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RNI No. 2016/1957 Late City Vol.160 Issue 336 | \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

WORLD 9 PRESIDENT MACRON NAMES CENTRIST ALLY BAYROU AS FRANCE'S NEXT PM

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# **Constitution Sparks Volatile Debate**



Defence Minister Rajnath Singh speaks during a discussion on the 75th anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of India in the Lok Sabha during the Winter Session of Parliament

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

nitiating a two-day debate on Friday in the Lok Sabha on "Discussion on the Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India", Defence Minister Rajnath Singh accused Congress for always choosing "satta" (power) over the Constitution and never tolerated autonomy of institutions and tried to destroy constitutional principles and spirit. Singh was countered by Priyanka Gandhi, leading the Opposition said that it seems Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not understood that it is 'Bharat ka Samvidhan' not 'Sangh ka Vidhan'. She described the Constitution as 'suraksha kavach'

(protective shield) of justice, unity and freedom of expression and one the BIPled Government has made every effort to break in the past 10 years.

Provoking the Opposition MPs, Rajanth Singh said of institutions." Singh's assertion drew jibes from the members of the Opposition Congress has sought to benches during a speech that was largely heard in attention. project the Constitution as its own contribution, while deliberately ignoring the contribution of several leaders. "The talk of "Congress, during its decades in power, often amended the Constitution with a malicious spirit to change it gradually, while the Narendra Modi protection of the Constitution does not seem appropriate coming from it (Congress). Government has effected These days, I see that many Opposition leaders keep the Constitution in their pockets. Actually, this is what they amendments to strengthen its fundamental values and for people's alleged have learnt from childhood, objections from Congress they have seen their families MPs. keep the Constitution in their Whenever there was a choice, pockets for generations," he the Congress chose power

claimed. It always tried to "hijack and appropriate" the framing of the Constitution, Singh said, highlighting the imposition of Emergency, dismissal of many state governments and superseding of Supreme Court judges for "standing up" to the then Indira Gandhi government to charge the party with violating constitutional violating principles.

over the Constitution, he

The BJP leader said he is surprised that those who subverted the Constitution are now speaking for its protection. "Expressions for protecting the Constitution from the Congress do not look good," he said in a jibe at the Congressity The look good," he said in a jibe at the Opposition party. The two-day debate, which is likely to end with Prime Minister's Modi's speech, is being seen as a highlight of the ongoing parliamentary session amid a running battle between the ruling party and the Opposition since the Lok Sabha poll campaign, which was marked by the INDIA bloc building its campaign on the Constitution being the Constitution being allegedly under threat from

the BIP. Singh's mention of the country's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, a persistent target of the BJP's attack over the years, as one of those who contributed to the making of the Constitution drew rare cheers from the Opposition benches. The BJP leader, though, later also charged Nehru with amending the empowerment", Singh, inviting Constitution to override a Supreme Court judgment for "stifling" freedom of expression.

Continued on page 8



LUCKNOW, SATURDAY DECEMBER 14, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹3

Established 1865

### Notice moved in **RS for Allahabad** High Court Judge's impeachment

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Members of several Opposition parties on Friday moved a notice in the Rajya Sabha for the impeachment of Allahabad High Court Judge Shekhar Kumar Yadav over his alleged controversial remarks at a recent VHP event, sources

said. The notice for moving the impeachment motion was signed by 55 opposition MPs, including Kapil Sibal, Vivek Tankha, Digvijaya Singh, John Brittas, Manoj Kumar Jha and Saket Gokhale. These MPs met the Rajya Sabha secretary general and handed over the notice for impeachment a few minutes before the start of the day's proceedings, the sources said. Some of the other prominent MPs who have signed the notice are P Chidambaram, Randeep Surjewala, Pramod Jairam Tiwari, Ramesh. Wasnik, Mukul Naseer Hussain, Raghav Chadha, Fauzia Khan, Sanjay Singh, AA Rahim, V Sivadasan and

Renuka Chowdhury. Continued on page 8

**PM calls Maha Kumbh** 'mahayagya of unity'

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

Modi inaugurates key development projects Prayagraj



Prime Minister Narendra Modi performs worship at the Sangam, in Prayagraj, on Friday.

PNS MAHAKUMBH NAGAR

The Maha Kumbh 2025 is a "mahayagya of unity" which would take the country's cultural and spiritual identity to new heights, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Friday, emphasising the event's role in promoting social cohesion as well as economic empowerment of communities.

Addressing a public meeting here after inaugurating developmental projects to improve the city's infrastructure and provide better amenities to pilgrims during the Kumbh Mela, the prime minister said the differences of castes and sects disappear at the event.

The prime minister inauguratthe prime minister inaugurat-ed 167 key development pro-jects worth Rs 5,500 crore. The projects also included Sah'Al'yak Chatbot — an Artificial Intelligence-based gious gathering and more than 40 crore people are expected during the 45-day event. platform to streamline communication for devotees attending sised the historical importance the Maha Kumbh.

of the event, saying saints and Modi said the city of Prayagraj, sages have, for centuries, used

it as a platform to discuss national issues and provide valuable guidance.

He pointed out that even in ancient times, the Kumbh laid the foundation for social change. Modi also spoke about the current government's efforts to improve Kumbhrelated infrastructure which, he said, had been neglected in the

past. "During previous governments, the importance of Kumbh was not recognised. The devotees kept facing problems at such events, but the governments of at the Sangam and today, once again, I received blessings at the feet of Ganga," Modi said. The 2025 Maha Kumbh will be the day did not care. The reason for this was their disassociation from Indian culture," said the PM.

Poornima) to February 26 "But today, there is a govern-ment at the Centre as well as in the state which respects faith and Indian culture?

The prime minister highlighted the development of various cultural circuits like the Ramayana, Krishna, and Buddhist circuits, and said

#### Continued on page 8

### The system has failed **CCPA** puts **17** direct us, say RG Kar docs PNS 📕 KOLKATA

 $T^{\rm he\ junior\ doctors,\ who\ led}_{\rm the\ months-long\ protest}_{\rm over\ the\ rape\ and\ murder\ of}$ the resident doctor at the RG Kar Medical College and



# selling firms in the dock

#### RAJESH KUMAR I NEW DELHI

said, adding "the BJP

(Bharatiya Janata Party), on

the other hand, always bows

before the Constitution and

has never played with the independence and autonomy

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) has issued notice to 17 direct selling firms including Oriflame India, and Suii Dhaaga Lifestyle, th at were found in unfair trade practices, service deficiencies, and violations of the Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) Rules, 2021. According to the CCPA, of these 13 entities are currently under investigation while reply from three of the entities is awaited. Direct selling is a method of marketing, distribution and sale of goods or services directly to consumers, away from fixed retail premises. This method relies on independent representatives of the entity, known as direct sellers, selling products directly to customers, typically through personal contact, online platforms, or home presentations. The list includes multiple firms and the action comes in response to concerns about deceptive practices in the direct selling industry. "However, some fraudulent entities misuse the direct selling model to promote illegal pyramid or money circulation schemes. These firms often make unrealistic promises of high commissions, foreign trips, entrepreneurship, high returns and a wealthy future, contingent on recruiting others, which violates consumer trust and established laws, thereby exposing consumers to fraudulent pyramid and money circulation schemes. Three major signs that a product is being used to disguise pyramid schemes include large joining fee or investment, compensation paid for recruiting and no right of return, buy-back or cooling off period offered," the CCPA said. "The government remains steadfast in its



which hosts the Maha Kumbh

every 12 years, is not just a geo-graphical location, but a place for spiritual experience where the sacred confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers plays a pivotal role in uniting people from all walks of life.

"The Maha Kumbh is a mahayagya of unity," Modi said. "It will take the country's cultural and spiritual identity to new heights." "In the last Kumbh, I had the

good fortune of taking a bath

held from January 13 (Paush

(Maha Shivratri) at Prayagraj.

It will be the world's largest reli-

The prime minister empha-

Hospital, expressed disappointment with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) investigation into the case on Friday after two key suspects got bail from a court.

The Sealdah court granted bail to RG Kar Medical College and Hospital's ex-principal Sandip Ghosh and former officer-in-charge of the Tala police station Abhijit Mondal in the rape and murder case of the on-duty doctor. They were granted bail after the CBI failed to file a charge sheet against them within the

against them within the mandatory 90-day period. "We are extremely disappointed with the pace with which the CBI is handling this case," said junior doctor Aniket Mahato, a leading face of the protests that rocked the state.

'The system has failed us, and the accused have been allowed to go free due to the sluggishness of the investigation. This delay in justice is a slap on the face of all those who have been

fighting for accountability," he added. The junior doctors

started their demonstration after the body of their colleague was found at the RG Kar hospital on August 9. Following 50 days of cease work that paralysed the state's healthcare system, they went on hunger strike on October 5 amid the Durga Puja festival, demanding justice.

The hunger strike was called off on October 24 after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee met them. Mahato said they were firm in their resolve for justice. "We are not backing down," he said. "The CBI's inaction has only fueled our frustration. We will decide our next course of action soon and continue our fight for justice," he added. The CBI took over the case on the direction of the high court following allegations of mishandling by the police.



mission to create a fair, transparent, and consumer-friendly market ecosystem," the statement said.

Consumers have been advised to exercise caution by checking disclosures carefully, avoiding recruitment-based earnings, understanding return and refund policies, reading contracts thoroughly and verifying direct sellers' credentials. The Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) Rules, 2021, were introduced to regulate direct selling entities and protect consumer interests and consumers will have to check certificate of Incorporation, PAN, GST Registration, important licenses as per the goods and services offered, Certificate of Registration of Trademark of the direct selling companies. These rules complement other existing regulatory frameworks, including the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020, and the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011. The Department has advised consumers to stay vigilant and report any suspected illegal activities or violations related to direct selling to the appropriate authorities.

### Three Indian students killed in Canada: MEA

### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

Three Indian students have been murdered in Canada last week and the Indian High Commission in Ottawa has taken up the matter of safety of Indians with the Canadian authorities, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday. The safety, security and welfare of Indian nationals in Canada remains of utmost importance to us, MEA spokesperson Randhir

Jaiswal said. Jaiswal said the Indian missions in that country are in touch with the local authorities for thorough investigation of the incidents. "In the last week or so we have had unfortunate tragedies. Three Indian students have been murdered. We are saddened at these terrible tragedies that have struck our nationals in Canada. We our



MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal

condolences to the grieving High families. Our Commission and Consulates in Toronto and Vancouver are extending all possible help in the matter," he said.

"Issues faced by them, especially Indian students, are raised by our high commission and Consulates with the relevant Canadian authorities on a regular basis," he said. "We have also issued an advisory for our nationals and Indian students to exercise extreme caution and deepest remain vigilant in view of the added.

deteriorating security environment in Canada as a result of the growing incidence of hate crimes and criminal violence," Jaiswal added.

According to official data, over 400,000 Indian students are studying in Canada. Asked about reports of instances of the Indian high commission not granting visas in Canada, Jaiswal described them as a "disinformation" campaign.

"We have seen the said media report. It is yet another example of Canadian media's disinformation to malign India," he said. "Granting of Indian visas is our sovereign function and we have the legitimate right to deny visas to those who undermine our territorial integrity," he said. "The commentary that we see in the Canadian media on this matter is akin to foreign interference in India's sovereign affairs," Jaiswal

Continued on page 8 extend

### SC to hear SPG petition on fate of three specialised vehicles PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The Special Protection Group (SPG), which protects the Prime Minister, on Friday, moved the Supreme Court (SC) challenging an interlocutory application and posted the

order of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) which refused to allow extension of registration period of three specialised armoured vehicles by five years. The matter came before a bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih, which took objection that the elite force approached the NGT for registration of its vehicle instead of moving the top court in the MC Mehta matter.

The SC has been monitoring the air pollution crisis in Delhi in an

ongoing Public Interest Litigation in the MC Mehta case. Appearing for the SPG, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, urged the Bench to consider the matter on an urgent basis and sought extension of registration period citing



importance of the vehicles. Tushar Mehta said these vehicles are an essential and integral part of Special Protection Group technical logistics. The Bench converted the matter in an

> matter for hearing on December 16. The NGT on March 22 had refused to grant the relief, saying such vehicles being diesel vehicles cannot be permitted to ply in the National Capital Region (NCR) on completion of 10 years. "We are conscious of the fact that these three vehicles are special purpose vehicles which are not normally available and these vehicles have run very less in the last 10 years and are needed for the specific purpose

of security of the prime minister but in view of the order of the Supreme Court dated October 29, 2018, the prayer made in the M.A. Cannot be granted," the NGT had said.

**Continued on page 8** is open for keeping

Management Services. The guidelines on the subject

succinics on the subject include updated specifications for new Route Patrolling Vehicles (RPVs) named 'Rajmarg Saathi' and outlines design, functions, technology, components and

manpower specifications for

the RPVs.

### 'Rajmarg Saathi' promises enhanced safety on National Highways

instruments and equipment to support in case of emergency situations. However, due to open space, the operators were not able to situations. With an aim to enhance road safety and strengthen highway keep these equipment in a well organised manner, which patrolling, National Highways at times led to delays in taking Authority of India (NHAI), the central road making prompt action. agency will implement an upgraded and forward-looking Incident

In order to overcome such a situation, the rear or trunk of RPV has now been replaced by a closed cabinet with dedicated space for different equipment and inventory. The shelves have been created to provide quick & easy access to different equipment during the emergency situations and is a significant upgrade from the earlier RPVs.

Additional advanced feature of this new RPV is the provision for dashboard The RPVs conduct inspection of National Highway stretches cameras equipped with 'AI video analytics' to capture and to monitor and respond to emergency situations. In the video analytics to capture and identify cracks & potholes as well as other elements The data/ video footage



including vehicles.

including road distresses shall be collected on a weekly basis by NHAI and this road distress data shall be

integrated with NHAI One application for more efficient maintenance of roads.

The guidelines for 'Rajmarg Saathi' RPVs include detailed specifications related to the use of vehicle, equipment and manpower. To ensure service fitness of the vehicle, the RPV shall be replaced with a new RPV, once it has exceeded run of 3,00,000 km or has been in operation for three years. Special emphasis has been laid on branding and external appearance of the RPVs to maximise its visibility as a Highway Patrol Services on the National Highways. Equipped with the advanced

communication and safety tools, these vehicles will be useful in minimising traffic disruptions, improving road safety and enhancing overall road user experience along the National Highways.

Continued on page 8



### city 02

The eradication of tuberculosis

and HPV vaccine administra-

tion are the other missions she

has undertaken in the last five

To achieve the target of TB-free

India, UP is an important

state... The central government

# **Doc abducted at gunpoint,** held captive in Ayodhya Released after ₹7-lakh ransom paid

#### PNS LUCKNOW

homoeopathic doctor was Aabducted at gunpoint and held captive for three days. Dr Surendra Kumar Singh, a resident of Kamta Shankarpuri Colony in Chinhat, was abducted by three armed men from the BBD area and taken to Ayodhya, where they demanded Rs 20 lakh as ransom. The doctor managed to secure his release after arranging Rs 10 lakh, of which Rs 7 lakh was paid before he was let off.

Police have registered an FIR and launched a search for the accused, with several suspects being questioned. As per reports, on December

8, two men visited Dr Surendra's Homeo Clinic and Diabetes Centre, enquiring about admissions for six stu-

PNS LUCKNOW

the scene.

ate?

dents in a paramedical course offered by the Bharat Sevak

and demanded Rs 20 lakh.

also threatened to harm his

two daughters, prompting the doctor to agree to their demands. The ransom was Samaj institute, which the doctor manages. Claiming their arranged through multiple documents were incomplete, transactions. they asked to meet him. Later, Rs 1 lakh each was transferred

they called him, requesting a from his son-in-law, Agastya meeting near Goyal Hospital in Singh, to two accounts in the BBD area, citing their inability to visit the clinic Indian Overseas Bank (Mati) and Union Bank (Munshipulia). When Dr Surendra arrived at Rs 2 lakh was borrowed from

the designated spot, one of the men entered his car's back CMS Dr Indu Kant Verma in Budaun. Rs 3 lakh was paid via OR code transactions from seat while another engaged him in conversation. Shortly Dr Surendra's e-wallet. thereafter, a third man arrived,

The kidnappers continued to demand Rs 3 lakh more but sat in the driver's seat, and pointed a gun at the doctor. released him after he promised They threatened to shoot him to arrange the amount. During his captivity, they forced Dr Surendra to stay in touch with The kidnappers forced Dr Surendra to lie down in the his relatives via phone to preback seat and assaulted him vent suspicion about his disapwhen he refused to pay. They pearance. The kidnappers drove Dr Surendra around

Ayodhya until the night of December 10. They stopped to refuel their car multiple times, paying with cash and UPI transactions. One of the kidnappers got off in Ayodhya. In the early hours of December 12, the car's tyre burst near Tiwariganj, and the kidnappers fled, leaving Dr Surendra behind. Before escaping, they deleted his WhatsApp chats and call logs to destroy evi-

dence. Dr Surendra reported the inci-dent to police, who registered a case and began investigations. DCP (East) Shashank Singh stated that teams have been deployed to apprehend the accused.

The police are examining the evidence, including financial transaction records and CCTV footage, to track down the kidnappers.

### Wanted criminal held in police encounter PNS LUCKNOW

Awanted criminal with a reward of Rs 25,000 was arrested after a police encounter in the Bakshi-Ka-Talab area of Lucknow later Thursday night. The encounter occurred during routine vehicle checks on Asti Road along Kisan Path at

12:30 am. According to ADCP (North) Jitendra Kumar Dubey, the police stopped two suspicious men on a bike. When asked to surrender, one of the accused, Amit Kumar Rastogi, opened fire on the officers. In the ensuing retaliatory firing, a bullet struck Rastogi in the left leg, and he was apprehended. His accomplice Rahul Gautam managed to escape and is currently being tracked by the police. Amit Kumar Rastogi, a resident of Chhota Bharwara, is a noto-rious criminal with 15 cases of robbery and theft registered against him across various police stations in the city. He is currently receiving treatment at a hospital. Efforts are underway to

### Don't see relationship between govt and Raj Bhavan as sensitive: Guv

Lucknow (PTI): The govern-ment and the governor have to work for the people and there is little room for sensitivity in this complementary relationship, says Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel, stressing that both have to work for the welfare of the people. Patel, who took office on July 29, 2019, is the first woman governor of Uttar Pradesh since Sarojini Naidu in 1949 and also its

longest serving. "I don't see the relationship between the government and Raj Bhavan as sensitive. Both the government and the governor have to work for the people. There is hardly any room for sensitivity," Patel told PTI in an exclusive interview. "Conflicts arise in states like

West Bengal and Kerala where attempts were made to revoke the powers of the governors by making changes in the law and which subsequently led to court cases," she said.

The responsibilities of the governor and the chancellor are intertwined and she enjoys them both, the governor said. "Things are different here (in UP) than say in West Bengal or Kerala where chancellor-governors are hardly able to work in universities there. Here it is different as I also hailed from the same party (before becoming governor) as the one in government. That is why I don't run

into issues here," she said. Opposition ruled Kerala and West Bengal have seen growing acrimony between the state governments and governors with state governments moving to curtail the laws of the governor. Patel also served as the governor of Chhattisgarh from August 15, 2018 to July 28, 2019 and Madhya Pradesh from January 23, 2018 to July 28, 2019.

chair and cycle, in 25,000 angan-"CM or ministers take decisions wadis. "For this we got Rs 75 crore through public cooperathemselves on matters of development and follow it up right till

implementation. Governors don't finalise or sanction development tasks but all governors can surely undertake reviews of central government schemes or projects," she said.

Patel, who was the first woman chief minister of Gujarat, said she meets everyone. "As governor I meet everyone.

parency."

versities.

wadis."

has adopted this mission and so far nearly three lakh TB patients Even as CM I met all, including opposition lawmakers, and are now cured," she said. The cleared their projects over tea. HPV vaccine is to be adminis-If we don't clear projects of tered to all girls between nine opposition lawmakers then we and 14 years to ensure that they do a great disservice to the peoremain free of cervical cancer. ple. If one doesn't sanction a "This is happening due to pub-lic participation. So far nearly road of opposition leaders, won't it mean causing inconvenience 15,000 girls have been adminto the masses of that area? istered two doses of this vaccine. This is ongoing," Patel said. The four-term Gujarat law-That's why once elections are over and while one sits on constitutional position, one must act in all fairness and transmaker recalled her early years. "Whatever we are today is due

tion."

years.

to our upbringing. I have worked in the fields for 25 Patel, a stickler for discipline, said that as chancellor of state years. My parents fed me nutriuniversities she is working to tious meals, imparted good valbring about qualitative changes ues. Whatever be the responsiin the functioning of state unibility, I fulfil it with dedication and passion. Work is my pas-"Visiting each district, meeting

sion," she said. people and communicating their problems to the govern-Discussing a plantation drive in Sitapur in July where she had ment are among the tasks publicly expressed her displeaundertaken by the governor. I sure on seeing things not being have brought about a change in done as planned, she said any this system by connecting uniwork, whether of the governversities with anganwadis. Our ment or not, should be underprime minister talks about 50 taken with full honesty. 'The plantation event was in per cent enrolment in universities and to meet the target, it's Lucknow too but I travelled to imperative to ensure that all

Sitapur as that event was in an army cantonment. I realised that the event was not accorded as much importance. Doing things for formality is not my nature. The programme was titled, 'ek ped maa ke naam' ... where was 'mother' in that event? Such a noble initiative of the PM and we couldn't even plant one tree! That is why I said this was not right." After the dressing down though, the situation was rectified and she was sent a WhatsApp message that the work had been done.

### **Prior approval a must for public** events in Lucknow, say police

three year olds join the angan-

wadis. This is my mission," she said. "To draw students to

anganwadis, it's important to

have playing facilities, avail-

ability of good nutritious food.

holding various events so that

families send students to angan-

The governor said she has dis-

tributed educational kits, includ-

ing objects such as a table,

#### PNS LUCKNOW

The Lucknow Police Commissionerate has introduced a new advisory aimed at streamlining the process of organising public events in the city while ensuring law and order.

The guidelines, which cover a wide range of activities-Complex and Parking Place' including protests, rallies, reli-

organised without the necesto secure the necessary permissary authorisations. This leads sions without unnecessary to disruptions in traffic, inconvenience to school buses, ambulances, VIP movements, and general chaos, which affect daily life and public safety. To address these issues, the police have designated the Kanshi Ram Public Facility

delays. This system eliminates the need for organisers to visit police stations or other offices, saving time and effort for everyone involved. The police also issued a warning that any event held without proper authorisation will face legal consequences. They reiterated the importance of applying in

### In a tragic incident, a third-year MBBS student, Anushka Singh, was found dead in her room in Meerut district on Friday morning. Police suspect she committed

again.

suicide by consuming some poisonous substance. A suicide  $V_{\text{year-old general manager}}^{\text{ijay Singh Bisht, the 38-}}_{\text{year-old general manager}}$  of an automobile showroom in note was also recovered from In her emotional suicide note, Anushka wrote: "Mom and Dad, I love you very much. You in Gudamba on Thursday. showed me many dreams, and In a suicide note, which was I had to fulfil them. I had a long journey ahead in life, but I am unable to do anything. I do not deserve to become a doctor. Mom, Dad, and my sispushed him to take this dras-

> His wife Sita Bisht filed a comthe showroom.

Firozabad. Dr SP Singh recounted the events: "On Thursday, she had dinner and went to bed as usual. There was no sign of distress. When she didn't come out of her room this (Friday) morning, we went to check on her and found her lying face down on the bed. Initially, we thought she was unwell, but upon closer inspection, we suspect poison ingestion but realised she had passed away." The police and forensic teams reports.

ter, please forgive me for tak-

ing this step. I am very desper-

Anushka (23) was the elder daughter of Dr SP Singh and

Dr Usha Singh, both army doctors who retired and start-

ed a small hospital in Meerut

for their daughters' education.

Anushka was a student at Lala

Laipat Rai Medical College,

while her younger sister Devanjali is pursuing MBBS in

### **GM of automobile showroom hangs** self, wife alleges harassment wife Sita, daughter Vanshika (12), and son Vidyut (6). According to Sita, her hus-

but the call was answered by

his son Vidyut, who informed

him that his father had hanged

Family members rushed to the

house and found Vijay's body

hanging from a ceiling fan with a dupatta tied around his

neck. He was immediately

taken to the hospital, where

doctors declared him dead.

