**OPINION 6** 

MAJOR LOSSES FOR BJP,

**COALITIONS RE-EMERGE** 

**WORLD 8** 

'274 KILLED IN ISRAELI RAID

THAT RESCUED 4 HOSTAGES'

**MONEY 10** 

PNB PLANS TO EXPAND ITS

**OVERSEAS FOOTPRINT** 

DEHRADUN HYDERABAD VIJAYWADA Late City Vol.19 Issue 159 \*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

## CHANDIGARH, MONDAY JUNE 10, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹2 the plant 1864 the plant of the Established 1864

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# Modi 3.0 sworn into office Old wine in new bottle

Scripting a history, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday took over as Prime Minister for a third consecutive term becoming the first non-Congress leader and second after first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to don the mantle. With this Modi also becomes the only leader in the country to hold a constitutional post back to back for more than two decades which includes — three term as PM and prior serving 12 years as Chief Minister of Gujarat. President Draupadi Murmu

administered Modi the oath of office and with this he also become the only PM to have been administered the oath by three presidents, including Pranab Mukherjee and Ramnath Kovind. Modi also under his regime was part of the consecration of Ram Temple in Ayodhaya early this year and dedicated to the nation a new Parliament last year in September.

İf Modi completes his current five year term as PM leading the NDA regime he will have served a total of 27 years in office. He has been since leading his party to victory and power in 2002, 2007 and 2012 in Gujarat as CM and then in 2014 and 2019 at the Centre and again in 2024. It is though different this time as the BJP has lost majority on

Modi's third term which has



President Droupadi Murmu administers the oath of office to Narendra Modi as Prime Minister at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New

mandate will have to sail across the 'coalition dharma' as the Congress led INDIA Bloc will keep a prey on the two major allies-TDP and JD(U) to seek an opportunity

not come with a massive to dislodge Modi. The BJP secured however its third-best tally of 240 seats and the Opposition called it a "moral defeat". BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) has won 293 seats, which

Modi has noted is the biggest success for any pre-poll alliance when a single party did not get a majority.
Always being noticed for his

apparels, Modi was dressed in white kurta and churidar with

### a blue chequered jacket as he took oath in the presence of top world leaders, the who's who of country from politics, industry and celebrity world. Chief Justice DY Chandrachud was also present with his wife. Former presidents Ram Nath Kovind

and Pratibha Patil also

attended the event. Several

religious leaders also attended

the ceremony.
Along with Modi, senior BJP
leaders Rajnath Singh, Nitin
Gadkari, Amit Shah, Shivraj Singh Chauhan also took oath as the Cabinet Ministers, while party president JP Nadda returned to the cabinet after five years, indicating the Prime Minister's focus on continuity and experience in

his third term.

Top leaders from India's neighbourhood and the Ocean region, including Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu, Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda' and Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe graced the swearing-in ceremony held in the forecourt of Rashtrapati Bhawan.

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Mauritius Prime Minister Pravind Jugnauth, Kumar Bhutanese counterpart Tshering Tobgay and Vice-Seychelles President Ahmed Afif also attended the glittering ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

In his third straight term, Prime Minister Narendra Modi retained his old guards in the 72 members of Council of Ministers which include 30 Cabinet Ministers, 36 Ministers of State and five Ministers of State with Independent charge. The allocation of portfolios was not released from the Rashtrapati Bhawan till the time of the newspaper going to Press. Union Ministers in the

outgoing Modi Government — Ămit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari, Nirmala Sitharaman, Dr S Jaishankar, Hardeep Singh Puri, Jitendra Singh, Bhupendra Yadav, Dharmendra Pradhan, Dharmendra Pradhan, Ashwini Vaishnaw and Piyush Goyal — are among the Ministers who were retained and took oath as Cabinet Ministers in the Modi Government 3.0. Among them are thirty three first-timers and at least six of them hail from well-known political families.

While a total of 61 members from the BJP were inducted in new Council of Ministers, a total 11 members from the allies — TDP, JD(U) and others — were administered the oath of office. A mix of several caste like 27 OBC, 10 SC, five ST, five from minority members were amongst the other general category and all States and UTs have been given representation in the Modi.3 Government. BJP veteran Besides,

Jyotiraditya Scindia, JD(U)



leader Rajiv Ranjan Singh, leader Jitan Ram i, RLD's Jayant HAM Manjhi, Chaudhary, JDS leader HD Kumaraswamy, LJP (Ram Vilas) chief Chirag Paswan and Jitin Prasada are among the part of the Council of Ministers

BJP leaders Manohar Lal Khattar, CR Paatil, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Bandi Sanjay Kumar and Ravneet Singh Bittu, Harshdeep Malhotra, Bandi Suresh Kumar, Raksha Khadke, Suresh Gopi are among the new faces in the Union Council of Ministers. The fresh faces in the Government are mostly from BJP allies. Allies like TDP's

JD(U)'s Lalan Singh and Ram Nath Thakur, Shiv Sena's Prataprao Jadhav besides other National Democratic Alliance members such as Chirag Paswan, Jitan Ram Manjhi, HD Kumaraswamy, Jayant Chaudhary, Ramdas Chaudhary, Athawale, and Anupriya Patel are inducted in the Council of Ministers. BJP's G Kishan Reddy, Sukanta Majumdar, Jiten Prasad, Rao Inderjit Singh, Nityanand Rai and Bhagirath Choudhary are also inducted in new Government. Seven former Chief Ministers are part of the new Council of Ministers. The other six former Chief Ministers are Singh Chouhan Shivraj (Madhya Pradesh), Rajnath (Uttar Pradesh). Singh Lal Manohar Khattar Sarbananda (Haryana), Sonowal (Assam), H D Kumaraswamy (once dubbed the "accidental Chief Minister" Karnataka (Karnataka), and Jitan Ram Manjhi (Bihar). While five of these former Chief Ministers from the Kumaraswamy and Manjhi represent two of the BJP's allies — JD(S) and Hindustani Awam Morcha, respectively. Meanwhile one its constituent in the NDA coalition, Ajit Pawar-led NCP, turned down BJP's offer to accommodate

Ram Mohan Naidu and Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani,





## PM leans on south to make fortunes go north

**RAJESH KUMAR** ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inducted several MPs from Andhra Pradesh, Kerala and Telangana into his Council of Ministers, including actor-turned politician Suresh Gopi, the first MP from the BJP in Thrissur, Kerala.

Two MPs each from the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) and the BJP in Andhra Pradesh, where the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) won 21 out of 25 Lok Sabha seats, have been inducted in the Council of Ministers. Three-time MP Kinjarapu Ram Mohan Naidu and firsttimer Dr Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani have been made Ministers in Modi 3.0. Industrialist and TDP leader Jayadev Galla congratulated the two leaders on their likely induction. Hours before the swearing-in ceremony, TDP Javadev Galla announced the induction of Ram Mohan Naidu, 36, and Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, 48, as Ministers in the Union Council of Ministers. Party's Desam

candidate for Guntur Lok Sabha seat in Andhra Pradesh, Dr Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, with total assets worth ₹5,705 crore, is the richest Minister in the Council of Ministers of Modi Government 3.0. He took oath from the quota

of the TDP. Pemmisani had defeated his

nearest rival, YSRCP's Kilari Venkata Rosaiah, by over 3.4 lakh votes in the 2024 Lok Sabha polls. From the BJP's quota in

Andhra Pradesh, where it bagged three seats, State unit

Purandeshwari Narsapuram MP Bhupathi Raju Srinivasa Varma are also inducted in the Council of Ministers. The Janasena, which won

two seats in Andhra Pradesh as a constituent of the NDA. is likely to get the Deputy Speaker's post in the Lok Sabha. From Telangana, where the saffron party made huge gains, bagging eight seats of the available 17, Bandi Sanjay and G Kishan Reddy are also inducted in the Council of Ministers. national

general Sanjay Bandi secretary Kumar thanked Modi and people of Karimnagar Parliamentary Constituency after his name figured in BJP-led NDA Council of Ministers.

## Bihar footprint in new Govt grows **DEEPAK KUMAR JHA**

 $\begin{array}{c} Bihar \ got \ a \ better \ pie \ in \ the \\ Modi.3 \ Council \ of \ Ministers \\ when \ compared \ to \ Uttar \end{array}$ Pradesh given the coalition dharma since the Nitish Kumarled Janata Dal (U) and Chirag Paswan-led LJP have extended support to Narendra Modi with and five Lok Sal respectively.

Among the new faces included is Ram Nath Thakur. JD(U) leader and son of Bharat Ratna Karpoori Thakur. The moves send a strong message to the EBCs in Bihar. For the States

— Bihar and UP — caste

VK Singh, Kailash Chaudhary.

Rupala, who was given the

Ministry of Fisheries, Animal







ight): Giriraj Singh (BJP), Lalan Singh (JD(U)), Jitan Ram Manjhi (HAM) and Chirag Paswan (LNJP

combination and comfort of BJP's Giriraj Singh, and the allies have been kept in Nityanand Rai, LJP's Chirag

The other five Bihar leaders who were inducted in the Council of Ministers included JD(U)'s Rajiv Ranjan Singh,

Paswan, HAM's Jitan Ram Manjhi.

Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, former national president of JD(U) and a

caste, began his political career

trusted loyalist of Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and has served as a Minister in the State Government. Singh, 69, an upper Bhumihar

senior leader of his party, is a

in 1974. He later joined the old Janata Dal Parivar and was among the founding members of the Samata Party, led by Nitish and former Defence Minister George Fernandes. Incumbent Union Minister and Bihar BJP stalwart Giriraj Singh, who was re-elected from Begusarai, also took the oath with his party colleague were part of the outgoing Modi.2 Government.

Praful Patel as a Minister of

State with Independent charge

said it was assured that

"remedial measures" would be

BJP has promoted Rai as a Yadav face in Bihar to counter RJD's traditional Yadav vote base and made him the State president of the party in 2016.

### RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

## **BJP** heavyweights sink without a trace

Several prominent faces of Modi Cabinet 2.0 have been dropped from the Cabinet in his historic third consecutive term beginning from Sunday. The list include Union Minister and BJP leader Parshottam Rupala, Anurag Thakur, RK Singh, Smriti Irani, Narayan Rane, Ravi Shankar Prasad, Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Ajay Kshatriya community. Mishra Teni, Arjun Munda, Ashwini Choubey, Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti, Kaushal Kishore, Mahendra Nath Pandey, former Army Chief

### Husbandry and Dairying in the Cabinet reshuffling of 2021, is likely to be dropped this time. During the election campaign, Rupala courted controversy by calling erstwhile 'maharajas' being by subjects of the British and foreign rulers, angering the

Union The omission of Information Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur has surprised many as he was not among the leaders invited to meet Modi.

PM customarily



Anurag Thakur and Smriti Irani

interacted with new Ministers ahead of their swearing-in ceremony. Similarly Irani also could not get a call from the Prime Minister Office for about his place in Modi Cabinet. Irani had lost the Lok Sabha election from Uttar

Pradesh's Amethi by over 1.6 lakh votes to Congress loyalist Kishori Lal Sharma. She was Child Women and Development Minister in the second term of the Modi Government. She defeated Congress's Rahul Gandhi in his family bastion five years ago.

Thakur, who won the general election from Himachal Pradesh's Hamirpur, held the Sports, and Information and Broadcasting portfolios. Thakur clinched his fifth consecutive term from Himachal Pradesh's

Hamirpur constituency, securing victory Congress' Satpal Raizada by a significant margin of 1,82,357 votes. "I am a party worker first

Being elected to the Lok Sabha for the fifth time is itself a great honour," he told reporters here when asked if he would be getting some key responsibility in Himachal Pradesh as he is not being inducted into Modi's new Council of Ministers. Thakur said "the BJP has given me the opportunity to contest the Lok Sabha polls five times. There cannot be a bigger opportunity than this for me".

### Pandian keeps word, quits active politics following Odisha loss

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE BHUBANESWAR/NEW DELHI

xactly six months and 13 Exactly six months and 13 Edays after joining politics, former bureaucrat VK Pandian on Sunday announced his withdrawal from active politics following the BJD's drubbing in both the Assembly and Lok Sabha polls, but said he would keep Odisha in the core of his heart and "Guru Naveen babu"

in his breath. Detailed report on Page 5

## Terrorists swear by their own agenda in J&K

**MOHIT KANDHARI** ■ JAMMU

In a dastardly attack, a group of suspect-Led Pakistani terrorists targeted a pilgrim bus which resulted in a fatal incident leading to the killing of at least nine pilgrims while 33 others also received injuries on Sunday at 6.10 pm. The gruesome attack coincided with the oath ceremony of Prime Minister Narendra Modi which was attended by heads of the neighbouring countries sans Pakistan.

The bus was returning from Shiv Khori shrine towards the Katra base camp of Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine when these terrorists hiding in the area opened indiscriminate firing on the pilgrim bus. The injured have been rushed to the district hospital in Reasi and Katra-based Narayana hospital for advanced medical treatment.

SSP Reasi Mohita Sharma while sharing details of the horrific incident told reporters, "Initial reports suggest that terrorists fired upon the passenger bus



following an alleged attack by suspected terrorists, in Reasi district of Jammu and Kashmi

going from Shiv Khori to Katra. Due to the firing, the bus driver lost balance of the bus and it fell into a gorge. So far nine pilgrims succumbed to their fatal injuries and 33 people were injured in the incident". SSP Reasi said the rescue operations have been completed. According to a statement of the Jammu

and Kashmir police spokesman, a bus carrying pilgrim from Shiv Khori to Katra was targeted apparently by terrorists using firearms. With the help of local villagers, police evacuated all the passengers by 8.10 pm. SP Reasi supervised the evacuation and dispatched the injured to different hospitals. Eight deaths have been confirmed. The 33 injured have been referred to various hospitals. District headquarter hospital Reasi (13), CHC Treyath (5), GMC in Jammu (15).

A joint security force temporary operation Headquarters by Police, Army and CRPF have been set up at the site and a multidimensional operation has been launched to get at the attackers.

### 'One-third PM dares challenge Nehru's record' PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Opposition leaders under the INDIA Bloc led by Congress took a swipe on Narendra Modi, who took over as Prime Minister for the third consecutive term on Sunday, calling him "the leader of the Narendra Destructive Alliance

(NDA)" even though he lacks

all legitimacy. While Congress claimed that Modi has suffered a huge personal, political, and moral defeat, TMC said Modi may have taken oath for a third term, but he does not have a mandate like Jawaharlal Nehru, the only other PM to have three consecutive terms,

had. "A vastly diminished 'onethird' Pradhan Mantri, now lacking all legitimacy, has Congress chief Mallikarjun managed to get himself sworn



this evening, as the leader of the Narendra Destructive Alliance (NDA)," Congress chief spokesman Jairam Ramesh said. RJD leader and Rajya Sabha

MP Manoj Jha expressed that the ruling hope dispensation will work on issues such as providing employment. Jha said the RJD will not attend the swearingin ceremony as the INDIA Bloc was represented by

polarisation in society this time, the lives of the weaker sections are improved and the Government is free of crony capitalism. The biggest capitalism. requirement of youngsters today is employment, so employment is a big issue, he should work on it," the RJD leader added. It is an NDA Government that is taking oath this time

and

not

"We hope it will create less

Government", Manoj Jha said and expressed hope that the ruling dispensation will work on issues such as providing employment. Newly reelected TMC Lok MP Sudip

Sabha Bandyopadhyay said the Government took oath on Sunday "which is okay" according to democratic process.

## **Farmers Rally for CISF Constable amid Kangana Ranaut Controversy**

In a significant display of solidarity, farmers groups, including the Samyukta Kisan Morcha and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha, on Sunday held a march in Mohali to support CISF constable Kulwinder . Kaur, who has been accused of slapping actress and BJP MPelect from Mandi Kangana

ed an impartial investigation into the incident, while also criticizing Ranaut's comments about Punjab's farmers.

Leaders of the farmer groups, including prominent Commissioner's office to subnames Sarwan Singh Pandher, emphasized the necessity of an impartial probe to understand the circumstances of the altercation. They stressed that

fair treatment and not face undue punishment. The march began at Gurdwara Amb Sahib in Mohali and proceeded to Mohali Deputy

The Mohali Police have charged Kaur under bailable sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The charges have

mit a memorandum.

farming community, who view Kaur's actions as being in line with their ongoing struggle.

Ranaut, who recently won a seat in the Lok Sabha from Mandi in Himachal Pradesh, alleged in a video message that Kaur struck her in the face during a security check at Chandigarh airport. Ranaut suggested that the incident was motivated by Kaur's support for the farmers' protests, a claim that has heightened tensions.

The incident has not only led to legal actions but also intensified the discourse surrounding Ranaut's controversial remarks about Punjab's farmer community. Farmers' leaders argued that Ranaut's statements have been provocative and insensitive, further

Amidst the rally in Mohali, farmers reiterated their demands for the withdrawal of the case against Kaur and her reinstatement. The farmers assembled at Gurdwara Amb Sahib before moving towards the DC office to present their memorandum to Deputy Commissioner Aashika Jain. Pandher said: "We empha-

probe into the incident. It is

crucial to understand the circumstances leading to the altercation to ensure that no injustice befalls the constable." The farmer organizations had previously held a press conference in Chandigarh's

Sector-35, where they demand-

ed the case against Kaur be dis-

missed and met with Puniab

their case. Despite their appeals, the Punjab Government has not withdrawn the charges, prompting the current protest.

Farmers are now awaiting a response from the authorities and plan to announce their next course of action based on the Government's response to

## Classifieds

### **BEDAKHLI**

I, Suresh Kumar S/o Hari Chand R/o W.No. 16 Malkana Patti Samana Teh-Samana (Patiala) declare that my daughter Neha Rani is out of my control. So I disown with him from my moveable/immoveable property. If anybody dealing with him at his/her own risk.

I, Gurmeet Kaur W/o Late Jitender Singh R/o # 369-A, Railway Colony, Kalka (Panchkula) has declared that my son Charan Singh & his wife Hardeep Kaur are out of my control. So, I disowned them from movable-immovable property. Anybody deals with them in future at his own risk

& responsibilities. I, Raj Bala w/o Suchha Sarma r/o village Buhawa, Tehsil Shahabad Markanda. Distt. Kurukshetra inform that my daughter Manjeet is out of my and family's control. Therefore, I disown her from my movable and immovable properties. My family will not be responsible for her good or bad deeds and transactions in future

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Darapureddi Malati (Old Name) W/O Ramaprasad Darapureddi Resident Of Arasada (Village & Post), Balijipeta (Mandal), Vizianagaram (Dist), Andharapradesh (State), Pin - 535557, I Have Changed My Name From Darapureddi Malati (Old Name) To Karri Malathi (New Name) Vide Affidavit Dated 08 Jun 2024 Sworn Before Notary Sat Pal, Pathankot. Please Correct It.

I. K Shakana (Old Name) D/O Kumaresan P Resident Of No. 29, Bajanai Kovil Street, Kalpudur (Vill), Katpadi (Post & Tk), Vellore (Distt), Tamil Nadu, Pin -632007, I Have Changed My Name From K Shakana (Old Name) To K Shagana (New Name), Vide Affidavit Dated 08 Jun 2024 Sworn Refore Notary Sat Pal Pathankot. Please Correct It.

I, Rishali Devi am legal mother of No. 4485286F Rank Hav name Baljeet Singh presently residing at Vpo. Bangan Teh-Moonak (Sangrur) declare that in my son service documents my DOB wrongly entered 21-11-1961. But my correct DOB is 01-01-1949. So amended mv DOB from 21-11-1961 to 01-01-1949 in my son serv-

ice documents. It is for general information that I, Pranav Arora S/o Manoj Kumar R/o H.No. 229, Dayal Nagar, Jalandhar-144001, Punjab declare that name of my father has been wrongly written as Manoj Arora in my Educational Documents. The actual name of my father is Manoj Kumar. which may be amended accordingly.

It is hereby given that Akal eye Hospital Jalandhar will be destroving medical records related to visit and or tests performed at Akal eye Hospital. Records selected for destruction will included all records of patients prior to 31-05-2019. Medical records destruction will began on 10-07-2024. If you have any queries regarding this . Please contact MRD department at 0181-

2273606. I, Ajay Pal Singh S/o Malkiat Singh village pandori P/o lamin Tehsil Mukerian (Hoshiarpur) declare that I have corrected the spellings of my name from Ajai Pal Singh to Ajay Pal Singh. I also corrected the name spelling of my father from Malkit Singh to Malkiat Singh. which is wrongly entered in my Indian passport.

### **CHANGE OF NAME**

I, Paramjit Kaur W/o Balvir Singh R/o Alamgir Kalasanghian. Kapurthala, Punjab have changed my name from Paramjit Kaur to Parmieet Kaur.

I, Balbir Singh S/o Pritam Singh R/o Alamgir Kala-Kapurthala, sanghian, Punjab have changed my name from Balbir Singh to

Balvir Singh. I, Samir S/o Yashpal R/o H.No. 1201, Ward No. 13, Rishi Nagar, Kartarpur, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from Samir to Sameer.

I, Jaspal S/o Ram Lal R/o H.No. 1201, Ward No. 13, Rishi Nagar, Kartarpur, Jalandhar, Punjab have changed my name from

Jaspal to Yashpal. I, hitherto known as Rajnesh Kumar S/o Raj Pal R/o H.No. 42, Gali No. 2, Near Sunyaran Da Khu, Ganesh Nagar, Dakoha, Jalandhar, Punjab-144023, have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Rainish Arora.

I, Neelam W/o Subhash Chander R/o H.No. Gali No. 4, Tej Mohan Nagar, Basti Sheikh, Jalandhar have changed my name from Neelam Kumari to Neelam.

I, Verinder Kumar S/o Mehnga Ram R/o H.No. 210, Ward No.3, Mohalla Pandhian, Kartarpur, District Jalandhar, Punjab Have Changed My Name From Verinder Kumar To Verinder

I, Seema Kumari W/O No. 4290968M HAV Ajit Kumar R/O Digha Hat, yaduvanshi Nagar P/O Digha ghat, Distt Patna Bihar declare that in my husband's Service Record my name wrong written as Seema Devi .My Correct Name is Seema Kumari.

I, Bharat Bhushan S/o Kumar R/o H.No.B/33/99- 100, Ward No.25, Near Ohri Chowk, Shankar Mohalla, Tibba Bazar, Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur declare that Bharat Bhushan and Bhart Bhushan both names are one and the same person i.e. myself

I, Parmjit Singh S/o Joginder Singh r/o Vill Ahmedabad (Gurdaspur) have changed my name to SINGH PARMJIT. Concerned note.

I, Malkit Singh S/o Bahadur Singh R/o Vill: Aladinpur (Tarn Taran) declare that in my Arm licence No. DM/TRN/DUP/SATT/0517/1 74 my father name wrongly entered Sultan Singh. But my father correct name is Bahadur Singh. amended my father name from Sultan Singh to Bahadur Singh in my arm licence.

I, Lakhvir Kaur Teji W/o Harpreet Singh R/o Saranwali Distt Ferozepur have changed my name to Lakhvir Kaur.

I, Karmjeet Singh S/O Raghbir Singh R/O Village Shahbazpur, Tehsil And Distt. Patiala Have Changed My Name To Karmjeet Singh Sandhu.

I, Jarnail Singh S/o Balour Singh R/o Vill: New Machhike (Moga) have changed my name to Jarnail Singh Sidhu.

I, Sukhdev Singh S/o Jarnail Singh Sidhu R/o Vill: New Machhike (Moga) have changed my name to

Sukhdev Singh Sidhu. I, Karamjit Kaur am spouse of No. 4485286F Rank Hav name Baljeet Singh presently residing at Vpo. Bangan Teh-Moonak (Sangrur) have changed my name from Karamjit Kaur to Karmjeet

I, Amardeep S/o Darshan Lal R/o H.No. 26/151. New Hardiyal Nagar, Sheikhe Pind, Jalandhar-144025 Punjab have changed my name from Amardeep to Amardeep Mehra (Surname as Mehra)

I, Irmandeep Singh S/o Baldev Singh R/o Vill. Raipur Khurd, Po. Kot Khera, Tehsil Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar have changed my name from Irmandeep Singh Bhangu to Irmandeep Singh.

I, Mamta W/o Ganesh Aeron R/o H.No.80, Sector 4-D, Shastri Nagar, Mandi Gobindgarh (Fatehgarh Sahib) have changed my name to Mamta Aeron.

I, Prem Sharma S/o Sita R/o H.No.845/5. Ram W.No.21. Shiv Mandir Wali Malerkotla Road, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Prem

I, Raj Rani W/o Kashmir Singh R/o W.No.22, Bhattian, Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name to Raj

I, Alka Bangar D/o Ravinder Nath now W/o Deepak Verma R/o H.No. 46 Main Street Guru Angad Dev Nagar Amloh Road Khanna Teh-Khanna (Ludhiana) have changed my name from Alka Bangar to Alka.

I, Avtar Singh S/O Manohar Singh R/O Village Bargari (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Avtar Singh Dhillon.

I, Jaspreet Singh S/O Sukhdev Singh R/O Village Burj Jawahar Singhwala (Faridkot) Have Changed My Name To Jaspreet Singh

I, Alka Pujara D/O Om Parkash Pujara And W/O Satish Chhabra R/O House Number - B/2210, Street Number 4-1, Kailash Nagar, Fazilka, Fazilka, Punjab - 152123, Have Changed My Name To Alka Chhabra.

I, Parul Garg W/O Dalbir Singh R/O House No-343. Sabji Mandi Kurali, Ward No-6, Kurali, PO- Kurali, Dist-S.A.S Nagar (Mohali), Punjab- 140103, Have Changed My Minor Daughter's Name From Himanshi Aged 11 Years To Kaur Himanshi Forever.

I, Gurmukh Singh S/O Sardara Singh R/O Behranpur, PO- Bazidpur, Dist- Fatehgarh Sahib, Punjab-140412, Have Changed My Name To Surmukh Singh.

I, Pritam kaur khurana W/O Surinder pal singh #24 Sant pura Yamuna Nagar Haryana I have changed my name Pritam kaur khurana to Harpreet kaur

I, Vikas Kumar S/o Sham Lal r/o H.No 806, Phase - 4, Mohali have changed my minor son name from Divit to Divit Singla

I, Rakesh Kumar S/O Hakam Chand R/O H.No. 85, Singla Colony, Near Goushala Road, Sector 16, Raipura Town, Distt Patiala Have Changed My Minor Son's Name From Navdeesh To Navdeesh Gogia

I, Kulwinder Kaur Alias Manmeen Kaur W/O Gurwinder Singh Village Kotli Saru Khan Tehsil Khadur Sahib Distt Tarn Taran Have Changed My Name From Kulwinder Kaur Alias Manmeen Kaur To Kulwinder

Kaur I, Vijay Laxmi w/o Late Sh. Darshan Lal Yadav r/o H.No 2021/2, Sector 40 C Chandigarh have changed my name from Vijay Lakshmi Yadav to Vijay Laxmi.

