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# भाजपा का प्रण

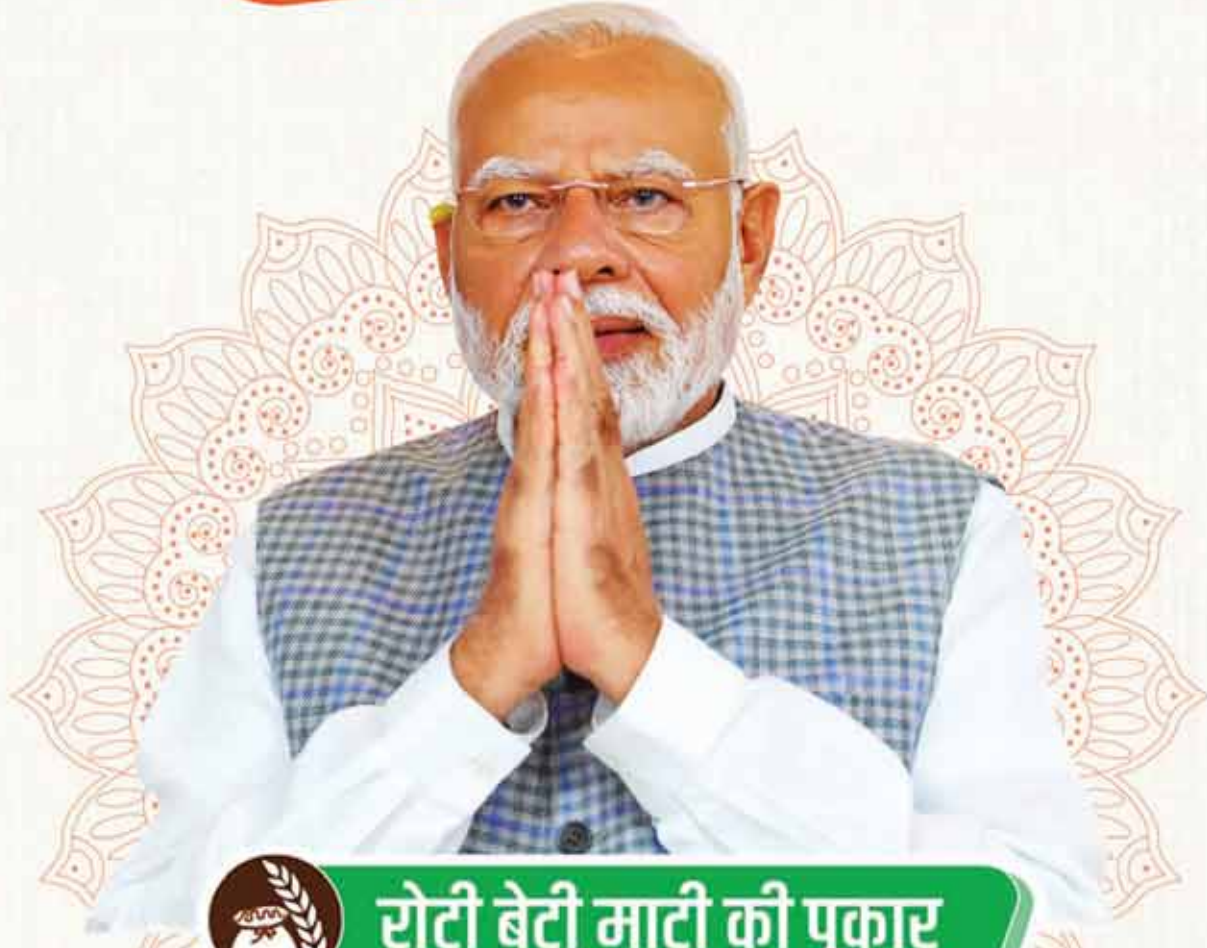
**सहारा**  
के निवेशकों  
की **पाई-पाई**  
होगी **वापस**

**65 हजार**  
**पारा शिक्षक**  
सहायक पुलिसकर्मी  
समेत सभी  
**अनुबंध कर्मी**  
होंगे **नियमित**

**भरोसा**  
**भाजपा पर**  
**वोट कमल पर**



संकल्प पत्र को  
डाउनलोड करने के  
लिए QR CODE को  
SCAN करें



**रोटी बेटी माटी की पुकार**

**झारखंड में भाजपा सरकार**



**कमल का बटन दबाएं**  
**भाजपा को जिताएं**



भारतीय जनता पार्टी, झारखंड प्रदेश

# PM Modi attacks JMM, Congress, RJD on corruption, fake promises



NITYANAND DUBEY : GARHWA

Prime Minister Narendra Modi today said that wherever Congress and its allies have come to power by telling lies, they have ruined that state. The Congress President has also accepted that Congress gives false guarantees. I don't know how the truth has come out of Mallikarjun Kharge's mouth knowingly or unknowingly. He said that these absurd announcements of Congress will bankrupt the states. PM Modi was also addressing a rally organized in Garhwa on Monday.

PM Modi said- 'Since independence, the biggest basis of Congress' politics has been lying to the public, deceiving the public. They deceive the voters by making false promises. They throw dust in the eyes of our citizens. Recently, Haryana has taught them a lesson.' He said- 'These days, a big industry of spreading rumors has started. Some people have opened various shops and are selling goods to spread rumors. You should not believe in any such rumors.'

The Prime Minister said- 'The people of Jharkhand are eager to uproot the Indi

Alliance government and make the lotus bloom." The Prime Minister was addressing an election rally in favor of the BJP candidates of Palamu division in Garhwa on Monday. PM Modi said- 'Corruption hollows out the country like termites. Corruption makes the poor, Dalits, backward, and tribals the most unhappy and ruins them. Jharkhand has seen in the last 5 years how the JMM-Congress-RJD government has indulged in corruption. Be it the Chief Minister, Minister, MLA, MP... there is no one left who is not accused of serious corruption. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said- 'Jharkhand has another big enemy and that is nepotism. JMM-Congress and RJD, all three parties are extremely nepotistic. For them, nothing is bigger than their family, how will they care about you people? Such selfish parties have to be taught a good lesson. These people want the key to power to remain with their family only. What did these people (JMM) do with Champai Soren? These people left no stone unturned in insulting a tribal son.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that there is no dearth of talent in the youth of Jharkhand. These sons

and daughters of Jharkhand show the spirit of Jharkhand in the sports field. PM Modi said- 'It is the responsibility of the government to increase the strength of the youth of Jharkhand, to provide them new opportunities, but JMM, Congress and RJD have betrayed the youth of Jharkhand.

They (JMM-Congress) had promised to give unemployment allowance to the youth of Jharkhand but did not fulfill the promise. Rigging in recruitment and paper leaks have become an industry here. Many youths died tragically due to the negligence of the JMM government during the constable recruitment.'

PM Narendra Modi said- Many resolutions have been taken in the resolution letter of Jharkhand BJP for the welfare of mothers, sisters, daughters. Under the 'Gogo Didi Yojana', mothers and sisters will be given Rs 2,100 every month. Under the Ujjwala Yojana, gas connections were first given to mothers and sisters of poor families now the BJP government to be formed in Jharkhand will give gas cylinders for Rs 500; along with this, two free cylinders will also be given on Diwali, and Rakshabandhan next year.

PM Modi said- 'Today I have come to seek the blessings of all of you. Today there is only one echo everywhere in Jharkhand, 'Roti-Beti-Mati ki Pukar, BJP-NDA government in Jharkhand. At this time, the enthusiasm of Chhath is also visible everywhere. I give my best wishes to those who worship Chhathi Maiya.'

Modi said- 'These elections in Jharkhand are being held at a time when the whole country is moving forward with the resolution of 'Developed India,' i.e., the coming 25 years are very important for the country and Jharkhand. The country will complete 100 years of independence and Jharkhand will also be about to turn 50 years old then.'

BJP has entered the electoral fray with the guarantee of facilities, security, stability, and prosperity of Jharkhand. I congratulate Jharkhand BJP that yesterday, Jharkhand BJP released a very wonderful Sankalp Patra. This Sankalp Patra is dedicated to the respect, security, and prosperity of Roti-Beti-Mati.

PM Modi said- 'You formed the BJP-NDA government for the third consecutive time in Delhi a few months ago. There is an assembly election in Jharkhand; we all have to come together and form a double-engine government here under the leadership of BJP-NDA. We will make it permanent, we will work hard at every booth.'

On the stage, BJP candidates Alok Chaurasia from Daltonganj, Ramchandra Chandravanshi from Bishrampur, Bhanu Pratap Shahi from Bhawanathpur, Kamlesh Kumar from Hussainabad, Shashi Bhushan Mehta from Panki, Hare Krishna Singh from Manika, Satyendra Tiwari from Garhwa, Pushpa Devi from Chhatrapur and Prakash Ram from Latehar were present.

## VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK CONCLUDES AT SAIL HQRS

PNS : BOKARO

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) celebrated the closing ceremony of Vigilance Awareness Week 2024 today at its Corporate Headquarters

in New Delhi. SAIL Chairman Amarendu Prakash, joined by Director (Commercial), Director (Finance), Director (Personnel), and Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO), awarded prizes to winners of

various competitions held throughout the week aimed at promoting vigilance and transparency. As part of the ceremony, SAIL also unveiled the Compendium of Case Studies 2024, highlighting key insights

and learning from past vigilance cases. The observance of Vigilance Awareness Week is part of SAIL's ongoing commitment to fostering a culture of integrity and accountability within the organization.

This may be published in Newspapers and TV from the day following the last day of withdrawal of candidature and up to two days before the date of poll

Format C-1

(for candidate to publish in Newspapers, TV)

### Declaration about criminal cases

(As per the judgment dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP ( Civil) No. 536 of 2011 ( Public Interest Foundation & ors. Vs. Union of India Anr.)

Name and address of Candidate:- Samir Oraon, Bishunpur Karamtoli, Po+ PS- Bishunpur,

Distt.-Gumla.

Name of Political Party: - Bhartiya Janta party

Name of Constituency: - 69 – Bishunpur (S.T.)

I, Samir Oraon, (name of candidate), a candidate for the abovementioned election declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

#### (A) Pending criminal cases

Sl No.	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of case(s)	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)
1	MP MLA Spl. Court, Ranchi	Dhurwa P.S. - 107/2023 Dated- 11/04/2023	Pending	u/s – 147, 148, 188, 109, 232, 353, 332, 427 of IPC. Public Protest

#### Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences

Sl No.	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment imposed
NA	NA	NA	NA

## Format C-1

(for candidate to publish in Newspapers, TV)

### Declaration about criminal cases

(As per the judgment dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of candidate: NAVIN JAISWAL

Address of Candidate: HOUSE NO. H-08, ARGORA HOUSING COLONY, RANCHI-834002

Name of political party: BHARATIYA JANATA PARTY

Name of Election: JHARKHAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY – 2024

Name of Constituency: 64 – HATIA ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY

I NAVIN JAISWAL, a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for public information the following details about my criminal antecedents:

#### (A) Pending criminal cases

Sl. No.	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of case(s)	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)
1.	Ld. Court of Shri Sarthak Sharma, Judicial Magistrate, (Special Court MP/MLA), Ranchi.	Lalpur, PS Case No. 203 of 2024	An application under Article 226 of the Constitution being WP(Cr) 735 of 2024 is sub-judice before the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand. The Hon'ble Court vide order dated 1/10/2024 has been pleased to direct that no coercive action be taken against the Petitioner	Section 191(2)(3), 190, 115(2), 117(2), 109, 121(1), 125, 132, 324(2), 351(2), 352 and 61(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023
2.	Ld. Court of Shri Sarthak Sharma, Judicial Magistrate, (Special Court MP/MLA), Ranchi	Dhurwa PS Case No. 107 of 2023	The FIR has been quashed as against the Petitioner by the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand, in WP(Cr) 158 of 2024 vide order dated 14th of August 2024.	Section 147, 148, 188, 109, 353, 332, 427 and 323 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860
3.	Ld. Court of Shri Sarthak Sharma, Judicial Magistrate, (Special Court MP /MLA), Ranchi	Lalpur PS Case No. 251/ 2021	The Applicant has been granted the privilege of Anticipatory Bail by the Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand in ABA Case No. 4881 of 2022 vide order 20/7/2022.	Section 147, 149, 341, 323, 332, 353, 188, 269, 270 of IPC and Section 51 Disaster Management Act
4.	Complain Case No. 3096 / 2017 before Sri Achhat Srivastava, J. M., 1st Class, Ranchi	Case No. 3096/ 2017	Cr MP No. 3009/2019. Pending before The Hon'ble Jharkhand High Court, Ranchi wherein the Hon'ble Court has been pleased to stay the proceeding as against the Petitioner vide order dated 9/1/2020	Section 406 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860

#### (B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences

Sl. No.	Name of Court and date(s) of order(s)	Description of offences & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

## 3-member panel to probe fire in Diwali Firecracker Market



PNS : BOKARO

In a tragic turn during Diwali celebrations, a massive fire erupted in the firecracker market near Garga Bridge on Thursday, completely destroying over 66 shops and devastating local vendors who rely on this seasonal income. The severe financial losses and panic sparked by the incident demanded urgent action. Recognizing the gravity of the situation,

Bokaro's Deputy Commissioner (DC) Vijaya Jadhav responded immediately, establishing a three-member committee to investigate the cause of the fire and assess safety protocols within the temporary market setup. Led by DDC Girja Shankar Prasad, with the City Deputy Superintendent of Police and the District Disaster Management Officer as members, the committee is tasked with a comprehensive review

of the circumstances surrounding the blaze.

DC Jadhav has mandated that the committee submit a detailed report within three days, with findings expected to clarify the fire's cause and provide recommendations for preventing similar incidents in the future. The investigation will focus on determining if safety protocols were followed and will outline steps for safer market arrangements, especially during festivals when the risk is high. This swift administrative response highlights the urgent need for enhanced safety measures in temporary markets. The incident has intensified calls for stricter safety regulations and robust preparedness strategies, both to protect vendors' livelihoods and to ensure public safety during high-risk festive seasons followed by adherence of safety protocols in all forms.

## Yogi Adityanath to address grand BJP rally in Jamshedpur



PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

BJP's high-energy election campaign in Kolhan is set to gain momentum as Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath visits Jamshedpur on Tuesday. The firebrand leader will address a major rally at Sakchi's Aambagan Ground, where he is expected to energize the party's base and galvanize support across the four key assembly constituencies of East, West, Potka, and Jugsalai.

BJP District President Sudhanshu Ojha, who reviewed the extensive preparations, expressed confidence in a historic turnout, describing the rally as an "unprecedented event" for the steel city. In a press conference at the BJP district office on Monday, Ojha shared details of the event logistics and preparations, noting that Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath is scheduled to arrive at 1 p.m. on Tuesday. Thousands are expected to gather to hear the Chief Minister's address, alongside Jharkhand BJP state in-charge Laxmikant Vajpayee, Rajya Sabha MP, and other NDA candidates for the upcoming elections.

According to Ojha, BJP is mobilizing its full machinery to ensure the rally's success. The party has held meetings at both divisional and booth levels to strategize and encourage local support. Additionally, responsibilities have been delegated among district officials and senior party members to handle venue arrangements, manage the stage, oversee media and water provisions, and organize parking.

Social media efforts are also in high gear, with BJP's digital team actively promoting the event across platforms. Plans are in place to live-stream the rally, allowing those unable to attend to tune in online.

## Congress candidate Ajoy Kumar intensifies campaign

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

Congress candidate Dr. Ajoy Kumar conducted an enthusiastic campaign on Monday, engaging residents in Golmuri, Sakchi, and Kashidih Refugee Colony. The campaign was met with a warm reception, as community members expressed their support for Dr. Kumar's candidacy. During the event, Dr. Ajoy Kumar addressed the gathered crowd, urging them to consider his vision for Jamshedpur after 25 years of governance in the region. "Give me a chance, and I assure you that I will not disappoint you," he stated passionately. He emphasized his commitment to making Jamshedpur a safer and more developed city, highlighting the need for community support and cooperation to realize this vision. Dr.



Kumar outlined his key priorities, which include providing quality education for children, improving healthcare services for residents, and creating employment opportunities for the youth. "I aim to enhance civic facilities in our neighborhoods," he added, reinforcing his dedication to the local community. He also reminisced about

his past parliamentary tenure, reminding attendees of the initiatives he had implemented, including regular medical camps and a 24-hour MLA office to address urgent community needs. "Your problems will always be my priority, and I will ensure that solutions are readily available," he assured the crowd.

## 6 inmates of central jail observe Chhath Puja in Palamu

PNS : DALTONGANJ

Six inmates of the central jail are observing Chhath Puja. Giving this information the central jail superintendent Bhagirath Karjee told this evening "We have received 6 applications from the inmates for the observance of the Chhath Puja." Among the 6 there is a woman

inmate, added Karjee. "We have made all necessary arrangements for the observance of this Chhath Puja. There will be no problem to any one" he said. There is a whole lot of piety and rituals where sanctity of the Chhath Puja is to be maintained by all means.