MBBS student poisons herself to death

### PNS LUCKNOW

band faced immense pressure and threats from the accused, who allegedly demanded he engage in unethical practices and false-Khairabad, Sitapur, allegedly committed suicide at his home ly implicated him in financial irregularities. On the day of the incident, Vijay reportedly recovered from the scene, he accused the company's owners sent a WhatsApp message to a relative, Deep Bisht, stating and associates of harassment and threats, which he alleged that individuals, including Mahesh Agarwal and others, tic step. were responsible for his plight. Concerned, Deep called Vijay,

plaint at the Gudamba police station, claiming that her hus-band was falsely accused of embezzling company funds and was threatened with jail by the accused. Based on her complaint, a case of abetment to suicide has been registered against five individuals, including Mahesh, Sanjay, Jitendra, and two owners of Vijay, originally from

Police later sent the body for Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand, a postmortem. The deceased's family alleged lived in Gudamba's Kalyanpur that the accused had fabricat-Kanchannagar area with his

himself.

ed charges of embezzling Rs 20 lakh against Vijay. Despite these accusations, Vijay was actively trying to arrange the money to avoid further harassment. On the fateful day, Sita had gone to a finance company to pledge her jew-ellery, while other family members were also pooling funds.

Company employees present at the scene claimed Vijay owed Rs 20 lakh and was under pressure to repay it. However, Sita denied these allegations, stating her hus-band never took the money and was not even aware of the claims. The police have regis-tered a case of abetment to suicide against the accused and are investigating the matter. They stated that the allegations in the suicide note and the complaint would be thoroughly examined.

Vijay's death has left his familv devastated, with his wife asserting that harassment and false accusations drove him to end his life.

#### lagers found their bodies floating in a pond about 150 metres from the village. The police suspect the children

locate his accomplice.

accidentally drowned while playing near the water. Postmortem examinations have been ordered, and further investigations are underway. In yet another tragic incident, Bipin Saroj, the grandson of Daroga Saroj, the Samajwadi Party MP from Lalganj, Azamgarh, died after being hit by a speeding vehicle (Bolero) on Thursday night.

Bipin was returning home on a motorcycle after attending a wedding when the accident occurred near Narsinghpur village in the Palsana police station area. He sustained critical injuries and was rushed to the hospital, where he suc-

cumbed. Samajwadi Party leader and former chief minister Akhilesh Yadav expressed condolences over the young man's untime-ly demise. Police have registered a case and are making efforts to apprehend the driver involved.

Meanwhile, a 30-year-old man was arrested in Ballia on Friday for allegedly raping a minor girl in his neighbourhood, police said. The accused had lured the 12-year-old girl to his home on some pretext in the Kotwali

arrived shortly after being informed. They noted evidence of vomiting in her room and confirmed the discovery of the suicide note. Investigators are awaiting further forensic

PNS LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh govern-

ment has drawn up plans to

link the water supply project in

rural areas, 'Jal Jeevan Mission',

with solar power. Currently,

33,000 Jal Jeevan schemes for

supplying groundwater-based

drinking water are being imple-

According to the government,

it is estimated that as much as

Rs 1 lakh crore can be saved by energising water supply pro-

jects with solar power over the

The 33,229 solar energy-based

groundwater schemes in UP

are projected to save the state

mented across the state.

next decade.

Meanwhile, the bodies of two siblings, aged six and three, were recovered from a pond near their home in Son Buzurg village, Azamgarh, early Friday

down on energy bills.

Moreover, these projects will

reduce carbon dioxide emis-

sions by 1.3 million tonnes

(MT) annually, lowering the

use of fossil fuel-based thermal

power. "To support clean ener-

gy initiatives, solar panels with

a combined capacity of 900

megawatts (MW) have been

installed. This innovation has

been recognised by the Centre

as the best practice," a UP government official said, adding that it would set a

precedent for eco-friendly gov-

Recently, Uttar Pradesh Chief

Minister Yogi Adityanath

directed officials to speed up

ernance in India.

morning. According to Mohammed Talib, the children's father, his

daughter Arhama and son Abdul Wadud disappeared on Thursday morning while play-ing outside their house. After an unsuccessful search, the family reported them missing to the Raunapar police station. At around 6 am on Friday, vil-

solar energy-based schemes is

reducing energy costs and con-

tributing to the state's transfor-

mation into a 'green state', he

Meanwhile, the state govern-

ment is also promoting the

establishment of microgrids

by private sector companies in

rural areas. In this regard, Tata

Power Renewable Microgrid, a

subsidiary of Tata Power, has

already installed 150 solar-

noted.

area on Thursday evening where he raped her, a senior officer said. "On the complaint of the girl's mother, an FIR was lodged and Sandeep Pandey was arrested on Friday," Ballia Superintendent of Police Vikrant Veer said.

gious programmes, celebrity promotions, film and web series shoots, marathons, exhibitions, drone operations, and live screenings—emphasise the importance of obtaining prior police approval for any such event.

In an official statement issued on Friday, the police empha-sised that event organisers must apply for permission through the official police web-

site at http://lucknowpolice.up.gov.in under the 'Citizen Services' section. Applications must be submitted at least 15 days before the scheduled event to ensure timely processing of permissions.

A police spokesperson stated that many events—such as protests, rallies, religious gatherings, stage shows, celebrity promotions, and even film and web series shoots—are often

Date : 14.12.2024

Place : UTTAR PRADESH

(Eco Garden) as the preferred dharnas, location for advance to avoid penalties and protests, and submission of memorandums. Organisers are encouraged to

use this space to minimise dis-

Additionally, the police have

urged event organisers to

adhere to the online application process, which will allow them

ruptions.

ensure smooth coordination for public safety. This initiative is part of the Lucknow police's ongoing

efforts to ensure that public events are organised in an orderly manner, maintaining safety and minimising disruptions to daily life.



Note: The Company reserves the right to reject all or any of the offers either wholly or in part without assigning any reasons thereof.

www.newindia.co.in/tender-notice. The last date for

submission of tender is 26 December, 2024 by 06:00 PM

### **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**

IDFC FIRST 

(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Lin CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792 Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031

Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

Notice under Section 13 (2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

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

nt he	Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice				
or rs,	1	106607079.	LOAN AGAINST PROPERTY	1. DURGESH KUMAR 2. PINKI DURGESH	30.11.2024	5,82,559.74/-				

PROPERTY ADDRESS : ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF GATA NO. 62, ADMEASURING 680.35 SQ, FT, OR 63.23 SQ, MTR, SITUATED AT VILLAGE AMARI, TAPPA RAMGARH, PARGANA AMODHA, NEAR GANNA KANTA, TEHSIL HARRAIYA AND DIST. BASTI , UTTAR PRADESH-272127, AND, BOUNDED AS: EAST: PLOT OF RAM SURESH, WEST: ROAD TUTI BHITI TO VIKRAMJOT, NORTH: PLOT OF NAUSA DEVI, SOUTH: HOUSE OF RAM SURESH

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

#### Authorized Officer

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited)



दिनांक 23/12/2024 प्रात: 11:00 बजे कार्यालय आयकर अपीलीय अधिकरण, प्लॉट संख्या 2A/INS-01, अवध विहार योजना, अमर शहीद पथ, लखनऊ में निष्प्रयोज्य कार्यालय फर्नीचर आयरन रैक्स आदि की नीलामी. सिक्योरिटी रु० 10.000 नकद. जी.एस.टी. पंजीकरण के साथ जमा होगी। आई. पी. सिंह एण्ड सन्स।

### NOTICE

I have changed my name from Shamim Fatima to Shamim Fatma W/O Naushad Ahmad R/O New EWS 47 KDA Colony Jajmau, Kanpur Nagar, I will be known and recognised by this name in future.

### **CHANGE OF NAME**

I, Manoj Kumar Pandey of 118 Fd Regt., C /O 99 APO, PIN-926118, Resident of Vill-Newra, Post- Kurwar Teh- Sultanpur, dist. Sultanpur Pin-228155 (UP) Have Change my son Name From- Prince Kumar **Pandey** to **Prince pandey** vide Affidavit date 13-12-2024

### NOTICE

Be it known to all that the correct name of my son is Yash Pratap son o Yashwant Kumar, which is registered in his educational records. Due to some mistake, my son's name has been registered as Raunak Pal in his Aadhaar card bearing number 9788 0425 3383, which is his nick- name. My son be known and regarded by his correct name Yash Pratap son of Yashwant Kumar for all future purposes It is hereby certified that all the legal formalities in respect of the above have been furnished by myself. Yashwant Kumar S/o Shri Ram Harakh R/o- Village Mohammadpur Hathga Post Hathigahan, Tehsil Soraon, District Prayagraj.

Railway.

the recognition of trade unions in Indian Railways concluded on Thursday at Alambagh in Lucknow. the Upon announcement of the results, a festive atmosphere filled the divisional office

Northern Railway in Charbagh, with employees congratulating each other. Key figures present at the event included NRMU Lucknow's divisional secretary Awadhesh Dubey, divisional

NRMU emerges victorious Lucknow (PNS): The Northern president RP Rao, divisional Railway Mazdoor Union (NRMU) emerged victorious and Subhash Srivastava, assistant in securing recognition from the divisional secretary SS Mishra, Lucknow division of Northern and divisional treasurer TN

exchequer Rs 1 lakh crore dur- solar power projects and

ing their lifecycle by cutting schemes. In addition to cost



Pandey. The leaders expressed gratitude to the employees of Northern Railway and assured that the Union would raise their demands at the appropriate forums in the future.

### LDA frees 10 bighas of land from encroachers

Lucknow (PNS): The antiencroachment squad of Development Lucknow Authority on Friday demol-ished various structures, including semi-finished buildings, in the Telibagh area. The operation led to the reclaiming of 10 bighas of land that had been encroached upon by locals for over a decade.

Locals had illegally marked residential plots on the land, selling them to homebuyers over a year ago. Many buyers had already started constructing houses, with some completing their homes but not yet moving in. A mini shopping complex was also bulldozed.

LDA Vice-Chairman Prathmesh Kumar revealed that the encroachment was part of a con-

accompanied by a heavy contingent of armed police, carried out the demolition.

spiracy by locals, with the support of an influential lobby. Despite this, no significan action had been taken by the then LDA administration or government. Over the years the encroachers had developed the land by installing sewer and drainage systems, as well as building roads, streetlights, and providing water sources for the residents. The LDA's demolition drive followed a thorough investigation to confirm the land's unauthorised status. A notice had been issued to vacate the area last month, warning that the properties would be demolished. A special team led by executive engineer AK Singh,

Microgrid CEO Manoj Gupta said. Moreover, UP is planning to set up floating solar power plants in partnership with NTPC, Tehri Hydro Development Corporation, and Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam. By 2027, the state targets solar power generation of 14,000

ΜW. Additionally, the state has set a target of 1 million tonnes production capacity per year of powered microgrids with a green hydrogen/green ammototal capacity of 4.5 MW in UP. nia by 2029.

Govt plans to link Jal Jeevan Mission with solar power savings, solar energy-based schemes are expected to help These microgrids serve 150 villages, benefiting rural house-holds and 300 micro-enterpris-UP earn 39 million carbon credits over 30 years, showcases, including flour mills, oil expellers, rice hullers, spice ing UP's commitment to susgrinders, and jaggery units, Tata Power Renewable tainability and environmental conservation. The adoption of



### city 03

# Grateful to PM for launching projects worth ₹5,500 cr: Yogi

#### PNS MAHAKUMBH NAGAR

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday Adityanath on Friday expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his visit to Prayagraj and for inaugurating 167 development projects worth Rs 5,500 crore. He extended his thanks on behalf of Prayagraj the state and every Prayagraj, the state, and every devotee attending Maha Kumbh.

The chief minister highlight-ed the significance of Prime Minister Modi's presence, particularly in the context of the rituals at the sacred confluence of Maa Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati, and its profound importance for Maĥa Kumbh 2025.

He remarked, "This occasion holds immense importance for all followers of Sanatan Dharma and devotees who cherish India, both within the country and across the world.

Yogi noted that projects worth thousands of crores are being inaugurated under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi. Reflecting on the successful organisation of Kumbh 2019,

he credited the prime minis-

ter's inspiration and expressed gratitude for his continued guidance in preparing for

Maha Kumbh 2025. Maha Kumbh 2025. While lauding the visionary leadership of PM Modi, Yogi acknowledged his efforts in upholding the values of Sanatan Dharma, safeguard-ing its traditions, and ensur-ing the highest standards for the Maha Kumbh are met the Maha Kumbh are met. In his address, CM Yogi

recalled that for the first time during the 2019 Kumbh in Prayagraj, and under the inspiration, guidance, and directives of PM Modi, devotees were blessed with the darshan of the sacred Akshayvat after hundreds of years. He noted that this time, the Akshayavat Corridor would also be inaugurated.

The chief minister stated that the corridor of the Bade Hanuman Temple is also being inaugurated by PM Modi.

He further elaborated on Saraswati Koop, where Maa Saraswati is believed to reside invisibly and where her confluence with Ganga and Yamuna occurs at the Sangam.

"For the first time in the



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed by Uttar Pradesh Governor Anandiben Patel and Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath upon his arrival, in Mahakumbh Nagar Prayraj, on Friday

2019 Kumbh, devotees had Corridor's inauguration, this He also mentioned the hisdarshan of this holy site, and now, with the Saraswati

grand sacred space will be accessible to all," he said.

Ram first extended his hand toric significance of of friendship to Nishadraj Shringaverpur, where Lord during his exile. "With the

prime minister's inspiration, the 56-foot-high statue of Lord Ram and Nishadraj, along with the corridor, is being inaugurated," he added. Yogi praised the inauguration of the corridor at Maharishi Bhardwaj's ashram—one of the world's first Gurukuls where Lord Ram once stayed, received blessings, and resolved to free the land from demons. He reflected on PM Modi's transformative vision for Kumbh, emphasising that the 2019 Kumbh was made grand, divine, clean, safe, and well-organised under his leadership.

"This vision now extends to Maha Kumbh 2025, which is being shaped into a grand, divine, and digital celebration under the prime minister's inspiration," the chief minister stated. He further remarked,

"Prayagraj, its surrounding districts, and Mahakumbh Nagar, emerging as the world's largest temporary city, are a testament to the PM's visionary leadership. With projects worth thousands of crores being launched to prepare for Maha Kumbh 2025, I express gratitude on behalf of

the entire state and every devotee visiting Prayagraj." Calling upon the people of Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, and the volunteers working tire-lessly for Maha Kumbh, CM Yogi expressed confidence in the event's success. He urged everyone to contribute to making Maha Kumbh 2025 a historic and unparalleled celebration starting in just one month.

Uttar Pradesh Deputy CMs Keshav Prasad Maurya and Brajesh Pathak, Jal Shakti Minister Swatantra Dev Singh, BJP state president Bhupendra Chaudhary, Tourism Minister Jaiveer Singh, Industrial Development Minister Nand Gopal Gupta Nandi, Khadi and Village Industries Minister Rakesh Sachan, Energy Minister Arvind Kumar Sharma, Fisheries Minister Sanjay Nishad, Transport Minister Dayashankar Singh, Prayagraj Mayor Ganesh Kesarwani, District Panchayat President VK Singh, MLA Siddharth Nath Singh and other public representatives were also present on the occasion.

## PM Modi Seeks blessings at Akshayavat, Triveni Sangam

#### PNS MAHAKUMBH NAGAR

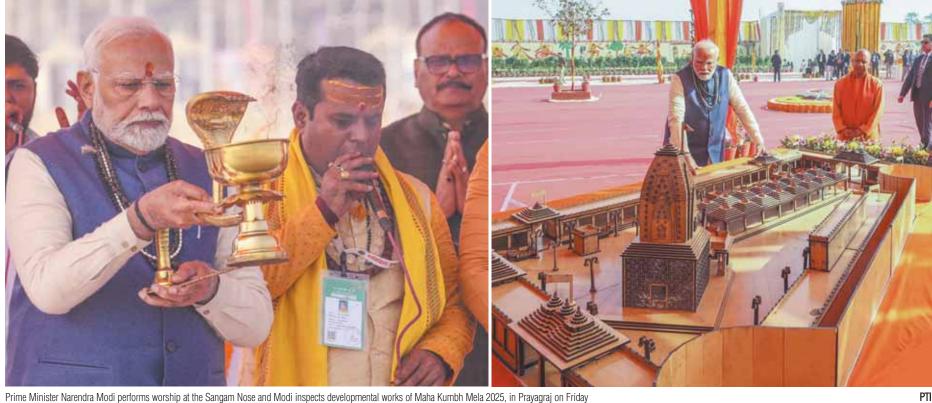
In preparation for the Maha Kumbh 2025 in Uttar Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Akshayavat on Friday, where he performed a sacred worship to seek blessings for the successful organisation of the event, the welfare of the world, and the

prosperity of India. As the 'Yajman,' PM Modi per-As the rainfail, FM Moor per-formed puja at the Sangam Nose and later at the revered Akshayavat, offering prayers and performing rituals to invoke divine grace.

He bowed before the sacred tree, performed 'Pradakshina,' and lit a ceremonial lamp for positive energy

PM Modi also reviewed the corridor development projects around Akshayavat to ensure smooth and accessible visits for millions of devotees expected during Maha Kumbh 2025. Akshayavat is revered as the embodiment of Lord Vishnu's Veni Madhav, the protector deity of Prayagraj. It is believed to house the presence of Lord Brahma, Vishnu, and Shiva, making it a powerful spiritual

centre. vavat Corridor dev The Ak opment, led by PM Modi's vision and implemented by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, is set to enhance accessibility for pilgrims. During his visit, PM Modi offered prayers at the Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj, the con- PM Modi also offered Akshat, fluence of the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers, ahead of traditional clothing during the



will take place from January 13 nied by Chief Minister Yogi special ceremony at a pandal was adorned with mango leaves, sought their blessings for the Acharya Devendra Singh mbh and the nation's holistic development.

Shastr

### Multi-lingual AI chatbot to assist visitors Mahakumbh Nagar (PNS):As the countdown begins for the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025 in

Prayagraj (Uttar Pradesh), the government on Friday launched an AI-powered chatbot equipped with multi-lingual capability to assist pilgrims and visitors.

Launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the initiative is a part of the "Digital Mahakumbh" vision.

AI chatbot Kumbh Sah'AI'yak will provide real-time, uninterrupted responses, and serve as a free 24/7 guide, offering nav-igation assistance, and cus-tomised cultural insights.

Developed by the Prayagraj Mela Authority and UPDE-SCO, the Kumbh Sah'AI'yak app is hosted on open-source LLM provided by Ola's Krutrim. It supports Hindi, English, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Malayalam, Urdu, Gujarati, Punjabi, Kannada and Bengali. "The platform allows the pilgrims to easily navigate the Mela area, offering guidance on various topics suc as the histo ry, rituals, and significance of Maha Kumbh, travel and accommodation options, and kev attractions around Pravagrai. "Additionally, with strong security measures in place to ensure privacy and prevent misinfor-mation, the chatbot offers a seamless, safe, and enriching experience for all attendees," statement by Ola Krutrim said.

The prime minister performed aarti at the Triveni, seeking

blessings for global welfare and harmony. The rituals were conducted by 'Tirth Purohits,' with Vedic mantras resonating in the background.

Chandan, Roli, flowers, and the Maha Kumbh festival, which ceremony, which was accompa-

Anandiben Patel. PM Modi arrived at the Sangam Nose via the Nishadrai Cruise and was warmly received by PM Modi conducted the sacred CM Yogi and Governor Patel. He took a brief stroll on the cruise, admiring the Yamuna River, before interacting with

Kalash, a vessel crafted from Ashtadhatu and studded with saints and receiving a pearl garland as a blessing. The prime precious gems. The Kumbh Kalash, symbolising the sanctity of the Kumbh, minister then participated in a

performed rituals, including materials like Gangajal and Jalabhishek' and 'Dudhbhishek', Panchratna. followed by the Sangam Aarti. PM Modi's visit to Mahakumbh In addition to the Triveni Pujan,

Nagar marked the beginning of preparations for the grand event, which is expected to 'Kumbhabhishek' of the Kumbh draw millions of devotees. Prior to the rituals, PM Modi

met prominent saints from across India, including representatives from 13 Akharas. He

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath facilitated the interactions, ensuring that the prime minister connected personally with the saints.

Mahant Jamuna Puri of Shri Panchayati Akhara Maha Nirvani shared that PM Modi asked for their blessings, while

Akhara Nirmal remarked that the saints supported the prime minister's efforts for the grand success of the event. PM Modi's visit underscored the significance of the Maha Kumbh as not only a spiritual event but also a testament to India's rich cultural heritage

and leadership in promoting

### **Power employees, engineers observe** nationwide 'Anti-Privatisation Day'

#### PNS LUCKNOW

 $O^n_{C \ o \ o \ r \ d \ i \ n \ a \ t \ i \ o \ n}$ Committee of Electricity Employees and Engineers (NCCOEEE), all the power employees and engineers of the power utilities across the Privatisation Day' on Friday and held meetings in all the districts and projects.

chairman Federation Shailendra Dubey accused the Uttar Pradesh Power Corporation management of misleading the employees and creating an atmosphere of fear and industrial unrest in the energy corporations.

agement releases the draft RFP document before starting the bidding process, the dangers of privatisation will automatically be revealed and the scam behind privatisation will be exposed.

They warned that if the man-

NCCOEEE has warned that country observed 'Anti- as soon as the bidding documents for privatisation in Uttar Pradesh are released, lakhs of power employees All India Power Engineers will be forced to take to the streets. Dubey said that if any attempt is made to hand over the electricity department of Chandigarh to a private company, there would be a sharp reaction, and the power employees would take to the streets across the country.

Describing privatisation as a big scam, he said that assets worth billions of rupees were being sold at throwaway prices. The conspiracy to sell would not be allowed to succeed, he said, adding, "Chandigarh's electricity

assets worth Rs 22,000 crore are being given to a private company for just Rs 871 crore.

Protest meetings were held in all the districts and projects, including Lucknow, the cap-Dubey said that the power employees and engineers of

Uttar Pradesh are continuously engaged in improving the electricity system and making the OTS scheme,

starting from December 15, successful.

"However, it is not known why the UP Power Corporation management has decided to privatise power distribution companies covering 42 districts of the state," he pointed out. He asked on what basis the undoubtedly valuable land of Purvanchal Vidyut Vitran Nigam and Dakshinanchal

Vidyut Vitran Nigam, worth billions of rupees, would be handed over to private entities for just one rupee.

"This is a public asset. Due to all these issues, power employees and consumers are very upset and agitated," Dubey said.



E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable assets under the securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial assets an Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 Read with Proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002.

global peace.

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovabl property mortgaged/charged to the secured creditor, the constructive possession of which has been taken by the authorized officer of Union Bank of India (Secured Creditor), will be sold on "As is Where is," "As is What is," and "Whatever there is" on the date mentioned below, for recovery of dues as mentioned hereunder to Union Bank of India from the below mentioned Borrower(s) & Guarantor(s). The Reserve Price & the Earnesi Money Deposit or also mentioned hereunder.

