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PUBLISHED FROM: DELHI | LUCKNOW | BHOPAL | BHUBANESWAR | RANCHI | RAIPUR | CHANDIGARH | DEHRADUN | HYDERABAD | VIJAYWADA

BHOPAL, THURSDAY NOVEMBER 7, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹2

DONALD TRUMPS KAMALA HARRIS

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

Donald Trump was Wednesday elected the United States' President for a second term in one of the greatest political comebacks in American history, four years after an election loss in 2020 that sparked a violent insurrection at the US Capitol. The 78-year-old Republican leader, convicted of felony charges and awaiting sentencing in a hush-money case in New York, defeated his Democratic rival Kamala Harris in a bitterly fought election.



According to races called by the Associated Press up to 7 pm (IST), 277 electoral votes had gone to Trump and 224 to Harris. Trump, the oldest person in US history to be elected president, crossed the halfway 270 votes-mark in electoral college votes with victory in the battleground state of Wisconsin. Addressing his supporters at West Palm Beach in Florida, Trump declared his victory in the presidential election, calling the mandate "unprecedented and powerful". Many people have told me that God spared my life for a reason, Trump said, referring to the two assassination attempts on his life during the election campaign this year. Amid cheers of his jubilant supporters and his family by his side, Trump declared that this will be the "golden age" of America. "This is a magnificent victory for the American people. This was a movement like nobody's ever seen before, and frankly, this was, I believe, the greatest political movement of all time. There's never been anything

like this in this country, and maybe beyond," Trump said. "And now it's going to reach a new level of importance because we're going to help our country heal. We'll help our country... We have a country that needs help, and it needs help very badly," he said. Soon after projections indicated Trump's victory, congratulatory messages started pouring in from world leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and French President Emmanuel Macron, for his "historic return to the White House".

After President Grover Cleveland (1885-1889 and 1893-1897), Trump is the only person to return to the White House for another term after a gap of four years. Trump served as President from January 2017 to January 2021. "We made history for a reason tonight, and the reason is going to be just that we overcame obstacles that nobody thought possible, and it is now clear that we've achieved the most incredible political thing," Trump said in his speech. "I want to thank the American people for the extraordinary honour of being elected your 47th president and your 45th

president," he said. "I will fight for you, for your family and your future." "Every single day, I will be fighting for you and with every breath in my body, I will not rest until we have delivered the strong, safe and prosperous America that our children deserve and that you deserve. This will truly be the golden age of America," said Trump, who wrapped up his speech with a playful dance to the song YMCA by the band Village People. The victory by Trump is being seen as a remarkable comeback after he lost the 2020 presidential election to Joe Biden, which seemed then

to be the end of his political career. Trump challenged the election results and even indirectly urged his supporters to march on the US Capitol that reportedly triggered the violent attacks and clashes inside the seat of American democracy, sending shockwaves across the globe. In the following months, Trump unsuccessfully challenged the results in court. A grand jury found him guilty on 34 counts of falsifying business records. The Biden-Harris campaign said at the time that no one is above the law while Trump called the verdict the result of a "rigged" political system.

Look forward to renewing our collaboration: PM Modi

RAHUL DATTA ■ NEW DELHI

India and the United States' ties across the spectrum including commerce, strategic affairs and defence are likely to see a healthy boost with Donald Trump winning the presidential polls, as he shares a warm relationship with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Prime Minister Modi was one of the first world leaders to congratulate "friend" Donald Trump on his "historic" victory. In his message, Prime Minister Modi on Wednesday said he looks forward to renewing their collaboration to further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global and Strategic Partnership.



"Heartiest congratulations my friend @realDonaldTrump on your historic election victory. As you build on the successes of your previous term, I look forward to renewing our collaboration to further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global and Strategic Partnership," Modi said in a social media post. "Together, let's work for the betterment of our people and to promote global peace, stability and prosperity," he said. The prime minister also posted pictures of his previous meetings with Trump, who was the US president from 2016-2020. Both leaders share the same views regarding strategic co-operation and defence. They also shared a hard stance against terrorism, which strengthened ties,

Sensex, Nifty surge over one per cent

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Stock markets rallied more than 1 per cent on Wednesday with benchmark Sensex soaring 901 points on heavy buying in IT and pharma shares as Donald Trump is all set to win the United States presidential elections. Extending its gains to the second day, the BSE Sensex jumped 901.50 points or 1.13 per cent to settle at 80,378.13. During the day, it soared 1,093.1 points or 1.37 per cent to 80,569.73. The NSE Nifty soared



270.75 points or 1.12 per cent to close at 24,484.05. From the 30-share Sensex pack, Tata Consultancy Services and Infosys jumped over 4 per cent each. HCL Technologies, Tech Mahindra, Adani Ports, Larsen & Toubro, Maruti and Reliance Industries were also among big gainers.

especially regarding Pakistan-based threats. During his first term as president, India and the US also shared a vision for a "free and open Indo-Pacific," in an apparent effort to counter China's aggressive postures in the strategically important region. This led to closer defence ties, joint military exercises, and India's key role in the Quad alliance with the US, Japan, and Australia. During the Covid-19 pandemic, their relationship extended to health cooperation, with India supplying hydroxychloroquine to the US and America later supporting India's response.

CBSE cracks whip on 'dummy' admissions

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a crackdown on 'dummy' admissions, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) on Wednesday withdrew affiliation of 21 schools and downgraded six schools from senior secondary to secondary level, officials said. The move comes following a surprise inspection at the schools in Rajasthan and Delhi in September during which several lapses were found. "The practice of dummy or non-attending admissions contradicts the core mission of school education, compromising students' foundational growth. To address this issue, we are taking decisive action to combat the proliferation of dummy schools and send a clear message to all affiliated institutions to resist the lure of accepting dummy or non-attending admissions," CBSE Secretary Himanshu Gupta said.



He said the vital observations of the surprise inspection committees regarding the irregularities observed during the inspections were communicated as a report to the respective schools. "The replies submitted by the schools were examined in detail by the Board. Based on the inspection findings and supported by videographic evidence, affiliation of 21 schools was withdrawn and six schools were downgraded from senior secondary to secondary level," Gupta added.

LMV license holders can drive transport vehicles: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court (SC) on Wednesday ruled that individuals holding a Light Motor Vehicle (LMV) driving license are eligible to drive transport vehicles with a weight not exceeding 7,500kg. The judgment from a five-judge Constitution Bench, led by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, offers clarity on licensing regulations and is expected to prevent insurance companies from rejecting claims based on the license type of drivers involved in accidents. "A driver holding a license for light motor vehicle... for vehicles with gross vehicle weight under 7,500kg is permitted to operate a transport vehicle without needing additional authorisation... of the Motor Vehicle Act. LMVs and the transport vehicles are not entirely separate classes, and overlap exists



between the two," the Bench held, adding the statute should remain practical and workable. Pronouncing the unanimous verdict for the Bench, Justice Hrishikesh Roy, however, said the special eligibility requirement will continue to apply to vehicles carrying hazardous goods. Besides the CJ and Justice Roy, the Bench also comprised Justices PS Narasimha, Pankaj Mishra and Manoj Misra.

Abandoned at birth, miracle baby Krishna defies death

PTI ■ PRAYAGRAJ/ KANPUR (UP)

In a tale of miraculous survival, an abandoned newborn found clinging to his life from the branches of a tree in Uttar Pradesh's Hamirpur in August has fought back from the jaws of death after surviving 50 wounds, including a deep animal bite, that dotted his tiny, fragile frame. The boy, who was barely two days old when he was found abandoned in Hamirpur, has defied all odds to not only get a new lease of life, but also a new name - 'Krishna' - and most recently, a temporary abode, the government-run children's home in Prayagraj. Prayagraj district probation officer Sarvajit Singh told PTI that the "fully fit" child is now being properly looked after at the children's home, where he was shifted following the orders of the Bal Kalyan



Samiti (child welfare committee) in Hamirpur. Asked about the possibility of adoption, Singh said, "The profile of every such child is uploaded on the website of the Central Adoption Resource Authority. Whoever wants to adopt a child can apply on the website. However, the profile of this child is yet to be uploaded. Before he arrived in Prayagraj, the paediatrics department of the G SVM Medical College in Kanpur had virtually become his home, helping him stage a

miraculous recovery in about two months, where his charming smile endeared him to the doctors and nurses alike. So it didn't come as a surprise when the medical staff of the hospital were moved to tears at the time of his discharge after a triumphant death-defying battle. "Our hearts rejoiced in equal measure when this little kid, found clinging to a fragile thread of life after being abandoned and attacked, recovered fully," Dr Arun

Kumar Arya, head of the paediatrics department at the G SVM Medical College, said in a statement. "Against all odds, this small and innocent baby endured unimaginable hardship, suffering multiple dog bites and scratch marks on his entire body before being mercifully rescued," Dr Arya said. The child was found in an abandoned field in Hamirpur district and later rescued by the police after being notified by the local authorities, he added. The child was "severely malnourished" and "in desperate need of medical attention" at the time of his rescue. The unfed boy had multiple infected wounds on his body and his cries could be heard from afar, Dr Arya said. "The child was admitted to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) on August 31.

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MP-Rajasthan Panel for coordination on Cheetah project

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

In view of incidents of cheetahs from Madhya Pradesh straying into neighbouring Rajasthan, a joint corridor management committee of both the states has been formed to work for conservation of the felines, officials said on Tuesday. The panel will also discuss development of suitable areas for future shifting of cheetahs from Madhya Pradesh's Kuno National Park (KNP) and Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary area and recommend measures for improvement including the pre-augmentation base, an official said in a statement. Under the ambitious cheetah reintroduction project, eight Namibian cheetahs were released into enclosures at the KNP in Sheopur district

on September 17, 2022. Later, another 12 cheetahs were brought to the park from South Africa in February 2023. In May this year, a cheetah from the KNP strayed into Karoli district of Rajasthan and was later rescued. In December 2023, a cheetah strayed into Rajasthan's Baran district and was later brought back to the KNP. The official said a joint committee comprising officials from Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan has been constituted for corridor management of the cheetah project. The panel will discuss and prepare a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan for a study about the development and management of corridors for the movement and conservation of cheetahs. It will discuss capacity building of officers and front-line staff engaged in monitoring, patrolling and other works for the management of cheetahs moving through the existing corridor from Kuno to Rajasthan, the official said. The committee will also evaluate the possibilities of joint tourist routes in the areas bordering both states like the National Chambal Gharial Sanctuary area, Kuno National Park and Ranthambore National Park, etc. The principal chief conservator of forest and chief conservator (wildlife) of Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have been appointed as the joint chairpersons of the committee. The other officials nomi-

Entry fee at Van Vihar hiked

Bhopal: City residents will now have to shell out a little extra to visit the scenic Van Vihar National Park, with the forest department revising the ticket tariff for the sanctuary on Wednesday.

The new prices, which come into effect on November 7, will require pedestrians to pay Rs 25 per person, while cyclists will have to pay Rs 30. The tariff for all vehicles, including two-wheelers, cars, buses, and golf carts, has also been hiked, although the sanctuary is offering a 25 per cent discount on all battery-operated and electric vehicles visiting the park. The entry tariff will now increase by 10 per cent every three years, and foreigners will be required to pay double the amount charged to Indian citizens. Charges for the night safari have also been increased.



Principal Secretary of Madhya Pradesh State Assembly AP Singh with other delegates participates in the 67th Commonwealth Parliamentary conference being held in Sydney, the capital of New South Wales province of Australia, on Wednesday.

MPTB trained 50 young artistes from Chanderi stage 'Baiju Bawra'

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Classical music drama 'Baiju Bawra' performed by a group of passionate young artists of Chanderi at the Tribal Museum. The grand theatrical performance centred on the renowned musician, Baiju Bawra. This theatrical production featuring over 50 young artists was culmination of a 45-day training program conducted by the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board. The performance will blend various storytelling techniques, offering a unique and immersive experience. Principal Secretary, Tourism and Culture Department and Managing Director Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board Sheo Shekhar Shukla said "this cultural extravaganza showcased Madhya Pradesh Tourism Boards ongoing efforts to introduce tourists



to the exciting experiences of community-based tourism in the state under the guidance of Tourism, Culture and Religious Trusts and Endowments Minister (Independent Charge) Shri Dharmendra Bhav Singh Lodhi. The initiative aims to preserve cultural heritage, promote tourism and celebrate the life

and music of Baiju Bawra. Notably as a part of our endeavours to empower local youth, children of weavers from Chanderi were given 45-day training. 'Baiju Bawra' transported audiences to a bygone era, celebrating the life and music of the iconic Baiju Bawra. The classical musical drama depicted his story of becoming extraordinary musician, performing at the court of Akbar in front of his nav-ratna, the story behind adding 'Bawra' in his name and finally when Tansen hugged Baiju Bawra and blessed him, the crowd broke into applause. Notably, the seeds of theater have been sown in the city of Chanderi renowned for rich heritage, exquisite textiles for the first time. Chanderi is also popular film shooting location - most recently for the blockbuster 'Street 2' - Chanderi has always been a city of artistic expression. India's first craft handloom tourism village Prampur has gained national recognition, and its local women-run handloom café has carved a unique niche for itself. The musical drama was a cultural treat, offering a glimpse into the rich history and artistic heritage of state. Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board is continually putting efforts to bring this historic city to limelight. It's the first time a theatre workshop of this scale has been organized in Chanderi. This initiative undertaken by the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board aims to connect the local youth with the tourism industry. As these young talents will not only introduce tourists to Chanderi's rich history, iconic characters, and unique tourism experiences but will also serve as tourism ambassadors and promote the state's cultural heritage.

Farmers not getting adequate electricity during Rabi sowing: Jitu

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

State Congress unit chief, Jitu Patwari, persisted with his concerted criticism of the state government on Wednesday, claiming that farmers in the state are not being provided adequate electricity during the Rabi sowing season. Patwari, who has repeatedly cornered the ruling party—its arch-rivals, the Bharatiya Janata Party—fiercely criticised Chief Minister Mohan Yadav and Union Minister for Farmer Welfare Shivraj Singh Chouhan. He blamed the two for neglecting the plight of farmers while they are engaged in campaigning for the upcoming bypolls. "While elections are being held in Budhni, which is part of the Union Agriculture Minister's constituency, farmers from

Patwari said the situation was grim, as hundreds of farmers blocked the Sironj-Basoda road demanding electricity and shouted slogans against the electricity department and the government

dozens of villages in his area have been forced to fall at the feet of the Tehsildar and electricity department officials, pleading for electricity supply," he said in a statement to the media. Patwari said the situation was grim, as hundreds of farmers blocked the Sironj-Basoda road demanding electricity and shouted slogans against the electricity department and the government. Patwari further stated that while farmers are already troubled by the lack of electricity for sowing, they are also being harassed by

the Union Agriculture Minister, he has shown no concern for them." Patwari sought to remind Chouhan of his criticism of the 15-month Congress government and questioned his silence over farmers' rights, while accusing the Vidisha parliamentarian of double speak. The opposition party leader slammed the ruling dispensation at both the centre and state, while asking, "If this is the situation in the constituency of the Union Minister, one can only imagine the condition of farmers elsewhere." Patwari added that the BJP government and Chouhan should initiate immediate steps to resolve the serious issues of insufficient fertiliser, seeds, electricity, and water to help farmers in their sowing process. He warned that failure to address these issues would result in aggressive farmer agitations led by the Congress.



Members of the Sikh community stage a protest against the Khalistani attack on Hindu Temples in Brampton, Canada, during a demonstration in Bhopal on Wednesday.

