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ARCHITECT OF INDIAN ECONOMY PASSES AWAY

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DEI HI

Former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, the architect of India's economic reforms, died on Thursday night. He was 92. Singh's death was announced by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Delhi, where he was admitted in the Emergency ward around 8.30 PM in a critical condition.

An AIIMS bulletin said "he was treated for age related medical conditions and had sudden loss of consciousness at home" on December 26. "Resuscitative measures were started immediately at home. He was brought to the medical emergency at AIIMS Delhi at 8.06 pm. Despite all efforts, he could not be revived and was declared dead at 9.51 pm," said the bulletin.

Singh, who was PM for two terms in the Congress-led



United Progressive Alliance (UPA) Government from 2004 to 2014, had been in poor health for the last few months. He is survived by wife Gurcharan Singh and three daughters. Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra and her mother Sonia Gandhi reached the hospital as soon as the news of his hospitalisation became known.

Singh, who was Finance Minister under the then PM PV Narasimha Rao, was the



architect and the brainchild of economic reforms in 1991 that pulled India from the brink of bankruptcy and ushered in an era of economic liberalisation that is widely believed to have changed the course of India's economic trajectory.

Singh died as the Congress party concluded its Congress Working Committee meeting at Belagavi in Karnataka, where all top party leaders were present. Party chief Mallikarjun Kharge and

Rahul Gandhi rushed to Delhi from Belagavi followed by several top party leaders and workers from across the country.

A galaxy of leaders across the

political party lines condoled the death of Singh with Prime Minister Narendra Modi remarking "We had extensive deliberations on various subjects relating governance; his wisdom,

humility were always visible". "With the passing of former PM Manmohan Singh, India has lost a visionary statesman, a leader of unimpeachable integrity," said Mallikarjun Kharge. "Manmohan Singh's economic policy of liberalisation and rightsbased welfare paradigm profoundly transformed lives of crores,"Kharge added before leaving the CWC meet at Belagavi.

"Few people in politics inspire the kind of respect that Sardar Singh did. Manmohan Manmohan Singh's honesty will always be an inspiration

for us. He remained steadfast in commitment to serve the nation despite being subjected to unfair, deeply personal attacks,"Priyanka Gandhi said as her husband Robert Vadra was the first to announce on social media the demise of Dr Singh.

Rahul Gandhi in his remarks said he lost a mentor and guide as millions like him admired Dr Singh who will be remembered with the utmost pride. "Manmohan Singh Ji led India with immense

wisdom and integrity. His humility and understanding of economics inspired the nation. My heartfelt condolences to Mrs. Kaur and the family," Rahul Gandhi said.

Here is the timeline of his five-decade old career in bureaucracy and politics. 1954: Completed Master's in Economics from Panjab University 1957: Economic Tripos (3-year degree prog) from Cambridge University 1962: D.Phil in Economics

Joins Government of India as Economic Advisor Commerce Ministry 1972: Appointed Chief Economic Advisor in Finance Ministry 1980-82: Member, Planning Commission

1982-1985: Governor of the Reserve Bank of India 1985-87: Served as Deputy Chairman of Planning Commission 1987-90: Secretary General of South Commission in Geneva 1990: Appointed Advisor to Prime Minister on Economic Affairs Appointed March 1991: chairman of University Grants Commission 1991: Elected to Rajya Sabha from Assam, and re-elected in 1995, 2001, 2007 and 2013 1991-96: Finance Minister under P V Narasimha Rao 1998-2004: government Leader of the Opposition in Sabha 2004-2014:

Prime Minister of India. Continued on page 2

Congress and AAP cloud over INDIA Bloc

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

n a development that could be a major setback to the India Bloc as the growing rift between the Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) has escalated into open hostility thereby putting the alliance on shaky grounds. The AAP on Thursday threatened that it would talk to other parties of the INDIA Bloc to remove the Congress from the alliance, if it didn't take action against Delhi Congress leader Ajay Maken for making derogatory remarks against supremo Arvind Kejriwal, calling him an 'anti national'. The AAP leaders now demanded that the Congress take disciplinary action against Maken and other party leaders within 24 hours.

Slamming Congress for having crossed all boundaries, Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Singh accompanied by Chief Minister Atishi warned that the AAP has given an ultimatum to its leadership to take immediate action against Maken within 24 hours, failing which AAP will be forced demand Congress's expulsion from the INDIA Bloc. "We will ask the other parties

in the alliance to remove the Congress," Singh said. He further alleged that the Congress's Delhi unit is working with the BJP to ensure AAP's defeat in the Delhi polls due early next year. Atishi accused the Congress's candidates' list is being prepared by the BJP, and their funding is also being provided by them.

This comes amidst rising tensions and accusations from both sides, further weakening the opposition bloc. The reason for the AAP's grouse is the Congress' FIR against Kejriwal on charges of fraud and forgery, accusing him of "misleading and deceiving" the



Kejriwal may lose NDMC membership

SAUMYA SHUKLA NEW DELHI

passed Wednesday resolution condemning former Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) convener Arvind Kejriwal for failing to implement the Narendra Modi-led Government's flagship scheme Ayushman Bharat. The Council is seeking legal opinion from the law department to cancel his membership as he has not been able to attend the meetings.

The AAP Convenor is an exofficio member of the council, which falls under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), since he is the MLA New Delhi the constituency. Assembly Kejriwal has consecutively missed the meetings of the

new council for the fourth also passed a censure motion time since the first took place against Kejriwal on the fraud The New Delhi Municipal on November 9 and also of 'Mukhyamantri Mahila missed the oath taking ceremony. Launching an allout attack on the AAP supremo Arvind Keiriwal from all corners ahead of the Delhi Assembly elections 2025, NDMC Vice-Chairman Kuljeet Chahal flagged the issue of him remaining absent from the council meetings, stating that the law department has been consulted in the matter and will reply by the next weekly meeting about the legality of

the matter. The matter will be raised in the next council meeting after receiving the department's response," he said while addressing the media. A condemnation resolution was also passed in the meeting against the AAP chief. The members of the Council

Samman' Yojna'. Chahal said, "Kejriwal is not allowing the Ayushman Bharat Yojna implemented by the Prime Minister to reach the citizens of Delhi due to his personal and political reasons."

New Delhi BJP Member of Parliament P Bansuri Swaraj, who is also a member of the NDMC, attended meeting. "Today I attended meting of the weekly meeting of NDMC with the council officials. In the meeting, a resolution condemning the neglect of public interest by former Chief Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal by not implementing the Ayushman Bharat scheme in Delhi was unanimously passed," she shared in a tweet.

Continued on page 2

public with promises of nonexistent welfare schemes and derogatory remarks by senior Congress leaders Ajay Maken and Sandeep Dikshit on party's national convener.

The tension escalated during the Winter session of Parliament when murmurs arose about changing the leadership of the INDIA Bloc, with some including Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) chief Lalu Prasad suggesting Mamata Banerjee to take over. The INDIÁ Bloc, comprising parties like the Samajwad Party, Trinamool Congress RJD, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK), Shiv Sena (UBT), and AAP face a crucial test of unity. The AAP's decision to hold talks with its allies could deepen the ongoing crisis. Singh accused Maken, and

Dikshit of targeting AAP instead of focusing on the BJP. Singh slammed Maken for allegedly calling Kejriwal "antinational" and urged Congress to take action against him within 24 hours. "At this point, all limits have been crossed. anti-national-such audacity from Ajay Maken and his party is unacceptable. I demand that the Congress take action against Ajay Maken within 24 hours. Otherwise, we will appeal to the other constituent parties of the INDIA Bloc to expel Congress from the alliance," asserted the AAP Rajya Sabha MP.

Ajay Maken reads the BJP script, makes statements at the BJP's behest, and targets AAP leaders on BJP's instructions. And yesterday, he crossed all limits and called our leader Arvind Kejriwal anti-nation," Singh said. The Congress or Ajay Maken have never called any BJP leader in Delhi "antinational", Singh said.



EC makes world's largest electoral dataset public

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

 $T^{
m he\ Election\ Commission}_{
m (EC)\ on\ Thursday\ released}$ the world's largest electoral dataset for 2024 Lok Sabha and four State Assembly polls held this year. The move was aimed at enhancing "public trust" in the country's electoral system at a time when the opposition has been raising doubts over its credibility after it changed its rules to restrict public access to CCTV footage of polling booths and other poll documents. Sources in the election

watchdog said since the One Nation One Election (ONOE) has been the Parliament and a Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) is monitoring it, this will help stakeholders to tread the path of ambitious simultaneous polls in the country. The EC officials asserted that such granular data is not shared by any of the election management bodies in democracies across the world. "This suo motu initiative is to enhance the public trust that constitutes the underpinning of India's electoral system," the EC said. In its 40 statistical reports related to LOk Sabha 2024 polls, released by the poll body on Thursday showed that the six national parties bagged over 63 per cent share Continued on page 2 | of the total valid votes polled

in the Lok Sabha elections held this year. The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Congress, Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)], Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) and National People's Party (NPP) are the six national parties. Six recognised National parties, 47 State parties and 690 registered, unrecognised political parties contested the Parliamentary polls. Besides, 3,905 independent

candidates forfeited the deposits. Out of the 3,921 independent candidates, 279 were women, the EC noted. The datasets cover a range of variables such as detail PC/AC /State wise electors, number of polling stations, State/ PC wise voter turnout, Party wise vote share, genderbased voting behaviour. It also included State wise participation of women electors and much more. "This suo moto initiative, is to

enhance the public trust that constitutes the underpinning of India's electoral system, the poll body said in the Statement. "The release of extensive data sets is also in furtherance of the Commission's policy maximum disclosure, greater transparency and accessibility of election-related data for all stakeholders including academia, research and the general public," it added.

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FIR registered in forged voter ID case: Delhi Police

SAUMYA SHUKLA NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police has registered a case against four individuals in connection with forgery in Voter ID card applications for the purpose of new voter registration and address shifting after the Election office agged suspicious cases to them in southeast Delhi's Shaheen Bagh.

On Wednesday, the Election Commission flagged four such suspicious cases to the Delhi Police, following which the police registered cases under section 336 (Forgery for the purpose of cheating) and Section 340 BNS (Using forged documents as genuine). "It is to inform you that certain applicants have submitted online applications for voter registration through Form-6 and Form-8 by fraudulent means. These applicants have uploaded false documents, which have been tampered with, in support of their applications," the Election Registration Officer stated.

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From deep sea, to outer space, **Indian explorers will make history**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ HYDERABAD

As India is gearing up for its first space Amission in 2026, plans are afoot to send a human into the deep sea the same year thereby showcasing the country's prowess in frontier scientific endeavours. Disclosing this, Union Minister of State(Independent Charge) for Science, Jitendra Singh said on Thursday "... One Indian up there, and one Indian in the deep sea. That will be once again, a record of sorts." He also emphasised the increasing importance of oceanic exploration in the country's journey toward becoming a 'Viksit Bharat'.' The Centre is planning to send a human into

the deep sea with the mission likely to coincide with the human space mission in early 2026, Singh said while speaking at the Commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the 2004 Indian Ocean Tsunami' at the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS). The minister recalled that Prime Minister Narendra Modi had mentioned the Deep Sea Mission in the past Independence Day address.

"We are also planning to send a human into the deep sea. I was telling Ravichandran (Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences) that it would be a strange coincidence-one human in space and another in the deep sea. This will



The human space mission, initially planned for 2025, may not take place next year, but is now expected in early 2026, he added.

Advocating for the sustainable exploration and conservation of India's 7,500-kilometre coastline and its abundant marine resources, the minister said the government is working to create an ecosystem to support these

He told a news agency that the services and information provided by INCOIS are not only relevant to coastal communities along India's shoreline but also to people worldwide.

Continued on page 2

Beware the gangs Gurugram, 200 gangsters arrested so far

PARVESH SHARMA

🗖 n a major crackdown against **L**active gangs involved in various crimes, the Gurugram police have arrested 200 members of 80 gangs, between January 1 to December 13 this year. While revealing the data, police said a number of 406 cases were also registered against them, and Rs 3.67 Crore were also recovered from their possession. The arrested accused were

mainly involved in robbery, house-breaking, theft, vehicle theft, snatching, ATM fraud, murder and others. The Gurugram police's crime branch teams and police station teams work hard to nab these criminals and recover huge amounts from them" Vikas Arora, Commissioner of Gurugram Police, said. Meanwhile, police said a

special drive was initiated against these criminals at the direction of the Gurugram Police Commissioner. Many among the apprehended

offenders, were evading arrest for a long time. "We identified such offenders by collecting data from courts, sources and other inputs to keep an eye on the movements and activities of the criminals and anti-social elements. We believe such elements can be a threat to the city and disrupt law and order situation or execute any crime, Varun Dahiya, ACP (Crime), said.

He said that such operations against the Proclaimed Offenders (POs), bail jumpers and as well as other dreaded culprits will be continued in future to further ensure a sense of security and safety among the people. Dahiya said that specific information and public cooperation are very important when it comes to tackling and preventing crime. Apart from that, he emphasised that cooperation between police and the public plays a significant role in investigating and prosecuting criminals engaged in different offences. "They were arrested other

after receiving information



from specific resources to keep an eve on the movements and activities of the criminals and anti-social elements. We believe such elements can be a threat to the city and disrupt law and order situation or execute any crime," he said. Apart from this, the Gurugram police had also recovered Rs 83.41 crores from 1,658 Cyber Fraudsters, including 22 bank officials of different banks in just 11 months from January 2024 to 30 November 2024, the Gurugram police said.

Senior police officers of the Gurugram claimed that the police are closely working with agencies and organisations to counter these

frauds. "The cyber fraudsters commit fraud by luring people with good profits, investing in the stock market, reducing electricity bills, in the name of buying/selling cheap goods online, sextortion through video calls on WhatsApp, morphing, sending links through various means, posing as a customs officer/police officer in the name of implicating false case, in the name of issuing a No-Objection Certificate, digitally

arresting people by showing the fear of implicating them in a criminal case, etc," Priyanshu Diwan, ACP (cybercrime), Cyber fraudsters call people

and pretend to be police officers and commit fraud by telling them that any of their acquaintances or relatives have broken any law or that any of their relatives or acquaintances are ill, police said. They also dupe people; when people search for customer care numbers on Google for online hotel booking, wine delivery or for taking loans, cyber fraudsters keep their numbers there so that people call cyber fraudsters, and cyber fraudsters cheat them by taking them into confidence," Diwan said.

"As per the instructions of the Gurugram police chief, and to create awareness about cyber crimes, officials of RWA of residential societies, schools, companies and various institutions in Gurugram are being made aware by giving information about cyber crimes. We appealed to the public to steer clear of such dubious callers and advised caution in sharing personal details to strangers stalking them online," he added.

For school holiday, senior murders Class two student

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

The gruesome murder of an 11-year-old Class 2 student, Kritarth, at DL Public School's residential hostel in Hathras has left the community in shock and raised serious questions about safety and accountability in educational institutions. The police have detained a senior student, alleging that he killed Kritarth because he wanted the school to close for holi-days. However, Kritarth's family has dismissed this account, accusing the school management of negligence and misdirection.

Kritarth, a resident of Chursen village in Chandpa, was found dead on September 23, 2024, in the car of the school manager, Dinesh Baghel. According to police reports, the accused, a

Class 8 student from confessed to trying to kill two Mathura, admitted to strangling Kritarth with a towel on the night of September 22 while all the hostel students were asleep.

The accused claimed during interrogation that he had seen online that schools shut down temporarily in cases of serious incidents or deaths. Believing this, he planned to kill a junior student. "I thought if I strangled a younger child, it would be quick, unnoticed, and would lead to a school closure," the boy allegedly told police.

The postmortem report confirmed that Kritarth had been strangulated. There were visible injury marks on his neck, corroborating the police's

Four days prior to the murder, the accused broke the CCTV cameras installed near the hostel stairs, reportedly to avoid being caught. He also unattiple times, the manager was eventually stopped near

other students earlier but failing.

After the murder, he threw the towel used in the crime near the henna trees behind the school. He later retrieved and discarded it again. On December 16, police recovered the towel based on the accused's statement.

Kritarth's family has outrightly rejected the police's version of events. His father, Shri Krishna, a software engineer, and uncle.

Ghanshyam, alleged that school manager Dinesh Baghel is primarily responsible for the murder.

The family narrated their ordeal, saying that when they were informed by the school of Kritarth's alleged illness, they rushed to the hostel, only to find him missing. After confronting Baghel

Saadabad with Kritarth's life-

less body in his car.
"The police are shielding the real culprits. The dead body was found in the manager's car, yet he has been acquitted of the murder charges. We will move to the High Court," said Ghanshyam.

Manager Dinesh Baghel and his family have denied any involvement in the murder. His wife, Pushpa, stated, "We trust the judiciary. My husband and other staff have been granted bail because there is no evidence against them."

The accused student's family also denied the allegations, calling them baseless. His father, a small-scale supplier of cakes in Mathura, claimed the police had falsely impli-cated his son. "My son has been made a scapegoat. Why would he commit such a crime just to get holidays?" he



LG meets industrialists to address key issues

on 'X'.

STAFF REPORTE ■ NEW DELHI

The Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Thursday interacted with 200 Industrialists operating in the national Capital who raised various pressing issues including exorbitant power tariffs, waterlogging and dark spots

among others.
"In the "Samvaad@RajNiwas dialogue series, engaged with nearly 200 representatives of industrial units operating in "Industrial Areas" across Delhi, today. Having visited such areas, on many occasions in the past, this was the first structured interaction at the Raj Niwas," Police will immediately address the Delhi LG shared in a post their concerns and other agen-

"During the session, industrialists from areas such as Kirti Nagar, Badli, Udyog Nagar, Wazirpur and Okhla etc., raised several pressing issues, includ-ing exorbitant power tariffs, unavailability of potable and industrial water, waterlogging, dark spots, insufficient fire stations, encroachments, lease agreements, freehold property concerns, subsidies for solar plant installations, lack of ESI health centres and inadequate DTC bus connectivity," he said.

He assured the participants

that Delhi Development

Authority (DDA) and Delhi Police will immediately address

and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd. (DSIIDC), Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), Power and Delhi Jal Board, would be requested to address their grievances and other related long-standing issues

promptly.

cies like Delhi State Industrial

Reiterated my commitment to improving the Ease of Doing Business in Delhi, which in turn contributes significantly to the city's financial health and creates employment. Also urged the representatives of industries to fulfil their tax obligations on time and ensure that no activity is undertaken that causes pollution in the city," he stated.

Security tightened for Suvendu Adhikari in West Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

The West Bengal government has tightened security net-work concerning Opposition leader Suvendu Adhikari following intelligence reports that several Bangladesh fundamentalist organisations were planning attack on him. Adhikari has already been afforded Z category protection by the central government.

Adhikari has been highly vocal against the attacks on the minority Hindus in Bangladesh following the change of power and ouster of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina from that country. "The police administration is alert concerning the security of all the citizens including the Leader of Opposition ... and security apparatus are all in place," a senior police official on Thursday said adding it was 'not out of ordinary for the State Government to receive security alerts from the central agencies

... from time to time." State Government sources conceded that central intelligence agencies had sent alerts mentioning that at least two fundamentalist outfits based in Bangladesh were planning to attack carry out attacks on Adhikari. Meanwhile the Trinamool Congress sources dismissed threat perception against Adhikari saying it were all devices to malign the Mamata Banerjee Government.

lose NDMC membership

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Chahal also informed that on May 25, 2022, the Council had given in-principle approval to implementation of the Centre's flagship 'Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana' (AB-PMJÁY) scheme for the residents of New Delhi area in a meeting in which the then Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal himself was present.

"Ayushman Bharat Yojna, launched by the Prime Minister, is one of the flagship schemes of the Government of India. This scheme was created to achieve the goal of universal health coverage under the recommendation of National Health Policy 2017. The Prime Minister had ordered to implement this scheme in all the states, but the Delhi Government has deprived the citizens of Delhi of this scheme due to political reasons," he said.

From deep sea, to outer space, Indian...

From page 1

Lauding the state-of-the-art facility, he said the institute is providing services that contribute not only to the development of a 'Viksit Bharat' but also to India's significant contribution to the

Recalling the devastation caused by the 2004 Tsunami, Singh spoke about the crucial lessons learned and the transformative policies that followed. He added that the catalysed establishment of institutions like INCOIS, which now stands as a testament to India's commitment to safeguarding lives livelihoods.

An official release in 2023 had stated that as a part of the Mission Samudrayaan undertaken by the Union Ministry of Earth Sciences, the country aims to send three individuals 6,000 meters sea level exploration.

Kejriwal may AAP alleges BJP distributing cash in Delhi, files complaint



Delhi Chief Minister Atishi and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) leader Sanjay Singh address a press conference. Ranian Dimri

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

AP Rajya Sabha MP Sanjay Asingh on Thursday lodged complaint with the Enforcement Directorate (ED) complaining against two BJP leaders for allegedly distributing cash to people ahead of the Delhi Singh also lashed out at the ED

after he failed to meet officials of the agency to lodge the complaint against former BJP MP Parvesh Verma and former MLA Manjinder Singh Sirsa. He said he sought an appointment through email to meet the

ED officials at 4 pm in order to lodge a complaint on the behalf of the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

The complaint of AAP was received by the agency but its officials did not meet the party delegation, he said.

"In the constituency of AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal, Rs 1,100 each were openly given to the voters as bribe (on Wednesday). Crores of rupees would be recovered if the ED conducts raid at former MP Verma's residence," the AAP leaders told reporters.

Former Delhi chief minister Kejriwal, representing the New Delhi seat since 2013 in the Assembly, is the AAP candidate from the constituency for the upcoming polls due in February. Singh rued that the ED officials refused to meet him. "The ED,

which is so active in everything, has no time to meet the AAP leaders. It means, it functions as an agency to act only at the command of the ruling party to topple governments and arrest opposition leaders including chief ministers," he alleged." The AAP MP said he will also of Investigation (CBI), Income Tax department and Election Commission (EC) to lodge complaint against the BJP leaders. On the other hand, Verma maintained that the money was given to women by social organisation Rashtriya Swabhiman, founded by his father and former chief minister Sahib Singh

Delhi Police boost security for New Year's Eve celebrations

STAFF REPORTER NEW

The Delhi Police has inten-I sified security arrangements and increased deployments in the border areas of the national Capital for new

year celebrations.
More than 10,000 police personnel, including traffic police, are expected to be on the ground to rein in hooliganism and traffic violations. After Christmas, we have made a robust plan for the security arrangements for new year eve. We want everyone to welcome the new year with allowed to breach the law. Additional pickets, barricades and personnel -- including paramilitary deployment will be made at the borders of the Capital to tackle nuisance by people from the adjoining states," a senior police officer

from where vehicles enter the national Capital.

Haryana and Uttar Pradesh stunt-like activities.

and lies close to Rajasthan. A large number of people from these three states arrive in the national Capital for new year celebrations. The police already deployed police personnel at more than 10 locations for Christmas, but now they have intensified their security and heavy deployment has already been done on more than 15 locations

The traffic police has already chalked out a plan to combat motorcycle stunts and drink driving. Additional forces from different police stations traffic police," another senior police officer said. According to the police, there will be shift duties and SHOs have been ordered to be on the road with their teams to maintain law and order on new year eve. Teams will impound two or four wheeler immediately if Delhi shares borders with anyone is found indulging in

and take legal action against

seeking registration as voters

in the assembly area on the

basis of tempered documents.

Muslim applicants

always political life and his utmost EC makes world's largest...

payment of salaries Arvind Kejriwal to demand the

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

A group of 250 Imams and Muazzins, employed under the Delhi Waqf Board, on Thursday protested outside the residence of former Chief Minister and AAP supremo

release of their pending salaries for over 1.5 years. The delegation, which was led by President of the All India Imam Association Maulana Sajid Rashidi, demanded immediate action in the issue.

Architect of Indian economy passes away

Waqf employees protest non

From page 1

President Draupadi Murmu led the nation to condole the demise of former PM. "Former Prime Minister Dr of those rare politicians who also straddled the worlds of academia and administration with equal ease. In his various roles în public offices, he made critical contributions to reforming Indian economy. remembered for his service to the nation, his unblemished

humility. His passing is a great loss to all of us. I pay my respectful homage to one of the greatest sons of Bharat and convey my heartfelt condolences to his family, Murmu said in a statement.

As a correspondent this reporter was fortunate to have covered Dr Manmohan's last Press conference as PM when he announced to hang his boots from active politics on January 3, 2014 and from where he remarked that history will be kind to him than the contemporary India.