Branch Name : Sadar Bazar, Jhansi • Address : 341-G, Sadar Bazar, Jhansi, Branch Head : Shri Naresh Ratnakar • Mob. : 950684912

Borrower : Shri Mokam Singh S/o Shri Veeran Singh, R/o : 31, Village Lakara-Bhojla, Distt. Jhansi. Guarantor : Shri Bhanu Pratap Singh S/o Shr Veeran Singh, R/o : 31, Village Lakara-Bhojla, Distt. Jhansi. O/s Amount as per Demand Notice : **Rs. 15,46,730.00** + Intt. + Other Charges Property : Plot No. C-7, Situated at Mauza Shiv Parivar Colony, Outside Unnao Gate, Distt. Jhansi. Owner of Property : Shri Mokam Singh S/o Shri /eeran Singh, Area: 167.17 Sq. Mtr., Bounded: North-9 Mtr. Road, South: Plot No. C-27 & C-28, East-Plot No. C-8, West: Plot No. C-6 Date & Time of E-Auction : 31-12-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price : Rs. 49,50,000/-, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 4,95,000/-. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the ink provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Borrower : Shri Subhash Chand S/o Shri Deep Chand & Smt. Rama Devi W/o Shri Subhash Chand and Shri Deep Chand S/o Shri Lala Ram, All R/o: 58, Idgah, Pulia No. 9, Near Power House, Tehsil & Distt. Jhansi. O/s Amount as per Demand Notice : Rs. 9, 30, 387.70 + Intt. + Other Charges Property : Residential House No., 58, Idgah, Pulia No. 9, Distt. Jhansi. Owner of Property : Shri Deep Chand S/o Shri Lala Ram, Area : 61.68 Sq.Mtr., Bounded : North-Rasta 5 Ft., South : House of Ram Swaroop Kansoria, East-Kachha Rasta 10 Mtr., West : Rasta 5 Ft. Date & Time of E-Auction : 31-12-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price : Rs. 11,16,000/-, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 1,11,600/-, For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link, provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

Borrower : Shri Jitendra Parihar S/o Shri Babu Lal, R/o : 381, Ekta Public School, Bhatta Gaon, Near Nala (Govt. Toilet) Jhansi. Guarantor : Shr Rajkumar S/o Shri Ghan Shyam, R/o: 307, Outside Sayanar Gate, Jhansi

O/s Amount as per Demand Notice : Rs. 4,41,050.37 + Intt. + Other Charges

Property :Land & Building situated at Ward No. 4, Mauza Talpura Abadi, Bhatta Gaon, Jhansi. Owner of Property : Shri Jitendra Parihar S/o Shr Babu Lal, Area : 754 Sq. Ft., Bounded : North- Plot Seller, South : Rasta, East- Plot Smt. Rani, West : Rasta. Date & Time of E-Auction : 31-12-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price : Rs. 6,78,000/-, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 67,800/-, For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

#### Branch Name : Nagar Nigam Jhansi • Address : Nagar Nigam Premises, Jhansi, Branch Head : Shri Shivam Gupta • Mob. : 993515704

Borrower : Shri Shrif Bux S/o Mohd. Haneef & Smt. Nargis W/o Shri Sharif Bux and Mohd. Haneef S/o Shri Raheem Bux, All R/o : 111/1, Singara Bhatta Gaon, Jhansi. Guarantor : Shri Suheb Khan S/o Shri Rasool Khan, R/o : 1/8, PWD Colony, Jhansi.

O/s Amount as per Demand Notice : Rs. 10,23,541.80 + Intt. + Other Charges

Property : Residential House situated at Part of Arazi No. 6, Mauza Singara, Bhatta Gaon, Distt. Jhansi. Owner of Property : Smt. Nargis W/o Shr Sharif Bux. Area: 1344 So. Ft., Bounded: North-Road, 15 Ft., South: Land of Ajeet, East-Plot of Mohd. Sahfeeg, West: Plot of Seller. Date & Time of E-Auction : 31-12-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price : Rs. 17,44,200/-, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 1,74,420/-. For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

### Branch Name : Jhansi Main, Jhansi • Address : Elite Chauraha, Civil Lines, Jhansi, Branch Head : Shri Shiv Sen • Mob. : 9649578999

Borrower : Mohd. Igbal S/o Mohd. Ismail and Mohd. Ismail S/o Shri Dulle Khan, Both R/o ; 1045, Out Side Datia Gate, (Out Side Ali Goal) Distt Jhansi. Guarantor: Mohd. Kamal R/o: 1062/1-A, Out Side Datia Gate, Distt. Jhansi.

O/s Amount as per Demand Notice : Rs. 15,30,089.80 + Intt. + Other Expenses

Property : Residential House situated at Arazi No. 3531, Mauza Jhasi Khas Abadi Out Side Datia Gate, (Out Side Ali Gola Khidki) Tehsil & Distt Jhansi. Owner of Property: Nobal Sinai So Shi Dulle Khan. Area: 1247 90, Ft., Bounded : North-PlotAsif, South: PlotAnwar, East-Plot of Hafiz Akhtar, West: Rasta 23 Ft., Date & Time of E-Auction: 31-12-2024 at 11.00 am to 4.00 pm

Reserve Price : Rs. 12,96,000/-, Earnest Money to be deposited Rs. 1,29,600/-, For detailed terms and condition of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in// english/TendelViewAllAuction.aspx

For Registration and Login and Bidding Rules visit https://ebkray.in							
Date : 13-12-2024	Place : Jhansi	Authorized Officer, Union Bank of India					

### A ray of hope for dependents of divyang home guards

mark move prioritising public welfare, the Uttar Pradesh government has lifted the ban on the appointment of the dependents of divyang home guards (permanently disabled), ensuring financial stability for affected families. This move has brought a ray of hope to families who had been waiting for such appointments for a long time, an official statement said. To ensure transparency and fairness in the appointment process, the government has introduced a clear and multitiered investigation system. The appointment process will

Lucknow (PNS): In a land- now involve thorough scrutiny introduced a new system to and recommendations at various stages, starting from the district level and extending up to the Directorate General of Home Guards office. Through this initiative, the Yogi government aims to provide economic security to the families of permanently disabled home guards. Once again, the administration has demonstrated its commitment to prioritising public welfare and addressing issues that impact people's lives, the statement added. Under the directives of Chief

Minister Yogi Adityanath, the Home Guard Department has at the headquarters, including

ensure a fair and transparent process for verifying applications and appointing eligible dependents. The process will be conducted in four stages, according to the statement. In the first stage, applications will be reviewed by a districtlevel committee led by the chief medical officer (CMO). Once approved, the district committee will forward the application to the district commandant, who will send it to the Directorate General of

Home Guards office.

senior officials from the medical department, will conduct an in-depth review of all details. Based on the recommendations of the Directorate General's committee, the final decision on the appointment will be made.

Over the past few years, more than 250 cases of dependents seeking appointments were left pending due to a ban on recruitment, causing these families significant financial and emotional distress.

With this new initiative by the Yogi government, these longpending cases are now set to be addressed as a priority.

ital of Uttar Pradesh.

### state 04



## Varanasi maintains first position in UP by making Ayushman cards of 35,735 elderly

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

 $T^{he \ work \ of \ making}_{Ayushman \ cards \ of \ the}$  elderly above 70 years in the district is going on continuous-ly since November 4. District Varanasi is continuously at the first place in the state by making Ayushman cards of 35,735 elderly till Friday, Chief Medical Officer (CMO) Dr Sandeep Chaudhary said. He said Ayushman card holders can avail free treatment facility of up to Rs 5 lakh under this scheme by getting admitted in any registered hospital.

"To make health services available to all senior citizens, the government is paying special attention to Avushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, under this, Ayushman cards of elderly above 70 years are being made, it is the intention of the government that everyone should get the best ple can get the benefit.



The Ayushman cards of elderly being made in Varanasi

Apart from this, he further said health services", he said. informing that such camps such elderly people can now get their Ayushman card made will continue to be organised in through self-registration the coming days, so that maximum number of elderly peothrough Ayushman App or through Panchayat Sahayaks,

and ASHA workers in Panchayat Secretariats or Ayushman Arogya Mandirs. Additional Chief Medical Officer (ACMO) and Nodal Officer Dr SS Kanaujia informed that 25,560 patients have been treated under this scheme in the last one month "From September 23, 2018, till now, 3,55,570 patients have been treated under this scheme in which 1,01,219 patients have been treated in government hospitals and 2,54,351 in private hospitals", he said, adding that apart from this, 702 patients have been treated in LBS Hospital Ramnagar, 1,311 in SSPG Kabirchaura, 1,555 in Pt Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital, 3,298 at FRU Cholapur, 2,008 at CHC Narpatpur, 1,945 at CHC Hathi Bazaar and 1,689 at CHC Araziline.

Ayushman Mitras, Janseva Kendras or CHOs, Kotdars

### Prayers offered on KVC foundation day

On the third foundation day of Shri Kashi Vishwanath Dham, popularly known as Kashi Vishwanath Corridor (KVC), the activists of Namami Gange, along with the Vedapathi batuks (Sanskrit students) of Maharishi Yogi Ved Vigyan Adhyayan Peeth and the general public, performed the 'aarti' of Kashi Vishwanath and Maa Ganga from Gangadwar here on Friday.

They prayed for the prosperi-ty of the nation. After reciting the Dwadasa Jyotirlingas from the new Gangadwar, Lord Vishwanath was paid obei-sance. 'Om Jai Shiv Omkara' echoed all around in KVC. They also sought the blessings of the Almighty for purification of Ganga river and environ-mental protection. The Vedapathi students and Namami Gange volunteers cleaned the banks of Gangadwar.

On the divine occasion of Sanatani culture, Regional coordinator of Namami Gange (Kashi) and Varanasi



Namami Gange activists performing aarti on the third foundation day of KVC in Varanasi on Friday

Municipal Corporation (VMC) cleanliness brand ambassador Rajesh Shukla said Kashi is 'Dev Bhoomi' and 'Moksha Sthal' which has the essence of dedication, sanskar and culture. Lord Vishwanath is the centre of worship not only in Kashi but in the whole world. "Baba Vishwanath, the chief among Dwadasa (12) the Jyotirlingas, has been seated on the banks of the Ganga in Kashi since time immemorial. The grand, new and divine Shri Kashi Vishwanath Dham

is attracting and mesmerising with cultural divinity today. Baba's divine court is delighting the body and mind", he added.

According to the beliefs of Sanatan Dharma, Shukla said, Kashi is considered as a big pilgrimage between earth and heaven. "Along with the comheaven. Along with the com-mon people, gods, goddesses and great men have also been coming to this holy land filled with devotion. Today, the economic picture of Banaras has changed due to

Shri Kashi Vishwanath Dham which has also worked to bind the followers of Sanatan Dharma in one thread. Today, we, the people of Kashi, under the leadership of the country's illustrious Prime Minister Narendra Modi, can say.....come and see the city", he said. Prominent participants in the event who were also present were Maharishi Yogi Veda Vigyan Adhyayan Peeth incharge Seemant Swai, manager Sunil Shrivastava and Vedpathi batuks.

### **Patient kitchen inaugurated in BHU Trauma Centre**

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANAS

Mahant Shankar Puri of Annapurna Temple, along with Mayor Ashok Tiwari, District Magistrate (DM) S Rajalingam, Rector of Banaras Hindu University (BHU) Prof Sanjay Kumar and Director of Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS-BHU) Prof SN Shankhwar inaugurated the Patient Kitchen and Dietary Service as well as Mahant of Annapurna Temple Shankar Puri Ayush Vatika in BHU Trauma inaugurating patient kitchen in BHU Centre here on Friday. In the Trauma Centre in Varanasi on Friday. Patient Kitchen, nutritious food and service will be provided free. Mayor Ashok Tiwari and District Magistrate S Rajalingam distributed food to the patients and enquired about their wellbeing. They also wished the admitted patients a speedy recovery.

Earlier, UP Minister of State



agency present on the spot, he (Independent Charge) for Stamp said the works for which foundaand Court Registration Fees tion stone has been laid should be Ravindra Jaiswal on Thursday completed soon with quality by running a campaign on a war laid the foundation stone for footing. Negligence at any level construction works to be done at a total cost of Rs 2.37 crore. It will not be tolerated, the Minister includes restoration of tiles on added. Commissioner of Police (CP) Mohit Agarwal, Vice Chairman of Varanasi both sides of Stadium Road and Park Road on the service lane

behind MIG (42 flats) built Development Authority (VDA) under the housing scheme in Ward Shivpur under City North Pulkit Garg, Arvind Singh, Ratan Maurya, corporator Ashok Maurya, Sandeep Raghuvanshi, assembly constituency, costing approximately ₹ 44 lakh, road construction near plot D-74 Baliram Kannaujiya, Rohit Mishra, Vinay Sadeja and others located at Gautam Garden were also present. Colony bypass in Ward Tarana costing approximately ₹5.5 lakh and strengthening of link roads and construction of RCC drains

TALK: An interactive talk on 'Journey of Life: Know Thyself' was organised for students by the Psychological Counsellors of Well being Service Cell (WBSC), Banaras Hindu University (BHU) on Thursday. Chief Medical Officer at Health Centre, SV National Institute of Technology, Surat, Dr Sanjay Shah addressed the participants on the importance of social, mental and spiritual well-being. He articulated the challenges of life, building meaningful social connections and finding inner peace through spirituality practices.

### DAV College's degree distribution ceremony on Dec 16

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

The degree distribution ceremony of DAV PG College, affiliated to Banaras Hindu University (BHU, will be held on December 16 in the auditorium of Malviya Moolya Anushilan Kendra (MMAK) in BHU premises. In the ceremony, degrees will be distributed to a total of 1,061 graduate and post-gradu-ate students of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce faculties of DAV PG College. Giving this information here on Friday, the acting principal of the college, Prof Mishrilal said the degree distribution ceremonies are being organised separately under the convocation ceremony in the colleges affiliated to BHU. In the inaugural session of this ceremo-

ny, Vice-Chancellor of South Bihar Central University, Gaya, Prof Kameshwar Nath Singh will be present as the chief guest while BHU Rector Prof Sanjay Kumar will preside over the function. Commerce Faculty Dean of

BHU Prof HK Singh will be present as the special guest, informed Prof Mishrilal, adding that the degree distribution programme will be organised in three different sessions, in which BHU's Social Sciences Faculty Dean Prof Binda Dattatreya Paranjape and Arts Faculty Dean Prof Maya Shankar Pandey will be present along with various department heads. Prof Mishrilal said all preparations for the ceremony have been completed, department-wise committees have been formed and responsibilities have been assigned to everyone. From degree distribution to stage decoration, seating arrangements, refreshments and food arrangements, souvenir publication, turban and *uttariya* distribution, work is being done by forming committees. Ceremony coordinator Prof Satyagopal said that students are showing great enthusiasm to receive the degrees and so far, more than 800 out of 1,061 students have also registered online to receive turbans and uttariyas.

**EVENT:** Senior scientists working with the Centre for Genetic Disorders, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) Dr Chandana Basu and Dr Garima Jain inspired 125 girl students (class VIII-XI) of Central Hindu Girls School (CHGS) here on Thursday. The event aimed at empowering girls of classes VIII to XI and ignite their passion for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) fields. The interactive session began with Olivia Majhi, who introduced students to various science career opportunities and provided guidance on shaping career paths, followed by a career planning activity and quiz. This was followed by Tanya Tibrewal and Dr Archana Tiwari who discussed their career journeys in the fields of archaeology and Physics. Students got an opportunity to ask questions from these experts. The most exciting part was the hands-on STEM workshop where they got to cre-ate animal or plant cell through their creativity using coloured clay.

### Kanpur Metro successfully installs third rail system on both tracks of corridor-1

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE KANPUR

 $T^{\rm he\,Kanpur\,Metro\,has\,successful}_{\rm ly\,completed\,the\,installation\,of\,the}$ third rail system on both tracks of corridor-1 (IIT-Naubasta) from Motijheel to Kanpur Central Station. The third rail installation was carried out concurrently with the track construction. Recently, track construction work was completed over a 1,500-metre stretch from Nayaganj to Kanpur Central and on Thursday, the installation of the third rail on this stretch was finalised. With this the tracks from IIT to Kanpur Central Station are now fully constructed and the third rail is in place to power the trains. In the third rail system, a third rail is laid parallel to the track, replacing the traditional overhead equipment (OHE) system. Kanpur Metro trains operate on 750 volts DC current, drawing power from this Third Rail. This system requires less maintenance since, unlike OHE, it is less prone to power interruptions caused by external factors like kite flying. Additionally, the third rail system



in Police Lines premises under Ward Dithori Mahal at a cost of

₹1.92 crore. While directing the

engineers of the implementing

Varanasi

### Man meets tragic end PIONEER NEWS SERVICE PRAYAGRAJ

A 50-year-old man died after being hit by a speeding mobike-borne youth in Mahuwakothi under Utraon police station area late on Thursday night. Police took the body into possession and sent it for post-mortem examination. The family members of the middle-aged man are inconsolable over his death. Ramrai Patel had opened a bicycle shop in Mahuwakothi market. He used to earn his living by repairing punctures at the shop. He was ng the shop and going home when the speeding motorcycle coming from Phulpur hit Ramraj hard. In the accident Ramraj fell on the road bleeding profusely. The bike rider fled leav-ing the motorcycle behind. The family members rushed him to a private hospital where in view of his critical condition, the doctors referred him to the district hospital. The doctors in the district hospital declared him dead. The middle-aged man was unmarried. He was the eldest of the three brothers. Police took the body into possession and sent it for postmortem exami-nation. Sub-Inspector (S-I) Rohit Kanujiya of Utraon Police station said younger brother Rammilan has filed a case against the bike driver. The police have taken the bike in their possession and are investigating the matter. Meanwhile a Divyang couple was assaulted by some goons over a land dispute in Atraura village under Utraon police station area here on Firday. The couple filed a written complaint

against the goons. Police have registered a case

against three accused and are investigating it.

### **Commercial operation of first unit of NUPPL at Ghatampur inaugurated**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE KANPUR

Anairman and Managing Director, NLCIL, Prasanna Kumar Motupalli, inaugurated the commercial operation of the first unit of the newly constructed 3660 MW Nevvel



eliminates the need for visible electrical wiring, contributing to a cleaner and more aesthetically pleasing urban infrastructure.

Speaking on the occasion, Managing Director of Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation Limited, Sushil Kumar, said, "Kanpur Metro has successfully completed the installation of the third rail system from Motijheel to Kanpur Central Station, following the track construction, marking a

significant achievement. The installation of signalling and telecom systems on certain sections of this pleted shortly. The Kanpur Metro team remains dedicated to expanding passenger service from IIT to Kanpur Central. We are confident that the construction work on corridors 1 and 2 will progress as planned, and all construction will be completed on schedule."

Uttar Pradesh Power Limited (NUPPL) at Ghatampur tehsil, Kanpur, by cutting a cake at midnight on Thursday. After this the process of power generation and distribution of NUPPL was started. Speaking on the occasion, Motupalli congratulated all NUPPL employees and contract workers working in this project and appreciated their contribution. He said the success of commercial operation of the first unit will prove to be a mile-stone in the future. He expressed gratitude to the villagers around the plant for their cooperation such as land allocation etc. He also thanked the district administration for its cooperation in this project.

He appreciated and thanked the business partner companies working in the project such as L&T, GE Power System, BGR Energy System, RITES Pvt Ltd, Power Make Project Ltd. as well as the multinational companies of the country for their cooperation and contribution as well

as various small companies working in the project. He instructed all NUPPL employees to start the second and third units soon. He congratulated all the contract employees for this success outside the administrative building and distributed sweets to all the contract employees.

### Cultural programme showcases rich heritage & achievements of KVS



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE 📕 KANPUR

 $T_{\rm (KVS)\,Foundation\,\,Day\,\,was\,\,celebrat}^{\rm he\,\,Kendriya\,\,Vidyalaya\,\,Sangathan}$ ed with great enthusiasm at Kendriya Vidyalaya IIT Kanpur on Friday. The event was graced by chief guest Anish Upadhyay, Professor, IIT Kanpur and Nominee Chairman of VMC, KV IIT Kanpur and guest of honour Sudeep Bajpai ex- principal of various eminent KVs. Naresh Chaudhary, Bhupinder singh and Snehlata Sharma, illustrious alumni of KV IIT Kanpur also attended the celebration. Principal KV IIT Kanpur, Ravish Chandra Pandey, welcomed the esteemed guests. The ceremonv commenced with the lighting of the lamp, followed by a soulful rendition of the Kendriya Vidyalaya Geet by the students. The highlight of the event was the cultural programme, which showcased the rich heritage and achievements of KVS through the theme 'Journey of KVS'. The students depicted the evolution and advancements of KVS, emphasising its inclusion of various activities to keep pace with changing times. Chief guest

Anish Upadhyay shared nostalgic mem-ories of his school days, while the other alumni praised the students' perforalumni praised the students perior-mances and lauded the Vidyalaya for its role in shaping future leaders. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Priyanka Tiwari, PGT English. INAUGURATED: The two-day 'green

carnival' started at the Unnati Lawn, Tilak Nagar, here on Friday. District Magistrate Rakesh Kumar Singh inaugurated the carnival by lighting the ceremonial lamp. Speaking on the occasion, Preeting Singh of Green Fingers said this fund-raising charity event for non-profit organisations in Kanpur provides a unique opportunity for its people to celebrate art, culture and sustainable living, featuring workshops, competitions, cultural performances and live music. On the inaugural day, the art competition aimed at celebrating the creativity of young artists. The photography contest come and shoot was organised to explore and capture the essence of the carnival. In the clay modelling workshop by Sonali Bakshi (Lucknow), visitors took part in free demo session on crafting clay huts and tea light holders. Rashmi Vaid of Lucknow organised a gardening work-shop to provide information to create tray gardens using bricks and greens and plant arrangements over rocks. Dr Shefali Raj said the valedictory event will be graced by the MP Ramesh Awasthi on Saturday when a prize distribution ceremony will also take place.



Newly-appointed office-bearers of SBSP garlanding statue of Raja Suheldev at Sarnath in Varanasi on Friday.

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE VARANASI

The Suheldev Bharatiya Samaj Party (SBSP) workers garlanded the newly-appointed office-bearers of the party at Suheldev Rajbhar Park in Sarnath after welcoming the former national vice-president Dr Baliraj Rajbhar here on Friday. Jageshwar Rajbhar has become the new city chief of the party. On the instructions of national SBSP president and UP Cabinet Minister Om Prakash Rajbhar, former UP Minister of State and national chief general secretary of the party Dr Arvind Rajbhar announced the office-bearers of the state, Purvanchal and Varanasi city committees. Chandan Vishwakarma of Varanasi has been given the responsibility of state general secretary. Jageshwar Rajbhar has been appointed as city president, Pramod Mahajan as state vice president of Purvanchal, Virendra Rajbhar as divisional vice-president of Varanasi, Harsh Rajbhar as state vice- president (Youth Forum), Ramsurat Rajbhar as district vice-president, Anuj Kumar Singh as district vice president and Ravindra Rajbhar as district general secretary.

### **CSJMU** students excel in **Smart India Hackathon**

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE 📕 KANPUR

The students of Chhatrapati Shahu Ji I Maharaj University (CSJMU), Kanpur, excelled in Smart India Hackathon (SIH) held in Hyderabad. They emerged winners among the par-ticipants of leading technical institutions of the country. Six-member UIET team comprised of Nav Srijan (team leader), Anuja Verma, Naman Singh, Suryansh Gupta, Nikhil Singh, Aditya Pratap. Vice-Chancellor Prof Vinay Kumar Pathak congratulated the winning students and called it a proud moment for the university. Prof Pathak said the students of the university are earning name in every sector. This achievement of the students in SIH will also inspire other students to move forward.

In the final of this hackathon organised at Vardhman College of Engineering, Hyderabad, the team of CSJM university secured the first place, in which IIIT Kota, Amity University Jalandhar, IIIT Vadodara, OP Jindal University, Shri Vaishnav Vidyapeeth Indore also participated. The team of CSJM University left behind all the institutions and won in this category. The team of the univer-sity named Syntax Weavers won the task given by the Ministry of Earth Sciences. Sanjay Singh, coordinator of

SIH in CSJM University said in this event, the winning team was awarded a prize of ₹1 lakh and a trophy. In the hackathon, every team is given a problem statement, which the team members solve and move forward in their category. For each problem statement, five teams are selected for the grand finale. One team can be nominated for the problem statement from each institute. The registration of teams had started from August 26 during which total 56 teams got registered in CSJM University. Out of which 34 teams were nominated for the national event. Out of these 34 teams, the team of Syntax Weavers made it to the finals and won in their category. Sanjay Singh said before the main event, a hackathon was also organised at CSJM University on September 19 and 20 at the internal level.