I. hitherto Known as JOEL Son of SUKHWINDER MASIH residing at H.No. 426, LIG C-Block, Housing Board Colony, Ranjit Avenue, District Amritsar-143001 Punjab have changed my name and Shall hereafter be known as

I, hitherto Known as RANJAN Son of BANARSI LAL SHARMA residing at H.No.361, Akash Avenue, Fatehgarh Churian Road, Amritsar-143001 Disrict Punjab have changed my name and Shall hereafter be known as RANJAN MOHLA

I, Jyoti Kumar W/o Nitin Chopra R/o H.No.23, Gali No.4, Phase-I, Rishi Vihar, Majitha Road, Amritsar have changed my name from Jyoti Kumar to Jyoti Chopra

I, Neena W/o Rajinder Kumar R/o 1192/5, Gali Dhobian, Beri Gate Amritsar have changed my name from Neena to Neena Sharma

I, Payal W/O Tarun Kumar R/O Gali Multania Wali Main Bazar Attri Amritsar Have Changed My Name From Payal To Payal

I, Sukhvinder Kaur W/o Rajbir Singh Sakhana R/o Quarter- 9, Gurudwara Dukhniwaran Sahib, Patiala (Punjab) have changed my name from Sukhvinder Kaur Sakhana to Sukhvinder

I Balraj Singh son of Baldev Singh resident of Gulamwala Tehsil and District Ferozepur have changed my name from Balraj Singh To Balraj Singh Sidhu.

I Sanjay Son of Jung Bahadar Resident of Housing Board Colony Quarter No. 46 Ferozepur City Have changed my name from Sanjay to Sanjay Gill.

I Rajan Baghla S/o Surinder Baghla R/o Bhunder Walia Di Chakki Malout Road Sri Muktsar Sahib is also known by the name of Rajen Baghla as this name is used in my some doc-

I Manmeet Kaur Dhaliwal daughter of Amarjot Singh Resident of #5045 Bhai kartar Singh street Sri muktsar sahib have Changed my name to Manmeet Kaur.

I Amanpreet Sandhu wife of Gurwinder Singh Boparai Resident Vpo Feroze shah District Ferozepur have Changed my name to Amanpreet Kaur Boparai. After Marriage

I Arunbir Sodhi Son of Jasneek Singh Sodhi Resident of Near Simla Talkies. Outside Multani Gate. Ferozepur City have Changed

my name to Arun Sodhi. I, Chinthala Lakshmi Spouse of No. 14687477W, NK, Chinthala Rajesh Resident of Village & Post Bestavaripeta District Prakasam Pin 523334 State Andhra Pradesh have change my name from C Lakshmi to Chinthala Lakshmi Vide Affidavit Dated 10 June 2024

before at Notary Ferozepur. I hitherto known as SAHIL KUMAR S/O ASHOK KUMAR, residing at VPO Baiwara, Hoshiarpur, Puniab 146023, have changed my name and shall hereafter be

known as KUMAR SAHIL. I, Abhimanyu S/O Rakesh Mehta R/O 61, A Block, New Anaj Mandi, Sirsa 125055 Have Changed My Name To Abhimanyu Mehta. Concerned note.

I, Arvind Tuteja S/o Subhash Chander R/o Sirsa have changed my minor Son's name from Riyansh to Riyansh Tuteja. All concerned note.

### Disclaimer

The Pioneer does not take responsibility for the contents for the advertisement (Display / Classified) carried in this newspaper. The Paper does not endorse the same. Readers are requested to verify the content on their own.

### With 56.64% Success Rate, MRSAFPI's Six More Cadets Commissioned into Indian Army

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

With 56.64 per cent success rate, Maharaja Ranjit Singh Armed Preparatory Institute's (MRSAF-PI) six more cadets have been commissioned into the Indian Army. With the commissioning of these six cadets — Amrinder Singh from Mohali district, ShobhitDeep (Gurdaspur), Abhay Pratap Singh (Mohali), Aditya Burmi (Hoshiarpur), Aditya Sharma (Mohali), and Tushant (Pathankot), a total of 158 cadets from MRSAFPI have been commissioned as officers into the

Indian Armed Forces since the

inception of the Institute.

Their induction into the country's armed forces came after they successfully passed out from the Indian Military Academy (IMA) in Dehradun on Saturday. The passing out parade was reviewed by Lt General MV Suchindra Kumar, GOC-in-C, Command.

Extending heartiest congratulations to the cadets, Punjab Employment Generation, Skill Development and Training Minister Aman Arora on Sunday wished them a successful innings in the armed forces. He said: "MRSAFPI's 50 cadets have been commissioned

since the Bhagwant Singh Mann led State Government is at the helm of affairs in Punjab. The Institute has set another benchmark by achieving a success rate of 56.64 per cent."

Institute director Major

General Ajay H Chauhan (retired) informed that two more cadets from the Institute Jaskirat Singh from Mohali district, and Saksham Gupta from Jalandhar district — were commissioned as Sub-Lieutenant in the Indian Navy in May this year. He called upon the cadets to live up to the motto of the Institute, "Nischay Kar Apni Jeet Karoon" and be true soldiers in service of the nation.

22 Cadets Cleared **SSB Interview** 

MRSAFPI's as many as 22 cadets have also cleared the Service Selection Board (SSB) interview, said Institute director Major General Chauhan, adding that the merit list of NDA-152 course was declared in April and Cadet Navjot Singh achieved 11th rank in the All-India Order of Merit. These cadets are awaiting joining letters to ioin National Defence Academy (NDA) or equivalent Training Academies.

### Hry CS asks DCs to hold daily 'Samadhan Shivirs' to address citizen grievances

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

To resolve the public grievances, Haryana Chief Secretary TVSN Prasad on Sunday said that the State Government has established a 'Samadhan Prakoshth' in the Chief Secretary's Office. This "Prakoshth" will organize 'Samadhan Shivir' in each district and sub-divisional headquarter every working day from am to 11 am to resolve public grievances.

Interacting with the media, the Chief Secretary said that it has been observed that generally, the public grievances involve two stages — issues in policy and bottlenecks in the implementation process. "The issues relating to the policy part will be resolved at the

### सार्वजनिक सूचना सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि श्री

श्याम गौशाला सेवा समिति (रजि.) अंडर हरियाणा सोसायटी एक्ट 2012, एचआर-13-2023-01715) वीपीओ मंढाणा जिला भिवानी को बंद किया जा रहा है। इस समिति का किसी भी बैंक से कोई ऋण नहीं है। अगर किसी को कोई आपत्ति है तो वह सुचना के प्रकाशन के 30 दिन के अंदर-अंदर समिति कार्यालय वीपीओ मंढाणा, जिला भिवानी में संपर्क कर सकता है।

HOUSING BOARD HARYANA PUBLIC NOTICE

is for the information of General rubiic that Smt. Neelam W/o Ajit Singh R/o 644, Sec-1, Rohtak, has applied for transfer of his Flat/House No. 69 GF LIG, Housing Board Colony, Dadri Gate Bhiwani (Hr.) in Public that Smt. Neelam W/o favour of Miss Asha D/o Gura Ditta R/o Near Arya samaj Mandir 35/8 Krishna Colony, Bhiwani. Any persor regarding transfer of this flat has any objection he/she should file objection with documentary proof in writing, in person, to this office with in 15 days from the date of publication of this notice. If no objection is received from any person within stipulated period the Permission for transfer of flat wil be granted in favour of Miss Asha D/o Gura Ditta R/o Near Arva sama Mandir 35/8, Krishna Colony, Bhiwan On the basis of documents submittee as per policy of the Board. No claim/objection after that shall be entertained in this regard. Estate Manager, Housing Board Haryana, Rohtak

ਸਾ∙ਅਦਾਲਤ ਨਾਇਬ ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ-ਕਮ-ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕਲੈਰਟਰ ਦਰਜਾ ਪਹਿਲਾ.ਜੀਰਕਪਰ।

ਕੁਲਿਰਟਰ ਦੇ ਦੇਜਾ ਪਹਿਲਾ, ਜੀਰਟਪੁਰੀ । ਵਿਸ਼ਾ: ਮਾਲ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਵਿੱਚ ਨਾਮ ਦਰਜ ਕਰਨ ਸਡੇਬੀ। ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਬਨਾਮ ਆਮ ਜਨਤਾ ਆਮ ਜਨਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਸੁਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਸ਼੍ਰੀ ਸਤੀਸ਼ ਨੁਮਾਰ ਗਰ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਲੈਣ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਨਰੰਜਨ ਦਾਸ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ਼ਿੰਘ ਤੋਂ ਮੁੱਲ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾ ਨੰਸ਼ਰ 1522, ਸੈਕਟਰ 7 ਸੀ ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ ਨੇ ਇੱਕ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਕਾਂ ਲੰਸ਼ਰ 1522, ਸੈਕਟਰ 7 ਸੀ ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ ਨੇ ਇੱਕ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਕਾਂ ਬੈਨਤੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਉਸ ਦੀ ਇੱਕ ਮਾਲਕੋਪ੍ਰਿਪਰਾਈਟਰਸ਼ਿਪ ਵਾਲ ਇੱਕ ਫਰਮ ਮੈਸ: ਸਿਨਰਾ ਪ੍ਰੋਮੀਸਿੰਗ ਇੰਡਸਟਰੀ ਸੀ, ਅਤੇ ਉਸ ਆਪਣੀ ਉਕਤ ਕਰਮ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੇ ਖੇਫਟਮਿਫਾਤਾ ਨੰਸ਼ਰ 3/3 ਖਸ਼ਾ ਲੰਸ਼ਰ 11/19/20/20/19/1/1/11 ਨਿੰ ਨੰਬਰ 11//19/2ਮਿਨ(1-7), 12/1(2-4), 19/1(1-11), ਕਿ: 3 ਕਨਾਲ 2 ਮਰਲੇ ਜਮੀਨ ਵਾਕਿਆ ਮੌਜਾ ਮੋਰਠਿਕਰੀ ਸਬ ਤਹਿਸੀਰ ਜੀਰਕਪੁਰ ਹਾੰਦਬਸਤ ਨੰਬਰ 361 ਬਹੁਏ ਵਸੀਰਾ ਬੈਨਾਮਾ ਨੰਬ 6459 ਮਿਤੀ 27.01.2004 ਸਬੂਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਜੀਰਕਪੁਰ ਤਸਦੀ ਕਰਾਇਆ ਸੀ ਜਿਸਦਾ ਇੰਤਕਾਲ ਵੀ ਮਾਲ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਵਾਕਿਆ ਮੌਜ ਮੋਰਨਿਕਰੀ ਹਦਬਸਤ ਨੰਬਰ 361 ਸਬ-ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਜੀਰਕਪਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਮੰਜਰ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਹਾਲੀਆ ਜਮਾਂਬੰਦੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਖਾਨਾ ਮਾਲਕੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰ ਜ਼ੂਰ ਹੋ ਕੇ ਹੋਈਆਂ ਜਾਮਰਦੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਖੋਨਾ ਮਾਲਦਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਕਿ ਹੁਣ ਉਹ ਆਪਣੀ ਉਕਤ ਫਰਮ ਬੰਦ ਕਰ ਚੁੱਕਾ ਹਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਉਕਤ ਫਰਮ ਦੇ ਨਾਮ ਤੋਂ ਕੋਈ ਲੈਣ-ਦੇਣ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਦਾ ਇਸ ਲਈ ਵੇਂ ਉਕਤ ਰਕਬੇ ਦੀ ਮਾਲਕੀ ਸਿਰਫ ਆਪਣੇ ਨਾਮ ਰੱਖਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦ ਇਸ ਲਈ ਖੇਵਟ/ਖਾਤਾ ਨੰਬਰ 3/3 ਖਸਰਾ ਨੰਬਰ 11//19/2 ਹਾਂ। ਇਸ ਲਈ ਖੋਵਟ/ਮਾਤਾ ਨੰਬਰ 3/3 ਮਸਰਾ ਨੰਬਰ 11/1/9/2 ਮਿਨ (1-7), 12/1(2-4), 19/1(1-11), ਕਿਤੇ 3 ਕਨਾਲ 2 ਮਰਲੇ ਜਮੀਨ ਵਾਕਿਆ ਮੌਜਾ ਮੈਰਨਿਕਰੀ ਸਬ ਤਹਿਸੀਲ ਜੀਰਰਪੁਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਮੌਸ। ਸਿਨਰਾ ਪ੍ਰੋਮੈਸਿੰਗ ਇੰਡਸਟਰੀ ਦਾ ਨਾਮ ਬਦਲ ਕੇ ਉਸ ਦਾ ਨਾਮ ਯਾਨੀ ਸਤੀਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਗਰਗ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਲੈਟ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਨਰੰਜਨ ਦਾਸ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਖੇਤੂ ਮੱਲ ਵਾਸੀ ਮਕਾਨ ਨੰਬਰ 1522, ਸੈਕਟਰ 7 ਸੀ ਚੰਡੀਗੜ੍ਹ ਬਤੌਰ ਮਾਲਕ ਸਹੀ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਵੇ, ਪੂਰਬੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਉਸ ਦੀ ਕੰਪਨੀ ਮੈਸ.ਸਿਨਰਾ ਪ੍ਰੋਮੈਸਿੰਗ ਇੰਡਸਟਰੀ ਦਾ ਨਾਮ ਬਦਲ ਉਸ ਦਾ ਆਪਣਾ ਨਾਮ ਸਤੀਸ਼ ਕੁਮਾਰ ਗਰਗ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਲੈਣ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਨਰੰਜਨ ਦਾਸ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਖੇਡੂ ਮਾਲਕ ਮਾਲ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਜ/ਦਰਸਤ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਸਬੰਧੀ

ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਜ/ਦਰੂਸਤ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਆਮ ਜਨਤਾ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਿਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜੇਕਰ ਕਿਸੇ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਕੋਈ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਉਹ ਆਪਣਾ ਇਤਰਾਜ ਇਸ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਦੇ ਛੱਪਣ ਤੋਂ 15 ਦਿਨਾ ਦੇ ਅੰਦਰ-ਅੰਦਰ ਇਸ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਸਾਲਤਨ ਯਾਂ ਵਕਾਲਤਨ ਹਾਜਰ ਆ ਕੇ ਪੇਸ਼ ਕਰ ਸਕਦੇ ਹਨ। ਬਾਅਦ ਗੁਜਰਨੇ ਮਿਆਦ ਕਿਸੀ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਉਜਰ ਨਹੀ ਸੁਣਿਅ ਜਾਵੇਗਾ, ਅਤੇ ਕਾਨੂੰਨ ਮੁਤਾਬਿਕ ਅਗਲੋਕੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਅਮਲ ਵਿੱਚ ਲਿਆਂਦੀ ਜਾਵੇਗੀ। ਅੱਜ ਇਹ ਇਸ਼ਤਿਹਾਰ ਮਿਤੀ 7.6.24 ਨੂੰ ਮੇਰੇ ਦਸਤਖੜਾਂ ਅਤੇ ਮੋਹਰ ਅਦਾਲਤ ਹੇਠ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਇਆ। ਨਾਇਬ ਤਹਿਸੀਲਦਾਰ ਕਮ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਕੁਲੈਕਟਰ ਦਰਜਾ

Divisional Officers (Civil) (HQ), state headquarter level by this 'Prakoshth' in coordination with administrative secretaries; while the implementation bottlenecks will be resolved in 'Samadhan Shivir' through the district

administration," he said "I will hold meeting of the 'Prakoshth' with Administrative Secretaries to resolve the policy issues being faced by the general public in the implementation of various public welfare schemes of the Government and issue necessary directions through the District Administration to remove the bottle-neck in the implementation of the scheme,"

The Chief Secretary said that as part of the programme, Commissioner, Deputy Superintendent of Police or Deputy Commissioner of Police (HQ), Additional Deputy Commissioner, District Municipal Commissioner, Suband SDO (C) and Deputy (Civil) office and resolve griev-Superintendent of Police and other Officers in independent Sub-Divisions in the district will sit together daily in Deputy officer, as required.

ances of public. Further, the Deputy Commissioner concerned may co-opt any other

Commissioner's and SDO

### THE KURUKSHETRA CENTRAL COOPERATIVE BANK LTD; **KURUKSHETRA SHORT TERM E-TENDER NOTICE** Sr. No. Name of Work Start Date & Opening of **End Date** Technical & Financial Bid Supply of Installation of Fire 10.06.2024 at 19.06.2024 at 26.06.2024 at Alarm System, Intrusion Siren, 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM to Smoke Siren/Alarm etc. in 25.06.2024 at 02:00 PM 26.06.2024 at 29 branches in DCCB 01:00 PM Kurukshetra. Approx Amt Rs 13,00.000/-Earnest Money Deposit Rs

The Tender forms (non transferable) contains terms & conditions and specifications/ job descriptions of the above mentioned work may be downloaded from website https://etenders.hrv.nic.in and www.dccbkkr.in.

**General Manager** The Kurukshetra Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. Railway Road Kurukshetra -136118

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

FOR CANCELLATION OF ALLOTMENT OF FLATS SMART HOMES KARNAL (Affordable Housing, Sector-32A, Karnal, Haryana) of M/s. Aegis Value Homes Ltd. (the Company)

Notice is hereby given, under the terms and conditions of the Application Form and in accordance with the Affordable Housing Policy-2013 notified on 19th August 2013 by the Town and Country Planning Department, Government of Haryana, that there have been installments failures out of the successful applicants within the time period as prescribed in the Application Form signed and executed with by the Applicant/Company. Demand letter(s)/ Notice have been issued to allottees who still default in making the payment, the list of such defaulters are being published herein below, for payment of due amount within 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which allotment may be cancelled and th

S. No.	Application No.	Applicant Name	Applicant Address	Allotted Unit	Outstanding Amount As on 03.06.2024
1	6755	Mr. Sagar Arora S/o Sh. Deen Dayal	H No. 3/6, W. No. 23, Near Sanjay Park, Krishan Pura, Panipat PANIPAT-132103	A4-606	2261150
2	9484	Mrs. Sunita Devi W/o Sh. Suresh Kumar	# 1010, Sector-7, Urban Estate, KARNAL 132001	A1-803	1659988
3	6981	Mrs. Monika jain W/o Sh. Gagan Jain	H NO 220, Huda Sector - 11, Panipat PANIPAT 132103	B-303	114782
4	5224	Mr. Pankaj Kumar S/o Sh. Dyal Chand	H NO 287, W.No. 8, Balmiki Mohalla, Ladwa, KURUKSHETRA- 136118	B-206	1780817
5	7907	Ms. Santosh Kumari D/o Sh. Chunni Lal	C/o Shyam Sunder Malhotra, H No. 41, W. No. 2, 132041	B-505	1419256
6	9129	Mr. Pankaj Grover S/o Sh. Jai Bhagwan Grover	1554, Sector- 13-17 huda in frount of legem hotel PANIPAT- 132103	A5-805	2359079
7	7408	Mrs. Shimla Rani W/o Sh. Sumer Chand	H. No.1436, Sector7, Near Shiv Mandir. Rural Part-1, KARNAL- 132001	B-307	1449640

Further, in case of failure in payment even after this notice, an amount may be deducted/forfeited apart from cancellation of the allotted unit(s), under the Application Forms / BBAs executed between the Company / Allottees and as per provisions of Affordable Housing Policy-2013 as amended from time to time under the provisions of Section 9A of the Haryana Development and Regulation of Urban Areas Act, 1975.

DIRECTORATE OF PUNJAB STATE LOTTERIES DRAW TIME: 06:00 PM ONW

MRP Rs 10/- Per Ticket

(Seller Prize Amount Rs.500/-, Total Prize Amount Rs.10500/- each) 4727 2nd Prize Amount (10)Rs.2000/-, Common to all series (On last 4 digits ) (Seller Prize Amount Rs.200/-, Total Prize Amount Rs.2200/- each)

1st Prize Amount (10)Rs.10,000/-.Common to all series (On last 4 digits)

3rd Prize Amount (100)Rs.500/-, Common to all series (On last 4 digits ) (Seller Prize Amount Rs.50/-, Total Prize Amount Rs.550/- each)
2502 2774 2945 4390 4949 6133 6460 7754 7851 4th Prize Amount (100)Rs.200/-, Common to all series (On last 4 digits ) (Seller Prize Amount Rs.20/-, Total Prize Amount Rs.220/- each)
1110 2387 2817 3140 3654 4140 2756
5th Prize Amount (2000) Re 100/- Company to all series 8271

0011	0020	0226	0332	0491	0602	0667	0676	0701	0797
0912	0922	1130	1144	1157	1181	1222	1230	1246	1250
1283	1403	1449	1459	1473	1518	1547	1660	1692	1713
1751	1843	1893	1900	2042	2059	2074	2096	2097	2125
2143	2156	2266	2322	2407	2421	2501	2510	2553	2585
2743	2752	2756	2779	2809	2814	2824	2843	2858	2978
2981	3034	3083	3085	3110	3120	3127	3156	3169	3228
3238	3303	3311	3320	3332	3438	3450	3513	3520	3572
3661	3753	3846	3997	4023	4095	4168	4378	4394	4418
1476	4484	4540	4579	4630	4699	4740	4764	4784	4870
1889	4953	4956	4958	5081	5087	5106	5148	5159	5180
5208	5253	5301	5336	5391	5474	5533	5538	5547	5714
5809	5817	5832	5843	5875	5894	5906	6003	6055	6066
6078	6150	6167	6216	6249	6270	6314	6316	6318	6335
6357	6400	6455	6818	7029	7100	7101	7128	7169	7266
7354	7384	7524	7533	7535	7570	7689	7787	7789	7795
7828	7854	7856	7871	7909	7924	7928	7932	7937	8195
8223	8225	8345	8369	8400	8531	8548	8561	8632	8642
8720	8722	8729	8775	8943	8972	8982	8988	9173	9185
9402	9448	9595	9664	9725	9731	9772	9794	9833	9854

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of laim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements

## Northern Faces Shine in Modi Cabinet 3.0: Bittu, Khattar, Nadda among five inductees

MONIKA MALIK/MANOJ KUMAR CHANDIGARH

s Prime Minister Narendra AModi embarks on his third term, his Cabinet welcomed a host of new faces from the northern states of Punjab, Haryana, and Himachal Pradesh, signaling a bold and strategic move. Notably, BJP national president IP Nadda, Harvana's former Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, and three-time former MP Ravneet Singh Bittu are among the five inductees from this part of the region.

Modi's choices have sparked widespread interest and surprise, particularly with the inclusion of Nadda from Himachal Pradesh. The move comes at the expense of five-time MP from Hamirpur and the outgoing Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur. Nadda, born and brought up in Patna in Bihar, has been brought into the Union Cabinet, seemingly to maintain regional equilibrium by bypassing the four recently-elect-

ed MPs from Himachal. Adding to the intrigue, Modi has selected Ravneet Singh Bittu, the grandson of the slain Beant Singh and a three-time Congress MP as a representative from Punjab, despite his recent electoral defeat in Ludhiana. Although the BJP did not secure any seats in Punjab, the saffron party significantly boosted its vote share. Bittu's induction is seen as BJP's move to eyeing 2027

state assembly polls.

In the politically-crucial state of Haryana, which is set to go for polls by October, the Cabinet has been strengthened with the induction of two-time Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar, alongside Gurugram MP Rao Inderjit Singh and Faridabad MP and former Union Minister Krishan Pal Gurjar. The strategic inclusion aimed at fortifying the party's position in the upcoming elections, ensuring a robust and dynamic leadership team.

Prime Minister Modi on Sunday, before his grand swearing-in ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhawan in the evening, met with the members of Parliament who're likely to be appointed to his Cabinet and Council of Ministers. Before the big event, Modi hosted the traditional high tea at his official residence at 7 Lok Kalyan Marg (earlier 7 Race Course Road) in the national capital. Along with PM Modi, 71 Ministers took oath, including 31 Cabinet Ministers, five Minister of State (Independent Charge), and 36 Minister of State.

### Modi picks Bittu from **Punjab Despite Election**

Former Congressman Ravneet Singh Bittu was a sur-Despite his recent electoral defeat from Ludhiana, Bittu's entry into the Modi Cabinet underscored the strategic importance the BJP places on Punjab, especially keeping an eye on the 2027 state assembly polls. Bittu, known for his robust political career and vocal stance on various issues, is expected to bring his experience and dynamic approach to the Central Government.

prominent Sikh face from Punjab underscored the Modi Government's commitment to the state's development and its

His selection ahead of other Singh Sandhu – a former diplo-Hans - a former MP and singer

Reflecting on his appointment, Bittu remarked, "The BJP has proven that its priority is the development of Punjab. Even when I was with the Congress, I always spoke for the national interest on several issues, be it our relations with Canada and

Bittu emphasized the need for cooperation to address critical issues such as the farmer protests. "We must solve issues such as farmer protests in coordination with the Centre. In the next two years, we will bring so much development to Punjab that people will develop trust in the BJP. We will prepare the ground for the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections," he added.

Bittu, the grandson of the slain Punjab Chief Minister Beant Singh, switched allegiance to the BJP before the 2024 general elections. Although he contested from Ludhiana, he was defeated by Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring over 20,000 votes. Congratulating Bittu, Warring expressed optimism, saying, am happy for my old friend. I hope this will bring development and big projects for Punjab, especially Ludhiana."

Having a significant political pedigree, Bittu previously represented Anandpur Sahib in the Lok Sabha in 2009 and then Ludhiana in 2014 and 2019 on a Congress ticket. A native of Kotla Afghana village in Ludhiana district, Bittu took oath as Minister of State in Modi's 3.0 term, despite not being an MP. He will be nominated to the Rajya Sabha through BJP-ruled states, ensuring his influential role in the Union Cabinet. During the campaign, senior BJP leader Amit Shah highlighted Bittu's potential, affectionately calling him his "dost" (friend) and predicting his significant future contributions. This strategic move by Modi not only aims to bolster the BJP's presence in Punjab but also sets the stage for a transformative

## **Poll-Bound Harvana Gains**

Inductions
The poll-bound Haryana got three Union Ministers with former Chief Minister and Karnal MP Khattar, Rao Inderjit, and Gurjar taking oath as the Union Ministers. BJP won five out of 10 Lok Sabha seats in

strategic political vision.

notable figures such as Preneet Kaur – former Union Minister and wife of former Chief Minister Capt Amarinder Singh; Taranjit mat, Parampal Kaur Sidhu – a former IAS officer, and Hans Raj all of whom also faced electoral defeats from different constituencies in Punjab, has raised

Pakistan or drugs. Punjab is a border state with several issues. I will be a bridge between the people of Punjab and Delhi."

