



the pioneer

Established 1865

RANCHI, WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹3

www.dailypioneer.com

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

INSIDE

SPORTS 11
CHENNAI GRAND MASTERS: TOP RANKED ERIGAISSI TO FACE GUJARATHI IN OPENING ROUND



सहारा
के किसी भी जमाकर्ता की नहीं डूबेगी कमाई

भाजपा
वापस दिलाएगी पाई-पाई

रोटी बेटी माटी की पुकार
झारखंड में भाजपा सरकार

कमल का बटन दबाएं भाजपा को जिताएं

भारतीय जनता पार्टी, झारखंड प्रदेश

Another encounter, high alert winter in Kashmir

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

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

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

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

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

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



FILE-PHOTO

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

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

terrorists pinned down in the thickly forested area of Kaitsan. Meanwhile, Sinha warned on Tuesday that the houses of those providing shelter to terrorists would be razed to the ground as he asked people to stand up against the perpetrators of terror. He also said if security forces, the Union Territory administration and people come together, then terrorism could be eliminated from the region in a year.

I have directed the forces not to harm any innocent but the culprits will not be spared. If anyone provides shelter to terrorists, then his house will be razed to the ground. There will be no compromise on it," the LG said at a function in north Kashmir's Baramulla district.

In a veiled reference to some of the politicians vocal on the issue, Sinha said some people make statements that atrocities are being committed on those providing shelter to terrorists. "However, this is not an atrocity, but a demand for justice and such justice will continue," he added.

Sinha said some people are trying to disrupt the peace in Jammu and Kashmir. "Our neighbour is trying, but it does not worry us. It is the people here who are doing it on its directions (that is a cause of concern). It is not just the job of the security forces and the administration but the people as well to identify such people," he said. He added that if the forces, administration and people come together, then "it (terrorism) will not remain here for more than a year. But if the people give them shelter and then say we are doing injustice to them, then that is not right."

We have upheld validity of UP Madrasa Law: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

The order came as a big relief to teachers and students of UP Madrasas as the High Court had ordered closure of the seminaries and relocation of students to other schools in the state. On March 22, the High Court declared the Act as "unconstitutional" and violative of the principle of secularism, and asked the State Government to accommodate madrasa students in the formal schooling system. In a breather for about 17 lakh Madrasa students, the SC stayed the HC order on April 5.

The three Judge Bench of the SC said the legislative scheme of the law was to standardise the level of education being prescribed in Madrasas. The bench heard a battery of lawyers including senior advocates Abhishek Manu Singhvi, P Chidambaram, Mukul Rohatgi, representing petitioners against the HC verdict.

The SC said that a law can be struck down for violation of fundamental rights under part III of the Constitution or on grounds of legislative competence but not for violation of basic structure. "Statute can be struck down only for violation of part III or legislative competence and not for violating basic structure."

Who will be the next POTUS?

AP ■ WASHINGTON

A presidential campaign marked by upheaval and rancour approached its finale on Election Day as Americans decided whether to send Donald Trump back to the White House or elevate Kamala Harris to the Oval Office.

Polls opened across the nation on Tuesday morning as voters faced a stark choice between two candidates who have offered drastically different temperaments and visions for the world's largest economy and dominant military power.

Harris, the Democratic vice president, stands to be the first female president if elected. She has promised to work across the aisle to tackle economic worries and other issues without radically departing from the course set by President Joe Biden. Trump, the Republican former president, has vowed to replace thousands of federal workers with loyalists, impose sweeping tariffs on allies and foes alike, and stage the largest deportation operation in US history.

The two candidates spent the waning hours of the campaign overlapping in Pennsylvania, the biggest battleground state. They were trying to energise their bases as well as Americans still on the fence or debating whether to vote at all.

"It's important, it's my civic duty and it's important that I vote for myself and I vote for the democracy and the country which I supported for 22 years of my life," said Ron Kessler, 54, an Air Force veteran from Pennsylvania who said he was voting for just the second time.



States cannot takeover all private properties: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

The majority verdict pronounced by the CJI Chandrachud overruled Justice Krishna Iyer's five-decade-old ruling that all privately-owned resources can be acquired by the State for distribution under Article 39(b) of the Constitution.

"We hold that not every resource owned by an individual can be considered a material resource of a community only because it meets the qualifier of material needs," said the majority of the judges led by CJI, supported by six Judges. The SC held that for a privately-owned property to qualify as a material resource of the community, it must meet certain tests first.

Speeding DTC bus mows down Delhi Policeman, IT student

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

Two days after two traffic policemen on duty were dragged on the bonnet of a car, two persons, including a Delhi Police constable, who was on a night patrolling duty, and a B.Tech student died in a gruesome incident after a Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) bus mowed them down on Monday night, near the Monastery Market in North Delhi due to over speeding.

The horror unfolded around 10.15 pm when a green DTC bus went out of control, climbing a pavement outside the Monastery Market on Ring road, and subsequently hitting a billboard pole. The impact of the collision was such that it knocked the billboard off from its base. The bus then hit a pedestrian and an on duty police constable of Civil Lines police station.

The vehicle finally came to a halt when it crossed the road, and crashed into a road divider. The crime scene revealed the severity of the disturbing incident with the



Photo: Ranjan Dimri/Pioneer

fallen pole, blood spilled on the road and the damaged bus that stood stranded in the middle of the road till it was towed in the late afternoon.

"The green DTC bus, operating on the route from Sarai Kale Khan to Nand Nagari via ISBT, developed some technical snag. Around 10.38 pm, the Police Control Room (PCR) received multiple calls claiming that the bus had swerved off the road near the Monastery Market, causing extensive damage and leaving two people critically injured," Deputy

Police (North) Raja Banthia stated.

However, according to the police sources, the bus was speeding when the incident occurred, and a blood sample of the driver has been sent to test if he was under the influence of alcohol.

The accident claimed two lives including that of the young Delhi Police Constable Victor, a resident of Nagaland, and had joined the service in 2019. He was posted at Civil Lines police station from June 2023. He was on his PCR motorcycle when the accident occurred.

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

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

With just days remaining until the November 20 Uttar Pradesh Assembly by-elections, the political sparring over slogans has intensified. Samajwadi Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav recently criticised Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's "batenge toh katenge" remark, calling it "the worst slogan in history". In response, Deputy Chief Minister Keshav Prasad Maurya accused the SP of supporting "jihadis" to secure votes.

The issue has drawn comments from leaders across the political spectrum, including Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati, who weighed in on the escalating rhetoric. Political analysts suggest that while the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) is appealing to religious sentiments, the SP aims to shift the focus toward caste-based solidarity through its PDA (backward, Dalit, and minority) framework. Maurya took to social media platform X, alleging that the SP's true agenda was to appease Muslims and "support jihadis" for vote-



bank politics. "SP's politics of dividing society through fronts like 'love jihad', 'land jihad', and 'vote jihad' reveals Akhilesh Yadav's so-called harmony claims," he posted. Maurya questioned if this was the PDA that Yadav promoted, declaring, "SP's true character and face have been exposed."

Meanwhile, a poster outside the SP office has reignited the debate. Displayed on Saturday night, it reads, "Mathadhis will divide and cut... PDA will unite and win" implying the SP's commitment to uniting marginalised communities against division. This follows Mayawati's own statement urging voters to align with the

BSP, dismissing the SP-BJP slogan battle as a distraction from real issues. The slogan originated when Adityanath introduced "batenge toh katenge" (if you divide, you will be cut off) during the Haryana elections, later endorsed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with the line "Ek hain toh safe hain" (if we are united, we are safe). Some attribute this messaging to the BJP's recent success in Haryana.

In response, SP chief Akhilesh Yadav took to social media with the counter-slogan "judenge toh jeetenge" (if we unite, we will win), emphasising positive politics. "In the interest of society, the Chief Minister

should rethink his negative outlook and consider changing his advisors," Yadav wrote, urging Adityanath to adopt a more inclusive approach. He added, "A good leader nurtures positive thoughts and keeps both his sleeves and arms open."

Yadav further commented on the role of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) in the by-elections, suggesting that its entry has unsettled both the BJP and SP, as both parties attempt to shift public focus with competing posters. Yadav stated, "Instead of divisive slogans, what is truly needed is a commitment to unity - if we join with the BSP, we will progress and remain safe."

Bihar Kokila Sharda Sinha passes away

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA ■ PATNA / NEW DELHI

"Chhatti Maiya ne apne paas bula liya Sharda ji ko", said 76-year-old Usha Rani, a resident of Bhagalpur in Bihar who had just observed the first day's rituals of the four-day Chhath Puja on Tuesday, with Sharda Sinha's folk songs for the occasion playing in the background and reverberating the festive



OCTOBER 1, 1952 NOVEMBER 5, 2024

ambience of her home, and bylanes of Tilka Majhi Chowk. Sinha's demise on the holy days of Chhath festive season leaves behind a bouquet of signature songs of Mahapary of the Poorvanchalis. Her songs have often forced many of them to head back home to Bihar from as far as New York, London or Tokyo to pay obeisance to the setting and then the rising Sun Godm from the water

bodies of Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha, and elsewhere across the length and breadth of India.

Popular folk singer Sharda Sinha, who was undergoing treatment at All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Delhi, died on Tuesday night. She was 72. "Sharda Sinha expired at 9.20 pm due to refractory shock as a result of septicemia," an AIIMS official said.

Collapse at Bullet Train site kills worker, injured three

PTI ■ ANAND (GUJ)

One worker died as a temporary structure collapsed at a construction site on the Mumbai-Ahmedabad Bullet Train corridor in Gujarat's Anand district on Tuesday evening, officials said. The incident took place at Vasad village, said Superintendent of Police (SP)



Gaurav Jasani. "Preliminary information suggests that four workers were trapped between concrete blocks, two of them have been rescued. One of the workers died in hospital," he

added. A temporary structure of steel and concrete blocks being used for well foundation work fell down, said an official of the National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL) which is executing the project. The site is near the Mahi river near Vadodara, and a rescue operation was being carried out using cranes and excavators, he added.

Dry days declared on November 11, 13 and 23, training for micro observers

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

In preparation for the upcoming elections, District Election Officer Ananya Mittal has declared a dry day across East Singhbhum district from 5:00 pm on November 11 until 5:00 pm on November 13, and again on November 23, the counting day. This measure, implemented under Section 26 of the Narcotics Excise Act, aims to maintain public order and ensure smooth conduct of the election process on November 13.



In accordance with Section 135(c) of the Representation of People Act, 1951, additional guidelines have been issued, prohibiting the sale, distribution, or provision of alcoholic beverages in hotels, restaurants, schools, shops, or any other public or private places within the polling area during the specified period of 48 hours leading up to the close of polling.

