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INSIDE

SPORTS 11

CHENNAI GRAND MASTERS: TOP RANKED ERIGAISI TO FACE GUJARATHI IN OPENING ROUND



Another encounter, high alert winter in Kashmir

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

Eight consecutive incidents of terrorist violence in a gap of 20 days in Kashmir valley, after the formation of the Omar Abdullah government, have sent alarm bells ringing in the entire security grid to gear up for the long winter ahead.

The pattern of strikes also shows a disturbing trend as the terrorist handlers picked up dormant and least expected areas to target the security forces. The terrorist handlers have also shifted their focus from the Jammu region back to Kashmir valley to drive a wedge between the newly elected popular government and the security establishment.

Recently, when Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha chaired a meeting of the Unified command headquarters in the aftermath of a dastardly attack on the construction workers in the Gagangir area of Sonamarg newly elected Chief Minister Omar Abdullah remained conspicuous by his absence.

The selection of targets and timing of these attacks suggested the terrorist handlers wanted to demonstrate their capabilities to strike at will despite the huge presence of security forces in the hinterland. Two days after the grenade attack hit the shoppers in the busy 'Sunday market' near the TRC centre in Srinagar, a group of heavily armed terrorists were trapped by the security forces in the Kaitsan forest area of Bandipora on Tuesday.

The security forces launched the operation on receipt of credible inputs about the presence of terrorists in the area. Till the time



FILE PHOTO

of filing the report, the security forces had established contact with the terrorists and heavy exchange of firing was going on in the area. Srinagar-based Chinar Corps posted on X, "Based on specific intelligence input regarding the presence of terrorists in the general area of Kaitsan forest, a Joint Operation was launched by the Indian Army, Jammu and Kashmir

Police and CRPF in the general area Chuntawadi Kaitsan, Bandipora. Contact was established and a firefight ensued. Operation is in progress." However, unconfirmed reports claimed one terrorist was neutralised in the ongoing operations in the area. Additional troops were also rushed in to plug the gaps to prevent the escape of

terrorists pinned down in the thickly forested area of Kaitsan. Meanwhile, Sinha warned on Tuesday that the houses of those providing shelter to terrorists would be razed to the ground as he asked people to stand up against the perpetrators of terror. He also said if security forces, the Union Territory administration and people come together, then terrorism could be eliminated from the region in a year. I have directed the forces not to harm any innocent but the culprits will not be spared. If anyone provides shelter to terrorists, then his house will be razed to the ground. There will be no compromise on it," the LG said at a function in north Kashmir's Baramulla district. In a veiled reference to some of the politicians vocal on the issue, Sinha said some people make statements that atrocities are being committed on those providing shelter to terrorists. "However, this is not an atrocity, but a demand for justice and such justice will continue," he added. Sinha said some people are trying to disrupt the peace in Jammu and Kashmir. "Our neighbour is trying, but it does not worry us. It is the people here who are doing it on its directions (that is a cause of concern). It is not just the job of the security forces and the administration but the people as well to identify such people," he said. He added that if the forces, administration and people come together, then "it (terrorism) will not remain here for more than a year. But if the people give them shelter and then say we are doing injustice to them, then that is not right."



We have upheld validity of UP Madrasa Law: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In a big relief to Madrasas in Uttar Pradesh, the Supreme Court on Tuesday upheld the constitutional validity of the 2004 Uttar Pradesh Board of Madrasa Education Law, and set aside an Allahabad High Court verdict quashing it on the ground that it was violative of the principle of secularism. However, the Bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud with Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra set aside provisions of the Act which empowers the Madarsa Board to prescribe course of instructions and text books for higher education - 'kamil' (postgraduate course) and 'fazil' (junior research programme). The SC held that these particular provisions are in violation of the University Grants Commission Act (UGC Act). The Bench said that the High Court erred in holding that the law was violative of principle of secularism. "We have upheld the validity of the UP madrasa law and moreover a statute can be struck down only if the State lacks the legislative competence," CJI Chandrachud said while pronouncing the verdict. The order came as a big relief

to teachers and students of UP Madrasas as the High Court had ordered closure of the seminaries and relocation of students to other schools in the state. On March 22, the High Court declared the Act as "unconstitutional" and violative of the principle of secularism, and asked the State Government to accommodate madrasa students in the formal schooling system. In a breather for about 17 lakh Madrasa students, the SC stayed the HC order on April 5. The three Judge Bench of the SC said the legislative scheme of the law was to standardise the level of education being prescribed in Madrasas. The bench heard a battery of lawyers including senior advocates Abhishek Manu Singhvi, P Chidambaram, Mukul Rohatgi, representing petitioners against the HC verdict. The SC said that a law can be struck down for violation of fundamental rights under part III of the Constitution or on grounds of legislative competence but not for violation of basic structure. "Statute can be struck down only for violation of part III or legislative competence and not for violating basic structure."



Who will be the next POTUS?

AP ■ WASHINGTON

A presidential campaign marked by upheaval and rancor approached its finale on Election Day as Americans decided whether to send Donald Trump back to the White House or elevate Kamala Harris to the Oval Office. Polls opened across the nation on Tuesday morning as voters faced a stark choice between two candidates who have offered drastically different temperaments and visions for the world's largest economy and dominant military power. Harris, the Democratic vice president, stands to be the first female president if elected. She has promised to work across the aisle to tackle economic worries and other issues without radically departing from the course set by President Joe Biden. Trump, the Republican former president, has vowed to replace thousands of federal workers with loyalists, impose sweeping tariffs on allies and foes alike, and stage the largest deportation operation in US history. The two candidates spent the waning hours of the campaign overlapping in Pennsylvania, the biggest battleground state. They were trying to energise their bases as well as Americans still on the fence or debating whether to vote at all. "It's important, it's my civic duty and it's important that I vote for myself and I vote for the democracy and the country which I supported for 22 years of my life," said Ron Kessler, 54, an Air Force veteran from Pennsylvania who said he was voting for just the second time.



States cannot takeover all private properties: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

In a majority 7:2 ruling, the Supreme Court on Tuesday held that states are not empowered under the Constitution to take over all privately-owned resources for distribution to serve the "common good". A nine-judge bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, however, said states can stake claim over private properties in certain cases. Justice BV Nagarathna partially disagreed with the majority judgement penned by the CJI, while Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia dissented on all aspects.

The majority verdict pronounced by the CJI Chandrachud overruled Justice Krishna Iyer's five-decade-old ruling that all privately owned resources can be acquired by the State for distribution under Article 39(b) of the Constitution. "We hold that not every resource owned by an individual can be considered a material resource of a community only because it meets the qualifier of material needs," said the majority of the judges led by CJI, supported by six Judges. The SC held that for a privately-owned property to qualify as a material resource of the community, it must meet certain tests first. While reading her decision, Justice Nagarathna said she had concurred with the CJI-led majority on certain issues and wrote some opinions in response to Justice Dhulia's judgement. "How does ownership and control of material resources privately owned transform into material resources of the community for distribution as best to sub serve the common good. This is the crux of my judgement," Justice Nagarathna said.

Speeding DTC bus mows down Delhi Policeman, IT student

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

Two days after two traffic policemen on duty were dragged on the bonnet of a car, two persons, including a Delhi Police constable, who was on a night patrolling duty, and a B.Tech student died in a gruesome incident after a Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus mowed them down on Monday night, near the Monastery Market in North Delhi due to over speeding. The horror unfolded around 10.15 pm when a green DTC bus went out of control, climbing a pavement outside the Monastery Market on Ring road, and subsequently hitting a billboard pole. The impact of the collision was such that it knocked the billboard off from its base. The bus then hit a pedestrian and an on duty police constable of Civil Lines police station. The vehicle finally came to a halt when it crossed the road, and crashed into a road divider. The crime scene revealed the severity of the disturbing accident with the



Photo: Ranjan Dimri/Pioneer

fallen pole, blood spilled on the road and the damaged bus that stood stranded in the middle of the road till it was towed in the late afternoon. "The green DTC bus, operating on the route from Sarai Kale Khan to Nand Nagari via ISBT, developed some technical snag. Around 10.38 pm, the Police Control Room (PCR) received multiple calls claiming that the bus had swerved off the road near the Monastery Market, causing extensive damage and leaving two people critically injured," Deputy

Commissioner of Police (North) Raja Bhantha stated. However, according to the police sources, the bus was speeding when the incident occurred, and a blood sample of the driver has been sent to test if he was under the influence of alcohol. The accident claimed two lives including that of the young Delhi Police Constable Victor, a resident of Nagaland, and had joined the service in 2019. He was posted at Civil Lines police station from June 2023. He was on his PCR motorcycle when the accident occurred.

'Batenge toh katenge' V/s 'Judenge toh jeetenge'

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

With just days remaining until the November 20 Uttar Pradesh Assembly by-elections, the political sparring over slogans has intensified. Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav recently criticised Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's "batenge toh katenge" remark, calling it "the worst slogan in history". In response, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya accused the SP of supporting "jihadis" to secure votes. The issue has drawn comments from leaders across the political spectrum, including Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati, who weighed in on the escalating rhetoric. Political analysts suggest that while the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is appealing to religious sentiments, the SP aims to shift the focus toward caste-based solidarity through its PDA (backward, Dalit, and minority) framework. Maurya took to social media platform X, alleging that the SP's true agenda was to appease Muslims and "support jihadis" for vote-



bank politics. "SP's politics of dividing society through fronts like 'love jihad', 'land jihad', and 'vote jihad' reveals Akhilesh Yadav's so-called harmony claims," he posted. Maurya questioned if this was the PDA that Yadav promoted, declaring, "SP's true character and face have been exposed." Meanwhile, a poster outside the SP office has reignited the debate. Displayed on Saturday night, it reads, "Mathadhis will divide and cut... PDA will unite and win," implying the SP's commitment to uniting marginalised communities against division. This follows Mayawati's own statement urging voters to align with the

BSP, dismissing the SP-BJP slogan battle as a distraction from real issues. The slogan originated when Adityanath introduced "batenge toh katenge" (if you divide, you will be cut off) during the Haryana elections, later endorsed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the line "Ek hain toh safe hain" (if we are united, we are safe). Some attribute this messaging to the BJP's recent success in Haryana. In response, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav took to social media with the counter-slogan "judenge toh jeetenge" (if we unite, we will win), emphasising positive politics. "In the interest of society, the Chief Minister

should rethink his negative outlook and consider changing his advisors," Yadav wrote, urging Adityanath to adopt a more inclusive approach. He added, "A good leader nurtures positive thoughts and keeps both his sleeves and arms open." Yadav further commented on the role of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in the by-elections, suggesting that its entry has unsettled both the BJP and SP, as both parties attempt to shift public focus with competing posters. Yadav stated, "Instead of divisive slogans, what is truly needed is a commitment to unity - if we join with the BSP, we will progress and remain safe."

Bihar Kokila Sharda Sinha passes away

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ PATNA / NEW DELHI

"Chhatti Maiya ne apne paas bula liya Sharda ji ko," said 76-year-old Usha Rani, a resident of Bhagalpur in Bihar who had just observed the first day's rituals of the four-day Chhatti Puja on Tuesday, with Sharda Sinha's folk songs for the occasion playing in the background and reverberating the festive ambience of her home, and bylanes of Tilka Majhi Chowk. Sinha's demise on the holy days of Chhatti festive season leaves behind a bouquet of signature songs of Mahaparv of the Poorvanchalis. Her songs have often forced many of them to head back home to Bihar from as far as New York, London or Tokyo to pay obeisance to the setting and then the rising Sun Godm from the water bodies of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and elsewhere across the length and breadth of India. Popular folk singer Sharda Sinha, who was undergoing treatment at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Delhi, died on Tuesday night. She was 72. "Sharda Sinha expired at 9.20 pm due to



OCTOBER 1, 1952 NOVEMBER 5, 2024

refractory shock as a result of septicemia," an AIIMS official said. Sinha was known among her fans for folk songs such as "Kartik Maas Jorjira" and "Koyal Bin" as well as Bollywood numbers

"Taar Bijli" from "Gangs of Wasseypur-II" and "Babul" from "Hum Aapke Hain Koun". Prime Minister Narendra Modi and a host of leaders and music lovers condoled the demise of Sharda Sinha who is a Padma Bhushan recipient for being synonymous with folk songs in Bhojpuri, Maithili, and Magahi languages. Expressing condolences PM posted on social media "I am deeply saddened by the demise of renowned folk singer Sharda Sinha ji. Her Maithili and Bhojpuri folk songs have been very popular for the last several decades." He added, "The echo of her melodious songs associated with the great festival of faith, Chhatti, will always remain. Her demise is an irreparable loss for the music world. My condolences are with her family and fans in this hour of grief. Om Shanti!" Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and several leaders and eminent personalities from the State mourned the death of Sharda Sinha when her voice had just reverberated the state's ambience for the most auspicious festive spirit of Bihar.

IOA sends 'Letter of Intent' to host 2036 Olympics in India

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has submitted a 'Letter of Intent', expressing the country's desire to host the 2036 Olympic and Paralympic Games, to the International Olympic Committee's Future Host Commission, taking the first concrete step in an ambitious plan. The letter was submitted on October 1, according to a source in the sports ministry. "This monumental opportunity could bring substantial benefits, fostering economic growth, social progress, and youth empowerment across the country," the source added. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had first talked about his government's aspiration to host the 2036 Olympics last year. A decision on the host will not be taken before the IOC



elections next year and India will also have to face competition from several other nations like Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Turkey, who are positioning themselves as strong contenders to host the sporting spectacle. India's plan has been backed by current IOC head Thomas Bach. The last time India hosted an international multi-sport extravaganza was the 2010 Commonwealth Games here. But for the 2036 Olympics, Ahmedabad is being seen as a front-runner to be the host city. India's top sports administrators, including IOA President PT Usha, were at the

Paris Olympics earlier this year to lobby for the country. It is also learnt that India would be pushing for the inclusion of indigenous disciplines like Yoga, Kho Kho and Kabaddi if the bid is successful. The Sports Authority of India's Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) has even presented a detailed report on the measures needed for a successful bid to new sports minister Mansukh Mandavaya. In this document, MOC has identified six disciplines, including Yoga, Kho Kho, Kabaddi, Chess, T20 cricket and Squash for inclusion in the Games if the country gets to host the quadrennial extravaganza. However, the IOA is also mired in controversy owing to a tug of war between Usha and the body's Executive Council, which has steadfastly refused to ratify the appointment of her choice for the CEO's position, Raghubram Iyer.



BJP rejects allegations levelled by Cong

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Responding to the allegations levelled by the Congress regarding the Marchula bus mishap, the Bharatiya Janata Party has stated that all should desist from playing politics on such a tragedy. The BJP State president and Rajya Sabha member Mahendra Bhatt told mediapersons at the party's State office here on Tuesday that one must avoid politicising a sensitive and tragic incident like the Marchula bus accident. Rejecting the allegations levelled by the Congress regarding negligence in rescue and relief

operations following the mishap, he said that rescue efforts were initiated on a war footing as soon as information about the mishap was received by the authorities. The injured were taken to the hospital by ground and by air ambulance. The best medical treatment facilities are being provided to the accident victims, he said. "From the chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhumi to all the administrative officials concerned, all reached the site of the mishap and the hospitals to expedite the relief work. Undoubtedly, it is not possible

to fill the void left behind by those who have lost their lives in this mishap. However, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced Rs two lakh each and the State government announced Rs four lakh each for the bereaved families," Bhatt said.

He further pointed out that considering the tragic bus mishap, all the programmes to be held to mark the State Foundation Day will be held in a sombre manner, which is a welcome decision.

Cong questions delay in airlifting Marchula accident victims

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The chief spokesperson of Uttarakhand Congress Garima Dasauni has availed that lives of many passengers could have been saved if the air ambulance service of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Rishikesh was operational. She said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the air ambulance service with much fanfare on October 29 but when the air ambulance was needed on November 4 to save the lives of accident victims it was found to be not operational due to technical issues. Dasauni said that if operational, the air ambulance

would have landed at a place near the accident site and airlifted the victims to AIIMS-Rishikesh.

"In the case of the Marchula bus accident, the authorities airlifted the injured patients from Ramnagar which is more than 45 kilometres away from the accident site. The accident occurred at 7:30 AM and the first helicopter carrying three injured passengers landed at AIIMS-Rishikesh at 12:50 PM while the second helicopter reached AIIMS-Rishikesh at 4:20 PM which shows that precious time was lost in the entire operation," she said.

Tiger kills woman collecting firewood in Dhikuli jungle

PNS ■ RAMNAGAR

A woman from Dhikuli village in Ramnagar was killed by a tiger when she and other women had gone into the jungle to collect firewood on Tuesday. The partially eaten body of the woman was found after a search operation. The group of women were collecting firewood when a tiger dragged one of them identified as 55-year-old Kaushalya Rawat. The other women reached the village and informed others. The Forest department personnel and villagers conducted a search for the woman and found her partially eaten body. The woman's death angered the villagers who were pelted by



sub divisional magistrate Rahul Shah, Corbett Tiger Reserve deputy director Rahul Mishra and other officials. The police took possession of the woman's body and sent it for post mortem examination. Corbett director Saket Badola said that camera traps have been put in place to monitor the tiger while the departmental team has stepped up patrolling in the area. The woman's family has been provided one-third of the compensation amount in advance. In addition to this, the villagers have been advised to not venture into the forest area, he said.

District hospital OPD timings change with onset of winter

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

With the arrival of winter, the operating hours of OPD services at Deen Dayal Upadhyay district hospital have been changed to better accommodate patients. Traditionally, every year in November government hospital OPD hours are changed to 9 AM to 3 PM from the summer timing of 8 AM to 2 PM. This year, however, due to the Deepawali holiday break, the implementation of the new timings has been delayed at the government hospital across the State.

hours were from 8 AM to 2 PM in the summer season, but the OPD hours are changed during the winter. This year too the district hospital has also adopted a new timing from 9 AM to 3 PM which will continue till the month of March. He stated that all doctors, nurses and other staff members have been informed about the change in operating hours. Patients must complete the OPD registration form before 2:30 PM as the OPD registration window will only be open during those specified hours. Additionally, the medicine counter will also remain open till 2:30 PM, he added.

Chauhan further added that the primary reason for adjusting the hospital timings statewide is to accommodate patients during the

winter season, especially those residing in mountainous regions who may find it challenging to visit the hospital early in the morning. He further informed that the patient load tends to decrease at the OPD during the winter season, as various illnesses are more common in the summer. Asthma and heart problems tend to increase in the elderly during winter. To prevent this, taking early precautions such as maintaining physical exercise, a proper diet and others plays a crucial role, he added.

Notably, all government hospitals across the state have changed their timings, except for Government Doon Medical College (GDMC) as it provides OPD services from 9 AM to 3 PM throughout the year.

Informing about this, the medical superintendent Dr VS Chauhan informed that the hospital administration has complied with the State's directive to alter the schedule in preparation for winter. Formerly, the hospital's OPD

U'khand Govt approves new faculty appointments at VCSG medical institute

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The State government has approved the appointment of three new faculty members at the Vee Chandra Singh Garhwali (VCSG) Government Institute of Medical Science and Research in Srinagar. This College through walk-in interviews, leading to an increase in academic activities and improved medical facilities at the affiliated hospital. The minister emphasised that with these appointments the government's objective is to achieve 100 per cent faculty availability in all government medical colleges in the State, ensuring that teaching and medical services in hospitals can function without interruption. Plans are underway to fill faculty positions in all medical colleges soon, he added.

decision is intended to address the shortage of faculty, the Health and Medical Education minister Dhan Singh Rawat said.

He informed that the appointments include Dr Dinesh Singh as associate professor in the department of ophthalmology, Dr Neha Kakran as assistant professor in the department of obstetrics and gynaecology and Dr Anil Kumar as assistant professor in the department of microbiology. All appointments were made through walk-in interviews conducted under the supervision of the vice chancellor of Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Uttarakhand Medical Education University, he said.

Rawat further informed that these appointments are on a contractual basis for the next three years or until regular appointments are made. Earlier, faculty members have also been appointed to vacant positions in various departments of Srinagar Medical

U'khand Govt approves new faculty appointments at VCSG medical institute

PNS ■ DEHRADUN



College through walk-in interviews, leading to an increase in academic activities and improved medical facilities at the affiliated hospital. The minister emphasised that with these appointments the government's objective is to achieve 100 per cent faculty availability in all government medical colleges in the State, ensuring that teaching and medical services in hospitals can function without interruption. Plans are underway to fill faculty positions in all medical colleges soon, he added.

