

BIDEN AUTHORISES UKRAINE TO USE US MISSILES FOR STRIKES

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RANCHI, TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹ 3



What is the real AQI?

onfusion prevails over the accuracy of the Air Quality Index (AQI) as Delhiites gasp for breath. While the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) on Monday recorded the Delhi' AQI at 486 at 6 am marking the worst of the season, another platform, IQAir, a Swiss air quality technology company, showed Delhi's AQI around 1,697 at 12.30 pm. It recorded 2,314 AQI at VIvek Vihar C block station, which is beyond severe, in the National Capital. An official statement issued by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) which comes under the Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena also cited the AQIat

According to IQAir, the National Capital ranked at the top of the list of most polluted cities in the world. The PM2.5 concentration is recorded at 907.5 µg/m that is 182.5 times the World Health Organization (WHO) annual PM2.5 guideline value.

Another platform, AQICN.Org, shared real time data that showed AQI at 874 in the hazardous category. The India Meteorological Department has issued an Orange Alert due to dense fog in the city. With the city shrouded in dense fog and visibility severely reduced, flight and train operations have been disrupted, leading to delays.

As several platforms showing AQI at

hazardous levels beyond the severe, the Commission (CAOM) issued a Management communiqué urging to refer only to the SAMEER App or the CPCB Official Website for accurate and reliable data. These are the authorised platforms for relaying the air quality index. Please avoid relying on unofficial or unreliable sources to ensure that correct information is alone disseminated to the public," it added.

150

The Air Quality Index, is a numerical scale that measures certain pollutants and their concentration to communicate the quality of air in a specific area. It also provides information on how these numbers can affect human health and the environment. When asked officials say some platforms, like IQAir, provide realtime data, while others, like the CPCB, provide a single reading for a day. One of the reasons why the data collected by different platforms is varied is due to access to air quality monitoring stations. Since IQAir is an aggregator, it uses information from government-run sensors, which are also used by the CPCB. It also uses privately operated sensors, which may provide more localised readings.Platforms such as IQAir update the AQI of a city and its different regions much faster with real-time data, while the CPCB gives one reading which applies to the region for a day.

Enforce GRAP IV strictly: SC

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

the alarming $N_{
m population}^{
m oting}$ the delays and implementation of stricter measures, the Supreme Court (SC) on Monday asked the Delhi-NCR States to immediately set up teams to enforce GRAP 4 restrictions. and said it will remain in effect even if the AQI is below 450. The SC also ordered that physical classes for all school students up to Class 12 be suspended in Delhi NCR for the time

A Bench of Justices Abhay S Oka and Augustine George Masih said it is the constitutional duty of all States to ensure all citizens live in a pollution-free environment. "We direct restrictions under stage 4 of GRAP to continue even if AQI level falls below 450," the Bench

The Supreme Court asked all National Capital Region States to immediately take a call on conducting physical classes up to Class 12 and directed the setting up of a mechanism where complaints can be made for violation of restrictions under stage 4 of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). The Bench questioned the Delhi Government and the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM) over the delay in invoking pollution preventive measures under GRAP stages. "GRAP stages should be implemented immediately the moment the AQI level



touches alarming levels. Some sense of urgency needs to be there," the Bench said, after the counsel for the Delhi Government informed the Bench that stage 4 of GRAP has been implemented from Monday and heavy vehicles have been banned from entering the national Capital. "The moment the AQI reaches between 300 and 400, stage 4 has to be invoked. How can you take risk in these matters by delaying applicability of stage 4 of GRAP," the Bench told the counsel. The Judges said that the CAOM waited for improvement in weather conditions instead of implementing different stages of GRAP over alarming rising pollution levels. Asking the Delhi Government and neighbouring NCR States - Uttar Pradesh and Haryana - to file their compliance affidavit by November 22 on the implementation of preventive measures to check pollution, the Bench said steps may be taken besides those suggested under GRAP.

Delhi facing medical emergency: CM Atishi

*AQI SOURCE: CENTRAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD, NOVEMBER 18, 2024

RAJESH KUMAR/SAUMYA SHUKLA

Delhi Chief Minister Atishi on Monday raised an alarm over the severe air pollution engulfing a large swathe of North India, describing the situation as a "medical emergency" caused by rampant stubble burning in several "Bharatiya Janata Party-ruled" states. Experts have advised citizens to reduce outdoor activities, minimise exposure, wear N95 masks when outside, and decrease vehicular emissions, to minimise the impact of pollution in their day-to-day lives. Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a warning for dense to very dense fog, saying road, train and flight services may get affected.

Fifteen flights were diverted, and around 200 were delayed at the Delhi airport on Monday as visibility reduces to 150 metres due to unfavourable weather conditions in the National Capital. Flight operations in Delhi faced disruptions on Monday as thick smog reduced visibility Indira significantly at Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA). According to Flightradar24, over 200 flights, 118 departures and 43 arrivals, at Delhi Airport experienced delays due to the low visibility till 8.30 am. More than 100 flights have been rescheduled. Out of the 15 flights, 13 were diverted to Jaipur and 1 to Dehradun, the official said and added that the diversions happened



between 8.30 am and 3 pm. Some of the pilots were not trained for CAT III operations due to which flights had to be diverted.

Complying with the measures enforced under GRAP Stage IV, the Delhi traffic police imposed a total of 4,852 challans and 4.472 challans on the nonpossession of Pollution Under Control (PUC) certificates on November 15 and 17 respectively. It also imposed 138 and 155 challans on End of Life Vehicles (ELVs) on November 15 and 17 respectively.

The police also diverted 423 nondestined trucks on November 15 while the numbers were higher for November 17 as 545 such trucks were diverted in Delhi. In adherence to the measures, the police also imposed challans on 514 Light Motor Vehicles (LMVs) (BS III petrol and BS IV diesel) on November 15. The numbers rose about 100 per cent on November 17 as 1,130 such LMVs were issued challans.

Meanwhile,



People gather outside the emergency ward after a fire broke out in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) of the Maharani Laxmi Bai Medical College, in Jhansi

after Jhansi fire tragedy

No FIR filed 72-hours

remains

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

Edevastating fire in the Special Newborn Care Unit

(SNCU) of Rani Laxmibai

Medical College claimed the

lives of 12 newborns, no FIR

has been registered, and

undetermined. The tragedy,

which occurred on Friday

night, left 10 newborns dead

on the spot, and two more

succumbed to their injuries on

While a preliminary investigation by the Divisional

Commissioner has been completed and a report

submitted to the state

government, no concrete

action has been taken against

any staff member or official. A

high-level team led by the Director General of Health

Services began its probe on

Monday, but legal and

disciplinary actions remain pending. The inaction has

fueled political outrage, with

Sunday, and Monday.

accountability \

BJP, Somesh Shoukeen comes to AAP

Opposition parties lambasting

demanding

flagged serious lapses in safety

measures across the hospital,

including in the SNCU ward.

Rs 1 crore to address these

deficiencies was submitted,

but no substantial progress

conducted in June, following

the audit. However, Rs 46 lakh

implement

was made.



RAJESH KUMAR NEW DELHI

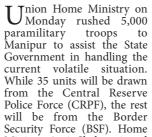
ruling Aam Aadmi Party's the government for negligence the fence on Monday morning accountability.
The tragedy has spotlighted glaring fire safety violations at the medical college. A February fire audit had Despite these warnings, the administration failed to corrective measures. A proposal seeking Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak, who inspected the site on Saturday, confirmed that a mock fire drill had been sanctioned earlier for electrical repairs and the refilling of 126 fire extinguishers proved insufficient to prevent the Gahlot resigning from the

Kailash Gahlot goes to



Delhi's former Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot, who called himself Arvind Kejriwal's 'Hanuman' till Sunday, and was one of the senior-most leaders, jumped to join the rival Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), a day after quitting the party. After joining the BJP, Gahlot clarified that he didn't quit Delhi's ruling party because of pressure from the Enforcement Directorate (ED) and Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI). He alleged that efforts are being made to build a false narrative that his decision to quit the AAP was the result of probe agencies pressure while AAP convener said Gahlot was free to make his choice. Speaking to reporters, he said, "He is free; he can go wherever he wants." Similarly, former Congress MLA from Matiala, Somesh Shoukeen joined the AAP in the presence of Arvind Kejriwal. This comes a day after the AAP suffered a blow with its Jat leader Kailash

MHA rushes 5,000 paramilitary troops to Manipur PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI / IMPHAL



Minister Amit Shah reviewed the prevailing security situation and deployment of troops for the second consecutive day and directed top officials to focus on

restoring peace and order there as early as possible. A total of 218 Central Armed (CAPF) Police Forces companies are now present in the State, which has been reeling from ethnic strife since May last year. The Home Minister took stock of the deployment of central forces there and directed the officials there as early as possible, said officials. The situation in the Northeastern state, which has been reeling from ethnic strife since May last year, has been volatile following protests and violence after the recovery of bodies of women and children.



Assam Rifles officers at Lailophai in Churachandpur district, Manipiur

defying curfew orders, a group of people led by members of the Coordinating Committee on Manipur Integrity (COCOMI) on Monday locked the front doors of several government offices in Imphal West district to protest the recent killing of three women and three children in Iirib said. The COCOMI is an influential organisation of the Meitei community, the majority ethnic group in the Imphal Valley region that comprises five districts including Imphal West.

Campaigning draws to a close, high-stake polls next

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE MUMBAI/RANCHI/LUCKNOW

ampaigning for the high-Ustakes single phase elections in Assembly Maharashtra, and second and final phase of Jharkhand Assembly elections ended on Monday evening, for the November 20 elections. Besides intense campaigning for the nine Assembly by elections in Uttar Pradesh too concluded on Monday evening for the scheduled voting on November 20. Results for the polls scheduled on November 13 and 20 including, Wayanad Lok Sabha are set to be declared on November 23. The election campaign for the Maharashtra Assembly polls ended on Monday, with

the ruling BJP-led Mahayuti

alliance vying to retain power and the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) combine hoping for a strong comeback.

Polling will be held in all the 288 Assembly seats for which the campaign saw prominent leaders like Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Minister Amit Congress leaders Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi and Union ministers many crisscrossing the state to garner votes for their candidates.

The Mahayuti, comprising

the BJP, Shiv Sena led by Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, and the Nationalist Congress Party led by Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar, is banking on its popular schemes like Majhi Ladki Bahin for women helping it retain power.

The BJP's use of slogans like "Batenge toh katenge" and
"Ek hai toh safe hai" prompted the opposition parties to accuse the Mahayuti of polarising voters

along religious lines. The Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA), comprising the Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP (Sharadchandra Pawar), slammed Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's use of "Batenge toh katenge" and PM Modi's "Ek hai toh safe hai" slogans.

'One Earth One Family One Future' theme still relevant: PM Modi

PTI ■ RIO DE JANEIRO

The countries of the Global South are most adversely impacted by the food, fuel and fertilizer crisis caused by global conflicts and G20 must focus on addressing it, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Monday.

In an address at a session at the G20 summit, Modi said India's G20 theme of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" is as relevant at the ongoing summit as it was last year. "I would like to say that countries of the Global South are most adversely impacted by the food, fuel and fertilizer crisis caused by global conflicts," he said. "So our discussions can only be successful when we keep in mind the challenges and priorities of the Global South," he added. The PM made the remarks at the G20 session on 'Social Inclusion and the Fight Against Hunger

and Poverty'. Modi also called for reform of the institutions of global governance. "And just as we amplified the voice of the Global South by granting permanent membership of G20 to the African Union during the New Delhi summit, we will reform institutions of governance," he said. global

The PM said India supports Brazil's initiative for a 'global alliance against hunger and poverty' "The people-centric decisions taken at the G20



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed by President of Brazil Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva upon his arrival to attend the G20 Summit, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Summit in New Delhi have been taken forward during Brazil's Presidency," he said. "It is a matter of great satisfaction that we prioritised SDG (sustainable development goals). We focused on Inclusive development, development, and youth power," he said. "And gave wings to the hopes and aspirations of the Global

South. It is clear that One Earth One Family One Future is as relevant at this summit as it was last year," he added. The theme of India's G20 presidency is drawn from the ancient Sanskrit text of Maha Upanishad.

India is 'top sender' of students to America

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW

With more than 3.3 lakh Indians studying in the United States, it has become the "top sender" of international students for the first time in 15 years, according to the Open Doors Report 2024 released on Monday. In the academic year 2022-23, the leading "source country" for international students in the US was China followed by India. According to the latest Open Doors

Report, the number of Indian

students studying in the US in the

academic year 2023-24 is at an "all-

time high" at 3,31,602, a rise of 23 per cent from 2022-23 when the number stood at 2,68,923.

"India is now the leading country of origin for international students in the United States, accounting for 29 per cent of the total international student population," according to a note shared by the US Embassy on the Open Doors

Report 2024. According to official data associated with the latest report, the top five source countries for international students in the US for 2023-24 are: India, China (2,77,398), South Korea (43,149), Canada (28,998) and Taiwan



(23,157)."India is the top sender of international students (for the first time since 2008/2009) with over

United States. The number of to 1,426 students, according to the Indian students is at an all-time high," the US Embassy's note read. Normally, the academic year in the US begins in September and runs through May. India also "remained the largest

sender" of international graduate (masters and PhD level) students to the US for the second year. The number of Indian graduate students increased by 19 per cent to reach 1,96,567, it said.

The number of undergraduate students from India also increased by 13 per cent to 36,053 while the number of non-degree students 3,31,602 students studying in the experienced a 28 per cent decline

report. The release of the Open Doors Report marked the beginning of International Education Week

(IEW), which celebrates the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. The report is published by the Institute of International Education. The IIE has been International

conducting an annual statistical survey on international students in the US since its founding in 1919 and in partnership with the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs

Counting exercise: Jamshedpur West leads with 16 tables for 22 rounds

♦ he counting of votes for the Jamshedpur Assembly constituencies has been meticulously planned to ensure a seamless and transparent process. Covering multiple constituencies, the process involves detailed arrangements tailored to the specific requirements of each area. The Election Commission has finalized the schedule, which includes the deployment of counting tables, the number of rounds required, and the training of personnel to manage the operations efficiently.

For the Baharagora constituency, the counting will be conducted across 14 tables for votes from 264 polling stations. This process will be completed in 19 rounds, with the fewest rounds required. In the Ghatsila constituency, votes from 291 polling stations will be counted at 15 tables over 20 rounds. Similarly, Potka will require 16 tables to count from 326 polling booths, and the process will span 21 rounds.

The Jugsalai constituency, with the highest number of polling stations at 381, will utilize 20 tables for the counting process. This will take 20 rounds to complete. In Jamshedpur East, 303 polling stations will be covered with 15 tables, requiring 21 rounds for completion. Jamshedpur Meanwhile, West, which has 348 polling stations, will have 16 counting tables and will complete the process in 22 rounds, the



highest among the con-

In addition to the counting of votes cast through elec(EVMs), the counting of postal ballots will take place in seven blocks covering all the assembly constituencies. This will ensure that every vote is

JAMSHEDPUR: In preparation for the upcoming vote counting process, District Election Officer Ananya Mittal has announced a detailed training schedule for personnel involved in the task. The training will be held from 19 November to 21 November 2024 at Michael John Auditorium. The final day, 21 November, will see a repeat of the sessions for Postal Ballot Counting Staff in the morning from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM and for EVM Counting Staff in the afternoon from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

This training is essential to ensure all personnel are well-prepared for their roles, thereby maintaining the efficiency and transparency of the counting process. Attendance in the respective sessions is mandatory for all assigned staff.

accounted for and included in the final results.

To guarantee a smooth process, the District Election and Deputy Commissioner, Ananya Mittal, has mandated comprehensive training for all personnel involved in the vote counting. These training sessions will be conducted from 19 November to 21 November at Ma Ekal Zone

Sabhagar, Jamshedpur. November, training for postal ballot counting staff, including Counting Assistants, Counting Supervisors, and RO Table staff, will be held from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The same day, EVM counting staff and RO Table staff will undergo training from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. On 20 November, the training will

continue with sessions for the Receiving Team from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM, followed by training for Micro Observers from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM. The final day, 21 November, will repeat the training for postal ballot counting staff in the morning session from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM and for EVM counting staff in the afternoon from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM. The entire counting been put in place, including the installation of CCTV cameras at all counting locations to monitor the activities in real-time. These measures are aimed at maintaining public trust and ensuring that the results reflect the will of the voters without any disadministration's meticulous planning and focus on training underscore

tize transparency, accuracy,

security arrangements have

efficiency. Extensive

its commitment to conducting the counting process with the highest standards of integrity and professionalism. This comprehensive approach reflects the significance of ensuring a fair electoral process in the democratic

Jail adalat held in Garhwa

A Jail Adalat-cum-

Awareness Camp was recently conducted under the auspices of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) and

the Jharkhand State Legal Services Authority (JHALSA), following the directives of Nalin Kumar, the Principal District and Sessions Judge and Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority in Garhwa. During the event, Ravi Chaudhary, the Secretary of the District Legal Services Authority, Garhwa, spoke to the inmates about their legal rights. He highlighted that if any prisoner cannot afford to hire a lawyer for their case, or if their case has already been resolved by the District Court and they wish to appeal to the High Court or request bail, they can submit an application to the District Legal Services Authority through the Jail Superintendent. This procedure will provide access to free legal representation, as the authority is committed to ensuring prompt justice for inmates.

The camp saw the participation of distinguished individuals, including Ravi Chaudhary, Deputy Chief of LADCS Anita Ranjan, Assistant Vijay Kumar, and court staff members Amar

Man arrested for murder in Garhwa



PNS: GARHWA

A homicide was discovered on November 15, 2024, when a man's body was found between railway tracks in Ahipurwa. The local police identified him as 26-year-old Rahul Kumar.

His mother, Muni Devi, reported the murder, starting case No. 231/2024. This case accuses an unknown attacker

of killing Kumar with a sharp weapon.

In response to this crime, the Superintendent of Police Kumar Pandey quickly formed a team. They examined technical evidence, circumstantial evidence, and eyewitness accounts. This led them to find a suspect.

Authorities arrested 26year-old Mohan Paswan from Ahipurwa. During questioning, Paswan confessed to the murder. He said he found Kumar having an affair with his girlfriend. He had warned Kumar to stop, but Kumar continued, SP said.

Paswan described how he planned the murder. He lured Kumar to the railway tracks on the night of November 14, 2024. After drinking, Paswan killed him with a sickle, SP

Soaring price to mar joy of poll outcome

PNS: DALTONGANJ

Garlic 400 rupees per kg. Green chili 100 rupees per kg. Onion 80 rupees per kg. Veggies are going out of the range of buying.
Right amidst this skyrock-

eting price there would come poll results on November 23. There will be a boom of joy in the winner's camp. A winner will be right at the top of the world while people who had voted for him or her will be struggling with daily needs in the wake of the heavy price

Commoners told this correspondent "How can one have a big laugh over the poll outcome when one's pocket is so burnt and holed? One Aditya Kumar said "It



Nodal officer of the Karmik Koushang Md Jawed Hussain

you from a winner in this vidhan sabha election if he or

three things at the subsidized rate like flat 50 rupees for onion and green chili and 100 rupees for garlic for a few days only. I know no winner will be any munificent."

He recalled when onion was 100 rupees per kg a popular computer course institution had offered 2kgs of onions to students on their admission to the said insti-

Palamu administration has made elaborate arrangements for the November 23 counting of votes, said the nodal officer of the Karmik Koshang Md Jawed Hussain a 2018 batch IAS officer.