FIR registered in forged voter ID case: Delhi Police

The accused includes Md. Jamil Alam, for submitting forged Aadhar Card, and Kisunce, Mohd. Naim, and Khatoon, submitting a tampered electricity bill. "The Delhi Police, Shaheen Bagh police station, has registered a case following a complaint received from the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO) of (Okhla). complaint highlights serious instances of forgery in voter ID card applications, where documents were

submitted by four individuals for the purpose of new voter registration and address shifting," Deputy Commissioner of Police (Southeast) Ravi Kumar

Singh said. He added that the applicants attempted to misuse these documents for shifting their registered address for voting purposes and registering as voters "The constituency. investigation is ongoing to

the

individuals and any possible

accomplices or networks

involved in these fraudulent

activities," the DCP added. In its letter, the ERO said, "It has been found that the applicants have attempted to deceive the authorities by tampering with documents, including Aadhar Cards and electricity bills, as proof of identity and residence." Describing it as 'a serious offence', it added that the

applicants have intentionally provided false information documents manipulate the electoral roll. "The Representation of the People Act, 1950, and other

relevant laws prohibit such

activities and provide for

guilty," it said. The ERO asked the police to prompt action to investigate the cases and prevent such fraudulent activities in the future. "The police is requested to verify documents information provided by the applicants and take necessary

documents," the letter read, while also providing supporting documents as evidence. Meanwhile, the Delhi BJP

welcomed the decision of

actions against those found

guilty of tampering with

Reacting on the issue, Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva said, "A Delhi BJP delegation had met the Chief

penalties for those found ERO to lodge a police case

Election Commissioner of India and other Election Commissions and requested that bogus voters and bogus vote applicants need to checked and legal action be taken to check bogus votes of Muslim Bangladeshis and Rohingyas getting registered."

The data showed a total of over 97.97 crore citizens had registered themselves as electors as compared to over 91.19 crore in 2019, an increase of 7.43 per cent. Out of these registered electors,

candidates.

data

number of women contesting

candidates with 111 in the

fray, followed by 80 in Uttar Pradesh and 77 in Tamil

Nadu. But at the same time,

out of the total 543 Lok Sabha

constituencies, there were 152

where there were no women

showed

64.64 crore had cast votes in 2024, compared to 61.4 crore in 2019. It also showed that 42.81 lakh postal votes were received but 5.35 lakh were rejected owing to various reasons, including late submission. The data on Lok Sabha polls,

2024 and four Assembly elections, Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Sikkim Arunachal Pradesh, held alongside parliamentary polls comes against the backdrop of allegations of non-disclosure by the EC.

Referring women participation in the polls, EC said the number of female contesting candidates was 800, compared to 726 in 2019. The data showed that total votes polled, using EVM and postal ballot option, stood at 64,64,20,869. Votes polled on EVMs alone stood at

64,21,39,275, with 32,93,61,948 male voters and 31,27,64,269 female voters. A Maharashtra had the highest little over 13,000 registered third gender voters exercised their franchise (27.09 per cent), according to the data Nearly 43 lakh electors used the postal ballot option to

> The Dhubri parliamentary constituency registered the highest turnout of 92.3 per cent while Srinagar in Jammu and Kashmir registered the lowest turnout of 38.7 per cent, compared to 14.4 per cent in

> According to the dataset issued by the EC, as many as 11 parliamentary constituencies saw voting percentage of less than 50 per cent.Repolls, the EC pointed out, were held in 40 polling stations or 0.0038 per cent of the total 10.52 lakh polling stations as compared to 540 in

> Referring to overseas Indian electors, EC said over 1,19 lakh such people were registered in the category, including 1.06 lakh men, 12,950 women and 13 third gender, compared to 99,844 registered overseas electors in 2019. Overseas Indian electors are those who are Indian citizens residing abroad due to various reasons and eligible to vote here. They have come to India to vote showing their original passport as a proof of

Congress and AAP cloud over IN

accused

"The audacity Ajay Maken has shown, I demand that the Congress acts against him within 24 hours. Otherwise we will approach the partners in the INDIA Bloc and seek removal of Congress from the Bloc," he

"We had not said a single word against the Congress during the Haryana election. Yet the Congress seems to be reading out from the BJP's script. Its candidates' list looks as if it was finalised at the BJP office," Singh said. Atishi echoed similar sentiments, stating that

undermining AAP. Atishi said the Congress's actions and words make it clear that it has "tied up" with the BJP for the Delhi election. The Delhi CM also noted that Congress had filed an

FIR against her and Arvind Kejriwal. "Why? Has Congress filed any FIR against any BJP leader ever? We have found through credible sources candidates' Congress election expenditure is coming from the BJP. BJP is Congress candidates. We have heard

that Sandeep Dikshit is getting funded by BJP,"

"If Congress thinks we

identify

(AAP) are anti-national, then why did they contest Lok Sabha elections in alliance with us? It is clear that Congress leaders have reached some mutual understanding with BJP to defeat AAP and make BJP win in Delhi. If there is no understanding between Congress and BJP, then they should take action against Ajay Maken within 24 hours," she said.

Earlier in its complaint, the

Youth Congress claimed AAP was using "false and

deceptive" promises to gain

voters' trust. The Congress

also accused the AAP of public misappropriating funds through deceptive leaders, including MLAs and MCD councillors, have been actively collecting sensitive personal information such as voter ID details and phone numbers through an online registration process requiring OTP verification," the complaint alleged. Besides this, the Congress has questioned AAP and

Kejriwal on two schemes, free treatment and Rs 2,100 per month to women. The schemes were announced in view of the upcoming Delhi assembly elections 2025.

Adding fuel to the fire, Congress leaders in several Delhi have openly targeted convener Arvind Kejriwal. Maken accused Kejriwal of corruption and administrative failure and called him an 'anti national'. "During the pandemic, when people were dying, Arvind Kejriwal spent crores on a luxurious bungalow. Even after 11 years, ration cards have not been issued to thousands of families in Delhi," Maken said. He also claimed that funds meant for welfare schemes were wasted on advertising campaigns. Moreover, former Delhi CM Sheila Dikshit's son Sandeep

Dikshit also attacked AAP and Kejriwal. Citing the conditions set out by the Supreme Court for his release from prison in the excise policy case, Dikshit said that Kejriwal is unfit for the CM post. He explained that Kejriwal cannot sign files or go to the

office, thus, the necessity of appointing Atishi as the CM. Dikshit is contesting against Arvind Kejriwal from the Delhi assembly constituency upcoming state polls. This contest is not just a political one but is also being seen as a means of settling scores against Kejriwal.

Delhi LG extends PM-**UDAY** camps till March 2025

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

In light of the overwhelming response of the people, Delhi Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena has directed Delhi Development Authority (DDA)to extend the organisation of Single Window Camps for PM-UDAY till March, 2025, Raj Niwas said on Thursday.

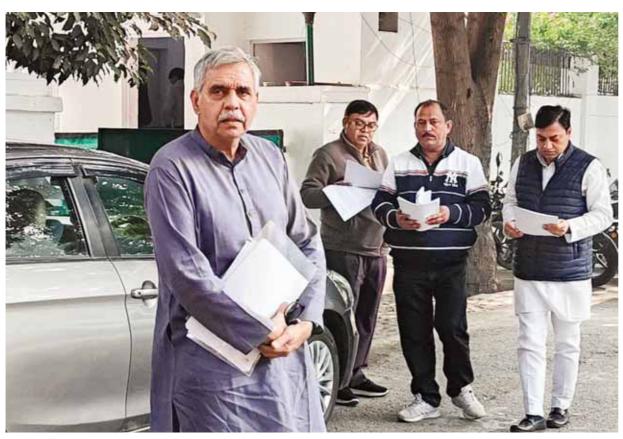
The camps started from 30.11.2024 till 22.12.2024 over eight days on the weekends during this period were attended by 19,313 applicants of which 3,599 applicants were new. What came out as the outstand-

ing aspect of these camps was the fact that during these eight days, due to coordinated and proactive efforts of the departments and agencies concerned, as many as 1,152 Conveyance Deeds and Authorisation Slips were issued and 283 properties were even registered by the Sub-Registrars, providing final ownership rights to the property holders, officials said.

The camps, which had officials of the DDA, Revenue Department and others also had SRs present at the camp sites, which ensured that not only Conveyance Deeds and Authorisation Slips were issued, but final registry also happened.

The above data suggests that the ambitious PM-UDAY Scheme launched with the aim of regularising unauthorised colonies by providing ownership rights to property owners in such colonies, has gained unprecedented momentum, thanks to DDA's massive public outreach, after directions from and under supervision of Delhi LG. Saxena, who had been reviewing the status of progress of PM-UDAY. Accordingly, in the last meeting to review the program in November, the LG had directed DDA to hold special camps

Sandeep Dikshit files complaint against AAP's women's scheme



Sandeep Dikshit met LG regarding welfare schemes promised by AAP.

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

New Delhi constituency and former MP Sandeep Dikshit submitted a complaint against AAP's 'Mahila Samman Yojana', alleging that the party was committing a fraud on Delhiites. The son of three-time Congress Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit also alleged that the AAP government in Punjab had sent policemen in plain clothes to Delhi to collect "electoral information", an act amounting to spying. The Congress leader alleged two Punjab cops were recently spotted near his house, confirming the alleged misuse of Punjab government machinery in

In the complaint filed by Dikshit, he alleged that the

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) workers were collecting phone ongress candidates from numbers and addresses of women by making them fill out forms for a scheme that does

> Delhi Chief Minister Atishi and AAP supremo Arvind Kejriwal announced that the 'Mahila Samman Yojana' was already operational in the city which is not the case, Dikshit

not exist.

"I want cheating cases to be filed against Kejriwal and the Chief Minister. The data collected from women should be confiscated and returned to each of them. The personal details of women can even be misused," he said, sharing his plans to give a written complaint to Lieutenant-Governor

"Any political party can

promise anything. If they had said that they would give Rs 2,100 if they win the elections, then there was no issue. But they said that a scheme of Rs 1,000 is going on, and they will convert it to Rs 2,100. And they

are making you (women) fill forms for the scheme," Dikshit "We are saying that if this is a case of fraud, then it should be investigated and a case should be filed against the two people -- Atishi and Kejriwal -- who of assembly polls. have committed this fraud. All

AAP workers should be stopped (from collecting information) and the Delhi Police must ensure that no such thing happens in the future," Dikshit

A Delhi government department on Wednesday said there is no such scheme. The data being collected for this scheme is a case of fraud, he said, adding that they are collecting the phone numbers and addresses from the women.

The Delhi government's Women and Child Development and Health departments issued public notices on Wednesday distancing themselves from the ruling AAP's promised schemes of providing Rs 2,100 to women and free treatment for the elderly, triggering a fresh row ahead

The two departments also cautioned the people against providing personal details to anyone on the pretext of registration for "non-existent" schemes, saying any private individual or political party collecting such physical forms or information is "fraudulent and without any



BJP Mahila Morcha protests AAP's women scheme, terms it a fraud

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi BJP Mahila Morcha staged a protest outside AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal's residence on Thursday against recently announced 'Mahila Samman Yojana' demanding strict action against him for allegedly deceiving women with 'fraudulent promises.' Led by BJP Mahila Morcha president Richa Pandey, the protesters marched from Áshoka Road to Kejriwal's 5, Ferozeshah Road residence but were stopped by police. Some of the protesters climbed atop the police barricades and raised slogans against Kejriwal and the AAP.

The BJP claimed that a similar scheme was announced by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) aĥead

of the Punjab Assembly polls but the women there are yet to receive Rs 1,100 per month as promised by the party in 2022. Pandey said a similar scheme was announced by the AAP ahead of the Punjab polls but after the party came to power in the state, it failed to deliver on its promise of giving Rs 1,100 per month to women. "Under the guise of the Mahila Samman scheme, the AAP is organising camps to collect Aadhaar numbers, voter IDs and phone numbers, which is part of a larger scam," she alleged. The AAP is again "cheating" the women of Delhi in the name of the "Mukhya Mantri Mahila Samman

The protesters, including Pandey, BJP Mahila Morcha in-

Yojana", she alleged.

charge Shyambala and general secretary Priyal Bharadwaj, were detained by police as they tried to go past the barri-cades. They were released later on. "The AAP government has once again exposed its true face by peddling lies and fabricating schemes to mislead the public," Bharadwaj alleged.The BJP stands firm against such "deceit" and demands accountability for the deliberate attempt to "manipulate and exploit" women, she said. The Mukhya Mantri Mahila Samman Yojana for a monthly payment of Rs 1,000 was announced by the Delhi government in its budget for 2024-25. Kejriwal has said the amount would be raised to Rs 2,100 if the AAP retains power

Vijender Gupta asks PWD to investigate luxury items at Kejriwal's bungalow

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

With controversy surrounding former chief minister Arvind Kejriwal's official residence at 6, Flag Staff Road, vig-PWD to investigate four points, Leader of Opposition in Delhi Assembly Vijender Gupta said

on Thursday.

Stating this in his press note, he said the four points include: identify who provided the luxurious items at Kejriwal's residence. Determine whether anyone benefited in exchange for these items. Thirdly, assess the impact on public funds and verify if any government

protocols or regulations were Works Department (PWD) to violated. Lastly, include any carry out the investigation. other relevant information that may aid in clarifying the mat- has asked the PWD to submit

The press note said acting on a said. Delhi's Lieutenant Governor on November 20, 2024, seeking a high-level investigation into the discovery of numerous expensive luxury items at Kejriwal's official residence, the Lieutenant Governor took cognizance and directed the Vigilance Department to investigate the matter on December 6. Subsequently, the Vigilance provided certain furniture and Department instructed the

Also, Vigilance Department a report within five days, Gupta

Governor, Gupta stated that discrepancies were found between the items provided by the PWD to Kejriwal's residence in 2022, when he assumed office as Chief Minister for the second time, and the items left behind by him after stepping down in

Gupta alleged that while PWD amenities in 2022, an invento-Principal Secretary of the Public ry check conducted by PWD

after Kejriwal vacated the bungalow in 2024 revealed the presence of many additional luxurious items not supplied by the department.

These included luxury toilet reclining sofas, costly curtains, premium carpets, high-value TV sets, and refrigerators.

Gupta further claimed that according to 2022 documents from PWD, no new items were supplied to the residence after that year. He alleged that between 2022 and 2024, Kejriwal enjoyed palace-like luxury amenities funded by individuals who benefited from his new liquor policy.



Arvind Kejriwal and Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel with Akshay Dilawari, Tilak Raj and Rohit Dalal

Bodybuilders, wrestlers join AAP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Several sportspersons, including wrestlers and bodybuilders, joined the AAP in the presence of party chief Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday, giving a boost to the party ahead of the upcoming Delhi Assembly polls. Kejriwal welcomed Tilak Raj, Rohit Dalal and Akshay Dilawari, who are associated with sports and fitness, at the AAP office and handed party scarves and caps to them. "I am very happy that Tilak Raj, Rohit Dalal, Akshay Dilwari,

and wrestlers are joining the AAP. It is very important for all of us to stay healthy. Without health, everything else becomes meaningless. Rohit, Tilak, and Akshay have represented India at various levels-national and international—in wrestling and other sports. They also train many young people and children in Delhi and inspire the general public to stay healthy by offering various types of training," he said, promising that after retaining power in the capital, the AAP will work towards

and around 70-80 bodybuilders resolving the issues faced by sportspersons.

Keiriwal said in the coming days, many more gymnasium owners and sportspersons will join the party. Speaker of the outgoing Assembly Ram Niwas Goel said those who joined the AAP on Thursday have significant influence, especially in Delhi's gyms, and wanted to contribute to the party's mission. Dalal praised the party's initiatives, such as free yoga classes and support for sports development, which inspired him to join

it. "The work done for sportsper-

sons and gyms is commendable. I want to contribute to this mission," he added.

Tilakraj expressed optimism about the sporting fraternity's growing involvement in politics. 'Many players from Delhi are planning to join us. We are committed to working hard and strengthening the party," he

The AAP is aiming for a third consecutive full term in the Delhi polls and hoping that this strategic outreach to sports and fitness professionals will resonate with voters.









President confers Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar to 17 children for excellence in various fields

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

President Droupadi Murmu on Thursday presented the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar to 17 children, recognizing their exceptional courage and outstanding achievements across diverse fields, including art, culture, sports and innovation.

The President underlined the importance of nurturing and celebrating young talents. "Providing opportunities and recognizing children's talents has always been a part of our tradition. This tradition should be further strengthened to ensure that every child realizes their full potential," she said.

The award celebrates extraordinary accomplishments in seven categories: art and culture, bravery, innovation, science and technology, social service, sports and environ-

The honourees -- seven boys and ten girls selected from 14 states and Union territories -- were presented with a medal, certificate and citation

Among them was Keya Hatkar, a 14-year-old author and disability advocate, recognized for her excellence in art and culture. Despite living with spinal muscular atrophy, she founded initiatives like "IM POSSIBLE" and "SMA-ART," promoting inclusivity and disability aware-



honoured for his soulful con-

tributions to Kashmiri music,

while 17-year-old Vyas Om

Jignesh, who has cerebral

palsy, was lauded for his ded-

ication to Sanskrit literature,

having memorised over 5,000

shlokas and performed in

In bravery, Saurav Kumar (9)

was recognised for saving

three girls from drowning,

and 17-year-old Ioanna

Thapa was honoured for res-

cuing 36 residents from a

"Examples of courage and

patriotism in children

strengthen the nation's con-

fidence in its future. Such acts

are truly commendable,"

President Murmu remarked

as she presented the award to

In the innovation category,

15-year-old Sindhoora Raja

the two children.

over 500 shows.

President Murmu highlighted the importance of honouring such talents, saying, "The tradition of recognising and nurturing children's potential has always been part of our culture. Their contributions will lead India to the pinnacle of

She further emphasised the Ministry of Women and Child Development's role in sharing these stories of inspiration with the wider public.

The President also paid homage to the unparalleled sacrifices of Guru Gobind Singh's sons, commemorated Veer Bal Diwas' on December 26, saying, "Their sacrifices for faith and selfrespect continue to inspire countless generations. On this day, the nation bows in reverence to their bravery and

Among the other awardees was Ayaan Sajad, a 12-year- was awarded for creating self-

stabilizing devices for Parkinson's patients, and cybersecurity entrepreneur Risheek Kumar (17) was honfor launching Kashmir's first cybersecurity

"Contributions to science, technology, and innovation by children like these show their unparalleled potential to transform lives," the President observed.

Hembati Nag, a judo player from a Naxal-affected area was awarded in the sports category. She overcame numerous challenges to win a silver medal at the Khelo India National Games.

Mentioning Nag's story, President Murmu said, "Hembati's resilience amidst adversity is an example of unmatched courage and determination." Chess prodigy Anish Sarkar, the youngest FIDE-ranked player at just three years old, was also hon-

The President envisioned a bright future for the awardees, adding, "In 2047, when we celebrate the centenary of our independence, these award winners will be enlightened citizens of the country. Such talented boys and girls will become the builders of a developed India, shaping its destiny through their talent and efforts."

"May every child of this nation have a bright and prosperous future, for in their success lies the future of India," she said.

PM Modi pitches for equipping youngsters with skills in emerging technologies

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday stressed the need for a futuristic approach to equip youngsters with skills in emerging technologies like artificial intelli-gence and machine learning, as he highlighted the crucial role they play in the country's progress. Speaking at an event to mark

Veer Bal Diwas, Modi underscored the need to adapt to rapid changes and challenges across various fields, emphasising the government's "youthcentric" policies and efforts to move in that direction with the start of the new education policy. With his government marking the journey of the Constitution's 75 years in a major way, Modi said the Constitution's principle of equality aligns with the teachings of gurus who advocated the welfare of all. Modi said his government is committed to supporting young talent and fostering their self-confidence. "This era has moved beyond machines to machine learning. AI is taking centre stage, and we can see its application replacing conventional software. It is essential to make our youth future ready to tackle



rejected every temptation and

endured unimaginable torture,

showing that for them, the

nation's cause was supreme," he

said, urging youngsters to draw

inspiration from their legacy.

He said India's strong democ-

racy was built on the bravery

and sacrifice of the Sahibzadas.

that no one is small or big in

the country", he said, adding

the teachings of our gurus, who advocated for the welfare of all.

The prime minister also inter-

acted with the winners of the

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal

Puraskar. Seventeen children

from 14 states and Union

Territories were honoured for

their exceptional contributions

in fields like art and culture,

these challenges," he said. He urged the youth to work towards making their respective sectors, be it railways, semiconductors, travel or astronomy, the best.

Remembering the "unparalleled" sacrifice of Guru Gobind Singh's sons, the Sahibzadas, he said they chose "unwavering courage and faith over submission to the Mughal Empire's oppression"

He noted that Veer Bal Diwas teaches an enduring lesson: 'No matter how adverse the circumstances, nothing is greater than the nation's cause. Every act done in the interest of the nation is an act of valour." 'More than 300 years ago, on

December 26, the Sahibzadas, despite their tender age, dis-played unparalleled bravery and technology, social service, sports, and environment. Congratulating the awardees, Modi said, "These children have demonstrated what India's

bravery, innovation, science

vouth are capable of achieving. I extend my best wishes to all the winners on behalf of the

He elaborated on the government's focus on empowering the youth through targeted policies. "From startups to science, sports to entrepreneurship, a new wave of transformation is happening. Our policies prioritise giving strength to the youth. Whether it is the startup ecosystem, the future of the space economy, or sports and fitness, all our initiatives are youth-centric."

On the occasion, Modi launched the 'Suposhit Gram Panchayat Abhiyan', a pro-"The Constitution teaches us gramme aimed at improving nutritional outcomes through active community participathat this principle aligns with

> The initiative aligns with the government's broader goal of ensuring the well-being of every Indian.

Modi also urged young Indians to embrace the values of courage, innovation, and service to propel the nation towards greater unity and progress.

Defence Secretary launches Rashtraparv website, mobile app

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

website that will facilitate Access to information related to the organisation of events such as Republic Day and Independence Day, host their live streaming and provide details related to tickets and seating arrangements was launched on Wednesday. Defence Secretary Rajesh

Kumar Singh launched the Rashtraparv website along with its mobile app on the occasion of 'Good Governance Day' that commemorates the birth anniversary of former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, the defence ministry said. "The website will facilitate

access to information related to organisation of national events such as Republic Day, Beating ceremony. Retreat Independence Day, live streaminformation related to seating arrangements and route-maps of events," it said in a statement. The defence secretary said the website and mobile app, developed by the ministry, "also has



a system for managing the tableaux proposals and historic data regarding events". It will host a tableau management portal to facilitate states and Union Territories, ministries and departments in designing and finalising their tableaux for the Republic Day event, the statement said.

The website and mobile application have been a result of a the ministry. The states had suggested for a portal for the management of data related to the design of tableaux. Similarly, viewers of Republic

Day events in the feedback had

suggested having information regarding events, parades, tableaux. The Rashtraparv website has been developed by incorporating all these inputs, it added.

The website can be accessed at rashtraparv.Mod.Gov.In and the mobile app can be downloaded from the government app store (M-Seva), the ministry said.

towards openness, transparency and citizen-centric governance and is a fitting tribute to the late former prime minister on Good Governance Day, the

Delhi tutor held for protests by civil service aspirants in Patna

Delhi-based tutor was held An Thursday on the charge of instigating aspirants who tried to "storm into" the Bihar Public Service Commission (BPSC) office in Patna, demanding cancellation of its December 13 examination, an official said. Patna's District Magistrate

(DM) Chandrasekhar Singh told PTI that preliminary investigations into Wednesday's protests found that one Rohit, a tutor, mobilised and instigated the aspirants.

Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Rajeev Mishra said, "Initial investigations have revealed that Rohit had come from Delhi and brought along a number of persons, including girls, posing as disgruntled BPSC aspirants. He is being examined by the investiga-

The source of their funding is also being investigated as they seem to be part of a larger conspiracy, he said.

"We are probing the larger conspiracy behind yesterday's



funding for those who came from outside the state to instigate BPSC aspirants is also the focus of our probe. Rohit seems to be the mastermind of yesterday's protest. Patna Police will send a preliminary report to the Economic Offences Unit (EOU) to investigate their source of funding," he told

70th Integrated Combined Competitive Examination (CCE), aspirants demonstrated outside the BPSC office and sought re-examination. The police baton-charged the aspiunder control.

The protesters claimed they were treated "like terrorists" and many of them were injured in the police action, a charge which was denied by the authorities.

Popular vlogger Motiur Rahman Khan, known as Guru Rahman, also joined the protests at Gardani Bagh. aspirants was highly condemnable. Protesting BPSC aspirants should not have been treated like this. My support is always with the students," he

Home Minister Shah to embark on two-day visit to Odisha from Dec 28

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR

Union Home Minister Amit Shah will embark on a two-day visit to Odisha from December 28, during which he will hold an interactive meeting with BJP leaders and workers and attend several other events, a senior party leader said on Thursday. BIP's Odisha in-charge Vijaypal Singh Tomar said that Shah will arrive in Bhubaneswar on December 28 night and stay till the evening of December 29. On December 29, Shah will attend a programme of Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), and interact with BJP MPs, MLAs and workers at an event in Kalinga Stadium. from Bhubaneswar an important meeting of BJP state unit presidents, organisational secretaries, in-charges, deputyin-charges, and national office bearers from across the coun-



try, he said.

