of the said property, if anybody of inancial Institutions have objection, he/she ma No. C-2, Sector 96, Noida 201B03 (U.P.), Withi

DIWAKAR JHA (ADVOCATE)Ch. No. 45, Sub Registrar Compund, Sector-33, Noida-201301 (U.P.), Mob. 9711299949

Known to all that my client 1. Smt. Saroj Soota, 2. Smt. Raj Chawla, 3. Smt. Jyoti Arora, and 4. Smt. Renu. Chowdhry owner of the FIRST FLOOR WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, PROPERTY BEARING NO. 215, AREA 67.50 S.O.MTRS, BLOCK AND POCKET-AB, SHALIMAR BAGH DELHH-1100B8 and 1. Smt. Saroj Soota, 2. Smt. Raj Chawla, 3. Smt. Jyoti Arora, and 4. Smt. Renu Chowdhry Have Not Original Probate of Will executed by Sh. Ajit Kumar Salhotra in favour of his wife Smt. Pushpa Devi after demise of her subject plot devolved upon 1. Smt. Om Prabha Salhotra absolute owner of Second Floor, 2. Sh. Surender Pal (Son) absolute owner of Smt. Kamlesh Salhotra (Daughter) absolute owner of Third Floor. And it is informed that any deal with said documents by any person except my said client and said institution regarding said property, shall be deemed as null and void. If any person having any claim, right in said property then he may contact and handover the same, and apprise his claim to

AD REM LEGAL SOLUTION
Ch. No. 760, Dwarka Court Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-75
Mobile :- 9899013918

PUBLIC NOTICE

This Notice is hereby given to general public that m client Mr. Javed Qureshi who claimed to be absolut client Mr. Javed Quréshi who claimed to be absolute and solo owner and in possession of the Residential House Bearing no. 138-140, area measuring 110 Sq. yards, Ward no. X, Chatta Lai Man, Darya Ganj, Delin 110002, was the owner by urtue Relinquishment Deed dated 16.10.2017, having Doc. No. 8331, & through GPA, ATS and Will, now they was approached AU small finance Bank Ltd., for financial assistance and threefore the property shall be mortgaged with the said Bank. There by giving this public notice that if any person having any claim/lobjection regarding covereship and/or creating mortgage of the said property or any part of the said property or any part of the said property or any part of the said property or any ward for the said property or any part of the said property or any variety or the said property or any variety or the said property or any part of the said property or any or such said property or any part of the said property or any or such said property or any part of the said property or any pa ly evidence at the acutess mention of poincation in profication in this notice, failing which any claim, if any, of such risons will be consider to have been waved and/on andoned and our client shall proceed with the dis insement of loan against the said property and sub quent creation of Mortgage in respect said proper like and the profit of the pro

NCR LAW ASSOCIATES NCR LAW ASSOCIATES Advocates & Consultants A-98, Sector-9, New Vijay Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.)-201009, MOB- 9999826427, 9999721152

PUBLIC NOTICE

Through this notice, our Franchisee dealership community, customers as well as those concerned and general public large are hereby informed that *M/s* Aarav Automobiles through Mr. Naveen Puri, with the investigation of the control with their available last known address at: Block B, 105, Shaheed Ripon Katyal Marg, Block B, 105, Shaheed Ripon Katyal Marg, Near Maruti True Value, IFFCO Colony, Sector 17, Gurugram, Haryana 122022, who was an Ex-Franchisee Dealer of Mahindra First Choice Wheels Limited (hereinafter referred as "the Company"), has been terminated from its authorized Franchisee dealership with effect from the end of business hours of 31st May, 2021 with immediate effect.

General Public at large are hereby cautioned that M/s. Aarav Automobiles has no authority whatsoever to use any trademark/ brand name of the Company trademark/ brand name of the Company neither it can transact any business under Brand name of "Mahindra First Choice Wheels" and/or may receive any money on behalf of the Company. The General Public is cautioned not to enter into any financial transaction(s) with M/s. Aarav Automobiles after believing that they have been authorized to use the trademark/brand name of the Company.

Any person dealing with M/s. Aarav Automobiles shall do so at his/her own risk and responsibility. The company shall not be responsible for such unauthorized and unlawful actions of M/s. Aarav Automobiles in any manner.

By Order Mahindra First Choice Wheels Limited Regd Address - Gateway Building, Apollo Bunder, Mumbai – 400 001, Maharashtra.

PUBLIC NOTICE o be known to all that my client,SH. KULDELP CUMAR S/O LATE SHRI BABU LAL R/O 220, BLOCK NO.18,DAKSHIN PURI, DR. AMBEDKAR

PUBLIC NOTICE Medical Record Destruction the statuary guidelines the destruction al records from the period 26/10/2015 to 01/01/2019 (Except MLC, BIRTH & DEATH) will be done after 30 days of this advertisement. In case any patien requires collecting his or her medica records for the above mentioned time period, kindly visit the hospital within 30 days of this advertisement with ID proof.
Authority letter. After 30 days the nospital will not be liable to provide any

Both the current and incoming

UK NURSING HOME

सार्वजनिक सूचना एतद्रद्वारा सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि श्री अमित कुमार सिंह ने स्वय को विहान विस्टा वैलफेयर मोमायटी, फ्लैंट नं0-302, टॉवर-एफ विक्षर विस्टा सेक्टर-01, ग्रेटर नीएडा वेस्ट, जिला गौतमबुद्धनगर का अध्यक्ष बताते हुए सोसाइटी रजिस्ट्रेशन एक्ट 1860 के अन्तर्गत पंजीकरण हेत् निर्धारित शुल्क व आलेख प्रस्तुत किये हैं। आलेख के अनुसार सर्वश्री अख़िलेश प्रताप सिंह उपाध्यक्ष,

भनिरूद्ध कमार महासचिव, प्रदीप कमार सचिव

रोबिन सक्सेना कोषाध्यक्ष, अतुल कुमार पाण्डेय महेन्द्र पाल सिंह, राहुल कुमार एवं सुमित सिंह सदस्र पुराज गय है। यदि किसी व्यक्ति को प्रश्नगत समिति के पंजीकरण के विरूद्ध आपत्ति हो तो वह सूचना प्रकाशित होने की तिथि से 15 दिनों के अन्दर अपनी भापत्ति प्रमाणों सहित प्रस्तुत कर सकता है। नेर्धारित तिथि के बाद् प्राप्त आपत्ति पुत्र प्र विचार किया जाना सम्भव न होगा और गण दोष के आधा र समिति के पंजीकरण के सम्बन्ध में कार्यवाह

विदित हो कि उक्त नोटिस सोसाइटीज रजिस्टीकरण की धारा-3(1) के परन्तुक के अन्तर्ग

द्रिप्टी रजिस्टा

PUBLIC NOTICE t is public notice that the residential Flat Q-1204 FOWER-Q, PRATEEK WISTERIA, PLOT NO GH-01

of/ original allottee ANKITA NAGPAUL W/O NITIN KUMAR & NITIN KUMAR, S/O MANGAT RAM KATARIA, R/O 508, WINEHART ST LEWISVILLE TX 75056 USA, and the above said Flat was sold o he basis of G.P.A. To the following person: 1.4 R/O J-37, ASHOK VIHAR, PHASE-I, NEW DELHI-52 which is registered in the office of Collector of Stamp, Chanakya Puri Delhi vide File No. 6747, dated 10-10-2024 and the Agreement to Sell also Executed in favour of SIDDHARTH SINGH S/O UDAI RAJ SINGH & PARUL SINGH W/O SIDDHARTH SINGH, which is not registered. 2.Because a agreement to sell is not registered or no eement to sell executed so it is informed to al cern that the said Flat 0-1204, TOWFR-0 NOIDA, is going to be transfer in favour o SIDDHARTH SINGH S/O UDAI RAJ SINGH & PARU SIDDHARTH SINGH 3/0 CDAFRAJ SINGH & PAROL SINGH W/O SIDDHARTH SINGH R/O K-803 PRATEEK WISTERIA SEC-77, NOIDA, If same one nas/have any objection, kindly inform to (Group Housing Division) Noida authority with all evidence within 30 days of publication of this