Oust Rawat from PESA Task Force: Congress

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Day after the state government included Forest Minister and BJP candidate from Vijaypur, Ramnivas Rawat, in a key task force, the Congress on Wednesday moved the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), describing the appointment as electoral impropriety. The Congress protest comes close on the heels of the state government's announcement of a Task Force Committee—monitoring the implementation of the Panchayats (Extension to Scheduled Areas) Act—on Tuesday. In its missive to the CEO, the main opposition party claims that the inclusion of the Forest Minister in the body constitutes a breach of the model code of conduct as it comes in the midst of campaigning for the November 13 bypolls in

The Congress has sought an immediate revocation of his appointment. In its letter to the CEO, the Congress party says that the ruling party is trying to influence voters through the appointment

Vijaypur, where Rawat is the BJP candidate. The Congress has sought an immediate revocation of his appointment. In its letter to the CEO, the Congress party says that the ruling party is trying to influence voters through the appointment of Rawat as Vice-Chairman of the Task Force Committee while describing the decision as both inappropriate and unethical. "This appointment could unduly increase his influence among the tribal population, thereby impacting the assembly by-election in Vijaypur," reads the letter, copies of which were released to the media. The Congress party said that since this law has been in force for the past year and a half, Rawat's appointment during the Model Code of Conduct seems to serve the purpose of elevating his political stature among tribals to benefit the BJP candidate, which is against regulations. The Congress concludes the letter with a request for immediate action to remove Rawat for the conduct of free and fair elections in Vijaypur.

Ophthalmic society annual conference

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

The three-day annual conference of the MP State Ophthalmic Society will be held at a hotel in the state capital from November 8 and 11. In its 47th year, the conference will host approximately 650-700 delegates from across the state, along with eminent national and international speakers. A workshop will also be held as part of the conference, where training on the latest eye care technologies will be provided. This event will serve as a platform to share the latest treatment techniques and surgical advancements in ophthalmology. The workshop will, in turn, help improve eye health services in the state and contribute towards reducing blindness. A commemorative souvenir has been published to mark the occasion. The inaugural ceremony is scheduled for 7 PM on November 8.

To improve MMR, orientation, training session on health organised

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

With a view to improving maternal mortality rates, the district health department organised an orientation and training session on Ferric Carboxymaltose and Iron Sucrose Infusions at Hamidia Hospital on Wednesday. The training covered the dosages, administration methods, precautions, and protocols related to Ferric Carboxymaltose and Iron Sucrose. The orientation was conducted for doctors from various government and private hospitals in the district and took place in the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department at the top tertiary care facility in the city. The session was addressed by the Dean of Gandhi Medical College, Dr Kavita N. Singh; the Director of Maternal and Child Health, Dr Aruna Kumar; the Joint Director of Maternal Health, Dr Archana Mishra; Dr Anjali Kanher; Dr Gurpreet Nandmer; and Dr Shabana Sultan. The training focused on the early identification of anaemia during pregnancy,

The training covered the dosages, administration methods, precautions, and protocols related to Ferric Carboxymaltose and Iron Sucrose

therapeutic management of anaemia, types and causes of anaemia, severe anaemia conditions, and intravenous iron therapy. The experts explained in detail the process of administering Ferric Carboxymaltose and Iron Sucrose in cases of moderate to severe anaemia. Chief Medical and Health Officer Dr Prabhakar Tiwari said that anaemia is one of the leading causes of maternal mortality. Early registration of ANC (Antenatal Care), prenatal tests, high-risk pregnancy clinics, and the Extended Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan specifically monitor anaemia during pregnancy.

MKVVCL electrifies 4227 villages

Bhopal: Lighting up lives, the central region power distributor has electrified over 4,227 tribal households spread across nine districts of Madhya Pradesh as part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Janman campaign.

The Janman campaign aims to bring equity to tribal households by fostering the socio-economic development of particularly vulnerable tribal groups. The current electrification data, released by the Madhya Kshetra Viduyt Vitran Company Limited (MKVVCL) on Wednesday, pertains to Gwalior, Vidisha, Ashoknagar, Sheopur, Datia, Guna, Shivpuri, Raisen, and Bhind districts of the state. The remaining beneficiary households will be electrified by the end of December this year, said the power distributor. Prominent among the development schemes of Prime Minister Modi, the Janman campaign focuses on energizing tribal-dominated villages and hamlets, with a total of 1,158 villages and hamlets being electrified in the districts of Gwalior, Vidisha, Ashoknagar, Sheopur, Datia, Guna, Shivpuri, Raisen, and Bhind under the company's jurisdiction.

CBI organises Digital Life Certificate campaign 3.0 in Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

With the aim of simplifying the process of submitting certificates for pensioners, the Central Bank of India organised the Digital Life Certificate (DLC) Campaign 3.0 in the state capital on Wednesday. The campaign was conducted in accordance with the guidelines of the Department of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions (DoPPW), New Delhi. Through the campaign, the Central Bank of India is facilitating pensioners in submitting their life certificates digitally, ensuring greater transparency and convenience in their services. The nationwide campaign for digital life certificates is being run for retired government pensioners. Under this scheme, all retired pensioners across the country will now be able to benefit. A pensioners' camp was organised at the Central Bank of India's TT Nagar New Market branch in Bhopal as part of the campaign, which commenced on 6th November. Sonika Khattar, Additional



Swamini Vimalananda Saraswati addresses on the last day of a workshop on 'Advaita in Dance' at Bharat Bhawan in Bhopal on Wednesday.

Modi gave Sheopur global recognition with Cheetah project

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

BJP state president and MP Vishnudutt Sharma and Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan campaigned in Vijaypur constituency of Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday. They addressed a public meeting, public dialogue and party workers' meeting. BJP state president Vishnudutt Sharma said that the BJP government is working to bring happiness in the lives of every society and every class. Narendra Modi ji is the first Prime Minister of the country, who came to Palpur-Kuno and started the Cheetah project. Today, tourists from all over the world are coming here and people are getting employment. Sheopur has got global recognition due to this project. Union Minister Shivraj Singh

Chouhan said that today the name of Modi and India is echoing everywhere in the world. The development of Sheopur has been done only by the BJP government. During this, party candidate in Vijaypur assembly by-election, Ramniwas Rawat also addressed. BJP state president said that who did the development that is visible today in Sheopur district and Vijaypur assembly constituency. Every brick of development here has been laid by the BJP government and the then Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Chief Minister Mohan Yadav. The network of roads that can be seen in every village here is the result of former Prime Minister Late Atal ji's plan to connect every village with roads. Today, the government of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is expanding the highways. State President

Sharma asked who established irrigation projects that provide water to every field and make farmers economically strong? Who did the work of settling cheetahs in Palpur-Kuno of Sheopur district and establishing it on the world tourism map? The answer is only one, the central government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the state government led by Dr. Mohan Yadav. He said that it is only the BJP government that is making the Ladli Bahana economically strong by giving them Rs 1250 every month and is working to bring happiness in the lives of every society, every section. Narendra Modi is the first Prime Minister of the country who came to Palpur-Kuno and started the Cheetah project. Today tourists from all over the world are coming here and people are getting employment. BJP State President Vishnudutt

Sharma said that you must have seen that before 2003, there was a government of Mr. Bantadhar in the state, which had ruined the entire state. People used to yearn for roads, electricity, water. Later, the Kamal Nath government that came for 15 months also stopped development and drowned the state in corruption. Disillusioned with this, BJP candidate and Forest Minister of the state government Ramniwas Rawat joined hands with BJP for the development of this area. He said that today Prime Minister Narendra Modi in the country, Chief Minister Mohan Yadav in the state and Ramniwas Rawat in Sheopur are taking forward the development works. This election is to put a stamp on this development. All of you press the lotus button with full force on the coming 13th and make the lotus of development bloom. Make Ramniwas Rao

win with such a majority that no one can ignore his words for development. Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan said that you have been making Ramniwas Rawat win from here every time, you had made him win last time too. We were telling him for a long time that if a good man joins a good party, it will be good for the region and the people. Finally, when he realized that the Congress party cannot do anything for the development of this region, he left the Congress and joined the BJP, because the development of this region and the welfare of the people here is dear to him. He was a little late in joining the BJP, but better late than never. You make him win with a huge majority and now we all together will leave no stone unturned in the development of Sheopur district and Vijaypur.



Union Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav with BJP candidate Ramakant Bhargava during an election campaign for Budhni state assembly by-election in Piplani, Budhni Sehore district Madhya Pradesh on Wednesday. Pioneer photo



Artists perform Yakshagana, a traditional folk dance form of Karnataka during a cultural event organised by SPICMACAY, Bhopal chapter at Government Kamla Nehru Girls CM Rise School in Bhopal on Wednesday. Pioneer photo

26-year-old youth commits suicide

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

A 26-year-old Betul based youth consumed poisonous substance to commit suicide after informing his mother and sister about suicide; He was angry with family over scolding and committed suicide at a hotel in MP Nagar on Tuesday. The deceased identified as Vishal was staying at Hotel Kanha Crystal located in MP Nagar committed suicide, he came to Bhopal from Betul after being angry with his mother's scolding. Before committing suicide, he called his sisters and informed them about committing suicide. The hotel staff and police took him to the hospital where he was declared dead. SI KP Singh said that Vishal, a resident of Betul, worked with a construction contractor.

When he did not go to work three days ago, his mother scolded him. After this, he came to Bhopal without informing his family. After coming here, he stayed at Kanha Crystal Hotel located in MP Nagar. On Tuesday, he called both his sisters and told them that he was committing suicide because he was fed up with his life. After some time, he also told the hotel staff about consuming poison. The hotel management informed the police. He was first taken to JP and later to Hamidia Hospital. He was declared dead here. The police have registered a case and started an investigation. After the postmortem, Vishal's body was handed over to his family. They left for Betul with him. The reason for the suicide could not be ascertained as no suicide note was found.

Gandhi Sagar Group Water Supply Scheme a boon: CM

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Chief Minister Mohan Yadav said that the Gandhi Sagar Group Water Supply Scheme, under construction in Mandsaur district at a cost of Rs 1211.56 crore, will serve as a boon for 920 villages. The scheme is designed to provide clean drinking water to 2.4 lakh families. By December 2024, it will be completed, ensuring tap connections in every household for easy access to drinking water, which will also enhance the villagers' quality of life. Currently, 75 percent of the project has been completed. Chief Minister Yadav said that the scheme will not only ensure water supply, but it will also boost employment opportunities and also prove to be an important step towards making the villagers self-reliant through community participation.

Public Health Engineering Minister Smt. Sampatiya Uike informed that earlier there was severe water shortage every summer and people used to face water problem due to drying up of water sources, but now a stable way of water supply is being prepared from Gandhi Sagar Dam. The objectives of Jal Jeevan Mission are being realised through this scheme. The objective of Gandhi Sagar Water Supply Scheme is not only to supply water but also to actively involve local communities. More than 1200 workers have got employment under this scheme and many more people will get employment even after the completion of the scheme. For proper operation of this scheme, Village Water and Sanitation Ad-hoc Committees will be formed, in which 50 per-

cent will be women and 25 percent will be representatives of SC/ST/OBC category. These committees will play an active role in water supply and its management, which will ensure a permanent solution to the water crisis and strong participation of villagers. Improvement in sanitation and health in Jal Jeevan Mission This scheme will not only ensure water supply but also work to reduce water-borne diseases and make rural communities healthy. Villagers will be relieved from fetching water from far away and they will be able to do their other important work. Gandhi Sagar Water Supply Scheme has brought a new hope and permanent solution for the rural areas of Mandsaur district. This scheme will not only solve the water crisis but also improve the standard of living in the rural areas.

Revised hike in property rates put on hold in Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Real estate investors in the state capital heaved a sigh of relief when the recently announced revised Collector guideline (property guideline) rates were put on hold until further orders on Wednesday. The move came after members of the Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India (CREDAI) and Bhopal MP Alok Sharma met with Finance Minister Jagdish Deora. The new rates, which marked a 5 to 200 percent increase in government land

values in the city and its surrounding areas, had sent shockwaves through real estate builders, colonisers, and developers. Government land value estimation, commonly referred to as guideline rates, though considerably lower than prevailing market prices in several areas, is used as a benchmark when calculating the worth of a property at the time of registration. In simpler terms, the government land value index for an area determines the tax revenues the state government earns each time a property in that area is

bought and sold. Though higher guideline values can help curb the involvement of the parallel economy in the sector, realignment of these rates is often accompanied by speculation about an impending real estate crash. Following the meeting between real estate developers and the MP, the decision has been put on hold until talks with stakeholders are completed. The proposed new rates included 240 areas in the state capital where guideline property rates would increase by 5 to 200 percent.

Stolen Shivling returns

Bhopal: The Shivling stolen on Diwali night on October 31 in Subhash Colony was found on Wednesday morning in the same place from where it was stolen.

The people of the colony found the Shivling on Wednesday morning at the same place as earlier an unidentified person had stolen this Shivling and now placed it again. The incident was reported from Subhash Colony of Ashoka Garden area. The stolen Shivling was installed under a peepal tree, after finding the Shivling, worship was done there. According to Ashoka Garden Police, the incident of Shivling theft took place near the church in Subhash Colony. A person named Dinesh Goswami lives here. His daily routine in the morning is of worshipping Shivling and following the routine on November 1, he went to worship Shivling. Seeing the idol missing, he along with other people of the colony informed the police. Police reached the spot and saw that the stone Nandi ji was not stolen, only the Shivling was missing. Police interrogated the people around but did not get any information regarding the accused. Then the police started investigating the case. People suspected a family living in the colony itself. The head of this family was also interrogated by the police. After this, the Shivling was suddenly installed at the same place from where it was stolen. The residents used to worship the Shivling installed under the Peepal tree every day.

CM virtually attends temple Bhumi Pujan

Bhopal: Chief Minister Mohan Yadav has said that religious institutions should come forward in the construction of hospitals, schools, colleges, hospitals and dharamshalas etc. for which all possible support will be provided to them by the state government. Ujjain is one of the 7 holiest cities in the country where the state government is encouraging the construction of Dharamshala, Math, Temple etc. for all the communities. A policy has been made to encourage permanent construction in Simbastha area, under which Maharishi Shringa Samaj Utthan Sansthan has decided to build a temple and ashram in Ujjain. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav was virtually addressing the Bhoomi pujan ceremony of Maharishi Shringi Maharaj and Mata Shanta Temple and Ashram being built in Ujjain.

Step up the cleanliness drive: Mayor

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Expressing dissatisfaction over sanitary conditions, Mayor Malti Rai on Wednesday directed officials to step up the cleanliness drive. She was conducting surprise checks at various locations in the city. Rai called for a high standard of cleanliness to be maintained in all parts of the city. She expressed her displeasure after garbage and dirt were found at several spots during the inspection of Zone 6 and Zone 10 of the Bhopal Municipal Corporation (BMC). A visibly upset mayor ordered the deduction of a day's wages from the earnings of Assistant Health Officers in both zones. The inspection was attended by MIC members RK Singh Baghel and Sushma Bawisa,

Zone President Babul Yadav, Councillors Arvind Verma, Shikha Gohal, and a host of BMC officials. Rai carried out inspections at 1100 Quarters, 11 No Stop, and Hanuman Temple, etc., in Ward No. 48 under Zone 6, and Shivaji Nagar, 7 No Stop, Rani Kamalapati Railway Station Tiraha in Ward No. 45 under Zone 10. Mayor Malti Rai instructed that roads, central verges, side verges, footpaths, and other public spaces should be cleaned regularly and that the waste generated during cleaning should be promptly collected and disposed of at designated waste disposal sites. She further directed that high standards of cleanliness be ensured in all areas of the city and encouraged citizens to contribute to maintaining cleanliness.