Karjee said "The 6 inmates who are observing

Chhath Puja are well taken care of by us." Chhath Puja has a long list of ingredients like milk, banana, rice, coconut, incense sticks, earthen lamp, mustard oil, sugar cane etc.

The Jail superintendent reiterated "The jail administration is very sensitive to the observance of this Maha Lok Parv by the inmates."



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## PATAAKHA BAN EXPLODES, SC REACTS

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday demanded answers from the Delhi Government and Police Commissioner on how its ban on bursting firecrackers to curb pollution was flouted during Diwali celebrations in the National Capital. The Bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih took a serious view of newspaper reports that indicated a total non-compliance with the Government's restrictions on bursting firecrackers. The Court said that the affidavit, which has to be filed in a week, should also detail the steps that would be taken to ensure that firecracker-related pollution does not arise again during Diwali celebrations next year.

"We want the Delhi Government to immediately respond as to why this has happened. We will simultaneously issue notice to Delhi Police Commissioner as to why there is non-compliance. We have to hear this immediately. The real problem is that this is all under the Air Prevention Act, 1981, which after amendment this year, has only penalty provisions," the SC remarked during the hearing of a plea concerning air pollution in and around the National Capital Region. The Bench also asked the Delhi Government to consider implementing a perpetual firecracker ban in the national capital. The Court further said that these steps should include measures to conduct a public campaign to sensitise the public against such pollution.



FILE PHOTO: PIONEER

"The affidavit by Delhi Government and Police Commissioner to be filed in one week ... In the meanwhile, Delhi Government and other authorities must also take call on perpetual ban of these firecrackers," the Court's order said. The Court will consider this aspect of Diwali-related pollution again on November 14. "There cannot be any dispute that the ban on firecrackers was

hardly implemented. The ban on firecrackers being non-complied is very well clear from the report which amicus cited, which is that this time pollution level was at an all time high. Even a report suggested farm fire was also at a high time rise" the Court further observed in its order. The Court also gave the States of Punjab and Haryana one week's time to submit details of stubble burning incidents in the last ten days. Due to deteriorating air quality in Delhi, the State government had recently banned the production, sale, and use of various types of firecrackers in the national capital till January 1, 2025. Additional Solicitor General (ASG) Archana Pathak Dave agreed that there was absolute non-compliance with these restrictions during Diwali this year. Amicus Curiae Aparajita Singh

added that there is a report suggesting a huge increase in air pollution on the day of Diwali, with the pollution percentage rising from 10 per cent to 27 per cent. The Court observed that something needs to be done to address this issue. "Something has to be done. Either the ones who are selling crackers despite the ban, their premises must be sealed. We will look into this. Amicus Curiae points out that a report suggested that there was a huge increase in the pollution on the day of Diwali. Pollution percentage goes from 10 per cent to 27 percent... This has to be responded to immediately," the Court said. The Judges also flagged concern over people bringing in firecrackers from other States into Delhi to defy the firecracker ban.



## EC reschedules 14 Assembly bypolls

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

With less than 10 days remaining, the Election Commission (EC) on Monday rescheduled bypolls in 14 Assembly constituencies across Kerala, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh from November 13 to November 20 after requests from political parties. Bypolls to 14 constituencies will be held with Maharashtra Assembly elections, and the second phase of Jharkhand polls.

Sources in the poll panel said political parties had requested for a change in the polling date, citing festivals such as Kalpathi Rastholsavam (November 13-15), Kartik Purnima (November 15) and Prakash Parv of Sri Guru Nanak Dev (November 15). The parties said the festivals may impact voter turnout in these states. "Representations have been received in the Commission from various recognised national and state political parties (including BJP, INC, BSP, RLD) and some social organisations for change of date for poll in some Assembly constituencies having by-elections on 13th November, 2024, considering large scale social, cultural and religious engagements on that day which may cause inconvenience to large number of people, give rise to various logistic issues and may lead to reduced voters participating during the poll," the EC said.



Rescue and relief work underway after a passenger bus fell into a gorge in Kupri area, in Almora, Uttarakhand PTI

## Packed bus falls in Almora gorge, 36 dead

PURNIMA BISHT ■ DEHRADUN

At least 36 people were killed and 27 injured when a 42-seater private bus carrying 63 passengers plunged into a 200-metre-deep gorge near Marchula in Almora district of Uttarakhand around 7.30 am on Monday. President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed deep grief and condoled the bereaved family members. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has ordered the suspension of the Assistant Regional Transport Officers (ARTOs) of Pauri and Almora districts while also directing the Kumaon commissioner for a magisterial probe into the accident. According to officials, the bus, owned by Garhwal Motor Owners Union Limited (GMOU), was en route from Naini Danda in Pauri district to Ramnagar in Nainital district when it reportedly lost control around 7.30 am near Sarad Bend and plunged into the gorge along a stream. The force of the fall ejected some passengers, while others managed to escape on their own. Those who climbed to safety alerted authorities, prompting

response from the police and State Disaster Response Force (SDRF). A team from the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) joined the rescue operation within two to three hours. Local villagers also assisted in locating passengers trapped in the wreckage, as per the officials. Initially, 28 passengers were found dead at the scene and later, eight more succumbed to injuries in hospital. Six passengers were also airlifted to AIIMS Rishikesh in the afternoon while another six were admitted to Sushila Tiwari Hospital in Haldwani. All victims were locals from Pauri, Nainital and Almora districts. The senior superintendent of police of Almora Devendra Pincha told The Pioneer that preliminary investigation suggests overloading and technical fault in the bus as the potential causes of the accident. As per the CM's order, the joint transport commissioner Sanat Kumar Singh suspended two ARTOs of Ramnagar and Pauri, Neha Jha and Kulwant Singh, respectively. Singh said that the lead agency of the Transport department will conduct an inquiry and further strict action will be taken against guilty officials accordingly.

## Deeply concerned about safety of Indians in Canada: MEA

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE / PTI ■ NEW DELHI/OTTAWA

Taking strong exception to an attack on a Hindu Sabha temple in Brampton in the Canadian province of Ontario, India on Monday condemned the "acts of violence perpetrated by extremists and separatists". New Delhi also urged the Justin Trudeau Government to ensure that all places of worship in the country are adequately protected. "We call on the Government of Canada to ensure that all places of worship are protected from such attacks. We also expect that those indulging in violence will be prosecuted," the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said here. Protesters carrying Khalistani flags clashed with people at

Brampton's Hindu Sabha Temple on Sunday, prompting the High Commission of India in Ottawa to issue a strong statement, condemning the attack by "anti-India" elements. Jaiswal also pointed out that it remains "deeply concerned" about the safety and security of its citizens in that country, asserting that the diplomatic officers providing consular services to Indians "will not be deterred by intimidation, harassment and violence". "We remain deeply concerned about the safety and security of Indian nationals in Canada. The outreach of our Consular officers to provide services to Indians and Canadian citizens alike will not be deterred by intimidation, harassment and violence," he said. According to a PTI report from Ottawa, protestors



Indians at a consular camp in Brampton, Ontario, Sunday, November 3, 2024. The consular camp witnessed "violent disruptions" on Sunday as per Indian High Commission in Canada PTI

Strongly condemn deliberate attack on Hindu temple in Canada; equally appalling are cowardly attempts to intimidate our diplomats. Such acts will never weaken India's resolve; we expect the Canadian government to ensure justice, uphold rule of law: Prime Minister Narendra Modi

## Jammu and Kashmir Assembly breaks six-year hiatus

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

The portals of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly were thrown open after a gap of more than six years allowing newly elected members to attend the maiden address of Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha to the first-ever legislative Assembly of the Union Territory after the abrogation of articles 370 and 35-A on Monday. The last Budget session of the Mehbooba Mufti-led Peoples Democratic Party-Bharatiya Janata Party (PDP-BJP) alliance government was adjourned sine die by the speaker on February 13, 2018. The alliance government later collapsed in June 2018 leading to the Governor's rule. On August 5, 2019, the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir was reorganised into two Union territories. Meanwhile, a ruckus broke out on the floor of the Assembly soon after the unanimous election of veteran National Conference leader Abdul Rahim Rather as speaker of the house. Waheed ur Rehman Para, a PDP MLA, tried to grab the limelight by bringing in a resolution against the abrogation of Article 370 without giving any advance notice to the chair. Chief Minister Omar Abdullah reacted on the spur of the moment calling out the act as a mere photo exercise. It was also 'vociferously'



CM Omar Abdullah, Speaker pro-tem Mubarak Gul with Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather PTI

opposed by the BJP MLAs. Speaker Rather while trying to calm down the tempers of BJP members stated, "This is my domain, let me examine this and accordingly I will decide on the resolution." Rather said while pacifying the opposition. However, the 28 BJP legislators refused to sit and continued to oppose the PDP MLAs move. In his brief remark, Omar Abdullah said in the Assembly that a single MLA's private resolution during remarks over the Speaker's election carries no meaning. "How the House will reflect and discuss this will not be decided by any one member. The resolution brought today has no importance but it is only for the cameras. If there was a purpose behind it, then they would have discussed this with us before..." During the ruckus, the Speaker, Abdul Rahim Rather adjourned the house for 15 minutes.

## Who created the 'Mallu Hindu Officers' WhatsApp group?

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

A WhatsApp Group of Hindu Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers in Kerala has sent shock waves across the Left Democratic Front (LDF) government in the state and a high level probe is on to find out the brains behind the "mischief". P Rajeev, Kerala Minister for Law and Industries, who is also the Chief-Minister-in-waiting, told the media at Kochi on Monday that the government has noted the development with all seriousness and a probe is on to bring to light all factors behind the formation of the group. The group was created on October 31 from the phone used by K Gopalakrishnan, an IAS officer in the state. News about the formation of the 'Mallu Hindu Officers' WA group spread like wildfire across Kerala, and it was taken off cyberspace within 24 hours. However, Gopalakrishnan said that his phone was hacked and he was not aware of the existence of such a group. "It was only when colleagues told me about the WA group that I came to know about it. Multiple Groups were formed using the contact numbers in my phone and I do not know anything more than this," Gopalakrishnan said. He has filed a police complaint about the hacking of his phone. Dr MG Gireeshan, cyber expert who is a leading hackathon specialist, told The Pioneer that it was possible to hack the phone of anybody who is not aware of the potential of the internet, and mobile phones.



## Sensex tanks, investors lose ₹5.99 lakh Crore

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Investors' wealth eroded by ₹5.99 lakh crore on Monday due to heavy sell-off in stock markets with the BSE Sensex tumbling more than one per cent. Markets were dragged down by Reliance Industries, banking shares and unabated selling by foreign investors. Investors also turned cautious ahead of the US presidential elections and Federal Reserve interest rate decision scheduled to be announced later this week. The BSE benchmark tumbled 941.88 points or 1.18 per cent to settle at 78,782.24, the lowest closing level since August 6. During the day, it slumped 1,491.52 points or 1.87 per cent to 78,232.60. In line with a weak trend in equities, the market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms eroded by Rs 5,99,539.5 crore to Rs 4,42,11,068.05 crore (USD 5.26 trillion). "Markets witnessed broader sell-off as investors turned risk averse ahead of key US election outcome and Federal Reserve's policy decision in the next few days time. While stretched valuation concerns have been weighing for sometime, the persistent foreign fund outflows have created a lot of uncertainty amongst the investors resulting in a steep correction. Also, corporate earnings have failed to meet expectations, which has further dampened investors' sentiment," said Prashanth Tapse, Senior VP (Research), Mehta Equities Ltd.

## Honouring the Sun, Chhath Puja greetings

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

As people gear up to celebrate the revered four days Chhath Puja starting from Tuesday, there is visible enthusiasm among the devotees, especially those from the states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand with markets around the country bustling with shoppers splurging on the items related to the sacred festival. In the national Capital, such excitement is visible in different markets across Delhi as people from Purvanchal constitute a sizable and significant fraction of the total population. Amid the palpable enthusiasm, trade related to the auspicious festival, worshipping the God Surya, is expected to be approximately ₹12,000 crores across the country, making it one of India's most culturally significant festivals. The first day of Chhath Puja, Nahay Khay, signifies the start of the rituals with about 150 million devotees,

particularly women, participating to cleanse themselves by taking a holy dip in rivers, especially the Ganga, symbolising spiritual purification. On Wednesday, the second day, Kharna, is marked by a rigorous day-long fast, during which devotees abstain from food and even water from sunrise until sunset. In the evening, the fast is broken with a traditional meal (prasad) offered to Lord Surya, which typically includes rice pudding (kheer) and chapatis. The third day is the main day of Chhath Puja, characterised by a complete fast without water as devotees gather at riverbanks or other water bodies to offer the first Arghya (a traditional offering) to the setting sun. On the last day on Friday, devotees will observe the final day, known as Usha Arghya. This day is marked by offering prayers and Arghya to the rising sun in the early morning. With the

completion of this ritual, the 36-hour fast concludes, and devotees celebrate the end of their Chhath Puja observance sharing a festive meal with family and friends. The festival, which worships both the rising and setting sun, is not just a mere celebration for the devotees, it also brings happiness to the traders who benefit from the sales of the products related to it. The Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT), which has been tracking festive sales this year, on Monday released data on expected sales during the sacred festival, estimating that it will generate approximately ₹12,000 crores in trade across India. Even in the national capital, the Purvanchal population celebrates Chhath Puja on a grand scale. Markets across the city, including Chandni Chowk, Sadar Bazar, Model Town, Ashok Vihar, Shalimar Bagh, Pitampura, Rani Bagh, Uttam Nagar and Tilak



PHOTO: PTI

Nagar, are bustling with people purchasing traditional Chhath Puja items. According to CAIT National President BC Bhartiya, that in addition to Bihar and Jharkhand, Chhath Puja is celebrated with great fervour in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, Odisha, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Rajasthan,

Chhattisgarh, Vidarbha, and Madhya Pradesh. "Many Purvanchalis reside in these states, contributing significantly to the local economy. The festival, which involves worshipping both the setting and rising sun, symbolises the inclusive nature of Indian culture," Bhartiya said.

According to CAIT, essential Chhath Puja items like bamboo baskets, banana leaves, sugarcane, sweets, fruits, and vegetables (particularly coconuts, apples, bananas, and green vegetables) have seen a high demand this year. The association also added that traditional attire, including sarees, lehenga-chunni, salwar-kurta for women, and kurta-pyjama, dhoti for men, are being purchased in large quantities, benefiting local traders and small-scale industries. "Handmade items produced on a small scale are also witnessing significant sales," it said. CAIT secretary general and Chandni Chowk Bharatiya Janata party (BJP) MP Praveen Khandelwal, emphasised that "Chhath Puja is not just a religious festival but an integral part of Indian culture, reflecting social unity and dedication. It also boosts trade and directly benefits local producers, reinforcing Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's 'Vocal for Local' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' (Self-Reliant India) vision," he added. Amid the celebration, it is often observed that the majority of products used during the festival are crafted by local artisans and craftspeople, generating new employment opportunities and supporting cottage industries. Upon this, Bhartiya highlighted that Chhath Puja, beyond its spiritual significance, has emerged as a major opportunity for trade and employment, bringing renewed economic energy to Indian markets including the sale of items such as vermilion used by married women. "For women observing Chhath Puja, applying a long streak of vermilion from the nose to the hairline is an auspicious gesture, symbolising their prayers for the health and longevity of their husbands and families," the trader said.

# Modi hits out JMM-Cong Govt for misusing central funds

## Nehru, Gandhi family did not support reservation for tribals, says Modi

R O S H A N  
KUMAR/PARVINDER  
BHATIA  
RANCHI/JAMSHEDPUR



Former Union Minister Arjun Munda (right) presents a traditional hat to felicitate Prime Minister Narendra Modi while Champai Soren (left) welcoming him with a traditional shawl at an election campaign rally in Chaibasa, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand on Monday. PNS



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a gathering during an election campaign rally in Chaibasa, West Singhbhum, Jharkhand on Monday. PNS



Prime Minister Narendra Modi, BJP Jharkhand President Babulal Marandi alongwith party candidates during an election campaign rally at Chetna Maidan in Garhwa on Monday. PNS

In his first election rally in Garhwa since the announcement of Assembly election in Jharkhand, Prime Minister Narendra Modi accused the ruling government of JMM, Congress and RJD of corruption that disproportionately affects the poor, Dalits, tribals, and backward communities. Modi criticising the coalition government for misappropriating funds from the Centre allocated for various schemes, stating it is time for a "double engine government" in Jharkhand to ensure development over the next 25 years.