## **Prominence with 3**

### Be accessible to public; Available in Offices from 11 am-1 pm: DGP to field officers been designated for senior offi-

PNS CHANDIGARH

n a significant initiative to fos-Iter pro-citizen policing, Punjab Director General of Police (DGP) Gaurav Yadav on Sunday issued a directive requiring senior police officers to ensure their availability in their offices from 11 am to 1 pm on all working days to address public grievances.

DGP Yadav's directive mandated that all senior police officers, from the rank of Additional Director Generals of Police (ADGPs) down to the Station House Officers (SHOs), be present in their offices during the specified hours to personally attend to public concerns underscoring the importance of direct interaction between the police and the public to enhance transparency and trust.

"Directions have been issued to all Range ADGPs, IGPs, DIGs, Commissioners of Police, district SSPs, Sub-Divisional DSPs, and SHOs to be available in their offices from 11 am to 1 pm on all working days for redressal of public grievances. Being available to the citizens is the foremost duty of police," DGP Yadav announced on his official X handle (formerly Twitter).

### **Assigned Days for Senior** Officers at Punjab Police **Headquarters**

To ensure continuous accessibility at the Punjab Police Headquarters (PPHQ) in Chandigarh, specific days have

cers of the rank of Special DGP and Additional DGP to be available for public meetings. The schedule is designed to provide consistent opportunities for citizens to raise their concerns directly with high-ranking officials. On Monday, Special DGP (Welfare) Ishwar Singh will be available at PPHQ, ADGP (Security) SS Srivastava on Tuesday, ADGP (Traffic) AS Rai Wednesday, ADGP (Provisioning) G Nageswara Rao on Thursday, and Special DGP (Law and Order) Arpit Shukla on

### **Emphasis on People-Centric Policing**

DGP Yadav highlighted the significance of 'Accessibility to Citizens' as a core component of people-centric policing. He encouraged officers to not only be present in their offices but also to remain reachable via phone, ensuring that they handle public calls with patience and resolve issues effectively.

The initiative is part of a broader commitment by the Punjab Police to maintain a robust law and order framework in the State, adhering to the directives of Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann. By making senior police officers more accessible to the public, the Punjab Police aims to build stronger community relations and ensure that the concerns of the public are addressed promptly and

are scheduled to be held in ensuing state polls after about three months, the number of

October. Keeping in mind the Ministers in Union Cabinet has been increased from two to

Khattar's induction as a Cabinet Minister was a foregone conclusion, expected ever since he was elected as an MP from Karnal, defeating former National Students' Union of India (NSUI) leader Divyanshu Budhiraja of the Congress, securing 7,39,285 votes—that is 54.93 percent of the total votes polled. A low-profile organization man with an active Rashtriya Swayamsewak Sangh (RSS) background, Khattar was BJP's first Chief Minister for Haryana, remaining at the helm from October 26, 2014, until his resignation on March 12, 2024.

Despite being a first-time MP, BJP chose him from the Punjabi community to solidify the party's stronghold in Haryana's Jat-dominated politics. Born in Rohtak district, Khattar, who aimed to become a doctor, had contested his first assembly elections in 2014 from Karnal, while retaining the seat in 2019 assembly polls too. This time, he battled the Lok Sabha seat and scripted BJP's hattrick in Karnal parliamentary

assembly segments.

Before Khattar, Bhajan Lal was the last non-Jat Chief Minister of Haryana from 1991 to 1996. Khattar replaced sitting BJP MP Sanjay Bhatia, who was the second among the MPs with the highest winning margins.

Rao Inderjit, BJP MP from Gurugram, took oath as Minister of State (MoS), independent charge, in the newly-inducted Union Cabinet. A six-time MP

Haryana: Manohar Lal Khattar, Rao Inderjit Singh, Krishan Pal Gurjar Punjab: **Ravneet Singh** Bittu Himachal: JP Nadda

and four-time MLA, Rao Inderjit is a former Congress heavyweight who switched to the BJP ahead of 2014 Lok Sabha elections. Rao Inderjit is a descendant of Rao Tula Ram, the 19th-century king of the Ahirwal region that comprises Rewari, Mahendragarh, Gurgaon and parts of Bhiwani, Dadri, Nuh and İhajjar in Haryana and Alwar in Rajasthan. His father Rao Birender Singh had served as Haryana's second Chief Minister in 1967 and formed a party, Vishal Haryana Party, which was later merged with the

Rao Inderjit has been a MoS in two Modi Cabinets and was also the MoS (Defence and External Affairs) in the Congressled UPA Government.

Born in Rampura, Rao Inderjit graduated from Delhi University's Hindu College and went on to get a law degree before joining politics at the age of 26. He made his Assembly poll debut from Rewari's Jatusana on the ticket of his father's Vishal Haryana Party.

Apart from politics, Rao Inderjit is an avid shooter and has gone on to become a member of the Indian shooting team and secured three gold medals at the South Asian Federation Games. Rao Inderjit won with a low margin of 75,079 votes, bagged a vote share of 50.48 percent, against senior Congress leader and actor Raj Babbar, a far cry from the 3.86 lakh vote margin he secured in

Krishan Pal Gurjar took oath as the Union Minister. Securing over 7.8 lakh votes, Gurjar defeated Congress' Mahender Pratap Singh in

Faridabad by a margin of nearly 1.73 lakh votes. In 2019, he won the parliamentary polls by a margin of 6.38 lakh votes, which was the third-biggest victory margin in the Lok Sabha elections then. Before being elected to the Lok Sabha from Faridabad in 2014, Gurjar held the responsibility of Haryana BJP chief

from 2009 to 2013. Gurjar, who pursued his higher education by completing graduation from Jawaharlal Nehru College in 1978 followed by a law degree from Meerut University, joined politics during his college days and was elected as a councillor in the Faridabad

Municipal Corporation in 1994. Just two years later, he was elected to Haryana Assembly defeating senior politician Mahender Pratap Singh from Mewla Maharajpur constituency. He was then made a Cabinet Minister in the BJP-Haryana Vikas Party alliance government led by Bansi Lal. In 2000, he defeated Mahender Pratap Singh again and became the leader of the BJP legislative group in the Vidhan Sabha. In 2009, he was elected from the Tigaon Assembly constituency.

Despite 4 LS MPs in HP, **Nadda Returns to Cabinet** 

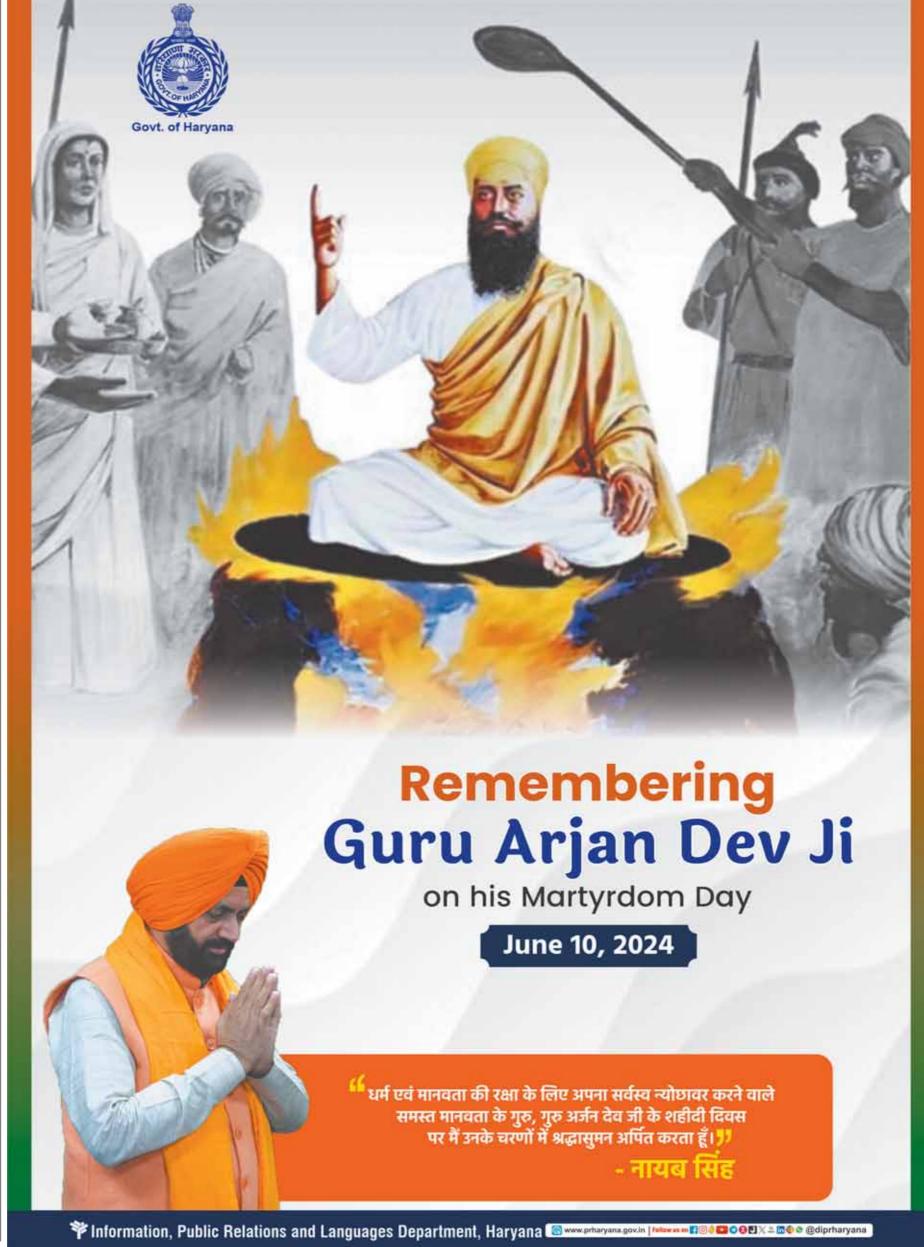
In a bold and unexpected move, Prime Minister Modi has re-inducted BJP national president Nadda into his Cabinet for his historic third term. Despite the BJP's clean sweep of all four seats in Himachal Pradesh in the recently-concluded parliamentary polls, Modi's decision to bring Nadda back while drop-ping the seasoned five-time MP from Hamirpur and former Cabinet Minister Anurag Thakur

has caught many by surprise. Nadda, a Rajya Sabha member from Gujarat, is no stranger to the corridors of power. Born and raised in Patna, he carved out a distinguished political career, first serving as Health Minister in Modi's Cabinet from 2014 to 2019. In 2020, he succeeded Amit Shah as BJP chief, with Shah continuing as the Union Home Minister. His term as party chief was extended in September 2022, allowing him to guide the party through this year's general election. Nadda's political journey is marked by his keen organizational skills and deep-rooted commitment to the RSS. His early years saw him active in the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) in Bihar, where his father served as vice-chancellor of Patna University. His legal education

from Himachal Pradesh University in Shimla set the stage for his political ascent.

In 1984, Nadda achieved a significant victory for the ABVP by defeating the Students Federation of India (SFI) at Himachal Pradesh University. This triumph led to his election as student union president and later as the ABVP's national general secretary until 1989. Recognizing his leadership potential, the BJP appointed him head of its youth wing, the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM), in 1991, when he was just 31. Nadda's return to the Union Cabinet is seen as a strategic move by Modi to ensure regional balance and leverage Nadda's organizational acumen. By bypassing the four MPs from Himachal, Modi has signaled his intent to maintain a delicate equilibrium in regional representation within the Cabinet.

As the BJP charts its course for the future, Nadda's inclusion is expected to bring a wealth of experience and strategic depth to Modi's administration. His adeptness at organizational management and his political savvy will be crucial assets as the government addresses the myriad challenges and opportunities that



# Lok Sabha to get LoP after 10 years

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $W^{ith \ the \ INDIA \ Bloc \ parties' numbers increasing}_{in \ the \ 18th \ Lok \ Sabha, \ the}$ lower House is set to get a Leader of the Opposition (LoP) after 10 years, and Opposition leaders also hope that a Deputy Speaker will be elected soon, a post that had been vacant for the last five

The 17th Lok Sabha, which was dissolved on June 5, did not have a deputy speaker for its full term, and it was the second consecutive term of the lower house without an LoP. All eyes are set at the lower house which will get an LoP, and is also expected to have a deputy speaker, a post which usually goes to the opposition

While the INDIA bloc has not yet held any coordination meeting on its strategy for the Parliament, an opposition leader said they will mount pressure that the deputy speaker's post is not left vacant this time. "The BJP government has been rejected by people, they did not elect any deputy speaker in last five years... Hope they have learnt a lesson and will elect a deputy speaker this time," a TMC leader



The 17th Lok Sabha, in which the BJP was in an absolute majority with 303 seats, elected Om Birla as the Speaker. In a first, no deputy speaker was elected through its term of five

As per Article 93 of the Constitution, the Lok Sabha shall, as soon as may be, choose two members to be speaker and deputy speaker so often as the offices become vacant. However, it does not provide a specific time frame. În the 16th Lok Sabha, M Thambidurai of the AIADMK was elected as Deputy Speaker, 70 days after the election

Before this, the longest that the lower house had no deputy

speaker was in the 12th Lok Sabha, when the House functioned for 269 days without one since election, data compiled by the PRS shows. The tenure of the 12th Lok Sabha, led by BJP's Atal Bihari Vajpayee lasted only for 13 months, from 10 March 1998 to 26 April 1999.

While GMC Balayogi was elected the Speaker in the 12th Lok Sabha in March 1998, P M Sayeed of the Congress was elected the deputy speaker only in December that year. In the ninth Lok Sabha, the term of which started on 2 December 1989, Rabi Ray was elected the Speaker in December 1989, while Shivraj Patil became the Deputy

Honour to serve Modi Ministry as a tribal, minority: Kiren Rijiju



PNS NEW DELHI

riren Rijiju, who took oath Kiren Kijiju, who took as a Cabinet minister in the third Narendra Modi government on Sunday, said he will continue to work with all sincerity and dedication to fulfil the prime minister's dream of a developed India.

Rijiju, who continues as a minister for the third consecutive time -- first as a minister of state and then a Cabinet minister -- said he is thankful to the prime minister for giving him the opportunity to serve in his

"It is a privilege and honour to

serve as a minister under Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the third time," he told PTI. Rijiju said as a tribal and a member of the minority Buddhist community and hailing from a remote state, Arunachal Pradesh, he is

immensely happy to serve the people of the country.
"I will do my best with all sin-

cerity and dedication to fulfil the dream of the prime minister for a Viksit Bharat (developed India)," he said.

Earlier, in a post on X, Rijiju said he would take oath as Cabinet minister in the Modi government and vowed to serve the nation with zeal and

"I will take oath as Cabinet minister around 7.30 pm on 9th June 2024," said Rijiju, the earth sciences minister in the outgoing government. Rijiju said he had taken oath as

a minister of state in 2014, minister of state with independent charge in 2019, and as a Cabinet minister in 2021.

"Thank you Arunachal Pradesh, @narendramodi ji, @BJP4India and people of India. I will serve the nation with greater zeal and devotion,"

Rijiju won a fourth term from the Arunachal West Lok Sabha seat in the recent general elecPlea in SC seeks Centre, SEBI to submit report in June 4 stock market crash



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

A plea has been filed in the Supreme Court, seeking directions to the Centre and the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to submit a detailed report into the stock market crash on the day of election results on June 4, when investors lost billions of rupees. The plea, filed by advocate Vishal Tiwari, also sought direction to the government and the SEBI to submit a status report on the orders given on January 3 for considering the suggestion of the expert committee, headed by Justice A M Sapre, made in its report on the PIL in Adani-Hindenburg

The top court had said the Centre and the SEBI should constructively consider the suggestions of the expert committee and take any further action necessary to strengthen the regulatory framework, protect investors and ensure the

orderly functioning of the securities market.

"It is said that after announcements of exit polls in respect to the Lok Sabha 2024 results, the share market went high, but when the actual results were announced the market crashed," the plea said. "Stock market volatility again

emerged. As per news reports, the loss was Rs 20 lakh crore. This again has raised question mark on the regulatory mechanism... Despite this court's direction, nothing has changed," the petition said. Following the exit poll prediction of a resounding BJP victory, BSE benchmark Sensex shot up on Monday by 2,507 points or 3.4 percent to settle at a new closing peak of 76,469. However, a day later on Tuesday, the equity markets witnessed a bloodbath, with the Sensex tanking 4,390 points or 6 percent to settle at 72,079. This was the worst single-day

fall in four years

## JEE Advanced results announced, Ved Lahoti tops

PNS NEW DELHI

The Joint Entrance Exam (JEE)-Advanced results were announced on Sunday morning, with Ved Lahoti from IIT Delhi zone bagging the top rank by securing 355 out of 360 marks. According to IIT Madras, which conducted the Joint Entrance Exam (JEE)-Advanced this year, Dwija Dharmeshkumar Patel from IIT Bombay zone is the topper among female candidates with 332 marks. Her all India rank is 7.

Four among the top 10 rankholders are from IIT Madras. The second rank has been bagged by Aditya (Delhi zone) Sandesh (Madras zone) at the third position. Rhythm Kedia (IIT Roorkee zone), Putti Kushal Kumar (IIT Madras), Rajdeep Mishra (IIT Bombay zone), Koduri Tejeswar (IIT Madras zone), Dhruvi Hemant Doshi (IIT Bombay zone) and Alladabona SSDB Sidhvik Suhas (IIT Madras zone), have bagged the subsequent ranks in that order. The maximum number of candidates have qualified from IIT Madras zone, fol-

IIT Bombay zone. Among the top 500 candidates, 145 are from IIT Madras zone, followed by 136 from IIT Bombay zone and 122 from IIT Delhi zone.

A total of seven foreign candidates have qualified the exam while 179 Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) have also cleared it.

Explaining the criteria for inclusion in rank list, a senior IIT Madras official said, "The aggregate marks will be calculated as the sum of marks obtained in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry. Candidates have to satisfy the subject-wise as well as aggre-

included in a rank list." A total of 1,80,200 candidates appeared in both papers in IIT-JEE Advanced, of which 48,248 have qualified including 7964 female candidates. JEE-Main, which is the admission test for engineering colleges across the country, is the qualifying exam for JEE-Advanced. The exam was conducted on May 26. The Joint Seat Allocation (JoSAA) counselling will begin from

## After brief respite, North India set for blistering heatwave: IMD

Speaker in March 1991. The

18th Lok Sabha will also have

an LoP for the first time in ten

years. In the previous two Lok

Sabhas, the largest opposition

party Congress could not get

the post as it did not have the

requisite numbers, which is

one-tenth of the strength of the

In the 16th Lok Sabha, the

Congress had 44 MPs, while in

the 17th Lok Sabha it had 55.

The post of LoP was not recog-

nised till 1969, when Ram Subhag Singh became the first recognised LoP of the Lok Sabha. This time, the leader of

Congress, which is the largest

opposition party in the Lok Sabha with 99 MPs, will be

recognised as the LoP.

 $A^{\text{fter brief respite from the}}_{\text{scorching heat, Delhi and}}$ Northern India, including Uttar Pradesh is all set to brace for blistering weather with a fresh spell of heatwave conditions forecasted by the Indian Meteorological Department Temperatures are set to exceed 44 degree Celsius, potentially reaching 45 degree Celsius in the coming days. A yellow alert has been issued for severe heat waves by the

This comes after days of momentary relief from the scorching heat in Delhi and nearby areas, some witnessing light rainfall and thunder-

The IMD said "there will be a resurgence of heatwave conwith these areas expected to experience temperatures exceeding 44 degrees Celsius on Monday, possibly reaching up to 45 degrees Celsius by Tuesday and Wednesday." Additionally, heat wave con-

ditions are expected to persist over parts of East and East-Central India, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh for the next five days.

The IMD has forecast heatwave conditions very likely in isolated pockets of Punjab,



Haryana, Bihar, Jharkhand and Gangetic West Bengal during June 9 till June 13 while in Jammu division, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, West Pradesh heat wave will prevail during June 11 till June 13. Odisha will witness blistering hot weather from June 11 till June 13th.In contrast, heavy to very heavy rainfall is likely over Maharashtra, coastal, and northern Karnataka dur-

ing the same period. 'In Southern India, particularly Maharashtra, Goa, and Karnataka, heavy rainfall is expected to continue. Thane and Palghar districts in Maharashtra have already

experienced heavy rains, leading to instances of water-logging." The IMD has issued a red alert for these areas, indicating the possibility of further heavy rainfall.

heavy rain with isolated extremely heavy falls are predicted over south Konkan & Goa, south Madhya Maharashtra, and Coastal & North Interior Karnataka.

This dynamic weather situation underscores the importance of staying informed about local weather forecasts and taking necessary precautions to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather conditions, whether it be heat waves or heavy rainfall.

# **Congress takes swipe at Modi**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Taking a swipe at Prime Minister-designate Narendra Modi, the Congress on Sunday said he will get himself sworn-in this evening as "the leader of the Narendra Destructive Alliance (NDA)" even though he lacks all legit-

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said, 'Remember May 28th, 2023? It was the day that Narendra Modi walked into the new Parliament building with the Sengol for which a August 15th 1947 history was fabricated 'to not only justify Modi's pretensions of being Samrat but also to appeal to the Tamil electorate." "That day itself, I had exposed Modi's fakery using archival material," he said.

of that drama. The Sengol remains a respected symbol of Tamil history but the Tamil electorate and indeed India's electorate has rejected Mr. Modi's pretensions," Ramesh

The Congress leader claimed that Modi has suffered a huge personal, political, and moral defeat. Modi has been forced to bow to the Constitution that he has subverted in the last decade, Ramesh said. "A vastly diminished 'one-third'



get himself sworn this evening, as the leader of the Narendra Destructive Alliance (NDA)," he said. Modi is set to be sworn-in this evening. The dignitaries and special invitees "He (Modi) never pulls up his attending the ceremony at the evening include leaders from India's neighbourhood and the Indian Ocean Region. Though the BJP could not get

recent Lok Sabha polls, the party-led National Democratic Alliance secured 293 out of 543 seats. The Congress got 99 seats in the polls. The majority mark in the lower house is 272. In another post on X, Ramesh

a majority on its own in the

took a swipe at Modi over his visit to Rajghat this morning.

His ideological brotherhood created such a toxic environment of hostility and hatred that it resulted in the coldblooded murder of the Mahatma on January 30th,

Nathuram Godse into some sort of a hero. He displaces Mahatma Gandhi's statue in Parliament House - not once but twice," Ramesh said. "He (Modi) falsely claims that

before the Attenborough film of 1982 on him Mahatma Gandhi was not known to the world. He demolishes and destroys Gandhian institutions in Varanasi, Ahmedabad, and elsewhere. Breath-taking hypocrisy!" Ramesh said.

utes as per standard operating

procedures, subject to certain conditions, according to

source, who added that the separation minima between two aircraft can be reduced if

"In this particular case that

happened on Saturday at the

Mumbai airport, the visibili-

ty was good and there was no

air prox situation with respect

to the landing IndiGo flight

and the taking off Air India

There might have been a

In the video it can be seen

flight," said the source.

the visibility is good.

## Will new FM support global effort for billionaire tax, asks Congress

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

Will India's new Finance Minister support the global effort for a "billionaire tax" and will the Prime Minister stand with the common people or billionaires, the Congress asked on Sunday, ahead of the swearing-in ceremony of a new government.

Prime Minister-designate Narendra Modi will on Sunday take oath for a third consecutive term as prime minister, along with members of his council

Congress leader Jairam Ramesh took a swipe at the BJP-led government and asked if it has taken "too many tempos of black money" to take such a pro-

gressive step. This year, the one-third Pradhan Mantri has a chance to show whether it stands with the common people, or with billionaires. At the G20 in Brazil, a proposal to set a Global Minimum Tax on billionaires will be discussed, backed by finance ministers of



Brazil, France, Spain, South Africa, and Germany," the Congress general secretary said in a post on X.

Will India's next finance minister support the global effort for a 'billionaire tax'? Or have they taken too many tempos of black money to take any such progressive step?" he asked.

Ramesh claimed that all around the world, billionaires manage to pay lower taxes than working people through legal loopholes, offshore wealth, shell companies, or other schemes.

To ensure that they pay their fair share, a proposal for a Global Minimum Tax on billionaires will be discussed at the G20 under Brazil's presidency in November 2024, he

Such a tax would raise "21 lakh crores" globally each year, providing critical funding for sectors such as health care, education, housing, and climate change, he noted.

'Note also that Brazil has

taken over the rotational G20 presidency without any drama, and used it not for some philosophical mumbojumbo but to advance meaningful policy," Ramesh said. "In contrast, 'Photo-Jeevi' Narendra Modi spent the entire presidency plastering every hoarding, school, and petrol pump in India with his face, to portray the G20 presidency as some kind of foreign-policy achievement. India's turn was pre-destined and inevitable," the Congress

leader added in his post.