ED raids several CA firm premises in Bhopal

STAFF REPORTER ■ BHOPAL

Over half a dozen places of a renowned chartered accountant were raided by Enforcement Directorate (ED) in connection with Financial Irregularities in the Aera Colony area of the state capital in the early morning hours on Wednesday. On Wednesday morning, a team of Enforcement Directorate (ED) raided the house of a chartered accountant BC Jain located in Aera Colony. During the investigation, the officers have seized account related documents. Along with the chartered accountant's house in Aera Colony, action continued at the houses of 4 other associates in Bhopal. During this, irregularities in tax and audit documents of many people or companies associated with the CA may be revealed. The action has been

anything in this matter. The work of the CA whose house was raided is looked after by his son and his associate team. There is also talk of a money laundering complaint against this company. After which this action is being taken. ED has taken this action on the basis of complaints received against BC Jain regarding financial irregularities. A team of ED officials reached BC Jain's house and other places at 6 am. The investigation of documents was started at these places of BC Jain from the morning itself. According to the information, BC Jain is accused of money laundering through various financial institutions and businesses. After the ED raid, more revelations may be made in the case in the coming days. Although no official statement has been made regarding this yet, due to serious allegations, some arrests are expected.

along with the chartered accountant's house in Aera Colony, action continued at the houses of 4 other associates in Bhopal. The chartered accountant's house is in Aera Colony. The Central Police Force is deployed outside the two-storey house. However, the officers are avoiding saying

Aadhar Housing Finance Ltd.

Corporate Office: Unit No.802, Natraj Rustomjee, Western Express Highway and M.V.Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai-400069
Vidisha Branch : 1st Floor, Gaurav Business Square, Opposite Adani Wilmar Plant, Sanchi Road, Vidisha-464001, MP
Biaora Branch : Guptaji Building, 1st Floor, Ward No.07, OLD A B Road, Near Axis Bank, Vishwanth Colony, Bakhatpura Biaora, Dist Rajgarh, M.P.-465674

E-AUCTION – SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of immovable Properties under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged, possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" with no known encumbrances Particulars of which are given below:-

S. N.	Borrower(s) / Co-Borrower(s)/ Guarantor(s)	Demand Notice Date and Amount	Description of the Immovable property	Reserve Price (RP)	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) (10% of RP)	Nature of possession
1.	(Loan Code No. 07600000863/ Vidisha Branch) Laxman Singh Kushwah (Borrower), Anita Bai Kushwah & Sachin Kushwah (Co-Borrowers)	08-09-2023 & ₹ 6,23,106/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, Part of Aaraji No 224 Swaroop Nagar Old Railway Colony Hardukhed Road Behind Railway Station, Vidisha, Madhya Pradesh, 464221. Boundaries : East - Gali, West- Way, North- House of Prassann Kumar Jain, South - House of Mukesh Kumar Sharma	₹ 7,90,560/-	₹ 79,056/-	Physical
2.	(Loan Code No. 13610000172 / Biaora Branch) Pachulal Verma (Borrower), Anar Bai (Co-Borrower)	13-05-2024 & ₹ 14,27,098/-	All that part & parcel of property bearing, House No 2/1497 Bhanwar Colony Ragarh Khujner Road Ward No 05 Rajgarh Madhya Pradesh 465661 Boundaries: East- Hosue of Gopal Dangi, West- Common Road to Colony, North- Plot of Laxminarayan Kusum, South- House of Ramkala Bai	Rs. 12,42,000/-	Rs. 1,24,200/-	Physical

- Last Date of Submission of DD of Earnest Money Deposit along with KYC, Tender Form and accepted Terms and conditions (Tender Documents) is 21-11-2024 within 5:00 PM at the Branch Office address mentioned herein above or uploaded on <https://bankeauctions.com>. Tenders documents received beyond last date will be considered as invalid tender and shall accordingly be rejected. No interest shall be paid on the EMD.
- Date of Opening of the Bid/Offer (Auction Date) for Property is 22-11-2024 on <https://bankeauctions.com> at 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM.
- AHFL is not responsible for any liabilities whatsoever pending upon the property as mentioned above. The Property shall be auctioned on 'As is Where is Basis', 'As is What is Basis' and 'Whatever is There is Basis'.
- The Demand Draft Should be made in favor of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited' Only.
- Auction/bidding shall be only through "Online Electronic Bidding" through the website <https://bankeauctions.com>. Bidders are advised to go through the website for detailed terms before taking part in the e-auction sale proceedings.
- The intending bidders should register their names at portal M/S C 1 INDIA PVT LTD through the link <https://bankeauctions.com/registration/ signup>, and get their User ID and password free of cost. Prospective bidder may avail online training on E- auction from the service provider M/S C 1 INDIA PVT LTD through the website <https://bankeauctions.com>
- For further details contact Authorised Officer of Aadhar Housing Finance Limited, Lokendra Rathore, (Contact No. 9977783890) OR the service provider M/S C 1 INDIA PVT LTD, Mr. Prabhakaran, Mobile No: +91-74182-81709, E-mail: tn@c1india.com & support@bankeauctions.com, Phone No. +917291981124 /25 /26 As on date, there is no order restraining and/or court injunction AHFL/the authorized Officer of AHFL from selling, alienating and/or disposing of the above immovable properties/secured assets.
- For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (AHFL), secured creditor's website i.e. www.aadharhousing.com.
- The Bid incremental amount for auction is Rs. 10,000/-.

Place : Madhya Pradesh Date : 07-11-2024 (Authorised Officer) For Aadhar Housing Finance Limited

Karnataka Bank Ltd.

Head Office, Mangaluru-575 002
Asset Recovery Management Branch : 2nd Floor 'E' Block, The Metropolitan, Plot No. C-26 & C-27, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East) Mumbai - 400011.
Landline : 022-35008017/35128482/35082558
E-mail : mumbaiarm@ktbank.com, Website : www.karnatakabank.com

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY ON 27.11.2024

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property/ies under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer (details of possession is mentioned below), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis on 27.11.2024 at the below mentioned timings for recovery of dues with further interest and cost thereon due to the Karnataka Bank Ltd. The details are as under: Reserve Price and Earnest Money Deposits details are as under and the Earnest Money Deposit shall be deposited on or before 26.11.2024 at 4.00 pm through online payment to the Account (details of which are mentioned below).

Sl No.	Branch Name	Name & Address of the Borrowers/ Guarantors	Balance O/S in Rs.	Description of the Property/ies	Reserve Price (Rs.)		Date & Time of Auction	Details for Remitting EMD Account No. / IFSC Code
					Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Rs.	Incremental Value of the Bid		
1	Bhopal-Rohit Nagar Branch	1) M/s Yuvraj Singh, a proprietary firm represented by its proprietor Mr. Yuvraj Singh, 2) Mr. Yuvraj Singh, S/o Mr. Rajendra Bahadur Singh, Both 1 and 2 addressed at: House No. 03, Gold Villa, Aakrity Eco City, Salaiya, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh 462016, Both 1 and 2 also addressed at: H No 67, Shiv Royal Park Salaiya Near Aakrity Green, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh 462016, 3) Mr. Shivendra Singh, S/o Mr. Rajendra Bahadur Singh, addressed at: P-18 A Housing Board, House E-7 Aera Colony, Tehsil Huzur, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh 462016.	Rs.3,91,59,493.34 (Rupees Three Crore Ninety One Lakhs Fifty Nine Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Three and Paise Thirty Four Only) i.e. Rs.3,27,83,211.95 under PSD A/c No. 947700060001001 along with future interest from 01.07.2023 and Rs.63,76,281.39 under PSTL A/c No.947700180004501 along with future interest from 01.07.2023 plus costs	All that part and parcel of Commercial Office on 2nd Floor, bearing no. 201/E-1 measuring 3691 sqft. in multi storied building known as Capital Mall constructed on land measuring 2.603 hectare, situated at Misrod Village, Tehsil Huzur, Bhopal District belonging to Mr. Yuvraj Singh. Boundaries of Property: East by: Office No.201-F; West by: Corridor; North by: Office No.201-C, 201-D; South by: Corridor.	Rs.1,77,00,000/- (Rupees One Crore Seventy Seven Lakhs Only)	Rs. 17,70,000/- (Rupees Seventeen Lakhs Seventy Thousand Only)	27.11.2024 from 3.40 PM to 4.00 PM	RTGS Account Number: 9473500200004101, Karnataka Bank Ltd, Bhopal-Rohitnagar Branch, IFSC Code - KARB0000947

(The borrower's/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset) For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website i.e. <https://karnatakabank.com/auction-notice> under the head "Auction Notices"/"Mega Auction Notices". The E-auction will be conducted through portal <https://bankeauctions.in/> on 27.11.2024 at the above mentioned timings with unlimited extension of 05 minutes. The intending Bidder is required to register their name at <https://bankeauctions.in/> and get the user id and password free of cost and get training i.e. online training on e-auction (tentatively on 26.11.2024) from M/s. C1 closure, 605A, 6th Floor, Maitrivanam, Ameerpet, Hyderabad - 500038, Contact No. 040-23736405, Mobile: 8142000735, E-mail: dinesh@bankeauctions.in

Place: Mumbai Date: 29.10.2024 Sd/- Chief Manager & Authorised Officer, Karnataka Bank Ltd.

NIC warns officials of rising vishing scams

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Cyber security advisory has cautioned government officials against trusting the caller ID information that pops up while receiving a phone call, following a spurt in "vishing" attacks aimed at compromising confidential personal information and gaining unauthorised access to official systems. "Attackers may impersonate trusted entities, such as senior government officials, law enforcement agencies, or technical support personnel," the advisory issued recently by the National Informatics Centre (NIC) says. The severity of the communication has been categorised as "high". It has specified that attackers "manipulate" caller ID information to make a call appear as if it is coming from a "legitimate government number". The communication sent to multiple government departments and ministries has been accessed by PTI. It says it was issued as "in recent months, there has been an increase in



vishing attacks targeting government officials to compromise confidential information and gain unauthorised access to official systems". "Vishing" or voice-phishing is a social engineering attack where scammers use phone calls or voice messages to manipulate individuals to share sensitive information, such as log-in credentials, personal information and financial details.

The attackers also deploy the tactic of conveying a "sense of urgency", "coercing" targets into revealing information by implying severe consequences for non-compliance and using "complex technical language" to confuse or intimidate targets, making them more likely to comply, the advisory has said. It has asked government officials to be cautious against such techniques as it has underlined that caller ID information can be "easily spoofed".

"Do not trust the legitimacy of the caller based solely on the displayed number. Cross-check any caller claiming to represent an official agency with official records," the communication has advised. It has also asked officials to mandatorily verify the caller's identity through government channels before sharing sensitive information. The advisory has asked them to call back the organisation or individual using publicly available contact information. Officials, according to the advisory, should always "be suspicious of any unsolicited calls asking for personal or confidential information, especially when the caller is creating urgency or panic to pressure compliance". "Take time to verify the information provided by a suspect caller," the advisory has said. It has also asked government staffers to practise all established protocols for ensuring safe cyber interaction during work and otherwise.

Cabinet approves PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme for student loans

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved the PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme to provide monetary support to meritorious students so that financial constraints do not prevent them from pursuing quality higher education, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said. As per the scheme, anybody who gets admission in Quality Higher Education Institutions (QHEIs) will be eligible to get collateral free, guarantor-free loan from banks and financial institutions to cover the full amount of tuition fees and other expenses related to the course. "The Cabinet has approved PM-Vidyalaxmi scheme to provide financial support to meritorious students so that financial constraints do not prevent any youth of India from pursuing quality higher education," Vaishnav said at a Press conference.



The scheme will be applicable to the top QHEIs as determined by the NIRF rankings - including all HEIs, government and private, that are ranked within the top 100 in NIRF in overall, category-specific and domain-specific rankings, state government HEIs ranked in 101-200 in the NIRF and all central government-run institutions. "This list will be updated every year using the latest NIRF ranking, and to begin with 860 qualifying QHEIs, covering more than 22 lakh students to be able to potentially avail benefits of PM-Vidyalaxmi, if they so desire," an official statement said.

Indian Coast Guard Lays Foundation for Tier-III Data Centre

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Deputy Director General (Policy & Plans), Indian Coast Guard (ICG), Inspector General (IG) Anand Prakash Badola laid the foundation stone for the Tier-III Data Centre of Project Digital Coast Guard (DCG) on Tuesday at Mahipalpur here, officials said on Wednesday. Equipped with latest technology, the Project DCG's Tier-III Data Centre will serve as the brain centre to monitor and administer all the appli-

cations and vital IT resources, thereby providing critically important support to the administrative functioning of ICG. Project DCG, being executed by Telecommunications Consultants India Limited, includes construction of state-of-the-art Data Centre in New Delhi, 'Disaster Recovery Data Centre' at New Mangalore, Karnataka and Pan-India connectivity among ICG locations including ships and also implementation of an 'Enterprise Resource Planning' application.

Centre approves ₹ 10,700 Crore equity for FCI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre on Wednesday approved infusion of Rs 10,700 crore as equity in state-owned FCI for working capital requirement this fiscal. The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is the government's nodal agency for procurement and distribution of foodgrains. "The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved infusion of equity of Rs 10,700 crore for working capital in financial year 2024-25 in Food Corporation of India (FCI)," an official statement said. The decision is aimed at bolstering the agricultural sector and ensuring the welfare of farmers nationwide. "This strategic move shows the government's steadfast commitment to supporting farmers and fortifying India's agrarian economy," it added. The FCI started its journey in 1964 with authorised capital of



Rs 100 crore and equity of Rs 4 crore. The operations of FCI increased manifolds resulting in increase of authorised capital from Rs 11,000 crore to Rs 21,000 crore in February 2023. The equity of FCI was Rs 4,496 crore in 2019-20 fiscal, which was increased to Rs 10,157 crore in 2023-24. "Now, the Government of India has approved a significant amount of equity of Rs 10,700 crore for FCI which will strengthen it financially and will give a big boost to the initiatives taken for its transformation," the statement said. FCI plays a pivotal role in ensuring food security by procurement of foodgrains at Minimum Support Price (MSP), maintenance of strategic foodgrain stocks, distribu-

tion of foodgrains for welfare measures and stabilisation of foodgrain prices in the market. "The infusion of Equity is a significant step towards enhancing the operational capabilities of FCI in fulfilling its mandate effectively. FCI resorts to short-term borrowings to match the gap of fund requirement. This infusion will help to lower the interest burden and will ultimately reduce the subsidy of the Government of India," the statement said. The government's dual commitment to MSP-based procurement and investment in FCI's operational capabilities signifies a collaborative effort towards empowering farmers, fortifying the agricultural sector, and ensuring food security for the nation, it added.

Tight waistbands linked to 'petticoat's cancer risk

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Imagine wearing a traditional saree every day, only to discover years later that the tight waist cord of your petticoat might have silently caused a dangerous health issue. Dubbed 'petticoat cancer,' the condition is linked to the chronic pressure from tightly tied waistbands, a stark reminder that even long-standing cultural habits can carry hidden risks, according to a study published in British Medical Journal (BMJ) Case Reports. The doctors in the reports have advised wearing a loose petticoat beneath the saree to ease pressure on the skin and loose clothing if skin problems develop to allow the area to heal. They also advise seeking medical attention if any skin irritation or ulcers develop, as non-healing wounds can eventually turn malignant. The study has revealed how



this seemingly harmless practice can lead to serious skin problems, including ulcers and even skin cancer. The condition, caused by prolonged pressure and friction, can lead to skin irritation, non-healing ulcers, and, in severe cases, skin cancer (squamous cell carcinoma). Doctors, including those from Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College in Uttar Pradesh, explained that continuous pressure and friction from a tight waist cord can cause long-term skin irritation. This irritation can lead to ulcers, which, in some cases, may develop into skin cancer, they said based on the two cases they came through.