PM Modi addressing the election rally in Garhwa without naming anyone directly, said that he has received reports of corrupt public representatives of the area (Garhwa). "They did not even spare the water tap that is your right. We made such big plans to provide water to every house. We sent thousands of crores but here the people of JMM Congress filled that money in their coffers. Where there are BJP governments in the country, water to every house is running successfully. But in Jharkhand, it is stalled even after our efforts. If water reaches Garhwa, then migration will stop and those who have migrated will also come back. Today this area has become a big centre of sand smuggling," said Modi.

PM's remark assumes

importance as last month, the Enforcement Directorate (ED) conducted raids at 20 locations, including those of IAS officer Manish Ranjan, Drinking Water and Sanitation Minister Mithlesh Thakur, and his associates, in connection with a multi-crore scam in the Jal Jeevan Mission of the Drinking Water and Sanitation Department.

The ED conducted raids at the premises of Vinay Thakur, the brother of Mithlesh Thakur, his personal secretary Harendra Singh, and several department engineers at locations in Ranchi, Chaibasa and Garhwa in Jharkhand. Mithlesh Thakur, a contractor-turned-politician, holds significant influence in the current administration. Manish Ranjan, who was previously under the ED's scrutiny in connection with a rural development scam, served as secretary in

the Drinking Water and Sanitation Department for a considerable period. Modi said that the truth is that the government of Jharkhand has become a slave of the mafia. The public is forced to migrate. These people are busy in sharing government contracts. Business is coming to a halt here. But the business of transfer posting is flourishing. Every vote given to BJP should be to hit the mafia system that JMM, Congress and RJD have created. JMM, Congress and RJD have taken the policy of appeasement to its extreme. All these three parties are supporters of infiltrators. They are settling Bangladeshi infiltrators all over Jharkhand.

After addressing rally in Garhwa, PM Modi in a robust address in Chaibasa, West Singhbhum criticized the Congress for its historical and

ongoing treatment of tribal communities. Speaking to a large gathering on Monday at Tata College ground, Modi accused the Congress of keeping tribals impoverished by denying them rightful reservations and neglecting their welfare, a charge aimed at consolidating tribal support for the BJP ahead of the state elections. Modi stated that Congress failed to give tribals their due rights and even opposed their reservation rights when Baba Saheb Ambedkar initiated them. "Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and successive leaders from the Gandhi family did not support reservation for tribals," Modi remarked. He claimed that Congress has perpetuated poverty within the tribal communities and did not establish a separate ministry for tribal welfare—initiatives that he noted were spearheaded by BJP-led

administrations. The Prime Minister assured the audience that, if the BJP is elected, his administration would prioritize the issue of illegal infiltration, which he described as a growing concern for local communities. He promised stringent measures to prevent illegal land seizures and pledged that tribal lands illegally occupied would be returned to rightful owners, especially tribal daughters. Modi emphasized that tribal security and land rights would be protected under a BJP government, which would take "every step" to safeguard the community.

Modi outlined the BJP's accomplishments in poverty alleviation, claiming that nearly 25 crore Indians had been lifted out of poverty over the last decade through targeted social schemes. Reflecting on his own back-

ground, he stated, "I have experienced poverty firsthand. I have seen the struggle up close, and that's why I prioritized schemes for the poor." The Prime Minister argued that Jharkhand's tribal areas, often neglected, deserve equal attention in the fight against poverty, adding that the BJP's schemes aim to alleviate poverty and create new economic opportunities in the region. In a gesture of respect to Jharkhand's tribal heritage, Modi praised the region's legacy of resistance against oppression, including the role Kolhan played in opposing British colonial forces. "This land has witnessed the valor of heroes like Bhagwan Birsa Munda, Chand Bhairav, Tilka Manjhi, Nilambar-Pitambar, and Sido-Kanhu," he said. He emphasized that BJP's policies aim to preserve this heritage while empowering

women, pointing out the party's recently released "Resolution for Empowering Women." Modi urged the region to carry on this legacy by supporting the BJP, hinting that a shift in governance would allow Kolhan to "create a new history."

Modi revisited BJP's commitment to tribal identity by highlighting the creation of separate states under the leadership of Atal Bihari Vajpayee. "For BJP, tribal self-respect is paramount," he said, underscoring the importance of statehood for Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh. He credited Vajpayee's government with recognizing the need for dedicated governance for tribal regions, and he positioned the BJP as the sole party that prioritizes tribal aspirations and dignity.

In an emotional appeal, Modi referred to the infamous Gua Firing incident in

the 1980s when a Congress-led government was accused of brutal repression against tribals. He compared the actions of Congress at that time to colonial-era atrocities, claiming that Congress shed tribal blood to suppress dissent. This, Modi argued, was indicative of Congress's attitude towards tribal rights, reinforcing his accusation that the party has historically disregarded tribal interests and welfare. The Prime Minister concluded by reiterating his vision for a prosperous and self-reliant Jharkhand, where tribal communities are afforded dignity, land rights, and opportunities for development. He implored voters to consider the BJP's track record in welfare initiatives, including education, healthcare, and employment, and to support the BJP's vision for a stronger Jharkhand.

### JMM accuses Modi of lying; says, BJP has no right to speak on nepotism

PNS : RANCHI

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) said, on Monday, that PM Narendra Modi has accused JMM of nepotism and also said that Modi has called nepotism the enemy of Jharkhand. BJP has no right to speak on nepotism, the party added. Addressing a press meet on this, JMM

General Secretary Supriyo Bhattacharya said sarcastically that at least BJP has no right to speak on nepotism. He said that in this election, his party has given tickets to both father and son, has given ticket to the wife of a former minister and has given ticket to the daughter-in-law of another former CM. Bhattacharya also said

that BJP has also given ticket to the wife of a convicted former CM this former CM is also a BJP leader. However, he did not take the name of Madhu Koda. He said that this list is long. The JMM leader said, similarly yesterday BJP's Amit Shah also released a Sankalp Patra. This is a bundle of lies. He said that in true sense PM

Modi has no issue to speak in Jharkhand, he added.

JMM General Secretary said that the JMM Government got the proposal to include Ho language in the Eighth Schedule passed in the cabinet and Modi says this is Modi's guarantee. Why is Sarna Dharma Code not Modi's guarantee, he added.

### Cleaning of all 72 Chhath ghats & connecting paths priority of RMC: MC

PNS : RANCHI

In the course of inspecting arrangements being made by Ranchi Municipal Corporation (RMC) at the major ghats located on the banks of various reservoirs on November 3 for the upcoming Chhath festival.

Municipal Commissioner Sandeep Dighi issued a set of instruction regarding cleanliness. The official inspected Kanke Dam, Bada Talab and other water

bodies in the City.

During the inspection, the Municipal Commissioner instructed that the formed teams should monitor the cleaning drive in their respective zones with utmost priority and ensure complete cleaning of all the 72 identified Chhath ghats. Singh said that during Chhath Mahaparva, along with Chhath Vrat, lakhs of devotees gather at Chhath Ghats to offer Arghya to the Sun God. "For this

many important preparations are being made at the corporation level. From the point of view of cleanliness, a special cleaning campaign is being carried out at all the 72 identified Chhath Ghats and also on the connecting paths since before Diwali. Additional cleaning workers have also been deployed for this."

During the inspection, Singh also said that Kali Puja immersion has been done in various ponds, so the team of

the cleanliness branch needs to work with full alertness. Removing the remains of the idols needs to be done as soon as possible and ensuring cleaning of the dirt spread in all the ghats, grass cutting, barricading to identify dangerous places in the ponds, spraying of bleaching powder all around the pond and complete cleaning of the connecting paths to the ponds and the surrounding areas needs to be done.

This may be published in Newspapers and TV from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature and upto two days before the date of poll

Format C-2

(For political party to publish in website, newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal antecedents of candidates set up by the party (As per the judgment dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **Bharatiya Janata Party**

\* Name of Election : **General Election To Vidhan Sabha 2024**

Name of State/ UT : **Jharkhand**

Sl. No.	1	2	3	5			
				(A) Pending criminal cases		(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences	
	Name of constituency	Name of candidate	Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s)	Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s)	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
1.	AC 43 Baghmara	Shri Shatrughan Mahto	Ms. Arpita Narayan, JM Dhanbad Barora PS 150/2006 Charges Framed	u/s 147/149/160/342/323/504/506/109/120 (B) IPC Rioting	NA	NA	NA
2			SDJM, Dhanbad Katras PS 54/2020 Charges Not Framed	u/s 341/323/364/379/341 IPC Kidnapping or abducting	NA	NA	NA
3			Ms. Arpita Narayan, JM Dhanbad Barora PS 21/2021 Charges Not Framed	u/s 147/148/149/324/341/427/120(B)/307 IPC & u/s 3 Explosive Act Rioting & use of explosive	NA	NA	NA
4			SDJM, Dhanbad Katras PS 308/2022 Charges Not Framed	u/s 323/504/341/34 IPC voluntarily causing hurt.	NA	NA	NA

\*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.

This may be published in Newspapers and TV from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature and upto two days before the date of poll

Format C-2

(For political party to publish in website, newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal antecedents of candidate set up by the party

(As per the judgement dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **JHARKHAND MUKTI MORCHA**

Name of Election : **JHARKHAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTION 2024**

Name of State / UT : **JHARKHAND**

Sl. No.	1.	2.	3.	5.			
				(A) Pending criminal cases		(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences	
	Name of Constituency	Name of candidate	Name of Court, Case No. Status of the case(s)	Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s)	Name of the Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
	06-MAHESHPUR (ST)	STEPHEN MARANDI	SDJM, DUMKA Maheshpur PS case No. 168 of 2019 GR Case No.- 08 of 2022. For Appearance	U/S — 1138 & 171(F) of the IPC. For using the vehicle without permission or authorization for election campaigning			

\* in the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention The election concerned in place of name of constituency.

Note

- The particulars regarding criminal cases pending against the candidate shall be in bold letters.
- The matter in newspapers shall be published in font size of at least 12.
- The above information shall be published State wise for State/UT.
- If a candidate is contesting an election on the ticket of a particular party, he/she is required to inform the party about the criminal cases pending against him/her.
- The political party shall be obligated to put up on its website the information pertaining to candidates having criminal antecedents.
- The Political Party shall submit a report about publishing of declaration regarding criminal cases in Format CS to the Chief Electoral Officer of the State within 30 days of declaration of result of the election concerned.

# In Jharkhand, JMM, Congress, RJD have crossed all limits says PM Modi

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ RANCHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched a scathing attack on the JMM-led coalition in Jharkhand, labeling it a "Ghuspaithiya Bandhan" (infiltrators' alliance) and "Mafia Ka Ghulam" (mafia's slave) for allegedly supporting Bangladeshi infiltrators. Scams by coalition leaders in Jharkhand have become an industry and corruption has devoured the state like termites, the Prime Minister said. "Appeasement politics has reached its pinnacle in Jharkhand where the JMM-led coalition is busy supporting Bangladeshi infiltrators. If this continues, the state's tribal population will shrink. This is a threat to tribal society and the country. This coalition has become a 'Ghuspaithiya Bandhan' and a 'Mafia ka Ghulam', Modi said at a rally in Jharkhand's Garhwa. This was Modi's first visit to Jharkhand following the



announcement of assembly elections scheduled on November 13 and November 20 with counting of votes on November 23. It was also any prime minister's maiden visit to Garhwa. "Termites of corruption make the country hollow. In Jharkhand, the JMM, Congress and RJD have crossed all limits as far as corruption is concerned. This has impacted the poor, dalits, tribals and the backward communities. Jharkhand CM, MLAs and MPs of JMM-led coalition are neck-deep in corruption," the PM said, asserting that only the BJP can

provide 'Suvidha', 'Suraksha', 'Sthirta' and 'Samridhhi', which is 'Modi's guarantee'. Modi accused the JMM, Congress, and RJD of using Bangladeshi infiltrators for "vote bank politics," enabling their settlement in Jharkhand, which he deemed a threat to the state's social structure. He emphasised the urgency of the situation, saying, "It is Roti, Beti, Maati Pukar to make BJP-NDA Sarkar in Jharkhand." "If Saraswati Vandana is prevented in schools, you can understand the level of threat," he said and added that curfews

during festivals like Durga Puja have become common. The Prime Minister said Jharkhand has become a hub for sand smuggling and claimed that rumour-mongering has turned into an industry in the state, with "one family active in Delhi and another in Jharkhand." He criticised the Congress for spreading falsehoods since Independence, alleging that it has devastated states like Himachal, Telangana, and Karnataka. Modi said AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge admitted that the party makes false guarantees. "I am surprised how Kharge ji spoke the truth that Congress's irrelevant announcements will bankrupt states," Modi remarked, asserting that Congress and its partners can never be relied upon. He also pointed out that the JMM-led coalition spread rumours discouraging farmers from accepting funds under the PM Kisan Samman Nidhi Yojana, leading them to believe the money would be taken away.

However, he added that the implementation of the scheme has instilled confidence among the farmers. He criticised the JMM-led coalition for misappropriating thousands of crores allocated by the Centre for various schemes, asserting that it is time for a "double engine government" in Jharkhand to ensure development over the next 25 years. "The Centre is making all efforts to boost infrastructure in Jharkhand, while the JMM-led coalition is trying to hinder progress," he said, citing the stalled North Koel Reservoir project as a key example. The foundation of the project on North Koel river flowing through Palamu and Garhwa districts was originally laid in 1972 but failed to take off. The Prime Minister said highways in Jharkhand were being widened while railways infrastructure was being augmented and 12 Vande Bharat Express trains were operational here.

# Promises made to people by BJP, Congress not being fulfilled: Mayawati

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ LUCKNOW



BSP supremo Mayawati on Monday said at a time when crores of people are troubled by inflation and unemployment, the BJP and Congress are busy hurling allegations at each other and announcing freebies in the poll campaigns for Maharashtra and Jharkhand elections. Instead of focusing their attention on public issues, these parties are busy in "negative politics" with their false propaganda and promises ahead of the elections, she added. In a social media post, the BSP chief said, "The promises made to the people by these two parties are not being fulfilled honestly, because they (promises) are made only to mislead the people and are forgotten after forming the government." "This is the reason why the Congress' governments, especially in Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka, are facing the accusation of breaking promises and various BJP governments,

including UP, are seen engaging in 'jugaad politics' to divert attention from the burning issues after forming the government," she added. Mayawati said the BSP does not issue any manifesto to mislead people during elections, but considers doing honest work for crores of poor, oppressed and unemployed people following its constitutional responsibility and "political religion". "At a time when the lives of crores of people are suffering due to widespread poverty, unemployment, inflation and acute lack of basic necessities like agriculture, education, health, roads, electricity, clean water and law and order, the BJP and Congress and their governments are

busy making allegations and counter-allegations in view of the Maharashtra and Jharkhand state assembly general elections, and announcing freebies and promises," her post read. She said people are in "dire need of employment" to get rid of their troubles. The BSP president claimed that the number of jobs provided by her government is more than the combined employment provided by the subsequent SP and BJP governments in the state. Maharashtra Assembly Elections will take place on November 20, 2024. Jharkhand Assembly Elections will take place in two phases November 13 and 20. The counting of votes will be held on November 23.

# Karnataka CM accuses BJP of opposing welfare schemes

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ BENGALURU

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday alleged that the BJP was opposed to guarantee schemes of the Congress government as they give economic and social strength to all sections of the society. He said BJP wants the poor and weaker sections to remain as they are so that it can "misuse" them. "BJP is opposed to guarantee schemes, it is because the government is economically and socially giving to all sections of the society through guarantee schemes. We want to empower people through social justice to ensure that backward communities come to the mainstream," Siddaramaiah said. Speaking to media, the CM said: "BJP doesn't want equality, they want inequality and the poor to remain as they are. So we call them anti-poor. BJP misuses poor and people who don't have strength in the society. When you get strength, how can they misuse you? So BJP doesn't want people to get strength economically and socially." He, however, noted that despite injustice to Karnataka by the 15th finance commission, it had recommended special grants of Rs 5,495 crore, Rs 3,000 crore each for peripheral ring road and for development of lakes, totaling Rs 11,495 crore. "Did the central government give it? Did Joshi (Pralhad Joshi) ask about it? Let him say if the Centre has given, if given I will quit politics, if not will Joshi quit?" the Chief Minister said.