The directive warns that any violation of these rules may result in penalties, including imprisonment up to six months, a fine up to ₹2,000, or both. Additionally, any confiscated intoxicating substances will be seized and disposed of according to the law.

The District Election Officer has urged the public and business owners to comply with these regulations, as they are essential for maintaining peace and order during the election period. Authorities will conduct inspections to ensure adherence to the guidelines, and stringent actions will be taken against any breaches.

A training session for micro observers was conducted at Michael John Auditorium in Bistupur, focusing on their essential role during polling day. Key attendees included Police Observer A. Satish Ganesh, along with General Observers Ashwin Ashok Mudgal (49 - Jamshedpur), Sridhar Babu Addanki (48 - Jamshedpur),

Kulange Vijay Amrut (47 - Jugsalai and 46 - Potka), Kiran Kaushal (45 - Ghatshila), and Raghu K. (44 - Baharagora), along with PD ITDA Dipankar Chaudhary.

The program emphasized that micro observers are responsible for overseeing the smooth execution of the polling process, starting from the day prior to polling. Observers were advised to arrive at the dispatch center one day in advance, accompany the polling team to the polling station, and later return with them to the receiving center after polling concludes. Micro observers were instructed to submit their reports directly to the designated General Observer,

who will closely monitor their actions throughout the polling.

The training underscored that micro observers must arrive at polling stations on time to check for adequate preparations, ensure the presence of polling agents, verify the availability of indelible ink and voter registers, and inspect basic facilities at the site. Following the conclusion of polling, they must submit their findings in a formal report at the receiving center.

The attending General Observers reiterated the critical role of micro observers, particularly in high-risk or "vulnerable" booths, urging them to perform their duties with diligence and resolve any uncertainties by consulting senior officials. Observers highlighted the importance of clear communication, urging micro observers to immediately report any disturbances to district officials and the control room.

The session included practical guidance on maintaining polling station forms, overseeing the use of EVMs, ballot units, and presiding officers' tasks. Observers were also briefed on VVPAT procedures, including mock polling with a minimum of 50 votes and the final sealing process.

SAIL and ASCI Hyderabad partner for Executive Development

PNS : BOKARO

Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has entered into an academic collaboration with the Administrative Staff College of India (ASCI), Hyderabad, by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) at its Corporate Office in New Delhi. This partnership will enable customized Management Development Programs for SAIL's newly promoted executives, aimed at



enhancing leadership capabilities.

As part of SAIL's broader Learning & Development (L&D) strategy, this initiative seeks to offer executives enriched academic exposure and training to support their growth into higher roles. The ceremony was attended by KK Singh, Director (Personnel) and B.S Popli from SAIL and Nirmalya Bagchi, Director, ASCI, Hyderabad, marking a joint commitment to fostering professional excellence and managerial expertise.

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 25th 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.	Name of constituency	Name of candidate	4		5		
			(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.	Jagannathpur AC - 54 (ST)	Smt. Geeta Kora	Sri Manoj Kumar Indwar, SPL Judge Economic Offence, at Ranchi Complaint Case No 2/2012; Charges Not Framed	276cc of, IT Act Wilfully fails to furnish in due time the return of income which she is required to furnish.	NA	NA	NA
2.			Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi Lalpur PS Case No 203/24; Charges Not Framed	u/s 191(2)(3)/190/15(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.

Hot Air Balloon for voter awareness launched by DEO Bokaro



PNS : BOKARO

In a unique move to encourage voter turnout, District Election Officer (DEO) and Deputy

Commissioner (DC) Vijaya Jadhav launched a hot air balloon in the skies over the District Collectorate premises, aiming to inspire residents to vote in the upcoming elections on November 20, 2024. Joined by other officials, the collective balloon launch was part of a series of activities organized by the Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) campaign to boost voter awareness across the district.

The colorful hot air balloon, adorned with voter awareness slogans and the polling date, ascended nearly 70 meters, symbolizing a call for all citizens to participate in the democratic process. "This initiative is a visual reminder for everyone to exercise their voting rights," said DC Vijaya Jadhav. She encouraged those present to not only vote but also to inspire family and community members to join in.

In a simultaneous event, another hot air balloon was launched at the Sub-Division Office in Chas by Sub-Divisional Officer Pranjal Dhandu, DCLR Prabhush Dutta, and other officials, reinforcing the district's commitment to voter education.

Notably with polling set to take place across four constituencies—34 Gomia, 35 Bermo, 36 Bokaro, and 37 Chandankiyari—the district administration is actively engaging in innovative efforts to increase voter participation and ensure a successful election day.

DEMAND TO BAN HIMANTA BISWA SARMA'S CAMPAIGN

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

Jharkhand Congress Minority Department Secretary Shahzad Qureshi has requested the Election Commission to bar Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma from campaigning in the Jharkhand Assembly elections. According to Qureshi, Sarma has repeatedly used inflammatory language that targets a specific community, violating the spirit of fair campaigning.

Qureshi alleged that Sarma has been making baseless and misleading statements about "infiltration," using unverified data to mislead voters. "Since the 2011 census, no new census has taken place, yet he is presenting fabricated statistics to create confusion among people," Qureshi said.

He further accused the Assam CM of spreading communal tensions to gain political advantage, arguing that such statements openly violate the Model Code of Conduct. In his appeal to the Election Commission, Qureshi urged for immediate action to ensure fair and peaceful elections by restricting Sarma's participation in the campaign. "For a neutral and peaceful election process, the Election Commission should take steps to ban Sarma's campaigning and initiate appropriate action," Qureshi stated.

Palamu MP assures SAHARA investors will get funds back if party comes to power

PNS : DALTONGANJ

BJP's Sankalp Patr has brought some big hope for the investors to the Sahara Company who feel lost and cheated by the Sahara Company. BJP MP Vishnu Dayal Ram today told media-persons that "Let our government be formed here, our party will do all to ensure refund for the investments made by the investors to the Sahara Company who are made to run from pillar to post for their deposits back to them." He said "We will do it. Then we will move on to other big Chit Fund companies. West Bengal is doing in this direction." MP spoke about measures to contain human trafficking Jharkhand is so infa-

mous for. He said "Once we come here in power we will launch Operation Suraksha." Irrigation will be prioritised. More and more hectares of land would be reached water assured the MP. Palamu's pulse Arhar and Marwa grain will be further promoted to benefit the financial aspects of the farmers added the MP. He said, "We had raised the issue of the upgradation of the rudimentary Chiyanki air strip before the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Ranchi as Palamu needs to be air connected if this division is to find a place in the industrial map since no industrialist will be in a position to 4 hours travel down here from Ranchi by road. Quick mode for communi-

tion is no luxury now." The BJP as part of its poll strategy took down its Sankalp Patr, launched with great fanfare a few days ago by the union Home Minister Amit Shah in Ranchi, to Daltonganj today November 5, where a battery of BJP leaders namely MP Palamu Vishnu Dayal Ram, UP state transport minister Daya Shankar Singh, district president Amit Tiwary, veteran Shyam Narain Dubey, young leader Jyoti Pandey etc re introduced the Sankalp Patr. Talking about the Mandal dam hanging fire since more than 4 decades, he said "Fund has reached the state of for the 72 families that are to be displaced following submergence of half a dozen villages."

Political shift in Bokaro: Hundreds of Youth Join BJP

PNS : BOKARO

In Bokaro Assembly constituency, a wave of political change has seen hundreds of young people leave the Congress party to join the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). BJP candidate and sitting MLA, Biranchi Narayan, warmly welcomed the new members, symbolizing their induction with traditional scarves. Amid a vibrant celebration, local youth honored Narayan with drums and music, marking the occasion as a powerful statement of change.



Addressing the gathering, Narayan hailed this unity as a beacon of change, expressing his commitment to advancing development in

Bokaro. "This collective strength signifies a call for transformation. Together, we will tread new paths of progress in the Bokaro constituency. BJP is devoted to development and public

service, and with everyone's support, our initiatives will come to fruition on the ground," he affirmed.

Narayan emphasized this unity as a step toward transformation and pledged com-

mitment to Bokaro's development. With Triveni Mahtha leading the charge, the event saw key attendees from BJP Senior leaders like Sanjay Tyagi and Kamlesh Rai rally behind the cause.

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 25th 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.	Name of constituency	Name of candidate	4		5		
			(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.	Ranchi AC 63	Shri Chandreshwar Prasad Singh	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	NA	NA	NA
2.			Shri Sarthak Sharma Spl JMFC MP/MLA Civil Court Ranchi; Dhurwa P.S. Case No. 107/2023; Charges Not Framed	u/s-147, 148, 188, 109, 353, 332, 427 and 323 of the Indian Penal Code & 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.

INDIA block promises 10 lakh jobs, 1932 Khatian based policy in manifesto

PNS : RANCHI

The INDIA Alliance released its manifesto for Jharkhand on Tuesday. The grand alliance has named its manifesto as Nyay Patra. Through this, the grand alliance has promised 7 guarantees to the public.

During this, Congress National President Mallikarjun Kharge, CM Hemant Soren, Jharkhand Congress in-charge Ghulam Ahmed Mir, State Congress President Keshav Mahato Kamlesh, RJD's Jaiprakash Narayan Yadav, CPI ML's Shubhendu Sen etc. were present.

Among the 7 guarantees given by the grand alliance, the guarantee is of 1932 based Khatian, under which, along with bringing the local policy based on the 1932 Khatian, implementing the Sarna Dharma Code, as well as committed to the preservation of regional language and culture, guarantee of



Congress National President Mallikarjun Kharge, Jharkhand CM Hemant Soren, Jharkhand Congress in-charge Ghulam Ahmed Mir, JPCC President Keshav Mahato Kamlesh, RJD's Jaiprakash Narayan Yadav, CPI ML's Shubhendu Sen and other INDIA alliance leaders releases manifesto name Nyay Patra at a city based hotel in Ranchi on Tuesday. Pix by Ratan Lal

Mainiya Samman, under this, an honor amount of Rs 2,500 will be given under the Mainiya Samman Yojana from December 2024.

Other guarantees include guarantee of social justice, under which it is committed to protect the interests of STs, 28%, SCs, 27%, and minorities. Along with this, it is committed to form a back-

ward class welfare ministry. Guarantee of food security, under which 7 kg ration will be distributed per person. Along with this, every poor family of the state will be

given a gas cylinder for Rs 450. Guarantee of employment and health security, under which 10 lakh youths and girls of Jharkhand will be provided jobs and employment. Along with this, family health insurance up to Rs 15 lakh will be given.