Jawed Hussain has an easy solution to know the results. It's eci. result. Tap it and the result will be before

Extensive Voter Awareness Campaign conducted by BSL

Ahead of the Assembly Elections scheduled for November 20 in Bokaro, Bokaro Steel Limited (BSL) has launched a comprehensive voter awareness campaign to encourage its employees to exercise their right to vote. The Director In-Charge of BSL, B.K. Tiwari, appealed to all employees and their family members to actively participate in this democratic festival and strive to set a new record for voter turnout in Bokaro this year. Over the past month, var-

ious programs were organ-

Sakshi Singh elder daughter of Jharia BJP candidate Ragini Singh and Sanjeev Singh

makes an emotional appeal to Jharia voters

while campaigning for mother Ragini asking

her support for mother so that can get safe

release of he father who is in judicial custody

since last seven years as was falsely implicat-

material aunt for politicising uncle Neeraj

Singh's murder for political and personal

benefit Singh Mansion's darling, elder daughter "Sakshi" not only shocked the voters of

Jharia but also touched the hearts of every

common and special person with her speech.

sitting Jharia MLA Poornima Neeraj Singh for

politicising the muder case and using support

to administration to ensure that her father

conference

Deputy

Vijaya

alongside

was not granted bail.

Commissioner (DC)

Superintendent of Police (SP)

of awareness campaigns

have been launched, leverag-

ing traditional and digital

platforms to reach every sec-

tion of the electorate. Special

emphasis has been placed on

engaging first-time voters,

senior citizens, and different-

ly-abled individuals, ensuring

that every voter feels empow-

ered to exercise their demo-

edged and appreciated the

The DC also acknowl-

cratic right.

PNS: BOKARO

Bokaro

Jadhav.

She leveled direct attack on material aunt

"It's most unfortunate that during her five

Lashing out at sitting MLA Poornima - her

ed in murder of her loved uncle Neeraj.



voter pledges to employees and encourage them to cast their votes. In collaboration with the district administration, voter awareness campaigns were held in several departments, including Shops, CED, SIGS, ECIS, including Contract Cell, R&R, Traffic,

Daughter becomes Star campaigner for mother in Jharia

out at his aunt.

O&G CBRS, RMHP, Coke Oven, Sinter Plant, Blast Furnace, SMS-1 & 2, Hot Strip Mill, CRM, RGBS, HRCF, among others. BSL also ensured widespread participation in the awareness drive through posters and banners displayed in the township plant premises. Continuous announcements at the plant's various entry have been urging employees to vote and moti-

vate others to do the same. BSL has reiterated its appeal to all employees and voters to cast their votes on November 20 and inspire others to participate in

vear tenure being MLA of ruling alliance

Poornima aunty never asked the government

to get CBI inquiry done in the murder case as

is well aware that once truth comes to fore

she would be exposed", said Sakshi, hitting

ence, Sakshi apparently has proved to be the

'star campaigner" for mother and BJP can-

didate from Jharia Ragini Singh amidst her

intensive tour of the area and vigorous public

relations campaign, Sakshi tried her best to

win the hearts of the voters. She made Sunday

evening special for the voters of Jharia. In the

program organized at Chautha Kulhi, Sakshi

put forth her heart's feelings in a very simple

manner in front of the voters and forced them

She also spoke in length on the cordial

She hoped that her father who has been

falsely implicated in this murder case would

to make a decision for a better future ahead.

relation with chaca Neeraj with her too.

be out of jails very soon.

Receiving huge applause from the audi-

SEIZED JEWELLERY WORTH RS 1.57 CRORE RELEASED

PNS: JAMSHEDPUR

Jewellery worth approximately ?1.57 crore, seized from the Tatanagar railway station last month, was handed over to jewellery traders on Monday following an investigation and evaluation by the GST department and other offi-

The incident occurred in the early hours of October 27, when a flying squad and Railway Protection Force (RPF) team from the Chakradharpur division stopped a man, identified as BN Jha, a resident of Jugsalai, on suspicion. Upon searching his bag, authorities recovered a significant consignment of jewellery, including gold, silver, platinum, diamonds. and idols.

Following the seizure, the consignment was weighed and evaluated by GST officials, who confirmed its value at ?1.57 crore. The matter prompted intervention from the Singhbhum Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), which requested the East Singhbhum Assortment Law and Penitentiary Committee to release the confiscated goods. After a thorough investigation, officials cleared the consignment and released it to the

traders on Monday. The incident has underscored the importance of compliance with tax and documentation requirements. Both the GST department and the RPF have advised businesspersons to carry proper documentation, including taxrelated certificates, while transporting goods. In the absence of valid documents, confiscation and legal action may be taken.

This development highlights the administration's vigilance in ensuring securegulatory standards.

JMM registers complaint against BJP's 'X' handle

PNS: RANCHI

The JMM has complained to the Election Commission against BJP's X handle. JMM said that BJP is tarnishing the image of Hemant Soren and breaking social harmony. A letter has been written to the Commission on behalf of JMM in this regard. In this, a complaint has been made against the official "X" handle (social media handle) of the Bharatiya Janata Party Jharkhand (BJP4JHARKHAND) for violation of the Model Code of Conduct and the existing laws related to elections. It has

investigated. The letter written to the Commission has been signed Vinod Pandey of JMM. Pandey has said in this, I am writing to draw your immediate attention to the dangerous spread of pseudo, false and fake campaigns on social media platform "X" by the official handle of the Bharatiya Janata Party "BJP JHARKHAND (BJP4JHARK-HAND)", which is campaigning against the social fabric in general and Hemant Soren and his candidates in particu-

been said that this should be



lar. Pandey has said, the advertisement published by BJP Jharkhand (BJP4JHARK-HAND) "X" handle is a clear violation of the Model Code of Conduct and other electoral laws. The letter specifically mentions an advertisement posted on 16.11.2024. It says that false allegations and statements are being made in

which has the symbol of the JMM party and the image of Hemant Soren is displayed. It clearly mentions that "Poore Jharkhand kaya palat kar denge" and further pictures of people belonging to a particular community are shown. Then a man can be seen saying that these people are destroying his house to which other people have replied that the government you have elected has brought these people here. So your should also be house destroyed. And it is further displayed that even a single mistake will cause great harm to everyone and let us take a pledge to bring BJP.

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

Format C-1

(for candidate to publish in Newspapers, TV)

Declaration about criminal cases

(As per the judgment dated 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 and address of Candidate:- Biranchi Narayan, 33A, Sonatand, PS. BS City, PO.-GPO,

Dist.-Bokaro-82700

Name of Political Party Name of Election Name of Constituency

: - Bhartiya Janta party

: JHARKHAND ASSEMBLY ELECTION - 2024 :-36-Bokaro

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

Pending criminal cases

SI No.	Name of Court	Case No. and dated	Status of case(s)	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)		
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		
NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL		

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

Manoj Swargiary, outlined comprehensive measures to ensure free, fair, and trans-Limited (BSL) in supporting parent Assembly Elections in Election smooth drive for the district. The Deputy township healthy participa-Commissioner (DC) Jadhav highlighted the extensive Jadhav stressed the strict measures undertaken to implementation of the 48ensure a significant increase hour Standard Operating in voter turnout for the Procedure (SOP), which upcoming assembly elections. requires an absolute cessa-She stated that a wide range

tion of campaigning activities two days before polling. This includes a ban on posters, banners, advertisements, and the distribution of inducements such as cash, liquor, or food. The 48-hour period has been declared a "Dry Day" to ensure no alcohol is sold. Public gatherings, rallies, and entertainment programs aimed at influencing voters, as well as election-related media advertisements, are strictly prohibited. To safe-

meter no-campaign zone has been established around across district borders will be have been deployed, especially in sensitive and hyperongoing to encourage maxiensure a smooth electoral

Bokaro DC highlights efforts to boost voter turnout mobile phones and other electronic devices are not permitted inside polling sta-Furthermore, a 200-

> polling stations, and unauthorized vehicle movements restricted. The DC assured that adequate security forces sensitive polling areas. Special awareness drives are mum voter participation and process.

Manoj Swargiary informed that violations of the SOP would result in legal action. A dedicated monitoring team has been deployed, and a public helpline has been set up to address any complaints. The Bokaro administration reaffirmed its commitment to ensuring peaceful, impartial, and participatory elections across the largest count booths in the

rity and adherence to tax compliance laws. The prompt action by authorities also reflects the seriousness with which such matters are addressed in the interest of maintaining

efforts Bokaro Steel voter confidentiality, of

Rahul Gandhi promises quota hike, caste census in Jharkhand

eader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha and senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi reaffirmed today that the INDIA bloc intends to dismantle the 50% reservation cap and extend reservation benefits to marginalized groups through a caste census in Jharkhand, should the alliance come to

Speaking at a press conference in Ranchi on Monday. Rahul emphasized the ideological battle at the heart of the opposition's efforts. "The INDIA alliance is committed to protecting the Constitution and ensuring governance for the underprivileged. On the other side, there are forces working to undermine Ambedkar ji's Constitution," he stated

reiterated his Rahul stance on conducting a caste census, saying, "The Congress Party and INDIA alliance will conduct a caste census to identify the proportion of backward classes, Dalits, and Adivasis in the country and ensure their fair



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi addresses a press conference ahead of the second phase of Jharkhand Assembly elections, at a city based hotel in Ranchi on Monday. Pix by Ratan Lal

He also criticized the reservation ceiling, adding, "The 50% reservation limit is a hurdle we intend to overcome. The Prime Minister falsely accuses me of opposing reservation. This is not true. I advocate increasing reservation beyond the 50%

He further outlined the

tion in Jharkhand, pledging, "We will raise the reservation for Scheduled Tribes from 26% to 28%, for Scheduled Castes from 10% to 12%, and for Other Backward Classes from 14% to 27%. However, BJP forces are obstructing these efforts.

Accusing Prime Minister Modi of favouring corporate

wants to hand over Jharkhand's resources—its forests, water, and land—to a few billionaires. We aim to govern for the poor, not for billionaires. The Jharkhand government will provide Rs. 2,500 monthly to every woman's bank account and ensure 7 kg of ration for every individual.

He also promised meas-

ures to reduce household burdens, including, "We will bring down the cost of gas cylinders, which Modi's government raised to Rs. 450. Private healthcare expenses of up to Rs. 15 lakh will be covered by the state.

Further, he announced initiatives to boost agriculture and employment. "The MSP for paddy will be increased to Rs. 3,200 per quintal, and we will create 10 lakh jobs in five years. Industrial parks spanning 500 acres will be established in each district, along with degree colleges in every block and professional colleges in every district."

Rahul concluded by emphasizing the alliance's commitment to farmers, labourers, and Constitution. "This is a fight for the youth and the marginalized. Congress is defending the Constitution, while the BJP and RSS seek to dismantle it. Congress will never allow that. The BJP government is withholding Rs. 1.36 crore—money that rightfully belongs to the peo-ple, not Narendra Modi," he

Marandi appeals people to choose Govt to shape future of State

PNS : RANCHI

As Jharkhand gears up for its final phase of polling on Wednesday, BJP state president Babulal Marandi has issued a powerful appeal to the youth, urging them to exercise their right to vote responsibly. Marandi reminded young voters of the false promises made by corrupt leaders, saying, "Remember those who played with your dreams. This time, the election is about your future, and the decision lies in your hands.'

making Marandi appeal said that Jharkhand has got another chance to choose its government and shape the future of the state. This opportunity is not only to form a new government but also to end corruption, youth frustration and inequality and choose an accountable and responsible government.

During the election campaign of the last two months, 'I have realized that this election will not just decide who will sit in power. This election will decide the direc-

Date: 18/11/2024

Jharkhand. Our respected leader Atal Bihari Vajpayee ji used to say, "Governments will come and go, parties will be formed and destroyed, but this country should remain". tion of Jharkhand's future. The way the state's resources have been looted and the tribal culture has been attacked in the last five years, has never happened before. This election will decide whether Jharkhand will protect its water, forest, land, bread, soil and daughter or hand them over to external intruders and corrupt system." He said that during the election campaign, I communicated with every section of

> My appeal to the mothers and sisters is that the way the present government has played with your honour and security, the way it has forced you to live in the shadow of fear, is it tolerable?

> > Branch Manage

This promise is not political,

but to save the identity,

respect and resources of

In the same spirit, I urge you that when you exercise your franchise, keep in mind that your elected representative should not compromise with your resources, respect and future. I request the youth that in the last five years, you have seen how the people in power have taken away your rights and served only their own interests. When you go to cast your vote, remember how you had to face repression when you demanded your rights. This election is the state - mothers, sisters, youth and elders. We put our an opportunity to give a mespolicies and intentions in sage—we will fight for our rights and protect them. front of the public. Your

CAMPAIGNING ENDS FOR FINAL PHASE OF POLLING IN JHARKHAND

PNS: RANCHI

The campaigning for the second phase of the Jharkhand Assembly Election ended today (Monday) evening, marking the final push for votes ahead of polling. The voting for 38 seats in the second phase of the polls will be held on November 20.

This phase, considered pivotal for the state's political landscape, will see voting across 38 constituencies on November 20, with a total of 528 candidates in the fray. Prominent candidates whose fate will be decided in this fray includes Chief Minister Hemant Soren from Barhait, Soren's wife and JMM leader Kalpana Soren from Gandey, BJP State president Babulal Marandi from Dhanwar, ex-Deputy CM Sudesh Mahto, Assembly Speaker Ravindra Nath Mahto, and four cabinet ministers— Irfan Ansari, Hafizul Hasan, Deepika Pandev Singh, and Baby Devi. Also in the spotlight are influential figures such as Sita Soren, Louis Marandi, and Lobin Hembram. Out of 528 candidates there are 472 male while 55 women, and one non-binary individ-

After 5 PM on Monday, strict election rules will come into force. No outsiders will be allowed to remain in the constituencies, and party workers found violating this rule may face action.

State Chief Election Officer K Ravi Kumar has emphasized compliance with polling regulations, including the prohibition of camps within a 200-meter polling stations unless approved. Religious or encroached sites cannot be used for election purposes, and the display of party symbols or flags in such areas is strictly banned.

Voters are reminded to carry their voter slips or any of the 12 approved



AJSU Party Chief campaigns for NDA in a Motorcycle Rally along with his supporters in Silli on Monday. PNS

identity documents on election day. Counting of votes will take place on November 23, with results expected the

Among the 38 constituencies, Bokaro holds the highest number of voters, with 5,84,275 registered electors. On the other hand, the Littipara constituency, a reserved seat, has the least number of voters at 2,17,847.

In terms of geographical area, Mandu is the largest constituency, covering an expansive area of 1,327.37 square kilometres, while Jharia sta as the smallest, spanning just 70.51 square kilometres.

This phase differs from the first phase with a higher number of general seats. Out of the 38 constituencies, 27 are general seats, while eight are reserved for Scheduled Tribes (ST) and three for Scheduled Castes (SC).

Star campaigners of both the NDA and the India bloc made last-ditch efforts to woo voters in favor of their party candidates. Addressing election rally at Rajmahal in Sahibganj district Senior BJP leader and UP chief Minister Yogi Adityanath assured people to oust Bangladeshi infiltrators if BJP led government voted to power. He said Hemant Soren is protecting infiltrators for vote-

leader and Chief Minister Hemant Soren alleged BJP for dividing society in the name of religion. Addressing an election meeting at Jamtara, Mr Soren said the BJP is misguiding people in the name of development.

hand Senior JMM

JMM seeks Amit Shah's resignation on the issue of infiltration

PNS: RANCHI

Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) demanded on Monday that Union Home Minister, Amit Shah should resigned on the infiltration issue because he is failed to stop it as he announced in his every assembly elections rally in the State that infiltration is massively going on in the

JMM General Secretary Supriyo Bhattacharya said in a press conference in Giridih that even on the last day of election campaign, UP CM Adityanath Yogi is roaming in Jharkhand today.



PUBLIC NOTICE FOR AUCTION OF GOLD ORNAMENTS/IEWELLERY

The under mentioned persons are hereby informed that they have failed to pay off the liabilityin the loan accounts Notices sent to them by Registered Post have been returned undelivered to the Bank. They are therefore requested to pay off the liability and other charges and redeem the pledged securities on or before 21.11.2024 failing which the said securities will be sold by the Bank in public auction at the cost of the borrower at the Bank's premises as mentioned below at 02:30 P.M. on 22/11/2024 or on any other convenient date thereafter without further notice, at the absolute discretion of the Bank.

immense public support has

given me courage. I am confi-

dent that we will live up to

the blessings you will give to

the Bharatiya Janata Party

on the 23rd. But, I want to

take a promise from you.

	restitute partistre oper or arreit, case strigitourie (e	Williams Hot - 900.	1330333	
SI. No.	Name and address of the Borrower	Date of Loan	Loan Number	Nett Weight
01	Vicky Kumar Sharma, Flat No. 105, Platina Dream City, Asangi Adityapur, Jamshedpur - 831014	12/01/2024	501206540000069	8.80 gms.
02	Vicky Kumar Sharma, Flat No. 105, Platina Dream City, Asangi Adityapur, Jamshedpur - 831014	09/02/2024	501206540000075	8.80 gms.
	Ramgarh Station Road Branch, Jharkhand. (Cor	ntact No87890	08422)	
03	Manish Kumar, S/o Ram Ratan Sharma, Dushadh Mohaala, Ramgarh Cantt. Jharkhand - 829122	29/09/2023	139716540000103	14.5 gms.
04	Ritwik Soni, S/o Raju Soni, Soudagar Mohalla, Gola Road, Ramgarh – 829110.	18/10/2023	139716540000110	11,40 gms
	Ratu Road Branch, Ranchi. (Contact No	6296355070)		
05	Shankar Prasad Gupta, 5/o Suresh Prasad Gupta, Devi Mandap Road,	01/08/2022	739304430000003	25 22 0000

Pandra P.S. Sukhdeo Nagar, Rtu Road, Ranchi - 834005. The Bank will further initiate appropriate legal/recovery proceeding against the borrower to recover the deficit of loan outstanding dues if any. For other terms & conditions, contact the Branch on the number mentioned above Bank reserves right to cancel or postpone the auction without prior notice.