The general public is informed that I have changed my name from KUMARI AMISHA (old name) to AMISHA (new name). In future, I should be known as Amisha D/o Dhyani Singh, Address 17, Dharghat, Chamoli, Uttarakhand

The general public is informed that I have changed my daughter's name from Angel Singh (old name) to Aishwarya Singh (new name) and in future she should be known as Aishwarya Singh Daughter of Gaje Singh, Address: HIG A 45 MDA, Dalanwala, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

IN BRIEF

PNB, Doon circle holds vigilance rally

DEHRADUN: As part of the Vigilance Awareness Week launched by the Dehradun circle of Punjab National Bank (PNB) on October 28, an awareness rally was taken out by the bank's staff members here on Tuesday. Addressing the rally, the senior officers said that PNB had been playing a pivotal role in national service since its establishment. They further said that raising awareness among the citizens to root out corruption from the society was an important responsibility which PNB has been discharging with utmost sincerity for years. Circle head Ravinder Kumar, assistant general managers Rajesh Kumar Sharma and Manish Kumar Kashyap as well as chief managers Sanjay Sant, Anand Roy, Krishna Kumar Singh and Raj Kumar were present on the occasion.

Cricketer Raina visits Neem Karoli Ashram

NAINITAL: Cricketer Suresh Raina visited the Neem Karoli Baba Ashram here and sought blessing from the spiritual guru. He was welcomed by the chief of the temple committee and the Gram Pradhan. He said that the Baba's blessing had filled his mind with peace. He further said that something in the Ashram kept pulling people from all walks of life towards it.

Lord Kedarnath reaches winter abode

RUDRAPUR: Lord Kedarnath's Panchmukhi Utsav Doli reached its winter seat inside Omkareshwar temple in Ukhimath on Tuesday. As the idol of the Lord reached, it was showered with flowers by the priests and the devotees. From this day onwards, the Lord will be worshipped at the temple during His six-month winter stay here.

Governor inaugurates conclave of VCs of North Zone

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The governor lieutenant general (ret'd) Gurmit Singh inaugurated the convention of vice chancellors of the north zone at Graphic Era institute of Medical Sciences on Tuesday. The VCs of more than 100 universities in the north zone are attending the convention under the aegis of Association of Indian Universities (AIU).

and the way we work and learn. The governor emphasised that the educational institutes should make efforts to adopt these changes.

He said that the higher education system should be associated with technical innovations for setting up a forward moving society which is based on knowledge, research and innovations.



Speaking on the occasion the governor said that the higher education scenario is passing through a phase of change. He said that technology is changing our lives

The governor stressed on the use of online education, artificial intelligence, big data and cloud computing in higher education.

The Higher Education minister Dhan Singh Rawat said that the AIU is working to promote quality education. He said that the universities should adopt innovation and focus on improving their rankings.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS
PUBLIC NOTICE

I Satendra Kumar S/o late Goverdhan Prasad Bahukhandi R/o H.No.111, Street No.1 Krishnapuram, Majri Mafi, Dehradun, Uttarakhand - 248005 have changed my name to Satendra Kumar Bahukhandi for all future purposes.

The general public is informed that I have changed my name from KUMARI AMISHA (old name) to AMISHA (new name). In future, I should be known as Amisha D/o Dhyani Singh, Address 17, Dharghat, Chamoli, Uttarakhand

The general public is informed that I have changed my daughter's name from Angel Singh (old name) to Aishwarya Singh (new name) and in future she should be known as Aishwarya Singh Daughter of Gaje Singh, Address: HIG A 45 MDA, Dalanwala, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

In my Army Record my son name mistakenly recorded as RAHUL and whereas his correct name is RAHUL SINGH as mentioned in all other documents. I ARMY No. 3190079K Rank Ex HAV Name LOKENDRA SINGH R/O VILL & P.O. PONDHA DIST DEHRADUN UTTARAKHAND. I want to change my son correct name in my service record vide IN- UK54817607335911W Dehradun.

In my service record my mother name mistakenly recorded as Sasubilli Chellyamma his correct name is Sasubilli Chellyamma It should be updated in service record Army Service No.-345440Y Rank N/SUB San Jagannadham Unit BEG Roorkee

CHANGE OF NAME

I, TARUNNA NAIDU W/O LATE SHIVARAJ NAIDU R/O H.No-3/3 Chander-Road Van Vikas Nigam Dalanwala Dehradun Uttarakhand-248001 changed my minor Son's name VIRAJ NAIDU to VIERAJ NAIDU aged-9-Years. PD/895/A

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RBL BANK LTD.
Administrative Office: 1st Lane, Shahpuri, Kolhapur-416001
Branch Office: Property No. 1, First Floor, Opposite Modi Mills, Okhla Phase-3, New Delhi-110020.

PUBLICATION OF NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002

Notice is hereby given that the under mentioned borrower(s)/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) who have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the Credit/Loan facilities obtained by them from the Bank and whose loan accounts have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notices were issued to them under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI Act) on their last known addresses.

Sr. No.	Name and Address of the Borrower, Co-Borrower/ Guarantors/Mortgagor	Loan Account No. and Loan Amount	Details of Properties/ Address of Secured Assets to be Enforced	Date of Notice Amount Due in Rs.
1.	M/S Saraswati Book Agency (through its Proprietor Mr. Amit Sehgal), Property No. 2 (New No. 6/4), Dhamawala Mohalla, Dehradun-248001 The Legal Heirs/representative(s) of Amit Sehgal (Since Deceased) Property No. 2 (New No. 6/4), Dhamawala Mohalla, Dehradun-248001 Mrs. Manisha Sehgal, Property No. 2 (New No. 6/4), Dhamawala Mohalla, Dehradun-248001 Mr. Manish Sehgal, Property No. 2 (New No. 6/4), Dhamawala Mohalla, Dehradun-248001	8090018 58043	"Property No. 2 Old (New No. 6/4, Dhamawala Mohalla), Dehradun/ Schedule-A: All That Ground Floor Property Bearing Municipal No. 2, (New No. 6/4) Dhamawala Mohalla, Dehradun, Area Measuring 48.50 Sq. Mtrs., With Built Up Area Measuring 17.35 Sq. Mtrs., Which is Bounded As Under: East: Property of Shri Amit Sehgal & Others Side Measuring 19ft. 6 inches. West: Land of Others, Side Measuring 19ft. 6 inches. North: Property of Others, Side Measuring 26 Ft. 9 inch. South: 12 Ft. Wide Lane, Side Measuring 26 Ft. 9 inch. Schedule-B: All That Ground Floor Property Bearing Municipal No.2, (New No. 6/4) Dhamawala Mohalla, Dehradun, Area Measuring 48.50 Sq. Mtrs., With Built Up Area Measuring 17.35 Sq. Mtrs., Which is Bounded As Under: East: 4 Ft. 9 inch. Wide Roadside Measuring 19ft. 6 inch West: Remaining Property of Shri Manish Sehgal & Others Side Measuring 19ft. 6 inches. North: Property of Others Side Measuring 26 Ft. 9 inch. South: 12ft. Wide Lane Side Measuring 26 Ft. 9 inch	29.10.2024 Rs. 26,64,869.34 Rupees Twenty Six Lacs Sixty Four Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty Nine and Paise Thirty Four Only together with interest at contractual rate, (till complete payment) and incidental expenses thereon.

The above borrower and/ or their guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) (whenever applicable) are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of said 60 days under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of SARFAESI Act.

Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available Bank against the borrower(s)/ guarantor(s)/mortgagor(s) of the said loan/facility under the law. You are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above secured asset or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the above secured asset, without our prior written consent.

Place: Dehradun
Date: 04.11.2024
Authorised Officer
RBL Bank Ltd.

कार्यालय नगर पंचायत लालकुआँ, जिला-नैनीताल। पिन कोड- 262402
(www.nagarpanchayatlalakuan.in) toll free no & E-Mail-eolalmbuk@gmail.com दूरभाष 05946-220035

पत्रांक :-2043 / न०प० / निर्माण / ई-निविदा / 2024-25. दिनांक: 05.11.2024

ई-निविदा सूचना
एतद्वारा सर्व साधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि कार्यालय नगर पंचायत लालकुआँ, जिला-नैनीताल द्वारा निम्नलिखित निर्माण कार्य को कराये जाने हेतु टू-विड कार्य की ई-निविदा दिनांक 20.11.2024 तक आमंत्रित की जाती है।

क्र० सं०	कार्य का नाम	जमानत धनराशि	निविदा मूल्य	निविदा प्रपत्र डाउनलोड की तिथि
01	नगर पंचायत लालकुआँ के वार्ड नं०-03 में पुलिस कोतवाली के बगल से जंगलात वैरियर तक मोटर मार्ग निर्माण/ सुधारिकरण का कार्य।	1,14,000.00	8000.00+ 1440-00 18 प्रतिशत जी०एस०टी०	दिनांक 06.11.2024 से दिनांक 20.11.2024 तक
02	नगर पंचायत लालकुआँ के वार्ड नं०-01 अम्बेडकरनगर में स्थित ग्रीन पार्क का विकास व सौन्दर्यीकरण कार्य।	1,39,200.00	10,000.00+ 1800-00 18 प्रतिशत जी०एस०टी०	दिनांक 06.11.2024 से दिनांक 20.11.2024 तक

अतः उक्त के सम्बंध में विस्तृत विवरण http://www.uktenders.gov.in से डाउनलोड कर देखी जा सकती है।
(राहुल कुमार सिंह) अधिशासी अधिकारी, नगर पंचायत लालकुआँ।
(परितोष वर्मा) प्रमारी अधिकारी, नगर पंचायत लालकुआँ।

कार्यालय नगरपालिका परिषद विकासनगर देहरादून

पत्रांक 674 / सत्यापन / 2024-25 दिनांक 04 नवम्बर, 2024

निष्प्रयोज्य सामग्री नीलामी सूचना
सर्वसाधारण को सूचित किया जाता है कि नगर पालिका परिषद विकासनगर द्वारा पालिका कार्यालय/स्टोर में उपलब्ध निष्प्रयोज्य सामग्री की नीलामी हेतु इच्छुक व्यक्तियों को सर्व दिनांक 20.11.2024 को पूर्वाह्न 11:00 बजे तक पालिका कार्यालय में ₹0 50,000/- की जमानत राशि नगद जमा कर खुली बोली में प्रतिभाग कर सकते है।

मुख्य शर्त :-
1- पालिका कार्यालय एवं स्टोर में उपलब्ध निष्प्रयोज्य सामग्री की नीलामी हेतु सर्वोच्च बोली स्वीकृत होने के एक सप्ताह के अन्दर सर्वोच्च बोली की धनराशि पालिका कार्यालय में जमा करनी होगी, अन्यथा की स्थिति में जमानत धनराशि जब्त करते हुए निरस्त कर दी जायेगी।
2- पालिका कार्यालय एवं स्टोर में उपलब्ध निष्प्रयोज्य सामग्री को एक सप्ताह के भीतर पालिका कार्यालय/स्टोर से ले जाना अनिवार्य होगा।
3- पालिका कार्यालय/स्टोर में उपलब्ध निष्प्रयोज्य सामग्री की नीलामी एवं स्थल निरीक्षण किसी भी कार्य दिवस में किया जा सकता है।
(बद्री प्रसाद भट्ट) अधिशासी अधिकारी
(विनोद कुमार) प्रशासक



Marchula mishap: CM questions absence of crash barriers

Cultural programmes on eve of State foundation day cancelled

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Taking a stern note of the absence of crash barriers on the Pauri-Ramnagar route the chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has ordered an investigation into the matter. He also cancelled all the cultural programmes which were to be held on the eve of the State Foundation Day on November 8.



The CM gave these orders while chairing a meeting of senior officers of State administration at the secretariat on Tuesday. Dhami said that a sum of Rs 7.5 crore was provided to the Public Works Department (PWD) for installation of crash barriers in the past two years. The CM asked the PWD officials why the crash barriers were not installed even though the necessary budget was provided. Dhami said that the State government is standing with the family members of those who lost their lives in the tragic accident. He also prayed

for the speedy recovery of the injured. The CM directed the officers of the Health department to ensure that the best possible treatment is provided to the accident victims. He also ordered cancellation of the cultural programmes on the eve of the State Foundation Day and said that 'Service Day' will be organised on November 8 this year. A statewide sanitation campaign will be undertaken on the day and fruits will be distributed at Nari Niketan, old age homes and Mahila Ashrams. In the meeting, the

CM also directed the officers of roadways to ensure availability of buses on all routes. He said that additional buses should be pressed into service during the festival. The CM directed that arrangements to purchase new buses should be made if required.

The meeting was attended by chief secretary Radha Raturi, principal secretary RK Sudhanshu, Home secretary Shailash Bagauli and additional director general of police AP Anshuman.

Transport department alone not to blame for Almora bus mishap, multiple factors responsible, say officials

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Amid claims that the bus accident in Almora that claimed 36 lives could have been avoided if the Transport officials had not been negligent, the joint commissioner of the Transport department Sanat Kumar Singh said that it is unfair to blame the department solely for the accident. He emphasised that a combination of factors led to the accident, including overcrowding and poor road conditions. The accident occurred when a 42-seater bus carrying 63 passengers veered off a narrow, damaged road at Marchula in Almora district on Monday. According to Singh, while the Transport department has the authority to regulate and inspect the vehicles and drivers, it lacks the power to control the number of passengers boarding buses on internal routes. The issue of overcrowded buses becomes particularly common after vacations, in this case, after Deepawali, he said, pointing out a similar incident in 2018 when 48 lives were lost in Dhumakot, Pauri district, shortly after the summer break. He said that preliminary investigations suggest that the bus involved in the Marchula accident had mechanical issues, with broken leaf springs reported prior to the accident. Additionally, the road was quite narrow, damaged and there were no crash barriers along the road, which, according to Singh, is a critical safety measure in mountainous areas. The absence of crash barriers was also a major factor in another recent accident in Rudraprayag, where 15 people died in June. "Crash barriers significantly reduce the severity of accidents and can save lives. The Public Works Department (PWD) was allocated about Rs 700 crore two years ago specifically for installing crash barriers in mountainous areas. Despite this, the installations remain incomplete, contributing to the lack of safety on mountain roads," he added.

Man arrested for derogatory Facebook post on Almora bus accident

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Pauri police arrested Mohammad Amir (50) on Tuesday for reportedly posting a derogatory post on Facebook regarding the Almora bus accident in which 36 people died on Monday. The circle officer of Thalising, Manoj Kumar said that Amir is a resident of Kotdwar Road, Ramnagar, Nainital district and currently residing at Naugaon Syunsi, Thalising in Pauri district. He said that a photo of the Almora bus accident was being circulated on social media accompanied by a derogatory song. Recognising the potential threat to communal harmony, the police started an investigation and found that the viral post originated from the Facebook account of Mohammad Amir. Given the post's potential to incite public unrest and disturb communal peace, a case was registered against him at Thalising police station under case number 26/2024, sections 196, 299, and 353(2) of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Kumar said. He informed that following evidence collection and legal procedures, Amir was arrested on Tuesday and has been presented before the court. The legal proceedings are ongoing, he added.

LoP seeks comprehensive probe in Marchula accident

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The leader of opposition (LoP) in the Vidhan Sabha, Yashpal Arya has demanded that a comprehensive inquiry covering all the aspects of the bus accident in Marchula, Almora should be conducted and the responsibility for the mishap should be fixed. He said that the death of 36 passengers in the accident is very tragic and it also raises a question mark on the passenger safety arrangements. The LoP said that road accidents and natural disasters have become very common and after every accident the government orders investigation but everything cools down after some time. Arya said that overloading could be one of the causes of the accident for which driver, conductor, regional transport officer and assistant regional transport officer are responsible, but the government should also fix the responsibilities for the pathetic condition of roads and public transport. He said that the experts are of the view that precious lives could have been saved if the department concerned had installed crash barriers at the site. The LoP said that the government has offered a compensation of Rs four lakh to the family of the deceased in the accident. He said that the findings of the investigation report should be made public and stern action should be taken against those responsible for the accident.

Lives lost, lessons not learned: Lack of reforms worsens Uttarakhand road safety

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The tragic bus accident in Marchula of Almora district on Monday once again highlighted the recurring dangers on the State's mountainous roads and the authorities' inadequate response to ensure safety. This accident claimed 36 lives and left 27 injured. Road accidents have long plagued Uttarakhand, with the State consistently ranking among the most dangerous regions for road safety in India. Despite frequent accidents and the tragic loss of life, the authorities' response has been kneejerk at best. While violations in urban areas often elicit quick penalties, the Transport department here appears to overlook critical road safety issues in remote mountain regions, only taking temporary action when a major accident occurs.

The official data from recent years underscores the severity of the problem. In 2018 and 2019,

Uttarakhand saw 1,418 and 1,353 road accidents respectively, resulting in 1,047 and 868 fatalities respectively. This trend has only worsened with 1,674 accidents recorded in 2022, leading to 1,042 deaths and 1,691 accidents in 2023, in which 1,054 people died. These numbers place Uttarakhand among the top eight states in India for accident severity, as measured by the fatality rate per 100 accidents. Recent years have witnessed numerous catastrophic accidents in the State's mountain areas.

The 2018 Dhumakot bus accident took 48 lives, while the October 2021 incident in Chakrata left 11 dead. In February 2022, a marriage party bus fell off a cliff in Champawat claiming 11 lives and a June 2022 crash on the Yamunotri highway resulted in 22 fatalities. More recently, the accident of a Tempo Traveller in

Rudraprayag in June 2024 claimed 15 lives. Despite these repeated tragedies, effective reforms in road safety remain elusive. In response to public outcry, authorities occasionally suspend low or middle ranking officials or impose temporary disciplinary measures. Yet these steps fail to address the underlying issues of overloading, reckless driving and inadequate road maintenance that make these roads dangerous. Observers opine that it often appears that a significant accident is needed to spur the authorities into action, only for their alertness to diminish once public attention fades. Unless the departments and agencies concerned implement concrete, lasting changes in safety standards and road infrastructure, the cycle of accidents and temporary responses is likely to continue, putting countless lives at risk on Uttarakhand's unsafe roads.

Police to identify and verify accident-prone spots in all districts

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In response to a decade of increase in road accidents caused by overloading in Uttarakhand, the officiating director general of police Abhinav Kumar has directed authorities to identify and verify accident-prone spots across the State. As part of the initiative, special signage, glowing boards, crash barriers and other safety measures will be put in place at these high-risk locations to enhance road safety. The DGP issued these instructions in a meeting with senior police officials at Police headquarters in Dehradun on Tuesday. Kumar said that a statewide campaign from November 10 will target overloaded vehicles, unauthorised passenger vehicles and those driving under the influence of alcohol. He stated that all districts have been instructed to enforce strict action with mandated legal proceedings against vehicle owners, drivers and conductors involved in accidents caused by overloading, as outlined in the standard operating procedures (SOPs). To address disruptions caused by protests that block national highways or obstruct rail-

way operations, police will take strict legal action against offenders. Efforts will be made to coordinate with stakeholders to ensure clear communication about these measures, the DGP said.

Kumar also informed that on the occasion of the State foundation day, the government is also planning collaborative events with the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), including a joint Nanda Devi expedition and a Ganga clean-up initiative, which will involve rafting from Gangotri to Haridwar. Several awareness programs will be conducted at the district and state levels to engage the public in these initiatives. He said that preparations are also underway for next year's Char Dham pilgrimage season. All districts are expected to submit their challenges and suggestions within a week to facilitate smooth management of the pilgrimage next year. These comprehensive measures aim to ensure road safety, enhance traffic discipline and prepare for important state events and festivals in Uttarakhand, he added.





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मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड



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"लोकार्पण"

मुख्य अतिथि
पुष्कर सिंह धामी
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड
के कर-कमलों द्वारा

दिनांक: 06 नवम्बर, 2024, बुधवार को पूर्वाह्न 10:30 बजे

इस शुभ अवसर पर आप सादर आमंत्रित हैं।



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Congress accuses PM Modi of lowering discourse, claims BJP losing in Maharashtra and Jharkhand

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Congress on Tuesday accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi of lowering the level of discourse during the election campaign and claimed it showed that the BJP was losing assembly elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand.