SIGNATURE D.B.R. NAGPAUL S/O SH, SOHAN LAL NAGPUL, R/O J-37, ASHOR VIHAR, PHASE-I, NEW DELHI-52

E AUCTION NOTICE

FIRE AFFECTED STOCK OF VENNER, ETC. Interested Buyers are invited to participate i the e-Auction for the disposal of "Fire Affected Stock of Venner, etc." on "Lump Sum" Basis The subject salvage will be sold on "As is Where is", Whatever there is" and "No Complaint" Basis. The subject material can be inspected at M/s. Maple Mouldings Pvt Ltd., lying at Basement, Kirti Nagar, W.H.S 1/20, Delhi -110015 between 13-12-24 to 23-12-24 between 10 AM to 5 PM only. Kindly contact Mr. Pramod Saini at 9312733483 or Mr. Saharsh Khaitan at 9811688110 for inspection.

E-Auction will be held on 24-12-24 Kindly contact Mr. Bibhu Jha at

8369652088 to obtain the form containing terms & conditions of e-Auction or download from website

Auctioneers: Seal The Deal having registered office at 148. Pocket C2. Sector 5, Rohini, Delhi - 110085. EMD Demand Draft is 23-12-24.

equivalent*

RECONDITIONING WORKS AT KATIHAR DIVISION

2024 Dated: 04-12-2024, E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Tender No. 1. Brief Description of work: Reconditioning of worn out 1 in 12 & 1 in 8.5 crossing body, switches etc under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/I/Katihar Tender Value: ₹64,19,739.86/-Earnest Money: ₹1,28,400/-Tender No. 2. Brief Description of work: Reconditioning of worr out 1 in 12 & 1 in 8.5 crossing body switches etc under the jurisdiction of Sr. DEN/II/Katihar, Tender Value ₹53.28.470.91/-. Earnest Money ₹1.06.600/-. Date & Time of closing of Tender: 15.00 hrs. of 03-01-2025 & will be opened at 15.30 hrs of 03-01-2025 hrs. The complete information with tender documents o above e-tender will be available upto 15.00 hrs. of 03-01-2025 in website www.ireps.gov.in DRM(W), Katiha

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

hief Engineer, Uttarakhand Rural Roads Development Agency First Floor, Directorate of Panchayatiraj, Opp-IT Park, Sahastradhara Road, Dehradun Ref. No. URRDA-NIT0NP/1/2024-URRDA-DEPT URRDA

PRADHAN MANTRI GRAM SADAK YOJANA (PMGSY) e-Procurement Notice- 17(P-III)/2024-25

The Chief Engineer, URRDA on behalf of Governor of Uttarakhand invites the item rate bids in electronic tendering system for construction of works under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana in the Districts of Almora for 01 number of Packages with estimated cost totaling to Rs. 5.28 Crore including their maintenance for five years from the eligible contractors (Class-A and above) registered with PWD/CPWD or

Date of release of Invitation for Bids through e-procurement 13-12-2024.

Availability of Bid Documents and mode of submission: The bid documents are available online and should be submitted online in www.pmgsytendersuk.gov.in. The bidder would be required to register in the web-site which is free of cost. For submission of the bids, the bidde is required to have Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) from one of the authorized Certifying Authorities.

The bidders are required to submit original affidavit regarding correctness of information furnished with bid document as per provisions of Clause 4.4 B (ii) of ITB with CONCERNED CIRCLE OFFICES mentioned in SBD on a date not later than three working days after the opening of technical qualification part of the bid, either by registered post or by hand, failing which the bids shall be declared nonresponsive. No physical documents will be accepted after the closing date and time of submission of bids.

Last Date / Time for receipt of bids through e-procurement: 19-12-2024 01:00 PM. For further details please log on to www.pmgsytendersuk.gov.in

Chief Engineer URRDA, Dehradun Non Registered bidders may submit bids, however, the successfu bidders must get registered in appropriate class with appropriate

authorities before signing the contract. Note: For e-Procurement for any sort of queries 0135-2608125 number may be contacted 10:00 AM to 05:00 PM.

Indian Overseas Bank इण्डियन ओवरसीज बैंक भारत सरकार का उपक्रम RO: Lucknow HQ: Chennai

Notice Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of Indian Overseas Bankunder SARFAESI Act and i

exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) read with Rule 3, issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the said Act calling upon the Borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors listed hereunder(hereinafter referred to as the "said Borrowers"), to repay the amounts mentioned in the Notice, within 60 days from the date of receipt of

The said Notices have been returned undelivered by the postal authorities /have not been duly acknowledged by the borrowers/mortgagors/guarantors. Hence the Bank by way of abundant caution is effecting this publication of the demand notice. The undersigned has, therefore, caused these Notices to be pasted on the premises of the last known addresses of the said Borrowers/mortgagors/ guarantors as per the said Act. Copies of the said Notices are available with the undersigned and the said Borrowers/ mortgagors /guarantors, may, if they so desire, collect the said copies from the under signedon any working day during normal office hours. Against the above background, Notice is hereby given, once again, to said Borrowers/ mortgagors/ guarantors

pay foll	pay to Indian Overseas Bank, within 60days pable as given below under the loan & oth owing assets have beenmortgaged toIndian	ner documents. As security for due re	epayment of th		
Sr. No.	Name And Address of Borrowers/ Mortgagors/Guarantor	Details of the properties	Total outstanding Amount	Date Dema Noti	
Branch-Firozabad Branch, 2/616, Suhag Nagar, Near Post Office Firozabad Phone No:05612-2301190, E-mail: iob3011@iob.in					
	 M/s A.K. Computer (Borrower), Address-Sheetal Khan Road Nagla Bari 			13.09.	

irozabad-283203 Situated at Shop No. 12 (Om Market) 2) Ashwani Kumar S/o Shriniwas Mohalla Roshanganj Kotla Road Sharma (Prop-M/s A.K. Computer Firozabad 283203, Measuring Area (Borrower) Mortgagor), Address-1200/3 12,722 Sq. Mtrs. Boundaries as per /ijai Nagar Near Water Tank Firozabad-Sale Deed-:East-Shop Ramar

3203 Kumar, **West-**Shop Smt. Rani **Vineeta W/o Ashwani Kumar** Sharma, **North-**Rasta & Gali 8 Fi (Guarantor), Address-1200/3, Vijai Nagar wide, South-Shop Smt. Shobha Singh Near Water Tank Firozabad-283203 Gyanendra S/o Vardeesh Kumar Property in the name of Harbheji

2) Harbheji W/o Vardeesh (Borrower/Firozabad-283203, Measuring Mortgagor), Address-Mauja Rahana Area-106.5 Sq. Mtrs. Boundaries

3. 1) Harvilas S/o Rumal Singh (Borrower), Property in the name of Shri Devi 1) Harvilas S/o Rumal Singh (Borrower), Property in the name of Shri Devi Address-Ram Nagar Charbagh Firozabad-283203
2) Shri Devi W/o Rumal Singh, Situated at Mauza Pempura Repura Khasra No. 208, now recorded in the record of Nagar Nigam Firozabad at 201, Mohalla Ram Nagar, Charbagh, Ram Nagar Bhagwan Devi School Charbagh Firozabad-283203
Charbagh Firozabad-283203
Sq. Mtrs. Boundaries as per Sale Deed: East-Plot Vender. West-Plot