ZONAL OFFICE, RANCHI ZONE

PRADHAN TOWERS, NEAR OVERBRIDGE, MAIN ROAD, RANCHI - 834001 E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTIES UNDER SARFAESI ACT 12002

<u>THE PROPERTIES MENTIONED BELOW ARE TO BE SOLD UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE SARFAESI ACT</u> 2002 ON "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" AND "AS IS WHAT IT IS BASIS" AND "WITHOUT ANY RECOURSE BASIS"

SI No.	Branch	PROPERTY DETAILS	Status of Possession	Reserve Price and EMD (Amt.	Present O/S (in Lakh)
	Account Name	CONTRACTOR AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROPERTY		in Lakh)	
1.	ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH M/S BMP Polymers Mr Raj Verma, Mr Binod Kumar, Mr Piyush Ranjan Mr Mahesh Chandra	EQM of flat No-702, 7th floor, "OCEANIK EXOTICA" on R.S Plot No-2756, Khata No. 254, Village- Argora, P.S- Argora, P.S No- 207, Dist- Ranchi in the name of BMP Polymers a partnership firm represent through its partners namely- Raj Verma, Binod Kumar, Piyush Ranjan and Mahesh Chandra vide sale deed No-8143 dated 25.11.2019 standing in the name of Mr. Avinash Kumar Singh vide registered sale deed no. 7296 dated 06-07-2010	13(2)-28.12.2022, 13(2) Published on-05.05.2023 13(4)-07.06.2024 Symbolic possession	1) Rs. 35.45 and 3.55	PS. 112.01 + Interest and Charges
2.	ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH M/s Rudra International Mrs. Baby Devi, Mrs. Renu Devi, Mr. Raju Gope	EQM Land & building property measuring the total area of 10.75 Decimals covered under R.S.Plot No-571 (Area 3.50 Decimals), 573 (Area 05 Decimals) & 577 (Area 2.55 Decimals) all under Khata No-38 corresponding to Holding No-0140002225000A6 within Ward No-14 of Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Situated at village Chutia, P.S-Chutia, Thana No-211, District Ranchi owned by Smt. Baby Devi W/o Sri Raju Gope having Sale Deed No-3450/3123 Dated-25.04.2018.	13(2)- 28.08.2023 13(4)- 03.06.2024 Symbolic possession	1) Rs. 75.39 and 7.54	Rs. 105.52 - Interest and Charges
3.	ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH Mr Ashwani Kumar Rajgarhia	EQM of Flat No-1A having the super build up area of 3601 Sq.Ft. on the 1st floor of Block-A of the multi storied building names as Khemka Residency located at Vill-Kathargonda@Danrgonda, PS-Gonda, PS No-201 within ward No-02 Dist-Ranchi, constructed over the land situated at Kanke Road, R.S. Plot No-687, Sub-Plot No-687/D, 687/E & 687/F vide Deed no-2761/2275/23.04.2015 Owned by Mr. Ashwani Kumar Rajgarhia & Mrs. Khusboo Rajgarhia.	13(2)- 24.05.2023 13(4)- 26.09.2023 Symbolic possession	1) Rs. 127.95 and 12.80	Rs. 1434 + Interest and Charges
4.	HARMU BRANCH Mr Uday Kumar, Mr Sanjeet Kumar, Mr Manish Kumar Mr Bindeshwari Mistri	EQM of residential building at upkar Nagar Near DAV kapil deo school, Kadru covered under plot no- 2058 marked as Sub plot no- 2058/part under khata no 115 within ward no 29 of Ranchi Municpal corporation, situated at vill- Argora, PS Argora Revenue Thana No-207 Owned By Mr Uday Kumar, Mr Sanjeet Kumar and Mr Manish Kumar	13(2)- 08.02.2024 13(4)- 07.06.2024 Symbolic possession	1) Rs. 43.68 and 4.37	Rs. 15.83 + Interest and Charges
5.	KOKAR BRANCH Mr Harendra Singh	EQM of landed property measuring an area of 2.5 decimal along with a G+1st floor house having build up area of 1886 sq ft covered under RS plot No 1130 marked as Sub plot no 1130/part under khata no 404 situated at village- Tati Thana no- 173 Ps- tatisilway Dist ranchi owned by Mrs Manti Devi W/o Mr Harendra Singh vide sale deed no 9965/9085 dated 23.09.2000	13(2)- 22.06.2023 13(4)- 30.08.2024 Symbolic possession	1) Rs. 28.29 and 2.83	Rs. 59.17 + Interest and Charges
6.	KOKAR BRANCH M/S Shree Radhe Radhe Enterprises Mr Bipin Kumar (Borrower) Mrs Renu Devi (Gurantor)	EQM of flat being flat no 4F super build up area 1490sq ft on 4th floor of Shree Vatika with parking space in ground floor covered under R S plot No 716 under khata no 160 Holding No-2229 (old) and 0080006145000A1(new) within Ward No-8 of Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Situated at village – Gari, PS-Sadar Thana No-194 Dist Ranchi Owned by Mrs Renu Devi w/o Binod Prasad having Sale Deed No-2451/2159 Dated-23.03.2019	13(2)- 13.12.2022 13(4)- 16.02.2023 Symbolic possession	1) Rs. 46.20 and 4.62	Rs, 45.74 + Interest and Charges
7.	BIRSA CHOWK M/S Shree Sai Enterprises Prop- Prabhakar Kumar	EQM of Flat No F-3 Having super built up 1425 Sq Ft on the 3rd Floor of the multi storied building name as SHREE APARTMENT SUB Name MALTI along with one car Parking being space No G-3 on ground floor covered under RS plot no 325 under Khata no 02 within ward No 54(old) & 52(New) PS no- 247 Village Hesag PS Jagarnathpur Ranchi	13(2)- 18.04.2024 13(4)- 06.07.2024 Symbolic possession	1) Rs. 37.35 and 3.74	Rs. 82.02 + Interest and Charges

Please Contact For Property SI No. 1, 2 and 3- Shubham Kumar Agrawal- 8370032832 and For SI No. 4- Mr. Manish Ekka-7541858081 and For SI No. 5 and 6- Mr. Arbind Kujur- 9122796221 and For SI No. 7- Mr. Jitendra Kumar- 825293855 Last Date of submission of EMD: 24.12.2024 by 04:00 PM., Date & Time of E-Auction: 26/12/2024 from 11:00 AM to 05:00 PM with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each bid. Date of Inspection : Upto 23/12/2024 (Contact Authorized Officer)

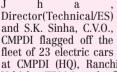
FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: Recovery Deptt., ZONAL OFFICE: 0651- 2331932 / Sonu Kumar (Chief Manager, Recovery Deptt.)-9031791295, Prashant (Manager, Recovery Deptt.)- 9608851457 TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE E-AUCTION ARE AS UNDER: (1) The e-auction will be done by the undersigned through online electronic

bidding process provided at the website https://www.ebkray.in. (2) For details term and conditions of e-auction, please refer https://www.ebkray.in, (3) The undersigned has the absolute rights and discretion to accept or reject any bid or to adjourn/postpone/cancel the nd conditions of the sale without any prior notice and assigning any reason. Date: 18.11.2024

Sd./- Authorised Officer Bank of India

CMPDI inducts Electric Vehicles into its fleet

Ajav Kumar, Director (Technical/P&D); Satish





at CMPDI (HQ), Ranchi on Monday and inducted Electric Vehicles (EVs) into the fleet of CMPDI. CMPDI in its endeavor for Sustainable development inducted EVs which will help in reduction of Greenhouse gases emissions, improving air quality and reducing noise pollution. It is pertinent to mention here that CMPDI in March, 2024 inducted 10 Electric Vehicles into his fleet. With this latest addition, CMPDI has 33 Electric Vehicles in his fleet. SK Dubey, GM(TS/PR), Vinod Kumar, GM (E&M) and other senior officials were present on this occasion.

Tribal Pride Day celebrated in RRD



the birth anniversary great freedom fighter Dharti Aba Bhagwan Munda, the fourth Tribal Pride Day will celebrated in

Ranchi Railway Division from 18 November to 26 November 2024. On Monday ADRM Hemraj Meena, Branch Officer of the Division, other officers and employees paid tribute by offering flowers to the picture of Bhagwan Birsa Munda on platform number one of Hatia station. The ADRM visited the exhibition based on the biography of freedom fighters of Jharkhand and their contribution to the freedom struggle at Hatia station. This exhibition will be displayed at Hatia Railway Station till 26 November 2024, so that passengers will be able to know about the unforgettable role of tribal fighters in the freedom struggle. Under the program, a play based on the biography of Bhagwan Birsa Munda was also staged at Hatia station by the Cultural Department of the Division.

Rodic Consultants Develops SAAJ App

Rodic Consultants, a leading engineering and digital infrastructure consulting company, developed the SAAJ (Sehat aur Aarogya ki Jaankari) app, a state-of-the-art digital platform, to streamline healthcare access for residents across Bihar. The App, which has been developed for Bihar Government, represents Rodic's commitment to leveraging cutting-edge technology to address critical healthcare needs and improve the healthcare experience for all residents.

Fate of 528 candidates to be decided on Nov 20

The noise of the election campaign for the second and final phase of the assembly elections stopped at 5 pm on Monday. Voting is to be held on 38 seats on November 20. A total of 528 candidates are trying their luck in the second phase. There are 472 male and 55 female candidates in this. One gender candidate is also in the electoral arena. There are 73 candidates from national parties, of which 60 are men and 13 are women. 28 candidates of recognized state-level Jharkhand parties are also in the electoral fray. This includes 23 male and five female candidates. The number of independent candidates is 257.

Voting will be held at 14,218 booths for the 30 assembly seats of the second phase. The number of general booths in this is 7,390 and the number of booths in Naxal-affected areas is 900. Voting will be held at 31 booths from 7 am to 4 pm. For peaceful polling, 585 companies of paramilitary

forces and 60 companies of JAP have been deployed. About 30 thousand district forces and home guard jawans have been deployed.

During the entire election campaign, CM Hemant Soren and Kalpana Soren were at the forefront in holding meetings. Hemant Soren held 92 meetings. While Kalpana Soren held 98 meetings. After this, BJP's firebrand leader Himanta Biswa Sarma held 57 meetings and Shivraj Singh Chauhan held 51 meetings. Prime Minister Modi held six meetings, Rahul Gandhi held six meetings, Amit Shah held six meetings, JP Nadda held eight meetings, Yogi Adityanath held eight meetings, Tejashwi Yadav held 21 meetings, RJD supremo Lalu Yadav held one meeting, Mallikarjun Kharge held six meetings and Sachin Pilot held one meeting.

The elections will be held on November 20 in Rajmahal, Borio, Barhet, Littipara, Maheshpur, Shikaripara, Nala, Jamtara, Dumka, Jama, Jarmundi, Madhupur, Sarath, Deoghar.



JMM MLA Kalpana Murmu Soren holds a child during an election campaign rally on Monday. PNS

BJP's 'chota popat' jibe at Rahul after he mocks PM Modi's slogan

After Rahul Gandhi's swipe At Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'Ek hai toh safe hai' slogan, the BJP hit back at the Congress leader on Monday, calling him "chota popat" which it claimed was coined by Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray to mock him.

The party also slammed Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge over his "poisonous snakes should be killed" barb, saying it shows the party's Emergency mindset which likens rivals to snakes and incites violence against them.

Earlier in the day, claiming a link between the BJP's slogan and the Dharavi redevelopment project being given to the Adani Group, Rahul Gandhi pulled out two posters from a safe he had brought to his press conference in Mumbai -- one featuring a picture of industri-alist Gautam Adani and



Prime Minister Modi along with the caption "Ek hai toh Safe hai" and another showing a map of the project.

"It was a very low-level press conference. Bringing a safe and creating drama around it, holding of this kind of press conference by the so-called top leader of the so-called national party does not suit Rahul Gandhi and the Congress," BJP MP and national spokesperson Sambit Patra said reacting to Rahul Gandhi's jibe.

'Today I say this from this platform and in Rahul Gandhi's language that 'Chota popat ne kiya hei Congress ko chaupat' (he has ruined the Congress). His name is Rahul Gandhi,"

the BJP leader said. "I saw an interview of Bal Thackeray where he referred to Rahul Gandhi as chota popat. From today onwards, Rahul Gandhi's name is going to be 'chota popat'. This name will now be there on every child's lips in Maharashtra,"

Mallikarjun Kharge. Addressing a rally in Sangli on the penultimate day before the campaigning for the Maharashtra assembly polls concluded, Kharge used the "killing the poisonous snake" analogy in his cree-1 analogy in his speech.

"If there is anything which is politically the most dangerous in India is the BJP and RSS. They are like poison. If a snake bites, the person (who is bitten) dies Such a poison. is bitten) dies, Such a poisonous snake should be killed,"

said Kharge. Flaying Kharge over his remarks, Patra said, "The BJP condemns it". "It is the mindset of Emergency because of which you liken your rivals with snakes and incite violence by calling for killing them," he said, asserting that Rahul Gandhi and the Congress will get a befitting reply from people on November 23, when election results in Maharashtra and Jharkhand assembly polls will be declared.

Farmers' bodies announce Delhi march on December six to press Centre to accept their demands

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha on Monday announced that farmers will march towards Delhi on December six to press the Centre to accept their various demands, including a legal guarantee of MSP for crops. The decision was taken at a meeting of farmer leaders in Chandigarh.

The protesting farmers have been camping at Shambhu and Khanauri border points between Punjab and Haryana since February 13, when their 'Delhi Chalo' march, spearheaded by the SKM (Non-Political) and the KMM, was stopped by security forces.

Addressing the media in Chandigarh, KMM leader Sarwan Singh Pandher said after a long wait, they have decided to head towards Delhi. "We will move towards Delhi on December 6," he

Pandher charged the Centre with not holding any talks with the farmers to discuss



left with no option. We waited peacefully for the government (to reach out) for nine months. But now we will head towards Delhi," he added. The farmers will move towards the national capital in batches from the Shambhu border.

Tejveer Singh of the Bharatiya Kisan Union (Shaheed Bhagat Singh) said they have been camping at the two border points for 280 days and the Centre has not held any talks with them since February 18. Last week, the farmers announced that they would intensify their agitation and start a fast unto death from November 26. Farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal will observe the fast.

Besides a legal guarantee of minimum support price (MSP) for crops, the farmers

SC hold order to

President's Secretary

are demanding a farm debt waiver, pension for farmers and farm labourers, no hike in electricity tariff, withdrawal of police cases and "justice" for the victims of the 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence, reinstatement of the Land Acquisition Act, 2013, and compensation to the families of the farmers who died during a previous agitation in

UK is committed to foster deeper cooperation with India: British Govt

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The UK is committed to foster deeper cooperation with India as it is a "vital" partner and one of the fastest growing economies in the world, British Minister for Indo-Pacific Catherine West said on Monday as she embarked on a two-day visit to

West will continue to unlock the full potential of the UK-India partnership and drive forward greater growth for both countries building upon the ambitions set out by Foreign Secretary David Lammy during his visit to New Delhi in July, a British government readout

She will also reiterate that the UK remains committed to negotiating a mutually beneficial free trade agreement and bilateral investment treaty, it

"I am delighted to be visiting India for the first time as Minister for the Indo-Pacific," West said. "As one of the fastest growing economies in the



world, India is a vital partner,"

Minister West's visit will include a meeting at the Ministry of External Affairs where she will reinforce the UK's commitment to a stronger partnership and the importance of the enduring links between people of the two nations, the readout noted.

The two sides are expected to review the overall situation in the Indo-Pacific and explore ways to bolster cooperation in the region during West's visit to

During an education round-table at the British Council, the Minister will learn more about the unique "living bridge" between the UK and India, representing the 1.7 million people in the UK with Indian heritage and connecting our two countries, it said. The British minister is also scheduled to visit the Jama Masjid where she will learn about its history and architecture, it said.

nearly four months after India and the UK firmed up a mega technology security initiative that sets out a bold new approach for collaboration in a range of "priority" sectors including telecom, critical minerals, semiconductors and arti-

adopted the 10-year roadmap to expand ties in the key areas of trade and economy, defence and security, climate change and people-to-people connections among others.

two-day trip to Bangladesh, where she reaffirmed UK support for the interim government's work to build a more prosperous and democratic future for the country.

BJP, Congress seek seven days from EC to respond to poll code violation plaints

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DEI HI

The Congress and the BJP have sought seven more days from the Election Commission(EC)to respond to poll code violation complaints filed by them against each other in Jharkhand and Maharashtra, sources said Monday.

In the wake of the BJP and the Congress lodging complaints against each other with the EC for poll code violations, the election panel on Saturday had asked the presidents of the two parties to comment on the charges levelled against their leaders. The EC wrote separate letters

to Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) president J P Nadda and Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge, asking them to comment on the complaint of the other. The Commission exchanged

the complaints between the two parties while seeking their responses.

The EC has sought formal responses from both the party



presidents by 1 pm on Monday (November 18).

While seeking their com-

on Rajoana mercy plea PIONEER NEWS SERVICE The Supreme Court on Monday put on hold its order directing President Droupadi Murmu's Secretary to place before her the mercy petition of death row convict

Balwant Singh Rajoana, convicted in the 1995 assassination case of then Punjab chief minister Beant Singh, for consideration. After the order was passed in the morning, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta urged that it should not be given effect as there are "sensitivities' involved in the issue and that it be heard on Friday. Mehta told the bench that the file is with the Home Ministry and not the President.

The bench agreed to the SG's request and posted the matter for hearing on Monday. Earlier in the day, a bench of Justices BR Gavai, PK Mishra and KV Viswanathan requested the President to consider the plea within two weeks. "Inspite of the matter being specifically kept today none appeared for Union



Gurdwara refused to commute his death sentence and said the competent authority could deal with his

RSS urges Govt to resolve Manipur conflict 'sincerely'

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

¬he Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) has condemned the latest violence in Manipur and demanded the government, both at the Centre and the state, that they "sincerely" resolve the conflict.

"It is unfortunate that 19 months old violence in Manipur starting from May 3, 2023 has remained unresolved. Due to the ongoing violence, innocent people immensely suffered," the Manipur unit of the RSS said in a statement on Sunday.

The RSS Manipur 'prant' strongly condemns the "inhuman, brutal and merciless acts of killing of women and children," the statement said "The act is cowardly and is

against the principles of humanity and co-existence," it said, adding, "The central and state government should sincerely resolve the ongoing conflict at the earliest. The English version of the

statement, originally issued in Manipuri, was released by the Manipur unit of the Vishva Samvad Kendra, the RSS' media wing, on Facebook.

The Manipur unit of the Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), the RSS' youth wing, also condemned the violence and said both the Centre and the state government have "failed to ensure the safety and normalcy" in the state.

"The ongoing violence in Manipur since May 3, 2023 has plummeted to unprecedented depths with the heinous abduction and murder of six innocent civilians, including three women and three children, among them a seven-Months -



old infant," it said in a statement on Monday.
"The ABVP Manipur vehe-

mently condemns the brutal killings of the six abducted individuals, the burning of houses by armed militants, attacks on police and CRPF personnel in Ziribam," it

The RSS youth wing further said the destruction of properdisturbing.

Manipur," it said.
"The ABVP Manipur demands
Immediate action for restoration of peace and order, protection for innocent civilians and accountability for the failed response," it added.

"patience and peace" as it appealed to the people to stand together against violence and work towards building "a harmonious Manipur."



ties belonging to democrati-cally elected leaders by "enraged mobs" was deeply

"We believe timely intervention could have saved the six lives lost. The concerned authorities have failed in their duties, and both state and central governments have failed to ensure the safety and normalcy in

The RSS affiliate called for

"The ABVP Manipur stands in solidarity with the affected families and demands swift action to prevent further



ficial intelligence. The initiative was firmed up during Lammy's trip in July. In 2021, India and the UK

West's visit to India follows a

Now the two parties have sought from the EC seven more days to send their respective responses.

While the Congress had accused Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah of violating the poll code, the BJP had lodged complaint against Congress leader Rahul Gandhi.

ments, the poll panel had reminded them of the Commission's earlier advisory to them during the Lok Sabha election to keep star campaigners and leaders under check so that public decorum is not flouted and the model code is followed in its letter and spirit during campaigning.
Top leaders of the two parties

are campaigning in Jharkhand and Maharashtra for the ongoing Assembly polls.

of India. The bench assembled only for this case," the bench said, by holding the earlier order directing Secretary to take a decision by President in two weeks. The then Punjab Chief Minister and 16 others were killed in a blast at the entrance of the Civil Secretariat in Chandigarh on August 31, 1995. A special court sentenced Rajoana to death in July 2007. Rajoana has said that a mercy petition under Article 72 of the Constitution was moved by the Shiromani Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) on his behalf in March 2012. On May 3 last year, the SC had

Delhi HC seeks CBI's stand on Chidambaram's plea in INX media case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The Delhi High Court on ▲ Monday sought the stand of the CBI on pleas by former Minister P Chidambaram and his son Karti Chidambaram seeking to defer arguments on framing of charges in the INX media case. Justice Manoj Kumar Ohri issued notice to the investigating agency on the petitions and said "let response be filed". The Congress leaders argued that the arguments on framing of charges ought not to commence before the trial court as the investigation was still pend-

CBI's counsel said there was sufficient material to show

"demand of bribe" and framing of charges should not be stopped on account of any pending investigation. The CBI had registered its case on May 15, 2017, alleging irregularities in a Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) clearance granted to the INX Media group for receiving overseas funds of Rs 305 crore in 2007 during P Chidambaram's tenure as Finance Minister.

