Late City Vol.34 Issue 206 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable



OPINION 6 PUSHPA KAMAL DAHAL FALLS FROM GRACE

PUTIN MEETS SYRIAN PREZ IN KREMLIN

WORLD 9

MONEY 10 MARKETS EXTEND LOSSES FOR 5TH SESSION

NEW DELHI, FRIDAY JULY 26, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹4

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11 SPORTS

J&K on high alert ahead of PM visit

JAMMU/NEW DELHI

The security forces have been kept in a state of high alert ahead of the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the 25th Kargil Vijay Diwas on Friday in Drass. This will be the PM's first visit to the region after recent spate of terror attacks and also a few high-level review meetings in this regard held in the national Capital with two of them chaired by Modi himself.

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi who landed in Thursday Srinagar early morning visited forward areas along the Line of Control in Kashmir valley to review the preparedness of the forces involved counterinfiltration and counterterror operations.

The Army Chief later flew to Kargil to supervise the arrangements. Vital security installations were also kept on high-alert along the Jammu-Pathankot National Highway following the sighting of seven suspected terrorists in a village of the Pathankot district of the neighbouring State, Punjab.

Several schools at Army installations in the Jammu region and along the highway



Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi during his visit at the forward locations of Chinar Corps. Dwivedi also reviewed the security situation along the Line of Control during his visit

were directed to remain closed till July 29 as a precautionary measure. Massive search operations were also launched by the police, and paramilitary forces in the border areas of Kathua

(Jammu) and Pathankot to track down the suspects. During his brief stay, the Prime Minister will also carry out the first blast of the Shinkun La Tunnel Project,

virtually.

Continued on Page 2

Modi meets Maha NDA partners to smoothen ties

RAJESH KUMAR MUMBAI/NEW DELHI

With a lot or complications due to the breakaway factions of two important constituents – MCP and Shiv Sena — in Maharashtra, the Central leadership of BJP, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has personally started taking stock of the situation. The State is to go to Assembly elections soon.

A day after Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar demanded nearly 90 seats for the NCP faction led by him during his meeting with Home Minister Amit Shah, the PM on Thursday met MPs of NDA allies in Maharashtra and discussed the political situation ahead of the upcoming Assembly polls in the state. Among those whom the Prime Minister met included Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, Piyush Goyal, and others. The BJP won just nine of the

28 seats it contested in the Lok Sabha polls, down from 23 it won in 2019. Besides the loss of Lok Sabha seats, BJP's vote percentage decline in the State this elections has caused a huge worry. In 2024, BJP got 27.84 per cent votes which has been reduced to 26.1 per cent this time.

Continued on Page 2

Rain-ravaged Maharashtra seeks Army, Navy help

At least three people were electrocuted in Pune and three others feared trapped under the debris of three collapsed villas in a hill slide at Lavasa, even as the heavy rains wreaked havoc in Pune, Mumbai and various parts of Maharashtra, prompting the Maharashtra Government to seek the assistance of the Army and Navy to deal with the monsoon-related incidents.

Many parts of Pune lay thick sheets of water as the heavy rains ravaged the city since Wednesday night, intense rains battered Mumbai, Thane, Palghar and other surrounding areas resulting in heavy flooding in low-lying areas disruption in train and flight operations. As precautionary measure, the authorities declared holidays for schools and colleges in

Pune, Mumbai and Thane. Three mobile snacks stall owners were electrocuted when they tried to move their handcarts to safety through the flood waters near Z bridge at around 3.30 am in Pune, while three others were feared trapped nearby Lavasa city after a hill-slide buried three

A Nepali boy Shiv Jidbahadur Pariyar (18) was among three persons killed in Pune, while two others killed in an electrocution incident were identified Akash Mane (21) and Abhishek Ghanekar (25). The State's cultural, academic



and IT capital has been clobbered by torrential rain since last night leaving a trail of destruction, paralysing normal life as the district administration ordered all educational institutions to remain shut for the day. Several parts of Pune,

neighbouring twin towns of Pimpri and Chinchwad and dams around Pune have recorded very high rainfall. Since the midnight Wednesday-Thursday, heavy rainfall was recorded in Lavasa (454 mm), Lonavala (323 mm), Nimgiri (233 mm), Malin (181 mm), Chinchwad (175 mm), Talegaon and Khadakwasla (168 mm) and Lavale (167 mm). Pune received an average rainfall of 115 mm.

After taking stock of the

situation arising out of heavy rains in Pune, Mumbai Raigad, Thane and other parts of the Maharashtra chief Minister Eknath Shinde said, "The units of NDRF, SDRF, Army, Navy, Police, Fire Brigade, Health System have been directed to coordinate with each other and lend help."

"These agencies need to work as a team and shift the flood affected people safely, provide State. them with food packets, arrange medicines and water. Instructions have been given to take the help of NDRF, Army, and Navy," Shinde said. "Around 40,000 cusecs was discharged from Khadakwasla Dam," Minister of State for Civil Aviation Murlidhar Mohol who is an MP from Pune, said.

'There is also heavy rain in Mumbai city and suburbs. The administration is fully alert to deal with any calamity in Mumbai and I am in touch with Pune, Raigad, Mumbai Collectors and Municipal Commissioners," Shinde said. Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar also coordinated with authorities in rushing help to the people affected by rains in Pune and various parts of the

On a day when scores of trees were uprooted and twowheelers and four-wheelers remained stranded in flood waters, personnel from various agencies deployed to ferry the people in the marooned areas of Pune. More than 500 people were evacuated from the low-lying areas during the day.

SC ruling a shot in arm for States rich in minerals

The legislative power to tax mineral rights vests with the States and the royalty paid on minerals is not a tax, the Thursday in a landmark judgement which will give a huge revenue boost to mineral-rich States.

A nine-judge constitution bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud, in a majority 8:1 verdict, said Parliament does not have the legislative competence to tax mineral rights under Entry 54 of List I of the Constitution which pertains to regulation of mines and mineral development by the Centre.

The pronouncement, which came as a setback to the Centre, however,



Parliament can still legislate to impose "any limitations' on States' power to levy tax on mineral rights.

It referred to the term "any limitations" under Entry 50 of List II and said its scope is wide enough to include imposition of "restrictions, conditions, principles, as well as a prohibition'

Entry 50 of List II pertains to taxes on mineral rights subject to any limitations imposed by Parliament by law relating to mineral development

Justice B V Nagarathna, in her dissenting verdict, said royalty is in the nature of a tax or an exaction and the Centre does have the power to levy it. After the bench pronounced its verdict, the counsel appearing for various States urged it to decide on recovery of taxes worth thousands of crores of rupees levied by the Centre on mines and minerals till now.

BJP slams Opp for abusing Modi in Parliament debate



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

he Centre on Thursday hit The Centre on Thursday, out at Opposition leaders, contending that they had resorted to abusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi respectively, to ensure that the during the debate on the Union Budget in Parliament instead of speaking on the finer aspects of the document. Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said the manner in which some Opposition leaders made their speeches amounted to insulting the House and lowering the dignity of the Budget Session. "Let us respect the mandate of the people. They have given the mandate to Prime Minister

for consecutive term. If anybody tries to insult the verdict of the people, they will be punished in the elections," Rijiju said at a Press conference.

His remarks came a day after the Opposition claimed the "discriminatory" against non-NDA-ruled States accused the Prime Minister of running a vulnerable" "shaky and coalition Government.

During the general discussion on the budget for 2024-25 in the Lok Sabha on Wednesday, various Opposition members accused the government of doling out sops to key allies JD(U) and TDP, which rule Bihar and Andhra Pradesh government faces no hurdles

from its coalition partners. Rijiju said elections were over and now the focus should be to work towards a developed India (Viksit Bharat) and hold constructive discussion on the Union Budget. "The Prime Minister has said that elections were over and now was the time to rise above political lines and work together for the nation," Rijiju

Continued on Page 2

UPSC to curb cheating with tech

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

conducted by it including the topmost Civil Services Examinations, the commission now preparing to enhance its measures by incorporating advanced technological solutions such as Aadhaarbased fingerprint authentication, recognition systems, and AIdriven closed-circuit television (CCTV) surveillance, several media

outlets reported. This overhaul, intended to maintain the integrity of follows UPSC exams, widespread allegations of cheating in certain national level exams like the recent NEET. The commission has proposed real-time attendance monitoring system that includes GPS coordinates to confirm that enrolment occurs within the

The UPSC specifies that the QR code on the Admit Card, which includes candidate's roll number, should be scanned to automatically retrieve the candidate's information from

designated shift.



the Application Database. If the QR code cannot be scanned, the candidate's roll number must be entered manually from the Admit Card.

The UPSC also plans to control implement CCTV/video time surveillance with recording and live broadcast capabilities to monitor the activities of candidates and personnel across various centres and venues nationwide.

The service provider will be required to install an adequate number of CCTV colour cameras in every classroom, ensuring at least one camera for every 24 candidates. Cameras will also be placed at the entry and exit gates and in control rooms where sensitive pre

post-examination materials are handled. Additionally, the service provider must arrange for remote live viewing of the CCTV footage at the UPSC's control room, ensuring real monitoring and enhancing overall security during the examinations. The UPSC has sought bids

from public sector undertakings (PSUs) to revamp its examination process. This move also follows a controversy involving trainee IAS officer Puja Khedkar, who is alleged to have forged documents to appear for the CSE 12 times, exceeding the allowed number of attempts. The UPSC has filed a criminal case against Khedkar.

Continued on Page 2

Dhaka takes umbrage at Didi remark, complains to India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Thursday confirmed receiving a note from Dhaka that conveyed its objection to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Ranerie offering shelter to people affected by violent-clashes in that country. Bangladesh Foreign Minister Hasan Mahmud has earlier objected to Mamata's recent remark of offering "shelter" to people Bangladesh from ongoing protests in the country

External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal, appearing to disapprove of Mamata's comments, said matters that bring "the Union into relation with any foreign country, are the sole prerogative" of the Central Government. In an address at a public event

in Kolkata, Mamata, referring to violence-hit Bangladesh said she would keep the doors of West Bengal open for people in distress from the neighbouring country and offer them shelter. There were reports in the

Bangladeshi media that said Dhaka has communicated to



Protesters in Bangladesh File PTI phto

New Delhi through diplomatic channels its displeasure over the West Bengal Chief Minister's comments.

"I can confirm that we have received such communication from the Bangladesh side. It essentially on the lines described in the reports," Jaiswal said during his weekly media briefing while replying

"I would underline that under the Seventh schedule - List one — Union List — item 10 of our Constitution, the conduct of foreign affairs and all matters which bring the Union into relation with any

Continued on Page 2

 $D_{\text{to as the city's lifeline, has}}^{\text{elhi Metro, often referred}}$ become a hotspot for "reelers" and "Instagrammers" using the trains as backdrops for their social media content. This trend has not only caused discomfort among fellow passengers but has also led to a significant increase in prosecutions for creating nuisances.

Between April and June, over commuters booked for making reels and other disruptive activities on metro premises, marking a three per cent rise from the same period last year.

Be it two girls indulging in obscene activities in the metro of making videos while putting colours on eah other or a girl dancing to a Bollywood song and shooting it with people visibly



(DMRC) has taken a strict approach to curb such nuisance from happening in

the metros. According to the data, 1,647 penalties were issued for creating nuisance in three

months under Section 59 of

Railways

Metro

Maintenance) corresponding number for the same period last year was 1,600. A senior DMRC official on

Thursday said creating nuisance may also include creating offences such as sitting on the floor of the train and eating inside the train, among others. The DMRC issued 610, 518

and 519 penalties in April, May and June, respectively while the corresponding numbers for the previous year were 528, 485 and 587, the data showed. DMRC Managing Director

Vikas Kumar said they penalised people for creating nuisance in the metro area. "We use our machinery so that such kind of incidents should not happen on the metro premises.

Continued on Page 2

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

A year after renaming the famous Mughal Gardens as "Amrit Udyan" on the premises of Rashtrapati Bhawan, efforts continue to align the iconic building with India's status as a Republic and underscore democratic principles deeply ingrained in Indian society since ancient times. On Thursday, 'Durbar Hall' and 'Ashok Hall', two historic halls of this historic residence and workplace of the President, have been rechristened as 'Ganatantra Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap' respectively.

'Rashtrapati Bhavan, the office and the residence of the President of India, is a symbol of the nation, and an said. invaluable heritage of the people. Continuous efforts are Accordingly, Droupadi Murmu is pleased to rename two of the being made to make it more



Rashtrapati Bhawan sheds trace of colonial past



Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap' respectively, in New Delhi Bhavan — 'Durbar Hall' and

respectively, it said on a day

Murmu completed two years

been a consistent endeavour to make the ambience of the Rashtrapati Bhavan reflective of the Indian cultural values and ethos," a statement issued by the President's Secretariat President

"Renaming 'Ashok Hall' as 'Ashok Mandap' brings uniformity in language and removes the traces of anglicisation while upholding accessible to people. There important halls of Rashtrapati the key values associated with

of her presidency.

'Ashok Hall' — as 'Ganatantra Mandap' and 'Ashok Mandap', 'Durbar Hall', located under central dome of Rashtrapati Bhavan, is the venue of important ceremonies and celebrations such as the presentation of national awards. "The term 'Durbar' refers to courts and assemblies of Indian rulers and the British.

the word 'Ashok," it added.

Continued on Page 2

to a question.

foreign country, are the sole prerogative of the Union Government," he said.

No systemic breach in NEET-UG: SC junks plea for retest from genuinely successful candidates is not possible. It said need to have engaged in fraud, would be engaged in fraud, would

rashing pleas for re-test on I grounds of paper leak and other malpractices, the Supreme Court has said there is no evidence to conclude that the entire result of NEET-UG, 2024 was vitiated and there was a "systemic breach" in the sanctity of the examination. On July 23, the top court dismissed the pleas seeking cancellation and re-test of the controversy-ridden exam and the order was uploaded on Wednesday night.

"At the present stage, there is an absence of material on the record to lead to the conclusion that the entire result of the examination stands vitiated or that there was a systemic breach in the sanctity of the examination," said the 14-page interim order penned by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud. The detailed and reasoned judgement on as many as 40 petitions would be delivered later. Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra said, "The data which has been produced on the record city-wise and centrewise and the comparison of data for the years 2022, 2023 and 2024 are not indicative of a systemic leak of the question paper impacting the sanctity of the examination."



It said ordering a re-test this year "would be replete with serious consequences for over two million students who have appeared in the examination."The order said adopting such a course of action would lead to a disruption of admission schedule, setting back the entire process by several months, and would lead to a cascading effect on the course of medical education.

It said the order of re-test would also impact the availability of qualified medical professionals in the future and cause a serious element of disadvantage to students belonging to marginalized communities and weaker sections for whom reservation has been

made in the allocation of seats." The top court also asked the National Testing Agency (NTA) to revise its merit list by treating the answer suggested by a panel of three experts of IIT Delhi to a controversial physics question as correct.

Ît scrutinised issues like whether the alleged breach took place at a systemic level and if the breach was of a nature which affected the integrity of the entire examination process. It also examined whether it was possible to segregate beneficiaries of the fraud from the untainted stu-

As per earlier judgements, a retest can be ordered if segregation of beneficiaries of fraud an interim order was needed for providing certainty and finality to a dispute which affected the careers of over two million students. "The fact that a leak of the

NEET (UG) 2024 paper took place at Hazaribagh in the state of Jharkhand and at Patna in the state of Bihar is not in dispute," the order said. Referring to the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) status report, the order said the probe is continuing and as per the evidence, which emerged during the probe so far, there were about 155 students, who took up tests at examination centres in Hazaribagh and Patna, are prima facie beneficiaries of the fraud.

While refusing to order a retest, the bench said it was guided by the well-settled test of whether it is possible to segregate tainted students from those whose candidature does not suffer from any taint. "If the investigation reveals

the involvement of an increased number of beneficiaries over and above those who are suspects at the present stage, action shall be pursued against every student found to be involved in wrongdoing at any stage, notwithstanding the completion of the counselling process," it said.No student,

entitled to claim a vested right in continuation of the admission in the future by virtue of the findings in this judgment,

It took note of the submissions of the Centre that it has constituted a seven-member expert committee chaired by K Radhakrishnan, former Chairman, ISRO to suggest measures to strengthen the examination mechanism to ensure fair play.

The Committee will abide by such further directions as may be issued by this Court in its final judgment and order in regard to the areas which should be enquired into by it so as to ensure that (i) the process of conducting the NEET (UG) and other examinations falling within the remit of the NTA is duly strengthened; and (ii) the instances which came to light during the course of the present year are not repeated in the future," it said.

Doubts about the sanctity of the exam arose when a total of 67 students scored a perfect 720, unprecedented in the NTA's history, with six from a Haryana centre figuring in the list. The number of candidates sharing the top rank came down to 61 from 67 after the NTA announced the revised results on July 1.

 $T^{\text{he Delhi High Court has}}_{\text{allowed a plea filed by}}$ jailed Delhi Chief Minister (CM) Arvind Kejriwal to hold two additional meetings with his legal team while he is lodged in Tihar Jail, saying 'special situations call for special remedies'. Kejriwal, was hitherto entitled to two meetings with his lawyers a week, in accordance with prison rules. Justice Neena Bansal Krishna granted the relief to Kejriwal in recognition of his fundamental right to fair trial and effective legal representation.

"Special situations call for special remedies. In view of the foregoing discussion, it is held that in recognition of fundamental right of fair trial and effective legal representation, the petitioner be granted two additional legal meetings with the Counsel through video conferencing in a week, till he is confined to Jail. The petition, is accordingly, allowed," the Court said.

In its order, the court said, "It can also not be ignored that similar relief of additional legal meetings has been allowed to co-accused/Sanjay Singh. While the Learned special

No. 2 has explained that the said Order was essentially ex parte, is not tenable since the respondents had appeared in the end while the Order was being passed and even thereafter, it has not been challenged by the State".

However, the High Court has now opined that Kejriwal is only seeking the enforcement of his fundamental right to a fair trial and legal consultation while he is confined to Tihar Iail as he has 30-40 cases in various States against him.

To confine this fundamental right to a particular case and to insist on an independent application in each case is not only taking a myopic view but would result in a multiplicity of similar relief being asserted in different cases; in fact it can lead to utter confusion if such relief is considered a pertaining to individual case and not individual person.

To ask the petitioner to move independent Application in each case would lead to delay but may indirectly be denying him the right of effective legal help," the Court said.

The Court concluded that any objections on such aspects are only technical objections that hold no merit.

the Jail policy has been enacted by the concerned Jail Authority after having due regard to all the modalities and the infrastructural capacity and number of the inmates of the jail. Therefore, generally, the courts are slow to interfere in the matters of policy", reads the order.

. However, when balancing the policy with the funda-mental rights of the jail inmate, the request of the petitioner for two additional legal meetings with his Lawyers through video conferencing, in the given circumstance of huge number of cases pending against him, cannot be termed unreasonable," reads the order. The AAP leader's counsel had submitted he was facing around 35 cases across the country, and for a fair trial, he required two additional meetings with his lawyers via video conference.

The plea was vehemently opposed by the counsel for the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Tihar jail authorities. The AAP leader was arrested

by the CBI on June 26 from Tihar Jail, where he was lodged in judicial custody in a connected money laundering case filed by the ED.

IN BRIEF

AUGUST 4 DEADLINE FOR B ARCH APPLICATION IN GNDU Amritsar: B.Arch. a five-year programme, is run in Department of Architecture of the Guru Nanak Dev University. A few seats are lying vacant in the abovementioned programme for the academic session 2024-25. Dr Pankaj Chhabra, head of the department said candidates willing to take admission against these vacant seats are required to apply on the university website gnduadmissions.org. Last date to deposit the application fee and online application form is 4.8.2024 counselling will be held on 6.8.2024

SANJAY NEW DIRECTOR (PROJECTS), NHPC

Fraidabad: Sanjay Kumar Singh has taken over as director (Projects), NHPC Limited, India's premier hydropower company and a Schedule 'A' enterprise Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) and has more than 32 years of vast and varied experience in Power and Infrastructure sector in respect of execution of mega and prestigious projects in India and Bhutan



MINISTER OF RAILWAYS INTERACTS WITH MEDIA New Delhi: Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting and

Electronics & Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnaw held an interaction with media persons of Northeast virtually from New Delhi in

Railway Ministry in the General Budget 2024-25. While addressing the media persons, the Minister of Railways informed that a record allocation for capital investment of Rs 2.62 lakh crores have been provided for the Railways.

PROUD MOMENT FOR JAMIA HAMDARD

connection with the allocation for the

New Delhi: Jamia Hamdard's global ranking has been boosted with the top place in the field of Drug Delivery (number 1 in Global Lifetime Ranking) by Disciplines, and Specialties are based on the quality and quantity of active scholars in each institution who are highly productive (number of publications) and have generated outstanding work of meaningful impact (citations)

India reports 30K deaths due to drowning annually

ARCHANA JYOTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $E^{\text{ven as drowning is among}}_{\text{the top 10 leading causes}}$ of death for children and young adults worldwide, the statistics around drowning paint a stark picture in India, with official figures citing 30,000 annual drowning deaths while experts suggest the actual toll could exceed 100,000, particularly those aged 5 to 14 years being at higher risk.

Rear Admiral (retired) P D Sharma, Founder President of Rashtriya Life Saving Society (RLSS (India)), believes the actual numbers are much higher, particularly in rural areas where water bodies are often unattended and accidents go unnoticed until it's too late. "There are many water bodies that are unattended, far from habitation ticed till it is too late. It takes barely 3 to 5 minutes for a person to drown and die." Dr. Tej Prakash Sinha,

Additional Professor at Emergency Medicine Department, JPNACT, AIIMS Delhi, and Co-Director WHO Collaborating Centre for Emergency and Trauma Care (WHŎCĆETC), Delhi, too feel that drowning is an important public health issue but remains invisible.

"Somehow there was not much advocacy because according to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) annual drowning deaths are only around 38,000. But death among young age groups is huge. We need to address this. A framework to address this issue was launched last year by the Ministry."

Worldover, about 236,000 lives which can be 350 per day or 26 every hour, are lost due to drowning, said Saima Wazed, the World Health Regional Director for South East Asia on the occasion of World Drowning Day on

NHRC seeks report over death of man due to electrocution in Delhi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The National runnan Ang. Commission (NHRC), ¬he National Human Rights India has issued notice to the Delhi Chief Secretary, the Commissioner of Police, and the Chairman, Tata Power-Delhi Distribution Limited (DDL) to submit a detailed report within two weeks in the matter pertaining to the death of a young man who died due to electrocution while trying to cross over a water-logged street with the support of an iron gate leading to his paying guest accommodation in Patel Nagar area of Delhi on 22nd July,

The tragic incident had left the citizens in shock with authorities drawing flak for negligence of the authorities. Reportedly, the iron gate was right next to an electric pole with a cluster homes in the society.