4. 1) M/s Jai Baba Chemical (Borrower). Property in the name of Sivaram ddress-05 Baldev Nagar Rehna Road-Yadav Ś/o Deevan Singh, Situated 283203 2) Indra Pal S/o Siya Ram (Prop-M/s Jai in the record of Nagar Nigam

Baba Chemical) (Borrower) Address-05 Firozabad Mohalla Baldev Nagar Baldev Nagar Rehna Road-283203 Firozabad 283203, Measuring Area-3) Siyaram S/o Divan Singh (Guarantor/ 74.40 Sq. Mtrs. Boundaries as per Mortgagor) Address-05 Baldev Nagar actual -: East-Property Mukesh. Rehna Road-283203

5. 1) Naveen S/o Ramsevak (Borrower), Property in the name of Ramsevak Address-Indra Nagar Nai Abadi Rehna S/o Gulab Singh, Situated at Mauza 12,88,493.35 Firozabad-283203

2) Ramsevak S/o Gulab Singh in the record of Nagar Nigam (Borrower/ Mortgagor), Address-Indra Firozabad Mohalla House No. 32 Nagar Nai Abadi Rehna Firozabad-283203 Indra Nagar Nai Abadi Firozabad-Maya Devi W/o Ramsevak 283203, Measuring Area-256.68

(Guarantor), Address-Indra Nagar Nai Sq. Mtrs. Boundaries as per badi Rehna Firozabad-283203

actual-: East-16' wide Road, West Other Property, North-Rasta 11

South-Others Land' 6. 1) Vijendra Singh S/o Ramsanehee Property in the name of Sheleesh Yadav (Borrower/Mortgagor), Address-W/o Vijendra Singh Yadav & Mauza Sukhmalpur Nizamabad Mohalla House No. 228 Jain Nagar Police Station South Firozahad-283203

Gopal, South-Rasta 12'

Yadav (Borrower), Address-Mauza Jain Nagar Police Station South Sukhmalpur Nizamabad Mohalla House No. 228 Jain Nagar Police Station South Area-42.78 Sq. Mtrs. Boundaries 3) Sheleesh Wo Vijendra Singh Yadav as per actual-:East-Property of Guarantor/Mortgagor), Address-Mauza Talevar Singh, West-Property of cukhmalpur Nizamabad Mohalla House Sooraj Pal, North-Property of

No. 228 Jain Nagar Police Station South Talevar Singh, South-10' wide Rasta 1) Maneesh Kumar S/o Ram Ratan Property in the name of Ram Ratan (Borrower), Address-Jain Khera Rahana S/o Manohar Singh, Situated at Firozabad-283203 Mauza Sukhmalbur Nizamahad now

2) Ram Ratan S/o Manohar Singh recorded at the record of Nagar (Borrower/ Mortgagor), Address-304 Nigam Firozabad Mohalla House No. Jain Nagar Firozabad-283203 205 Mohalla Jain Nagar Kheral Jain Nagar Firozabad-283203 205 Mohalla Jain Nagar Khera
3) Neelam Yadav W/o Rakesh Yadav Firozabad-283203, Measuring (Guarantor), Address-306 Jain Nagar Area-1670 Sq. Feets. Boundaries Khera Firozabad-283203 as per Sale Deed: East-Rasta 10 Fi

Al Rakesh Yadav S/o Laxmi Narayan (Guarantor), Address-306 Sayyad Wali Gali Jain Nagar Firozabad-283203

Al Rakesh Yadav S/o Laxmi Narayan (Guarantor), Address-306 Sayyad Wali Gali Jain Nagar Firozabad-283203 8. 1) Ramakant S/o Ramesh Chandra Property in the name of Ramakant

(Borrower/ Mortgagor), Address-290 S/o Ramesh Chandra, Situated at 13,80,504.27 Mathura Nagar Road Firozabad-283203 Mauza Sukhmalpur Nizamabad as on Address-366 Main Road Naya Rasoolpur Ram Mati Marriage Home ke Pas Firozabad-283203

Migas Road Firozabad-283203

Khasra No. 779, now recorded at the record of Nagar Nigam Firozabad at Mohalla Mathura Nagar H. No. 76 Firozabad-283203, Measuring Area-901.75 Sq. Ft. Boundaries as per actual-:East-Property of Kukhwar Singh, West-Road, North-House of Raikumar

date of payment. If the said borrowers/ mortgagors / guarantors fail to make payment to Indian Overseas Bank as aforesaid, the ndian Overseas Bank shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the SARFAESI Ac and Rules entirely at the risks, costs and consequences of the said borrowers/mortgagors/guarantors.

Further, the attention of borrowers/mortgagors / guarantors is invited to provisions of Sub-section(8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to them to redeem the secured assets.

The said Borrowers/ mortgagors / guarantors are prohibited under the SARFAESI Act from transferring the secured assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of Indian Overseas Bank. Any person who contravenes or abets contravention of the provisions of the Act or Rules shall be liable for invariancement and/or fine are singularly Section 20 of the Act.

payable with further interest at contractual rates/rests as agreed from the date mentioned above till

imprisonment and/ or fine as given under Section 29 of the Act. Authorised Officer, Indian Overseas Bank

13.09.2024 6,08,251.06 as on + interest & Avanesh Yadav S/o Vijendra Singh Nizamabad Mohalla House No. 228 other expenses

04.09.2024 + interest &

expenses

+ interest & other

expenses

Bhekam Singh, North-Rasta, South Plot Foolan Singh 12.09.2024 7,96,224.05 at Mauza Gata No. 170 now recorded + interest & other

West-Gali, North-Property Ran 13.09.2024 Rehna Khasra No. 164 now recorded

other

Rs

Borrower), Address-Mauja Rahana W/o Vardeesh, Mauza Rahna H.No. 65 Mohalla Nagla Bhau Firozabad-Mohalla Nagla Bhau H.No. -65, Jain

Nagar Police Station South wide Road, South-House Narain

Deed-:East-Plot Vender. West-Plot

1,95,298.22

12.09.2024 + interest & other

31.08.2024

other

9,56,688.21

as on

27.08.2024

other

interest &

13.09.2024

13.09.2024

as on 27.08.2024 + interest &

13.09.2024

13.09.2024

Place:Firozabad

GNPA of PSBs declines to 3.12 per cent in Sept: FinMin

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

ross non-performing assets (NPAs) of public sector banks (PSBs) have declined to a decade low of 3.12 per cent at the end of September 2024 from a peak of 14.98 per cent in March 2018 on the back of measures like the 4Rs – recognition, recapitalisation, resolution, and reform – taken by the government, the finance ministry said on

Since 2015, the government implemented a comprehensive 4Rs strategy of recognising NPAs resolution and transparently, recovery, recapitalising PSBs, and reforms in the financial system to address the challenges faced by PSBs, it said.

Capital adequacy ratio of PSBs improved 393 bps to reach 15.43 per cent in September 2024 from 11.45 per cent in March 2015, it said. During 2023-24, PSBs recorded the

highest-ever aggregate net profit of

Rs 1.41 lakh crore against Rs 1.05 lakh crore in 2022-23, it said, adding that the figure was Rs 0.86 lakh crore in the first half of 2024-

FINANCE

MINISTRY OF

In November, an official

statement said that the dates

for the FTA talks in early 2025 would be finalised

through diplomatic channels.

progress

PTI MUMBAI

The cumulative captal (capital expenditure) of cumulative capex

Indian airports is expected to grow 12 per cent at Rs 60,000

crore in the three years through FY27 from Rs 53,000

crore during 2022-2024, to

add required infrastructure for

about 65 million passengers

per annum, ratings agency

capex is expected to be funded

The ratings agency said its

projections are based on a

study of 11 private airports in

the country that account for 60

per cent of the total passenger

In addition to the expected

growth in passenger traffic,

increase in tariffs and

spending within the airport

ecosystem will lift revenue of

private Indian airports at an

CRISIL said on Thursday CRISIL said 70 per cent of this

through debt.

traffic in FY24.