After alleging that the INDIA bloc will snatch the 'magalsutra' in his Lok Sabha campaign speeches, Modi has stooped to calling the opposition alliance 'ghuspaithiya bandhan' (an alliance of infiltrators) and claiming it will 'snatch daughters and food' in Maharashtra and Jharkhand, the party said. Congress leader Pawan Khera stated that it is unbecoming of a prime minister to use language similar to that of a 'cheap villain from a C-grade Hindi film' and he should uphold the dignity of his office.

leader claimed the BJP's prospects are even worse in Jharkhand and Maharashtra and "they know they are losing". "He is now again talking of 'ghuspaithiya' sarkar, that it will snatch your daughters and food. But, border security is under them as he has been in government for over 10 years. Who is giving this certificate to the BSF, the Home Minister, Rajnath Singh or are you criticising your foreign policy," Khera alleged. The Congress spokesperson wondered if the prime minister is publicly criticising Home Minister Amit Shah with such statements. "Whatever their differences, he should improve his language. Such language and dialogues are not befitting of the prime minister's post," he said. "Such dialogues are spoken by a cheap villain of a C-grade Hindi film and do not improve upon your language," he said.

India to launch European Space Agency's Proba-3 mission in December

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



India will launch the European Space Agency's Proba-3 mission early next month from the spaceport at Sriharikota, Science and Technology Minister Jitendra Singh said here on Tuesday. He said the two satellites that are part of the Proba-3 mission to study the Sun were brought to Sriharikota on Tuesday morning for integration with ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV). "Proba-3 mission of the European Space Agency will be launched by a PSLV rocket from Sriharikota in the first week of December," Singh said at the Indian Space Conclave organised by the Indian Space Association. The mission is likely to be launched on December 4. The two Proba-3 spacecraft will be launched together by the PSLV-XL launcher and placed in the highly elliptical orbit which will ascend to 60,000 km away from Earth before coming as low as just 600 km.

This high orbit is required because the pair of spacecraft will perform their active formation flying for a planned six hours at a time around their maximum altitude, where Earth's gravitational pull will be diminished, as will the amount of propellant needed to fine-tune their positions. Proba-3's two satellites will enable sustained views of the Sun's faint surrounding atmosphere, or corona, that has previously only been visible for a few brief moments during solar eclipses viewed from the Earth. To achieve this the shadow being cast between the spacecraft must remain in a precise position, which means they must fly autonomously in formation to an accuracy of a single millimetre - about the thickness of an average fingernail. This is the first time that an ESA mission is being launched from India since the original Proba-1 Earth-observing mission in 2001.

SC junks plea against quashing of LOC issued to ex-house help of Sushant Singh Rajput

PTI ■ NEW DELHI



The Supreme Court on Tuesday dismissed the Centre's appeal against an order that quashed a look out circular (LOC) issued to the former house help of late actor Sushant Singh Rajput. A bench of Justices B R Gavai and K V Viswanathan dismissed the appeal noting no one had appeared in the case when the matter came up for hearing. "We do not find any merit in the appeal," held the bench. An LOC is issued by investigating agencies to ensure the accused persons do not flee the country. The Centre had challenged

the April 10 Bombay High Court order quashing the LOC issued by the CBI against one Samuel Miranda. The high court had observed the LOC had been issued on the basis of the registration of the FIR and said there was no apprehension of the

petitioner evading arrest or being unavailable for the trial. "Nothing was brought to our notice in the LOC, reflecting the reason for issuing of the LOC, except registration of an FIR and setting out the gist of the FIR. Neither has anything been brought on record for continuance of the LOC not has the respondent number one, the CBI, placed before us any subsequent request for continuation/renewal of the LOC after the expiry of one year," the high court noted. The CBI was further stated to have neither filed a charge-sheet nor a closure report. "It is not in dispute that the petitioner has joined the investigation and has co-

operated with the same," said the high court. Miranda, before the high court, claimed that the LOC was issued against him in 2020 and the police were yet to file a report. He said the look out circular couldn't be issued indefinitely, particularly when he had co-operated with the investigation and attended the CBI office when summoned. "Keeping the LOC pending for over 3.5 years, has infringed the petitioner's right to travel abroad, and clearly violates his fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution India, to travel freely," said Miranda.



President Droupadi Murmu, Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Union Minister of Law & Justice Arjun Ram Meghwal and Justice BR Gavai release of three publications of the Supreme Court, at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre (RBCC) PTI

ICG convenes 26th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan meeting



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) convened the 26th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan (NOSDCP) meeting here on Tuesday chaired by Director General Paramesh Sivamani, Chairperson NOSDCP. The meeting saw the participation of approximately 80 delegates from various ministries, central and state governments, ports, and oil handling agencies, Coast Guard said. The gathering focused on reviewing the nation's preparedness to respond effectively to oil spill contingencies in Indian waters. As India is on track to become the world's third-largest economy, the volume of oil imports via shipping is also rising. "This increase, alongside the movement of chemicals and other hazardous materials, presents significant risks to India's maritime zones, extensive coastline, coastal populations, marine ecosystems, and tourism industries. Ensuring robust preparedness among the Central Coordinating Agency, coastal states, ports, and other stakeholders is crucial for protecting our marine environment from potential oil spills."

Assam CM questions Sonia Gandhi's nationality amid citizenship row



PTI ■ PALONGHA/ASSAM

Hitting out at the Congress for questioning the legitimacy of the citizenship of a BJP by-poll candidate in Assam, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Tuesday claimed that questions can also be raised on the nationality of the opposition party's top leader Sonia Gandhi. The Congress in its campaigning for Dholai constituency has cast doubts about the citizenship of BJP candidate Nihar Ranjan Das. Addressing a rally here while campaigning for Das, Sarma said, "If you (Congress) call Nihar Ranjan 'Bangladeshi', I will also call Sonia Gandhi 'Italian'. If you think I am afraid of Sonia Gandhi or Rahul Gandhi, let me tell you I am not." Sarma maintained that Bengali Hindu residents of present Barak Valley of Assam were dwellers of what is now Bangladesh as it was the same country prior to Partition. He blamed the Congress for creating the problems for Bengali-Hindus of Barak Valley, who had to move to present-day Assam following Partition of the country due to atrocities on religious minorities there. Sarma also held the grand old party responsible for the Partition of India in 1947. "Hindus are facing atrocities even now (in Bangladesh). We can see this on television and social media. But you (Congress) cannot raise these issues. Congress was formed to play only negative politics," the CM added. Sarma had addressed another campaign rally under Dholai constituency earlier in the day.

Union Minister launches 'Tulip' digital platform to empower marginalised artisans

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Virendra Kumar, on Tuesday inaugurated a new digital platform 'Tulip' aimed at improving market access for artisans from marginalised communities, including Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs), Other Backward Classes (OBCs), safai karmacharis, persons with disabilities, and minority groups. The platform was launched under the guidance of the National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation (NBCFDC) and the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, at the 15-days Shilp Samagam Mela at Dilli Haat beginning Tuesday. It offers visitors a vibrant display of traditional

handicrafts, skill demonstrations and an opportunity to support artisan communities directly. Speaking at the launch of Tulip, the Union minister emphasised the government's commitment to fostering financial independence among India's traditional craft workers. It seeks to connect India's skilled artisans with both domestic and global markets, promoting financial independence and empowering traditional craft workers. "Our aim is to bring people from the marginalised communities, including SCs and safai karmacharis, into the mainstream. We are working towards their empowerment, making them atmanirbhar (self-reliant)," he said, adding the ministry's effort is to provide a platform like this to accelerate their progress.

Kumar highlighted the inclusive intent behind Tulip, describing it as "a step in line with 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Prayas, Sabka Vishwas', an inclusive development model. Kumar also announced plans to expand the initiative further, aiming to identify artisans in "every corner" of the country and link them to the digital marketplace. Artisans interested in joining Tulip can register through the platform for more comprehensive access to new markets, while additional support is available through NBCFDC's helpline, he said. "Tulip is designed to address key challenges faced by artisans, particularly the involvement of intermediaries, by facilitating direct sales and ensuring fair compensation for their work, a senior official said."

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has disbursed the first installment of the 15th Finance Commission grants for 2024-25 to rural local bodies in Haryana, Tripura, and Mizoram, as per the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj. In particular, Haryana has received untied grants totaling Rs. 194.867 crores. This amount will be allocated to 18 eligible district panchayats, 139 block panchayats, and 5,911 gram panchayats across the state. Untied grants are utilised by RLBs for location-specific needs, except for salaries and other establishment costs. Tied grants are used for basic services such as sanitation, maintaining Open Defecation Free (ODF) status and the supply of drinking water, rainwater harvesting and water recycling. For Tripura, untied grants totalling Rs 31.40 crore and tied grants of Rs 47.10 crore



have been released for all 1,260 rural local bodies (RLBs), including traditional local bodies, 40 block advisory committees and 587 village committees. Mizoram received untied and tied grants of Rs 14.20 crore and Rs 21.30 crore, respectively. These funds have been disbursed to all 834 village councils, including those in Autonomous District Council areas, it said. The Ministry said the Finance Commission grants aim to make the Panchayati Raj Institutions and RLBs more capable, accountable, and self-reliant. "Aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's

vision of 'Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas, Sabka Prayas', this initiative supports inclusive growth and participatory democracy, vital for the development of the country," it added. The Centre, through the Panchayati Raj Ministry and the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti (Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation), recommends the release of 15th Finance Commission grants to states for Rural Local Bodies, which are then released by the Ministry of Finance, the statement said adding that the allocated grants are released in two installments in a financial year.

NITI Aayog launches 'Jal Utsav' festival to promote water conservation and sustainability

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



The Government's premier think tank, NITI Aayog will be launching a fortnight long 'Jal Utsav' festival starting Wednesday to create awareness and sensitivity towards water management, conservation and sustainability. Jal Utsav which comes amid an ongoing global and national water crisis will be implemented in 20 Aspirational Districts/Blocks between November 6-24, 2024 in partnership with National Jal Jeevan Mission, Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Union Ministry of Jal Shakti. The Festival is being launched across 20 states, envisages community participation in preservation and protection of water resources. "It seeks to instil a sense of responsibility towards efficient water use among households and water management among utilities

and agencies. In this initiative, school students are being enrolled in water management activities, empowering them to act as catalysts for change within their families and communities," said a Government statement here. The event will be launched with 'Jal Bandhan' - the symbolic tying of sacred thread on water assets by eminent personalities and local leaders. They would also launch 'Fact Sheets on Jal Sampada (water assets)' of

their respective blocks and districts. Besides, discussing the plan for the departmental activities in the fortnight, people would also take the 'Jal Utsav Oath' resolving to maintain and protect the water resources ensuring judicious and sustainable use. Through this pledge, communities are being encouraged to abide by the 5Rs: Respect, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and Recharge while using water. The subsequent days of the Jal Utsav fortnight will include cleaning of Jal Sampada assets; celebrating Jal Sanchay Diwas; encouraging teachers to lead through creating water management awareness through stories, experiments and visits to water bodies and also by training the students on water quality testing using field test kits (FTKs). Students will be given exposure visits to water supply and treatment plants

for greater awareness about water management; organizing Jal Utsav Run or marathon; planting of trees under 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' at Jal Sampada premises are also the activities planned for the fortnight. People for skill development under 'Nal Jal Mitra' initiative of Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation will also be enrolled during the Jal Utsav. Self-help Groups (SHGs) and ASHA workers are also being included in this festival for sensitisation and capacity building. The campaign is inspired by the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who proposed the idea of Jal Utsav during the 3rd Chief Secretaries Conference in December 2023. The festival aims to create a collective responsibility toward preserving water resources and ensuring their sustainable management, as per the statement.

Climate driven changes in Ganga plains: DST Study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI



Tracing vegetation patterns in the Ganga plain from paleoclimate records with the help of pollen and multiproxy studies, a team of Indian scientists have shown how climate-driven vegetation changes played a crucial role in shaping human history in the Indian subcontinent over the last 2000 years. Besides using pollen extracted from sediment cores taken from Sarsapukhra Lake in Varanasi district, Uttar Pradesh, as well as other multiproxy analyses, the scientists from Birbal Sahni Institute of Palaeosciences (BSIP), an autonomous research institute under the Department of Science and Technology (DST), also employed the Earth System Paleoclimate Simulation (ESPS) model to reconstruct monsoon patterns over the past two millennia. The study's findings show that alternating periods of warm and cold temperatures, such as the

Roman Warm Period, Dark Ages Cold Period, Medieval Warm Period, and Little Ice Age, significantly influenced vegetation and climate. These shifts in climate likely played a role in shaping human migrations, as well as the rise and fall of major Indian dynasties like the Guptas, Gurjar Pratiharas, and Cholas. The study holds importance given that there is a notable scarcity of paleoclimate records for the late Holocene (approximately 2,500 years) in the Central Ganga Plain (CGP), highlighting a significant research gap in understanding past climate patterns in this region. In particular, the researchers

explored paleoclimatic clues to better understand historical climate dynamics, particularly in relation to the Indian Summer Monsoon (ISM). The study has been published in the journal Catena. By identifying crops more suited to the changing climate, agricultural practices can be adapted to maintain productivity and ensure the stability of the GDP. This proactive approach could help mitigate the adverse effects of climate change on agriculture, ensuring food security and economic resilience in the future, said the researchers.

Leaders condemn attack on Hindu temple in Canada

UP Cabinet approves new rules for DGP appointment amid Akhilesh Yadav's criticism

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday condemned the attack on a temple in Canada's Brampton and urged the Centre to take up the issue with the Canadian government to prevent such incidents in the future. Protesters carrying Khalistani flags clashed with people at the Hindu temple on Sunday.

"I strongly condemn the incident. I also demand from the government of India to speak to the Canadian government over this issue in order to prevent such incidents in future," Mann told reporters in Bathinda.

"He said the Canadian government must ensure exemplary action against the perpetrators of this heinous crime so that it acts as a deterrent for others in future. He said many Punjabis consider Canada as their second home and nobody wants such a violent incident to take place there.

"Canada is the second home of millions of Punjabis who have settled there and carved a niche for themselves," he said.



He said ties with Canada must remain cordial. It is unfortunate that politics of divisiveness and hatred has spread its tentacles in Canada, said Mann. Punjabis pray for welfare of all and are votary of peace due to which they are loved across the globe, he said. With their rare qualities of hard work and resilience Punjabis have carved a niche for themselves in the entire world, said Mann.

India has said it remains "deeply concerned" about the safety and security of its nationals in Canada. India-Canada ties remain deeply troubled over the North American country's alleged support to Khalistani separatists and its accusation of India's involvement in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Canadian citizen who has been designated a terrorist by India.

Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) working president Balwinder Singh Bhundar also condemned the incident and appealed to people of Indian origin to defeat conspiracies to divide them on communal lines. Bhundar called upon the Canadian government to ensure all places of religious worship were secure from such acts of violence.

In a statement, Bhundar said, "attempts are afoot to divide

Sikhs and Hindus in Canada on communal lines. This is against the teachings of our Guru Sahiban who have preached the concept of 'sarbat da bhala' (welfare of all).

"The SAD also has always stood for communal harmony and has also made numerous sacrifices to uphold this principle. It is a votary of Hindu-Sikh 'bhaichara' and has ensured impeccable peace and communal harmony during its successive terms in government in Punjab."

He appealed to people from both communities in Canada to recognize their common roots and exercise utmost restraint and maintain communal harmony at this crucial juncture.

Bhundar also appealed to the Canadian government to ensure safety of all persons of Indian origin as well as safety of their places of worship.

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Tuesday condemned the attack on a Hindu temple in Canada, saying it is unacceptable and such incidents are a direct assault on the values of peace, respect and unity. Sawant also urged the

Canadian government to take immediate action to ensure the safety and security of all religious communities within its borders.

The incident occurred on Sunday in Canada's Brampton city, where protesters carrying Khalistani flags clashed with people at the Hindu Sabha temple on Sunday and disrupted a consular event co-organised by the temple authorities and the Indian Consulate.

The development comes as India-Canada ties remain deeply troubled over the North American country's alleged support to Khalistani separatists and its accusation of India's involvement in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Canadian citizen who has been designated a terrorist by India.

In the post on X, CM Sawant said, "The recent, targeted attack on the Hindu temple and its devotees is not only deeply concerning but also entirely unacceptable. Such incidents represent a direct assault on the values of peace, respect and unity that form the foundation of any civilised society."

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, in a key meeting, approved several significant measures, including the rules for the appointment of the Director General of Police (DGP). With this decision, the state government now holds the authority to appoint the DGP directly at the state level, reducing dependency on the central government for the appointment process.

This move, however, has sparked criticism from Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav, who hinted at a potential power shift.

Yadav, in a post on social media platform X, remarked, "I have heard that arrangements are being made to grant a senior official a permanent position and extend their term by two years. The question is, will those making these arrangements themselves stay for two years?" He went on to imply that this move may represent an attempt by the state to wrest control from Delhi, dubbing it "Delhi vs Lucknow 2.0."

Under the new guidelines, the DGP appointment will now be conducted entirely at the state level. Chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the cabinet approved the "Police Director General, Uttar Pradesh Selection and Appointment Rules 2024." The rules establish a selection committee, led by a retired High Court judge, to oversee the appointment process.

Additionally, a minimum tenure of two years for the DGP has been mandated, with provisions for continuity in service barring extraordinary circumstances.

The selection committee will include the Chief Secretary, a Union Public Service Commission nominee, the Chairperson of the Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (or a representative), the Additional Chief Secretary (Home), and a retired DGP who previously served in the role.

This committee aims to create an independent and transparent process, free from political or executive interference, ensuring that the

DGP is selected solely based on merit.

The cabinet's approval also includes provisions aligned with Supreme Court guidelines on police reforms. These guidelines allow the state government to relieve the DGP from duty before the completion of the two-year tenure if involved in criminal misconduct, corruption, or failure to fulfill their duties.

The decision aligns with the Supreme Court's 2006 directive on police reforms, which urged states to adopt new police legislation aimed at insulating the police force from external pressures. This reform seeks to ensure that law enforcement functions independently, protecting citizens' rights and upholding the rule of law.

The cabinet's decision is a major step in the state's police reforms. However, it also underscores the ongoing debate between central and state control in policing matters, with political observers watching closely to see how this policy shift will unfold in Uttar Pradesh's administrative landscape.

Kerala legislator, Catholic Church lambast Waqf Board demands

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KOCHI



The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) and the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) are hunting with the hounds and running with the hares in the Waqf Board issue, according to Kerala's seventh time legislator P C George. Deepika, the Catholic Church's mouthpiece too blasted the Congress and the CPI(M) for condemning the Waqf Board Bill 2024.

Speaking to The Pioneer, George, a top BJP leader in the State, said that while the UDF and the LDF paid lip service to the 600 families of Cherali-Munampam coastal village who face eviction from the land where they have been staying for generations, both the fronts have shied away from asking the Waqf Board to withdraw their claim over the disputed land.

"This is not a disputed land and it belongs to the fishermen community who bought it from the previous owner. The CPI (M) and the Congress led fronts got a resolution passed in the legislative assembly condemning the Waqf Board (Amendment) Bill 2024 and both these political parties oppose the topic being discussed by the Joint Parliamentary Committee," said George, who was the chief whip of the UDF during the tenure of the Oommen Chandi Government.

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has convened a meeting on November 16 to discuss the issues born out of the Waqf Board demand that the entire coastal village is Waqf property and there was no question of it taking a step backward. Even V Abdurehiman, minister for Waqf has stated that the land belonged to the Waqf Board.

"This is part of political Islam and there are no other words to describe the double standard of the Marxists and the Congress," said George who is touring the coastal belt of Ernakulam interacting with the victims facing the eviction.

Interestingly, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has asked his revenue officials to withdraw all changes made in the title deeds of land owned by Vijayapura farmers and transfer the same to Waqf Board. "But this is a ploy by

the Congress government as the State is all set to go for by-poll on November 13 in the assembly constituencies of Shiggaon, sandur and Channapattana. Once the by-poll is over it would be back to square one", said BJP leader Chandra Kant.

In a major development, Deepika, the mouthpiece of Catholic community in its editorial on Tuesday lambasted the Congress Government that ruled the Centre and the CPI(M) for their "unreasonable and unjustifiable" stands that empowered the Waqf Board to claim rights on properties which were not owned by them. "Until the Waqf Board (Amendment) Bill 2024 is legislated, people in other communities would not be able to sleep peacefully," said the editorial which extended its full support to the Government move to amend the Waqf Law.

UP Govt amends FDI Incentive Policy 2023

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

In a significant move to boost foreign investment in Uttar Pradesh, the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at Lok Bhavan, approved amendments to the Incentive Policy 2023 for FDI (Foreign) Direct Investment) and investment of Fortune 500 companies.

This amendment by the Yogi government provides significant relief to foreign investors. Now, foreign companies that secure funding through equity, loans, or other sources can also invest in the state. This decision is expected to lead to an increase in foreign investment in Uttar Pradesh.