'The Commission has observed that the contents of the media report, if true, raise



a serious issue of the violation of human rights of the victim due to apparent negligence of the authorities. The water logging in the area and flow of electric current from the electric pole to the iron gate, prima-facie indicate this negligence causing a loss of life," said the NHRC in a statement

According to the media report the 26-years old deceased was preparing for the civil services examination while residing in the paying guest accommodation at Patel Nagar. The flatmates and the neighbourers reportedly tried to save the victim but they could not succeed. from the gate by the police team and was taken to the hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Modi meets Maha NDA...

From Page 1 Sources said a section of the BJP leadership is in fix over the being party to Ajit Pawar led NCP who besides pressing for maximum number of sorts for maximum number of seats for forthcoming assembly polls has been demanding a cabinet berth in the Union Council of Ministers. The party opted out from the Council of Ministers when it was formed by Modi who took over as PM in his third tenure last month.

Sources said the Prime Minister took feedback from all the MPs regarding the upcoming assembly elections in the meeting. During the conversation, the PM also gave a mantra to all the MPs on how to win the elections by keeping a close watch on activities at booth level. The Prime Minister asked the MPs to be active from the booth to the ground and work for the people. He told the MPs that everyone should focus on how to reach as many people as possible.

During the meeting, Modi also asked the newly elected MPs from Maharashtra about their experience so far. "Meeting was scheduled soon after the Opposition ranks that Maĥarashtra has been completely ignored in the Budget announced this week.

PM personally desired to set aside apprehensions and shared that all representatives of the Maharashtra coalition should reach out to the people and explain how several projects and many funds have been allocated to the State," sources said after the meeting that transpired between the PM and MPs in the Parliament.

During his meeting with Amit Shah, Pawar insisted on seat distribution at the earliest and asked to avoid lingering around till the last minute like the Lok Sabha polls. After his meeting with Amit Shah, Ajit Pawar also met deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis and other senior BJP leaders in the national capital. According to sources, Pawar is likely to make another visit on July 28. The Ajit Pawar-Amit Shah meeting comes he was blamed for NCP's alliance with the BJP for the latter's loss in the just concluded Lok Sabha elections.

The Ajit Pawar-led NCP won just one seat, Raigad, while the Sharad Pawar led NCP bagged eight. On the other hand the Shiv Sena faction of Chief determined to contest 100 seats while the BJP has set a target of 160 to 170 seats of the total of 288 Vidhan Sabha.

Rashtrapati Bhawan...

From Page 1 "It lost relevance after India

became a Republic, that is, 'Ganatantra'. The concept of 'Ganatantra' is deeply rooted in Indian society since the ancient times, making 'Ganatantra Mandap' an apt name for the venue," the statement said. Its corridor displays the busts of former Indian presidents, carved by noted sculptors from across the country. Six tall banners in deep red with the national emblem of India in gold also adorn the hall.

Against the wall is placed a fifth century AD statue of Lord Buddha on a crimson velvet background. In front of this statue is placed the president's chair. Éarlier, two thrones for the viceroy and the vicereine were placed at

On renaming the 'Ashok Hall', the president's office said it was originally a ballroom. 'Ashok Mandap' pays homage to Emperor Ashok, known for promoting peace and unity, reflecting values deeply rooted in Indian traditions.

"The national emblem of the Republic of India is the lion capital of Ashok from Sarnath. The word also refers to the Ashok tree, which has deep significance in Indian religious traditions as well as arts and culture," it added. The hall is used for presentation of credentials

by heads of missions of foreign countries and as a formal place of introductions for the visiting and Indian delegations prior to the commencement of the state banquets hosted by the president. While the floor is wooden

and has springs beneath the surface, the ceilings are decorated with oil paintings. With the glow of six Belgium glass chandeliers, the hall provides a fascinating sight to visitors. A loft was also designed in the state ballroom as a space for the orchestra.

However, it is now used for playing the national anthem during important functions, according to the Rashtrapati Bhavan. Remarkable art pieces adorn the hall. These include a long case clock that was made in England and has a marking of British Clock Enfield by Cooke & Kelvey Limited, Ćalcutta.

The Persian style carpet, measuring 32 metres by 20 metres, was designed especially for the hall, keeping in mind its

grandeur. The carpets were said to have engaged five hundred weavers for two years, according to its official descri This renaming reflects initiative commitment to align these spaces with India's cultural values and ethos.

UPSC to...

From Page 1 "The Commission intends to make use of the latest digital technology to match and crosscheck the biometric details of the candidates and to monitor various activities of the candidates during the examination to prevent cheating, fraud, unfair means and impersonation," said UPSC.The UPSC will provide the data and images submitted by applicants during the online registration process to the service provider to prevent impersonation. This data will be used for Aadhaar-based fingerprint authentication and facial recognition systems to verify candidates on the exam day. Fingerprint scanners and facial recognition devices will be deployed at examination centres to ensure candidates' identities are accurately verified.UPSC conducts 14 examinations annually, including the prestigious Civil Services Examination (CSE), along with various recruitment tests and interviews for induction to Group 'A' and Group 'B' posts within the Government of India.

BJP slams...

From Page 1

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla too asked members to maintain respect and not make remarks that would hurt the dignity of the House. With the opposition members protesting, Birla said there was a lot of respect for the House and also the Parliamentary tradition. Rijiju said opposition leaders

did not say anything on the budget, they just indulged in politics during the discussion on the Budget which began on Wednesday. "They have insulted the mandate of the people. The opposition leaders have abused the prime minister," Rijiju said. He said the floor leaders of

political parties should direct the members not to create ruckus in Parliament and have a civilised and sensitive debate during the Budget session.Birla on his part said members can express their views, participate discussions but should also ensure the respect and dignity of the House and that they should not be doing things that would hurt its dignity.

J&K on high...

The Shinkun La Tunnel Project consists of a 4.1 km long Twin-Tube tunnel which will be constructed at an altitude of around 15,800 feet on the Nimu -Padum - Darcha Road to provide allweather connectivity to Leh. Once completed, it will be the highest

tunnel in the world. The Shinkun La tunnel will not only

ensure swift and efficient movement of our armed forces and equipment but also foster economic and social development

Former Army Chief Gen VP Malik along with several other army veterans, Veer Naris, and the next of kin of fallen soldiers have assembled at the Kargil

mark the occasion.

Meanwhile Punjab police have also released a sketch of one of the suspects based on the description of a woman who spotted the seven 'suspicious' men in the Phangtoli. A joint team of the security forces has also launched an operation along the International Border (ÎB) in the Samba sector to detect underground and cross-border tunnels. "A comprehensive anti-tunnel exercise has commenced to ascertain the presence of any cross-border tunnels," said a police officer involved in the operation. The search operations also involve the deployment of drones and are being conducted daily in response to the ongoing security threats posed by potential terrorist infiltrations, he said. "Security forces are clearing dense bushy

War Memorial to pay their homage to areas to eliminate the possibility of the existence of tunnels," the officer added. Reports also indicate that between 50 to 60 foreign terrorists have infiltrated Jammu via the International Border and Line of Control over the past few months, according to police.

> workers (OGWs) were arrested for their involvement in a terror attack on an army patrol party in Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, police said. According to a police spokesperson. "two OGWs were apprehended for their involvement in supporting terror-related

In Kathua, two alleged overground

On July 8, five army personnel, including a junior commissioned officer, were martyred and five others were injured in the attack by heavily armed terrorists in the remote Machedi area of the district.

Reel makers face DMRC...

We have a provision of penalising if someone creates nuisance on the metro premises and we do penalise them. It is an ongoing process and the more you keep doing it, the more people will get discouraged," he said.

"But the issue is that we do not have enough manpower

have 67 lakh passengers a day, then monitoring such a huge number of people is not We have CCTV surveillance through which we get to know if anything happened on the premises," he added.

The DMRC has also put up posters at several metro stations, dissuading

passengers from making reels and causing discomfort. In April, the DMRC asked the Delhi Police to conduct a thorough investigation after a video emerged online of two women applying colours on each other inside a train. The video, which surfaced ahead of Holi, drew criticism from a large section of commuters.

The DMRC had said at the time that it was running various campaigns, both online and offline, to discourage passengers from indulging in any activity that might cause inconvenience to fellow commuters. Mobile checking squads are also deployed at times to check activities considered inappropriate.

From Page 1

Mahmud, in a video shared widely on X, was heard "With all due saying, respect to Mamata

Banerjee, with whom we share a relationship of mutual interests... However, her statement has created confusion and has the potential to create confusion among people. Therefore, we have sent a

note to the Indian government on Mahmud statement." communicated with the Indian government through diplomatic channels. West Bengal Governor C V

Ananda Bose has also urged

Banerjee not to make any politically-motivated populist remarks" on the current situation in neighbouring Bangladesh that could affect the nation's external affairs. In her remarks on Sunday,

the UN Resolution on refugees as justification for her stand over the possible humanitarian crisis that may emerge on account of the severe law and order

breakdown that gripped

Baneriee also referred to Bangladesh. "I should not be speaking

on the affairs of Bangladesh since that is a sovereign nation and whatever needs to be said on the issue is a subject matter of the Centre," Banerjee said.

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NEW DELHI | FRIDAY | JULY 26, 2024

Government leveraging AI power to finalise Mohalla bus routes: Gahlot

Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot on Thursday announced that the city government is leveraging the power of artificial intelligence (AI) to finalise the routes for Mohalla buses in the national capital in collaboration

with IIT-Delhi. He added that the Kejriwal government will employ advanced Big Data analytics and AI-driven solutions to pinpoint key areas and design efficient bus routes. A team of 32 Assistant Traffic Inspectors (ATIs) have been formed, divided into four zones, with each zone having two teams of four ATIs. They will identify routes and assess the feasibility of operating Mohalla buses in the area.

"Their mission is to go on-site to understand the practical challenges of operating nine meter Mohalla buses on these routes in Delhi. The team will also gather input from the public on initiating new routes in these areas," a statement stat-

Commenting on this, Gahlot stated, "The use of AI and Big Data analytics in public transportation is a game-changer for Delhi. We are also taking help of ATIs in finalising the Mohalla Bus routes. By identifying under-served and highfootfall areas, we can ensure that our Mohalla bus network not only enhances connectivity but also operates efficiently and sustainably. This initiative is a significant step towards making Delhi's public transport system more accessible and user-friendly.

Further, the statement added that this will help design an optimised route network that maximises coverage of transport demand, offering better intra-region and last-mile connectivity to the Delhi Metro. "The focus will also be on costeffectiveness and environmen-



tal sustainability through the use of electric vehicles and strategic route planning," it

This will be done with the help of IIT-Delhi which will develop a model to identify Origin-Destination pairs and will utilise real-world travel time data to evaluate the health and connectivity of the current transit network, creating a comprehensive supply model. It will also capture transit and travel time data from passenger information platforms, including transport agencies and Google Maps, to determine the ease of travel between locations of the control of the control of the case of travel between locations of the control of the case of travel between locations of tions and identify under-served regions, the statement added. The model will aggregate trip data from location-based services and GPS-enabled apps, converting it into an Origin-Destination matrix format. It will also incorporate demographic information to gain insights into potential source and sink regions, analyze travel patterns, and leverage ridership data from the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) to identify high-footfall areas. Using the developed model, IIT-Delhi will design an efficient route network for the

Mohalla buses and post the

design it will support the Delhi

Transport Department in mon-

itoring and optimizing the

Transport Minister directs enquiry into DTC bus accident that killed woman

STAFF REPORTER NEW

Delhi Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot on Thursday directed an enquiry to be conducted by the Special Commissioner of Transport following an acci-dent of the Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus which killed a woman and left 23 injured.

The report is to be submitted within seven days and may include the reasons for such incidents as well as measures required to prevent future occurrences. "The safety of our commuters is of utmost priority. We are committed to identifying the root causes of these accidents and implementing effective solutions to ensure such incidents do not happen again. Immediate action will be taken based on the findings of the enquiry. Lives getting lost either due to mechanical failure or negligence of drito its occupants. The Delhi government is

also considering procuring driving simulators for driver training, implementing an Aadhaar-based attendance system for drivers, and conducting breathalyzer tests before the start of duty in light of such accidents. Additionally, drivers will be allowed to work with only one concessionaire. The

vers cannot be condoned," Gahlot stated.

the Delhi government is incor-

porating inputs from area MLAs, locals, and data col-

lected during a 30-day com-prehensive ground assessment

exercise by the Transport Department's technical team.

The Kejriwal government has recently initiated a trial of the

Mohalla Bus services, currently running on two routes: Pradhan Enclave Pusta to Majlis Park Metro Station, and Akshardham Metro Station to Mayur Vihar Phase-III Paper Market. The trial will last for seven days

The order for the enquiry follows a tragic incident on July 22, 2024, where a 45year-old woman was killed and several others injured when a DTC electric bus collided with a metro pillar in the Punjabi Bagh area. The sudden braking of the bus also caused an auto rickshaw to collide with it from behind, resulting in injuries

Transport Department will also engage NGOs to provide proper training and sensiti-

DU hikes fees for first-year UG, PG, PhD students

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Delhi University itas hiked fees for students ¬he Delhi University has enrolled in first-year undergraduate, postgraduate and PhD programmes as well as foreign students seeking admission from the 2024-2025 academic session. The new fee structure for the academic calendar that begins in August was approved by Vice Chancellor Yogesh Singh in

According to the new fee structure, the course fee for first-year BTech students has been raised by 3.70 per cent, i.E. From Rs 2.16 lakh to Rs

"The hike has been affected only for the first year students currently in accordance with university guidelines," a senior official at the Faculty of Technology said.

The varsity has raised several components of the fee structure, including tuition fees, students' welfare fund, development fee, facilities and services charges, and eco-nomically weaker section support fund.

The contribution share for the Delhi University Students Union (DUSU) has been removed from the fee struc-

ture of the department. The DUSU contribution has also been removed from the LLB and MBA fee structure while for the rest of the UG and PG courses, the contribution has been increased from Rs 20 to Rs 40.

Similarly, fees for the five-year Integrated Law Programmes for the academic have been hiked by 5 per cent, i.E. From Rs 1.90 lakh to Rs 1.99 lakh. The fees of the four-year Integrated Teachers Education Programme (ITEP), which replaced B.EL.ED under the Faculty of Education, has been increased to Rs 57,400.



The revision in the components of the fee structure of PhD courses, has resulted in a 60.22 per cent hike in the overall fees with scholars required to pay Rs 7,130 from the upcoming session as compared to the previous fees of Rs 4,450.

The fee has also been raised for foreign students seeking admissions in various programmes of the varsity, DU Dean Admissions, Haneet Gandhi confirmed.

Meanwhile, foreign nationals seeking admission in MA Hindu Studies at Delhi University will have to pay a reduced course fee. The fees for students from SAARC countries has been reduced from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 50,000 and Rs 1 lakh from Rs 2 lakh for students from non-

SAARC countries. The Tibetan applicants will, however, be exempted from paying university registration fees and additional fee payable to colleges and departments as foreign stu-

The DUSU vice president Abhi Dahiya criticised the DU's fee hike, stating that it would hinder access to quality higher education.Dahiya "We (NSUI) strongly oppose the fee hike in DU. It is a blatant attack on publicly funded education institutions... The move limits opportunities and exacerbates financial stress on students

DMRC removes concrete structures,

Sachdeva urges BJP workers to start Gram Parikrama Abhiyan

STAFF REPORTER NEW DELHI

Delhi BJP President Virendra Sachdeva on Thursday appealed to the party workers during an executive meeting of the state Kisan Morcha to start Gram Parikrama Abhiyan and go to every booth in every village talking about the schemes by the Central Government ahead of the state assembly in

Sachdeva said, "If we have win the rural areas in 23 assembly constituencies in Delhi, then all of you Kisan Morcha workers and officers should start the Gram Parikrama Abhiyan and go to every booth in every village and do public relations and the schemes for public welfare by the Central Government need to be taken to the people." He added that as soon as BJP

comes to power, the development schemes which have come to a standstill in Delhi, have to be run smoothly again and the people of Delhi should get the benefits of development.

The executive meeting of the Delhi State Kisan Morcha of BJP was organized at Khatu Shyam Delhi Dham in Alipur and was chaired by State President Kisan Morcha Vinod Sehrawat. It was also attended by Minister of State Harsh Malhotra and North West MP Delhi Yogendra Chandolia.

The Delhi BJP chief said that since 1961, there is a policy of giving alternative plots and shops in lieu of land acquisition to farmers but in 2016, the Kejriwal government cancelled the orders for allotment of alternative plots to farmers. "Because of this 16,500 farmers of Delhi were deprived of getting alternative plots. Not only this, it is quite shameful for the country's capital that there is a government here which does not even give



farmers the status of farmers. he alleged.

He claimed that the farmer status of farmers in Delhi was taken away by the Sheila Dikshit government of Congress, due to which they are deprived of the benefits being given to farmers across the country by the Central Government. "As soon as BJP comes to power, it will restore the farmer status, due to which the farmers of Delhi will be able to get the benefits being provided by the Central Government and along with this, problems of the farmers of Delhi like amendment in land laws, electricity connection, expensive agricultural fertilizers, unavailability of tractors will also be solved," Sachdeva claimed.

North west MP said that Kejriwal's government has ruined Delhi, all development work has come to a standstill here. "Now the public wants freedom from the Kejriwal government. We have to fight the upcoming assembly elections with full preparation," he appealed.

Further, Malhotra also addressed the executive meeting and threw light on the history of BJP in detail. "All of you will fight the upcoming assembly elections with strength by becoming disciplined workers of BJP by binding yourself in the thread of unity. Go to every booth, go to every village and make people aware of all the schemes of the central government," he stat-

Kejriwal Government has murdered Constitution by not forming Finance Commission: BJP MLA Vijender

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Addressing a press conference, former BJP state president and MLA Vijender Gupta said that by not forming the Sixth Delhi Finance government has murdered the constitution and shattered the Panchayati Raj system. Gupta demanded the immediate dismissal of the anarchist Kejriwal government, which repeatedly violates the constitution and harms Delhi's interests. MLAs OP Sharma, Jitendra Mahajan, and Abhay Verma were also present at the press conference.

Gupta stated that since coming to power, the Kejriwal government has been continuously violating the constitution. In 2015, despite accepting the Fourth Finance



Commission report in the assembly, it was not implemented, openly flouting the constitution. Gupta mentioned that the recommendations of the Fifth Delhi Finance Commission were based on the three divided municipal corporations, whose tenure ended in March 2021. The recommendations of the Sixth Finance Commission, based on the unified Municipal Corporation of Delhi, were to be implemented from April 1,

INDIA Bloc to hold rally at Jantar Mantar on July 30: AAP

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Thursday said the INDIA bloc of opposition parties will hold a rally on July 30 at the Jantar Mantar to raise the issue of Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's Tihar jail. "The INDIA bloc will hold a big rally at Jantar Mantar on July 30 to raise the issue of Kejriwal's falling health," the AÁP said. The Aam Aadmi Party has been accusing the BJP of "conspiring to kill" Kejriwal in jail and cited his medical report to show that his sugar levels had fallen 26 times between June 3 and July 7.

In a related development, a city court has extended the judicial custody Kejriwal in money laundering and corruption cases related to the alleged excise scam.Special Judge Kaveri Baweja extended Kejriwal's custody in a money laundering case, being probed by the Enforcement Directorate till July 31, while his judicial custody in a corruption case, lodged by the CBI, was extended till August 8.

The judge also extended the judicial custody of Aam Aadmi deputy chief minister Manish Sisodia, Bharat Rashtra Samithi leader K Kavitha and other accused till July 31 in the money laundering case. Kejriwal were produced before the court through video con-

The party, a constituent of the INDÎA bloc, has been accusing the BJP-led central government and Lt Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena of playing with Kejriwal's life.During a press conference, Atishi was asked about the rally and she hit out at the BJP over the chief minister's declining health.

installs steel railings on five Pink line stations

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

In the aftermath of a man being killed following the collapse of a portion of a wall at Gokulpuri metro station on the Pink Line, the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation crete structures and installed stainless steel railings in five elevated stations on the line. A senior DMRC official said they inspected all the elevated stations on the line and identified five, including Gokulpuri, Jafrabad, Welcome, East Azad Nagar and Krishna Nagar, for fur-ther action. "The concrete structure near the platform called parapets installed at all elevated stations of the Pink Line were inspected. We removed the concrete structure from the five stations and replaced it with stainless steel



railings," the official said. He added that they have also installed rainwater down pipes at the stations to bring the rainwater from the roof to the ground. "We also installed saucer drains to dispose of the extra stormwater," the official

A portion of a wall of the elevated Gokulpuri metro station in northeast Delhi collapsed on February 8, killing a 53-year-old man and injuring four. The DMRC official said waterproofing of the drains was also done in stations where required. Waterproofing ensures that

there is no leakage and the water can easily drain out, the official said and added that regular inspection and monitoring was being conducted. DMRC Managing Director Vikas Kumar said that they had repaired the safety angle of all the metro stations.

"The lifespan of civil structures of the metro is 100 years. We have repaired the safety angle of all the metro stations and some finishing work is to be done. It was a very unfortunate incident and such things should not be technical issue that led to the incident," Kumar said.

The Pink Line connects Majlis Park to Shiv Vihar. Vinod Kumar Pandey was on his scooter to deliver rice to a shopkeeper when he was struck by debris from the collapsed wall. Following the incident, the DMRC ordered safety checks across its entire network.

The DMRC had suspended a manager and a junior engineer from its civil department, pending an inquiry, and ordered a probe into the incident.

ABVP delegation meets chairperson of panel on NTA reforms with suggestions

Adelegation of Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP)on Thursday presented a detailed letter of suggestions to Dr. K Radhakrishnan, Chairman of the high-level committee constituted for reforming the National Testing Agency (NTA). The delegation highlighted the need for enhancements in the functioning of NTA and its examinations like JEE, NEET, UGC-NET etc. In its suggestion letter, ABVP

suggested administrative reforms within NTA, measures to ensure examination transparency, development of advanced infrastructure for conducting examinations, adequate staffing of permanent employees at NTA, establishment of government institutions as exam centers, and adoption of a two-phase NEET-UG examination format akin to JEE. Additional recommendations included the uploading of OMR sheets on the NTA website.