Main guarantee of education, under which degree colleges will be established in all the blocks of the state and engineering, medical colleges and universities will be established in the district headquarters. Along with this, by bringing industrial incentive policy to provide employment opportunities, industrial parks of 500-500 acres will be built in all the district headquarters of the state and guarantee farmer welfare. Under this, along with increasing the MSP of paddy from Rs 2400 to Rs 3200, the support price of lac, tassar, karanja, tamarind, mahua, chironji, sal seed etc. will be increased by up to 50 per-

BJP remembers UCC and NRC during elections: Sachin Pilot

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

Ahead of the two-phase Jharkhand assembly elections, Congress leader Sachin Pilot launched a scathing critique of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday. He accused the ruling party of using divisive issues like the Uniform Civil Code (UCC) and the National Register of Citizens (NRC) to sway voters, while neglecting crucial matters like agriculture, infrastructure, and industrial growth.

"BJP conveniently remembers the Uniform Civil Code, NRC, Ram Mandir, and other such topics just before elections, but where is their commitment to farmers, fertilizers, electricity, water, and development?" Pilot questioned while speaking to reporters in Jamshedpur. His remarks suggest that the Congress will position itself as a voice for Jharkhand's pressing local needs, challenging BJP's approach as merely symbolic.

Pilot continued his critique by pointing out that BJP's recent electoral losses and the emergence of a coalition-based central government reflect public dissatisfaction. "You should ask for a vote on the basis of your work... The public also shattered the BJP's slogan of '400 paar.' Today, the central government is running on coalition support because the public didn't give any party a clear mandate," he emphasized. Pilot also condemned the alleged discrimination against Jharkhand, citing that the state was deprived of adequate funds simply because it has a non-BJP-led government. "Jharkhand is a prime example of central government discrimination. The Centre has withheld funds, leaving the state under-resourced. This is intentional," Pilot alleged. He expressed confidence in the INDIA alliance's prospects in Jharkhand, predicting a victory in the upcoming elections. The Congress leader also criticized Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's controversial "batenge toh katenge" remark, stating that such comments distract from real issues. "We should talk about development, people, and solutions, not resort to divisive rhetoric that only serves to divert attention," Pilot said.



JMM MLA Kalpana Murmu Soren along with Ghatshila candidate Ramdas Soren during a election campaign rally on Tuesday. PNS

Rajnath Singh compares JMM with 'fused crackers'

Defence Minister holds rallies in Ratu and Lohardaga



Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh addresses a gathering during an election campaign rally in support of party candidate Naveen Jaishwal at Hatia in Ranchi on Tuesday. Pix by Ratan Lal

PNS : RANCHI

Defence minister Rajnath Singh today hit out at Jharkhand Mukti Morcha-led ruling alliance calling them "fused crackers", while terming BJP as a "mighty rocket" that would take the state to newer heights.

Singh addressed an election rally in the state capital, Ranchi's Hatia from where BJP's Naveen Jaishwal is contesting the election as BJP candidate said it was amply clear who would form the government in the state.

The festival of Diwali has just concluded. The JMM, Congress and RJD are fused Diwali crackers now. BJP is a mighty rocket that alone will take Jharkhand to newer heights". Singh said JMM meant 'Jamkar Malai Maro' (skim the cream). He alleged that the JMM "sucks blood of tribals", and works against their interests. Singh referred to Mandal Murmu, who joined the BJP and was one of the proposers of chief minister Hemant Soren's nomination from the Barhait assembly seat. On JMM's proposer

Mandal Murmu joining BJP, the Defence Minister said that now JMM's boat is sinking.

It was BJP who did the work of making Jharkhand a separate state, but under the rule of JMM-Congress-RJD government, Jharkhand state continued to deteriorate. There have been 13 Chief Ministers in the state, many of whom also went to jail. But till date, no Chief Minister of BJP has gone to jail. JMM-Congress-RJD government comes to power only to fill its coffers, but BJP comes to power to bring development. The Defence Minister said that there have been three Chief Ministers of BJP, among whom Babulal Marandi, Raghuvir Das and Arjun Munda have not been accused of any corruption. But the JMM-Congress-RJD governments have been continuously accused of corruption. He said that JMM means JMM i.e. make the most of the cream- JMM is an anti-tribal party. He said that they have sucked the blood of the tribals. They are not well-wishers of the tribals. Singh said, we have a close relationship with Jharkhand. JMM has cheated the tribal brothers to fill its own coffers, crores of rupees are found with their ministers and MPs.

CBI recovers 1 kg gold, over Rs 60 lakh cash, cartridges in raids

PNS : RANCHI

CBI team has taken a big action before the assembly elections in Jharkhand. On Tuesday, CBI teams raided a total of 16 places in Jharkhand, West Bengal and Bihar in the illegal mining case of Rs 1250 crores. During the raid, CBI team recovered Rs 50 lakh and 1 kg gold and some silver ornaments.

The 16 places were raided by CBI teams. These include 11 places in Sahibganj, three in Ranchi, one in Kolkata and one in Patna.

CBI conducted raids at places related to Prem Prakash, Ranchi, CA Jaipurari, Ranchi, Mehtab Alam, Rajmahal, Ranjan Verma, Sahebganj, Sanjay Jaiswal, Sahebganj, Subroto Pal, Sahebganj, Tinkle Bhagat, Sahebganj, Awadh Kishore Singh, Sahebganj, Bhagwan Bhagat, Sahebganj and Krishna Shah, Sahebganj.

CBI was investigating the

illegal mining case at Nimbu Pahad. The head of the place Vijay Hansda was a witness in this case. But later he turned hostile. Investigation was being conducted against various persons who were made accused in the Rs thousand crore illegal mining scam case. In this case, after ED, CBI has registered a case against many people including big main accused Pankaj Mishra, Vishnu Kumar Yadav, Pavitar Kumar Yadav, Rajesh Yadav, Sanjay Kumar Yadav, Bacchu Yadav, Sanjay Yadav, Suvesh Mandal in its FIR.

CBI had taken over the court complaint filed by Vijay Hansda in Mufassil police station of Sahibganj and the case registered in ST-SC police station. Famous CBI DSP Krishna Kumar Singh was made the IO of the case. Also, a case has been registered in the case of illegal mining in Sahibganj under the relevant sections of Jharkhand Mines and Minerals Act, Arms Act and ST-SC Act.



Stopping Hemant's chopper is conspiracy to put his life in danger- JMM

PNS : RANCHI

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM), on Tuesday, said that stopping Chief Minister, Hemant Soren's helicopter is serious matter and it is conspiracy to put his life in danger.

Addressing a press meet JMM General Secretary and Spokesperson Supriyo Bhattacharya said that according to the rules, Soren's helicopter had to fly outside the prescribed limit and perimeter. "For this we have written a letter to the President and complained. This is a serious matter. This is a matter of keeping Hemant Soren out of public reach. It is a matter related to his security. We believe that Hemant Soren's security was in danger in this matter. There is a conspiracy behind this," he added.

Bhattacharya said that the helicopter was stopped for an hour and a half in an area from where there was no means of communication. "This is a serious matter. The



JMM General Secretary Supriyo Bhattacharya during a press conference in Ranchi on Tuesday. PNS

CM, our star campaigner, his security was tampered with. JMM General Secretary alleged that the Election Commission did not take cognizance of this seriously. He said, we have been saying since before that there is closeness between the Election Commission and BJP. He further said, we had already told the Election Commission to postpone the election dates in view of the

then the people will not tolerate it," he added. Bhattacharya said that here too religious statements are being made by BJP leaders about Muslims. "Despite all this, the Election Commission is silent. The CM was put in danger, the Election Commission is silent on this too. This is the policy, let the attack by the extremists happen. In the name of PM's security, arrest the entire Jharkhand," he added.

The party Spokesperson said, the entire attitude of the Election Commission raises serious questions. He said that the Election Commission has a different attitude in our case. "BJP has a different stance. The great Hindu festival Chhath has started today. A large population has left the State. They have to return on November 12- November 13. In this way they are being deprived of the right to vote," he added. Bhattacharya alleged that like UP, the dates of elections in Haryana were changed and the results were manipulated in their favour.

Yogi rallies for 'Double Engine' Government, warns 'stone pelters'

PNS : JAMSHEDPUR

Addressing a massive gathering at Aam Bagan Maidan, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath urged the people of Jharkhand to support the formation of a "double engine" government, a coalition of state and central BJP leadership similar to

Haryana's model. Adityanath emphasized that this alignment was essential to drive Jharkhand's growth and tackle ongoing issues of poverty, joblessness, and infrastructure needs. Adityanath announced a series of pledges aimed at empowering women, youth, and the underprivileged if the NDA

returns to power. Key promises included a monthly ₹2,100 stipend for women under the Gogo Didi scheme, filling 1.5 lakh government posts immediately upon taking office, and creating nearly 2.9 lakh jobs. He also vowed to provide housing for 21 lakh families under the PM Awas Yojana, give free sand for home con-

struction, and provide graduate youth with an allowance of ₹2,000. In a bid to make essential resources more affordable, Adityanath pledged free LPG cylinders for Diwali and Raksha Bandhan and promised subsidized LPG at ₹500 for all households under the proposed Laxmi Johar Yojana.

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 25th 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.	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
	Hazaribagh AC 25	Shri Pradeep Prasad	Miss Anushka Jain, JMFC, Complaint Case No 3850/2019 Charges Framed	u/s 138 NI Act & Cheque Bounce	NA	NA	NA
			Miss Anushka Jain, JMFC, Complaint Case No 3190/2022 Charges Framed	u/s 138 NI Act & Cheque Bounce	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.

STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LIMITED
Rourkela Steel Plant
Rourkela - 769 011, Odisha, India

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY
Publication of Expression of interest in SAIL Tender website

The following two nos. of CSR projects are intended to be taken up by Rourkela Steel Plant SAIL in the FY 2024-25:

(A) Sewing training programme and establishment of Training-Cum-Production Centre for underprivileged women/SHGs at IPD/Village location

(B) Development of Sewing Training Centre at IPD CSR complex of RSP

Note: Separate offers to be submitted for both projects if any party is interested in both. For project details may kindly check the link below: www.saitenders.co.in (Tenders section)

Last date for submission of application : 21st Nov. 2024

Registered Office: Ispat Bhawan, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003
Corporate Identity Number: L27109DL1973G0I006454, Website: www.sail.co.in

There's a little bit of SAIL in everybody's life

Indian Overseas Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
GIRIDIH BRANCH

LOCKER BREAK OPEN NOTICE

SN.	Locker No.	Name	Address
1	010002	Kusum Devi, Sanjay Kumar	Babhantoli Road, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
2	010010	Mukesh Kumar Himani Jain	Dumri Road, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
3	010012	Geeta Agarwal	C/o- M/s Hindustan Products Ltd., Agarwal House, Tundi Road, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
4	010013	Mohan Lal, Geeta Devi	Bara Chowk, Tundi Road, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
5	010034	Ramesh Kr., Krishna Kr.	Bara Chowk, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
6	010042	Aparna Mishra, A K Mishra	Officers Colony, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
7	010066	Niranjan Prasad Sharma, Vivek Kr. Sharma	Bulaki Road, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
8	020004	Arjun Ram, Abhay Kumar	Pachamba Cowk, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
9	020005	Rukmini Devi Kejriwal, Krishna Kumar Kejriwal	Babhantoli, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
10	020023	Ashok Kr. Bhattacharya, Kabita Bhattacharya	Shakti Bhawan, Court Road, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
11	020035	Kamal Jain, Shanti Devi Jain	BBC Road, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
12	020062	R P Patodia, Rama Devi Patodia	C/o- Ramghunath Prasad Ji Patodia, 2B Pritoria Street, Kolkata-700071
13	020067	Ratanlal Agarwal, Sumitra Das	Darjee Mohalla, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
14	020076	Saraswati Devi, Sunil Kumar	Jhabda, Taratand Khuchutta, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
15	020084	Bijay Singh, Awatari Devi	Ratan Mica Road, Pachamba, Giridih, Jharkhand-815316
16	020085	Arifa Imam	C/o- SMA Kazmi, Kazmi Monson, Bhandaridih
17	020114	Sudeep Kapiswary, Rekha Devi	Makhatpur, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301
18	020124	Durga Pd. Kalbala, Sarda Devi Kalbala	Karmatand, Vidyasagar, Jamtara, Jharkhand-815301
19	020127	Kanan Bhari Banerjee, Jyotirmayee Devi, Sarmatha Banerjee	Court Road Makatpur, Near Municipality, Giridih, Jharkhand-815301

The above mentioned customers have received locker facility from our branch, and they become due in payments of rent for the last few years and the notices sent to the above address are returned, so the bank will break open the lockers and take possession of the inside articles. The above customers of their related persons treat this ad as notice and attend with relevant documents and contact the Branch Manager within 15 days from the date of receipt of this notice.

Dated : 05.11.2024
Sd/- Branch Manager

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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



his office. Taking a dig, he also asked if Modi was criticising Home Minister Amit Shah's work by claiming that infiltrators had free rein in Jharkhand. "The level of the prime minister's language in electioneering is falling very fast. In Lok Sabha polls, while fearing defeat, he sought to divide society by spewing venom among communities. They did not get enough votes and today they are running a coalition government," he

said. "In the Lok Sabha elections, it started with buffalo, mutton, fish, mangalsutra, Muslim, and by the time it came to Jharkhand elections, it has reached to daughter and bread. "He used to say INDIA people will take away your daughters and mangalsutra and is now running a government in alliance with other partners," Khera said in a post in Hindi on X. In a video message also posted on X, the Congress

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

improve upon your language," he said. Accusing the prime minister of having "lost personal respect", Khera said, "At least maintain the respect and reputation of the position you hold". "Please maintain this 'maryada' (decorum) in the leftover time you have, please keep that in mind," the chairman of the media and publicity department of the Congress said. Prime Minister Modi on Monday launched a no-holds-barred attack on the JMM-led coalition in Jharkhand, labelling it a 'ghuspaithiya bandhan' (infiltrators' alliance) for "supporting Bangladeshi infiltrators". "Appeasement politics has reached its zenith in Jharkhand where the JMM-led coalition is busy supporting Bangladeshi infiltrators. If this continues, the state's tribal population will shrink.

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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



before coming as low as just 600 km. This high orbit is required because the pair of spacecraft will perform their active formation flying for a planned six hours at a time around their maximum altitude, where Earth's gravitational pull will be diminished, as will the amount of propellant needed to fine-tune their positions. Proba-3's two satellites will enable sustained views of the Sun's faint surrounding atmosphere, or corona, that has previously only been

visible for a few brief moments during solar eclipses viewed from the Earth. To achieve this the shadow being cast between the spacecraft must remain in a precise position, which means they must fly autonomously in formation to an accuracy of a single millimetre - about the thickness of an average fingernail. This is the first time that an ESA mission is being launched from India since the original Proba-1 Earth-observing mission in 2001.

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

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

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



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

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

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



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

Centre releases 15th Finance Commission grants for rural local bodies in Haryana, Tripura and Mizoram

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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



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

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

Assam CM questions Sonia Gandhi's nationality amid citizenship row

PTI ■ PALONGHA/ASSAM



Hitting out at the Congress for questioning the legitimacy of the citizenship of a BJP by-poll candidate in Assam, Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Tuesday claimed that questions can also be raised on the nationality of the opposition party's top leader Sonia Gandhi. The Congress in its campaigning for Dholai constituency has cast doubts about the citizenship of BJP candidate Nihar Ranjan Das. Addressing a rally here while campaigning for Das, Sarma said, "If you (Congress) call Nihar Ranjan 'Bangladeshi', I will also call Sonia Gandhi 'Italian'. If you think I am afraid of Sonia Gandhi or Rahul Gandhi, let me tell you I am not."

Sarma maintained that Bengali Hindu residents of present Barak Valley of Assam were dwellers of what is now Bangladesh as it was the same country prior to Partition. He blamed the Congress for creating the problems for Bengali-Hindus of Barak Valley, who had to move to present-day Assam following Partition of the country due to atrocities on religious minorities there. Sarma also held the grand old party responsible for the Partition of India in 1947. "Hindus are facing atrocities even now (in Bangladesh). We can see this on television and social media. But you (Congress) cannot raise these issues. Congress was formed to play only negative politics," the CM added. Sarma had addressed another campaign rally under Dholai constituency earlier in the day.

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

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

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

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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



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

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

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

Climate driven changes in Ganga plains: DST Study

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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



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

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

ICG convenes 26th National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan meeting



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

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

Leaders condemn attack on Hindu temple in Canada

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ CHANDIGARH

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



He said ties with Canada must remain cordial. It is unfortunate that politics of divisiveness and hatred has spread its tentacles in Canada, said Mann. Punjabis pray for welfare of all and are votary of peace due to which they are loved across the globe, he said. With their rare qualities of hard work and resilience Punjabis have carved a niche for themselves in the entire world, said Mann. India has said it remains "deeply concerned" about the safety and security of its nationals in Canada. India-Canada ties remain deeply troubled over the North American country's alleged

support to Khalistani separatists and its accusation of India's involvement in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Canadian citizen who has been designated a terrorist by India. Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD) working president Balwinder Singh Bhundar also condemned the incident and appealed to people of Indian origin to defeat conspiracies to divide them on communal lines. Bhundar called upon the Canadian government to ensure all places of religious worship were secure from such acts of violence. In a statement, Bhundar said, "attempts are afoot to divide

Sikhs and Hindus in Canada on communal lines. This is against the teachings of our Guru Sahiban who have preached the concept of 'sarbat da bhala' (welfare of all). "The SAD also has always stood for communal harmony and has also made numerous sacrifices to uphold this principle. It is a votary of Hindu-Sikh 'bhaichara' and has ensured impeccable peace and communal harmony during its successive terms in government in Punjab." He appealed to people from both communities in Canada to recognize their common roots and exercise utmost restraint and maintain communal harmony at this critical juncture. Bhundar also appealed to the Canadian government to ensure safety of all persons of Indian origin as well as safety of their places of worship. Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant on Tuesday condemned the attack on a Hindu temple in Canada, saying it is unacceptable and such incidents are a direct assault on the values of peace, respect and unity. Sawant also urged the

Canadian government to take immediate action to ensure the safety and security of all religious communities within its borders. The incident occurred on Sunday in Canada's Brampton city, where protestors carrying Khalistani flags clashed with people at the Hindu Sabha temple on Sunday and disrupted a consular event co-organised by the temple authorities and the Indian Consulate. The development comes as India-Canada ties remain deeply troubled over the North American country's alleged support to Khalistani separatists and its accusation of India's involvement in the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a Canadian citizen who has been designated a terrorist by India. In the post on X, CM Sawant said, "The recent, targeted attack on the Hindu temple and its devotees is not only deeply concerning but also entirely unacceptable. Such incidents represent a direct assault on the values of peace, respect and unity that form the foundation of any civilised society."

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

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet, in a key meeting, approved several significant measures, including the rules for the appointment of the Director General of Police (DGP). With this decision, the state government now holds the authority to appoint the DGP directly at the state level, reducing dependency on the central government for the appointment process. This move, however, has sparked criticism from Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav, who hinted at a potential power shift. Yadav, in a post on social media platform X, remarked, "I have heard that arrangements are being made to grant a senior official a permanent position and extend their term by two years. The question is, will those making these arrangements themselves stay for two years?" He went on to imply that this move may represent an attempt by the state to wrest control from Delhi, dubbing it "Delhi vs

Lucknow 2.0." Under the new guidelines, the DGP appointment will now be conducted entirely at the state level. Chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the cabinet approved the "Police Director General, Uttar Pradesh Selection and Appointment Rules 2024." The rules establish a selection committee, led by a retired High Court judge, to oversee the appointment process. Additionally, a minimum tenure of two years for the DGP has been mandated, with provisions for continuity in service barring extraordinary circumstances. The selection committee will include the Chief Secretary, a Union Public Service Commission nominee, the Chairperson of the Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission (or a representative), the Additional Chief Secretary (Home), and a retired DGP who previously served in the role. This committee aims to create an independent and transparent process, free from political or executive interference, ensuring that the

DGP is selected solely based on merit. The cabinet's approval also includes provisions aligned with Supreme Court guidelines on police reforms. These guidelines allow the state government to relieve the DGP from duty before the completion of the two-year tenure if involved in criminal misconduct, corruption, or failure to fulfill their duties. The decision aligns with the Supreme Court's 2006 directive on police reforms, which urged states to adopt state police legislation aimed at insulating the police force from external pressures. This reform seeks to ensure that law enforcement functions independently, protecting citizens' rights and upholding the rule of law. The cabinet's decision is a major step in the state's police reforms. However, it also underscores the ongoing debate between central and state control in policing matters, with political observers watching closely to see how this policy shift will unfold in Uttar Pradesh's administrative landscape.