"PSBs continue to expand their reach to every nook and corner of

In the last three years, PSBs have paid total dividend of Rs 61,964 crore, it said.

cent of beneficiaries are women and under PM-SVANidhi scheme, 44 per cent of beneficiaries are women, the finance ministry said. The number of bank branches has

> in rural and semi-urban (RUSU) areas, it said. KCC Scheme aims to provide the

gone up from 1,17,990 in March

2014 to 1,60,501 in September 2024.

Of 1.60,501 branches, 1.00,686 are

has improved. Now they are able to go to market and access capital

instead of depending on the

government for recepitalisation," it

To deepen financial inclusion in the

country, 54 crore Jan Dhan accounts and more than 52 crore

collateral-free loans under various

flagship financial inclusion schemes

– PM-Mudra, Stand-Up India, PM-SVANidhi, PM Vishwakarma –

Under the Mudra scheme, 68 per

have been sanctioned, it said.

the country to deepen financial inclusion. Their capital base has strengthened and their asset quality of operative KCC Accounts as on September 2024 stood at 7.71 crore with total outstanding of Rs. 9.88 lakh crore.

The Government of India (GoI) has consistently supported the MSME sector in terms of flow of credit at affordable rates through various initiatives, it said

initiatives, it said.
"The MSME advances registered a CAGR of 15 per cent during the last three years. Total MSME advances as on March 31, 2024 stood at Rs 28.04 lakh crore, posted an annual growth of 17.2 per cent," it said. The gross advances of scheduled commercial banks, which grew from Rs 8.5 lakh crore to 61 lakh crore during 2004-2014, has significantly increased to Rs 175 lakh crore in March 2024, according lakh crore in March 2024, according to the finance ministry.

Besides, the government has also announced a slew of measures towards welfare of employees

as scotch whiskey, electric

confectionary items.
Britain is also looking for more opportunities for UK services in Indian markets in

telecommunications, legal and financial services

The two countries are also

negotiating a bilateral

There are 26 chapters in the

agreement, which includes

goods, services, investments

and intellectual property

(banking and insurance).

investment treaty (BIT).

lamb

and certain

vehicles,

segments

chocolates

confectionary items.



IIP growth slows to 3.5 per cent in Oct: Govt data

industrial Indias industrial production (IIP) growth slowed to 3.5 per cent year-on-year in October 2024, mainly due to poor performance of mining, power and manufacturing, as per official data released on Thursday.

Thursday.

The IIP recorded a growth of 11.9 per cent in October 2023, according to a statement by the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation.

However, on a sequential basis, the factory output in October 2024 rose to 3.5 per cent from 3.1 per cent in September and a contraction of 0.1 per cent in August this

The growth in the factory output, measured in terms of the IIP, in April-October worked out to be 4 per cent against 7 per cent in the yearago period, the data showed. As per the data, the mining output growth decelerated to 0.9 per cent in October from 13.1 per cent expansion in

the year-ago month. The manufacturing sector's growth decelerated to 4.1 per cent in October from 10.6 per

generation, the growth slowed sharply to 2 per cent from a 20.4 per cent growth a year ago. use-based

classification, the capital goods segment growth decelerated to 3.1 per cent in October 2024 from 21.7 per cent in the year-ago period. In October this year, non-durables consumer output growth slowed to 2.7 per cent compared to a 9.3 per cent growth in October

Consumer durable goods production grew by 5.9 per cent during the reporting month against a 15.9 per cent expansion in October 2023.

According to the data, infrastructure/construction goods reported a growth of 4 per cent in October 2024, down from a 12.6 per cent expansion in the year-ago

The data also showed that the output of primary goods logged a 2.6 per cent growth in October this year against 11.4 per cent a year earlier. The expansion in the intermediate goods segment was 3.7 per cent in the month under review, lower than the



Auto component industry grows 11 per cent to ₹3.32 lakh Crore in Apr-Sept: ACMA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The automotive industry automotive grew 11 per cent year-onyear to Rs 3.32 lakh crore in the first half of the current fiscal, industry body ACMA said on Thursday.

turnover of the automotive component industry in the April-September period of last fiscal stood at Rs 2.98 lakh

reaching segments pandemic levels and despite geopolitical challenges on the exports front, the auto components sector witnessed a steady growth in both domestic and international markets in the first half of FY2024-25," Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA) President Shradha Marwah said.

She said the festive season brought significant sales across most segments of the vehicle industry.

"However, reflecting on the past eight months of this fiscal year, while twoshown wheelers have promising growth, sales of passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles have been relatively moderate," she added.

On the exports front, with geological challenges, delivery time and freight costs have once again gone up, Marwah said. "That said, in value terms,

the industry remains in robust health, signalling stability and resilience amidst evolving market dynamics," she added.

The components industry continues investments for purposes of higher value addition, technology upgradation and localisation to stay relevant to domestic international customers, Marwah said.

ACMA Director General vehicle sales and exports displaying steady performance, the auto industry component demonstrated a growth of 11.3 per cent scaling a turnover of Rs 3.32 lakh crore in the first half of FY 2024-

Auto component supplies to all the segments – OEMs (original equipment manufacturers), exports as aftermarket the remained steadfast, he added. Exports grew by 7 per cent to USD 11.1 billion (Rs 93.34 lakh crore) while imports grew by 4 per cent to USD 11 billion (Rs 92.05 lakh crore) with USD 150 million in surplus, the industry body

The aftermarket, estimated at Rs 47,416 crore, also witnessed a growth of 5 per cent year-on-year, it added. Similarly, component supplies to OEMs in the domestic market grew by 11 per cent year-on-year to Rs 2.83 lakh crore, ACMA said.



previously and seek to bridge the gaps for expeditiously closing the trade deal. The next round of talks is likely to start at January-end,

per cent at ₹60,000 Crore in three years: Report

average growth rate of 17 per

cent between FY25 and FY27,

That, coupled with improved

funding access and a predictable regulatory regime,

will support the strong credit

The number of passengers at

Indian airports is expected to

clock a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 8-9 per

cent over fiscals 2025-2027

from 376 million last fiscal

Growth in domestic traffic,

which comprises over 80 per

cent of overall volume, will

ride on rising demand from

the business and leisure

segments and government

push to increase penetration of air travel," said Manish

Gupta, Senior Director and

Deputy Chief Ratings Officer,

operationalised 84 airports

CRISIL Ratings,

As of July

government

profiles of private airports.

it said.

negotiations would the official said. The Indian industry is resume the discussions from achieved demanding greater access for

its skilled professionals from sectors like IT and healthcare in the UK market, besides market access for several goods at nil customs duty. On the other hand, the ÚK is seeking a significant cut in

import duties on goods such

and 579 routes under its regional connectivity UDAN

scheme to increase regional penetration, CRISIL said,

adding that while the impact is

small at present, with air traffic in these airports

contributing around 2 per cent

of domestic air traffic, these

as they provide feeder traffic

International traffic will also

grow, driven by increased

business travel, easing visa

requirements, and improving

connectivity with airlines

To cater to this growth, airport

operators are investing in

aviation-related infrastructure

such as terminal buildings and

runways to create room for

Additionally, airports are

developing non-aeronautical

offerings such as lounge, car parking, food and beverage

spaces and retail outlets, which

will help increase revenue, too,

the ratings agency said. "Although around 70 per cent

of capex is expected to be

funded by debt, the credit

profiles of private airports will

remain strong over fiscals

2025-27 due to an average

projected increase of 17 per

cent in revenue of airports in the CRISIL Ratings study," CRISIL Ratings Director