The ABVP also addressed concerns regarding internet secu-



tion of anti-leak measures, accuracy in answer key releases, timely grievance resolution, and the formation of subject expert teams to curate exam question banks. The ABVP emphasized the

urgent need of restoring student confidence in NTA exams by immediately addressing these issues.

National General Secretary of ABVP Yagywalkya Shukla said "Over the past two weeks,

from diverse disciplines such as humanities, medical sciences, engineering, and others, and compiled 42 suggestions for reforming the National Testing Agency (NTA).

These suggestions have now been submitted to the High-Level Committee overseeing NTA reforms. It is crucial to promptly resolve the issues plaguing NTA to restore trust in its examination processes. We hope that the committee will take decisive action based on ABVP's recommenda-

AAP gets new office address STAFF REPORTER ■

The Directorate of Estates, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has allotted a new office to Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) following the orders of the Delhi High Court. Bungalow No. 1 on Ravi Shankar Shukla Lane will be the new office of the AAP in Delhi. The headquarters of the AAP is currently located at 206, Deen Dayal Úpadhyaya Marg, in the Capital. It was not immediately clear when would the AAP shift its headquarters to the new location, which is also centrally located at walking distance from the Mandi

House roundabout. AAP's new office was earlier occupied by the Nationalist Congress Party, which vacated it after losing its national party status. Interestingly, this will be the fifth address of the AAP's headquarters. In the initial days of its inception, the party was operating from Ghaziabad and later moved to a bungalow near Hanuman Mandir.

From that office, the party shifted its base to Patel Nagar and then to 206, Rouse

struction of a permanent

Delhi cabinet minister Atishi said, "It has been few hours AAP has formed full-majori-



since we have been allotted the office. We will take the keys from the Directorate of Estates and inspect the space and then talk about it.

The Delhi high court on June 5 held that the AAP was entitled to space for a party office in the national capital like other parties. It asked the Union government to decide on the matter within six weeks. The direction came on an AAP plea. Senior Advocate Rahul Mehra appearing for AAP had told the high court that a national party is entitled to a temporary office until the land is allotted to it for con-

In April 2023, the AAP got the status of a national party. The ty governments in Delhi and Punjab and won five assembly seats in Gujarat and two in Goa. It has 10 Rajya Sabha and three Lok Sabha members. The Chandigarh mayor is from the AAP.

The AAP had told the top court the said plot had been allotted to it in 2015, and it was earmarked for the judiciary only subsequently in 2020. The AAP also said that since it has a national party status now, it was entitled to a plot in Central Delhi at par with other national parties.

In March, the Supreme Court first granted the A time till June 15 to vacate its Rouse Avenue office after noting that the land was allotted to the Delhi High Court for expanding judicial infrastructure.

Minor girl raped at gunpoint, thrown from terrace in Dwarka

STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

minor girl was allegedly Araped on gunpoint and thrown from the terrace of a building in Delhi's Dwarka According to the police on

Thursday, the information was received at Police Station Dwarka North that a minor girl jumped from terrace. DCP Dwarka Ankit Singh said, "Police staff reached at hospital where victim was admitted and stated that she was raped and thrown. Then the victim was referred to one stop center, Gynae, Deen Dayal Upadhyay (DDU) Hospital where the victim was medically examined and treated."

A senior police officer stated that the accused lived in the same building as the victim and while her parents were away on Monday, the boy entered the house and threatened the girl at gun point. Later, he took her to the roof of another building where he allegedly raped her.

He further added that when the girl resisted, he threw her off the terrace. Meanwhile, the girl was allegedly gang raped and had registered the complaint against four people in February. Singh added, "Counseling of victim was done by CIC Counsellor. Statement of victim got recorded wherein she levelled allegations against Yash, alias An FIR under section 127(2)(wrongful confine-

ment), 65(1)(punishment of rape on a woman under sixteen years of age) and 109(1) (Attempt to murder) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and sections under POCSO Act has been registered. During the investigation, the crime team and FSL team was called at the place of incident for inspection. Statement of the victim was

recorded under section 183 Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). "Dedicatedly search of accused is being made and investigation is on, the DCP said.

LS adjourned twice

PNS NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha was adjourned twice in the post-lunch period on Thursday as a war of words broke out between the treasury and Opposition benches, triggered by Congress MP Charanjit Singh Channi's spat with BJP's Ravneet Singh Bittu.

Participating in a debate on the Union Budget, Channi referred to the assassination of Bittu's grandfather, former Puniab Chief Minister Beant Singh. This led to a war of words between Channi and Bittu, who recently quit the Congress to join the BJP.

Bittu, the Minister of State for Railways and Food Processing Industries, countered by making certain personal remarks against Channi and former Congress President Sonia Gandhi, triggering an uproar. Amid the angry exchange of words, Congress member Amrinder Singh Raja Warring tried to enter the Well of the House, but was stopped by Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi.From the treasury benches, Bittu also tried to enter the Well.BJP member Sandhya Ray, who was in the chair, then adjourned the proceedings for 30 minutes till 2

When the House reconvened. Defence Minister and Deputy Leader of the Lok Sabha Rajnath Singh urged Speaker Om Birla to remove any unparliamentary references and continue with the debate.

Birla also directed the treasury and the opposition members to maintain the dignity of the



House, adding that ministers especially should not break the rules. Channi then proceeded to conclude his speech. He mentioned the meeting of Rahul Gandhi with some farmer leaders on Wednesday, adding that they had also sought time to meet the prime minister. Channi also accused the government of not keeping its promises to the farmers.

Commerce Minister Pivush Goyal intervened and accused the Congress MP of misleading the House, saying he should authenticate the allegations he was making.

Channi accused the ruling party members of obstructing his speech and alleged that the government was overlooking farmers.

He stressed that the farmers had several demands, including one for a loan waiver. As he alleged that National Security Act provisions were invoked

against protesting farmers, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju said Channi should authenticate the allegations and accused him of misleading

Rijiju also urged the chair to move a privilege motion against Channi. The war of words between the ruling and the opposition benches went on even after Channi concluded his speech.

As Nationalist Congress Party MP Tatkare Sunil Dattatrey started his speech, Trinamool Congress MP Kalyan Banerjee objected to a Minister taking the seat next to the member. Speaker Birla clarified that seats have not been allotted yet, and the Minister was sitting on a seat meant for NDA members.Banerjee then said he would also sit on a different seat, and sat on the treasury

benches' side. He later returned to his seat. As the ruckus continued,

Jagadambika Pal, who was then in chair, adjourned the House till 3 pm. The House resumed normal functioning after it met at 3 pm. Speaking outside Parliament later, Bittu accused former Punjab Chief Minister Channi of indulging in "anti-

national" behaviour. "An ex-CM was behaving like an anti-national, and is misleading the world through the House. What did he do? He said NSA was imposed on farmers, while NSA has been imposed on those who were trying to divide the country and Punjab," Bittu said.

"An ex-CM made remarks that were aimed at dividing the country and Punjab, and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi was sitting there. When I said on the floor that he should provide evidence, he went on back-foot.

The Congress party and INDI alliance have been embarrassed because of him," Bittu said.

Naidu promises enquiry into MPs charges of abrupt airfare hike

PNS NEW DELHI

Union Civil Aviation Minister Ram Mohan Naidu Kinjarapu on Thursday promised to conduct an enquiry into allegations of abrupt fare hike when MPs try to book tickets on Air Vistara airline, following complaints by MPs and a nudge by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla. He assured the House that his primary focus remains on enhancing the 'Ease of Flying' for all citi-

Raising the issue during Question Hour in Lok Sabha through a supplementary question, DMK member Dayanidhi Maran alleged that whenever he tries to book ticket on Air Vistara for the Chennai-Delhi route, initially it shows a price in the range of around Rs 25,000. However, by the time he concludes the whole booking process, the fare goes up by two to three times more, he alleged. The DMK leader wondered whether some technology applied by TCS, a software giant belonging to the same Tata group, drives up the air

Birla said he had received similar complaints from a few other MPs too and the matter should be thoroughly investigated as the "money of the tickets goes from Parliament". At this, the Minister replied: "We get the matter inquired".Parliament sources said the MPs are entitled to travel by business class. Replying to another question, Naidu said ever since he has taken over the charge of the civil aviation ministry, he has

Intervening in the discussion,



been trying make air travel affordable for the common people. However, he said, the air fare is market driven and lots of factors come into play while deciding the fare of any sector. "Customer is king and that is the priority of the ministry. We will do whatever we can to make the air travel affordable,"

The Minister also said that he will look into the allegations of high air fare during holiday season on international routes. "As far as regulation of airfare is concerned, the government does not regulate the fares set by airlines- Indian or foreign. The fares on any route are dependent on seasonality, holidays and festivals, cost of aviation turbine fuel, competition and other similar factors," he said.

Naidu said airline pricing runs in multiple levels (buckets or RBDs) which are in line with the practice being followed globally and due to dynamic fare pricing, the tickets bought in advance are much cheaper than those purchased near the travel date.

He said under the provisions of Rule 135(1) of the Aircraft Rules, 1937, the airlines are free to fix tariffs, having regard to all relevant factors, including cost of operation, characteristics of services, generally prevailing tariff etc.

"DGCA's Tariff Monitoring Unit (TMU) ensures that the fares being charged by the airlines are as per the tariff established by the airlines.

At present, there is no proposal in the ministry to intervene with the existing regulatory framework on airfare," he said. Naidu, in his debut session, demonstrated exceptional capability by proactively addressing the MPs' questions and providing comprehensive

His performance was met with admiration and support from

Govt committed to free,

fair recruitment tests,

Minister assures RS



Shekhar new IFFI festival director

PNS NEW DELHI

Veteran filmmaker Shekhar V Kapur, known for films such as "Mr India", "Bandit Queen" and "Elizabeth", has been appointed festival director for the International Film Festival of India (IFFI).

Kapur will head the festival, held annually in Goa, for the 55th and 56th editions, the Information and Broadcasting Ministry said in a notification.

With the approval of the Competent Authority, it has been deciđed to appoint Śhri Shekhar Kapur as the Festival Director for the 55th and 56th editions of the International Film Festival of India, Goa," the notification read. Kapur said the appointment was an ĥonour. "It's an honour. It's a commitment. It's a responsibility. Thank you for considering me worthy of your trust," he said in a social media post tagging the ministry.

Kapur, 78, is an influential name in Indian cinema and one of the earliest directors to establish a name for himself in Hollywood with his film "Elizabeth" and its sequel "Elizabeth: The Golden

Age". He has directed films such as "Masoom", "Mr India" and "Bandit Queen" in India. Most recently, he directed the British comedy "What's Love Got to Do

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Website: www.indagrubber.com
NOTICE OF THE 45TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REMOTE E-VOTING INFORMATION

Notice is hereby given that the Forty-Fifth Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Members of Indag Rubber Limited ("the Company") will be held on Friday, August 16, 2024 at 03:00 P.M. IST through Video Conferencing ("VC") / Other Audio Visual Means ("OAVM") facility only including e-voting/remote e-voting without the physical presence of the members at a common venue to transact the business as set out in the Notice of AGM dated June 26 2024; in compliance with Circular No. 14/2020 dated April 08, 2020 and Circular No. 17/2020 dated April 13, 2020, issued by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs followed by Circular No. 20/2020 dated May 05, 2020, Circular No. 02/2021 dated January 13, 202 Circular No. 02/2022 dated May 05, 2022, Circular No. 10/2022 dated December 28, 2022 and Circular No. 09/ 2023 dated September 25, 2023 and all other relevant circulars issued from time to time ("MCA Circulars") and Circular Nos

SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD1/CIR/P/2020/79 dated May 12, 2020 SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD2/CIR/P/2021/11 dated January 15, 2021 SEBI/HO/CFD/CMD2/CIR/P/2022/62 dated May 13, 2022, SEBI/HO/CFD/ Pol 2/P/CIR/2023/4 dated January 5, 2023 and Circular No. SEBI/HO/CFD/CFD-PoD-2/P/CIR/2023/167 dated October 7, 2023 issued by the Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI Circulars") (collectively referred to as "relevant circulars"). The deemed ver for the 45th AGM shall be the Registered Office of the Company In compliance with the relevant circulars, the Company has sent the Notice of AGM along

with Explanatory Statement and Annual Report for the Financial Year 2023-2024 on July 25, 2024 through electronic mode to all the members whose name appear in Register of Members as on July 19, 2024 and whose email addresses are registered with the Company/Registrar and Share Transfer Agent ('RTA')/Depository Participant(s). The Notice of AGM and Annual Report for the Financial Year 2023-2024 are also available on on the website of BSE Limited at www.bseindia.com and on the website of NSDL at www.evoting.nsdl.com. Members can attend and participate in the ensuing AGM through VC/OAVM only and such Members shall be reckoned for the purpose of quorum under Section 103 of the Companies Act. 2013.

RECORD DATE AND DIVIDEND The Board of Directors of the Company at its meeting held on May 14, 2024 has, interalia approved and recommended final dividend of Rs. 2.1/- per equity share of the face value of Rs. 2/- each, in addition to the interim dividend of Rs. 0.90/- per equity share of face value of Rs. 2/- each already paid, for the financial year ended 31 March, 2024, subject to the approval of members at the AGM

The dividend, as recommended by the Board, if approved at this AGM, would be paid subject to deduction of tax at source, as may be applicable, within a period of 30 days from the date of declaration, to those persons or their mandates whose names appear on the company's register of members as on August 16, 2024 (if shares are held in physical form and to those beneficial owners whose names are furnished by NSDL and CDSL as on th close of business hours on August 9, 2024 (if shares are held in dematerialized form). The Register of Members and Share Transfer books shall remain closed from Saturda

August 10, 2024 to Friday, August 16, 2024 (both days inclusive). REMOTE E-VOTING

n accordance with the provisions of Section 108 of the Companies Act, 2013 read with Rule 20 of the Companies (Management and Administration) Rules, 2014 and Regulation 44 of the SEBI (LODR) Regulations, 2015, the Company has availed services of Nationa Securities Depository Limited (NSDL) to provide Electronic Voting Facility to its members Members may please note below with respect to the remote e-voting services as availed

the ordinary and the special business as set out in the Notice of AGM may be transacted through remote e-voting which shall commence from August 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. and end on August 15, 2024 at 5:00 pm.

A person whose name appears in the Register of Members/ Beneficial Owners as or the cut-off date of August 9, 2024 only shall be entitled to avail the facility of remote e voting as well as voting electronically at the AGM by selecting EVEN number of the company. The voting rights of members shall be in proportion to their share of the paid up equity share capital of the Company as on the cut-off date.

Any person who has acquired shares and become members of the company after sending of AGM Notice in electronic form but before the cut-off date of August 9, 2024 may obtain their User ID and password for remote e-voting from the Company's RTA via e-mail at admin@skylinerta.com or NSDL at evoting.nsdl.co.in. However, if the person is already registered with NSDL for remote e-voting then the existing user ID and password can be used for casting vote.

iv) A Person who is not a member of the Company as on cut-off date i.e. Friday, 9th Augu 2024, should treat this Notice for information purpose only.

The remote e-voting shall be disabled by NSDL after August 15, 2024 at 5:00 pm and no voting shall be allowed after the said date and time.

(vi) The facility of e-voting will also be made available at the AGM on all the resolutions as set out in the Notice of 45th AGM. The procedure to cast the vote through e-voting

system of NSDL has been described in the Notice of AGM. vii) Those members, attending the AGM through VC/OAVM facility and who have not cast their vote on the Resolutions through Remote e-voting shall be eligible to vote through e-voting system during the AGM.

viii) A member may participate in the AGM after exercising his vote through remote voting but shall not be allowed to vote again in the AGM.

(ix) The documents as may be required for members' inspection will be availab electronically for inspection without any fee during the AGM.

(x) In case of any queries, members may refer the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs and e-Voting user manual available at the download section of www.evoting.nsdl.con or call on 022 - 4886 7000 and 022 - 2499 7000 or send a request a evoting@nsdl.co.in or contact Ms. Pallavi Mhatre, Senior Manager, Nationa Securities Depository Limited, Trade World, 'A' Wing, 4th Floor, Kamala Mills Compound, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel, Mumbai - 400 013, at the designated email id - evoting@nsdl.co.in who will also address the grievances connected with voting by electronic means. Members may also write to the Company Secretary

info@indagrubber.com. xi) The Board of Directors has appointed Mr. Kanishk Arora of M/s. Kanishk Arora & Co. Practicing Company Secretaries (CP No. 13253), as the Scrutinizer for conductin remote e-voting in a fair and transparent manner.

The details of the said meeting are also available on the website of the Compa vw.indagrubber.com and the website of BSE Limited (www.bseindia.com) By order of the Board

Date: July 25, 2024

Place: New Delhi

For Indag Rubber Limited Company Secretary

Date: July 26, 2024 Place: Delhi

PUBLIC NOTICE

PICICI Bank | Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd., Plot No. 23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi- 110005

The following borrower(s) has/have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest towards the Loan facility(ies) availed from ICICI Bank. The Loan(s) has/have been classified as Non-Performing Asset(s) (NPA). A Notice was issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, at their last known addresses. However, it has not been served

and	are therefore being notified by way of this	Public Notice.		
Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Description of Secured Asset to be enforced	Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
	Rishi Singh/ Aditya Singh/ Santosh Devi A/c No. LBROH00005173146, R/o 659/1, Vishal Nagar Haryana Rohtak 124001	2, Tower-L, Situated At Sector-	29/06/2024 Rs. 17,41,286/-	04/04/ 2024

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

Date: July 26, 2024 Place: Delhi

Sincerely, Authorised Signator

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Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/Guarantor/ (Loan Account Number) & Address	Description of Secured Asset to be enforced	Date of Notice sent/ Outstanding as on Date of Notice	NPA Date
1.	Nidhi./ Amrita Nand Badola (LBDEH00002870577) & 15/215, Malviya Nagar, New Delhi- 110017	Flat No. 53 D, Mig Isbt Residential Yojna Dehradun Uttaranchal- 248002	18/06/2024 Rs. 4,43,600/-	04/04/ 2024
	Deepak Tomer/ G P Singh (LBBAR00003213793) & S/o of Gyanendra Pal Singh, House No. 170, Sector 2, Greater Green Park, Bareilly Near Bishop School RK University Road, Navabanj UP Uttar Pradesh Bareilly - 243006	Plot No. 170, Khasra No. 62 Minjumla, Greater Green Park, Situated At Gram Harunagla, Tehsil & District Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh-243001	03/07/2024 Rs. 3.03,885/-	07/04/ 2024

These steps are being taken for substituted service of Notice. The above borrower/s and/or guarantor/s (as applicable) is/are advised to make the outstanding payment within 60 days from the date of publishing this Notice. Else, further steps will be taken as per the provisions of the Securitisation and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, खटीमा, ऊधमसिंह नगर

ई-निविदा सूचना

एतदृद्वारा मुख्य महाप्रबन्धक उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान, देहरादून की ओर से अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निम्न कार्यों हेतु उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम एवं उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान में पंजीकृत फर्मी / ठेकेदारों से ई–निविदा (टू बिड प्रारूप में) आमंत्रित की जाती है। निविदा से संबंधित सभी सूचना <u>www.uktenders.gov.in</u> पर दिनांक 27.07.2024 की साय 05.00 बजे से

क्र 0 सं0		पयजल याजना का नाम	ानावदा मूल्य	धराहर राशि (रू. में)	ठकदार की श्रेणी
1	सितारगंज	सितारगंज नगरीय पेयजल योजना के अन्तर्गत सितारगंज नगरपालिका परिषद के विभिन्न वार्डों में पाईप लाईन विस्तार, रोड कटिंग, रोड पुनः निर्माण/मरम्मत एवं तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य।	4000.00+	300000.00	''बी'' / उच्चतर
नोर	:- उपरोक्त	निविदा सूचना में यदि कोई संशोधन किया	जाता है त	n), संशोधि	त सूचना

<u>www.uktenders.gov.in</u> पर अपलोड की जायेगी, संशोधित सूचना का प्रकाशन समाचार पत्र में नहीं किया अधिशासी अभियन्ता

PUBLIC NOTICE Lost original English DDA ALLOTMEN

LETTER Vide Doc. No. F1815831185 HBM/NP Dated 05/06/1986 Of Flat no 77-C, Pocket A, 2nd Floor, Vikaspur Puri EXTN, Vikaspuri, West Delhi 110018 on the name of Harindra Partap Singh. Finder contact at Flat No 1039, Plot no 23 Apna Villa Apartment sector-10 Dwarka New Delhi-110075.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is inform to the Public Notice at large that i Chandan Kumar is Purchasing the 3rd Floor with Roof rights out of Property No-73, area measuring 200 Sqyds out of Khasra No-15/24/1 Area village Dabri, Colony known as Raghu Nagar New Delhi. The owner of the floor is Vinod Kumar, he is the owner from GPA (Notarized), ATS and will dated 18/10/2011 and he was Purchased from Mrs. Dimble Kumar and Mr. Laxmi Narain from GPA/ATS/will. I am aware that in this Property the CTC of the Khatoni is not available and I Purchase this Property from GPA Holder. I am giving the I news Paper Publication regarding this paper. If any person having any type of Claim/rights/title interest over the said property may inform in writing within 7 days, said property is free from all type of Encumbrance lien etc.

Basukee Nath Jha (Advocate) Plot No 714, A/A, A Block Inder Enclave Ph-2, Kirari Suleman Nagar, ND-86

PUBLIC NOTICE lirmal Puri, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-11002 neasuring 255.5 sq. ft..

measuring 255.5 sq. ft.
That my clernt Shri Suresh Matnani son of Shri Nenumal Thakurdas Matnani resident of House No. B-504. Plot No. 21, Dwarka Appartment Dwarka Phase-I, Sector-7, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075 is the sole and absolute owner and in physical possession of the Property bearing No. I-4/1V, First Floor, situated at Old Double Storey, Nirmal Puri, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-110024, measuring 255.5 sq. ft., on the basis of Will dated 20.05.2003, executed by his sister Late Ms. Jaya Matnani daughter of Late Shri Nenumal Thakurdas Matnani resident of I-4/1V, First Floor, Old Double Storey, Nirmal Puri, Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-110024 during her fife time, which is duly registered as Document No. 1740, in Additional Book No. III, Volume No. 354, or pages \$3 to \$56, on 20.05.2003, in the office o Sub-Registrar-VIII, New Delhi and she died or 50.04.2021. Further, declare that the saic property is free from all disputes, litigations charges, liens, prior sale, giff, mortgage, will prior agreement, HUF, acquisition, attachments in the decree of any court, court injunction and other encumbrances whatsoever. hat my client Shri Suresh Matnani son of Sh

other encumbrances whatsoever. If anybody has any claim, against, into or upor the said property or any part thereof by virtue o sale, gift, will, inheritance, agreement, contract mortgage. HUF, lien, charges etc. or otherwise howsoever and whatsoever nature is hereby required to notify the same in writing along with supporting documents, if any, evidencing to the undersigned within 15 days, from the date o publication of this Notice, failing which my clien shall conclude the ownership of the said property, thereafter, the objections/ claims, if any shall be considered as waived and abandoned and shall not be binding upon my client.