According to the authors, a 70-year-old woman sought medical treatment for a painful skin ulcer on her right side, i.e., between ribs and hip bone, which had been present for 18 months and refused to heal. The authors noted that the skin around the ulcer had lost its pigmentation. They also mentioned that the woman wore her petticoat tightly tied around her waist beneath her saree. In the second case, a woman in her late 60s was reported to have had an ulcer on her right flank that had not healed for two years. "A woman in her late 60s presented with a two-year history of an ulcerating lesion on her

right flank. She wore a lugda daily for 40 years. A lugda is tied very tightly around the waist without a petticoat," the authors wrote. The authors further noted that the biopsies revealed that both women had a Marjolin ulcer, also known as squamous cell carcinoma (ulcerating skin cancer). In the second woman, the cancer had spread to one of the lymph nodes in her groin at the time of diagnosis, the authors said. Authors warn chronic pressure from tight clothing can lead to non-healing ulcers and potential skin cancer. "Constant pressure at the waist often leads to cutaneous atrophy, which ultimately breaks down to form an erosion or an ulcer. The ulcer at this site does not heal entirely due to ongoing pressure from tight clothing. A chronic non-healing wound results, which may develop malignant change," the authors wrote in the study.

BJP enrolls over ten Lakh members in Tripura

PTI ■ AGARTALA



The BJP has enrolled over 10 lakh people as its members during an ongoing membership drive, a senior party leader said on Wednesday. A total of 8.51 lakh people have enrolled their names online as members of the ruling party, while another 2 lakh have registered in the offline mode, the party's Tripura in-charge Rajdeep Roy said. "The Tripura BJP had set a target to have 10 lakh members in the state which has a population of 40 lakh and we have achieved it," he told reporters at Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport. Roy said of the 2 lakh applications for membership through the offline mode, around 1.50 lakh names have already been uploaded on the membership drive web portal. The drive commenced on September 3 and is scheduled to continue till November 15. The total enrolment includes both fresh members as well as renewal of membership. "This is yet another big achievement for the party's state unit under the leadership of Chief Minister Manik Saha and BJP state president and MP Rajib Bhattacharjee. They did a remarkable job to achieve the target," he said. Tripura's name is now clubbed with big states such as Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh and Assam with regard to fulfilment of organisational targets set by the party's central leadership, he said. After completion of the membership drive, active members will be identified for participation in organisational elections, he added.

Manipur CM hails Thadou support for NRC, anti-drug drive

PTI ■ IMPHAL

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Wednesday expressed his satisfaction over the recent resolution passed at the Thadou Convention, which voiced support for the National Register of Citizens (NRC) and the state's 'War on Drugs' campaign. Singh, however, emphasised that the government would not compromise its policies in the name of bringing peace by accommodating outsiders. At a convention in Guwahati last week, the Thadou tribe pledged its support for NRC and also backed the state government's 'war on drugs'. Thadou is the largest tribe within the Kuki community. However, during the recent convention, the community asserted that "it is a distinct ethnic group of people, with own distinct language, culture, traditions and great history and



Thadou is not Kuki, or underneath Kuki, or part of Kuki, but a separate, independent entity from Kuki." Speaking at the launch of the Chief Minister's Coaching Scheme for Entrance Examinations to Professional Courses, Singh said, "Peace will definitely come. Thadou is one of the oldest tribes in the state. Following the Thadou Convention's support for the NRC and the War on Drugs campaign, several civil society organisations in the state have welcomed and appreciated this

stance." He added, "We cannot compromise on our policies in the name of peace. Under the guise of inclusiveness, we cannot accommodate every outsider. We must protect the distinctiveness of our indigenous communities and the rights of old settlers. We have faced numerous challenges because of this objective. We should also not forget that we are Indians." Regarding the coaching scheme, Singh said it aimed to empower students in Manipur

to compete at the national level for professional courses like JEE (Main/Advanced) and NEET. He added, "People with knowledge and education are less likely to get involved in conflict and will maintain decorum in their speech and actions. Defending the unity and integrity of India is our collective duty, and we must understand the rights guaranteed under our Constitution." Singh said there would be an examination at the end of the coaching course, which would be held in March or April. He added that the government would bear the expenses of students who successfully pass the exam. Additionally, Singh urged the selected students to plant a tree under the Prime Minister's initiative "Maa Ke Naam Ek Per" (One Tree in the Name of Mother), encouraging environmental responsibility alongside their academic pursuits.

Swacch Ghat 2.0: Yogi government launches cleanliness drive for Chhath festival

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

In a bid to enhance cleanliness and beautification efforts at river ghats during the Chhath Mahaparva, the Yogi Adityanath-led government has launched the Swacch Ghat Pratiyogita 2.0 (Clean Ghat Competition 2.0) across Uttar Pradesh. The initiative, which runs until November 8 seeks to promote a cleaner, plastic-free environment by actively engaging local communities, schools, NGOs, and volunteer groups. The program has introduced the concept of "Arpan Kalash" at each ghat, where devotees can contribute offerings while being reminded to maintain the cleanliness of the area. Ghats are also designated as "No Plastic Zones" under this initiative, restricting the use of



plastic and thermocol items, which are commonly used in religious rituals. To ensure convenience and sanitation for devotees, temporary toilets and bathing facilities have been installed, with daily maintenance teams in place. This effort is being reinforced by the Swachh Sarathi Club, schools, colleges, universities, and other voluntary groups who are contributing to the success of the competition by spreading awareness on cleanliness. The initiative also emphasizes

waste management by installing dustbins at strategic locations across ghats to facilitate proper disposal. Citizens are being encouraged to actively participate in cleanliness drives, making the festival a community-led effort to beautify the riverside areas. Numerous NGOs and civil society organizations have joined hands with the government, not only conducting cleanliness campaigns but also educating the public on sustainable environmental practices.

Ajit Pawar promises to increase benefits under Shinde Government scheme

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI

In its manifesto for the 2024 Maharashtra Assembly polls, the Ajit Pawar-led NCP has promised to increase the quantum of assistance under the "Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana" from Rs 1,500 to 2,100 per month, to enhance the benefit under the Shetkari Sanman Nidhi from Rs 12,000 to Rs 15,000 per year and to grant Rs 25000 per hectare bonus for paddy farmers. While releasing his party's 11-point manifesto in his home constituency of Baramati on Wednesday, NCP President and Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said that in addition to the state-wide manifesto, his party would also release con-

stituency-specific manifestos in the coming days. Simultaneously, NCP (AP)'s Working President Praful Patel released the NCP (AP) party's at Gondia in Vidarbha region, while State unit chief Sunil Tatkare released the in Mumbai. At a mega high-tech event, the NCP (Ajit Pawar) released the manifesto in all the constituencies from which it is contesting through video-conferencing. All the senior party leaders, including Pawar, Patel and Tatkare, were present at the event. Pawar said that the NCP (AP) -- if re-elected to power -- has promised to increase the amount under Majhi Ladki Bahin Yojana from existing Rs 1,500 per month to Rs 2,100



per month. "This initiative will be the largest monthly Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in Maharashtra's history providing benefits of Rs 25,000 per year to over 2.3 crore women," the NCP (AP) chief said. "This initiative will be the largest monthly DBT transfer in Maharashtra's history pro-

viding benefits of Rs 25,000 per year to over 2.3 crore women," he added. Among other things, the NCP (AP) talks about increasing the old age pension from Rs 1,500 to Rs 2,100 per month. For farmers, the party has promised to raise the Shetkari Sanman Nidhi from Rs 12,000 to Rs 15,000 per year, combining support from both the central and state governments. The manifesto also talks about waiving the farmers loan and giving 20 per cent additional subsidy for all crops sold under MSP. Besides this, NCP has also given an assurance of Rs 25000 per hectare bonus for paddy farmers. "We have resolved to build more than 45000 'panand'

roads in rural parts of Maharashtra. This is the biggest plan to develop the rural agricultural infrastructure', the manifesto stated. Other promises include a commitment to create 2.5 million jobs and provide monthly stipends of Rs 10,000 to 10 lakh students through training. A monthly salary of Rs 15,000 for Anganwadi and ASHA workers and commitment to reduce electricity bills by 30% while prioritizing solar and renewable energy are some other promises made by the NCP (AP). "We vow to implement measures that will curb the prices of essential commodities, making them more affordable for everyone", the manifesto stated.

Parliamentary panel postpones briefing on India's ties with Canada, China

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A briefing by Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri to a parliamentary panel headed by Congress MP Shashi Tharoor on India's volatile ties with Canada and China did not take place on Wednesday and is likely to be taken up later, sources said. They said the briefing by the External Affairs Ministry delegation on its demands for grants for the year 2024-25 went on for a long time and it was decided that the briefing on these issues will be done at a later meeting. The ministry officials also had some other engagement, a MP



said, noting that the panel's meeting coincided with the US presidential election result in which Donald Trump stormed back to power. India's ties with Canada have nosedived over the North American country's allegation of the Indian government's involvement in the killing of a Khalistani activist, a charge rejected by New Delhi. India has accused Canada of pro-

viding safe haven to the separatists. India's relations with China have also been frosty following the Ladakh standoff but have recently seen some thaw after the two countries reached an agreement on the issue. Some MPs said the next meeting should take place after the state elections and the by-elections to allow maximum participation as some of them may be busy in campaign. The results to the polls are scheduled for November 23. Misri had in the earlier meeting of the parliamentary committee on external affairs briefed its members on the "Israel-Palestine Conflict".

Sharda Sinha to be cremated in Patna with full State honours

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PATNA/NEW DELHI

Renowned singer Sharda Sinha, who breathed her last at AIIMS Delhi on Tuesday, will be cremated in Patna with full state honours on Thursday. Patna District Magistrate (DM) Chandrashekhar Singh said her mortal remains reached in the State's Capital on Wednesday. "As per wishes of her family members, Sinha's cremation will take place around 9 am on Thursday", said Singh.

One of the things that Sinha would be remembered for is her rendition of devotional songs meant for 'Chhathi', the most popular festival of the state which, incidentally, falls on Thursday when the 'Bihar Kokila' will be consigned to flames. Sinha's mortal remains have been kept at her Rajendra Nagar house (near Kankarbagh) in Patna where her fans and well wishers will pay their last respects to the popular folk singer. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar announced cremation with full state honours for Sinha, a recipient of Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan. Kumar visited Sinha's house on Wednesday afternoon to pay last respects to the departed soul. Besides, several VVIPs are also expected to visit



the singer's house to pay homage. Union Minister and BJP national president J P Nadda is also expected to visit Sinha's house on Thursday evening. Sinha passed away on Tuesday night while undergoing treatment at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi. She was 72. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee condoned Sinha's death and said, "Saddened at the demise of noted folk singer Sharda Sinha. Also known as 'Bihar Kokila' due to her melodious voice, her songs in Bhojpuri, Maithili,

and Magadhi languages will always be remembered. I express my sincere condolences to her bereaved family, friends and fans." Renowned singer Sharda Sinha's son, Anshuman, on Thursday expressed his wish for his late mother to be considered posthumously for the Padma Vibhushan, the second-highest civilian honour in the country. Prominent cinema personalities Anurag Kashyap, Manoj Bajpayee, Richa Chadha, Huma Qureshi, and Sonu Nigam were amongst others who

condoned the death of Sharda Sinha, fondly called 'Bihar Kokila' by her fans. The Padma Bhushan recipient lent her voice to songs prominently in Maithili, Bhojpuri and Magahi languages such as "Chhathi Maiya Aayi Na Duariya", "Ho Deenanath", "Dwar Chekai", and "Patna Se", but had also sung Hindi film songs like "Taar Bijli" ("Gangs of Wasseypur"), "Kahe Toh Se Sajna" ("Maine Pyar Kiya"), and "Babul" ("Hum Aapke Hain Koun..."). Production house Rajshri, which backed "Maine Pyar Kiya" and "Hum Aapke Hain Koun...", shared a condolence message on its social media page. Born in Supaul in Bihar, Sinha became famous not only in her home state but also in parts of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

Popular playback singer Sonu Nigam said it was extremely saddening to lose "respected Sharda Sinha ji during the great festival of Chhathi Puja". Bhojpuri actor and politician Ravi Kishan said without Sinha's voice, every festival seemed empty, especially the festival of Chhathi, which is why "chhati maiya" called her back during this time. Former Bhojpuri actor and BJP MP Manoj Tiwari, who on Tuesday visited the bereaved family after Sinha's death at AIIMS-Delhi, shared a heartfelt post on the microblogging site.

Maharashtra: BJP expels 40 rebel candidates from the party

T N RAGHUNATHA ■ MUMBAI



Faced with an unprecedented rebellion in constituencies across poll-bound Maharashtra, the ruling BJP has cracked the whip and expelled as many as 40 party rebel candidates in 36 Assembly constituencies across the state. In a formal statement issued a day after the deadline for withdrawal of nominations ended, the BJP named the 40 rebel candidates whom it expelled from the primary membership of the party for violating the party and indulging in anti-party activities. Known all along for discipline in its party ranks, the BJP is dealing with massive rebellion across the state. The expelled rebel candidates are taking on the party's official candidates. "There are more rebel candidates in the fray than the ones named in the list. There are 78 more rebel candidates in the fray. All these rebels are contesting against the official candidates put up by our allies - the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena and Ajit Pawar-headed NCP," a BJP leader who did

had threatened that it would initiate disciplinary candidate if she did not withdraw her nomination against Padvi. Earlier this year, Dr Heena was trounced in the Lok Sabha polls by Gopal Padvi, son of incumbent Akkalkuwa MLA KC Padvi. Congress has re-nominated KC Padvi as its candidate from Akkalkuwa. Dr Heena's father, Vijaykumar Gavit - who is the state tribal development minister in the Eknath Shinde candidate - remains with the BJP candidate from the neighbouring Nandurbar constituency. However, much to the relief of the BJP, senior BJP leader and former MP Gopal Shetty - who had threatened to contest as a rebel against the party's official candidate Sanjay Upadhyay from Borivilli constituency in Mumbai - has withdrawn his nomination. He had filed his nomination as an independent last week. Similarly, the BJP's former corporator Atul Shah, who had threatened to contest as a rebel against the party's erstwhile functionary-turned Eknath Shinde Shiv Sena candidate Shaina - has backed out of the contest.