Smart India Hackathon (SIH) is a major nationwide initiative, organised by the Innovation Cell of the Ministry of Education and AICTE, aimed at engaging students in solving some of the most critical challenges faced in everyday life. Launched to promote a culture of innovation and practical problem-solving, SIH provides a dynamic platform for students to develop and showcase their cre-ative solutions to real-world problems. By encouraging participants to think crit-ically and innovatively, the hackathon aims to bridge the gap between acade-mic knowledge and practical application. **PANIC:** Panic prevailed at the city police commissioner's office on Friday afternoon when a couple made a futile attempt to immolate themselves by pouring petrol on themselves. They were immediately taken into custody by the cops present there. The couple said their daughter had been kidnapped by the goons and they suspected that after kidnapping her she had been murdered. Rakesh Dubey of Uttaripura, Bilhaur, said on August 31 his daughter had gone to perform 'deepdaan' at the Saraiya Ghat, Khereshwar temple and went missing from there. He had lodged a missing report with the police in this connection. During checking of CCTV footages, police saw her coming out of the temple and going somewhere on e-rickshaw which was being followed by a black Scorpio. He alleged that Scorpio-borne miscreants had kidnapped his daughter and murdered her. The Bilhaur police had caught the the Difficult police had caught the accused and freed them after quizzing them. The couple was produced before the police commissioner Akhil Kumar. The commissioner set up a probe in the matter and asked the Bilhaur station house officer (SHO) to submit a full report of the case soon. The probe was assigned to the ACP concerned

### nation 05



# Indian forces going to all patrolling points in Depsang: Jaishankar

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said on Friday that security forces would be going to all patrolling points in Depsang in Ladakh and also to the eastward limit which are historically been India's patrolling limit. He said in Lock Sabha that the last of the disengagement agreement with China was related to Depsang and Demchok.

"I want to convey that it was mentioned in my (previous) statement (in Parliament) that the understanding envisaged that Indian security forces would be going to all patrolling points in Depsang, and would be going to the eastward limit which are historically been our patrolling limit in that part," he said during Question Hour. The minister said in the same

statement, he has made it clear that India had disen- that with me," he said.

gagement agreements with China in the past too.

"Those disengagement agreements also had certain provisions where both sides on a temporary basis had agreed to put certain restraint on themselves. So I think the position is very clear in that statement. I would urge the honourable member to read that

statement again," he said reply-ing to a supplementary ques-tion on India-China boundary agreement. Replying to a question on a picture of Nepal currency that allegedly showed a part of Indian territory as its own, Jaishankar said India's position

regarding the border is very clear. He said if any of India's neighbours thinks that by doing something they want to change India's position, they should be very clear that it is not going to happen. "I think the entire House is clear on



On Myanmar, the minister said because of the very disturbed conditions' in Myanmar, India had to review the Free Movement Regime (FMR), which allows people residing close to the India-Myanmar border to venture 16 km into each other's territory without any documents. He, however, said the govern-

ment is sensitive to the requirements of the border communities and is working something on that.

Jaishankar said part of the challenge along Myanmar bor-der is that there is very little government authority on the other side of the border and whatever is required to do, India itself has to do on its own

"But today definitely there is much greater presence there to secure our border, to monitor people across the border," he said.

On a question on India's "That is not my nature to neighbourhood first policy, make foreign policy partisan.

Jaishankar said before Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Nepal, there was no visit by any Prime Minister to Nepal for 17 years but that did not mean that nobody in India cared for Nepal. Similarly in case of Sri Lanka,

before Modi visited the country, for 30 years, there was no bilateral visit, he said.

The minister said with regards to Maldives under the current government, the Addu Link Road and Reclamation Project, which was funded by India, was inaugurated and he him-self was present. "By the way, the President of Maldives was present at the oath taking ceremony of this new government," he said. Jaishankar said if an opposi-

tion member desires to somehow show the foreign policy of this government in bad light for political purposes, that is the member's privilege.

return home from Syria evacuated: MEA

All Indian nationals who wished to

But I would like to remind the member through you that the very Maldives which he was talking about was, Indian companies were driven out from there from an important project in 2012.

"In same Sri Lanka, Hambanthota was built by China in 2008. The same Bangladesh was giving support to terrorists till 2014. The same Myanmar was hosting Indian

insurgent groups," he said. The minister said for carrying out development projects, both India and the country concerned need to cooperate. "If we look today at the number of projects, the volumes of trade, the exchanges which are taking place, I think the answer is very clear. Now, our neighbours also have their politics. They have ups and down in their countries. There are some implications on us. Relations are important. We are mature. We don't get into point score," he said.

### **UP court summons Rahul Gandhi over remarks against Savarkar**



#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

local court here on Friday Asummoned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on January 10, 2025, to face trial for allegedly promoting enmity and disturb-ing harmony among people by making mischievous statements about freedom fighter Vinayak Damodar Savarkar. Additional Chief Judicial

Magistrate (ACJM) Alok Verma passed the order on a criminal complaint filed by local lawyer Nripendra Pandey.

The court found that prima facie offences under sections 153(a) (promoting enmity between different groups) and 505 (statements conducing to public mischief) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) were made out against Gandhi, also the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha.

The ACJM rejected the complaint on June 14, 2023, but the revisional court set aside the rejection order on October 3, 2024, and remanded the matter to the ACJM for passing a fresh order based on the material that

of health insurance schemes,

both public and private, to

cover TB diagnosis, treat-

ment and rehabilitation will

had come on record in the complaint and statements of witnesses.

In the inquiry, police confirmed that Gandhi made the "objectionable" statement against Savarkar in Maharashtra and it was broadcast on television and other communication mediums.

The complaint in the case states that at a press conference dur-ing his Bharat Jodo Yatra in Akola, Maharashtra on November 17, 2022, Gandhi made serious remarks against Savarkar that spread communal disharmony, according to the order.

The complainant alleged that Gandhi called Savarkar "a servant of the British who received a pension from them" and distributed pamphlets to mediapersons to tarnish his image. Passing the summoning order, the court observed, "The material presented demonstrates that Gandhi's remarks, broadcast nationwide via TV and social media, were intended to spread

hatred and enmity, undermining the nation's unity".

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

India has evacuated from Syria all its nationals who wished to return home after rebel forces overthrew President Bashar Assad's authoritarian government in the Arab nation.

The Syrian government collapsed on Sunday as the rebels seized control of capital Damascus after capturing several other prominent cities and towns. India evacuated its nationals from Syria on Tuesday. "We have evacuated all Indian nationals in Syria who wished to return home following recent developments in that country. So far, 77 Indian nationals from Syria have been evacuated," Ministry of E x t e r n a l Affairs(MEA)spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said on Friday. Our embassy personnel in Damascus accompanied them to the border, after which our mission in Lebanon received them and facilitated their



immigration, he said. He was replying to a question at his weekly media briefing. Jaiswal said the embassy made arrangements for their board-

ing and lodging in Beirut and for their travel back home. 'Most of our nationals have already returned to India and the remaining will be arriving later today or tomorrow," he said

"The 44 Zaireen who were on a pilgrimage to Syria have also left Beirut yesterday to visit other religious sites in the region," Jaiswal added. The Indian Embassy in Syria con-

India on Monday called for a peaceful and inclusive Syrianled political process to bring stability in that country. "We are monitoring the situation in Syria in the light of on-going developments. We underline the need for all parties to work towards preserving the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria," the MEA had said.

tinues to function, he added.

We advocate a peaceful and inclusive Syrian-led political process respecting the interests and aspirations of all sections of Syrian society," it said.

TB continues to impose heavy economic burden on patients in India: ICMR study

income.

Parliamentary Panel seeks higher aid under rural housing scheme as costs soar

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

 $T_{ues\ to\ impose\ a\ heavy}^{uberculosis\ (TB)\ contin-}$ economic burden on patients in India, with nearly 45 per cent incurring catastrophic costs due to lost productivity and hospitalization despite free diagnosis and care under the Government's National **TB** Elimination Programme (NTEP), a recent study by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has revealed.

Many patients, particularly those from lower-income groups and without health insurance, face significant out-of-pocket expenses, it said, noting that notably, hospitalised patients with TB (PwTB) and those notified from the private sector were more likely to incur catastrophic costs.



(ICMR-NIE), in Chennai and

associated with the costs. costs through direct medical,

The study led by researchers from the ICMR-National Institute of Epidemiology

published in the Global Health Research and Policy journal, estimated the costs incurred by 1,407 persons with TB during their care and also identified the factors The team led by Kathiresan Jevashree, a scientist at ICMR-NIE measured total patient non-medical, and indirect costs. Catastrophic costs were health insurance schemes to include persons with TB. "Implementing TB-sensitive strategies to address social defined as expenditures on TB care cost more than 20 per

cent of the annual household determinants of TB may sig-The mean age of the 1407 nificantly reduce catastrophic costs incurred by persons PwTB interviewed was 40.8 (16.8) years. Among them, with TB," Jeyashree said. Expanding the net of coverage

865 (61.5 per cent) were male, and 786 (55.9 per cent) were economically active. Thirtyfour (2.4 per cent) had Drug Resistant TB (DRTB), and

258 (18.3 per cent) had been encourage better health seeking and also reduce financial hospitalized for TB. catastrophe in households of Direct costs accounted for PwTB. "Future costing exer-34 per cent of the total costs. cises may also calculate the TB patients less than 60 years of age, without health insurcosts incurred by patients after declaration of their treatance, and those hospitalised for the condition experienced ment outcome, at least for a higher median costs. About period of two years to capture costs due to physical, social 45 per cent of TB patients experienced catastrophic and economic sequelae of

costs. The study called for enabling early notification of TB, and WHO besides ICMR.

"expanding the coverage of PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

> $\mathbf{A}_{\operatorname{committee}}^{\operatorname{Parliamentary standing}}$ mended the assistance provided under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Gramin (PMAY-G) to be raised from current Rs 1.2 lakhs in keeping with the rising inflation and input costs.

The scheme has been extended till March 2029 with an aim to construct two crore additional homes across the country for the landless people. With rising inflation having a detrimental effect on the cost factor associated with the raw material, transportation cost, labour cost etc, constructing a new house of the requisite area under PMAY-G for poor and needy beneficiaries with such

TB," suggested the researchers assistance amount seems to be an arduous task," said the including those from the Parliamentary Standing

Committee Rural on Development and Panchayati Raj, headed by Congress MP Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka.

It pointed out that the assistance under the scheme had remained stagnant at Rs 1.2 lakh for a considerable period of time, often leading to cases in which the houses remained incomplete. "Housing for All" vision might not achieve its target until the beneficiaries were provided "proper hand-hold-ing" in terms of financial assistance of right value and at the 22 and 29 lakh were yet to be completed.

A target of constructing an additional two crore houses in the next five financial years --2024 to 2029 -- has been approved by the government, the report said.

"The committee finds it utmost necessary that a review of perunit assistance be done on priority basis, particularly when the scheme has been extended to March 2029," the panel said and recommended revision of the per-unit assistance through a suitable hike.

The panel expressed concern over landless beneficiaries getting assistance for land to build their house and, citing Union rural development ministry data, said that of 5,73,311 (5.73 lakh) landless beneficiaries identified under PMAY-G, 59 per cent or 3,60,837 (3.60 lakh) had been provided land for the construction of houses.

President Murmu, PM Modi pay tribute to martyrs of 2001 Parliament attack

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

 $P_{\text{Murmu, Vice President}}^{\text{resident Droupadi}}$ Droupadi Jagdeep Dhankhar and, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday paid tributes to the brave hearts who sacrificed their lives defending Parliament during the 2001 terror attack.

In her tributes, President Murmu said the nation remained deeply grateful to the brave hearts. Reiterating India's unwavering resolve to combat terrorism, she said the nation stood united against the forces of terror.

Terrorists of Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba and Jaish-e-Mohammed attacked the Parliament complex on this day in 2001, killing nine people. All five terrorists were gunned down by the security forces.

'Í pay my humble tribute to the brave hearts who sacrificed their lives defending Samvidhan Sadan. Several

our Parliament on this day in 2001. Their courage and selfless service continue to

inspire us. The nation remains deeply grateful to them and their families," the president said in a social media post. "On this day, I reiterate Îndia's unwavering resolve to combat terrorism. Our nation stands united against the forces of terror," she added.

Vice President Dhankhar, Prime Minister Modi and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, several Union ministers and MPs on Friday paid floral tributes to those who laid down their lives in the 2001 terror attack on Parliament 23 years ago.

president Congress Mallikarjun Kharge, Home Minister Amit Shah, Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju also paid tributes at an event organised outside the old Parliament building -



leaders were seen interacting with kin of those who were killed in the attack.

Central Industrial Security Force(CISF)personnel offered salute or 'salami' at the venue after a which a moment of silence was observed to mark the anniversary. Till last year, the Central Reserve Police Force(CRPF)used to offer salami shastra' (present arms).

The attack was carried out by five armed terrorists but personnel from Parliament Security Service, CRPF and Delhi Police foiled the attack as no terrorist was able to enter the building.

Six Delhi Police personnel, two Parliament Security Service personnel, a gardener and a TV video journalist were killed in the attack. All five terrorists were gunned down in the forecourt of the then Parliament building. The Lok Sabha paid rich tributes to the security personnel who laid down their lives in

foiling a terror attack on courageously repulsing the Parliament on December 13, 2001

right juncture, said the panel in

their report tabled in the Lok

The report also highlighted

that more than two lakh land-

less beneficiaries were still

waiting to get land or assistance

from state governments to con-

struct homes, which might

also cause delay in hitting the

The committee also noted that

against an initial target of 2.95

crore houses to be constructed

by March next year, 2.66 crore

were constructed as on October

Sabha on Thursday.

target.

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla solemnly reiterated the commitment of the Lower House to fight terrorism and pledged to protect the unity, integrity and sovereignty of the nation. "This House and the entire nation solemnly remembers unfortunate incident of December 13, 2001, when

some terrorists attacked India's Parliament, the greatest symbol of our democracy," Birla said as soon as the House convened at 11:00 am.

"Our alert security personnel deployed to ensure security of the Parliament premises displayed extraordinary courage and foiled this attack," he

said. The Lok Sabha speaker said eight personnel from the Parliament Security Service, Delhi Police and the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) laid down their lives while

terror attack. One worker of the Central Public Works Department also laid down his life in the incident, he said. 'This House offers humble tributes to all those who made the supreme sacrifice in protecting Parliament on December 13, 2001," Birla said.

"This House reiterates our commitment to fight terrorism and the pledge to protect the unity, integrity and sovereignty of our mother land," he added. The Lok Sabha members stood in silence for a brief while as a mark of respect to the martyrs. Rajya Sabha also paid tributes to the bravehearts. Prime Minister Modi said in

a social media post "Paid homage to those mar-tyred in the 2001 Parliament attack. Their sacrifice will forever inspire our nation. We remain eternally grateful for their courage and dedication.'

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-PAPER WITH PASSION------

### **One Nation One Election**

India's democratic system is on the verge of a transformative change with the 'One Nation, One Election' initiative

he concept of 'One Nation, One Election' has been a subject of significant debate in India's political discourse. On December 12, 2024, the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved draft legislation to implement simultaneous elections for the Lok Sabha, state assemblies, and local bodies within 100 days. This proposal seeks to streamline India's electoral process, reduce the economic and administrative burden of frequent elections and enhance governance. The 'One Nation, One Election' initiative aims to align the election schedules of the Lok Sabha, state assemblies, municipal corporations and panchayats. The proposed legislation is likely to be introduced in Parliament during the ongoing Winter Session, reflecting the government's intention to initiate nationwide consultations on this transformative reform. The draft legislation incorporates 11 recommendations made by a high-level committee led by former President Ram Nath Kovind. These recommendations aim to address the frequent



disruptions caused by the current staggered election schedule, which is a drain on economic, social, and political resources. One of the primary suggestions involves synchronising the election dates for the Lok Sabha and state assemblies in the first phase, followed by municipal and panchayat elections within 100 days. To ensure smooth execution, a dedicated implementation group will oversee the reforms.

Constitutional amendments, such as the introduction of Articles 324A and 325, are proposed to facilitate simultaneous elections, create unified voter rolls. Elections demand significant financial resources and conducting them simultaneously could reduce costs

related to security, logistics and administrative expenses. Frequent elections also result in prolonged enforcement of the Model Code of Conduct, halting developmental activities, which a unified schedule could minimise. However, implementing this ambitious reform involves substantial logistical and constitutional challenges. Synchronising elections requires amendments to several constitutional articles, including Articles 83, 85, 172, 174, and 356, which must be ratified by a majority of state legislatures. Building political consensus among parties with diverse regional interests is another critical requirement. Furthermore, the Election Commission will need to mobilise resources, including additional EVMs and VVPATs and ensure readiness of polling staff and infrastructure nationwide. Besides, simultaneous elections might overshadow local issues due to the dominance of national narratives, potentially affecting regional representation. Coordinating nationwide elections within a short timeframe also poses logistical challenges. Moreover, synchronising subsequent elections in cases of mid-term dissolutions could create governance gaps, leading to policy paralysis. While the proposal promises efficiency and cost-effectiveness, its implementation demands careful consideration of constitutional, logistical, and political complexities.

# PICTALK

# Unraveling the delicate threads of human interaction



pinion 06

VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

Communication is the lifeblood of human connection, yet it remains one of the most intricate and fragile aspects of our existence

onversation is a delicate business. It is made even more fragile by being central to all human interaction. The more knowledgeable individuals feel that communication is only partially through words. It can also be hrough eyes, through touch, through gestures, and even through silence. The list can go on. This makes communication not only complicated but also sensitive matter. Communication can be with oneself. It can be between two persons, or in groups. It can be a short distance or a long distance. The possibilities are immense.

The pitch of the voice could matter. The eye's movement can be an intervening variable, and sometimes the more wellversed practice cross-communication. It means giving one message through one medium and another through another. In other words, it can be one message through words and another message through the eves

If technology intervenes, it ecomes even more complex. The technological interventions can be through a medium such as a handset, a telephone, or, in some parts, a piece of paper. In the past, pigeons have been known to serve a useful purpose. The permutations and combinations are immense, and each has a value, just as each medium has a context.Like in the case of many essentials in life, there is no primer available and there is no one author who has covered comprehensively all aspects of communication. Hence, much of this is on learning by practice.

Much of this is also learning by grief because in the absence of a proper 'Guru' one can only two people of equal age, learn by trial and error. Many between somebody who is elationships get under strain or break because one meaning is intended, but another meaning gets conveyed. This can sometimes be incomplete or even distorted. Put simply, coding and decoding a message is a complex process and has to



do with many variables, most of which may not be under the control of the parties involved. Hence, it could become like fiddling with wires in the dark. The solutions are not difficult if they are systematically put into operation. In early childhood, when a person is being taught words, it would be helpful if the person is also helped to choose the better word to communicate his ideas. Proper pronunciation should also be taught. If the circumstances

This would help adjustment to different levels of people; people of different ages and from different contexts. The solutions are known just as much as the problems are known

But there is little systematic attempt to put it in a frame and help better communication. It is obvious that communication can be between older and somebody younger, people of the same gender, people of the opposite gender, people with prior antecedents of relationships, and people with no prior antecedents of relationships.

The contexts are huge and almost impossible to exhaustively list. This is not to say that the problem is not solvable or cannot be handled. The usual response when there is a lack of clarity on where to begin, one should begin just somewhere and hope that it runs on satisfactorily. If it is not entirely satisfactory, it can be corrected THE USUAL as one goes along. Being inundated by problems and **RESPONSE WHEN** not beginning at all cannot be the answer. Sometimes a THERE IS A LACK OF simple problem can be so CLARITY ON WHERE elusive that it becomes difficult to structure it for a TO BEGIN, ONE solution. Effective commu-SHOULD BEGIN nication is one such problem JUST SOMEWHERE Any discussion touching on

communication will be AND HOPE incomplete without the realisation, as already noted, THAT IT RUNS that communication is not ON SATISFACTORILY. always with words. There is an oft-repeated quote to the IF IT IS NOT effect of 'if you cannot understand my silence, you ENTIRELY will not understand my SATISFACTORY, IT words'. Interestingly, silence CAN BE

can be between people where one of the limbs that is centrally used in communication, loses its function or becomes unusable. For example, if someone has a problem with listening through one ear, the best course of action would be to help the person concerned restore their hearing through the other ear.

However, this may not always work. So options and support systems have to be generated. Like in many things, psychological factors become very heavily involved, and unfortunately, those who are not capable of deep thought fumble more. There is a case for serious research on all aspects of the communication enumerated above and more research on communication per se, in a scholastic mode, would

help. Till then, one can only hope that the general conversation on communication will alleviate the confusion that sometimes arises on comalso communicates, and munication points. One also hopes that research will help good communication all around. (The writer is a well-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed *are personal)* 

permit bye linguicism or

multi-linguicism can be practiced.



### CORRECTED AS ONE GOES ALONG

there are different types of silence. Often, body language takes over, but that is another matter. Unfortunately, communication through silence also needs deep insights and research, Communication

A vendor displays miniatures of Santa Claus ahead of Christmas celebrations, in Nadia

### Why simplicity and equality must redefine weddings



There is a pressing need to rethink our approach to weddings; advocating for a shift towards simplicity, equality and genuine joy rather than crass display of wealth

reddings have long been a grand celebration where two people unite, signifying not just the union of two souls, but also the joining of two families. These joyous occasions are infused with rituals, traditions, and celebrations designed to enhance the richness and pride of cultural heritage.

Within the shimmering lights, the grand feast, and the spirited festivities, there exists a frequently ignored reality: the rising expenses these celebrations impose on families, especially those in the middle and lower-middle classes. Dowry, once regarded as a remnant of outdated and oppressive traditions, has taken on a contemporary guise. The concept of "dowry" may no longer be prevalent in everyday language, yet its core remains hidden beneath the polished surface of what we now refer to as "gifts." What was once viewed with disdain has now been embraced, illuminated by a fresh perspective that aligns with contemporary feelings. What's the final takeaway? Families, particularly the bride's, face immense



drawn into loan schemes.

This debt, incurred at the

expense of societal expecta-

tions, is repaid over years-

and even decades—creating a

financial strain due to these "gift" expectations, which frequently manifest as expensive items, vehicles, and cash contributions

In many cases, what are prerelentless cycle of instability. sented as gifts are actually dis-The most concerning aspect guised demands. Middle-class of this situation is its ongoing families, determined to avoid nature and the way it sustains the label of being stingy, freeconomic and gender disparquently push themselves to ities. When a groom tradithe limit to maintain their tionally requests gifts for the standing. The expectation to bride, it often creates an host lavish weddings adds an unfair financial burden on the extra weight, as in many culbride's family, even if the demand is subtle. tures, these ceremonies are It merely reinforces the outseen as a reflection of the family's standing in the commudated notion that a family must "pay" to marry off their nity.

In severe situations, for strugdaughter. This approach truly gling families, this can be devdetracts from the principle of astating; for individuals find equality in relationships and adds unnecessary stress to themselves compelled to deplete their life savings or what should be a welcoming other assets, while others are event

Now is the moment for society to reevaluate its values and confront these detrimental customs. Marriage ought to be a celebration of love and togetherness, rather than a cause for financial distress or societal expectations. A shift away from materialism is essential, emphasising the importance of mutual respect, understanding, and equality. Families and communities should collaborate to foster an atmosphere that values simplicity and authenticity over extravagance and false displays of wealth.

Both governments and social organisations can play a vital role in addressing this issue by implementing laws against all forms of dowry and raising awareness about its psychological and financial consequences.

A debt-free, joyful beginning to married life is the greatest blessing any couple could hope for. The true essence of celebration is not found in the extravagance of the occasion, but rather in the commitment to a shared future rooted in love and respect.

(The author is a freelance *writer and a motivator; views are personal)* 

#### LETTE **RS** | (•)

### **FAMILY FIRST POLITICS**

Madam - Family first is not only for Biden. It is rather a human tendency to attend to the needs and aspirations of the family first before thinking and acting for the cause of the society. Biden's act of granting a pardon to his son is seen as a great sin because the US is projecting itself as the promoter and protector of democracy and democratic values all over. Though it is expected of any leader to rise above all petty thinking and prioritise the benefit of the general mass and the country, many a time we do observe some people at the helm of affairs succumbing to simple human instincts, keeping the disciplines and decorum related to the position held at bay. No doubt, such acts not only demolish the image of the person that has been built for decades but also bring shame to the nation and the society he is attached to. We have seen the way the entire country of Sri Lanka was brought under the grip of one family that led to unprecedented levels of corruption, amassing wealth by the family, unleashing some sort of dictatorship, and plunging the common people into sufferings of all sorts.