### Major accident narrowly averted at Mumbai airport PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

**NEW DELHI** 

A major accident was nar-rowly averted at Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport after two flights came dangerously close on the runway A viral video shows one flight landing on the same runway from which another flight was taking off. The incident took place on Saturday, when IndiGo flight 6053, arriving from Indore's Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport (IDR), landed on runway 27, while Air India flight 657 was still in the process of taking off for Thiruvananthapuram International Airport (TRV). Taking a note, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) has ordered a probe on an incident of an IndiGo plane landing and an Air Îndia aircraft taking off from the same runway in less than a minute at the Mumbai air-

The DGCA has derostered the Air Traffic Controller (ATC) who was on duty at the time of the incident on Saturday, while IndiGo has initiated a probe into the matter. A video of the incident has been making the rounds on social media in which one plane landing and



another taking off from the

same runway. The DGCA, in a statement, said that the Air Traffic Control (ATC) staff involved has been derostered. It confirmed that an inbound IndiGo flight landed on Runway 27 while an Air India flight was still in the process of taking off. The DGCA has also ordered a probe into the matter to understand the circumstances that led to the breach of safety protocols. Mumbai airport is a single-

runway operation with two crossing runways. On a single runway RW27 at the Mumbai airport, there are around 46 arrivals and departures per hour. IndiGo said its aircraft continued the approach and landing as per the ATC

"On June 8, IndiGo flight 6E 6053 from Indore was given landing clearance by ATC at Mumbai Airport. The Pilot in Command continued the approach and landing and followed ATC instructions," IndiGo said in a statement. At IndiGo, passenger safety is paramount to us, and we have reported the incident as per procedure. Air India, in its statement, said, "AI657 from Mumbai to Trivandrum was on take-off roll on June 8. The Air India aircraft was cleared by Air Traffic Control to enter the runway and subsequently cleared for take-off. The Air India aircraft continued with the take-off roll in accordance with laid down

procedures. An investigation

has been initiated by the

authorities to find out more

about the clearance given to

According to an Airports Authority of India (AAI) source, as a rule, departing aircraft have to cross the end of the runway or take a turn, only after which the ATC can issue the landing clearance for arriving aircraft.
"However, in this case, this

was allegedly not followed," the source said. "Mumbai airport is one of the high-density airports, which means that the number of flight movements is high. On a single runway RW27 at the airport, there are around 46 arrivals and departures per hour," said another source. Also, Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs) are allowed to clear

up to two arrivals and two

departures within three min-

delay in quite fair visibility. The tower controller is allowed to reduce separation minima between two aircraft's if reasonable assurance has been established by visualising both aircraft's.

that departure has crossed V2 speed -- the speed at which the aircraft may safely climb with one engine inoperative and nosed up and on the other end of runway arrival is touching down," he explained. ATCs are under "significant pressure" when there is high density traffic at airports with the safety of aircraft and passengers, the source said, adding that the DGCA probe

will be looking at whether all norms were followed by the ATC as well as the pilots

### CHANDIGARH | MONDAY | JUNE 10, 2024

## Pandian quits active politics after BJD's defeat in Odisha

PTI BHUBANESWAR

Pandian on Sunday announced his withdrawal from active politics and said he would keep Odisha in the core of his heart and Guru Naveen Babu in his breath.

In a video message, Pandian said his only intention to join politics was to assist Naveen Patnaik, which is why he did not contest in the 2024 elections.

He also apologised to the people and BJD leaders and workers if they held him responsible for the electoral loss. "My intent in joining politics was only to assist Naveen Babu, and now I consciously decide withdraw from active politics. I am sorry if I have hurt anyone on this journey. I am sorry if this campaign narrative against me played a part in BJD's loss,'

Pandian said. the campaign. Pandian had asserted that he would quit politics if party president Patnaik did not become the chief minister of for the sixth consecutive time after the assembly elections.

"You (BJP) say there is a BJP wave and a wave for change in Odisha, but I strongly say if the chief minister (Patnaik) does not become CM again, I 'sanyas' Pandian



Brajrajnagar, Jharsuguda

Defending his close aide, BID president Naveen Patnaik on Saturday termed the ongoing criticisms against Pandian as "unfortunate" and praised him for doing an "excellent

Patnaik also clarified that Pandian was not his successor. "There has been some criticism of Pandian. This is unfortunate. He joined the party and has not held any post. He did not contest the elections from any constituency. I have always clearly said when asked about my successor that it is not Pandian. I repeat again that the people of Odisha will

Announcing his decision, Pandian expressed his apologies to the entire Biju Parivar, including all the workers, and conveyed his heartfelt gratitude to the lakhs

of BJD members with whom

he was associated.

I will always keep Odisha in the core of my heart and my Guru Naveen Babu in my breath and pray to Lord Jagannath for their well-being and prosperity," Pandian said. Reflecting on his background, Pandian mentioned that he came from a humble family and a small village, and his childhood dream was to join the IAS and serve the people, which Lord Jagannath made

## Swearing-in ceremony of first BJP Government in Odisha on June 12

The swearing-in ceremony for the first BJP government in Odisha has been rescheduled from June 10 to June 12, party leaders Jatin Mohanty and Vijaypal Singh Tomar confirmed here on Sunday. Mohanty explained that the postponement was due to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitments.

Modi will be busy with his own swearing-in ceremony on Sunday and meeting party MPs the following day. Additionally, the first legislature party meeting of the newly elected members is now set for June 11. During the election campaign, Modi had said Odisha's first BJP government would be sworn in on June 10. BJP state

He also explained that he came to Odisha because his wife is from Kendrapara. "From the day I set foot on the soil of Odisha, I have received immense love and affection from the people... From Dharamgarh to Rourkela to Mayurbhanj to Ganjam. I have tried to work very hard for the people," he recalled. Speaking about his entry into

president Manmohan Samal had also confirmed this on Saturday.

However, the decision to change the date was taken on Sunday, party sources said. Meanwhile, suspense still remains over the new chief minister. Senior BJP leader and newly elected MLA Suresh Pujari rushed to New Delhi, triggering speculation that he may be among the main contenders for the top post,

sources said. Pujari, who was elected to the Lok Sabha from Bargarh in the 2019 polls, won the recent election from Brajarajnagar assembly constituency. His supporters believe he was called to New Delhi for discussions with central

the power corridor, Pandian noted that 12 years ago, he joined the chief minister's office (CMO). "It was an honour to work for Naveen Patnaik. The experience and learning I had from him are for a lifetime. His grace, leadership, ethics, and above all, his love for the people of Odisha always inspired me," the former IAS officer said.

## Andhra polls shake up political families, cause estrangement

Besides leaving a trail of violence at a number of places, the fiercely fought simultaneous Lok Sabha and Assembly elections in Andhra Pradesh has shaken up a string of political families resulting in discord and estrangement. Siblings took on each other, a son contested against his minister-father while determined wife was cajoled to stop competing against her husband at the last moment, among others.

In this battle of blood relatives. YSRCP chief and outgoing Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy faced a real challenge from his sister, Andhra Pradesh Congress chief Y S Sharmila who emerged as a 'thorn in the for him. After experimenting with politics in Telangana through the YSR Telangana Party (YSRTP) and merging it with Congress, Sharmila took over the reins of the grand old party in Andhra Pradesh to target her brother on a daily basis, accompanied several times by her cousin Suneetha Narreddy.

'Jagan is not the successor of YSR (Y S Rajasekhar Reddy) at all. There is no similarity between the regimes led by YSR and Jagan...Jagan's reign is marked by murderous politics," said Sharmila at Mydukuru in Kadapa district on April 8.

As Congress candidate for Kadapa Lok Sabha Kadapa constituency, Sharmila took on

her cousin Y S Avinash Reddy from YSRCP, who is an accused in the Vivekananda Reddy's murder case. Though she lost, Sharmila, garnered more than 1.4 lakh votes and managed to inflict electoral damage on Avinash Reddy, who won by a margin of 62,695

Avinash Reddy had the full backing of Jagan Mohan Reddy who said people of Kadapa 'know who killed' his uncle Vivekananda Reddy. A 'conspiracy' has been hatched to 'destroy' the life of Avinash Reddy and alleged that his younger sisters Sharmila and Narreddy are a 'part' of it. Ditching Jagan Mohan Reddy

backed Avinash Reddy, Y S Rajasekhar Vijayamma, Reddy's wife and the mother of the siblings backed her daughter Sharmila, urging the Kadapa Lok Sabha electorate to vote for her daughter. Similarly, the Vijayawada Lok

Sabha constituency saw a battle

and K Sivanath. Srinivas, a transport tycoon-turnedpolitician from the YSRCP took on his younger brother Sivanath from the TDP. Srinivas (58), the older brother, was a key TDP leader until some months ago but differences with party leaders compelled him to jump ship to YSRCP in January.

Eventually, his gamble didn't pay off and Srinivas lost the battle to Sivanath, who won with a thumping margin of over 2.82 lakh votes, garnering 7,94,154 votes in total.

In north Andhra region, Duvvada Vani, wife of YSRCP's Tekkali Assembly segment candidate Duvvada Srinivas, for several reasons, almost came close to against her competing husband. At the last moment, senior party leaders successfully persuaded her

against doing it. Likewise, B Ravi Kumar, son of YSRCP Anakapalli Lok Sabha candidate and deputy chief minister B Mutyala Naidu contested as an independent from Madugula Assembly seat against his step-sister E Anuradha and all the three family members lost their elections.

Another fallout was violence at many places that went to the extent of even ordinary people who owed allegiance to TDP and YSRCP leaders assaulting each other in a number of places. Palnadu, Tirupati and Anantapur districts became notorious for such attacks.

# Situation tense but under control in violence hit Manipur's Jiribam

The situation in Manipur's Jiribam district remained "tense" but "under control" on Sunday, after suspected militants torched two police outposts and at least 70 houses in a fresh bout of violence in the state, police said. Additional security forces have been deployed in the affected areas following the incident on Saturday, they said. "The situation is tense but

under control in the wake of violent disturbances that broke out in Jiribam district in which miscreants torched two police pickets, a forest beat office... And several houses belonging to both communities," the Manipur Police said in a statement.



a senior police officer said. "Police is also actively

More than 70 houses were monitoring social media set on fire in Lamtai updates, which may incite Khunou, Dibong Khunou, communal feelings amongst requests general public to 70 state police commandos Goakhal forest beat office

unfounded/unverified information," it said. Violence broke out in Jiribam in the ethnic strife-

torn state on Thursday evening, after suspected militants killed a 59-year-old The person, identified as Soibam Saratkumar Singh,

went missing after he had gone to his farm on June 6 and later, his body was found with wounds made by a sharp object, an official had Meanwhile, an irate mob

stopped a truck at Sorok Atingbi Khunou late on Saturday and reportedly torched essential commodities it was carrying, a police officer said.

Iiribam to assist security personnel in their operations against militants, he said. Around 239 Meitei people, mostly women and children, have been evacuated from peripheral areas of Jiribam on Friday, and moved to a newly set up relief camp at a multi-sports complex in the

district, officials added.

The state government has also transferred Jiribam SP A Ghanashyam Sharma to the post of additional director of the Manipur Police Training College, according to an order issued by the order issued Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms. The transfer order was Imphal valley-based Meiteis issued hours after police and hill-based Kukis has led outposts of Jiri Mukh and to the deaths of over 200 spreading was airlifted from Imphal to were set afire on Saturday

morning, they said. Reacting to the incidents of fresh violence, newly elected Congress MP from the Inner Manipur Lok Sabha seat, Angomcha Bimol Akoijam, the urged Manipur

government to protect the

lives and properties of the

people of Iiriham.

Jiribam, which has a diverse ethnic composition of Meiteis, Muslims, Nagas, Kukis and non-Manipuris, had so far remained unaffected by the ethnic strife that has been raging in the northeastern state since May last year.

The ethnic conflict between rendered thousands

## BJP's LS poll victory, State liquor policy row to dominate Kerala Assembly session

**PTI** ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The 28-day Assembly Assembly session, set to commence on Monday, is expected to be stormy as the opposition Congress-led UDF is likely to target the government in the state over a host of issues ranging from the recent liquor policy row to its humiliating defeat in the Lok Sabha polls. The House is being

convened for the first time after the announcement of the results of the April 26 the ruling LDF and the BJP the election campaign

Agriculture since beginning."

Under

While the UDF MLAs would attend the session with regained confidence and strength following their historic success in the general elections, the legislators of the CPI (M)-led LDF would struggle to find political narratives to defend their mass drubbing. Armed with the poll victory, the UDF MLAs will look to sharpen their attack in the Assembly against the Marxist party, especially against Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, who had the UDF won 18 seats and Rahul Gandhi throughout

## Bengal CID quizzes key suspect in Bangladesh MP murder case

The West Bengal CID on Sunday recovered parts of human bones near a canal in South 24 Parganas district, during a search operation in connection with its probe the murder of Bangladesh MP Anwarul Azim Anar, a senior official

the south-eastern bank of Bagjola canal in Bhangar's Krishnamati following the interrogation of Mohammad Siyam Hussain, a key suspect in the case who was arrested by the Nepal Police and extradited to India, he said.

The specimen was found on

"The bone parts appear to be of a human being as suggested by medical officers and forensic experts who were present when these were recovered," the CID officer said. It has lodged a suo moto case in this regard at the Bijoyganj Bazar Police Station, he said. The bone parts will soon be sent for forensic examination.

"Search is underway to trace other body parts of the Bangladeshi politician," the officer said. Sleuths of the CID had earlier recovered pieces of flesh, weighing around 3.5 kg, from the septic tank of a flat in New Town area where the MP was

last seen on May 12. The daughter of the Bangladesh MP is likely to arrive in Kolkata next week

to take part in a DNA test in connection with the recovery of the bones and flesh pieces, the CID officer said. key suspect in the case,

Hussain was arrested by the Nepal Police and extradited to India on Friday. He was also taken to the New Town flat on Sunday to assist

the CID in tracing the body parts of the Bangladesh MP, and the tools used to commit Hussain was brought to West Bengal on Saturday evening and sent to 14-day custody of the CID by a local court in

Barasat in North 24 Parganas

An initial probe had revealed that the MP's close friend Akhtaruzzaman, a US citizen, paid around Rs 5 crore to those involved in the

Akhtaruzzaman has a flat in Kolkata, and is probably in the US at present, CID officers had said.

evidence Circumstantial indicated that the Awami League leader was first strangulated and killed after which his body was chopped into pieces, police claimed. Efforts to locate the missing MP, who reportedly arrived in Kolkata on May 12 for medical treatment, have been underway since Gopal Biswas, a resident of Baranagar in north Kolkata and an acquaintance of the Bangladeshi politician, filed a complaint with the local police on May 18.

## Modi has given me an opportunity: JD(S) leader Kumaraswamy

leader H D Kumaraswamy on Sunday said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given him an opportunity to serve as a Minister in the new Cabinet that will be sworn-in this evening, and credited the people of "Kannada Naadu" for

While maintaining that he has not placed a demand for any portfolio, the former Chief Minister reiterated his desire to be the Agriculture Minister.

"Under Narendra Modi's leadership a decision has been made, after discussion with BJP national President (JP Nadda), Home Minister (Amit Shah)

and Defence Minister (Rajnath Singh). They have identified me and given me an opportunity. The entire credit for this has to go to people of Kannada Naadu in my opinion," Kumaraswamy said. Addressing reporters in New Delhi, he said his intention was to serve the people of the country and the state honestly.

using the opportunity.
"To implement Narendra Modi's vision I want to work honestly and thereby bring a good name to him and to our state. This is my resolve." The son of JD(S) patriarch H D Deve Gowda has made no secret of his desire to become the Agriculture Minister, and has repeatedly expressed it



not only managed to regain the JD(S)' lost bastion, but has also

managed to successfully By winning the Mandya Lok retrieve his party's lost political relevance in Karnataka, by allying with the BJP.

respect towards my father. I'm not interested in making leadership, I want to stay among people. I want to connect with people to resolve their issues, if I get such a portfolio, it will help me to serve as a Minister better," he

Venkataramane Gowda (also known as Star Chandru) of the said. Kumaraswamy asserted that JD(S) performance in the Congress by a margin of 2,84,620 votes. Noting that he Lok Sabha polls and his win is a "revival" for the party. "Narendra Modi's leadership has left it to the PM to decide and has made no demand for and Kannadigas have given me any portfolio, Kumaraswamy and my party a revival. while replying to a question, said, "If I get it, I will be happy, Kannadiga's have accepted the BJP-JD(S) alliance and have because I've been interested in given me the strength. I thank the people of the state, "The Prime Minister has reposed faith in me, he has especially voters of Mandya and Bangalore Rural segments," he said. Citing health reasons for his Modi's father Deve Gowda's inability travel

will be "happy".

## Heavy rain lashes Mumbai, other districts; road cave-in hits traffic on Ahmedabad bound highway

PTI MUMBAI

 $M_{\text{neighbouring}}^{\text{umbai}} \quad \text{and} \quad$ and areas received heavy rains in the last 24 hours, bringing down the mercury and providing relief to residents from the hot and humid weather, officials said on Sunday.

Due to the heavy showers, a part of the road in neighbouring Palghar district of Maharashtra caved-in, affecting traffic movement on the busy Mumbai-Ahmedabad highway for more than four hours on Sunday morning, they said. Repair works, including of a

pipeline, were in progress

when a portion of the road in

an official from the police control room said. Traffic came to a standstill and movement on both sides of the road was disrupted, he

Some people held up in the traffic jam since 5.30 am on Sunday claimed no agency was attending to the problem. Various other districts of Maharashtra, including Thane, Nashik, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, Ahmednagar, Satara and Jalgaon, also received good showers in the last one day.

In the 24-hour period ending at 8.30 am on Sunday, Mumbai received more than 60 mm of rainfall. The Colaba observatory,

offices are located, recorded 67 mm rainfall, while the Santacruz observatory, near the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharai International Airport, recorded 64 mm downpour in the same period, as per the India Meteorological Department

Colaba observatory recorded a maximum temperature of 34.8 degrees Celsius, 1.1 degrees higher than normal, while the minimum temperature was 24.3 degrees Celsius, 2.9 degrees lower than normal, it said.

A drop in the minimum temperature indicates nights Maljipada area of Palghar situated in south Mumbai caved-in due to heavy rains, where most of the state getting cooler.

The Šantacruz observatory

government's administrative recorded a temperature of 36.4 degrees Celsius, 1.6 degrees more than normal, while the minimum temperature was 25.5 degrees Celsius, 1.9 degrees less than normal, as per the IMD. Some of the agriculturally

logging in some areas,

officials said on Sunday. There were reports of tree branches falling in some areas of Thane city, they said.

important districts like Satara recorded 91 mm rain in the last one day, Nashik 64 mm, Ahmednagar 57 mm, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar 51 mm and Jalgaon 41 mm, according to an IMD report. Thane and Palghar districts also witnessed heavy rains overnight, leading to water-

valley.

## Sadhus reach Jammu ahead of annual Amarnath yatra

The famous Ram Mandir in the old city reverberates with chants in praise of Lord Shiva as Sadhus from across the country have started reaching here to take part in the annual yatra to the holy cave shrine of Amarnath in south Kashmir Himalayas.

The 52-day pilgrimage will commence from the twin tracks — the traditional 48 km Nunwan-Pahalgam route in Anantnag and the 14 km shorter but steep Baltal route in Ganderbal — on June 29. A day ahead, the first batch of pilgrims will leave Jammu's Bhagwati Nagar base camp and Ram Mandir for the

The shrine houses the naturally formed ice-shivlingam and over 4.5 lakh naturally formed pilgrims paid their obeisance at the 3,880 meter high shrine last year. Ram Mandir in the Purani Mandi area of Jammu, the city of temples, hosts the Sadhus and Sadhvis at its sprawling complex with the government departments lending their support to ensure various facilities including onthe-spot registration for yatra for the visitors. The temple head Mahant

Kumaraswamy said if he is able

to successfully work and stay

good to the faith that the

people have reposed in him, he

Rameshwar Dass said all necessary arrangements including the round-theclock free community kitchen service and medical facilities are in place for the Sadhus, expressing confidence in a trouble-free yatra.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

## **Parched Capital**

The water crisis in Delhi shows no signs of abating. the SC's directions to Haryana notwithstanding

he water situation in the Capital has gone worse due to Haryana's and Himachal Pradesh's refusal to supply water to Delhi, especially during these sweltering months. The issue is especially vexed since a major amount of Delhi's water supply comes from these nearby States, affecting millions of people and several industries in the NCR. The Yamuna provides Delhi with most of its water, and Haryana is an important supplier via the Western Yamuna Canal. Himachal Pradesh, for its part, makes an indirect contribution to the river through its tributaries. The significance of upholding the current water-sharing arrangements among States has been emphasised and reiterated by the Supreme Court, the latest instance being less than a week old. This entails making certain that Himachal Pradesh and Haryana provide Delhi with the agreed-upon amounts of water, particularly during the hot summer months when the demand soars. The Supreme Court last week allowed Himachal Pradesh



to release 137 surplus cusecs and directed the Haryana Government to facilitate this flow through Hathnikund barrage to Wazirabad uninterruptedly to Delhi to mitigate the drinking water crisis there. Meanwhile, the Delhi BJP has demanded a special session of the Assembly to discuss the poor water situation. The move would help the issue receive quick and widespread attention, guaranteeing that legislators and bureaucrats give it top priority and move more quickly as a result of this urgency. With almost 35 million people in Delhi as of 2023,

there is every year major shortage of water as sup-

plies from Himachal Pradesh and Haryana dwindle.

The Delhi Jal Board, the city's water provider, finds it difficult to maintain steady supply levels, which frequently results in water shortages and rationing. Both wealthy and low-income households face severe inconveniences because water is available only a few hours a day. The residents are forced to depend on costly, unhygienic and erratic private water tankers. Public health hazards are made worse by this water problem. The possibility of water-borne illnesses rises when there is insufficient water available, which affects hygiene standards. The city's healthcare system may be further taxed by outbreaks of cholera, dysentery and typhoid brought on by poor sanitation. To redress Delhi's water scarcity issue, a multipronged response is needed to be put into place as a standard operating procedure. It is imperative that States stick to legal agreements and cooperate more with one another. Requirements for water infrastructure, such as treatment facilities and reservoirs, can be lessened with investment. Furthermore, encouraging water-saving behaviors and enhancing wastewater recycling might lessen the demand on the available water resources. To improve groundwater recharge, long-term initiatives should also involve rainwater gathering and the revitalisation of nearby water bodies.



A newly inducted officer with his wife after the Passing Out Parade at the IMA, in Dehradun

# Major losses for BJP, coalitions re-emerge



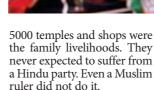
The recent elections in India show the BJP's struggle due to divisive talk and policies, highlighting the importance of diverse coalitions

oalitions naturally suit this diverse country, allowing all voices to be heard and leaving no room for hatred The BJP's overemphasis on religion, anti-Muslim rhetoric and offensive language has backfired. The Lok Sabha's composition has shifted significantly for three States of Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Maharashtra. In Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra, where the BJP excelled in 2019, it now faces significant setbacks. In West Bengal, it sank to 11 seats enduring conflicts with TMC workers even on polling day, the BJP's position has weakened. Democracy survives in this country because of the innate wisdom of the ordinary common people. The Samajwadi Party with 37 seats have emerged as the largest party. Along with six by its Congress ally, total UP tally is 43 for INDIA. The BJP which aimed at winning 80, is satisfied with a mere 34 with many of its central and State ministers losing. Voters in areas around Ayodhya have done the unthinkable. They voted against excesses for Ram temple construction by acquiring 64-acre extra land for the temple, demolishing thousands of houses, shops, temples and structures with impunity. Many homes and shops were demolished for the Ram Path in Ayodhya, leaving people questioning why the BJP Government chose to do so. Some wonder why the Government is involved in temple construction. Similar concerns arose in Varanasi, where PM Modi faced a close contest despite

Even Sitapur connected to Sita, not far off Ayodhya, elected an unknown Congressman Rakesh

winning decisively in 2019.

All these places had voted with vengeance against the highhandedness they suffered. Ganga remains as dirty as it was ten years before in Banaras. But the temple town which had varied temples of Shiv, Ganesh and other mandirs of several deities was razed for a beautification corridor that the ocais never wanted. Even the main Vishwanath temple was not spared. It had images of other deities; they were all demolished to give it a new look. These six years. As of now through



Asked if they were acting like Aurangjeb, some senior BJP leaders replied

"he was the ruler then, now we are and would do whatever we can". The electorate did what they could. Chitrakoot and Vindhyachal repeated it vengefully for similar "beautifying corridors".

The Ram mandir had limited influence. Allahabad, the city named after Vaivaswat Manu's daughter Eela, from where Ram walked to Chitrakoot today is in a sorry State. For no rhyme or reason Eelahbad name was changed. Over 100year-old houses were razed or partially demolished to create roads for toll or Kumbh Mela. Arbitrary actions have given the city a devaStated look. The BIP leaders told citizens, "Modiji ne kaha hai to hoga hi" - that was the guarantee.

Most demolition agents were related to one or the other BJP leaders or their friends in a distant western State.

The issue of Ram historically had never helped the BJP. In 1989, when BJP was agitating for shilanyas, it lost the UP State assembly elections. In 1992, when they demolished the temple structure as Hindus called it since 1949, which the BJP called a disputed structure, the BJP lost power for the next



THE RECENT POLLS **PROVE THAT** HATRED, NAME-CALLING AND **BELOW-THE-BELT** STATEMENTS BY THE MIGHTY HAVE NO PLACE WHILE IN ELECTORAL FRAY. NOBODY IS AN ENEMY. THEY ARE JUST RIVALS a judgment based on contin-Sarkar, former State party chief ued occupation of a premises, Dilip Ghosh, Sandeshkhali the temple is coming up, the supposed rape victim Rekha Pran Pratistha of not bal Patr lost at the hustings. Sandeshkhali was hyped up. (infant) Ram but a balak (child) Ram is not taken kind-It was busted by Mamata as ly by Ayodhya residents. fake and people believed her. Residents in Avodhya face The famous Kalighat temple,

confinement during celebrations, worrying about the missing infant Ram image. Locals resent security measures affecting their liveli-hoods. Temple visits are like airport security, requiring a long walk and Aadhaar. Footfall dwindles; people yearn for the original idol. Will the

new one satisfy them? Uddhav, Sharad Pawar and the Kalighat takeover Congress, the opposition won Even before the polls began, 30 of the 48 seats. While BJP observers assessed severe losshad to cut a sorry figure. Maharashtrians have proved es for the BJP in West Bengal for unemployment, rapid price that Uddhav Thakre's is the rises, agniveer and other issues. real party. Even Muslims in This was added by the frictions large numbers did not mind within the BJP fold. The BJP voting Uddhav and Shiv Sena leaders were fighting more (UT) voted for the Congress. Their vote was against betrayagainst themselves than with Mamata Banerjee's Trinamool. al by the elected leaders Eknath It was not an easy challenge for Shinde, Ajit Pawar and BJP Mamata Banerjee, to protect which rocked the BJP-Sena Bengali pride. She effectively alliance. did it launching her campaign The recent polls prove that for BJP-humiliated Mohua hatred, name calling and below Maitra from Krishnanagar. the belt Statements by the The BJP tried to turn it into a mighty have no place in elec-VIP constituency by pitting an toral fray. Nobody is an enemy.

unknown Rajmata of They are just rivals. In a Krishnanagar royal family of democracy there is no author-Maharaja Krishnachandra itarian leader. All are equal. It also proves that coalition is not only did not work, it also more natural in this country became Waterloo for BJP. Its

supposedly one of the 51 shak-

ti peethas also became a poll

issue. A business house from

Ahmedabad has reportedly

illegally taken it over. It hurts

Maharashtra was another

waterloo where the Shiv Sena

(Uddhav Thakre) emerged as

the real Sena. Along with

the Bengali psyche.

than a one-party rule. (The author is a senior journalist; views are personal)

### HE EDITOR

## Protecting health through food safety



BIJU **Dharmapalan** 

Food fuels our health. Its quality influences, and aggravates, chronic diseases such as heart issues, diabetes, obesity and some cancer types

¬ood is an essential component of our life. The quality of food one consumes plays a significant role in developing and managing chronic diseases. Many chronic conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, obesity and certain types of cancer, are closely linked to diet and nutrition. Unfortunately, the public rarely looks into the quality of food one consumes. We can see the mushrooming of street food stalls across the nook and corner of the country, sans any hygiene or quality. Even the food items we procure from supermarkets do not guarantee quality. In many cases, there would be a mismatch between what is mentioned on the label and actual ingredients. Even enforcement agencies rarely check the quality of foods served by the vendors.