Samajwadi Party to focus on alleged land scams, corruption in by-election campaign

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

The Samajwadi Party (SP) plans to spotlight alleged irregularities in land purchases, corruption, fertilizer shortages, law and order, the Constitution, and unemployment in its campaign for the upcoming by-elections. SP President Akhilesh Yadav, during a meeting with supporters in Ghaziabad aimed to convey a political message to party workers and voters across Uttar Pradesh. Yadav has officially launched his by-election campaign from Ghaziabad and will soon extend his efforts to other seats. SP considers these by-elections a "semifinal" for the next state assembly elections. Party leaders believe that a victory here would send a strong message that defeating



the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is achievable for SP. With this goal in mind, SP's focus is on preventing a religious-based polarization of votes and instead, driving caste-based unity through its 'PDA' (Progressive Democratic Alliance) slogan. A senior SP leader explained, "The PDA strategy is our answer to the BJP's attempts at religious polarization." Yadav used the Ghaziabad rally to

boost morale, emphasising that the public is ready to remove the BJP from power. He encouraged SP workers to remain active at the grassroots level, asserting that a dedicated effort could lead to an SP victory in Uttar Pradesh. The SP is also capitalizing on complaints regarding alleged malpractices in urban land deals. Yadav called for the public release of land purchase

records in key areas like Ghaziabad, Lucknow, and Ayodhya, a move regarded as a strategic "masterstroke" by party insiders. On constitutional issues, Yadav addressed recent Supreme Court rulings related to madrasa education, criticizing several BJP government decisions as unconstitutional. He stated, "All unconstitutional decisions by the BJP government must be reversed." He further noted that both the High Court and Supreme Court have repeatedly admonished the BJP government on such issues. As the by-elections approach, SP is poised to leverage these issues to challenge the BJP's policies and reinforce its image as a viable alternative for voters seeking change in Uttar Pradesh.

FIR lodged against actor-turned-BJP leader Mithun Chakraborty for 'provocative' speech

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KOLKATA

West Bengal Police on Wednesday lodged an FIR against actor-turned-BJP leader Mithun Chakraborty for allegedly delivering a provocative speech during a party programme in North 24 Parganas district last month. According to police sources, the complaint against Chakraborty pertains to a speech he made during a BJP programme at the EZCC in Salt Lake area on October 27, based on which police registered an FIR at Bidhannagar South police station. Union Home Minister Amit Shah was also present at the programme, which was organised to kick off the West Bengal leg of the BJP's membership drive. "We have started an investigation into



the case," said a senior officer of Bidhannagar police station. Although Chakraborty was unavailable for comment, BJP state president and Union Minister Sukanta Majumdar described the FIR as a result of "vendetta politics." "There is nothing provocative in his speech. These are nothing but attempts to intimidate him by using police as a political tool," he said. Chakraborty, who received India's highest film honour, the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, earlier this year, had asserted

on October 27 that the "masnad" (throne) of West Bengal would belong to the BJP after the 2026 Assembly elections, promising to do whatever it takes to achieve the goal. While speaking at the programme at the Eastern Zonal Cultural Centre (EZCC), Chakraborty said, "In 2026, the masnad will be ours, and we will do everything to achieve the goal." In an apparent reference to TMC MLA Humayun Kabir's communal remarks aimed at BJP workers during the Lok Sabha elections, Chakraborty cautioned that no one should attempt to intimidate saffron party voters into abstaining from voting in the next Assembly elections. He called upon the booth-level workers of his party to resist any such attempts.

Meghalaya Cabinet approves amendment of building byelaws

PTI ■ SHILLONG

The Meghalaya Cabinet has approved the amendment of the Meghalaya Building Byelaws aimed at regulating the construction of buildings in industrial zones across the state including those in the New Shillong Township. Cabinet minister and MDA spokesperson Paul Lyngdoh on Tuesday said, "This (amendment) is broadly to facilitate the need to categorise the industrial zone to categories earlier not done and also it involves the amendment of the building byelaws for these industrial zones." "The expansion that is happening currently specially in the new Shillong city has to be planned in a very scientific manner, which is why we need these new sets of byelaws for industrial zones to be in place and these were considered and approved by the cabinet on Tuesday," he added. According to the minister, the new regulation would be applicable in designated industrial estates across Meghalaya citing that urbanisation is an ever ongoing process and it is expanding. "There is need to regulate such buildings and therefore, the cabinet decided in view of the growing urbanisation and the emergence of new urban centres so within these industrial zones and estates, the categorisation of these buildings and their applicability of the byelaws will be extended to those industrial zones. These are all for the industrial estates/zones and wherever such activities are taking place so right now new Shillong is the immediate point of attention but it will be across the state wherever such industrial estates are being created," he stated. The state cabinet also approved the amendment of the Meghalaya Forensic Science Laboratory Rules, 2021 for the creation of more posts in the mobile forensic crime scene units.

Union Minister Shivraj Calls INDIA Bloc promises for Jharkhand elections 'dud Bombs'

PTI ■ BHOPAL

Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Wednesday termed the INDIA bloc guarantees for the upcoming Jharkhand assembly elections as "lies" and "dud bombs". Talking to reporters here, Chouhan claimed the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) and Congress had made promises during the previous assembly elections also but none of them were fulfilled. "They (JMM and Congress) had said that they will provide five lakh government jobs. Not given. They promised to give Rs 2,000 monthly for chulha-kharach (domestic expenses). Not given. They brought a scheme to give Rs 1,000 just two months ahead of elections. They promised unemployment allowance to the jobless. Not given," Chouhan said.



These parties had promised to purchase the paddy crop by giving bonus on the minimum support price (MSP), but it was also not given, the BJP leader said. "The JMM had made 117 promises (in the last assembly elections), Congress made 344 promises. Not even one of them was fulfilled in the last five years and they have now come up with new promises. These guarantees are the dud bombs which never burst and the people have no faith in them," he said. On the other side, the BJP fulfils all its promises, as

witnessed in Chhattisgarh and Odisha, Chouhan said. "We are fulfilling all the guarantees in Chhattisgarh and Odisha, where elections were held recently, because our leader and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is the guarantee of fulfilling all the guarantees. Nobody has faith in INDI alliance guarantees because they speak lies," he said. On Tuesday, the INDIA bloc unveiled its manifesto for the upcoming Jharkhand assembly elections, assuring 10 lakh jobs for youth and health insurance coverage of up to Rs 15 lakh for the poor among other promises. Asked about Congress MP Rahul Gandhi's statement about breaking the reservation cap of 50 per cent after a caste census, Chouhan remarked, "On a foreign land, Rahul Gandhi also said he will end the reservation when time comes. Which of his words should be trusted?"

'Answered all questions, told them truth,' says Siddaramaiah after deposing before Lokayukta police

PTI ■ MYSURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said he has answered all questions posed to him by Lokayukta police in the MUDA case and he has told them the "truth". The CM, who has been named as accused number 1 in the FIR lodged by the Lokayukta police, is facing allegations of illegalities in the allotment of 14 sites to his wife Parvathi B M by the Mysuru Urban Development Authority (MUDA). The Lokayukta police questioned Siddaramaiah for about two hours. "Everything has happened legally, BJP and JD(S) are making false allegations...I have answered all questions posed to me by Lokayukta Police, they have recorded it...They will proceed with further investigation," Siddaramaiah said. Speaking to reporters after



appearing before Lokayukta police, he said: "...A false case was made against me, I was questioned, I have told the truth." "Until it is decided by the court (about any wrongdoing) there is no black spot on my image. What is against me are just allegations. False allegations are made against me. I will respond to such allegations in the court and to the police during the probe," he said in response to a question. Siddaramaiah appeared before the Lokayukta police in response to the summons issued to him and responded

to questions put to him by a team led by Lokayukta Superintendent of Police (SP) T J Udes, official sources said. They had on October 25 questioned his wife, who has been named as accused number 2. Siddaramaiah, his wife, brother-in-law Mallikarjuna Swamy and Devaraju -- from whom Swamy had purchased a land and gifted it to Parvathi -- and others have been named in the FIR registered by the Mysuru-located Lokayukta police establishment on September 27. Swamy and Devaraju have already deposed before the Lokayukta police. Asked about BJP's "Go back Siddaramaiah" protest, the CM said, "What was Snehamayi Krishna (RTI activist) plea? What the Governor has said? - to investigate. If they say -- Go back Siddaramaiah -- are they (BJP) against the investigation? This makes it clear that they have made false

allegations." To a question on BJP demanding a CBI probe into the MUDA 'scam', expressing doubts about the Lokayukta investigation, he asked, "CBI is under whom? Has the BJP given any case to CBI (While in power in the state)?" When told about the opposition alleging that the Lokayukta seems to be conducting the probe in a pre-planned way to help the CM, Siddaramaiah said the Lokayukta is an independent agency. "They say CBI is independent, similarly Lokayukta is also an independent agency in the state. They (BJP) don't have respect for law...Have they -- the BJP given any case to CBI?" he asked. Responding to RTI activist Snehamayi Krishna's petition in the High Court seeking direction to transfer the case to CBI, the CM said, "We will fight it in the High Court, that's a different matter..."

J and K Assembly passes resolution seeking restoration of special status

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The Union Territory government headed by Omar Abdullah in Jammu and Kashmir Wednesday fulfilled its 'obligation' of passing a resolution, as promised in their election manifesto, seeking a dialogue between the Centre and elected representatives for the restoration of the special status of the erstwhile state. The resolution, which also expressed "concern" over the "unilateral removal" of the special status, was passed without any debate as the Speaker put it to voice vote amidst noisy scenes. As Kashmir-based political parties supported the resolution on the floor of the assembly the Bharatiya Janta Party legislators strongly opposed it. The resolution

papers were torn apart by slogan-shouting MLAs protesting in the well of the house after the resolution was passed. "The assembly has done its job. I will only say this much," Chief Minister Omar Abdullah told reporters outside the assembly complex. Leader of the Opposition Sunil Sharma said the question should be asked to the Congress party whether they supported or opposed the resolution for restoration of special status. It was an illegal move. The assembly is not above Parliament and the Supreme Court. Earlier NC MLA and J-K's deputy chief minister Surinder Choudhary moved the resolution for restoring the special status of J-K, which was revoked by the Centre on August 5, 2019.

The motion was seconded by Education and Health Minister Sakina Itoo. "That this legislative assembly reaffirms the importance of the special status and constitutional guarantees, which safeguarded the identity, culture, and rights of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, and expresses concern over their unilateral removal," the resolution moved by Choudhary said. This Assembly emphasizes that any process for restoration must safeguard both national unity and the legitimate aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir, the resolution added. As the house witnessed chaos and confusion the Speaker adjourned the House for 15 minutes. However, after the House met again, it continued to witness a



ruckus, forcing the speaker to adjourn it for an hour. Outside the Assembly, the political parties in the Kashmir valley welcomed the resolution and in Jammu, the BJP leaders burnt the effigy of the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister for passing the said resolution. "This resolution is historic and I congratulate the members of

the House," CPI(M)'s MLA from Kulgam, M Y Tarigami said. He said it has been "our commitment that we will restore what has been taken from us on August 5, 2019." Former Mayor of Srinagar Municipal Corporation Junaid Azim Mattu in a post on X said, "If this NC resolution is not a cruel joke

with the people of J&K, I don't know what is. - No mention of Article 370. - No mention of J&K Reorganization Act 2019 - No resolve to oppose/reject what was done. - Just vague references begging for "dialogue" over Special Status. Addressing media persons in Srinagar, PDP Chief Mehbooba Mufti said, "We welcome the resolution of J&K for restoration of special status. But the language used in the resolution is weak. It is a half-hearted effort. They should have condemned the action of 2019. We should make amendments to the resolution." PDP's youth leader and MLA Pulwama, Waheed Para said some words in the resolution could have been stronger. "We had requested for a dialogue between the members, but there were no

morally, ethically, and legally wrong. It will now be remembered in history how the people of J-K rejected it," Lone said. Congress party, which is an alliance partner of the ruling National Conference, said statehood to J-K with constitutional guarantees, including protection of land and jobs rights must be restored, without any further delay. Congress Legislature Party leader Ghulam Ahmad Mir said the Congress, through a resolution passed in its CWC on August 5, 2019, has endorsed the "resentment of people against downgrading and bifurcation of erstwhile J-K state, describing the move as undemocratic and unconstitutional on the part of BJP government at the Centre".



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Trump wins hands down

Donald Trump makes a sensational comeback in the closely fought US presidential elections

The US presidential election is one of the most influential political events worldwide, with major implications not only for domestic policy but also for international relations, economic stability, and global security. In 2024, the election has been particularly charged, with significant issues driving the race. Though the counting is still on and the winner is yet to be officially announced but going by the trends, Trump has won and he has already claimed victory. Kamala Harris failed to perform in the swing states leading to her defeat. Trump's victory brings a mix of continuity and radical shifts in several key areas. The 2024 US election has revolved around several pressing issues which were important not only for the Americans but for the people across the world. High inflation rates and concerns over economic recovery post-pandemic have been at the forefront. Voters were focused on job security, rising costs of living, and access to affordable healthcare. Trump's stance included pushing for lower taxes, reducing government spending, and deregulation to stimulate growth, which he claims would address inflation and boost job creation. Another major issue that was widely debated was immigration. The debate over immigration intensified, with Trump advocating for stricter border controls and policies aimed at reducing illegal immigration. His focus includes building stronger physical barriers at the US-Mexico border and increasing enforcement, framing immigration as a matter of national security and economic stability. Besides, Healthcare accessibility and costs remain contentious topics. Trump in his campaign emphasised reducing healthcare costs and revisiting the Affordable Care Act. His approach included providing tax credits and fostering competition among providers, but it also drew criticism for potentially reducing access to affordable care for some citizens. Interestingly Trump has taken a critical stance on climate regulations, advocating for energy independence through expanded oil and natural gas production. His stance contrasts with those calling for robust climate action, as he argues that deregulation is essential for economic stability and growth. However the issue that is of utmost importance for the world at large is the US foreign policy. Foreign policy has emerged as a defining factor, particularly in relation to China and Russia. Trump's "America First" strategy focuses on reducing overseas military commitments and renegotiating trade agreements to protect American interests. This stance resonates with some voters concerned about national sovereignty but worries international allies and those advocating for a more collaborative global approach. However, Trump's victory may be well taken in New Delhi as he has had good chemistry with Prime Minister Modi and has supported India's stand. It would be interesting to see how Trump would steer international choppy waters this time as Ukraine war and Palestine issue would be two major issues he would need to handle immediately after assuming the office.



Trump in his campaign emphasised reducing healthcare costs and revisiting the Affordable Care Act. His approach included providing tax credits and fostering competition among providers, but it also drew criticism for potentially reducing access to affordable care for some citizens. Interestingly Trump has taken a critical stance on climate regulations, advocating for energy independence through expanded oil and natural gas production. His stance contrasts with those calling for robust climate action, as he argues that deregulation is essential for economic stability and growth. However the issue that is of utmost importance for the world at large is the US foreign policy. Foreign policy has emerged as a defining factor, particularly in relation to China and Russia. Trump's "America First" strategy focuses on reducing overseas military commitments and renegotiating trade agreements to protect American interests. This stance resonates with some voters concerned about national sovereignty but worries international allies and those advocating for a more collaborative global approach. However, Trump's victory may be well taken in New Delhi as he has had good chemistry with Prime Minister Modi and has supported India's stand. It would be interesting to see how Trump would steer international choppy waters this time as Ukraine war and Palestine issue would be two major issues he would need to handle immediately after assuming the office.