AMIT ANAND, Advocate Enrol. No. D-1452/2003 Enrol. No. D-1452/2003

Sincerely Authorised Signatory

For ICICI Bank Ltd

I of paper leak reported in

PNS NEW DELHI

the recruitment examinations conducted by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC). Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) and Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS), during the last two years, the Rajya Sabha was informed on Thursday.

here has been no incident

"Recently, National Testing Agency (NTA) conducted NEET(UG) examination on May 5, 2024 in OMR (Pen and paper) mode. Certain cases of alleged irregularities/cheating/impersonation/malpractices were reported," Union Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh said in a written

After review, the matter was entrusted to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for comprehensive investigation on June 22, 2024, he said.

"No incidence/event of paper leakage has been reported in the recruitment examinations conducted by Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railway Recruitment Board (RRB) and Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS), during the last two years," Singh said.In order to provide for prevention of unfair means in public examinations, the Government has enacted the Public Examination (Prevention of Unfair means) Act, 2024, which has been brought into force vide and

subsequently rules under this law have also been notified, he added.The Minister also informed the Upper House that the National Recruitment Agency (NRA) is conducting a detailed study of the prevalent recruitment systems in central and State Governments to conduct a free and fair examina-

The NRA, mandated to conduct online examinations to screen Government job aspirants, was given an approval in 2020 by the Union cabinet.

"NRA is conducting a detailed

study of the prevalent recruit-

tion.

ment systems in central and State Governments and the procedure followed by various Public Examination Authorities (PEAs) for conduct of examination and also examining the issues which are likely to arise in the new examination system and address them ab initio so as to conduct a free and fair examination," Singh said in a written reply. The Minister was responding to a query whether the NRA has conducted any recruitment tests since its inception. Singh said the NRA is also in the process of developing protocols and policy frameworks to address various issues associated with conduct of the new examination system as well as evolving effective means for ensuring compliance of normative standards and guidelines by all concerned.He said four Governing Body meetings have been held since the inception of the NRA,

which functions from its head-

quarters at New Delhi.

ficici Bank

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli HosurMain Road Bangalore- 560068

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICIC Bank Limited.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Rubbers, Vijayakumar P, Shoba Vijayakumar & Daniiel P/ 25-23A Mundakala Vilai, Keelapavoor, Cherupallur Marthandam Kanniyakumari-	Property 1 In Kanyakumari District, Marthandam Registration District, Thiruvattar Sub Registration District, Kalkulam Taluk, Thumbacode Village, Aramannam Desam Comprised In RE.SY.NO: 119/2H Measuring 34.5ares (21 Cent 500sq. Links) Admeasuring 5cents (202.35 sq.mtr) Of Land With House Bearing Door No: 25-23A Bounded By, East: Road West: Land Belongs To Kochu Kunjan North: Land Belongs To Ponnumuthu Nadar South: Land Belongs To Ponnumuthu Nadar South: Land Belongs To Ponnumuthu Nadar The Property Bearing Old Sy.No: 121/B. Property 2 In Kanyakumari District, Marthandam Registration District, Thiruvattar Sub Registration District, Kalkulam Taluk, Thirparappu Town Panchayat, Thumbacode 'A' Village, Aranmannam Desam Comprised In Old Sy.No.121B, Jenmam RE.SY.NO.119/2H Measuring 34.5are Admeasuring 21 Cent (500sq. Links) Bearing Kandam No.04 Admeasuring 242.82 sq.mtr (6 Cent) Of Land With Residential Building Bearing Door No.25- 23 Bounded By, East: Road West: Land Belong To Pushpam & Family North: Land Belong To Vijayakumar & Family South: Land Belong To Gunaseelan & Family./ Date Of Symbolic Possession 23rd July 2024.	February 17, 2024 Rs. 51,19,054.00/-	Kanya- kumari

Pandemonium in K'taka **House over MUDA scam**

PTI ■ BENGALURU

crimonious Amarked proceedings in the Karnataka Legislative Assembly on Thursday with opposition BJP and JD(S) protesting from the well of the House, demanding a discussion on the alleged fraudulent allotment of sites to land losers by Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA), including to Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's Parvathi.

Citing rules, Speaker U T Khader on Wednesday Khader on Wednesday rejected the Opposition's notice for an adjournment motion on the MUDA case, causing a setback to their plans corner Siddaramaiah and Congress government.

The opposition thereafter had announced that they would stage "day-and-night" dharna in both Legislative Assembly and Council demanding discussion on the issue. The legislators of the two parties stayed back after the Assembly and Council were adjourned for the day on Wednesday and spent the night in the two Houses, continuing their protest

As the House met for the day on Thursday, BJP and JD(S) members trooped into the well of the House, holding placards and shouting slogans.

Senior BJP MLA Sunil Kumar said: "Sites were taken in MUDA scam by violating all rules, but you (the Speaker) cite rules (while rejecting our demand for discussion). You don't take up the issue for discussion. Were sites taken in accordance with rules?" He alleged that the government was trying to



"cover up and shut" the case. There seems to be a fear that if discussion happens the truth will come out. Chair (Speaker's post) is being used for it. Please reconsider your decision and allow discussion. Where should we discuss if not in the House?"

As Sunil Kumar and Leader of Opposition R Ashoka accused the government of running away from debate and trying to misuse the Chair for it, Congress MLAs including Ministers H K Patil and Cheluvarayaswamy took strong exception to this, resulting in some argument.

Alleging that it was a case of Rs 3000-4000 crore scam, Ashoka sought to know about the Chief Minister meeting the Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot on Wednesday, and asked: "Has

said. "Fourteen sites were given to CM and registered to his family in a single day," Ashoka claimed. Amid protest and

in power even for a second." he

sloganeering, the Speaker transacted the business of the House that saw several Ministers and heads of severa House committees laying papers and reports on the table of the Assembly, and six bills being passed without any discussion

Also, resolutions against the delimitation of Lok Sabha and Assembly constituencies based on the coming census, "One Election' Nation, One proposal and National Entrance cum Eligibility Test (NEET) were adopted amid protest by opposition parties without any discussion.

It is alleged that compensatory sites were allotted to Siddaramaiah's wife in an upmarket area in Mysuru, which had higher property value as compared to the location of her land which had "acquired" by the MUDA.

the House for some time. Several supporters of When the House met again, Siddaramaiah too have BJP and JD(S) MLAs allegedly "benefitted this way," BJP leaders alleged.

The MUDA had allotted plots Ashoka, Sunil Kumar and to Parvathi under a 50:50 ratio other opposition leaders scheme in lieu of 3.16 acres of once again urged Speaker her land, where MUDA Khader to allow discussion developed a residential layout. The controversial scheme Ashoka said a Dalit family's envisages allotting 50 per cent land has been illegally taken of developed land to the land away by obtaining the loser in lieu of undeveloped signature of one of their land acquired for forming family members and without layouts.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large, on behalf of our client, Mr. Prem Chand S/o Mr. Kishan Lal R/o 164, vegal, mr. Prein Claid us declard thatmi. Prein Claid us Mr. Prem Singh are the same person and Mr. Prem singh alias Mr. Prem Chand was the owner of the scheduled Property vide Revenue Record, and Mr. Prem singh alias Mr. Prem Chand Gifted the Scheduled Property om. Prameet Kumar, vide Gift Deed dated 25.07.2024 Doc. No. 22452, Book No. 1, Vol. No. 45179, Page No. 1-16, on dated 25.07.2024 SRO-Sadar, Greater Noida. Same promerty Mr. Prameret Kumar, Mardaseon methage. Same property Mr. Prameet Kumar (Mortgagor) mortgage the schedule property with Fed Bank Financial Services Ltd. Kirti Nagar Branch, New Delhi. If any person race any bjection for mortgaging the schedule property please ace your Objection with documentary proof within 7

Schedule of Property Residential area measuring- 400 sq. yds., Out of Khasra No. 767, Situated at Village Kasna, Pargana Dankor, Tehsil & Distt. G. B. Nagar 201310. hereinafter referred to as

Sachin Maheshwari & Associates (SMA) Sachin Maheshwari Advocate Molarband Extn. Badarpur Border, New Delhi. Phone: 011-69653588, Mob.-9911380328

Bengal Assembly Speaker asks MLAs to behave responsibly



PTI ■ KOLKATA

day after senior BJP Leader Asuvendu Adhikari was involved in a verbal spat with Trinamool Congress MLA Tapan Chatterjee on the assembly premises, Speaker Biman Bandyopadhyay on Thursday asked legislators to behave responsibly.

Adhikari had alleged that the TMC legislator abused him verbally and tried to assault him on the premises of the assembly.

In a letter to the Speaker, the BJP leader said he was feeling "insecure" in the assembly and demanded action against Chatteriee.

The TMC MLA, however, had claimed he did not threaten or assault Adhikari but merely confronted him over some comments by the BJP leader against him and his daughter during an election meeting at constituency.On contrary, Chatterjee alleged,

he wanted his explanation at the assembly lobby for the comments Taking a serious view of the

with dire consequences when

incident, the Speaker said, 'What happened in the assembly premises yesterday is unfortunate, unexpected and inappropriate".

'We need to behave with restraint. We need to conduct ourselves appropriately as stakeholders of the Assembly," he said addressing both treasury and opposition benches.

Referring to Adhikari's claim that he and other opposition MLAs were feeling insecure in the House, Bandyopadhyay "Adequate said. security arrangements are in place in the House but people's representatives should not act in a provocative manner."

Adhikari was not present in the House when the Speaker made the observation, but Chatteriee was around. The Speaker had said on

Wednesday he has initiated an investigation into allegations

Adhikari. Adhikari, the BJP MLA of Nandigram, in his letter also held the Speaker somehow responsible for the incident since he disallowed entry of personal bodyguards of MLAs inside the assembly.

सार्वजनिक सूचना

सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 09. 07.1999 को राजेन्द्र सिंह राव एडवोकेट नि० सराय ख्वाजा फरीदाबाद ने अपने ससुर स्व० श्री भगवान सिंह यादव नि० नजफगढ़ दिल्ली के साथ मिलकर एक 100 वर्गगज का प्लाट खसरा नम्बरान 30 / 3 व इसकी परी रकम रूबरू गवाहान अदा करके इसके कागजात मालकान श्री सूरज मान नि० घोषगढ़ डा० जमालपुर हरियाणा से खरीद करके कब्जा हासिल् कर लिया था व इसके सभी कागजात विक्रेता के हस्ताक्षर रोबरू गवाहान सत्यापित काजात (IRREVOCABLE) करवाकर हासिल कर लिये थे व् . इसके बाद हिस्सेदार भगवान सिंह यादव से उनके हिस्से की पूरी रकम अदा करके उनका 50 वर्गगज वाला हिस्सा भी मुझ राजेन्द्र सिंह राव एडवोकट ने दिनांक 13.04.2004 को खरीद कर कब्जा सालिम रकबा 100 वर्गगज का हो गया था जिसका हर प्रकार से पाक साफ कब्जा आज़ भी मेरे पास बिना किसी

व्यवधान के चला आ रहा है। यदि कोई व्यक्ति फर्जी, झूठे नकली, कागजात के आधार पर अपने आप को इस उपरोक्त सम्पत्ति का मालिक बताता है तो वह ठग व धोखेबाज होगा । उनके साथ अनुबंध, खरीददारी व लेन देन करने वाला स्वयं जिम्मेवार होगा और निश्चित रूप से उनके खिलाफ कानुनी कार्यवाही की जायेगी।

फोन न08766200570 दिनांक 25.07.2024

राजेन्द्र सिंह राव एडवोकेट

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby brought to the Notice of general public that my clients (j) Ketan Kaher S/o Brij Kumar, R/o M-117, Guru Harkishan Nagar, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110087 and (ii) Varun Mehta S/o. Late Naveen Mehta, R/o 9/308, Sunder Vihar, Paschim Vihar, New Delhi-110087, intends to purchase the Entire First Floor with undivided one-half share in Roofferrace Rights (over and above first floor), being Part of Entire Property Bearing No. 92, Measuring 200 Square Yards, at Block- J, in the Layout Plan of the Reserve Bank Staff Co-operative House Building Society Ltd., also known as Reserve Bank Chapter Chapter Staff Co-operative House Building Society Ltd., also known as Reserve. Bank Enclave (R.B.I. Colony). Situated at Paschin Vihar, New Delhi-110063, with undivided one-half vinar, New Delin-Truces, with undivided one-half share in the land underneath (which at present is leasehold property) from (i) Aditya Sharma Late B.S. Sharma, R/o. B-101,Sannmati Kunj, Plot No. 19A, Dwarka Sector-6, Delhi-110075 and (ii) Smt. Namita Sharma W/o Late Bhim Sen Sharma, R/o G-75, Harsh Path, Shyam Nagar Extension, New Sanganer Road, Jaipur, Rajasthan-302019, who have represented themselves to be absolute and nave represented themselves to be absolute and exclusive owners of the said property and have assured that the said property is free from all sorts of encumbrances (registered or un-registered) including but not limited to prior sale, gift, mortgage, charges, lien, claims, disputes etc. Therefore any person(s) having any claim in respect of the above referred properly or part thereof by way of sale, exchange, mortgage, charge, gift, maintenance, inheritance, possession, lease, tenancy, sub tenancy, lien, license, hypothecation, transfer of title or beneficial interest

under any trust right of prescription or preemption or

under any Agreement or other disposition or under any decree, order or Award or otherwise claiming,

howscever, are hereby requested to make the same known in writing together with supporting documents to the undersigned at their office within Fifteen (15) days from the publication of this notice, failing which

my client shall conduct the purchase and any claim

and/or objection if any shall be considered or waived

& abandoned and shall not be binding upon my client

Name of the

Date:22/07/24, Archit Singh Tomar, Place-New Delhi

Women in Goa village tap Govt scheme to weave secure future

PTI SURLA (GOA)

When a mining ban was imposed in Goa in 2012, the women in Surla village in Chief Minister Pramod Sawant's Sanquelim assembly constituency were the first to face its economic impact. Surrounded by iron ore mines,

the village with a population of about 4,000 saw its men become jobless after the ban. Their families faced hardships for years until the state government's Swayampurna Goa scheme triggered an agricultural and microbusiness revolution.

The scheme, launched in 2020, aims at making villages selfreliant.

Former sarpanch Vishranti Surlakar, who took up the initiative of creating awareness among the women in the village, brought them together under one roof to start a handloom centre, where traditional 'Kunbi sarees' are weaved.

Kanekar, Subraj Swayampurna Mitra for Surla, ensured that the Department of Handicraft, Textile and Coir took over an abandoned school

building for the project in 2020. Kanekar told PTI that the women from Surla requested him to procure machines to weave Kunbi sarees. The department also trained the women to operate the machines. Since then, they have been weaving sarees, shawls and other Kunbi products. "There is a huge market for these products," he

When he met the residents, Kanekar said he realised there was a need to revive five square kilometres of paddy fields that had been left abandoned by the men from the village who had become mining workers.

"There was a need to revive the water table to facilitate farming. During the first monsoon, we dug trenches on a hill which charged the water table," he said.

Farmer Vishnu Natekar's cashew plantation on a hillock has become a laboratory for water harvesting under the Swayampurna Mitra scheme. "In the first year, we dug trenches which revived the water table. We dug around 1,200 trenches on the hill," said a beaming Natekar.

🗱 Karnataka Bank Ltd. 🛚 😊

Asset Recovery Management Branch

Phone : 011-40591567(Ext-240) E-Mail : delhiarm@kbank.com Website : www.karnatakabank.co SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with provision to rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to public in general and in particular to Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s)

that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured Creditor the Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Karnataka Bank Ltd, the Secured Creditor on 31.07.2023, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is and "Whatever there is" basis on 22.08.2024, for recovery of Rs.56,10,233.92 [Rupees Fifty Six Lakhs Ten Thousand Two Hundred Thirty Three and Paise Ninety Two only] I.e. (i) Rs.17,07,844.56 under Term Loan A/c No.3907001600000801 along with future interest from 03.07.2024, (ii) Rs.39,02,389,00 under Term Loan A/c No.3907001600003501 along with future interest from 09.07.2024 plus costs, due to the Karnataka Bank Ltd, Kundli Branch, Shop No. 6, Ground Floor, B M Complex, Near Drain No. 8, G T Road, Kundli Haryana Pin 131028, the Secured creditor from (1) Shri Bhagwan Gautam S/o Mr. Kishan Chand, (2) Mrs. Kiran Gautam W/o Shri Bhagwan Gautam, Both No (1) & (2) are residing at: 745/3, Hari Nagar, Opposite to Jania School, Ganaur, Sonipat, Haryana 131101. (3) Mr. Brishan Dutt Slo Mr. Kishar Chand addressed at House No. 294-C/14, MC Road Ashok Nagar, Ganaur Sonipat

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

1. All Part and Parcel of plot measuring 440 Square Yards i. e. 14.5 Marta being 29/388 sha out of total land measuring 9 Kanal-14 Maria, comprised in Khewat No.455/418, Khata No.597, Rect & Killa No.109//3(4-14) 4/1(5-0) as per jamabandi for the years 2015-16 at resent khewat No.491/455, khata no.633 as per jamabandi for the years 2020-21 having limension East to West-75 Square Feet, North to South, West-50 Feet and East side 56 Feet. earing Transfer Deed No.607 dated 17.07.2020 and mutation No. 25128, situated at Mouja Sanaur, Teshil Ganaur, District Sonipat. Belonging to Mr. Shri Bhagwan Gautam. Boundaries: East: Plot of Yogi West: Plot of other/s, North: House of Sonu & Sanjay

Reserve Price / Upset Price below which the property may not be sold Rs.52,80,000.00 (Rupees Fifty Two Lakhs Eighty Thousand only)

Earnest money to be deposited/tendered: Rs.5,28,000.00 (Rupees Five Lakhs Twent

Eight Thousand Only)

2. All Part and Parcel of plot measuring 497.77 sq. yads i.e. 16 Maria 4 Sarasi being 33/388

share out of total land measuring 9 kanal-14 Maria, comprised in Khewat No.418, Khata No.568, Rect & Killa No.109//3(4-14),4/1(5-0) as per jamabandi for the year 2015-16 at esent Knewat No491//455, Knata No.633 as per Jamabandi for the years 2020-2 situated in the revenue estate of Ganaur, Teshil: Ganaur District Sonipat. Belonging to Mr. Shri Bhagwan Gautam. This Property is common Collateral in the Account of M/s Shree Ganesh Traders.

Boundaries: East : Property of Mr. Yogeshwar Tyagi West : Remaining Portion of Mrs. Kiran North: 17-1/2 feet Wide Road South: Property of Mrs. Kamlesh

Reserve Price / Upset Price below which the property may not be sold: Rs 57.24.000.00 (Rupees Fifty Seven Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand only) Earnest money to be deposited/tendered: Rs.5,72,400.00 (Rupees Five Lakhs Seventy Two Thousand Four Hundred Only)

The borrower's / mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of ection 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset)

(This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (1) of Rule (9) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors) For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's

Website i.e., www.kamatakabank.com.underthe.head "Mega E-Auction on 22.08.2024". The E-auction will be conducted through portal https://bankauctions.in/ on 22.08.2024 from 11:30 A.M to 12:30 P.M with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidder is required to register their name at https://bankauctions.in/ and get the user td and ord free of cost and get online training on E-auction (tentatively on 21.08.2024) from M/s 4closure, 605A, 6th Floor, Maitrivanam, Ameerpet, Hyderabad-500038 Contact No.040-23836405, Mobile 8142000809, E-mail: info@bankauctions.in.

Date: 25.07.2024 Chief Manager & Authorised Officer

Date of Demand Name

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

Pranch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot No. 23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi- 110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the

undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the belowmentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Description of Property/

Ĭ	Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Date of Symbolic Possession	Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	of Branch
1	Ritu Jain/ Rahul Jain/ LBDEL00002402048	L.I.G Flat No. 14, 3rd Floor, Block-A1, Pocket-5, Sector-35, Rohini, Delhi- 110085/ July 22, 2024	April 17, 2024 Rs. 9,28,256/-	Delhi/ NCR
2	· Chirag Singhal/ Mintu Singhal/ Lila Rani / LBDEL00005472662	Property Bearing No.301, Second Floor, Without Roof/ Terrace Rights, Block-D, Situated in The Layout Plan of Prashant Vihar Residential Scheme, (Alongwith The Proportionate 1/4 Free- Hold Rights of The Land Under The Said Property) Delhi- 110085/ July 22, 2024	March 21, 2024 Rs. 55,09,282/-	Delhi/ NCR
3	Om Prakash Batra/ Mamta Batra/ Chanchal Kanta Batra/ LBDEL00005383999/ LBDEL00003957237/ LBDEL00003957157	Free Hold D.D.A. Built Flat No.371, Second Floor, Under Mig Category, Pocket-A, Sector-D, Situated at Shalimar Bagh, Delhi- 110088/ July 22, 2024	March 20,2024 Rs. 53,97,833/-	Delhi/ NCR
4	Santosh Kumar/ Archana/ LBDEL00005650784	D.D.A Built-up Free-Hold L.I.G. Flat Bearing No. 902, on Ground Floor, Situated in Pocket-D, Lok Nayak Puram (Bakkarwala), New Delhi, Delhi- 110041/ July 23, 2024	March 08, 2024 Rs. 11,10,170/-	Delhi/ NCR
6.	Rajesh Kumar/ Deepa Upadhyay/ LBDEL00005118029	Flat No. 351, 2nd Floor, Under Dda Janta Category, Pocket 6, Sector 1A Phase-1, Sunrise Apartment, Nasirpur, Dwarka Delhi- 110045/ July 23, 2024	January 19, 2024 Rs. 10,39,178/-	Delhi/ NCR
	Narayan Singh Mehra/ Suredra Singh/ Shanti Devi/ LBDEL00004554010/ LBDEL00004557200	Dda Janta Flat No. 527, 3rd Floor, Pocket-7, Phase- I, Nasir Pur, Dwarka, Delhi- 110045/ July 23, 2024	March 28, 2024 Rs. 5,96,388/-	Delhi/ NCR

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: July 26, 2024 Sincerely Authorised Signatory Place: Delhi/NCR For ICICI Bank Ltd.