The accused and bribe give Indrani Mukerjea had already confessed that she had paid bribe to Karti to save from Income Tax notice for illegally brining FDI in the TV channel. She is already turned as Approver in the case.

In the pleas before the high court, Chidambaram and Karti,



who were represented by senior advocate Sidharth Luthra and advocate Akshat Gupta, have assailed a trial court order refusing to defer the arguments of charge. Luthra said the chargesheet filed by the CBI in the case was incomplete and the accused persons were yet to be given access to all the material collected by the agency as probe on certain aspects was going on.
"You have been doing investi-

gation since 2017. If you choose to be lackadaisical, should I proceed to argue on charge? It can't be an unfair battle," he

said. Karti, in his plea, said the necessity of further investigation being concluded before consideration of charge impacts his right to fair trial under Article 21 of the Constitution. "The Ld. Special Judge failed to appreciate that the alleged offence pertains to a period of 2007-08, for which, the said FIR was registered by the CBI on 15.05.2017. Thereafter, the chargesheet in relation to the said FIR was filed on 17.10.2019, after investigation for over 2.5 years," the plea stated. It said more than 17 years have lapsed since the period of the alleged offence and about seven years have lapsed since the commencement of investi-

gation. Yet further investigation

remains pending even as on

mercy plea.

"The Ld. Special Judge failed to appreciate that further investigation cannot be a never ending or an endless exercise as it has the effect of delaying the proceedings and, thereby, violating the right to fair and speedy trial, which includes the right to fair and speedy investigation, under Article 21 of the Constitution," added the plea. Chidambaram was arrested by the CBI in the INX Media corruption case on August 21, 2019. On October 16 that year, the ED also arrested him in a related money laundering case. Karti was arrested by the CBI in February 2018 and he was granted bail in March 2018 in the INX Media corruption

CJI Khanna recuses himself from hearing pleas in case related to illegal felling of trees in Delhi Ridge area

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

hief Justice of India Sanjiv recused himself from hearing pleas related to the case on illegal felling of several hundred trees in the Delhi Ridge area. Earlier, a bench headed by the then CJI DY Chandrachud, since retired, had sought a personal affidavit of Delhi Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena in the case which had also sought initiation of contempt proceedings against certain DDA officials. The CJI, who was sitting on

the bench with Justice Sanjay Kumar, said, "One thing I would like to point out that

when I was the NALSA chair-

man, I had gone to Patna and

with Delhi LG had toured jails

there. So, it will not be appro-

priate for me to hear the plea..... The bench ordered the listing of the pleas before a bench of which the CJI is not part in the week commencing November 27. A lawyer pointed out that there were orders passed by

two other benches. 'We know," the CJI responded. On November 7, the top court had asked the Delhi Development Authority (DDA) about the measures undertaken to restore the

eral hundred trees were allegedly felled illegally, and sought the extent of plantation done by the authorities. The bench had said it would introduce a monitoring system to ensure planted trees were surviving. It had wondered if any independent mechanism was in place to ascertain the number of trees planted. The bench had asked the DDA counsel and the petitioner to inform it about the status of trees felled, consequential actions and the monitoring mechanism. However, the then CJI-led

bench did not pass any order on November 8, the last working day of Justice Chandrachud.

The ridge is an extension of Aravalli Hill range in Delhi and is a rocky, hilly and

ICG to host largest National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise at Kochi PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

The Indian Coast Guard (ICG)will host the largest National Maritime Search and Rescue Exercise (SAREX-24) ever held alongside the 22 nd National Maritime Search and Rescue (NMSAR) Board Meeting at Kochi, Kerala for two days starting November 28, ICG said here on Monday. Giving details, officials said

here this prestigious event themed "Enhancing SAR Capabilities Through Regional Collaboration," is set to redefine maritime safety standard across the region and beyond.

The two-day event will feature largest ever real-time simulations aimed at honing the skills required for effective Search and Rescue (SAR) operations, collaborative efforts among regional and international mar-



This gathering of maritime expertise will not only enhance SAR capabilities but also strengthen SAR linkages with the participation of more than 40 international observers from partner nations, the event will underscore the essentials of global cooperation in safeguarding lives at sea and advancing maritime security standards

The exercise highlights India's proactive stance in fostering

for maritime safety. This initiative demonstrates India's commitment to not only bolstering its own SAR capabilities but also contributing to global maritime safety standards. The event will showcase India's leadership in enhancing operational readiness and establishing stronger regional coordination in maritime safety. The workshop will serve as a crucial platform for sharing

The event's emphasis on regional collaboration reflects ensuring comprehensive mar-

best practices and strengthen-

ing ties with friendly nations.

This increased engagement in

international cooperation is

pivotal for addressing the com-

plexities of modern maritime

challenges

India's strategic approach to itime security and operational

Yogi repeats Bangladeshi infiltrators script in poll bound Jharkhand

PTI RAJMAHAL (SAHIBGANJ)

Yogi Adityanath, chief minister (CM) of Uttar Pradesh (UP), on Monday launched a strong attack on the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha the Jharkhand Mukti Morcna (JMM)-led coalition in Jharkhand, alleging that under the latter's patronage pockets of the state were converted into hubs of illegal activities by Rohingyas and Bangladesh infiltrators.

"After the election results on November 23, these

November 23, these infiltrators will be kicked out of Jharkhand, and the JMM-led coalition leaders who looted funds meant for the people will be held accountable," Adityanath

He added, "Areas like Rajmahal and Sahibganj have become centres for illegal activities run by Bangladeshi infiltrators and Rohingyas. The JMM-led coalition leaders, who are their rahnuma'(protectors), will not be spared. Infiltrators will be expelled as soon as the NDA government is formed



in Jharkhand.'

Addressing a poll rally at Rajmahal in Sahibganj, Adityanath urged the people to be wary of politicians who divide society along caste lines, calling them the enemies of society and the country.
The Uttar UP CM also

criticised the JMM-RJD- slaughter, and Congress alliance for against women in undermining the vision of Adityanath added.

former prime minister Atal Vajpayee, dreamed of a prosperous Iharkhand.

Despite the state's rich natural Despite the state's rich natural resources, he pointed out that the people remain poor. Adityanath promised that, under an NDA government, at least 1.5 lakh youth would be provided jobs. Referring to India's historical divisions, Adityanath said, "When Hindus were divided, they faced slavery and humiliation in Ayodhya,

humiliation in Ayodhya, Kashi, and Mathura. Now, it's time for ek rahenge, safe rahenge, na batenge, na katenge (Safe when united, we will not be wiped out if

He asserted that trends indicated the NDA would form the government in Jharkhand with over a two-

thirds majority.
"Only a double-engine government, like in Uttar Pradesh, is the solution to issues like infiltration, cow slaughter, and atrocities against women in Jharkhand,"



Punjab reports 1,251 farm fires in a day

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab on Monday reported 1,251 fresh farm fire cases, the single-day highest this season, taking the state's total count of such cases to 9,655, according to Punjab Remote Sensing Centre data.

On November 8, Punjab reported 730 farm fire incidents, which was the

highest in a day this season till From September Monday. Muktsar district on Monday reported 247 stubble witnessed 9,655 burning incidents, the most in the state, followed by Moga (149), Ferozepur (130), Bathinda (129), Fazilka (94) and Faridkot (88).

On the same day in 2022 and 2023, the state reported 701 and 637 active firm fire cases, respectively, as per data.

15 till Punjab stubble burning incidents, registering around 71 per cent dip in burnings in comparison to the figures reported in the corresponding period of the

Punjab saw 48,489 and 33,719 farm fire cases during the same period in 2022 and 2023,

previous year.

respectively. Stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana is often blamed for the rise in air pollution in Delhi-NCR after the harvesting of paddy in October-November. As the window for the Rabi crop -- wheat -- is very short after paddy harvest, some farmers set their fields on fire to quickly clear the crop residue for sowing new crop.

15 booked for ragging, death of student in Gujarat college

Police have registered an FIR against 15 students of a medical college in Gujarat's Patan district following the death of an 18-year-old student who was allegedly ragged by them, officials said on Monday. The accused, all second-year MBBS students allogedly made some juniors. allegedly made some juniors, including the victim, stand in a hostel room for more than three hours on Saturday night and subjected them to mental and physical torture, as per the FIR. They were booked for culpable homicide not amounting to murder and other offences. The accused other offences. The accused have been suspended from their hostel and college until further orders, said officials from the GMERS Medical College and Hospital in Patan. The victim, Anil Methaniya, a first-year MBBS student, fell unconscious and died allegedly after being died allegedly after being made to stand for three hours while being ragged by his seniors in college hostel on Saturday night.

Telangana to acquire 280 acres for Warangal airport

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana government has issued orders sanctioning Rs 205 crore for sanctioning Rs 205 crore for acquiring over 280 acres of land for the development of Mamnoor Airport at Warangal, after GMR Group which manages Hyderabad Airport issued No Objection certificate for operation of the aerodrome. According to the GO issued on Sunday, the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in July 2022, informed the state government that it is the state government that it is aircraft for IFR (instrument flight rules) operations and is bear infrastructure operational and maintenance of the proposed airport. A

plan has been A-320 type of aircraft for which an additional land measuring 253 acres is required from the state of Telangana, free of cost and free from all encumbrances. The AAI also wanted the state

government to expedite handing over of the required land to the airports body and no objection certificate from Hyderabad International Airport Ltd. As per the concession agreement between GMR Group, which Gandhi manages Rajiv International Airport, and the Ministry of Civil Aviation no new or existing airport shall be permitted by the GoI to be developed as, or improved or upgraded into, a domestic or international airport within an aerial distance of 150 km of the Hyderabad Airport before the 25th anniversary of the opening date. Mamnoor is located about 175 km from Hyderabad Airport by road. Telangana Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy held at least half a dozen

Three elephants electrocuted



PTI SAMBALPUR

Three elephants, including a calf, were electrocuted to death after coming in contact with a power line in Odisha's Sambalpur district, a forest official said on Monday.

Aurobinda Mohanty told PTI the probe, the DFO said. on Sunday night in Naktideul the post-mortem, he added. | advise countries in Africa and period.

area of Sambalpur district. Prima facie, it seems that the elephants came in contact with a live power line laid by poachers to trap wild boars to protect crops, he said.
A special team of forest

officials rushed to the spot for an inquiry. Further details Divisional Forest Officer about the incident can be (DFO), Rairakhol division, known after completion of that two female adult The carcasses have been elephants and a calf died in seized. A team of

veterina ns v

UNESCO honour for Indian agricultural scientist

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Professor Kailash Chander Bansal, a Haryana-born plant biotechnologist and former director of the National Bureau of Plant

National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, has been honored by the UNESCO by elevating him as a Fellow of the World Academy of Sciences. Prof Bansal is the eighth Indian agricultural scientist who has been accorded this position during the last 45 years. The fellowship, effective from January 2025, is in recognition of the path breaking work by Prof Bansal in plant biotechnology, including developing genetically modified crops for drought and salt stress tolerance. He has been credited with developing salt credited with developing salt resistant paddy variety, which can be grown in arid regions as well as places vulnerable to drought.

Asia in the promotion of multi-disciplinary sciences for agricultural development and creating policy related for

agriculture. As a plant genetic scientist, Prof Bansal spearheaded the evaluation of 22,000 wheat germplasm accessions at the Indian National Genebank, identifying critical trait-specific reference sets. He also led the National Transgenic Crop Network, advancing India's capabilities in crop improvement.

improvement.

Prof Bansal earned his doctorate with a gold medal from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) and conducted advanced research at the Harvard University under Prof Lawrence
Bogorad. He has published
over 150 papers in highimpact journals, including
Nature Biotechnology and
PNAS. One of his unique achievements was the development of genetically modified tomato breed with almost three fold shelf life

Campaign ends for high stakes UP Assembly by-poll



BISWAJEET BANERJEE LUCKNOW

The campaign for the nine Assembly by-elections in Uttar Pradesh (UP) concluded on Monday. The November 20 from 7 am to 6 pm, are regarded as a precursor to the 2027 state Assembly election. Results will be declared on November 23. For Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, the by polls have turned into a matter of prestige following the Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) lackluster performance in the recent Lok Sabha Election in the state.

These elections are seen as an opportunity for the BJP to demonstrate its resilience and rebuild its image ahead of the next Assembly election. The BJP is focusing on countering the narrative propagated by the Opposition regarding the abrogation of constitutional provisions and reservations. The Samajwadi Party (SP) also faces significant pressure in these elections. Having achieved a remarkable performance in the Lok Sabha Election, where it secured 37 seats compared to just five in 2019, the SP now faces the challenge of retaining its momentum. The by-polls are

a crucial test of the party's strategy and its claims of forming the next government in UP. A poor performance could dent the party's credibility and weaken its position in the run-up to the

While the INDIA alliance remains intact, its key constituent, the Congress has chosen not to field candidates in the by-polls, instead extending its support to the SP. The Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) has opted to contest all nine seats, despite its recent poor performance in the Lok Sabha Election. The BSP's participation is expected to influence the results by attracting a section of Dalit voters, potentially affecting the prospects of both the BJP

and the SP. Yogi Adityanath has been at the forefront of the Bharatiya

Vanata Party 's (BJP) Janata Party 's (BJP) campaign, visiting each constituency at least twice, holding road shows to galvanise voter support. The BJP has intensified its efforts to wrest key SP-held seats such as Karhal and Katehari while also focusing on retaining its strongholds such as Ghaziabad, Khair, and Phulpur. The saffron party is leaving no stone unturned in its bid to reclaim the Meerapur seat, which was earlier with the Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) before the party switched its alliance to the BJP. Similarly, the BJP has fielded a candidate in Majhwan, previously held by its ally Nishad Party, and is aggressively targeting SPdominated constituencies Kundarki in such as Moradabad and Sisamau in

Kanpur. The SP led by Akhilesh Yadav, has concentrated its campaign efforts on retaining its hold over key constituencies while countering the BJP's push. Of the nine seats, four were held by the SP, three by the BJP, one by the BJP's ally Nishad Party, and one by the RLD. Eight seats fell vacant after their MLAs were elected to the Lok Sabha earlier this year. The Sisamau seat is the exception, where a bypoll is being held following the disqualification of SP MLA Irfan Solanki after his conviction in a criminal case. The by-elections have become a crucial test for both major parties. For the BJP, a strong performance would reaffirm its dominance and help it recover from recent electoral setbacks. For the SP, retaining its seats would strengthen its position as a formidable opposition force.

Palakkad by-poll a precursor to Assembly election

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

Though the result of the assembly by-election from Palakkad scheduled to be held on November 20 is not going to make any change in Kerala politics, the bout is poised for a nail biting finish if the grand finale of the campaign that concluded on Monday evening is any indication.

constituency witnessing a three-cornered contest between the Congress, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) (CPIM) and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Since 2011, the constituency has turned into a Congress stronghold as Shafi Parambil has won all the three Assembly polls.

The by-poll was necessitated Pinarayi Vijayan and party after Parambil was elected to secretary MV Govindan till the Lok Sabha in the 2024 the other day.

General Election. The The Waqf Board related Congress is not leaving any stone unturned to retain the seat. The party has fielded Rahul Mamkoottathil while the $\mbox{CPI}(\mbox{M})$ is depending on S Sarith, a Congress turncoat. Meanwhile, the BJP is depending on C Krishnakumar, an old warhorse of the Sangh Parivar.

The defection of Sandeep Varrier, BJP's TV channel panelist, to the Congress has come as a morale booster to the grand old party. The Hindutva brigade, however, unperturbed. remains Meanwhile, cadres of the CPI(M) are yet to accept Sarith, who was spitting venom on chief minister

controversy has put the CPI(M) and the Congress in a quandary as any comments against the demand of the Board is likely to antagonise the Muslim community in the state. The Waqf Board has declared that the entire coastal village of Cherai-Munambam as Waqf property and want the residents evicted at the earliest.

While the CPI(M) and the Congress find themselves in a Catch-22 situation, the BJP and the RSS have come out openly supporting the locals, who are face dispossession of their homes and lands. Pinarayi Vijayan's criticism of

Panakkad Sadiq Ali Thangal, president of Muslim League, has shocked the Muslims in the state for whom the latter is a spiritual leader. "Till the other day Vijayan and the CPI(M) leaders were singing peans of Thangal. Once they understood that Thangal will not dance to their tunes, they turned against us," said PK Kunhalikutty, former minister for industries.

MV Govindan, party secretary of Kerala CPI(M), said that Thangal was an Govindan, ordinary politician and not above criticism. Govindan had said in a recent press meet that Thangal was a secular leader but chief minister Vijayan alleged during a campaign meeting that Thangal was yet another face of the Jama-at-e Islami. Though the result of Palakkad by-poll is unlikely to make any changes in Kerala politics immediately, the state's political landscape is likely to witness a realignment.

Fertilizer shortage causes Farmer unrest in MP

GIRISH SHARMA BHOPAL

meetings with GMR officials.

severe fertilizer shortage A severe lertilizer shortage in Madhya Pradesh (MOP has led to the harassment of farmers across the state. Farmers are coming on the streets protesting against the growing shortage of fertilizers, while there have been reports of farmers committing suicide in want for fertilizers.

One such incident was reported in Guna district on Sunday, the deceased Bhagwati Kirar from Jhagar village, before taking this extreme step, made a video narrating his ordeal he faced with the shortage of fertilizers

fertilizers in the market. Even in this situation, the state government is a mute spectator, instead of taking action towards solving the problem, the government has been busy in the by-polls. At present, Chief Minister electioneering Maharashtra and Jharkhand.

and blackmarketing

The farmers are facing due problems blackmarketing of fertilizers as sowing has started for wheat, chana, masoor and other crops of Rabi season. The MP Congress has been raising this problems. Leader

of Assembly Umang Singhar wrote a letter to the CM requesting to solve the problem but to no avail. Last month, former CM Digvijay Singh and PCC Chief Jitu Patwari had in a press conference alleged that the state government is doing Mohan Yadav is busy in nothing on the shortage of fertilizers in the State. In a ridiculous statement, MP

Agriculture Minister Endal Singh Kansana said that Russia-Ukraine war is the reason behind shortage of fertilizers in the State. However, he had assured that the State government would bit let this problem continue of the Opposition in the state for long.

Kerala replaces school marks with emojis



one are the days when Uprogress cards and grades measured student performance. Instead, emojis and stars will now be used to assess students in their early education stages.

Emojis and stars have already replaced marks or grades for Pre-KG to Class 2 students in many CBSE schools in Kochi, according school authorities. Starting this academic year, many schools in Kochi have introduced a system of awarding emojis and stars to students from kindergarten to Class 2.