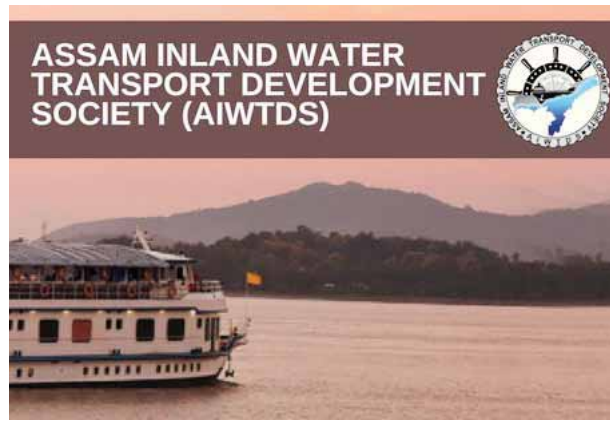


Noting that the 16th finance commission that has been constituted had recently visited Karnataka, he said, "We (Karnataka) faced injustice from the 15th finance commission. We (state) are giving more than Rs 4.50 lakh crore as tax per year, what we get back is Rs 55,000-Rs 65,000 crore. Is that right?" No BJP leader is speaking against injustice happening to Karnataka, he claimed. "Has Pralhad Joshi (union minister), Basavaraj Bommai and Jagadish Shetty (both MPs and former CM) ever spoken on injustice happening to Karnataka? What should we say, if talking about injustice happening to Karnataka is called political?" He, however, noted that despite injustice to Karnataka by the 15th finance commission, it had recommended special grants of Rs 5,495 crore, Rs 3,000 crore each for peripheral ring road and for development of lakes, totaling Rs 11,495 crore. "Did the central government give it? Did Joshi (Pralhad Joshi) ask about it? Let him say if the Centre has given, if given I will quit politics, if not will Joshi quit?" the Chief Minister said.

# Assam Government to revitalise waterways with safety and infrastructure upgrades

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

Assam government is actively working to revitalise the state's waterways by enhancing safety, modernising infrastructure and improving connectivity, the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) said on Monday. The Assam Inland Water Transport Development Society (AIWTDS) is undertaking these initiatives, the CMO said in a post on X. AIWTDS is modernising Assam's waterways by enhancing safety, infrastructure and connectivity, focusing on key advancements such as establishing new regulatory bodies, implementing night navigation, and upgrading the fleet with 20 steel catamarans, the CMO said. The Jibondinga Scheme has also been introduced to



provide boat operators with marine engines and safety gear," it said. "As per the directives of HCM Dr @himantabiswa, @CSAssam, Dr. Ravi Kota held a meeting recently with AIWTDS to review the progress of these initiatives," the CMO added. The AIWTDS aims to

enhance passenger ferry services and infrastructure while strengthening the state's inland water transport framework, it said. A key aspect of this initiative involves institutional and safety improvements, leading to the setting up of the Assam Inland Water Transport Regulatory Authority and Assam Inland Waterways Company Ltd. Night navigation has been initiated, which has benefited over 8.5 lakh passengers, the CMO said. For modernising infrastructure, 20 advanced steel catamarans have been added to the fleet, which also includes three search and rescue vessels, three tugboats, and three survey boats. A total of 840 marine engines and life-saving gear have been provided to country boat operations under Jibondinga scheme, the CMO said. As part of efforts to improve terminals, a fixed terminal has been constructed in Guwahati, and modular terminals have been established at North Guwahati, Umananda, Neamati, and Aphalamukh, it added.

# Sanitary workers' bodies retrieved from Bharathapuzha river

PNS ■ KOCHI

The body of Lakshmanan, the sanitary worker who fell into Bharathapuzha River at Shoranur from the Ernakulam Bridge on Saturday was retrieved late Sunday evening by the scuba divers deployed by the Fire Brigade. With this, bodies of all the four sanitary workers engaged by the private contractor to clean the tracks have been retrieved. According to a media release by Southern Railway, steps were on to initiate legal proceedings against the private contractor based at Malappuram for throwing to the winds the security protocol which resulted in the mishap. The Railways was in the dark about the contractor shepherding the workers over the bridge despite the fact that there was no work allocated to clean this stretch. Three workers in the group were ran over by the speeding New Delhi-Thiruvananthapuram Super Fast Express at 3 pm on Saturday while the fourth person jumped into the river to save himself from the train. According to a release by Southern Railway, actions have been initiated to terminate the contract and a criminal case is being filed against the contractor for failing to ensure the safety of the workers. The workers were in the dark about the arrival of the super-fast Kerala Express and they were left clueless about what to do to escape to safety. But Kerala minister for sports Abdul Rehman has come out demanding a thorough probe before any action is taken against the contractor M/s Munawar Thonikkadavat with its head quarters at Malappuram.



# Three arrested for torturing minor boy in MP

PNS ■ BHOPAL

Three persons were arrested in Madhya Pradesh's Pandhurna district after a video of them hanging a minor boy upside down and placing hot coal near his head surfaced on social media, police said on Monday. The incident occurred on Sunday in Mohgaon, around 30 km from the district headquarters, they said. The viral video shows a boy hanging upside down with hands tied with a rope and crying loudly, and later, a tray of hot coal is placed near his head. A man is also seen tying another boy in the video. In the video, people are heard accusing the boy of stealing a watch and other items. Pandhurna's Superintendent of Police (SP) Sundar Singh Kanesh said the police arrested three persons allegedly involved in the incident and booked them under sections 137(2) (kidnapping), 127(2) (wrongful confinement), 115 (causing hurt), 296 (obscene act) and other relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS). Meanwhile, former chief minister Kamal Nath condemned the incident. In a social media post, Nath wrote, "A video has surfaced of a small child being hung upside down and beaten and then two children being forced to inhale chilli smoke. This incident is highly condemnable. There is no place for such acts in a civilized society. I demand the local administration to take strict action against all the culprits in this case."

# Poland paraglider stranded in Dhauladhar after collision

PTI ■ DHARAMSHALA

A paraglider from Poland was stranded in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh after a mid-air collision with another paraglider, officials said on Monday. Efforts to airlift the paraglider, who was identified as Andrew Babinski, failed due to tough terrain on Monday, they said. Babinski got stranded in Dhauladhar hills on Sunday after colliding with another paraglider mid-air, Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM), Baijnath, D C Thakur told PTI. An attempt to rescue him on Monday using a chopper failed due to tough terrain. The land search party will soon reach

the spot, the officer said. Babinski is in touch with paragliding organisers and the local administration, according to the officials. Meanwhile, an Australian paraglider participating in the Paragliding World Cup 2024 in Kangra's Bir Billing suffered a sprain in his leg before takeoff on Sunday. "Australian paraglider David Snowden had a sprain in his leg before takeoff and did not fly. He was rushed to the hospital for an X-ray and is fine now," Billing Paragliding Association president Anurag Sharma told PTI. 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, Sharma said. Last week, two foreign paragliders crashed to death in Himachal Pradesh. On 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.

# Goa CM urges job scam victims to report fraud

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ PANAJI

Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Monday appealed to people who have been cheated on the promise of government jobs to lodge police complaints and said the culprits won't be spared. The opposition Goa Forward Party (GFP), however, demanded that all current recruitments be suspended immediately and a special investigation team be set up to probe the scam. The Goa police have arrested half a dozen people for their alleged involvement in the cash-for-government jobs scam, recently exposed following a series of cases registered at various police stations in the state. Talking to the media, Sawant asked the victims to come

forward without fear and lodge police complaints against the culprits. "No one would be spared. We have taken the cases very seriously," the chief minister said. In a letter to the chief minister on Monday, GFP president and Fatorda MLA Vijai Sardesai said he had pointed out the corruption in the selection process of government jobs during the last assembly session. He said since people have come forward with their complaints, the state government should form a special investigation team (SIT) to probe these recruitment scams without delay. "The SIT should comprise professionals from outside the Goa administration to ensure an impartial and thorough investigation. The probe

team should have unrestricted access to records, documents and personnel necessary to uncover the full extent of this scam," he wrote. Sardesai also demanded immediate suspension of all the recruitment processes until the SIT completes its investigation. He also urged the state government to implement the recommendations issued by the committee that reviewed the 2021 Public Works Department (PWD) recruitment scam. Last month, the Ponda police arrested a woman named Puja Naik for allegedly cheating people after promising them government jobs. Sawant had said action would be initiated against two government officials for helping her in the job racket.

# Patna illuminates landmarks in blue for Chhath festival

PTI ■ PATNA

The historic Darbhanga House, the newly-built complex of the district collectorate and 'Sabhayata Dwar' are among the several public buildings located along the banks of Ganga in Patna which have been illuminated in blue hue ahead of the Chhath festival. The night-time illumination of these structures, some of which face popular old ghats in the city such as the Collectorate Ghat and Kali Ghat, have been done as part of a 'Go Blue' campaign of the Patna district administration. "Recently, we issued a public appeal to individuals and private entities who have properties located along the ghats of Ganga, to also illuminate those buildings with blue-colour lights, the theme for illumination during



the Bihar Diwas celebrations here every year, to mark Chhath festivities," a senior official told PTI. The four-day Chhath festival, celebrated as a 'Mahaparv' in Bihar, will be held this year from November 5-8. On the last two days, devotees offer 'arghya', first to the setting sun and the next day to the rising sun. On Sunday, after dark, the over 120-year-old Darbhanga House, a palace built by the erstwhile Darbhanga Raj estate that currently houses the PG department of the Patna University, stood out on the city skyline.

The palatial building, known for its iconic architecture and aesthetic grandeur, faces the Kali Ghat along the river, which draws huge number of devotees during the Chhath celebrations. The building also houses an old Kali temple. Traditionally, people gather along the banks of Ganga to observe this ancient festival, but due to impact of rapid urbanisation on the river and other constraints, many now prefer to either do rituals in nearby water bodies or on rooftops using makeshift arrangements. The Collectorate Ghat is one such example where the river water has receded, but only to come back during the monsoon season. The new high-rise complex which is expected to be inaugurated soon after the Chhath Puja, has been decorated with blue lights and

commuters using the Ganga Drive built along the riverfront can catch a glimpse of the illumination. A huge neon signage 'Samharanalay Patna' mounted on its rooftop, glows in vibrant red at night, adding to its aura. "This illumination of the new Collectorate complex began around Diwali," the official said. The old Collectorate was a cluster of heritage buildings from Dutch era and British period, which were demolished in the second half of 2022 to make way for the new complex, despite protests from several quarters. Till recent years, devotees from far-off places in the state used to gather in the old Collectorate campus and some used to even camp there for four days to observe Chhath as the eponymous ghat is located right next to the site.

# Four children die of suffocation locked in car in Gujarat



Four children died of suffocation after getting locked inside a car while playing in Gujarat's Amreli district, police said Monday. The incident took place at



Randhiya village in the district on Saturday. The victims were children of a farm labourer couple hailing from Dhar in Madhya Pradesh, Deputy Superintendent of Police Chirag Desai told reporters. "The parents left for work at

the farm of one Bharat Mandani at around 7.30 am, leaving their seven children behind. Four of the children entered the car of the farm owner parked near their house," he said. The four victims, in the age group of 2 to 7 years, got locked in the car. They died due to suffocation, the official said. When their parents and the car owner returned on Saturday evening, they found the bodies, he said. A case of accidental death was registered at Amreli (taluka) police station, the official said, adding that further investigation was underway.



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PAPER WITH PASSION

## Smogged capital!

Delhi's air has taken a hazardous turn with the city enveloped in a thick blanket of smog and the AQI reaching alarming levels

Delhi's pollution levels have once again reached alarming highs, with the Air Quality Index (AQI) crossing the 400 mark just two days after Diwali. As of Sunday morning, the city witnessed hazardous air conditions, recording AQI values that are 65 times above the World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended limits. The city's air quality entered the "hazardous" category as a thick blanket of smog descended. For context, an AQI level above 450 is classified as 'severe-plus,' posing serious health risks, especially for vulnerable populations like children, the elderly and individuals with respiratory issues. On Saturday night, Delhi's AQI stood at 327, but within just 12 hours, it shot up to 447, marking a significant spike. This worsening air quality is not limited to isolated pockets of the city; regions across Delhi-NCR, including Jahangirpuri, Mundka, Narela and Sonia Vihar, also recorded dangerously high levels. Many people reported respiratory issues due to the poor air quality and eye irritation, a



direct effect of the dense smog. These symptoms highlight the immediate health repercussions of Delhi's worsening air quality, especially after Diwali. Firecrackers during Diwali celebrations have a substantial impact on Delhi's air quality. The smoke and particulate matter released from fireworks contain pollutants like sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide and heavy metals that remain suspended in the air, exacerbating pollution levels. The annual agricultural practice of stubble burning in neighbouring states, including Punjab and Haryana, contributes to Delhi's smog. Its persistence remains a critical factor in the air quality crisis. During winter, Delhi's colder temperatures and lack of

strong winds trap pollutants close to the ground. This natural 'trapping effect' worsens in the days following Diwali as pollutants from firecrackers and stubble burning accumulate in the air, creating hazardous conditions. In an effort to tackle this recurring issue, the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP-II) was implemented in Delhi-NCR starting October 21, following the dip in air quality to the 'Very Poor' category. This plan mandates restrictions on activities that contribute to pollution, such as construction and industrial operations. However, despite GRAP-II's implementation, the AQI remains alarmingly high, showing the need for stricter enforcement and possibly, more robust solutions to address the city's persistent air quality issues. Delhi's post-Diwali pollution crisis is a reminder of the complex and multifaceted nature of air quality management. Efforts to control pollution through initiatives like GRAP and public awareness campaigns have had limited success, underscoring the need for more effective and sustained interventions. A multi-pronged approach involving stricter restrictions on firecrackers, better stubble management practices, and real-time pollution control is essential to bring lasting improvement to Delhi's air quality. As Delhi faces yet another winter of hazardous air, urgent, long-term solutions are crucial to protect the health and wellbeing of its citizens.

### PICTALK



People purchase bamboo baskets and other items ahead of the 'Chhath Puja,' in Gurugram

# Providing a fulcrum for the new global order



SUDHIR HINDWAN

The Indo-US partnership stands out as a stabilising force, rooted in shared democratic values and a commitment to security, peace and technological progress

The global power structure has undergone profound changes, shifting from the Cold War's rigid bipolarity to an era of unipolar dominance, and now, to a complex multipolar framework. This transition has amplified the voices of countries that were once sidelined, making their contributions essential to shaping international relations. For a stable and cooperative world, active participation from all nations is necessary in this evolving paradigm of global politics.

A key relationship in this multipolar world is the strengthening bond between India and the United States, founded on shared respect and strategic interests. Over the past decade, their alliance has evolved significantly, propelled by a common vision for regional stability and global security. Regions like West Asia and conflicts like Russia-Ukraine illustrate how global geopolitical tensions are often rooted in complex interplays of power, ideology, and rivalry. Maintaining peace requires transparent diplomacy, cooperation, and trust-based dialogue among nations. To sustain global stability, countries must collaborate on critical fronts such as climate action, renewable energy, and technological innovation.

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is an example of how emerging powers are asserting influence, sparking responses from other nations. India's growing partnership with the US stands as a stabilising counterforce in this landscape. Key agreements like the Basic Exchange and Cooperation Agreement (BECA) have enhanced defense and data-sharing capabilities, primarily to counter security threats in the Indo-Pacific region. Additionally, India and the US have institutionalised their cooperation through strategic initiatives like the 2+2 Dialogue, a platform that enables regular high-level discussions and reinforces a multi-layered security partnership. These collaborations reflect the importance of joint efforts in combating modern challenges, from chemical weapons control to



counter-terrorism initiatives, underscoring the need for stringent international regulations.

The role of smaller nations is also evolving within this multipolar order. These countries are adapting to shifting global dynamics, often requiring support from larger nations for economic, strategic and cultural integration. India's growing recognition as a mediator in international disputes, as seen in its balanced stance on the Russia-Ukraine conflict, reflects its increasing diplomatic stature. This approach not only underlines India's commitment to global peace but also highlights its ability to bridge divides as a neutral party.

With an evolving international landscape, new security frameworks and collaborative information-sharing networks have become critical for countering emerging threats. India's active role in tackling these challenges showcases the potential of soft diplomacy. This diplomatic approach resonates with India's cultural philosophy of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam* (One Earth, One Family), which advocates for inclusive governance and unity. This ethos aligns well with the India-US partnership, which is also rooted in shared democratic values and mutual respect for sov-



IN AN ERA WHERE POWER IS INCREASINGLY DISPERSED, THE INDO-US RELATIONSHIP REFLECTS A PROACTIVE RESPONSE TO THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED BY MULTIPOLARITY

eighty. Recent technological agreements, including the US support for the production of F414 engines, advanced drones, and fighter jet components in India, symbolise the strides both countries are making toward a robust defense alliance. Such agreements not only solidify defense cooperation but also pave the way for smoother technology transfers.

Beyond defense, India and the US are deepening cooperation in areas like artificial intelligence (AI) and information technology (IT), underscoring India's expanding role in global tech markets. Indian companies, particularly in the IT sector, have successfully established a presence in international markets, creating jobs, fostering trade, and contributing to the US economy. With an Indian diaspora of about 5.6 million living, working, and studying in the US, these contributions further strengthen the economic ties and cultural connections between the two democracies. This vibrant Indian-American community enhances mutual understanding and shared aspirations between the two nations, fostering a unique bond that complements strategic cooperation.