Replying to a query, Tomar said there was no plan for Shah to visit Sambalpur though it was scheduled ear-

Shah had last visited Odisha from November 30 to December 1 to attend the DGP-IGP conference. Prime Minister Narendra

January 9 to attend the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas here. He will again visit the state on January 28 to inaugurate the 'Utkarsh Odisha: Make in Odisha' investors' meet.

Thousands offer prayers at Sabarimala during mandala puja

PTI PATHANAMTHITTA (KERALA)

Thousands of devotees I offered prayers at the Sabarimala Lord Ayyappa temple on Thursday as the auspicious mandala puja was performed at the hill shrine. This marked the culmination of the 41-day-long first leg of the annual pilgrimage season.

The mandala puja was conducted in a deeply devotional atmosphere between noon and 12.30 pm after the idol of Lord Ayyappa, the principal deity, was adorned with the "thanka anki," the sacred golden attire brought to the sannidhanam (temple complex) in a ceremonial proces-



The temple will close for the 'Harivarasanam,' temple December 30 for the makar-

that the Sabarimala temple will reopen at 5 pm on avilakku festival, which will conclude on January 14. The rituals were led by the temple's head priest, Kandararu Rajeevaru, who adorned the idol with the sacred attire.

Thousands of pilgrims from Kerala and other states, who waited in queues for hours in and around the sannidhanam, attended the ceremonies. Prominent officials of the

Travancore Devaswom Board were also present near the sanctum sanctorum.

According to officials of the TDB, the apex temple body that manages the shrine, as of Wednesday, 32.5 lakh pilgrims had visited the shrine, an increase of 4.07 lakh compared to the same period last

Ín 2023, 28.42 lakh devotees visited the shrine during this period.

Spot bookings were limited to 5,000 on December 25 and 26 as part of the arrangements for mandala puja. However, darshan was ensured for all devotees who arrived at Sabarimala, TDB officials said.

On Wednesday, when the 'thanka anki' procession reached the sannidhanam, over 62,000 devotees had darshan, they said.

By noon on Thursday, nearly 20,000 devotees visited the hill shrine through virtual queue and spot booking facilities before the temple closed, they added.

Rainath Singh to chair sixth edition of Armed Forces Flag Day CSR conclave today

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

efence Minister Rainath Defence willows bere will chair the sixth edition of the Armed Forces Flag Day (AFFD) Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) conclave, defence ministry said on Thursday.

Giving details, officials said the event organised by Kendriya Sainik Board under Department of Servicemen Welfare aims to highlight the measures taken towards rehabilitation, resettlement and welfare of the veterans, widows and their dependents and for mobilis-



these efforts.



ing the CSR support towards

The defence minister will also felicitate the prominent CSR contributors to the AFFD Fund. Minister of state for defence Sanjey Seth,



Staff(CDS)General

Chauhan, Secretary ESW, Niten Chandra, members from the CSR fraternity, veterans, the defence service personnel and other senior also attend the conclave.

Yogi Adityanath's 2024: A year of fiery rhetoric and political messaging

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

LUCKNOW

 I^{n} a year marked by political contests and cultural debates, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's speeches in 2024 transcended electoral rallies, becoming rallying cries that resonated deeply across India. His carefully crafted remarks, blending critique of opposition parties with appeals for unity among followers of Sanatan Dharma, cemented his position as a mass leader with a vision for a unified and culturally proud India. Among his most impactful

slogans was "Katenge Toh

Batenge, Ek Rahenge Toh Nek Rahenge," delivered in Agra in August. This phrase, urging unity among communities, gained traction nationwide as a symbol of his call for solidarity and shared purpose. It underscored a year where Adityanath repeatedly sought to redefine narratives on governance, culture, and justice. Throughout 2024, his speeches targeted the opposition, particularly the Samajwadi Party (SP) and Congress, accusing them of fostering division, lawlessness, and pseudo-secularism. In Etawah, he raised the issue of justice for the families of victims of mafia violence, including the widows

of slain leaders like BJP MLA Krishnanand Rai and Umesh

He said: SP should give account of Mangalsutra of Alka Rai, Pooja-Jaya Pal" (April 25, Etawah). By questioning the opposition's silence on these matters, Adityanath positioned himself as a crusader for justice and law and order.

In his addresses to marginalized communities, Adityanath invoked symbols like Bajrang Bali to emphasize the collective power of unity. At a BJP Backward Class Morcha meeting in Lucknow, he likened the strength of the OBC community to Bajrang Bali's might,



capable of dismantling the society will burn Ravana's divisive strategies of pseudo-Lanka" (July 29, Lucknow) secular politics. He said: The Chief Minister's rhetoric

often combined vivid imagery with sharp criticism. Phrases like "No Sadbhavna for Mafia and Goons, only the Bullet Train of Justice" captured his administration's stance on women's safety and law enforcement, while "SP ki Topi Laal, Kaarname Kaale" evoked allegations of corruption and criminality against his political opponents.

In Haryana, during an election rally, Adityanath critiqued Congress leaders as "Accidental Hindus raised in Roman culture," a remark aimed at reinforcing BJP's Hindutva narrative. His comments drew sharp criticism but also bolstered his party's

core supporters. Adityanath's speeches also highlighted his focus on cultural pride and historical legacy. At the unveiling of Rashtraveer Durgadas Rathore's statue in Agra, he called for national unity by reflecting on the lessons of divided nations like Bangladesh. His oneliner: "Batenge to katenge, ek rahenge to nek rahenge" (August 26, Agra) became the theme of election cam-

ideological position among its

Maharashtra In the Winter session of the state assembly, he reaffirmed India's cultural identity, emphasizing the legacy of

paign in Haryana and

figures like Ram, Krishna, and Buddha while advocating mutual respect among religious communities. He said: Índia will uphold the legacy of Ram, Krishna, and Buddha" (December 16, Lucknow). Through his speeches,

Adityanath painted a narrative of a strong, unified, and culturally rooted Uttar Pradesh, countering what he described as the opposition's failures and divisive politics. As the year closes, his rhetoric has not only solidified his political standing but also ensured his voice continues to echo in the state's political and cultural discourse.

UP Government mandates property disclosure for employee promotions

LUCKNOW

¬he Uttar Pradesh govern-I ment has made it mandatory for all state employees to disclose details of their movable and immovable properties to be eligible for promotion. Employees failing to comply with this directive will not only forfeit their promotion prospects but may also face disciplinary action, officials confirmed on Thursday.

In a directive issued by the state government, employees have been instructed to submit property details via the Manav Sampada portal by January 31, 2025. The information will include disclo-



sures for the year 2024, which must be updated starting January 1, 2025.

"Failure to provide property details within the stipulated time will disqualify employees from consideration for

Additionally, disciplinary action will be initiated under

(Discipline and Appeal) Rules," the government stated in its letter.

Appeal) Rules.

governance.

capacities.

These measures aim to

enforce adherence to the gov-

ernment's commitment to

transparency and integrity in

This initiative underscores

the state government's focus on fostering accountability among its workforce. By link-

ing property disclosures to

promotions, the administra-

tion aims to ensure that all

employees adhere to ethical

standards and operate trans-

parently in their official

Departments have been tasked with ensuring strict compliance with this directive. Officers have been instructed to monitor the updates on the Manav Sampada portal and ensure that all employees adhere to the rules.

The government emphasized that transparency in property declarations is crucial for maintaining accountability and integrity among public servants.

Employees who do not update State employees have been urged to complete the process property details may face disciplinary actions, promptly to avoid repercusincluding penalties under the sions and ensure their eligi-Uttar Pradesh Government bility for career advancement.

New police recruits will undergo specialised training to handle law and order situations, says Manipur CM

 $M_{\rm N\ Biren\ Singh\ on\ Thursday\ said\ the\ newly}^{\rm anipur\ Chief\ Minister}$ recruited personnel of the 10th and 11th India Reserve Battalion (IRB), who recently concluded training in Assam, would undergo specialised exercise so that they can be deployed for highway protection and handling the law and order situation.

During a visit to Manipur Police Training Centre at Pangei in Imphal East district, the CM said the recruits would undergo specialised training at this centre before being deployed across the

"They will undergo specialised training at Pangei where they will be taught



how to handle law and order situation. If the personnel are deployed in various police stations now, their morale may be down. So, we decided to keep them at one place and use their services wherever and whenever needed, the CM said.

'Some of them will be used for highway protection, while others will be used to tackle law and order situation," Singh added.

Singh also said many of the police personnel will undergo refresher courses, and arrangements for procuring new gear for mob control have been made.

The CM said construction and maintenance work at the battalion headquarters of 10th and 11th IRB at Nungba and Saivom are also going on currently, he said.

"Police are the backbone of society and cannot be demoralised. Many of them will undergo refresher courses to improve their physical fitness and mob control with full gear. Their identity needs to be protected also," Singh

Singh also requested recruits' parents not to approach ministers and MLAs for transfers and allow them to serve the

"Today, I visited the Manipur

Police Training Centre at Pangei to inspect the newly constructed barracks, which will soon be utilised for training purposes. Given the current law and order situation in the state, the newly recruited constables will undergo specialised training. This step is essential to enhance the strength and readiness of our police force to ensure safety and security across Manipur, he posted on X.

'We are committed to equipping our police personnel with the best facilities and training to meet any challenges," Singh said.

He also said houses are being made for internally displaced persons (IDPs) who are staying in schools and colleges.

Yogi Govt accelerates land allocation for Mahakumbh

BISWAJEET BANERJEE LUCKNOW

As Mahakumbh 2025 draws nearer, prepara-tions in Prayagraj are in full swing, with the Yogi Adityanath-led Uttar Pradesh government expediting the land allocation process. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, during a recent review meeting, instructed officials to complete all allocations by December 31. Responding promptly, authorities have so far allocated land to over 4,000 organizations, with an estimated 8,000 to 10,000 participants expected to partake in the grand event. One of the event's key high-

lights is the establishment of Akharas, which is progressing steadily. While several Akharas have already set up their camps, the Mela Authority has successfully allocated land to most Akharas and associated organizations. Pending allocations, including for new applicants, are expected to be finalized within the stipulated deadline.

According to the Mela Authority, the land allocation



process is nearly complete for Akharas and their followers, Mahamandaleshwars, Khalsa, Dandiwada, Acharyawada, and Khakachowk. Allocations for Prayagwal groups and new organizations are underway and will be concluded by December 31.

Thus far, a total of 4,268 organizations have received land, including 19 allocations for Akharas and their subMahamandaleshwars, 750 for Khalsa, 203 for Dandiwada, 300 for Acharyawada, 300 for Khakachowk and 1,766 for other organizations

Additionally, 450 allotments have been made to Prayagwal groups, with their allocation process, which began on December 12, scheduled to continue until month-end. Allocations for new organizations, which commenced on December 16, are progressing simultaneously.

The allocated areas have turned into hubs of activity, with tents being erected and traditional decorations underway. The Jhunsi area, in particular, is abuzz with representatives from Akharas, Mahamandaleshwars, Khalsa, Dandiwada, Acharyawada, Khakachowk, and other groups working tirelessly to prepare their camps in alignment with their cultural prac-

To facilitate smooth navigation, the administration has installed checkered plates across the sprawling site and is rapidly putting up signages to help visitors locate their destinations. Other arrangements, including lighting and essential amenities, are also being completed at a brisk

The Juna Akhara, Avahan Akhara, and Agni Akhara have already established their cantonments, signaling the rapid progress on the ground. With activities picking up speed, the entire Mahakumbh Ñagar is expected to be fully operational and adorned by January 1 setting the stage for one of the largest religious gatherings in the world.

Mahakumbh, held every 12 years in Prayagraj, is a grand spiritual confluence attracting millions of pilgrims, saints, and tourists from across the

The Yogi government is leaving no stone unturned to ensure that Mahakumbh 2025 is an unparalleled success, emphasizing enhanced infrastructure, meticulous planning, and cultural vibrancy.

Over 70 hours on, girl still stuck in borewell in Rajasthan

PTI JAIPUR

Three-year-old Chetna has been stuck inside a narrow 150 feet deep borewell for over 70 hours as the rescue operations were still underway on Thursday to save the girl. Worried about her daugh-

ter's condition, Dholi Devi has not eaten anything since the tragic accident on Monday. Chetna fell into the borewell

while playing in the agriculture farm of her father in Badiyali Dhani under Sarund police station of Kotputli-Behror district. With each passing moment,

the hope for the girl being well is diminishing as the rescue team was not able to supply any food or water to

Dholi Devi and others are constantly praying for the well being of Chetna amid the non-stop rescue operation by NDRF and SDRF teams, assisted by the local police and administration. Initially, efforts were made to

Chhattisgarh Govt cancels constable recruitment

pull the girl out of the borewell with the help of a the technique could not deliv er results. ring but all attempts failed. A team of doctors with an After two days of repeated

the borewell was dug. . Now a horizontal tunnel will be made through which the experts will reach the Sarund Mohammad Imran said.

He said all possible efforts were made to pull out the girl but all hard work went in vain as the borewell is narrow and

attempts that fetched no

results, a piling was brought

to the spot on Wednesday

morning and a pit parallel to

ambulance are at the spot. "The rescue operation is likely to conclude today," the SHO said.

Kotputli-Behror District Collector Kalpana Agarwal reached the village late Wednesday night to take stock of the situation. She said that the rescue oper-

ation had been constantly going on. A lot of preparations had to be done to bring the piling machine to the

Kerala Govt declares two-day mourning as mark to respect MT Vasudevan

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Kerala bade a tearful farewell to M T Vasudevan Nair, the numero uno of Malayalam literature who breathed his last on late rate hospital in Kozhikode, a city which was immortalized by his presence. He has been honored with Jnanpith Award in 1995 for his comprehensive contributions to Malayalam literature. The President of India had decorated him with Padma Bhushan in 2005.

Ninety-one year old MT (as he is known) was ailing for some time due to age related issues and a team of doctors were attending to him on a round-the clock basis. M T is rated as the last of the titans of Malayalam literature . In addition to short stories, novels, and travelogues, he left the characteristic "MT Touch" in six feature films which he directed, by walking away with the best director award (three times) in the National Film Festival). One has lost count of the number of times he bagged the Kerala State Film Awards as a director and



script writer. He has authored scripts for more than 60 films and all were run away hits. Nirmalyam (Malayalam for Yesterday's Offerings"), his first venture as a director bagged many national and international awards. P J Antony, who played the role of a village oracle was honored with Bharath award for perfecting the role in the movie which turned out to a trendsetter in Malayalam movies.

The novels authored by M T remain as fresh and interesting decades after they were published. Having born and brought up in a village on the banks of Nila, all his literary works feature people whom

one meet in the day-to-day life in the countryside. The theses in his novels and short stories were based on the rising, disintegration and fall of the Nair ancestral families in Malabar.

His novel Randamoozham (The Second Turn) published in 1984 tells the story of Mahabharath as seen through the eyes of Bheem. There are no literary works attributed to MT which have gone unrecognized and it is said that he was the one who elevated Malayalam literature to the global arena.

The multi-faceted author leaves behind his wife Saraswathi and daughter Aswathi. MT had married

Prameela Nair in 1962 but they were separated in 1978. The couple has a daughter Sitara born out of this mar-

Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his sorrow celebrated writer and movie maker. "Saddened by the passing away of Shri MT Vasudevan Nair Ji, one of the most respected figures in Malayalam cinema and literature. His works, with their profound exploration of human emotions, have shaped generations and will continue to inspire many more. He also gave voice to the silent and marginalised. My thoughts are with his family and admirers. Om Shanti," the

PM wrote in X. The Kerala Government has declared a two-day mourning as a mark of respect to MT. The last rites were performed at Smrithi Path, the Kozhikode corporation owned crematorium on Thursday evening in the presence of thousands of fans and well wishers of the last of the Titans in Malayalam lit-

in Rajnandgaon, sets up SIT to probe irregularities

The Chhattisgarh governconstables in Rajnandgaon district amid allegations of irregularities and set up an SIT for a probe into it, an official said. State Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma, who holds the home portfolio, gave an order to this effect on Wednesday afternoon, he said.

"Irregularities came to light in

the ongoing recruitment process in the 8th battalion of Rajnandgaon and a case was registered in this connection at Lal Bagh police station on December 17," the official said. Since November 16, candidates from Rajnandgaon, Khairagarh-Chhuikhadan-Gandai, Kabirdham (Kawardha) and Mohla-Manpur-Ambagadh Chowki districts have been participating in the recruitment process here, he said.

The police have so far arrested seven persons -- four police constables, two employees of

I ment has cancelled the alleged irregularities in the Examination 2023-24 has not "This irregularity was revealed ent process, the official

> During the investigation in the case, constable Anil Ratnakar allegedly committed suicide. A note written with a pen was found on his left palm, which stated employees were being targeted in alleged irregularities in recruitment and officers were being protected, he said.

> Rajnandgaon (Range) Inspector General of Police Deepak Jha has set up a Special Investigation Team (SIT) for a probe into Ratnakar's suicide and sought a report in 10 days, he said.

Meanwhile, Superintendent of Police Mohit Garg has handed over the investigation of the alleged irregularities in the recruitment process to the Rajnandgaon Superintendent of Police Pushpendra Nayak, the official

Garg on Wednesday said the

government so far.

Former chief minister and assembly speaker Raman Singh welcomed the state government's decision to cancel the recruitment process.

"Today, on the occasion of Good Governance Day, under the leadership of Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri @vishnudsai, Home Minister Shri @vijaysharmacg took a commendable decision to cancel the entire recruitment by taking immediate cognizance of the Rajnandgaon Police Recruitment case," Singh said

The CM has directed formation of an SIT for an impartial investigation into the entire matter, he said.

on X.

"No kind of negligence or corruption will be tolerated in this government of good governance," Singh added.

During the recruitment process, the marks obtained by

the event management com- order to cancel the recruitment many candidates in the physipany and one female candidate rocess for District Police Force cal efficiency process were tampered, an official said.

> internal team of Rajnandgaon police, after which an FIR was registered at the Lal Bagh police station in the city," he

> After this, the body of constable Anil Ratnakar, who was posted on marshal duty in the recruitment process, was found hanging in Rampur village on December 21.

> Ratnakar had written a note on his hand, stating the officers on duty in the recruitment process have implicated the employees, the official said.

The opposition Congress has been attacking the state BJP government led by CM Vishnu Deo Sai on the issue of irregularities in the recruitment

process. State Congress president Deepak Baij and former CM Bhupesh Baghel earlier demanded cancellation of the recruitment process and action

against the culprits.

Full support to Telugu film industry but no compromise on law and order: Telangana CM

PTI HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister A I Revanth Reddy on Thursday made it clear to a visiting Telugu cinema industry delegation that there would be no compromise on law and order in the state and that it applies to everyone including the film fraternity. The CM also conveyed to the delegation of Telugu film personalities led by ace producer and Telangana Film Development Corporation (FDC) Chairman Venkata Ramana Reddy, that a Cabinet Sub-Committee will be constituted to resolve the problems of the film industry and suggested to them to set up an

in-house panel as well. The meeting between the CM and the film personalities was held at the Police Integrated Command Control Centre here, and in the wake

of actor Allu Arjun's recent arrest that had led to speculations of 'strained' ties between the ruling dispensation and the cinema industry post the police action against the 'Pushpa' star.

A 35-year-old woman died at Sandhya Theatre here in a stampede where Allu Arjunstarrer 'Pushpa 2' was screened on December 4, leading to his subsequent arrest on December 13 and release.

"As the Chief Minister, it is my responsibility to enforce the laws. I do not have any personal preferences. Let us all develop the film industry together without confining ourselves to Telugu only. Government is ready to extend all support to the film industry," official sources quoted the CM as saying. Asserting that the cinema



industry is as important to the



government as the IT and bharma sectors, Reddy said a Cabinet Sub-Committee will be constituted to resolve the

problems of the film industry. The government is considering organising a major convention to encourage other

film industries to come to the city, he said. "Our intention is to take the

(Telugu movie) industry to

the next level," the sources quoted the CM as saying. He also pointed out that the film industry should remember its social responsibility and join the efforts to check drugs and other societal problems. Venkata Ramana Reddy, popularly known as Dil Raju, said besides Telugu movies, shooting of movies of other languages, including Hindi, Tamil and Kannada, are also happening in the city.

"So, the view of the CM is that the film industry should give suggestions to government to see that, not just Indian films but Hollywood films are also shot in Hyderabad," he told reporters after the meet-

ing.
Asked for the government's stance on allowing benefit shows and hiking ticket prices on special occasions, Dil Raju said they are only a "small part" of the issue and that the

bigger vision is how to take Telugu cinema to the international level and to make Hyderabad city an "international hub'

"Time would throw light on all that," he said.

When contacted, producer Daggubati Suresh who was part of the delegation which called on Revanth Reddy, told PTI that permission for benefit shows and ticket price hike during the initial days of film release is not a necessary requirement for all filmmakers, but an individual production house.

The delegation included actors Nagarjuna, Venkatesh, Murali Mohan and directors Trivikram Srinivas, K Raghavendra Rao and producers Daggubati Suresh, Allu Aravind (father of Allu Arjun) and C Kalyan. Asserting that there would

ernment, in future, may consider ticket price hike only for certain categories such as films made on history, freedom struggle or oithers like those with messages against the use of drugs. The minister's statement, if implemented, will have a huge impact on the high budget films such as Ram Charan's films such as Nam "Game Changer", Nandamuri Palakrishna's "Daaku

Balakrishna's "Daaku Maharaj" and Venkatesh's "Sankranthiki Vasthunnam"

which are slated for release

Cinematography minister

Komatireddi Venkat Reddy

recently said the state gov-

during Sankranti in three weeks from now. Directed by popular Director S Shankar, Game Changer is

produced by Dil Raju. The film is reportedly made with a budget of nearly Rs 400 not be any benefit shows

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

A blow to regional peace

The fragile peace of South Asia faced a severe setback when Pakistan conducted airstrikes in Afghanistan

n the night of December 24, 2024, a series of airstrikes conducted by Pakistan in Afghanistan's Barmal district of Paktika province claimed the lives of at least 15 civilians, including women and children. The strikes targeted seven villages, causing significant destruction, particularly in areas like Murg Bazaar and Laman, where an entire family of five was killed. This incident has further strained relations between Pakistan and Afghanistan, raising serious concerns about the stability of South Asia. The airstrikes appear to be a direct response to Pakistan's growing concerns over the activities of the Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP). Pakistan has justified the strikes as a necessary measure to eliminate TTP hideouts and secure its borders. However, the Afghan Taliban strongly denies these allegations, claiming instead that the airstrikes targeted civilians, including Waziristani refugees who had previously fled military operations in Pakistan's tribal areas. The implications of this attack extend far beyond the imme-



diate violence, casting a shadow over peace and security in South Asia. The airstrikes, coupled with the Taliban's vow to retaliate, risk escalating into a broader conflict between Pakistan and Afghanistan. Such hostilities could destabilise the region, which is already grappling with insurgencies, cross-border terrorism, and long-standing disputes.

In addition to the geopolitical ramifications, the humanitarian impact is profound. Afghanistan, a nation still recovering from decades of war, now faces further devastation. Civilian populations, particularly refugees, are bearing the brunt of this violence, with villages like Murg Bazaar reduced to rubble and count-

less families displaced. The destruction exacerbates an already dire humanitarian crisis, highlighting the urgent need for international aid and support. This conflict also undermines ongoing peace efforts in the region. Dialogues involving Afghanistan, Pakistan, and other stakeholders, essential for fostering stability, risk being derailed by such incidents. Additionally, it hinders cooperative initiatives against terrorism, a shared threat that requires coordinated regional action. The situation further complicates geopolitics in South Asia, prompting countries like India, China and Iran to reassess their strategies. Pakistan's actions, though driven by immediate security concerns, may strain its relationships with traditional allies and global powers advocating for peace in the region. To address this growing crisis, both countries must prioritise dialogue and cooperation. Constructive bilateral engagement is crucial to resolving mutual concerns, particularly regarding the TTP and border security. Neutral mediators, such as the United Nations, could play a vital role in facilitating these discussions. Beyond bilateral efforts, regional cooperation is essential. A unified initiative led by organisations like the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) could encourage collective action against terrorism and promote economic interdependence, reducing the incentives for conflict.