High drama inside Bihar Assembly



PTI ■ PATNA

There was high drama **I** inside the Bihar assembly on Thursday as members opposition conducted parallel "proceedings" in the well, expressing their lack of confidence in the ruling dispensation led by Chief Minister Nitish Kumar.

Several legislators wore black scarves in protest against the CM's disrespectful behaviour towards women MLAs the previous day, as well as the lathi-charge on Congress workers marching towards the Vidhan Sabha to highlight alleged failures of the NDA government.

Despite the commotion, Speaker Nand Kishor Yadav proceeded with Question Hour, cautioning unruly members against disrupting the assembly's decorum.

These are staff members of the Vidhan Sabha. If anyone gets hurt due to your actions. I will have to take strict action," warned the Speaker to the opposition members seated in protest in the well. Mahboob Alam, the Liberation CPI(ML) legislature party leader, sat in

a chair and mockingly

"Speaker" in the parallel

assembly. After the Question

assumed the role

T.N.212/024/025

being ignored. The Speaker read out a number of adjournment

Hour concluded, opposition

MLAs staged a walkout,

alleging their voices were

motions, moved by members of various opposition parties, t is stra those who moved these motions did not even bother to remain present". The Zero Hour was conducted

with the opposition in abstentia until the House was adjourned for lunch. Meanwhile, the issue of the

Chief Minister's conduct towards women MLAs was raised in the Upper House of the state legislature, which adjourned shortly after the session began.

Emerging from the legislative council, the leader of the Rabri Devi opposition lambasted the Chief Minister and his close aide Raiiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan, the Union minister for fisheries, animal husbandry and dairying.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large, on behalf of our client, Mr. Prameet Kumar S/o-Mr. Prem Chang R/o 164, Nawada Birondi Chakennan RVo 164, Navada Birondi, Chakarsenpur, Kasna, Gautam Budh Nagar, (Mortgago)", that Mr. Prem Singh alias Mr. Prem Chand was the owner of the Scheduled Properly vide Revenue Record, and Mr. Prem Singh alias Mr. Prem Chand Gifted the Scheduled Properly to Mr. Prameet Kumar, vide Gift Deed dated 25.07.2024 Doc. No. 22462, Book No. 1, Vol. No. 45179, Page No. 1-16, on dated 25.07.2024 SRO-Sadar, Greater Noida.

uareu C.3.01. Z.U.4. S.W.D.- Sadar, ureater Nolda. Same property Mr. Prameet Kumar (Mortgagor) mortgage the schedule property with Fed Bank Financial Services Ltd. Kiril Nagar Branch. New Dellti. If any person race any objection for mortgaging the schedule property please race your Objection with documentary proof withir 7 days of Publication below address:-Schedule of Property

Residential area measuring 400 sq. yds., Out of Khasra ko. 767, Situated at Village Kasna, Pargana Dankor ehsil & Distt. G. B. Nagar 201310. hereinafter referred to "Cald proceeds". Sachin Maheshwari & Associates (SMA)

the Governor asked for an

explanation on the MUDA

The Speaker then adjourned

continued their protest from

the consent of others, and

alleged that the Chief Minister himself was

The CM who should

protect things, is himself

involved in the scam. This

scam needs to be probed by

CBI, CM should not remain

involved in the scam.

on the MUDA scam.

the well.

CHANGE OF NAME

Sharma R/O 63-A, J and K of the same and one person

I, Prince S/o Shri Bablu

for all future purposes. PD(623)C I, Satbir Sharma S/o Sh. Ram Kishan Sharma R/O 63-A, J and K Pocket, Dilshad Delhi-110095 Garden declares that I have changed my name from Satbir Singh Sharma to Satbir Sharma for all future purposes. Satbir Singh Sharma and Satbir Sharma both are name of the

same and one person.

LOST & FOUND

I, Lost my original Registered Sale Deed dated 02/09/2015 of House No E837, of entire 2nd floor Chittranjan Park ND-19 executed by Suprakas Bhattacharjya in favour of Prashant Mallick and Maya Mallick has been lost at Market No 2 CR Park area. Finder may contact Gitaanjali Jayantilal Mahida 9818111168

Sachin Maheshwari Advocate Sachin Maheshwari Advocate Molarband Extn. Badarpur Border, New Delhi. Phone: 011-69653588, Mob.-9911380328 MUNICIPAL CORPORATION BHOPAL

NIT No. 04/T.Sec./EE./W.W.D./2024-25

chased on website from 24.07.2024 and online submission till 23.07.2024.

Bhopal, Dated 24.07.2024

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER Online Tender are invited on website https://mptenders.gov.in for following works, Document can be pur

Corrigendum for above NIT shall not be published separately in newspapers. Corrigendum regarding correction can be seen on the website. Detailed NIT and other information can be seen on website http://mptenders.gov.in Name of Work Probable Amount | Earnest Money Cost of Tende

of contract (in lakh) (in lakh) (in lakh) 2024 UAD Outsourcing of Manpower Required for Operation & 1,57,72,149.00 78,861.00 12,500.00 359312_1 Maintenance of 29 MLD Kerwa WTP, Intake Well, 33kv electric substation, Feeder line, Over head tanks and Distribution network for Kerwa water supply Scheme **Executive Enigeer**

Water Works Department Municipal Corporation, Bhopai

I, Sumit Shamra S/O Sh. Satbir

Pocket, Dilshad Garden Delhi-110095 declares that I have changed my name from Sumit Kumar Sharma to Sumit Sharma for all future purposes. Sumit Kumar Sharma and Sumit Sharma both are name

PD(624)C Kumar, R/o House-No, J-664, 5/35, Kirti Nagar Industrial Area, New Delhi-110015, that I have changed my name from Prince Kumar to Prince

PD(626)C

PD(625)A

Boundaries: East: Other's Property West: 9.00 Wide Road North: Prop. No. 8-17 F.F.

South: Prop. No. B-19 F.F. Reserve Price/Upset Price below which the property may not be sold Rs.20,71,000.00 (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Seventy One Thousand only) Earnest money to be deposited/tendered: Rs. 2,07,100.00 (Rupees Two Lakhs Sever

Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset). (This Notice shall also serve as Notice under Sub Rule (6) of Rule (8) of Security Interest Enforcement Rules-2002 to the Borrower/Guarantors)

No.040-23836405. Mobile 8142000809.E-mail:info@bankauctions.in.

Adhikari had threatened him

resaid property. Raghav Tiwari, Advocat Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts - 110001 Mob.: +91-807618832

It is informed that my client Sanjay Rana S/o Sh. Amar Pal Sinah & his wife Pushpa Rana R/o H-17/121. Ratiya Marg, Sangam Vihar. New Delhi-110080 have disowned and debarred their son Kamal Rana R/o above address, from their all movable & immovable properties. My client shall not be responsible in any way of his acts or claim as they have broken

all relation, whatsoever, him forever. S.P. Verma (Advocate) Ch. No.66, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi-110017 # 9871140140

🖄 Karnataka Bank Ltd. 🗠

Phone: 011-40591567(Ext-240) SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002

read with proviso to rule 8(6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to public in general and in particular to Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the secured Creditor the Symbolic Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Kamataka Bank Ltd. the Secured Creditor on 12.03.2023, will be sold on "As is Where is", "As is What is" and "Whatever there is" on 28.08.2024, for recovery of (1) Rs.75,64,211.53 (Rupees Seventy Five Lakh Sixty Four Thousand Two Hundre

Eleven and Paisa Fifty Three only) i.e (i) Rs. 58,30,492.00 under Term Loan A/c No.0307001600025101 with future interest from 23.07.2023, (ii) Rs. 17,33.719.53 under PS Term Loan A/c No.0307001800006601 with future interest from 21.07.2023. plus costs.,due to the Karnataka Bank Ltd, Agra Branch, No.76, Heritage Towers Mahatma Gandhi Road, Nehru Nagar, Agra-282002, Uttar Pradesh, the Secured credito from (1) Mrs. Kamlesh Devi W/o Mr. Sachendra Singh (2) Mr. Sachendra Singh S/o Mr. Peetam Singh, Both No. (1) & (2) are addressed at: (a) Jarun Katra, Jarua, Agra 283102, Uttar Pradesh (b) Residential Building, Plot No.03, Deeksha Estate Mauza Nainana Jaat, Tehsil Sadar and District Agra- 282009, Uttar Pradesh (c) Residential flat bearing No.18B, First Floor, in building constructed thereon upon Plot No.18, Part of Khasra No. 52 & 53 situated at Gauri Kunj, Mauza-Rohta, Gwallor Road, Tehsil Sadar, Dist. Agra-282009, Uttar Pradesh (3) Mr. Lokesh Singh S/o Mr.Sachendra Singh, Jarur

Katra, Jarua, Agra-283102, being borrowers/ guarantors/ co-obligants. (2) Rs.43,06,152.70 (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Six Thousand One Hundred Fifty Two and Paisa Seventy only) i.e(i) Rs.23.65.059.00 under PS Overdraft Loan A/c No.0307000600014201 with future interest from 01.07.2024, (ii) Rs. 9.82.224.64 under PS Term Loan A/c No.0307001800007201 with future interest from 15.07.2024, (iii Rs.6,02,367.06 under PS Term Loan A/c No.0307001800007901 with future interes from 11.07.2024, (iv) Rs.3,56,502.00 under PS Term Loan A/c No.0307001800008401 with future interest from 17.07.2024,. plus costs.,due to the Karnataka Bank Ltd Agra Branch, No.76, Heritage Towers, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Nehru Nagar, Agra-282002, Uttar Pradesh, the Secured creditor from (1)M/s Faujdar Enterprises Represented by its Proprietrix, Mrs. Kamlesh Devi, Addressed at: Village and Post Janua Katra Agra -283102, Uttar Pradesh (2) Mrs. Kamlesh Devi Wio Mr.Sachendra Singh (3) Mr. Sachendra Singh Sio Mr. Peetam Singh, Both No. (2) & (3) are addressed at: Jarua Katra, Agra-283102, Uttar Pradesh, being borrowers/guarantors/co-obligants.

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY: Property No.1; All that part and parcel of Residential Plot No.03, Deeksha Estat asuring 133.45 sqmtrs, part of Khasra No.74 along with building constructed thereor situated at Mauza Nainana Jaat, Tehsil Sadar and District Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Belonging Boundaries: East: Plot No.4 West: Plot No.2 North: 9.0 m Wide Road South: Other

Reserve Price/Upset Price below which the property may not be sold: Rs.73,56,335.00 (Rupees Seventy Three Lakhs Fifty Six Thousand Three Hundred Thirty Five only) Earnest money to be deposited/tendered: Rs.7,35,633.50 (Rupees Seven Lakhs Thirt)

Five Thousand Six Hundred Thirty Three and Paise Fifty Only)
Property No.2: All that part and parcel of Residential Flat bearing No.18B, First Floor admeasuring 50.14 sqmtrs in building constructed upon Piot No.18, Part of Khasra No.52 & 53 situated at Gauri Kunj, Mauza-Rohta, Gwalior Road, Tehsil Sadar, Dist Agra, Uttar Pradesh, Belonging to Mrs.Kamlesh Devi

Thousand One Hundred Only) (The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of

For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website i.e. www.karnatakabank.com under the head "Mortgage Assets For Sale". The E-auction will be conducted through portal https://bankauctions.in/ on 28.08.2024 from 11:30 A.M to 12:30 P.M with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending bidde is required to register their name at https://bankauctions.in/ and get the user ld and password free of cost and get online training on E-auction (tentatively on 27.08.2024 from M/s. 4closure, 605A, 6th Floor, Maitrivanam, Ameerpet, Hyderabad-500038, Contac

For Karnataka Bank Ltd Chief Manager & Authorised Officer www.dailypioneer.com

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Reaching out

Netanyahu seeks support for Gaza war during US Congress speech, despite many senators skipping it

sraeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has called for US solidarity in his address to Congress, despite declining popularity and increasing opposition in his own country. In an address to the United States Congress, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu sought to rally American lawmakers behind Israel's ongoing military operations in Gaza. The speech, delivered amidst a backdrop of escalating violence and rising civilian casualties, underscored Netanyahu's determination to secure unwavering support from Israel's most powerful ally. He emphasised the existential threats faced by Israel from militant groups operating in Gaza, particularly Hamas. The Prime Minister framed the military actions as a necessary response to ongoing rocket attacks and acts of terrorism that have plagued Israeli communities. However, Netanyahu's speech did not address the mounting international concerns regarding human rights violations in the Palestinian territories. Reports from various human rights organizations, including

Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, have highlighted a range of human rights violations.

The humanitarian crisis in Gaza has been further exacerbated by a blockade that severely restricts the movement of people and goods, leading to shortages of essential supplies such as food, water, and medical care. The present Gaza offensive, which has gone over 250 days, has left a spree of death and destruction. According to the Gaza Ministry of Health, at least 34,000 people have been killed, and more than 77,000 have been wounded in Israeli attacks. About 72 per cent of those killed are women and children. United Nations human rights chief Volker Turk has gone on record say-

ing that a child in Gaza is killed or wounded 'every 10 minutes.' Israel's actions violate international law and constitute collective punishment, disproportionately affecting innocent civilians and deepening the humanitarian crisis. The United States, as Israel's primary ally, plays a pivotal role in shaping the dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This support has also placed the US under scrutiny, with calls for it to leverage its influence to promote peace and uphold human rights. The very weaponry provided by the US is being used by Israel against the civilian population in Palestine which is undergoing a horrendous time. There is growing advocacy within the US, both among the public and some members of Congress, for a more balanced approach. The US is urged to take a firm stand against human rights violations and to support diplomatic efforts aimed at achieving a sustainable and just resolution to the conflict. A sustainable peace can only be achieved through a comprehensive and inclusive approach that addresses the legitimate concerns of both parties. The US has a moral and strategic responsibility to advocate for human rights and justice in the region. The US can play a pivotal role in paving the lasting peace in the region by telling Netanyahu to comply with the UN directives on Gaza and stop bombing the civilian targets to minimise civilian casualties.



Members of the State Disaster Management Authority perform rescue operation during a mock drill, in Prayagraj

Pushpa Kamal Dahal falls from grace



The new coalition, dominated by the pro-India Nepali Congress, will now be led by the communist leader Oli who will have a daunting task of ensuring political stability

oliticians have been grabbing the power by ollowing Machiavavillan principle of showing complete disrespect to means, the morali-ty and values. This is true of Pushpa Kamal Dahal who fell from the grace after facing humiliating defeat while seeking trust vote in Nepal parliament. While seeking trust vote in Nepal parliament, Prachnda faced the worst type of humiliating defeat as he got 63 votes (Rashtria Swatantra Party-21,CPN(US)-10 and his party-32)as against 194 votes of new coalition combination of Nepali Congress(89 MPs) and Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist)(78 MPs) which also got support from other smaller parties like Rastriya Prajatantra Party(RPP),Janata Samajwadi Party(Upendra faction) etc. in the house of 275 where majority mark was 138 only. Oli has staked claim after president Ram Chandra Poedel invited the political parties having strength to form the government.

In a positive move, Dr. Rajan Bhattarai, the Foreign Affairs Department chief and a Standing Committee member of the CPN-UML emphasized that CPN-UML believes that Nepal's progress or the welfare of its people can be achieved only by adopting a Pro -India stance. He made it clear that the party's chairman, KP Sharma Oli, is keen on taking Nepal-India relations to new heights thereby aligning with the requirement and urgency of the modern era.

Due to fragile nature of democracy in Nepal, unabated and persistent instability has been trademark of the government which is evident from 16 time change of guards in the span of 13 years thereby hitting the interests of the common people in the country besides pushing the country into financial crisis and debt liabilities especially huge loans advanced by

In a midnight swoop and a dramatic turn of events on July 9, a secret deal was clinched between wo former Prime ministers viz. Sher Bahadur Deuba of Nepali and K.P.S. Oli of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) which sealed the fate of current PM,Pushpa



The coalition government will be dominated by Pro India, Nepali Congress, though a die-hard communist leader, former PM, Oli will be heading it for a term of one half year which will be followed by a takeover by former PM, Deuba of Nepali congress as agreed by two coalition partners.

three ministers from

Prachanda government.

Foreign policy experts say that major factors responsible for the collapse of collation of Prachnda-Oli, duo, included Power Struggle, style of functioning of prime minister, Policy Differences, Coalition Dynamics and Coalition Dynamics which may lead to more stable dispensation comorising Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) and

Samajwadi party. Amidst the toppling game,



COMBINE WILL BE UNDER **COMPULSION** TO KEEP **EQUI-DISTANCE** WITH TWO **REGIONAL POWERS** VIZ INDIA AND CHINA WHICH HAVE **GOT GEO-POLITICAL**

OLI AND DEUBA

STRATEGIC INTERESTS IN THE AFFAIRS OF NEPAL

midnight power sharing agreement between two former Prime ministers, viz. Sher Bahadur Deuba, and Nepali Congress and K.P.S.Oli chairman of Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist) was signed on July 5, 2024 thereby leading to a sudden change of regime in Nepal. New coalition government of Oli and Deuba is bound to face multiple challenges which will be key to success otherwise its fallout could be midterm polls. The fragile nature of the new government consisting of the

communists (Pro China) and Nepali Congress (Pro India) having opposing ideologies could pose a major challenge to keep them in unison and amalgamated.
Oli and Deuba combine will be under compulsion to keep equi-distance with two regional powers viz. India and China which have got geo-political and strategic interests in the approach. affairs of Nepal. Oli's previous stint as PM was marked by his

extreme Anti India action of redrawing the map which had shown Indian territories Lipulekh, including Limpiyadhura and Kalapani as part of Nepal. It had exasperated India which rejected this misadventure thereby terming it as baseless besides being an attempt to spon ties. Now, as dominant partner in the coalition, the onus of checking this tendency will lie on Deuba

to prevail upon Oli to come

out of Anti-India mentality and protect age-old relations between two nations.

The communists regimes led by Prachanda always gave clear indications about the commitment to China which will expect new government to go ahead with Belt and Road (BRI) initiative especially when outgoing PM has approved the proposal which had been signed between two countries on May 12, 2017.

It will be an uphill task for Oli to stick to his predecessors' resolve to toe China's line about BRI as Nepali congress is totally opposed to it hence chances of any progress seem to be remote. It will be a test of the new government to deal with India's Agnipath scheme which is one of the major irritants so far. Nepal's border issues with India, including disputes over territories require a multifaceted

Strengthening the Nepal-India Joint Boundary Commission to expedite the resolution of boundary issues through technical and diplomatic means may yield positive results. The survival of the coalition will depend solely on mutual trust of partners and balanced diplomatic strategy and refrain from offending two regional in the past.

(Writer is a senior journalist and a political analyst; views are personal)

THE EDITOR

Union budget 2024: A major thrust on agriculture



DHARMAPALAN

The budget's focus on sustainable agriculture and innovation highlights the Government's commitment to support the farmers and ensuring food security

nion budget 2024- a thrust on agriculture for a visit bharatBiju DharmapalanIn the Union Budget 2024 presented by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, great emphasis has been placed on agriculture and space. Both are essential pillars for transforming our country into a developed nation.

The latter is futuristic, and the former is the lifeline of the present generation. No nation can survive without the farming community, and they are the 'Annadata'. In the changing global climate and environmental conditions, the traditional farming sector would not be sufficient to feed the population. The governhas allocated Rs.1,51,851 crores for the agricultural and allied sectors. Stress has been given to agricultural research to increase productivity and release 109 new high-yielding and climate-resilient varieties of 32 field and horticulture crops. Climate-resilient crops have become essential under the prevailing global climatic conditions. During the past few years, we have noticed changes in the climate in crops when water resources ment in research and devel-



We had severe summers even in high altitudes of the Himalayas and a deficit in rain during the monsoons. This has badly affected the agricultural sector, where most of our crop cultivation is based on climatic patterns. Farmers are forced to grow temperate plants like apples and grapes in plains. People are even trying to grow rainfed crops like paddy in garden pots. Change in agricultural patterns is inevitable. Climate change affects agriculture in numerous ways. Heat stress triggers alterations in respiration and photosynthesis, resulting in a reduced life cycle and decreased plant yield. Additionally, higher temperatures can lead to increased evapotranspiration, necessitating more water for

are scarcer. Experiencing drought-like situations in several parts of the country due to climate changes has badly affected the soil health, making the farmland unhealthy for future farming. Moreover, the frequency and severity of droughts are expected to rise, particularly in regions that are already water-stressed. Drought conditions reduce crop yields and affect soil health, making it more difficult for future crops to grow. On the other hand, excessive rainfall and flooding, becoming more common, can destroy crops, erode soil, and wash away essential nutrients. Extreme weather patterns will not only affect crop productivity and microbial biodiversity, which keeps our planet healthy.In addition, it will expedite the emergence of new pests and diseases that may affect crop growth and productivity. The emergence of new diseases may even lead to a pandemic affecting several crop species across the globe. This may jeopardise our food security. Developing resilient crops for the next century is a challenging task.

It requires significant invest-

opment. Our laboratories in the agricultural universities need thorough transformation. They need to be equipped with state-of-the-art facilities that can handle molecular breeding programmes and large crop phenomics facilities that can speed up the development of new crop varieties. Our scientific community should acknowledge the farmers and share the benefits of the genes taken from traditional varieties for developing resilient crops. By promoting healthy soils, biodiversity, and resilience, natural farming has the potential to support longterm food security and environmental health. Agriculture is not merely an

occupation; it is the bedrock of our food supply and a critical component in balancing the health of our planet. So, we need to promote and incentivise our farmers who take up new technologies so that farming remains a viable and respected profession for youngsters.

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

BUDGET REACTIONS Madam — Apropos the news headline

"Less Tax, More Jobs" (July 24). Finance Minister (FM) Nirmala Sitharaman's 2024 Union budget should be the budget of the whole country, but the FM has presented it as if it is the NDA's budget. To make matters worse, taxpayers have to foot the bill for the NDA government's political survival. There is nothing wrong when the Leader of the Opposition (LoP) Rahul Gandhi criticizes the NDA government's Union Budget, claiming it undermines India's federal structure. He highlights neglect towards other states and vows to advocate for equal justice. INDIA protests against the 'Kursi Bachao' Budget in Parliament.