The Indo-US partnership holds strategic importance not only for bilateral benefits

but also as a pillar for building broader international coalitions to address global security threats. As two of the world's largest democracies, India and the US are in a unique position to lead efforts against transnational terrorism and other pressing security issues. By jointly developing a forward-looking security framework, both countries can drive global initiatives for peace and stability. Through shared commitments, this alliance has the potential to shape a diplomatic roadmap that champions prosperity, security, and harmony on a global scale.

In an era where power is increasingly dispersed, the Indo-US relationship reflects a proactive response to the challenges and opportunities presented by multipolarity. As both nations continue to strengthen their alliance, they contribute not only to their own security but also to a collective effort aimed at promoting peace, economic stability, and shared progress. This partnership is more than just a bilateral relationship; it embodies the hope for a cooperative, resilient global order that values inclusive growth and sustainable peace.

(The author, a recipient of the Bharat Gaurav Award, is a professor and expert in strategic affairs; views are personal)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### EDUCATION SYSTEM REVAMP

Madam — The article 'Reforming India's education...' (November 2) presents suggestions that could be considered positively. The education system we had for long could produce creative brains and talents that have been absorbed by the knowledge and talent seeking institutions all over the world. Most of the scientists and technocrats contributing to most inventions and developments in various countries are Indians, who had their basic education in India. The country is caught in the grip of confusion over the type of education we need to provide to our students.

The act of leaving education to market forces dominated by avaricious private players has converted the essence of education from learning to just scoring high marks, which helps in gaining seats in educational institutions and nothing more. The cream is able to gain placement in the IT sector, and the rest are left to be satisfied with a degree that cannot fetch them a job. It is all the more a serious concern that now the system is made to suffer the onslaughts of the communal flare ignited in every sphere of life. As a result, those who have a degree but no employable skill are taken up for infusing skill in them to make them employable. We need to wait and see how this is going to yield the desired result. It is time to leave education to the States to compete themselves in creating skilled and knowledgeable forces for mutual benefit.

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

### INDIA-CANADA TENSIONS

Madam — Apropos of 'MEA summons Canadian diplomat' (November 3), Canada's baseless and unsubstantiated allegations against Union Home Minister Amit Shah under pressure from Khalistani extremists, have taken Indo-Canadian diplomatic relations to a new low. The surveillance of the Indian diplomats in Canada is beyond all diplomatic norms and is illegal. Even earlier, Canada failed and refused to provide any proof or congenial evidence of India's involvement in Canada-based Khalistani extremist Nijjar's murder.

## Toxic work culture



The recent tragic death of a 26-year-old Chartered Accountant from Kerala working in a MNC in Pune has reignited discussions about exploitative work conditions prevalent in many Indian organisations. In fact, her mother wrote a letter to the chairman of the company, blaming the toxic work environment as the reason for her daughter's death. The woman's case is not an isolat-

ed incident. Stories of young professionals suffering from burnout, stress and even physical collapse due to inhumane work hours are becoming disturbingly common in India.

While many Indian companies boast of initiatives aimed at employees' engagement and their wellbeing, these things appear to be at the surface level, failing to bring meaningful change to daily work experiences. While many issues can play a role in attributing to toxic workplace cultures, the most pervasive is weak leadership. In the pursuit of chasing profits, companies often overlook the human cost of overworking employees. Meaningful change is urgently needed to address the exploitative practices rampant in Indian MNCs.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Urapakkam

No terrorist or extremist organisation activates itself or indulges in separatist, destructive or terrorist activities without state support and sponsorship. Pakistan is the best example of such state-sponsored terrorist organisations. Justin Trudeau is facing fierce opposition within its ranks and in the country while the parliamentary elections are approaching fast. Khalistani extremists do have some political support in India, but such political parties and leaders miserably lost elections in recent Lok Sabha and Assembly elections. It is very strange that anti-India Khalistani extremists have no support in India and are not relevant for Canada too, so Justin Trudeau's support for them is highly undiplomatic and unbecoming of his Government. The large Indian diaspora in Canada may not be favourable of their Khalistani support.

Vinod Johri | Delhi

### NEW ZEALAND'S CLEAN SWEEP

Madam — This is one of the most humiliating defeats for team India at home and Skipper Rohit Sharma can't have any

excuse for this shocking performance of the players and especially the batters. Full credit goes to New Zealand for their absolute commitment and application in all departments of the game and Captain Latham led by example with his cool strategies to record 3-0 by cleanly whitewashed India. The Indian batters who have taken their place for granted so far played miserably throughout the series.

The performances of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli were crestfallen and we don't see any kind of seriousness from them in the middle to realise the match situation. After their dismal outcome at Bengaluru and Pune, when the fans expected a turnaround at Mumbai by expecting the captain to stay in the middle for longer, the post-match press conference for Rohit became longer than the time he spent at the wicket, which was a very sorry affair and a huge disappointment for the Indian fans across the nation.

A P Thiruvadi | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## Finding strength in the face of life's deepest sorrows

Adversities are integral to our lives. However, we possess a wellspring of strength that enables us to recover and move on

First read about resilience in my physics classes in school as the ability of a material to absorb energy and release back that energy as it springs back to its original shape.

Later, I understood a third element, the ability to spring back without creating a permanent distortion. Human resilience is no different. I have met many people who bounced back. I then understood its meaning in daily life. It was about humans and their strength to face adversities and move forward with renewed vigour. I remember an incident from almost four decades back. I was only 26-years-old. My colleague was 56. His only child, a son around my age, died in a boat accident while on vacation with his friends in the Sundarbans. I went with my wife to console and realised that words were superfluous. What do you tell an old couple who had just lost their only child? I had tears in my eyes, and I found the gentleman consoling me instead. He sought solace



and strength from the scriptures. Another colleague lost her 41-year-old son. She wanted to write about it, had even tried multiple times, but could not bring herself to articulate her feelings. I encouraged her to write. She shared her innermost thoughts, 'A woman goes through severest of physical pains and mental suffering through labour pain at the time of her child's birth. This is the natural cycle of life. But what is unnatural is when this cycle of life breaks due to the untimely death of the younger per-

son, whom the woman had given birth to, and nurtured, to become a good and strong human being to face the world.'

The lady now lives through her son's memories. She also expresses her emotions by writing poetry or short stories. This is her way of coming out of her traumatic experience and honouring her son's life. Another lady that I recently interviewed for an episode of a virtual show lost her young son of 22 a few years back. She 'transcended' her grief cherishing the fond memories of a limited time spent together. She helps others transform their grief into growth.

The loss of a child is probably the most difficult form of adversity. We face challenges and find the inner strength to deal with them. There are a few, who unfortunately are not able to cope, and sometimes take extreme steps.

There are also a few people who may require additional medical help to deal with feelings of depression. Above all, they require love

and support from the near and dear ones. Each human is a wellspring of resilience. All that is needed is to tap within and for others to help. We may adopt a few lessons from the lives of resilient persons. They believe they are masters of their destiny, they are aware of their strengths and weaknesses, they adapt to situations, they do not obsess over factors over which they do not have control, they are optimists and many more. However, resilience does not require us to present a brave facade at all times. It is also important to create a social environment and not hesitate to seek help. I close the article, with a prayer that all of us find the courage to be resilient, and with a quote from Emil Dorian, a Romanian poet, prose writer, and physician, "Strong people alone know how to organise their suffering so as to bear only the most necessary pain."

(The author is an electrical engineer with the Indian Railways and conducts classes in creative writing; views are personal)



SANJAY CHANDRA

FIRST COLUMN  
BUILDING

## WORKPLACE RESILIENCE

Resilience is more than just bouncing back from setbacks; it's about adapting and staying steady



SAKSHI SETHI

Quite often we come up with research studies that state that employees with access to mental health resources, such as counselling and stress management programmes, reported higher resilience levels while those who received mindfulness training and stress-reduction workshops were better equipped to handle workplace challenges, leading to lower absenteeism and higher engagement. But the question arises are we workplace resilient? In today's fast-paced and often unpredictable business environment, resilience has become a critical quality for both organisations as well as individuals.

The term resilience usually refers to something more than just the ability to bounce back. It is the ability to adapt to challenges, recover from setbacks and maintain a steady course even in times of uncertainty. It is an adaptive skill that enables employees to handle stress and maintain productivity under pressure. Effective resilience management helps businesses not only survive but thrive during challenging periods by fostering a resilient workforce that can navigate complex and shifting landscapes.

The need for resilience, in recent years, has undoubtedly become increasingly evident due to factors such as economic fluctuations, organisational restructuring and external crises like the COVID-19 pandemic. The ability to manage resilience allows organisations to build a workforce that can handle continuous change without compromising the wellbe-



ing of employees or the quality of work. Resilient employees contribute to a positive workplace culture by handling stress effectively and collaborating with others to solve problems. They also tend to show higher levels of job satisfaction, reduced burnout and a greater sense of purpose in their roles. These attributes are beneficial not only to the individual but to the organisation, as resilient employees contribute to a stronger, more cohesive team dynamic.

Several approaches such as encouraging a positive work culture; providing access to training and development; promoting work-life balance and encouraging team cohesion and collaboration can help organisations promote resilience at both individual as well as organisational levels. Only when employees feel valued and supported, they are more likely to develop a strong sense of belonging and purpose. An environment where employees feel safe to express concerns and seek help when needed promotes emotional resilience. Additionally, professional development opportunities build confidence, thereby helping employees feel more competent and ready to face obstacles.

Leadership plays a crucial role in resilience management. On the other hand, leaders too, who show resilience, especially during challenging times, inspire confidence in their teams can also provide the necessary guidance, recognise stress signs early on, and take action to support struggling employees. Resilient leaders foster a growth mindset within their teams, viewing setbacks as learning opportunities rather than failures.

Only fostering a team-based environment where collaboration and mutual support are encouraged enables employees to rely on one another in times of need. When employees trust their teammates, they are more likely to share concerns, ask for help and aid others, which collectively contributes to a resilient workforce. In conclusion, managing resilience in the workplace is essential for creating a thriving, adaptable, and supportive work environment. Investing in resilience is ultimately an investment in organisational success and individual wellbeing. By prioritising resilience, businesses will be better prepared to face future challenges, ensuring a sustainable and positive work environment.

(The writer is an educator; views are personal)

India's gold repatriation:  
Safeguarding India's wealth

SHIVAJI SARKAR

India has taken a bold step by repatriating 214 tonnes of gold from the Bank of England, signalling a strategic move to protect national wealth against global shock



In a striking move to safeguard national wealth, India has repatriated 214 tonnes of gold from the vaults of England, a signal of heightened concern over escalating geopolitical tensions and looming sanctions. This shift reflects a broader trend, with central banks globally ramping up their gold purchases. In May alone, India recalled 100 tonnes from the Bank of England, reinforcing a strategy to shield assets amid global uncertainty. Now, as global gold prices soar toward a potential \$3,000 per ounce, the world is watching closely, with India emerging as a key player in the race to secure precious metals in these volatile times. The government of India has decided to prioritise protecting its assets in the face of global geopolitical unrest. About 100 tonnes were returned from the Bank of England in May.

A total of 324.01 metric tonnes of gold were held in the custody of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and the Bank of England, while 510.46 metric tonnes were retained domestically. Additionally, 20.26 metric tonnes of gold were stored as deposits. The gold in the world market is projected to rise to \$3000 per ounce, according to Goldman Sachs. The Diwali 2024 market sparkle appears subdued for several reasons despite cracker sales going back almost to the fuzzy pre-ban eras of the National Green Tribunal. The traditional gold sales could not touch previous years' highs as the metal was priced at around Rs 78,430, almost 30 per cent higher than last year. "Silver sales rose 33 per cent, while gold volume fell by 15 per cent," according to the Indian Bullion and Jewellers Association. The market is stated to be as dizzy as it was in 2015 or 2019, marked by slowdown. In its report titled "43rd Half Yearly Report on Management of Foreign Exchange



GOLD HAS RISEN TO MULTIPLE ALL-TIME HIGHS THIS YEAR. SIZABLE CENTRAL BANK PURCHASES OF GOLD BARS HAVE RESET THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN RATE AND PRICE LEVELS SINCE 2022

Reserves: April - September 2024," the RBI stated that it had a total of 854.73 metric tonnes of gold in both domestic and foreign repository facilities.

The RBI has been buying gold to diversify its forex reserves and hedge against external risks. In 2024, the RBI added 54.7 tons of gold to its reserves, the highest acquisition in three years. After the Ukraine war, \$ 300 billion worth of Russian currency and other assets, kept as reserves in the US dollar, Euro and sterling pound, were seized by the US and the G7 countries. The assets are being used to bolster funding arms and other supplies to Ukraine. India has since acted cautiously even in deals with the purchase of Russian crude. The recent spat with Canada and the US-Israel escalation of the war to Lebanon and Iran has added to the caution.

This forced the repatriation of gold by RBI, which has been purchasing gold and stocking it abroad for payments in terms of gold instead of dollars. The RBI saves huge amounts in terms of vault rents as well. Robust demand in the world's second-biggest gold consumer could further push up global prices, which hit record highs last week. Rising demand for imports of gold could also widen India's trade deficit and put pressure on the rupee. Yes, India's gold purchases have contributed to rising global gold prices.

India's gold demand in 2024 is likely to fall to its lowest in four years as a rally in prices to a record high is seen denting purchases during the peak festival season, the World Gold Council

(WGC) said on Wednesday. Gold demand in the world's second-biggest consumer of the precious metal could stand around 700 and 750 metric tonnes in 2024, the lowest since 2020 and down from last year's 761 tonnes, according to Sachin Jain, CEO of WGC's Indian operations. This Dhanteras, gold sales dipped in India to 35 tonnes, down from last year's 42 tons.

Gold has risen to multiple all-time highs this year. Sizable central bank purchases of gold bars have reset the relationship between rate and price levels since 2022. Goldman Sachs Research estimates that 100 tonnes of physical demand lifts gold prices by at least 2.4 per cent. Credit card usage also hit new highs, with card spending reaching Rs 80,000 crore in September, a 57 per cent increase from last year. The retail mom-and-pop shops have problems as the footfall was subdued due to many turning to online shopping. Both Amazon and Flipkart reported a strong Diwali season, with Flipkart leading with a 64 per cent market share during the initial October sales.

Sales from online platforms saw year-on-year growth of 23 per cent, with goods worth Rs 32,000 crore sold. More are BNPL or Buy Now Pay Later customers, or paying in instalments helped by credit cards, indicating a cash shortage among the people.

This trend was especially pronounced among new shoppers from tier 2 and tier 3 cities. Car sales have suffered during most of the year before just margin-

ally picking up during the Dussehra and Diwali festive seasons. Maruti profits lowered to Rs 3102 crore in September, by 18 per cent, as against Rs 3762 crore a year ago. Maruti CEO RC Bhargava says "Affordability is a concern". The demand for cars below Rs 10 lakh is in demand. Small cars inventory levels hit a "historic high" of 80-85 days, leaving dealers with a stock of 790,000 vehicles worth 800 billion rupees, the Federation of Automobile Dealers Associations says.

Despite high inflation, Indian consumers opened their wallets wide this Diwali season, pushing festival-related spending to about Rs 1.25 lakh crore, claimed Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) general secretary Pravin Khandelwal. Delhi alone saw spending of Rs 25,000 crore, including FMCG goods, consumer durables and home décor earthen lamps and electronic goods, traditional and modern products, he says. Mobile phones in the below Rs 20,000 range had brisk sales. Mobile phones were among the hottest sellers this season, with a 12-15 per cent rise in the average selling price, driven partly by a shortage in device availability. This scarcity led to consumers grabbing whatever stock was available, increasing the average price of phones sold. Rising gold and commodity prices, a fall in rupee value, crunch in income and manufacturing are concerns amid a global unstable war-like situation.

(The author is a senior journalist; views are personal)

## India and Israel: A Bond forged in intelligence and shared threats

From R&AW's inception in 1968 to today's advanced defence collaborations, the Indo-Israeli alliance has quietly strengthened in the face of shared security challenges

It was three years after the Indo-Pakistan war. The year was 1968. India's external intelligence agency, The Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) was formed and its director was firmly advised by the then Prime Minister, Indira Gandhi, to develop deep ties with Mossad; Israel's formidable intelligence agency. The two have been working closely together to eliminate potential threats and impending security challenges. The interests of both agencies aligned; obliterating the similar nature of terror emanating from their borders. As Israel confronts Iran's proxies in the region, Indian security forces battle Pakistan's proxies, Jaish-e-Mohammad and Lashkar-e-



ISHAAN SAXENA

Taiba, daily in the restive state of Jammu and Kashmir; which also happens to be one of the world's most heavily militarised zones. Pakistan, a nuclear-armed country, also happens to be the epicentre of global terrorism. Fast-forward to the year 1999 when India was engaged in the Kargil conflict with Pakistan. It was then that Israel provid-

ed India with drones to monitor the treacherous Himalayan terrain. Now, as Israel is entangled in its battles, India's Adani group has delivered several Hermes 900 drones which are also capable of aerial bombardment. They have been deployed in Gaza. This, of course, is beyond the ambit of the Indian Government's control since it's a joint venture between Adani Defence and Aerospace and Israel's Elbit systems. Besides, allegedly India sent two shiploads of arms to Israel early this year. Over the past few years, Mossad has conducted a series of assassinations. These have included top Iranian nuclear physicists, professors and the head of

Iran's nuclear programme. Benjamin Netanyahu has vowed that Israel will not tolerate a nuclear Iran. So, in the foreseeable future, it is very likely that Israel will strike Iran's nuclear facilities because Iran is going to relentlessly pursue the nuclear path. This is irrefutable.