Jordan's ambivalent stance on Palestine



While maintaining a façade of solidarity, Jordan's actions often reveal a pragmatic, if controversial, approach to safeguarding its own interests in a volatile region

ordanian reality towards the Palestinians J ordanians have had a wounded, complicated, and manipulative history. House of Hashim or the Hashemite dynasty rules Jordan with the current King Abdullah II, as the 41st generation of the direct descendants of Prophet Muhammad. While Hashemites were the Sharif and Emir of Mecca with rule over larger Hejaz, they were violently ousted from the control over the same by the rival Saud family. This military loss led to the loss of the symbolically vital title of the 'Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques" to the Saud family, of modern-day Saudi Arabia. Hashemites were also to lose monarchial claim of rule on lands of Syria, Lebanon, Palestine and Iraq and were left with only the Jordanian swathes – which unlike other Arab lands was bereft of oil, natural resources, ports, or any other meaningful lever of power. They had to be creative in dealing with the situation and remaining relevant and protected. Geographical contiguity to Palestinian lands led to Jordan demonstrating fluctuating concern that oscillated from supporting the Palestinian cause to willynilly, acting against the same. During the Arab-Israeli War of 1948, Jordan occupied the West Bank and East Jerusalem (which it annexed in 1950), only to lose the same to Israel in the Six-Day War of 1967. Historians often note the unique

culture of "back channels" (facilitating clandestine meetings) between the Jordanians and Israelis that led to counterintuitive accommodations, even amid war. In the subsequent Arab-Israel War of 1973 (Yom Kippur War), Jordan had curiously avoided joining Arab ranks against Israel. Jordanian King Hussein had secretly flown to Tel Aviv to warn Israeli Prime Minister Golda Meir of the impending Arab plans to attack Israel. Ultimately when Jordan was morally forced to support the war against Israel, declassified accounts confirm that it was only to preserve Jordans image in the Arab world and that it had already entered into a tacit agreement with Israel that it would not attack Israeli elements.



IN THE **SUBSEQUENT** ARAB-ISRAEL WAR OF 1973 (YOM KIPPUR WAR), JORDAN HAD CURIOUSLY **AVOIDED JOINING** ARAB RANKS **AGAINST ISRAEL**

signed a formal Peace Treaty (the second Arab nation after Egypt) and normalised relations with Israel. Odd public bickering on issues like Al Aqsa Mosque aside, the top leadership of both countries kept meeting discretely, whilst Jordan kept maintaining the façade of support towards Palestine. Practically, they engaged and operated as allies. Post the Hamas terror attack (7th Oct 2023) on Israel and the subsequent and disproportionate bludgeoning of the Gaza Strip, the Jordanians had no choice but to expel the Israeli ambassador to maintain face in the Arab world. However, as it was only Iran and its proxies like the Syrian Bashar Al Assad government and the Lebanese Hezbollah who were offering any meaningful resistance to the Israelis - then the Jordanians did the unthinkable in favour of the Israelis when they shot down Iranian drones attacking Israel. Practically, the Jordanians weighed in favour of the Israeli military (all perfunctory con-

Jordanians watched silently as Southern Lebanon was attacked and as the Syrian egime was overrun by forces born out of Al Qaeda, ending the last possible faction that had taken on the Israelis in favour of the Palestinians. For

cerns towards the beleaguered

Palestinians, notwithstand-

a long, Jordanian King Abdullah had warned against the spectre of a rising "Shia Crescent" (assertion of Shiite rule in Iran, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon).

He therefore would be presumably pleased to see the decimation of the sectarian rivals, which coincidentally also ended the last modicum of challenge to Israelis.Beyond vacuous words, the practical conduct of the Jordanians has been suspiciously two-faced on the ostensible redlines as defined by King Abdullah i.e., "No to abandoning the guardianship of Jerusalem and the holy sites, no to the one-state solution, and no for Jordan to be an alternative homeland for the Palestinians".

The picture has perhaps never been further from the socalled Jordanian redlines, as now, the fate of Palestinians, Jerusalem, and the possibility of a two-state solution, is at its lowest. History will judge the conduct of Arab monarchies and their lip-serving commitment towards Palestine, but perhaps none as ambidextrously as the Jordanians, who often fancy themselves to be of the highest order.

(The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governoi of Åndaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views expressed are personal)

India's hidden crisis: Battling malnutrition for a healthier future



KAPEEL BARSAIYAN

Malnutrition among children in India stands as a pressing public health challenge, intricately linked to poverty, systemic inequalities and environmental hurdles

alnutrition among children remains a critical public health issue in India, deeply intertwined with poverty, systemic inequalities, and environmental challenges. Despite the nation's economic progress, the persistent issues of undernutrition and micronutrient deficiencies continue to hinder India's overall growth and development, casting a shadow over its aspirations for a healthier future.

The 2023 Global Hunger Index paints a grim picture, with India ranked 111th out of 125 countries and a score of 28.7, indicating a "serious" hunger situation.

Although there has been marginal improvement from a score of 29.2 in 2015, the pace of progress lags behind Disturbingly, India records the world's highest rate of

economies. child wasting at 18.7 per cent, while 35.5 per cent of children under five are stunted. These figures highlight the long-term health and developmental implications of malnutrition. Several interconnected chal-

lenges exacerbate this issue.

Compounding this is inadequate nutrition and sanitation, as poor dietary intake, restricted access to clean water, and insufficient healthcare facilities worsen the situation.

The health and cognitive impacts of malnutrition are profound, weakening immune systems, increasing susceptibility to diseases, and impairing cognitive development. These effects the Pradhan Mantri Matru

Poverty remains a signifi-

cant factor, with India con-

tributing nearly 40 per cent

to the global poverty rate

and 389 million people liv-

ing in poverty across South

Asia. Millions of children are

left vulnerable to malnutri-

tion due to limited

ripple through to academic performance and future opportunities, trapping many in a cycle of poverty. Regional disparities further intensify the problem, with states like Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh shouldering a disproportionate burden of malnourished children. Higher poverty rates and systemic challenges in these regions make addressing the issue even more complex.

To combat malnutrition, the Government of India has implemented various programs. POSHAN Abhiyaan aims to enhance the nutritional status of children, pregnant women, and lactating mothers. The Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) program offers supplementary nutrition, education, immunisation, and health check-ups.

The Mid-Day Meal Scheme addresses hunger and malnutrition among school-going children, while the National Food Security Act (NFSA) provides subsidised food grains to economically vulnerable populations. Other initiatives, such as

Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) and the National Health Mission (NHM), include financial incentives for pregnant women and specialised care through Nutrition Rehabilitation and Lactation Management Centres.

While these efforts have yielded positive outcomes, more comprehensive strategies are needed to address the root causes of malnutrition. Tackling poverty, improving education, expanding healthcare access, and ensuring sanitation are critical steps toward sustainable progress. Collaborative efforts among policymakers, non-governmental organisations, and local communities are essential to create meaningful change.

True progress is reflected in the wellbeing of every individual, especially the youngest members of society. By prioritising nutrition and equity, India can foster a healthier, well-nourished generation and pave the way or sustainable development.

(The writer is Kapeel Barsaiyan, President, Buddh Jyoti Foundation; views are personal)

SOLVING INDIA'S WATER CRISIS

bouring Lebanon. Again, the

Jordanians had aligned with

Israel before commencing this

attack. Importantly Syrian

forces that had intervened on

behalf of Palestinian fighters

were repulsed leaving 600

Syrians dead and a loss of 120

tanks. Interestingly, like the

historically insincere support

of Jordanians towards the

Palestinians, one important

figure who participated along

the Jordanian forces in mas-

sacring the Palestinians was a

then Pakistani Brigadier (later

dictator) Zia-ul-Haq, who was

on deputation!În 1987

Jordanian King Hussein and

Israeli foreign affairs minister

(later President) Shimon Peres

met secretly to work on a peace

treaty which was followed up

with Jordanians forsaking their

claim on the West Bank, the

By 1994 the two countries

subsequent year.

Madam — Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone of the Ken-Betwa river linking project, the first initiative under the national river linking policy, at Khajuraho in Madhya Pradesh. It is really a welcome step in solving the water crisis in India. Nearly 65 lakh people of Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh will get drinking water, and more than 7 lakh farmer families of 2000 villages will benefit from the project. Also, it has been proposed to generate 103 MW of hydropower. The project aims to transfer surplus water from the Ken River in Madhya Pradesh to Betwa in UP to irrigate the drought-prone Bundelkhand region.

Under the project, a 77 m high and 2.13 km long Daudhan dam and two tunnels will be constructed on the Ken River. Interlinking rivers can control both floods and droughts. This river linking project can have significant ecological consequences, can impact the biodiversity of the region, and can affect Panna Tiger Reserve too. Even then the project will create many employment opportunities as well as boost the rural economy. Ken-Betwa is the first river linking project under the National Perspective Plan (NPP) for the linking of rivers. The National Water Development Agency should identify a few more river linking projects to avoid floods and to cultivate more lands in drought-prone areas in

P Victor Selvaraj | Tirunelveli

DEBATE ON CONSTITUTION

Madam —The recent debate commemorating 75 years of the Constitution's adoption left the citizens highly disappointed. The expectation from our parliamentarians was of a healthy debate and an academic discussion. Instead what we saw was a brownie point scoring match between our parliamentarians, who decided to nitpick on what our founding fathers had said and when without providing the context in which it was said. ate that great India, united and strong

One Nation, One Subscription



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

he Government of India's One Nation-One Subscription (ONOS) initiative aims to transform education, research, and innovation by ensuring equitable access to academic resources. Announced in 2022 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, it aligns with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 to create a knowledge-based society. With a Rs 6,000 crore budget allocated for 2025-2027, ONOS will provide subscriptions to international research

favour of or against, and ultimately the

majority carried, but to now selectively

pick up each and every sentence and

comma from their speeches to paint a

narrative is a disservice to the memory

of our founding fathers. It is necessary to

remember the words of two members of

the Constituent Assembly who went on

to forge different paths later in life-one

Minoo Masani, a parsi who joined

Sawtantarta Party and became Leader of

Opposition in Lok Sabha who said,

Where the state belongs to the people,

the state is subordinate to the people and

only then does the state serve the people"

and Shyama Prasad Mukherjee, a devout

hindu who served in Nehru's cabinet who

said , "We shall go ahead with our work $% \left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{ 1\right\} =\left\{$

in spite of all obstacles and help to cre-

urban divide and foster innovation by enabling access to global advancements. Additionally, its focus on digital platforms reduces dependency on physical materials, supporting environmental sustainability and the objectives of the Digital India campaign, Despite its promise, ONOS faces challenges, including concerns over its high cost and limited digital infrastructure in rural areas, which could restrict access. Critics caution that without trans-

parent implementation, the initiative may primar-

journals, academic databases, and other

resources, addressing disparities in education

and research. The initiative will empower stu-

dents and researchers, especially from rural and

smaller institutions, by granting them access to

resources previously limited to well-funded uni-

versities. This inclusivity will bridge the rural-

ily benefit larger institutions RK Jain | Barwani

Our parliamentarians decided to cherrywhich will be the motherland of not this pick the words of our founding fathers, community and that, not of this class Or like B R Ambedkar, J L Nehru, K M that but of every person, man, woman Munshi, etc., to suit their own narrative. and child inhabiting this country. " May The constituent assembly had various these words of our founding fathers guide members with varying views. our parliamentarians in securing a bright Each motion was debated and voted in future for India, and may their sacred

> Gurnoor Grewal | Chandigarh **KHEL RATNA CONTROVERSY**

> Madam —It is baffling that Manu Bhaker, who made history by bagging two medals in a single Olympics in Paris, is absent from the list of Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna awardees. If any athlete deserves to be given this award this year, it is Manu Bhaker. Her father is absolutely right: Manu has done her part by giving huge laurels to the country where we have only a handful of individual medal winners; now it is up to the GoI to recognise her feat and reward it.

constituent be their conscious keeper.

Bal Govind | Noida

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FIRST COLUMN

ACHIEVERS NEVER QUIT

Achievers are not born but forged by their ability to ignite their natural talents over time



KUMARDEEP BANARJEE

ack Croushore was a charismatic leader, a successful steel magnate and an achiever, who never called it quits, regardless of the Usituation that confronted him. He was also equally adept in adopting the strategy of using kid gloves when situations so required. Over a period, his mind learnt that situational factors influence leadership effectiveness. Successful leaders are high-end achievers, those who do not quit. They are blessed with halcyon days in life, which provide them with joyful moments, and there may be woebegone incidences that fortuitously do not cripple their passion to climb the ladder of prosperity. Nancy Gibbs says, "High achievers, we imagine, were wired for greatness from birth. But then you must wonder why, over time, natural talent seems to ignite in some people and dim in others." Recall the talismanic movie 3 Idiots. Aamir Khan, Sharman Joshi and R. Madhavan essayed the prin-

They were euphemistically called the 3 idiots by the director of the institute. Among them, Rancho (Aamir Khan) was an achiever blessed with natural talent, out-of-the-box thinking and revolutionary ideas. There is a poignant scene in the movie where Ali Fazal, who played the role of Joy Lobo, snuffs out his life as he was unable to meet the deadline for completing the assigned project work and thus became a laggard. He was working on a battery-operated 'flying machine', which could capture various events through its magical eyes and features. Alas, his attempts were abortive, while the consummate Rancho was successful in designing the machine...and during a test flight, he and the entire college were witnesses to the shocking tragedy of Joy Lobo taking his life. Dismayed at the turn of events, Lobo prominently wrote on the walls of his room - I QUIT



The scene graphically recorded the miscarriage of the project and the abject subjugation of the character who was not an achiever. Once, some superiors decided to cashier an employee for a lacklustre performance. He decided to quit all relationships and his spirituality, and in sheer desperation informed God that he had decided to abandon his life. God asked him to look around in a forest for ferns and bamboo. When God planted ferns and bamboo seeds, he took special care of them and protected them from all the vagaries of weather. Within a year the ferns became resplendent and iridescent, covering the entire floor space, while the bamboo seeds showed no growth.

Over the following four years, the forest became verdant with the everexpanding ferns and yet there was no sign of the bamboo growing or developing into a tree. In the fifth year, the bamboo seeds began to sprout. Within the next six months, the bamboo shoots rose to a height of a hundred feet, lording over the fern plantation. God smiled at the man and said that he never gave up on the bamboo seeds over five years. During this timeframe, the roots of the bamboo tree were growing. Our period of struggle is akin to the development of the roots of the bamboo tree. Both the fern and the bamboo grew at their own pace, as willed by the universe and nature. They complemented each other's growth and were not competitors. Happiness makes us sweet and trials fortify us; sorrows when encountered should make us strong and success ought to make us grateful and radiant. In the ultimate analysis, it is only a positive disposition and thoughts that keep us ticking so that achievers do not lower their guard and thereby do not quit.

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

The key to shaping inclusive future



As automation, artificial intelligence and globalisation reshape industries, lifelong learning and adaptability are essential to staying competitive

n an era of rapid technological advancements and shifting economic landscapes, the conversation around skill development has never been more relevant. Skills are no longer just tools for employment; they are the chisels and hammers that sculpt our collective future, shaping individuals and nations. Historically, skills were tied to tradition and geography. A farmer learned the trade from generations before, and an artisan honed their craft through years of apprenticeship. But the 21st century has shattered these boundaries. Today, the Advent of automation, artificial intelligence, and globalisation demands a workforce that can continuously adapt, innovate, and learn. Skills are not static; they evolve, and the pace of this evolution is accelerating. At the heart of this transformation lies the understanding that skill development is no longer a one-time event but a lifelong journey. The future belongs to those who embrace this mindset. A software engineer may need to transition to being a data analyst tomorrow. A marketer should delve into behavioural psychology or artificial intelligence. The world is moving toward a gig economy, where flexibility, creativity, and adaptability are not just assets but necessities. Those who rest on their laurels risk being left behind in a world where change is the only constant. India has the brain power needed to rise in the skilled world. Governments, educational institutions, and private enterprises all play a role in fostering a skill development culture.

Traditional education systems, built to serve industrial-era needs, must undergo a radical shift. The focus should be more than rote learning or degree acquisition, fostering critical thinking, problem-solving, and technical competencies. Initiatives like coding boot camps, vocational training, and online learning platforms have already begun to disrupt the status quo, democratising access to quality education. But more must be done to ensure inclu-

sivity and widespread reach.
When we talk of skills, we mean making one employable to earn a livelihood quickly and decently. As per the National Policy of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship 2015, We had the target to impart various skills to 40 crore people by the end of 2022. However, around 4 crore people have been trained. Still, there is a massive opportunity for varied stakeholders to come forward and arm our men and women with employable skills. It is nothing but aligning the entire skilling ecosystem with the demands of employers. Today, a considerable gap exists between the demand for a skilled workforce and their availability in the mar-

Among 150 million young people in developing countries, around 33 per cent are skilled but unemployed, as their employability quotient could be better. Government policy interventions can bridge the gap between demand and supply in the workforce market. Incentivising employable skill development through subsidies, tax benefits, or public-private part-nerships can empower citizens to upskill or reskill. Furthermore, governments must create frameworks encouraging lifelong learning, such as subsidised courses or learning credits for professionals looking to update their skills. Meanwhile, industries must recognise their role in cre-



Corporate training programs, mentorship initiatives, and collaborations with educational institutions are not just investments in employees but investments in the future of the business itself. Companies that foster a culture of continuous learning often enjoy higher productivity, better employee retention, and a competitive edge in their industries. Moreover, the private sector can lead the way in identifying future skills by

AMONG 150 analysing market trends and technological advancements, ensuring MILLION YOUNG training programmes remain relevant and forward-looking. However, skill development is not DEVELOPING just about economic progress but also a tool for social empowerment. COUNTRIES, In many developing nations, lack AROUND 33 PER perpetuated cycles of poverty. CENT ARE Equipping marginalised communities with in-demand skills can SKILLED BUT uplift entire populations, ensuring UNEMPLOYED, AS more inclusive growth. A young woman in a rural village learning THEIR coding or a displaced worker mas-EMPLOYABILITY tering digital marketing are potent examples of how skills can change lives. These stories highlight the transformative potential of skill BE BETTER. development, turning adversity into opportunity and fostering hope where it is needed most. This empowerment extends beyond individuals to communities and provided the state of the provided populations. INTERVENTIONS entire societies. Skilled populations are better equipped to address local challenges, from improving infrastructure to boosting small businesses.

DEMAND AND In this way, skill development catalyses innovation and self-SUPPLY IN THE reliance, reducing dependency on external aid and fostering sustainable growth. Communities MARKET investing in their human capital often see a ripple effect, where often see a ripple effect, where increased productivity and prosperity lead to better healthcare, education, and quality of life. As we addressing the challenges it pre-

sents is also critical. The digital divide, for instance, threatens to exclude those who lack access to technology or internet connectiv-

Rural areas and underserved regions often bear the brunt of this inequity, leaving millions without the tools to participate in the modern economy. Bridging this gap requires a concerted effort from the public and private sectors, including infrastructure investments, affordable technology, and localised training programs catering to specific regional needs. Similarly, a one-size-fits-all approach to skills training is likely to fail. Each individual's journey is unique, shaped by their aspirations, context, and potential.

Personalised, learner-centric approaches must become the norm. Adaptive learning technologies powered by artificial intelligence can significantly tailor educational content to suit individual needs and learning styles. This ensures that skill development is essential, practical, engaging, and relevant. Moreover, we must shift the narrative around failure in skill acquisition. Learning a new development. Understanding the implications of artificial intelligence, data privacy, and sustainability is as crucial skill often involves trial and error, and creating an environment where individuals feel encouraged to experiment and grow without fear of judgment is essential. Employers and educators must foster a culture that values resilience and continuous improvement over perfection. The metaphor of skill as a sculptor is apt. Like marble, raw talent has limitless potential. But becoming something remarkable requires the right tools, guidance, and effort.

Skill development chisels away ignorance carves out opportunities and polishes the rough edges of human potential. It bridges the gap between dreams and reality, between where we are and where champion skill development, we aspire to be. As we look to the

of skills to redefine what is possible. Whether combating climate change, revolutionising healthcare and wellness, or exploring the frontiers of space, skilled individuals will be at the helm of every breakthrough. By investing in skill development today, we are not just preparing for tomorrow but shap-

The urgency of this investment cannot be overstated. The COVID-19 pandemic served as a wake-up call, highlighting the vulnerabilities of unskilled or under-skilled workers in a volatile economy. Millions faced job losses, and industries struggled to adapt to new remote work and digital operations norms. Yet, it also demonstrated the resilience of those equipped with the right skills to pivot and thrive in uncertain times. The lessons learned must guide our approach, emphasising the importance of resilience, adaptability, and futureproof skills.Furthermore, as technology evolves, ethical considerations must be integrated into skill

as mastering technical competencies. This holistic approach ensures rapid and responsible progress, fostering a future where innovation aligns with human values and societal well-being. In conclusion, skill development is more than a response to economic demands; it is a transformative force that shapes our world. It empowers individuals, drives innovation, and fosters inclusive growth. By investing in skills, we invest in people, and by investing in people, we invest in the

(The writer is co-founder and MD of Orane International, a training partner of the National Skill Development Corporation and a network Member of India International Skills Centres. The views expressed are personal)

Witch-hunting in India: A persistent plague claiming women's lives

Despite legal interventions, witch-hunting remains a grim reality in parts of India, targeting marginalised women

n 2014, Partners for Law in Development (PLD), a Llegal resource group working on social justice and women's rights, carried out a study to understand the reasons behind rising violence against women in the name of witch hunting in Bihar, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand. They found that women were blamed for illness, death and even a bad crop and branded as witch-

The targets of this belief system were largely middleaged married women with little formal education, from lower economic strata and marginalised castes and communities. Moreover, victims and perpetrators were, more often than not, close-



there was complicity in the

community Their study also revealed that although laws in Bihar, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh criminalising acts/offences particular to witch hunting, such as 'identifying' any person as a witch along with the cent of the victims were tar-

mental and physical torture accompanying such identifi-cation existed, the apathy of the state led to the continu- month, also found a signifily related to each other and, ation of witch hunting prac- cant proportion of the raise their voices against the

tices. Ten years later, nothing seems to have changed. Witch hunting continues to claim women's lives even in 2024. Over 663 were killed for allegedly practising witchcraft during 2015 and 2021 according to the National Crime Research Bureau (NCRB).

Worryingly, the main perpetrators of this violence also remain the same, says Nirantar Trust, a NGO working on gender and education, Findings of the Trust's recent survey on witch hunting in 114 villages across 10 dis-tricts in Bihar showed 43 per getted by members from their own family. Their study, released earlier this

women victimised as witches were between the age group 45 to 60. Moreover, 73 per cent of the victims had never been to school. Nirantar also found that more than single women or widows, it was married women who were branded as witches, corroborating the findings of the 2014 PLD study. In many instances, perpetra-

tors were related to the male kin of the husband and thus negated the traditional belief that married women were than women. Another grave concern raised in the 2024 study is the targeting of women from marginalised backgrounds who have shown agency and the courage to



entrenched patri-

The inability of the government to sensitise men while pushing for women's

gered many women in leadership roles. One of the easiest ways to show the woman her place has been to brand her as a witch. Of the 44 per empowerment has endan- cent of women who faced

accusations of witchcraft from castes other than their own, the majority were from the upper caste. Nirantar found that most women preferred not to report this mental and physical assault as they were afraid it would lead to increased violence, greater social ostracisation and humiliation.

They also lacked trust in the sincerity and efficacy of law enforcement agencies. The inability to provide timely justice can be fatal was found by Action Aid Association. The NGO, which detailed 102 case studies from Odisha's 12 districts reporting maximum witch-hunting incidents in 2021, found that despite the law, more than 30 per cent of the total cases had led to the death of the

woman branded as a witch. Chhutni Mahto, the firebrand social activist from Jharkhand, who received the Padma Shri in 2021 for her role in rescuing over 100 women accused of witchcraft, knows the pain because she too, was targetted as a witch. She survived and embarked on a mission to help others. But why is the onus only on

survivors? NCRB data shows that since 2000, over 2,500 women have been killed for being witches. How many more women need to die before action against such inhuman acts is given the priority it deserves?

(The author is a journalist writing on development and gender. The views expressed



SUKHO KHALSA SR. SEC. SCHOOL JAIL ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-110058 A GOVT. AIDED MINORITY SCHOOL

CORRIGENDUM

Reference previous advertisement dated 11.10.2024 published in two newspapers "The Pioneer" Delhi NCR (English + Hindi), following changes are being made in two vacancies only.

- * The post of TGT Social Science is deleted due to some administrative reasons.
- * The post of TGT English is reserved for PwBD.

All other contents of previous advertisement dated 11/10/2024 remain same and the candidates who previously applied for other posts (except the above 2 posts) in response to Advertisement dated 11/10/2024 need not apply afresh.

Age, Qualification etc. are as per Recruitment Rules applicable for Govt. Aided Minority Schools of the Directorate of Education Govt. of NCT of Delhi.

Blank application form (to apply for the post of TGT English reserved for PwBD) to be collected from school office on all working days between 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The blank application forms will be provided free of cost.

Application form duly completed in all respect along with self attested copies of testimonials should reach through speed post/registered post to the Chairman/Manager Sukho Khalsa Senior Secondary School, Jail Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi-58 within 10 days from the date of this advertisement. Thereafter no application will be accepted. No application will be received by hand.