Interestingly, FM Sitharaman, elected from Karnataka, provided nothing in the budget for her state, which is ruled by the Congress. In her Purvodaya scheme for the all-round development of Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, and Andhra Pradesh, only Bihar and Andhra Pradesh benefit significantly. For instance, Rs 11,500 crore was allocated to Bihar for flood mitigation, while West Bengal, one of the worst flood-affected states, is crying for help. Salaried employees in the new tax regime will save up to Rs 17,500 in income tax. Corporate tax rates on foreign companies were reduced to 25%. Family pensions were enhanced from Rs 15,000 to Rs 25,000

However, nearly 60 lakh EPF pensioners have been receiving Rs 920 to Rs 1000 per month since 1995 without any increase. The government deserves praise for exempting three cancer medicines from custom duties and allocating Rs 2.2 lakh crore to make housing more affordable. It's also commendable that FM Sitharaman has introduced an internship program similar to Congress' Nyay Patra. Overall it is a mix bag but could have addressed the pressing

issues on priority.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

Tragedy at Tribhuvan International Airport



t is deeply shocking that eighteen people have lost their lives in a deadly plane crash at Tribhuvan International Airport, Kathmandu. The plane, a twenty-year-old Bombardier CRJ-200 regional jet owned by the

CONTROVERSIAL REMARKS

Madam — The Telangana-cadre IAS officer Smita Sabharwal is being criticized for questioning the need for a disability quota in civil services. She asked the "rights activists" to examine why the policy was yet to be implemented in police services, foreign services, and the defense sector. By raising such questions, she violated the code of conduct for civil servants and is punishable under the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 and other relevant laws. Prominent coach and mentor of civil services aspirants in Hyderabad, Bala Latha Mallavarapu, challenged Smita to sit for the UPSC examination again and beat her score. The Supreme Court recently ruled in favor of Pankaj Kumar Srivastava, a 100 percent visually impaired candidate who cleared the Civil Services Examination in 2009 but was denied an appointment. This ruling marks a significant milestone in the fight for disability rights in India.

inappropriate remarks. Yash Pal Ralhan Jalandhar

private airline company Saurya Airlines, skidded off the runway and crashed. It seems that the aviation industry in Nepal has fallen short of both standards and expectations, failing to keep pace with other countries in terms of modernization and sophistication. It is a pity

that Nepal has not learned any lessons from

past incidents, leading to a continuing series of plane crashes.

The aviation sector is crucial for Nepal's tourism and businesses. It is high time that the government of Nepal, along with private airline owners, collaborate to revamp the deteriorating aviation sector. They must pay due attention to improving passenger safety, modernizing logistics and infrastructure, and introducing new jets to avoid future accidents. Path-breaking reforms are essential. Janga Bahadur Sunuwar, Bagrakote

Janga Bahadur Sunuwar | Bagrakote

BIDEN WITHDRAWS FROM THE RACE

Madam —Joe Biden Withdraws from Presidential RaceMadam, Accepting the views of prominent Democratic leaders, including former President Barack Obama, President Joe Biden has announced his withdrawal from the presidential race. Age is not on his side, and Donald Trump, after surviving an assassination attempt, has gained momentum. Vice President Kamala Harris is likely to take on the aging Donald Trump. In India, Kamala Harris presumptive nomination elicited only lukewarm enthusiasm. During the 2019 election campaign, she criticised Prime Minister Modi's policies on Kashmir, saying, "We have to remind Kashmiris that they are not alone in the world." The possibility of tension in relations between the two countries, despite statements of warm friendship, cannot

Haridasan Rajan | Kozhikode

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FIRST COLUMN

BUDGET BALANCES FISCAL DISCIPLINE AND EMPLOYMENT

Union budget takes definitive steps to create jobs for India's youth



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

he eleventh full-term budget under Modi 3.0 walks the fiscal discipline path, despite being a coalition government, he is heading. The surprise results from June 4th, which threw in a coalition government for Prime Minister Modi, perhaps for the first time in his career, did not stop his budget proposals, political with sound economics in the background. In the run-up to the budget, many had expected, that the Finance Act would be populist keeping in mind the state elections of Haryana, Maharashtra and Jharkhand scheduled later this year. However what came out from Nirmala Sitharaman's tab, was a document that chose to focus on core areas of long-term growth and decent infrastructure spending, without giving in to populist demands. The key theme as highlighted by Government is Employment.

Questions have been raised in post-budget analysis regarding the feasibility of the schemes announced for creating lakhs of jobs for the youth of the country. The apprentice scheme promising a government stipend for lakhs of youth per year, in some of the largest companies of India, may only be a game changer if these young interns are attentively skilled to be formally absorbed into jobs, once their tenure is over. There are serious concerns regarding the abundant availability of a relatively unskilled workforce, hanging around in large offices, without learning any mean-

Similar questions have been raised regarding the EPFO-linked new job incentivisation scheme, which has various blindsides, possibly pushing a well-thought-out policy push into a dark corner. It may be said that the policy push is primarily to bring more youth employed in the informal sector within a formal standard workforce and instil a financial literacy discipline in them early on. However, this financial literacy falls flat when one looks at the changes made in the tax structures for any investor punting in the speculative equities market. The increased rate of capital gains tax and a general push to the new income tax regime, seem to be at cross purposes of the financial literacy programme, the government wants youth to undertake to avail of full benefits of INR 15,000, nonth's salary subsidy. The earlier tax regimes instilled a sense



of financial responsibility for any youth entering the formal job sector, with several choosing at least one product, as a means to save and claim tax rebates in the future. This set them off for a long financial discipline path during their tenure as working professionals, which now seems to be slowly being eased out. The counter-argument the government may have is, that they want the consumer economy to grow first, led by the youth, who may be more willing to spend on food items, entertainment etc, with the monthly salaries they would be drawing in their new jobs. However, it prevents them from getting a into habit of savings, which are useful during rainy days or Covid type crises. Yes, the government, did well to maintain the fiscal discipline glide path, buoyed by a better than expected GDP growth, and lumpy dividend payouts from the central bank. Overall inflations, except for food are also within tolerable levels, giving the government, a cushion for spending on welfare projects. it feels are essential. Union budget 24-25 is an attempt woo back disgruntled voters.

The lesson BJP appears to have taken from the June 4 results is, that the youth are excited about huge temples, few smart glitzy trains, and cheap mobile data in their 'Made in India' phones, but they are increasingly getting anxious to earn money, have an engaging occupation, which feeds into their aspirational upwardly mobile lifestyle. Then there are pulls and pressures of coalition politics, with NDA's two partners TDP and JD(U) having their wish lists for catering to their core constituencies. A long-term dice has been rolled, perhaps NDA 3.0 with this budget has achieved the goldilocks balance.

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

Budget 2024: A blueprint for long-term growth

The Union Budget 2024-25 reaffirms the Govt's dedication to long-term growth. India is well-positioned to harness its immense potential for rapid development



n a pivotal move aimed at strength ening India's economic prowess, the Union Budget for the fiscal year 2024-25 has made significant strides in assuring continuity of progressive reforms. There is cheer in the MSME, E-commerce and start-up worlds, which have been extended additional support as the country progresses on the road towards a Viksit Bharat. The Finance Minister made various announcements to empower the Garib, Mahila, Yuva and Kissan. The announcements made under this budget are timely and set to propel the Indian economy to new heights during the Amrit Kaal, enhancing its resilience in an ever-evolving global landscape.

booster for MSMEs

The budget rightfully supports the bottom of the industrial pyramid by offering much-needed ease of credit for the MSME segment. India has 633.9 lakh MSMEs, where over 99% of them qualify as micro-enterprises that make up 630.5 lakh enterprises. One of the critical reasons why micro enterprises (with investments up to INR 10 million) do not graduate to being small or medium enterprises is the lack of access to formal credit. By doubling the MUDRA loan amounts and setting up new SIDBI branches, credit will now be more accessible to these organizations. Other steps (mandatory Trade Receivables Discounting System) have improved liquidity, while Industrial parks will provide the much-needed digital support that MSMEs usually cannot afford for growth. Additionally, the new credit guarantee scheme for MSMEs offers term loans without collateral or third-party guarantees, significantly easing the financial



THERE IS GENERAL CHEER IN THE START-UP ECOSYSTEM ACROSS INDIA **OVER THE ABOLITION** OF THE ANGEL TAX PROPOSED IN

THE BUDGET

positive support for this crucial sector is bound to give it the confidence to shed its risk-averse nature and grow with ambition on the road to 2047.

Skilling and Job Creation

With this budget, the Government has responded positively to the need for job opportunities and skill development among youth in our country. The continued emphasis on skilling will allow training institutions and large corporations to participate in creating a pool of professionally trained manpower that would be readily absorbed by them and the larger MSME ecosystem, which is often strained for funds for training purposes. Meticulous implementation will, however, be key to setting the ball rolling in the right direction of creating jobs.Rural Economy

The rural economy

continued to receive support from the government, as strengthening this segment will be crucial for the sustained economic growth of the country. Budget 2024 had some big announcements for them that would increase productivity and food security in grains and oilseeds. Such measures will go a long way in creating new economic clusters that will support sustained growth.

With 1 crore farmers to be trained in natural farming, marketing, certification, and brand-

tering entrepreneurship. Such ing, organic farming is all set to receive a big stimulus. The focus on addressing the impact of climate on our food basket showcases the government's longterm vision towards building resilience in the ecosystem.'

Start-ups and E-Commerce

There is general cheer in the start-up ecosystem across India over the abolition of the angle tax, proposed in the budget.

Angel tax, introduced in 2012, was imposed on the capital raised by unlisted companies through the issue of shares to Indian investors if the share price exceeded the fair market value no proper documentation. This (FMV) of the company. Traders and artisans using e-commerce sites got a lift up in this budget when TDS was not just reduced but TDS delays were decriminal-

E-commerce exports, \$2 billion now, are expected to be \$350 billion by 2030. With revised custom duties, the Government hopes to give the required fillip to these artisans/traders who sell their wares using websites, in line with its Make in India strategy.

Energy security

India is a fast-developing economy and our energy needs are rising rapidly. By encouraging private investment in setting up small nuclear energy reactors and encouraging R&D into newer forms of nuclear energy, the budget aims to achieve India's goals of energy security.
With regular energy audits across

clusters, larger commercial thermal plants and a pumped storage policy, the budget aims to help India cope with the rising demand without missing a step. However, our green economy targets are very ambitious and much more needs to be done to ensure our transition to green

Digitization of Land Records This one step is perhaps the most

impactful step the budget has outlined for the growth of India's economy. Vast tracts of our land, especially in rural India, are often embroiled in disputes with is a key nurgie in land acquisition for major projects. By digitising these records across India, the Government will end middlemen and reduce the number of land cases in the legal system. Overall, the Union Budget 2024-25 reinforces the Government's commitment to sustained long-term

With strategic investments and forward-looking policies, India is poised to navigate global challenges while harnessing its immense potential for socioeconomic development. The road towards Viksit Bharat could have its set of challenges, especially given the global dynamics, but the sustained vision and progressive policy support will help realise the dream of a Viksit Bharat.

(The writer is secretary general of ASSOCHEM; views expressed

Commemorating 25 years of Kargil victory: A tribute to India's bravehearts

As we remember the 527 soldiers who laid down their lives, we celebrate the enduring legacy of their heroism and dedication to the nation

isitors to Drass, a town situated at an altitude of 10,760 feet (3,279 metres) in India-administered Kashmir, are greeted with a signboard that says at -60 degrees Celsius on January 9, 1995, it was the second-coldest inhabited place on the planet. Drass, located in Kargil district, has an additional claim to fame. In the summer of 1999, it was on its western edge with rocky and barren Himalayan peaks that India and Pakistan fought their last

That year, Pakistan's military and Kashmiri rebels occupied strategic positions on the Indian side of the de facto border between them (known as the Line of Control or LoC), prompting a counter-offensive by India. While



Pakistan had named its move to take over the control of Indian posts along the LoC as 'Operation Badr,' India called its offensive 'Operation Vijay'.It was a war fought in the era of satellite news channels. The battles were broadcast directly to homes in both countries, making Drass and Kargil as a whole, a symbol of India's nationalism, inspiring a raft of jingoistic Bollywood movies. This July 26 is the 25th Kargil Vijay Divas. On this day in intruders, but a price was paid

1999, the Indian forces threw out the Pakistanis from the incursion points in the general area of Kargil, which they had illegally occupied, bringing to a close a two-month war. It was a tough war, fought on sheer grit and courage, as gutsy young officers, most of them in their twenties, led equally brave soldiers up naked rock faces and managed to evict the enemy within weeks. Names such as Tiger Hill, Tololing, Point 5140, Point 4700, Three Pimples, Chorbat La, Point 5203, Point 4875, Khalubar, and Jubar Top became household names across the country. On 26 July 1999, the Kargil conflict officially came to an end. The Indian Army announced the complete eviction of Pakistani

for it in blood and tears. We lost 527 of our brave soldiers; 1363 came back wounded. The Indian army has marked July 26 – the day the Kargil war ended – as "Vijay Diwas" (Victory Day). Every year for the past 25

years, the whole nation celebrates proudly on this day. Army also undertakes commemorative treks on the Icy features, where our Braves became invincibles. What seemed an impossible task to the world, was accomplished in a mere 50 days, with all the features lost, back under our

The '50 Day War' as it is fondly called, was a record in itself.Whenever the story of Kargil is told, it shall be incomplete without paying homage to the steely resolve and cold



who went to fight for their nation knowing that they might never return. Barely out of the academy, they fought against all odds, with single-minded devotion, and set new benchmarks in heroism. Their spirit and daring will be difficult to replicate. The war will always be remembered for its strategic and tac-

tical surprise, the self-imposed national strategy of restraint in keeping the war limited to the Kargil–Siachen sector, military strategy and planning, and the dedication, determination and daring junior leadership at

the tactical level.

In fiercely fought combat actions, on the most difficult terrain that gave immense advantage to the enemy, we were able to evict Pakistani troops from most of their surreptitiously occupied positions. The Pakistani leadership was forced to sue for a ceasefire and seek the withdrawal of its troops from the remaining areas. Operation Vijay - the Indian codename for the war was a blend of strong and determined political, military and diplomatic actions, which enabled us to transform an

adverse situation into a military and diplomatic victory. As two prime ministers of Pakistan later acknowledged, 'Kargil war was Pakistan's biggest blunder and disaster.' A reflection on the Kargil War can never be complete without a mention of the brilliant junior leadership that we witnessed during battles.

Such acts by young officers and men can never be forgotten. They make us proud. Commanding officers of many infantry battalions displayed steely resilience and singleminded devotion to duty. There were actions by young artillery forward observation officers and battery commanders who took over infantry companies when their company commander colleagues were killed. A victory in war is

achieved when battles are won. Battles are won when soldiers put duty before themselves. Soldiers who put their lives at stake in wars and war-like situations and expect nothing in return. But what the nation owes to them is recognition and gratitude. For every single brave deed noticed and recognized, many went unnoticed in the fog of war. These legendary tales deserve mention not only in our military history books but also in school textbooks to serve as inspiration for young people. This success shall not be taken for granted. With heights averaging 15000 feet, bone-chilling temperatures and a dominating hostility, the Kargil war in itself is a global

(The author is freelance writer; views are personal)



Mhara Haryana Non-Stop Haryana

we Haryanvis Get drinking water from

taps in every household

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5164 tube wells and 1557 boosting pumps were installed at a cost of ₹1664 crore

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Court sets aside physical remand of Pak ex-PM Imran in 12 cases

MAY 9 RIOTS

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

Pakistani court on AThursday set aside the physical remand of Imran Khan in connection with 12 cases linked to last year's May 9 riots, in a major relief to the jailed former prime minister who has been imprisoned for almost a year. On July 16, an anti-terrorism court granted Punjab police Khan's 10-day physical remand in a dozen cases linked to the May 9 riots. Supporters of Khan attacked several important government buildings and army installations following his arrest in an alleged corruption case in May last year.

The Punjab police last week arrested Khan in 12 terrorism cases, including an attack on a senior army officer in Lahore, soon after he and his wife Bushra Bibi were acquitted in the Iddat case, making sure the cricketer-turned-politician remains in Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi.

On July 18, Khan approached the Lahore High Court challenging his physical remand in 12 criminal cases of last year's violent attacks on military facilities and other properties, including the Lahore corps commander's residence.

Khan, the 71-year-old Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) founder, had argued that the anti-terrorism court order be declared illegal and set aside, and that his custody be transferred from the police to judicial custody.

"The Lahore High Court's twomember bench grilled the Punjab prosecutor general for seeking physical remand of Imran Khan for more days to conduct polygraph, voice matching and other tests. As the suspect was already in custody why the police need his physical remand for the purpose as they could have done it much earlier in jail even without a physical remand," a court official told PTI after the hearing.

The two-member bench comprising Justice Tariq Saleem Sheikh and Justice Anwarul



what kind of evidence the probing team want to get from the suspect (Khan)

The court asked the Punjab prosecutor general to read out the transcript of Khan under which police have registered multiple cases against for inciting the public to attack the state and military installations.

"Physical remand is a serious matter. It is not acceptable if you say a girl is not a girl but a boy, Justice Pannu remarked and further noted "judges are being given more threats these days.

The court official further said the LHC observed that if Imran Khan was not leading the violent protest no case could be instituted against him. On this the prosecutor general argued that Khan incited the public," the court official said.

After hearing the arguments of the prosecutor general and Khan's counsel, the LHC set aside the anti-terrorism court's decision to grant his physical remand noting that he will remain in judicial custody in these cases. Khan is facing over 200 cases mostly of which he is on bail. He has been in jail since August last year.

The PTI believes he is being arrested in more cases on the behest of the powerful military establishment to make sure that he does not come out of jail. Separately, Khan filed a petition against his potential handover to military custody in connection with the May 9 riot cases, arguing that detainees involved

in the events should remain

EC notifies 39 successful MPs as PTI lawmakers

fied 39 successful MPs as lawmakers of Imran Khan's party after the Supreme Court ordered the top electoral body to do so in its verdict on the reserved seats case, a media report said on Thursday.

The notification for the 39 MNAs (Member of the National Assembly of Pakistan) was issued on Wednesday, the Dawn newspaper reported. On July 12, the Supreme Court

declared jailed former prime minister Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) eligible to receive reserved seats for women and non-Muslims in the national and provincial assemblies, giving the party a new lease on life in the legislature by declaring it to be a parliamentary party.

under the jurisdiction of civilian courts.

The petition was submitted by Khan's lawyer, Uzair Karamat, to the Lahore High Court. The federal government and the Inspector Generals (IGs) of all four provinces have been made respondents in the case, the Express Tribune newspaper reported.

Khan said that a false narrative had been constructed, accusing him of inciting protests at the General Headquarters (GHQ). He described the May 9 incident as a "false flag operation," asserting that those who stole the CCTV footage of the events were the true culprits.

He criticised the comparison of the May 9 incident to the US Capitol Hill protests on January 6, 2021, highlighting that a thorough and transparent investigation was conducted in the case, leading to the punishment of only the involved individuals, without implicating the entire Republican Party of Doland

The former premier urged the court to order that custody in the May 9 cases remain with

Islamabad (PTI): Pakistan's Despite an 8-5 split, all 13 Election Commission has notijudges declared the PTI a parliamentary party. The majority judgement explained that 39 out of the 80 MNAs, shown by the ECP as PTI candidates belonged to the party. The rest of the 41 independents would have to file duly signed and notarised statements before the commission within 15 days, explaining that they contested the February 8 general elections as a candidate of a particular political party, the paper said. The ECP had finally decided last week to implement the apex court's decision. In a notification, the ECP said the following "returned candidates against general seats of

order preventing his handover to military authorities.

National Assembly are declared

to have been returned as can-didates" of Khan's political

On Monday, the cricketerturned-politician expressed concerns that he and his wife, Bushra Bibi, might be sent to a military jail in connection with the May 9 riot cases.

'They plan to send me to a military jail for the May 9 incidents," he said while speaking to the media during a hearing of the Al-Qadir Trust case in the Adiala Jail Rawalpindi. He had lamented the biased

treatment meted out to Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) workers detained in military jails, suggesting a plan to also incarcerate him under similar charges. Khan was booked on the charges of abetment in attacks on Lahore Corps Commander House known as Jinnah House Askari Tower, and Shadman police station on May 9, 2023. He clarified that he had called for peaceful protests outside the army's General Headquarters (GHQ) if arrested but never authorised any violent actions. Khan accused Inter-Services Intelligence (ISI) of stealing CCTV footage related to the

Publisher Jimmy Lai will testify in his defence at HK national security trial

Hong Kong (AP): A defence lawyer said on Thursday that prominent publisher Jimmy Lai will testify in his defence in the landmark national security trial brought under a Beijing-imposed law that has all but wiped out public dissent. Lai, the 76-year-old founder of the now-defunct Apple Daily newspaper, was arrested in 2020 during a crackdown on the mass prodemocracy protests that rocked Hong Kong in 2019. He was charged with colluding with foreign forces to endanger national security and conspiring with others to put out seditious publications. If convicted, he faces up to life in prison. On Wednesday, Lai's lawyer Robert Pang argued his client had no case to answer because the prosecutors' evidence was insufficient. Pang said the prosecution had failed to prove Lai's intent after the introduction of the 2020 law and stressed the importance of freedom of speech

But judges Esther Toh, Susana D'Almada Remedios and Alex Lee ruled against him on Thursday. "Having considered all the submission, we ruled that the first defendant has a case to answer on all charges, Toh said, without elaborating. Pang later said in court that Lai would testify in his defense, but when he would do so was not immediately settled.

Observers said Lai's high-profile case, which has already stretched over 90 days, is a trial of press freedom and a test for judicial independence in the Asian financial hub.

When Britain handed back Hong Kong to China in 1997, the city was promised to have its Western-style civil liberties kept intact for 50 years. However, the freedoms that once set Hong Kong apart from mainland China, including freedoms of press and assembly, have drastically shrunk since the enactment of the 2020 security law.