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PICTALK



A photographer takes a photo of a macaque monkey at the Shrine Galtaji temple, in Jaipur

Hazardous Delhi air is putting lives at risk



RAJDEEP PATHAK

As Delhiites face a significant decline in their health and life expectancy due to pollution, there is an urgent need for finding solutions to tackle this menace

Delhi's air quality has reached dangerous levels, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) crossing into the "hazardous" zone shortly after Diwali celebrations. This post-Diwali spike is not new, as the city frequently ranks among the most polluted in the world. In early November 2024, AQI levels in Delhi surged to nearly 500 in some regions, a threshold considered extremely harmful. According to the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), key areas in Delhi like Anand Vihar, Alipur, and RK Puram reported AQI readings above 300. This rise indicates severe pollution levels far above the World Health Organisation's (WHO) recommended safety limits, posing substantial health risks for millions of residents. The AQI measures air quality on a scale that categorises air quality into six levels: "good," "satisfactory," "moderate," "poor," "very poor," and "hazardous." Readings above 300 signal critical pollution, while values over 400 reach the "severe" range. At such levels, exposure to fine particulate matter (PM2.5) becomes dangerous, as these minuscule particles can infiltrate deep into the lungs, affecting respiratory and cardiovascular health. The factors behind this annual pollution crisis are complex, involving both local and regional contributors. Delhi's high vehicular emissions, industrial output, construction dust, and waste burning are persistent contributors. However, during the harvest season, stubble burning in nearby states like Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh intensifies the problem. In October and November, farmers often burn leftover crop residue, producing vast smoke clouds that drift toward Delhi and blend with local pollutants. Vehicular pollution is another significant factor, with over 15 million registered vehicles in Delhi alone. Despite policies mandating regular Pollution Under Control (PUC) checks, enforcement remains a challenge. Emissions from diesel vehicles and two-wheelers, which lack proper pollution controls, further degrade the air quality. Attempts by the



Delhi Government to curb pollution have included measures like the odd-even traffic scheme, a firecracker ban during festivals, and incentives to use public transport. However, these initiatives have only provided limited relief. Residents continue to experience issues like breathlessness, sore throats, headaches and dry cough, compounded by long-term respiratory conditions. This year, the Supreme Court criticised Delhi's inadequate enforcement of pollution control measures during Diwali, particularly the lack of compliance with firecracker bans. The court expressed frustration over the non-implementation of its orders, highlighting the collective failure to safeguard public health. The Delhi government has also activated the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP), designed to address pollution levels as they rise. GRAP consists of multiple stages, with Stage III activated only when AQI reaches "severe" levels. At this stage, vehicle movement and construction activities are restricted, and educational institutions may close to protect students' health. While GRAP has achieved some improvements, its impact is often temporary, as citizens and businesses frequently ignore these directives. The severe air pollution in Delhi has profound effects on public health and quality of life.



THIS YEAR, THE SUPREME COURT CRITICISED DELHI'S INADEQUATE ENFORCEMENT OF POLLUTION CONTROL MEASURES DURING DIWALI, PARTICULARLY THE LACK OF COMPLIANCE WITH FIRECRACKER BANS. THE COURT EXPRESSED FRUSTRATION OVER THE NON-IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS ORDERS

During high-AQI periods, particularly vulnerable groups, like children and the elderly, are advised to stay indoors to avoid severe respiratory and cardiovascular issues. Outdoor activities are restricted, with schools occasionally closed to protect students from toxic air exposure. Additionally, dense smog disrupts transportation, leading to frequent flight and train delays due to poor visibility. As residents increasingly rely on air purifiers to maintain indoor air quality, the economic and psychological impacts of Delhi's air pollution crisis only deepen. In response to the deteriorating situation, the Delhi Government announced a series of measures to tackle pollution. These include developing green pathways, walkways, and open spaces along roads to reduce dust and improve urban greenery. Efforts are underway to enhance municipal waste management, including recycling 100 per cent of construction and demolition waste by 2025. To further manage waste, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi is establishing a fifth recycling unit in Tehkhand, capable of processing 1,000 tons daily. Biomining is also planned at major landfill sites, such as Okhla, Ghazipur, and Bhalswa, to excavate and treat years' worth of accumulated waste. Expanding public transportation is another goal, with

plans to grow Delhi's bus fleet to 10,500 by next year, 80 per cent of which will be electric. This is accompanied by a focus on impounding older, polluting vehicles. Such measures aim to address long-standing pollution sources sustainably. Experts emphasise, however, that reducing air pollution in Delhi will require more than Government policies; public engagement and behavioral change are also essential. A multi-pronged approach is crucial to effectively reduce air pollution. Introducing alternative methods to stubble burning, such as subsidising crop-residue management equipment, is one solution. Increasing urban greenery and limiting industrial emissions are further steps toward a healthier environment. On an individual level, Delhi residents can contribute by using public transportation, minimising car usage, and adopting energy-efficient practices at home. Additionally, improved air quality monitoring and early-warning systems could help raise public awareness and enable quicker responses. India's dedication to conservation aligns with the broader goal of creating a healthier environment for future generations. (The writer is Programme Executive, Gandhii Snruti and Darshan Samiti; views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PAPER BALLOTS OVER MACHINES

Madam —In spite of being at the top of technologically advanced countries, the United States of America falls back on ballot paper voting to root out any suspicion of foul play stemming from voting through EVM. Over the last two decades, the United States has gradually moved back from electronic voting machines to paper ballots. Given ballot paper voting, unlike EVM, builds confidence among voters and opposition party members, it undoubtedly strengthens democracy. Another highly commendable step the USA election authorities have taken. They have printed the ballot papers in all major languages of a state, depending on its demography. While a voter in New York can choose a ballot paper in Bengali instead of English, Chinese, Spanish, and Korean, voters in Illinois can opt for a ballot paper printed in Hindi. It also shows how a democratic country should honour the mother tongue of even those voters who have origins in different countries. These actions reflect the attitude of catering and prioritising the interests of the demos (people) above everything. India needs to get back to ballot paper voting without any delay. It must also be remembered that to impose a language ignoring the major languages spoken in a particular area flouts democratic principles. There is no room for the 'one nation, one language' policy in a multilingual democratic country like India. **Sujit De | Sujit De**

DIVISION OVER CASTE

Madam— Since the last Lok Sabha elections, immediately followed by the state Assembly election and ensuing Assembly in Maharashtra and Jharkhand and by-elections in several states, demand for caste census is in top gear in the Opposition camp, while the BJP has been silent on it and is meekly supportive. Though not constitutionally valid and having no authentic official database of individuals' caste identity, the caste politics in the facade of the caste census is

Prioritise student wellbeing



Student suicides are rising worldwide. Every day, we read news about young students taking their own lives due to overwhelming pressure. Many of these students are studying far from their families, aiming to crack high-stakes exams like JEE, NEET, UPSC, and CA. Parents often send them away at a young age, where they're not fully prepared to handle the intense stress. At a time in life meant for playing, making friends, and

exploring their interests, they are pushed to lock themselves in rooms and study for hours. This isolation and pressure can lead to anxiety, and, tragically, some may feel that ending their lives is the only escape. Parents should avoid imposing career paths on their children and instead allow them to explore and decide what they want for themselves. Governments can also take steps to address this crisis, such as offering personal counselling sessions for students where they can discuss their struggles and implementing mental health awareness programmes in schools and communities. Ultimately, pressuring children to study hard for the sake of a "better future" can end up damaging their wellbeing and happiness. It's far better to let children decide what they want to work towards rather than forcing them into paths that might not be right for them. **Priya Thakur | Ujjain**

TEMPLE ATTACK CONDEMNED

Madam —The Canadian soil is becoming a battleground for the anti-India sentiments these days, as the Khalistani groups and supporters managed to score win after win in their anti-India agendas. The recent terror attack in the Hindu temple based in Canada is getting a global backlash and condemnation. India is particularly annoyed with the Canadian authorities for not paving the way for the miscreants who are spoiling India's image and hurting Indian sentiments as a whole. India in particular is condemning this carefully crafted attack on Hindu temples, and this is another low in the Indo-Canadian relationships as a whole. We Indians in particular wish strong Canadian intervention and demand speedy justice from the side of Canadian government and authorities as soon as possible. **Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur**

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

Why are women overlooked for leadership? It's time for a change!

Deep-rooted biases and outdated stereotypes frequently overshadow women's capabilities, despite evidence that women leaders enhance company performance and culture

In India, women are frequently overlooked for management and senior leadership roles despite their proven capabilities in both personal and professional settings. It's a complex issue often attributed to stereotypes, unconscious biases, and a society that still grapples with entrenched gender roles. Yet, if we pause and consider the day-to-day roles women play, particularly in an Indian household, it becomes evident that they possess an array of skills crucial to any organisation's success. Imagine a typical day for a woman managing her household. She coordinates with household help, ensures that her family's needs are met, oversees children's schedules, and often also supports extended family members. Each of these tasks requires quick thinking, negotiation skills, empathy, and time management. Such daily acts of coordination and problem-solving are, at their core, management skills. The inquiry at hand is, why do we fail to acknowledge these abilities when they are



showcased in a professional setting?

Do these skills lose their validity simply because they originate from home-based experience? Many argue that women's ability to blend emotional intelligence with logical decision-making makes them especially adept at leadership roles. Their approach is often holistic—they not only focus on completing tasks but also on nurturing relationships, fostering team morale, and ensuring that the process is as smooth as the outcome. Research indicates that companies with gender-diverse leadership teams tend to achieve better financial performance and foster a more satisfied workforce, contributing to a healthier company culture. Women bring different perspectives and problem-solving approaches, which complement male colleagues' styles. When women are given a seat at the table, companies gain a more nuanced understanding of their markets and customers. And yet, despite clear advantages, women remain vastly underrepresented in senior roles. The reasons are rooted in a long history of gender bias. Women are often pigeonholed as too "emotional" or too "soft" for the challenges of executive positions, while men are assumed to be inherently more decisive and resilient. Yet, resilience is something that women exemplify every day—balancing multiple roles in a society that demands more of them both at home and at work. Change is on the horizon, with many organisations now actively working to bridge the gender gap in leadership. However, it requires a deeper cultural shift to truly unlock the leadership potential of women. Organisations need to embrace mentorship pro-

grams, implement unbiased hiring practices, and encourage flexible work policies that allow women to balance personal and professional responsibilities. Moreover, celebrating women's leadership styles rather than forcing them to fit into traditionally masculine roles can create more authentic, powerful leaders. The argument is simple: women already demonstrate essential leadership skills every day, whether in boardrooms or in households. It's time to recognise their contributions and give them the opportunities they deserve. For any organisation that values growth, empathy, and resilience, overlooking women isn't just unfair—it's a missed opportunity. Let's champion a future where leadership is based on talent and vision, not on outdated biases. Women are ready for the challenge, and it's time we give them the space to lead. (The writer is a motivator and a freelance journalist; views expressed are personal)



RACHNA LAKHPATRI

FIRST COLUMN

THE ART OF HEALING

True healing must be comprehensive, nurturing both the physical and spiritual self



RAVI VALLURI

Humans are creatures of their habits. I was addicted to smoking, drinking and consuming 'Gutakha'. It had become almost a quotidian habit and had taken a severe toll on my health. Ailments could be self-inflicted or they could be a professional hazard. In all such cases, the victim suffers physically and emotionally. The healing must be both physical and spiritual. I vividly recall how the Sri Lankan cricket team was a victim of terror and violence in Lahore. They underwent therapeutic care by psychiatrists and underwent several mind management and mental strengthening therapies. Similarly, the Tsunami victims of 2004, those affected by the 26/11 Mumbai terror strikes and the earthquake victims of Gujarat (2001) and Uttarakhand (2013) were revived by the bouquet of self-healing courses by several spiritual organisations and professional help offered by numerous self-help groups. Such tragedies are traumatic experiences. Cities, towns, villages and settlements are razed to rubble. I come back to my story, where like an ignoramus I started consuming liquor, ignoring all warnings. Thus, my moral compass fell prey to the predilections of a weak mind. It was at this time that my mother, a trained social worker, and a practitioner of Siddha and Pranik healing, refused to entertain my supercilious and specious arguments and extolled certain dormant virtues in me so that I could upend the pyramid. My mother was afflicted by repeated attacks of Paroxysmal Atrial Tachycardia (PAT). This is a type of arrhythmia (irregular heartbeat) that is accompanied by severe sweating, dizziness, palpitations, angina and acute breath-



lessness. I had seen my mother suffering from this condition on several occasions and being admitted to the ICU. However, after undergoing the ten-day Vipassana spiritual sojourn, she recovered from the debilitation. She simultaneously learnt Siddha and Pranik healing, which augured well for her recovery. These healing techniques along with proper medication and diet helped her in healing. This is the unbounded power and scientific attribute of the breath. Breathing techniques, meditation proper medication and diet are all healthy habits. These can change the traction of our lives and rejuvenate the body and mind. During 'Operation Parakram' our defence forces, after a protracted stay of more than a year at our borders, returned to their cantonments. The fractious behaviour of our unfriendly neighbour did not make them lose their sanity. It is not only the deaths, but defence personnel get maimed during such operations. Further, their mental state becomes foggy and they become highly irritable. Mere administration of drugs does not act as a panacea. It is medication plus something more to revive their physical and mental bodies. As our defence and para-military forces work in hostile environments it is heartening to know that yoga, Vipassana and Art of Living Courses are conducted for them so that they can maintain physical and mental equilibrium. A soldier asked Gurudev whether he would become passive if he continued with his sadhana, to which Guruji responded, "Most certainly not." Further, he added that Gita Upadesh itself was revealed by Lord Krishna during the Mahabharata war. Arjuna regained the power of discrimination after witnessing the "Divine Spectacle." Be it an individual or a cricket team, those affected by environmental disturbances or our defence forces, all require continuous physical and mental healing to continue their journey. The mystic Rumi has succinctly said, "The wound is the place where the light enters you."