In recent times, the agency in collaboration with the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) has assassinated the top leadership of Hamas and Hezbollah; Ismael Haniyeh-the Hamas political leader in Tehran, Hassan Nasrallah-the Hezbollah leader and Yahya Sinwar who was the chief architect of the 7th October 2023 attacks on Israel. The very recent precision



strikes in and around Tehran would have sent shockwaves in the power corridors of Iran. The reverberations of these calculated strikes would have sent Iran's security cabinet scrambling to fathom how Israel could pursue such an accurate military operation. One will have to wait and watch Iran's reaction. Will it retaliate and escalate the exacerbated situation in the West Asia or

will it choose to mitigate the situation and let its proxies corner Israel? But this outcome was almost certain. Israel had to engage in a limited military response. But what captured the imagination of the world was how Hezbollah paggers and walkie-talkies exploded simultaneously. Contentious debates regarding such a deadly operation were circulating to the centre stage. The vociferous debates focus on the morality and ethics of such an unprecedented operation.

After all, it does set a precedent for future attacks anywhere in the world. But as Israel's Ambassador to New Delhi put it; you have to surprise your enemy in a manner that does not involve the

conventional use of force. They say necessity is the mother of all inventions. Israel's campaign epitomises it perfectly. They say that offence is not the best form of defence but in Israel's case, this chain of thought is unconvincing. The state exists in a precarious security zone. Israel may find itself alienated from the rest of the world as the valiant men and women of the IDF battle on various fronts, but the war and Israel's meticulous planning must continue.

Iran's proxies must be annihilated. Its relentless campaign to eliminate groups like Hamas and Hezbollah must not end anytime soon. Political parties or not, these actors harbour a twisted,

malicious and hostile ideology. There is no space for such entities to exist in a modern world. Israel must never forget that the long-lasting ties between the two nations will continue and India's explicit support will not fade anytime soon. The Indo-Israeli ties will be a durable bond in the years to come. This relationship which hinges on mutual respect and specific interests will bloom and crystallise in the years to come. Golda Meir, the fourth Prime Minister of Israel, articulated it quite clearly; 'peace will only usher in when Arabs love their children more than they despise us.'

(The writer is a socio-economic commentator; views expressed are personal)

**This may be published in Newspapers and TV from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature and upto two days before the date of poll**

**Format C-2**

(For political party to publish in website, newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal antecedents of candidates set up by the party (As per the judgment dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **Bharatiya Janata Party**  
 \* Name of Election : **General Election To Vidhan Sabha 2024**  
 Name of State/ UT : **Jharkhand**

1	2	3	4		5		
Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Name of candidate	(A) Pending criminal cases		(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences		
			Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s)	Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s)	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
1.	AC 16 Poreyahat	Devendranath Singh	S.D.J.M, Goda ; Poreyahat PS case no 311/2014 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s IPC section 147,148,149,448,323,504,506,34 Rioting	NA	NA	NA

\*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.

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1.	AC 13 Madhupur	Shri Ganga Narayan Singh	SDJM Madhupur, GR Case No 597/2021, Charges Framed	u/s 147, 148, 149, 341, 342, 323, 186, 332, 353 of IPC Rioting	NA	NA	NA

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1.	AC 17 Godda	Shri Amit Kumar Mandal	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Lalpur PS Case No 203/24 ; Charges Not Framed	191(2)(3)/190/115(2)/117(2)/109/121(1)/125/132/324(2)/351(2)/352/61(2) of BNS Protest Against State Government, Section	NA	NA	NA
2			Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Dhurwa PS Case No 107/2023 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s IPC 451, 379 Theft	NA	NA	NA

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1.	AC 37 Chandankiyari(SC)	Shri Amar Kumar Bauri	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Lalpur PS Case No 203/24 ; Charges Not Framed	Section 191(2)(3)/190/115(2)/117(2)/109/121(1)/125/132/324(2)/351(2)/352/61(2) of BNS Protest Against State Government	NA	NA	NA

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1.	AC 18 Mahagama	Shri Ashok Kumar Bhagat	Shri Satish Kr Munda, JMFC Godda ; GR No 672/2021 ; Charges Framed	u/s 500, 501 & 504 IPC Defamation	NA	NA	NA
2			SDJM Dumka ; G.R No 894/2009 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 143, 186, 283, 290, 291, 353 IPC Causing Road Jam Hindrance	NA	NA	NA

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1.	AC No.-40 Dhanbad	Shri Raj Sinha	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Lalpur PS Case No 203/24 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 191(2)(3)/190/115(2)/117(2)/109/121(1)/125/132/324(2)/351(2)/352/61(2) of BNS Protest Against State Government, Section	NA	NA	NA

\*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.



# People-smuggling gangs to be treated like terrorists: Starmer

AP ■ LONDON

Prime Minister Keir Starmer says he will double funding for Britain's border security agency and treat people-smuggling gangs like terror networks in an attempt to stop migrants crossing the English Channel in small boats. In a speech Monday to a meeting of the international police organization Interpol, Starmer will say the gangs behind irregular migration are a serious threat to global security. Arguing that "the world needs to wake up to the severity of this challenge," Starmer will say that "we're taking our approach to counterterrorism, which we know works, and applying it to the gangs," according to extracts released by his office. He'll call for more cooperation between law-enforcement agencies, closer coordination

with other countries and unspecified "enhanced" powers for law-enforcement. Starmer plans to increase the UK Border Security Command's two-year budget from 75 million pounds (\$97 million) to 150 million pounds (\$194 million). The money will be used to fund high-tech surveillance equipment and 100 specialist investigators. Like previous Conservative British governments, Starmer's Labour Party administration is struggling to stop thousands of people fleeing war and poverty from trying reach the UK from France in flimsy, overcrowded boats. More than 31,000 migrants have made the perilous crossing of one of the world's busiest shipping lanes so far this year, more than in all of 2023, though fewer than in 2022. At least 56 people have perished in

the attempts this year, according to French officials, making 2024 the deadliest since the number of channel crossings began surging in 2018. Starmer leads a center-left government, and has raised some eyebrows in September when he visited Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni and praised her nationalist conservative government's "remarkable" progress in reducing the number of migrants reaching Italy's shores by boat. Starmer will argue on Monday that "there's nothing progressive about turning a blind eye as men, women and children die in the channel." The opposition Conservative Party argues that Starmer should not have scrapped the previous government's plan to send some asylum-seekers who reach Britain by boat on one-way trips to Rwanda. Supporters of the pro-

posal say it would act as a deterrent. Human rights groups and many lawyers say it is unethical and unlawful to send migrants thousands of miles to a country they don't want to live in. Starmer called the plan a "gimmick" and canceled it soon after he was elected in July. Britain paid Rwanda hundreds of millions of pounds for the plan under a deal signed by the two countries in 2022, without any deportations taking place. Senior police and government officials from the 196 Interpol member states are attending the global police body's four-day congress in Glasgow, Scotland. On Tuesday, Brazilian police official Valdecy Urquiza is expected to be named the new general secretary of the Lyon, France-based organization, replacing Jürgen Stock of Germany.

# S Korea, EU condemn N Korea's reported troop dispatch to Russia

AP ■ SEOUL

Top South Korean and European Union officials on Monday strongly condemned North Korea's reported troop dispatch to aid Russia's war against Ukraine and agreed to work together to try to block deepening military cooperation between Moscow and Pyongyang. North Korea's alleged troop deployment threatens to expand the almost 3-year-long war and is causing security jitters in South Korea, where many worry Russia might reward the North by giving it sophisticated weapons technology or offering a defense commitment in the event of a conflict on the Korean Peninsula. In a meeting in Seoul, South Korean Defense Minister Kim Yong Hyun and the EU's visiting foreign policy chief, Josep Borrell, expressed "serious concerns" about North Korea's reported troop dispatch and "strongly condemned" it, according to a statement from the South Korean Defense Ministry.

The two agreed to work together with the international community to try to obstruct Russian-North Korean security cooperation, the statement said. The US government said Thursday that about 8,000 North Korean soldiers were in Russia near Ukraine's border and preparing to join Russia's fight against Ukraine in the coming days. Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy on Friday urged allies to stop just "watching" and take steps before North Korean troops deployed in Russia reach the battlefield. According to US, South Korean and Ukrainian intelligence assessments, North Korea was estimated to have moved about 10,000-12,000 troops to Russia. If they start fighting against Ukraine forces, it would mark North Korea's first participation in a large-scale conflict since the end of the 1950-53 Korean War. North Korean leader Kim Jong Un has used the Russia-Ukraine war as a way to expand defense and economic cooper-

ation with Russia in the face of an intensifying US-led pressure campaign against his advancing nuclear program. The US, South Korea and others accuse North Korea of having already exported artillery shells, missiles and other conventional arms to Russia. In the past two years, Kim has also ramped up tests of nuclear-capable missile systems, as Russia and China have repeatedly blocked US-led attempts to toughen international sanctions on North Korea over its testing activities in defiance of UN bans. North Korea has also pushed to sever relations and abandon its long-standing goal of reconciliation with South Korea. In a background briefing with local media Monday, South Korea's military said North Korea has built anti-tank, trench-like structures at two sites near the Korea's heavily armed border, where it blew up northern parts of unused cross-border road and rail routes last month in a display of anger toward South Korea. One of the sites is on the western portion

of the border and the other on the eastern section. Details of the briefing were shared with The Associated Press. The structure at the eastern part of the border was assessed to be 160 meters (524 feet) long while the one at the western part of the border was about 120 meters (393 feet) long, according to the South Korean military briefing. In a war situation, the North could easily fill up the trenches with piles of dirt nearby to create routes to invade the South, according to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Recent commercial satellite images suggest that the work on the trenches began shortly after North Korea staged choreographed demolitions of a road near the western North Korean border city of Kaesong and a combined road and rail section near the Korea's eastern border on Oct. 15. Last week, North Korea test-launched an intercontinental ballistic missile designed to attack the U.S. mainland for the first time in almost a year.

# Chinese astronauts return safely after six months in space station

PTI ■ BEIJING

Three Chinese astronauts who spent six months developing China's low orbit space station returned to Earth safely early Monday, the China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) said. The capsule of the spaceship Shenzhou-18 carrying astronauts Ye Guangfu, Li Cong and Li Guangsu, touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region at 1:24 am (Beijing Time). The three astronauts, after staying in orbit for 192 days, were all in good health and the Shenzhou-18 manned mission was a success, the CMSA said. Ye, the Shenzhou-18 mission commander, has become the

first Chinese astronaut with an accumulative spaceflight time of more than a year, setting a new record for the longest duration of stay in orbit by a Chinese astronaut. He served as a crew member in the Shenzhou-13 mission from October 2021 to April 2022. The capsule of the spaceship Shenzhou-18 carrying astronauts Ye Guangfu, Li Cong and Li Guangsu, touched down at the Dongfeng landing site in north China's Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region at 1:24 am (Beijing Time). The three astronauts, after staying in orbit for 192 days, were all in good health and the Shenzhou-18 manned mission was a success, the CMSA said. Ye, the Shenzhou-18 mission commander, has become the

good cheer to our busy work," Li was quoted by state-run Xinhua news agency. China launched the Shenzhou-18 manned spaceship in April this year. During the mission, the Shenzhou-18 crew utilised the scientific experiment cabinets and extravehicular payloads to carry out dozens of experiments in the fields of basic physics in microgravity, space material science, space life science, space medicine and space technology, Xinhua report said. The three were relieved by another set of three Chinese astronauts, including a woman who docked with the orbiting space station on October 30. China changes crew for the station every six months. China built its space station

after it was reportedly excluded from the International Space Station (ISS) over concerns that China's space programme is manned by its military, the People's Liberation Army, (PLA). The two robotic arms of the station, especially the long one which has the ability to grab objects including satellites from space, drew international concerns. Early this month China announced its plans for the further development of space programmes which included launching a manned lunar mission, construction of a lunar space station, exploration of habitable planets and extra-terrestrial life to expand its space programme in the next few decades.

# Turkiye ousts 3 pro-Kurdish mayors from office; replaces them with state officials

AP ■ ANKARA

Turkiye on Monday removed three elected pro-Kurdish mayors from office over terrorism-related charges and replaced them with state-appointed officials, the Interior Ministry said. The move, which comes days after the arrest and ouster from office of a mayor from the country's main opposition party for his alleged links to a banned Kurdish militant group, is seen as a hardening of President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's government's policies toward the opposition. It also raises questions about the prospects of a tentative new peace effort to end a 40-year conflict between the militant group and the state that has led to tens of thousands of deaths. The mayors of the mainly Kurdish-populated provincial capitals of Mardin and Batman, as well as the district mayor for Halfeti, in Saniurfa province, were ousted from office over their past convictions or ongoing trials and investigations for links to the banned Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, according to an Interior Ministry statement. The mayor are members of the pro-Kurdish Peoples' Equality and Democracy Party, or DEM, which is the third-largest party represented in Parliament. They were elected to office in local elections in March. Last month, the leader of the far-right nationalist party that's

allied with Erdogan had raised the possibility that the PKK's imprisoned leader could be granted parole if he renounces violence and disbands his organisation. His comments had sparked discussion and speculation about a potential peace effort. Ozgur Ozel, the leader of

Turkiye's main opposition party, CHP, branded the mayors' removal from office as a "a coup" and accused Erdogan of seizing "municipalities" he could not win in the elections. Politicians and members of Turkey's pro-Kurdish movement have frequently been targeted over alleged links to the

PKK, which is considered a terror organisation by Turkey, the US and the European Union. Legislators have been stripped of their parliamentary seats and mayors removed from office. Several lawmakers as well as thousands of party members have been jailed on terror-related charges since 2016.

# Japan successfully launches defence satellite carried by new H3 rocket

AP ■ TOKYO

Japan launched a defence satellite aimed at speedier communication and military operations on a new flagship H3 rocket on Monday and successfully placed it into orbit, as the country seeks to build up its military capability amid growing tension in the region. The H3 No. 4 rocket lifted off from the Tanegashima Space Centre on a southwestern Japanese island. Everything went as planned and the satellite was successfully put into a targeted orbit, the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA, announced. The rocket was carrying a Defense Ministry satellite, Kirameki No. 3, which uses X-band communication for information and data sharing, as well as military operations and command. X-band satellite is less affected by weather conditions and is capable of supporting stable communication. Kirameki No. 3 follows two earlier X-band satellites already in operation to meet Japan's growing communication demands and enhance its satellite operations. Maj. Gen. Yasuhiro Kato, the

Joint Staff Systems Department chief, told an online joint news conference from Tanegashima that the triple X-band communication satellite system would enable high-speed, large-capacity data transmission and communication across Japan's Ground, Maritime and Air Self Defence Forces, as well as with units deployed overseas on peacekeeping missions or exercises. "It will further contribute to Japan's national security and the operational capacity of the Self Defence Forces," Kato said. Ipeki Kikuta, an Acquisition, Technology and Logistics Agency official, said Kirameki No. 3 will start operations by the end of March after being shifted to a designated geostationary orbit above Japan and tested, joining forces with the two other X-band satellites, Kirameki No. 1 and No. 2, which are in undisclosed locations. Japan is accelerating its military strategy that calls for Japanese troops to play a greater role in regional defense amid rising tension from China, North Korea and Russia. Monday's launch was initially

planned for October 20 and came after four postponements due to a technical glitch and bad weather. Kato said the delay had no impact on Japan's security and defence activity. JAXA President Hiroshi Yamakawa said he felt "relieved" that the H3 rocket was able to successfully deliver the satellite to its planned location after the two-week delay. The launch was the third consecutive successful flight of the H3 system after the shocking failed debut flight last year when the rocket had to be destroyed with its payload. Japan sees a stable, commercially competitive space transport capability as key to its space program and national security. JAXA and its main contractor, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, have been developing the H3 launch system as a successor to its current mainstay, H-2A, which is set to retire after two more flights. MHI will eventually take over H3 production and launches from JAXA and hopes to make it commercially viable by cutting the launch cost to about half of the H-2A.