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

E-procurement Tender Notice No. S/30/2024-25 Dated: 24-12-2024. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works.

SN.1. Tender No. 30/24/5105/OT/252/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 31-12-2024

Brief Description: NG Carriage Bogie Components (AS PER ANNEXURE-1 (CONSISTING 32 ITEMS except SN- 24) & DRAWINGS ARE ATTACHED). [Warranty Period. 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp.: NA, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods Qty- 10 Set for SSE/WS/Tindharia, NFR (West Bengal), P.L. No.- 300003620016.

SN.2. Tender No. 70/24/0895/OT/253/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 06-01-2025

Brief Description: PVC in Roll Size- 2 mm x 1.62 m x 14 m including PVC electrode dia 2 mm = 50 m per roll, Shades & patterns -RDSO sample NAC FLG 02, Colour - Blue. RDSO Spec. No. RDSO/2006/ CG-12 (Rev.1) with amand. 5 of July'2019 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] 1) Qty-10000.00 Metre for Dibrugarh Town/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam), 2) Qty- 12800.00 Metre for New Bongaigaon/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam), P.L. No. 75613839.

SN.3. Tender No. 37/24/0551 A/OT/254/2024-25 Closing/Opening date: 08-01-2025

Brief Description: Constant contact polyurethane side bearer pad assembly. Drg No.: RDSO Approved drawing No. AAL-021101, alt-8. Mat. Spec.: WD-38-MISC-2004 REV-2 of Nov'2022 [Warranty Period· 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods, 1) Qty- 1391 Set for New Bongaigaon/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam), ii) Qty- 347 Set for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal), P.L. No. - 38106528.

SN.4. Tender No. 40/24/0597D/OT/255/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 06-01-2025

Brief Description: Coupling scket assembly complete as per RDSO drawing No. RDSO/PE/SPEC AC/0177(Rev.1) 2013 and RCF drawing No LW71300 as per Drg. No. N/A spec no. EDTS-105(Rev-E) Amndt-1, 2 and 3. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item Type. Goods, Qty- 45 Nos for Dibrugarh Town/WORKSHOP/ DEPOT, NFR (Assam), ii) Qty: 15 Nos for New Bongaigaon/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.

SN.5. Tender No. 61/24/5325/OT/256/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 08-01-2025

Brief Description: Manufacture and supply of Mono Block Pre-Stressed concrete Line Sleeper (Pre tensioned type) confirming to RDSO Drg.No. T-8746 and IRS specification No T-39 (as amended up to date of tender opening) duly loaded in to Wagons/road vehicles. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp. NA, Stages: 0] UVAM Linking: Item Type: Goods i) Qty- 137742 Nos for Sr. DEN/C/Katihar, NFR (Bihar), ii) Qty: 422329 Nos. for DRM/W/Alipurduar Jn., NFR (West Bengal). iii) Qty: 69449 Nos for Sr. DEN/C/Lumding, NFR (Assam). iv) Qty: 171412 Nos for DRM/W/Tinsukia, NFR (Assam). v) Qty: 95086 Nos for CH.OS/G/ENGG/Rangiya, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.-601600900143.

SN.6. Tender No. 70/24/0003A/OT/257/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 10-01-2025

Brief Description: Decorative Thermosetting Synthetic Resin Bonded Laminated sheets with fir worthiness property Size: 2440 mm x 1220 mm x 3 mm. thickness. As per RDSO Spec. No C-K514 (Rev-0 of Dec 2005) with 7 Amendments, Last Amendment No 7 of August 2016 and with corrigendum No 1 of June 2015.As per RDSO Approved Sample CODE AC_SP02 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods, i) Qty- 309 Nos for Dibrugarh Town/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam), (ii) Qty: 2875 Nos. for New Bongaigaon/WORKSHOP/DEPOT, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.- 75400250.

SN.7. Tender No. 37/24/0636/OT/258/2024-25

Closing/Opening date: 13-01-2025

Brief Description: Poly Rinhgs-3 for side Bearer Pad Assembly. Drawing-AAL-021101. Item-5mAlt-8. Mat. Spec.-RDSO Spec-No. WD-38-Misc-2004 (Rev.2). [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking]: Item Type: Goods, i) Qty: 5991 Nos for New Bongaigaon WORKSHOP DEPOT, NFR (Assam). ii) Qty: 706 Nos. for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR (West Bengal), P.L. No-38106530.

SN.8. Tender No. 40/24/5427/OT/259/2024-25 Closing/Opening date: 13-01-2025

Brief Description: Supply of Self-locking Spring inserted steel nut single piece reusable of size M-27 for 28 mm dia hook bolt as per RDSO spec. No 1773549/2023/O/o ED/BnS/RDSO. including 01 no. appropriate box Wrench/50 nos.nuts.Spec.details.Ln-37.5 mm, Sn-41.0 mm. Hn-22.0 mm, Bn-41.0 mm, Cn-47.3 mm, Plating-Electro-galvanized or Hot-dip galvanized or nickel alloy. NAS3350 Vibration test certificate required with proper OEM/authorization certificate. Make- SAPER LOCK or similar. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking] Item Type: Goods i) Qty: 500 Nos for SSE/P.WAY/Dalkhola, NFR(West Bengal), i) Qty-1500 Nos for SSE/P. WAY/Samsi, NFR (West Bengal) P.L. No. 731301690012.

SN.9. Tender No. 70/24/0476/OT/260/2024-25 Closing/Opening date: 16-01-2025

Brief Description: "Bolt MS Hex Head M16 X 50 with Nut as per Specn. BIS Specification No: Steel, IS-1363, pt-1-2002 for Bolt and IS: 1363-Pt-III-2002 for Nut.Property Class 4.6 [four point six] [fpr Bolt and 5 (Five) for Nut] [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp.: No, Stages: 0] [UVAM Linking:] Item Type: Goods i)Qty-11000 Kgs for New Bongaigaon/WORKSHOP/ DEPOT, NFR (Assam). ii)6000 Kgs for Dibrugarh Town/WORKSHOP/DEPOT,NFR (Assam) iii) Qty: 400 Kgs for Pandu/GSD, NFR (Assam) iv) Qty-19000 Kgs for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal) P.L.

Note: For full details of tender notice and tender documents, tenderer may log on to the website (www.ireps gov.in). Prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tender are required to log on themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In Case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.

PCMM, Maligaon



China approves world's largest dam over Brahmaputra river

PTI ■ BEIJING

hina has approved the construction of the /world's largest dam, stated to be the planet's biggest infra project costing USD 137 billion, on the Brahmaputra River in Tibet close to the Indian border, raising concerns in riparian states — India and Bangladesh. The Chinese government has approved the construction of a hydropower project in the lower reaches of the Yarlung Zangbo River, the Tibetan name for the

official statement quoted by state-run Xinhua news agency on Wednesday

The dam is to be built at a huge gorge in the Himalayan reaches where the Brahmaputra river makes a huge U-turn to flow into Arunachal Pradesh and then to Bangladesh. The total investment in the

dam could exceed one trillion yuan (USD 137 billion), which would dwarf any other single infrastructure project on the planet including China's own

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

APPENDIX IV

POSSESSION NOTICE

(For immovable property)

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorised officer of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank

Ltd.", Head office at, C-29,Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi -110058, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-

110055, under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002. (54 of 2002.) and in exercise of powers conferred under

section 13(12) read with rule [3] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated 18-07-2024, calling upon the borrower Smt.

Shalini Yaduvanshi W/o. Sh.Doepak H.No.R-62, Phase-2, Street No.6, Shiv Vihar Karwal Nagar, Delhi-110094 also at Smt. Shalini Yaduvanshi W/o. Sh.Doepak , C/o. M/s.

Engineer Dheeraj Sharma Computer, Training Institute, Khasra No.175, Karawal Nagar, Delhi-110094, and Smt. Shalini Yaduvanshi W/o. Sh.Deepak ,C/o. M/s. Deep Computer

Education Institute, B-96, S/F No. 710, Sadat Pur Extn., Main Road, Karawal Nagar

Delhi-110094 and calling upon the mortgagor & surety and Smt. Sarvesh W/o. Sh. Nanhi

Singh H.No.R-62, Phase-2, Street No.6, Shiv Vihar Karwal Nagar, Delhi-110094, to repa

the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.14.63.766/- (Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Sixty

Three Thousand Seven Hundred and Sixty Six Only), together with further interest, pena

interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the

date of the notice till the date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice

The above mentioned borrower, mortgagor & surety having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, mortgagor & surety and the public in general that the

Bank has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described here in below in exercise o

Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act. 2002, read

with rule [8] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on this 24th day of

The borrower, mortgagor & surety in particular and the public in general is hereby cautione not to deal with the mortgaged property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", for an amount of Rs.14,63,766/together with further interest, penal interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of notice till the date of realization together with all

The borrower, mortgagor & surety attention is also been invited towards provisions of Sub

Section (8) of Section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets &

Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the below

The property under All that part and parcel of the HOUSE NO.R-62, (KHASRA consideration is Built NO.20/13), OLD NO. 250/2 & 38-C, PLOT NO.38-C, STREET NO.6,

up ground floor area PHASE-II, GIS ID NO.GEO-COORDINATES FILE measuring 41.80 Sq. DDA/GIS/07122020054511/ 227001 & MEASURING 41.80

Registration of Sub-Registrar IV, Delhi.

SQ.MTRS. HAVING FLOOR 01, SITUATED COLONY SHIV VIHAR

PHASE-II, KARAWAL NAGAR, DELHI-110094. Falling Under the

NORTH: OTHERS PLOT, EAST: PLOT NO.38-B, SOUTH OTHER PLOT

(HARISH SHARMA)

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

HEAD OFFICE AT, C-29, COMMUNITY CENTRE

PANKHA ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58.

Coloniser/Developer: Sriflex Projects Private Limited

the costs incurred by the Bank in realizing the said amount.

entioned mortgaged property/Secured Asset.

WEST: PASSAGE 10 FT.

DATED: 24-12-2024

2015.

Economic and Range Objectives Through the

the largest in the world, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Thursday.

has already China Operationalised the USD 1.5 billion Zam Hydropower Station, the largest in Tibet in

The Brahmaputra dam was part of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) and National Social Development and the Long-

To be known to all that I, Pushpa Taneja W/c Late V. P. Taneja R/o R-9/300, Raj Nagar Ghaziabad, UP-201002 lost Documents Ir respect of DDA Janta Flat No. 469,Madipur (Paschim Puri Jbelhi-110063 Vide Flie No.-2! 1140)1972/HB/LAB(H) has applied for conversion of the aforesaid Flat from least hold to free hold in DDA. The original docum its 1.Demand Letter 2.DDA Possession of Lette 3. NOC (water&Electric) 4.Sitte Possession of the above flat has been lost, an NCR(FIR) of this effect has been lodged in police station Nirvana Country, Sector-50,Gurgaon-122018 vide NCR App. No. 1322710324006574t. 07/o 2024 time 11.00 Gurgaram.Any person(s) (2024 time 11.00 Gurgaram.Any persons)

ound any/all documents of origina ocuments, may write/contact with named erson at above address/phone No 9958757222 within 15 days from the dt.o. ublication of this notice. The person claiming ny right, interest, objections with respect to

this property can personally inform or write t Dy. Director LAB (H) DDA, Vikas Sadan, INA New Delhi

Brahmaputra, according to an Three Gorges Dam, regarded as Year 2035 adopted by Plenum, a key policy body of the ruling Communist Party of China (CPC) in 2020.

Concerns arose in India as the dam besides empowering China to control the water flow, the size and scale of it could also enable Beijing to release large amounts of water flooding border areas in times of hostilities.

> India too is building a dam over Brahmaputra in Arunachal Pradesh.

India and China established the Expert Level Mechanism (ELM) in 2006 to discuss various issues related to trans-bor-PUBLIC NOTICE der rivers under which China

> PUBLIC NOTICE Known to all that my client Smt.Reshma Kukreja owner of the FIRST FLOOR WITHOUT NOOF PROPERTY NO-WZ-93/94, (NEW NO-J-57) AREA 505Q YARDS KHASRA NO-1575 VILLAGE TIHAR NEW DELHI-110018 and Smt Reshma KukrejaHave Not Originals 1. Probat of Will executed by Smt. Bimla Devi Sapra in favour of Smt. Reshma Kukreja, 2. Death and Survivor Certificate of Sh. Kishan Lal, And It informed that any deal with said documents by

informed that any deal with said documents any person except my said client and s institution regarding said property, shall deemed as null and void. If any person wan any claim, right in said property then he recontact and handover the same and apprise claim to undersigned within 8 days of 1 mothfration.

LEASING OF SLR OF VARIOUS TRAINS OVER ALIPURDUAR DIVISION

E-Auction is invited for leasing of SLR of Various trains over Alipurduan division. Auction Catalogue No.: C-AP-PCL-LEASE. Description: Parcel Space in SLR Coach (Single Compartment); Rate Unit: Per Trip Licensing Fee. Auction Start Date & Time: 11:00 hrs. on 07-01-2025.

Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Lot End Date & Time		
AA/1	15769-SLR-F2-APDJ-MXN-24-1	At 11:30 hrs. on		
,,,,,	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
AA/2	13150-SLR-F1-APDJ-SDAH-24-1	At 11:40 hrs. on		
	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
AA/3	13148-SLR-F1-BXT-SDAH-24-1	At 11:50 hrs. on		
	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
AA/4	12378-SLR-F1-NOQ-SDAH-22-1	At 12:00 hrs. on		
	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
AA/5	15417-SLR-R1-APDJ-SHTT-22-1	At 12:10 hrs. on		
	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
AA/6	13142-SLR-R1-NOQ-SDAH-22-1	At 12:20 hrs. on		
	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
AA/7	15769-SLR-R1-APDJ-MXN-24-1	At 12:30 hrs. on		
	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
AA/8	15769-SLR-F1-APDJ-MXN-24-1	At 12:40 hrs. on		
	(Parcel-SLR)	07-01-2025		
Initial Cooling off pariod is 30 minutes. Successive late clasing				

Initial Cooling off period is 30 minutes. Successive lots closing interval 10 minutes. Note: Prospective bidder are requested to visit e-Auction leasing module on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in for more details.

Sr. DCM, Alipurduar Jn.



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

1	Project Approvals	Coloniser/Developer: Snilex Projects Private Limited. Licence No./Year: 133 of 2023 dated 26.06.2023, Building plans approved on 19.03.2024 vide Memo No. ZP-1862/JD(RA)/2024/10267 & RERA Registration No. RC/REP/HARERA/GGM/814/546/2024/41 dated 15.04.2024.						
2	Location	Sector 4, Sohna, District – Gurugram, Haryana.						
3	Provisions	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 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 one Anganwadi-cum-creche of more than 2000 sq. ft.						
4	Apartment Details	Type II: 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 wheeler parking. Type III: 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 wheeler parking. 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-wheele parking 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 two-wheeler parking.						
		S. No.	Unit Type	Carpet Area (Sq. Ft.)	Total Units of General Category	Total Units of Management Quota	No. of Units	
		1	Type-I	644.65	108		108	
		2	Type-II	644.65	95	13	108	
		3	Type-III	637.00	54		54	
			Total		257	13	270	
5	Allotment Rate of Apartment (All inclusive)+ Taxes & other charges as applicable will be extra	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. 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. www.tcpharyana.gov.in). However, possession charges and registration fees etc are extra.						
		i. With Application: Booking amount i.e. 5% of Carpet area of apartment:						
6	Payment Terms	Type I:Total amount of Rs. 1,45,046/ Type II:Total amount of Rs. 1,45,046/ Type III:Total amount of Rs. 1,45,046/ Type III:Total amount of Rs. 1,43,325/ ii. 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 at the rate specified in Rule 15 of the Rules 2017 by HARERA.						
7	Board Specifications of the Apartment	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						

Applications Timelines

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

Booking start from 14/12/224 00:01 Payment closure date 28/12/2024 23:59

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

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

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

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 concerne

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 amendments 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/Develope 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. Specifications can also be accessed at the Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority website, i.e., https://haryanarera.gov.in

provides India with hydrological information on the Brahmaputra river and Sutlej river during the flood seasons. Data sharing of trans-border rivers figured in the talks between India, China Special Representatives (SRs) for border question, NSA Ajit Doval and Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, held here on December 18. The SRs "provided positive directions for cross-border cooperation and exchanges' including data sharing on transborder rivers, a statement by the Ministry of External Affairs

The Brahmaputra Dam presents enormous engineering challenges as the project site is located along a tectonic plate boundary where earthquakes occur. The Tibetan plateau, regarded as the roof of the world, frequently experiences earthquakes as it is located over the tectonic plates.

said.

The official statement on Wednesday sought to allay concerns about earthquakes, saying that the hydropower project is safe and prioritises ecological protection.

Through extensive geological explorations and technical advancements, a solid foundation has been laid for the science-based, secure, and highquality development of the proiect, it said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of ANUBHAV JAIN who is purchasing PROPERTY NO. I.J. 120, AREA MEASURING 284.87 SQ. YDS., SITUATED AT RESIDENTIAL COLONY G.M.P. KAVI NAGAR, TEHSIL AND DISTRICT-GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH from M/s. Syndicate Buildcon Private Limited who had purchased the subject property by virtue of Sale Deed executed by Mr. Raj Kumar Tomar, Mr. Sameer Tomar, Mrs. Om Laia Tomar and Mrs. Manju Devi, bearing Regn, /Document no.4327, Book no.1, Volume no.20906, on pages 235-264, dated 10.04.2024 (SRO-I GHAZIABAD), and ANUBHAV JAIN intend to mortgage the subject 10.04-2.024 (SRC-I GRAZIABAD), affice ANUBHAV JAIN intend to mortgage the subject property against the financial assistance from Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any Person having give this public notice that if any Person having give the Adity Continue Technology. ny type of claim/right/title/ interest/creatin nortgage over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal LLP Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Park, New Delhi-110049, Contact # 011-40046316

PUBLIC NOTICE

Information is given to general public at large that Smt. Sahanaj Khatoon w/o Md. Tamanna and Smt. Falasa hatoon w/o Md. Sabir who is/are purchasing the Built up Second Floor (Back Side) without roof rights, are easuring 50 Sq. Yards, Built on Property No. RZ 9/26, out of Khasra No. 428 & 429, Situated at Gal 26 Tughlakabad Extn., New Delhi-110019 from Sh ntzar Ali S/o Shri Masha Allah who was the owner o operty by virtue of Sale Deed dated 18.04.2024 (Doo No. 2024/10/I/2654) executed by Smt. Samini Anjum w/o Shri Atir Rais Siddiqui. Intend to mortgagi same against the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited. Original Sale Deed Registered on dated 5.02.2010 (Document No. 2323) of the subject proc erty are not available with Seller i.e. Shri Intzar Ali S/ Shri Masha Allah. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any per on(s) having any objection regarding ownership and or creating mortgage of the said property is/are here by requested to intimate in writing to the undersigne thin 07 days at below address

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

NCR LAW ASSOCIATES

PUBLIC NOTICE M/s Signature Builders Pvt. Ltd. has been

aranted Environmental Clearance foi Expansion of Affordable Group Housing Colony Project at Village- Hayatpur, Sector-93, District-Gurugram, Haryana identification EC24C3801HR5969266N 20.12.2024. The copy of clearance along with the conditions to be complied with is available at office of the Haryana State Pollution Control Board and on the website of the MOEF&CC at http://envfor.nic.in and at the registered office of the company at 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28 Barakhamba Road, New Delhi- 110001 and also on website of the company at

Authorised Signatory For Signature Builders Private Limited CIN: U70101DL2011PTC220275 Address: 13th Floor, Dr. Gopal Das Bhawan, 28 Barakhamba Road, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001

www.signatureglobal.in.

PUBLIC NOTICE Property bearing No. 1/5898, Old No I land area measuring 218 Sq. Yds of Khasra No. 3440/11/2, 2691/12 2695/13, Situated at Village Chandrawali in the abadi of Kabool Nagar, Illaqa Shahdara, Delhi; hereinafter referred to as

Shahdara, Delhi; neremano.

"said property".

Notice is hereby given to the general public including Banks, Financial Institutions, etc. that, as informed by our clients, (1) Mr. Varue Bhutani, and (2) Mrs. Pooja Sharma, they are the joint owners and in possession of the said property. In this connection, they have informed that Mrs. Pooja Sharma was purchased the Land area measuring 95 so property. In this connection, they have informed that Mrs. Pooja Sharma was purchased the Land area measuring 95 sq, yds. and 28 sq. yds. (total area measuring 123 sq. yds.) of the said property by Mr. Sheel Kumar special power attorney of Mr. Amit Kapoor vide separate two Sale Deeds registered in the office of concerned Sub-Registrar as Document No. 2024/23/1/5480, Book No. 1, Volume No. 5388, on pages 47-64, on 15.07.2024 and Document No. 2024/23/1/17480, Book No. 1, Volume No. 5569, on pages 57-74, on 18.09.2024 And Mr. Varun Bhutani was purchased the Land area measuring 95 sq. yds. of the said property by Mr. Sheel Kumar special power attorney of Mr. Amit Kapoor vide Sale Deed registered in the office of concerned Sub-Registrar as Document No.2024/23/1/5482, Book No. 1, Volume No.5588, on pages 87-104, on 15.07.2024, In the manner aforesaid, Mr. Varun Bhutani, and Mrs. Pooja Sharma, became the joint owners of the said property and since then, they are the owners in possession of the said property withoust any objection/s or claim/s by any person in general. They now intend to mortgage the said property with Axis Finance Limited, for objection/s or claim/s by any person in general. They now intend to mortgage the said property with Axis Finance Limited, for availing loan facility. We have been further informed by our clients that the said property is not mortgaged anywhere and there is no tharge or dispute or any litigation pending. If any person, society, bank, financial institution or other institutions have any objection against the joint ownership of our clients on the said property and subsequently rightful mortgage of the said property in favour of Axis Finance Limited by our clients, may raise his/her/their objection/s,

your clients, may raise his/her/their objection/s, n writing, by Registered AD post, to the indersigned, within 07 days, on address nentioned below. Otherwise after expiry of ubdication of this notice, the said properly thall be mortgaged by our clients in favour of xis Finance Limited, and no objection shall be acceptable against such mortgage. acceptable against such mortgage

Shivkant Arora, Advocate M/s Intellective Law Offices A-74, LGF, Defence Colony, New Delhi -110024

day," fire service chief Brigadier

General Zahed Kamal told

newsmen indicating it might not

Officials said a power outage

caused by the fire forced as well

other ministries apart from the

building to halt their normal

work while security agencies

restricted entry inside the com-

plex preventing many staff and

officials from entering into the

complex at the central part of the

भारतीय प्रबन्धन संस्थान, राँची Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi

be an accidental inferno.

Azerbaijan observes day of mourning for air crash victims as speculation mounts over its cause

BAKU (AP): Azerbaijan on wide day of mourning for the Thursday observed a nationvictims of the air crash that

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Suresh Chand Singla S/o Dharam Chand Pitampura, Delhi 110034 hereby inform all concerned that I have changed my name from Suresh Chand to Suresh Chand Singla.

PD(1150)A

I Vikas Kumar Jain S/o Yuvraaj K Jain R/o: 34, Nagar Delhi-110051, I have changed my name Yuvraj Jain to Yuvraaj K Jain for all purpose in

PD(1151)A

I, Dinesh Kumar Chauhan S/o-Lajje Ram R/o- Village-Shahpur, Sector-128, Noida Gautam Buddha Nagar, U.P. 201304 declare that in my daughter school documents my mentioned name is Dinesh Chauhan that is my incorrect name my correct name is Dinesh Kumai Chauhan and Dinesh Kumar Chauhan & Dinesh Chauhan is one & both are same

PD(1152)C

hitherto known as MANJEET KAUR alias MANJEET KAUR TULI W/o-Gurdeep Singh Tuli, residing at- A- 86, 2nd Floor Chander Nagar, Janakpuri, New Delhi -110058, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as MANJEET KAUR TULI. It is certified that I have complied with other legal requirements in this

Sr. Name of Work/Item

SMP for Verka Dairies

For Verka Head Office, Chandigarh

e Tendering portal i.e. eproc.punjab.gov.in.

NA/12/27145/2023/40271

एनटीपीसी

Corrigendum, if any, will be uploaded on website only

1. The beneficiaries of the generating station are:

Road. Kingsway Camp, Delhi-110009.

Office Building, Sector-9 D, Chandigarh

4. Authority which has approved the Capital Cost

5. Scheduled date of commercial operation

6. Actual date of commercial operation of station

Panchkula, Haryana-134109.

Secretariat, Srinagar.

Dehradun-248001.

8. Details of tariff:

Particulars

. Capacity

(Rs. Lakh)

2. Energy

2. Capacity of the generating station

3. Approved capital cost of the project

Marg, Lucknow-226001.

Delhi-110092.