(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)

CoP 29: A pivotal moment to act on climate crisis

With the upcoming CoP 29 summit in Azerbaijan, world leaders face mounting pressure to deliver on pledges for climate finance and reduced fossil fuel reliance



B K SINGH



Back-to-back hurricanes Helene and Milton originating from the Gulf of Mexico, that have battered the western coast of Florida in the United States have led to political debates and blame games ahead of the US Presidential election. The Republican team targeted the Biden-Harris duo for not doing enough to save lives and restore electricity. More than 200 people have perished in each of the hurricanes and also people have lived without electricity for more than 24 hours. Tropical typhoon Trami over the South China Sea claimed more than 150 lives in the Philippines, and 10 in Vietnam, injured thousands and damaged properties and infrastructures in both countries. Further, the deadliest flood in 50 years in Spain has also claimed more than 250 human lives. As against this, India's disaster management response during cyclones has been praiseworthy. Whether it was cyclone Nisarga on our West coast in 2020 cyclone Fani in West Bengal in 2019, or the recent Dana in Odisha and West Bengal we have evacuated million of people on each occasion in a record time of 24 to 48 hours and as a result, there has hardly been any loss of life. Recent images from Valencia and other regions of Spain, last month's image from Italy where vehicles were swept away as roads became rivers, and before that similar flooding in France, Poland, Austria, and Czech are reminders of frequent flooding and associated misery to people. The global physics of fossil fuels has destabilised the world. The warmer the atmosphere gets; the more moisture it can hold. This would mean more intense downpours and longer drought. In Spain, a year's worth of rain was dumped in half a day. While India's track record in dealing with disasters is good, what it should relook is its decisions to sacrifice natural forests for infrastructures, development projects and mining. Consumption of coal, oil and natural gas is swelling worldwide, despite leaders knowing that the surge in emission of greenhouse gases leads to increased warming of the planet and we face more destructive and frequent climatic catastrophes. Forests are the best sink for carbon and sacrificing them for GDP is only



THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO DEVELOPING AND THIRD-WORLD COUNTRIES FOR TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY AT SPEED AND SCALE IS ANOTHER KEY TO CLIMATE MITIGATION

to invite more frequent disasters. Earth is already warmed by 1.2 degrees Celsius. The year 2023 has been the warmest in the recorded history of post-industrialisation. The trend from 2024 till July suggests that we are on course to break the 2023 temperature record. Developed countries are responsible for the warming so far. Scientists are consistently forecasting that beyond 1.5 degrees Celsius warming, part of many countries especially island nations will be submerged in the Sea. United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) has provided a forum for World leaders to meet annually and decide on actions to be taken to keep the warming within 1.5 degrees. In the annual conference (CoP 25) in Paris in 2015 countries pledged their nationally determined contributions (NDC) to cut the consumption of fossil fuel and to develop renewable energy at speed and scale by 2030. Among G20 countries India is the only one, which is on course to fulfil the pledge. Donald Trump as US President in 2017 refused to toe the line with the Paris Agreement and said that climate is a hoax. No CoP meeting took place till he was in office. Corona pandemic delayed it further even after Biden took over and CoP 26 at Glasgow was held in November 2021. Here again, leaders reiterated their pledge at Paris and also revived climate finance of \$100 billion that developed countries would contribute towards the cost of climate adaptation in the developing world annually. Another rhetoric was started during CoP 27 at Sharm el Sheikh that developed and some developing countries like China would pay for loss and damage in global south countries. This has again not been complied with. The climate finance of \$100 billion

annually has been agreed upon in Copenhagen CoP in 2009 but has not been complied with so far. African countries and island nations are suffering from extreme climate events like droughts and floods as well as supply chain disruptions owing to geopolitical tensions in West Asia and Ukraine. Countries like Namibia and Zimbabwe have ordered to cull thousands of wild elephants (a threatened species) for food. If climate finance and loss and damage funds were made available, there was no need to cull threatened species and endangering the ecological security of the region further. The pledge regarding cutting fossil fuel consumption and transition to renewable energy especially by Western nations and China has been overlooked. There has been unprecedented growth in oil and gas drilling in the US and coal production in China. Biden and other European leaders are not on course to fulfil their commitment to bring down fossil fuel consumption by 2030 and achieve net zero by 2050. China has pledged net zero by 2060 and India by 2070. Scientists are telling us to keep the warming within 1.5 degrees lest we face the consequences. 2050 and 2060 are far ahead and the question is whether we will be able to stand the disasters till then. During the nomination as Republican presidential candidate in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Trump in his address said to abandon climate - drill baby drill. He cut jokes in his election rallies saying that if the Sea level rises due to warming, the people will have more buildings facing the Sea. The transfer of technology from developed countries to developing and third-world countries for transition to renewable energy at speed and scale is another key to climate mitigation. India, China and Western nations have gone

ahead substantially, yet they need to step up their efforts. Renewable energy transition should take place at such a pace that we automatically cut fossil fuel consumption. Countries' demand at Glasgow CoP 26 to 'phase out' fossil fuel did not have total acceptance and was modified to 'phase down' on the insistence of China and the support of India. Further at Dubai CoP 28 another phrase 'transition away from fossil fuel' was agreed upon. Irrespective of the phrases used in the CoP resolutions, leaders are only concerned about the growth and GDP and are not inclined to bring down fossil fuel consumption. CoP 29 is scheduled to commence in Baku, Azerbaijan on November 13th, when world leaders will again take stock of the situation and roll out further actions. Unfortunately, the host country along with its neighbours Armenia and Georgia is experiencing relatively more warming as compared to the global average. While every nation should put in their efforts to cut emissions, India should have relook at the projects requiring the sacrifice of natural forests, whether for linear infrastructures in the Himalayas, in Western Ghats or deforestation of 130.75 sq km forests for great Nicobar Development projects. India's track record for growing compensatory afforestation for the trees lost is very poor. Supreme Court recently threatened contempt against agencies for not taking up planting ten times the trees lost in the project. 3700 trees were sacrificed in 2015 for the widening of NH 123 Bharatpur Dholpur road and Apex court's condition to plant up 37000 trees has not been fulfilled so far. (The writer is retired principal chief conservator of Forests-Head of Forest Force-Karnataka; views are personal)

How AI, big data and personalisation are transforming B-school curricula

From integrating AI into decision-making processes to adding global perspectives, B-schools are merging traditional education with innovative technology

In 2024, technology is influencing every aspect of life, transforming the way we communicate, learn, and run businesses. With advancements in Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, IoT, Big Data, Blockchain, and other digital technologies, we are currently navigating the fourth wave of the industry revolution. Businesses primarily prioritise automation and machinery to enhance workforce operations, with 88 per cent of small business owners using automation to increase their workforce efficiency, according to an Unmud study. This shift is driving up the demand for digitally literate and tech-savvy professionals in the industry, inspiring business schools to redesign their academic curricula. Following are the revolutionary ways technology is reshaping the business industry.



PRABHU AGGARWAL

Reshaping Business Education through AI: According to the Future of Jobs Survey, 75 per cent of companies plan to adopt AI technologies in the coming years. This signals a significant shift brought about by technology in business education; the integration of AI and ML.

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning are revolutionising how future business leaders think and make decisions, disrupting the traditional learning models. Emerging technologies such as generative AI provide real-time feedback and high-level interactivity, inspiring B-schools to employ learning approaches to develop AI skills in students, thus, preparing them to meet the demands of a rapidly evolving business landscape. **Integration of Data Analytics into Business Intelligence:** Data has become the primary currency in business intelligence, helping businesses make informed decisions to enhance their growth. Technological trends such as statistical techniques, predictive analysis, machine learning,

and artificial intelligence allow businesses to identify leading patterns and tailor their offerings. As recent studies by Edge Delta point out, more companies will adopt big data and technology, increasing the employment rate by 58 per cent. To help students stay competitive, B-schools actively embed data analysis into their offered curriculum, improving students' data proficiency. Incorporating data analytics into higher education curricula, particularly in PGDM and MBA programmes, will promote innovation and solution-oriented thinking among students. **Experiential Learning and Real-World Applications:** With the rapid inclusion of technology in business, the leading employers are exc-



sively prioritising professionals with industry-ready technical and soft skills. The technologically integrated method of business education complements the traditional teaching pedagogy, preparing students to tackle real-world challenges and provide futuristic solutions. Through industry internships, consultation projects, case studies, and business simulations, B-school students gain hands-on experience and practical skills necessary to

excel in today's competitive job market. While a business degree holds significant importance, practical experience allows students to turn their learnings into actionable solutions. **Personalised Learning Approach:** The amalgamation of technology and education has made education personal. The traditional learning model employs a one-size-fits-all approach, ignoring individual learning needs. On the other hand, the modern learning model is tailored to meet individualistic demands, making learning seamless for every student. Through tech-integrated personalised education, students can adapt the learning materials and understand at their own pace. This shift is especially impactful in

business education, where personalised learning helps students stay current with industry trends, bridge the skill gap, and learn based on their proficiency. **Balance Between Human Creativity and Automation:** While many view the current era as Industry 4.0, others argue we are swiftly moving towards Industry 5.0. Unlike its predecessor, Industry 5.0 emphasises the well-being of professionals, fostering prosperity beyond jobs and promoting ecologically balanced economic growth. The upcoming industrialisation era envisions close collaboration between humans and AI tools, enhancing operational efficiency and cost-effectiveness. This has led top B-schools to thoughtfully curate the core

management courses, integrating human-centricity, sustainability, and automation. **Bringing Global Perspective to Classrooms:** Business challenges today are inherently global in nature, such as sustainability issues, supply chain management, foreign regulations, and cultural diversity. By embedding a global outlook in business education, B-schools equip students with essential tools to effectively address these problems. Facilitating worldly industry collaborations and connecting peers from diverse cultures through virtual modes fosters a deeper business understanding in the students, enabling them to drive positive changes. (The writer is Dean BMS Hyderabad; views are personal)

Total vehicle retail sales in India in October sees 32 per cent Y-O-Y rise to 28,32,944 units: FADA

PTI ■ MUMBAI

The total vehicle retail sales in India witnessed a 32 per cent Y-O-Y rise in October to 28,32,944 units with all segments including two-wheelers and passenger vehicles registering strong growth, Federation of Automobile Dealers' Association (FADA) said on Wednesday.

The total vehicle retail sales in October 2023 stood at 21,43,929 units, as per FADA. The strong growth in October this year was largely driven by the rural market, especially boosting two-wheeler and passenger vehicles sales, supported by increased Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Rabi crops,



FADA said, Passenger vehicle sales grew 32.38 per cent to 4,83,159

units in 2024, from 3,64,991 units retailed in October 2023, it stated.

Two-wheeler sales for the previous month were recorded at 20,65,095 units, as compared to 15,14,634 units in October 2023, registering a growth of 36.35 per cent, while three-wheeler sales were up 11.45 per cent year-on-year to 1,22,846 in October 2024, it said.

Tractor sales, according to FADA, increased 3.08 per cent during October to 64,433 units, from 62,542 units a year ago.

The convergence of major festivals (Navratri and Diwali) in October significantly boosted consumer demand; attractive festive offers, new model launches, and improved stock availability led to a 36 per cent year-on-year and 71 per cent month-on-month

growth in two-wheelers, according to FADA. Besides, rural sentiments, favourable monsoon and good crop expectations, further contributed to the growth, it stated.

Moreover, the 32 per cent year-on-year and 75 per cent month-on-month rise in passenger vehicle sales was driven by festive demand, aggressive offers, and new model introductions, it said.

FADA remains optimistic about near-term growth of the overall automobile industry particularly with the wedding season ahead. However, potential challenges such as inventory overstock and economic headwinds may affect sales momentum towards the end of the year, it said.

Rubicon Research, Sai Life Sciences and two others get Sebi's nod to float IPOs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Four companies, including pharmaceutical formulation firm Rubicon Research and TPG Capital-backed Sai Life Sciences, have received Sebi's go-ahead to raise at least Rs 3,000 crore collectively through Initial Public Offerings (IPOs), an update with the markets regulator showed on Wednesday.

The other two firms that obtained the regulator's clearance are yarn manufacturer Sanathan Textiles and auto components maker Metalman Auto. Meanwhile, BMW Ventures, which filed its preliminary IPO papers in September, withdrew the documents on October 28.

The four companies - Rubicon Research, Sai Life Sciences, Sanathan Textiles and Metalman Auto -- which filed their draft IPO papers with Sebi during July and August, obtained the regulator's observations on October 31, the update showed.

In Sebi's parlance, obtaining observations means its go-ahead to float public issues. The Rs 1,085-crore IPO of Rubicon Research is a combination of a fresh issue of equity shares worth Rs 500 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) of shares valued at Rs 585 crore by the promoter, General Atlantic Singapore RR Pte Limited, according to the



Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP).

At present, General Atlantic owns over 57 per cent stake in Rubicon Research. The company proposes to utilise proceeds from the fresh issue to the tune of Rs 310 crore for payment of debt. Also, funds will be used for supporting inorganic growth through unidentified acquisitions as well as other strategic initiatives and general corporate purposes.

Hyderabad-based Sai Life Sciences' proposed IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares worth Rs 800 crore and an OFS of 6.15 crore shares by a promoter, investor shareholders and other shareholders, the DRHP showed. Of the IPO proceeds, funds to the tune of Rs 600 crore will be used for debt payment and a portion will be used for corporate general purposes, the draft papers filed showed.

Sanathan Textiles' IPO is a mix of a fresh issue of equity shares aggregating up to Rs 500 crore and an OFS of up to Rs 300 crore by promoters and promoter group entities, it stated. Proceeds from the fresh issue of shares worth Rs 210 crore will be used for investment in the company's subsidiary - Sanathan Polycot Private Limited - for funding its long-term working capital requirements, Rs 175 crore for repayment of debt, besides general corporate purposes.

The proposed IPO of Metalman Auto is a combination of a fresh issue of equity shares worth Rs 350 crore and an OFS of up to 1.26 crore shares by its promoters. Proceeds from the fresh issue to the tune of Rs 25 crore will be used to part financing the capital expenditure towards procurement of plant and machinery at Pithampur manufacturing unit two in Madhya Pradesh.

FSSAI to hold CAC meet to discuss food safety issues on e-commerce platforms

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) will hold meeting of its Central Advisory Committee (CAC) on November 7-8 to discuss food safety issues on e-commerce platforms among others challenges.

The meeting, to be held under the chairmanship of FSSAI's CEO G Kamala Vardhana Rao, will see participation of food commissioners from all states/Union Territories or their representatives.

According to sources, the CAC meeting will be held on November 7 to November 8 to discuss the various issues, including how to strengthen surveillance and testing of food products across all states to ensure food safety. The CAC will also discuss measures to be adopted to

ensure sale of quality food products on e-commerce platforms, they said. The committee will discuss this issue amid reports of sale of food products nearing expiry on e-commerce platforms.

Sources said FSSAI is likely to call a meeting of big e-commerce players next week to ensure food safety. As per the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, the food authority constitutes the CAC for close cooperation between the Authority and enforcement agencies/organisations operating in the field of food.

The committee generally meets three to four times a year and advises the Authority on various matters including prioritisation of work, identifying potential risks and the pooling of knowledge.

Thailand replaces Maldives to emerge as top honeymoon destination for Indian couples: MakeMyTrip

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Thailand has emerged as the favourite international honeymoon package destination for Indian couples, replacing Maldives, as it recorded the highest share of honeymoon package bookings between October 2023 and September 2024 on MakeMyTrip, the travel booking platform said on Wednesday.

The Maldives saw a 16.2 per cent Year-on-Year decline in honeymoon package bookings while all other top five international destinations - Indonesia, Mauritius, and Vietnam - gained share this year, the travel booking platform stated.

MakeMyTrip's 'How India Travels for Honeymoon', analyses booking data from October 2023 to September

2024, compared to the same period in the preceding year. Thailand increased its booking share by 5.2 per cent year-on-year, surpassing the Maldives, which led the rankings last year.

On the domestic front, the Andamans replaced Kerala as the most booked honeymoon destination, increasing its share of honeymoon package bookings by 6.9 per cent YoY.

Air India deploys additional resources at touch points, airports to help Vistara passengers

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Air India has deployed additional resources, including help desk kiosks, at touch points and airports to ensure a smooth experience for Vistara passengers post its merger with the airline next week, an official said on Wednesday.

Full-service carriers - Air India and Vistara, a joint venture between Tata and Singapore Airlines - set to be merged on November 11. Post-merger, the routes and schedule operated by Vistara and the Vistara inflight experience will remain the same.

Also, Vistara aircraft will be identified by a special four-

digit Air India code beginning with the digit '2'. The official in the know said Air India deployed additional resources across touch points in India, including help desk kiosks, at the curbside before terminal entry at hubs and metro city airports.

There will be "customer support staff wearing 'How

may I assist you?' Air India x Vistara branded t-shirts for support", the official added.

In due course, Vistara airport ticketing offices and check-in terminals will become that of Air India. Over the last few months, 2,70,000 customers who had booked Vistara flights have been migrated to Air

India, and more than 4.5 million Vistara loyalty programme members are being migrated to Air India's loyalty programme. There are concerns in certain quarters on whether Vistara passengers will continue to get the same services post-merger as Air India, which is in the transformation phase, has

been facing certain service issues in recent times. The Tata Group-owned Air India has emphasised that the Vistara experience will remain post-merger. The integrated entity will have a fleet of more than 200 planes, offering connectivity to 90 domestic and international destinations.

Incoming data on GDP growth mixed but positives outweigh negatives: Reserve Bank Governor

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Reserve Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said the incoming data on economic growth is "mixed", but the positive factors outweigh the negative ones.

Speaking at Business Standard's annual BFSI event here, Das stressed that the underlying economic activity by and large remains strong. "Data which is coming in is mixed but the positives outweigh the negatives and by and large underlying activities remain strong," Das said.