Kerala legislator, Catholic Church lambast Waqf Board demands

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ KOCHI

The Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) and the CPI(M)-led Left Democratic Front (LDF) are hunting with the hounds and running with the hares in the Waqf Board issue, according to Kerala's seventh time legislator P C George. Deepika, the Catholic Church's mouthpiece too blasted the Congress and the CPI(M) for condemning the Waqf Board Bill 2024. Speaking to The Pioneer, George, a top BJP leader in the State, said that while the UDF and the LDF paid lip service to the 600 families of Cherali-Munampam coastal village who face eviction from the land where they have been staying for generations, both the fronts have shied away from asking the Waqf Board to withdraw their claim over the disputed land.



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

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has convened a meeting on November 16 to discuss the issues born out of the Waqf Board demand that the entire coastal village is Waqf property and there was no question of it taking a step backward. Even V Abdurehiman, minister for Waqf has stated that the land belonged to the Waqf Board. "This is part of political Islam and there are no other words to describe the double standard of the Marxists and the Congress," said George who is touring the coastal belt of Ernakulam interacting with the victims facing the eviction. Interestingly, Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has asked his revenue officials to withdraw all changes made in the title deeds of land owned by Vijayapura farmers and transfer the same to Waqf Board. "But this is a ploy by

the Congress government as the State is all set to go for by-poll on November 13 in the assembly constituencies of Shiggaon, sandur and Channapattana. Once the by-poll is over it would be back to square one", said BJP leader Chandra Kant. In a major development, Deepika, the mouthpiece of Catholic community in its editorial on Tuesday lambasted the Congress Government that ruled the Centre and the CPI(M) for their "unreasonable and unjustifiable" stands that empowered the Waqf Board to claim rights on properties which were not owned by them. "Until the Waqf Board (Amendment) Bill 2024 is legislated, people in other communities would not be able to sleep peacefully," said the editorial which extended its full support to the Government move to amend the Waqf Law.

UP Govt amends FDI Incentive Policy 2023

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

In a significant move to boost foreign investment in Uttar Pradesh, the cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at Lok Bhavan, approved amendments to the Incentive Policy 2023 for FDI (Foreign) Direct Investment) and investment of Fortune 500 companies. This amendment by the Yogi government provides significant relief to foreign investors. Now, foreign companies that secure funding through equity, loans, or other sources can also invest in the state. This decision is expected to lead to an increase in foreign investment in Uttar Pradesh. Providing details on the Yogi Cabinet's decisions, Finance and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Suresh Khanna stated, "The Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) policy, introduced on 1/11/2023, has been amended slightly. The minimum investment threshold for eligibility under the policy remains at Rs 100 crore. According to the RBI's

definition, FDI has so far only included equity investments. However, with this policy amendment, we have broadened it to include Foreign Capital Investment." He further explained that, until now, the FDI included investment made by a company in its equity alone, however, many companies raise funds from external loans or other sources to expand. "We have now allowed that as well. If a company has just 10 percent equity and secures 90 percent of its investment from other sources, it will still be eligible for benefits under this policy." He announced that this policy will now be known as the "Foreign Direct Investment, Foreign Capital Investment, and Fortune Global 500 and Fortune India 500 Investment Promotion Policy 2023." It will include preference shares, debentures, external commercial borrowing, standby letters of credit, letters of guarantee, and other debt securities for foreign companies investing in equity as foreign capital investment.

He further explained, "Other methods outlined by the RBI for calculating foreign investment, including the Framework on External Commercial Borrowing, Trade Credit, and Structured Obligations, will also qualify. Foreign capital investments made by a company-including at least 10 percent in equity, with the remainder through debt and other instruments-will be deemed eligible and factored into the total capital investment calculation." In another decision the Yogi government has approved a proposal to amend the Uttar Pradesh Retirement Benefits Rules 1961. Under this amendment, if an employee dies while in service or after retirement without receiving their gratuity and has no surviving family members or nominees, the gratuity can now be paid to the individual designated in a succession certificate issued by a court. Finance Minister Suresh Khanna noted that previously, in such cases, the gratuity amount would be transferred to the government.

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

PTI ■ GANGTOK

The Sikkim government has set up a 12-member committee to conduct a study and make recommendations to the Centre for the inclusion of 12 communities in the list of Scheduled Tribes (STs). Anthropological Survey of India Director BV Sharma will be the chairman of the committee, while JNU's senior professor Mahendra P Lama will be its vice chairman, according to a notification issued on Monday by Chief Secretary VB Pathak. The committee will prepare a comprehensive ethnographic and anthropological report of the 12 left-out Sikkimese communities -- Bhujel, Gurung, Jogi, Kirat Khambu Rai, Kirat Dewan (Yakha), Khas (Chettri-Bahun) Mangar, Newar, Sanyashi, Sunuwar (Mukhia), Thami and Majhi, it said.

Polish paraglider stranded in Kangra rescued

PTI ■ Dharamshala

The Polish paraglider stranded in Dhauladhar hills in Kangra district of Himachal Pradesh after a mid-air collision with another paraglider on Sunday was safely rescued on Tuesday, officials said. The paraglider had got stranded in Dhauladhar hills on Sunday after colliding with another paraglider mid-air. The attempt to rescue him on Monday by using a chopper had failed due to tough terrain. "The free flier paraglider from Poland, Andrew Babinski, has been safely air-lifted and admitted to Vivekananda Hospital Palampur," Bajinath Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) D C Thakur told PTI. Babinski sustained serious injuries but is out of danger, he added. Meanwhile, the Tuesday task for paragliders in the Paragliding World Cup 2024 being organised in Bir Billing in Kangra district was



cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. The technical committee had initially set a 148-kilometre course for Tuesday and all pilots successfully took off from Billing at the designated window time. However, deteriorating visibility and unfavourable weather conditions forced the organisers to call the pilots back, prioritising their safety, the organisers said. According to the statement from the spokesperson of the Billing Paragliding Association, all the participants landed safely at the designated Bir landing site, and Tuesday task was

subsequently cancelled. The eight-day Paragliding World Cup 2024 commenced on November 2 and 94 paragliders including seven women from 26 countries are participating in the event. As part of safety measures, two helicopters, seven health teams with ambulances and six rescue and retrieval teams led by experts from the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Mountaineering Institute in Manali are on standby for the event. Last week, two foreign paragliders crashed to death in Himachal Pradesh. Last Tuesday, a Belgian paraglider died after colliding mid-air with another paraglider in Bir Billing as his parachute failed to open after the collision. On Wednesday, solo paraglider Dita Misurcova (43) crashed into the mountains near Marhi in Manali after she lost control of the glider due to strong winds.

BSP announces star campaigners for Uttar Pradesh by-elections

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

As Uttar Pradesh gears up for by-elections on nine assembly seats, the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has released a list of 40 star campaigners, including BSP supremo Mayawati and senior leader Satish Chandra Mishra. These leaders will work tirelessly to secure victories for the party in the upcoming elections, the party said in a statement issued here. The by-elections are set for seats in Ghaziabad, Meerpur, Kundarki, Khair, Karhal, Sisamau, Phulpur, Katehari, and Majhawan. Originally scheduled for November 13, the Election Commission postponed the voting date by a week, moving it to November 20. Ahead of the by-polls,

Mayawati has been vocal in her criticism of the opposition, particularly targeting the BJP and Congress. She took aim at both parties, stating that while millions are struggling with inflation and unemployment, the BJP and Congress are more focused on attacking each other in their campaigns for the Maharashtra and Jharkhand elections and making promises of "freebies." She accused both parties of engaging in "negative politics," alleging that they prioritize false promises over genuine public issues. In a recent post on X (formerly Twitter), Mayawati said the pledges made by these parties are not fulfilled honestly, as they are only intended to mislead people. She added that leaders often forget these promises once in power.

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

PTI ■ MANGALURU

The Public Relations Council of India (PRCI) is set to host the much-anticipated 18th global communication conclave on November 8 and 9. PRCI, a premier institution committed to elevating public relations and communication standards across India. It has hosted 17 conclaves in cities like Jaipur, Pune, Kolkata, New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Bangalore, and Goa since its inception in 2004. In a statement, it said, this year's conclave, themed "Reconnect," will emphasise the crucial need to re-establish connections that have been diminished by our fast-paced, technology-driven world. More than 500 communication practitioners, industry decision-makers, and thought leaders from across India and beyond are expected to convene, making it a landmark



event for PR and communication professionals. According to PRCI, the two-day conclave will feature 11 panel discussions steered by industry veterans, IAS officers, and communication specialists from Europe and the Gulf region. Key topics will include Government PR and Public Engagement Enhancement, the Gig Economy's Impact on Communication, Reconnecting through Global Storytelling, Digital Media Management, and the intriguing future interplay between humans and machines. A significant first for PRCI will be an exclusive Vice Chancellors Round Table Meet, with 15 distinguished vice chancellors gathering to deliberate on "Reconnecting with Innovation" and the future of higher education. "Through PRCI, we aim to build bridges, foster understanding, and create a dialogue that transcends barriers. I hope to reshape narratives and reconnect with our core values of transparency and trust," M B Jayaram, Founder Chairman Emeritus of PRCI, stated.

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

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ RANCHI

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Tuesday accused the JMM-led coalition in Jharkhand of "patronising" mafia and urged people to vote for BJP which would "bulldoze" them. He also claimed that such actions were being taken against the mafia in his home state Uttar Pradesh. He also asserted that it is the BJP that can "guarantee security and safety" to people. "The JMM-led coalition is patronising mafia in sectors, such as land, sand, forest, mining and liquor, in Jharkhand...Like UP, bring the BJP to power in Jharkhand to



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

pride, women's empowerment and employment to youths". Adityanath accused the Congress of "creating obstacles" to the construction of Ram Temple in Ayodhya. "Ram Lala now sits in that temple after 500 years and Ram temple consecration has paved the way for Mathura and other temples," he said. The UP chief minister claimed that PM Modi believes in 'Sabka Sath, Sabka Vikas' and the saffron party "never discriminates people on the basis of caste, creed, religion, language or gender." "The BJP ensures no compromise with the nation's security. Pakistan earlier used to threaten India. Now, during the Modi regime, it claims in

the UN that India has become a threat to it." Chinese forces, which crossed Indian territory during the Congress regime, are now retreating," Adityanath claimed. He also asserted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi abrogated Article 370 from Kashmir. Addressing the gathering at the BJP rally in Jharkhand, he said, "You must have seen the outcome of the Haryana elections. The BJP got the majority. The Congress was defeated badly. It was possible due to the assurance of development, security and good governance under PM Modi's leadership. I appeal to you to bring a double-engine government here for rapid all-around development."