This new programme focuses on evaluating children based on their activities, moving away from the written exams. Traditionally, students receive will enhance the students'

marks or grades for their performance.

the added "Imagine excitement if these were replaced with emojis like clapping hands, a star, or even a trophy. Such visual cues can have a strong impact, making feedback

memorable and motivating for students," said a teacher with a CBSE school in Kochi. She added that the new evaluation system received positive feedback. "Early intervention can help develop social skills in students while also alleviating the pressure of grades. This is the highlight of the new

system," she said. TP Ibrahim Khan, president of the CBSE Management Association, also stated, "This

skills." According to him, the new system focuses on developing skills such as communication, active learning, and overall health and well-being. "This is part of the New Education Policy (NEP)," Khan claimed. The pre-kindergarten and

two kindergartens, Class 1 and Class 2, have been included in the foundation stage in the policy, he added. Hence, a pattern has been stipulated for these classes, he said. According to Khan, the CBSE has not been officially directed to implement the system in all schools so far. To facilitate a smooth transition, schools held

meetings for teachers and developed integrated said school assessments, authorities.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

G20: Delhi to Rio

It is yet another crucial opportunity for world leaders to bridge divides and collaborate on creating a better future

rime Minister is in Rio de Janeiro to attend the G20 Summit, which is one of the biggest platforms for the world leaders to make collective decisions for the betterment of the world and address the issues confronting the humanity. The 19th G20 Summit brings together world leaders to address some of the most pressing global challenges. Hosted by Brazil, this year's Summit builds on India's successful presidency, which left a lasting impact by inducting the African Union as a permanent member and fostering consensus on divisive issues such as the Ukraine conflict. The summit will feature prominent leaders, including Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, US President Joe Biden and Chinese President Xi Jinping. In Brazil, Modi attends the summit as a member of the G20 Troika, alongside Brazil and South Africa, reflecting India's continued influence in shaping global discourse. The summit's agenda is wide-ranging, reflecting the multifaceted chal-



lenges the world faces today. Economic recovery remains a critical priority as nations grapple with the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and global geopolitical tensions. Issues such as inflation, debt crises and financing for sustainable development are likely to dominate discussions.

Simultaneously, climate action will take centre stage, with a focus on enhancing climate financing, accelerating the transition to renewable energy, and achieving the commitments of the Paris Agreement. The geopolitical landscape, particularly the ongoing Ukraine conflict is another focal point. While the issue remains divisive, leaders will seek to find com-

mon ground on mitigating its impacts on global food and energy security. The summit is also likely to explore the role of technology in bridging development gaps, emphasising responsible use of artificial intelligence and fostering digital cooperation. For India, the summit is an opportunity to reinforce its leadership on the global stage. As part of the G20 Troika, Modi brings India's vision of "One Earth, One Family, One Future" to the table, advocating for greater inclusivity and collaboration. His interactions with leaders such as Joe Biden and Xi Jinping on sidelines are expected to address key issues like trade, defence partnerships and technology sharing, furthering India's bilateral and multilateral engagements. India's presidency last year emphasised the importance of representing the Global South, a theme that Brazil is expected to continue. This focus on equitable development resonates with nations across Africa, Asia and Latin America, underscoring the need for a more balanced global governance system. For India and Prime Minister Modi, it is a moment to showcase the nation's growing influence and commitment to global solutions, setting the tone for the future of multilateral cooperation. This is one of the big opportunity to bring about meaningful change, hope it is not wasted.



Riders take part in the MRF MOGRIP Supercross Championship 2024, in Bengaluru

New tentacles of international terrorism



Proactive leadership is crucial for implementing strategic plans, while swift judicial reforms are needed to handle terrorism cases more effectively

he recent wave of terrorist attacks in Jammu and Kashmir, following the formation of a new state government, has reignited concerns over transnational terrorism. These incidents, marked by escalating violence in vulnerable areas, highlight a disturbing evolution in militant strategies. This resurgence is rooted in multiple factors, each revealing the complexities of the situation.

Firstly, the attacks aim to signal that despite the abrogation of Article 370 and the central government's efforts to stabilise the region, Jammu and Kashmir remain unstable. Secondly, Jammu's expansive forested terrains have become a haven for militants, offering natural cover for guerrilla warfare and hindering security forces. Thirdly, the improved law and order in Kashmir has shifted insurgent focus to Jammu, where vulnerabilities are being exploited. Fourthly, while terrorist activities were temporarily subdued, the resurgence of militancy underscores the persistence of deeprooted threats. Lastly, despite the successful

Assembly elections and the formation of Omar Abdullah's government, the region continues to grapple with relentless attacks. The situation in Jammu and Kashmir resonates with broader developments in the West Asia. Recent events, such as the targeting of an Israeli ship by Iranbacked Houthi groups in the Red Sea and subsequent retaliatory strikes by Israel, the UK and the US on Houthi positions in Yemen, have heightened regional tensions. The involvement of Hamas and Hezbollah in supporting the Houthis underscores a dangerous convergence of terrorist alliances. The killing of prominent figures like IRGC General Sayyed Razi Mousavi and Hamas Deputy Leader Saleh-al-Arouri has added to the volatility, while Houthi leader Abdul-Malik al-Houthi's aggressive strategies have intensified attacks.

Adding to these concerns are the January 3, 2024, twin blasts in Karman, southern Iran, which left over 85 dead and hundreds injured. This violence has spread

to Lebanon and Syria, where terror networks have previously used locations like Sana, Yemen, as bases for planting explosives in international airports. These incidents reveal two critical trends: the increasing potential for transnational terrorism and the extension of terror operations into global trade routes and economies. Modern terrorist networks demonstrate an unsettling capacity for precision in choosing targets and timings.

The persistence of global terrorism is not new. Tragic events, from the Oklahoma City bombing that claimed over 200 lives to the Tokyo subway gas attack, which killed 12 and hospitalised thousands, reveal its devastating history. Other instances, such as the long-running insurgency of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam in Sri Lanka, have inflicted severe casualties and losses. Nations worldwide-be it Russia, Spain, the UK, Italy, Israel, or China-face the unrelenting specter of terrorist vio-

Social inequities, global economic disparities and historical grievances contribute to the conditions that foster extremism. The post-Cold War global order, shaped by power dynamics of major nations, has exacerbated thes tensions. For instance, the power network established by the US and its allies in West Asia has sparked resistance in



THE PERSISTENCE OF

GLOBAL TERRORISM IS NOT NEW. TRAGIC EVENTS, FROM THE OKLAHOMA CITY **BOMBING THAT CLAIMED OVER 200** LIVES TO THE TOKYO SUBWAY GAS ATTACK, WHICH KILLED 12 AND HOSPITALISED THOUSANDS, **REVEAL ITS** DEVASTATING

HISTORY

many regions, deepening conflicts and animosities.

In an interconnected world, socio-economic conditions in one region influence those in another, creating a fertile ground for transnational grievances. The rapid dissemination of advanced weaponry and transportation networks has further facilitated the expansion of terrorist activities. Suicide squads and other modern militant tactics have left security apparatuses reeling. It is imperative to reject narratives that romanticise terrorists as freedom fighters and foster cooperation between local communities and law enforcement to dismantle these networks.

A diversified approach, integrating technical expertise and on-the-ground insights, is essential. Specialised training programmes for security personnel to anticipate and respond to emerging threats are crucial. Countering terrorism requires a multifaceted approach, beginning with detailed analysis of major incidents to formulate actionable strategies. Advanced communication networks must be established to intercept terrorist communications effectively, while enhanced intelligence gathering, supported by strengthened local sources, is essential for generating actionable insights. Investment in cutting-edge technology for maintaining secrecy and secu-

rity, along with training specialists in counter-terrorism tactics, is vital to address evolving threats. Dedicated think tanks should be created to develop innovative solutions, and comprehensive training programs for police, intelligence, and military personnel must be prioritised. Proactive leadership among security officials is crucial for implementing strategic plans, while swift judicial reforms are needed to handle terrorism cases more effective-

These measures must be accompanied by the political will to enforce them effectively. Public awareness and grassroots support play pivotal roles in countering terrorism. Localised insights should inform security measures to ensure they are contextually appropriate and effective. Ultimately, combating terror-

ism requires a coordinated global effort.

Nations must share intelligence, align strategies, and foster international cooperation to address this pervasive menace. Time is of the essence, as modern terrorists continuously adapt their tactics. Without addressing the underlying socio-political and economic factors that nurture terrorism, efforts will only provide

(Author, a Bharat Gaurav Award recipient, is a professor, HOD, and expert on strategic affairs; views are personal)

superficiai reliei.

CLOUDS OF WAR Chaos in Imphal

Turning missteps and misjudgments into growth



Our capacity for introspection determines the kind of individuals we become. Our personal blunders and societal faux pas can shape us

believe that we are a sum total of experiences. While **⊥**most are pleasant, a few leave us red-faced at the very best. It is for us to make the choice to introspect and evolve into a better person. My wife and I gingerly stepped out of the confines of our home after the restrictions imposed during the difficult COVID times had been relatively relaxed.

We thought we had crossed the hurdle. Our optimism was misplaced. We observed many vigilantes hanging out on their balconies to catch the hapless walkers at any time of the day or night and call the PCR. The police would necessarily have to come since a complaint had been raised and then go back, irritated at the complainant. We were still terrified enough to wear a mask. However, a few had to be nudged.

My wife would good-naturedly point at her mask as a request to those not wearing one. We encountered a young lady walking with no mask, not even one dangling around her ears. The sensibilities of my wife aroused, she stopped the lady and requested her to comply with the regulations.

My wife was rudely brushed social media, be it Facebook, aside. The lady stopped us Instagram or Tinder. The audience erupted in loud during the next round, to let us know that she was a doclaughter and I preened with tor who spent long hours in pride at my oratory skills. My the hospital with a mask on, jubilation was short-lived. I and her lungs needed fresh found out over the net during air, uninterrupted by a mask. the train back that Tinder was Unaware of a different set of a dating platform. I may choose to call this a blunder, rules for medical profession-

means communicating on to declare their virginity in the

als, I inquired from a few doc-

tor friends. They were

unequivocal in their judge-

ment, the lady in question is

an idiot.We have all been

guilty of an occasional faux

pas at some time or the other.

I attended a literature festival

at a university, a few days

before the lockdown, to speak

I made a point that commu-

nication amongst people

should never stop, even if it

about my book.

was stupid of me to speak of something about which I did not know This foot-in-the-mouth syndrome is nothing new, particularly amongst a certain section of society, who are sup-posed to be beacons of the good and should be upholding values. A minister in one of the states defended the

decision of a medical college

to ask the female candidates

but the simple fact is that it

admission form because, "Virgin, as per the dictionary, means an unmarried and pure girl. So, all these words are not objectionable."

A senior leader observed that electricity must be provided in all villages so that people spend more time watching television than procreating. Another leader mentioned that crimes against women are happening in urban India and not in the villages since we are losing our culture in the cities. The anecdotes narrated above may appear disjointed at a cursory glance. The common thread I detect is the misplaced value system of authority: 'My word is supreme.

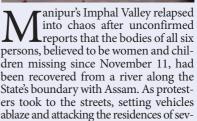
Nothing gives one the right to dispense half-baked wisdom, not follow the rules, or make discriminatory statements. Our experiences should evolve us. Brazilian educator and philosopher, Paulo Freire, has said aptly, "No one is born fully-formed: it is through self-experience in the world that we become what we are."

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

Madam —Apropos of the article 'US-Iran tensions: War clouds over West Asia' (November 16), the analysis of the geopolitics, particularly in the West Asian context, shows warmongering in West Asia in a long-distant future. Beyond doubt, US-Iran tensions are extremely deep-rooted, and no solutions are visible in the near future. The advent of Donald Trump in his second tenure may be seen as intolerant of any terrorism-oriented politics of West Asian countries where Iran, Pakistan, Iraq, Afghanistan, Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, etc., with hundreds of militia, deep state forces, and terrorist organisations, who have no obligations of following or adhering to any international, UNO, or multilateral treaties, conventions, agreements, norms and regulations. Bangladesh is the new entrant of the explosive block.

Such organisations have tacit financial, army and logistic support from these nations while their regular armies execute and control their plans, attacks, hijacks and other disruptive, destabilising and assassination activities. The USA is not solely to blame for West Asian problems and war-ridden Islamic governments rattling guns and bombs as their mainstream administration and geopolitical politics. Obviously, all these countries are devastated and ruined by the compelling influx of illegal immigration from these countries in all European countries, the US, and also India. While Hamas carried out the most sinister attacks on Israel on Oct 7. 2023, the self-annihilation of Hamas and its supportive Hezbollah was on the cards. But the truth is that such organisations supported by their sponsoring governments will never be extinct. These are the façades of the regular armies. It may be seen in European countries that unrest over illegal immigrants is growing. US-Iran enmity is only one of the factors. The world is

dren missing since November 11, had



eral MLAs in the State capital, Imphal, the

and fighting against it tooth and nail. Vinod Johri | Delhi

BLAME GAME

smarting under the threats of terrorism soil. Yet, the sad fact is that the poor

Madam — Farmers' issues continue to haunt the Government and the fallout from the UPA government's time continues. Blame games are played just to find an escape route for decades. Instead of punishing farmers, the government should find ways of empowering them so that they can explore alternative ways of destroying stubble. High pollution levels affect the locals. Stubble burning is environmentally hazardous, and it should be prevented.

The Supreme Court seems to think that if stubble-burning is halted, the air quality in Delhi would improve dramatically. It has asked the neighbouring states to take appropriate action to prevent it. True, there are safer ways of disposing of stubble, but they are costly. The farmers do not have the financial capacity to pluck out the stubble and bury it in the fields where it will become part of the

government suspended Internet and mobile data services in seven affected districts of the valley, which is dominated by the non-tribal Meiteis and the surrounding hills, where the tribal Kuki-Zos are in a majority. A curfew was clamped in the three valley districts of Imphal East, Imphal West and Bishnupur.

Among the houses of the MLAs targeted was that of Rajkumar Imo Singh, the son-in-law of Chief Minister Nongthombam Biren Singh, whose personal residence on the outskirts of Imphal was also reportedly attacked by a mob on Saturday night. Large groups of people went about asking MLAs to quit if the government was unable to ensure peace and punish killers of women and

Dorai Ramani Suresh | Ghaziabad

Haryana, and Rajasthan are blamed for the poor air quality in Delhi. C K Subramaniam | Chennai

farmers of Punjab, Uttar Pradesh,

SANJU'S CENTURY STREAK

Madam — Sanju Samson has etched his name in the record books by becoming the first player to score three T20I centuries in a calendar year. This remarkable achievement cements his status as one of the most explosive batters in the shortest format of the game. Samson's stellar run began with his maiden T20I hundred against Bangladesh in Hyderabad on October 12. He reached the century mark in just 40 balls, the second-fastest hundred by an Indian in T20I cricket. His innings was a masterclass in power-hitting, as he smashed 111 off 47 balls, including 11 boundaries and 8 sixes, dismantling the Bangladeshi

Jayanthy S Manaiam | Mumbai

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FIRST COLUMN SEPHORA KIDS SYNDROME

By promoting safe practices, the parents and society can ensure that this trend benefits rather than exploits



•he beauty industry is continuously evolving, with brands adapting to trends, demographics and consumer behaviour. A notable trend is the rising interest in skincare and beauty among younger audiences, including children and pre-teens, popularly referred to as 'Sephora Kids'. While Sephora does not have a specific kids line, the term reflects a cultural shift as children become active participants in the beauty and

The idea of 'Sephora Kids' is tied to the increasing exposure of children to social media, beauty tutorials and influencers. Platforms like TikTok and YouTube have normalised beauty routines for younger audiences. making skincare and makeup accessible and aspirational. Pre-teens, often labelled as "Generation Alpha," are drawn to the beauty industry as a way of self-expression and social connection.

Parents too play a role in this trend, with some encouraging early skincare habits to prevent future issues like acne. Additionally, brands targeting this demographic such as Bubble and Florence by Mills, offer gentle, age-appropriate skincare, further validating the interest of young consumers? Beauty brands have now recognised the buying power of younger audiences and their families.

Marketing campaigns often focus on inclusivity, fun packaging and social media visibility to attract children and pre-teens. For instance, kid influencers and beauty creators promote skincare routines and products, dri-



ving trends among their peers while brands like Bubble and BTWN emphasise safe, dermatologist-approved products for younger skin. Moreover, platforms like TikTok and Instagram amplify the trend by showcasing beauty routines and promoting luxury brands. This has contributed to an increase in spending among tweens and teens on beauty products, with estimates showing annual expenditures ranging from \$119 to \$140 per child for skincare and makeup.

Not only this, but many parents also express concerns about the safety of children using advanced skincare products with potent ingredients like retinol and acids, which may not be suitable for young skin. Dermatologists report an increase in skin issues, such as irritations and allergic reactions, linked to these products. Parents too worry about the psychological impact, such as the pressure to conform to unrealistic beauty standards and premature exposure to consumer culture?.

They note that participating in beauty routines can boost their children's confidence and serve as a creative outlet. However, the same comes with the risk of adopting harmful skincare habits, overspending and feeling pressured by societal beauty ideals? The rise of Sephora Kids raises ethical questions about how much influence the beauty industry should exert over children. On one hand, critics argue that marketing beauty products to young audiences exploits their impressionability and perpetuates consumerism while on the other hand, advocates believe that when managed responsibly, it can foster creativity and self-care. Brands and regulators must emphasise transparency, safety and age-appropri-

Parents, too at times must guide their children in understanding the importance of moderation and self-acceptance. There is no denying that the concept of 'Sephora Kids' symbolises a cultural and generational shift in the beauty industry. While it opens doors to creativity and self-expression for younger audiences, it also demands careful navigation of ethical and developmental implications. By promoting safe practices and fostering positive self-images, the beauty industry, parents and society can ensure that this trend benefits rather than exploits young consumers. (The write is an educator; views expressed are personal)

Redesigning education for real-world skills



By integrating practical lessons on earning, saving and managing money, education can better prepare students for real-world challenges



t is a truism to state that the world is becoming an increasingly complex proposition to deal with and the methods of coping with it need to be structured and understood. This alone will avoid increasing grief and bewilderment on the proposition of the proposition o the way matters are working in the world one is surrounded by. An illustration from the area of finance may illustrate the situation. It is an obvious matter to point out that everyone needs finance to survive and finance has to be obtained if not earned from somewhere. This business of understanding finance or earning requires the ability to understand what finance is and how it can be earned.

Finance comes in many shapes and colours. A common factor in all finance is that it is putting a monetary value to one's effort and it is compensation for what one does to keep a sys tem going. Finance sets the equation between effort and its compensation and finance in turn becomes a tool for both purchasing and obtaining the needs of life beyond purchase. To do so, one needs to understand currency, its equivalence and how currency is measured in effort.

It is one of the enigmas of our prevailing school and college system that these matters are rarely explained through a curriculum or, for that matter, in a formal situation. Much is learned about finance through observation and the domestic environment in which one has grown, that is converted into transactions in operational life and early enough in one's life one learns that one needs to have capabilities to earn money and therefore deal with finance. Each system has its methods of equivalence between efforts and compensation and the forces that determine it are very often referred to as market forces.



FINANCE COMES IN MANY SHAPES AND COLOURS. A **COMMON FACTOR** IN ALL FINANCE IS THAT IT IS **PUTTING A** MONETARY VALUE TO ONE'S EFFORT

> AND IT IS COMPENSATION FOR WHAT ONE DOES TO KEEP A SYSTEM GOING

sometimes simply and frequently through trial and error. Thus, it is that finance is not only tricky, but it leads to comprehend and yet it remains one of the cornerstones of anyone's life. Taking the conversation further, it needs to be realised that finance has some basic constituents like earning, saving, investing, converting into tangible assets and more. Each area has over time become a specialised field of learning and indeed happiness or otherwise of one's existence.