CRISIL Ratings Ankit Hakhu said.

increased passenger flow.

adding new routes, it said.

to the metro airports.

rights. The bilateral trade between India and the UK increased to USD 21.34 billion in 2023-24 from 20.36 billion in

Cumulative capex of airports expected to grow 12 | Retailers urge FM and GST Council not to go for higher 35 per cent tax rate

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Sellers Collective, an Lumbrella body of trade associations and sellers across the country, has urged the finance minister and the GST rate rationalisation suggestions, including the proposal for inclusion of a special rate of 35 per cent on

some products. The sellers body is of the view that a fifth GST slab of 35 per cent on demerit goods such as aerated beverages, cigarettes and tobacco, and pricingbased rate structure will materially and fundamentally alter the country's GST framework with devastating outcomes.

recommendations These violate both the letter and the spirit that it will be a 'good and simple tax', Indian Sellers Collective said in a statement on Thursday ahead of the 55th GST Council meeting to be held on December 21, 2024 at Jaisalmer, Rajasthan. "On the contrary, it will hurt the profit margins of the retailers, lead to compliance nightmares and fuel a parallel economy. This move will primarily benefit Chinese producers who dominate the market of cheap products at



the cost of Indian producers,"

All the gains of the GST regime will be wiped out, with permanent damage to the vast age-old retailer network of recommendations adopted by the upcoming

GST Council meeting, Abhay Raj Mishra, Member and National Coordinator, Indian Sellers Collective, said. "A 35 per cent tax on demerit

goods like tobacco and aerated beverages exponentially grow illicit market, and a large number of sellers will move out of the formal economy. A pricing-based rate structure trigger manipulation engineering of business

models to beat the system. For small and mid-tier sellers, this will mean compliance nightmares and a very high risk of litigation," he said.

Gold rises ₹500 per 10 gm; silver at ₹97,000 per kg

9.5 per cent a year ago

PTI NEW DELHI

old prices climbed Rs 500 to Rs 80,900 per 10 grams Thursday due to persistent buying by retailers and ewellers, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

The precious metal of 99.9 per cent purity finished at Rs 80,400 per 10 grams in the previous trading session. The yellow metal has jumped nearly Rs 2,000 in the past three sessions.

Silver also rallied Rs 700 to Rs 97,000 per kg on Thursday. The white metal settled at Rs 96,300 per kg in the previous session. The price of gold of 99.5 per cent purity also surged Rs 500 to Rs 80,500 per 10 grams. It ended at Rs 80,000 per 10 grams on Wednesday. According to traders, persistent buying by jewellers and a firm trend in the international markets were among the factors that aided the rally in gold prices.

Meanwhile, in futures trade on Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold contracts for February delivery dipped Rs 114 or 0.14 per cent to Rs 78,888 per 10 grams.

Green shoots on consumption growth, food inflation expected to come down: FICCI President

had

2024, the

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

reen shoots are visible on Gthe consumption front as food inflation has started receding, newly appointed FICCI President Harsha V Agarwal said.

Food inflation is expected to come down to its normal level in the next two quarters, Agarwal said, adding that he is hopeful for a revival in consumption growth, aided by a good crop and increased spending by the government on the big-ticket infra projects and rural schemes in the December quarter.

Government spending in the right areas – like increase in capex and ramping up infrastructure, rather than overall economy, he said.

We are seeing some green shoots where we believe food inflation is coming down... It has to come back to normal. It might take maybe one quarter or so. But we are seeing situations where it is improving, and hence we are hopeful that consumption should increase," Agarwal

Government spending in the September quarter was low due to the general elections in the June quarter. However, it increased in the third quarter and is expected to continue in the fourth quarter as well, he

"Going forward, we see that increasing in Q3 and substantially in Q4. So focusing on revenue cumulatively, with all these impacting pu expenditure – is helping the things, we are hopeful that middle class.

the consumption should improve going from here," he

The government is focused a lot on the rural economy, which has done well in the second quarter.

'What we hear is the kharif production is also going to be good this year. So from that perspective, overall, we are quite optimistic from the rural front. And from that is where you know the consumption also is coming and it should increase," said Agarwal.

Food inflation in India has been high in recent months, driven by rising prices of vegetables, fruits, oils, and fats. It has slowed down the consumption in urban areas, impacting purchase from the



doing those kind of tax as and where to boost the consumption, Agarwal said. However, he added, "maybe

the salary has not gone up to the extent... That is why they are feeling the pinch."

With cooling of inflation and increase in private investments, demand of Emami, said two segments --

skilled jobs will increase, and overall things will become better, he said.

According to the latest Consumer Price Index (CPI) data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) on Thursday, inflation in the food basket reduced to 9.04 per cent in November compared to 10.87 per cent in

Last week, while unveiling the bi-monthly monetary policy last week, former Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das said lingering food price pressures are likely to keep headline inflation elevated in the December quarter.

Goenka, who is also Vice-Chairman & Managing Director of FMCG major rural and premiuim products - are doing "much better".

The challenge is more in the area of the lower middle class, and middle class consumers, where the real hit is. And since the discretionary spend as a percentage is anyway, lower, any hit on the inflation has a direct impact," Agarwal However, he was "very

hopeful, once the inflation is under control, it should improve and things will be much better". Over the cement sector,

which faced a decline in price in last two quarters YoY, Agarwal said, "their prices might be declining, but still, all the cement companies are making good profit.

He further added it "may be because in the industry now, consolidation is happening. Some of the larger players are fighting for the market share,

Agarwal said government programmes, such as the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme, have made a big difference in some key strategic sectors such as electronic, manufacturing of mobile phones, active pharmaceutical ingredients, "Going forward, what is

important is India should not become like an assembly line... Like in electronics. How do we become selfresilient, even in terms of the components required for making electronics? So that may be another key focus area where the government can extend its PLI," he added.



KOLKATA PAST





Devasis Chattopadhyay takes you through nine compelling stories of forgotten lives that shaped the cultural and historical history of Kolkata, writes ABHI SINGHAL



arry Hobbs of Kolkata and Other Forgotten Lives is a compelling and richly detailed collection of nine meticulously researched stories that uncover the hidden aspects of Kolkata's past, many of which are unknown even to the city's residents and historians. Drawing on obscure and forgotten sources such as dusty old files, yellowed newspapers, private family papers, memoirs, and government archives, this book brings to life

the untold stories of Kolkata's lesser-known figures and the city itself.

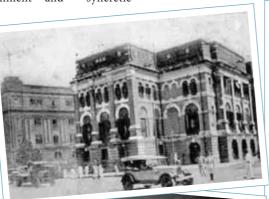
The book deep dives into the fascinating history of Kolkata, providing an unexplored jist of the city's origins. Some historians believe that Kolkata mentioned in the Mahabharata, while others trace its roots back to the Mauryan and Gupta periods. The author, Devasis Chattopadhyay, then traces the transformation of the city into a metropolis, paying particular attention to its growth

and changes in the 19th century. This period, marked by significant social, cultural, and economic shifts, is expertly and theoretically woven into the narrative.