Providing details on the Yogi Cabinet's decisions, Finance and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna stated, "The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy, introduced on 1/11/2023, has been amended slightly. The minimum investment threshold for eligibility under the policy remains at Rs 100 crore. According to the RBI's

definition, FDI has so far only included equity investments. However, with this policy amendment, we have broadened it to include Foreign Capital Investment."

He further explained that, until now, the FDI included investment made by a company in its equity alone, however, many companies raise funds from external loans or other sources to expand. "We have now allowed that as well. If a company has just 10 percent equity and secures 90 percent of its investment from other sources, it will still be eligible for benefits under this policy."

He announced that this policy will now be known as the "Foreign Direct Investment, Foreign Capital Investment, and Fortune Global 500 and Fortune India 500 Investment Promotion Policy 2023." It will include preference shares, debentures, external commercial borrowing, standby letters of credit, letters of guarantee, and other debt securities for foreign companies investing in equity as foreign capital investment.

He further explained, "Other methods outlined by the RBI for calculating foreign investment, including the Framework on External Commercial Borrowing, Trade Credit, and Structured Obligations, will also qualify. Foreign capital investments made by a company-including at least 10 percent in equity, with the remainder through debt and other instruments-will be deemed eligible and factored into the total capital investment calculation."

In another decision the Yogi government has approved a proposal to amend the Uttar Pradesh Retirement Benefits Rules 1961. Under this amendment, if an employee dies while in service or after retirement without receiving their gratuity and has no surviving family members or nominees, the gratuity can now be paid to the individual designated in a succession certificate issued by a court.

Finance Minister Suresh Khanna noted that previously, in such cases, the gratuity amount would be transferred to the government.

Sikkim Government forms committee for inclusion of 12 communities in ST list

PTI ■ GANGTOK

The Sikkim government has set up a 12-member committee to conduct a study and make recommendations to the Centre for the inclusion of 12 communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes (STs).

Anthropological Survey of India Director BV Sharma will be the chairman of the committee, while JNU's senior professor Mahendra P Lama will be its vice chairman, according to a notification issued on Monday by Chief Secretary VB Pathak.

The committee will prepare a comprehensive ethnographic and anthropological report of the 12 left-out Sikkimese communities -- Bhujel, Gurung, Jogi, Kirat Khambu Rai, Kirat Dewan (Yakha), Khas (Chettri-Bahum) Mangar, Newar, Sanyashi, Sunuwar (Mukhia), Thami and Majhi, it said.

Polish paraglider stranded in Kangra rescued

PTI ■ Dharamshala



The Polish paraglider stranded in Dhauladhar hills in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh after a mid-air collision with another paraglider on Sunday was safely rescued on Tuesday, officials said.

The paraglider had got stranded in Dhauladhar hills on Sunday after colliding with another paraglider mid-air. The attempt to rescue him on Monday by using a chopper had failed due to tough terrain.

"The free flier paraglider from Poland, Andrew Babinski, has been safely air-lifted and admitted to Vivekananda Hospital Palampur," Bajnath Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) D C Thakur told PTI. Babinski sustained serious injuries but is out of danger, he added.

Meanwhile, the Tuesday task for paragliders in the Paragliding World Cup 2024 being organised in Bir Billing in Kangra district was

cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

The technical committee had initially set a 148-kilometre course for Tuesday and all pilots successfully took off from Billing at the designated window time. However, deteriorating visibility and unfavourable weather conditions forced the organisers to call the pilots back, prioritising their safety, the organisers said.

According to the statement from the spokesperson of the Billing Paragliding Association, all the participants landed safely at the designated Bir landing site, and Tuesday task was

subsequently cancelled. The eight-day Paragliding World Cup 2024 commenced on November 2 and 94 paragliders including seven women from 26 countries are participating in the event.

As part of safety measures, two helicopters, seven health teams with ambulances and six rescue and retrieval teams led by experts from the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Mountaineering Institute in Manali are on standby for the event.

Last week, two foreign paragliders crashed to death in Himachal Pradesh.

Last Tuesday, a Belgian paraglider died after colliding mid-air with another paraglider in Bir Billing as his parachute failed to open after the collision.

On Wednesday, solo paraglider Dita Misurcova (43) crashed into the mountains near Marhi in Manali after she lost control of the glider due to strong winds.

BSP announces star campaigners for Uttar Pradesh by-elections

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

As Uttar Pradesh gears up for by-elections on nine assembly seats, the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has released a list of 40 star campaigners, including BJP supreme Mayawati and senior leader Satish Chandra Mishra. These leaders will work tirelessly to secure victories for the party in the upcoming elections, the party said in a statement issued here.

The by-elections are set for seats in Ghaziabad, Meerpur, Kundarki, Khair, Karhal, Sisamau, Phulpur, Katehari, and Majhawan. Originally scheduled for November 13, the Election Commission postponed the voting date by a week, moving it to November 20. Ahead of the by-polls,

Mayawati has been vocal in her criticism of the opposition, particularly targeting the BJP and Congress.

she took aim at both parties, stating that while millions are struggling with inflation and unemployment, the BJP and Congress are more focused on attacking each other in their campaigns for the Maharashtra and Jharkhand elections and making promises of "freebies."

She accused both parties of engaging in "negative politics," alleging that they prioritize false promises over genuine public issues. In a recent post on X (formerly Twitter), Mayawati said the pledges made by these parties are not fulfilled honestly, as they are only intended to mislead people. She added that leaders often forget these promises once in power.

Public Relations Council of India to hold 18th global communication conclave in Mangaluru

PTI ■ MANGALURU

The Public Relations Council of India (PRCI) is set to host the much-anticipated 18th global communication conclave on November 8 and 9.

PRCI, a premier institution committed to elevating public relations and communication standards across India. It has hosted 17 conclaves in cities like Jaipur, Pune, Kolkata, New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Bangalore, and Goa since its inception in 2004.

In a statement, it said, this year's conclave, themed "Reconnect," will emphasise the crucial need to re-establish connections that have been diminished by our fast-paced, technology-driven world. More than 500 communication practitioners, industry decision-makers, and thought leaders from across India and beyond are expected to convene, making it a landmark



event for PR and communication professionals. According to PRCI, the two-day conclave will feature 11 panel discussions steered by industry veterans, IAS officers, and communication specialists from Europe and the Gulf region. Key topics will include Government PR and Public Engagement Enhancement, the Gig Economy's Impact on Communication, Reconnecting through Global Storytelling, Digital Media Management, and the intriguing future interplay between humans and machines.

A significant first for PRCI will be an exclusive Vice Chancellors Round Table Meet, with 15 distinguished vice chancellors gathering to deliberate on "Reconnecting with Innovation" and the future of higher education. "Through PRCI, we aim to build bridges, foster understanding, and create a dialogue that transcends barriers. I hope to reshape narratives and reconnect with our core values of transparency and trust," M B Jayaram, Founder Chairman Emeritus of PRCI, stated.

JMM-led alliance patronising mafia, vote for BJP to bulldoze mafia': CM Yogi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ RANCHI



Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday accused the JMM-led coalition in Jharkhand of "patronising" mafia and urged people to vote for BJP which would "bulldoze" them. He also claimed that such actions were being taken against the mafia in his home state Uttar Pradesh.

He also asserted that it is the BJP that can "guarantee security and safety" to people. "The JMM-led coalition is patronising mafia in sectors, such as land, sand, forest, mining and liquor, in Jharkhand...Like UP, bring the BJP to power in Jharkhand to

bulldoze mafia," Adityanath claimed while addressing an election rally in Koderma. He also alleged, "Like Aurangzeb looted the country's wealth and destroyed temples, the JMM-led coalition and its ministers, including Alamgir Alam, looted Jharkhand's people."

He claimed that the BJP is the "only party" that can "guarantee the country's security and

pride, women's empowerment and employment to youths".

Adityanath accused the Congress of "creating obstacles" to the construction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya. "Ram Lala now sits in that temple after 500 years and Ram temple consecration has paved the way for Mathura and other temples," he said.

The UP chief minister claimed that PM Modi believes in 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas' and the saffron party "never discriminates people on the basis of caste, creed, religion, language or gender."

"The BJP ensures no compromise with the nation's security. Pakistan earlier used to threaten India. Now, during the Modi regime, it claims in

the UN that India has become a threat to it." Chinese forces, which crossed Indian territory during the Congress regime, are now retreating," Adityanath claimed. He also asserted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi abrogated Article 370 from Kashmir.

Addressing the gathering at the BJP rally in Jharkhand, he said, "You must have seen the outcome of the Haryana elections. The BJP got the majority. The Congress was defeated badly. It was possible due to the assurance of development, security and good governance under PM Modi's leadership. I appeal to you to bring a double-engine government here for rapid all-around development."

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ RAEBARELI (UP)

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday attended a meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA), inaugurated a beautification project and laid the foundation stone for the construction of roads in his parliamentary constituency here in Uttar Pradesh.

Rahul, who maintained a distance with the media during his visit, later said in a post on Facebook that the people of Raebareli told him about their problems with full authority. On the way to Raebareli, the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha paid obeisance at a Hanuman temple at Churwa



and met party workers.

Soon after his arrival here, Gandhi inaugurated a beautification project undertaken by the municipal corporation in Raebareli at the Degree College intersection. Subsequently, the Congress leader later laid the foundation stone for road-construction projects under the Pradhan

Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and then attended the DISHA meeting.

The meeting focused on various public welfare issues, including schemes such as MGNREGA, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and others, officials said. Rahul presided over the meeting with administrative officials.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Cowardly attack

The temple attack in Canada raises concerns over the safety and rights of the Indian diaspora in Canada

The recent attack on the Hindu Sabha Mandir in Brampton, Canada, has once again brought to light the tense diplomatic situation between India and Canada, with both nations navigating an increasingly complex web of domestic and international issues. The incident, marked by violent clashes involving pro-Khalistani extremists outside the temple, was swiftly condemned by both Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi. However, the response from each leader underscores the stark differences in their approach, further straining bilateral ties. Prime Minister Modi's condemnation of the attack was resolute and pointed. Taking to social media, he expressed his disappointment over the attack, calling it a "deliberate" act against Hindu religious sentiments and stressing that "such acts of violence will never weaken India's resolve." PM Modi did not hold back from calling on the Canadian government to ensure justice and uphold the rule of law, sending a clear message that India expects Ottawa to take decisive action to protect its diaspora.



While Trudeau also condemned the temple attack, his statement notably avoided any direct mention of the pro-Khalistani extremists involved. This omission reflects a recurring issue in Trudeau's handling of India-related tensions within Canada, where a vocal pro-Khalistani community has been implicated in acts perceived as hostile by India. Trudeau's hesitance to directly address this faction has been a persistent irritant in India-Canada relations, amplifying concerns in New Delhi about Ottawa's stance on issues impacting Indian diaspora and the wider Hindu community in Canada.

The attack also comes at a time when broader diplomatic relations between the two countries are under significant strain, with recent allegations and counter-allegations creating a sense of mutual mistrust. Last September, Trudeau alleged that India might have been involved in the death of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a known Khalistani activist, who was killed under mysterious circumstances in Canada. Although the Canadian Prime Minister has yet to provide concrete evidence for this claim, the accusation has deepened divisions between the two nations, prompting India to refute any such involvement and criticise the Canadian government's stance. Modi's recent comments have also touched on an additional point of contention: the alleged surveillance of Indian consular staff in Canada. This has not only raised security concerns but has also highlighted the increasing difficulty Indian diplomats face within Canadian borders. The presence of surveillance, paired with incidents like the temple attack, fuels a perception that pro-Khalistani extremists are becoming emboldened, even as Trudeau's administration appears reluctant to fully confront these groups. With each new incident — whether it be a temple attack or allegations of state-backed assassination plots — the divide only seems to grow wider, testing the resilience of both countries' commitments to a constructive relationship.

PICTALK



A girl collects newly plucked saffron flowers during the harvesting season, in Pulwama

PTI

A robust EV Infra can support sustainable mobility

As India races toward a sustainable mobility future, electric vehicles have emerged as key drivers in reducing emissions and lowering fossil fuel dependence

Sustainable mobility is the future of transportation, focusing on reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and minimising harmful emissions. In this context, Electric Vehicles (EVs) have emerged as a game-changer, offering lower emissions and a reduced carbon footprint compared to traditional gasoline vehicles. Governments worldwide are encouraging the adoption of EVs to address climate change, and India is no exception.

India's Push for Electric Mobility: The Indian government has laid out ambitious targets to boost the adoption of EVs, with policies and incentives underlining its commitment. In July 2023, NITI Aayog set a clear roadmap, aligning with the national goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070. The targets are impressive: 30 per cent EV penetration in private cars, 70 per cent in commercial vehicles; 40 per cent in buses 80 per cent for both two- and three-wheelers. India's EV market has seen tremendous growth, with EV registrations increasing eleven-fold, from 1.3 million in 2018 to



over 15 million in 2023. This momentum is further fueled by the Government's aim to make 100 per cent of EV production local, contributing to both sustainability and economic growth. Challenges in EV Charging Infrastructure While EV adoption is on the rise, India's progress is hindered by gaps in charging infrastructure. Sustainable EV infrastructure, especially charging stations, is critical to supporting the EV ecosystem. However, several challenges remain: **Unequal Distribution of Charging Stations:** Most of India's 1,742 charging stations are located in urban areas, leaving rural regions underserved. **Limited Grid Capacity:** Although EVs will only account for 1.3% to 4.8% of India's overall electricity demand by 2030, managing

peak demand and ensuring grid stability remain key issues. **Technological Constraints:** Current charging methods, including conductive, inductive, and battery swapping, all present unique challenges in cost, efficiency, and scalability. **Regulatory and Policy Barriers:** Compared to global EV leaders like Singapore, India's regulatory framework is still evolving, and better coordination between the government and private sector is essential to build a robust charging infrastructure. To achieve its EV goals, India needs to significantly expand and upgrade its EV charging network. Sustainable EV infrastructure in both urban and rural areas is essential for widespread adoption. Here are key strategies for success: **Expansion to Rural Areas:** Addressing the rural-urban disparity with solar-powered and mobile charging stations can help bring sustainable mobility to remote regions. **Partnerships:** Public-private partnerships will be crucial in scaling up the infrastructure. Stakeholders such as

automakers, technology companies, and the government must work together to establish a reliable and accessible network of charging points. **Technological Innovations:** Standardizing charging systems and investing in advanced technologies like smart grids and energy storage solutions can make EV infrastructure more efficient and user-friendly. **Supportive Policies:** Financial incentives, tax breaks, and clearer regulations on EV infrastructure development can help catalyze faster growth in the sector. As India continues its journey toward sustainable mobility, developing a robust EV charging infrastructure is critical to ensuring the success of its electric mobility mission. With the government's ambitious targets and contributions from key players, India is poised to make substantial progress in transforming its transportation sector. With collective effort, India can achieve its vision of a greener, cleaner future while fostering economic growth. *(The author is CTO & Co-Founder, Park+; views are personal)*



HITESH GUPTA

AVOID RELIGIOUS POLITICS

Madam — This refers to the editorial dated 4-11-24. The students' movement that started against 30 per cent reservation announced for the Mukti Bahini martyrs was only a spark and all those who were waiting for an opportunity to throw out the dictatorial regime and the religious fundamentalists joined hands with the agitating students and made the situation worse, ultimately forcing the government head to flee the country. But during the course of the movement, students were pushed behind and the religious fundamentalists took the dominating role and used the agitating students to push forward their tactical goals. The demands of the students were, after all, ending the reservation, but subsequently it took political and religious turns plunging the country into further social and economic crisis. History is clear with its message. Wherever religion and religious heads are allowed to dominate the agenda it leads to dictatorship and ends up with chaotic scenes on the social and economic front. Religion is an innate affair and politics is a public affair. Mixing these incongruent ingredients will have its inevitable and serious adverse effects. It is the responsibility of every citizen to keep religion and religious fundamentalists at a distance to ensure them not to indulge in politics. **A G Rajmohan | Anantapur**

ELECTION DRAMA CONTINUES

Madam — As the 2024 US presidential elections gather momentum, we must be perplexed at the nation's free-wheeling ethos in its various forms. Tirades and misinformation are freely used by parties. While it takes the Supreme Court to reveal funds received by our political parties but not the nexus to a specific donor, Elon Musk, the US multimillionaire, openly donates millions to the Trump campaign, and even censors anti-Trump tweets on his X outlet. States in the US have their own laws on elections that cover not only voting procedure but their

India's tribute to the architect of unity

In a historic tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the Government has announced sesquicentennial celebration to honour Patel's unyielding legacy in unifying India



ANIRBAN GANGULY

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has announced that to honour Sardar Patel's 'monumental contributions', to commemorate, his 'enduring legacy as the visionary behind the establishment of one of the world's most robust democracies and his pivotal role in unifying India from Kashmir to Lakshwadeep' which 'remains indelible', the government, under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi, will celebrate his sesquicentennial from 2024 to 2026.



After the nationwide movement to erect the Statue of Unity, this is another watershed occasion, when the legacy of Sardar Patel would be commemorated and cherished. This honour was long due and is richly deserved. The Sardar's centenary in 1975, was given a short-shrift. It was deliberate. The Indira-led Congress, busy enforcing an unethical and draconian 'Emergency', had little time to commemorate Sardar Patel.

A commemoration would have certainly raised hard questions. Moreover, could Sardar's democratic legacy be commemorated, with the entire Opposition, minus the crooning communists, behind bars? One of Patel's foremost biographers, Rajmohan Gandhi, writing in 1991, spoke of how acknowledgements in the case of Nehru were 'fulsome' and in the case of Gandhi 'dutiful', but in the case of Patel, were 'niggardly'. Speaking of the Nehru centenary celebrations in 1989, Gandhi writes, that it 'found expression on a thousand billboards, in commemorative TV serials, in festivals and in numerous other platforms'. While Patel's centenary on October 31, 1975, four months after Emergency was clamped, 'was by contrast, wholly neglected by official India and the rest of the Establishment.'

In a long interview with Harry Hodson, British economist and editor, Patel's shadow and trouble-shooter-in-chief, VP Menon, recalled a day when the usually tolerant and absorbing Patel chose to talk back to Nehru. 'You think you made the Congress?', he snapped, 'We are all co-builders in it. You think I want your posi-

tion? If that was the case, I would not have resigned my Presidency and asked Gandhiji that you should take over. I told him that I would stand down.' 'There was rare emotion in the Sardar's voice,' writes Narayani Basu in her biography of Menon citing that particularly acerbic encounter. The post Sardar Patel Congress was made to believe that it was Nehru alone who made it and therefore only he and his political progeny were worthy of commemoration and remembrance. VP was saddened to 'see that under the veil of idealism and greatness Nehru wrapped himself in, there existed a vindictive and petty man.' For someone who saw Patel so closely for many intense years, VP told Hodson, how Sardar 'died as a very, very bitter and sad man', and 'Panditji should never have treated him the way he did.' That propensity of negating Patel and his contribution to our national march never have treated him the way he did.' That propensity of negating Patel and his contribution to our national march percolated through Nehru's dynasty and the Congress that he shepherded post-Patel. In his biographical opus, LK Advani has rightly described the Congress's dégringolade, after Patel, arguing that 'after Sardar Patel passed away, there was no one left in the Congress Party to counterbalance Nehru's negative views on various important issues.' As an

PATEL'S BIOGRAPHER RAJMOHAN GANDHI ARGUES THAT 'IN THE POLITICALLY SIGNIFICANT SELECTION OF AMBEDKAR AND MOOKERJEE, PATEL'S WAS UNDOUBTEDLY THE DECISIVE ROLE'

acolyte of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee and belonging to his intellectual and political lineage, the occasion of Sardar Patel's sesquicentennial commemoration also brings to my mind the special bond that they shared in free India's first cabinet.

Patel's biographer Rajmohan Gandhi argues that 'in the politically significant selection of Ambedkar and Mookerjee, Patel's was undoubtedly the decisive role.' While Sardar had his eyes on Babasaheb Ambedkar from the 'summer of 1946', Dr Mookerjee, who then represented the Hindu Mahasabha, had earned Sardar's plaudits by calling for and advocating the partition of Bengal in March 1947 and 'by refusing to join an abortive bid for a united and independent sovereign Bengal that Sarat Bose' and the then Muslim League premier of Bengal, mastermind of the bloody 1946 'Direct Action', H S Suhrawardy, had floated. It was a clever ploy by Suhrawardy to try and wean away the whole of Bengal from India and to toss it eventually into his master Jinnah's Pakistan cauldron.