Rahul Gandhi attends district development meeting, inaugurates project in Raebareli

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ RAEBARELI (UP)

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Tuesday attended a meeting of the District Development Coordination and Monitoring Committee (DISHA), inaugurated a beautification project and laid the foundation stone for the construction of roads in his parliamentary constituency here in Uttar Pradesh. Rahul, who maintained a distance with the media during his visit, later said in a post on Facebook that the people of Raebareli told him about their problems with full authority. On the way to Raebareli, the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha paid obeisance at a Hanuman temple at Churwa



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

Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) and then attended the DISHA meeting. The meeting focused on various public welfare issues, including schemes such as MGNREGA, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana and others, officials said. Rahul presided over the meeting with administrative officials.

A blueprint for the development of the district was prepared at the meeting and central schemes were reviewed. This was his first meeting with local officials since becoming an MP. According to the Union Ministry for Rural Development, DISHAs were formed to ensure better coordination among members of Parliament, state legislatures and local governments. He left for Lucknow after the meeting. In his Facebook post in Hindi, the Congress leader said: "No matter how old my relationship with Raebareli is, it deepens every time I visit the place. All the people of the area have given me a lot of love and told me about their problems with full authority."



www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

PAPER WITH PASSION

Cowardly attack

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

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



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

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

PICTALK



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

PTI

A robust EV Infra can support sustainable mobility

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

Sustainable mobility is the future of transportation, focusing on reducing our reliance on fossil fuels and minimising harmful emissions. In this context, Electric Vehicles (EVs) have emerged as a game-changer, offering lower emissions and a reduced carbon footprint compared to traditional gasoline vehicles. Governments worldwide are encouraging the adoption of EVs to address climate change, and India is no exception. **India's Push for Electric Mobility:** The Indian government has laid out ambitious targets to boost the adoption of EVs, with policies and incentives underlining its commitment. In July 2023, NITI Aayog set a clear roadmap, aligning with the national goal of achieving net-zero emissions by 2070. The targets are impressive: 30 per cent EV penetration in private cars, 70 per cent in commercial vehicles; 40 per cent in buses and 80 per cent for both two- and three-wheelers. India's EV market has seen tremendous growth, with EV registrations increasing eleven-fold, from 1.3 million in 2018 to



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

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

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

(The author is CTO & Co-Founder, Park+, views are personal)



HITESH GUPTA

Stakeholders such as

India's tribute to the architect of unity



ANIRBAN GANGULY

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

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

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

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

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



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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AVOID RELIGIOUS POLITICS

Madam —This refers to the editorial dated 4-11-24. The students' movement that started against 30 per cent reservation announced for the Mukti Bahini martyrs was only a spark and all those who were waiting for an opportunity to throw out the dictatorial regime and the religious fundamentalists joined hands with the agitating students and made the situation worse, ultimately forcing the government head to flee the country. But during the course of the movement, students were pushed behind and the religious fundamentalists took the dominating role and used the agitating students to push forward their tactical goals.

The demands of the students were, after all, ending the reservation, but subsequently it took political and religious turns plunging the country into further social and economic crisis. History is clear with its message. Wherever religion and religious heads are allowed to dominate the agenda it leads to dictatorship and ends up with chaotic scenes on the social and economic front. Religion is an innate affair and politics is a public affair. Mixing these incongruent ingredients will have its inevitable and serious adverse effects. It is the responsibility of every citizen to keep religion and religious fundamentalists at a distance to ensure them not to indulge in politics.

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

ELECTION DRAMA CONTINUES

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

Violence against Indians in Canada



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

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

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

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Washington

counting too.

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

R Narayanan | Mumbai

SHINDE'S WINNING STRATEGY

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

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

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

Jayanthi Maniam | Vashi

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN LIFE BEYOND THE GRAVE

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



RAJYOGI BRAHMA KUMAR NIKUNJ JI

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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



A S MITTAL

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

How mobile video conferencing is bridging the digital divide in Bihar

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

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



VARINDER SINGH JAWANDA

tion can now function smoothly throughout Bihar by introducing an inventive, stronger video conferencing system.

Improving Governance With the use of the new outdoor video conferencing technology, authorities in Bihar can now hold virtual meetings and communicate with other officials directly from almost anywhere in the

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 25th 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)	Name of Court & date(s) of order(s)	Description of offence(s) & punishment imposed	Maximum Punishment Imposed
	Barhi AC 21	Manoj Kumar Yadav	ACJM Ranchi, Ormanjhi PS Case No 148/2022 ; Charges framed, YES GR 1422/2023	NA	NA	NA
2.			SDJM ; Barhi Barhi PS Case No 12/2023 ; Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
3.			SDJM, Barhi PS Case No 334/2024, Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
4.			CJM, Chouparan PS Case No 241/2024, Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
5.			CJM Chouparan PS Case No 242/2024 , Charge Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
6.			CJM Chouparan PS Case No 243/2024 , Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
7.			CJM Chouparan PS Case No 244/2024, Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
8.			CJM, Chouparan PS Case No 245/2024 Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
9.			CJM, Chouparan PS Case No 251/2024 Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
10.			CJM Chouparan PS Case No 259/2024, Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
11.			CJM Chouparan PS Case No 260/2024, Charges Not Framed	NA	NA	NA
12.			CJM, Katkamdag PS Case No 218/2021, Charges Not Framed	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 candidates set up by the party

(As per the judgment dated 25th 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.	Bhawnathpur (AC 81)	Shri Bhanu Pratap Shahi	Shri Prabhat Kumar Sharma, AJC XVIII Cum Spl Judge CBI, PMLA Ranchi, ; RC-5A/2010 AHD(R), Charges are framed.	u/s 120(B) IPC, u/s 9/13(2) r/w 13(1)(d) of PC Act & Criminal Conspiracy	NA	NA	NA
2.			Shri Prabhat Kumar Sharma, AJC XVIII Cum Spl Judge CBI, PMLA Ranchi, RC-11A/ 2009 AHD(R), Charges are framed.	120(B),420, 467, 468, 471 of IPC, u/s 13(2) R/w 13(1)(c) and 13(1)(d) of PC Act & Criminal Conspiracy	NA	NA	NA
3.			Shri Prabhat Kumar Sharma, AJC XVIII Cum Spl Judge CBI, PMLA Ranchi, ECIR02/PAT/09 AD(D) Charges are framed.	u/s 3/4 under PMLA, 2002 & Offences Relating to Money Laundering	NA	NA	NA
4.			Shri Sarthak Sharma, JMFC Ranchi Cum Spl JM, MP/MLA Court Ranchi, Lalpur PS Case No. 251/2021, Charges Not Framed	147, 149, 341, 323, 332, 353, 188, 269, 270 of IPC & u/s 5, 51 of Disaster Management Act & Offences Relating to Rioting	NA	NA	NA
5.			Shri Sarthak Sharma, JMFC Ranchi Cum Spl JM, MP/MLA Court Ranchi, Lalpur PS Case No. 203/2024 Charges Not Framed	u/s 191(2)(3), 190, 115(2), 117(2), 109, 121(1), 125, 132, 324(2), 351, 352, 61(2) of BNS & Giving False Evidence	NA	NA	NA
6.			Shri Sailendra Kumar Napit, JMFC Nagar Untari, Ramna PS Case No.- 34/2022, Charges Not Framed	u/s 143, 144, 145, 151, 186, 188, 353 of IPC & 51 of Disaster Management Act & Unlawful Assembly	NA	NA	NA
7.			Shri Sailendra Kumar Napit, JMFC Nagar Untari, Ramna PS Case No.- 54/2024 Charges Not Framed	188 IPC & 130 RP Act & Disobedience of Public Servant	NA	NA	NA
8.			Shri Sailendra Kumar Napit, JMFC Nagar Untari Ramna PS Case No.- 96/2024, Charges Not Framed	152 BNS & 3(1)(r) of SCST Act & Offences Against the State	NA	NA	NA
9.			Shri Sailendra Kumar Napit, JMFC Nagar Untari, Ramna PS Case No.- 0143/24, Charges Not Framed	u/s 223, 189(2), 171 BNS & 127 RP Act & Unlawful Assembly	NA	NA	NA
10.			Shri Sailendra Kumar Napit, JMFC Nagar Untari, Kharandhi PS Case No.- 82/24 Charges Not Framed	u/s 189, 223, 171 BNS, 127 RP Act & Unlawful Assembly	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.

N Korea fires multiple missiles towards sea ahead of US election

AP ■ SEOUL

North Korea on Tuesday fired multiple short-range ballistic missiles toward its eastern sea, the South Korean military said, as the country continued its weapons demonstrations hours before the US presidential election. South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff didn't immediately specify the number of missiles detected or how far they flew. Japan's Defence Ministry said the missiles were believed to have already landed at sea and there were no immediate reports of damage. The launches came days after North Korean leader Kim Jong Un supervised a flight test of the country's newest intercontinental ballistic missile designed to reach the US mainland. In response to that launch, the United States flew a long-range B-1B bomber in a trilateral drill with South Korea and Japan on Sunday in a show of force. That drew condemnation from Kim's powerful sister, who on

Tuesday accused North Korea's rivals of raising tensions with "aggressive and adventurist military threats." South Korean officials have said that North Korea was likely to dial up its military displays around the US presidential election to command the attention of Washington. South Korea's military intelligence agency said last week that North Korea has also likely completed preparations for its seventh nuclear test. Outside officials and analysts say North Korea eventually hopes to use an expanded nuclear arsenal as leverage to win concessions such as sanctions relief after a new US president is elected. There are widespread views that Kim would prefer a win by Republican candidate Donald Trump, with whom he engaged in high-stakes nuclear diplomacy in 2018-19, seeing him as a more likely counterpart to give him what he wants than Democratic candidate Kamala Harris.

During campaigning, Trump boasted about his personal ties with Kim, while Harris said she won't "cozy up to tyrants and dictators like Kim Jong Un who are rooting for Trump." North Korean state media claimed last week that the Hwasong-19 it tested on October 31 was "the world's strongest" ICBM, but experts say the solid-fuel missile was too big to be useful in a war situation. Experts say North Korea has yet to acquire some critical technologies to build a functioning ICBM, such as ensuring that the warhead survives the harsh conditions of atmospheric re-entry. Tensions between the Koreas are at their highest point in years as Kim has repeatedly flaunted his expanding nuclear weapon and missile programmes, while reportedly providing Russia with munitions and troops to support President Vladimir Putin's war in Ukraine. According to the US, South Korean and Ukrainian intelli-

gence assessments, North Korea is estimated to have sent between 10,000 and 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. On Monday, US State Department spokesperson Matthew Miller told reporters that as many as 10,000 North Korean soldiers were in Russia's Kursk region near Ukraine's border and preparing to join Moscow's fight against Ukraine in the coming days. That's up from the 8,000 troops that the US government mentioned Thursday. After a meeting in Seoul on Monday, South Korean Foreign Minister Cho Tae-yul and EU foreign policy chief Josep Borrell expressed "deep concern" over the possibility that Russia might transfer nuclear or ballistic missile-related technology to the North in exchange for its arms and military personnel.