There are forces in finance in the higher classes of the school where certain basic concepts are explained and certain essential foundational ideas on finance are shared. What is needed is giving it a practical orientation and teaching people through field-work, the value of finance and its central role in human life. Most classrooms have not grad-

uated to that stage of thinking, or in that way of thinking which means very simply that most people pass through the completion of their schooling without getting the correlation between the essentials of finance and the foundation of living.

A situation becomes more complex when one graduate from the college or university level and then unless one is doing a specific course in finance, one may never learn anything beyond what one has learned in school about finance.

This is a loss because, as enumerated above, what is taught in school about finance does not go very far in the practice of finance. What everyone needs to know is

worth in handling skills and information and how this is compensated in financial terms by the environment. This by itself is a tricky proposition and, as suggested earlier, needs fieldwork. Then there are

final areas of finance that cannot be learned unless exposed to the practical world and that is not a matter that can be brought into the classroom. Also, in a normal education system, there are again gaps where this learning goes by default and people are left to pay for themselves through trial and This causes not only immense

problems but complications of one variety or another. One can be shortchanged or one may not know that services cannot, in many cases, be provided without some type of compensation and that compensation very often has to be in terms of money. It will be a worthwhile approach to explain to people the relationship between money, finance and

Such a perspective will help make the curriculum of not only the schools but also the colleges worthwhile and more practical in one's own life. As matters stand, if one specialises in physics, chemistry, history, psychology, geography, or whatever else, one hardly realises that beyond the so-called specialisation, there is a general education one needs. This general education can be in behaviour concerning others, management of self, understanding income, understanding expenditure, understanding savings, and so on. Putting it simply, there is a need

to also focus on the range of learning before one crosses into adulthood and becomes a financially viable entity. As indicated earlier, much of this is happening through trial and error, embracing a method; that works in certain cases but not in others. There is a clear need to reduce the treasury for adjustment to actual life through formal inputs before one graduates into adulthood and is thrown into the open

sea – as it were to take care of oneself. The time has come to establish a philosophy of education, self-formation, and teaching that can stand on its feet and be related to the requirements of life.

The time is right for some fundamental thinking on such matters, and the sooner it's done, the better. Similarly, similar reflections are needed in making him a person through his childhood, teenage, and other phases of his life about the nature and content

of what is technology. This is so because technology touches every aspect of our lives, from not just the glasses that one may have to wear to correct one's sight but to everything else that has become such an essential part of one's livelihood and existence. Including and understanding the basic nature of technology in the curriculum of schools and colleges also needs attention. However, that may be a subject matter that needs to be treated separately and indepen-

(The writer is a well-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed are personal.)

Cloud seeding, urbanisation, global warming: Where is the world headed?

Amid the climate challenges plaguing urban life, innovative approaches like cloud seeding offer promising solutions for a better future

⊣he impact of global warming and pollution is transforming urban life, turning once vibrant towns into places that are becoming less and

less livable. Across the globe, urban landscapes, particularly in India, are evolving into concrete jungles, where the struggle for survival frequently resembles an arduous challenge. Once viewed as a shining example of culture and a centre for economic pursuits, Delhi and Mumbai now display AQI scores that seem almost stag-

Heavy with contaminants, the noxious air has transformed into an environmental concern, leaving inhabitants struggling to breathe



while suffering from respiratory conditions. Have these cities become uninhabitable? In Delhi, pollution levels frequently fall into the "severe" category, with AQI readings often exceed-

The outcomes are dire: children attending school only part-time; elderly individuals confined indoors; and cost of progress come at the Nonetheless, its use as a hefty price tag, and the long-hospitals inundated with expense of the health and means to reduce pollution term effects on the environ-

cases of asthma, bronchitis and various other respiratory ailments. In Mumbai, the oppressive humidity intensifies the situation, transforming the already polluted air into a dangerous mix for its 20-million-strong populace. Economic growth challenges the conventional use of various facilities and personal vehicles: although development fosters prosperity, it comes with significant expenses. Alongside factories and vehicles, construction sites contribute to the GDP; however, they also transform cities into perilous environments. The alarming rise in disease cases compels us to confront

a difficult reality: does the

wellbeing of the populace? Now, comes cloud seeding, a game changer in this catastrophic scenario. The practice of introducing particles like silver iodide or salt into the atmosphere to encourage rainfall can be celebrated for its potential to cleanse the air and replenish water resources through cloud seeding. Thus, it could indeed be the

virtue that aids in easing the challenges faced by cities: pollution and water scarcity. Countries such as China and the United Arab Emirates have been exploring this technology, while India has intermittently implemented it during droughts.



remains largely uncharted. Is cloud seeding the answer to the escalating air quality crisis in India?

Some argue that cloud seeding is not an extraordinary solution. It comes with a



ment remain uncertain. What truly matters is that addressing pollution at its source—minimising industrial emissions, promoting sustainable urban growth, and shifting to clean energy-continues to be the pri-

Delhi struggle and suffocate under the weight of toxic air, these short-term measures, like cloud seeding, may provide a fleeting but vital relief. The entire conversation regarding urban development requires a complete transformation. Advancement must not

jeopardise the wellbeing of the local population. It is essential for those in posi-tions of authority to champion sustainable practices and enforce rigorous pollution controls to achieve a harmonious relationship between advancement and environmental stewardship. The stakes have never been higher.

The choice before us is stark: continue on a path that sufmary goal. As cities like focates our cities or embrace

ity to breathe life back into urban spaces. The future of millions depends on the decisions we make today. Conclusion:

The intersection of urbanisation, global warming, and pollution demands urgent action. Short-term fixes like cloud seeding can offer relief, but true progress requires systemic change curbing emissions, adopting clean energy, and prioritising sustainable urban growth. The future of our cities and the well-being of millions depend on decisive, forward-thinking measures taken today.

(The writer is a motivator and a freelance writer; views expressed are personal)

Biden authorises Ukraine to use US Russia chides US over nod to hit missiles for strikes inside Russia

AP MANAUS (BRAZIL)

President Joe Biden has authorised Ukraine to use US-supplied missiles to strike deeper inside Russia, easing limitations on the longer range weapons as Russia deploys thousands of North Korean troops to reinforce its war, according to a US official and three other people familiar with the matter.

The decision allowing Kyiv to use the Army Tactical Missile System, or ATACMs, for attacks farther inside Russia comes as President Vladimir Putin positions North Korean troops along Ukraine's northern border to try to reclaim hundreds of miles of territory seized by Ukrainian forces.

Biden's move also follows the presidential election victory of Donald Trump, who has said he would bring about a swift end to the war and raised uncertainty about whether his administration would continue the United States' vital military support for Ukraine.

The official and the others knowledgeable about the matter were not authorized to discuss the US decision publicly and spoke on condition of

anonymity. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's reaction Sunday was notably

"Strikes are not made with words," he said during his

things are not announced. The missiles will speak for them-

Zelenskyy and many of his Western supporters have been pressing Biden for months to allow Ukraine to strike military targets deeper inside Russia with Western-supplied missiles, saying the US ban had made it impossible for Ukraine to try to stop Russian attacks on its cities and electrical grids.

Zelenskyy's statement came shortly after he posted a message of condolence on Telegram following a Russian attack on a nine-story building that killed at least eight people in the northern city of Sumy, 40 kilometers (24 miles) from the border with Russia

Russia also launched a massive drone and missile attack. described by officials as the largest in recent months, targeting energy infrastructure and killing civilians. The attack came as fears are mounting about Moscow's intentions to devastate Ukraine's power generation capacity before the

"And this is the answer to everyone who tried to achieve something with Putin through talks, phone calls, hugs and appeasement," Zelenskyy said. The comment appeared to be a dig at German Chancellor Olaf Scholz, who spoke Friday with Putin in the first such call with a sitting head of a major

nightly video address. "Such Western power in nearly two vears.

Some supporters have argued that the limitation and other U.S. constraints could cost Ukraine the war. The debate has become a source of disagreement among Ukraine's NATO allies.

Biden had remained opposed, determined to hold the line against any escalation that he felt could draw the US and other NATO members into direct conflict with nucleararmed Russia.

Putin has warned that Moscow could provide long-range weapons to others to strike Western targets if NATO allies allow Ukraine to use their arms to attack Russian territo-

News of Biden's decision followed meetings over the last two days with the leaders of South Korea, Japan and China. The addition of North Korean troops was central to the talks. which took place on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in Peru.

Biden did not mention the decision during a speech at a stop in the Amazon rainforest in Brazil on his way to the Group of 20 summit.

Asked about the decision, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told reporters that the UN position is "to avoid a permanent deterioration of the war in Ukraine?

"We want peace, we want fair peace," Guterres said Sunday replenish its dwindling before the summit in Rio de weapons stockpiles. Janeiro. He didn't elaborate.

The longer-range missiles are

likely to be used in response to

North Korea's decision to sup-

port Putin's invasion of

Ukraine, according to one of

the people familiar with the

The overall supply of ATACMS missiles is short, so US officials in the past have questioned whether they could give Ukraine enough to make a difference Some appropriate of

ference. Some supporters of

Ukraine say that even a few strikes deeper inside Russia

would force its military to change deployments and

expend more of its resources.

North Korea has provided

thousands of troops to Russia

to help Moscow try to claw

back land in the Kursk border

region that Ukraine seized this

year. The introduction of North

Korean troops to the conflict

comes as Moscow has seen a

favorable shift in momentum.

Trump has signaled that he could push Ukraine to agree to

give up some land seized by Russia to find an end to the

As many as 12,000 North Korean troops have been sent

to Russia, according to US, South Korean and Ukrainian

assessments. US and South

Korean intelligence officials

say North Korea also has pro-

vided Russia with significant

conflict.

development.

Trump, who takes office in Ianuary, spoke for months as a candidate about wanting Russia's war in Ukraine to be over, but he mostly ducked questions about whether he wanted U.S. ally Ukraine to win.

He also repeatedly slammed the Biden administration for giving Kyiv tens of billions of dollars in aid. His victory has Ukraine's international backers worrying that any rushed settlement would mostly benefit Putin.

America is Ukraine's most valuable ally in the war, providing more than \$56.2 billion in security assistance since Russian forces invaded in February 2022.

Worried about Russia's response, however, the Biden administration repeatedly has delayed providing some specific advanced weapons sought by Ukraine, agreeing only under pressure from Kyiv, its supporters and in consultation with

That includes initially refusing Zelenskyy's pleas for advanced tanks, Patriot air defense systems and F-16 fighter jets, among other systems.

The White House agreed in May to allow Ukraine to use US-provided weaponry for limited strikes just across the border with Russia.

its soil with long-range weapons

AP ■ MANAUS (BRAZIL)

Dresident Joe Biden's decision to let Ukraine strike targets inside Russia with US-supplied long-range missiles was met with ominous warnings from Moscow, a hint of menace from Kyiv and nods of approval from some Western

Biden's shift in policy added an uncertain and potentially crucial new factor to the war on the eve of its 1,000-day milestone. News of Biden's change came on the day a Russian ballistic missile with cluster munitions struck a residential area of Sumy, a city in northern

Ukraine, killing 11 people, including two children, and injuring 84 others.

On Monday, another Russian missile attack started fires in two apartment blocks in Odesa, in southern Ukraine. At least eight people were killed and many more were injured, Ukrainian lawmaker Óleksii Honcharenko said in a video he posted on Telegram from the site of the attack.

Washington is easing limits on what Ukraine can strike with US-made weaponry, US officials told The Associated Press on Sunday, after months of ruling out such a move over fears of escalating the conflict and bringing about a direct confrontation between Russia and NATO.

The scope of the new firing guidelines isn't clear. But the change came after the US, South Korea and NATO said recently that North Korean troops are in Russia and apparently are being deployed to help the Russian army drive Ukrainian troops out of Russia's Kursk border region.

Russia is also slowly pushing Ukraine's outnumbered army backward in the eastern Donetsk region. It has also conducted a devastating and deadly aerial campaign against civilian areas in Ukraine.

Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov on Monday referred iournalists to a statement made by Russian President Vladimir Putin in September, in which he said allowing Ukraine to target Russia would significantly raise the stakes in the conflict. It would change "the very nature of the conflict dramatically," Putin said at the time. "This will mean that NATO countries - the United States and European countries - are at war with Russia.

Peskov claimed that Western countries supplying long-range weapons also provide targeting services to Kyiv. "This fundamentally changes the modality of their involvement in the conflict," Peskov said.

Last June, Putin warned that Russia could provide longrange weapons to others to strike Western targets in response to NATO allies allowing Ukraine to use their arms to attack Russian territory. He also reaffirmed Moscow's

readiness to use nuclear weapons if it sees a threat to its

sovereignty. President-elect Donald Trump, who takes office in about two months' time, has raised uncertainty about whether his administration would continue the United States' vital mil-

itary support for Ukraine. He

has also vowed to quickly end the war. President Ukrainian Volodymyr Zelenskyy gave a muted response to the approval that he and his government have been request-ing of Biden for more than a year. "Today, much is being said in the media about us receiving permission for the relevant actions," Zelenskyy said in his nightly video

address Sunday.
"But strikes are not made with words. Such things are not announced. The missiles will speak for themselves," he said. The foreign minister of NATO member Lithuania, Gabrielius Landsbergis, said he's not "opening the champagne" yet as it remains unclear exactly what restrictions have been lifted and whether Ukraine has enough of the US weapons to make a

Margus Tsahkna, the foreign minister of Estonia which is another Baltic country that fears a military threat from Russia, said easing restrictions on Ukraine was "a good

difference.

Children, parents among 8 killed in Israeli strikes in Gaza, officials say

Israeli strikes in the Gaza Strip killed eight people, including two children aged 7 and 9 and their parents, Palestinian officials said Monday

A third child, 10 years old, was wounded in an overnight strike on a tent where displaced people were sheltering in the southern city of Khan Younis, according to the Civil Defence, first responders who operate under the Hamas-run government. An Associated Press reporter saw the children's bodies at nearby Nasser Hospital. A separate strike early Monday killed four people, including a woman and a child, in the built-up Nuseirat refugee camp, according to nearby Al-Agsa

Martyrs Hospital.

The Israeli military blames civilian deaths on Hamas, accusing militants of hiding among civilians and fighting from residential areas. It rarely comments on individual strikes, which often kill women and children.

The war began when Hamas stormed into Israel on Oct 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting around 250. Some 100 hostages are still inside Gaza, a third of whom are believed to be dead.

Israel's retaliatory offensive has killed over 43,800 Palestinians, according to local health authorities. They do not distinguish between militants and civilians but say most of those killed are women and children.

The fighting has left some 76 tion "is to make sure the people dead in Israel, including 31 soldiers.

Meanwhile, a government minister close to Hezbollah says Lebanon will convey its positive position" on a United States-backed ceasefire proposal this week.

The Biden administration is trying to halt the war between Israel and the militant group after months of sputtering cease-fire efforts.

Lebanon's Parliament Speaker Nabih Berri, a Hezbollah ally who is mediating for the mili-tants, is expected to meet with US envoy Amos Hochstein in the Lebanese capital on Tuesday.

Labour Minister Mostafa Bayram, who met with Berri on Monday, said Hezbollah's func-

(Israeli) aggression fails to achieve its goals, while negotiation is for the state and the government".

A Western diplomat familiar with the talks told The Associated Press there is a sense of "cautious optimism". "Diplomatic efforts are converging towards a cease-fire, but it's still in the hands and heads of key players to decide if it's in their interest or not to stop things right now," said the diplomat, who was not authorised to brief media and so spoke on condition of anonymity.

The efforts are aimed at reestablishing a UN buffer zone in southern Lebanon established after the 2006 Israel-Hezbollah war.



Lebanese policemen stand in front of destroyed shops that were hit Sunday evening in an Israeli airstrike in central Beirut. Lebanon on Monday

Trial to begin in human smuggling case after

N Korean leader calls for expanding N-forces in face of alleged US threats

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un renewed his call for a "limitless" expansion of his military nuclear program to counter US-led threats in comments reported Monday that were his first direct criticism toward Washington since Donald Trump's win in the US presidential election.

At a conference with army officials on Friday, Kim condemned the United States for updating its nuclear deterrence strategies with South Korea and solidifying three-way military cooperation involving Japan, which he portrayed as an "Asian NATO" that was escalating tensions and instability in the region. Kim also criticized the

United States over its support of Ukraine against a prolonged Russian invasion. He insisted that Washington and its Western allies were using Ukraine as their "shock troops" to wage a war against Moscow and expand the scope of US military influence, the North's official Korean Central News Agency said.

Kim has prioritized his country's ties to Russia in recent months, embracing the idea of a "new Cold War" and displaying a united front in Russian President Vladimir Putin's broader conflicts with the West.

He has used Russia's war on Ukraine as a distraction to accelerate the development of his nuclear-armed military, which now has various nuclear-

capable systems targeting South Korea and intercontinental ballistic missiles that can potentially reach the US mainland.

Kim has yet to directly acknowledge that he has been providing military equipment and troops to Russia to support its war against Ukraine and the KCNA's report didn't mention whether Kim made any comments toward Trump, whose election win has yet to be reported in the North's state media.

Kim met Trump three times in 2018 and 2019 in Trump's first presidency, but their diplomacy quickly collapsed over disagreements in exchanging the release of USled sanctions and North Korean steps to wind down its nuclear and missile program. North Korea has since suspended any meaningful talks with Washington and Seoul as Kim ramped up his testing activity and military demonstrations in the face of what he portrayed as "gangster-like US threats." There's concern in Seoul that Kim in exchange for his military support of Russia would receive Russian technology in return to further develop his arsenal.

Trump's election win has touched off speculation about a resumption of a summit-driven diplomacy with Kim, which was described by critics as a "bromance." But some experts say a quick return to 2018 is highly unlikely, as too much has changed about the regional security situation and broader geopolitics since then.

deaths of Indian family at Canada-US border **AP** ■ FERGUS FALLS (US)

criminal network stretching from India to A stretching from man. Canada made money smuggling families seeking better lives in the United States, including a man who died holding his 3-year-old son in gusting snow and bone-chilling temperatures two years ago, federal prosecutors plan to argue at a trial starting Monday in Minnesota.

Prosecutors have accused Indian national Harshkumar Ramanlal Patel, 29, of running the scheme and Steve Shand, 50, of Florida of waiting in a truck for 11 migrants, including the couple and two children who died after they tried to walk across the border to the US. Prosecutors say Patel

recruited Shand at a casino near their homes in Deltona, Florida, just north of Orlando. Jagdish Patel, 39, died along with his wife, Vaishaliben, who was in her mid-30s, and with their 11-year-old daughter, Vihangi and their 3-year-old son Dharmik. Patel is a common Indian surname and the victims were not related to Harshkumar Patel, who has pleaded not guilty, as has Shand.

The family, from the village of Dingucha in Gujarat state, is believed to have spent hours wandering fields in blizzard conditions as the wind chill reached minus 36 Fahrenheit (minus 38 Celsius). Canadian authorities found the Patels' frozen bodies on the morning of Jan. 19, 2022. Jagdish Patel

was holding Dharmik, who was wrapped in a blanket. Federal prosecutors say Patel and Shand were part of an operation that scouted clients in India, got them Canadian student visas, arranged transportation and smuggled them

into the US, mostly through

state

Washington

Minnesota.