Beijing and Hong Kong gov-ernments insist that the law brought back stability to the city following the social

More than hundred flights cancelled in Germany **Environmental activists target airports across Europe**

ermany's busiest airport Ganceled more than 100 flights Thursday as environmental activists launched a coordinated effort to disrupt air travel across Europe at the height of the summer holiday season to highlight the threat

posed by climate change. Frankfurt Airport said flights were halted for safety reasons after climate activists breached security fences, triggering a response from police, firefighters and airport security officers. All runways were back in operation by 7:50 am local time, it said. About 140 flights have been cancelled so far, but further disruptions are expected throughout the day, the airport

Environmental groups said they planned to target airports around Europe this summer to remind people about the link between fossil fuels, such as those used by airliners, and climate change. The groups are calling for governments around the world to end the extraction and burning of fossil fuels by "We sharply condemn these

unauthorized demonstrations, and we reserve the right to take legal action against the participants," Frankfurt Airport said. Their activities pose severe danger to flight operations possibly putting human life at

Climate data showed that Monday was the hottest day ever recorded as human-caused climate change continues to drive unprecedented heat and growing weather extremes. Global investments in planetwarming oil and gas are expected to increase by 7 per cent this year, according to the International Energy Agency, despite global promises to slash fossil fuel use.

Flying is considered one of the most carbon-intensive activities, but the aviation industry is expected to grow steadily over the coming decades despite efforts to contain the climate crisis.

The Last Generation group, which organized the Frankfurt



on the apron of Frankfurt Airport, where a few activists have taped themse in Frankfurt, Germany, on Thursday

demonstration, said six protesters cut holes in the perimeter fence and headed toward the runways on foot, bicycles and skateboards.

It was the second time in as many days that a protest by Last Generation caused disruption at a German airport.

On Wednesday, five protesters glued themselves to a taxiway at Cologne-Bonn Airport, forcing a roughly three-hour halt to flights. That protest resulted in 31 flights being canceled. There were other protests or attempted protests in other European countries.

Climate activists staged similar actions in Finland, Norway, Switzerland and Spain on Wednesday

At Helsinki Airport, a handful of protesters blocked the main check-in area for about 30 minutes, but police said the demonstration caused no delays to flights or other disruption.

At Oslo's main Gardermoen airport, three activists managed to enter the runway area early Wednesday, waving banners and disrupting air traffic for about half an hour. Police said there were no major

flight delays. Police in London said Wednesday that they prevented a planned protest at

Heathrow Airport that could have had a significant impact on Europe's largest airport. Seven members of the group known as Just Stop Oil were arrested at Heathrow and three others were taken into custody at other locations as part of an "intelligence-led" operation, the Metropolitan Police Service

One of those arrested in London was Sean Callaghan, 29, who described himself as an environmental educator.

said in a statement.

'I'm taking action at airports this summer because it is impossible for me to see a way in which we can inspire and enthuse students about the future of our planet," Callaghan said in a video posted on social

Last week, the German Cabinet approved legislation that would impose tougher penalties on people who break through airport perimeters.

The bill, which still requires approval by lawmakers, foresees punishment ranging up to a two-year prison sentence for people who intentionally intrude on airside areas of air ports such as taxiways or runways, endanger civil aviation, or enable someone else to. Currently such intrusions only

China past in terms of investments in Pak, US future, says official

Pakistan is now a thing of the past, a senior administration official has told the lawmakers noting that the United States is the future.

"China is the past in terms of investments in Pakistan, we are the future," Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia Donald Lu told lawmakers during a Congressional hearing on Tuesday.

Lu was responding to questions from the Congressmen, who expressed concerns over the Chinese investment in Pakistan and other countries in South and Central Asia, including Sri Lanka and Maldives

"I would argue the Chinese plan is to have a military base in every country and every infrastructure project is made with high interest Chinese loans and low paid Chinese workers. We just see this model all throughout the region," he said. The Chinese bring in their own workers. erally take gold and copper from the ground and just ship back for processing in China 'They don't spend any money

in local communities. This is going to have a boomerang effect for Chinese businesses and their interests. We talked about Pakistan and the investments there, USD26 billion. They put a huge amount of money in Pakistan. I actually don't see them putting a dime in there right now because they're really worried about whether they're going to get their money back there," he said. "Their really terrible invest-

ment strategy is biting them in the ass and we have an opportunity to do a better job to make sure countries know there are options and they don't have to be beholden to one," Lu said.

Congressman McCormick said China has vastly outspent the United States throughout the entire

They don't actually train local workers to do their enterpris- since 2012. They are making Pakistan Economic Corridor known as CPAK.

This gives China a significant leverage over Pakistan, he noted.

T'm really worried about the future as we invest, how do we leverage our position with Pakistan, our historic relationship given also our relationship with India and that's developing very quickly. How do we balance that and keep that in our advantage?" he asked.

Lu said the US is facing ongoing challenges and opportunities in Pakistan.

The president's budget requests a straight lining of our USD101 million Pakistan budget. That money will be used to strengthen democracy and civil society, fight terrorism and extremism and to support economic reforms and debt management to help to stabilize Pakistan's economy and prevent further overreliance on China," he

Putin meets Syrian Prez in Kremlin

May 9 events.

Moscow (AP): Russian President Kremlin, video distributed by the Kremlin press service on Thursday showed. "I am very interested in your opinion on how the situation in the region as a whole is developing," Putin said to Assad. "Unfortunately there is a tendency towards escalation, we can see that. This also applies directly to Syria." The Kremlin said Putin and

Assad's meeting took place Wednesday. Putin and Assad last met in March 2023 in the Kremlin on the anniversary of Syria's 12-year uprising-turnedcivil war. At that meeting, Putin emphasized the Russian military's role in stabilizing the country. Russia has waged a military campaign in Syria since September 2015, teaming up with Iran to allow Assad's gov ernment to fight armed opposition groups and reclaim control over most of the country. While Russia now concentrates the bulk of its military resources in Ukraine, it has maintained a military foothold in Syria and keeps troops at its bases there.

Possibility of 'growing' Chinese presence

makers. "We are concerned about the

Tuesday.

The United States is concerned about the possibility of growing Chinese presence in Bangladesh, a senior administration official has told the law-

possibility of a growing Chinese presence in Bangladesh. But I would say the Bangladeshis have been pretty careful about not overextending quickly," Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia told the lawmakers during Congressional hearing on

"In terms of Russia, Chinese influence in Bangladesh in that area, have you seen any uh things that are concerning in well?" that regard as Congressman Bill Keating

"I would say the most influential country in Bangladesh is actually not Russia or China, it's India. And we have a really active dialogue with India about our policies in Bangladesh and Lu said in response to the ques-

Congresswoman Young Kim said the Chinese Communist Party is a top trading partner for Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Afghanistan, which is around America's strategic partner India.

The PLA's presence is also intensifying both along the Indian border and in the Indian Ocean. Aid and cooperation play a pivotal role not only in advancing US interests in South Asia, but also in enhancing their prosperity and keeping the region free and open," she said. Responding to another question from Congressman Andy Kim, Lu said that the recently held elections in Bangladesh had less violence than the previous

We believe that these elections were less violent than the last two in Bangladesh, in part due to both government and opposition taking a step back because of the threat of sanctions," he

in Bangladesh concerns United States United States has been following very closely this past week

"We've condemned that violence we've called on the government to respect freedom of assembly and freedom of speech. We've called upon the government to restore internet to the country, which has been off now for several days," he said 'You will be aware that there is a curfew that has been put in place by the government as a response to some of the violence that's happened. Some in police

have said there's a shoot on sight

the violence in Bangladesh.

That's what I heard. So we have condemned from spokesperson of the State Department uh the shoot on sight order and ask them to roll that back," Lu said.

"It's a very tense moment in Bangladesh between protesters and the government. We hope that calm is restored. I have been in touch with senior leaders in Bangladesh. We remain in touch with them now to try to encourage them to find a peaceful way to resolve this crisis," said the Assistant Secretary of



उ.प्र. राज्य औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण ए-1/4 लखनपुर, कानपुर-208024

शुद्धिपत्र

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि दिनांक 04.07.2024 को समाचार पत्रों में प्रकाशित Upgradation Street light and High Mast with 3 year AMC at Bhara Pachpera, Distt. - Pilibhit हेत् निविदा संख्या (2024 SDC_935130_1) जो दिनांक 24.07.2024 तक अपलोड की जानी थी, एव 25.07.2024 को खोली जानी है, अपरिहार्य कारणों से अब उक्त आमंत्रित निविदाओं में निविदा प्रपत्र अपलोड़ करने की अवधि दिनांक 01.08.2024 तक विस्तारित की जाती है। यह निविदायें अब दिनांक 02.08.2024 क वरिष्ठ प्रबन्धक (मु.) विद्युत उ.प्र.स.औ.वि.प्रा., कानपुर अपरान्ह 16:00 बजे खोली जायेंगी। शेष नियम व शर्ते यथावत रहेंगी।

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E-Tender (Short Term) Enq. No. 542/P-2/EMPW-12733 Dated 17.07.2024 Dy.Chief Engine

E-Tender ID No. 2024_POWER_124109_1 for Annual Contract for Rewinding/ Re-caging/Re-staggering and other repairs of HT Motors of GGSSTP. Rupnagai

For detailed NIT & Tender Specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 18.07.2024 onwards. Note:- Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online a

https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

76155/12/3172/2023/36027 Dated CHD :- 7/25/2024

GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY,

SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE FOR SOPHISTICATED **EQUIPMENTS**

CAD software for Fabric Design, Garment Design Software, Socks Knittin Machine, Single Color Roto Flat Printing Machine, Universal Testing Machine (UTM), Narrow Fabric Weaving, Lab Coating Machine, Package Dyeing Machines rinting Screen making and Exposure Unit, Pad Thermo Fixation Range ering Machines, Digital Tear Tester, Air Permeability Tester, UV Pentratio orrigendum/Addendum related to these e-tender will be uploaded, if required, o

NA/12/24361/2023/36011 Dated CHD :- 7/25/2024

for 15th year in row Tokyo (AP): Japan's total poputant to marry or have children, lation marked the 15th straight year of decline, according to govdata released ernment Wednesday, dropping by more

Japan's population falls

than a half-million people as the population ages and births remain low. Births in Japan hit a record low of 730,000 last year. The 1.58 million deaths last year were also a record high. Japan's population was 124.9 million as of January 1. The data released by the Internal

Affairs Ministry also showed that the 11% increase in foreign residents helped their population surpass 3 million for the first time. They now make up nearly 3% of the total population and are mostly of working age from 15 to 64. Surveys show that younger

Japanese are increasingly reluc-

discouraged by bleak job prospects, the high cost of living which rises at a faster pace than salaries — and a genderbiased corporate culture that adds a burden only on women and working mothers. The government earmarked 5.3 trillion yen (\$34 billion) as part

of the 2024 budget to fund incentives for young couples to have more children, such as increasing subsidies for childcare and education, and is expected to spend 3.6 trillion yen (\$23 billion) in tax money annually over the next three years. Experts say the measures are largely meant for married couples who plan to have or who already have children, and don't address the growing number of young people reluctant to get married.

Romania says more Russian drone debris from Ukraine war has landed on its territory

Bucharest (AP): Debris from what is believed to be a Russian drone landed in a rural area of Romania, the country's Defense Ministry said on Thursday, in the latest apparent incident of drone wreckage from the war in neighboring Ukraine falling onto the NATO member's soil Since the war started in February

2022, Romania has confirmed drone fragments on its territory on several occasions. The debris of what the Defense Ministry called a "Russia origin" drone were found following Russian attacks on Ukraine's port infrastructure near the border. The fragments were discovered by a team of specialists in an uninhabited area near the village of Plauru in Tulcea county.

Oil tanker sinks in Manila Bay Armando Balilo said, citing coast, to search for the last

AP MANILA

A Philippine oil tanker sank in Manila Bay early on Thursday after encountering huge waves, and the coast guard was working to determine whether the vessel was leaking oil — in what could be a major spill — after it rescued 16 of 17 crew members in a nighttime operation, officials The tanker Terra Nova left

Bataan province en route to the central province of Iloilo with about 1.4 million liters (370,000 gallons) of industrial fuel oil stored in watertight tanks when it got buffeted by huge waves and took on water The crew struggled to steer the tanker back to port but it eventually sank shortly after midnight, coast guard spokesperson Rear Admiral

statements from surviving crew members The sinking followed days of

monsoon rains, exacerbated by a passing offshore typhoon, that caused landslides and floodings across the archipelago, leaving at least 22 people dead and displacing more than half a million people.

An aerial survey spotted an oil spill about 3.7 kilometers (2.3 miles) long near the rough seawaters where the tanker sank but that may have come from the fuel intended to power the tanker's engine, not the much greater amount of fuel the Terra Nova was carrying as cargo, Balilo said.

A coast guard ship, the BRP Melchora Aquino, was in the waters where the tanker sank, more than 6 kilometers (about 4 miles) from Bataan province's

missing crewman and to carry out an initial assessment of the tanker's fuel oil cargo, Balilo told an online news conference. He added that the coast guard was bracing to contain possible major oil spill. There's a big danger that

Manila would be affected, its shorelines, if the fuel leaks because this happened within Manila Bay. It's part of the contingency we're preparing for," Balilo said. "The effect on the marine environment would not be good? Balilo later said the oil tanker

sank at a relatively shallow depth of 34 meters (111 feet), based on an initial assessment, and raised the possibility that its fuel oil cargo could be siphoned off by special ships in a delicate operation that could take about a week.

AMRITSAR

Short Term E-Tenders are invited for purchase Fluore

Tester, Automatic Hydrostatic Head Tester, Computer Color Matching System an Computer be submitted online latest by 9/08/2024 upto 4:00 p.m. Detailed information can be obtained from website www.eproc.punjab.gov.in Ang unjab Govt. website: eproc.punjab.gov.in Director of Research

Guru Nanak Dev University

I-T Act review attempt to make it simpler for taxpayers: CBDT chief

The Budget announcement about a comprehensive review of the Income Tax Act, 1961, is an attempt to make the "bulky" law "simpler" to understand and comfortable to use for taxpayers along with aligning new technology processes with it, CBDT Chairman Ravi Agrawal has said.

The Act that started its journey in 1922 contains 298 sections, 23 chapters and other provisions in its current form of 1961. Speaking to PTI during a

post-budget interview on Wednesday, Agrawal said the Act has seen "redundancies" over a period of time making it "thick and bulky."

"The taxpayers also feel that the Act is not so simple, as it ought to be...It cumbersome...So the attempt is if we can make this Act simpler, simpler to comprehend, simpler in terms of language, simpler in terms of presentation, then that hitch of the taxpayer to actually not see the Act and take the help of a tax practitioner or someone (maybe eased)..."



Tax Act) simple so that the taxpayer feels comfortable seeing the provisions himself or herself and that it is more user friendly," the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) head said.

It is also important to review the law as technology has become an integral part of tax administration and "we have to see where the gaps are and how we actually can align technology with the provisions of the Act," Agrawal said. We are looking to undertake

further improvements (in the law), he added.

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, while taxation.

Asked about the budget of proposal granting immunity from penalty and prosecution to a 'benamidar' (in whose name a benami asset is standing) under the Benami Transactions Prohibition Act, the CBDT chief said this was aimed to

make the act "effective". The minister said the move was intended to "improve conviction" under this law, which was enacted in 1988 implemented November 2016 by the Modi government.

A convict under this law can be sentenced to a rigorous imprisonment of up to seven years and a fine of up to 25 per cent of the fair market value of the property.

Benami properties are those in which the real beneficiary is not the one in whose name the property has been purchased

Agrawal also said that the Income Tax Department has completed about 6.5 lakh assessment cases and about 2 lakh appeals under the faceless assessment regime that was launched by the government in 2019-20.

Markets extend losses for 5th session

BSE SENSEX

84,000

6,000

74.000

8,000 76,468.78

In five days, the BSE

benchmark has tumbled

1,303.66 points or 1.60 per

cent, while the Nifty declined

394.75 points or 1.59 per cent.

"Overnight slump in US

equities caused a major slump

in domestic markets in early

trade due to heavy profit-taking in banking, IT, metals

"However, markets recouped

most of its losses towards the

end, with Sensex managing to

close above the crucial 80k-

mark amid buying in oil & gas

and automobile stocks,

indicating that investors are

willing to bet on good fundamental sectoral stocks

despite rising concerns of the

stretched valuations of the

Indian markets," Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research),

Mehta Equities Ltd, said.

and realty stocks.

Equity market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty stayed on the back foot for the fifth straight session on Thursday as investors offloaded metal, banking and finance stocks amid a lacklustre trend in global markets.

Heavy foreign fund outflows after a hike in securities transaction tax and shortterm capital gains tax also impacted markets' sentiment negatively, traders said.

However, strong buying in oil & stocks, energy and auto shares helped the indices offset some losses, they added. After a sharp fall in intra-day trade, the 30-share BSE Sensex managed to recover some of the lost ground to settle 109.08 points or 0.14 per cent lower at 80,039.80, as a sharp rally in Tata Motors and Larsen & Toubro restricted its fall. During the day, it tanked 671 points or 0.83 per cent to

Shares of Larsen & Toubro ended nearly 3 per cent higher after the company posted a 12 per cent rise in consolidated profit after tax (PAT) in the June quarter.

Tata Motors jumped nearly 6 per cent.

The NSE Nifty dipped 7.40 points or 0.03 per cent to points or 0.03 per cent to 24,406.10. Intra-day, it tumbled 202.7 points or 0.83 Mehta Equities Ltd, said. From the Sensex pack, Axis tumbled 202.7 points or 0.83 Bank declined over 5 per cent the budget buoyed sectoral sentiments," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit

5 7 11 13 18 20 24 26 28 2 4 8 10 12 16 19 23 25 after the company's June quarter earnings failed to

80,039.80

V-109.08

Nestle, Titan, ICICI Bank. Tata Steel, IndusInd Bank, ITC, JSW Steel and State Bank of India were the other laggards.

cheer investors.

Sun Pharma, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Bajaj Finance and Power Grid also ended in the positive territory.

After a volatile session, the Indian market concluded on a flat note, influenced by lowerthan-expected earnings growth from major banks. Global indices also reacted pessimistically due to the disappointing results from top US tech companies.

"However, the government's commitment to improving consumption and bridging the gap for energy transition in

0.22 per cent, and smallcap index dipped 0.14 per cent.
Among the indices, metal lost
1.19 per cent, bankex (1.10 per cent), realty (0.80 per

In the broader market, the

BSE midcap gauge declined

cent), telecommunication (0.65 per cent) and financial services (0.60 per cent). On the other hand, energy industrials.

healthcare, utilities, auto and oil & gas were among the gainers.

'Global stocks tumbled on Thursday after a tech-fuelled sell-off on Wall Street last night. A slew of disappointing results caused traders to panic that the artificial-intelligence frenzy that has powered the bull market this year may have been overdone," Deepak Jasani, Head of Retail Research, HDFC Securities,

In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled lower. European markets

said.

trading in the negative territory in the mid-session deals. 'US markets ended significantly lower Wednesday.

Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 5,130.90 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. Global oil benchmark Brent

crude declined 1.73 per cent to USD 80.31 a barrel.

Rationalisation of duties on leather sector to help create more jobs, push exports: CLE

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

R ationalisation of customs duties in the Budget on leather sector will help create more jobs and push exports, CLE said on Thursday.

The Council for Leather Exports (CLE) said that the Budget announcement of support for setting up working women hostels, establishing creches and women-specific programmes will further enhance the workforce in the sector.

The employment linked incentive scheme is a major support measure for the leather and footwear sector, as this is a labour-intensive sector, CLE Chairman Rajendra Kumar Jalan said. 'Two major measures have been announced for the leather and footwear sector in the Union Budget. One is the rationalisation of export other is the inclusion of more inputs including wet blue chrome tanned leather, wet white leather, crust leather and finished leather under the Duty Free Scheme for leather garments, leather



products and footwear exporters," he said. Jalan added on the export

duty front, the levy on wet blue and crust leather has been brought down from 40 per cent to 20 per cent. This will facilitate the export

of value-added processed leathers from the country as there is a huge demand for these leathers in the global

hope government will further reduce this export duty for crust leathers from 20 per cent to nil in future, so as to achieve our objective of enhancing the export of

value-added leathers by USD 1 billion in the next 2-3 years," Ialan said.

the Income Tax Act of 1961.

The purpose is to make the

Act concise, lucid, easy to read and understand. This

will reduce disputes and

litigation, thereby providing

tax certainty to the taxpayers.

It will also bring down the

litigation. It is proposed to be

completed in six months,"

Sitharaman added that a

beginning was being made in the Finance Bill by

simplifying the tax regime

structure, provisions for

charities, TDS rate

demand

she said.

embroiled in

He added that allowing duty free imports of critical raw materials and inputs, including wet blue, crust and finished leathers, will help facilitate the export of value-added products from the country.

"This will be a major step in achieving the exporter target of USD 13.7 billion by 2029-30 by the leather and footwear sector, from the export value of USD 4.69 billion during 2023-24," he

Map war intensifies, Google announces new features to woo users in India

A mid rising competition homegrown Afrom homegrown challenger Ola Maps, Google on Thursday announced a slew of new features on Google Maps to woo users in India, including EV charging station information, flyover callouts and AI-driven routing capability to reduce narrow road usage for fourwheeler drivers.

It is "an exciting time in mapping", Google Maps said announcing its lineup of new features, which comes in the backdrop of a pitched battle with Ola.

Google recently decided to cut the pricing of Google Maps platform for developers by up to 70 per cent from August 1, just weeks after Ola Founder and CEO Bhavish Aggarwal openly nudged Indian developers to shun Google Maps and offered them sweeteners like one-year free access to Ola Maps.

Replying to a question on the cuts - coming right after an offensive from Ola - Google Maps senior executives said that while "it's tempting to think that way, but we actually do not focus on competitors".



making sure we're serving our user base and our partner community, which is our developer partners. And to be honest, we timed it with our Connect event in Bengaluru," Miriam Daniel, VP and GM at Google Maps, VP and one said at a briefing.

-dded: "...This is

something our partners have time to make sure our Google Maps, India, read. systems are localised and narrow or congested roads in adapted to the needs of our partners in India.

On Thursday, the company announced six ways it is enabling more efficient and sustainable journeys on designed to reduce the use of

"We're very focused on Google Maps in India, making sure we're serving our powered by AI and local partners.

These new features reaffirm our commitment to making digital mapping even more helpful for users, businesses, developers and society at

We're excited to continue our journey of innovation and build the future of Google been requesting of us for a Maps right here in India," a while, and we've been blogpost by Daniel and working on it for quite some Lalitha Ramani, GM at

unfamiliar areas can be a challenge for four-wheeler drivers, Google announced it is introducing a new feature for users in India

management, and reporting, thereby allowing cybersecurity

practitioners to dedicate more

time to strategic initiatives and

strengthening defences against

The growing importance of AI

in cyber defence, especially in

areas such as early vulnerability detection, automated threat

modelling, and real-time threat

detection, was also emphasised.