Food safety is crucial for maintaining public health, preventing foodborne illnesses and ensuring the economic stability of the food industry. These diseases are caused by consuming food or beverages contaminated with harmful microorganisms



These figures underscore the severe health implications of unsafe food. Foodborne illnesses can cause long-term health problems, including kidney failure, chronic arthritis, brain and nerve damage and death. This year's World Food Safety Day theme, "Prepare for the Unexpected" , underscores the importance of proactive measures in maintaining food safety amidst various unforeseen challenges. The need for robust and adaptive food safety measures is of prime importance in the current scenario, where new pathogens are evolving and new toxic additives are added to foods to make money.

particular place and in a specific shop. Since the production level was minimal, the manufacturers had control over the quality and safety of food products. Unfortunately, the globalization of the food supply chain has increased the complexity of ensuring food safety. Food products often travel long distances and pass through numerous intermediaries before reaching consumers. This extended supply chain makes it challenging to trace the source of contamination and implement consistent safety standards. Reliance on technology in food production and safety monitoring introduces risks related to technological failures. For instance, breakdowns in refrigeration systems can lead to spoilage, while contamination in automated processing

a local flavour available in a

lines can spread quickly if not detected. Bioterrorism, or the intentional contamination of food supplies, is a potential but severe threat. Members of the Rajneeshee (Osho) cult contaminated salad bars in Oregon with Salmonella, sick-(bacteria, fungi, parasites) or Earlier, every food item had ening 751 people. The quali-

ty standards should be fixed not on a nation's stature but based on its consumable stature. The quality of food products available in the Indian markets and overseas has a wide gap. Harmonizing standards globally can help address disparities in food safety practices across countries. There should also be active collaboration between agencies like WHO and FAO in evolving strategies to combat foodborne diseases and health issues.

Enforcement agencies should embrace tech advancements like blockchain for better food traceability and IoT sensors for real-time monitoring of storage conditions. Keeping food safe demands constant innovation and vigilance. As our global food system continues to grow and change, so must our approaches to ensuring its safety. Preparing for the unexpected in food safety is not just a reactive measure but a proactive commitment to safeguarding the well-being of all humanity.

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

### **MILK PRICES IMPACT HEALTH, TOO**

Madam — Apropos the news story "Soaring milk prices may hit affordability, health," published on June 8, this is my response. As a daily newspaper reader, I'm struck by the paradox of India being a global leader in milk production yet facing rising milk prices, which threatens the affordability of this essential nutrition for many. With whole milk prices around Rs. 66 a litre, the common man's ability to provide nutritious milk for their family is at risk. Despite India's rich dairy heritage, the increasing cost could impinge on public health, underscoring the need to address the reasons behind these price hikes.

It's also concerning that while milk production is booming, with an impressive output of 231 million metric tonnes in 2023, 60 per cent of it still comes from the unorganised sector. This sector might struggle as urban consumers lean towards packaged milk from organised dairies. However, these packaged products often contain preservatives that pose health risks, raising questions about their safety. As we mark Milk Day, it's crucial to ensure milk remains accessible and safe for everyone, maintaining its status as a staple in our diet.

Kiara Rao | Mumbai

### **URGENT INVASIVE SPECIES CRISIS**

Madam — Apropos the news story "Invasive species threaten Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary," published on June 9, this is my response. As a daily reader of the newspaper, the ongoing situation at Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS) is profoundly concerning. Invasive species like Senna spectabilis are transforming this once-thriving biodiversity hotspot into a monoculture. The rapid spread of these species has overwhelmed local flora, disrupted the food chain and contributed to a decline in native wildlife,

including tigers and elephants. The Asian elephant's role in dispersing Senna seeds through its dung exemplifies how interconnected and delicate early bedtimes holds more weight than

### **Excitement for T20 clash**

Koy. The Krishshanagar ploy

tally came down from 18 to 11.

Many ministers like Subhash



propos the news story "India Vs Pakistan: Spotlight on NY pitch as steady India take on wounded Pakistan," published on June 8, this is my response. As a regular reader of cricket news, I'm eagerly awaiting the highstakes T20 World Cup clash between India and Pakistan this Sunday. India's confidence contrasts sharply with Pakistan's recent struggles,

highlighted by their shocking defeat to the USA. The newly constructed Nassau County International Cricket Stadium, with its unpredictable pitch, adds an intriguing layer to the

The pitch's uneven bounce has been a major talking point, raising both safety concerns and doubts about its suitability for high-scoring games. Rohit Sharma's injury and his cautious remarks post-Ireland match underline the uncertainty. Pakistan's limited preparation time at the venue could be a significant disadvantage. However, their unpredictability, especially their formidable bowling led by Shaheen Afridi, keeps the contest balanced. India's strategy, possibly including the in-form Kuldeep Yadav, adds another dimension. This game promises to be a fascinating blend of skill, strategy and unpre-

dictability, making it a must-watch event. **Dhruv Chatterjee** | Varanasi

these ecosystems are. The forest department's 1986 decision to plant Senna, although well-intentioned, highlights the importance of thoroughly assessing ecological impacts before introducing new species. The Forest Department's efforts to control Senna are commendable but face significant challenges. Sustainable strategies and community involvement are crucial to restoring Wayanad's ecological balance. This situation serves as a stark reminder of how invasive species can cascade into widespread ecological and economic crises, urging us to approach conservation with greater caution and urgency.

Aditya Gupta | Mysore

### **SLEEP EARLY, STAY HEALTHY**

Madam — Apropos the news story 'Nightbirds, hit the sack early for mental health, longevity," published on June 9, this is my response. As someone who peruses the newspaper daily, I find the new study by Stanford Medicine quite enlightening. Grandma's advice about

ever, transcending our natural sleep preferences, or chronotypes. The research, involving nearly 74,000 adults, reveals that late-night wakefulness correlates with higher rates of mental health disorders, such as depression and anxiety, regardless of being a night owl or a morning person.

The study's unexpected findings challenge the long-held belief that aligning sleep schedules with one's chronotype is key for mental well-being. Instead, the timing of sleep itself is crucial. Those who go to bed early exhibit better mental health outcomes. This discovery emphasises the importance of sleep hygiene and the potential benefits of adopting an earlier bedtime for everyone. Despite the difficulty in altering one's chronotype, strategies like morning sunlight exposure and consistent routines might aid in improving sleep patterns and, subsequently, mental health.

Aarush Mehta | Agra

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneér@gmail.com

## **FIRST COLUMN**

### **FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE OUR ATTITUDES**

Fear and affection stem from experiences shaping human thoughts and emotions



he Mahabharata is one of the greatest epics essayed in the subcontinent, perhaps in the world. It is believed to have been recited by the sage Veda Vyasa with Lord Ganesha himself playing the role of meticulous scribe.

The saga captures variegated attitudes and heterogeneous characteristics of humans in both the gross and subtle form. Human attitudes and standpoints emerge in all shades of the spectrum, rather than in simple black, white and grey.

### Attitude is all

Lord Krishna, an avatar of Lord Vishnu decides to test the waters and mollify the ego, arrogance and anger of the Kaurava scion- Duryodhana. Social influences, overwrought emotions and environmental factors impinge upon human minds. Consequently, individual behavioural patterns become complex and often antipathetic in nature. The mind gets filled with cobwebs and nugatory thoughts and human attitudes towards self and others become ossified.

Duryodhana's mind was prejudiced against his cousins and this attitude was fuelled by his scheming uncle Shakuni, sibling Dushasana and bosom friend and fabled archer, Karna. History is replete with examples of such discriminatory practices. The genocide committed by the Nazis in Germany against the hapless Jewish populace is a singular and extreme example of how prejudice leads to hatred, discrimination and mass extermination of sections of people and humanity.



### Compassion: an efficacious attitude

Aeons ago an estimable Zen Master assembled several monks and novices for vigorous sessions of meditation. During one of these sessions a tutee was caught stealing by his colleagues. The guilty was produced before the Zen Master and all those present demanded that he be expelled from the Temple of Knowledge as an exemplary punishment. The Zen Master ignored the entreaties of the monks.

Once again, the pupil was caught stealing. This angered the assembly of monks who demanded that the culprit recompense the losses he caused so that it had a salutary influence on all the inhabitants of the monastery. The Zen Master, after deep thought, forgave the troubled student, causing dismay among others. He believed the student lacked moral clarity while others had evolved through meditation. "I can't abandon him," the Master said. Touched, the student vowed to change, shedding his thieving ways to become a better person.

The consideration and compassion displayed by the Master was singularly responsible for this change. Psychologists opine that the inclination and slant of humans is immovably wedged in by certain predominant factors like the actor-observer effect arousal by various stimuli, attribution, balance maintained in day-to-day operations.

Likewise, the Zen tutee was overwhelmed by the tenderness and benevolence shown by the Master and he mutated into a better human being by eschewing the act of surreptitious pilferage.

Essentially human beings are social creatures and need to interact with and relate to others. This in turn shapes their attitudes and behavioural patterns. Individual attitudes evolve through a continuous learning process. Xenophobia and fondness are a result of various occurrences and their influence on the human mind. Impression formation takes place in a systematic manner and is exhibited as decent or indecent behaviour. The illustrious American business honcho, Harold S Geneen was to famously say, "Leadership is practiced not so much in words as in attitudes

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

REKHA SHARMA

# Uncertainty prevails after Lok Sabha polls KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

Congress, with its allies, gains strength as Opposition. Modi adapts to a new landscape, reliant on diverse regional satraps for support

he dust has settled and the per-formers are back in their homes as the great election carnival has come to an end. What pervades all over India is a sense of uncertainty and indecisiveness. No political parties have an absolute majority of their own to form the Government though the National Democratic Alliance (also termed as Non Dependable Allies) has nearly 300 MPs, 27 more than the halfway mark. Though the Congress, the main player in the opposition, could not touch the three digit mark, together with its allies, the party

has emerged as a striking force.
While reporting about the Bharat Jodo Yatra undertaken by Rahul Gandhi, The Pioneer had forecast that it was going to be the gamechanger of national politics. The question is whether Rahul could maintain the initial enthusiasm generated by the Yatra. He was handicapped by the absence of a team of leaders who could rise up to his expectations. Better luck next time.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was not his normal self when addressed the party cadre on the day results were announced. Something was missing from his hitherto confident voice and the speech failed to inspire the party ranks, a rare incident in his decade long avatar as Prime Minister. This is not Narendra Modi who is familiar to the electorate. Modi had made a grant entry to New Delhi in 2014 after winning the Lok Sabha election. He had 282 seats of his own and 336 with the support of his alliance partners. The people offered India on a platter to Modi in the 2019 election despite the sustained campaign by a section of the New Delhi media. The BJP on its own won 303 seats while the NDA had 353 seats which made Narendra Modi the monarch of all he surveyed.

But 2024 turned out to be an entirely different scenario. The charismatic, uncompromising and powerful Modi is at the mercy of two regional satraps with national ambitions, Nitish Kumar of JD(U) and Chandrababu Naidu of TDP. Even before the NDA held its first meeting, Kumar and Naidu had put forward a set of demands including conducting the caste census and scrapping the Agniveer Scheme. Equally important is the opposition of these two leaders to the Uniform Civil Code, a dream project of Modi as well as BJP. These are in addition to Naidu's demand for the post of Speaker and four or five berths in ne union cabinet. Nitish too nas demand ed an equal number of berths in the cabinet and that too with the coveted ministries like Railways, Agriculture and Rural

Development. Cut to 2014 when Narendra Modi led the Lok Sabha election campaign for the first time. Television images aired pictures of a sheepish Chandrababu Naidu walking behind Modi throughout the campaign yatra in Andhra Pradesh. Within two or three years, Naidu walked out of the NDA, cursing and abusing Modi. His ire was directed against the Prime Minister's refusal to accord Special Category Status to Andhra Pradesh. He walked over to the Congress camp and declared that his mission was to oust Narendra Modi from the post of Prime Minister as well India. Some media even reported that Naidu is a strong contender for the top post of the country. But the 2019 assembly election shattered Naidu's dreams. Jagan Mohan Reddy, leader of YSR Congress, demolished Naidu in the assembly election with a massive win and was sworn in as chief minister. As part of his



THE UNCERTAINTY **FOLLOWING THE** 2024 ELECTION, WITH NO PARTY SECURING AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY, **UNDERSCORES** THE SHIFTING DYNAMICS AND **CHALLENGES** FACING KEY **POLITICAL** FIGURES LIKE NARENDRA MODI

AND RAHUL

GANDHI

investigation by the Income Tax officials. Naidu faces a series of corruption charges for which he was arrested and imprisoned for months by the Jagan Mohan Reddy Government. When it was time for the 2024 assembly election, Naidu felt the need of support and that was how he cast his lot with BJP and Modi, till then his bête noir. Having got nore than what he aspired for, Naidu has set his eyes on the chair of the Prime Minister. We cannot expect anything better from a person who stabbed his father-in-law N T Rama Rao, the founder of the TDP and usurped the proprietorship of the party.

Nitish Kumar is no different from Chandrababu Naidu. He is emblematic of the Aaya Ram, Gaya Raam phenomenon in Indian politics. Even late Arjit Sen, the ace radio commentator of football and nockey matches may find it tough to describe Nitish's defection from one front to another laced with speed, agility and the Perfect 10 landing. It is not possible to say whether Nitish Kumar would be with the NDA by the time this article goes into press and reach the hands of the readers. Naidu and Nitish are two deceiving crutches and can lead Modi to a "no man's land" with their "dedication". Both TDP and JD(U) are secular

and liberal parties and that settles the issues. Naidu and Nitish have been entrusted with the task of saving secularism from "communal" BJP and once the mission is achieved they would cross over to INDI Alliance, a rainbow alliance launched by Nitish Kumar himself. The BJP is in a Catch-22 situation. Chandrababu Naidu has won Andhra Pradesh assembly election with a brutal majority despite the

sent political imbroglio is BJP's own making. How many of us remember the five day long crisis in Maharashtra when Devendra Fadnavis, the then leader of the opposition was sworn in as chief minister in 2019 with Ajit Pawar (NCP) the chief minister only to make an ignominious exit after four days. Fadnavis and the BJP had termed Ajit Pawar as the embodi-ment of corruption but they found no qualms in forming a coalition Government with him. Despite Ajit Pawar returning to the Pawar Parivar within two days of swearing in as deputy chef minister dumping the BJP, Fadnavis solicited him again and right now the former is back in the Hindutva fold. Fadnavis should have understood the truth that BJP can never compromise with a dynasty party. Having failed to cross the magic figure (having failed to cross the half line mark) in the legislative assembly, the best option for him was to bid his time till the next assembly election or the disintegration of MVA. But he was in a hurry to become the Prime Minister of the country and this forced him to commit the hara-kiri. This reminds us of the kamikaze by Choudhri Charan Singh in 1979 ostensibly to teach the then Prime Minister Morarji Desai a lesson. Choudhri Saheb went down with the Janata ship and could not stage a comeback.

And the most important thing about the 2024 election is another hara kiri by J P Nadda, the BJP president. His declaration that the BJP has no links with the RSS and his outfit is free of "Bhagwa Dhwaj", the flag of the Maratha Empire and emblematic of the followers of Hinduism. Nadda's claim was a cardinal sin because without Bhagwa,

there is no Sanatana Dharma. The saffron is the color of Hinduism and all Sanatana organizations. The disownment of the Bhagva hurt the RSS karyakartas and swayam sevaks forcing them to cry off from the campaign trail. "Our flag was apparently created by Lord Indra himself. The flag carries the saffron color of the Lord. We chose the flag for our kingdom. The flag represents humanity and we need to ensure that we live up to its representation," Shivaji, the great Maratha emperor is quoted as telling his ministers and commanders. It is time for Nadda to move out of the presidency of BJP. He has neither inspired nor enlightened the people through his words and actions. With nothing to show as his credentials, Nadda is a burden for the BJP and Sangh Parivar. The ouster of Naddha is the need of the hour. What the country needs is a leader who is capable of generating oneness and enthusiasm amongst the Hindus. Nadda should read and learn about two gentlemen from South India, K Kamaraj and S Nijalingappa, both former presidents of the Congress and were rated as titans of Indian politics. (It is a sad twist of history that we have only Congress leaders wearing Titan watches made by the House of Tatas!). Nadda is occupying the seat which was once held by the likes of A B Vajpayee, L K Advani and Murli Manohar Joshi. BJP should identify persons with leadership qualities. Nadda has no qualities to be in that chair. The 2024 election has thrown a fractured mandate even as the BJP has emerged as the single largest party. Rahu Gandhi should remember the fight between Bjorn Borg and John McEnroe in the Wimbledon championship. McEnroe was beaten by Borg in a marathon five setter in 1980 but the former came back to claim the championship in 1981 by defeating Borg. Tennis and Politics have a lot of similarities. (The writer is a special correspon-

dent with The Pioneer; views are personal)

## Women lead India's 2024 election transformation

Women's increasing involvement in Indian elections led to nearly equal representation in voter turnout, marking historic progress

**¬**he Lok Sabha 2024 elections in India this year marked the emergence of women as a significant contributor to India's destiny, reflecting 'she' as an important factor in the democratic process. For the first time, women constituted nearly half of the voter turnout, as the electoral gender ratio increased from 928 in 2010 to 948 in 2024. This shift reflects a critical evolution in the democratic process, highlighting women as a decisive voting

### Public Choice Theory and

**Electoral Strategies** According to the public choice theory, as women become a decisive voting bloc, political parties will act in their selfinterest to cater to 'she' needs. So, every political party in India gauged the importance of the female demographic bloc and put concerted efforts to engage female voters. They acknowledged and addressed the unique needs of women through various women-centric welfare schemes and community initiatives such as Ujjwala Yojana, the Swachh Bharat Mission, free bus rides, direct cash transfers and prohibition policies. These initiatives garnered substantial support from female voters, highlighting the electoral impact of gender-focused strategies.

**Beyond Electoral Gains** The implications of these gender-focused strategies extend far beyond immediate electoral

Improved Governance and institutional reforms: The increased competition among

political parties to attract female voters has led to a promise of more responsive and effective governance. Parties are encouraged to deliver more and better pub-

women signify a transformative shift. This shift challenges traditional patriarchal norms and expands the role of women beyond traditional caregiving responsibilities. This progressive attitude promotes economic growth and productivity

Enhancing Capabilities:



"capabilities approach," tioning but also boosts the enhancing women's abilities to overall human development participate politically, socially level of the economy. Studies and economically not only have shown that States with

higher female representation have increased investments in public services such as sanitation, drinking water and education, leading to improved community well-being.

Role Models and Leadership: Women in leadership roles serve as role models, encouraging other women and girls to participate in public life and pursue leadership positions. This self-empowerment breaks down social barriers and fosters more inclusive and repre-

### sentative governance. Vision for

Bharat@2047 The focus on gender empowerment in the 2024 elections is pivotal for achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat@2047, which envisions a developed and inclusive India. Political parties that recognized and

acted upon this cultural shift have positioned themselves on the right side of history, understanding the changing dynamics of Indian democra-

As Indian democracy continues to evolve, the empowerment of women in politics will pave the way for more balanced and equitable institutions, reflecting the true spirit of democracy. This evolution promises a governance system that is more inclusive and effective, ultimately contributing to the nation's development and the fulfillment of its long-term vision.

(The writer is Associate Professor Department of Economics Sri Guru Gobind Singh College of Commerce, University of Delhi; views are

lic services, welfare programs; thereby improving overall welfare. This may also lead to institutional and legal reforms that protect and promote rights of women. Challenging Patriarchal Norms: Rising literacy and civic participation among

# '274 killed in Israeli raid that rescued 4 hostages'

**AP** ■ DEIR-AL-BALAH

t least 274 Palestinians Awere killed and hundreds more were wounded in the Israeli raid that rescued four hostages held by Hamas, Gaza's Health Ministry said Sunday. The military said its forces came under heavy fire during the complex daytime operation deep inside the ter-

The killing of so many Palestinians, including women and children, in a raid that Israelis celebrated as a stunning success because all four hostages were rescued alive, showed the heavy cost of such operations on top of the already soaring toll of the 8month-long war ignited by Hamas' October 7 attack.

Scores of hostages are believed to be held in densely populated areas or inside Hamas' labyrinth of tunnels, making rescue attempts extremely complex and risky. A similar raid in February rescued two hostages while leaving 74 Palestinians dead.

The operation deep into Nuseirat, a built-up refugee camp in central Gaza dating back to the 1948 Arab-Israeli war, was the largest rescue since October 7, when Hamas and other militants stormed across the border, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and taking around 250

Israel launched a massive offensive that has killed over 36,700 Palestinians, according to the ministry, which does not differentiate between civilians and combatants in its

It said nearly 700 people were wounded in Saturday's raid. The ministry did not say how many of the casualties were women and children, but Associated Press reporters saw several being treated at Al-Aqsa Martyrs Hospital in the nearby town of Deir al-Balah in the aftermath of the

'MY BROTHER DIED OF GRIEF'

Israelis celebrated the return of Noa Argamani, 26; Almog Meir Jan, 22; Andrey Kozlov, 27; and Shlomi Ziv, 41, after Israeli forces raided two locations at once while under fire. Argamani was one of the most widely recognised hostages after being taken, like the three others, from a music festival. The video of her abduction showed her seated between two men on a motorcycle as she screamed, "Don't kill me!" Her mother, Liora, who has brain cancer, had released a video pleading to see her daughter. Israel's Channel 13 said Argamani was moved to the hospital where her mother is treated. Meir Jan's aunt, Dina, said his father had died on Friday, hours before the operation. "My brother died of grief, and he didn't get to see Almog return," she told Israel's Kan public broadcaster. Dr. Itai Pessach, a physician at Sheba Hospital where the freed captives were being treated, said none had serious physical injuries but that it would likely be days before they could be discharged. "A lot of them have lost friends and family. Things happened in these eight months that they weren't here. So (medical staff) have been assisting them in rebuilding the infrastructure of their life," he told reporters. SCENES OF HORROR AT

GAZA HOSPITAL In Gaza, medics described scenes of chaos after Saturday's raid as wounded people overwhelmed hospitals that were already struggling to treat the wounded from days of heavy Israeli strikes in the area. "We had the gamut of war wounds, trauma wounds, from amputations to eviscerations to trauma, to TBIs (traumatic brain injuries), fractures, and obviously, big burns," said Karin Huster of Doctors Without Borders, an international charity working in Al-Aqsa Martyrs under heavy fire as they Hospital, one of the facilities moved out, including from that received dead and

"Kids completely grey or white

from the shock, burnt, screaming for their parents. Many of them are not screaming because they are in shock." The Israeli military said it had attacked "threats to our forces in the area," and that a special forces officer was killed in the

rescue operation.

Israel's military spokesman, Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari, told reporters Saturday that the hostages were being held in two apartments, about 200 meters (219 yards) away from each other, in the heart of the Nuseirat camp. He said the forces had trained repeatedly on a model of the apartment

Hagari said the forces moved in simultaneously in broad daylight on both apartments, believing this ensured the best element of surprise. But he said the rescuers came

moved out, including from gunmen firing rocket-propelled grenades from within the neighborhood. He said the military responded with heavy force, including from aircraft, to extract the rescuers and

freed hostages. Israel's Foreign Minister Israel Katz lashed out at critics of the operation in a post on X, saying "only Israel's enemies complained about the casualties of Hamas terrorists and their accomplices?

### **AROUND 120 HOSTAGES** STILL MISSING

Of the 250 hostages abducted on Oct. 7, about half were released in a weeklong ceasefire in November. About 120 hostages remain, with 43 pronounced dead. Survivors include about 15 women, two children under 5 and two men in their 80s. Saturday's operation brought the total number of rescued hostages to seven, including one who was freed shortly after the October attack. Israeli troops have recovered the bodies of at least 16 others, according to the government.

The latest rescue lifted some spirits in Israel as divisions deepened over the best way to bring hostages home. Many Israelis urge Netanyahu to embrace a cease-fire deal U.S. President Joe Biden announced last month, but far-right allies threaten to collapse his government if he does. Thousands of Israelis again gathered Saturday night to protest the government and call for a cease-fire agreement.US Secretary of State Antony Blinken will return to the Middle East this week, seeking a breakthrough. International pressure is mounting on Israel to limit civilian bloodshed in its war in Gaza. Palestinians also face widespread hunger because fighting and Israeli restrictions have largely cut off the flow of

### Haiti's new **Prime min** hospitalized

Port-Au-Prince (AP): Haiti's newly selected prime minister, Garry Conille, was hospitalised late Saturday in the capital of Port-au-Prince just days after arriving in the country, an official told The Associated Press. It wasn't immediately known why Conille was hospitalised. Louis Gérald Gilles, a member of the transitional presidential council that recently chose Conille as leader of the troubled Caribbean country, said he was en route to the hospital and did not have further information.

A spokesman for Conille did not immediately return a mes-

sage for comment. AP journalists observed high ranking officials entering the hospital, including Frantz Elbé, director of Haiti's National Police. Also present was Bruno Maes, UNICEF's representative in Haiti. They representative in Haiti. They both declined comment. A handful of curious onlook

ers gathered outside the hospital as authorities blocked the street with tinted-glass SUVs. Conille was chosen as prime minister May 28 after a convoluted selection process. He faces an arduous task as Haiti's newest leader, including quelling widespread gang violence as the country prepares for the U.N.-backed deployment of a Kenyan police force, a move that was delayed in part because Haiti lacked a premier after former Prime Minister Ariel Henry stepped down April 25.

Henry was on an official visit to Kenya when gangs launched coordinated attacks Feb. 29, burning police stations, shooting at the country's main international airport and storming Haiti's two biggest prisons, releasing more than 4,000 inmates. The violence left Henry locked out of the country and eventually led to his resignation. Conille arrived in Haiti on June 1, having worked outside the country until recently as UNICEF's regional director for Latin America and the Caribbean, a post he assumed in January 2023. He previously served as Haiti's prime

## Houthi rebels claim latest attack on cargo ship in Gulf of Aden

missile attack by Yemen's AHouthi rebels hit an Antigua- and Barbuda-flagged cargo ship in the Gulf of Aden, the latest assault on shipping in the region.