# Moldova's president wins 2nd term

AP ■ CHISINAU (MOLDOVA)

Moldova's pro-Western President Maia Sandu has won a second term in a pivotal presidential runoff against a Russia-friendly opponent, in a race that was overshadowed by claims of Russian interference, voter fraud, and intimidation in the European Union candidate country. With nearly 98% of votes counted in the second round of the presidential election held Sunday, Sandu had 54% of the vote, according to the Central Electoral Commission, or CEC, compared to 46% for Alexandr Stoianoglo, a former prosecutor general who was backed by the pro-Russia Party of Socialists. The result will be a major relief for the pro-Western government, which strongly backed Sandu's candidacy, and her push for closer Western ties on Moldova's path toward the EU. "Moldova, you are victorious! Today, dear Moldovans, you have given a lesson in democracy, worthy of being written in history books. Today, you have saved Moldova! In our choice for a dignified future, no one lost," Sandu said.

# PUBLIC NOTICE

I am Aliza Irshad, a resident of A-135, Sector-27, Noida, District Gautam Budh Nagar (UP). My mother Shagufta Irshad wife Mohd Irshad and father Mohd Irshad son of Shri M.N. Khan resident of A-135, Sector-27, Noida district Gautam Budh Nagar UP. I declare that my name address, mother's and father's name are correct.

**Aliza Irshad**

# PUBLIC NOTICE

My client SH. VINOD CHOUDHARY S/O CHHOTY LAL. R/o: S-635 A, SCHOOL BLOCK, GALI NO-5 SHAKARPUR, EAST DELHI-110022. Do hereby inform to public at large through this Public Notice that one of the Director in Jagjari Infrastructures Pvt. Ltd. (CIN: HK29ND0220BPT0155709) namely RAJESH LAMBA S/o Sh. Brij Mohan Lamba R/o: S-61-562, Double Storey, New Rajender Nagar Delhi-110052, who absconding/missing and untraceable since a long time from his duties as director towards company's. This absence, without any formal communication or justification, is a serious violation of the company's rules and regulations as well as his fiduciary duties as a director under the Companies Act 2013. His prolonged absence has caused significant disruption to the company's operations and decision-making processes, if any liabilities occurred during the course of his Directorship by his act whatsoever, belongs to whosoever. My client will not be responsible for any of his acts whether in past, present or in future during the course of his directorship and before the joining of my client as a director in this company.

A. S ASSOCIATES Advocates & Consultants, Ch. no. 348, Civil Side, Tis Hazari Court, New Delhi-110054.

# GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY, AMRITSAR

**Tender Notice Reference No.GNDU/Gen/73/2024**  
The Department of G.N.D.U. Amritsar invites online bids for the following:  
Sr. No.1  
Item: Printing of 32 Pages Answer Book, 16 Pages Answer Book and 08 Pages Practical Answer Book  
Quantity: 06 Lac  
Closing date & time: 14-11-2024 at 5:00 p.m.  
For details log onto [www.eproc.punjab.gov.in](http://www.eproc.punjab.gov.in)  
Note: Any corrigendum/s to the tender notice shall be published on the above website only.  
NA/12/26097/2023/38727  
Dated CHD - 11/4/2024

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Information is given to general public at large that Shyam Singh S/o Rameshchander who is/are purchasing Prop. No. RZ-483A/2 Gali No. 13 land area measuring 100 sq. yds. Kharsa No. 504 Tughlakabad Extn New Delhi from Vijay Rani Goyal W/o Ram Rattan Goyal who was the owner by virtue of Regd. Will (Document No. 25743), SPA & ATS dated 19.06.1991 executed by Prem Nath Kataria S/o T.R. Kataria. Intend to mortgage the same against the financial assistance from Shubham Housing Development Finance Company Limited. Original Regd. Will (Document No. 25743) & ATS dated 19.06.1991 is not available with seller i.e. Vijay Rani Goyal W/o Ram Rattan Goyal. To comply the requirements of BANK/NBFC, we give this public notice that if any person/s having any objection regarding ownership and/or creating mortgage of the said property is/are hereby requested to intimate in writing to the undersigned within 07 days at below address.  
NCR LAW ASSOCIATES (Advocates) & Consultants A-98, Sector-9, New Vijay Nagar, Ghazalabad, (U.P.)-201009. Mob. No. 9999721152/ 9999826427.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given to the public at large that my client Sh. Naqee Khan S/o Late Mohd. Ishaque R/o S-5/7-a, Nafis Road, Jogajab Extension, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 has disowned and disinherited his wife Farhat Bano and all four children (one daughter and three sons) from all his movable and immovable properties assets and deposits in all respects including property/properties in Delhi or native place at Bihar and had also ended/severed all relations and social affairs as the said wife along with four children had left my clients company in the intervening night of 15/16.09.2024 and joined the company of Shob Khan, the brother-in-law of my client with whom my client has seen some objectionable photos with him which is Haram in Islam and they totally became unfaithful, disrespectful and disobedient and out of control and if she or any her children does any wrongful act/acts my client is not responsible for their wrong acts/ misdeeds and illegal activities.  
RIAZ MOHAMMAD (Advocate) Ch.No. C-177, C.L. Joseph Block, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054

**ISHAN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**  
CIN : L74899DL1995PLC069144  
Regd. Off: 607, Chiranjiv Tower 43 Nehru Place, New Delhi 110019  
Email: [marketing@ishangroup.co.in](mailto:marketing@ishangroup.co.in)  
Contact No. 120-4211766

# NOTICE OF EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

**Dear Shareholders,**  
Notice is hereby given that the Extraordinary General Meeting ("EGM") of Ishan International Limited (the "Company") will be held on Thursday, November 28, 2024, at 02:30 p.m. through Video Conferencing ("VC") and Other Audio-Visual Means ("OAVM"), to transact the following business: Special Business: To consider and, if thought fit, to pass a resolution regarding partial variation and deviation of Initial Public Offer ("IPO") proceeds from "General Corporate Expenses" to "Working Capital" as specified in the agenda of the meeting.

The detailed EGM Notice is dispatched electronically to all members at their registered email addresses and is also available on the Company's website at [www.ishanglobal.com](http://www.ishanglobal.com). Members are encouraged to attend and participate in the EGM via VC/OAVM.  
**For Ishan International Limited**  
Shantanu Srivastava  
Managing Director  
Date: 05.11.2024  
Place: New Delhi

# BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi

**TENDER NOTICE** Date: 05.11.2024

Sealed tenders under two parts (Un priced & priced) are invited for the supply of following materials from all bidders:-

NIT No.	Brief Tender Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & Time of Opening
CMC/BR/24-25/FK/PR/FH/1227	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY & INSTALLATION OF END TERMINATION & STRAIGHT THROUGH CABLE JOINTING KITS OF VARIOUS SIZES OF CABLE SIZES 33 & 66KV	11.73 Cr.	11.73 Lakhs	25.11.2024 15:00 HRS	25.11.2024 15:30 HRS

Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 1180/-  
For any query call on 011-49107235 or e-mail on [Bpl.Eauction@relianceeda.com](mailto:Bpl.Eauction@relianceeda.com)  
For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission and tender documents etc. please visit our website [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com)  
Head (Contracts & Materials)  
Regd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 | Corporate Identification No.: U40109DL2001PL11527  
Telephone No.: +91 11 4910 7235 | Website: [www.bsesdelhi.com](http://www.bsesdelhi.com)

# Iran executes Jewish citizen

AP ■ TEHRAN

Iran on Monday executed a Jewish citizen convicted of murdering another man in 2022 following a person dispute, reports said. It was a rare case of an execution of member of a religious minority in the predominantly Muslim nation. Mizanonline.ir, a website affiliated with Iran's judiciary, said 23-year-old Arvin Ghahremani was put to death after the country's Supreme Court affirmed the capital punishment handed down in the case earlier last year. The report quoted Hamid Reza Karimi, the prosecutor of Kermanshah, as saying the court and the convicted man's lawyers and relatives had

failed to convince the victim's family to abstain from qisas — an act under Islamic penal code that calls for similar punishment, or an "eye for an eye" — and effectively pardon his killer. The victim's name was not provided. According to the report, Ghahremani attacked the victim outside a gym in Kermanshah in 2022 and stabbed the man several times following a dispute over money he had loaned the victim. Jewish citizens are a small minority in the country of 85 million. In 1999, Iran arrested 13 Jewish citizens, accusing them of spying for Israel and sentenced several to up to four years in prison.

# Bushra Bibi breaks down during court proceedings

PTI ■ ISLAMABAD

A court in Pakistan on Monday witnessed emotional scenes when jailed former premier Imran Khan's wife Bushra Bibi burst into tears, expressing her utter helplessness against the inefficient justice system and her husband's "unjust sentencing." The former first lady appeared before Islamabad District Magistrate Afzal Majoka's court to acquire bail for her husband in six cases and herself in another case, registered at Tarnol, Karachi Company, Ramna, Secretariat and Kohsar police stations. During the hearing held at the Adiala Jail in Rawalpindi, Khan was not produced in the court. He was also not allowed to appear through a video link. When Bushra took to the rostrum to speak, she became emotional. "I have been facing injustice by those responsible for serving justice for the past nine months. I and the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf founder were unjustly sentenced," she said. "There is no justice. I haven't come to seek justice," she sobbed, and even blamed lawyers, saying all lawyers, including the one representing her, "only waste the time." "The person inside [the prison], isn't he a human? Doesn't any judge see this?" she said, adding that she would not come to this court again, where "there is no justice."

**This may be published in Newspapers and TV from the day following the last date for withdrawal of candidature and upto two days before the date of poll**

**Format C-2**

(For political party to publish in website, newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal antecedents of candidates set up by the party (As per the judgment dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **Bharatiya Janata Party**\* Name of Election : **General Election To Vidhan Sabha 2024**Name of State/ UT : **Jharkhand**

1	2	3	4		5		
Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Name of candidate	(A) Pending criminal cases		(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences		
			Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s)	Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s)	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
1.	AC 14 Sarath	Shri Randhir Kumar Singh	SDJM, Dumka Deoghar Town PS Case No 363/2010 Charges Framed	u/s Section 224,225,143,353,341 IPC & Assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty	NA	NA	NA
2.			A.D.-I Deoghar Chitra PS Case No 34/2022 Charges Not Framed	U/s 353, 379, 313, 34 IPC & 13(1)(B) IE Act Offence of Theft & Assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty	NA	NA	NA
3.			Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi Lalpur PS Case No 203/24 Charges Not Framed	Section 191(2)(3)/190/115 (2)/117(2)/109/121(1)/125/132/324(2)/351(2)/352/61(2) of BNS Protest Against State Government, Protest Against State Government	NA	NA	NA

\*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.

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1.	AC 9 Jamtara	Smt. Sita Soren	NCLT, Kolkata C.P 219(K.B)-2019 Charges Not Framed	u/s 241 & 242 Companies Act, 2013 regarding Galudih Inn Pvt Ltd	NA	NA	NA
2.			ACJM, Ghatshila Ghatshila PS Case No 237/32 Charges Not Framed	u/s 403, 406, 480, 451, 452, 465, 467, 468, 477-A of IPC Cheating and Fraud	NA	NA	NA
3.			SDJM, CBI RAnchi cum spl magistrate CBI Regular CBI RC 2(S)/2014 Charges Framed	u/s 195(A), 323, 342, 365, 506 IPC For Kidnapping/abduction of Shri Vikas Kumar	NA	NA	NA
4.			Shri P.K Sharma, SPI. Judge CBI Ranchi Regular CBI RC 2(S)/2012 Charges Framed	u/s 120(B), 171E of IPC & u/s 13(2), 13(1)(D) of PCA For undue influence in the process of Biennial election of Rajya Sabha	NA	NA	NA

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1.	AC 28 Dhanwar	Shri Babulal Marandi	SDJM Ranchi Doranda PS Case No 152/2018 Charges Not Framed	u/s 120(B), 193, 420, 468, 469, 471, 474 of IPC	NA	NA	NA
2.			JMFC Chalkusha PS Case No 18/2018 Charges Not Framed	u/s 193, 194, 420, 467, 46, 471, 120(B) IPC	NA	NA	NA
3.			CJM Chainpur PS Case No 145/2018 Charges Not Framed	u/s 193, 468, 469, 471, 474, 420, 120(B) of IPC	NA	NA	NA
4.			CJM Saria PS Case No 106/201 Charges Not Framed	u/s 120(B), 193, 420, 468, 469, 471, 474 IPC	NA	NA	NA
5.			CJM Tisri PS Case No 44/2018 Charges Not Framed	u/s 153A(1)(a), 500, 504, 505 of IPC	NA	NA	NA
6.			CJM Ramgarh PS Case No 196/2023 Charges Not Framed	u/s 500, 504, 505(2) IPC	NA	NA	NA
7.			CJM Lohardaga PS Case No 249/2023 Charges Not Framed	u/s 505(2) IPC	NA	NA	NA
8.			MP/MLA Kanke PS Case No 210/2023 Charges Not Framed	u/s 500, 504, 505 of IPC	NA	NA	NA
9.			MP/MLA Madhupur PS Case No 176/2023 Charges Not Framed	u/s 153A(1)(a), 500, 504, 505 IPC	NA	NA	NA
10.			CJM Simdega PS Case No 104/2023 Charges Not Framed	u/s 500, 504, 505 IPC	NA	NA	NA
11.			MP/MLA Lalpur PS Case No 203/2024 Charges Not Framed	u/s 191(2)(3), 190, 115(2), 117(2), 109, 121(1), 125, 132, 124(2), 352, 61(2) of BNS	NA	NA	NA
12.			JMFC Nagri PS Case No 185/2024 Charges Not Framed	u/s 223, 356(2), 351(2)(3) of BNS	NA	NA	NA
13.			JMFC Ratu PS Case No 324/2024 Charges Not Framed	u/s 223, 356(2), 351(2)(3) BNS	NA	NA	NA
14.			JMFC Sikidiri PS Case No 32/2024, Charges Not Framed	u/s 223, 356(2), 352 BNS	NA	NA	NA
15.			MP/MLA Barhait PS Case No 104/2023 Charges Not Framed	u/s 500, 504, 505(2) IPC	NA	NA	NA

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# MAN UNITED MAKES ITS WORST LEAGUE START IN ALMOST 40 YEARS

**AP ■ MANCHESTER**  
A tumultuous week for Manchester United ended with a 1-1 draw against Chelsea and the unwanted statistic that the club has made its worst league start for almost 40 years. Moises Caicedo's stunning long-range volley secured a point for Chelsea and left United on 12 points which Opta, the Premier League's stats supplier, said was its lowest after 10 games since the 1986-87 season. That was the year Alex Ferguson was hired and went on to lead the club to a period of unprecedented success, winning 13 Premier League titles and two Champions Leagues. United fans will have to hope that is a good omen after Erik ten Hag was fired this week and replaced by Ruben Amorim. "Whenever you see a manager go you have to take some of the blame on yourself, it is because the team is not doing so well," United captain Bruno Fernandes said Sunday. "I spoke to the manager (Ten Hag) and apologized to him. I was disappointed he has gone and I tried to help him." Fernandes fired United ahead from the penalty spot in the 70th minute against Chelsea as interim head coach Ruud van

Nistelrooy looked to win back-to-back games during his temporary reign, having beaten Leicester 5-2 in the League Cup on Wednesday. But in front of the watching Olivia Rodrigo, Caicedo's strike from the edge of the box four minutes later ensured the points were shared. "I think we did the most difficult thing in this stadium against this team ... We were down and we came back immediately," Chelsea head coach Enzo Maresca said. Chelsea moved up to fourth in the standings, ahead of Arsenal on goal difference, while United is six points behind in 13th and playing catchup in the race for Champions League qualification. Tottenham beat Aston Villa 4-1 earlier in the day. Ten Hag was fired on Monday and while Amorim has been confirmed as his replacement, he does not take charge until Nov. 11. Van Nistelrooy is holding the reins until then and for a short while was making top-flight management look relatively simple. Fernandes' penalty put United in sight of a win that would have moved it to within four points of the top four. That was until Caicedo's strike. "I am disappointed we didn't win, we had the better of the chances in the game but overall



the performance was fantastic. They left their all out there on the pitch," Van Nistelrooy said. The Dutchman's future is unclear once Amorim takes over. But he has two games - against PAOK Salonika in the Europa League and Leicester in

the league - until he hands over to the new head coach. "We'll be backing him (Amorim) and helping them to get Manchester United to where we want it to be," Van Nistelrooy said. **SPURS THRASH VILLA:**

Dominic Solanke scored twice as Tottenham thrashed Aston Villa 4-1. The forward struck two goals in the space of four second-half minutes at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium after Villa had led at the break.