According to Swaroop, generative AI has emerged an

indispensable tool in the war

'In the future, AI will play an

increasingly pivotal role in

cyber defence. It is reshaping

the industry by enhancing key

areas such as early vulnerability

detection, automated threat

modelling, and real-time threat

Moreover, it improves vendor

against cyber threats.

Śwaroop,

cyberthreats

narrow roads when driving four-wheelers. To address this, we've

developed an AI model specifically for Indian roads that incorporates multiple signals satellite imagery, Street View and other information like road types, distance between buildings, paved sections, etc. estimate road widths at scale. Using these road width estimates, we've fine-tuned our existing AI routing algorithms to help fourwheelers avoid narrow roads whenever possible, without significantly impacting travel

time or distance," the blogpost said. This means four-wheeler drivers can enjoy a less stressful driving experience, and it also benefits bikers, pedestrians and other commuters who can now use these narrow roads more

Google Maps is starting to roll out this feature on Android cities Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Coimbatore, Indore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar and Guwahati, and has promised to bring the feature to iOS and more cities

safely and confidently, it

Google Maps is call-out flvovers along recommended route. This feature helps users anticipate upcoming flyovers and prepare ahead of time to get onto the flyover.

Another new feature or

"Starting this week, you'll see these flyover callouts in 40 cities across India for both four-wheeler and twowheeler active navigation on Android apps and Android Auto. IOS and CarPlay support will be coming soon,

Both Narrow Roads and Flyover features have been pioneered in India, tailored to the unique navigation needs of users, it said.

To ensure EV drivers have the tools they need to confidently hit the road, the company has announced availability of information about EV charging stations on both Google Maps and Google Search in India.

"To achieve this, we're collaborating with leading India ElectricPe, Ather, Kazam, and Statiq to add authoritative information for over 8,000 charging stations, representing a significant portion of available charging stations in India," it said.

Sugar industry body proposes bio-refinery transition plan to Govt



Sugar industry body ISMA on Thursday said it has presented a plan to the government to transform sugar mills into biorefineries, aiming to boost production of sustainable aviation fuel and other green energy sources.

The representatives of the Indian Sugar & Bio-Energy Manufacturers Association (ISMA) met with Food Minister Pralhad Joshi to discuss a policy framework for the transition, which would expand beyond expand current ethanol, bioelectricity, and biogas

production, a statement said. ISMA Director General Deepak Ballani said the initiative would help India meet international aviation blending targets set to take effect in 2027 under CORSIA mandates while supporting the country's net-zero and self-reliance goals.

resources drive national development," Ballani said in the statement adding that "This aligns with the government's vision for a selfreliant India?

The plan aims to create alternative markets for India's estimated million sugarcane farmers, building on the success of the current ethanol blending programme in increasing farmer incomes. The government launched 400 E-100 fuel pumps last year. Joshi stressed the need promote E-100 use,

ISMA pledged to work closely with the government on the swift implementation of the bio-refinery plan, which is expected to set new benchmarks in the sector and strengthen India's energy

We see a future where local

The particularly given India's leadership of the Global Biofuels Alliance. enterprises.

Gartner, and other leading

PTI ■ NEW DELHI Tndia's cybersecurity market Thas posted a compounded annual growth rate of 25 per

cent since 2019, crossing the USD 6 billion mark in 2023, and is projected to expand further with global spending touching USD 200 billion this year, Prayank Swaroop, partner at global VC fund Accel, said on Thursday. Cybersecurity startups in the country are poised to see a steady growth on the back of

higher spending in the domestic market, he said at the Accel Cybersecurity Summit 2024 in Bengaluru. Highlighting the potential of

the country's cybersecurity market, Swaroop said Indian cybersecurity startups are poised to make a global impact, and continue their growth momentum amid a sharp rise in spending for cybersecurity

Accel Cybersecurity Summit 2024, India's largest cybersecurity summit, saw participation from across the world. The gathering included prominent founders, global cybersecurity experts and CISOs (chief information security officer) of major

"Our mission with this summit is to elevate the ecosystem of cybersecurity founders and operators by bringing together some of the best minds in the domain," said Swaroop Data available with IDC.

the summit. Despite growing interest, data



Indian cybersecurity startups poised for strong

growth amid rising global spend, says Accel

global spending cybersecurity is expected to cross USD 200 billion in 2024. "Indian cybersecurity startups will impact the global landscape as the market proliferates significantly," he said, adding that the country's cybersecurity market witnessed a 25 per cent CAGR since 2019 and crossed USD 6 billion in 2023.

Indian cybersecurity startups received USD 157 million funding in the past two years. Multiple reports attest to the spike in global spending for cybersecurity, with an IDC report projecting spends upwards of USD 36 billion in the Asia Pacific alone.

This spike in spending, the growing importance of security awareness, a need to foster a robust security system and looking for solutions to the rising spectre of cybersecurity threats were the crux of Swaroop's inaugural address at

Swaroop said, significantly operational efficiency streamlining tasks such as log

security and privacy remain significant concerns, alongside issues such as data breaches, IoT attacks, and social and regulatory pressures, Swaroop

He pointed out that cyber attacks have increased by 71 per cent on a year-on-year basis and are conducted using stolen or compromised credentials.

said, makes safeguarding data, the most valuable asset, very important. Generative AI is the flavour of the season, and Swaroop dwelt on the impact of generative AI on cybersecurity in-depth and termed it a 'gamechanger'.

This is not just introduction of spaces but also the usage of cutting-edge technology to automate security services spending, estimated to be worth up to USD 50 billion. On the generative AI impact, enhance

patch

monitoring,

summarisation,

risk management, penetration testing, and addressing new attack surfaces created by AI technologies," he said. The evolution of AI solidifies its status as an indispensable

detection.

tool in the ongoing war against cyber threats. "We think it is important to secure the AI stack against threats like data poisoning and supply chain vulnerabilities while ensuring compliance and security, Swaroop said. The Accel partner concluded

his address by highlighting the importance of integrating AI technologies to create new opportunities and face more formidable challenges as the broader cybersecurity market expands.

Budget proposals for marine sector to boost India's aquaculture, seafood exports: MPEDA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $B_{
m for\ the\ marine\ sector}^{
m udget\ announcements}$ such as rationalisation of customs duties financing facilities will help boost the country's India's aquaculture and seafood exports, MPEDA said on Thursday.

The Marine Products

Development Authority (MPEDA) also said the Budget includes a range of strategic measures aimed at bolstering the competitiveness of marine products, with a particular focus production and export.

Various inputs used in the manufacture of shrimp and fish feed will now enjoy customs exemptions, it said adding a number of feed inputs such as mineral vitamin pre-mixes, krill meal, fish lipid oil, crude fish oil, algal prime, algal oil are fully exempted from

any import duty. Artemia and Artemia cysts which are key nutritional inputs in aqua hatchery were also fully exempted from any import duty.

The Basic Customs Duty (BCD) on essentia aquafarm/ hatchery inputs such as Vannamei and black tiger broodstock, polychaete worms, and fish/shrimp feed has been



reduced to 5 per cent. Import duty for insect and single-cell protein has been cut down to 5 per cent.

These announcements made in the Union Budget 2024-25 significantly enhance aquaculture and seafood export sectors," authority said.

It also said government committed to providing substantial financial support to establish a network of Nucleus Breeding Centres (NBCs) for shrimp broodstocks.

initiative

anticipated to drastically reduce India's reliance on imported broodstock, potentially saving the industry up to Rs 150 crore annually," it said adding hatchery operators are expected significantly, projected savings of 50 per cent on broodstock costs.

"This

Indians eye double-digit medal haul as Paris Olympics set for grand start

ome would be carrying a huge Surden of expectations, some others would look to spring a surprise and a few more would be eyeing the perfect closure to their glittering careers as the 117-strong Indian contingent aims for a better-than-before performance in the Olympic Games, starting here on Friday.

India returned from Tokyo with seven medals, and it is only natural that a double-digit performance is now desired in Paris.

Except for wrestlers, who have waded through a highly controversial build-up, athletes in all disciplines have have had no complaints about preparations. Whether it was training abroad or

getting the best of facilities to sharpen their skills, there was

planning in place. But will the hard work, the strategies and the unbridled support translate into medals?

THE BIG PICTURE

It will be a Heculean task to match the Tokyo figures of seven medals, given that except for reigning Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra, not many are top contenders in their respective

More than half of the 117-member contingent is from three sports -athletics (29), shooting (21) and hockey (19). Of these 69 athletes, 40 are debutants.

In other sports too, there are debutants like tennis player N Sriram Balaji and wrestler Reetika Hooda. They are not exactly inexperienced, but largely, India's



athletes, who will be competing on a stage this grand for the first time. Then there are the seasoned ones who would be expected to raise their game suitably.

Two-time medallist shuttler PV Sindhu, tennis player Rohan Bopanna, legendary table tennis player Sharath Kamal and hockey goalkeeper PR Sreejesh are certainly playing their last Olympics

The hockey team has endured patchy form in the build-up to the Games, the boxers and wrestlers are lacking in real competition time. The shooters too have campaign will be driven by the notched up mixed results heading

into the Olympics.

The track and field athletes, especially Avinash Sable, have done well of late, but compared to their global rivals, their performances don't seem enough their global to put them in the bracket of medal hopefuls.

For instance, steeplechaser Sable has been consistently bettering his own national record. His best stands at 8:09.94 but there are seven international runners who have achieved better timing than that in the run-up to the Games. Given this, Even making the finals will be considered a huge

BEST CHANCE

India's hopes for podium finishes largely hinge on Neeraj, despite concerns around his adductor niggle, and the in-form badminton duo of Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy.

The coveted 90m mark has eluded Neeraj from Tokyo to Paris but the ace javelin thrower seems to be doing just enough, and most importantly, consistently, to land olobal titles.

On big competition days, Neeraj has fared better than his other fancied rivals and if he is fit, the javelin thrower from Panipat will have a chance to become only the

third athlete in India's sports history to win back-to-back Olympic medals.

medal winners.

Talking about Sindhu, she is not in experience could help her make

the medal round.

HOCKEY: The men's hockey team has been inconsistent. It lost all five games in Australia recently after a mixed run in the Pro League. It was a far cry from the Asian Games in Hangzhou where the team emerged champion. Penalty Corner conversion and

maintaining the tempo throughout a match remain a

concern. And if that's not enough, the Indian team has been clubbed with heavyweights Australia, Belgium, Argentina, New Zealand and Ireland. There is no room for error if the team has to make the top-four from this pool.

four from this pool.

SHOOTING: It's been a quiet build-up for the 21-member shooting contingent, the biggest ever, compared to London and Tokyo where stars such as Manu Bhaker and Saurabh Chaudhary had raised medal hopes with their exceptional performances in the run-up to the Games.

Even Divyansh Panwar and Elavenil Valarivan were hailed as future superstars but all of them have flattered to deceive.

There is hardly any spotlight on shooters but still Sift Kaur Samra (50m three position), Sandeep Singh (10m air rifle) and Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar (men's 50 m rifle) have it in them to end the 12year wait for a medal.

Gagan Narang, who is now India's Chef de Mission, was the last Indian shooter to climb the podium when he won the 10m air rifle bronze in the 2012 London

WRESTLING: The sport has delivered a medal for India in the last four editions. The hopes of winning four to five medals were

raised for the Paris Games but the protest against the Wrestling Federation of India brought the sport to a standstill.

There was no national camp, and no competition for a long time. The qualified wrestlers have trained on their own at the centres of their choice -- both in India and

abroad. Fitness status of many is not known, but going into the Games, Anshu Malik, Antim Panghal and Aman Sehrawat are considered India's best bets. Reetika Hooda, the U-23 world champion, will be

a dark dorse.

OTHERS: The archers and TT players have qualified for the Games on the basis of their rankings. While it is a huge achievement for TT players, the same can't be said about the

They have promised a lot in the past too but have not been able to deliver. The recent episode of their coach being denied the Games accreditation means the campaign has started on a negative note.

Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu, the Tokyo Games silver-medallist, has struggled with injury and form of late and is perhaps not in the best frame of mind. There are question marks if she will be able to repeat her success.

Experienced boxer Nikhat Zareen and Nishant Dev will be watched keenly as their latest results have been encouraging. So far, India have won 35 medals at the Olympics with shooter Abhinav Bindra (2008) and Neeraj Chopra (2021) being the only two individual gold medal winners. It's time to turn aspirations into

achievements. Let the Games

Ankita best-placed Indian at 11th in individual event

PTI PARIS

Debutant Ankita Bhakat left behind seasoned campaigners like Deepika Kumar to emerge as the best-placed Indian archer at 11th in the Paris Olympics' women's individual recurve qualifications as the country secured a quarterfinal spot in the team event by finishing fourth here on Thursday.

The 26-year-old Ankita was the top-ranked Indian woman with 666 points, followed by Bhajan Kaur (22nd with 559 points) and Deepika Kumari (23rd with 658 points).

In the team event, India scoring 1983 points. South Korea topped the standings with 2046 points. China finished runners-up while Mexico grabbed the third spot. The top four in the team standings directly advance to the quarterfinals, while those ending between 5th to 12th play the Round of 16 fixtures.

India will face the winner of the contest between France and Netherlands in the quarterfinals.

If they clear the quarters, India could be headed for a



has been invincible in the Olympics, winning a ninth straight medal in Tokyo three years ago.

Korea's Lim smashed a world record score of 694 to top the while standings, compatriot Suhyeon Nam scored 688 points to finish second. China's Yang Xiaolei was third with 673.

Ankita, who hails from Bengal and represents Tata

heavyweights Korea. package on the day from the Indian perspective, even as four-time Olympian The Korean women's team Deepika faltered to return

her worst ever qualification result at the Games. In the individual section, Deepika will, for the first Sihyeon time, miss out on the mixed team berth as Ankita topped

> among the Indians. Ankita will partner the top Indian finisher in the men's qualification in the mixed

team finals.

The men's qualifiers get underway in the afternoon session.

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sparring with a variety of

has left no stones unturned

to be battle-ready for the

Paris Games, where she will chasing

unprecedented third consecutive Olympic medal.

Sindhu's form has been patchy of late but she says the

hat-trick of medals is very much possible because the

last eight months spent with mentor Prakash Padukone

has instilled confidence in

No Indian player has won

three Olympic medals on the

trot and a podium finish will

"I am aiming for a medal, definitely, yes. Whether it's

one or two or three, it doesn't

matter. I've won two medals

and I don't want to take

pressure by thinking that, oh,

what is the third one," she said

after a training session at

Porte de la Chapelle Arena

"Every time I play Olympics,

it's a new Olympics for me. So every time I go out there, I

want to get a medal and hopefully, I will do that hat

greatest athlete.

here.

trick soon."

partners to adapt different styles, Indian badminton ace PV Sindhu

PTI PARIS

Only Sindhu (2016 Rio and 2012 Tokyo) and wrestler Sushil Kumar

(2008 Beijing, 2012 London) have managed to win two consecutive Rankireddy and Chirag have grown into one of India's most

formidable men's doubles teams and they are being seen as certain

the best of form and has also got a tough draw but if she can come through the initial rounds, the vast

The 29-year-old also shared her training regime in Germany, where she sparred with all kinds of players and sometimes competed against two players at the same time.

"Saarbrücken training was really good. I was there for almost a couple of weeks and I got my own sparring partners as well. I got an opportunity to train with different people. One was like a left-hander and one was an attacking player, a rally player.
"And I had a Nigerian guy

who also was sparring with me. And one was a German singles player who was also playing with me for a couple

Sindhu was an underdog in the 2016 Olympics, while she

an experienced player. Talking about her journey,

Sindhu said: "I've experienced two different kinds of Olympics where, in one, a lot of people shouted

crowd. "But now it's a mixture of both (in Paris). I'm hoping for the best medal to come out

There's a lot of improvement, you will see that on court: Sindhu

Sindhu had won silver and altitude training center. I Olympics at Rio de Janeiro

and Tokyo respectively. Before coming to Paris, Sindhu trained Sportcampus Saar Saarbrucken, Germany where the altitude, the weather, and the conditions are similar to the French capital.

There she created a hypoxic chamber (low oxygen) in her room and slept for a couple of days. Hypoxic chambers help prepare an athlete's body to function at higher-altitude

couldn't go to the high

obviously, there I couldn't have been playing. So I just thought, it would be good for me instead of going somewhere, getting it here and doing as and doing some changes and sleeping that way," she explained.

So, if the conditions demand the maximum from an athlete, with such training they feel ready to negotiate the challenge. Sindhu said she has improved

her strokes and is more consistent during the long

"Being much more confident asked what difference she finds after training with Padukone.

"In women's singles now, there are a lot of long rallies and long matches, being consistent. I am confident in that now," she said. "With every opponent, it's a

different style and, you need to play the right stroke at the right time. And that's what Prakash sir also keeps saying. We've been working on that. And that's almost there. There's a lot of improvement. You will see that on court.

and cheered, but there was no pressure. In the second one, there were a lot of responsibilities and pressure, everybody wanted you to get a medal, but there was no

I watch clips of my goals to boost confidence ahead of Olympic debut: Hockey forward Sukhjeet

Indian hockey forward ■Sukhjeet Singh is unfazed by the pressure of playing at the highest level and is watching the clips of his international goals to boost his confidence ahead of his Olympic debut at the Paris Games.

"I made my debut in the Indian team in 2022 and scored a goal in my debut match against Spain in the FIH Pro League. The journey so far has been good and I try to do my best in every match," he told PTI Bhasha in an interview before departing for Paris.

Having scored 22 goals in 70 international matches so far, physically and mentally to face the pressure of the Olympics.

He is one of the five debutants Abhishek, Pal, and Sanjay, Raikumar Jarmanpreet Singh -- who have joined the 11 members

of Tokyo Olympic bronze

medalist team for the Paris "I am not feeling any pressure clashed on the hockey field a



at all. We have played big tournaments, so we know how to handle pressure. We are confident of playing well against big teams in the pool as our preparation has been really good," said the 27-year-

The team will begin its campaign on July 27 against New Zealand, followed by matches against Argentina (July 29), Ireland (July 30),

Belgium (August 1) and Australia (August 2). India and Australia have total of 43 times since 2013, according to data from the FIH Data Hub.

Australia have emerged victorious 33 times, while India have won 8 games and 7 matches ended in a draw. Similarly, India has 8 wins, 16 losses and 6 draws in 30 matches against Tokyo Olympic champion Belgium in the last 10 years.

Sukhjeet had scored six goals in his debut tournament --FIH Pro League -- in 2022. After this, he scored three goals in the 2023 World Cup

held in India. He was also part of the Indian team that won the gold medal in the Asian Games in Hangzhou.

"I watch my clips of the matches in which I scored goals before big matches. This increases my confidence and I try to do better in the next match. My previous performance makes me My mentally stronger," he said when asked about mental preparations for Olympics.

"Apart from this, talking to a sports psychologist before the semi-finals or finals in the Asian Games and also during the Asian Champions Trophy has benefited a lot. They tell us how to handle pressure. The tips I get from them are very useful.

"Senior players in our team, Shree Bhai (PR Sreejesh), Manpreet, Harmanpreet have a lot of experience. They tell us about their experiences and motivate us to perform well. If we have any problem, we talk to them." Sukhjeet was introduced to

hockey by his father Ajit

Singh when he was six years

old. Former Punjab Police

hockey player Ajit could not play for the national team but he wanted his son to don the India jersey.

"My father used to play for Punjab Police and he always had a dream to see his son represent India. It is because of his support that I am at this stage. It will be a proud moment for him and my entire family when I step on the field in Paris," he said. Asked which players he is

Games Village, Sukhjeet said that at present the focus is on his preparation. "I am looking forward to meeting Australian hockey team forward Blake Grovers, against whom I have played many matches. But the focus

relax and unwind amid

rigorous training.

eager to meet in the Olympic

is on our preparation, not on the glamour of Games Village. There is a good coordination between young and experienced players in the Tennis. team and we are sure that the in helping India clinch Commonwealth Games gold trend started in Tokyo will continue further in Paris, said Sukhjeet, who loves to medals in 2018 and 2022. listen to Punjabi songs to

On our day, we really have a very good chance of beating any team: Harmeet for the development of the

Experienced table tennis player Harmeet Desai believes the Indian men's TT team has "a very good chance" of reaching the optimum level of performance at the Paris Olympics and beat any side on its day, having prepared in earnest for the Games.

The Olympics will begin in the French capital on Friday with a grand opening ceremony in the iconic Seine "On a given day, I think we

really have a very good chance of beating any team. We have won against top teams in the world in the past and it is possible this time also if we give our best.
"In the Olympics, if all three

of us can put on the best show then anything is possible," the 31-year-old said during an interview with Ultimate Table He played an important role

Indian table tennis on the world stage, Desai credited Desai is part of the Indian the government's various men's team along with Achanta Sharath Kamal, schemes and the launch of Ultimate Table Tennis in 2017



Gnanasekaran. He will also be competing in the individual events. Desai's confidence stems from

the fact that the Indian men's team had defeated the mighty Japan in the quarter-finals to clinch the bronze medal at the 2018 Asian Games. Speaking about the rise of

sport. "UTT has helped us get more experience and exposure to play with international players and get guidance from foreign coaches. That was not the case before 2017. "So, this kind of experience

has helped the players get more self-belief and perform well in the international arena," he said. The Indian table tennis

contingent created history earlier this year when both the men's and women's teams qualified for the Olympics for the first time and the preparatory camps, in Bengaluru from June 7-16 and in Saarbrucken, Germany earlier this month, were focused on working out the perfect combinations for the team events.

face China in the opening round while the women's side will open their campaign against Romania. The individual events will be played from July 27 to August 4 whereas the team events are scheduled from August 5 to 10.

The Indian men's team will

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खेल में कोई लूजर नहीं होता, सिर्फ विनर और लर्नर होते हैं। हमारी सरकार हर स्तर पर खेल को बढ़ावा देने के लिए पूरी प्रतिबद्धता से काम कर रही है।

- नरेन्द्र मोदी



Our players, Pride of The Nation

#Cheer4Bharat



Among Qualified 117 National Players for Paris Olympics-2024

Haryana's 25

2% population - 22% players

Best of Luck

to every participating player from 140 crore Indians

Prize money given by Haryana Government to Olympic medal winners







Amount of **₹15 Lakh**to all
the participating players