Both, Dr Mookerjee's bold advocacy and Sardar Patel's support to his demand, saved Bengal and ensured that a portion of it remained an integral part of India. It was a moment,

like a few more to follow in the coming years, in which both Sardar Patel and Dr Mookerjee worked closely.

In his voluminous memoirs, 'Living an Era', veteran Congressman DP Mishra, recalls that, when Suhrawardy realised his nefarious plan of snatching away Bengal was falling through, 'he took to making veiled threats about Calcutta being destroyed as a result of communal warfare' and told Mountbatten that he 'feared serious riots and damage' in Calcutta and 'wanted six-months joint control' of the city.

Mishra writes that when Mountbatten sought Patel's reaction to the proposal, Patel replied, 'not even for six hours'. These are all worth remembering, commemorating and revisiting.

The nationwide Statue of Unity movement from 2013 to 2014, the humongous mission of erecting and unveiling the Statue of Unity, and the commemoration of 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas', have all been milestones in the last decade. A long and deliberately neglected legacy is being mainstreamed.

(The author is chairman of Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation and National Executive Committee member of the BJP; views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Violence against Indians in Canada



The deplorable violence at the Hindu Sabha Mandir in Brampton has laid bare Canada's inept handling of a sensitive situation. This is a new low for the Justin Trudeau government, which has been recklessly burning bridges with India following the murder of Khalistan activist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. The allegation that the police targeted Hindu devotees and tried to protect Khalistan supporters has added fuel to the fire. Canadian Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister David Morrison's allegation that Home Minister Amit

Shah ordered a campaign of violence, intimidation and intelligence-gathering targeting Sikh separatists in that country has raised India's hackles. Khalistanis' anti-India protests have put them on a collision course with Indian-origin Canadian citizens who wear the Tricolour on their sleeve. Canada, which proudly regards itself as a peaceful land of opportunities, needs to deal firmly with those who threaten communal harmony and public order.

It must crack down on troublemakers and rabble-rousers, no matter which community they belong to. Allowing the misuse of Canadian territory to spew venom against India - all in the name of freedom of expression - is undermining the Trudeau government's diplomatic and democratic credentials. Meanwhile, Trudeau owes an explanation for letting anti-India elements have their way with impunity.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Washington

counting too.

They are seldom bound by the Federal Election Commission, whose remit to call the elections has long been usurped by the media! The dominance of the fifth estate in the US seems to be a wart that has come to be its beauty spot. The irony is that Donald Trump, who lost to Biden by 7 million votes in 2020, has not conceded his defeat even today. And despite all these aberrations, the outcome is keenly awaited globally. Transparency is a virtue in US politics, embellished by no-holds-barred campaigns and a media splurge in millions of dollars.

R Narayanan | Mumbai

SHINDE'S WINNING STRATEGY

Madam — It is an advantage for Shinde Sena, as they have had a whip hand in providing a clean administration for over 30 months and won the hearts of the people. Moreover, the bow and arrow symbol he inherited as the real Sena is a magic wand for victory. He is carrying our government schemes to reach out to the people in the best way possible and

it is a victory sign for success. Chief Minister Eknath Shinde launched Shiv Sena's campaign for the upcoming Assembly elections with promises of affordable housing for the poor, increasing the monthly installment of the Ladki Bahin Yojana and making Mumbai slum-free.

In the past two years, we have worked to give to people but those who were in power in Mumbai for 25 years did nothing but corruption and scams. They indulged in Rs 3,500 crore corruption in various spheres. The road for victory is well laid with CM also provided updates on the welfare programme, including the increased insurance coverage of Rs 5 lakh under the Mahatma Phule Jan Arogya Yojana, targeted support for youth employment with the 'Ladka Bhau Yojana', and expanded access to free higher education for girls statewide. It is indeed a win-win situation.

Jayanthi Maniam | Vashi

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN LIFE BEYOND THE GRAVE

Rebirth is not only a source of spiritual continuity but also a foundation for the pursuit of higher consciousness



RAJYOGI BRAHMA KUMAR NIKUNJ JI

Every time we see death or attend a funeral, we experience something like cemetery-induced reclusion which makes our mind & body numb. This makes us question the very purpose of our life. We start thinking that if death is the be-all and end-all of it-all, and it can kill anyone, anytime, then why should we bother about doing good deeds and fear punishment for our sins? There are mainly two kinds of people who have two different beliefs in this regard.

The first kind of people believe in the rebirth of human beings and strongly feel that the account of our good and bad deeds will be settled on the day of judgment when the dead rise from their graves, and then there are the second kinds of people who not only believe that human souls are reborn, but they also feel that humans transmigrate into 8.4 million species before getting a human birth again. However, there is very little knowledge about the third kind of people who believe that human souls take rebirth and are always in the human body.

Let us suppose that humans are not reborn. In that case what reason would there be to perform good deeds and desist from bad ones? Also, if there were no rebirth there would be no fear of punishment for one's bad deeds either, and little to stop people from doing as they pleased as long as they could evade the law. We should understand that if there is no future after death, people would also not amass wealth right up to their death, or build houses in their old age.

These efforts would be futile, in the absence of rebirth. Thus, our hopes



of eternal prosperity and happiness, desire to earn merit by performing good deeds, fear of punishment in future births and feelings of eternal love and patriotism, would not arise at all if rebirth were not a reality. According to Hindu Mythology, a soul never dies, it is the body that dies & immediately after death, the soul changes body as we change clothes. With modern techniques like Past Life Regression, there are lots of cases around us where we see a child claiming to be experiencing visions of his/her previous births. Many of these cases have been verified by experts and psychologists who have recorded the testimonies of people recalling their previous birth and then cross-checked the facts with official records and the people mentioned by them.

Another simple fact that points to the reality of rebirth is that a soul cannot function without a body. If there were no rebirth, where does the soul go after a person has died? As human beings, nearly all our interactions are with fellow humans. Thus, we create karmic accounts with humans, to which we have to take birth in human form again. The analogy of the seed also illustrates this point. Just as a mango seed brings forth a mango tree, which then produces mangoes, which again provide mango seeds, the human soul possesses human qualities, feelings and experiences, and is the seed of human life. Hence it cannot function in any other living creature's body. Scepticism about the existence of souls and facts like rebirth is widespread because of the lack of an experience of soul consciousness. Such an experience requires spiritual effort for which one has to focus the mind and the intellect inward and then contemplate on it in silence. Slowly one begins to sense the existence of a sentient entity within, which is the soul. Such an experience, repeated over time, brings soul-consciousness, or the belief that one is a soul. It is this experience of reality that removes the shroud of ignorance from all other facts of the subtle world of souls, which we usually dismiss in disbelief for lack of material proof. So let us practice remaining in soul consciousness and enjoy being an enlightened soul without any botheration.

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

Punjab's MSMEs: Poised to compete on the global stage



A S MITTAL

With tailored state-specific export policies and enhanced trade routes, Punjab's MSMEs are poised to overcome geographical disadvantages and harness lucrative global markets

In a decisive step to enhance industrial growth in Punjab, the NITI Aayog in partnership with the Punjab Government, has sought feedback from stakeholders to explore the potential of MSMEs as a driver of export growth. This initiative is essential for identifying and promptly resolving industry challenges. To meet the objective of boosting Punjab's exports, MSMEs must be equipped with a comprehensive State Export Promotion Policy, linking them to sustainable growth and significant employment generation.

Exports are a fundamental pillar of a state's development, and a strategic geographical location is vital for ensuring global competitiveness and job creation factors for robust economic growth. For instance, Haryana once a barren expanse, has emerged as one of the top five states for export value, thanks to its advantageous proximity to the National Capital Region (NCR). Currently, Haryana outpaces Punjab with five times more exports. Coastal states with access to seaports are a step ahead in engaging in international trade, while landlocked regions like Punjab endure higher trade costs and transit challenges. It is unacceptable that policymakers have not prioritised Punjab's geographical disadvantages as a landlocked border state. The remoteness from seaports, inadequate connectivity, and frequent protests have created significant barriers to investment, resulting in a concerning decline in the industrial sector—a crisis that Punjab can no longer afford to ignore. The non-competitive environment for Punjab's MSMEs, stemming from their distance from seaports, must be addressed head-on.

These challenges are surmountable, and it is crucial to focus on empowering Punjab's vital MSMEs, which have the potential to become an "Export Engine" and deserve a fair platform to compete on equal terms. According to NITI Aayog's latest Export Preparedness Index (EPI), Punjab ranks a disappointing 10th with a score of 58.95, while Haryana leads in 5th place with a score of 63.65. Notably, Gujarat has the highest number of districts among the top 25 in the country for export share (54 per cent), followed by Maharashtra with five districts, Haryana with one, and Punjab with none—only a meagre 2 per cent of the country's exports.

Therefore, it is essential for Punjab to actively engage in export promotion initiatives for every potential MSME to dramatically increase its export figures. Why a State-Specific Policy Needed: The Foreign Trade Policy (FTP) for 2023-2028 has set an ambitious target of achieving \$2 trillion in exports by 2030. However, with 766 districts across the country, it is unacceptable that only 43 cities designated as centres of export excellence receive crucial financial incentives for global market surveys, brand promotions, warehouse establishment, and zero customs duty on capital goods for export-oriented production.

This glaring disparity in the distribution of incentives underscores the urgent need for a more inclusive, state-specific policy. The current focus on a handful of 'Towns of Export Excellence' severely undermines the principles of 'One District, One Product' and 'Sabka Saath,



WHILE INDIA CURRENTLY LAGS BEHIND CHINA IN BICYCLE EXPORTS, WE HAVE A CLEAR AND COMPELLING OPPORTUNITY TO ELEVATE OUR GLOBAL EXPORT TARGETS BY AT LEAST 10 PER CENT OVER THE NEXT TWO TO THREE YEARS, PARTICULARLY IN UNTAPPED MARKETS IN THE US, EUROPE, AND AFRICA

Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas.' Punjab must decisively shift towards 'Industries of Export Excellence' (IEE). This strategy will empower the identification and promotion of key sectors, such as textiles and apparel, bicycles, auto parts, tractors, engineering goods, hand and machine tools, sports goods, footwear, and leather products.

Furthermore, the Foreign Trade Policy is resolutely committed to enhancing decentralised export promotion. The introduction of districts as export hubs is a non-negotiable strategy within the MSMEs Export Promotion Policy. This initiative will systematically identify potential export products and services in every district, establishing institutional mechanisms for their promotion—a critical step toward realising the policy's objectives. Every district in Punjab possesses significant untapped potential.

It is essential to identify additional districts for bolstering export operations, aligning with the imperative 'Vocal for Local' and 'Make in India' initiatives. India's vision of transforming each district into an export hub demands the active engagement of MSMEs from all districts. The time for action is now. MSMEs Export Potential: Punjab boasts an impressive 14.65 lakh MSMEs, which are the backbone of the state's industrial growth and are primed for global expansion.

These MSMEs are powerful hubs, existing in industries such as textiles and apparel, bicycles, hosiery, tractors, automobile components, hand tools, machine tools, sports goods, engineering goods, footwear, and leather goods. They constitute a staggering 99.7 per cent of all MSMEs in the region, employing 65 per cent of the industrial workforce and generating 78 per cent of the state's total industrial output. These industrial clusters possess immense poten-

tial and can be fostered further. Ludhiana stands as a powerhouse, ranking first (Rs 20,140 Crore export business) among the top ten exporting districts with an export business valued at Rs 55,844 Crore for 2023-24. It leads the nation by producing 92 per cent of India's bicycle parts and 75 per cent of all bicycles, commanding an 80 per cent share in bicycle exports from India.

While India currently lags behind China in bicycle exports, we have a clear and compelling opportunity to elevate our global export targets by at least 10 per cent over the next two to three years, particularly in untapped markets in the US, Europe, and Africa. As the foremost producer of blended yarn and hosiery, Ludhiana holds its ground as the second-largest producer of polyester silk, fibre, and cotton yarn. It dominates woollen knitwear (95 per cent) and hosiery (65 per cent) exports, showcasing unparalleled strength in the global market. While China captures a commanding 37 per cent share in textiles apparel and hosiery, India needs to aggressively increase its mere 5% share in the worldwide market. The opportunity for growth is vast, particularly in lucrative export markets such as the USA, UAE, UK, Germany, France, and Australia.

In the farm equipment sector, Punjab is a force to be reckoned with, hosting one-third of the total original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) and standing as the leading tractor manufacturer. With a commanding 34.3 per cent share in exports, Sonalika IITL stands as the largest tractor exporter (Rs 3000 Cr) in 2023-24. Despite India's current 2.2 per cent share in the global market, the potential for over 2 lakh tractors to be exported in the next 2-3 years to burgeoning markets such as Brazil, Argentina, Turkey, SAARC, and African nations is undeniable. Jalandhar dominates the sports goods sector,

producing 45 per cent of the nation's total and contributing to 75 per cent of the country's sports goods exports. While China currently leads with a 42.2 per cent share, India's scant 0.56 per cent share of global exports highlights the tremendous untapped potential for growth. The time is ripe for Punjab to seize lucrative opportunities in markets like the USA, UK, Brazil, Germany, Mexico, South Africa, Colombia, and Argentina, and make a formidable mark on the global stage. The Way Forward: To enhance the competitive edge of MSMEs in foreign trade, it's crucial to allow the flow of bilateral trade from Punjab through the Wagah Border of Pakistan to Middle Eastern countries, CIS nations, Europe, and the US. Establishing a Directorate of Exports in the state is vital for aligning the state and central government's export promotion policies.

One of the most pressing issues is the high borrowing cost of 10-12 per cent. It is essential to introduce interest subvention to create a level playing field for MSMEs, especially when compared to leading global players like China (3.1 per cent), Vietnam (4.5 per cent), Malaysia (3 per cent), and Thailand (3 per cent). Competitive and efficient logistics are foundational for export growth. Therefore, policy-backed support for state-owned wagons in landlocked border states like Punjab is essential. This will help alleviate the burden of over-freight and provide a more equitable environment for driving export growth.

The Author is Vice-Chairman of Sonalika IITL Group, Vice-Chairman of the Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board, Chairman of ASSOCHAM Northern Region Development Council and President of Tractor and Mechanization Association (TMA); Views expressed are personal.

How mobile video conferencing is bridging the digital divide in Bihar

The Bihar Government has taken a bold step toward real-time governance with the launch of a mobile outdoor video conferencing system

In a time when digital communication is essential for efficient government, resolving infrastructural and geographic obstacles is vital to making decisions in real time. This need is especially acute in large states like Bihar, where there are major connectivity challenges due to the expansive rural environment.

To narrow this gap, a major project was started by Bihar State Electronics Development Corporation (BELTRON) along with Millenium Automation as a system integrator, to establish a mobile outdoor video conferencing system that would improve communication challenges and enhance the state's governance. Because of this initiative, the administra-



VARINDER SINGH JAWANDA

tion can now function smoothly throughout Bihar by introducing an inventive, stronger video conferencing system. **Improving Governance** With the use of the new outdoor video conferencing technology, authorities in Bihar can now hold virtual meetings and communicate with other officials directly from almost anywhere in the

state. This technology allows government officials to communicate in real-time, independent of their actual location, providing a much-needed degree of flexibility. This solution's robust, continuous connectivity and high-quality video streaming facilitate quicker decision-making, effective governance, and a more open line of contact with rural residents.

Recognising the Challenge In places remote from urban networks, ensuring reliable, fast communication was crucial but challenging. To prevent interruptions, a smooth interface between the new mobile video conferencing system and the Bihar State Wide Area Network (BSWAN) was required.

Sustaining steady uptime was essential since government communications are so vital. To maintain system functionality and quickly address any technological problems, comprehensive maintenance assistance was also necessary, guaranteeing dependability and continuity throughout the state.

A Comprehensive Solution With portable video conferencing devices that have high-quality audio and video components in cases that are easy to move, a specially designed solution was developed to meet these demands. Even in remote locations, the system's smooth integration with the current Bihar State Wide Area Network (BSWAN) guaranteed reliable service quality.



Advanced networking equipment allowed for seamless data transfer, particularly in areas with limited bandwidth. Disruptions during crucial meetings were minimised by optimising bandwidth in locations far away. Prompt technical assistance, and on-site maintenance guaranteed continuous strong system operation across the state. Key Outcomes of the Project

This initiative empowered Bihar's government to conduct mobile, outdoor video conferences statewide, enabling officials to make real-time decisions from any location, thus streamlining operations and improving emergency response.

As a technological advancement, it highlights how mobile technology can bridge the digital divide, aligning with the "Digital India" vision by enhancing transparency, accountability, and citizen engagement.

With scalability for future needs, the system can expand into public services and disaster management, offering a sustainable, resilient model for evolving governance demands, and setting an inspiring precedent for other

states. Future Prospects and Potential for Growth. This outdoor video conferencing solution has the potential to revolutionise governance in Bihar and other similar states. As Bihar continues to advance, the system can be further expanded to incorporate additional features and applications, including new e-governance initiatives. Emerging technologies like IoT, advanced bandwidth optimisation, and real-time analytics are being explored to enhance communication efficiency even further.

The success of this project opens doors for expansion into other government sectors, allowing more departments to benefit from mobile video conferencing. In conclusion, this outdoor video

conferencing initiative has enabled the Bihar government to communicate and make decisions effectively, regardless of officials' physical locations.

It has solved an immediate challenge while laying the foundation for future technological advancements in government communication. By bridging the digital divide, this solution is enhancing governance in Bihar, helping to build a more inclusive, connected, and prosperous state. The collaboration with BELTRON demonstrates that strategic digital initiatives can empower state governments to deliver on the promise of accessible, efficient governance for all.

(The writer is CEO at MAPL World; views are personal)

Confident whatever verdict, our relationship with US will only grow: Jaishankar on US election

PTI ■ WASHINGTON



The race between Democratic leader Kamala Harris and her Republican rival Donald Trump for the White House has been truly unprecedented as it saw drama, tragedy, political comebacks, fierce rhetoric and a historically razor-tight contest. As the fight reaches its crescendo with the big election day just a few hours away, many political observers billed the unpredictable race for the 47th President of the US as the most consequential one in decades while appearing to project a grim picture for the country's future under a Trump presidency. In her final days of campaign, Vice President Harris focused on a message of hope, unity, optimism and women rights whereas Trump remained fiercely combative in targeting his Democratic rival and even suggested that he

may not accept the election outcome in case of a defeat. Overall, it has been a roller-coaster ride for both 60-year-old Harris and 78-year-old Trump. Trump received his party's nomination in March and formally at the Republican National Convention (RNC) in July — in a historic comeback after remaining in political wilderness for months following several court cases. In effect, he became the first

former president to get the nomination for the top office on the planet after being convicted of a felony. “Trump has made one of the biggest political comebacks since Richard Nixon’s in terms of the political struggles that he has had in the last four years,” Communication Strategist Anang Mittal said. Just days ahead of the RNC, Trump was shot at during a rally in Pennsylvania. He suffered an upper ear injury. Minutes later, a bleeding

Trump raised his fist in defiance, images that drew a lot of emotional support from his die-hard supporters. For Harris too, it has been a dramatic ride after Biden ended his re-election campaign in July, nearly weeks after he came under severe scrutiny following his incoherent performance at a televised debate with Trump. While dropping out from the race, Biden, 81, endorsed Harris to succeed him as the Democratic candidate. Finally in August, the Democratic National Convention formally nominated Harris as the party's candidate for the presidential election. The presidential election will be a chance to “move past the bitterness, cynicism and divisive battles of the past,” she said in a powerful speech at the Convention. If Harris wins, she will become the first woman, first Black woman and first person of South Asian descent to become the US President.

In the overall campaign, Harris has been projecting the election as the one to protect the country's fundamental freedoms, safeguard constitutional values and ensure women's rights. On his part, Trump has maintained his signature aggressive rhetoric and promising to rebuild the economy and rid the US from illegal immigrants. However, there has been strong criticism of the Republican leader's roadmap to repair the economy. “Donald Trump is offering a vision of crony rentier capitalism that has enticed many captains of industry and finance,” said Joseph E Stiglitz, a Nobel laureate economist, in a column in Project Syndicate. “In catering to their wishes for more tax cuts and less regulation, he would make most Americans’ lives poorer, harder, and shorter,” he said in a column in Project Syndicate.