The missile hit the ship's forward station late Saturday, starting a fire that those on board later put out, the private security firm Ambrey said. A second missile fired at the ship missed and people "on board small boats in the vicinity opened fire on the ship during the incident," Ambrey added, though no one was hurt onboard. The British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations centre similarly reported the attack and fire in the same area off Aden, saying "damage control is underway." Houthi military spokesman Brig. Gen. Yahya Saree claimed the attack in a prerecorded video message Sunday, saying the vessel had been targeted with both mis-

siles and drones. He identified the vessel as the Norderney, a ship that tracking data analysed by The Associated Press showed was still in the Gulf of Saree also claimed unreported

Aden on Sunday afternoon. attacks on a warship and another vessel in the Arabian Sea, without providing any evidence to support his claim. The Houthis have exaggerated some of their attacks since launching their campaign.

The Houthis, who seized Yemen's capital nearly a decade ago and have been fighting a Saudi-led coalition since shortly after, have been targeting shipping throughout the Red Sea corridor over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. They say the attacks are aimed at stopping the war and sup-porting the Palestinians, though the attacks often target vessels that have nothing to do with the conflict.

The war in Gaza has killed more than 36,000 Palestinians there, while hundreds of oth-

ers have been killed in Israeli operations in the West Bank. It began after Hamas-led militants attacked Israel on Oct. 7 killing about 1,200 people and taking around 250 hostage. The Houthis have launched more than 50 attacks on shipping, killed three sailors, seized one vessel and sunk another since November, according to U.S. Maritime Administration. A U.S.-led airstrike campaign has targeted the Houthis since January,

with a series of strikes May 30 killing at least 16 people and wounding 42 others, the rebels say. But while gaining more attention internationally, the secretive group has cracked down at dissent at home. Eleven Yemeni employees of United Nations agencies and others working for aid groups have been detained by the Houthis under unclear circumstances, as the rebels face increasing financial pressure and airstrikes from the U.S.-led

## Aid delivered to Gaza from newly repaired US-built pier: US official

Washington (AP): Badly needed aid has been delivered into Gaza from a newly repaired American-built pier, a U.S. official said Saturday, following problems that had plagued the effort to bring supplies to Palestinians by sea. The pier constructed by the American military was only operational for about a week before it was blown apart in high winds and heavy seas on May 25. The damaged section was reconnected to the beach in Gaza on Friday after undergoing repairs at an Israeli port.

Crews delivered about 1.1 million pounds (492 metric tons) of humanitarian aid to Gaza via the pier on Saturday, the U.S. official said. They spoke on condition of anonymity ahead of an official announcement of the delivery

It came the same day that Israel mounted a heavy air and ground assault that rescued four hostages, who had been taken by Hamas during the the war in Gaza. At least 210 Palestinians, including children, were killed, a Gaza health official said. It brings back online one way to get desperately needed food and other emergency supplies to Palestinians trapped by the eight-month-old Israel-Hamas war. Israeli restrictions on land crossings, and fighting, have greatly limited the flow of food and other vital supplies into the territory.

The damage to the pier was the latest stumbling block for the project and the persistent strug-gle to get food to starving Palestinians. Three U.S. service members were injured, one critically, and four vessels were beached due to heavy seas. Early efforts to get aid from the pier into the Gaza Strip were disrupted as crowds overran a convoy of trucks that aid agencies were using to transport the food, stripping the cargo from many of them before they could reach a U.N. warehouse.

Officials responded by altering

the travel routes, and aid began reaching those in need. Vice Adm. Brad Cooper, deputy commander of U.S. Central Command, told

reporters on Friday that the lessons learned from that initial week of operations made him confident greater amounts of aid could be delivered now. He said the goal was to get to 1 million pounds (500 tons or 450 metric tons) of food and other supplies moving through the pier into Gaza every two days. Before the causeway broke apart in the storm, more than 1,100 tons (1,000 metric tons) of aid were delivered, Pentagon officials said. The U.S. Agency for International Development is working with the U.N. World Food Program and their humanitarian partners working in Gaza to distribute food, high-nutrition emergency treatment for starving children, and other aid via the sea route. Relief agencies have pressed Israel to reopen land routes that could bring in

has allowed hundreds of trucks to enter through a southern checkpoint and pointed the finger at the U.N. for not distributing aid. The U.N. says it is often unable to retrieve the aid because of the security situa-U.N. agencies have warned that over 1 million Palestinians

all the needed aid. Israel says it

highest level of starvation by the middle of next month if hostilities continue. President Joe Biden's administration has said from the start that the pier wasn't meant to be

in Gaza could experience the

a total solution and that any amount of aid helps. Biden, a Democrat, announced his plan for the U.S. military to build a pier during his State of the Union address in early March, and the military said it

would take about 60 days to get it installed and operational. It took a bit longer than planned with the first trucks carrying minister from October 2011 aid for the Gaza Strip rolling down the pier on May 17. to May 2012 under then President Michel Martelly.

## appeals for urgent aid for Gaza

Pope Francis

Vatican City (AP): Pone Francis called Sunday for humanitarian aid to urgently reach Palestinians in Gaza and for Israel and Hamas to immediately accept proposals for a cease-fire and release of hostages. During his Sunday noon blessing, Francis also thanked Jordan, which this week will host an international humanitarian aid confer-

"I encourage the international community to act urgently, with all means, to come to the aid of the people of Gaza, worn out by the war," he said. "Humanitarian aid must be allowed to reach those in need, and no one can impede it.

ence for Palestinians.

He recalled that Saturday marked the 10-year anniversary of a peace prayer he hosted in the Vatican gardens, attended by then-Israeli President Shimon Peres and Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas

## Body of missing British TV presenter Mosley found on Greek island

**AP ATHENS** 

The body of missing British TV presenter Michael Mosley was found on a Greek island Sunday morning after a days-long search. A police spokesman, who

spoke on condition of anonymity because of an ongoing investigation, said a body was found on a rocky coast by a private boat and that formal identification was pending. Mosley's family confirmed his death Sunday.

Mosley's wife said in a statement that her husband took the wrong route on a hike and collapsed in a place where his body couldn't easily be seen. Mosley went missing on the island of Symi on Wednesday afternoon. "Michael was an adventurous man, it's part of what made him so special," Dr. Clare Bailey Mosley said. "It's devastating to have lost mayor said that Mosley Michael, my wonderful, funny, appeared to have fallen down

together. We loved each other very much and were so happy together."

She thanked the people of the island of Symi, who she said worked tirelessly to find him. "Some of these people on the island, who hadn't even heard of Michael, worked from dawn till dusk unasked," she said, "My family and I have been hugely comforted by the outpouring of love from people from around the world. It's clear that Michael meant a huge amount to so many of you." Lefteris Papakalodoukas, the island's mayor, told The Associated Press he was on the boat with members of the media representatives when they saw a body some 20 metres above the Agia Marina beach. "We zoomed with the cameras and saw it was him," he said. The

kind and brilliant husband. a steep slope, stopping against a few rocks on top of it. Mosley, 67, was well-known in

Britain for his regular appearances on television and radio and his column in the Daily Mail newspaper. He was known outside the UK for his 2013 book "The Fast Diet," which he co-authored with journalist Mimi Spencer. The book proposed the so-called "5:2 diet," which promised to help people lose weight quickly by minimising their calorie intake two days a week while eating healthily on the other five. He subsequently introduced a rapid weight loss program and made a number of films about diet and exercise. Mosley often pushed his body to extreme lengths to see the effects of his diets and also lived with tapeworms in his guts for six weeks for the BBC documentary "Infested! Living With

## Voting in 20 EU countries under way as polls for European Parl enters final day

**AP** ■ BRUSSELS

Tens of millions across the L'European Union voted Sunday in EU parliamentary elections in a massive exercise of democracy that is expected to shift the bloc to the right and redirect its future. The war in Ukraine, migration, and the impact of climate policy on farmers are some of the issues weighing on voters' minds as they cast ballots to elect 720 members of the European Parliament.

Surveys suggest that mainstream and pro-European parties will retain their majority in parliament, but they will lose seats to hard right parties like those led by Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni, Hungarian leader Viktor Orban, Geert Wilders in the Netherlands and Marine Le Pen in France.

That would make it harder for Europe to pass legislation and biggest trading bloc.

and that Europe will somehow remain united," voter Laura Simon said in Berlin. EU lawmakers have a say in issues from financial rules to

climate and agriculture poli-cy. They approve the EU budget, which bankrolls priorities including infrastructure projects, farm subsidies and aid delivered to Ukraine. And they hold a veto over the appointment of the powerful EU commission.

This elections come at a testing time for voter confidence in a bloc of some 450 million people. Over the last five years, the EU has been shaken by the coronavirus pandemic, an economic slump and an energy crisis fuelled by the biggest land conflict in Europe since the Second

issues of concern in individ-"I do hope that we will man ual countries rather than on age to avoid a shift to the right broader European interests.

> Sunday's voting marathon winds up a four-day election cycle that began in the Netherlands on Thursday. An unofficial exit poll there suggested that Wilders' antimigrant hard right party would make important gains

in the Netherlands, even though a coalition of pro-European parties has probably pushed it into second place. Casting his vote in the Flanders region, Belgian Prime Minister Alexander De Croo, whose country holds the EU's rotating presidency until the end of the month, warned that Europe is "at a crossroads" and "more under pressure than ever."

Since the last EU election in 2019, populist or far-right parties now lead governments

could at times paralyse deci- World War. But political cam- in three nations — Hungary, part of ruling coalitions in others including Sweden, Finland and, soon, the Netherlands. the populists an advantage in France, Belgium, Austria and

"Right is good," Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban, who leads a stridently nationalist and anti-migrant government, told reporters after casting his ballot. "To go right is always good. Go right!"

After the election comes a period of horse-trading, as political parties reconsider in their places in the continentwide political alliances that run the European legislature. The biggest political group the centre-right European People's Party (EPP) — has moved right during the present elections on issues like security, climate and migra-

### **Trump to hold outdoor Las** Vegas rally in scorching heat

Las Vegas (AP): Former President Donald Trump's campaign is hiring extra medics, loading up on fans and water bottles and allowing supporters to carry umbrellas to an outdoor rally Sunday in Las Vegas, where temperatures are expected to exceed 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37.8 degrees Celsius). Trump is returning to

Nevada, one of the top battleground states in the November election, for his second rally since he was found guilty in a hush-money scandal. unprecedented conviction of a former president has juiced Trump's fundraising and galvanised his supporters, but it remains to be seen whether it will sway swing voters. Temperatures in the Southwest have cooled since reaching historic highs late last week but remain above normal for this

time of year and are expected

to top 100 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) by the time Trump is scheduled to begin speaking around noon. His rally is at a park with little shade next to the airport.

Campaign organisers say they will have ample water bottles to hand out to attendees and that cooling tents will be place throughout the venue. Misting fans will be given out. The campaign has paid for

additional EMS services to be on site in the case of emergency. The US Secret Service will be making an exception to allow people to bring in personal water bottles and and umbrellas.

During a Trump rally in Arizona on Thursday, the Phoenix Police Department said 11 people were transported to hospitals, treated and released for heat exhaustion. Many Trump's supporters waited in line for hours and

some were unable to get inside before the venue reached capacity. The temperature reached a record 113 degrees Fahrenheit (45 degrees Celsius) that day Trump's Nevada rally, his third

in the state this year, comes on the tail end of a Western swing that included several highdollar fundraisers where he was expected to rake in millions of dollars. Democrat Hillary Clinton won Nevada in 2016 as did President Joe Biden in 2020, but Nevada was the only battleground state where Trump did better against Biden than Clinton. In the 2022 midterms, Nevada Gov. Steve Sisolak, a Democrat, was the only incumbent governor who did not win reelection. Trump hopes his strength among working-class voters and growing interest from Latinos will push him to victory in the

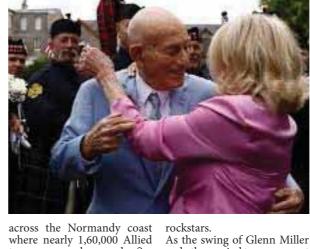
### **Vet, 100, marries bride, 96, near Normandy's D-Day beaches AP** ■ FRANCE

Together, the collective age of the bride and groom was nearly 200. But World War II veteran Harold Terens and his sweetheart Jeanne Swerlin proved that love is eternal as they tied the knot Saturday inland of the D-Day beaches in Normandy, France.

Their respective ages — he's 100, she's a youngster of just 96 made their nuptials an almost double-century celebration.

Terens called it "the best day of my life". On her way into the nuptials, the bubbly bride-tobe said: "It's not just for young people, love, you know? We get butterflies. And we get a little action, also."The location was the elegant stone-worked town hall of Carentan, a key initial D-Day objective that saw ferocious fighting after the June 6, 1944, Allied landings that helped rid Europe of Adolf

Hitler's tyranny. Like other towns and villages



where nearly 1,60,000 Allied troops came ashore under fire on five code-named beaches, it's an effervescent hub of remembrance and celebration on the 80th anniversary of the deeds and sacrifices of young men and women that day, festooned with flags and bunting and with veterans feted like

and other period tunes rang out on the streets, well-wishers some in WWII-period clothes were already lined up a good hour before the wedding, behind barriers outside the town hall, with a rousing pipe and drum band also on hand to serenade the happy couple.

After both declaring "oui" to vows read by Carentan's mayor in English, the couple exchanged rings. "With this ring, I thee wed,"

She giggled and gasped, "Really?" With Champagne flutes in hand, they waved through an open window to the adoring crowds outside. "To everybody's good health.

Terens said.

And to peace in the world and the preservation of democracy all over the world and the end of the war in Ukraine and Gaza." Terens said as he and his bride then clinked glasses and drank.

The crowd yelled "la mariée!" the bride! — to Swerlin, who wore a long flowing dress of vibrant pink. Terens looked dapper in a light blue suit and matching pink kerchief in his breast pocket.

And they enjoyed a very special wedding-night party: They were invited to the state dinner at the Elysee Palace on Saturday with President night

Emmanuel Macron and U.S President Joe Biden. "Congratulations to the newly-

weds," Macron said, prompting cheers and a standing ovation from other guests during the toast praising French-American friendship. "(The town of) Carentan was happy to host your wedding, and us, your wedding dinner," he told the couple.
The wedding was symbolic, not binding in law. Mayor Jean-

Pierre Lhonneur's office said he wasn't empowered to wed foreigners who aren't residents of Carentan, and that the couple, who are both American, hadn't requested legally binding vows. However, they could always complete those formalities back in Florida if they wished.Lhonneur likes to say that Normandy is practically the 51st state of the ÛSA, given its reverence and gratitude for Allied soldiers and the sacrifices of tens of thousands who never made it home from the Battle of Normandy.

## Seoul to restart anti-Pyongyang loudspeaker broadcasts over North's trash balloons

 $S_{\text{Sunday}}$  it would resume anti-North Korean propaganda loudspeaker broadcasts in border areas in retaliation to the North sending over 1000 balloons filled with trash and manure over the last couple of weeks. The move is certain to anger Pyongyang and potentially prompt it to take retaliatory military steps, and adds to tensions between the wardivided rivals amid a diplomatic stalemate over the North's nuclear ambitions.

Following an emergency security meeting led by South Korean national security director Chang Ho-jin on Sunday, officials decided to install and begin the loudspeaker broadcasts, Seoul's presidential office said in a statement.

Chang and other South Korean

Pyongyang for attempting to cause "anxiety and disruption" in South Korea and stressed that North Korea would be "solely responsible" for any future escalation of tensions between the Koreas.

The North said its campaign came after South Korean activists sent over balloons filled with anti-North Korean leaflets, as well as USB sticks filled with popular South Korean songs and dramas which Pyongyang is extremely sensitive to as it fears it could demoralise front-line troops and residents and eventually weaken leader Kim Jong Un's grip on power, analysts say. With the loudspeakers, South Korea may blare anti-Pyongyang broadcasts, K-pop songs and outside news across the rivals' heavily armed bor-

der. In 2015, when South Korea

casts for the first time in 11 years, North Korea fired artillery rounds across the border, prompting South Korea to return fire, according to South Korean officials. No casualties were reported.

Last week, as tensions spiked over the trash-carrying balloons, South Korea also suspended a 2018 tension-easing agreement with North Korea. allowing it to resume propaganda campaigns and possibly restart live-fire military exercises in border areas.

South Korean Defence Minister Shin Won-sik in a meeting with top military commanders called for thorough preparation against the possibility that the North responds to the loudspeaker broadcasts with direct military action, the South Korean Defence Ministry said in a statement. However, the



ministry didn't immediately confirm whether the loudspeaker broadcasts had started as of Sunday afternoon.

North Korea continued to fly hundreds of balloons into South Korea over the weekend, a third such campaign since late May, the South's military said. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of launching around 330 balloons toward the South since Saturday night and about 80 were found in South Korean territory as of Sunday morning. The military said winds were blowing eastward on Saturday night, which possibly caused many balloons to float away from South Korean territory. The South's military said the trash, including plastic and paper waste, but no hazardous substances were discovered. The military, which has mobilised chemical rapid response and explosive clearance units to retrieve the North Korean balloons and materials, alerted the public to beware of falling objects and not to touch balloons found on the ground

but report them to police or

military authorities.

In North Korea's previous two rounds of balloon activities. South Korean authorities discovered about 1,000 balloons that were tied to vinyl bags containing manure, cigarette butts, scraps of cloth, waste batteries and waste paper. Some were popped and scattered on roads, residential areas and schools. No highly dangerous materials were found and no major damage has been reported.

ister, Kim Kang Il, later said his country would stop the balloon campaign but threatened to resume it if South Korean activists sent leaflets again. In defiance of the warning, a South Korean civilian group led by North Korean defector Park Sang-hak, said it launched 10 balloons from a border town on Thursday carrying 200,000 anti-North Korean leaflets, USB sticks with K-pop songs and K-dramas, and USD 1 US bills. South Korean media reported another activist group also flew balloons with 200,000 propaganda leaflets toward North Korea on Friday.

Kim in recent years has waged an intensifying campaign to eliminate South Korean cultural and language influences. In January, Kim declared the North would abandon its longstanding goal of a peaceful unirewrite its constitution to cement the South as a permanent enemy. Experts say Kim's efforts to reinforce the North's separate identity may be aimed at strengthening the Kim family's dynastic rule. North Korea's balloon campaign is also possibly meant to cause a divide in South Korea over its conservative government's hard-line approach to North Korea. Liberal lawmakers, some civic groups and front-line residents in South Korea have called on the government to urge leafleting activists to stop flying bal-loons to avoid unnecessary clashes with North Korea. But government officials haven't made such an appeal in line with last year's constitutional court ruling that struck down a law criminalising an anti-North Korea leafletting as a

# Iran OKs six candidates for presidential race

## **Blocks Ahmadinejad again**

**AP** ■ DUBAI

Iran's Guardian Coun-Sunday approved the counran's Guardian Council on try's hard-line parliament speaker and five others to run in the country's June 28 presidential election following a helicopter crash that killed President Ebrahim Raisi and seven others. The council again barred former President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, a firebrand populist known for the crackdown that followed his disputed 2009 re-election, from running.

The council's decision represents the starting gun for a shortened, two-week campaign to replace Raisi, a hardline protege of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei once floated as a possible successor for the 85vear-old cleric.

The selection of candidates approved by the Guardian Council, a panel of clerics and jurists ultimately overseen by Khamenei, suggests Iran's Shiite theocracy hopes to ease

the election through after recent votes saw record-low turnout and as tensions remain high over the country's rapidly advancing nuclear program, as well as the Israel-Hamas war.

The Guardian Council also continued its streak of not accepting a woman or anyone calling for radical change to the country's governance.

The campaign likely will include live, televised debates by the candidates on Iran's state-run broadcaster. They also advertise on billboards and offer stump speeches to back their bids.

So far, none of them has offered any specifics, though all have promised a better economic situation for the country as it suffers from sanctions by the US and other Western nations over its nuclear program, which now enriches uranium closer than ever to weapons-grade levels. Such matters of state remain the final decision of Khamenei, but presidents in

the past have leaned either toward engagement or con-frontation with the West over it. The most prominent candidate remains Mohammed Bagher Qalibaf, 62, a former Tehran mayor with close ties to the country's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard However, many remember that Qalibaf, as a former Guard general, was part of a violent crackdown on Iranian university students in 1999. He also reportedly ordered live gunfire to be used against students in 2003 while serving as the country's police chief. Qalibaf ran unsuccessfully for president in 2005 and 2013. He withdrew from the 2017 presidential campaign to support Raisi in his first failed presidential bid. Raisi won the 2021 election, which had the lowest turnout ever for a presidential vote in Iran, after every major opponent found

themselves disqualified. Khamenei gave a speech last week alluding to qualities that Qalibaf's supporters have highlighted as potentially sig-nalling the supreme leader's support for the speaker. Yet

may be viewed differently after years of unrest that have gripped Iran, both over its ailing economy and the mass protests sparked by the 2022 death of Mahsa Amini, a young woman who died after being arrested for allegedly not wearing her headscarf, or hijab, to the liking of security forces. The Guardian Council disqualified Ahmadinejad, the firebrand, Holocaust-questioning former president. Ahmadinejad increasingly challenged Khamenei toward the end of his term and is remembered for the bloody crackdown on the 2009 Green Movement protests. He was

election by the panel. The election comes at a time of heightened tensions between Iran and the West over its arming of Russia in that country's war on Ukraine. Its support of militia proxy forces throughout the wider Middle East has been increasingly in the spotlight as Yemen's Houthi rebels attack ships in the Red Sea over the Israel-Hamas war in the

also disqualified in the last

## Ukraine strikes one of Russia's most advanced warplanes

Ukraine on Sunday said its forces hit an ultra-modern Russian warplane stationed on an air base nearly 600 kilometers (370 miles) from the front lines, after its Western allies allowed Kyiv to use their weapons for limited strikes inside Russia.

Kyiv's main military intelligence service shared satellite photos it said showed the aftermath of the attack. If confirmed, it would mark Ukraine's first known successful strike on a Su-57 fighter plane, a twin-engine stealth fighter lauded as Moscow's most advanced military air-

In one photo, black soot marks and small craters can be seen dotting a concrete strip around the parked aircraft. According to the Main Intelligence Directorate of Ukraine's Ministry of Defense, the strike took place on Saturday at the Akhtubinsk base in southern Russia, some 589 kilometers (366 miles) from the front line. It wasn't immediately clear what weapons were used, but the airfield's distance from Ukraine suggests that it was likely hit by drones. The strike comes after the

recently authorized Ukraine to hit some targets on Russian soil with the long-range weapons they are supplying to Kyiv. Ukraine has already used U.S. weapons to strike inside Russia under newly approved guidance from President Joe Biden that allows American arms to be used for the limited purpose of defending Kharkiv, Ukraine's secondlargest city.

The Ukrainian agency said that the plane, which is capable of carrying stealth missiles across hundreds of kilometers (miles), was among "a countable few" of its type in Moscow's arsenal. According to reports by Russian agencies, Moscow's armed forces obtained "more than 10" new Su-57s last year, while 76 are set to be produced by 2028. Moscow did not immediately

comment on the reports. Russia's Defense Ministry on Saturday claimed its forces downed three Ukrainian drones in the Astrakhan region, home to the Akhtubinsk Since Moscow's full-scale inva-

sion more than two years ago, Kyiv has ramped up domestic drone production and used the drones to strike deep inside Russia, including a gas terminal near St. Petersburg that lies over 1,000 kilometres (620 miles) north of the Ukrainian border. Elsewhere, Ukrainian forces kept up drone attacks on Russia's southern border regions, according to local Russian officials.

Three drones hit Belgorod province late on Saturday, damaging a power line and blowing out windows but causing no casualties, said Gov. Vyacheslav Gladkov. The Russian Defense Ministry said another drone was shot down over the nearby Bryansk region.

Across Ukraine's front-line provinces, Russian shelling killed at least three civilians and wounded at least nine others on Saturday and overnight, according to reports by regional officials. A man died and two women suffered wounds in the village of Khotimla in Ukraine's northeastern Kharkiv region, where shelling damaged the local school, a council building and a shop, Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said.

Heavy battles continue in the area as Ukrainian troops try to beat back Russia's invading forces after a weekslong push by Moscow that sparked fears for Kharkiv and a wave of civilian evacuations.

### **Cargo ship hit** by missile in **Gulf of Aden**

violation of free speech.

AP DUBAI

A missile struck an Antigua and Barbuda-flagged cargo ship in the Gulf of Aden on Sunday in a suspected attack by Houthi rebels in Yemen, authorities said.

The missile hit the ship's forward station, starting a fire that those on board later put out, the private security firm Ambrey said. A second missile fired at the ship missed and people "on board small boats in the vicinity opened fire on the

ship during the incident," Ambrey added, though no one was hurt onboard. The British military's United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center similarly reported an attack late Saturday in the same area off Aden, but provided no further details. Suspicion for the attack immediately fell on the Houthis. The rebels did not immediately claim the assault, though it can sometimes take hours or even days for them to acknowledge their attacks. The Houthis, who seized Yemen's capital nearly a decade ago and have been fighting a Saudi-led coalition since shortly after, have been targeting shipping throughout the Red Sea corri-

dor over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. They say the

## Pak, IMF disagree over new income tax rates

**AP** ■ ISLAMABAD

Talks between Pakistan and ■ the IMF have ended inconclusively due to a disagreement over new income tax rates for salaried and non-salaried persons and the imposition of a standard 18 per cent sales tax on agriculture and health sector goods, according to a media report on Sunday.

On Friday, Pakistan and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) authorities discussed the outstanding issues related to taxation and the energy sec-

Citing sources, the Express Tribune newspaper reported that both sides could not resolve their differences on the income tax threshold, the merger of salaried and nonsalaried rates and the maximum income tax rate for individuals. Discussions are revolving around whether to charge a new backbreaking 45 per cent income tax from salaried and non-salaried individuals on a

monthly income of just over Pakistani Rs 4,67,000, sources said. At present, the maximum rate of 35 per cent applies to a monthly income of over Pakistani Rs 5,00,000. However, both sides have con-

verged on the issue of increasing the income tax burden on exporters in the next budget who paid a paltry sum of Pakistani Rs 86 billion this year, which is 280 per cent less than the taxes paid by the salaried people. Pakistan also showed a willingness to tax pensions beyond a certain income threshold.