But people are watching, which all the leaders should keep in mind. Biden lost in the US, and the family is out in Sri Lanka. India is not an exception. The leaders of the ruling dispensation, pointing at the Opposition for promoting the culture of family, assuming the leadership of the party, are simultaneously focusing on bringing their siblings to the limelight of political careers. In most of the states, the regional parties are almost converted into family organs, and they firmly believe in the dictum of 'the king and his family can do no wrong,' meaning that their family is above all the laws of the land and none of them can be questioned or punished. In India it is almost an accepted norm to bear with all the mistakes or misdeeds of the members of the family in power.

### **Gukesh youngest world chess champion**



ndia's young Grandmaster D Gukesh defeated China's World Champion Ding Liren in the 14th and final round, claiming the title of the youngest world chess champion. At just 18 years old, Dommaraju Gukesh has demonstrated that conquering the world is possible at a young age. Thursday was a historic day for Indian chess, thanks to Gukesh's remarkable achievement. Gukesh broke the 14-year-old

#### **HC JUDGE FACES FLAK**

Madam- The Allahabad High Court judge made insensitive comments about the Muslim community and its practices and used offensive language against them, which was not warranted from someone who is looked up to by thousands of common men seeking justice at the high court. It cannot be construed as a slip of the tongue, as he spoke for more than 30 minutes, and it is not the first time he has garnered attention for his controversial words; earlier too, his oral remarks in the court made headlines, and he has also said that cows exhale oxygen. Such poor statements have the potential to undermine public trust in the judiciary and raise a question mark over judicial integrity.

It is welcome that the apex court of the country has taken note of this and sought details of the speech. Some may argue about freedom of speech, but the fact that a judge's impartial conduct in office and public events should be above reproach. The Supreme Court's action in this mat-A G Rajmohan | Anantapur ter should set the house in order for other

record held by Russia's Garry Kasparov, who became the youngest world champion at the age of 22 years, 6 months, and 27 days, Gukesh's victory marks a new chapter in the history of chess. After Viswanathan Anand, Gukesh is the second Indian chess player to earn the title of world champion. In a 14th-round match that lasted nearly four hours, Gukesh defeated Ding Liren in 58 moves, becoming the 18th world champion in chess history.

In October 2022, Gukesh had already captured everyone's attention by defeating then-world champion Magnus Carlsen in a rapid chess tournament. In 2024. Gukesh first triumphed in the Candidates Tournament. Later, he played a pivotal role in helping the Indian men's team win the gold medal in the Chess Olympiad. Now, by claiming the world championship title, he has added another feather to India's cap.

Dattaprasad Shirodkar | Mumbai

judges in district and high courts. Bal Govind | Noida

#### **RS CHAIRMAN FACES NO CONFIDENCE**

Madam — It is unfortunate that the ruling BJP and the opposition parties in our country do not look at each other as ideological opponents but as real-time enemies. The present move by sixty members of the opposition expressing 'no confidence against the RS chairman may not reach the extent of voting, and even if it does, it will get defeated as the opposition does not have the sufficient strength for the motion's success. However, such a move by the opposition expressing lack of confidence in the chair is a black mark in the world's largest democracy. This has ed to the situation that they do not engage themselves with each other and ensure a fair and useful debate in both the Houses of Parliament, trying to score one over the other.

Gopalaswamy J | Chennai

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### HARMONISING WITH CHANGE

While change is often seen as a source of progress. its relentless pace can leave many mentally drained



RRAJYOGI BRAHMA KUMAR NIKUNJ JI

I hether we like it or not, we have to constantly adapt to the changing time, changing thoughts, and changing future. Today, change has become so rapid that some people, especially professionals, have to keep a constant watch on the emerging trends and must be perpetually prepared to gear up in order to keep pace with change. As a consequence of keeping themselves in high gear constantly over a long period of time, many feel that rapid changes shake up their nerves and are physically and mentally so exhausting and taxing that life has become more of a problem than a pleasure. However, we must not have the impression that every change is an anathema.

No! On the contrary to common belief, change is generally a welcome feature of life, and stagnancy is always considered boring. It is the rapidity and high frequency of change, or the enormity of change, that forces responsible people to miss the necessary physical and mental rest, keeping them always on the move and causing them worry. But the question that arises is, what has led to this condition of rapid and ever-growing change? Observation and analysis tell us that it is science and technology that are responsible for this predicament, as they compel individuals to lead an increasingly faster life in a highly competitive world. They force people to move like machines, which, too, are moving faster day by day and are changing enormously in design and functions. But if we go deeper into the problem, then we would find that science and technology are, in fact, at the service of mankind; therefore, it is man



who decides what kind of gadgets and goods he requires and at what pace-not vice versa. The evolution of science is based on man's needs, desires, mindset, motives, emotions, set of values, conscience, and external influences, including exposure to media and to society's approval, appreciation, or criticism of his acts. Hence, these factors are the major driving forces that lead to new inventions or new forms and designs. It is these factors that determine the purpose and use to which science and technology should be put. It is these which set new trends. It is these that lead to the rejection of the old and the change to the new. I nerefore, the rapidity of change depends, to a great degree, on the rapidity of rejection of the old system, old set of values, prevalent fashions and customs, and existing norms and beliefs. This, in turn, depends on how rapidly a person is dissatisfied or discontented with the present goods, facilities, services, practices, norms, status-symbols, and security needs. This dissatisfaction or discontentment may, in some cases, be justified and may, in most cases, be due to a lack of man's inner stability and inner happiness stemming from a wrong set of values and wrong attitudes. A thorough analysis of the present situation would lead us to the conclusion that the current situation, which is leading us either to tension or depression or short-lived pleasure, is due to our own consumerist attitude, which is geared mainly to cater to man's indulgence in sensual pleasure or comforts. In order to bring a change to this callous attitude and wrong lifestyle, we need to reform our mind by adopting a spiritual attitude through a spiritual set of values, or what is called 'Spiritualism,' which is a turnaround of thoughts and a way of living. Today, those people who are trying to cope with change without bringing change to their mindset, value system, and lifestyle through spirituality have really missed the message of the wise. Therefore, it's high time that we as a society realised that simplicity of lifestyle, by embracing spiritual values, alone would be the remedy to the present precarious situation that would empower us to manage rapid change with vigor and enthusiasm.

# Bangladesh's secular fabric under siege



analys \$ 07

HIRANMAY KARLEKAR

The suppression of dissent, coupled with the growing boldness of extremist ideologies, risks steering the nation towards a fundamentalist Islamist state



t is increasingly clear that fundamentalist Islamist organisations, which are pathologically hostile to India as well as to all secular and democratic per-sons and organisations in Bangladesh, are increasingly calling the shots in that country under the rule of its interim government. An indication of this is the relentless persecution of Shahriar Kabir, an internationally acclaimed author, journalist, champion of human rights, democracy and secularism, and a tireless campaigner to bring to justice the perpetrators of war crimes during Bangladesh's liberation war in 1971. He continues to languish in Kashimpur jail under terrible conditions. Despite being designated as a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International, a magistrate's order giving him Division One status, which would give him a separate room and other facilities remains to be carried out. This is because the deputy com-missioner of Ghazipur district, where Kashimpur prison, where he is lodged, is MYSTIC POET AND located, has not signed the order, which will be effective only after his signature is affixed to it. Nor, according to reports, does he seem inclined to sign it soon. As a result, Kabir, who is 74-years-old has to live among common prisoners and sleep on the floor during a cold winter as his health continues to deteriorate. Earlier, during a remand hearing at Dhaka's Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court on 20 October, Kabir had complained that he was not receiving adequate medical treatment in jail. On November 2, he was taken to Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Medical College Hospital for a check-up. According to its deputy-director, he suffered from various old age-related ailments but these were not crit-

organisations like the Hefazat-e-Islam (Hefazat) and Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami (Jamaat).

Hefazat's hand in Kabir's persecution is clear from the fact that one of the several charges on which he has been jailed was filed with Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal on August 20, 2024, by Mufti Harun Izhar Chowdhury, Hefazat's joint secretary. It showed him, along with Sheikh Hasina, as one of the 23 accused, charged with crimes against humanity and mass killing in connection with the vio-lent clashes between Hefazat's sup-porters and members of security forces and Awami League activists during it rally in Dhaka, on May 5, A SPIRITUAL 2013, to press its 13-point charter of demands. The latter included LEADER, demand for a stricter dress code as PHILOSOPHER, ordained by Islam, a ban on statues, candlelight vigils and public mixing of men and women, besides the

influence and has its way wherever it wants, however small or big the event or the demand is. The "Mahati Sadhusanga and Lalon Mela"(great gathering of sadhus and Lalon fair) hosted by Muktidham Ashram and Lalon Academy in Madya Narsingpur, Kashipur Union Daribadin Narunggun una schod Parishad in Narayanganj, was sched-uled to begin on November 22, 2024. There was to be singing, danc-ing, festivities and food. Baul singers and devotee from all over Bangladesh were coming over for the occasion. The district administration, however, ordered its cancellation. A report in The Daily Star (November 23, 2024) quoted Fakir Shah Jalal, founder of the ashram and academy, said, "All arrange-ments had been made, but the administration did not permit the event, citing warning from some members of the "Muslim" community Even when we requested to hold the event indoors, without loudspeakers, it was denied." A spiritual leader, philosopher, mystic poet and social reformer, Lalon articulated a weltanschauung, which encompassed the essence of the Bhakti cult and Sufism, rejected all distinctions of caste, class and creed, opposed theological conflicts and racism. It is not surprising that such a person would be anathema to fundamentalist Islamists. The report in The Daily Star, cited above, had stated that Hefazat-e-Islam leader Maulana Abdul Auwal had warned the administration in a speech to stop the event or face intervention by protestors. Other Islamist organisations are also flexing their muscles. Speaking at a grand convention of the District Qaumi Madrasa Council in Dhaka on November 25, Mamunul Haque, the secretary general of Bangladesh Khelafat Majlis, described the August 5 revolution as a significant step toward an Islamic revolution in

it certainly has a wide measure of

Bangladesh, adding that the country was destined to undergo an Islamist transformation.

Not surprisingly, Ahmadiyas and Sufis have come under attack. Several of the former's mosques were attacked on August 6. A violent mob destroyed Baba Pagla Ali's Sufi shrine at Sherpur district on August 29; another such mob vandalised and looted Ismail Pagla's shrine in Sirajganj district on September 3.

Meanwhile two Islamist terrorist outfits-Ansar al-Islam (erstwhile Ansarullah Bangla Team) and Hijbut Tahrir (Tahrir) are increasingly active. Despite the ban on Tahrir, its supporters organised, on August 9, a rally in Dhaka city and demanded the establishment of an Islamic Caliphate in Bangladesh. Also, the statues of two police officers who died fighting the terrorists at the Holey Artisan Bakery in July 2016, have been destroyed and a Hijb-ut Tahrir poster has been found at the site. Despite the arrest of its media coordinator in Dhaka in early October, its activities continue, albeit clandestinely, in many parts of Bangladesh. This is because the interim government is pursuing a much softer line against both Ansar al-Islam and Tahrir than Sheikh Hasina's government. An example is the release of the 'chief' of Ansar al-Islam on bail on August 26. As a consequence, while the Hefazat and Jamaat are riding high and terrorist bodies are quietly active, champions of secularism like Shahriar Kabir are imprisoned and organisations opposing communalism are apprehensive and defensive. In a situation like this, one can hardly rule out Bangladesh slowly sliding towards becoming a fundamentalist Islamist country and even an exporter of terrorism.

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

Kabir has high blood pressure and diabetes and a large accumulation of stones in his kidney. Blood is coming out with his stool. Given the role of the deputy commissioner, who presumably has nothing personal against him, it is difficult not to feel that the it is the interim government, led by Nobel laureate Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus, that wants to deny him Division One status. That it continues to do so despite considerable international demand for his release is clearly the result of pressure from

ical.

SOCIAL scrapping of the Awami League government's women's development REFORMER, LALON policy. Also, it demanded the designation of Ahmadiyas as "non-ARTICULATED A Muslims."

WELTANS-The charter underlined the fundamentalist ideology of Hefazat which was formed in 2010 to oppose the CHAUUNG WHICH Awami League government's ENCOMPASSED women's development policy THE ESSENCE OF promising women equal rights to property. Comprising mainly of THE BHAKTI CULT Sunni clerics heading a network of 19,199 Quami madrassas and its AND SUFISM, students in Bangladesh, it has considerable power to mobilise in the **REJECTED ALL** streets. Its intensely anti-India ori-DISTINCTIONS OF entation was reflected in its violent protests against Prime Minister CASTE, CLASS AND Narendra Modi's visit to Dhaka on the occasion of the 50th anniversary CREED, OPPOSED THEOLOGICAL March 26, 2021. Thirteen 13 persons were killed and scores injured CONFLICTS AND in clashes between its supporters **RACISM** and members of the security forces

and Awami League's supporters. While the Hefazat is not calling all the shots in the interim government,

(The author is Consulting Editor, The Pioneer. The views expressed are personal)

### The rise of preventative fillers: A new era in beauty standards India's Millennials and Gen Z are embracing early cosmetic treatments like fillers as part of their self-care routines

n recent years, a noticeable trend has emerged among India's Millennials and Gen Z, the increasing popularity of early cosmetic treatments like fillers. This shift highlights evolving beauty standards influenced heavily by social media platforms such as Instagram and TikTok, where idealised images of flawless skin abound.

These platforms perpetuate an image-driven culture, encouraging young people to consider cosmetic enhanceand meet contemporary from Deloitte underscores 58 per cent of Gen Z in India or dermal fillers used before



HEMA PANT

have a positive outlook on using technology and aesthetic treatments to improve their lives

This optimism is coupled with a heightened focus on ments as a means to main- self-care and personal tain a youthful appearance enhancement, which has led to the rising popularity of beauty ideals. Recent data preventative fillers. Often referred to as 'Baby Botox,' this trend, revealing that 65 these treatments involve per cent of Millennials and minimal amounts of Botox

the onset of wrinkles, appeal-ing to those who wish to reports that 64 per cent of practitioners have noted a stave off the visible signs of rise in patients under 30 ageing before they even begin. A significant demoseeking cosmetic procedures, reflecting this broader culgraphic shift is evident in tural acceptance. The allure data from NASSCOM, which of preventative fillers lies indicates that Millennials not only in the desire to and Gen Z comprise 52 per maintain a youthful appearcent of India's population. This figure highlights the growing influence of these ance but also in the empowerment that comes from taking control of one's aesthetyounger generations who are ic journey. increasingly well-versed in

Young individuals today are cosmetic procedures and less more informed and proacstigmatised by them. The tive about their beauty rounormalisation of such treattines, often seeking expert ments owes much to open advice to make informed decisions. This proactive discussions on social media, approach to beauty and selfwhere people share their experiences and results, concare represents a significant cultural shift toward embractributing to a growing acceptance. The American ing enhancements as a normål part of life in a digital Academy of Facial Plastic era. However, while the and Reconstructive Surgery



appeal of preventative fillers is undeniable, young people must approach these treatments with caution. Overuse can result in "filler fatigue," a condition where excessive treatments lead to skin stretching and the need for

A balanced approach that integrates overall skin health with aesthetic goals is essential to ensure that beauty enhancements do not compromise one's natural appearance.

Education plays a vital role in more frequent interventions. this process. Young individ-

uals are encouraged to seek guidance from reputable professionals who prioritise safety and use high-quality products. By doing so, they can make informed choices that align with their personal beauty goals without suc-cumbing to the pressures of fleeting trends. This emphasis on education and safety empowers them to navigate their beauty journeys with confidence, fostering a sense of self-assuredness in their natural selves.

The rise of early cosmetic treatments among India's youth illustrates a significant cultural shift towards embracing self-care and beauty enhancements in a digital era. As these generations navigate their identities in a visually oriented world,

they increasingly turn to options like fillers to maintain their youthful allure. By prioritising education and safety, young individuals are empowered to make informed decisions about their beauty routines, fostering confidence in their natural selves.

As this trend continues to evolve, it will be intriguing to observe how it shapes the ongoing conversation around beauty in modern society. The future of beauty is likely to be shaped by these young, informed consumers who value both innovation and authenticity, setting new standards for generations to come.

(The writer is Medical Director, Sculpt Clinics; *views are personal)* 

### nation 08



### **IndiGo Airlines apologises `On-Time, Every Time'**

from IndiGo regarding the ongoing delays.Despite

promises of lounge access as

compensation, the lounge at

Istanbul Airport was overcrowded and unable to

accommodate all the stranded

travellers, they claimed on social media. "We are aware of

the delays on the IndiGo flight

connections to Istanbul. We

accord the highest priority

towards customer convenience

and our teams are available at

all contact points to assist customers," IndiGo said in a

statement on Friday. The airline

also apologised for the

"inconvenience" caused to the

passengers. Some passengers

also shared pictures of people

stuck at the airport. In a post on X, a passenger said, "first time

to India and stranded at the

Istanbul Airport for the last 24

hours because the IndiGo flight

keeps cancelling. No food. No

clarity. No representative, No compensation, Pathetic treatment". "Lot of people stranded at the airport due to

pathetic services by @IndiGo6E

operators. Never book flights

with them as they don't value

passengers time. You can never

be on time with @IndiGo6E,"

and

@TurkishAirlines

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Days after being tagged as the worst airlines in the world, Indigo on Friday apologised to the passengers stranded in Istanbul airport for hours owing to delays in flights to New Delhi and Mumbai. The airliner apologised for the inconvenience and assured that the issue would be sorted at the earliest. Passengers took to social media to recount their terrible experience.

The trouble began when a flight from Istanbul to Delhi, scheduled to depart at 8.10 pm on December 12, was initially delayed to the next day at 1.30 pm. Passengers were left at the airport with little information or support from IndiGo staff. Similarly, the flight from Istanbul to Mumbai, originally set to depart at 8.15 pm on set to depart at 0.15 pm on December 12, was first pushed to 11.00 pm, then delayed again to the following morning at 10 am. IndiGo operates one flight each daily from Delhi and Mumbai to Istanbul with Boeing 777 aircraft. Many of them have been stranded since Thursday.

While the exact details of the impacted flights could not be immediatelv ascertained. Frustrated travellers took to

dissatisfaction, saying they received no communication

ongoing

strengthen maritime ties PIONEER NEWS SERVICE social media to express their another passenger said in a post on X. Another passenger took NEW DELHI to X on Friday at 3:50 AM (IST) India and the Philippines on Friday vowed to work jointto express his frustration about

the delay, writing, "Hey @IndiGo6E, your handling of flight 6E0018 from Istanbul to ly towards ensuring a rules-based order in critical sea lanes Mumbai on Dec 12 has been a against the backdrop of China's growing military muscle-flex-ing in the South China Sea. The disaster. Scheduled to depart at 8:15 PM, it was delayed to 11 PM on the same day. Fine, we waited. Then it was shockingly ways to bolster bilateral naval ties figured prominently at the inaugural India-Philippines Maritime Dialogue held in pushed to 10 AM the next day. What's going on?" He added, "To make matters worse, NO ONE from Indigo Manila. was present at the gate to explain the situation. The news

There have been growing glob-al concerns over China's sweeping claims of sovereignty over all of the South China Sea, a huge source of hydrocarbons. Several countries in the region including Vietnam, the Philippines and Brunei, have counterclaims. "During the dialogue, the two sides exchanged perspectives on prevailing maritime challenges

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI

and discussed ways to enhance the MEA said in a statement. maritime cooperation in furthering a conducive environment for mutual growth and global well-being," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said. MEA said the two sides laid emphasis on "adherence to a rules-based order, especially the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and explored cooperation initiatives in the maritime domain to uphold the same." India and many other democratic countries have been pressing for peaceful settle-ment of the disputes and for adherence to international law, especially the UNCLOS (UN Convention on the Law of the Sea) in the South China Sea. In the talks, India and the Philippines agreed to share best practices and partner in maritime capacity building initiatives in areas such as maritime industry, marine scientific research and ocean economy.

India, Philippines

The two sides also explored ways to expand cooperation among the navies and coast guards of the two countries.

The defence ties between the two countries have been on a significant upswing in the last few years. In April, India delivered the first batch of BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to the Philippines, in reflection of the growing military ties. The supplies came over two years after India inked a USD 375 million deal with the Southeast Asian nation to supply the weapon systems. The Indian delegation at the

maritime dialogue was led by Muanpuii Saiawi, joint secre-tary, disarmament and international security affairs in the MEA. The Filipino team was in the investigation, while granting him interim bail. headed by Marshall Louis Alferez, assistant secretary at Earlier in the morning, Allu Arjun was arrested by the city police in connection with the the maritime and ocean affairs office in the foreign ministry.

### Actor Allu Arjun granted interim bail

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE HYDFRABAD

The Telangana High Court on Friday granted a four-week interim bail to actor

High Court seeking to quash the FIR registered against him in connection with the death of a woman. After the formal arrest, Allu Arjun was taken to state-run Gandhi Hospital for medical tests.

Allu Arjun, who was arrested earlier in the day by the city Allu Arjun last week announced Rs 25 lakh to the police in connection with the death of a woman during the family of the deceased and screening of his latest movie 'Pushpa 2' here last week. The also assured the grieving family that they are not alone HC order came shortly after in this painful situation and the actor was remanded to he will meet the family iudicial custody for 14 days by personally. Earlier, the police a local court. He was sent to arrested three persons, one of the jail at Chanchalguda here the owners of the theatre, its following the remand, amid senior manager and lower tight security arrangements. balcony incharge (at the The HC pronounced the theatre), in connection with order granting bail to Arjun while he was being taken to the jail. The court the case registered over the death of the woman due to asphyxiation as crowds directed the actor to jostled at the theatre during cooperate with the authorities the premiere show of Allu

Ariun's movie. According to the police, a huge crowd had gathered at the theatre to watch the movie and have a glimpse of the death of a woman during the movie's lead actors coming to premiere of his latest movie 'Pushpa 2: The Rule'. The the theatre. However, there was no intimation from the actor was taken into custody, side of the theatre amid tight security, from his residence and taken to management or actors team that they would be visiting the Chikkadpally police station in a police vehicle. "The theatre theatre. management did not make A 35-year-old woman died any additional provisions and her eight-year-old son regarding security to manage has been hospitalised in the the crowd nor was there any incident which took place on separate entry or exit for the December 4 night when a large number of fans actors team though the theatre management had information about their arrival," a police release had said. Around 9.30 pm on registered a case against Allu December 4, Allu Arjun came Arjun, his security team, and the theatre management to the theatre with his personal security and people gathered there tried to enter the theatre with him. "His (Allu Arjun) personal security team started pushing (BNS) at the Chikkadpally complaint lodged by the deceased woman's family. Allu Arjun, on December 11, approached the Telangana approached the Tela

Srivastva said, "Following the

### Tarun Yadav to represent AAP in Najafgarh

#### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Friday announced that social worker Tarun Yadav would be contesting from the Najafgarh constituency in the upcoming Delhi Assembly elections. Yadav and his wife Meena Yadav

- who has served as an indepen-

SC to hear SPG

petition on fate

The SC in its October 29,

2018 order had banned diesel

vehicles older than 10 years

from plying on the roads of Delhi-NCR. The Special

Protection Group (SPG) was raised in 1985 with the

to

provide

of three...