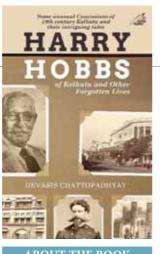
Chattopadhyay focuses on the lives of protagonists who were often overlooked by mainstream history as the middle and junior civil or military officials, puisne judges, a wide array 10 other fascinating individuals. These

include an opera impresario, an entertainer, a piano tuner, a mercenary, a hotelier, a writer, a publisher, a lawyer, and even a real-life police detective turned crime writer. These characters, often forgotten by history, made remarkable contributions to the fabric of Kolkata during a time of upheaval and

The book reflects on a significant period of transformation, when Kolkata's unique syncretic







Book: Harry Hobbs of Kolkata and Other Forgotten Lives by **Devasis Chattopadhyay** Publisher: Niyogi Books Private Limited Price: ₹595 Pages: 316



identity was shaped, in part, by European

and American settlers. It was an era when

many of the things we now take for

granted like the social norms,

institutions, and innovations that were

still in their infancy. Yet, the individuals

featured in the book were instrumental in creating the cultural and historical

landscape of the city. Chattopadhyay's

narrative uncovers these hidden histories,

offering a fresh perspective on Kolkata's

One of the key figures in the book, Harry

Hobbs, is also featured in the author's

earlier work Scoundrels and Scroungers,

where Hobbs noted that the principal

cause of men's downfall up until the end

of the 19th century was drinking. In his writings, he provides intriguing glimpses

into a Kolkata of the past the one where

European women worked as barmaids

and a thriving but largely unspoken

subterranean slave trade flourished. This

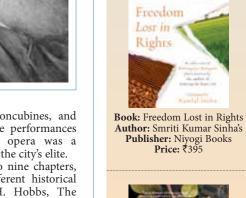
was also a time when wealthy Bengali today.

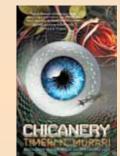




Babus kept European concubines, and attending English theatre performances or listening to Italian opera was a common pastime among the city's elite. The book is divided into nine chapters, each focusing on a different historical figure: Major Harry H. Hobbs, The Shakespeare Family, Isaac Henry Townley Roberdeau, Richard Reid, Colonel Percy Wyndham, Shirley Tremearne, Henry Thoby Prinsep, David Nunez Cardozo, and others. Through these vivid and captivating stories, Harry Hobbs of Kolkata and Other Forgotten Lives provides a nuanced and fascinating portrait of Kolkata as a city in transition, shaped by diverse influences and inhabited by characters whose contributions to its rich history have long been forgotten. Chattopadhyay's work offers an enriching journey into the heart of Kolkata's past, illuminating the hidden

lives that have shaped the city we know





Book: Our Man in Warsaw Author: Carlos Tamilavan Publisher: Niyogi Books Price: ₹595

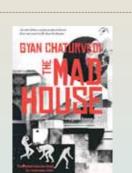
Book: Charles Correa: Citizen Charles

Author: Mustansir Dalvi

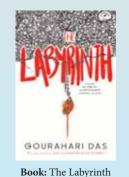
Publisher: Niyogi Books Price: ₹299

Book: Chicanery Author: Timeri N. Murari Publisher: Niyogi Books Price: ₹695

Book: Shyam Benegal: Flimmaker of the real India Author: Arjun Sengupta Publisher: Niyogi Books Price: ₹299



Book: Madhouse: Pagalkhana Author: Gyan Chaturvedi Publisher: Niyogi Books Price: ₹595

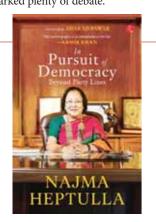


Author: Gourahari Das Publisher: Niyogi Books Price: ₹295

Najma's journey through politics

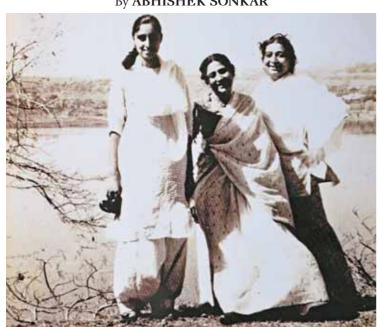
f you are looking for an interesting book on Indian politics and curious about stories behind the headlines, In Pursuit of Democracy by Najma Heptulla is the book for you. Heptulla, a veteran politician, shares her experiences from her fourdecade-long career, giving readers a close look at key moments in India's democratic journey.

The book isn't just another dry political memoir. It's full of stories about her interactions with major political figures, from the strong presence of Indira Gandhi to the charm of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Najma Heptulla's autobiography is not just about her life in politics but also about her personal life, balancing her political career with motherhood, love and loss. Her narrative is enriched with personal anecdotes and emotional events. She addresses controversies too, like her decision to move from Congress to Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)- a switch that sparked plenty of debate.



Book: In Pursuit of Democracy: Beyond Party Lines by Najma Heptulla Publisher: Rupa Publications **Price**: ₹695

By ABHISHEK SONKAR





Heptulla's writing style is direct and jargon, making the book a breeze even conversational. It feels like she is talking to you, recounting her life over

if you're not well-versed in politics. The narrative flows smoothly between a cup of tea. She avoids heavy political her professional milestones and

personal reflections, making it engaging and balanced. This blend of warmth and clarity makes the book as much about Najma as person as it is about her as a politician.

What stands out in this book is how Heptulla personalises her experiences. She is not just recounting political events; she is showing how they shaped her life and decisions. Whether you are a political junkie or someone interested in peeking behind the curtain of Indian politics, this book offers a thoughtful mix of history and heartfelt storytelling.

Through her candid, no-nonsense style, Heptulla gives us an insider's view of what it is like to be a woman navigating Indian politics. Her journey from Congress to BJP and the challenges she faced along the way provide a unique perspective on party dynamics and leadership in India.

The book also touches on broader issues in Indian politics, such as the trust deficit between Sonia Gandhi and herself, and the treatment of figures like PV Narasimha Rao and Dr Manmohan Singh by the party bosses. By sharing these personal stories, Heptulla humanises the political landscape, making it easier to understand the complex relationships and motivations that shape decisionmaking at the highest levels.

In Pursuit of Democracy Heptulla offers more than just political memoirs; she provides a nuanced, first-person account of her time in power, shedding light on the behindthe-scenes dynamics that often go unnoticed.

Whether you're a seasoned observer of Indian politics or someone who wants to understand the forces shaping the country's democratic processes, this book is a compelling read. It is not just about politics; it is about the life of a woman who has lived through some of the most transformative moments in Indian political history.

A Transformative Journey

By GYANESHWAR DAYAL

Transformative Journey of Faith, Endurance, and the Divine Om Swami's Thirteen Months in the Himalayas is a spellbinding account of one man's relentless pursuit of spiritual truth and divine connection.

Ôm Swami's Thirteen Months in the Himalayas is an extraordinary account of one man's unwavering pursuit of spiritual truth and divine connection. Following his earlier memoir, 'If Truth Be Told', this book delves deeper into Swami's radical transformation from a successful entrepreneur to an ascetic devoted to discovering the Creator. Written with an almost poetic honesty, it presents a grpping narrative of discipline, endurance, and transcendence.

A Journey of the Soul: The Himalayas serve as more than just the backdrop for Swami's odyssey-they become a central character, mirroring the challenges and revelations of his inner world. The author's detailed descriptions of his austere lifestyle, rigorous sadhanas and encounters with celestial energies immerse readers in

his spiritual journey. The book's raw and vivid prose captures the

stark beauty of the mountains

and the unforgiving nature of the

terrain, where every moment is a

Spiritual Discipline Redefined: What makes this book especially

compelling is its depiction of

extreme spiritual discipline.