PD(1153)C

I. Praveen Verma S/o late Kunwar Bhan R/o C-1/43 KRISHAN VIHAR NEW DELHI 110086 have changed my name from praveen to praveen Verma for all

PD(1156)C It is for general information that I, KUMAR DEVI W/o Rampal R/o 5/475A, Maliwara, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh-201001 declare that name of mine has been wrongly written as KUNVAR VATI in my Voter ID Card No. UP/79/388/ 0612093. The actual name of mine is KUMAR DEVI which may be amended accordingly.

PD(1155)C

I, hitherto known as BABITA SINHA W/o ALOK SRIVASTAVA R/o 2216, Valencia tower, Mahagun Mezarria, sec- 78, Noida, Uttar Pradesh (201301), have changed my name spelling BABITA SINHA to BABEETA SINHA.

PD(1155)C

LOST & FOUND

I, SHILA DEVI, W/O GANESH DASS, have Lost my original PM-UDAY CONVEYANCE WITH CASE ID NUMBER 09102024083428/1 AND DDA/GIS NUMBER 01102024053759/389539 AND PROPERTY PAPER MENTIONED ADDRESS IS PLOT NO.59B, OUT OF KHASRA NO.26/14, SAINIK ENCLAVE, VIKAS NAGAR, UTTAM NAGAR, HASTSAL, NEW DELHI- 110059.Finder

PD(1154)C I, G.S. Jamwal, S/o Late Kartar Singh Jamwal have lost my original Possession Letter of Flat No.143, Shriniketan CGHS Ltd, Plot No.01, Sector-7, Dwarka, New Delhi, finder please contact: 9419140402

PD(1156)A

Period/Tentative

Qty

11 01 2025

tο

10.06.2025

Dy. General Manager (Purchase)

: 420 MW

CERC

: Rs. 1306.09 Crore

: Not Applicable

: 01.01.2001

verka

SCO 153-155. SECTOR 34-A. CHANDIGARH-160022. FPABX NO. 0172-5041812.66

Notice Inviting Tender

1. For complete details regarding above tender (NIT), please visit our website i.e. www.verka.coop &

Registered Office Address : NTPC Bhawan, Core-7, SCOPE Complex,

7-Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110 003

Corporate Identification Number- L40101DL1975GOI007966

The applicant above named has made an application before the Central

Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), New Delhi for determination of tariff

of Feroze Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Station Stage-II (420 MW) from

a) Uttar Pradesh Power Corp. Ltd. (UPPCL), Shakti Bhawan 14, Ashok

b) Rajasthan Urja Vikas Nigam Limited (RUVNL) (on behalf of DISCOMs of

c) Tata Power Delhi Distribution Ltd. (TPDDL), Grid Substation, Hudson

d) BSES Rajdhani Power Ltd. (BRPL), BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place. New

e) BSES Yamuna Power Ltd. (BYPL), Shakti Kiran Building, Karkardooma,

f) Haryana Power Purchase Centre (HPPC), Shakti Bhawan, Sector-VI,

g) Puniab State Power Corporation Ltd. (PSPCL), The Mall, Patiala-147001

h) Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board Ltd. (HPSEB), Kumar Housing

i) Power Development Department (PDD-J&K), Govt. of J&K, Civil

j) Electricity Department (Chandigarh), Union Territory of Chandigarh, Addl.

k) Uttarakhand Power Corporation Ltd. (UPCL), Urja Bhavan, Kanwali Road,

7. Capital cost on date of Commercial operation of Station: Not Applicable

Year-wise tariff sought to be determined

Rajasthan), Vidyut Bhawan, Janpath, Jaipur-302005.

Complex Building-II, Vidyut Bhawan, Shimla-171004

NTPC Limited

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

Short term e-tender for hiring of milk powder plant(s) having conversion

capacity of 4 LLPD & above for conversion of liquid milk into Extra grade

killed 38 people and left all 29 survivors injured as speculation mounted about a possible cause of the crash that remained

Re: Property/Plot No. 10, land area measuring 520 sq. yds., "said portion" out fot total land areameasuring 6 Bighas 10 Biswas, falling in Khasra No. 11/17 (01-14) & 11/18 (04-16), Situated in the area of village Kamalpur Majra Burari, abadi known as Block-A, Kamal Vihar, Kamalpur, Delhi-110084, "(hereinafter referred oas the "Said Property") as the "Said Property")

to as the Said Property). Be it known to all that our clients, Mr. Divesh Garg and Mrs. Vaishali (hereinafter called the Prunchaser') intend to purchase the said portion from Mr. Brajesh Rana (hereinafter called the "Seller'). In this connection, the seller has informed the purchaser that he is the owner of the said portion vide GPA, Agreement to Sell and Will dated 24 0.6.2021 executed by Mr. Sanjay Bhatia in his favour, and Mr. Sanjay Bhatia owned the said property vide Sale Deed executed by Mr. Ram Kumar & Mr. Prem Kumar in his favour and the said deed registered as Document No. 5497, Addl. Book No. 1, Volume No.655, pages 139-154, on. 05.12, 2002. Thus, the present seller has also informed the purchaser that the said portion is not mortgaged anywhere and there is no charge or dispute or any litigation pending regarding the said portion. Any person including Bank/s, Financial legitime testitusing being and legitime the said position. e it known to all that our clients. Mr. Dive Any person including Bank/s, Financia nstitution/s. relative/s having any claim ight, title or any interest of any nature whatsoever into or upon the aforesaid floor

hereby called upon to make the sam own, in writing, with documentary evidence Registered AD Post, to the undersigne the address mentioned herein below thin 07 days of publication of this notice an the event of no response having bee eccived to the notice, the title of the seller t ne said portion shall be deemed to be clea f any charge or encumbrance of any ature whatsoever and any subsequen laim shall not bind our clients/Purchaser, in Shivkant Arora, Advocate Ns Intellective Law Offices

LOST & FOUND The general public is hereby informed that Mr. Sandeep Verma Sio Vinod Kumar and residing at H.NO 173 MUKESH COLONY NEAR SUDARSHAN HOSPITAL BALLABHGARH FARIDABAD HARYANA 121004 the owners, of built up Property No. 173. area measuring 160 cm. built up Property No. 173, area measuring 160 so yds., out of Khasra No. 78 Killa No. 1, 2, 9, 10 yds., out of Knasra No. 78 Killa No. 1, 2, 9, 10, situated at Village-Ballabhgarh (Mukesh Colony), Tehsil-Ballabhgarh, District-Faridabad, Haryana, have lost the Original Sale Deed dated 27.12.1971 having Doc No. 4250, registered with the Sub-Registrar Ballabgarh. Any person who has found this document or in its possession or is claiming to have any rights, title, interest in respect of the said Property, is/are requested to return the original deed or intimate the objection / claim in writing to the undersioned with supporting documents within of Infinited we objection? Johann Willing Adv. The undersigned with supporting documents within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice to Adv. Khairul Hussain, 2E/23, Office No. 302, on Third Floor, Jhandewalan Ext-110055, Mobile no. 9871308962, or email at vikshalegal@gmail.com within Q7 days from the publication of the sortion.

A-74, LGF,Defence Colony,

New Delhi -110024

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform that my Client Ms. Paridhi Bhando, D/o Sh Prem Bhando has cancelled the power of attorney given in favor of he Brother Mr. Luv Bhando, S/o Sh Pren Bhando Qua Property Flat No-203, 1st Floor Plot No. Niti Khand-i/160, Indirapuram Ghaziabad. That my client is the sole and rightful Owner of the said Property. Further i is informed that my client has lost her Par Card, Adhaar Card and other documents. My client shall not be held responsible in case

within 07 days from the publication of this notice.

Bhawani Gupta (Advocate) RZ 32/1, New Indira Park Ext, Delhi-59

PUBLIC NOTICE inform general public that Mr. Prince PP aired Built-up Flat Bearing No. B-226 on or, in block no. – B, situated in Slum & t, Estate at New Ranjit Nagar New Delhi f Sale Deed dated 10/11/2004, Document www.verka.coop

by way of Sale Deed dated 10 m1/2004, Document to 25892. Documents related to the above said property has been misplaced i.e. Original Allotment letter Dt. 13/02/1975, Original Letter of Provisioned Allotment Dt. 19/07/1974, Original Conveyance Deed Allotee Dt. 18/07/2003, Original Demand etter Dt. 03/07/86, anyone who find the said documents shall handover the same to the Manager of Motital Oswal Home Finance Ltd. Office Address. 3rd Floor, Commercial Plot No. 02, Secord 14, Kaushambi, Ghaziabad, U.P. 20110.
Now, Mr. Prince PP Intends to sell above said oroperty to (1) Mahendra Jha, (2) Kavita both and availing loan on above said property from Motital Oswal Home Finance Ltd. & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 7 days.

General public is hereby informed that We (1). Shekhar alias Shekhar Sharma, (2) Deepak alias Deepak Sharma both sons of Shri Hardyal alias ardyal Sharma are filing application in L&DO for substitution of the property no. Nil-38/A Malviya Nagar, New Delhi-110017 in the name o (1), Shekhar alias Shekhar Sharma, (2) Deepa there are any objections/ claims from the genera public on this application, the same shall be communicated to L&DO with supporting

Address: Nil-38/A, Malviva Nagar, New Delhi-110017

locuments through registered post or b

visiting L&DO at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi o

through an email at Ido@nic.in, within 30 days o

Phone : 9810008726

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is informed that Smt. Lalita ji passed away on 04/5/2022, her property is E-32 Third Floor Balaji Enclave Gali No-9 Govind Puram Ghaziabad, whose documents are kept as a loan by Piramal Capital and Housing Finance Limited Noida Branch Uttar Pradesh, due to the completion of the loan amount, this document is being legally given to her children Tarun Kumar, Arun Kumar Bhardwaj, Babita, if any person has any objection or claim regarding the right, ownership or interest of the said property, then contact us within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice. After this no claim will be considered.

Amit Kumar Chaudhary (Advocate) Ch. No. 283, Civil Court Compound Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad, Mob. 7017200043

PUBLIC NOTICE Subject: Transfer of ownership of House No. 190P, Sector-14, Gurgaon, Haryana in respect of ent upon the intestate death of the Allotte

Sh. Mohinder Nath Bajaj Late Sh. Mohinder Nath Bajaj S/o. Jai Dayal Bajaj, been the Allottee of the subject cited property, as per record, has died on 24/12/2019 and he has not left registered or unregistered will and leaving behind following legal heirs:-1. Deepak Bajaj (Son) 2. Pankaj Bajaj (Son) 3. Meenakshi Sharma (Daughter) 4. Ánakshi Ghai (Daughter)

(Daugnter) 4. Aniaxsin Ghai (Judgnter).

Now, Deepak Bajaj & Pankaj Bajaj, both sons of Late
Sh. Mohinder Nath Bajaj and both Resident of
House No. 190P, Sector-14, apply for the transfer
of the said property in their favour being the legal
heir and request for re-allotment in the name of Deepak Bajaj & Pankaj Bajaj, both sons of Late Sh Mohinder Nath Bajaj. If any person is having any objection against the

transfer of house, he/she can submit objections in writing to the Estate Officer-I, HSVP, Sector-14
Gurugram, along with supporting documents
within 30 days from the date of publication of this
notice, otherwise the Estate Officer may accord property as per HSVP policy and may not entertain subsequent claim, if any. Legal heir: Deepak Bajaj & Pankaj Bajaj

behalf of Estate Officer-I, HSVP, Sector-14.

Description

Allotment of contract for display of

advertisement through Boards

Hoarding on station PP shed, RUB

guard and LC gate (over load stopper)

at Kaliyaganj, Raiganj, Old Malda

Junction & Samsi Railway Station

nearby railway area at specified/

earmarked location over Katihai

Division for period of 3 years.

ADVERTISEMENT CONTRACT OVER KATIHAR DIVISION

E-Auction invited for Display of advertisement contract over Katiha division. Auction Catalogue No.: C-ADVT-RGJ-KAJ. Rate Unit: Annua Licensing Fee. Auction Start Date & Time: 11:00 hrs. on 07-01-2025. 1095

Tariff for the	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29		Licensing Days: 10	Fee. Auction Start Dat 195.
revious vear*							Seq No.	Lot No./Category
35963.62	36350.09	37104.93	39916.73	42482.63	45987.55		AA/1	ADVT-KIR-KAJ-OH- 190-24-1 (Advertising - Out of
3.67								Home)

(Rs./kwh) *As per Petition for truing-up of tariff for 2019-24 period for Feroze Gandhi Unchahar Thermal Power Station Stage-II (420 MW) filed before Hon'ble CERC 9. A copy of the petition made for determination of tariff is posted on the website of NTPC, namely www.ntpc.co.in under the Tab "Notices"

10. The suggestions and objections, if any, on the proposals for determination of tariff contained in the petition may be filed by any person, including the beneficiaries through e-filing portal of the Commission, with a copy to the

Place: Noida Addl. General Manager (Comml.)

Leading the Power Sector

Divisional Railway Manager (C), Katihar NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Auction close date/time: At 11:30 hrs. on 07-01-2025. Initial Cooling

off period is 30 minutes. Successive lots closing interval 10

minutes. Note: Prospective bidder are requested to visit e-

Auction leasing module on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

making an attempt to land in Aktau in Kazakhstan after flying east across the Caspian Sea. The plane went down about 3 kilometers (around 2 miles) from Aktau. Cellphone footage circulating online appeared to

unknown. Azerbaijan Airlines'

Embraer 190 was en route from

Azerbaijan's capital of Baku to

the Russian city of Grozny in the

North Caucasus on Wednesday

when it was diverted for reasons

vet unclear and crashed while

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public is hereby informed that We 1. (A) Ashok Nagpal S/o late Shri Surjit Lal alias Surjeet

Lal Nagpai, (B) Neelam Nagpal W/o late Shri Vijay Nagpal 2. (A) Sushil Kumar Nagpal S/o late Shri

documents through registered post or by visiting

Phone : 9899373273

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform general public that Mrs. Rupali Bajaj has acquired Property No. 32 area measuring 344.31 Sq. Yds., situated on Road No. 18, residential Colony Known as (East) Punjabi Bagh, New Delhi by way of Sale Deed dated 12.09.2024 as Document No 2024/6/1/6230. Now, Mrs. Rupali Bajaj intends to sell above said property to Mrs. Saroj Jain & Mrs. Sangeeta Jain by way of Sale Deed and further, Mr. Suresh Jain, Mr. Gaurav Jain, Mrs. Sangeeta Jain on above said property from Axis Finance Ltd. & in case anyone has any objection, the same may be raised within 7 days of this publication to Mr. Pramod Kumar Singh (Advocate), AccuLaw Source LLP, Unit No. S-2-U, 2nd Floor, built on Plot no. 4 and 5, Ansal Utility Commercial Center, Paschim Vinar, New Delhi-110063 or contact: +91 9560309909 (M)

This is to inform general public that Mr. Kshetrapal Singh S/o Mr. Virendra Singh has acquired Plot No. 53, admeasuring 100 Sq. Yds. I.e. 83.61 Sq. Mtrs., out of Khasra No. 128mi, Khata No. 156, Stuated at Village Atour, Pargana Jalalabad, Tehsil & District Ghaziabad by way of Sale Deed dated 18/07/2024, Documention. 9003.
Documents related to the above said property has been misplaced i.e. Sale Deed dated 25.08.2008 executed by Mr. Pitam Singh S/o Mr. Hardan in favour of Mr. Chandravir Sof Mr. Dilawar Singh, duly regd. as doc. No. 6307, in Bani No. 1. Jild No. 3214, on pages 284 to 297, dated 25.08.2008. avvone-who find the said documents shall handover the same to the Managree of Hindtia Russing, Einspee Ltd.

No. S-2-U, 2nd Floor, built on Plot no. 4 and 5, Ansal Utility Commercial Center, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063 or contact at +91 9560309909 (M) (M)

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, Sh. Ramkishan s/o Sh. Heera Lal &
Smt. Sharmila Yadav w/o Sh. Amit Yadav is the

egistered owner of entire Residential First Flor

Bearing H. No.-91 In Block-D, Area Measuring 135.83 Sq. Mtrs., Built On Plot Of Land Area

leasuring- 300 Sq. Mtrs., situated in Vipul World

iec-48, Gurugram, Badshahpur, Gurugram, laryana vide registered sale deed dated 5.03.2022 having doc no. -13816 at Sr

adshahpur, that the original documents of the

bove said property i.e. builder buyer agreement ayment receipts from Vipul World, ats & sale

eed dated- 15 03 2022 vide ren no -13816 ha

een lost and, in this regard, lost property repo

P.S. Badshahpur, Gurugram, if any person four

please return it to the under signat the earliest

ADV PRATHAM SAXENA, E-713, KKD COURT

DELHI-110092, MOBILE NO. 8920856983.

Address: 30/9-9A, West Patel Nagar

New Delhi-110008

email at Ido@nic.in, within 30 days of publicat

steep descent before smashing into the ground in a fireball. Other footage showed part of its fuselage ripped away from the wings and the rest of the aircraft lying upside in the grass. On Thursday, national flags were lowered across Azerbaijan, traffic across the country stopped at noon, and signals were sounded from ships and trains as the country observed a nationwide moment of silence.

show the aircraft making a



Ghar Ki Baat

Regd. Office: 9th Floor Antriksh Bhawan, 22, K. G. Marg, New Delhi-110001 Ph.: 011-23445200, Website: www.pnbhousing.com CIN NO.: L65922DL1988PLCO33856

NOTICE FOR SHIFTING OF PREMISES TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

This is the notice to the General Public that we are shifting Following Office Premises on or before 29th March, 2025 **CURRENT ADDRESS** PNB Housing Finance Limited SCO No. 391 (JSPL House)

Sector - 29, Urban Estate Nr. Metro Station IFFCO Chowk, Gurgaon, Haryana- 122001

NEW ADDRESS (POST SHIFTING) PNB Housing finance Limited: SCO-023, 1st & 2nd Floor, Huda Market, Near Jharsa Chowk, Opp. Sector 32,

Sector - 31, Gurugram, Haryana - 122001 Sd/-, Authorised Officer, PNB HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

FORM NO.5 **DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL**

Nagpal 2. (A) Sushii Kumar Nagpal Sio late Shri Jagdish Lal Magpal (B) Alka Nagpal alias Alka Wo late Shri Kishore Kumar Nagpal are filing application in L&DO for substitution of the property no. 309-9A, West Patel Nagar, New Dehi-110008 in the name of 1. (A) Ashok Nagpal, (B) Neelam 600/1, University Road near Hanumar Setu Mandir, Lucknow (Areas of Jurisdiction: Part of Uttar Pradesh) Nagpal, 2. (A) Sushii Kumar Nagpal, (B). Alka Nagpal alias Alka on the grounds of relinquishment deed. If there are any objections/ claims from the general public on this application, the same shall be communicated to L&DO with supporting SUMMONS FOR FILING REPLY 8 PUBLICATION

DATE:-08.11.2024 Summons to defendant under Section . 19(4) of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institution Act 1993 read with rules 12 and 13 of the Debts

O.A.NO.554/2024 KOTAK MAHINDRA BANK LIMITED

Recovery Tribunal Procedure Rules

VERSUS .. DEFENDANTS

1.Nasim S/o Rahisudin R/o -566, Ashok Vihar-1, Loni Pavi, Sadanpur,

Ghaziabad-201102 2. Saleem S/o Rahisudin R/o Ashok Vihar-1,Loni Dehat,Loni,

Ghaziabad-201102 (Guarantor)DEFENDANTS n the above noted application, you are

equired to file reply/evidence in Pape Book form in two sets along with documents and affidavits (if any personally or through your duly authorized agent or legal practitioner in this Tribunal after serving copy of the same on the applicant or his counsel/duly authorized agent after publication of the summons and thereafter to appear before the Tribunal or 07.01.2025 at 10.30 A.M. Failing which the application shall be heard and decided in

> REGISTRAR DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL, LUCKNOW

PROVISION OF ANNUAL REPAIRING CONTRACT OF INTEGRATED

SENGER INFORMATION SYSTEM E-Tender Notice No.: N-2024-K-29, Dated: 20-12-2024; E-Tender are invite by the undersigned for the following orks; Name of Work: Provision o Annual Repairing contract of Integrated Passenger Information System (IPIS) of New Jalpaiguri Station for one year Tender Value: ₹16.29.390.50/-; Earnes Money: ₹32,600/-; Date & time of closing of tender at 15:00 hrs. and opening a 15:30 hrs. on 13-01-2025. For complete ation with the tender document of above e-tender will be available up to 15:00 nrs. on 13-01-2025 in the website http://www.ireps.gov.in

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY Serving Customers With A Smile

broke out Thursday early morning in the nine-storey building housing seven ministries inside the high-security complex. "The fire broke out in three spots (of the building) simultaneous-

Massive fire breaks out at

an act of sabotage. The fire broke out in Building 7 of the

Bangladesh Secretariat and it

was brought under control after

nearly six hours of firefighting

According to officials, the fire

Bangladesh Secretariat

efforts.

Amassive fire broke out at a major building of the

Bangladesh Secretariat in Dhaka

on Thursday, damaging official

documents that prompted

authorities to form a high-pow-

ered investigation committee

amid suspicions that it could be

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given on behalf of DHARAM PA who is owner of Property area measuring 38 Sq., Yds., comprised in KhewatKhata Nt 88/91, Mustakil No.8, Killa No.21/2(2-18) Mustakil No.13, Killa No.1/2(5-16), Situated a Village Darbaripur, Sub-Tehsil Badshahpu District Gurgaon, Haryana, vide Transfer Dee dated 09.02.2023 was executed by Mr. Pawa Kumar, this document was duly registered with the concerned SRC-Badshahpur bearing Documen 13591, Book no.1. Volume no.579/336, on pages 138.25/85-88, dated 09.02.2023, an intend to mortgage against the financia sassistance from UTKARSH SMALL FINANC BANK LIMITED. To comply the requirements & BANK/NBEC, we give this public notice that if an

ssistance from Lirkansin SMALL FINANCE LANK LIMITED. To comply the requirements or ANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any reson having any type of claim /right/title terest/creating mortgage over the said property lay inform in writing, at the address mentioned elow, about his objections, within 7 DAYS om today, failing which it shall be presumed at the said property is free from all type or incumbrances, lienetc. Lucem Legal LLF Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Park lew Delhi-110049, Contact # 011-40046316

MAKNORTH GLOBAL PRIVATE LIMITED

CIN: U74140DL2013PTC259318

Registered office: D-33, EAST OF KAILASH

SOUTH DELHI, NEW DELHI, DELHI,

INDIA, 110065

E-mail: gopal.garg@oaknorth.co.uk

GENERAL PUBLIC NOTICE

BEFORE THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR,

NORTHERN REGION

In the matter of the Companies Act. 2013.

Section 13(4) of the Companies Act, 2013 and

Rule 30(5)(a) of the

Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014

"In the matter of OAKNORTH GLOBAL PRIVATE

LIMITED having its registered office at D-33,

of Kailash, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India

110065"

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that

the Company proposes to make an application

Regional Director under Section 13(4) of the

Companies Act, 2013 and rules made

thereunder, seeking confirmation of alteration of

the Memorandum of Association of the

Company in terms of the Special resolution

passed by way of Extraordinary General Meeting

(EGM) of the Company held on 19/11/2024 to

enable the Company to shift its registered office

from "State of Delhi" to "State of Haryana"

Any person whose interest is likely to b

office of the Company may deliver either o

supported by an affidavit stating the nature of

.....Applicant Company

Economics
Libraria Arts and Sciences (Business: Communication, Philosophy Business Ethic and Sustainability, Political Science/ Sociology). Information Systems & Business Analytics
Organizational Behavior & Human Strategy & Entrepreneurship
Marketing.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Reg: Third Floor with roof rights, referred to as "said floor" of Entire Built-up Property bearing No WZ-L-2/60-A, Built on Land Area measuring 100 sq. yds. out of Khasra No. 35, Situated in the Area of Village NangiolJalib, Colony Known as New Mahabir Nagar, Extension, Known as New Mahabir Nagar, New Delhi-110018; "hereinafter referred to as 'said property".