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

AP ■ BANGKOK

The head of Myanmar's military government embarked Tuesday on an official visit to China, the embattled Southeast Asian nation's most important international ally, for several regional meetings. It is the first time Senior Gen. Min Aung Hlaing has traveled to the neighboring country since his army seized power in February 2021 from the elected government of

Aung San Suu Kyi. Myanmar's army suffered unprecedented battlefield defeats over the past year, especially in areas near the Chinese border. Both Myanmar's ruling generals and China's government have shown concern as pro-democracy guerrillas and armed ethnic minority groups, sometimes working hand in hand, have taken the initiative in their fight against military rule. But Beijing is now concerned

about instability that threatens its strategic and business interests in Myanmar. China's government has maintained good working relations with Myanmar's ruling military, which is shunned and sanctioned by many Western nations for the army takeover and for major human rights violations. State-run MRTV television said that Min Aung Hlaing departed on a flight from the capital, Naypyitaw, Tuesday

morning to begin his visit. He will visit the Chinese city of Kunming on Wednesday and Thursday to attend three summits: The Greater Mekong Subregion, the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy and the Cambodia-Laos-Myanmar-Vietnam Cooperation. Kunming, the capital of China's Yunnan province, is about 400 kilometers (250 miles) from the border with Myanmar.

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 25th 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				
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.	Garhwa (AC 80)	Shri Satyendra Nath Tiwari	CJM, Garhwa, Garhwa PS Case no.223/2021: Charges Not Framed	u/s 188, 268, 269, 270, 353 of IPC and U/s 51,56 of DM Act. & Offences Relating to Public Servant	NA	NA	NA
2.			ADJ, Garhwa, Garhwa PS Case no. 415/2021: Charges framed	u/s 188,269, 270, 353 of IPC and U/s 51 of DM Act. & Offences Relating to Public Servant	NA	NA	NA
3.			CJM Garhwa Complaint case no.292/2022,, Charges Not Framed	u/s 500 of IPC & Defamation	NA	NA	NA
4.			CJM Garhwa, Garhwa PS Case no. 541/2024: Charges Not Framed	u/s 223, 292, 196 of IPC & Using evidence known to be false.	NA	NA	NA
5.			JMFC-1, Ranchi, Lalpur PS Case no. 203/2024: Charges Not Framed	u/s 191(2)(3), 190, 115(2), 117(2), 109, 121, 125, 132, 324(2), 351(2), 352, 61(2) of BNS & Giving False Evidence	NA	NA	NA
6.			Special Judge CBI, Ranchi,RC 14A/09(R), Charges Not Framed	U/s 120 (B),420, 467, 468, 471 of IPC read with U/s 31 (d) of PC Act & Criminal Conspiracy	NA	NA	NA
7.			Special Judge CBI, RC1A/10 (R), Ranchi, Charges Not Framed	U/s 120(B), 420, 467, 468, 471 of IPC and 13(2), 13 (1)(d) of PC Act & Criminal Conspiracy	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 candidates set up by the party
(As per the judgment dated 25th 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	Panki AC 75	Shri Kushwaha Shashi Bhushan Mehta	Spl Court, MP/MLA ; Tarhasi PS Case No 66/2014 ; Charges Framed	u/s 143, 147, 323, 427 IPC & Protest against State Government.	NA	NA	NA
2			Spl Court, MP/MLA ; Manatu PS Case No 34/2014 ; Charges Framed	u/s 171E, 171F IPC & u/s 41(6) MV Act & Punishment for Undue Influence & Relating to Registration of MV.	NA	NA	NA
3			Spl Court, MP/MLA ; Panki PS Case No 148/2019 ; Charges Framed	u/s 188 IPC & 171 RPA & Disobedience of Public Servant	NA	NA	NA
4			CJM, Palamu ; Daltonganj PS Case No 266/2024 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 126(2), 127(2), 115(2), 329(4), 74, 302(2), 352, 351(2), 3(5) of BNS & Wrongful Restraint	NA	NA	NA
5			Shri PK Sharma, AJC-cum-spl Judge CBI, Ranchi, Rc 11A/2014R, Charges Framed	u/s 120(b), r/w sections 420, 468, 471, 7 of IPC & Section 13 PC Act & Criminal Conspiracy	NA	NA	NA
6			Dhurwa PS Case No 99/2012, Jharkhand High Court, Appeal	u/s 302, 201, 34 of IPC & Offences Affecting the Human Body	NA	NA	NA
7			Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Lalpur PS Case No 203/2024 ; 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 & Related to Rioting	NA	NA	NA
8			Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Dhurwa PS Case No 107/2024 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 147, 148, 188, 351, 427 of IPC & Protest Against the 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.

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 25th 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.	Barkatha (AC 20)	Shri Amit Kumar Yadav	SDJM Koderma Jainagar PS Case No 173/2022 & Charges Not Framed	u/s 2 of Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act, 1971 & Disrespect to the Indian National Flag or the Constitution of India	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 candidates set up by the party

(As per the judgment dated 25th 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.	Bishnupur (ST) (AC 69)	Shri Samir Oraon	Shri Sarthak Sharma, SPI JMFC MP/MLA Civil Court, Ranchi Dhurwa PS Case No 107/2023 & Charges Not Framed	u/s 147, 148, 188, 109, 353, 332, 427, 323 of IPC & In a public protest against the 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.

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 25th 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.	Hussainabad (AC-79)	Shri. Kamlesh Kumar Singh	Shri PK Sharma, ECIR/02/Pat/09, Charges Framed	PMLA section 3, 4 Money Laundering & Acquiring Assets Disappropriation to known source of income ,	NA	NA	NA
2.			Shri PK Sharma, RCO5 (A) 2010 AHD Ranchi, Charges Framed	u/s 109 AHD, 13(2) r/w 13 (1)(e) of PCA & Criminal Misconduct	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.

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

PTI ■ KOLKATA

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



genuinely empowers local communities. By ensuring benefits flow directly to communities, we are seeing how private sector support can create real opportunities for those who depend on these ecosystems," Stephane Tromilin, Head of Project Development at EcoAct, said. Other companies should also consider investing in this project as part of their sustainability strategies, Tromilin said. "For generations, our families are dependent on these mangroves for our survival - for fishing, for protection from storms, for our daily needs. But we have watched them

disappear year after year," said Swapan Maity, member of Dhablat Panchayat and Secretary of Chemaguri Byabsaik Samity. He expressed hope that this project would help them restore what they are losing, create jobs and protect their homes. The project is expected to create local employment opportunities over its 20-year duration. While the restoration is guided by scientific protocols, community members are involved in implementation and monitoring, with equal opportunities for men and women in the region. Communities also retain

decision-making power over how project benefits are reinvested in their local development priorities, officials said. "Our role has been limited to support local communities in realizing their vision for mangrove restoration. Their traditional knowledge and daily engagement with these ecosystems make them the most qualified stewards of this project," said Soumya Darshan Pradhan, CEO & MD of Meensou India. Meensou develops carbon offset and credit projects focusing on social capacity building, economic growth, equitable wealth distribution, and environmental protection. The restoration effort will help revitalise crucial habitats for the iconic Royal Bengal Tiger and protect over 1,400 other species that call the Sundarbans their home. Through the planting of 19 native mangrove species, the project aims to strengthen the ecosystem's natural resilience, protecting thousands of homes from erosion and extreme weather events, officials said.

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 25th 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.	Daltonganj (AC 76)	Shri Alok Kumar Chourasia	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranch Lalpur PS Case No 203/24; i & 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, Criminal Intimidation	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 candidates set up by the party

(As per the judgment dated 25th 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.	Saraikele (ST) (AC 51)	Shri Champai Soren	Old Court of CJM, Seraikele New Court of SDJM Sadar cum SPL Judge, Chaibasa Old GR Case No. 436/93(5) New GR Case No. 861/21 Court of SDJM Sadar cum SPL Judge, Chaibasa, Charges Not Framed	IPC 120B, 201, Explosive Substance Act 4/5/6 & Criminal Conspiracy & Attempt to cause explosion	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 candidates set up by the party
 (As per the judgment dated 25th 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
	AC 78 Chhatarpur (SC)	Smt. Pushpa Devi Bhuiyan	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)/3 51(2)/352/61(2) of BNS & 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.

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 25th 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.	Bishrampur (AC 77)	Ramchandra Chandravanshi	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,	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 candidates set up by the party
 (As per the judgment dated 25th 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 59 ; Torpa (ST)	Shri Koche Munda	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court, at Ranchi ; Lalpur PS Case No 203/24 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s191(2)(3)/190/115(2)/117(2)/109/121 (1)/125/132/324(2)/3 51(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.

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 25th 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.	Majhgaon (ST) (AC 53)	Shri Barkuwar Gagrai	Sri Rishi Kumar J.M. 1st Class, MP/MLA Court, DPS Case No. 20/2012 Charges Framed G.R. Case No. 198/2021	u/s 174(9) of Railway Act & Railway Agitation	MP/MLA Court, Case No. DPS 20/2012 G.R & 31/06/2022	Railway Agitation, u/s 174(9) of Railway Act & 1 Year	1 Year

*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 candidates set up by the party
 (As per the judgment dated 25th 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.	Kodarma (AC 19)	Smt. Neera Yadav	Sri Sharthak Sharma MP/MLA Court Lalpur PS Case No 203/24, at Ranchi, Charges Not Framed	u/s- 191(2)(3)/190/115 (2)/117(2)/109/121 (1)/125/132/324(2)/3 51 (2)/352/61(2) of BNS & 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.

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 25th 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
	Khunti(ST) AC 60	Shri Nilkanth Singh Munda	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.	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.

Aussie quick Boland looks to keep KL Rahul under pressure ahead of Border-Gavaskar Trophy

PTI ■ MELBOURNE

Australian pacer Scott Boland wants to extend the barren run of KL Rahul and keep him under pressure ahead of the Border-Gavaskar Trophy when he faces the Indian batter in the four-day A-Team match here on Thursday. Rahul along with wicketkeeper batter Dhruv Jurel flew early to Australia, and will appear for India A in the second four-day game at the MCG.