From page 1

dent councillor for two terms help those in need.

joined AAP on Wednesday. With the announcement of The Najafgarh seat was previous-Yadav's candidacy, AAP has now revealed its candidates for ly held by Kailash Gahlot, a for-32 out of the 70 seats. The party mer Delhi minister, who quit AAP and joined the BJP last initially announced 11 candimonth. The party had said that dates in its first list and 20 in the Yadav has been actively involved second. The Arvind Kejriwal-led party is aiming for a third conin social and political activities in the Najafgarh area for many secutive term, having won 62 of the 70 seats in the last election. years, always stepping forward to

came from Turkish Airlines

crew, and there was no formal

announcement, just complete

chaos. We were told wed get

lounge access at Istanbul airport

as compensation. But the

lounge was far too small to

accommodate the huge number

of stranded passengers. Many of

us were left standing for hours

without proper facilities. Seriously, @IndiGo6E?" IndiGo

responded to his complaint,

stating, "we sincerely apologise

for the inconvenience and will

connect with you." Earlier this

month, IndiGo was ranked

among the "world's worst

airlines" in the 2024 AirHelp

Score report, securing 103rd

place out of 109 with a score of 4.80.

wrongdoing regarding the added sugar content in its baby products. Responding to a query in Lok Sabha on Friday, Union Health Minister JP Nadda said that the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (ESSAL) had conducted (FSSAI) had conducted inspections at Nestlé's manufacturing sites following media reports from a Swiss NGO about added sugar in a wheat-based infant product. The inspections, carried out

in April, confirmed that the sugar levels per serving com-plied with the Food Safety

and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020, which align with glob-al standards set by the Codex The Government has cleared Nestle of any wrongdoing regarding the Alimentarius Commission and the World Health Organization (WHO).

Center clears Nestle over sugar in baby products

"Added sugar per serving was found to be in compliance with the provisions under Food Safety and Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020 in baby products of Nestle, " said Nadda. The limits specified for sug-

ars in infant food products in the Regulations is at par with the global standards, namely Codex Alimentarius Commission, which takes into account the recommendation of the World Health Organization (WHO)

while setting food standards. On the basis of the media report, suo motu cognisance was taken by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) about a report by the Swiss NGO regarding added sugar in wheat-based baby products,

thronged the Sandhya theatre here to have a glimpse of the actor. The city police have Inspections were conducted on April 29 and 30 at manufacturing sites engaged in production of the infant food product in the country. Based on scrutiny of the product, added sugar per serving was found to be in compliance with the proviunder sections 105 and 118(1) sions under Food Safety and

### complaint lodged by the deceased woman's family. Delhi police apprehend

of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita

police station based on the

### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

gruesome crime, an FIR was reg-istered at Gokul Puri Police Delhi Police Crime Branch has apprehended three members of a family who had been on the run for 14 years after Station." The three accused, natives of West Bengal's Asansol, belong to allegedly burning a woman alive. the same family and went absconding shortly after the murder, the officer said, adding According to the police on Friday, in 2010, Roshan Aara was that they remained elusive, assuming fake identities and set ablaze in her home in northeast Delhi's Gokul Puri allegedmoving across states to evade arrest. It was not immediately ly by Mustafa, Masooma, and

accused after 14 years

(DMRC) Corporation Momentum Delhi Sarthi 2.0 app, starting this year. "În addition to the app, tickets will also be sold at Metro stations This arrangement follows the and at five physical counters.

should tell the country what

they are doing now. "What is

your responsibility? Or does all

the responsibility lie with Jawaharlal Nehru ji?" she asked

in a swipe at the BJP over its

repeated criticism of India's

"Our Constitution laid the

first PM.

available on Metro stations, app STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI rickets for the annual Surajkund Mela will be available for purchase through the Delhi Metro Rail

Surajkund fair tickets now



including the official DMRC Memorandum of signing of website Metro stations, and the PM, former PMs and their | located at the Mela venue," the Understanding (MoU) between counters at the Surajkund Mela venue.

# Sawant pays homage to Parrikar

#### PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

 $G^{\mathrm{oa}\,\mathrm{Chief}\,\mathrm{Minister}\,\mathrm{Pramod}}_{\mathrm{Sawant}\,\mathrm{on}\,\mathrm{Friday}\,\mathrm{paid}}$ homage to former CM Manohar Parrikar on his birth anniversary and said he played a big role in the coastal state's development. Parrikar, who also served as the Union defence minister, died on March 17, 2019.

opmental vision initiated by Sawant accompanied by a few of Parrikar. "We have completed his cabinet colleagues and Parrikar's sons Utpal and Abhijat almost all the developmental projects envisioned by him durpaid floral tributes to the late BJP leader at his memorial at ister," he said.

said the Minister.

Standards (Foods for Infant Nutrition) Regulations, 2020, Nadda added.

Miramar beach here.

CM.

"Late Parrikar has played a

major role in the infrastructure

development of the state. He laid

the foundation for the state's

development in an all-inclusive

manner," Sawant told reporters

after paying respects to the ex-

Sawant said his government has

been taking forward the devel-

cover to immediate family members.

provimate security

Delhi metro said in a statement. the DMRC and Haryana

ing his tenure as the chief min-

Zarrar Khan Special Commissioner of Police (crime known why the trio committed branch) Devesh Chandra the crime.

### **Constitution Sparks Volatile Debate**

### From page 1

intention

Singh lauded the role of the Supreme Court as the "custodian" and "interpreter" of the Constitution, citing its judgments that negated the then Congress regime's bid to topple opposition-ruled state governments. "Today, there is talk of protecting the Constitution. This is the duty of all of us. But we also need to understand who has respected the Constitution and who has disrespected it," he said, slamming the Congress for its idea of "committed judiciary, committed bureaucracy and committed institutions", a reference particularly to Indira Gandhi's rule in the 1970s. Priyanka in her 32-minute BHEL, SAIL, GAIL, ONGC, maiden speech, countered the BJP and said had it not been for the Lok Sabha poll results, the ruling party would have changing started the

Constitution. The Congress erased from this country," the said, "There used to be a story leader even took on Union Congress general secretary about her great Minister Rajnath Singh, saying said those in the ruling party grandfather. mostly talk about the past but

Addressing criticism of the Emergency, she said the BJP should learn from it and apologise for its mistakes. "My colleague in the ruling party recounted the past, this happened, that happened... What happened in 1975. You also learn from it, you also apologise for your mistakes,"

foundation of economic she said. justice, distributing land to farmers, the poor and the "You talk of political justice, you cause governments to fall needy.... Whose name is often on the strength of money... I used by them (BJP) to save will give another example, that themselves, he (Jawaharlal Nehru) created many PSUs of Maharashtra and Himachal Pradesh. Was the Constitution and institutions such as HAL, not applicable to these states," she said. Priyanka Gandhi also challenged the BJP to hold NTPC, Railways, IIT, IIM," she said. "His name can be erased elections by using the ballot from the books, but his role in paper, saying it will expose the the Independence struggle and reality. In a stinging critique of nation building can never be the PM, the Congress leader

that the king used to go among the people in disguise to listen to criticism. Today's king is also very fond of changing his disguise... But he neither has the courage to go among the public nor to listen to criticism."

Slamming the BJP over its alleged divisive politics, she said seeds of suspicion and hatred are being sown where the Constitution gave a protective shield of unity. "The suraksha kavach' of unity is being broken. The prime minister touches his forehead to the Constitution but when there are cries for justice from Sambhal, Hathras and Manipur, there is not a wrinkle on his forehead," said Priyanka, adding that "it seems Prime Minister Modi hasn't understood that 'Bharat ka Samvidhan' is not 'Sangh ka Vidhan".

### Notice moved in RS for Allahabad High Court Judge's impeachment

#### From page 1

The notice for the motion was moved under the Judges' (Inquiry) Act, 1968, and Article 218 of the Constitution, seeking initiation of proceedings for impeachment of Justice Yadav. The notice mentioned that the speech/lecture delivered by Justice Yadav during an event organised by the Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) prima facie showed that he "engaged in hate speech and incitement to communal disharmony in violation of the Constitution of India". The notice also mentioned that

the judge prima facie showed that he targeted minorities and displayed bias and prejudice against them. It went on to state that Justice

Yadav entered into public debate or expressed his views in public on political matters relating to a uniform civil code, in violation of the Restatement of Values of Judicial Life, 1997. The notice mentioned that the public remarks of the judge were inflammatory and prejudiced and directly targeted minority communities.

It also stated that Justice Yadav in his lecture asserted that justice raday in his lecture asserted that "the country would function according to the wishes of the majority in India". "Justice Yaday's actions contravene the directive principles enshrined under Article 51A(e) of the Constitution of India, which mandate promoting harmony and renouncing practices derogatory to the dignity of individuals," the MPs said in

their notice for impeachment. "The statements, which have been widely documented and encouraged reported. animosity and division among different religious and communal groups, contravening the secular ethos of the Constitution of India," they added.

"We request the Hon'ble Chairman to admit this motion and forward it to the Hon'ble President of India in accordance with the Judges (Inquiry) Act, 1968, and inquiry constitute an committee to investigate the charges of hate speech, communal disharmony, and violations of judicial ethics," according to the notice. The Opposition MPs also demanded that the chairman appropriate

proceedings to remove Justice Yadav from office if the allegations were proven. At a Vishva Hindu Parishad

(VHP) function on December eight, Justice Yadav said the main aim of a uniform civil code was to promote social harmony, gender equality and secularism. A day later, videos of the judge speaking on provocative issues, including the law working according to the majority, were circulated widely on social media, prompting strong reactions from several quarters. including opposition leaders. The Supreme Court on Tuesday took note of news reports over the purported controversial statements of Justice Yadav function and sought details from Allahabad High Court on the issue.

### 'Rajmarg Saathi' promises...

#### From page 1

In order to provide a distinct and professional look, the uniform of the PV Personnel has also been redesigned to include brilliant blue colour along with a jacket with reflective stripes and authority logos for easy identification.

Route Patrolling Operations play a critical role in maintaining safety, providing incident management and ensuring smooth flow of traffic on National Highways. The NHAI is committed to enhancing road safety standards as well as providing a seamless and pleasant travel experience to all National Highway users across the country

#### From page 1

they were previously underappreciated.

In his address, the PM acknowledged the contribution of sanitation workers, saying they play a key role in their successful conduct by ensuring cleanliness at such large-scale events.

"More than 15,000 sanitation workers will ensure cleanliness during the 2025 Kumbh," he said, expressing his gratitude towards them.

The prime minister recalled his personal experience of washing the feet of sanitation workers in 2019, which he described as a memorable moment of his life. Modi also stressed Maha Kumbh's potential in empowering communities economi-cally. "Kumbh not only gives Anandiben Patel. The prime minister also interacted with

PM calls Maha Kumbh.

social strength but also provides economic empowerment of the people," Modi said.

Earlier, the prime minister arrived in the city around 12.30 pm and began the visit with ceremonial puja and darshan at the holy Sangam Nose — the point of confluence of the Ganga, Yamuna and the Saraswati rivers. He undertook a river cruise before the puja. Wearing a white kurta-pajama, blue jacket and sporting a maroon shawl, Modi arrived at the Sangam Nose on the Nishadraj Cruise, boarding

it via the floating jetty at Kila Ghat. He was received at the confluence point by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and Governor

saints and greeted them with respect. A saint presented him with a pearl garland as a token of blessings, the Uttar Pradesh government said in a statement. It said Modi performed the 'aarti' of the Triveni (Sangam Nose), ?praying for global welfare and harmony. PM Modi also sought the blessings of prominent saints.

Amid the chanting of Vedic mantras, the prime minister performed rituals including Jalabhishek' and 'Dudhbhishek' at the Triveni. Following this, he performed the Sangam Aarti. Modi then offered worship at the Akshay Vata Vriksha before visiting the Hanuman Mandir and the Saraswati Koop. He also visited the Maha Kumbh exhibition site and was briefed by officials.

### CCPA puts 17 direct... From page 1

According to the Department of Consumer Affairs, the government has notified the Rules, 2021, These rules aim to promote transparency, accountability, and ethical practices within the direct selling industry, enabling consumers to make informed decisions. the rules

Additionally, complement other regulatory frameworks, including the Consumer Protection (E-Commerce) Rules, 2020 and the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) 2011 Rules, further strengthening consprotection mechanisms. consumer

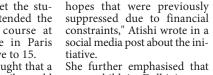
### Govt school students now have equal opportunities: Atishi

initiate

#### STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi chief minister Atishi on Friday said children in the national capital are now being given equal opportunities and those studying in government schools can now aim higher. The chief minister said this following an interaction with 30 students from the city's government schools who went to Paris to study an advanced French course.

Atishi along with AAP leader Manish Sisodia met the students who had attended the French language course at Alliance Francaise in Paris from November five to 15. "Have you ever thought that a child from a poor family would



constraints," Atishi wrote in a social media post about the ini-She further emphasised that

every child in Delhi is now

have the opportunity to study abroad? This is not just a

dream but a realization of

being given equal opportuni-ties. "We have shown that even children from government schools can aim high. Every child in Delhi is now being given equal opportunities. This is Delhi's education revolution, and it will continue." The program focused on students from classes nine to 12, many of whom are first-gener-

ation school-goers, according to an official statement. Organised by the French Embassy in India, the program stems from a partnership between the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government and Alliance Francaise to enhance French language education in Delhi's schools, it said.

Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) establishing a comprehensive framework to regulate direct selling entities and protect consumer interests.

### world 09

### President Macron names centrist Israeli strike in Gaza kills 25 people as ally Bayrou as France's next PM group at the National Assembly, criticised Bayrou's appointment in a message on

French President Emmanuel Macron on Friday named centrist ally Francois Bayrou as prime minister in an effort to address the country's deep political crisis, after a historic parliamentary vote ousted the previous government last week. Bavrou, 73, a crucial partner in Macron's centrist alliance, has been a well-known figure in French politics for decades. His political experience is seen as key in efforts to restore stability as no single party holds a majority at the National Assembly.

Macron's office said in a statement that Bayrou "has been charged with forming a new government."

Former Prime Minister Michel Barnier resigned last week following a no-confidence vote prompted by budget disputes in the National Assembly, leaving France without a functioning government. Macron in an address to the nation vowed to remain in office until his term ends in 2027.

Bavrou is expected to hold talks with political leaders from various parties in the coming

PTI WASHINGTON

said.

President Joe Biden is close-

Ply monitoring the situation in Bangladesh and the US

will hold the country's interim

government accountable for

ensuring the protection of

religious and ethnic minori-

ties, the White House has

The security situation in Bangladesh has been difficult

following the ouster of the for-



davs in order to choose new ministers.

he pioneer

LUCKNOW | SATURDAY | DECEMBER 14, 2024

The task appears challenging because Macron's centrist alliance does not have a majority in parliament and Bayrou's Cabinet will need to rely on moderate lawmakers from both the left and right to be able to stay in power. Some conservatives are expected to be part of the new government.

last week

very closely: White House

The president of the National Rally, Jordan Bardella, said Friday his party will take a wait-and-see approach for now.

efforts to build a non-aggres-

sion pact with the Socialists so

that they commit not to vote

against the government in any

Mathilde Panot, head of the

hard-left France Unbowed

future confidence motion.

"Our red lines are still there, they're not going to change," he warned. National Rally officials, including Le Pen, have said they want any new budget law to preserve the purchasing power of the French people. Bayrou's appointment comes also in line with Macron's

Macron's strategy aims at pre-venting far-right leader Marine Le Pen from holding "make or break" power over the government. Le Pen helped oust Barnier by joining her National Rally party's forces to the left to pass the no-confidence motion

again against the new government. Bayrou leads the centrist Democratic Movement, known as MoDem, which he founded in 2007. In 2017, he supported Macron's first presidential bid and became a weighty partner in the French president's centrist alliance. At the time, he was

appointed justice minister, but he quickly resigned from the government amid an investigation into the MoDem's alleged embezzlement of European Parliament funds.

Bayrou this year was cleared in the case by a Paris court, which found eight other party officials guilty and sentenced the party to pay a fine.

Bayrou became well known to the French public when he was education minister from 1993 to 1997 in a conservative government.

He was three times a candidate for president, in 2002, 2007 and 2012



AP DEIR AL-BALAH (GAZA)

A n Israeli airstrike has hit the central Gaza Strip, killing at least 25 Palestinians X as "the continuity of (Macron's) bad policies." She and wounding dozens more, Palestinian medics said, just said her party is ready to vote for a no-confidence motion hours after President Joe Biden's national security adviser raised hopes about a ceasefire deal to end the war in Gaza. Officials at two hospitals in the Gaza Strip, al-Awda Hospital in the north and al-Aqsa Hospital in central Gaza, reported they received a combined total of 25 bodies from an Israeli strike on a multi-storey residential building in the urban Nuseirat

refugee camp on Thursdav. Palestinian medics also reported that over 40 people, most of them children, were receiving

treatment at the two hospitals. The al-Aqsa Hospital said that the Israeli attack also damaged several nearby houses in Nuseirat. There was no immediate com-

ment from the Israeli military on the deadly strike. Israel is trying to eliminate Hamas, which led the attack on southern Israel in October 2023 that makes a final push on negotiations before Donald Trump is sparked the war in Gaza. The Israeli military says Hamas

militants hide among Gaza's Sullivan said "Hamas' posture at the negotiating table did adapt" after Israel decimated civilian population. Photos from the site showed a the leadership of its ally Hezbollah in Lebanon and completely collapsed building with people walking through its mangled and charred remains, reached a ceasefire there. "We smoke rising from piles of believe it puts us in a position belongings strewn over the to close this negotiation," he rubble. said.

The bombardment came just Israel's offensive has killed over

hours after Jake Sullivan, 44,800 Palestinians in Gaza, President Biden's national secumore than half of them women and children, according to the rity adviser, told reporters in Jerusalem that Israel's ceasefire Gaza Health Ministry, which in Lebanon has helped clear the does not say how many were way for another deal to end the combatants. The Israeli military savs it has killed over 17,000 war in Gaza. He plans to travel next to Qatar and Egypt, key militants, without providing mediators in the ceasefire talks, evidence. as the Biden administration The fighting has plunged Gaza

into a severe humanitarian crisis, with experts warning of famine.

Israel says it allows enough aid to enter and blames UN agencies for not distributing it. The UN says Israeli restrictions, and the breakdown of law and order after Israel repeatedly targeted the Hamas-run police force, make it extremely difficult to operate in the territory

### **Blinken urges nations to support** peaceful Syrian political transition

inaugurated.

### AP JERUSALEM

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken is pressing ahead with efforts to unify Middle East nations in support of a peaceful political transition in Ŝvria.

He is meeting on Friday with Turkiye's foreign minister after talks with President Recep Tayyip Erdogan to try to bring Turkiye into a consensus to prevent Syria from collapsing into wider turmoil.

It's Blinken's 12th trip to the Mideast since the Israel-Hamas war erupted in Gaza last year but first since the ouster of Syrian President Bashar Assad. The outgoing Biden administration is particularly concerned that a power vacuum in Syria could exacerbate already heightened tensions in the region and create conditions for the Islamic State group to regain territory and influence. The fighting between Israel and Hamas has plunged Gaza

ing to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not sav how many were combatants. The Israeli military says it has killed over 17,000 militants, without providing evidence. The war in Gaza was sparked by an October 7, 2023, attack by Hamas in southern Israel in which some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, were killed and around 250 others were taken hostage. Some 100 hostages are still inside Gaza, at least a third of whom are believed to

sis. Israel's offensive has killed

over 44,800 Palestinians in

Gaza, more than half of them

women and children, accord-

be dead. Blinken says there's broad agreement' between US and Turkiye on Syria's future: US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Friday there was ative of continuing the efforts to keep ISIS down. Our coun-"broad agreement" between Turkiye and the United States on what they would like to see gave a lot over many years to in Syria following the ouster of President Bashar Assad. "There's broad agreement on ensure that that threat doesn't

rear its head again," Blinken said. The Turkish foreign minwhat we would like to see going forward, starting with the interim government in Syria, ister said the two discussed ways of establishing prosperione that is inclusive and nonty in Syria and ending terrorsectarian and one that protects the rights of minorities and ism in the country. "Our priority is establishing stability in Syria as soon as poswomen" and does not "pose any kind of threat to any of Syria's neighbours," Blinken said in joint statements with

Turkish Foreign Minister

The insurgent groups that top-pled Assad in Syria have not

made clear their policy or

stance on Israel, whose military

in recent days has bombed sites

all over the country, saying it is

trying to prevent weapons from

falling into extremist hands.

Blinken also said it was crucial

to keep the Islamic State group

'We also discussed the imper-

tries worked very hard and

ensure the elimination of the

territorial caliphate of ISIS to

Hakan Fidan.

under control.

sible, preventing terrorism from gaining ground, and ensuring that IS and the PKK aren't dominant," Fidan said, in a reference to the banned

Kurdistan Workers Party. Blinken said: "We're very focused on Syria, very focused on the opportunity that now is before us and before the Syrian people to move from out from under the shackles of Bashar al-Assad to a different and better future for the Syrian people, one that the Syrian people decide for themselves?

Blinken and Fidan said they had also discussed a ceasefire for Gaza.

"We've seen in the last couple of weeks more encouraging signs that (a ceasefire) is possible," Blinken said.

mer prime minister Sheikh Hasina, White House National Security Communications Advisor John Kirby said. "And we have been working closely with the interim government to enhance the capability of their law enforcement and security services to deal with the challenge," Kirby said a question. at a news conference on

Indian Americans have held

Hasina was ousted as prime minister in the face of a mases in several cities, including sive anti-government protest in front of the White House, in Chicago, New York, SFO, in August. Detroit, Houston and Atlanta,

There have been a spate of incidents of violence against urging Biden to help stop Hindus and other minorities, alleged brutalities against the as well as attacks on temples in minority Hindu community in the last few weeks in Bangladesh. Earlier in the day, Indian-Bangladesh.

We've been very clear in our American Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi urged memengagement with all Bangladeshi leaders that probers of the Senate Foreign tection of religious and ethnic minorities is absolutely criti-Relations Committee to address the issue of violence against minorities, primarily Hindus, in Bangladesh during cal, and the leaders of the interim government have the confirmation hearing of repeatedly committed to providing security to all Bangladeshis, regardless of Senator Marco Rubio for the position of secretary of state. religion or ethnicity," he said. President-elect Donald Trump "We want to hold them to has nominated Senator Rubio that," Kirby said in response to for the top diplomatic position. The date of his confirma-

Over the past few weeks, tion hearing has not been announced yet.

nation on Friday following peaceful protests and marchdays of speculation about him falsifying his educational qualifications.

lem with my educational qualifications has been raised in society. I have not made any false statements about my educational qualifications," Ranwala said in a statement.

Asserting that he currently does not possess any documents to prove his qualifications, Ranwala said that it would also not be possible for him to obtain these from the relevant institutions.

the inconvenience caused to the government and the people who had placed trust in the government, I have decided to resign from the post of Speaker," he said.

"In recent days, a prob-

into a severe humanitarian cri-

"However, in order to stop

British Indian hedge fund trader jailed in Denmark

ing a business that advises UK-based companies on their

He was granted the right to live

and work in the UK for an

indefinite period in 2013. Although he didn't make

Britain his permanent home, the man told authorities that he

spent one to two weeks a

month in the country and con-

sidered it his "second home."

He was stopped while entering

the UK on November 6, 2021,

and ordered to surrender his

mobile phone and other digi-

tal devices on which authorities

found a letter from a senior

adviser to Andrew confirming

that he was authorised to act on

behalf of the prince in relation

to potential partners and

investors in China.

operations in China.

### Speaker resigns **Biden watching situation in Bangladesh**

### in Sri Lanka Colombo (PTI): Sri Lanka's Parliament Speaker Asoka Ranwala announced his resig-

#### PTI LONDON

Thursday.

A British hedge fund trader of Indian heritage has been sentenced to 12 years in prison by authorities in Denmark after being found guilty of a tax fraud amounting to over GBP 1 billion.

Sanjay Shah, 54, was handed the maximum prison sentence for an economic crime by a district court in Glostrup this week. The Danish prosecucourt found it proven that Shah was the mastermind behind a complex setup in which 190 American pension companies and 24 Malaysian companies entered into agree-ments to purchase Danish listed shares at times when the shares were traded with the

responding to the economic right to dividends. gain of the convicted person. Among other things, deposits The verdict is a milestone in in accounts in foreign banks, the criminal justice settlement following the dividend tax shares and bonds, as well as a number of properties or shares thereof belonging to cases, as the convicted person was the main instigator of a fraud against the Danish state the convicted person, his of historic proportions," said companies or his wife were Marie Tullin, special prosecuconfiscated. tor at the State Attorney for 'The fraud has caused a major loss for the Danish state, and it

Serious Crime (SSK). "It is therefore with satisfaction is therefore of crucial importion said in a statement that the that I can now state that the tance that the court today has court has imposed a sentence confiscated an amount that that reflects the extremely sericorresponds to the convicted person's profits from the fraud," ous and extensive nature of the case," she said.

says Dennis Bæckmann, spe-cial prosecutor, National Unit In addition to the prison sentence, the court confiscated a total of approximately 7.2 bilfor Serious Crime (NSK). Shah, who has denied wrong-

doing, was also expelled from Denmark permanently, and he lion kroner (USD 1bn), corwas denied the right to participate in the management of a business in Denmark or abroad without being personally and unlimitedly liable for the company's obligations. He has lodged an appeal

against the Glostrup district court's verdict in the High Court. According to the Danish Prosecution Service (AnklageMyndigheden), the British national was convicted of committing fraud of a "particularly serious nature for 9,025,205,871 kroner (GBP 1bn) and attempted fraud for an additional 553,346,302 kroner during a period from 2012 to 2015".