The US Border Patrol arrested more than 14,000 Indians on the Canadian border in the year ending Sept. 30. By 2022, the Pew Research Center estimates there were more than 725,000 Indians living illegally in the US, behind only Mexicans and El Salvadorans. Harshkumar Patel's attorney, Thomas Leinenweber, told The Associated Press that his client came to America to escape

poverty and build a better life for himself and now "stands unjustly accused of participating in this horrible crime. He has faith in the justice system of his adopted country and believes that the truth will come out at the trial." Attorneys for Shand did not return messages. Court documents filed by prosecutors show Patel was in the US illegally after being refused a US visa at least five times. Over a five-week period, court documents say, Patel and Shand often communicated about the bitter cold as they smuggled five groups of Indians over a quiet stretch of border. One night in December 2021, Shand messaged Patel that it was "cold as hell" while waiting to pick up one group,

Canadian PM admits his govt made 'mistakes' in immigration policy

Panadian Prime Minister UJustin Trudeau has admitted that his government made "mistakes" in its immigration policy which led to "bad actors" like "fake colleges" and big corporations exploiting the system for their vested interests. Trudeau's statement on Sunday came amidst his Liberal Party's denting popularity ahead of the 2025 general election in Canada. The prime minister is facing intense public criticism due to his policies leading to housing shortage, inflation, and deteriorating health and transport systems in the coun-The

try. The opposition Conservative Party has also been accusing his government of mismanagement and failure to prioritise Canadian citizens' ed on his YouTube channel, Trudeau said, "In the last two years, our population has grown really fast, like a baby boom...Increasingly bad actors like fake colleges and big chain corporations have been exploiting our immigration system for their own interests. To combat this, "we are reduc-

needs. In a video message post-

ing the number of immigrants who are coming to Canada for the next three years," he said. "We made some mistakes and that's why we are taking this big turn," he said, justifying his

government's action. Outlining the government's latest immigration strategy, Immigration Minister Marc Miller said last month that Canada will admit approximately 3,95,000 permanent residents in 2025, marking a drop of nearly 20 per cent from the 4,85,000 expected this year.

The plan also sets a target for temporary immigrants, including international students and foreign workers. Their numbers are expected to drop to about 4,46,000 in 2025 and 2026, down from roughly 8,00,000 this year.

By 2027, Canada will accept just 17,400 new non-permanent residents, the new policy suggested. Canada also ended the popu-

lar fast track study visa programme, SDS, a major policy decision that is likely to impact scores of international students, including from India. According to the Indian High Commission here, India is the largest source country of foreign students with an estimated 4,27,000 Indian students studying in Canada. Trudeau said for years,

Canada's immigration system only focussed on Permanent Immigration where people come with family to settle in Canada and the government decides the number of permanent residents that it wants to admit each year. However, in doing so, it missed "the other pathway — the temporary immigration", which involves international students, temporary workers and so on. "After the (coronavirus) pan-

demic, our economy came

roaring back quickly. We want-

ed more workers fast. We were

in the midst of a huge labour

shortage. Temporary foreign

workers became such a signif-

choice and it worked, Trudeau emphasised. "Our economy Restaurants and stores reopened, businesses kept running, but most importantly, in spite of lots of economists'

icant part of our workforce...So,

we brought in more workers,"

he said. And it was the right

predictions, we avoided the worst-case scenario — a recession," he said. However, the prime minister said, some saw that as an

opportunity to profit, to game the system. "We have seen way too many large corporations doing this. Far too many colleges and universities used international stu-

line, because they could charge

these students tens of thou-

sands of dollars more for the same degree.

dents to raise their bottom

"And then there are really bad actors who outright exploit people who target vulnerable immigrants with promises of jobs, diplomas and easy pathways to citizenship promises that would never come true," he said. "Looking back when the post pandemic boom cooled and the businesses no longer needed the additional workforce, as a federal team, we could have acted quicker and turned off the taps faster,"

Trudeau admitted. Canada's new immigration plan is "straightforward — lower the number of immigrants — both permanent and temporary," he said, adding that the government is prioritising permanent residents with the skills it

needs like healthcare and construction workers.

Trudeau said the cut on the cap on immigrants coming to Canada was necessary to address its housing crisis and cost-of-living issues

"The goal is to help stabilise population growth while housing stocks catch up, and then to consider gradually increasing immigration rates once again," he said, adding that this pause is going to "give our economy and our communities the chance to catch up with things like our plan to build more homes".

Some temporary residents may turn to our asylum system when their visa expires...Those claims will be analysed and processed, and if their claim fails, they'll be sent home,"

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 rejected Trudeau's charges as "absurd" and expelled six Canadian diplomats. India also withdrew its High Commissioner in Canada Sanjay Kumar Verma after dismissing Ottawa's allegations. India has been maintaining that the main issue between the two countries is that of Canada giving space to pro-Khalistan elements operating from Canadian soil with impunity.

the pioneer

Finish probe against Sheikh Hasina US, Philippines sign pact to secure shared by next month, investigators told

special tribunal in ABangladesh on Monday told investigators they have one month to complete their work on ousted former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her close aides who face charges of crimes against humanity after hundreds of people were killed in a mass uprising this summer. Golam Mortuza Majumdar, the head judge of the threemember International Crimes Tribunal, set Dec 17 for investigators to finish their work, as the tribunal heard updates Monday from police about what the country's security agencies have done to arrest Hasina and her close aides.

The decision came after prosecutors sought more time for the investigation.

Hasina has been living in exile in India since Aug 5 when she fled the country amid the student-led protests. The Dhakabased International Crimes Tribunal on Oct. 17 issued arrest warrants for Hasina and 45 others including former



Bangladesh's former social welfare minister Dipu Moni is taken to the International Crimes Tribunal in Dhaka, Bangladesh on Monday.

Cabinet ministers, advisors The country is now being run by an interim government headed by Nobel Peace laureate Muhammad Yunus. At least 13 people, including a

former law minister and a and military and civil officials. businessman who was Hasina's private-sector advisor, appeared before the tribunal on Monday, said BM Sultan Mahmud, a prosecutor at the tribunal. One former Cabinet minister

oath in Tamil, highlighting the

representation of the minority

community in the new govern-

The new parliament will con-

The NPP led by Dissanayake

swept the parliamentary elec-

tions held on Thursday by

winning a two-thirds majority

It also dominated the Jaffnal

electoral district - the heartland

of the nation's Tamil minority.

The NPP won a near 62 per

cent of the vote 2/3rd majori-

ty of 159 seats in the 225-mem

no parallels since 1989.

ber assembly, a feat which has

TENDER NOTICE NO. CON/2024/

Tender No. CE/CON/MP

Chief Engineer/Con/4
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

CORRIGENDUM NO. 02 AGAINST TENDER NOTICE NO. : CPM-MLG-HQ-GC-2024-01

HQ-GC-2024-01; Date: 14-11-2024.

Name of work: Request for Proposa

Consultant for N.F. Railway, Gati Shakti

Unit. Approx. value: ₹14,88,08,535.16/-; E-tender will be closed at 15:00 hrs.

on 09-12-2024 and will be opened at

15:30 hrs. on 09-12-2024. For details

please visit www.ireps.gov.in. All other

CHANGE OF NAME

I hitherto known as SARITA

alias RAJNI AWASTHI D/o

Ramnaresh Chaturvedi W/o

Brijesh Kumar Awasthi R/o

H.No.-59, Uttam Vihar, Kherha

Dharampura, Chhapraula,

Gautam Buddha Nagar, UP-

201009 have changed my

name and shall hereafter be

I, Ram Lal, S/o, Shri Ram

Chander Yadav, R/o, E - 865, E

- Block, Jahangirpuri Delhi 33

have changed my name to

Ram Lal Yadav for all

THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Details of Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s)

1. Dawesco LLP

2. Neil Dawes Bhutani

3. Raemon Dawes Bhutani

4. Arun Bhutani

Loan Account Number

UGDELTH0000011248

Date: 19-11-2024, Place: New Delhi

U GRO

entioned herein below:

purposes.

PD(942)C

known as RAJNI AWASTHI.

CPM/GSU/Maligaon

remain unchanged

vene on Thursday.

as he was in custody for police interrogation in a separate case. Another six people will appear on Wednesday, tribunal officials said. At least 20 suspects have been arrested in the case. The tribunal will also seek updates from police on their progress in arresting the other

suspects, including Hasina. The chief prosecutor of the tribunal has already sought help from Interpol through the country's police chief to arrest Hasina. On Sunday, Yunus said in an address to the nation that his administration would seek Hasina's extradition from India.

Authorities say hundreds of people were killed during the uprising in July and August mainly by security agents seeking to quell the initial protests over government jobs. The violence intensified as the protests morphed into an antigovernment movement with more bloodshed, ending Hasina's 15-year rule. Hasina had also earlier sought an investigation into the killings.

military intelligence, weapons technology

The United States and the The United States and Philippines signed an agreement on Monday to secure the exchange of highly confidential military intelligence and technology in key weapons the US would provide to Manila Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin

and his Philippine counter-part, Gilberto Teodoro, signed the legally binding General Security of Military Information Agreement in Manila at a time when the longtime treaty allies have boosted their defense and military engagements, including large-scale joint combat drills, largely in response to China's increasingly aggressive actions

The outgoing Biden administration has taken steps to strengthen an arc of military alliances across the Indo-Pacific region to better counter China. including in any future confrontation over Taiwan or in the disputed South China Sea, which Beijing has claimed

That has dovetailed with Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr's thrust to strengthen his country's external defenses given an alarming escalation of territorial confrontations between Chinese and Filipinos forces in the South China Sea.

The Department of National Defense in Manila said the agreement aims to ensure the security of classified military information that would be exchanged between the U.S. and the Philippines. It will "allow the Philippines

big-ticket items from the United States," the Philippine defense department said. Neither side provided more

access to higher capabilities and

details or released a copy of the agreement.

Two Philippine security officials, however, have told The Associated Press that such an agreement, similar to ones Washington has signed with other allied countries, would allow the U.S. to provide the Philippines with higher-level

PUBLIC NOTICE

property) from Mr. Vipin Garg, who is it's absolut

owner vide Conveyance Deed dated 27.06.201

owner vide Conveyance Deed dated 27.06.2011 bearing Doc. No. 11141, Relinquishment Deed dated 07.08.2015 bearing Doc. No. 3615 read with Deed of Partition dated 24.03.2023 bearing Doc. No. 1969. Any person, body, individual, institution having any claim and/or objection in respect of the said property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift rust, essement, maintenance, inheritance, testamentary deposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title documents pertaining to the said property shall communicate

pertaining to the said property shall communicate

the same to the undersigned at our address within 10 days from the publication of this notice with

To days from the publication of his holice with documentary evidence in support thereof, failing which all the claim, of such person shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned. Any objections raised after the completion of the 10 days shall not be binding upon the said property or my client.

PROVISION OF 1200 KWP

GRID CONNECTED ROOF-

TOP SOLAR POWER PLANT

Tender Notice No.: AP/EL/21/24-25

Dated: 11-11-2024; E-Tender are invited by

KHAITAN & KHAITAI

intelligence and more sophisticated weapons, including missile systems.

It would also provide the Philippine military access to US satellite and drone surveillance systems with an assurance that such intelligence and details about sophisticated weapons would be kept highly secure to prevent possible leaks, the two Philippine officials said on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to discuss the sensitive

issue publicly. Philippine efforts to obtain sophisticated weapons from the US military in the past have been hampered by a lack of such an intelligence deal, including when Filipino forces were scrambling to fight a 2017 siege by Filipino and foreign militants aligned with the Islamic State group in southern Marawi city. Philippine forces, backed by US and Australian spy planes, quelled the uprising after five months.

Austin and Teodoro also attended a groundbreaking ceremony for a center where the

https://gem.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

nd the property is now being sold to Mr Satish

would coordinate future joint operations, including the exchange of information. Austin said the center "will be a place where our forces can work side-by-side to respond to

regional challenges." Austin renewed the US commitment to the Philippines as an ally and told Teodoro that

"we are more than allies. We are family. The coordinating center, Teodoro said, would provide "a unified picture of the

shared areas of responsibility and common approaches to threats against both our securities."

"I'm sure it will benefit future generations of both our peoples to come because although we may change people, the values don't change," Teodoro said. The Philippine defense chief reiterated the crucial need for the US security presence in the region, citing Marcos's repeated statements that such a presence "is essential for maintaining peace and stability in this

Central Coalfields Limited

All the tenders issued by CIL and its Subsidiaries for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on

website of Coal India Ltd. www.coalindia.in / respective

Subsidiary Company (CCL, www.centralcoalfields.in), CIL eprocurement portal https://coalindiatenders.nic.in and Central Public Procurement Portal https://eprocure.gov.in in

addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal

Sir Lanka President opts for smaller Cabinet with fresh faces

PTI ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayaka on Monday appointed a 21-member Cabinet in the new NPP government, keeping with his pre-election promise to streamline the governance system and ease the burden on taxpay-

The National People's Power (NPP) has been advocating a smaller government to reduce costs for the public. Since the NPP won the presidential election in September, the government functioned with just 3 ministers, including the President. As per the island nation's

Constitution, there is a provision for appointing a 30-mem-

Dissanayaka retained the

finance and defence portfolios, while appointing 12 new parliament members to key positions and entrusting eight veteran members, who have served since 2000, with significant responsibilities.

Among the fresh faces in the Cabinet are five academic pro-

Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya who holds the education portfolio and Saroja Savithri Paulraj who has the women's and child affairs portfolio are the two women members in the Cabinet. Paulraj, a minority Tamil from the Sinhala majority south, was involved in the party's long

significant feature of the swearing-in ceremony was the fisheries minister Ramalingam Chandrasekaran, who took his

NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY Main Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida, G.B. Nagar (U.P.

E-TENDER NOTICE

E-Tenders are invited from firms/contractors registered with UPLC Lucknow for the following jobs against which bids can be uploaded and same shall be opened/downloaded as per schedule mentioned. The details and conditions of all tenders are available on Noida Authority's official website: www.noidaauthorityonline.in & https://etender.up.nic.in. Please ensure to see these websites for any changes, amendments & corrigendum etc.

1 | 32/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, M/s W/s (Two Year Annual Cleaning and Repairing of OHT and UGR of Network-55 56, 66, 67, 68, 74, 112, 113, 115, 118, 121 and 122) Noida. 2. 31/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, M/o Sewerage (P/L Sewer

Line, Making Sewerage Connection for Indian Academy of

Highway Engineers (IAHE) in Sector-62) Noida. Cost Rs.

32.71 Lacs 3. 43/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, M/o Sewerage (P/F Manhole cover frame, sewer cleaning and sewer line repair work in sector-52, 53, 61 and Village- Gijhor) Noida. (For Two

Years). Cost Rs. 38.36 Lacs 45/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, Vill. Dev. (Repair of P.V.C Water line and other allied work in Village-Nithari), Noida.

(For Two Year), Cost Rs. 34.25 Lacs 5. 46/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, M/o Sewerage (Repairing and Rewinding of Submersible motor, Starter, Sluice Valve, Reflex valve and allied electrical work at SPS -22) Noida. (For Two Years). Cost Rs. 40.98 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date 02.12.2024 up to 5.00 PM. Prequalification shall be opened / downloaded on date 03.12.2024

1. 27/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, Water Chlorination (Two Year Operation, Running and Maintenance of Chlorination Plant at UGR-20/62, 22/62, UGR-63, UGR-119, UGR-151 and UGR Bahlolpur), Noida. Cost Rs. 96.05 Lacs

Repairing V.T. Motor, Transformer, Starter, TPMO and Other allied Electrical Work in Sector-1 to 7 and Village Harola) Noida, Cost Rs. 41.89 Lacs

Maintenance and R/o 50, 75 and 90 HP Submersible Motor, Starter and R/o Transformer in Networks Sector-

qualification shall be opened / downloaded on date 26.11.2024 at 11.00 AM.

नवीन ओखला औद्योगिक विकास प्राधिकरण के अधिसूचित क्षेत्र में शासन से स्वीकृत मास्टर प्लान एवं उत्तर प्रदेश औद्योगिक क्षेत्र विकास अधिनियम, 1976 के विपरीत प्लॉटिंग या किसी भी प्रकार का अन्य निर्माण पूरी तरह अवैध है। जनसामान्य को आगाह किया जाता है कि इस प्रकार की अवैध कॉलोनियों एवं अवैध निर्मित भवनों में भूखण्डों / अपार्टमेंट / दुकान / गोडाऊन / फार्महाउस की खरीद-फरोख्त से पूर्णत सचेत रहें तथा कॉलोनाईजर के लुभावने एवं भ्रामक विज्ञापनों से बचे। साथ ही नौएड अधिसूचित क्षेत्र के हिण्डन एवं यमुना नदियों के डूब क्षेत्र (Flood Plain Zone) ने अनधिकृत / अवैध प्लॉट एवं फार्म हाऊसों के कारोबार में संलिप्त भूमाफियाओं वे चंगल में न फंसे।" General Manager (Jal)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Khewat no/ Khata No 121/1/22 situated at Village Farrukhnagar Fhasil Farrukhnagar & District Gurgaon Haryana; That, Mrs. Suman Devi has made us to understand that previous owners Mr. Mukesh has lost or misplaced earlier Sale Deed no 1440 dated 08/09/2016 in favour of Mr. Lalit having LR no: 132270412401204 somewhere, which are not traceable or cannot be found. Now, I would like to announce to general public that any person who is having any right, title or interest against that property/share or documents may come to our Delhi office within seven days and render their claim with

ocuments may come to our belin office with even days and render their claim wit ocumentary valid evidence. If any, else th ame would be treated as unclaimed an nrebutted and moved forth accordingly.

M/S PASS & ASSOCIATES LLP

B-132, L.G.F, Malviya Nagar
New Delhi-110017, Mob: 9991116006

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform all concerned that Sh Bhoop Singh son of Sh. Nanwa, R/o Village lahabas, Dadri, Sector-86, Phase-II Noida, had executed a WILL or Dt.13.02.2024 in respect of Residential Plot No.SU-11, Sector-145, Noida, Distt Gautam Budh Nagar-U.P. area measuring 127.0 Sq.Mtrs., duly allotted by the Noida Authority against 5% Villager Quota against Khet No.193 & 310, Village-Suthiana Noida, Distt. Gautam Budh Nagar-U.P., ir our favour which is regd.

Vhereas Sh. Bhoop Singh died or 6.05.2024 and after his death We, Manvi S/o Sh. Ramu, R/o 158, Vill. Behlolpu Sector-65, Noida & Kirti Bhati S/o Sh Dinesh Bhati, R/o 7118, Vill. Shahdara Sector-141, Noida, want to get mutation o he said property on the basis of WILL in our favour. If anyone has any objection, he/she will submit his/her objection in the Residential (Plot), Deptt. of Noida Authority within 30 days of the publication MANVIR & KIRTI BHATI

> PROVISION OF ROOFTOP SOLAR POWER PLANT

E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: SI. No.1; Tende No.: AP/EL/22/24-25; Name of work: Provision of 1300 KWp grid connected rooftop solar power plant at Dhupguri, Jalpaiguri Road, Falakata, Dinhata & New Mal Jn. station. Advertised Tender Value: ₹6,84,90,106.60; Earnest Money: ₹4,92,500.00. E-tender will be closed a 15:00 hrs. on 06-12-2024 and will be pened on 06-12-2024 at 15:30 hrs. at DRM/Elect. (G)/Alipurduar Jn.'s office The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in. DRM/ Elect.(G) / Alipurduar Jn

MORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY THE PIONEER O NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

> "Serving Customers with a smile" PROVISION OF 1733 KWP GRID CONNECTED ROOFTOP SOLAR POWER PLANT

> E-Tender Notice No. Dy.CEE/PS/ MLG/HQ/35/24-25 Dated: 14-11-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Name of work: At Maligaon (HQ) Division -(Part A) Provision of 1733 KWp Grid connected rooftop Solar Power plant including 5 years AMC/ CAMC at rooftop of Service buildings & residential buildings in Goshala & Namhari Area Tender Value: ₹9.21.77.460.92/-. Earnest Money: ₹6.10.900/-. Date & Time of Closing of E-Tender: 15.00 hrs. of 06-12-2024. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in.