Swami's daily routine of

meditation, mantras, and fasting is as exhausting to read about as

it is inspiring. His ability to

persevere through physical

deprivation, isolation, and

an exceptional strength of spirit.

depth of his longing to encounter

God, transforming what could

have been a remote subject into

test of will and faith.

ABOUT THE BOOK Book: Thirteen Months in by Om Swami Publisher: HarperCollins **Price**: ₹499

moments of self-doubt speaks to His writing makes you feel the something deeply relatable. At its

core, Thirteen Months in the Himalayas is a meditation on faith and purpose. It challenges readers to reflect on their own lives and the sacrifices they are willing to make in pursuit of their truths. The book inspires by showing what is possible when one's commitment to a goal is absolute, even when the goal is as abstract and immense as experiencing the divine.

Accessible Yet Profound: Om Swami's journey is deeply personal, vet its lessons transcend individual experience. This book is a rare gem that inspires introspection, courage and hope. Highly recommended for anyone seeking inspiration to explore the limits of human potential and the boundless nature of the divine.

Rohit must return to opening if he has to throw the first punch: Shastri

Pormer India head coach Ravi Shastri, who knows a thing or two about winning Test rubbers in Australia, on Thursday asked India skipper Rohit Sharma to return to the opening slot "if he has to throw the first punch" on an opponent brimming with confidence. Shastri was serving as team director when India won their maiden Test series in Australia in 2017-18 and was the head coach when the side

The move to slot Rohit at number six did not yield the desired results for India and they were hammered by 10 wickets in the second Test at Adelaide, leaving the five-match clash locked at 1-1 and with everything to play for in what Shastri believes could decide the fate of the series.

rallied brilliantly to stun the

hosts in the last tour in 2020-

"That's where he's (Rohit) been at his best over the last eight or nine years," Shastri was quoted as saying by 'The

Age.
"It's not that he's going to set the world on fire – he could – but that's the place that's best for him...If he has to do damage, if he has to throw the first punch, that's the best place from where he can de place from where he can do

Rohit had only one fifty in his last 10 innings heading into the Pink-ball Test last when Shastri, interestingly, advised against changing the opening combination of Yashasvi Jaiswal and KL Rahul after their success in the position while backing the captain to bat in the middle-order.

Shastri said he has no doubt the winner of the third Test, starting here on Saturday, could go on to claim the series.
"I feel whichever team wins

this Test match will win the series. I have absolutely no doubt in my mind. So it is very, very important that India get the balance right, because Australia have got the confidence back," the former captain said.



The triumph of 2021 is Indian cricket and Shastri, considered one of the greatest in the history of

while speaking at the first annual Usman Khawaja

Foundation lunch at the Gabba, said the unity showed the team,

restrictions due to COVID-19, played a big part in the

"In COVID, the first Test match you start with five bowlers and the same five bowlers don't play the last Test. That says it all, it's like Australia playing without these five bowlers in the last Test of the series, it's a different ball game. Plus you didn't have quite a few batsmen as well. So it's a tribute to the players.

"You can only do so much as a coach from behind the scenes. At the end of it, it's the players who have to go out there and do their job and they were magnificent." Four years ago, after getting bundled out for their lowest Test total of 36 in Adelaide, India made a magnificent comeback to win two of the remaining three games and emerge winners.

Shastri fondly recalled a between conversation Rishabh Pant and Shubman Gill, who was helping out the latter with some useful tips right after his dismissal, as India went for the jugular to score 140 odd runs in the final session of play to shock

which was until then the home team's fortress.

"I'll never forget it," Shastri "Last session, 140 runs to get. We had two different

change rooms because of COVID. I went down from the coaches' room to have a chat with either Rishabh or (Chateshwar) Pujara. When I was about to reach the toilet, I heard a conversation between Gill and Pant.

"Seventy-one overs bowled, Gill had got out for 91, and they were the two youngest players in the side, 21 and 22. Nine overs left, they need the new ball, they'll bring (Marnus) Labuschagne on with his leg spin, you've got to score 45-50 runs there'.

They are planning how they can reach closer to the end score, and no way was I going to stop them, I don't want to change that mindset. So I just walked past and said 'do what you have to do'. In the end, we chased down nearly 150 in that last session."

Prasar Bharati to

broadcast Hockey

The upcoming Hockey India League, which is being revived after seven

years, will be telecast live on

national

country's

broadcaster, Prasar Bharati.

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this

regard was signed in a

ceremony between Abhishek

India League

PTI ■ NEW DELHI



Virat Kohli addresses team ahead of 3rd Test in Brisbane

He used to be the cynosure of all eyes at training sessions during his captaincy days and Virat Kohli was once again the centre of attention as he addressed his teammates here on Thursday.

After the demoralising 10wicket defeat in the Adelaide day/night game, the visitors needed a bit of inspiration Test of the series, and the youngsters in the side couldn't have got a better mentor than 'King' Kohli himself to guide them with his words of wisdom.

The team huddles before the start of the training session has been a constant feature for years now and Kohli used to do a lot of talking during his days in charge

He did take a back seat once he left captaincy but with skipper Rohit also under immense pressure after four straight defeats, the seniormost player (in terms of Test debut) had to take the initiative ahead of the match starting here on Saturday.

With vice-captain Jasprit Bumrah by his side, Kohli was

the group and everyone, including Rohit, listened to him with rapt attention. Rohit faces both new and

semi-new ball in nets

Unlike before the pink ball Test, Rohit looked in far better shape during his net session at the Gabba but question marks remain over whether he would be back to opening the the most consistent bowler in innings or stay put at No. 6, the Indian net session but that which isn't his preferred slot On the day, while KL Rahul Yashasvi Jaiswal once again faced the new ball at the nets, Rohit took on a slightly older Kookaburra at the beginning. Having faced that for some time, he did change nets with Rahul and also

for a while The Gabba pitch has a decent grass cover and has always been one of the most traditional Australian wickets with both seam and bounce being on offer. Rohit's susceptibility has been against the moving deliveries more than bounce, and hence, it would be interesting to see if

played a brand new red cherry

he takes on the challenge head After his session, Rohit and

seen speaking animatedly to head coach Gautam Gambhir were immersed in a lengthy chat and a from a distance, it looked like they were discussing technique. discussing Gambhir was seen shaping up for some shadow drives, with Rohit watching him intently. Akash Deep looks better but

will Gambhir drop Harshit? Akash Deep is believed to be is no indicator that he wil replace the young Harshit Rana, who was taken to task by Travis Head during the

After four wickets on Test debut in Perth, Harshit was smashed for 86 in 16 overs but skipper Rohit came firmly to

second Test in Adelaide.

the youngster's defence.
The burly Harshit can bowl the heavy ball and Gabba, just like the Optus Stadium track, could suit his style of bowling although he has been losing steam in subsequent spells

after the opening one.
Akash Deep at the other hand troubled Jaiswal twice, getting the outside edge of his bat, and those were clear catches in the slip cordon. He also got pat on the back from the

Gujarat Giants appoint Pravin Tambe as bowling coach; Marsh takes over as batting coach

Gujarat Thursday Giants Thursday appointed former leg-spinner Pravin Tambe as their bowling coach, while Australian Daniel Marsh joined the side as batting coach ahead of Women's Premier League

Michael Klinger, who joined the team last season, will continue as the Giants' head

Tambe, who made his IPL debut at the age of 41 back in 2013 for Rajasthan Royals, brings substantial coaching experience, having worked with Kolkata Knight Riders and Lucknow Super Giants. "I'm eager to work with this talented group of players to sharpen their skills and help



them excel," said Tambe. Marsh carries loads of experience, having served as head coach of the Tasmania men's team from 2013 to a fearless approach to our 2017 and was appointed as batting with the aim of

the assistant coach of the Australian women's cricket team in 2022.