Solanke scored in the 75th and 79th as Spurs produced a stunning second-half performance to follow up its victory against Manchester City in the League Cup on Wednesday. Morgan Rogers had given

Champions League-chasing Villa the lead in the 32nd minute, but Brennan Johnson leveled the game four minutes after the break. Solanke's double put Spurs 3-1 ahead and James Maddison curled a free kick into the top

corner in the sixth minute of added time. Solanke is now on five goals for the season. Tottenham is up to seventh in the standings, while sixth-place Villa missed out on the chance to move into the top three. **GRUDGE MATCH:** AFC Wimbledon beat MK Dons 2-0 in the first round of the FA Cup and took bragging rights in one of English soccer's fiercest grudge matches. Matty Stevens and Omar Bugiel scored either side of halftime at Stadium MK in a competition that holds deep ties for fans of both clubs. Wimbledon was a shock winner of the Cup in 1988 when beating the mighty Liverpool 1-0. The team relocated to Milton Keynes in 2002 and was renamed MK Dons, which prompted disgruntled fans to create a phoenix club called AFC Wimbledon. And it was the traveling AFC Wimbledon fans who were left celebrating Sunday after securing its place in the next round of the Cup. **WREXHAM LOSES:** There will be no Cup run for Wrexham this season after losing 1-0 at Harrogate Town. Jack Muldoon's goal in the 24th minute was enough to seal victory for Harrogate, which plays in the fourth tier of English soccer, one division below Wrexham.



## Gauff beats Pegula at WTA Finals while Swiatek prevails in her first match in two months

**AP ■ RIYADH**  
Coco Gauff enjoyed a successful start by beating Jessica Pegula 6-3, 6-2 in an American matchup at the WTA Finals. Second-seeded Iga Swiatek rallied to beat Barbora Krejickova 4-6, 7-5, 6-2 in her first match in two months. Gauff converted five of her eight break-point opportunities to win her opening match at the year-ending tournament for the top eight ranked players. "I thought we both were playing high level," Gauff said. "I just think I was able to break through on the more important points." Gauff will face Swiatek on Tuesday with the winner taking control of the Orange Group. Pegula will next face Wimbledon champion Krejickova. Swiatek, who arrived at the WTA Finals with a new coach, hadn't played a match since losing to Pegula in

straight sets in the U.S. Open quarterfinals in September. "Even though I played a lot of those (practice) matches, I kind of forgot for a while how it is to feel all those things, a bit different stress and emotions," Swiatek said. "For sure, I needed some time to adapt. The most important thing was that even though it happened, I managed to fight through that. And was patient enough to wait to get better." Swiatek rallied from 3-0 down in the second set to turn it around against Krejickova, who has been hit by injuries and had played only 29 matches coming into the finals. Seven of them were victories at Wimbledon. On Saturday, top-ranked Aryna Sabalenka eased to a straight-set victory over Zheng Qinwen in the opening match of the finals in Saudi Arabia. Fourth-seeded Jasmine Paolini of Italy beat fifth-seeded Elena Rybakina in the other Purple Group match.

## Dani Olmo leads Barcelona to city derby win over Espanyol

**AP ■ MADRID**  
Dani Olmo made the most out of his return as a starter with Barcelona, scoring twice to lead the Catalan club to a 3-1 win over Espanyol in the city derby on Sunday in the Spanish league. Raphinha also scored for Barcelona, which a week ago had routed Real Madrid 4-0 in the clasico at the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium. Barcelona is now nine points ahead of Madrid, whose game at Valencia on Saturday was postponed because of the deadly floods that killed more than 200 people in southern Spain last week. The game between Villarreal and Rayo Vallecano also was postponed, as were three second-division games scheduled to be played in the region this weekend. The victory extended Barcelona's 27-match unbeaten streak against Espanyol in the league. Espanyol, sitting in 17th place, has lost six of its last seven league matches. Olmo scored his double in his return as a starter after hurting his right hamstring on Sept. 15 against Girona. He had come off the bench in the team's wins



against Bayern Munich in the Champions League and Madrid in the Spanish league. "I was excited about coming back," Olmo said. "I'm feeling well. It was important to keep winning." He put Barcelona ahead in the 12th minute from close range after a neat cross by Lamine Yamal with the outside of his left foot. Olmo's second goal came with a strike from outside the area in the 31st. In his first season with Barcelona, Olmo now has five goals in five matches. Raphinha added to the lead in the 23rd by redirecting the ball into the net with one touch after Marc Casado's long cross into the area.

Barcelona has outscored its league opponents 40-11 in 12 matches. Madrid has the second-best attack with 21 goals scored. "We are a team that can score a lot, not only with our strikers but also with the players in the second line," Olmo said. "We play very direct and create many opportunities." Espanyol thought it had moved closer in the 27th but Jofre Carrera's goal was called off after video review because of offside. It also had a goal by Alvaro Tejero disallowed for offside in the 58th, then Javi Puado finally scored a goal that counted in the 63rd. Barcelona also had a goal called off in stoppage time.

Before the match, Barcelona honored those who received awards at the Ballon d'Or ceremony last week, including Yamal, who earned the Kopa Trophy award for best Under-21 player, and Aitana Bonmati, who won the award for the world's best woman soccer player. Barcelona also won the best women's team prize. There was also a moment of silence in honor of the flood victims, which has taken place at all league matches this weekend. **SIMEONE'S SON SCORES:** Giuliano Simeone, son of Atletico Madrid coach Diego Simeone, scored his first goal with the club in the team's 2-0 win against Las Palmas. The goal came more than 20 years after Simeone's last league goal with the club as a player. Alexander Sorloth netted Atletico's second goal on Sunday, helping move the club back to third place, 10 points behind Barcelona. **OTHER RESULTS:** Sixth-place Athletic Bilbao drew 1-1 against Real Betis, while 10th-place Real Sociedad won 2-0 at Sevilla with goals from Takefusa Kubo and Mikel Oyarzabal.



## Delhi SG Pipers sign Australian Olympian Jacob Whetton

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**  
Delhi SG Pipers on Monday announced the signing of three-time Olympian Jacob 'Jake' Whetton of Australia for the upcoming Hockey India League season. The 33-year-old midfielder will be replacing Dutchman Jorrit Croon, who has pulled out due to an ankle injury. "It's never easy to replace a player of Jorrit Croon's calibre. Unfortunately, his recovery from the ankle injury isn't progressing as hoped, which has led us to make this difficult decision," Delhi's head coach Graham Reid stated in a release. "On a brighter note, I am thrilled to welcome Jacob Whetton to the SG Delhi Pipers for the 2024 season. Jacob's experience and skill set will be invaluable in filling the void left by Jorrit. "His ability to control the midfield aligns perfectly with our game strategy, and I have known Jacob since 2009, so he

is well-acquainted with my coaching style. I'm excited about the energy and expertise he will bring to our team." Whetton has a wealth of experience with him, featuring in 253 games for the Kookaburras, netting 75 goals, and also helping the side win the silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics. Besides, the Queenslander also won the World Cup in 2014 and helped his team finish third four years later. He also helped his side win gold medals at the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow 2014, Gold Coast 2018 and Birmingham 2022. Whetton has also won Champions Trophy twice (2012 and 2018) and a bronze in 2014. He also has four Oceania Cup titles and an FIH Pro League gold (2019). The HIL is returning after a seven-year hiatus and will run from December 28-February 1.

## IPL auction set to be held in Riyadh at end of November

**PTI ■ NEW DELHI**  
The Indian Premier League's high-profile auction will be held in the Saudi Arabian capital city of Riyadh in the last week of this month, sources in the BCCI confirmed on Monday. "The IPL auctions will be held in Riyadh and it has been



notified to the franchises. The likely dates are November 24 and 25," a BCCI source told PTI on conditions of anonymity. This year's auction is a mega one with high profile India stars like Rishabh Pant, KL Rahul, Shreyas Iyer and Arshdeep Singh are going to go under the hammer.

The 10 franchises will collectively have around Rs 641.5 crore to spend for 204 slots that are available. Out of those 204 slots, 70 are earmarked for overseas players. As of now, 46 players have been retained by the 10 franchises with cumulative expenditure of Rs 558.5 crore.

# Red Bull's Verstappen nears 4th straight F1 title

**AP ■ SAO PAULO**  
Red Bull driver Max Verstappen took a major step toward securing his fourth straight F1 title by winning the Brazilian Grand Prix, despite starting 17th, and increasing his lead over McLaren's Lando Norris with three more races remaining. The Dutchman could secure the trophy in Las Vegas later this month. All he needs to do is to finish ahead of the McLaren driver. Other combinations could also secure the title for the 27-year-old. In one of the best drives of his career, Verstappen overcame punishments before the race as well as the wet weather at Interlagos to earn his first victory since June, and his eighth Grand Prix win of the year. He won by almost 20 seconds and also clocked the fastest lap at Interlagos 17 times during the race to receive an extra point. The Dutchman increased his

lead from 44 to 62 points over Norris, who won Saturday's sprint race. Norris started in pole position but finished in a disappointing sixth position. He avoided losing more points in an investigation by stewards, who fined him and Mercedes' George Russell 5,000 euros (\$5,440) for breaching the FIA's start procedure. Verstappen had been on course for a tough weekend in Sao Paulo. He received a five-place grid punishment after changing his engine for the sixth time in the season - the maximum allowed is four. He lost one point in Saturday's sprint race because of another penalty. And then his qualifying session earlier on Sunday was interrupted when he was 12th and trying to clock a fast lap to reach the final part of the session. "My emotions today were a roller coaster," Verstappen said after the race. "We stayed out of trouble, we made the right calls and we were flying." Verstappen said later at a press

conference that winning in Brazil was "incredibly important" in his bid for a fourth title and that he had been expecting to see his overall lead reduced. "It felt like I was driving a boat," Verstappen joked. When asked about what he expects next, he said: "I just want clean races, that's all. I am not thinking about clinching the championship in Vegas or whatever." After the Las Vegas GP on Nov. 23, there are races in Qatar (Dec. 1) and Abu Dhabi (Dec. 8), with a combined total of 86 points available. The two Alpine drivers, Esteban Ocon and Pierre Gasly, completed the podium. Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, who started the race with a long shot at the drivers' title, finished fifth. F1 governing body FIA had rescheduled the qualifying session for 7:30 a.m. Local time (10:30 GMT) Sunday after heavy rain on Saturday. The start of the Grand Prix was



brought forward from 2 p.m. To 12:30 p.m. (15:30 GMT), while many in the paddock still wondered whether the drivers would take their cockpits at all during the morning.

The tense race under rain in Sao Paulo had an aborted start when Aston Martin's Lance Stroll went off the formation lap. Norris could not hold his first position in the

first turn, losing it to Russell. The McLaren driver struggled until the end of the race to find his line under the rain, which Verstappen clearly managed to do from the start, finding grip

where others couldn't in the inside of the track. The big boost for Verstappen, and possibly a key moment in the drivers' championship, came when Haas driver Nico Hulkenberg spun off in the 27th of 69 laps. A virtual safety car came in and many drivers chose to go to their pit lanes but Verstappen, Ocon and Gasly opted not to stop and the gamble paid off. Five laps later, to the huge disappointment of about 10,000 Argentinian fans at Interlagos, Williams driver Franco Colapinto crashed. That meant a red flag, only minutes after leaders Russell and Norris had pitted. Ocon, Verstappen and Gasly changed their tires without losing their places, putting Norris under even bigger pressure to deliver. "It was the right time to box," Norris said after the race. "We were just unlucky." "I did all I could today. That's all. Max won the race. Good on him, well done but it doesn't

change anything for me," he added. Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton, who finished 10th, also praised Verstappen's performance under rain in Sao Paulo. "An amazing drive, congrats," the seven-time champion said on Instagram. Hulkenberg was disqualified after receiving a rare black flag before the restart because he had gotten assistance from marshals to return to the track. The bumpy track at Interlagos was under fire from drivers, with Aston Martin's Fernando Alonso receiving treatment for back pains after the race. Earlier, in the most emotional moment of the weekend at Interlagos, many fans on the stands cried when Hamilton drove the late Ayrton Senna's title-winning car ahead of the race. The seven-time champion took some laps under falling rain in the historic McLaren MP4/5B that Senna drove during his 1990 title campaign, in which he beat Ferrari's Alain Prost.

# Series defeat against NZ will impact India's performance against Aussies: Gilchrist, Warner

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Australian legends Adam Gilchrist and David Warner have little doubt that Indian players' psyche would have been scarred after the recent whitewash at home by New Zealand, but they said it will be naive to consider Rohit Sharma's side "easy beats" in the five-Test Border-Gavaskar Trophy, beginning at Perth from November 22.

The Tom Latham-led Kiwis blanked India 3-0, marking one of the lowest points in their Test history, also denting the chances of qualifying for the World Test Championship (WTC) final next year.

"It does (series defeat has an impact), more for the Indian players and the Indian team internally. They have to be asking themselves pretty hard questions," former wicketkeeper batter Gilchrist told Fox Sports.

"But I'm not expecting them to come out and be easy beats, but I do think on the back of that loss and the fact that it



was a clean sweep - I cannot remember when that's happened to them, just losing a series, let alone a clean sweep - I think that will raise some questions internally.

"The pressure and the expectation and the desire from a passionate cricketing nation to see that change around, that'll ride heavily on those shoulders of all those players." Gilchrist said India has the wherewithal to regroup after the heavy setback. "There are a few ageing players (with the Indian team)

who may start to even second guess themselves a little bit. There're some high-class cricketers in that Indian squad. It's going to be fascinating to see how they rebound from that challenge," he added.

**WE NEED RUNS AGAINST BUMRAH, SIRAJ:** Warner said the series defeat against the Black Caps will certainly be playing in Indian cricketers' minds.

"It (the series defeat) helps the Australian guys. They're coming here after being beaten at home 3-0 for five

Tests against the Australian boys, (who have) three world class quicks and a world class spin bowler, and I'd be nervous if I'm in they're batting order. I would be nervous," said Warner.

The left-hander felt that countering pacers Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj would be key to Australia's success in the upcoming series.

"The Australian top order needs to make runs against Bumrah and Siraj who are their spearheads. I think if Australia can get through those two gentlemen, there

could be some big runs put on the board.

"But we're going to have to come out with our chest out against India. We have lost our last two series here against India (and) they have got a lot to play for."

Warner also did not read too much into the modest form of Indian veterans like Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli.

"You have got Rohit Sharma, Virat Kohli, Ashwin, Jadeja. You got these guys there who are in the back end of their careers. So, there's a lot to play for there, and whether or not they finish their careers this

year or next year, they will want to finish on a high.

"I know those guys very, very well, and they will be so determined to come out here and score big runs." Former Australian batter Mark Waugh said India will miss the services of seamer Mohammed Shami, who is still recuperating from a surgery.

"If Mohammed Shami is not on the tour, that is a huge blow for India because I think their pace attack would worry us with Shami in there. He is a big loss," reckoned Waugh.

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**Format C-2**

(For political party to publish in website, newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal antecedents of candidates set up by the party (As per the judgment dated 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 of Hon'ble Supreme Court in WP (Civil) No. 536 of 2011 (Public Interest Foundation & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.)

Name of Political Party : **Bharatiya Janata Party**

\* Name of Election : **General Election To Vidhan Sabha 2024**

Name of State/ UT : **Jharkhand**

1	2	3	4	5			
Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Name of candidate	(A) Pending criminal cases	(B) Details about cases of conviction for criminal offences			
			Name of Court, case No. & status of the case(s)	Sections of the Acts concerned & brief description of offence(s)	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
1.	AC 35 Bermo	Shri Ravindra Pandey	Rishi Kumar JMFC, Dhanbad ; Complaint Case No 410/2022 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 376, 511, 34 IPC ; Uttering any word or making gesture intended to insult the modesty of women	NA	NA	NA

\*In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention the election concerned in place of name of constituency.

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1.	Litipara(ST) AC- 4	Shri Babudhan Murmu	S.D.J.M, Pakur Pakur Malpahari PS Case No 190/2021 Charges Not Framed	u/s 4/54 J.M.M.C.R, u/s 4/21 M.M.D.R, u/s 4/5 Explosive Substances Act Offences relating to Minor Minerals Concession	NA	NA	NA
2			Principal District & Session Judge, Pakur Malpahari PS Case No 166/2021/ ST 139/2023 Charges Framed	u/s 287/290/337/338/30 4/34 I.P.C Offence relating to public nuisance	NA	NA	NA

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1.	AC 39 Nirsra	Smt. Aparna Sengupta	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Lalpur PS Case No 203/24; Charges Not Framed	u/s 191(2)(3)/190/115 (2)/117(2)/109/121 (1)/125/132/324(2)/ 351(2)/352/61(2) of BNS Protest Against State Government, Section	NA	NA	NA

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1.	AC 2 Borio(ST)	Shri Lobin Hembrom	CJM, Godda ; GODDA MUFASSIL PS Case No 134/2014 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 43, 188, 171(E) of IPC & RPA S 36 MCC Violation	NA	NA	NA

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