In the latest talks, the international money lender insisted on merging the slabs related to salaried, non-salaried and other incomes.

On the government's proposal of increasing the annual threshold of taxable income to Pakistani Rs 9,00,000, the IMF is asking for the maximum income tax rate to be increased from 35 per cent to 45 per cent. However, the government is category.

unwilling to increase the max imum rate for salaried individuals to 45 per cent but showed flexibility to keep the taxable income threshold at the current Pakistani Rs 6,00,000.

It is also asking to keep the salaried and non-salaried slabs separate but is willing to increase the highest tax rate for non-salaried persons to 45 per cent, said the sources.

The non-salaried business individuals pay tax after excluding expenses while the salaried persons pay tax on their gross income without excluding the expenses.

Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif is until now unwilling to increase the burden on the salaried class. According to a proposal, if the taxable income threshold is increased to Pakistani Rs 900,000 per annum, the income tax rate can be up to 7.5 per cent on a monthly income of Pakistani Rs 100,000. The current rate is 2.5 per cent for this

## 'Imran major hurdle in reconciliation'

Pister Nawaz Sharif has said his successor Imran Khan was the main hurdle in political reconciliation in the country and underscored the ruling PML-N party's commitment to dialogue and not indulging in vengeance, according to media

reports. Sharif's remarks came during a meeting with party senators on Friday evening, where the issue of negotiations with Khan's Pakistan Tehreek e Insaf (PTI) party was extensively discussed. Sharif, the President of the ruling Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party, said that Khan, also a former prime minister, himself was not displaying seriousness in the negotiation process, which posed a significant challenge to fruitful discussions. He questioned the feasibility of negotiations when one party involved was not committed to the process. "How can one negotiate when he is not serious?" Nawaz responded to the party lawmakers. Sharif, 74, referenced past instances where Khan had minister said that he did not sation policy, taxes, developrejected offers of friendship, even think about it as Khan is mental programme," the report dicating a pattern of refu tance to engage in constructive dialogue. "I travelled to Bani Gala (Imran Khan's house) myself. Our sincerity is considered our weakness," the former premier stressed.

To underscore the importance of dialogue despite political differences, Nawaz cited the example of his meeting with the late premier Benazir Bhutto, despite facing staunch opposition. Since he did not believe in political vengeance, he and ex-premier Benazir Bhutto had signed the Charter of Democracy, the PML-N

president added. Sharif said he had no political vengeance or grudge against anyone, even those who had attempted to keep him out of

power in the past. "I am not the person who takes political revenge," Nawaz Sharif said. The PML-N president said that during Khan's tenure, he was threatened to get his prison cell's AC removed. However, he said he did not believe in political vengeance.

Khan has repeatedly said he would hold talks with the "real stakeholders" only. Khan has accused the PML-N of stealing his party's mandate to form the government with the Pakistan Peoples Party.

### **PAKISTAN PEOPLES PARTY VOICES CONCERNS**

Meanwhile, the Pakistan Peoples Party has said it was not consulted by the ruling PML-N-led government on the upcoming federal budget despite being a coalition partner, according to a media report on Sunday.

The Pakistan government will likely present the budget for the financial year 2024-25 on June 12. The government, led by Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif's Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) party, "neither told us anything related to the budget nor took us into confidence," Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) leader Syed Khurshid Ahmed Shah said. "We don't know what the In fact, the three-time prime PML-N is doing about privati-

February 8 general elections marred with massive rigging allegations, the PML-N and PPP formed a coalition government after intense negotiations following a fractured poll verdict. Asserting that the Bilawal Bhutto-led PPP does not know anything about relief, Shah said that he's unaware whether the government is making the budget or if the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) budget is being imposed. Underscoring the need for the inclusion of the PPP's proposals in the budget, he said, "People will ask us what have we done. Will we tell them that we don't even know about it?' Shah further said that the party will have to scrutinise politically the decisions to be made about the budget. On Wednesday, Minister of State for Finance Ali Pervaiz Malik said the budget would be tabled on June 12 and added that its schedule was changed due to Prime Minister Sharif's ongoing visit to China.

attacks are aimed at stopping the war and supporting the Palestinians, though the attacks often target vessels that have nothing to do with the conflict. The war in Gaza has killed ian as saying. After the controversial there, while hundreds of others have been killed in Israeli operations in the West Bank. It

> taking around 250 hostage. The Houthis have launched more than 50 attacks on shipping, killed three sailors, seized one vessel and sunk another since November, according to US Maritime

began after Hamas-led mili-

tants attacked Israel on Oct. 7,

killing about 1,200 people and

Administration. A US-led airstrike campaign has targeted the Houthis since January, with a series of strikes May 30 killing at least 16 people and wounding 42 others, the rebels say. But while gaining more attention internationally, the secretive group has cracked down at dissent at home. Eleven Yemeni employees of United Nations agencies and others working for aid groups have been detained by the Houthis under unclear circumstances, as the rebels face increasing financial pressure and airstrikes from the US-led

# Risks of cosmetic dentistry nothing to smile about

Lancaster: How much would you be willing to pay for a perfect movie star smile? For some, trying to achieve dazzlingly white, uniformly straight teeth without a Hollywood budget comes at a cost to their health as well as their wallet.

The UK social media trend for "Turkey teeth" - named after influencers' penchant for travelling abroad for budget veneers - may offer a cheaper alternative to more expensive cosmetic dentistry at reputable clinics - but it can come at the cost of oral health and may even prove life threatening. But the health risks don't always outweigh the prospect of a gleaming grin. Naturally, teeth should be an off-white

colour because yellow-coloured dentin (the middle layer of the tooth - between the enamel and the pulp - that makes up the majority of the tooth's structure) shows through the thin, tough, white enamel outer layer of the tooth.

But the natural colour of healthy teeth is currently unfashionable and there's a heavy demand for sparkly white veneers.

While there are many people who are delighted with their new gnashers, there seem to be equally as many horror stories. From being left in "constant pain" to developing "rotting gums", fixing problems caused cut price cosmetic dentistry can end up costing much more than it would have cost to

get the procedures done properly in the first place.

This is something Ramazan Yilmaz discovered when his tooth implants at a private clinic in Bursa, Turkey, went

disastrously wrong.

During surgery, the dentist allegedly "forced" the implant through Ramazan's jawbone and into the area behind the eye where the brain and spinal fluid are located. According to reports, the dentist then took him to the emergency department of a local hospital and ran

But experiences don't have to be as extreme as Ramazan's to cause serious problems. Even the best cosmetic dentistry can lead to oral health problems if scrupulous oral hygiene isn't

Poorly fitted veneers, for example, can allow plaque, food and drinks into the space between the veneer and the tooth, causing bad breath, staining, tooth decay and gum disease.

Gum disease is also linked to liver disease, chronic kidney disease, oral cancers and cardiovascular diseases.

### **RISKY BUSINESS** There are a number of options

to achieve the Turkey teeth look popularised in the UK by reality shows such as Towie and Love Island, from veneers to more invasive procedures such as crowns or implants that are screwed into your jawbone. Veneers are thin shells applied to the surface of exist-

ing teeth to hide imperfections. They are the least invasive of cosmetic dental procedures but usually require the removal of enamel. Improper preparation of the tooth for this process leaves the tooth susceptible to decay.

There are different types of veneer, including porcelain, composite and no prep. No prep veneers preserve tooth structure with minimal, if any, removal of enamel but they tend to last only between five to seven years. With proper care, well fitted porcelain and composite veneers can last up to 20 years.

Dental crowns are permanent tooth-shaped caps that cover broken, worn down or damaged teeth. Crowns are fitted

over existing teeth, which are filed down to fang-like pegs. Filing away the teeth removes protective material that cushions the soft living tissues and can open up these areas to pathogens causing local or systemic infection, potentially resulting in death.

Similar risks exist for dental implants; however these can take much longer to bond into your existing bone and therefore it may be months before any potential issues arise. Dental implants are a permanent replacement for missing teeth or to support dentures. The implants are screw-like metal fixtures that are fastened surgically to the jaw bone, beneath the gums.

Implants are expensive and it's

a challenging procedure – they are prone to damage and fracture if fitted without proper attention to bite force and the way the mouth works when eating. Replacing teeth can cause significant changes in how bite forces are transmitted through the jaw bones and the rest of the face.

Bones take time to remodel and, because many people have all their teeth done at once, implants can cause large scale alteration of the mouth's bony micro-structure, resulting in pain and discomfort in the gums, jaw joints and muscles of the face that can last for months. Dental implants can reduce bone in the mouth by up to 22 per cent three years

### HOME FREE... OR NOT Cosmetic dental procedures

can be risky - but so can the journey home. who've undergone restorative treatments like veneers should avoid flying for at least 24 hours post-procedure. Those who've had implants and extractions with no complications – should wait at least 72 hours before hopping on the plane home to limit the risk of swelling during the flight. There's a serious complicating factor for anyone suffering with problem dental work on their return to the UK: who will fix any issues and to what extent? The shortage of NHS dental provision in the UK means that dentists are unable to help patients who've had faulty work done abroad.

# India a big aviation market: Star Alliance CEO

Tndia is a big aviation market Land a stronger partnership between Air India and Lufthansa is good, as efforts of the Star Alliance are to bring the partners together to provide a unique value proposition for airline passengers, CEO grouping's Theo Panagiotoulias has said.

Air India and Lufthansa are part of the Star Alliance, whose 26 member airlines come together at more than 50 global hubs to offer smooth connections across a global network. A management company, based in Frankfurt and

Singapore, coordinates Star Alliance projects and activities. It includes airport co-location, digital infrastructure, frequent flyer integration and joint business lounge projects to improve

the travel experience.

Talking to PTI on the sidelines of IATA annual general meeting in Dubai this week, Panagiotoulias was bullish about the prospects in



the Indian market that offers When asked "so much of opportunities".

'The alliance is to bring the partners together to provide a unique value proposition... It is all about more choices. options and for a market size of India that is the very best thing," he said.

about the partnership India and enhanced between Air Panagiotoulias Lufthansa, said it is good to have stronger partnerships within the alliance. Both airlines have a strong codeshare partnership that provides for a seamless

passengers of both airlines. Meanwhile, on the sidelines of the IATA annual general meeting, Lufthansa Group Chairman and CEO Carsten Spohr had a meeting with Air India CEO and Managing Director Campbell Wilson.
To a query about the Indian market during a media roundtable here, Spohr said he had a long meeting with he had a long meeting with Air India CEO but did not disclose the details.

He also replied in the affirmative when asked whether the partnership with Air India could go beyond Star Alliance. Star Alliance has 50 standards for the member airlines and the effort is to provide a strong proposition value customers.

It needs to be made sure that the right value proposition is there in India, which is a big market, Panagiotoulias said. As per the alliance's website, connecting partners and intermodal partners extend its network beyond the 1,200 airports currently served by the 26 member airlines.

## Commerce Ministry may seek more funds for startups in forthcoming Budget

The commerce and industry ministry may seek more funds for startups in the forthcoming Budget, to be announced by the new government, to promote innovation in the country, an official has said.

The new government may announce the Budget for 2024-25 in July. The seed fund scheme, announced in April 2021 with a corpus of Rs 945 crore, will end in 2025, and the ministry may consider proposing a new scheme on similar lines. The seed fund scheme was aimed at providing financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market-entry, commercialisation.

The fund was divided into four years for providing seed funding to eligible startups through incubators across India. Easy availability of capital is essential for entrepreneurs at the early stages of growth of an



enterprise, and the capital required at this stage often presents a make-or-break situation for startups with good business ideas, another official

There are over 1.17 lakh government-registered startups in the country. They are eligible for income tax and other benefits. These recognised startups have been reported to have created over 12.42 lakh direct jobs.

The ministry is also expected to propose a dedicated policy for deep tech startups.

Deep technology refers to innovations founded advanced scientific and technological breakthroughs. Due to their disruptive nature, they have the potential to solve India's most pressing societal issues.

Focus on promoting startups was crucial in the previous government, which unveiled the Startup India initiative on January 16, 2016, along with an action plan for startups consisting of schemes and incentives to create a vibrant startup ecosystem in the country.

The action plan comprises 19 action items spanning various areas, such as simplification and handholding, funding support and incentive, and industry-academia partnership

### Asus bets big on India's personal computer market

**PTI** ■ TAIPEI

 $\mathbf{I}^{ ext{ndia's personal computer}}$  (PC) market is better than the rest of the world and low penetration level of the devices offers a good growth opportunity for the Taiwanese tech major Asus, senior company officials have said. The Taiwanese PC maker has seen positive growth in the Indian market

Asus India consumer and gaming PC vice president Arnold Su told PTI that 'India's PC penetration per household is around 10 to 11 per cent. Which means around 90 per cent of Indian households still do not have a PC, which means it is a very good opportunity for us," he

Su said Asus is continuing to invest in India making its product available across the country. "... If you see today in India, out of 750 districts, we have already covered around 450 districts," he added.

### Ahmedabad sees 45 per cent rise in average housing prices in last five years: PropTiger

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $H_{Ahmedabad}^{ousing}$ appreciated by an average 45 per cent in the last five years because of rise in demand of residential properties especially after the COVID according to pandemic, PropTiger.

The average housing prices stood at Rs 4,150 per square feet in January-March this year, as compared to Rs 2,867 per square feet in the January-March period of 2019, as per the data compiled by real estate consultant PropTiger. The average growth in housing price during January-March 2024 was 10 per cent

from the year-ago period. PropTiger.Com is part of real estate technology firm REA India, which also owns real estate listing platforms Housing.Com

Makaan.Com Vikas Wadhawan, Group Chief Financial Officer of REA India and Business Head of PropTiger.Com, noted that Ahmedabad has become one of the major real estate markets in India.

"As the nerve centre of economic activity,



Ahmedabad numerous buyers and investors from neighbouring states such as Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan. Its well-developed infrastructure ensures seamless connectivity with other major financial centres in India, including Mumbai," he said.

The city's robust economic environment and high safety significantly standards enhance its appeal as a leading housing market in India post-COVID, he observed.

PropTiger data showed that housing sales in Ahmedabad during January-March 2024 rose 78 per cent to 12,915 units, from 7,256 units in the year-ago period.

New supply in Ahmedabad fell 64 per cent in January-March this year to 3,116 units, from 8,655 units in the corresponding period of last

Ahmedabad market has expanded a lot after the COVID pandemic. Housing sales stood at 41,327

units last year, as compared to 27,314 units in 2022, 16,874 units in 2021, 12,156 units in 2020 and 25,734 units in

Similarly, new supply rose to 55,877 last year, from 32,663 units in 2022. Launches stood at 41,357

units in 2021, up from mere 7,687 units in 2020 and 15,648 units in 2019. Average housing price stood at Rs 4,000 per square feet in October-December 2023, as

feet in the same period of 2022 calendar year In the October-December period of 2021, the average housing price was Rs 3,452 per square feet, as comparing to Rs 3,213 per square feet in

against Rs 3,700 per square

the year-ago period. The average housing price stood at Rs 3,107 per square feet in October-December

### Domestic open access solar capacity addition doubles in January, **March: Mercom**

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Open access some installations rose two-fold in India to 1.8 gigawatts during January-March this year supported by several factors, including reduced module cost, US-based Mercom Capital has Solar power through open

access is an arrangement where a power producer establishes a solar power plant to supply green energy to consumers. India added over 1.8 gigawatts (GW) of solar open access capacity in the first quarter of the calendar year of 2024, posting a two-fold increase from 909.3 megawatts (MW) in Q4 2023, the report titled 'Mercom India Solar Open Access Market' said.

As of March 2024, the cumulative installed solar open access capacity stood at 14.3 GW. Solar open access developers benefited from lower Chinese module prices and the suspension of the Approved List of Models and Manufacturers (ALMM) order for projects commissioned through March 2024.

### PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Instant mixes, including idli, dosa and khaman flour, cannot be classified as chhatua or sattu and 18 per cent GST should be levied on them, the Gujarat Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling (GAAAR) has ruled.

Gujarat-based Kitchen Express Overseas Ltd had approached the AAAR against the ruling by the GST advance authority, saying that its seven 'instant flour mixes' are not 'ready to eat' but are required to undergo certain cooking procedures and can be termed 'ready to cook'.

The company sells flour mixes of gota, khaman, dalwada, dahi-wada, dhokla, idli and doos in market. idli and dosa in powder form and pleaded that it is akin to Sattu and should attract Goods and Services Tax (GST) of 5 per cent.

The GAAAR rejected the appellant's contention, saying that ingredients which go into the making of 'instant flour mixes" are not covered under the relevant GST rules as is the case with Sattu. The appellate authority also According to a CBIC circular, said that merely because the the case with Sattu.



**Instant flour mixes for dosa, idli, khaman cannot** 

be classified as sattu; to attract 18 per cent GST

small amounts of ingredients, which are mixed to make Sattu, are specified in the GST rules to be eligible for a 5 per cent tax rate.

'However, clarification is not applicable in the present case as the products being supplied by the appellant contain spices and other ingredients, which is not the case with the 'chhatua or sattu," the GAAAR said.

mix flour is required to follow certain food preparation processes before products can be consumed is no grounds that 18 per cent GST should not be levied on it. Abhishek Jain, Indirect Tax Head & Partner, KPMG, said classification disputes are among the most common areas of litigation under the GST.

"Despite the issuance circulars, differing interpretations

clarifications provided in these circulars have often elevated the challenges," Jain said. Moore Singhi Executive Director Rajat Mohan said the Gujarat Appellate Authority for Advance Ruling (AAAR) affirmed the ruling of the Advance Ruling Authority (AAR), classifying various 'Kitchen Express' branded flours, including Khaman and Dhokla, under Chapter Heading (CH) 2106 90 99, thereby subjecting them to an said. Moore Singhi Executive thereby subjecting them to an 18 per cent GST rate.

"The determination was predicated on the products' significant inclusion of additives, such as sugar, salt, and spices, distinguishing them from simpler flours classified under chapter 1101, 1102, or 1106, which attract a 5 per cent GST rate," Mohan

The AAAR elucidated that CH 2106 90 99 encompasses 'ready to cook' food preparations and dismissed the appellant's analogy to sattu, asserting that the substantial presence of additives in the appellant's products justifies the higher tax rate, Mohan added

## Air India utilising group airlines' engineering skills for improved aircraft maintenance works

 $T_{is\ utilising\ the\ engineering\ skills\ available\ with\ group}^{\text{ata}\ Group-owned\ Air\ India}$ airlines to carry out more maintenance work of the aircraft under its own quality amid multiple instances of its legacy planes facing operational issues, according to a senior company official.

The official also said the airline is keen to lease aircraft but the market is very tight, especially for wide-body planes. After the takeover by the Tata

Group in 2022, loss-making Air India has been making

efforts for improvement and has embarked on a five-year transformation plan.

To address the engineering issues more effectively, the official told PTI that Air India is bringing the work of line maintenance component inhouse as well as using the licensing and skills of the group airlines to do some things in certain types of

Such an approach will help Air in doing more "maintenance work under our own quality control", the official said on condition of Air Índia is setting up a



Bengaluru and the facility will be operational by the end of next year. The group has four airlines -- Air India, Air India AIX Express, Connect (formerly AirAsia India), and Vistara.

The systematic upgrade is being done to bring some aircraft to the healthy standard. These are old Boeing 787s and 777s, the official said, while speaking on the sidelines of the IATA annual general meeting in Dubai this week. The Boeing 777-200 LRs are

the smallest fleet and ones that operate to the West Coast of the US. When something goes

wrong with one of them, then there is relatively few to substitute and do that mission. One disruption can have a big effect, the official said.

In recent weeks, at least four ultra long-haul flights of Air India, operated by Boeing 777 aircraft, faced inordinate delays due to technical and operational issues.

Air India has at least 43 legacy wide-body planes -- 16 Boeing 777s and 27 Boeing 787s. Earlier this week at a

conference in the national capital, Air India CEO and MD Campbell Wilson said the airline will be retrofitting more than 100 planes, including 40

wide-body planes, and has ordered around 25,000 aircraft seats as part of revamping the fleet. On plans to lease more aircraft to address the issues being faced with legacy planes operating ultra long-haul flights, the official said the airline will be happy to lease aircraft but the market is very tight, especially for wide-body

At present, the carrier is also operating wide-body aircraft leased from Delta Air Lines and Etihad Airways

Sheela Foam sees 14-15 per cent CAGR

While the airline sees continued opportunities for expansion, the official said it is aware about

unreliability of the legacy aircraft and efforts are on to get them to the standard as well as replace them with new planes. Last year, Air India placed an order for 470 planes with Airbus and Boeing, including for 70 wide-body aircraft.

The carrier is already operating six A350s, which will be utilised more in international routes in the coming months. As part of the consolidation of Tata Group's airline business, AIX Connect is getting merged with Air India Express, and Vistara is getting merged with Air India. Both mergers are expected to be complete by the end of this year.

## PNB plans to expand its overseas footprint, to open representative office in Dubai

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Punjab 🗅 tate-owned National Bank plans to open a representative office in Dubai, as part of its plan to expand its global footprint. The bank has got the board of directors' approval for opening a representative office in Dubai and the process is on for seeking regulatory clearance, PNB

managing director

Kumar Goel told PTI. Hopefully, he said, the representative office should come up during the current financial year, if all regulatory approvals are in

As on March 31, 2024, PNB had presence in six countries by way of two subsidiaries (London-UK and Bhutan), one joint venture (Nepal), two representative offices (Myanmar and Bangladesh).

Talking about the strategy to improve profitability, he said, the focus would be on expanding retail, agriculture, MSME (RAM) portfolio, extending good corporate loans, controlling slippages and improving recovery.
Besides, he said, the thrust would also be on improving

the forex income and garnering higher fee income from selling third-party products to augment noninterest income. With regard to improving interest income, he said, the focus would be to increase low cost deposit CASA

(Current Account Savings Account). CASA as a percentage of total deposit stood at 41.4 per cent at the end of March 2024, he said, the target is to improve beyond 42 per cent by the end of the current fiscal year.

The bank intends to keep added

credit cost below 1 per cent during this financial year. With all these efforts, he said, the Return on Assets (ROA) is expected to increase to 0.8 per cent during the year and touch 1 per cent by the end of March 2025, translating into a substantial jump in profit. Asked about anticipated business growth in the current financial year, Goel said, credit growth is expected to be 11-12 per cent, while deposit would be 9-10 per cent. To fund this business growth,

the bank has taken approval of raising capital to the tune of Rs 17,500 crore from Tier I and Tier II bonds and share through private placement during the year. During FY'24, the bank had raised Rs 10,000 crore from Tier I and Tier II bonds at a

very competitive rate, he

## GX Group expects 66 per cent revenue growth to ₹500 crore in two years, to double exports

Telecom gear maker GX Group expects its revenue to grow by 66 per cent to Rs 500 crore by financial year 2026, on account of growth in domestic business as well as exports, a top company official has said.

The company makes Gigabit Passive Optical Network (GPON) gears that are required to run fibre-based broadband networks. GX Group also makes routers and switches as well as Internet of Things (IoT) devices in India. GX Group CEO Paritosh Prajapati told PTI that the company is looking to expand its manufacturing unit in India with an investment of Rs 100

According to him, benefits from the telecom production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme

crore in the current financial

are one of the key growth drivers for the company.
"We have achieved a 40 per year-on-year (YoY) growth in consecutive years, supporting us to grow from a Rs 300 crore to a Rs 500 crore company within the next two

financial years.

"We are planning to build India as our Global hub, therefore, we are transferring technology and knowledge and investing in our new research and development centre in Chennai," Prajapati said. GX Group was the first telecom gear maker to meet PLI targets and receive the from incentives

government. We anticipate a 120 per cent export increase to major telcos in Africa, Europe and South East Asian countries, primarily by shifting from software to hardware export," Prajapati

### growth in next 3-5 years, says CEO Nilesh PTI ■ NEW DELHI said putting both brands

aircraft.

Sheela Foam, which owns leading mattress Sleepwell and brands Kurlon — expects a doubledigit CAGR growth of 14 to 15 per cent in short to midterm, its CEO Mazumdar has said.

Sheela Foam, which acquired the Kurlon brand last year, has rebranded it with a new logo and tagline, as it expects to scale up the Karnatakabased company's business beyond Rs 1,000 crore.

Currently, the Indian mattress market is estimated to be around Rs 15,000 crore. Though the market is still dominated by local players, in the last 4-5 years, branded players are getting good traction and a shift is happening towards them in

key cities. "When we look at the organised sector, both the brands put together, we have



about 29-30 per cent market share. In mattress, Sleepwell has around 18 per cent market share and Kurlon has 11 per cent," Mazumdar told

Both the brands put together, are distinctly ahead of their rivals and would focus on gaining market share further with innovations.

When asked about the company's growth outlook, Mazumdar said: "We have a 3-5 year outlook. We are looking at about 14-15 per cent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) growth." Though he did not share a brand-specific turnover, he together, the company has around Rs 3,000 crore in revenue from operations. Sheela Foam completed the transaction to acquire Kurlon last October and the process of integration is currently going on, which may take a couple of quarters to complete.

According to Mazumdar, both brands will have "independent" operations and identity. Kurlon is an independent

brand. Sleepwell is also an

independent brand in the

consumer's mind and we will keep both of them completely independent of each other, as far as the consumer mind space is concerned," he said. Över the rebranding of Kurlon, Mazumdar said the endeavour is to make it more "modern and contemporary". This will be backed by a new television campaign, he

# BRAIN TUMOUR EARLY DETECTION, EARLY TREATMENT

Brain tumours pose a considerable health challenge worldwide, with India alone reporting approximately 33,000 new cases annually, predominantly impacting individuals aged 35 to 65. Despite the widespread fear and misunderstanding surrounding these conditions, not all brain tumours are cancerous, doctors tell ARCHANA JYOTI

approximately 33,000 incidents brain tumours are detected each year in India alone and more than 60 per cent of these affected patients are in the prime of their life between the age of 35 and 65 years.

A brain tumour is an abnormal growth of cells in or around your brain. Spinal tumours and brain tumours are together called central nervous system (CNS) tumourss. Brain tumours can be cancerous or Some noncancerous. tumourss grow quickly, while others are slowgrowing.

However, brain tumours are most feared and lessunderstood entities. It is a misconception that all brain tumours are cancerous.

Almost 50% of brain tumours are benign and can be cured with surgery or radiosurgery.

But brain tumours are dangerous because they can put pressure on healthy parts of the brain or spread into those areas.

No doubt, prevention of tumours challenging, as most cases are not associated with identifiable risk factors.