Ukrainian troops engaged with North Korean units for the first time in Russia

AP ■ KYIV

Ukrainian troops have for the first time engaged with North Korean units that were recently deployed to help Russia in the war with its neighbour, Ukraine's defence minister said Tuesday. Another Kyiv official said Ukraine's army fired artillery at North Korean soldiers in Russia's Kursk border region. The comments were the first official reports that Ukrainian and North Korean forces have engaged in combat, following a deployment that has given the war a new complexion as it approaches its 1,000-day milestone. Neither claim could be independently confirmed. The Ukrainian and North Korean troops engaged in “small-scale” fighting that amounted to the start of Pyongyang's direct involvement in Europe's biggest conflict since World War II, Ukraine's Defence Minister Rustem Umerov told South Korea's public broadcaster KBS in an interview. North Korean soldiers are

mixed with Russian troops and are misidentified on their uniforms, Umerov was quoted as saying by KBS. That makes it hard to say whether there were any North Korean casualties, he said. Umerov reportedly said he expects that five North Korean units, each consisting of about 3,000 soldiers, will be deployed to the Kursk area. Meanwhile, Andrii Kovalenko, the head of the counter-disinformation branch of Ukraine's Security Council, said “the first North Korean troops have already been shelled, in the Kursk region.” He provided no further details. Western governments had expected that the North Korean soldiers would be sent to Russia's Kursk border region, where a 3-month-old incursion by the Ukrainian army is the first occupation of Russian territory since World War II and has embarrassed the Kremlin. US, South Korean and Ukrainian intelligence assessments say up to 12,000 North Korean combat troops are being sent by Pyongyang

to the war under a pact with Moscow. The Pentagon said Monday that at least 10,000 North Korean soldiers were in Russia near Ukraine's border. More troops from North Korea's 1.3-million-strong army may be slated for deployment in Russia, according to an analysis published Tuesday by the European Council on Foreign Relations, an international think tank. The ramifications extend far beyond Europe, it said. “Despite integration challenges — including communication barriers and differing military doctrines — the deployment of North Korean troops to Russia represents a significant shift in European and Asian security relations,” the analysis said. “For the first time in generations, troops from East Asia are actively engaging in a European conflict.” The North Korean troops, whose fighting quality and battle experience is unknown, are adding to Ukraine's worsening situation on the battlefield.

Israeli strikes kill 30 in Gaza

AP ■ JERUSALEM

Israeli strikes killed at least 30 people overnight in Gaza, according to Palestinian health officials. Strikes early Tuesday killed 10 people in the Gaza Strip, including four children and two women, and a strike late Monday on the northern Gaza town of Beit Lahiya killed at least 20 people, including eight women and six children. Israel has been waging a massive offensive in northern Gaza — which was already the most isolated and heavily destroyed part of the territory — for nearly a month. Despite growing pressure from the United States and others in the international community for a cease-fire in Gaza and Lebanon, intensified Israeli strikes against the Hezbollah

militant group are expanding beyond Lebanon's border areas. Israel is also fighting a seemingly endless war against Hamas in northern Gaza. Since the conflict between Israel and Hezbollah erupted in 2023, at least 3,000 people have been killed and some 13,500 wounded in Lebanon, the Health Ministry reports. More than a year of Israel's war against Hamas in Gaza has killed more than 43,000 people, Palestinian health officials say. They do not distinguish between civilians and combatants, but say more than half of those killed were women and children. The war began after Palestinian militants stormed into Israel on October 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people — mostly civilians — and abducting 250 others.

The Lebanese Red Cross will try again to remove bodies from a strike site: The Lebanese Red Cross will send another convoy Tuesday to Wata al-Khiam in southern Lebanon to search for and remove the bodies of 15 people killed in an Israeli airstrike, Lebanon's state-run National News Agency said. Paramedics accessed the site of the strike two days prior and removed five other bodies, but needed to return with larger vehicles to remove the rubble. The NNA said the deployment is in coordination with the United Nations peacekeeping mission in southern Lebanon, known as UNIFIL, which is the usual procedure. The Red Cross did not immediately comment on the news, but expressed concern in recent

weeks over several instances where Israel has struck in or close to areas where they have deployed paramedics to search for wounded people and casualties. The Israeli military said it issued warnings to the residents there in late October to evacuate ahead of strikes on Hezbollah militant targets, and told ambulances to avoid the area. Israeli forces kill 3 in the occupied West Bank: Palestinian officials say Israeli forces have killed three people in the occupied West Bank. Two were killed in an airstrike early Tuesday near the northern city of Jenin, a flashpoint for Israeli-Palestinian violence in recent years. A third person was shot in the village of Tamoun, according to the Palestinian Health Ministry.

Elon Musk's USD 1 million-a-day voter sweepstakes can proceed, says judge

AP ■ PHILADELPHIA

The USD 1 million-a-day voter sweepstakes that Elon Musk's political action committee is hosting in swing states can continue through Tuesday's presidential election, a Pennsylvania judge ruled Monday. Common Pleas Court Judge Angelo Foglietta — ruling after Musk's lawyers said the winners are not chosen by chance — did not immediately give a reason for the ruling. Philadelphia District Attorney Larry Krasner had called the sweepstakes a scam that violates state election law and asked that it be shut down.

The winners of the sweepstakes did not win by chance but are instead paid spokespeople for the group, Musk's lawyers said in court Monday. Musk lawyer Chris Guber said the final two recipients before Tuesday's presidential election will be in Arizona on Monday and Michigan on Tuesday. “The USD 1 million recipients are not chosen by chance,” Guber said Monday. “We know exactly who will be announced as the USD 1 million recipient today and tomorrow.” Chris Young, the director of America PAC, testified that the recipients are vetted ahead of time, to “feel out their personality, (and) make sure they

were someone whose values aligned” with the group. The disclosures prompted a lawyer for District Attorney Larry Krasner to call the effort a “scam” that is “designed to actually influence a national election.” Musk's lawyers, in closing arguments, called it “core political speech” given that participants sign a petition endorsing the US Constitution. They said Krasner's legal bid to shut down the sweepstakes under Pennsylvania law was moot because there would be no more Pennsylvania winners before the programme ends Tuesday. Krasner believes the giveaways

violates state election law and contradict what Musk promised when he announced them during an appearance with Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump's campaign in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on October 19. “We're going to be awarding a million dollars randomly to people who have signed the petition every day from now until the election,” Musk vowed. Young also acknowledged that the PAC made the recipients sign nondisclosure agreements. “They couldn't really reveal the truth about how they got the money, right?” asked Krasner lawyer John Summers.

FORM NO. NCLT 3A
Advertising Detailing Petition
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
BENCH-VI NEW DELHI
In the matter of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
And
In the Matter of Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the insolvency and Bankruptcy Rules, 2016
And
In the Matter of Central Bank of India
Stressed Assets Management Branch,
Jeevan Tara Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Vs
M/s. Ashvinaayak Jeweller Pvt. Ltd.
CIN - U36912DL2007PTC158162
Registered Office:
2612-13, Bank Street, Gurudwara Road Corner, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005
Company Petition / No.(IB) 517 of 2024
NOTICE OF PETITION
A petition/application/reference (Case Title: Central Bank of India Vs M/s. Ashvinaayak Jeweller Pvt. Ltd.) under section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016 for initiating a insolvency proceedings, was presented by BKM & Associates on the 31st Day of May 2024, and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Bench-VI of National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi on 22.11.2024. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition / application/reference should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition / application/reference. Where he seeks to oppose the petition / application / reference, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition / application / reference will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.
(Sd/-) BKM & ASSOCIATES
Dated 05/11/2024
Advocates, Solicitors & Consultants,
Counsel for the Financial Creditors
206, AJ, Chambers, Naiwala Bank Street, Karolbagh, New Delhi-110005.
Mobile: 9868113796, E-mail: bkmdelhi@gmail.com

FORM NO. NCLT 3A
Advertising Detailing Petition
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
BENCH-VI NEW DELHI
In the matter of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
And
In the Matter of Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the insolvency and Bankruptcy Rules, 2016
And
In the Matter of Central Bank of India
Stressed Assets Management Branch,
Jeevan Tara Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Vs
M/s. J. S. Designer Ltd.
CIN - U51311DL1997PLC087099
Registered Office:
178, F.I.E. Industrial Area Palpaganj, East Delhi, Delhi - 110092, India
Also At: D-222, Sector-63, Noida-201301 U.P. &
Also At: B-109, Swasthya Vihar, Delhi East, New Delhi-110092
Company Petition / No.(IB) 510 of 2024
NOTICE OF PETITION
A petition/application/reference (Case Title: Central Bank of India Vs M/s. J. S. Designer) under section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016 for initiating a insolvency proceedings, was presented by BKM & Associate on the 18th Day of May 2024, and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Bench-VI of National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi on 25.11.2024. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition / application/reference should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition / application /reference. Where he seeks to oppose the petition / application / reference, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition / application / reference will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.
(Sd/-) BKM & ASSOCIATES
Dated 05/11/2024
Advocates, Solicitors & Consultants,
Counsel for the Financial Creditors
206, AJ, Chambers, Naiwala Bank Street, Karolbagh, New Delhi-110005.
Mobile: 9868113796, E-mail: bkmdelhi@gmail.com

FORM NO. NCLT 3A
Advertising Detailing Petition
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
BENCH-V NEW DELHI
In the matter of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
And
In the Matter of Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the insolvency and Bankruptcy Rules, 2016
And
In the Matter of Central Bank of India
Stressed Assets Management Branch,
Jeevan Tara Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Vs
M/s. Diamond Hut India (P) Limited
CIN- U36912DL2002PTC116189
Registered Office:
2883/17, Hardyan Singh Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005.
Company Petition / No.(IB) 527 of 2024
NOTICE OF PETITION
A petition/application/reference (Case Title: Central Bank of India Vs M/s. Diamond Hut India (P) Limited) under section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016 for initiating a insolvency proceedings, was presented by BKM & Associate on the 18 day of May 2024 and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Bench-V of National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi on 28.11.2024. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition / application/reference should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition / application /reference. Where he seeks to oppose the petition /application / reference, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition / application / reference will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.
(Sd/-) BKM & ASSOCIATES
Dated 05/11/2024
Advocates, Solicitors & Consultants,
Counsel for the Financial Creditors
206, AJ, Chambers, Naiwala Bank Street, Karolbagh, New Delhi-110005.
Mobile: 9868113796, E-mail: bkmdelhi@gmail.com

Canadian cop suspended for attending pro-Khalistan protest outside Hindu temple

PTI ■ OTTAWA

A Canadian police officer has been suspended for participating in a pro-Khalistan protest outside the Hindu Sabha temple in Brampton, according to a media report. On Sunday, protestors carrying Khalistani flags clashed with people at the Hindu temple and disrupted a consular event organised by the temple authorities and the Indian Consulate. There were unverified videos circulating on social media about the protest. The videos appeared to show demonstrators holding banners in support of Khalistan, as reported by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation. The Peel Police is “aware of a video circulating on social media which shows an off-duty Peel Police officer involved in a demonstration,” said Media Relations Officer Richard Chin in an email to CBC News. “This officer has since been suspended in accordance with

the Community Safety and Policing Act,” he said. “We are investigating the circumstances in totality depicted in the video and are unable to provide further information until such time that this investigation is complete.” Peel police previously said three people have been charged after violence erupted as Indian consular officials visited the Hindu Sabha Mandir temple Sunday. Videos circulating on social media show demonstrators holding banners in support of Khalistan, the CBC report added. Later in the day, demonstrators made their way to the Westwood Mall in neighbouring Mississauga, according to the World Sikh Organisation of Canada. A short time after, a third protest was held outside the Malton gurdwara, a Sikh place of worship on Airport Road in Mississauga, the report added. “Although these demonstrations occurred at three different locations, they appear to be related to one another.

FORM NO. NCLT 3A
Advertising Detailing Petition
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
BENCH-IV NEW DELHI
In the matter of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
And
In the Matter of Section 95 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 7(2) of the insolvency and Bankruptcy Rules, 2016
And
In the Matter of Central Bank of India
Stressed Assets Management Branch,
Jeevan Tara Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Vs
M/s. Pooja Verma
Address:
W/o Mr. Pradeep Kumar WZ 1945-B, Rani Bagh, Delhi-110034.
Company Petition / No.(IB) 379 of 2024
NOTICE OF PETITION
A petition/application/reference (Case Title: Central Bank of India Vs Mrs. Pooja Verma) under section 95 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 7(2) of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016 for initiating a insolvency proceedings, was presented by BKM & Associate on the 18th Day of March 2024, and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Bench-IV of National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi on 04.12.2024. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition / application/reference should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition / application /reference. Where he seeks to oppose the petition /application / reference, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition / application / reference will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.
(Sd/-) BKM & ASSOCIATES
Dated 05/11/2024
Advocates, Solicitors & Consultants,
Counsel for the Financial Creditors
206, AJ, Chambers, Naiwala Bank Street, Karolbagh, New Delhi-110005.
Mobile: 9868113796, E-mail: bkmdelhi@gmail.com

FORM NO. NCLT 3A
Advertising Detailing Petition
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
BENCH-II NEW DELHI
In the matter of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
And
In the Matter of Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the insolvency and Bankruptcy Rules, 2016
And
In the Matter of Central Bank of India
Stressed Assets Management Branch,
Jeevan Tara Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Vs
M/s. Richfield Industries Pvt. Ltd.
CIN- U15400DL2012PTC232590
Registered Office:
F-213, E-1 Lado Sarai, South Delhi, New Delhi, Delhi-110030 India.
Company Petition / No.(IB) 583 of 2024
NOTICE OF PETITION
A petition/application /reference (Case Title: Central Bank of India Vs M/s. Richfield Industries Pvt. Ltd.) under section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016 for initiating a insolvency proceedings, was presented by BKM & Associate on the 18th Day of May 2024, and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Bench-II of National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi on 20.12.2024. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition / application/reference should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition / application /reference. Where he seeks to oppose the petition /application / reference, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition / application / reference will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.
(Sd/-) BKM & ASSOCIATES
Dated 05/11/2024
Advocates, Solicitors & Consultants,
Counsel for the Financial Creditors
206, AJ, Chambers, Naiwala Bank Street, Karolbagh, New Delhi-110005.
Mobile: 9868113796, E-mail: bkmdelhi@gmail.com

FORM NO. NCLT 3A
Advertising Detailing Petition
BEFORE THE NATIONAL COMPANY LAW TRIBUNAL
BENCH-VI NEW DELHI
In the matter of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016
And
In the Matter of Section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the insolvency and Bankruptcy Rules, 2016
And
In the Matter of Central Bank of India
Stressed Assets Management Branch,
Jeevan Tara Building, 5, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
Vs
M/s. Sankalpa Overseas Pvt. Ltd.
CIN-U74899DL1988PTC034254
Registered Office:
S-384, Panchshila Park, Ground Floor, South Delhi, New Delhi-110017
Company Petition / No.(IB) 520 of 2024
NOTICE OF PETITION
A petition/application /reference (Case Title: Central Bank of India Vs M/s. Sankalpa Overseas Pvt. Ltd.) under section 7 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 read with rule 4 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy (Application to Adjudicating Authority) Rules, 2016 for initiating a insolvency proceedings, was presented by BKM & Associate on the 13th Day of May 2024, and the said petition is fixed for hearing before Bench-VI of National Company Law Tribunal, New Delhi on 25.11.2024. Any person desirous of supporting or opposing the said petition / application/reference should send to the petitioner's advocate, notice of his intention, signed by him or his advocate, with his name and address, so as to reach the petitioner's advocate not later than two days before the date fixed for the hearing of the petition / application /reference. Where he seeks to oppose the petition /application / reference, the grounds of opposition or a copy of his affidavit shall be furnished with such notice. A copy of the petition / application / reference will be furnished by the undersigned to any person requiring the same on payment of the prescribed charges for the same.
(Sd/-) BKM & ASSOCIATES
Dated 05/11/2024
Advocates, Solicitors & Consultants,
Counsel for the Financial Creditors
206, AJ, Chambers, Naiwala Bank Street, Karolbagh, New Delhi-110005.
Mobile: 9868113796, E-mail: bkmdelhi@gmail.com

Two Chinese nationals shot at by Pak guard

PTI ■ KARACHI

Two Chinese nationals were injured on Tuesday when a local security guard opened fire at them following a quarrel in Pakistan's port city of Karachi, police said. The incident reportedly took place at a police station in the Industrial Trading Estate area of Karachi in Sindh province. Deputy Inspector General of Police Azhar Mahesar said they were investigating the incident to find out what had led to the security guard opening fire on his superiors. “Two Chinese nationals were injured in the firing after an argument with the security guard who is now under arrest,” he said. Both were rushed to a hospital.

The condition of one of the injured is said to be critical. Sindh Home Minister Ziaul Hassan Lanjar instructed authorities to arrest the security guard involved in the incident. According to a statement by the provincial home department, Lanjar sought details from the South deputy inspector general of police. The home minister said that companies providing security to Chinese residents and foreigners should be audited and the audit report must be sent for review. Lanjar asserted that physical and mental fitness tests for the guards, who were assigned to security duties, must be ensured, adding that services should be taken from fully trained and fit security guards.

N Korea fires multiple missiles towards sea ahead of US election

North Korea on Tuesday fired multiple short-range ballistic missiles towards its eastern sea, the South Korean military said...

attention of Washington. South Korea's military intelligence agency said last week that North Korea has also likely completed preparations for its seventh nuclear test.

atmospheric re-entry. Tensions between the Koreans are at their highest point in years as Kim has repeatedly flaunted his expanding nuclear weapon and missile programmes...

nology to the North in exchange for its arms and military personnel. Such transfers would "jeopardize the international non-proliferation efforts and threaten peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula and across the globe"

Head of Myanmar's military visits China for first time since taking power

The head of Myanmar's military government embarked Tuesday on an official visit to China, the embattled Southeast Asian nation's most important international ally...

of Kunming on Wednesday and Thursday to attend three summits: The Greater Mekong Subregion, the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy and the Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam Cooperation.

Beijing is also Myanmar's biggest trading partner and has invested billions of dollars in its mines, oil and gas pipelines, and other infrastructure.

Russia is the only other foreign destination to which Min Aung Hlaing is known to have traveled since taking power...

S Korea fines Meta \$15 m for illegally collecting information on Facebook users

South Korea's privacy watchdog on Tuesday fined social media company Meta 21.6 billion won (\$15 million) for illegally collecting sensitive personal information from Facebook users...

to identify users interested in themes such as specific religions, same-sex and transgender issues, and issues related to North Korean escapees...

removing or blocking inactive pages. As a result, hackers were able to use inactive pages to forge identities and request password resets for the accounts of other Facebook users...

South Korea's privacy law provides strict protection for information related to personal beliefs, political views and sexual behaviour, and bars companies from processing or using such data without the specific consent of the person involved.

Nigeria's president orders release of 29 children facing death penalty over protests

Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu on Monday ordered the immediate release of 29 children facing the death penalty after being arraigned in protests against the country's worst cost-of-living crisis...

reporters in the capital, Abuja. They are not expected to be released until Tuesday through a court order.

killing some demonstrators and arresting hundreds. Aged 14 to 17, four of the minors collapsed due to exhaustion when they were brought to the court last week.

arraignment, which sparked outrage and renewed concerns about deteriorating human rights in Africa's most populous country.

South Korea's privacy watchdog on Tuesday fined social media company Meta 21.6 billion won (\$15 million) for illegally collecting sensitive personal information from Facebook users...

to identify users interested in themes such as specific religions, same-sex and transgender issues, and issues related to North Korean escapees...

AP ■ BANGKOK The head of Myanmar's military government embarked Tuesday on an official visit to China...

AP ■ ABUJA Nigeria's President Bola Tinubu on Monday ordered the immediate release of 29 children facing the death penalty...

OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, BHOPAL. Water Work Department. Municipal Corporation Rest House, Shyamla Hills, Bhopal. Office Telephone No 0755-2701663, 2701669. Bhopal, Dated- 05.11.2024. NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER. Second Call.

Whereas, Era Resorts Private Limited [CIN: U55101DL2002PTC14333], having its office at S-5, LSC Near Jeevan Anmol Hospital Mayur Vihar, Phase-I, Delhi, - 110091 is in the process of undertaking development of a Commercial Colony in the name of "Picasso Centre" in Sector 6, Gurugram Manesar Urban Complex, Gurugram, Haryana over an area admeasuring 2.468 Acres in the revenue estate of Village Ghata, Tehsil Wazirabad & District Gurugram, Haryana in accordance with the provisions of License No. 278 of 2007 dated 17.12.2007 and License on additional land vide License No. 157 of 2022 dated 01.10.2022...

And whereas, several individuals/ persons have made bookings/entered into purchase agreement/ buyers' agreement for the allotment and purchase of units in the said colony ("Existing Allotees").