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, left, meets with Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erodgan, middle, and Foreign Minister Hakan Fidan, at Ankara Esenboga Airport

### Suspected spy with business ties to **Prince Andrew barred from UK**

#### AP LONDON

A suspected Chinese spy with business ties to Prince Andrew has been barred from the UK because of concerns he poses a threat to national security.

A British immigration tribunal upheld the decision on Thursday in a ruling that revealed the Chinese national had developed such a close relationship with Andrew that he was invited to the prince's birthday party. Government officials were concerned the man could have misused his influence because the prince was under "considerable pres-sure" at the time, according to the ruling.

British authorities believe the Chinese national, whose name wasn't released, was working on behalf of the United Front Work Department, an arm of the Chinese Communist Party that is used to influence foreign entities.

The government determined that the businessman "was in a position to generate relationships between senior Chinese officials and prominent UK fig-

ures which could be leveraged cion of providing sensitive for political interference pur-poses by the Chinese State," information to China.

according to the tribunal's decision.

Prince Andrew, the younger brother of King Charles III, has been repeatedly criticised for his links to wealthy foreigners, raising concerns that those individuals are trying to buy access to the royal family.

Andrew's finances have been squeezed in recent years after he was forced to step away from royal duties and give up public funding amid concerns about his relationship with Jeffrey Epstein, the American financier and convicted pedophile who committed suicide in prison in 2019.

British intelligence chiefs have become increasingly concerned about China's efforts to influence UK government policy. In 2022, Britain's domestic intelligence service, known as MI5, warned politicians that a British-Chinese lawyer had been seeking to improperly influence members of

Parliament for years. A parliamentary researcher was arrested in 2023 on suspiPTI WASHINGTON

The 50-year-old Chinese Four Indian-Americans facing sentences ranging from 17 national covered by this week's years to life imprisonment are among nearly 1,500 people ruling was described as a man who worked as a junior civil servant in China before he granted clemency by President came to the UK as a student in Joe Biden. These four Indian-2002. He earned a master's Americans are Meera Sachdeva, degree in public administration Babubhai Patel, Krishna Mote and public policy at the and Vikram Dutta. University of York before start-"America was built on the

promise of possibility and second chances. As President, I have the great privilege of extending mercy to people who have demonstrated remorse and rehabilitation, restoring opportunity for Americans to participate in daily life and contribute to their communities, and taking steps to remove sentencing disparities for non-violent offenders, especially those convicted of drug offences," Biden said in a statement on Thursday.

"That is why, today, I am pardoning 39 people who have shown successful rehabilitation and have shown commitment to making their communities stronger and safer. I am also commuting the sentences of nearly 1,500 people who are serving long prison sentences - many

### of whom would receive lower sentences if charged under today's laws, policies, and prac-

Biden grants clemency to

four Indian-Americans

tices," he said. This was the largest single-day act of clemency in recent times. In December 2012, Dr Meera Sachdeva was sentenced to 20 years in prison and ordered to repay nearly USD 8.2 million for fraud at a former Mississippi cancer centre she ran. She is now 63. Babubhai Patel was sentenced to 17 years on 26 convictions for a healthcare fraud conspiracy, a drug conspiracy, and related fraud and drug violations in 2013. Also in 2013, Krishna Mote, 54, was sentenced to serve life in prison after he was convicted of conspiracy to distribute more than 280 grams of crack cocaine and more than 500 grams of cocaine, and distribution of crack cocaine as an aider

Vikram Dutta, 63, was in January 2012 sentenced in a Manhattan federal court to 235 months in prison after he was found guilty of conspiracy charges stemming from his use of his perfume distribution business to launder millions of dollars for a Mexican narcotics organisation.

### Russia targets Ukrainian power infrastructure

#### AP KYIV

 $R^{ussia \ on \ Friday \ launched \ a}_{massive} \ aerial \ attack}$ against Ukraine, involving dozens of cruise missiles and drones, the latest such strike aimed at crippling the country's

The Russian military targeted the Ukrainian power grid, energy minister Herman Halushchenko wrote on his Facebook page. "The enemy continues its terror," he said. Halushchenko said energy workers do everything necessary to "minimize negative consequences for the energy system," promising to release more details on damages once the security situation allows it. Ukraine's air force reported multiple strike drones launched at Ukraine overnight followed by swarms of cruise missiles in the country's air space. It said Russia also used air-launched ballistic Kinzhal missiles against Ukraine's western regions.

Friday's attack is the latest in a diate range hypersonic ballistic missile to strike an industrial series of such raids that has heightened fears that the

plant in the city of Dnipro, in Kremlin aims to destroy the eastern Ukraine. Russian country's power generation capacity as the winter sets in. President Vladimir Putin capacity as the winter sets in. Since launching its invasion in February 2022, Russia has relentlessly pummelled Ukraine's electricity system, resulting in repeated shut-downs of critical heating and drinking water supplies during the bitter winter months in an described the attack with the Oreshnik missile as retaliation for Ukrainian strikes on Russian territory with longerrange Western weapons. He declared that more attacks with the new weapon could follow. the bitter winter months in an The Pentagon warned apparent attempt to break Wednesday that Russia could Ukrainian spirits and resolve. use its new missile against Moscow has declared that the Ukraine again soon. attacks are aimed at hobbling Around half of Ukraine's ener-Ukraine's defence industry, thwarting the production of missiles, drones, armoured

vehicles and artillery, among

On November 21, Russia for

the first time used an interme-

other weapons.

for more attacks.

gy infrastructure has been destroyed during the almost three years of war with Russia, and rolling electricity blackouts are widespread.

A similar massive attack on Kyiv's Western allies have pro-November 28 involved about vided Ukraine with air defence 200 missiles and drones and left systems to help it protect critmore than a million houseical infrastructure, but Russia holds without power until has sought to overwhelm the emergency teams restored supair defences with combined strikes involving big numbers of missiles and drones. plies. Ukrainian officials have warned that Russia is stockpiling cruise and ballistic missiles

Russia has held the initiative this year as its military has steadily rammed through Ukrainian defences in the east in a series of slow but steady offensives.

and abettor.

electricity system.

### money 10



# Switzerland suspends India's most favoured nation status

PTI NEW DELHI

 $T_{\mathrm{suspended}}^{\mathrm{he \; Swiss \; government \; has}}$ favoured nation status (MFN) clause in the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) between India and potentially Switzerland, impacting Swiss investments in India and leading to higher taxes on Indian companies operating in the European nation.

According to a December 11 statement by the Swiss finance department, the move follows the Supreme Court of India last year ruling that the MFN clause doesn't automatically trigger when a country joins the OECD if the Indian government signed a tax treaty with that country before it joined the organization. India signed tax treaties with

Colombia and Lithuania that

provided tax rates on certain types of income that were lower than the rates it provided to OECD countries. The two countries later joined OECD. Switzerland in 2021 interpreted that Colombia and

meant a 5 per cent rate for dividends would apply to the India-Switzerland tax treaty under the MFN clause, rather than 10 per cent as outlined in the agreement.

But post suspension of the MFN status, Switzerland will Lithuania joining the OECD from January 1, 2025, levy a 10

per cent tax on dividends due to Indian tax residents who claim refunds for Swiss withholding tax and for Swiss tax residents who claim foreign tax credits.

In the statement, the Swiss Finance Department announced suspension of the

application of the MFN clause of the protocol to the agreement between the Swiss Confederation and the Republic of India for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income.

Switzerland cited a 2023 ruling by Indian Supreme Court in a case relating to Vevey-headquartered Nestle for its decision to withdraw the MFN status. This means that Switzerland

will tax dividends that Indian entities will earn in that country at 10 per cent from January 1, 2025. According to the statement, in

2021, the Delhi High Court in the Nestle case upheld the applicability of the residual tax rates after taking into account the MFN clause in the double taxation avoidance treaty. However, the Indian Supreme

Court, in a decision dated October 19, 2023, reversed the necessity of aligning treaty lower court's decision and partners on the interpretation concluded that. the applicability of MFN clause provided "was not directly clauses applicable in the absence of 'notification' in accordance with Section 90 of the Income said.

Tax Act". Commenting on the decision of Swiss authority decision, Nangia Andersen M&A Tax Sandeep Partner Jhunjhunwala, said the unilateral suspension of application of the MFN clause under its tax treaty with India, and fairly. marks a significant shift in

bilateral treaty dynamics. "This suspension may lead to increased tax liabilities for Indian entities operating in Switzerland, highlighting the complexities of navigating international tax treaties in an evolving global landscape," he

said. It also underscores the

to

However, the subsequent Supreme Court ruling in 2023 contradicted the same," Maheshwari said.

and application of tax treaty Overall, he added that this could impact Swiss ensure predictability, equity, and stability in international tax investments in India as dividends would be subject to framework, Jhunjhunwala higher withholding now and income accruing on or after AKM Global, Tax Partner, January 1, 2025, may be taxed Amit Maheshwari, said that at the rates provided for in the original double taxation treaty the main reason behind the between Switzerland and

decision to withdraw MFN is of reciprocity, which ensures India, regardless of the MFN that taxpayers in both clause. JSA Advocates & Solicitors countries are treated equally Partner Kumarmanglam Vijay "Swiss authorities announced said this would especially in August 2021 that based on

impact Indian companies the MFN clause between having ODI (overseas direct Switzerland and India, the tax investment) structures with rate on dividends from subsidiaries in Switzerland qualifying shareholdings would be reduced from 10 per and will raise the Swiss withholding tax on dividends cent to 5 per cent, effective retroactively from July 5, 2018. from 5 per cent to 10 per cent from January 1, 2025.

### Delhi-Dehradun expressway to be completed within three months says Union minister Nitin Gadkari

#### PTI NEW DELHI

Union minister Nitin Gadkari on Friday said that the Delhi-Dehradun expressway, which is expected to reduce travel time between the two cities to two hours, will be completed within the next three months.

Currently, the travel time between the two cities is five to six hours Addressing 'Times Network India Economic Conclave 2024', Gadkari further said that construction Delhi-Mumbai the of Expressway is expected to be completed within two months. The travel time between the two metropolitan cities is expected to reduce to 12 hours with the completion of the expressway from the present

Jio, Tata AIG among

**Munjal awards** 

Delhi-Dehradun highway project has two packages. "A Rs 10,000 crore project has been approved for Delhi's Kalindi Kunj, extending to Faridabad. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to inaugurate the project within the next 15-20 days," Gadkari said. Gadkari also said that the Modi government is working to reduce air pollution, lower the import of fossil fuel and enhance farm income. "The ministry transport is responsible for 40 per cent of the air pollution... While a huge part of pollution is due to stubble burning in neighbouring states of Punjab and Haryana, road construction and fossil fuels

24 hours. The road transport also add to the annual and highways minister said problem," he said. The minister also pointed out that the problem of stubble burning will be solved in two years as the government is working on 400 projects that will convert 200 lakh tonnes of rice straw every year to alternate fuels. Gadkari said that his ministry is working on 36 green express highways, which will help reduce the logistics costs in the country. "India's logistics cost is 14-16 per cent compared to 8 per cent in China and 12 per cent in the US and European Union. We aim to bring this down to 9 per cent in two years," he said. According to the minister, this will push India's exports by 1.5 times and help us become more competitive.

Consumer protection regulator CCPA on Friday said it has issued notices to 17 direct selling firms, including Oriflame India, for alleged unfair practices trade and violations of consumer protection rules. The notices have been

PTI NEW DELHI

served on companies such as Vihaan Direct Selling India, Triptales Pvt Ltd, Oriens Global Marketing, Zennesa Wellness, and others for alleged service and nondeficiencies with compliance the Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) Rules, 2021. An official statement revealed that 13 of these under cases are investigation, while replies



still awaited. The response to concerns about deceptive practices in the direct selling industry. The ministry warned that some fraudulent entities are

misusing the direct selling

or money

circulation schemes. These companies often make unrealistic promises of high commissions, foreign trips, and entrepreneurship opportunities contingent on recruiting others.

CCPA issues notices to 17 direct selling firms over 'unfair practices' "The government remains steadfast in its mission to create a fair, transparent, consumer-friendly and market ecosystem," the statement said.

Consumers have been

advised to exercise caution

by checking disclosures

avoiding

carefully, avoiding recruitment-based earnings,

understanding return and

refund policies, reading contracts thoroughly and

verifying direct sellers' credentials.

The Consumer Protection (Direct Selling) Rules, 2021, were introduced to regulate

direct selling entities and

protect consumer interests.

These rules complement

other existing regulatory

frameworks, including the

Consumer Protection (E-

Commerce) Rules, 2020, and

the Legal Metrology (Packaged Commodities) Rules, 2011.

The consumer affairs ministry warned that such fraudulent practices violate consumer trust and expose individuals to potential financial risks.

The complete list of companies served notices includes Oriflame India, Vihaan Direct Selling India, Triptales Pvt Ltd, Oriens Global Marketing, Zennesa Wellness, Orgolife Solutions, Juncture Marketing, Wolte Marketing, Preet Life Care, Horizon, Enroots biotorium Network, Meghdoot Marketing, Suii Dhaaga Lifestyle, Winmarg Business. Avusratna Natural Herbal, Biothon Lifecare, and Okflip India Pvt Ltd.

### **TVS Motors, Reliance** No staff fired, it was campaign to highlight workplace stress: YesMadam co-founder winners of 17th BML

### PTI NEW DELHI

fter beauty services After VesMadam faced backlash on Monday over a purported internal email leaked on social media suggesting the termination of staff who indicated workplace stress, the company cofounder on Friday clarified that no staff was fired and



he said. He added that the campaign was conceptualised with the genuine objective of raising awareness about mental health challenges in corporate and startup environments. "Our intentions were rooted in

addressing workplace stress

and fostering a healthier work

### Sebi extends timeline to submit comments on proposed appointment process of key officials at MIIs

LinkedIn profile identifies her as a UX copywriter at the company, on Monday posted on LinkedIn, "What's happening at YesMadam? First vou conduct a random survey and then fire us overnight we're feeling because stressed?'

She attached a screenshot showing an email from the company's HR official, which

consultation paper issued in roles. Sebi on Friday extended the deadline to December 31 November, proposed a process for the appointment of KMPs (key managerial personnel) - Compliance Officer, Chief Risk Officer, for submitting public comments on a proposal on the process to appoint key officials of stock exchanges Chief Technology Officer, and Chief Information Security market infrastructure institutions Officer - of an MII and cooling-off period for KMPs, and a cooling-off period before they can join a including MDs and directors,

The agency should submit recommendations to the Nomination and Remuneration Committee (NRC) for evaluating the recommendations and forwarding them to both the governing board of the MII and Sebi.

Thereafter, Sebi should review NRC's he

### from three companies are model to promote illegal pyramid action comes in

#### PNS NEW DELHI

TVS Motors, Reliance Jio, Tata AIG, OYO, ONGC Videsh and HPCL have been adjudged winners of the 17th BML Munjal Awards for Business Excellence in Learning & Development. TVS Motors won in the Private Sector (manufacturing) category, Reliance Jio Infocomm and Tata AIG General Insurance won in the Private Sector won in the Private Sector (Services) category, Oravel Stays (OYO) won in the Emerging Stars category, ONGC Videsh won in the Public Sector category and Hindustan Petroleum

(HPCL) won in the Sustained Excellence category. Union Minister Piyush Goyal and India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant graced the occasion and gave away the awards.

The BML Munjal Awards annually celebrate excellence in Learning and Development (L&D) and are a tribute to the enduring legacy of the late Dr. Brijmohan Lall Munjal, founder of the Hero Group. The six winners were eventually picked by an independent jury comprising of Sanjay Nayar, Founder and Chairman, Sorin Investment Fund, Gopal Srinivasan, Chairman & Managing Director, TVS Capital Funds, Rajat Dhawan, India Managing Partner & Senior Partner, McKinsey & Company, Vishesh Chandiok, CEO, Grant Thornton Bharat, Padmaja Ruparel, Co-Indian Angel Founder. Network, Simrit Kaur, Principal, Shri Ram College of Commerce, Rajeev Dubey, Editor In Chief, Fortune India and Sunil Kant Munjal, Chairman, Hero Enterprise. Announcing this year's awards, Sunil Kant Munjal, Chairman of Hero Enterprise, stated, "People are the only assets that appreciate as time goes on, and they need to be placed at the centre of every model, whether it is for a business enterprise or a social venture."

called it a marketing initiative no firing mail was sent to

stress and mental health". YesMadam campaign was to highlight an important issue, but it negative reactions. "It is import

"It is important to clarify that of mental health awareness,"



the approach taken was inappropriate and led to unfavourable feedback. I deeply regret any confusion or discomfort caused by this initiative," he said. He acknowledged that the "execution fall short and

culture.

However.

"execution fell short and triggered unintended emotions". whose Anushka Dutta,

suggested that the company was laying off employees who reported workplace stress in an internal survey. Noida - head quartered YesMadam

secured investments from Lenskart's Peyush Bansal, Sugar's Vineeta Singh, OYO's Ritesh Aggarwal and boAt's Aman Gupta on Shark Tank India.

competing institution December 12 for submitting comments.

other

PTI NEW DELHI

and

In a statement on Friday, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said, "It has been decided to extend the timeline to submit the public comments on the consultation paper till December 31, 2024."

including public interest Earlier, the deadline was directors of an MII joining a competing MII.

On the proposed process for appointment, Sebi stated that comments are received, the market infrastructure institutions (MIIs)

risks seamlessly, he said.

comprising stock exchanges, clearing corporations and depositories, should engage an independent external agency to identify suitable

The regulator, in its candidates for specific KMP

recommendations and provide comments within a specified time frame. If no governing board may assume Sebi has no objections.

The governing board should make the final appointment decision, considering NRC's recommendations and Sebi's comments, if any.

### TAC Security gets global certification for cyber risk assessment of IoT devices

#### CHANDIGARH NEW DELHI

Cybersecurity firm TAC Security on Friday said it has received certification from global body ioXT to conduct testing and risk assessment of Internet of Thing (IoT) devices for enterprises. TAC Security is now empowered to conduct

IoT security assessments under the esteemed ioXt certification programme, guaranteeing that connected devices meet

security, transparency, and upgradability the highest global standards, the company



said in a statement. TAC With this, joins Security

an

for a safer digital future, it said. management platform. The company intends to roll out the services from February 2025. "Being approved as an ioXt authorized lab empowers us to ensure exclusive league of eight manufacturers and companies worldwide, enterprises meet global further cementing its security benchmarks.

leadership in driving This milestone is a advanced evaluations significant leap in our significant leap in our it said. world's largest TAC Security said it will foray into the IoT security market, offering security chief Technology assessments through its ESOF vulnerability TAC Security will incorporate IoT security the company intends to world's

Trishneet Founder and CEO, TAC mission to become the Security, said, "Becoming an ioXt authorized lab is a largest testament to TAC Security's unmatched expertise, cutting-edge infrastructure, and commitment to global assessments into its ESOF Vulnerability Management Portfolio, offering organisations a comprehensive platform security benchmarks. With an estimated 25.4 billion IoT devices expected by 2030, IoT security is critical for to manage IT (Information Technology), safeguarding smart cities, healthcare systems, industrial automation, OT (Operation Technology), and IoT and smart homes,

company said, adding that the market i Arora, projected to grow to USD 59 billion by 2030.

TAC Security aims to achieve 10,000 global customers by March 2026. The company also has

other certifications, including ISO 17025, Google CASA Assessor, Google MASA Assessor, AppDecence Alliance Security Assessor, CERT-IN Emplaned (Government of India), and CREST Certified Penetration Testing Company.

### IFSEC India 2024 kicks off, showcasing cutting-edge security solutions

#### PNS 🗖 NEW DELHI

The three-day security rexpo and conference IFSEC India 2024, billed as the largest in South Asia, the largest The The The South Asia, the largest of the South Asia, the South Asia, kicked off on Thursday at ritical assets still at risk of cyber threats, integrating over 300 leading security and fire safety brands, featuring more than 5,000 products from cutting-edge CCTV and video surveillance surveillance systems to biometrics, RFID and perimeter security perimeter security Security Association technologies. Deputy High (APSA), American Society Commissioner, UK High for Industrial Security Commission in India, (ASIS) Delhi, Ahmedabad, Christina Scott said, "India's success in executing the Electronic

world's largest democratic Association of India (ESAI), Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC) Delhi and process with minimal risks Chapters, Chennai International Institute of Security and Safety Management said, "With 35 percent of critical assets still at risk of (IISSM), Central Association for Private Security Industry (CAPSI), Global Association for Corporate Services (GACS), and Mitkat Advisory. India's security landscape is undergoing a prominent associations, including Asian Professional remarkable transformation, with cities increasingly adopting advanced solutions Security Association (APSA), American Society Association such as video analytics, facial recognition, and integrated CCTV systems, driving the shift toward smarter and and Mumbai Chapters, safer urban environments. Security

### Dhankhar to inaugurate the Geoscience Museum in Gwalior PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar will inaugurate the GSI Geoscience Museum in Gwalior on Sunday. Madhya Pradesh Governor

Mangubhai Patel, Union Minister of Communications and Development of North Eastern Region Jyotiraditya M Scindia, and Minister of State for Coal and Mines Satish Chandra Dubey will participate in the event, the

mines ministry said in a statement on Friday. Housed in the Victoria Market Building, the state-ofthe-art museum is set to become a hub for geoscience public education and engagement, it said.

The museum represents an initiative by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) to showcase the wonders of earth sciences, while promoting scientific temperament and knowledgescientific sharing among the public, it said. The museum features two galleries designed to raise awareness about earth, atmospheric, and ocean sciences, as well as the evolution of life, as per the statement. Developed in coordination with the Municipal Gwalior Corporation and the National Council of Science Museums (NCSM), the museum represents GSI's commitment to advancing geoscience literacy.

### INBRIEF

### 54TH GNDU ANNUAL INTER-COLLEGE ATHLETICS MEET FROM DECEMBER 14

the

AMARAVATI: Guru Nanak Dev University is all set to host the 54th Annual Inter-College Athletics Meet (Men & Women) 2024-25 from 14th to 16th December 2024 at the GNDU campus. This event will bring together top athletic talent from colleges across the region to compete in a variety of track and field events.

### BSES HONORED ON THE GLOBAL STAGE: WINS 8 GOLDS AT ICQCC 2024, SRI LANKA

We are delighted to share that BSES Rajdhani Power Limited (BRPL) and BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) have achieved international acclaim by winning 8 Gold Awards at the prestigious International Convention for Quality Control Circles (ICQCC) 2024, held in Colombo, Sri Lanka from November 11th to 14th, 2024.



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# ne pioneer

[ART & CULTURE] VIVACILY

ndian classical dance is beautiful and spiritual form of expression that connects the to the divine. artist SAMASRAVA: An Ode to Classical Heritage was а stunning tribute to this tradition, offering a rich, immersive experience for the audience at Stein Auditorium, India Habitat Centre. The performances were not only visually captivating but emotionally resonant, bringing out the timeless relevance of these art forms in today's world.

The evening opened with Arunima Ghosh's Odissi performance, which immediately captured the audience's attention. Her graceful movements and deep emotional connection to the piece were evident throughout. In Yahi Madhava, she portrayed Radha's inner turmoil and vulnerability with such sensitivity that it left a lasting impact. The subtlety of her facial expressions and the fluidity of her movements beautifully conveyed Radha's frustration and sorrow, giving the audience a glimpse into the emotional complexity of the character.