Be it known to all that our clients, Mr. Deepak Arora and Mrs. Sarika Arora (hereinafter celled the "Purchaser") intend to purchases the said floor from (1) Mrs. Shikha Chhabra, (2) Mrs. Babatia Gaba, (3) Mrs. Maneet Kaur; (4) Miss Jaya Satija; and Mrs. Ritu Meha (hereinafter called the "Seller"). In this connection, the seller have informed the purchaser that they are the joint owners of the said property vide Sale Deed dated 04/09/2023 executed by Mr. Sunil Jadwani in their favour. The said sale deed is registered as Document No. 29876, Book No. I, Volume No. 9493, Page No. 36-48 Registered on 04.09.2023 (SRO-IIB). The seller has further informed the purchaser that tearlier the said property was owned by Mr. Mohan Das Jadwani vide Sale Deed registered as Document No. 9924 dated 10/05/1972. Mr. Mohan Das Jadwani and his wife expired and feter their death. The said property was office at D-33 Fast of Kailash South obument No.9924 dated 10/03/1972. Mr ohan Das Jadwani and his wife expired and ter their death, the said property was herited by their legal heirs viz., Mr. Suni umar Jadwani, Ms. Charu Madnani, M arendra Kumar Jadwani and Mrs. Jyo evnani. Later on, Ms Charu Madnani for se and as Attorney of Ms Jyoti Devnani and M Narendra Kumar Jadwani executed Relinquishment Deed in favour of Mr. Sun

adwani in respect of their shares in the sai

Individed property. The said Relinquishmen Deed is registered as Document No. 599 dated 20.06.2023 (SRO-IIB). Thus, Mr Sun Jadwani became the sole and absolut

owner of the said property and executed sale deed dated 04/09/2023 in favour of the present seller as aforesaid. The seller hav affected by the proposed shifting of registered so informed the purchaser that the said floo MCA portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filling investo s not mortgaged anywhere and there is n complaint form or cause to be delivered or send arge or dispute or any litigation pendin by registered post of his/her objections egarding the said floor. regarding the said floor.

Any person including Bank/s, Financie Institutions, relative/s having any claim, right title or any interest of any nature whatsoeve into or upon the aforesaid floor is hereb called upon to make the same known, in his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Regional Director, Northern Region, B-2 Wing 2nd Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex , with documentary evidence, ered AD Post, to the undersign New Delhi-110003 within fourteen days from at the address mentioned herein below within 7 (seven) days of publication of this notice and in the event of no response having the date of publication of this public notice with a copy to the Applicant Company at its egistered office at the address mentione een received to the notice, the title ne seller to the said floor shall be deem

OAKNORTH GLOBAL PRIVATE LIMITED

VARUN TULI Place: New Delhi Director DIN: 01098028

PUBLIC NOTICE This is to inform to all concern that Smt.

Govindi W/o Sh. Jiva Nand R/o A-148, M.M. F.C. Colony Mehrauli Road Delhi.. who is the original allottee of Residential LIG House No. W-74, Sector-12, Noida (U.P), had sold the said property on General power of attorney basis to the following person(s). GPA was executed on in favour of Sh. Surender Singh Rawat S/o Late Sh. Khushal Singh Rawat R/o Kahar Gaon, Bharngrolla Syalde, Almora. which is registered on Dated 26.04.1994 in Sub Registrar office Delhi. The agreement to sell was not registered or not executed. So it is informed to all concern that the said property is going to be transferred in favour of Smt. Shikha Garg W/o Rakesh Garg R/o S-62, Sector-12, Noida (U.P). If any one has /have any objection he/she may file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Residential Department of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

APPENDIX IV [See rule 8(1)]

The undersigned being the Authorised officer of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", Head

office at, C-29, Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi - 110058, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-110055, under The

Act. 2002. (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule

[3] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice of

dated 11-09-2024, calling upon the borrower & mortgagor Smt.Kulwant Kaur W/o. Sh. Ajeer

Singh Sisodia R/o. H.No.113, Gali No.5, Jharoda Majra Burari, Delhi-110084, to repay the

Six Hundred and Fifty Three Only), together with further interest, penal interest, and other

charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of the notice til

The above mentioned borrower & mortgagor having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby

given to the borrower & mortgagor and the public in general that the Bank has taken Symbolic

Possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (4) of section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets &

Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with rule [8] of The Security Interes

The borrower & mortgagor in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to dea

with the mortgaged property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", for an amount of Rs.8,32,6534- together with further interest, penal interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to

time, from the date of notice till the date of realization together with all the costs incurred by the

The borrower & mortgagor attention is also been invited towards provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of

Security Interest Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the below mentioned

CRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY

he date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice.

(Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on this 24thday of December 2024.

Bank in realizing the said amount.

ount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 8,32,653/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand

uritisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interes

Sh. Surender Singh Rawai

to be clear of any charge or encumbrance any nature whatsoever and any subseque claim shall not bind our clients/Purchaser,

Shivkant Arora, Advocate

M/s Intellective I aw Offices

A-74. LGF, Defence Colony,

This is to inform to all concern that Sh. Shanti Swaroop Gupta S/o Late Sh. Raghubar Dayal R/o F-10, East of Kailash New Delhi., who is the original allottee of Flat No. 26-D, Block-U3. 3rd Floor Dhawalgiri-II, Apartment, Sector-11. Noida (U.P), had sold the said property on General power of attorney basis to the following erson(s). GPA was executed on in favour of Mrs. Suman Sinha W/o Sh. Alok Kumar Sinha R/o Vill+Post- Parhjakhi Via, Yathwa Distt. Siwan (Bihar), which is registered on Dated 16.06.2000 in Sub Registrar office Delhi. The agreement to sell was not registered or not executed. So it is informed to all concern that the said property is going to be transferred in favour of Sh. Rajender Singh S/o Chatar Singh R/o H.No.296. Shernagar, Muzaffarnagar (U.P) file his/her objection along with the sufficient proof in the Residential Department of the Noida Authority within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice.

General Meeting (EGM) of the Company held 19/11/2024 to enable the Company to shift its registered office from "State of

Any person whose interest is likely to be at its registered office at the address

For and on hehalf of OAKNORTH (INDIA) PRIVATE LIMITED

Place: New Delhi

Director DIN:01098028

Austin Porter & Mr. Anil Porter S/o Late Mr. Austin Porter who was the owner of property by virtue or Gift Deed registered on dated 08.09.2022 (Doc. No 5480) executed by Mr. M.A. Porter S/o Late Mr Austin Porter Intend to mortgage the same agains the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited. Origina ossession Letter & Original Conveyance Deed registered on dated 24.02.2011 (document no 3063) are not available with Seller's i.e Mr. Arur Porter S/o Late Mr. Austin Porter & Mr. Anil Porter S/o ate Mr. Austin Porter. To comply the requirements of

ndersigned within 07 days at below address NCR LAW ASSOCIATES Advocates & Consultants A-98 Sector-9, New Vijay Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.)-201009

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

APPENDIX IV [See rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE

The undersigned being the Authorised officer of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", Head office At C-29 Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janak Pus, New Delhi - 110058, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Gani, New Delhi-110055, under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (54 of 2002) and n exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule [3] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated 11-09-2024, calling upon the borrower Sh. Ajeet Singh Sisodia Sto Sh.Nanu Ram Sisodia Rio. H.No.113, Gali No.5, Jharoda Majra Burari, Delhi-110084, Also at Sh.Ajeet Singh Sisodia Sto Sh.Nanu Ram Sisodia Cro. M/s. A.B. Electronics and Property Dealer Main 25 Foota Road, Jharoda, Delhi-110084, and calling upon the mortgagor & Surety, Smt.Kulwant Kaur W/o. Sh. Ajeet Singh Sisodia R/o. H.No.113, Gall No.5, Jharoda Majra Burari, Deihi-110084, to repsy the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.17,53,804/- (Rupees Seventeen Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Four Only), together with further interest, penal interest, and other charges as are applicable to this oan account from time to time, from the date of the notice till the date of payment, with in 60 days m the date of receipt of the notice.

The above mentioned borrower, mortgagor & surety having failed to repay the amount, notice is nereby given to the borrower, mortgagor & surety and the public in general that the Bank has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (4) of section 13 of. The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & nt of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with rule [8] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, on this 24thday of December 2024.

The borrower, mortgagor & surety in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the mortgaged property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", for an amount of Rs.18,59,004/- together with further terest, penal interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time rom the date of notice till the date of realization together with all the costs incurred by the Bank in alizing the said amount.

The borrower, mortgagor & surety attention is also been invited towards provisions of Sub-Section (8 of Section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the below mentioned mortgaged

DISCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY The property under All that part and parcel of the BUILT UP GROUND FLOOR

consideration is Built up PORTION AREA MEASURING 36 SQ. MTRS., AND BUILT-UP ground floor without roof FIRST FLOOR PORTION AREA MEASURING 43 SQ.MTRS., rights area measuring WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS, PART OF PROPERTY BEARING 36Sq.mtrs.& first floor PVT.NO.113, OUT OF KHASRA NO.66, SITUATED IN THE ABADI without roof rights area OF LAL DORA VILLAGE JHARODA MAJRA BURARI, GALI NO.5, DELHI. Falling Under the Registration of Sub-Registrar I, Delhi.

EAST: Other Property, WEST: Other Property, NORTH: Main Road, SOUTH: Other Property.

AUTHORISED OFFICER THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD. HEAD OFFICE AT, C-29, COMMUNITY CENTRE PANKHA ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58.

(HARISH SHARMA)

DATED: 24.12.2024

6.5 SQ. MTRS. SIZE (7 X 101), OUT OF TOTAL LAND SITUATED IN THE ABADI OF LAL DORA VILLAGE JHARODA MAJRA BURARI, GALI NO.5, DELHI. Falling Under the Registration of Sub-Registrar I, Delhi.

All that part and parcel of the BUILT UP ONE SHOP OF The property under eration is Built up one GROUND FLOOR WITHOUT ROOF RIGHTS. PART OF PROPERTY BEARING PVT.113, LAND AREAMEASURING shop on ground floor without oof rights, part of property bearing PVT.No. 113, land esuring 6.50 sq.

EAST: Other Property, WEST: Other Property, NORTH: Main Road, SOUTH: Other (HARISH SHARMA

AUTHORISED OFFICER PLACE : DELHI PANKHA ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58, Phone 90135684018, 9013568419, 9810487548

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD HEAD OFFICE AT, C-29, COMMUNITY CENTRE

ly hours after midnight yester-भारतीय प्रबन्धन संस्थान, राँची Indian Institute of Management, Ranchi Special Recruitment Drive for SC/ST/ NC-OBC/EWS/PWD for Faculty Positions IM Ranchi invites applications from SC/ST/NC DBC/EWS/PWD category candidates with exceptional academic backgrounds for facult sositions in the following areas: Faculty Recruitment Drive Faculty News Invited applications Candidates with exceptional acade backgrounds for faculty positions in

OAKNORTH (INDIA) PRIVATE LIMITED

Registered office: D-33, EAST OF KAILASH, SOUTH DELHI, NEW DELHI, DELHI, INDIA, 110065 E-mail: gopal.garg@oaknorth.co.uk GENERAL PUBLIC NOTICE

NORTHERN REGION

In the matter of the Companies Act

CIN: U74999DL2017PTC323428

2013, Section 13(4) of the Companies Act, 2013 and Rule 30(5)(a) of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014 "In the matter of OAKNORTH (INDIA) PRIVATE LIMITED having its registered

Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi, India, 110065'Applicant Compan lotice is hereby given to the General Public hat the Company proposes to make ar application to the Central Government, power 3(4)of the Companies Act, 2013 and rules nade thereunder, seeking confirmation o alteration of the Memorandum of Association f the Company in terms of the Special esolution passed by way of Extraordinary

affected by the proposed shifting of egistered office of the Company may deliver either on MCA portal (www.mca.gov.in) by illing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post o nis/her objections supported by an affidavi stating the nature of his/her interest and rounds of opposition to the Regional Director, Northern Region, B-2 Wing, 2nd Toor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi - 110003 within fourteen days rom the date of publication of this public otice with a copy to the Applicant Company

VARUN TULI

Information is given to general public at large that Mr. Gabriel Mashi S/o M. Mashi who is/are purchasing

ANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any erson(s) having any objection regarding ownershi nd/ or creating mortgage of the said property is/ar

RBI sets up eight-member panel on ethical use of Al

भारतीय रिज़र्व बेंक

RESERVE BANK

The Reserve Bank on Thursday announced the setting up of an eightcommittee develop a framework for responsible and ethical enablement of artificial intelligence (FREE-AI) in the financial sector.

Headed by IIT Bombay professor Pushpak Bhattacharyya (Department of Computer Science and Engineering), the panel will assess the current level of adoption of AI in financial services, globally as well as in

It will also review regulatory and supervisory approaches on AI with focus on the financial sector globally. The panel will also identify potential risks associated

with AI, if any, and recommend an evaluation, mitigation and monitoring framework and consequent compliance requirements for institutions,

including banks, NBFCs, FinTechs, PSOs, etc. committee recommend a framework including governance aspects

adoption of AI models / applications in the Indian financial sector, the RBI said. The other members of the panel are: Debjani Ghosh (Independent Director,

Reserve Bank Innovation Hub); Balaraman Ravindran (Professor and Head, Wadhwani School of Data Wadhwani School of Data Science and AI, IIT Madras), Abhishek Singh (Additional Secretary; Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology), Rahul Matthan (Partner, Trilegal); Anjani Rathor (Group Head and Chief Digital Experience Officer, HDFC Bank); Sree Hari Nagaralu (Head of Security AI Research, Microsoft India); and Suvendu Pati (CGM, FinTech Department, RBI). The Committee will submit The Committee will submit

its report within six months from the date of its first meeting, the RBI said. The central bank had made

the announcement regarding the panel in its December monetary policy meeting.

Rupee plunges 12 paise to close at 85.27 against US dollar

at 85.15 against the US dollar

on Tuesday, a day after losing

The forex market was closed

on Wednesday for Christmas.

According to Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst

at Mirae Asset Sharekhan, the

rupee fell to a fresh all-time

low on strong dollar and

rising US treasury yields that

are at the highest levels in

Also, he said the surge in

crude oil prices, month-end/year-end dollar demand

and FII outflows may also

9 paise on Monday.

seven months.

weigh on the rupee.

The rupee stayed weak for the third straight session and fell 12 paise to settle at a fresh all contents. fresh all-time low of 85.27 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday, amid a strong greenback and rising crude oil prices.

Forex traders said, increased month-end as well as year-end dollar demand from importers and fear of an aggressive import tariff by the Donald Trump administration lifted the American currency.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened weak at 85.23 and touched the lowest-ever level of 85.28 against the greenback during intraday trade.

The unit finally ended the session at its lifetime low closing level of 85.27 (provisional) against the dollar, registering a loss of 12 paise from its previous close. The rupee fell 4 paise to settle

"However, any intervention by the RBI may support the rupee at lower levels. Traders may take cues from weekly unemployment claims data from the US. USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in a range of 85.10 to 85.45," Choudhary added.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading marginally lower by 0.09 per cent but remained elevated at 107.93, amid soaring US Treasury yields (4.61 per cent) and the fear of delayed interest rate cuts by the US

Federal Reserve.
Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, rose 0.56 per cent to USD 73.99 per barrel in futures trade.

In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex closed almost flat at 78,472.48 points, while Nifty inched up 22.55 points, or 0.10 per cent to close at 23,750.20 points.

West Bengal's 2024 economy: Story of growth amid challenges

PTI KOLKATA

West Bengal's economic narrative in 2024 was one of striking contrasts steady growth and fresh investments juxtaposed with fiscal concerns and a worrying trend of industry flight from a perceptively "non-investor friendly" state. The state demonstrated a significant economic expansion outlook, with its State Domestic Product (GSDP) projected to surge by 10.5 per cent in the 2024-25 fiscal, significantly outpacing the national average of 7.32 per cent and reinforcing its position as the fourth-largest economy in India, according to state industries minister Shashi

The manufacturing sector played a crucial role in this upward trajectory during the year, achieving a robust growth rate of 7.8 per cent, exceeding the national average. This growth was growth propelled substantial across investments across various sectors

Infosys inaugurated a Rs 426 crore development centre, spread over 3,20,000 sq ft, in over 4,000 employees and focus on cloud computing and digital services. Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, calling it "A New Year gift to



West Bengal", expressed hope for increased IT investments in the state. The manufacturing sector's

strong performance was mw underscored inauguration of two major projects with investments totalling Rs 2,100 crore -Shyam Steel's integrated steel facility and Dhunseri Poly Films' venture. These projects are expected to create over 5,000 jobs, providing a significant boost to the state's industrial health.

The state government is Medium developing a 200-acre Silicon (MSME) Valley project in New Town, aiming to attract Rs 27,000 crore in investments and credit target of Rs 1.53 lakh positioning Bengal as a key IT hub. data terms

infrastructure, NTT completed the first phase of increase.

its data centre campus in Kolkata which operations in March 2024, with an initial capacity of 6 mw and a potential expansion of up to 25 mw.

Datacenters also CtrlS announced an investment of Rs 2,200 crore (about USD 264 million) to develop a data centre in Kolkata, to be implemented in four phases, with the first phase, a 16 mw facility, expected to go live shortly.

The Micro, Small, and Enterprises sector also displayed resilience, with the state looking to exceed its 25, building upon the previous year's achievement of Rs 1.42 lakh crore and representing a 7.7 per cent

age for India beckons: Tata Sons chief to staff

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

With global supply chains continuing to shift in India's favour as the world's largest businesses strike a new balance between resilience and efficiency, manufacturing has the potential to transform the country's economy, Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran said on Thursday.

In his New Year message to employees of the salt-toconglomerate, software Chandrasekaran termed it as "a new manufacturing golden age for India" and said he was looking ahead to 2025 "with a sense of hope and optimism" after 2024, a year marked by the loss of Tata Group Chairman Emeritus Ratan

"While AI-led breakthroughs in healthcare and mobility can help the whole of humanity, manufacturing has potential to transform our economy in India," he wrote. Elaborating, he said, "Global supply chains continue to shift in India's favour as the world's largest businesses strike a new balance between resilience and efficiency. What might have seemed like a short-term reaction to the pandemic has proved much more enduring." Amid relentless geopolitical instability, Chandrasekaran said, "The equation has tilted

firmly toward resilience and India, with our vast talent pool and growing manufacturing capacity, is poised to benefit." Reiterating Tata Group's plans to create 5 lakh manufacturing jobs over the next half decade, he said these will come in part from investments in facilities across India's "factories and projects that will produce batteries, semiconductors, vehicles, electric equipment and other critical hardware destined to play a central role in the economy of tomorrow".

He said ground-breaking ceremonies and construction began at over seven new manufacturing plants, including India's first including India's first semiconductor fab in Dholera, Gujarat, and a brand new semiconductor OSAT plant in

"There is the electronics assembly plant in Narasapura, Karnataka, an automotive plant in Panapakkam, Tamil Nadu, and new MRO facilities in Bengaluru, Karnataka," Chandrasekaran said.

He further said, "We also have new battery cell manufacturing factories in Sanand, Gujarat, Somercet inaugurated the C295 final assembly line (FAL) in Vadodara, Gujarat, and began solar module production in Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu."

New manufacturing golden | AI, machine learning to help Indian pharma industry to pivot on innovation



technological Aadvancements like AI, machine learning and medicine precision revolutionise drug discovery, manufacturing and patient care, Indian pharmaceutical industry is set for a 'profound transformation' in 2025 with innovation, wider global access and improvement in quality becoming key themes for the future. The industry, which is

expected to grow nearly two-fold to around USD 130 billion in size by 2030, is looking to take advantage of conducive policies, demographic and digital talent, in making India play a pivotal role in advancing global health for all.

Currently accounting for around 20 per cent of the overall generic drug sales he said that leading bharma industry is focussing on research excellence innovation in order to position the country as a global hub for high-quality,

affordable pharmaceuticals. "The Indian pharma market is expected to move up to USD 120-130 billion by 2030 from the current size of USD 58 billion. Initiatives in terms of quality, innovation and wider global reach will help the Indian pharma sector to realise the potential," according to Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance (IPA) Secretary Sudarshan Jain. General

Given the conducive policies and the advantage of demographic and digital talent, India will play a pivotal role in advancing global health for all in years to come, he added.

IPA represents 23 leading research-based Indian pharmaceutical companies like Sun Pharma, Cipla, and Dr Reddy's Laboratories, among others. Jain said innovation will continue to be a major focus for the industry going forward. He noted that the government

is expected to soon announce the operational details of the Promotion of Research & Innovation Programme which would also spur innovation. Elaborating on the initiatives lined up in the private sector, nanies their focus on specialty portfolios and diversifying into higher-value drugs. "Additionally, the industry is

set to make notable progress

immense potential for driving future growth," Jain said. Besides, the patent expiries of blockbuster biologics by 2025 present a significant growth avenue in the globa biosimilars market, he stated. Similarly, Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) Director

in areas such as CAR-T cell

therapy, mRNA vaccines, and

the development of complex

molecules,

which

transformation in 2025. Technological advancements like AI, machine learning and precision medicine are set to revolutionise drug discovery, manufacturing and patient

General Anil Matai said the

industry is set for a profound

care, he said.

OPPI represents researchbased pharmaceutical including companies, AstraZeneca, Novartis and Merck, in India.

strengthened Besides, regulatory frameworks will enable the swift adoption of innovative therapies while prioritising patient safety, Matai said.

excellence and innovation will position India as a global hub for high-quality, affordable pharmaceuticals. ollaboration policymakers, academia and industry stakeholders will address unmet medical needs, particularly in underserved regions," he stated.

focus on research

Branded hotels to log 13 to 14 per cent growth: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Branded hotels in the double-digit revenue growth of 13-14 per cent in 2024-25, and 11-12 per cent in the next financial year on demand surge, report said on Thursday. While domestic leisure and business travel will continue to be the primary demand drivers, growing traction in MICE (meetings, incentives, conventions and exhibitions) segment and pickup in foreign tourist arrivals will provide

additional fillip, Crisil Ratings

said in a report.

Gold rises ₹250 to ₹78,850 per 10 grams, silver climbs ₹300

PTI NEW DELHI

old prices increased Rs 250 to Rs 78,850 per 10 grams in the national capital on Thursday amid a firm global trend, according to the All India Sarafa Association. The yellow metal had settled at Rs 78,600 per 10 grams on Tuesday.

Silver extended its rally for the third straight session by climbing Rs 300 to Rs 90,800 per kg on Thursday. The metal had ended at Rs 90,500 per kg in the previous close. The commodities market was closed on Wednesday on the occasion of Christmas

The price of 99.5 per cent purity advanced Rs 250 to Rs 78,450 per 10 grams from the previous close of Rs 78,200 per 10 grams.

Traders attributed the climb in gold prices to firm trends in the overseas markets which aided in bullion prices. In futures trade on the Multi

Commodity Exchange (MCX), gold contracts for Exchange February delivery advanced Rs 442 or 0.58 per cent to Rs 76,712 per 10 grams.

"Gold prices edged higher on Thursday, supported by a slightly weaker dollar as markets resumed trading post-Christmas.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has imposed penalties totalling Rs 15 lakh on three coaching institutes for making misleading advertisements about their success rates in civil services examinations,

Thursday. Vajirao & Reddy Institute and StudyIQ IAS were each fined Rs 700,000, while Edge IAS was penalised Rs 100,000 for deceptive claims regarding their results in the Union Public Service Commission

Examinations of 2022 and

government

(UPSC) Civil

said

Services

2023, an official statement IAS was also unable to said. The CCPA, led by Chief substantiate its "Success" Commissioner Nidhi Khare. found that the institutes deliberately concealed that most of their successful candidates had only enrolled Interview Guidance Programs, creating a misleading impression about the effectiveness of their other courses.

for misleading UPSC exam claims

Vajirao & Reddy Institute claimed "617 selections out of 933" in the 2022 examination, while StudyIQ IAS advertised "120+ selections" in 2023.

Investigations revealed that the majority of successful misleading advertisements candidates at both institutes had only taken interview preparation courses. StudyIQ

substantiate its "Success Pakka Offer" and "Selection Pakka Offer" promotions, failing to provide enrolment forms and fee receipts for its successful claimed candidates

The institute advertised over 60 courses but did not disclose that its Interview Guidance Programme, which most successful candidates took, was not among the advertised offerings.

The consumer protection body has issued 45 notices to various coaching institutes for and has collected total penalties of Rs 71.6 lakh from 22 institutes to date.

CCPA fines three coaching institutes FORE International Management Conference 2024: redefining AI, business, and work

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

 $F_{\mathrm{Management}}^{\mathrm{ORE}}$ School of celebrated the grand success of the FORE International Management Conference (FIMC) 2024, held from November 28-30 at its New Delhi campus. Themed "AI, Business Models, and Future of Work," the conference brought together global leaders, scholars, and industry experts to explore AI's transformative impact.

The event opened with workshops by renowned academicians, including Prof. Keng-Boon Ooi and Prof.

Swanand J. Deodhar.

The inaugural session featured visionary speeches by Dr. B.B.L Madhukar, Mr. Sanjeev Bikhchandani, and Dr. Vinayshil Gautam.

highlights included insightful paper presentations, dynamic plenary sessions on AI applications and ethics, and engaging discussions on India's global role. Networking events, a Qutub Minar heritage walk, and the prestigious Billimoria Session added cultural professional depth. 2024 underscored FIMC

FSM's commitment to innovation, collaboration, and academic excellence.