And whereas, building plans earlier approved vide DTCP Memo No. ZP-485/JD (BS) /2012/26628 dated 27th December 2012 for the said colony and further Occupation Certificate was applied for the said colony. The Occupation Certificate till 7th Floor was granted vide Memo No. ZP-485/JD(RA)/2023/42867 dated 19.12.2023.

Accordingly, vide this Public Notice, consent / objections, if any, are hereby invited from the Existing Allotees of the Colony on the proposed Revised Building Plans for the said Colony.

ELECTRICAL WORKS IN KATIHAR DIVISION. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender Notice No.: EL/29/R707_2022/K/881, Dated: 29-10-2024. Tender No: R707_2022. Name of work: At Kathihar Division: Installation of smart Pre-paid/Pre-payment, 1 phase/3 phase Energy Meter with facility of cashless payment/online payment over Kathihar Division. Tender Value: ₹18,65,374.44%

PUBLIC NOTICE. Notice is hereby given that my client Dinesh Kumar Awana is in process to purchase the Freehold DDA Built UG Flat No. 30A, on Ground Floor, Area Measuring 48.2 Sq. Mtrs., in Block-3, Pocket 10-B, situated in the layout plan of Housing Estate at Jasola, New Delhi (having loan from PCHL) from Natasha Dua, having acquired the said property as a only legal heir of late Seema Dua by virtue of surviving member certificate issued by District Magistrate dated 13/10/2023 (Certificate No. 508/600/2023/687), Seema Dua was the owner said property by virtue. Sale Deed dated 30/11/2013 executed by Nisha Gultali, Late. Seema Dua expired on 6/8/2022.

PUBLIC NOTICE. It is to inform to the Public Notice at large that i. Ajay Kumar Sharma is Purchasing the Ground floor without Roof rights, and First Floor without Roof rights, Plot No.-42 A Area, 100 Sq.Yds., out of total land Area 200 sq.yds, out of Kharsa No-30, Village, Bindapur, Colony known as South Extension No-3, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi 110059.

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL MANAGER, WATCO DIVISION, PURI, ODISHA. Phone: 06752-223447, E-Mail: eephpuri@gmail.com. INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB) Government of Odisha "e" Procurement Notice Bid Identification No. 15 of 2024-25 Dated. 04.11.24. 1. Name of the Work: - Operation and maintenance of STP, PT & Septage Treatment Plant under WATCO Sub-Division, Puri. 2. Estimated Cost: - Rs 160.96 Lakhs. 3. Period of Completion: - 24 Months. 4. Date and time of availability of bid documents in the portal: - 08.11.2024 (11.00A.M) to 21.11.2024 (5.00P.M) 5. Last Date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal: - 5.00P.M of 21.11.2024 6. Date and time of opening of bids: - 12.30 P.M of 22.11.2024 7. Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid: - General Manager, WATCO Division, Puri Office: 06752-223447, Fax: 06752-223447, E-Mail: eephpuri@gmail.com. 8. The bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only.

PUBLIC NOTICE. I, Anjeerjo W/o Late Sh. Rajender R/o Jhugri No.27, Block-D/1, Santapuri, North West, Delhi-110085 Dismayed to my Brother-in-law/dever son namely Ravi S/o Satyavan, R/o Village Shyamli District Gohanaa, Haryana from all her movable or immovable properties and ceased all her relation with him. If anybody dealing with him shall do so at his/her own risk, cost and responsibility, will not be responsible in any manner whatsoever.

MANIHAVANAM HOME FINANCE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED. NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITIZATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002. The undersigned being the Authorised Officer, under the provision of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, of Manihavnam Home Finance India Private Limited having its Registered Office at 2nd Floor, No-2, South Extension Part-1, New Delhi-110049, (hereinafter referred to as "MNHF"), which has duly been Authorised by the Central Government, vide a notification dated 17.06.2021, to be treated as a Financial Institution, for the purposes of the "The Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, hereby issue you the following notice:

1. SEEMA W/O- MAHAIPAL SINGH, 2. MUKESH S/O- RAM PRADEEP, 3. Sapna D/O- MUKESH KUMAR. All R/O - FLAT No. 12/C-2, F- BLOCK MAOHUBAN, BAPUDHAM, GHAZIABAD (UTTAR PRADESH)-201003. ALSO AT- R/O- FLAT NO. F- 14/2025, 2ND FLOOR(WITHOUT ROOF-RIGHT) EWS, BLOCK 14, POCKET-F, MADHANSAN, BAPUDHAM COUNTRY TOWNS & DIST.- GHAZIABAD (UTTAR PRADESH) - 201001. Sr. No. 1 also at- HARJI PLAZA BUILDING SHOP No. 1, NAVYUG MARKET, GHAZIABAD, UTTAR PRADESH - 201009.

1. MANJU W/O- RAJESH KUMAR, 2. RAJESH KUMAR S/O NEPAL SINGH, Both R/O- VILLAGE- BISHNOOLI, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-203207. ALSO AT- KHARSA NO. 377, VILLAGE- BISHNOOLI, PARGANA & TEHSIL- DADR, DISTRICT- GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, UTTAR PRADESH-203207. ALSO AT- R/O- VILLAGE- BISHNOOLI, GAUTAM BUDDHA NAGAR, NR GOVT. SCHOOL, UTTAR PRADESH-203207. ALSO AT: KUNAL DUDH BANOHAR, VILLAGE BISHRAKI, NR YAKHATHA HOSPITAL-203207.

PUBLIC NOTICE. To be known to all CHANDER KANTA ADLAKHA W/o SHUNJAY KUMAR ADLAKHA R/O S-331, FIRST FLOOR, GREATER KALASH PART-1, NEW DELHI-110048 owner/purchaser of SFS FLAT NO.217, GROUND FLOOR, CAT-I/II, NULIGRI, APARTMENTS, ALAKNANDA, NEW DELHI-110019 vide DDA File No.F.43(12182)/SFS, have applied for certified copies in DDA. The original documents were submitted on 25/11/1995 of the above said flat has been lost. An LR No.2271290/2024 dated 05/11/2024 this effect has been lodged in P.S. Crime Branch, Delhi. Any person(s) claiming any right, interest, having any objection or found in possession of original documents, may write/ contact with above named person at above Address/Phone No.9658300795 with in 15days from the date of publication of this notice. The person claiming any right, interest, objection with respect to this property, can personally inform or write to Deputy Director (Housing) or Director(Housing), Delhi Development Authority/Vikas Sadan, New Delhi-110023.

REMOVAL OF PSR AT ALIPURDUAR JN. E-Tender Notice No. 101/W-2/APDJ Dated: 30-10-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: E-Tender No. 33-AP-11-2024. Name of work: Samuktala Road-Fakiragram Jn. (UP)-Removal of PSR. Tender Value: ₹14,33,64,141.21%. Earnest Money: ₹8,66,800/-. Date & Time of Closing of Tender: 13.00 hrs. of 25-11-2024. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in.

PUBLIC NOTICE. It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Vin Sen Kohli and his wife Mrs. Omia Kohli had acquired Flat No.511, First Floor at Suneehi Bhag CCHS Ltd., Plot No.15, Sector-13, Rohini, Delhi further Mr. Vin Sen Kohli and Mrs. Omia Kohli died intestate leaving behind Mr. Nishant Sen Kohli, Mr. Amit Kohli and Mr. Atul Kohli as their only legal heirs after that a Relinquishment Deed dt. 01.06.2022 executed by Mrs. Meenakshi Sharma in favour Mr. Amit Kohli & Mr. Atul Kohli, further conveyance deed dt. 22.05.2023 executed by POI in favour of Mr. Amit Kohli & Mr. Atul Kohli.

PUBLIC NOTICE. Since Mr. Mohd. Saliman seeking a home loan from of Aditya Birla Housing Finance Ltd. for the property i.e. Property Bearing No. J-2204/A, Plot No. 4, area measuring 155.172 sq. yds., at of Reshtanga No.20, Killa No. 242, KHARSA No. 20242, situated in the area of Vishnu Garden, (previously known as Vishnu Garden Extn. No. 2), New Delhi, hereinafter referred to as "said property". That (1) Mr. Bakshish Singh, (2) Mrs. Bajleet Kaur, (3) Mr. Harvinder Singh, (4) Mr. Jasmaan Singh, (5) Mrs. Kamaljeet Kaur, (6) Mrs. Kawaljeet Kaur and (7) Mrs. Rajinder Kaur, is the legal heirs of the Deceased Late Harjit Kaur and become owner through GPA & ATS dated 14.03.1980. That Mr. 2288785/2024 dated 04/11/2024 some members, which are not traceable or cannot be found. Now, I would like to announce to general public that I am hereby calling upon you to provide information to me under all or any of the provision of Sec. 13(4) of the said Act against all or any one or more of the secured assets including taking possession of this secured assets of the borrower/s. Further you are prohibited U/S 13(13) of the said Act from transferring either by way of sale/lease or in any other way the aforesaid secured assets. Please note that no further demand notice will be issued. Date:-06.11.2024. Authorized officer Place:-UP. MANIHAVANAM HOME FINANCE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED

PUBLIC NOTICE. General public is hereby informed that I, Mrs. Gauri Sawhney Roy am filing application in L&CO for substitution of the Property No. K-87 A-B Kaka Ji, Delhi-110019 in the following names: 1) Jatinder Singh Mann on the grounds of Late Mrs. Kamal Kaur's death and 2) Mr. Gautam Chandrook and Mrs. Gayatri floor on the grounds of Late Mrs. Hira Mann Chandrook's death. If there are any objections/claims from the general public on this application, the same shall be communicated to L&CO with supporting documents through registered post or by visiting L&CO office at Mirzan Shawan, New Delhi or through an email at id@cnic.in, within 30 days of publication of this notice. Gauri Sawhney Roy Address: F-1197 Ground Floor, Chitrangan Park, Delhi-110019. Phone:9811188552.

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Notice is hereby given pursuant to Regulation 29 read with Regulation 47 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015, that a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Company will be held on Wednesday, 13th November, 2024, inter-alia, to consider and approve the Un-Audited Financial Results of the Company for the quarter and year ended on 30th September, 2024.

THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS. CHANGE OF NAME. I, Pooja Joshi W/o Rajender Joshi resident of RC-211, Prem Vihar, Khora Colony, Ghaziabad, UP-201309 have changed my name from Pooja Joshi to Pooja Devi Henceforth I would be known by the name of Pooja Devi for all future purposes. PD(894)C

PUBLIC NOTICE. It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Sateer Kaur Sahni & Mrs. Chitvan Kaur Sahni who are the owners of Entire Third Floor, with roof rights, Freehold Property bearing No. A-101, area measuring 100 Sq. Yards, Situated at Lajpat Nagar-I, New Delhi-110024 owner vide Sale Deed dated 15.06.2024 (Vide Doc. No.2024/91/3827) Executed by Mr. Harihar Singh Sahni as attorney of Mrs. New Modern Build Pvt. Ltd. and same to be financed & mortgaged by SMFG India Credit Co. Ltd., Noida, That (1) Original Bid copy known as Home Park, Village Hawa, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 from Mrs. Kamlesh Jan, (2) Original ATs Executed by Mrs. New Modern Build Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Mr. Harihar Singh Sahni and (3) Original WILL Executed by Mrs. New Modern Build Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Mr. Harihar Singh Sahni are not available. If any person having any type of claim/rights/interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances and same to be released to M/s. New Modern Build Pvt. Ltd., 22, Sector-9, New Gurgaon, Gurgaon, Haryana-122009, UP-201301/Contact@120-4268379.

PUBLIC NOTICE. Information is given to general public at large that Mamba who is purchasing the premises on the Lower Ground Floor, without roof rights, in a property bearing No. A-115, admeasuring around 40 Sq. Yds., out of Kharsa No. 545, situated in Block-A of a colony known as Home Park, Village Hawa, Uttam Nagar, New Delhi-110059 from Mrs. Kamlesh Jan, (2) Original ATs Executed by Mrs. New Modern Build Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Mr. Harihar Singh Sahni and (3) Original WILL Executed by Mrs. New Modern Build Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Mr. Harihar Singh Sahni are not available. If any person having any type of claim/rights/interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections, within 7 days from today, failing which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances and same to be released to M/s. New Modern Build Pvt. Ltd., 22, Sector-9, New Gurgaon, Gurgaon, Haryana-122009, UP-201301/Contact@120-4268379.

Project taken up to restore 4,500 hectares of degraded mangroves in Sundarbans

PTI ■ KOLKATA

A private sector-supported project has been taken up to restore 4,500 hectares of degraded mangroves in West Bengal's Sundarbans, an official said on Tuesday. The programme also seeks to create sustainable economic opportunities for villages in the Sundarbans, the world's largest mangrove ecosystem. Senior officials of project partners EcoAct and Meensou India are currently on a visit to the restoration sites and engaging with communities in the South 24 Parganas district of the state. The project is being implemented under the Verified Carbon Standard (VCS) programme which is the world's most widely used greenhouse gas (GHG) crediting scheme. "The Sundari Mangroves Project to restore 4,500 hectares of degraded mangroves in India's Sundarbans and it demonstrates how carbon finance can drive effective climate action when it genuinely empowers local communities. By ensuring benefits flow directly to communities, we are seeing how private sector support can create real



opportunities for those who depend on these ecosystems," Stephane Tromilin, Head of Project Development at EcoAct, said. Other companies should also consider investing in this project as part of their sustainability strategies, Tromilin said. "For generations, our families are dependent on these mangroves for our survival - for fishing, for protection from storms, for our daily needs. But we have watched them disappear year after year," said Swapan Maity, member of Dhablat Panchayat and Secretary of Chemaguri

Byabsaik Samity. He expressed hope that this project would help them restore what they are losing, create jobs and protect their homes. The project is expected to create local employment opportunities over its 20-year duration. While the restoration is guided by scientific protocols, community members are involved in implementation and monitoring, with equal opportunities for men and women in the region. Communities also retain decision-making power over how project benefits are

reinvested in their local development priorities, officials said. "Our role has been limited to support local communities in realizing their vision for mangrove restoration. Their traditional knowledge and daily engagement with these ecosystems make them the most qualified stewards of this project," said Soumya Darshan Pradhan, CEO & MD of Meensou India. Meensou develops carbon offset and credit projects focusing on social capacity building, economic growth, equitable wealth distribution, and environmental protection.

The restoration effort will help revitalise crucial habitats for the iconic Royal Bengal Tiger and protect over 1,400 other species that call the Sundarbans their home. Through the planting of 19 native mangrove species, the project aims to strengthen the ecosystem's natural resilience, protecting thousands of homes from erosion and extreme weather events, officials said. "The recent cyclone (Dana) in West Bengal is a stark reminder of our region's vulnerability to climate-related disasters," said Rajkumar Jana, a teacher at Chowrahee Jana Kalyan High School. A global assessment by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) found that half of the world's mangrove ecosystems are at risk of collapse. There is nearly 20 per cent classified as "Endangered" or "Critically Endangered." The India State of Forest Report 2021, revealed that the very dense mangrove cover in the Sundarbans has shrunk to 994 sq km in 2021, down from 1,038 sq km in 2011, a 4.23 per cent decrease over a decade, which the report described as worrying.

Government launches Phase-II of subsidised wheat flour, rice sale under 'Bharat brand'



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government on Tuesday launched phase-II retail sales of wheat flour and rice under the Bharat brand at subsidised rates to provide relief to consumers from high prices. Wheat flour (atta) will be sold at Rs 30 per kg and rice at Rs 34 per kg in 5kg and 10kg packets through cooperatives NCCF, Nafed and Kendriya Bhandar and e-commerce platforms. "This is a temporary intervention to provide relief to consumers," Food Minister Pralhad Joshi said after flagging off the mobile vans of these cooperatives. The government has allocated 3.69 lakh tonne of wheat and 2.91 lakh tonne of rice from the Food

Corporation of India (FCI) for the phase-2 retail intervention under the Price Stabilisation Fund. "This intervention will continue till the allocated stock gets exhausted. If more (is) required, we have enough stock and will allocate again," Joshi said. Under the new pricing structure, wheat flour will be available in 5kg and 10kg packs at Rs 30 per kg, while rice will be sold at Rs 34 per kg -- a slight increase from Phase-I rates of Rs 27.5 and Rs 29 per kg, respectively. Addressing concerns over lower rice sales in Phase I, Joshi emphasised that the government's objective wasn't business-oriented. "Our motto is to give relief to consumers and control prices in the market," he said, adding that the government would consider introducing smaller pack sizes if demanded. The minister also called for a study to understand price firmness despite surplus rice stocks, though maintaining those prices were "largely under control", with only slight fluctuations in normal quality varieties. The previous phase, from October 2023 to June 30, 2024, saw the distribution of 15.20 lakh tonne of wheat flour and 14.58 lakh tonne of rice. On future allocations, Joshi assured adequate stocks for continued intervention if required. Minister of State for Food BL Verma and Food Secretary Sanjeev Chopra were also present at the event.

Finance ministry initiates 4th phase of consolidation of RRBs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to achieve operational efficiency and cost rationalisation, the Finance Ministry has initiated the fourth round of consolidation for Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) and the number of such banks is likely to come down to 28 from 43 at present. As per the roadmap prepared by the Finance Ministry, 15 RRBs operating in various states would be merged. Among states that will see consolidation of RRBs include Andhra Pradesh, which has the maximum number of RRBs (4), Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal (3 each), and Bihar, Gujarat, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Rajasthan (2 each). In the case of Telangana, the amalgamation of RRBs will be subject to bifurcation of assets and liabilities of Andhra Pradesh Grameeena Vikas Bank (APGVB) between APGVB and Telangana Grameeena Bank. "Given the rural expansion of RRBs and agro-climatic or geographical ethos and in order to retain the USP of RRBs viz the closeness to communities, it is the felt need to embark on further consolidation of RRBs towards the goal of 'One State-One RRB' so as to derive the benefit of scale efficiency and cost rationalisation," Department of Financial Services said in a communication to head of



state-owned banks. A road map has been prepared in consultation with NABARD for further consolidation which will bring down the number of RRBs to 28 from 43, it said. The Department of Financial Services has sought comments from the chiefs of sponsor banks of RRBs by November 20. The Centre had initiated structural consolidation of RRBs in 2004-05 which resulted in reduction of such institutions from 196 to 43 till 2020-21 through 3 phases of amalgamation. These banks were formed under the RRB Act, 1976, with an objective to provide credit and other facilities to small farmers, agricultural labourers and artisans in rural areas. The Act was amended in 2015 whereby such banks were permitted to raise capital from sources other than the Centre, states and

sponsor banks. Currently, the Centre holds 50 per cent in RRBs, while 35 per cent and 15 per cent are with the concerned sponsor banks and state governments, respectively. Even after stake dilution, the shareholding of the Centre and the sponsor public sector banks together cannot fall below 51 per cent, according to the amended Act. Earlier in June, two bank unions -- AIBOC and AIBEA -- had demanded the merger of RRBs with their respective Sponsor Banks to ensure overall efficiency and viability of the banking sector. The merger of RRBs with their sponsor banks will be a seamless technological transition, the All India Bank Officers' Confederation (AIBOC) and All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA) said in a letter addressed to Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

Swiggy seeks valuation of USD 11.3 Billion; IPO to open on Wednesday

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Food delivery and quick-commerce major Swiggy, which is coming out with its initial public offering (IPO) on Wednesday, is seeking a valuation of about USD 11.3 billion. The Bengaluru-based company is aiming to garner Rs 11,327 crore from the IPO, which will comprise a fresh issue of shares worth Rs 4,499 crore along with an offer for sale (OFS) of Rs 6,828 crore. Swiggy has set a price band of Rs 371 to Rs 390 per share for its maiden public issue. The issue will open for public subscription on November 6 and conclude on November 8. Speaking about the pricing, Swiggy Food Marketplace CEO Rohit Kapoor said, "We feel we have priced it right and we are looking forward to the next few days."



The valuation of Swiggy has been pegged at about USD 11.3 billion (about Rs 95,000 crore) at the upper price band. Rival Zomato, which went public in July 2021, has a market valuation of Rs 2.13 lakh crore. "Our pricing is in the range of Rs 371-390 which corresponds to a value of about USD 11.3 billion roughly. It is not exact because it depends on where the issue actually clears at the end of the day," Kapoor told PTI in an interview. Asked about media reports regarding slashing the valuation of Swiggy, Kapoor

clarified that there has been no lowering of valuation as the real value of the company is determined when the transaction actually happens. "This is all speculation in the media on what the value is. So the fact of the matter is, the value has not gone up or down. The value is exactly where it is supposed to be... I just want to set clearly on record that there has been no lowering of valuation per se. There was a discovery process and at the end of it, this is the price that we collectively feel very good about," he added. The issue comes amid a series of IPOs in the recent past, including South Korean car maker Hyundai's mega Rs 28,000-crore issue. Swiggy, founded in 2014, posted a loss of Rs 611 crore in the quarter ended June 2024, narrowing from Rs 564 crore in the same period last year.