Vinod Kevin Bachan's performance, Devi Mahamaya: The Rise of the Divine Shakti, was a powerful display of strength and grace. Bachan's portrayal of Durga embodied the goddess's divine energy and formidable presence. Each movement exuded confidence, reflecting the unstoppable force of the feminine divine. The intensity of his performance reminded the audience of the spiritual power that classical dance can convey and how it can bring mythological stories to life in a way that resonates deeply.

Arohi Munshi's Bharatnatyam pieces also made a strong impression. In Shringara Lahiri, she captured the essence of the goddess through fluid movements and expressions that spoke to the beauty and rhythm of the divine. Her portrayal of Yashoda calling out to Krishna in Krishna ni begane baro was equally deep. The tenderness in her gestures and expressions beautifully conveyed the maternal love of Yashoda drawing the audience into the emotional



SAMASRAVA: An Ode to Classical Heritage beautifully celebrated Indian classical dance, showcasing its enduring relevance and emotional depth through dynamic performances, says SAKSHI PRIYA



world of the character.

Diksha Rawat's Kathak performance concluded the evening, bringing the rhythm and dynamism of the art form to the forefront. Her Taal Ashtamangal was a brilliant demonstration of her technical skill, with intricate footwork and rhythmic precision that left the audience in wonder. Her second piece, a traditional Banaras Gharana thumri, was emotionally charged as she portraved Radha's plea to Krishna. The intensity of her abhinaya and the complexity of the rhythm made this performance a fitting

finale to the evening. What made SAMASRAVA special was the variety of classical dance forms, each showcasing its unique style, yet all communicating the same emotional and spiritual depth. The dancers not only demonstrated their technical brilliance but also their ability to tell compelling stories through movement, emotion and expression. The evening was a celebration of the enduring relevance of Indian classical dance, a reminder that these ancient art forms continue to evoke deep emotions and speak to the human experience in ways that resonate today.

This event was a powerful reminder of the enduring legacy of classical dance and its ability to connect audiences with the divine, the emotional and the eternal. SAMASRAVA reaffirmed the importance of preserving and promoting India's rich cultural heritage while making it accessible to contemporary audiences. The performances were a beautiful reflection of the grace and spiritual power of classical dance, leaving the audience with a sense of wonder and appreciation for these timeless art forms.

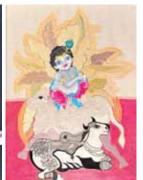
PHOTO: PANKAJ KUMAR











"Art reflects a culture's spirit, capturing its traditions, dreams and enduring beauty"

he Parampara Series 2024 at New Delhi's Kamani Auditorium brought together three evenings of exceptional artistry, celebrating India's classical dance and music heritage. Each performance honoured the depth and diversity of the country's cultural traditions, showcasing the seamless blend of history and creativity that continues to inspire across generations. The series opened with a

riveting Kuchipudi presentation by the renowned Raja Radha Reddy Repertory. Their storytelling and precision enthralled the audience, setting an inspiring tone for the evenings to come. This was followed by the soulful Hindustani vocals of Mahesh Kale, whose emotive artistry left a lasting impression.

The second evening shone a spotlight on the SRJAN Ensemble, who brought the intricate elegance of Odissi to life through their refined movements and expressions. Accompanying this visual splendour was the Hindustani flute recital by maestro Rakesh Chaurasia, whose



The Parampara Series 2024 in New Delhi celebrated the richness of India's classical dance and music, showcasing its cultural legacy, writes **TEAM VIVA** 

melodies resonated deeply with the audience. Audiences not mesmerising experienced performances but also the stories embedded into each art form, reflecting centuries of cultural evolution. Every gesture, note and rhythm carried forward a legacy down through passed generations, offering a meaningful connection to India's artistic roots. The final night featured the

graceful Mohiniyattam performance by Neena Prasad and her group, followed by an evocative classical music act by Tal Fry, which brought the event to a memorable close. The event witnessed attendance from notable personalities such as Union Minister

only

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and Rajiv Pratap Rudy, among others, underlining its cultural significance. The 28th edition of the Parampara Series was a celebration of India's cultural heritage. As the performances concluded they left behind a deep sense of connection to tradition and artistry. Such events keep

India's rich legacy alive, inspiring people across generations.

# Brushstrokes of Devotion

n the serene surroundings of the Open Palm Court at the India Habitat Centre, Shruti Gupta Kasana's solo exhibition, Sampurn Vrindavan, offered a unique and thought-provoking exploration of Lord Krishna's life. The exhibition focused on three key themes: Krishna's childhood in Vrindavan, his life in the kingdom of Dwarka and his deep affection for cows. Kasana's artistic interpretation brought these stories to life in a way that was both captivating and immersive.

The exhibition featured a combination of vibrant acrylic paintings and mixed-media works that reflected the essence of Krishna's life and teachings. The themes of Anterdweep, depicting the underwater city of Dwarka and Krishna's bond with cows were particularly striking, capturing his tenderness and divine connection with all living beings. The works portrayed Krishna not only as a powerful deity but as a compassionate and loving figure whose legacy continues to inspire.

In addition to the paintings, Kasana's artistic vision extended into fashion. with a series of statement knitwear

#### By **TEAM VIVA**

he India International Centre Annexe recently hosted a - compelling photo exhibition, Portraits of Persistence: Enduring Communities of North Bihar, as part of the Visual Kathā series. It was inaugurated by Sunita Narain, Director General of the Centre for Science and Environment, the exhibition offered a powerful portrayal of North Bihar's rural communities and their resilience in the face of relentless annual flooding. Curated by Eklavya Prasad, a social development professional and photographer, the exhibition presented a poignant visual narrative of submerged homes, devastated and fractured farmlands. infrastructure. Prasad's photographs documented not only the immediate Amidst these challenges, the solutions and innovative coping impacts of flooding but also the long-

Sampurn Vrindavan by Shruti Gupta Kasana beautifully captures the essence of Krishna's life through stunning art, fashion, and eco-conscious design, SAKSHI PRIYA



pieces incorporated into the exhibition. These garments, made with a mix of hand embroidery, applique patchwork and Bengali Kantha techniques, were designed not just as wearable pieces of art, but as representations of the themes within the exhibition. The blend of traditional craft and modern design created a dynamic interaction

between fashion and fine art, adding an interesting layer to the overall experience. Through bold strokes and delicate textures, the artist brought to life the stories of Krishna with remarkable emotional depth. The use of mixed media, including acrylics and textiles, added a layered richness to the works, making each painting not just a visual experience but a tactile one.

The fusion of art and fashion also brought a unique touch, with knitwear pieces featuring hand embroidery and applique work that mirrored the themes of Krishna's life. Kasana's work also reflected her commitment to sustainability. She has been with jute, a experimenting biodegradable fabric, using it as a base for her paintings. This eco-friendly approach demonstrates her innovative thinking, as she works to combine art

with environmental consciousness. By blending jute with cotton, she has created a unique medium that supports her artistic vision while also promoting sustainability in the art world. The exhibition offered a deep,

meaningful look into the life of Krishna, celebrating not only his mythology but also his love for nature and compassion for all beings. Kasana's work, through its vibrant colours, intricate details and thoughtprovoking themes, invited visitors to engage with Krishna's story in a modern context, while also highlighting the artist's versatility and innovation.

Sampurn Vrindavan was a powerful artistic journey into the heart of Krishna's life and teachings. It brought together the worlds of mythology, fashion and sustainability in a way that felt both fresh and deeply rooted in tradition. Kasana's unique vision and skill left a lasting impression, offering a new lens through which to appreciate the eternal message of love, compassion and devotion that Krishna embodies.

PHOTO: PANKAJ KUMAR

Prasad, reflecting on his nearly two decades of grassroots work with Megh Pyne Abhiyan, shared that the exhibition was born from his desire to inspire sustainable interventions for flood-affected regions. His images shed light on the everyday heroism of these communities, demonstrating their strength in adapting to nature's adversities.

Sunita Narain, in her inaugural address, commended the series for its depth and impact. She highlighted how the exhibition went beyond capturing the seasonal aftermath of floods to reveal the year-round struggles of these communities. She also stressed its relevance in the era of climate change, urging the need for focused and sustainable solutions. The exhibition concluded, leaving visitors with a profound appreciation for the resilience of North Bihar's flood-affected communities.



**VISUAL ODE TO** 

livelihoods and societal structures. showcasing exhibition celebrated stories of

mechanisms.

term transformations it imposes on adaptation, ingenuity, and survival, community-driven

### sports 12



# **Bumrah is a combination of legendary pacers, says Chappell**

#### PTI SYDNEY

the qualities of pace legends such as Dennis Lillee, Andy Roberts and Richard Hadlee but at the same time is forging his own legacy, one that is set to inspire future generations of pacemen, feels former India

Border Gavaskar Trophy. "What sets Bumrah apart is his combination of skills: Marshall's (Malcolm) adaptability, Lillee's aggression, Richard Hadlee's control, Roberts' strategy, Wasim (Akram) and Waqar's (Younis) reverse swing, (Glenn) McGrath's precision, (Dale) Steyn's explosiveness, and (Kagiso) Rabada's modern versatility."

"As Nasser Hussain aptly observed, "He's the complete bowler. As he has had back

surgery already, it is not certain he will have a long asprit Bumrah embodies career, but if he does, his name will be mentioned in the same breath as the champions above," Chappell wrote in the 'Sydney Morning Herald'. An all-format bowler, Bumrah has reinforced his status as the best bowler in the world several times including coach Greg Chappell. He also said that Bumrah is the only player standing between Australia and the "While the legends of

yesteryear established the foundations, Bumrah is carving his own legacy – one that promises to inspire future generations of pacemen." The former Australia captain said Bumrah's lethal yorkers and unsettling bounce evoked memories of Lillee's raw aggression on the field.

"Lillee was a warrior, combining raw aggression with psychological prowess. I opposed him many times in domestic cricket and watched his era.

him from close quarters



against the best batsmen of his probing line and length, allied to his guile and "His ability to make it hard for

batsmen to score runs with determination, made him the champion that he was. Bumrah, though less overtly

combative, channels Lillee's ability to unsettle batsmen. ability to unsettle batsmen. His deadly yorkers and disconcerting bounce – especially with his unorthodox release point and trajectory – echo Lillee's capacity to dictate terms. "Bumrah's quiet intensity and precision make him a nightmare, much like Lillee's

unrelenting aggression." Another great of the game was Roberts, who combined moment and try to hit across their deliveries, you become even more vulnerable to pace with strategic brilliance. Chappell felt Bumrah's 2018 performance at the MCG LBWs and bowled. I would use the same approach against Bumrah," Chappell added. The 31-year-old has consistently churned out stellar performances and is where he used variations to get the better of the batters was reminiscent of the way Roberts operated.

"Bumrah shares Roberts' cerebral approach. Both bowlers use subtle variations to outfox batsmen, relying on strategy rather than brute force. Bumrah's spell in the 2018 Boxing Day Test against the go to bowler when the Indian team is need of wickets. 2018 Boxing Day Test against Marshall's Australia - culminating in 6-33 - was a modern echo of Roberts' game-changing

bursts."

the ball leaving the hand. "The danger of a bowler who

zeroes in on the stumps, as

Roberts did and Bumrah

does, is that if you relax for a

ability to seam and swing the ball under cloudy skies have been pivotal, evoking the "Roberts had a loping and relaxed run-up and a very pivotal, evolution uncertainty that faced against strong shoulder action like Bumrah, and skidded onto same batsmen you quite quickly, so it was important to be focused on Marshall.

"As Ian Botham famously remarked of Marshall, "He gave you no respite." Today, batsmen echo similar sentiments about Bumrah," Chappell wrote.

Drawing comparison to Hadlee, Chappell said "Bumrah's meticulousness draws comparisons to Hadlee. His mastery of English conditions, where he averages 22.02, and his ability to exploit even the slightest movement resemble Hadlee's clinical dismantling of batting orders.

"Like Hadlee, Bumrah's focus "With 151 wickets at an on perfecting every delivery average of 21.03 in just 30 has made him indispensable Tests, his ability to excel in diverse conditions recalls in critical moments. Ĥe is also carrying the Indian pace dominance. attack at present as Hadlee did Bumrah's reverse swing on abrasive surfaces and his for New Zealand in his era," he added.

Dismissals during first innings Ignore the criticism, it comes with the territory: Anand to Gukesh did affect his flow, admits Gill

#### PTI BRISBANE

other end affected his game in the Adelaide Test but the Indian batting group would deliver a stronger first-innings effort in what is now effectively a three-match series.

Gill didn't play the first Test due to a finger injury but looked good in his brief innings of 31 and 28 during the pink ball Test at Adelaide which India lost by 10 wickets.

WICKETS. "As a batting group, we are looking to post a big total first up. That's been the key discussion and every batter has his own game plan," Gill said in the pre-match press conference after the team completely fuller ball. These scored 150 and 180 in the first innings at Perth and Adelaide respectively.

Gill believes that he wouldn't facing 18 balls on the trot," Shubman Gill admitted that the fall of wickets at the the rand effected bit other end.

"I still have the freedom as a expressed confidence that batter. One of the challenges upon myself."

> concentration. may be one ball in four overs and then when I faced a

curb his natural game Gill explained. India have had at least six scores of 150 or less in recent times and Gill admitted that

batter. One of the challenges is whether you can play the game you want to play, irrespective of what's happening at the other end and irrespective of scorecard. "I faltered in the first innings because of what happend because of what happened at the other end and I take that

There was a four-over period in which Gill faced just one ball and that affected his "And there was a period when I didn't face much –

into stardom. after 2021 with the team, definitely it felt very are challenges you face. You might not face a ball for four nostalgic." might not face a ball for four Skipper Rohit Sharma didn't attend the optional training

session and when asked about his absence, Gill replied: "This was an optional session and he has

already practised a lot." Recently, former India skipper Sunil Gavaskar had criticised out-of-form players the piece of stat isn't lost upon the batting group. He said it is now a three-match for not turning up in optional net sessions despite having enough breaks in between matches. "Adelaide Test, we didn't do well but the series is still 1-1. We will treat it as a threematch Test series and if we

Gill felt that the Gabba strip was a good one to bat on and India would fare much better in a traditional day Test.

match lest series and if we win this one, we will have advantage going into Melbourne and Sydney." Gill was nostalgic as he walked into the Gabba for "In a pink ball game, it is a little bit harder to gauge the seam from the hand of a the first time since the 2021 Test where he was the topbowler, especially when you are playing at night. We are a bit more used to playing with scorer in the run-chase with a fine 91 that catapulted him the red ball during the day Walking into the stadium than the dynamics of a pink ball test, we don't play as much."

tracks Australian primarily good for batting, was his assessment.

#### PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Legendary chess player Viswanathan Anand on Friday asked D. Gukesh to ignore those questioning the standard of the World Championship title showdown with China's Ding Liren, saying criticism always comes with success. Indian Grandmaster Gukesh

Indian Grandmaster Gukesh made history on Thursday, becoming the youngest-ever to win the world title defeating Liren in the 14th and final game of the championship in Singapore. Former world champion Vladimir Kramnik was not impressed with the quality of

impressed with the quality of chess on display during the match, calling it the "end of chess as we know it."

Kramnik expressed his frustration over the game's quality, calling a critical blunder by Ding Liren "childish". In his reaction, Kramnik wrote on 'X', "No comment.



Sad. End of chess as we know it."

In another tweet, he said, "Never yet has a WC title been decided by such a childish one-move blunder." Five-time world champion, Norway's Magnus Carlsen too has been critical of the quality on display in earlier rounds, saying, "This does not look like a game between two World Championship contenders. It just looks like maybe the second round or third round of an open tournament."

However, Anand, the five-time world champion and



Gukesh's mentor, said he saw "history being made by Gukesh".

"I feel very happy. I was literally watching history being made yesterday," Anand told PTI Videos. "It (criticism) comes with every match. To be honest, I think it just comes with the think it just comes with the territory. You ignore it and that's all. You know Gukesh's achievement, the whole qualification, everything and his concomitant rise. I mean if you look at the Olympiad, he showed that he's actually circling around, trying to find a way through," Anand become a much stronger said. player.

year, so many good results in Toronto and he's here. So this stuff (criticism) just comes with it. You cannot expect to become world champion and not face some random criticism," added Anand. The championship match seemed destined for a draw. However, Liren faltered under pressure and

"He won the Candidates this

committed a blunder. "Most of us had written the game off (as a draw) by this

point. If Ding had brought his bishop back, Gukesh would have had a long task to make any progress. But then, suddenly, the game turned, and he won. It was fantastic," he added. Anand praised the psychological depth of the young champion's approach. "Gukesh was not playing aggressive or anything. He had an extra pawn and was

### Hazlewood replaces Boland in Australia XI for third Test against India

### **Treesa-Gayatri bow out of** No. E-384531/24

are

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#### PTI BRISBANE

Australian captain Pat ACummins on Friday announced that pacer Josh Hazlewood will replace Scott Boland in his playing XI for the third Test against India after having recovered from a side strain.

The injury had forced Hazlewood to sit out of the Pink Ball Test in Adelaide last week. Cummins exuded confidence that Hazlewood would pull through the match

would puil inough the match without any "hiccups". "He had a really good bowl yesterday, he had another bowl in Adelaide a couple of days previously. Him and the medical team are really confident," he said on the eve of the game at the Gabba.

Cummins said he had to take the ball away from Hazlewood at Perth to prevent his injury getting worse.

"We've seen it a few times where Josh has pushed through to get through a Test match and a little bit of soreness turns into a month

or two of injury. "So, we made the call then that it probably wasn't worth the risk of keeping him bowling. I think he bowled an extra two overs leading into tea break and he said it felt ok, but I just kind of thought from there, 'that's enough," said Cummins.

The Australian captain was sympathetic for Boland after the veteran pacer made a stirring return to Test cricket at Adelaide after last year's Ashes.

Boland had a match-haul of prized scalp of star India end-all," he added.

### batter Virat Kohli in the

second innings. "It's tough. He was fantastic in Adelaide. Unfortunately, he's spent quite a bit of time on the bench over the last 18 months and whenever he plays he's fantastic.

"It's a shame for Scotty, but still a fair bit to play out this series. I'd be surprised if he didn't play again in this series," said the New South Wales player.

Green is fading at Gabba The green tinge on the Brisbane deck was significantly reduced on the match eve.

Once a fortress of the Aussies, India had breached the 'Gabba' barrier during the 2020-21 series to end the hosts' winning run dating back to 1988. After that the West Indies too

beat Australia here, riding on the back of pacer Shamar Ioseph's heroics.

"I looked at it yesterday – it looked like a good wicket, like it has been the last few years," said Cummins.

"A bit of sun baking it the last couple of days (means) I don't think it's as green and leafy as it was against South Africa," he said. Cummins was referring to the Test against South Africa has a south Af South Africa here in 2022 which ended inside two days. The 31-year-old also did not read too much into that recent vulnerability of his side in Brisbane.

"It's just a venue really. We play at dozens and dozens of venues each year. It's always good coming back to a place that's familiar... but the scoreboard starts at 0-0, so five wickets that included the the venue isn't the be-all and

### PTI HANGZHOU

series for his side.

ndian women's doubles pair of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand missed out on a semifinal spot at the BWF World Tour Finals after losing to Japan's Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida in straight games in their third and final group A match here on Friday. Treesa and Gayatri, who won their maiden BWF Super 300 title at Syed Modi International in Lucknow recently, lost 17-21 13-21 to their world number 4

opponents in 49 minutes. It was the fourth defeat for the

Indian pair against the Paris Olympics bronze medallists Japanese rivals in five meetings. World number 13 Treesa and Gayatri, the only Indians to have qualified for the prestigious season-ending tournament, needed a win to secure a spot in the knockout

stage of the tournament. On Wednesday, the Indians had narrowly lost to world No.1 pair Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning of China in their 5-3. Thereafter, the Japanese pair zoomed ahead and a six-point burst took them to 18-10. Treesa and Gayatri narrowed

5-5.

opening group match before stunning the Malaysian duo of down the deficit to 17-19 but Matsuvama Shida and prevailed.

After the change of sides, Treesa and Gayatri had a slender 4-2 lead but Matsuyama and Shida turned the tables quickly and entered the break with a four-point

advantage. The Japanese pair kept a firm grip on the rallies and slowly and steadily kept moving ahead to eventually shut the door on the Indians.

### **Hojlund scores twice for ManUnited**

### AP LONDON

 $R_{\rm off}$  the bench and Manchester United rallied to beat Viktoria Plzen 2-1 in the Europa League.

The Denmark striker netted in the 88th minute after collecting Bruno Fernandes' pass off a free kick to seal the victory and put United into the top eight of the standings. Hojlund replaced Marcus Rashford in the 56th and scored an equalizer six minutes later after Amad Diallo's shot was deflected by

goalkeeper Martin Jedlicka into his path for an easy finish. The 21-year-old Hojlund also scored twice in

the previous round, when United beat

Norwegian team Bodø/Glimt 3-2, and has five goals in his six appearances in the second-tier competition.

"It feels good to have scored two goals but I am more happy with the win," Hojlund said. My instructions? Go out there and score two goals! Just to use my qualities, run the channels and be assertive in front of goal."

United had come off two straight losses in the English Premier League, 2-0 away to Arsenal, and 3-2 at Old Trafford to Nottingham Forest that left the club 13th and eight points adrift of the top four as progress looked slow under new coach Ruben Amorim.

Matej Vydra, who previously played for Burnley and Watford, opened the scoring three minutes into the second half.

contractor under PWD (Building), Assam having experience of similar nature of work in Assam. Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal i.e. www.assamtenders.gov.in and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours from 12-12-2024 (1100 hours) to 26-12-2024 (1400 hours). The bidders must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in

SI	Name of work	Approximate value of work (in lakh)	Time of completion (in month)	Earnest Money Deposit (in Rs.)		Tender cost
				General (in Rs.)	Reserved category (in Rs.)	(in Rs.)
1	Repair & renovation works including provision of earthing electrical works, installation of airconditioner, interior painting, internal water supply, external water supply, sanitary etc. at the O/o Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha, Assam, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19	Rs. 67.80	75 days	Rs. 1,35,600.00	Rs. 67,800.00	Rs. 1356.00

#### Note:

1. Online mode of submission for both technical and financial bid is mandatory.

2.A hard copy of the technical bid submitted online is also to be submitted at the office of the undersigned on or before 26-12-2024 up to 1400 hours for evaluation purpose. For any discrepancy between the online bid and the hard copy of the bid, the online bid will govern and will be considered for evaluation.

3.Along-with the hard copy of the technical bid, the following documents must also be submitted on or before 26-12-2024 up to 1400 hrs :-

a.Original Power of Attorney for signing the bid, if any.

b.Copy of bid security/ EMD submitted online at www.assamtenders.gov.in.

c.Copy of tender fee submitted online at www.assamtenders.gov.in.

4. Bidders are advised to scan their technical papers at a resolution of 100 dpi (in colour mode) in ".pdf" format for multiple pages with maximum file size of 25 MB. If the file size exceeds 25 MB, the bidders are advised to create multiple files and upload the same in "Upload Additional Document" stage.

5. In the event of date of bid opening being a holiday, the activities will take place on the next working day. 6.All the interested bidders are requested to read the bid document carefully before submission of their bid.



Sd/-Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha Axom Kahilipara, Guwahati-19

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Printed and Published by Shobori Ganguli for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow-226016 and Printed at The Indian Express Pvt Ltd., C-26 Amausi Industrial Area, Nadarganj, Lucknow. Editor-in-Chief Shobori Ganguli, Resident Editor Vijay Prakash Singh. RNI No. 2016/57. Lucknow Telephones: EPABX: 4036600 Fax: 2345582. Allahabad Office: (0532) 2420818, 2421018, 3290460. Kanpur Office: (0512) 2304006, 2304416. Varanasi Office: (0542) 2414294, 2414295. Delhi Office: 100K, Milap Bhawan, 8/A, Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-40110455. Corporate Office:- 201-205, 2nd Floor, Pratap Bhawan 5, B.S.Z. Marg, New Delhi-110002 Phone: 011-69342500.



Pearly Tan and Thinaah Muralitharan in their second match to keep their hopes alive. But the Japanese pair proved too hot to handle for the Indian duo, who stayed level

with Matsuyama and Shida till