"I was lucky to bowl to him in a Test over in India a couple of years ago but it'll be nice to play against him in our backyard," Boland was quoted saying by ESPNcricinfo. Rahul made a hundred on his



debut tour to Australia in 2015, a 110 at Sydney, but his overall performance Down Under remains scratchy, evidenced by an average of 20.77 across four Tests. Boland wants to heap more misery on the 32-year-old. "He's a world-class player but someone I think we can get on top of pretty early and hopefully stay on top of him for the majority of the summer," said Boland. Rahul was dropped from India's eleven after the first Test against New Zealand at Bengaluru where he made 0 and 12. It was a continuation of his modest run since cracking a hundred against South Africa at Centurion in December 2023. Since then, he made just two

fifties across nine innings against SA, England, Bangladesh and New Zealand. But the Bengaluru man could return to the eleven if skipper Rohit Sharma skips the first Test against the Aussies at Perth, starting from November 22, owing to personal reasons. Boland also remained cautious about the impact of India's recent 0-3 whitewash at home by the Kiwis. The 35-year-old said India has enough experience to make a comeback. "There's so much more bounce here, more seam. The way they'll structure their team (in Australia) will be completely different to what you see over in India," he noted.



Harmanpreet Kaur rises to ninth, Smriti Mandhana remains fourth in women's ODI rankings

PTI ■ DUBAI

India captain Harmanpreet Kaur climbed to the joint ninth spot while opener Smriti Mandhana remained fourth in the latest ICC Women's ODI rankings, released here on Tuesday. Kaur, who played an important part in her team's six-wicket victory over New Zealand in the third ODI of their ICC Women's Championship series in Ahmedabad, had slipped three slots after the first two matches. However, her 59 not out off 63 balls pushed her back into the top 10. Left-hander Mandhana, who won the player of the match award for her knock of 100, added 23 rating points to reach a tally of 728, just five less than Sri Lanka's Chamari Athapaththu in the list led by Natalie Sciver-Brunt of England with 760 rating points. Wicketkeeper Yastika Bhatia moved up from 48th to 45th after chipping in with 35 runs, while for New Zealand, Brooke Halliday's knock of 86

lifted her 12 spots to 24th position and Georgia Plimmer's 39 runs took her from 85th to 74th position. In the bowling chart, seasoned spinner Deepti Sharma gained important rating points after helping India win the series 2-1. Deepti, who had already attained a career-high 687 rating points last week while consolidating her second place among bowlers, added 16 more to reach 703 rating points after her haul of 3/39 to hold on to the second spot. England's left-arm spinner Sophie Ecclestone enjoys a huge lead at the top with 770 rating points. India pacer Renuka Singh was up four places to 32nd while Saima Thakor (up 20 places to joint-77th) and Priya Mishra (up six places to 83rd) also progressed. India are placed in third position in the ICC Women's Championship standings with 25 points while New Zealand are sixth with 20 from 21. Australia and England are at the top with 28 points each, from 18 and 21 matches, respectively.

Drubbing at the hands of NZ might awaken sleeping giant India, feels Hazlewood

PTI ■ SYDNEY

Australian pacer Josh Hazlewood believes India's confidence would have been shaken by the shocking series loss to New Zealand, but the "sleeping giant" can mount a strong comeback in the Border-Gavaskar Trophy starting later this month. India suffered a humiliating series whitewash after losing the third match by 25 runs to New Zealand in Mumbai on Sunday, the first time in their Test history, which goes back to

1933. "It might awaken a sleeping giant, so to speak. We'll see that when they come out," Hazlewood told 'Sydney Morning Herald'. Not only did the drubbing at home mark one of the darkest moments in India's Test cricket history, it has also significantly impacted the Rohit Sharma-led side's chances of qualifying for next year's World Test Championship (WTC) final. Three back-to-back losses meant that India have lost their top spot to



Australia in the WTC standings. India are now faced with a tough task to win four of their five matches against Australia to qualify for their third consecutive WTC final without relying on external results. "It's obviously better than losing 3-0 than winning 3-0, easily. The confidence might have taken a bit of a hit. A lot of them have been out here, but there are a few batters who haven't, so they'll be a bit unsure of what to expect," Hazlewood said. "I don't think you can read too much

into it. The results are obviously good for us in a way." Hazlewood, who is a part of Australia's three-pronged pace attack along with Mitchell Starc and skipper Pat Cummins, lauded his Trans-Tasman rivals for achieving something no other team has been able to do. "Credit to the Kiwi boys. They played outstanding cricket. To win 3-0 in India is unbelievable. It's hard enough to win one game there, let alone every match of the series," Hazlewood said.



Indian boxer Mandeep Jangra wins WBF's world title

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian professional boxer Mandeep Jangra won the World Boxing Federation's super featherweight world title after defeating Britain's Conor McIntosh in the Cayman Islands. The 31-year-old, who trains under former Olympic silver medalist Roy Jones Jr and has faced only one defeat in his professional career so far, had the upper hand in most rounds. He delivered powerful punches from the outset, maintaining his stamina throughout the 10 rounds, while the British boxer struggled to keep pace. Conor did try to make a comeback, but Jangra continued to maintain the upper hand in most rounds. "This is one of the biggest victories of my career. I am thankful to my sponsor Nash Built Construction, Chief Coach Roy Jones, Assistant Coach Asa Beard and Angel,"

Jangra said in a media release "I have worked hard for years to achieve this. It is a matter of pride for me that I could bring glory to the country." The Haryana boxer, who made his professional boxing debut in 2021, hopes the title will inspire more Indian pugilists to turn professional. "I think this title will open the way for other boxers of the country and they will also decide to make a career in professional boxing. "Our boxers are good and there is no dearth of talent in them. If they get good promoters and managers, they can also become world champions," Jangra added. Jangra has won 11 out of his 12 fights in his pro career with seven being knockout victories. He had a decent run in the amateur circuit as well and won a Commonwealth Games silver medal in the 2014 Glasgow edition.

Top ranked Erigaisi to face Gujarathi in opening round



PTI ■ CHENNAI

World No. 4 Indian chess grandmaster and top seed Arjun Erigaisi will open his Chennai Grand Masters campaign against compatriot Vidit Gujarathi, starting here on Tuesday. Erigaisi will play for the first time in India after crossing the historic 2800 ELO ranking mark when he takes the board. The eight-player strong classical event will see Aravindh Chithambaram take on Iranian Amin Tabatabaei, Vachier-Lagrave Maxime will face Maghsoodloo Parham and American Grandmaster Levon Aronian will play Alexey Sarana in the opening round. The second edition of the seven round competition will also feature a Challengers event featuring female players for the first time. Organised by MGD1 with ChessBase India, and sponsored by the Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, the tournament

will be held at the 1,100-seat Anna Centenary Library. The event will also feature two Indian women — Harika Dronavalli and Vaishali Rameshbabu. The Challengers participants, will fight for a prize pool of Rs 20 lakh, with the winner taking home Rs six lakh and a direct berth in the Masters next year. In the Challenger category, Vaishali will take on Mendonca Leon Luke while Harika will play Pranav V. In the other two matches, Raunak Sadhwani will face off against Karthikeyan Murali while Pranesh M will play Abhimanyu Puranik. The Challengers event, which is introduced for this year, will give Indian prodigies the chance to compete in top-level tournaments. D Gukesh had won the inaugural edition last year but will miss this year's competition as he is preparing for the world championships title against Ding Liren of China.

Agni Chopra's dream: Playing Ranji Elite division after big start with Mizoram in Plate League

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Currently, Agni Chopra's First-Class average stands at a box office 99.06 and it has attracted as much, may be even more, attention as some of the biggest Bollywood chartbusters his father has produced. In only nine games since his debut in the Ranji Trophy Plate league for Mizoram earlier this year, Agni, son of Bollywood filmmaker Vidhu Vinod Chopra and film critic Anupama Chopra, has garnered 1585 runs with eight hundreds and four fifties. The beginning of this filmy sequence started in January this year when he debuted with a 166 against Sikkim at Nadiad, and from there on Agni has not stopped scoring

runs in tons, literally. This season the 26-year-old left-hander has started from where he left and has already scored 218 and 238 against Arunachal and Manipur. So, what is the secret of his run rush? "It's all about hunger, right?" Agni told PTI in an exclusive interview. "Before this season started, I discussed it with my coach Khushpreet (Singh). The only thing he told me was, 'forget about the runs, you just have to focus on one thing - don't get out.'" "So I've not thought about anything else. My second goal was to score double hundreds because last year I didn't score a single double hundred," said Agni, adding that specific work on his fitness has also

helped him pile up big scores. His domination of bowlers, which has seen his average touching Bradmanesque levels, has come in the Plate League so far, and Agni nourishes the dream of getting into Elite League with Mizoram. "I don't think too far into the future. Of course, in terms of the larger picture, I would love to be picked in the Duleep Trophy, or India A, to play in the IPL, to hopefully, one day, represent India," he said. "For me what works best is (when) I always focus on the next game. I don't even think about the second game. I only think about what's next because in order to play for India, I have to do well in the next game."

But for it, Agni knows that, he will have to play in the Elite segment of the Ranji Trophy. "I would love to represent an Elite division team, then maybe play for IPL and India. But to do those things, I have to play well at the level I'm playing right now and to do that, I also have to score runs in the next game. So, I genuinely think about only the next game," he said. Agni realises that he has to shoulder a major share of responsibility of carrying Mizoram into the Elite round. "Our Mizoram team's collective goal is to qualify for the Elite division. The goal is for us to finish on top and qualify... Then I'll be able to play in the Elite division against the top level of bowlers," he said.

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 25th 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	4		5		
				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.	Hatia (AC 64)	Shri Navin Jaiswal		Shri Sarthak Sharma JMFC, 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	NA	NA	NA
2.				Shri Sarthak Sharma JMFC, Ranchi ; Dhurwa PS Case No 107/2023 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 147, 148, 188, 109, 353, 332, 427 and 323 of IPC & Protest Against the State.	NA	NA	NA
3.				Shri Sarthak Sharma JMFC, Ranchi ; Lalpur PS Case No 251/2021 ; Charges Not Framed	u/s 147, 149, 341, 323, 332, 353, 188, 269, 270 of IPC & section 51 Disaster Management Act & Offences Affecting Public Health	NA	NA	NA
4.				Sri Acchat Srivastava JMFC, Ranchi, Complaint Case No 3096/2017, Charges Not Framed	u/s 406 IPC & Criminal Breach of Trust	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.