Tenders floated to buy organic cow dung in Himachal

PTI ■ SHIMLA

Tenders have been floated for buying organic cow dung at Rs 3 per kg, and the successful bidders will also provide bags, transportation and stocking facilities, State Agriculture Minister Chander Kumar said on Tuesday. With a thrust on organic farming, hi-tech techniques will be used in agriculture to increase farmers' income, he said, adding that the monthly income of a farm family should be between Rs 20,000 to Rs 25,000 to sustain agriculture. The Congress party had promised to buy cow dung at Rs 2 per kg before the last assembly polls, but we do not wish to buy raw cow dung and would purchase organic cow dung for Rs 3 per Kg, he told PTI. Organic cow dung is a natural and nutrient-rich fertiliser



that can be used to improve soil health and plant growth. "Tenders have been floated for buying organic cow dung for Rs 3 per kg, and the company entrusted with the task would provide bags, fill and seal them besides providing transportation and stocking facility and would be paid Rs 4-5 per kg," he noted. The stocking of cow dung will also be done in Himachal Pradesh State Co-operative Marketing & Consumers Federation Ltd (HIMFED) godowns, and the deputy directors in all districts have been directed to bring in use the defunct agri farms, the minister said.

Will discuss impact of delayed paddy procurement with Agriculture Minister: Pralhad Joshi

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Food Minister Pralhad Joshi on Tuesday said he will discuss with his agriculture counterpart the likely impact of delayed paddy procurement in Punjab on wheat sowing even as he assured farmers that the government will purchase "every single grain" brought to mandis. As the delay raises concerns about increased stubble burning by farmers rushing to clear fields before mid-November wheat sowing, Joshi said procurement remains the immediate



priority. "Now our priority is procurement. Stubble burning and wheat sowing is looked after by the ministry of agriculture," Joshi told reporters at the launch of Phase-II of wheat flour and rice under Bharat brand at a subsidised rate. "We will look into that aspect also. At present our priority is procurement. My major concern is farmers should not be worried at this moment," the minister said. On whether delayed wheat sowing could affect production, Joshi said: "I don't have details. In next

two-three days, I will meet agriculture minister. It is equally concerned to me as we distribute wheat through PDS." The minister said paddy procurement in Punjab has gathered pace, with single-day lifting reaching 6.29 lakh tonne on November 4 compared to 5.34 lakh tonne in the year-ago period. Total procurement has touched 98.42 lakh tonne so far against 119 lakh tonne last year. The shortfall of 20-28 lakh tonne was due to rains, he explained. The Centre remains committed to procuring the targeted 184 lakh tonne in the

ongoing 2024-25 marketing season, he added. "We will procure every single grain brought to mandis by the farmers," Joshi asserted. The government is purchasing 'A' grade paddy at the minimum support price of Rs 2,320 per quintal. It has already transferred Rs 20,557 crore as MSP payment through DBT to 5.38 lakh farmers. Asked about industry's demand to raise sugar's minimum support price, the minister said: "Their request is with the ministry. We will take a decision at an appropriate time."

IRFC records its highest-ever quarterly revenue at ₹6,900.20 Crore

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Indian Railway Finance Corporation Limited ("IRFC" or the "Company"), 'Mini-Ratna' Schedule-A Public sector enterprise under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways, Government of India, holds a prominent position as the dedicated financing arm of the Indian Railways. IRFC registered with RBI as non-deposit taking Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC), and Infrastructure Financing Company (IFC), has reported its unaudited financial results (standalone) for the 2nd Quarter and Half Year ended 30th September 2024. During the period ending 30th September 2024, Company reported PAT at Rs. 3189.47 crore vis-a-vis Rs.



3095.86 crore reported in corresponding period in the previous year. The company posted profit growth of 4.41% for Q2 FY 2024-25 at Rs. 1612.65 crore vis-a-vis Rs. 1544.58 crore reported in Q2 FY 2023-24. The total income for the six-month ended 30th September 2024 grew by 1.70% and stands at Rs 13666.22 Crore as against Rs. 13437.91 Crore reported in corresponding period of the previous year. The total income for Q2 FY 2024-25 also grew by 2.04% and stands at Rs. 6900.20

Crore as against Rs. 6762.18 Crore reported in Q2 FY 2023-24. Net worth at the end of six-month period ended 30th September 2024, stands at Rs. 51464.12 crore up by 9.77%, as against Rs. 46883.22 crore reported in six-month ended 30th September 2023. The Assets Under Management (AUM) to end of six-month ended 30th September 2024, stands at Rs. 462282.62 crore. The Earning Per Share of the company is at Rs. 2.44 for the six-month period ended 30th

September 2024 and your Company is consistently paying dividends and declared Rs 0.80 /share (at dividend rate 8%) Interim dividend for FY 24-25. Manoj Kumar Dubey, Chairman & Managing Director, IRFC, stated that IRFC will not only strengthen the financial ecosystem for Railway Infrastructure projects but is also making all efforts to diversify its lending portfolio as per current mandate into sectors with backward and forward linkage with Indian Railways. Further, IRFC has Sanctioned Rs 700 Crore funding under finance lease model to NTPC Limited (National Thermal Power Corporation) for 20 BOBR Rakes under the General-Purpose Wagon Investment Scheme (GPWIS) of the Ministry of Railways.

Paras Health recognised among India's top hospitals

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Paras Health has received prominent recognition in the Times Lifestyle Survey 2024. Paras Hospitals in Gurugram ranked 4th nationally in Orthopedics among hospitals across India, a significant endorsement of Paras Health's commitment to delivering specialised, patient-centered care. Within the North Region, the Gurugram facility also earned the 3rd rank in Orthopedics and the top position in Faridabad & Gurugram City—a testament to the trust and reputation it has built in the field of musculoskeletal health. This national survey, conducted by Advance Insights Pvt Ltd, independently evaluated hospitals and clinics across



India in various lifestyle specialties, reaffirming Paras Health's prominent role in delivering exceptional, specialized care across Northern India. In the IVF and Fertility category, Paras Hospitals, Gurugram ranked 2nd in the North Region for multi-specialty hospitals, while securing the 1st position in Faridabad & Gurugram. This recognition reflects

Paras Health's dedication to providing reliable, quality gynaecology care and helping families on their journeys with compassionate medical support. In the category of Plastic Surgery: National Hospitals, Paras Hospitals, Sector-22, Panchkula, proudly secured the 6th rank, positioning it among the country's top healthcare institutions in this specialty.

IDFC FIRST Bank offer a real-time tracking service

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

IDFC FIRST Bank has become the first Indian bank to offer a real-time tracking service, in association with Swift, for money sent abroad. This is available on the bank's award winning Mobile Application and Internet Banking platforms. This marks a significant milestone in the Indian banking industry, demonstrating the Bank's commitment to delivering seamless and efficient banking solutions, reiterating its "Customer First" approach. Customers in India are used to digital payments through UPI or IMPS with real-time status updates and traceability on digital platforms.

TOP RANKED ERIGAISI TO FACE GUJARATHI IN OPENING ROUND

PTI ■ CHENNAI

World No. 4 Indian chess grandmaster and top seed Arjun Erigaisi will open his Chennai Grand Masters campaign against compatriot Vidit Gujarathi, starting here on Tuesday.

Erigaisi will play for the first time in India after crossing the historic 2800 ELO ranking mark when he takes the board. The eight-player strong classical event will see Aravindh Chithambaram take on Iranian Amin Tabatabaei, Vachier-Lagrave Maxime will face Maghsoodloo Parham and American Grandmaster Levon Aronian will play Alexey Sarana in the opening round.

The second edition of the seven round competition will also feature a Challengers event featuring female players for the first time.

Organised by MGD1 with ChessBase India, and sponsored by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, the tournament will be held at the 1,100-seat Anna Centenary Library.

The event will also feature two Indian women — Harika Dronavalli and Vaishali Rameshbabu. The Challengers participants,

CHENNAI GRAND MASTERS



will fight for a prize pool of Rs 20 lakh, with the winner taking home Rs six lakh and a direct berth in the Masters next year. In the Challenger category,

Vaishali will take on Mendonca Leon Luke while Harika will play Pranav V. In the other two matches, Raunak Sadhwani will face off

against Karthikeyan Murali while Pranesh M will play Abhimanyu Puranik. The Challengers event, which is introduced for this year, will

give Indian prodigies the chance to compete in top-level tournaments. D Gukesh had won the inaugural edition last year but

will miss this year's competition as he is preparing for the world championships title against Ding Liren of China.



Paris Olympics displaced nearly 20,000 people, local associations say

AP ■ PARIS

Nearly 20,000 people were forcibly displaced in the Paris region, a coalition of more than 100 community groups said Monday.

In its report, the group Le Revers de la Médaille, which translates as "the other side of the medal", claimed that 19,526 people were displaced from informal housing between April 2023 and September 2024 as part of what it calls "social cleansing" by authorities. The report notes that some people were evicted multiple times and, as a result, may be counted more than once.

As the city prepared to host millions of spectators for the Games, facilities and infrastructure underwent significant renovation, which the report alleges included the eviction of migrants and squatters from visible locations near event venues. Paul Alauzy, spokesperson for Le Revers de la Médaille, claimed that there is direct evidence linking these displacements to Olympic preparations.

"There are images, internal government documents, and eviction orders explicitly referencing the Olympics as justification," Alauzy said on Monday.

The group's data highlights a surge in eviction operations - 260 between April 2023 and Sept 2024 - up 41% from the same period in 2021-2022.

The report also notes that over 4,500 minors were among those displaced. French officials did not immediately respond to the group's estimate. The city imposed exceptionally strict security measures for the Games and notably the unprecedented opening ceremony all along the Seine River, which required a double-checked process and a QR code to attend.

In August, Marc Guillaume, the prefect for the Ile-de-France region, which encompasses Paris, stated in a radio interview that eviction rates had not increased due to the Olympics and that every displaced individual was offered alternative housing.

French President Emmanuel Macron also addressed the issue in August, claiming that France had successfully created a social legacy linked to the Olympics. "I'm not forgetting that we have succeeded in creating a social legacy for the Olympic Games, with more than 200 marginalised people who used to live on the streets around the venues now having a permanent home," Macron said at a conference on Aug 12, the day following the Olympics closing ceremony.

In its report, the coalition is now advocating for a reevaluation of the Olympic hosting model, proposing a permanent site for future editions and more sustainable practices to mitigate the risk of displacements.



Harry Wilson scores twice in injury time to give Fulham 2-1 win over Brentford

AP ■ LONDON

Substitute Harry Wilson scored twice in added time as Fulham rallied for a 2-1 home win over Brentford in the Premier League. Wilson came on in the 82nd minute and equalized in the second minute of injury time by meeting a cross from Adama Traore and, with his back toward the goal, flicking the ball inside the far post. He then netted the winner four minutes later with a stooping header from another cross from Antonee Robinson as Fulham was finally rewarded for its attacking play.

Fulham had only been behind for 113 minutes in the league all season and controlled most of the early action, only for Brentford to take the lead in the 24th against the run of play. Sloppy play in midfield by Fulham gave the visitors

possession and German midfielder Vitaly Janelt let fly with a shot from almost 30 meters out that flew inside Bernd Leno's left-hand post. Marco Silva's Fulham side pushed forward but never looked like scoring until Wilson's late double.

The win lifts Fulham into ninth place in the league table while Brentford remains in 13th. "It's emotionally very tough right now," said Brentford coach Thomas Frank. "When you're leading in the 92nd minute, it's tough for us to even have a draw - and then we lose it."

"On the day, Fulham were better but we showed a lot of resilience and defending. I thought that could give us the win but then there was an unbelievable touch from Wilson where 99 times out of 100 it doesn't go in.

Neymar picks up another injury in second game back from ACL tear

AP ■ RIYADH

Neymar picked up another injury in just his second game since returning from a 12-month absence as Saudi Arabia's Al-Hilal defeated Esteghlal of Iran 3-0 in the AFC Champions League Elite. The Brazilian has only recently recovered from a torn ACL and came off the bench in Riyadh after 58 minutes. However, the 32-year-old forward had to come off with three minutes remaining, having seemed to pull up after stretching his leg out for the ball in the penalty area. Neymar has time to recover before his next game, however,



as he is not registered for the team's matches in the Saudi Pro League and the next fixture in the AFC competition is on Nov. 25. Aleksandar Mitrovic scored a

hat trick for Al-Hilal, the four-time Asian champion which has now won all four games in the group stage. All three goals from the Serbian came from close range.

He opened the scoring after 15 minutes, added a second just after the half-hour mark and then completed his hat trick with 16 minutes remaining. Al-Hilal remains top of the 12-team group, where the top eight will advance to the Round of 16. It is above Saudi Arabian rival Al-Ahli on goal difference after the team from Jeddah thrashed Al-Shorta of Iraq 5-1 with former Liverpool forward Roberto Firmino scoring twice in the first half. Earlier, Al-Wasl of the United Arab Emirates drew 1-1 with Qatar's Al-Sadd and the game between Persepolis of Iran and Al-Gharafa of Qatar ended in the same scoreline.

ISL: FC Goa look to carry forward new-found confidence against in-form Punjab FC

PTI ■ MARGAO

Back to winning ways, hosts FC Goa will look to carry forward their new-found confidence and scale up the ladder when they take on Punjab FC in an Indian Super League match here on Wednesday. Both the teams are confident following their recent results. While FC Goa defeated Bengaluru FC 3-0 in their previous outing, PFC have won five of their last six matches. The Punjab side is placed third on the points table with 12 points from five fixtures, while FC Goa are ranked seventh, having accumulated nine points from seven games.

The Gaurs have found the back of the net on 12 occasions from inside the 18-yard box this season — most such strikes by any side this season — with Armando Sadiku (6) and Borja Herrera (4) scoring most of the goals. For Punjab FC, they should be wary of their backline, which has not been entirely sturdy this season. Against BFC, FC Goa forced 16 high turnovers (winning the ball back within 40 metres of the opposition's goal) — the most by any side in the ISL this season. Consequently, Punjab FC will have to be a well-oiled machine and fast-paced when it comes to passing, besides also



ensuring that the Goans don't dominate possession. Punjab FC have been on a

tremendous run lately, with their only loss so far this season coming last month

against The Blues. While their vibrant forward line has played a prominent role to their success lately, they also need a well-coordinated performance from other departments. Punjab FC have had three big chances per game — the highest by any side in the ISL — with eight of their nine goals this season coming from these opportunities, exhibiting the swiftness of the forward line. The Gaurs have been dominant against Punjab FC in ISL, remaining unbeaten with one win and a draw in their last two face-offs. FC Goa head coach Manolo Marquez affirmed that his players must stay positive

regardless of the result. "In my experience as a coach, you cannot be too negative or pessimistic if the team doesn't do well. Obviously, you can be angry, but I don't see much difference between the top teams and the teams below (in the table)," Marquez said. On the other hand, Punjab FC head coach Panagiotis Dilmeris admitted that he is wary of FC Goa's style of play, but was confident of his team's performance. "We will not adapt to them (FC Goa's playing style). We will play them to adapt to us. We don't care how they play other teams. We only care how other teams play against us," Dilmeris said.

Jhingan returns, Yadwad earns maiden call-up in India probables for Malaysia football friendly



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Seasoned defender Sandesh Jhingan, sidelined with a knee injury since January, is set for a comeback as he was on Tuesday named in a 26-member probables' list for India's friendly match against Malaysia on November 18 in Hyderabad.

Jhingan, who missed the Asian Cup and the remainder of the ISL season due to the injury, has been named in a

26-member probables list for India's home friendly against Malaysia, scheduled for November 18 in Hyderabad. The FC Goa center-back sustained an injury to his right knee during the first half of India's game against Syria in the Asian Cup, forcing him out of the tournament. Now fully recovered, his return is expected to strengthen India's defence. Mohun Bagan captain and defender Subhasish Bose was left out while Rahul

Bheke, who led the side against Mauritius in the Intercontinental Cup in September, retained his place. India head coach Manolo Marquez, still searching for his first win since taking over from Igor Stimac in July, has also given a maiden national call-up to promising forward Irfan Yadwad of Chennaiyin FC. The 23-year-old Goa-born forward has caught the attention of Marquez with a goal and two assists in seven

appearances for Chennaiyin FC in the ISL. He was roped in by Chennaiyin FC last year after a standout performance for FC Bengaluru United in the 2022-23 I-League 2, where he scored 13 goals from 11 matches. Farukh Choudhary, Yadwad's senior teammate, has also retained his spot in the squad.

Additionally, Mohun Bagan's Anirudh Thapa and Lalengmawia Ralte (Apulia) made it to the probables' list after missing out of the 23-member squad that travelled to Vietnam for an international friendly on October 12. In their last match on October 12, India managed a 1-1 draw against Vietnam.

INDIA PROBABLES
Goalkeepers: Amrinder Singh, Gurpreet Singh Sandhu and Vishal Kaith.
Defenders: Aakash Sangwan, Anwar Ali, Ashish Rai, Chinglensana Singh Konsham, Hmingthanmawia Ralte, Mehtab Singh, Rahul Bheke, Roshan Singh Naorem and Sandesh Jhingan.
Midfielders: Anirudh Thapa, Brandon Fernandes, Jeakson Singh Thounaojam, Jithin MS, Lalengmawia Ralte, Liston Colaco, Suresh Singh Wangjam and Vibin Mohanan.
Forwards: Edmund Lalrindika, Irfan Yadwad, Farukh Choudhary, Lallianzuala Chhangte, Manvir Singh and Vikram Partap Singh.



Delhi, Karnataka, Bengal earn wins in Senior Men's National Hockey Championship

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Delhi, Karnataka, Bengal and Andhra Pradesh registered dominating wins on the second day of the Senior Men's National Hockey Championship here on Tuesday.

Delhi hammered Jammu & Kashmir 6-0 in a Pool F match, thanks to goals from Nitesh (34th, 58th), Bharat (3rd), Govind Singh Bisht (14th), Mukul Sharma (21st) and Vikas Upadhyay (23rd). In Pool D, Karnataka ran over Chandigarh 5-1. For Karnataka, Mohammed Raheel Mousen (41st, 48th)

struck a brace while Surya NM (10th), Bharat Mahalingappa Kurtakoti (19th) and Manjeet (59th) scored a goal each. In another Pool D match, Uttarakhand secured a 5-0 win over Tripura following a walkover. In Pool H, Bengal routed Assam 10-0 with Raushan Kumar (10th, 12th, 30th) scoring a hat-trick. Captain Rajendra Oram (4th, 58th), Avoy Ekka (19th), Asem Lakra (20th), Milan Saha (31st), Sunil Jojo (41st) and Nitish Neupane (48th) are the other goal scorers. Andhra Pradesh decimated Andaman & Nicobar 13-0 in

Pool C, with Lekalla Hitesh Rao (13th, 15th, 21st, 41st, 48th, 55th, 56th) scoring seven times. Rayudu Veera (5th), Harsha Kamal Teja (6th), Galla Siva Pramod (30th), Tatiparthi Aron Saroj (33rd), Maddimeni Rajesh (38th) and Venu Gorela Gopal (49th) scored a goal each. Meanwhile, hosts Tamil Nadu managed a 2-2 draw against Madhya Pradesh in their Pool C game. Love Kumar Kanojiya (35th) and Akshay Dubey (42nd) scored for MP, while Selvaraj Kanagaraj (42nd) and Shanmugavel S (53rd) found the net for TN.

Sale of Immovable Property mortgaged to Bank under Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 read with provision to Rule 8(6) & Rule (9) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 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/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/ physical/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of dues due to the Bank/Secured creditor from the respective borrower(s), and Guarantor (s). The reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be as mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS

Table with columns: Lot No., Name of The Branch, Name of the Account, Name & Addresses of The Borrower/Guarantor, Description of the Immovable Properties, Dt. of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act 2002, Reserve Price, DATE & TIME OF AUCTION, Details of The Encumbrances Known To The Secured Creditors. Contains 13 rows of asset details.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS : 1. The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions. : 2. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" 3. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. 4. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website https://ebkgray.in. 5. For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer https://ebkgray.in.

STATUTORY SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8(6) & RULE (9) OF THE SARFAESI ACT, 2002