"I look forward to developing

making our team one of the strongest batting units of the WPL," said Marsh.
Ahead of the WPL 2025 auction to be held in Bengaluru on Sunday, the Giants had retained players such as Asheigh Gardner such as Ashleigh Gardner and Beth Mooney.

Gujarat Giants' retained players: Ashleigh Gardner, Beth Mooney, Dayalan Hemalatha, Harleen Deol, Mooney, Laura Wolvaardt, Shabnam Shakil. Tanuja Kanwer Phoebe Litchfield, Meghna Singh, Kashvee Gautam, Mishra, Priya Mannat Kashyap, Bharti Fulmali, Sayali Satghare.

Released players: Sneh Rana, Kathryn Bryce, Trisha Poojitha, Krishnamurthy, Tarannum Pathan, Lea Tahuhu

Agarwal, Deputy Director General Sports, Prasar Bharati, and Hockey India Secretary General Bhola Nath Singh. Set to commence on December 28 in Rourkela, HIL will be broadcast live across the nation through Doordarshan and Prasar Bharati's new OTT platform --

This edition of the HIL is path-breaking because it will feature the inaugural season of

the women's league alongside the men's competition. While the men's competition will be played in Rourkela, a

four-team maiden tournament for the women will be hosted at Ranchi.

Navneet Sehgal, chairman Prasar Bharati, emphasised the

importance partnership.

hockey, a sport that has captured the hearts of millions of Indians, and for Prasar Bharati, as we come together to bring the Hockey India League to every corner of the country. Our goal is to showcase this prestigious league to households across India, including remote towns and villages where future

hockey stars are emerging. "With Doordarshan's extensive reach and our OTT platform, Waves, we will ensure that the Hockey India League becomes

inspiring a deeper connection between the sport and its fans. Together, we aim to elevate hockey's prominence and turn it into a true festival for the entire nation," he said.

Momentum is with Australia after win at Adelaide, says Sunil Gavaskar

PTI ■ BRISBANE

legendary will have the momentum in the third Test against India starting on Saturday thanks to their victory in the Pink Ball Test at Adelaide last

Australia levelled the five-Border-Gavaskar match Trophy 1-1 with a 10-wicket win in the day-night Test after losing the first Test at Perth by 295 runs.

The momentum that the Indian team got in Perth was lost during the 10-day gap. Now, the momentum is with Australia because they have won this Test match.' Gavaskar told Star Sports.

"After the Adelaide Test, a few days later, you are playing at The Gabba. So, the momentum is now with the



Australian team," he added. Speaking to the same channel, former spinner Harbhajan Singh said India should try to play their best cricket to register a win at the 'Gabba' before travelling to more favourable venues in Sydney and Melbourne. "Their best chances will be, I series despite the heavy loss

think, in Sydney and Melbourne. Anyway, if you play your best cricket at The Gabba and win there, then you will definitely win one match out of Melbourne or Sydney," Harbhajan said.

He said India have the ability to make a comeback into the

now maybe it's India's turn to turn the tables," he said. owner international wickets too agreed that the long interval between the first and second Test resulted in India losing

The equality of the first two

Tests shows that both teams

Australia has come back;

the momentum. This series is tough because both teams have had losses. What happened with Australia in Perth, maybe

they didn't expect it. And what happened with India in Adelaide, maybe India also didn't expect it.
"Although there was a very long gap in the middle between the two Tests, sometimes such a gap spoils the momentum, and it

happened here," he said.

national celebration,

Manchester City crisis deepens with loss to Juventus in Champions League

Manchester City plunged deeper into trouble in the Champions League by losing 2-0 at Juventus, the latest setback in a scarcely believable run of poor results for the ailing English champions.

City dropped to 22nd place in the 36-team standings, with only the top 24 advancing. Progressing to the next round of the new-look format looked

a certainty before the season for a team that was European champion in 2023 and has won the last four Premier League titles. But not anymore manager Pep Guardiola battles injuries and an apparent loss of belief

among his players. City has won just one of its last 10 matches in all competitions, with goals by Dušan Vlahovic

inflicting the latest defeat and igniting Juventus' qualification

midfielder Gundogan described the team's problem as a "mental

Opponents "are able to break our rhythm with the smallest of things," Gundogan said on Wednesday "They don't even need to do much and it has such a big

effect on us right now." Barcelona jumped into second place in the league standings, behind Liverpool, and is guaranteed to advance after a 3-2 win at Borussia Dortmund. Raphinha and Ferran Torres, with two goals,

scored for Barca. Arsenal beat Monaco 3-0 mainly thanks to two goals by Bukayo Saka to move into place.

Weston McKennie third place and be the highest of six teams on 13 points. The top eight qualify directly

for the last 16 and the teams placed No. 9-24 go into a twolegged playoff. Danger for City City has two games to save its

faltering Champions League campaign and the first is against Paris Saint-Germain, another giant in trouble in 25th place — one spot out of the qualifying positions.

Vlahovic put Juventus ahead in the 53rd when he powered a header goalward straight at City goalkeeper Ederson, who could only parry the ball over his own line. Two American substitutes sealed the win for Juve, with McKennie volleying home from Timothy Weah's

Juventus moved into 14th

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Super-sub Torres Ferran Torres came off the bench to inspire Barcelona to a fifth win in six games and push Dortmund, last season's runner-up, out of the top

Torres came on in the 71st to

replace Robert Lewandowski,

who had a quiet game against his former club. Just four minutes later, Torres scored a goal on the rebound from Dani Olmo's shot.

Serhou Guirassy's second goal of the game leveled the score at 2-2 but Torres scored again in the 85th off Lamine Yamal's

pass on the counter. Raphinha gave Barcelona the lead before Guirassy equalised from the penalty spot.
Raphinha and Guirassy are
tied for second place in the
scoring chart on six goals,
behind Lewandowski's

Home comforts for Arsenal Arsenal secured a third straight home win without conceding in the league stage, with Saka scoring in the 34th and 78th minutes and sending in a shot that was turned into the net by substitute Kai

competition-high seven.

Havertz in the 88th. Arsenal is ahead of Bayer Leverkusen, Aston Villa, Inter Milan, Brest and Lille on goal difference. Lille won 3-2 at home to Sturm Graz on Wednesday.

In-form Alvarez Man City could sure do with

Julian Alvarez at the moment. With a brilliant curling finish to open the scoring, the Argentina striker helped Atletico Madrid beat Slovan Bratislava 3-1 and provide a timely reminder of what City is missing after selling him for more than USD 100 million in August. Alvarez has 12 goals for the season, with four coming in the Champions League.

Antoine Griezmann scored Atletico's other two goals at Metropolitano stadium as the Spanish team climbed to 11th place after a 10th straight win in all competitions.

Tribute to grieving teammate When Lukasz Lakomy gave Young Boys the lead against Stuttgart, he ran toward the sideline and held up teammate Meschack Elia's jersey as others gathered around him.

The gesture was a tribute after Elia's son died unexpectedly this week after a short illness. Elia wasn't playing as he was on his way to his native Congo, where his son died, to be with his family.

Both teams wore black armbands and there was a moment of silence before the game, which was won 5-1 by Stuttgart. Late winner

Tammy Abraham scored an 87th-minute winner as AC Milan beat Red Star Belgrade 2-1 to move one point off the top eight. Milan lost Alvaro Morata and Ruben Loftus-Cheek to muscle injuries in the first half.

Benfica's five-match winning streak ended with a 0-0 home draw against Bologna, and Feyenoord had a 4-2 win over Sparta Prague.

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