Tata Power-DDL recognised with the North India Best Employer Brand Award 2024

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

Power Distribution Limited (Tata Power-DDL) has honoured with the "North India Best Employer Brand Award 2024" at a ceremony held on December 20, 2024. The award recognises discom's exceptional efforts in HR practices, talent management, employee engagement, and its overall contribution sustainable, creating inclusive work environment, and a positive work culture, setting an inspiring example for the future of the power



conferred at the North India Best Employer Brand Awards, a prestigious platform that celebrates organizations excelling in human resources and corporate sustainability and was received by Mr.

Human Resource, Industrial Relations, Management Health Services and Ms. Sonal Trehan, AGM, CEO Cell & HoG Facility Management of Tata Power-DDL.

Lohia Global launches EV 'Youdha' to honor India's real warriors PIONEER NEWS SERVICE brand's expansion.

NEW DELHI

ohia Global has unveiled Lits new electric vehicle brand, Youdha, at the EV Expo, New Delhi, marking a significant milestone in India's electric mobility journey. Derived from the word "warrior," Youdha celebrates the unsung heroes driving progress through hard work and determination. Youdha's initial lineup includes the E5 Passenger

and E5 Cargo models,



needs. Aiming for a production goal of 300,000 units by 2027, Lohia has pledged?

CEO, Lohia, Youdha's emphasized mission to empower families and communities through sustainable mobility solutions. "This reflects launch commitment to innovation and honoring those who shape India's future," he stated.

Backed by Lohia's Kashipur plant with a 100,000-unit capacity, Youdha is poised to lead India's electric threewheeler segment, embodying resilience, designed to meet urban 200 crore towards the strength, and progress.

INBRIEF

VC PROF. KARAMJEET SINGH INTERACTS WITH TEACHING AND NON-TEACHING STAFF

AMRITSAR: Prof. Karamjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor of Guru Nanak Dev University, addressed the teaching and non-teaching staff of the university in separate sessions held at the Golden Jubilee Convention Centre today.



GNDU VICE-CHANCELLOR PROF. KARAMJEET SINGH ENCOURAGES RESEARCH FOR SOCIETAL WELFARE

AMRITSAR: Guru Nanak Dev University witnessed a significant moment as its newly appointed Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Karamjeet Singh, addressed research scholars at the Golden Jubilee Convention Hall of the University.



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ATTER'S

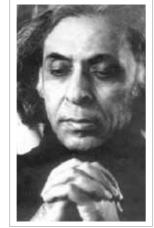
CASTLE

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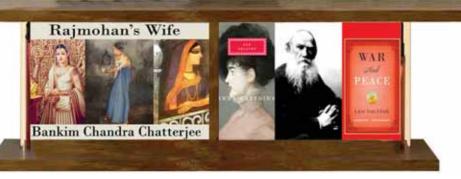
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Literally WOT

EXPLORING THE TIMELESS CHARM OF NOVELS, THEIR UNIQUE STORYTELLING AND THE PROMISING VOICES SHAPING INDIA'S LITERARY LANDSCAPE IN 2024, SAYS KUMAR CHELLAPPAN



t is not without reason that the word novel has been assigned two meanings. Although the English language can often be amusing with its many words having multiple meanings, the term novel has a significant connection to its different interpretations. The dictionary defines novel as "an invented prose narrative that is usually long and complex and deals especially with human experience through a usually connected sequence of events." The word also has another meaning - something that is new, original, and never seen, used, or even thought of before. A novel, as a literary form, tells a story and features multiple characters interconnected through a sequence of events. Each novel offers a new, fresh and unprecedented experience. What makes a novel truly special is its readability and the ease with which it allows readers to identify with the characters it presents. Let us reflect on the novels of the past. Timeless classics like War and Peace, Anna Karenina (Leo Tolstoy) The Mother(Maxim Gorky), Gone with the Wind (Margaret Mitchell), The Far Pavilions (M. M. Kaye), and Crime and Punishment(Fyodor Dostoevsky) continue to resonate with readers. These masterpieces transport us to a different world through their narrative, characters, and the time and space they depict. It is rare to encounter someone who feels these novels fall short of their

expectations. The first novel to grace bookshelves in India was Rajmohan's Wife by Bankimchandra Chatterjee in 1864. This makes the novel as a literary genre relatively new in this region. India has produced remarkable writers like Tarasankar

Bandyopadhyay, whose works include Ganadevata and Arogya Niketan, the latter being particularly popular. Bankimchandra Chatterjee's Anandamath (1882), set against the backdrop of the Great Bengal Famine of 1770, is widely regarded as the finest novel ever written in the subcontinent.

During my school days, our language teacher, P. Ú. Madhavan, emphasised the importance of reading these classics. He was our gateway to the world of literature. Years later, at university, we studied a prose piece by A. J. Cronin, the renowned Scottish novelist, about the art of writing a novel. Cronin often told his wife that he would write a novel loved by all. During a period of recovery from illness, Cronin wrote Hatter's Castle, a landmark in English literature. He abandoned his medical career to pursue writing full-time. Cronin's success, along with that of other novelists, lies in their ability to tell compelling stories. Ponniyin Selvan (Son of Ponni) by Kalki Krishnamurthy, for instance, is based on the life of

Arulmozhivarman, a 10th-century Chola prince. Reading this book is akin to watching a film projected on a Vistarama screen, the most advanced film projection system I've ever seen.

Novels, poems and stories resemble rivers and streams flowing from mountains, meandering through valleys, plains and plateaus. A wellwritten novel provides the sensation of sailing smoothly down a serene river. Conversely, a poorly written one feels like driving on a pothole-filled road. Unfortunately, contemporary Indian literature in English often lacks the quality we once enjoyed with authors like R. K. Narayan, Raja Rao and Shobhaa De. These authors wrote straight from the heart. Today, however, publishers often dictate the content to maximise sales. In India, literary works that criticise certain religions or spiritual figures tend to attract significant attention and awards.

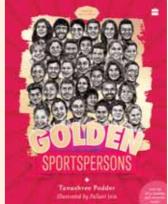
While we lack the likes of Mitchell, Tolstoy and Kaye, a few noteworthy works of fiction emerged in 2024, offering hope for the novel genre. Swallowing the Sun, the debut novel by Lakshmi Murdeshwar Puri, was a breath of fresh air. Puri masterfully narrates India's freedom struggle and the emancipation of women from societal constraints. The protagonist, Malati, guides readers through a vivid journey across the Konkan region and Bombay, where she and her sister Kamala break into a male-dominated world. Thrilling and vibrant, Swallowing the Sun feels like a long-awaited monsoon, refreshing and full of intensity. Another standout author is Harinder S. Sikka, a former Indian Navy commander known for Gobind, Vichhoda and Calling Sehmat. Drawing on his naval experiences, Sikka crafts authentic stories, earning him the title of "India's Jeffrey Archer." Readers eagerly await more from writers like Puri and Sikka, who draw inspiration from real life. As Malayalam literary rebel Keshava Dev once said, "You will understand life only if you learn how to live. That experience will guide you in writing novels and stories. No university can teach you this.

Thank you, Lakshmi Puri and Harinder S. Sikka, for giving us hope. And thank you, 2024, for these promising voices in



2024 HIGHLIGHTS

By HARPERCOLLINS

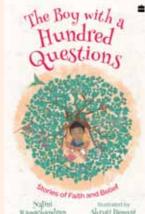


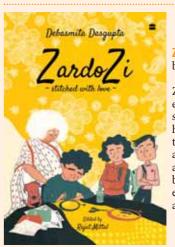
GOLDEN SPORTSPERSONS by Tanushree Podder

A compelling compilation of India's legendary athletes like Neeraj Chopra, Mary Kom, and P.V. Sindhu. These stories of grit, discipline and resilience showcase how they overcame barriers to achieve greatness in sports such as athletics, boxing and chess. A must-read for sports enthusiasts and dreamers

THE BOY WITH A HUNDRED by Nalini Ramachandran

Follow Shunya, a curious nineyear-old, on an enchanting adventure as he uncovers profound philosophies and the true meaning of his name. Through mystical tales and intriguing beliefs, this book celebrates the magic of curiosity and the wonder of exploring life's big questions.





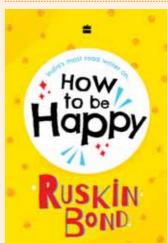
by Debasmita Dasgupta

Zi, a ten-year-old embroidery enthusiast, struggles against societal expectations. This heartwarming tale weaves themes of history, identity, and courage as Zi embarks on a journey of self-discovery. A beautiful story about embracing one's true self amidst life's challenges.

ROYAL-ISH by Amrita Gandhi

Join Lily Ray, an awkward tween and nature vlogger, on a royal adventure in Bagradoo. With quirky companions and thrilling twists, Lily unravels a mystery threatening the kingdom's secrets. A delightful, actionpacked tale filled with humour and heart.





HOW TO BE HAPPY by Ruskin Bond

In this heartfelt book, Ruskin Bond shares nuggets of wisdom on leading a contented and fulfilling life. From embracing simplicity to finding joy in small moments, his advice is relatable, warm and timeless. A guide to happiness from a literary

INDIA IN SCIENCE

Discover India's incredible journey in science, featuring pioneers like J.C. Bose and Asima Chatterjee. With engaging illustrations, Nobel laureate highlights, and hands-on activities, this book is perfect for young science enthusiasts eager to learn and experiment.



Revolutionaries SANIEEV SANYAL

REVOLUTIONARIES by Sanjeev Sanyal

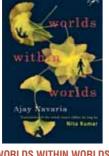
An abridged tale of India's armed resistance, this book chronicles the bravery of revolutionaries like Subhas Chandra Bose and Bhagat Singh. With intrigue, espionage, and adventure, it reveals the untold story of their fight for freedom. An inspiring read for young history buffs.

YEAR-END BESTSELLERS

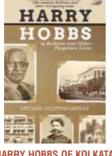
As we bid farewell to another year. Here's a curated list of books that have been the year's most talked-about and cherished reads, brought to you by the publisher, Niyogi Books



MYTH, MEMORY & FOLKTALE OF THE WANCHO TRIBE OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH Authors: Tara Douglas & Jatwang Wangsa Price: ₹595/-



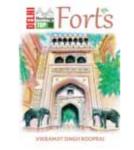
WORLDS WITHIN WORLDS Author: Ajay Navaria Translator: Nita Kumar Price: ₹495/-



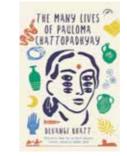
HARRY HOBBS OF KOLKATA AND OTHER FORGOTTEN LIVES Author: Devasis Chattopadhyay Price: ₹595/



CHARLES CORREA: CITIZEN CHARLES Author: Mustansir Dalvi Price: ₹299/



DELHI HERITAGE TOP 10 FORTS Author: Vikramjit Singh Rooprai Price: ₹499/-



THE MANY LIVES OF PAULOMA **CHATTOPADHYAY** Author: Devangi Bhatt Translator: Mudra Joshi Price: ₹350/-

Top order hepls Australia score 311/6, Bumrah keeps battle alive

asprit Bumrah's knack of coming up with magic deliveries in crunch situations kept India alive after Australia's top-order, headlined by teen debutant Sam Konstas' stroke-filled half-century, guided the hosts to 311 for 6 on the opening day of the fourth Test here on Thursday.

If Konstas' audacious 60 off 65 balls enthralled the near sell-out crowd of over 80,000 at the MCG during a humid morning session, Bumrah's (3/75 in 21 overs) deception of length to dismiss Travis Head (0) also had its takers as chants of 'Boom, Boom, Boooomraaaaaah reverberated through the

Coming into the Test with back-to-back hundreds, Head couldn't judge the length of a Bumrah delivery that was pitched slightly fuller than what the batter expected. He shouldered his arms trusting the bounce but the 66.2 overs old Kookaburra nipped back to clip the off-bail.

In the next over, he removed an out-of-form Mitchell Marsh (4), having got Usman Khawaja (57 off 121 balls) with the half-tracker in the post-lunch session.

The first two sessions, however, belonged to Australia with senior players Khawaja, Marnus Khawaja, Marnus Labuschagne (72 off 145 balls) and Steve Smith (68 batting, 111 balls) scoring half-centuries.

The final session was all about Bumrah magic. The Indian spearhead didn't let the hosts completely walk away with the game which they threatened to do at one

He now has 24 wickets in the series. With Mohammed Siraj (0/69 in 15 overs) off-colour, Bumrah didn't have much support save off-spinner Washington Sundar (1/37 in 12 overs), who bowled a

containing line.

Akash Deep (1/59 in 19 overs) though got Alex Carey with the second new ball at the fag end of the day. Even Ravindra Jadeja (1/54 in

14 overs) leaked runs despite getting Konstas out and Nitish Reddy, the batting allrounder, was only used before the second new ball was

'Sam Jams at the G'

The morning was owned by the precocious 19-year-old



from New South Wales. Konstas didn't show any nerves during his scintillating knock, which comprised of two sixes off Bumrah

He also didn't mind a good scrap with India's superstar Virat Kohli, whose shoulder

brush with the 19-year-old led to a brief confrontation. In fact, Bumrah was hit for a six for the first time in a Test since Cameron Green hit him for one back in 2021. The gap between Konstas' first six,

which was a lap scoop, and

the one that Green hit three years ago was 4000 legal Test match deliveries.

After a conventional lap scoop for maximum, Konstas also hit a reverse lap scoop towards third man for another boundary.

second six was pummelled over mid-on.

The way he attacked the Indian bowling with gusto gave his veteran opening partner Khawaja a chance to

annoyed with himself as he couldn't time a pull shot off a Bumrah half-tracker, which went straight into KL Rahul's hands in the post-lunch session.

The duo added 89 runs in such quick time that Labuschagne and last match's centurion Smith didn't need

to show any urgency. For Konstas, it all began with a few play and misses off Bumrah's opening over but as

soon as the teenager got his first couple of runs, things changed dramatically.

The fearlessness of youth stood out on the big stage as Konstas pulled off the lapscoon against Bumrah before scoop against Bumrah before smashing him over mid-on for another maximum.

The fans and experts alike were forced to think the last time Bumrah (1/50 in 15 overs) was hit for two sixes in his first spell of a Test match. They couldn't because it never happened in a first

The stump mic caught Bumrah saying "Beginner's Luck" but Konstas seemed to have enough wares to answer his probing queries. And it was laced with a lot of spunk as he got into a verbal duel shoulders brushed

crossing each other. He often shuffled towards

leg-stump to make room and on one occasion, crunched Bumrah past cover. Mohammed Siraj was welcomed into the attack

with a loud round of boos as he sledged the youngster due to his unconventional hitting In all, Konstas hit six fours

apart from the two maximums. Only Akash bowled a good channel among the pacers as Siraj was guilty of going too full or too As Australia scored at more than a fair clip, skipper Rohit

Sharma had to introduce Ravindra Jadeja (1/33 in 11 overs) in the 16th over to at least stem the flow of runs before it went out of hand. The decision did pay dividends as the seasoned spinner got an arm ball to skid through with the angle

to trap Konstas in front. Khawaja and Labuschagne then added 65 for the second wicket with the Pakistanborn opener hitting Akash for a couple of boundaries to complete his first fifty of the



Indian women on course for clean sweep against West Indies

PTI VADODARA

India would aim to push their boundaries in the batting department when they face a down-and-out West Indies in the third and final Women's ODI here on

against the mighty Australia, India have been able to dominate the West Indies in home conditions.

What has stood out is their ability to put scores in excess of 300 consistently in the series, something they must do against the likes of Australia to get themselves out of the doldrums.

Pratika Rawal, who has been opening the innings alongside Smriti Mandhana, did not set the stage on fire in her maiden international appearance but improved her play considerably in the second ODI to raise hopes for the future.

The Delhi-based cricketer was able to clear the ropes once, which is expected considering she has replaced Shafali Verma in the team.

game that she was able to upset record her maiden ODI hundred. She stuck at a 100 like to carry the momentum Matthews is the lone West game of the

Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur has looked good since regaining full fitness but is yet to get a big knock. With series in the bag, the skipper will have another reason to play freely and get a

substantial knock under her On the bowling front, Renuka Thakur has once gain led the pace attack well

with the young Titas Sadhu also chipping in with the Leg-spinner Priya Mishra impressed in her

fledgling career and would

be eying another productive

With the game being a dead rubber, India can also afford to test a few fringe players including Tanuja Kanwar

Harleen Deol has been and Tejal Hasanbis. around for a long time but it West Indies will need to pull

was only in the previous something out of the bag to India. conceded 300 plus run in both the games, the Hayley plus strike rate batting at number three and she would improve on all fronts.

Matthews-led side needs to improve on all fronts.

Indies batter who has made an impact. That will need to change on Friday. Squads:

India: Smriti Mandhana, Pratika Rawal, Harleen Deol, Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Jemimah Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh (wk), Deepti Sharma, Saima Thakor, Titas Sadhu, Renuka Thakur Singh, Priya Mishra, Uma Chetry, Minnu Mani, Teial Hasabnis, Tanuia Kanwar.

Hayley Indies: West Matthews (c), Qiana Joseph, Rashada Williams, Deandra Dottin, Nerissa Crafton, Shemaine Campbelle (wk), Aaliyah Alleyne, Zaida Karishma

Shamilia Ramharack, Connell, Afy Fletcher, Shabika Gajnabi, Chinelle Mandy Henry, Mangru, Ashmini Munisar.

Arjun Erigaise looking to qualify for next Candidates through World Rapid and Blitz

PTI ■ NEW YORK

randmaster Gerigaise will have to tackle obstacles to retain his chances of becoming the first Indian to enter the 2026 Candidates' tournament when he opens his campaign at the World Rapid and Blitz chess tournament here.

Erigaise, who currently trails Fabiano Caruana of the United States in the list of players slated to qualify from 2024, will have a tall order to win the World Rapid chess championship that gets underway here.

It may be noted here that the last time an Indian won the crown here was in 2019 Humpy Koneru triumphed and in 2017 Viswanathan Anand had defied all odds to win the



World's top rated Magnus Carlsen will be back to defend his title in the faster version of the game as the top seed in both rapid and blitz and he will certainly be the most formidable rival for anyone in the fray.

For Erigaise to eclipse an exhausting world Carlsen as well as Caruana and Hikaru Nakamura of the Ding Liren of China just a

United States is easier said than done, given the proficiency of the trio in quick chess.

The participants list is a virtually who's who of the chess world and the only big name missing is D Gukesh, who withdrew after winning an exhausting world

Singapore. From India, much can be expected from

couple of weeks back in

expected from R Praggnanandhaa as well. He is well rested and must be looking for this event to end the year on a high note. Apart from Erigaise and Praggnanandhaa, Raunak Sadhwani and Aravindh Chithambaram are the other

Chithambaram are the other two Indians to take note of in the open section. In the women's section, Humpy will start yet again as favourite amongst the Indians. R Vaishali and

Divya Deshmukh are the two emerging stars and have been doing pretty well in the last one year. Vaishali, in fact, had taken

the chess world by surprise by qualifying for the Women's Candidates in 2023.



PTI ■ MELBOURNE

referee

Former Zimbabwe captain Andy Pycroft on Thursday became only the fourth official in the history of men's Test cricket to complete 100 games as a match referee with the Boxing Day contest between India and Australia that began here on Thursday. The exclusive list is led by former Sri Lanka player Ranjan Madugalle as the most experienced match referee New Zealand's Jeff Crowe (125) and England's Chris Broad (123). The 68-year-old Pycroft played three Tests and 20 ODIs for Zimbabwe from

1983-1992.

officiated in 238 men's ODIs, 174 men's T20Is and 21 women's T20Is since 2009, said he has enjoyed every minute of the journey to 100 matches as a match referee, the ICC said on its website. Pycroft said touching the mark is a great honour and he is thankful to have been afforded the opportunity to officiate all over the world,

'Pycroft, who has also

cultures. "It has been a rewarding journey and I have treasured every moment of it," he

India needed Rohit to open, Washington's variation at MCG, says Nayar on axing Gi

PTI MELBOURNE

India's assistant coach Abhishek Nayar on Thursday defended axing Shubman Gill from the Boxing Day Test, saying it was in team's best interest to not only have Rohit Sharma back to his usual opening slot but also add some sting to the attack by drafting in spin all-rounder Washington

Gill, who missed the first Test due to a finger injury, scored 31 and 28 in the Pink Ball Test and looked the most assured among Indian batters. He, however, got out for a duck in Brisbane. With Rohit Sharma opening the innings and KL Rahul coming at No. 3, Gill had to make way for a third specialist all-rounder in Washington.

"Yes, Rohit will come up in the order and more likely than not, he will open the innings. That was the thought process. Unfortunately for Gill, just how things



spanned out, he had to miss out," Nayar

said at the end of the day's play.
"I just feel for a young player in a position like that, a big day, he wants to make his mark. He understands it's the team's requirement and it's unfortunate, but I wouldn't say that he's been dropped per se. It's just unfortunate that he couldn't find his place in this game," the former Mumbai stalwart said but the explanation lacked conviction.

He elaborately explained why playing Washington at the MCG made sense ahead of Gill. "A lot of the decisions when they are made,

and the process of it being made, the communication is always there and transparency is there. It's pretty obvious that we felt in these conditions, looking at the pitch, having Washy in the bowling attack will give us that variation, especially towards the end once the ball gets old," he

"Post the 50 overs, we felt that was an area that we wanted to get better at. We felt Washy could give us that solidarity with Jaddu (Ravindra Jadeja), especially the way Travis Head and Alex Carey were getting runs lower down. So we felt having an offie in the ranks will provide us with that."

"embracing

Virat Kohli fined 20 per cent match fees for altercation with Sam **PTI** ■ MELBOURNE

Virat Kohli and Australian **V** youngster Sam Konstas were on Thursday involved in a physical altercation because of which the Indian superstar was fined 20 per cent of his match fee and handed a demerit point even though it was played down as an accidental bump by the 19-

vear-old debutant. The brief showdown took place after the 10th over of the Australian innings on the opening day of the fourth Test here when the players were crossing over. Kohli and Konstas bumped shoulders while moving across the pitch in the face off that was initiated by the travelling star.

Kohli was eventually charged

with breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct by onfield umpires Joel Wilson and conduct by onfield umpires field umpires Joel Wilson and Michael Gough, third umpire Sharfuddoula Ibne Shahid and fourth umpire Shawn Craig. He accepted the sanctions proposed by match referee Andy Pycroft at the end of

"Virat Kohli has been fined 20 percent of his match fee and awarded one demerit point for breaching Level 1 of the ICC Code of Conduct," the ICC said in a statement.

"No formal hearing was needed as Kohli accepted the sanctions proposed by Match Referee Andy Pycroft," it

After the physical contact, both players quickly turned around to glance at each other inappropriate physical contact

Khawaja stepped in to separate them. The on-field umpires also had a word with the two and things cooled down rather quickly

Speaking to reporters after stumps, Konstas said Kohli bumped into him but it wasn't deliberate. "I was just doing my gloves

and I think he accidentally bumped me. I think that's just cricket and can happen with tension," said the teenager. 'I think the emotions got to

both of us," Konstas had told 'Channel 7' during the second session The ICC's Code of Conduct states that "any form of

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prohibited in cricket. Without limitation, players will breach this regulation if they deliberately, recklessly and/or negligently walk or run into or shoulder another

player or umpire". Kohli's match fee for the game was to be Rs 15 lakh but that amount would be reduced to Rs 12 lakh owing to the fine. This is the first demerit point that Kohli has logged since 2019. Four demerit points over a period of two years lead to a suspension of one Test.

Konstas, who was batting on 27 at the time, went on to hit Jasprit Bumrah for two boundaries and a six in the next over. The teenager scored a stunning fifty on debut before Ravindra Jadeja trapped him leg before wicket. India assistant coach Abhishek Navar, who addressed the media in the end-of-day press conference, also brushed aside

the incident as nothing big. "When you play a game, there will be emotions but it is not as big as it seems. I wasn't aware of what happened and don't know what was said," he said in response to queries. Kohli criticised for his actions

Konstas might have dismissed it as routine but former Australian skipper Ponting blamed Kohli for instigating the exchange. He went to the extent of saying that Kohli could disciplinary action for it.

"Have a look where Virat walks. Virat's walked one whole pitch over to his right instigated and

confrontation. No doubt in my mind whatsoever," Ponting said on Channel 7 while watching the replay of the incident.

"I have no doubt that the umpires and the referee will have a good look at that. Fielders should be nowhere near the batsman at that stage. "It looked to me that Konstas looked up really late, wouldn't even know anyone is in front of him. That man on-screen there (Kohli) might have a few questions to answer," Ponting added.

Former India head coach Ravi Shastri, who was at the helm during Kohli's captaincy, said the run-in was unnecessary.

'There is a line and you don't want to overstep that line. That's unnecessary, totally unnecessary. You don't want to see that. You know Virat is a senior player, he has been captain of the side," he said on

'Fox Sports'. "He will have his own explanations for this but it's something you don't want to see. One person who would be watching, his eyes locked into the proceedings is Andy Pycroft," he added.

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