It can be noted that many analysts have been voicing concerns about growth, especially after official data showed growth slowing to a 15-quarter low of 6.7 per cent in the first quarter of FY25. The RBI, however, has been holding onto its estimate of



7.2 per cent real GDP growth for FY25, even as some expect it to be lower than 7 per cent. Das said the RBI tracks over 70 high-speed indicators to arrive at its estimates and described both the positive factors pushing the number and the negatives pulling it down.

The industrial production or IIP data, and moderation in

urban demand being witnessed by fast-moving consumer goods companies are the negative factors. Besides, subsidy outgoes have increased in the September quarter and will impact the Q2 GDP number, Das said.

The positives include the handsome growth in GST e-way bills, toll collections, air passenger traffic, and steel

and cement industry performance, Das said. Amid the increased discussion on the auto sector prospects recently with concerns around rising inventory amid lower demand, Das said the sector has done exceedingly well in October with a 30 per cent growth which includes a 23 per cent rise in four-wheeler sales. Additionally, the agriculture and services sectors are also doing well, Das said.

"I would not rush to declare that the economy is slowing down," the RBI governor said amid some analysts saying that the economy is in a cyclical growth slowdown. When reminded of his animal analogies on inflation and asked to choose the animal which describes the Indian economy, Das said national animal "tiger" which is also

there in the RBI logo best describes the country. He said the economy has got the strength of a tiger, while RBI provides the "agility", which is another key attribute of the tiger.

On inflation, Das said the October headline consumer price inflation number to be announced on November 12 will be higher than September's 5.5 per cent, but added that the central bank had already pencilled in the higher numbers for the two months.

The shift in stance of the monetary policy should not be seen as a precursor to a rate cut at the very next meeting of the rate-setting panel, Das said adding that the panel is under no pressure on the next course of action.

On the issue of regulatory and supervisory actions against four non-banks recently, Das

reiterated that the RBI has acted against a very small number if one were to compare the overall number of NBFCs (non-banking financial companies), which is 9,400.

Asserting that the central bank actions are "calibrated, selective and measured", Das said such decisions are not abrupt and are preceded by months of bilateral engagement with an entity.

It is only when an entity refuses or delays RBI's suggestions that such actions are taken, Das said, adding that the number of entities marked out for the need to improve is far higher than the ones against whom actions are taken.

Detailed reasons on why an action has been taken are given to the entity, Das said, underlining that these actions are not "punitive" but

"corrective" in nature wherein the RBI takes back the measures if it sees improvements sought.

The RBI has done a quick study to understand the use of borrowed funds being deployed to punt on the capital markets, Das said and added that this phenomenon does not pose a major risk to the banking sector or lead to "systemic instability".

He urged banks to look at the end use of funds even in unsecured loans, admitting that it is very difficult to monitor the same.

The RBI does not have a prescribed credit deposit ratio for the banks, Das said, adding that this ratio has improved to 80 per cent at the systemic level in the last few months. However, there are a few entities which are the outliers on this, he admitted.

Quality of loan underwriting

and the ability to sustain the loan growth are two important aspects that the central bank looks at while understanding loan growth, Das specified. He also made clear that the central bank does not have a view on credit growth.

The RBI endeavours to "smell around" constantly, and be preemptive in identifying and rectifying risks before they become into systemic trouble, he said.

Replying to a question on the future of central bank digital currency (CBDC), Das said the RBI is in no hurry to have a national launch of what is a pilot project at present and added that new use cases are emerging like Odisha's transfer of cash support to beneficiaries under a scheme or some corporates transferring lunch vouchers to employee wallets.

Maruti Suzuki seeking to enhance exports with upcoming new Dzire sedan

PTI ■ DABOLIM/GOA

Maruti Suzuki India is targeting markets like UAE, Saudi Arabia, Chile, Mexico and other Latin American countries with its upcoming new version of compact sedan Dzire to accelerate exports as it eyes over 3 lakh units of overseas shipments this fiscal, a senior company official said on Wednesday. In the domestic market, the company hopes to enhance its share in the sedan market amid the passenger vehicles market shifting towards SUVs (Sports Utility Vehicles), with the new Dzire which is slated for launch next week. "We have been growing (exports) at a rate of about 11.9 per cent in the first seven months of the financial year and we hope to continue on that momentum. So we hope to do more than about 3 lakh car exports within this financial year," Maruti Suzuki India Executive Director Corporate Affairs



Rahul Bharti told PTI here. In contrast, just about four years ago, the company's exports were below one lakh per year, he added. "So, now we'll be doing about three times of that, and by the turn of the decade, we hope to multiply it another three times over to something like 8 lakh units a year," Bharti added. Elaborating on the export strategy, Bharti said, "One of the biggest enablers of increasing export is more models in more geographies. So, we are adding the number of models, and we are adding the markets also." At the moment, he said, the

company is exporting to Latin America, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. Further, he said, "At some point in time, we will re-enter Europe and Japan also (with upcoming electric SUV eVitaro)." With the upcoming new version of Dzire compact sedan, Bharti said, "We hope to increase our exports also because with the new sleek design, technologies, six airbags, as standard, it is being widely accepted in the market." He further said, "We have to increase the density in those (existing) markets. We will target markets like the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Chile, Mexico, other countries in Latin America and maybe some markets in Southeast Asia also." The existing Dzire model was among the top three export models in October, he added. On the domestic front, Maruti Suzuki India Senior Executive Officer, Marketing and Sales, Partho Banerjee said the company hopes to

enhance its share in the sedan market with the new offering. Last year, the outgoing version of Dzire clocked over 1.6 lakh units, he said, adding that with the new offering coming in the company expects more growth. "Every second car which is sold in the sedan segment (in the domestic market) happens to be from Maruti...We are, in fact, increasing our market share in the sedan segment," he asserted. Banerjee acknowledged that with the SUVs growing faster, the sedan segment is shrinking but sedans will continue to have its market as SUV demand stabilises at some point in time. "Being the market leader we need to be present in all the segments. Our take is this, in each segment, we need to be present and offer products to the consumers. Let the consumer decide which form factor they want to go," Banerjee said.

Brand Street Integrated expands with new operations in Kerala

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Brand Street Integrated has announced the expansion of its Southern operations with the launch of its Kerala office. Following successful initiatives across Hyderabad and other Southern regions, the Kerala expansion is a significant step in their strategic journey to bring innovative and localised marketing solutions to brands across India.

Leading the new Kerala division are two of Brand Street Integrated's experts namely, Rajinikanth Manickam, bringing over five years of experience within the company, and Joe Matthew, both of whom possess a deep understanding of the local market and consumer behavior. Their expertise will be instrumental in offering

clients tailored, on-ground marketing solutions that resonate with the region's unique audience. "We are incredibly excited to strengthen our presence in the South by launching operations in Kerala," said Surendra Singh, CEO of Brand Street Integrated. "Kerala represents a vibrant market with a wealth of opportunity, and expanding here allows us to offer brands even more localised and impactful marketing solutions." Brand Street Integrated's Kerala operations will provide the full spectrum of experiential marketing services, including rural and digital marketing, OOH advertising, and merchandising solutions, all backed by a unique, data-driven approach to ensure optimal engagement.

INBRIEF

PSPCL AND GNDEC LUDHIANA SIGN MOU

LUDHIANA: Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL) and Guru Nanak Dev Engineering College (GNDEC), Ludhiana, have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) under the guidance of Power Minister of Punjab, Harbhajan Singh ETO.



ALL INDIA INTER-UNIVERSITY TAEKWONDO (MEN) CHAMPIONSHIP BEGINS



AMRITSAR: The All India Inter-University Taekwondo (Men) Championship started today and will continue until November 9, 2024. This exciting event is taking place at Multipurpose Hall of Guru Nanak Dev University.

CRICKET MATCH ORGANISED BY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

AMRITSAR: Department of Education of Guru Nanak Dev University organized its first annual department cricket match to foster the sense of healthy competitions among the students of the department.



CRISTIANO RONALDO SCORES AS AL-NASSR BEATS DEFENDING CHAMPION AL-AIN 5-1

AP ■ RIYADH

Cristiano Ronaldo scored the second goal as Al-Nassr defeated defending champion Al-Ain of the United Arab Emirates 5-1 in the AFC Champions League Elite to put Saudi Arabian teams in the top three places in the 12-team standings.

Al-Nassr has 10 points from four games, two behind local rivals Al-Hilal and Al-Ahli who both have a perfect record with four wins. Anderson Talisca opened the scoring in Riyadh after just five minutes with a shot into the bottom corner from the edge of the area. Ronaldo then netted his second goal of this season's competition from close range just after the half-hour mark after goalkeeper Khalid Eisa could only parry Sadio Mane's shot from outside the area.

The third came before the break as Angelo's low cross was deflected into his own net by Fabio Cardoso, but Al-Ain pulled a goal back 10 minutes after the restart as Park Yong-woo's shot hit the post but rebounded off the back of diving goalkeeper Bento and into the net.



Wesley and Talisca added late goals for Al-Nassr to cement the Saudi dominance of the western zone's group. The top eight from each of the two groups progress to the knockout stages. In the eastern zone, Vissel Kobe of Japan went top of the group with a 2-0 win over South Korea's Gwangju FC, the previous leader. Taisei Miyashiro scored with a penalty after 15 minutes and Dajju Sasaki sealed the victory after the break. Johor Darul Tazim of Malaysia went third with a 3-0 win over two-time champion Ulsan HD of South Korea. Just three days after lifting the Chinese Super League title, Shanghai Port lost 3-1 at Kawasaki Frontale of Japan. Australia's sole representative Central Coast Mariners picked up its first point with a 2-2 draw with Shanghai Shenhu.

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Karnataka Bank Ltd. Head Office, Mangaluru-575 002. Your Family bank Across India. E-AUCTION PUBLIC NOTICE OF SALE

SALE NOTICE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY ON 27.11.2024. E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Property/ies under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Table with 7 columns: SI No., Branch Name, Name & Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors, Balance O/S in Rs., Description of the Property/ies, Reserve Price (Rs.), Date & Time of Auction, Details for Remitting EMD Account No. / IFSC Code.

Table with 7 columns: SI No., Branch Name, Name & Address of the Borrowers/Guarantors, Balance O/S in Rs., Description of the Property/ies, Reserve Price (Rs.), Date & Time of Auction, Details for Remitting EMD Account No. / IFSC Code.

DEMAND NOTICE

UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH RULE 3 (1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Table with 5 columns: S. No., Name of the Borrower/Co-Borrower & Guarantor, Demand Notice Date & Amount, Description of secured assets (immovable property).

(The borrower/s/mortgagor's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured asset) For detailed terms and conditions of sale, please refer to link in Karnataka Bank's Website i.e. https://karnatakabank.com/auction-notice under the head "Auction Notices"...

If the said Borrowers shall fail to make payment to AHFL as aforesaid, AHFL shall proceed against the above secured assets under Section 13(4) of the Act and the applicable Rules, entirely at the risks of the said Borrowers as to the costs and consequences. The said Borrowers are prohibited under the Act from transferring the aforesaid assets, whether by way of sale, lease or otherwise without the prior written consent of AHFL...

Stokes missing as Draca, Netravalkar line up in long list for IPL mega auction

PTI ■ MUMBAI

England Test skipper Ben Stokes is missing from the list of 1,574 players while his former teammate James Anderson, Italian quick Thomas Draca and India-born USA medium pacer Saurabh Netravalkar have all registered for the IPL mega auction to be held in Jeddah on November 24 and 25.

give the last season of the IPL a miss in order to manage his workload and focus on his fitness, has opted out for the 2025 edition as well. The 42-year-Anderson, who retired from Test cricket earlier this year, has registered for the IPL for the first time. The veteran pacer last played a T20 10 years ago in 2014. He has never competed in a global franchise T20 league. He has a base price of Rs 1.25 crore.



at an average of 10.63 and an economy of 6.88. The Italian pacer was recently signed by the Mumbai Indians owned MI Emirates for the upcoming season of the IPL20 in the UAE. Draca has registered himself at abse prices of Rs 30 lakh in the all-rounders' category.

of 25 players each and there will be 204 slots available after 46 players were retained by 10 teams put together. Each team will have a total purse of Rs 120 crore as Punjab Kings have Rs 110.5 crore available with them, followed by Royal Challengers Bengaluru with Rs 83 crore, Delhi Capitals with Rs 73 crore and Gujarat Titans with Rs 69 crore. Lucknow Super Giants will

also have Rs 69 crore in their purse while five-time winners Chennai Super Kings will have Rs 55 crore. Last year's winners Kolkata Knight Riders will come into the auction with Rs 51 crore in purse while five-time champions Mumbai Indians will have Rs 45 crore, last year's runner-up Sunrisers Hyderabad will have Rs 45 crore and Rajasthan Royals will have Rs 41 crore.

HINDUJA HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

Corporate Office: 167-169, 2nd floor, Near Little Mount Metro Station, Saipet, Chennai - 600015 Regional Office - 101-B, 1st Floor, NRK Business Park, Vijaynagar, Indore(MP) - 452010 Email - auction@hindujahousingfinance.com

DEMAND NOTICE

Under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (the said act) read with rule 3(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 (the said rules). In exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said act read with rule 3 of the said Rules, the Authorised Officer of HNFL has issued demand notice under section 13(2) of the said act, calling upon the Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s), to repay the amount mentioned in respective demand notice issued to them. In connection with above, notice is hereby given, once again, to the Borrower & Guarantor to pay within 60 days from the publication of this notice, the amounts indicated here in below. The detail of the Borrower & Guarantor, amount due and security offered towards repayment of loan amount are as under :-

Table with columns: Name of Borrower/Guarantor/Co-Borrower, Demand Notice issued Date, Loan Account No., Amount Due as on Notice Date, Description of Secured Asset (Immovable Property). Rows include various borrowers like Mr. ANGAD PRASAD MISHRA, Mr. NARENDRA YADAV, etc.

Rishabh Pant climbs five places to sixth spot in ICC Test batters' rankings

PTI ■ DUBAI

India wicket-keeper batter Rishabh Pant on Wednesday rose five places to sixth spot in the latest ICC Men's Test Batter Rankings following his strong performance in a losing cause in third Test against New Zealand in Mumbai last week.

a rung to fourth. New Zealand secured a narrow 25-run victory in Mumbai to claim an unprecedented 3-0 series whitewash over India, with Pant and visiting side's Daryl Mitchell the main beneficiaries in the top 10 Test batter rankings.

STAR HOUSING FINANCE LTD advertisement including contact info (603 Wester Edge 1, Above Metro Cash & Carry, Borivali East Mumbai 400066), demand notice under Section 13(2) of Securitization Act of 2002, and a table of borrowers like Mr. Babji Developer, Mr. Hussain Gakhar, etc.

If the said Borrower/ Guarantor fail to make payment to HNFL as aforesaid, HNFL may proceed against the above secured assets u/s 13(4) of the said act and applicable Rules entirely at the risks, costs and consequence of the Borrower / Guarantor. For, further details, please contact to Authorised Officer Mobile No. - Vaibhav Shrivastava - 7987969803, Rajesh Chakotiya - 8435571111, Pankaj Joshi - 9806133578, Sameer Singh - 9584290575, Ashish Singh - 9981998190, Shivendra Mishra - 8839287191 and Address Regional Office :101 B, 1st Floor Hinduja Housing Finance, NRK Business Park, Vijaynagar, Indore (M.P.) Pin Code 452010.