There are 120 types of brain and central nervous system



tumours. It is ranked as 10th most common kind of tumour among Indians

The least aggressive type of tumours grows slowly while malignant tumours, containing cancer cells, grow rapidly invading other body systems. Its myth that only adults get tumours. Pediatric brain tumours are common, second most common cancer in children after blood cancer.

While the cause of brain tumours is not known, as per research, exposure to Diagnosing a brain tumour ionising radiation from therapeutic and diagnostic medical procedures, atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons, industrial accidents, and heavy use of

mobile phones also increases the risk of gliomas - a type of brain tumour.

Brain tumours impact brain function and health if they grow large enough to press on surrounding nerves, blood vessels and tissue. Tumours that develop in the brain are called primary tumours while tumours that spread to the brain after forming in a different part of the body are called secondary tumours, or metastatic brain tumours. typically involves combination of neurological examinations, imaging tests

such as MRI and CT scans, and biopsy for tissue analysis, say doctors..

■ Loss of coordination Muscle weakness ☐ Tingling or stiffness on one

disoriented

side of the body

The prognosis for brain tumour is greatly improved by early detection. If one experiences any of the above symptoms with regularity or think that their symptoms are more significant, they need to see a doctor as soon as possible for an evaluation, as per health experts.

The symptoms of brain tumour depend on the size and location of the brain tumour. Brain cancer shares many symptoms with several less serious conditions, especially in the early stages. Many of the symptoms are common and unlikely to indicate brain cancer.

Brain tumour symptoms are similar regardless of whether they are cancerous (malignant) or noncancerous (benign). They differ depending on the type, location in the brain, and the

stage of the tumour. Some of the most common

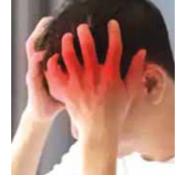
symptoms include:

- Headache episodes
- Seizures Vision problems
- Memory loss ■ Mood changes
- □ Loss of balance Nausea
- Fatigue
- Anxiety or depression Difficulty concentrating
- Speech problems

Feeling

DOCTORSPEAK

DR YASHPAL SINGH BUNDELA



DR PRAVEEN GUPTA Principal Director and Chief of Neurology, Fortis Hospital

"Brain tumours can be sneaky. Early signs often feel like everyday issues you might brush off. New or worsening headaches, especially those worse in the morning and accompanied by nausea, could be a red Difficulty concentrating, speaking clearly, or understanding others might signal a Watch for problem. personality changes, weakness on one side of the

DR MANISH VAISH

Senior Director of Neurosurgery at Max Super Speciality Hospital, Vaishali,



experience any of these symptoms, don't hesitate to see a doctor. Early detection of a brain tumor is crucial for a better chance of successful treatment. A little awareness can make a big difference."

"A brain tumour diagnosis can be scary, but early detection is key to a brighter future. The sooner you identify the tumour, the more treatment options become available. Also, surgery can be more precise, minimizing side effects. Additionally, radiation and medication are often more effective when the tumour is smaller. While treatment can cause fatigue, weakness, or thinking

changes. rehabilitation, and support groups help you manage them. You might need to adjust your daily routine or work, but open communication with loved



ones and employers can ease the process. Remember, many people thrive after an early brain tumour diagnosis. Focus on healthy habits, emotional well-being, connected."

"Amidst the fast pace of our daily living, we may easily overlook how much stress affects neurological well-being. It is possible for stress to secretly sneak in like a thief in the night and foster an atmosphere that can see brain tumors grow therein. We will protect ourselves from the invasion by stress by fortresses with activities that encourage peace and mindfulness



strengthening our mental distraction so as to guard against it with devotion towards mental health needs. resilience. For instance, let us Awareness of symptoms can lead to early diagnosis, faster meditation or simply create and better treatment of time to think without any tumors."

# Brazil, Indian scientists collaborate on research to create promising treatment for solid tumours

An article published in the effective when administered intravenously, reducing Release details the results of tumor size and increasing a cross-border scientific survival. Untreated animals collaboration that has always died aged 28-30 days, developed an alternative for while treated animals the treatment of solid tumours based on inhibition according to Faccioli. of the inflammatory tumour microenvironment (TME). Solid tumours are difficult to times in tumour volume treat, partly owing to cells and substances in the TME that prevent drugs from penetrating and stop the nanomicelles reduced and patient's own immune system from combating the tumor. "These cells and molecules often fuel the growth of the tumour, which immune surveillance," said Lucia Helena Faccioli, a co-author of the article. She is professor at the University of Sao Paulo's Ribeirao Preto School of Pharmaceutical Sciences (FCFRP-USP) in Brazil and heads the Center of Excellence for Quantification and Identification of Lipids (CEQIL), established with FAPESP's support via its Equipment Multiuser Program. "Immune cells that promote

and inhibit tumors tend to be always in a tug-of-war in the TME, where metabolites, lipid mediators, cytokines and chemokines play an important role in the dominance immunosuppressive nature," the article states.

developed The team nanomicelles (very small particles, measuring and 100 nanometers) comprising different substances and for this reason termed chimeric. The chimeric nanomicelles composed of phospholipids, docetaxel Besides USP and Bajaj's lab, (DIX), a chemotherapy medication that destroys cells, and dexamethasone (DEX), an anti-inflammatory drug widely used to reduce production of various inflammatory substances, such as prostaglandin E2 (PGE2). Tests in laboratory animals showed that these DTX-DEX NMs were highly

survived to age 44-50 days, "The treatment induced a reduction of more than five compared with untreated

tumours in the colon cancer model," Bajaj said. The altered the cells around the tumor that prevent action by the immune system, favored an increase in specific types of white blood cell that kill tumour cells, and inhibited secretion of PGE2, an inflammatory substance in the tumor microenvironment

interferes with the antitumour action of certain defense cells. "Although these studies

involved animals, the results are highly promising and point to the possibility of studies in humans, as the compounds used in the nanomicelles have been approved for human use," said Faccioli, who conducted postdoctoral research at the National Heart and Lung Institute, Imperial College London (UK).

The other co-authors of the study include Viviani Nardini, a researcher in FCFRP-USP's Department of Clinical, Toxicological and Bromatological Analysis, and scientists affiliated with Indian institutions, led by Avinash Bajaj, head of the Nanotechnology Chemistry Biological Laboratory at the Regional Center for Biotechnology in

Faridabad, Haryana. Amity Institute Integrative Sciences and Health (Haryana), the Department of Surgical Oncology at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Delhi), the National Institute of Immunology (Delhi) and the National Institute of Biomedical Genomics (Kalyani, West Bengal) also took part in the

## ORS, a potent tool to beat child diarrhoea

Oral Rehydration Salts stands as a potent weapon in the battle against childhood diarrhoea. Now, with a new formula endorsed by WHO, it's poised to deliver even greater impact, saving more young lives worldwide. ARCHANA JYOTI reports

he fight against diarrhoea in children has received a significant boost with the release of a new formula for oral rehydration salts (ORS) by the World Health Organization (WHO) recently.

body, or blurry vision. Even

slight dizziness or balance

issues shouldn't be ignored.

persistently

Since its adoption in 1978, ORS has been a cornerstone in the battle against diarrhoea deaths in children, contributing to a notable reduction in mortality rates. However, recognizing the need for further improvement, WHO spearheaded extensive research, resulting in the development of an enhanced ORS formula.

UNICEF estimated that about 9% of all deaths of young children worldwide — about 1,200 children under 5 every day — occurred because of diarrheal disease in 2021. In India, diarrhoea is the third leading cause of child mortality. Despite the importance of ORS which can easily prevent dehydration caused by diarrhoea, only 60.6% of children receive this essential treatment, according to recent NFHS-5 data.

The new formula, backed by research conducted in five developing countries among children with acute diarrhoea and dehydration, boasts a low-sodium, low-glucose composition. This

innovation promises to reduce the need for intravenous fluids by 33%, potentially leading to fewer hospitalizations, diminished secondary infections, and lower healthcare costs.

For over two decades, WHO and UNICEF have recommended a single formulation of glucosebased ORS, which has been effective in combating diarrhoea disease globally. However, ongoing efforts to refine ORS have been underway, aiming to improve its efficacy and clinical benefits.

The latest breakthrough, achieved through a reduction in osmolarity, demonstrates promising outcomes in reducing stool output and vomiting in diarrheal patients.

recommended formulation, with a total osmolarity of 245 mOsm/l, has shown improved efficacy in treating acute non-cholera children. diarrhoea Additionally, studies indicate its effectiveness in managing cholera in adults, albeit with careful monitoring due to the risk of transient hyponatremia.

With this advancement, WHO and UNICEF now advocate for the widespread adoption of the new ORS formula, replacing the previous standard formulation.



## The label will read - 'ORS based on WHO formula' Used to replace fluids and electrolytes lost during diarrhoea The composition is as per the WHO guidelines

### NEW ORS FORMULA The total substance concentration (including that contributed by

glucose) should be within the range of 200-310 mmol/l. The individual substance concentration:

- Glucose should at least equal that of sodium but should not exceed 111 mmol/l
- □ **Sodium** should be within the range of 60-90 mEq/l Potassium should be within the range of 15-25 mEq/l
- □ Citrate should be within the range of 8-12 mmol/l Chloride should be within the range of 50-80 mEq/l
- While this single ORS formulation is endorsed, established criteria effectiveness, reinforcing its role as a frontline treatment for diarrheal

ORS

As India grapples with severe heat conditions, doctors have receommended WHO-based ORS for adults as well as children to beat dehyderation and diarrhea. Pankaj Garg, Senior Consultant in Neonatology at Delhi-based Sir Gangaram Hospital "Diarrhoea results in rapid fluid

loss and electrolyte imbalances, leading to dehydration. ORS is a simple yet highly effective solution to replenish lost fluids and electrolytes, preventing complications and promoting electrolytes,

Not ORS

The label says that it is not to be

Might be called an energy drink/

ready-to-serve fruit beverage

WHO-recommended formula

There is no mention of the

consumed during diarrhoea

The label will read - 'not an

Read the label before

purchasing ORS

faster recovery in young children, said Dr Garg. While ORS is safe and effective, the expert warned against the incorrect mixture of salt or sugar in water as it can be harmful.

"Incorrect homemade solutions or sugary drinks can disrupt this balance, leading to severe health

dehydration or even death in extreme cases," cautioned Dr

Dr Mohsin Wali, Consultant Physician at Sir Ganga Ram Hospital too stressed on the importance of selecting the correct ORS in the market.

"Choosing the right ORS is crucial for effectively managing diarrhoea and dehydration. It's vital to differentiate between ORS and commercially available sugary While these beverages may offer

some electrolytes and fluids, they lack the crucial glucose-sodium and potassium balance necessary rapid and effective rehydration," said Dr Wali.

Sugary drinks may provide temporary relief but do not address the core issue of dehydration.

Dr Wali said one should opt for an ORS formulation approved by the WHO, specifically designed for this purpose. Most of these ORS packages will have "WHO" written on them.

By understanding the benefits of ORS and its appropriate use, we can save the lives of many kids every year particularly during the hot summer months, he added.

# SOUTH AFRICA TAKE ON PLUCKY BANGLADESH

outh Africa will hope for a better batting better batting performance when they take on a plucky Bangladesh in their Group D match of the T20 World Cup here on Monday.

Both teams will have their task cut out as they will have to navigate the unpredictable surface at the Nassau County International Cricket Stadium. While South Africa may have a slight edge having played their previous two games here, Bangladesh are somewhat familiar with the conditions having faced India in their warm-up fixture at this venue. South Africa laboured to victory against the Netherlands on Saturday and their batters didn't look comfortable in the win against Sri Lanka either while chasing 103 and 77 respectively.

The Proteas are not expected to tinker with their fourpronged pace attack comprising Anrich Nortje, Kagiso Rabada, Marco Jansen and Ottneil Baartmen that has served them well in the tournament so far with Keshav Maharaj taking on the spin



The batters, however, will have to do better. Against the Netherlands, South Africa managed just 33 after 10 overs. Had it not been for their No. 4 Tristan Stubbs and David Miller, who walked in at number six to score an unbeaten fifty, the Porteas would have been staring at a hat-trick of defeats at the hands

of the Dutch at the World Cups.

A win will put South Africa firmly in the driver's seat for a Super Eight spot.

History is also on South Africa's side as they haven't ever lost to Bangaldesh in T20Is and have beaten the Tigers in each of the last two Bangladesh began their campaign with a win over rivals Šri Lanka which will boost their morale But like the Proteas, the

Bangladesh batters will also have to do better. They had struggled in the warm-up game against India and also against Šri Lanka.

The top-order is prone to

has done well, the others have to take more responsibility, especially in testing conditions. All-rounder Shakib Al Hasan is not firing either with the ball or the bat, which is a cause for concern for Bangladesh.

Bangladesh's pace attack lacks a genuine tearaway fast bowler who can rock the opposition at the top and they might struggle against a formidable South African line-up comprising several power hitters.

TEAMS (FROM):

South Africa: Aiden Markram (c), Ottniel Baartman, Gerald Coetzee, Quinton de Kock,

Fortuin, Hendricks, Marco Heinrich Klaasen, Maharaj, David Miller, Anrich Nortje,

Rabada, Rickelton, Tabraiz Shamsi, Tristan Stubbs.

Bangladesh: Najmul Hossain Shanto (c), Taskin Ahmed, Litton Das, Soumya Sarkar, Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Shakib Al Hasan, Tawhid Hridoy, Mahmud Ullah Riyad, Jaker Ali Anik, Tanvir Islam, Shak Mahedi Hasan, Rishad Hossain, Mustafizur Rahman, Shoriful Islam, Tanzim Hasan



## Australia nails England by 36 runs in the T20 World Cup

**AP** ■ BRIDGETOWN (BARBADOS)

Defending England champion charged at Australia's tournament-best 201 total and came up 36 runs short in a one-sided Twenty20 World Cup contest on Saturday.

The first big heavyweight match - a day before India vs. Pakistan - failed to live up to the billing as Australia impressively squeezed England, which hit only three boundaries in the last six overs at Kensington Oval.

Forced to bat first, Australia made a brutal start by openers David Warner and Travis Head - 70-0 in 4.5 overs - but was pulled back and posted 201-7, the highest total in a week-old tournament featuring tricky

Tasked with making the third biggest successful run chase in tournament history, England took a swipe but decayed to 165-6. Adam Zampa and Pat Cummins took two cheap wickets each.

Australia moved on top of Group B with two wins from two matches, while England remained winless with Oman and Namibia to come.

England threw offspin at lefthanded openers Warner and Head without success. Head smashed Will Jacks' first two deliveries for sixes, and Warner smoked him in the same over. Pace didn't bother the batters either. Warner hit three sixes and a boundary in one Mark Wood over. Warner, playing England for possibly the last time, was out for 39 off 16 when he backed up to a Moeen Ali delivery that stayed low. Head went in the next over, bowled by Jofra Archer for 34

off 18. Australia finished the

Adil Rashid was put on the roof by captain Mitchell Marsh, and Chris Jordan went for 18 in an over.

A change to Liam Livingstone's legspin was profitable, as Marsh was stumped for 35 and three balls later Glenn Maxwell departed for 28.

Marcus Stoinis greeted Rashid with a one-handed six over backward square, and smacked Livingstone over his head. Australia reached 200 with three balls to go, and Stoinis was out for 30 off 17 - Jordan's 100th T20 wicket -

Cummins was run out. England's chase was measured but cruising. Phil Salt and Jos Buttler had them 54-0 after the powerplay then took 19 runs off a Mitchell Starc over.

Zampa spun the momentum back Australia's way. His first ball bowled Salt for 37 off 23. Buttler then hit Zampa straight to backward point after 42 off 28, including five boundaries and two sixes

England was 92-2 in the 10th over and on track, but the middle order failed to fire as they were pinned down by the

Australian battery Starc was expensive but his brilliant diving catch on the boundary removed Jacks.

England needed 14 runs an over with seven to go, and blasted 20 off Maxwell, including three sixes by Ali. But Maxwell then caught Jonny Bairstow on the boundary for a 13-ball 7 and blew a kiss to the England fans

who had been ribbing him. After Ali was caught in the deep for 25 off 15, Harry Brook and Livingstone were tied down by Hazlewood, down by Hazlewood, Cummins and Zampa, the

South Africa out of deep trouble against their bogey team the Netherlands in a fourwicket win on Long Island.

Miller's unbeaten 59 off 51 balls, with four sixes and three boundaries, rescued South Africa from 12-4 in the fifth

This was after the Netherlands was restricted to 103-9. Miller and Tristan Stubbs, with

33, saved the day in making 106-6 with seven balls remaining.

The Netherlands was going for a hat trick of wins against South Africa in World Cups, after winning their T20 in 2022 and one-day international in 2023. Chasing a paltry 104 for victory, South Africa's big T20 hitters failed. Quinton de Kock was run out for a duck, and fellow opener

Reeza Hendricks was bowled for 3. Aiden Markram was caught behind playing down the leg side for a three-ball duck and Heinrich Klaasen holed out for 4.

Dutch medium-pacer Vivian Kingma finished his four overs with 2-12. Miller and Stubbs put on a cautious 65 off 72 balls on a challenging pitch.

Stubbs was caught in the 17th over and Marco Jansen was dismissed for a golden duck in the next over, and the situation tensed up again. But Miller held his nerve and the Proteas earned their second win in two

games in Group D. Earlier, pacer Baartman grabbed 4-11 in four overs as the Netherlands was cut down to 48-6 in 11.5 overs Sybrand Engelbrecht scored 40 off 45 balls to anchor the Dutch, and Logan Van Beek scored 23 to push the total past

## Pulling out of IPL best thing for me moving forward into this World Cup, says Zampa

PTI ■ BRIDGETOWN (BARBADOS)

Australia spinner Adam Zampa said that pulling out of IPL 2024 was the "best thing" to do coming into the T20 World Cup, adding that skipping the league also allowed him to spend time with family and tend to

Zampa played a pivotal role Australia's 36-run win against arch-rival England at the Kensington Oval here on Saturday with the leg-spinner getting rid of both the openers, Phil Salt and Jos Buttler, in quick succession after they had given the defending champions a solid 73-run start in the chase of 201/7.

"Yeah, obviously made that decision a little while ago to England slumped to fourth. pull out of the IPL and I Cricket pundits have started

Abronze medallist runner Sanjivani Jadhav won the

gruelling women's 10,000m

race at the Portland Track

Festival High-Performance Meet, clocking a personal best

time of 32:22.77 seconds here.

Portland has turned out to be a

happy hunting ground for the

runner, who had finished

second in the event last year,

registering 32:46.88 seconds, her first sub-33 mark.

Another Indian in the fray,

Seema finished fifth clocking

Commonwealth and Asian

Games medallist, Avinash

Sable clocked 8:21.85 seconds

long-distance

PTI PORTLAND (USA)

thought it was the best thing for me moving forward into this World Cup," said Zampa the post-match press conference.

"I was tired, I had some niggles and I'm a family man as well, so trying to put them first over work sometimes is pretty important. "I actually am a bit of a slow

starter and I put in a little bit of extra work. My body feels great and I just did that bit of extra work. Maybe a bit more bowling than I usually would before a tournament like this. And then the practice games and everything just feels nice at the moment," he added.

With the win, Australia climbed to the top of Group B with four points, while

Sanjivani bags top spot in 10,000 m event in Portland



drawing comparisons between Zampa and the legendary Shane Warne, following the former's crucial role in Australia's title-winning run at the the 2021 T20 World Cup. Zampa also stepped up in big matches during the ODI World Cup last year, but the 32-year-old said the thought

won the silver medal

winner of the

American Kenneth

steeplechase national title at

the 2023 USA Outdoor Track

had never crossed his mind. "Never really thought of it that way, to be honest. Like I had to fight for my position in the team for a long time. And then I was lucky enough to have captains that backed me, (Aaron) Finch really backed me in. And it's the same with

(Pat) Cummins and (Mitchel)

and Field Championships,

took the top spot clocking

Ace Indian women's long-

Chaudhary, winner of gold

(5000m) and silver (3000m

steeplechase) at the Hangzhou

Asian Games last year, finished

third in steeplechase, clocking 9:31.38 seconds, which was nearly 16 seconds adrift from

the national record of 9:15.31

in her name set in Budapest

last year. Another Indian in the

event, Priti, was 20th clocking

Several Indian elite middle and

currently training in Colorado

are competing in Portland

10:12.88 seconds.

long-distance

Track Festival

Rooks

3000m

runner

the meet record of 8:18.55.

distance

"And under this coaching management, my role is clear, I've done the work over time to build up that skill level. But in terms of actually my role in the team, I get backed to take wickets and try and win the game for us and I absolutely feel that with our leadership. Zampa feels his skills had improved over the years.

"As I said, I reckon I did the work when I was young, I went through some rough patches for sure, I got dropped I was in and out of the team a little bit and then I was probably in the team and not bowling that well — but in the last few years that skill is definitely better than it was eight years ago when I started. And then as I said, the leadership, it helps me feel at

### Puja Tomar becomes first Indian to win in UFC and motivated so that's why I won."

¶ndia's Puja Tomar scripted history as she fighter from the country to win a bout at the Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) in UFC Louisville here.

Debutant Tomar eked out a 30-27, 27-30. 29-28 split-decision win over Brazil's Rayanne dos Santos in the straw-weight (52kg) bout on Saturday.

"This win is not my win. This win is for all Indian fans and all Indian fighters. Before everyone thought that Indian fighters did not stand anywhere. I only thought I have to win and show the world that Indian fighters are not losers," Tomar told Sony Sport Network after her win.

The 30-year-old, known as "cyclone", signed a contract with the UFC last year in October to become the first woman from India to compete in the biggest Mixed Martial Arts promotion.

Anshul Jubli and Bharat Kandare have



represented India on the world stage in the UFC, as has Canada-based Arjan Singh Bhullar.

"I feel great, I had come from home thinking that I will win. I have worked really hard that's why I am here and the

crowd is cheering me. I was very strong

Born in Budhana village of Uttar Pradesh's Muzaffarnagar, Tomar is a five-time champion an background in karate and taekwondo. 'I was confident of winning, I attacked a

lot. But I wasn't able to give my 100 percent. I felt pressured in the second round. I need to improve on a lot of skills like take downs. "My MMA journey was not easy, this win is for my mother, she has fought with the

world for me. So this win is for her." She has competed in other tournaments including Matrix Fight Night, where she

won the straw-weight title twice. MMA is a full-contact combat sport based on striking, grappling and ground fighting, incorporating techniques from various combat sports from around the

Ultimate Fighting Championship is an

American mixed martial arts promotion

## Ronaldo, Modric go to Euro 2024 showing age is no boundary for soccer's modern stars

athletes

27-year-old

A ged 39 and about to play in a record-extending sixth Championship, European Cristiano Ronaldo's longevity at soccer's highest levels almost defies

Luka Modric is 38, still performing for Real Madrid and will be expected to provide the X-Factor for Croatia at the Euros in Germany, which start June 14,

The best players are extending their careers for longer despite the increased pace and intensity of the modern game. Higher levels of fitness and stamina

are being demanded of athletes, but that is being matched by everimproving expertise in how to maximize performance. "Sports science has had an impact

on how we prepare the modernday player in terms of diet, nutrition, lifestyle, (and) training programs. We've moved out of the 80s and 90s with the increased level professionalism," Strudwick, a sports scientist with more than three decades of on experience in soccer, told The accordance

Associated Press. Strudwick has held prominent currently director of medical at remain in prime condition even

West Bromwich Albion.

in men's 3000m steeplechase to

finish second, though he was a

good 10 seconds adrift of his

national record of 8:11.20, set

at the 2022 CWG where he had

He worked with Ronaldo at United when the Portugal forward first established himself as one of the best players in the world. "He just set himself up for success,"

Strudwick said. "I said four or five years ago, knowing how professional Ronaldo was, he could play up to the age of 40. That was no problem" With his 40th birthday in sight,

Ronaldo shows no sign of being ready to quit. And, with the advancement of sports science, the longevity that the likes of Ronaldo and Modric are achieving could become the norm.

ATTITUDE: It's not so much that athletes have changed physically over the years - rather it has been a shift in mentality.

"We have seen a kind of evolution in professionalism as opposed to evolution in genetics," Strudwick said

"It wasn't that players were unprofessional (in the past). They just didn't know what they didn't know. There's a lot more scrutiny players in terms accountability.

Improvements in player lifestyle are lengthening careers, with many roles at Manchester United, using the services of fitness and Arsenal and England and is conditioning experts to ensure they



during the offseason.

Ryan Giggs took on yoga in his later years to help extend his career and allow him to play for United until he was 40.

DIET: Many top players also rely on the services of private chefs who deliver daily meals that are nutritionally balanced while also being of restaurant quality.

That's in addition to what's provided by elite clubs, which have

provide them with diet coaching. In the past, some players would have pre-match meals of steak. Much has changed, with some managers banning sauces at the

nutrition departments to help table.
players keep food diaries and Rod Thornley, a masseur who

worked with Manchester United and England, can remember when Italian coach Fabio Capello took charge of the Three Lions.

sauce, just pasta," Thornley told the "The lads were looking around, going 'What is this? We can't eat this. And that's all he offered. That

INJURY PREVENTION: Massage plays a role in avoiding soft tissue injury. Contemporary players will have several massages throughout

the week at the training ground or "With the more exercise you do, the more tight your muscles become," Thornley said.

"You are affecting muscles. You're affecting muscle mass, you're affecting your buildup of tightness, your lack of elasticity in the muscle. "It's a huge part of keeping a player fit, keeping a player healthy, keeping them on the pitch." Ice baths are also used to help

MONEY: For all the ambition of players to continue as long as they can, there is also a clear financial incentive at a time when the rewards have never been higher. It only makes sense for a player to want to extend their earning

reportedly paid USD 200 million a year playing for Al Nassr in the Saudi League. He is the CEO of the money-'The first-ever pre-match meal was making machine that is his playing career. It is something Strudwick just a massive bowl of pasta. No

potential. Ronaldo, for instance, is

calls the "rise of the entrepreneur" soccer player. And it can apply to players much lower down the food chain than

Ronaldo.

"There is a big incentive to keep your career going," Strudwick said. 'An extra five years at the back end of your career sets up the modern footballer for a comfortable future." very, very

DRIVE: In the case of Ronaldo, a remarkable career that has seen him win five Ballon d'Or awards for the best player in the world is no accident, according to Thornley.

They worked together at United, where Ronaldo won the first of his five Champions League titles. 'Ronaldo just had that mentality

where he was just wanting to be the best at everything," Thornley said. "He wanted to be the best player in the world from the second he turned up there. He was just one of those lads that you knew he would do whatever it took to be that person, and he did, and he proved it.