Dy.CEE/PS/Maligaon/HQ PD(943)C NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
Serving Customers With A Smile

4th Floor, Tower 3, Equinox Business Park, LBS Road, Kurla, Mumbai 400070

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF 30 DAYS FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSET(S) ["SECURED ASSET(S)"] UNDER THE SECURITIZATION AND

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Secured Asset(s

mortgaged / charged to U GRO Capital Limited ("Secured Creditor"), the possession of which has been taken by the authorised officer of Secure

dues mentioned herein below and further interest and other expenses thereon till the date of realization of amount, due to Secured Creditor from the

Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) mentioned herein below. The Reserve Price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) and last date of EMD deposit is also

Description of Secured Asset(s): "All that part and parcel of the immovable property bearing Property No. 129, area admeasuring 35 square yards, out of Khasra No. 303, consisting of Ground Floor, First Floor, Second Floor, Half Third Floor), situated in Abadi of Lal Dora of village Saidulajaib, Tehsil Saket (M.B. Road), New Delhi. Butted and bounded on the East by house of Mr. Ram Kumar, on the West by House of Mr. Raj Kumar, on the North by main M.B Road, on

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in U GRO Capital Limited/Secured Creditor's website. i.e. www.ugrocapital.com

Details of Demand Notice

Date of Notice: 10-06-2024

Outstanding Amount:

Rs. 85.66.772/-

as on 05-06-2024

, will be sold on "As is what is" and "As is where is" and "Whatever there is" on the date and time mentioned herein below, for recovery of the

Reserve Price

EMD

Last date of EMD Deposit

Date of Auction

Time of Auction

Incremental Value

U GRO Capital Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE Northme 10:22093, pages 17-16s, date of the Control of the Control

PROVISION OF 1000 KWP **GRID CONNECTED ROOFTOP** SOLAR POWER PLANT

E-Tender Notice No. AP/EL/28/24 25. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works: Tender No. AP/EL/28/24 25. Name of work: At Alipurduar Division: Provision of 1000 KWp grid connected rooftop solar power plant at Dalgaon, Hasimara, Binnaguri, New Alipurduar & Kamakhvaguri station. Tender Value: ₹5,50,52,506.60 Earnest Money: ₹4,25,300/-. Date & Time of Closing of Tender: 15.00 hrs. of 06-12-2024 & opening at 15.30 hrs. of 06-12-2024 at DRM/Elect (G), Alipurduar Jn. office. The complete information with tender documents of above e-tender will be available in website www.ireps.gov.in.

Sr.DEE/G&Chg. Alipurduar Jn. NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

This is to inform the general public that the

Bank of Baroda, Opposite RICO Office, ZEZ Building, RICO Industrial Area, Boranada Raiasthan intends to accept the undermen tioned property standing in the name of Sh Ram Kishan Purohit S/o A.R. Purohit, as security for loan/credit facility requested by M/s Marucool World Pvt Ltd. If anyone has any right/title/interest/ claims over the undermentioned property, they are advised t approach the Bank within 10 days along witl necessary proof to substantiate the claim. I no response is received within 10 days, it is presumed that the property is free from any charge/claim/encumbrance, and the Bank sha proceed with the mortgage. Details of the Property: Leasehold Industrial Property No 458, an area measuring 1000 Sq. Mtrs., Block and the structure thereon, situated in Secto 63 Noida Distt Gautam Budh Nagar, (U.P. Boundary/Survey No./Reg. No./Extent: Rego ease Deed dated 10/02/2006, executed by New Okhla Industrial Development Authorit n favour of Sh. Ram Kishan Purohit S/o A.F Purohit B/o C-34 Sec-11 Noida in respec of said property, duly registered in the office of Sub-Registrar-II, Noida, in Book No. 1 Volume No. 1352, Page No. 301 to 330, a Occument No. 1128 Musanna No. 1129 dated 10/02/2006. Boundaries: East: Plot No 457/63, West: Plot No. 459/63, North: 12 Mtrs. wide Road, South: Plot No. 457/6 Branch Details/Contact No.: Mr. Devendr Gehlot. Branch Head Contact: +91-94611 60093 Bank of Baroda, Opposite RICO Office, ZEZ Building, RICO Industrial Area Boranada, Rajasthan

Advocate Details/Contact: Deepak Singh Delhi High Court, Contact: 9999170066

₹ 1,11,52,350 /-

₹ 11.15.235/-

24-12-2024

26-12-2024

11 AM to 01 PM

Rs. 1,00,000/-

Authorised Officer, UGRO Capital Limit

PUBLIC NOTICE

Be it known to all, that my clients Mr.

encumbrances. However, the public at large, Financial nstitutions or if any party has interest, right, title, encumbrance, mortgage, lien or any other claim over the said property, the same shall be informed to the undersigned within a period of Seven (7) days from today failing which it shall be presumed that the party, if any, will be left with no interest, right, title, ncumbrance, mortgage, lien over the said property.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that the Bank of Baroda, S.S.I. Noida Branch, Sector-18, Noida, (I.P.). Intends to accept the undermentioned properties standing in the name of M/s Roots Cooling System Pvt Ltd, Leasehold Industrial Property No. 53 at Noida, Gautam Budh Nagar, I.P. einafter referred to as Details of Property -1, and Sh. Anoop Kumar Saxena and Sh. Rajeev Kumar Saxena, having freehold Property bearing No. B-20, Kailash Colony, New Delhi, hereinafter referred to as Details of Property -2, as a security for loan/credit facility requested by M/s Roots Cooling System Pvi Ltd., has its office at S-164, Greater Kailash-I, New Delhi. If anyone has any right/tille/interest/ claims over the undermentioned property, they are advised to approach the Bank within 10 days along with necessary proof to substantiate their claim. If no response is received within 10 days, it is presumed that the property is free from any charge/claim/encumbrance, and the Bank shall charge/claim/encumbrance, and the Bank shall proceed with the mortgage. Details of Property-1: - Leasehold Industrial Property No. 53, area 1950 square meters, Block B, Sector Phase II Extension, Nolda, Gautam Budh Nagar, UP. Boundary/Survey No./Reg. No./Extent: - Regd. Lease Deed duly registered in the office of Sub-Registrar- Ghaziabad, in Book No. 1, Volume No. 257. Page No. 335 to 366, as Document No. 737-738 dated 20/03/1999. Boundaries: East: Plot No. 8-54, West: Plot No. 24 meters Road, North: Plot No. 54, South: Plot No. 24 meter road. Details of Property-2: - Entire Second Floor along with Terrace over and above the Second Floor, along with One Servant Quarter, having a common bath/W.C. on the top terrace (except the area with of three servant quarters and common bath/W.C.), with one car parking space in the ath/W.C.), with one car parking space in the riveway on the Ground Floor, with structure tanding therein, of Property bearing No. B-20, ailash Colony, New Delhi, measuring 596.7 Sq. Yds., along with the proportionate share of rights in land underneath. Boundary/Survey No./Reg.

Branch Head Contact: +91-967517685 Bank of Baroda, S.S.I. Noida Branch, Sector-18, Noida,

Advocate Details/Contact: - Deepak Singh,

Provision of 1200 KWp grid connecte ooftop solar power plant at Kokraiha Fakiragram Jn., Dhubri, Gossaigaon Ha Sauripur Station. Advertised Tende /alue: ₹6,39,39,506.60/-; Earnest Mone ₹4,69,700/-; Date & times of closing ender at 15:00 hrs. and opening at 15:30 hrs. on 06-12-2024. The complete information with the tender document of bove e-tender will be available in th ebsite www.ireps.gov.in

DRM/Elect. (G), Alipurduar Jr NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Rajinder Singh, S/o Shri Sardar Singh, and Shri Arjun Bhardwaj, son of Shri Vinayak Bhardwai, jointly intends to purchase the property being Freehold residential 50% undivided share in the said Basement of reehold built-up property bearing No. 10/18. Kalkaii Extension. New Delhi-110019. measuring 200 Sq. Yards, and 35% share in stilt areafrom its present Owner Mr. Aditva. Bhutani, S/o late Shri Hans Raj Bhutani. That the present owner has informed my clients that the said property is free from all

B-43A, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110019 Mobile.: 9711177423

No./Extent: -Regd. registered as Document No. 10657, Book No. 1, Volume No. 2178, on Pages 71 to 82 Dated 15.11.2000 in the Office of the Subgistrar V, New Delhi. Boundaries: East: EAST: Plot No. B-19, West: Plot No. Plot No. B-20A, North oad, South: Other's Land Branch Details/Contact No.: - Mr. Anurag Singh.

PUBLIC NOTICE

evelopers who was the owner of property (Proper

laraina, New Delhi from M/s Vijais Builders : nand (Intending borrower) and the same is being lanced by SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. Nember Certificate of Mr. Om Prakash and Mr. Bijende Curnar are not available with Seller i.e M/s Vijai suilders & Developers. To comply the requirements of eneral Public hereby informed that if anybody has ny charge/ Interest/Title in the said property or any nd of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in person(s) having any objection regarding ownershi and/ or creating mortgage of the said property is/an hereby requested to intimate in writing to th undersigned within 07 days at below address. NCR LAW ASSOCIATES Advocates & Consultants

A-98, Sector-9, New Vijay Nagar, Ghaziabad, (U.P.)-20100

STORES E-PROCUREMENT Tender Notice No.: S/66/014/24-25: Dated: 08-11-2024. E-Tenders are

invited by the undersigned for the following works: SN. 1; Tender No. NJ245041A; Closing/ Opening Date: 02-12-2024

Brief Description & Qty: MAIN TRANSFORMER 7775 KVA for WAP-7 & WAP-5 LOCO. Specn CLW/ES/3/0660 Rev. D or latest & STR No. CLW/ C-D&D/STR/001 REV.0 or latest. Tank Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0507 Alt. Nil or Latest, Conservator Tank Spec. No. CLW/ES/3/0508 Alt-Nil or Latest 8 STR No. RDSO/2013/EL/STR/0079 Rev. 0 or latest; Consignee: - SSE D/Siliguri Jn.,NFR; Qty: 2 Nos.

NOTE:- For full details of Tender notice and tender documents, tendere may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in) prospective bidder who with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In case they are not registered with IREPS. they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the

Dv. CMM/New Jalpaiguri



Form No. INC-26 Advertisement to be published in the newspaper for change of Registered office of the company from one state to another Before the Central Gove Northern Region

of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014 AND In the matter of M/S CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY INC PRIVATE LIMITED having its registered office at WZ-8A/5, 2ND FLOOR, GALI NO. 2 NEW MAHAVIR NAGAR, New Delhi, DELHI, Delhi, India, 110018.t .. Petitioner

In the matter of sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Companies Act, 2013 and clause (a) of sub-rule (5) of rule 30

Notice is hereby given to the General Public that the company proposes to make application to the Central Government under section 13 of the Companies Act, 2013 seeking confirmation of alteration of the Memorandum of Association of the Company in terms of the special resolution passed at the Annual General Meeting/ Extra ordinary general meeting held on 29/10/2024 WZ-8A/5, 2ND FLOOR, GALI NO. 2 NEW MAHAVIR NAGAR, New Delhi, DELHI, Delhi, India, 110018 to enable the company to change its Registered Office Shifted from the Union Territory Of Delhi, ROC- Delhi Shifted to the State of Haryana, ROC- Delhi.

Any person whose interest is likely to be affected by the proposed change of the registered office of the company may deliver either on the MCA-21 portal (www.mca.gov.in) by filing investor complaint form or cause to be delivered or send by registered post of his/her objections supported by an affidavit stating the nature of his/her interest and grounds of opposition to the Northern Regional Director at the address 8-2

ving, 2nd Floor, Paryavaran Bhawan, CGO Complex, New Delhi-110003, Delhi within fourteen days of the date of publication of this notice with a copy to the applicant company with a copy of the applicant company at its registered office at the a

For and on behalf of the CENTRE FOR SUSTAINABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY INC PRIVATE LIMITED SUDHIR KUMAR SINHA (07436213) (07425114)

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

E-procurement Tender Notice No. S/66/015/24-25 Dated: 13-11-2024. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works.

Tender No. NJ245095 Closing/Opening date: 06-12-2024

Brief Description: Water cooled air compressor to emd part no. 40017843 & DLW Part No. 17480012 suitable for HHP locomotives.

Consignee: - - SSE/D/Siliguri Jn., NFR Qty: 3 Nos. Tender No. NJ245096 Closing/Opening date: 06-12-2024

Brief Description: Radiator assly set consisting of radiator right & left DLW PT. No. 17455017. Consignee:- SSE/D/Siliguri Jn., NFR Qty: 3 Set.

Tender No. NJ245097 Closing/Opening date: 06-12-2024

Brief Description: Cooling fan assembly 52 inch. Consignee:-SSE/D/Siliguri Jn., NFR Qty: 4 Nos. Note: For full details of tender notice and tender documents, tenderer

may log on to the website (www.ireps.gov.in). Prospective bidder who intend to participate in above tender are required to log on themselves with the above website and submit their offer electronically, if they are already registered with IREPS. In Case they are not registered with IREPS, they are advised to obtain class-III Digital Signature Certificate from the certifying agencies under Govt. of India IT Act 2000 and participate in the above tenders.

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

29/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, M/o W/s (Two Year 20/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, M/o Sewerage (Two Years

106 and 110 Sumpwell and SPS), Noida Rs. 41.29 Lacs Which can be uploaded by date 25.11.2024 up to 5.00 PM. Pre-

'महत्वपूर्ण सूचना–

NOIDA

CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das urges banks to strengthen governance to curb unethical practices

 R^{BI} Governor Shaktikanta Das on Monday asked bank boards to strengthen internal governance framework to curb unethical practices, such as mis-selling of products or opening of accounts without proper KYC verification.

Das also said that the incentives for bank staff should be carefully structured so as not to encourage them to indulge in unethical practices. "While such practices may vield short-term gains, ultimately expose the bank to significant long-term risks, reputational damage, supervisory scrutiny



and financial penalties," he said in a keynote address at the Conference of Directors of

Das further said that the Indian banking sector is

transitioning through a time which is replete with opportunities as well as risks and challenges.

"The banking sector remains strong and stable.

All the financial indicators have improved since we met in May last year, reflecting the efforts of the various participants of the banking sector, including their management and boards," he

To keep the resilience of the banking system intact, the governor emphasised that strong fundamentals ought to be leveraged to reinforce and fortify the defences. "Good after all, are the best times

resilience sustainably," he added. Das also said that in the environment, organisations face significant challenges and risks.

Factors like technological advancements, the rise of new-age fintech entities, third-party dependencies and climate change are reshaping the economic landscape, he

Amid these shifting tides, bank boards should serve as a lighthouse for lenders and provide steady guidance to help navigate these challenges and steer towards safe and prosperous shores, he said.

 $F_{ ext{Sitharaman on Monday}}^{ ext{inance Minister Nirmala}}$ said SBI will open another 500 branches to take its overall network to 23,000 by the end of FY25.

Speaking at an event to mark the 100th anniversary of the state-owned lender's main Mumbai, branch Sitharaman recalled that the size of the bank has increased substantially since 1921 when three presidency banks merged to form the Imperial

Act of Parliament to form SBI in 1955 out of what used to be

of 250 branches in 1921 has grown to 22,500 now, she said. "SBI today has grown to become 22,500 branches, and I understand that another 500 branches are going to be

Sitharaman said. global record", particularly in customers Sitharaman said the digital investments are "robust" at the bank, and it can handle up to 20 crore UPI transactions a

three presidency banks in Sitharaman said, pointing out that one of the stated aims of the century-old consolidation move was to extend banking services to

The Mumbai main branch is housed in a heritage building inaugurated in 1924 and currently handles nearly a fourth of all the deposits in

SC issues notice to Centre over vacancies in 11 Debt Recovery Tribunals

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday sought a response from the Ministry of Finance on a PIL highlighting critical vacancies in 11 Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) across India.

The DRTs are set up under the Recovery of Dues to Financial and Institutions Act of 1993 to enable banks and financial institutions recover bad debts from borrowers. "Eleven DRTs remain

unmanned which is creating issues. In view of the grant of additional charges and also the complications, notice be served including 'dasti', counter affidavits (reply) be filed in five weeks and the rejoinder to be filed within three weeks after the response," said a bench comprising Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar. The PIL, filed by Ghaziabad

Nischay resident Chaudhary, was argued by senior advocate K B Sounder Rajan along with lawyer Sudarshan Rajan.

According to the PIL, as of September 30, 2024, 11 DRTs are without presiding officers, severely impacting their ability to resolve cases efficiently.

The PIL raised concerns that nearly one-third of the 39 DRTs in the country are currently non-functional due to the absence of presiding officers, undermining their core objective of expediting debt recovery for banks and financial institutions. The petitioner argues that this inaction frustrates the purpose of the 1993 law, which was enacted to ensure timely adjudication and recovery of debts.

The plea said various DRTs at Jaipur, Chennai, Mumbai, Aurabgabad, Ahmedabad, Coimbatore, Ranchi, Bengaluru and Lucknow have vacancies.

The PIL also emphasises that speedy justice is a fundamental right under Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution, as recognised by the Supreme Court in the case of District Bar Association Dehradun vs Ishwar Shandilya in 2020.

The PIL sought a direction to the Ministry of Finance to produce records relating to selection appointment of presiding

officers in DRTs to evaluate the government's seriousness in addressing these vacancies.

It also sought a direction to the Centre to mandate the timely filling up of existing vacancies and establish mechanisms to prevent delays appointments.

As interim measures, it sought a direction that the powers of non-functional DRTs are vested in other tribunals prevent

disruption of services "Issue any further orders to safeguard the efficient functioning of DRTs in the interest of justice," the PIL

"For instance, the Presiding Officer, DRT Patna has been given additional charge of the Ranchi DRT (22.07.2024) and Lucknow

DRT (17.09.2024). The charge of DRT Jaipur has now been with DRT Delhi for almost a year. 'This stopgap arrangement

is no respite; rather causes practical difficulties to the concerned practising in the particular DRTs and further and decelerates the disposal of the other DRT as we," the plea said.

In view of the additional charge given to such DRTs, only urgent matters are taken up and normal matters are not considered, it said.

The pendency is on the increase in such DRTs. The irony is that a specific time schedule ranging from 60 to 180 days has been stipulated in the Act whereas the DRTs remain nonfunctional due to nonappointment of Presiding Officers beyond the above time range," the PIL said.

low to settle six paise higher at 84.40 against US Dollar

Rupee recovers from all-time



The rupee recovered from its all-time low level and settled with a gain of 6 paise at 84.40 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, backed by a retreating American

Forex traders said, the recovery in the local unit was capped by the unabated withdrawal of foreign funds amid lacklustre sentiment in the domestic equity markets as well as an upward movement in crude oil prices. At the interbank foreign exchange, the rupee opened at 84.42 and touched the intra-day high of 84.37 against the greenback during the session. It finally settled at 84.40 (provisional) against the dollar, up 6 paise from its previous close.

On Thursday, the rupee fell 7 paise to settle at its all-time low of 84.46 against the US dollar. The Forex market was closed on Friday on account of

"This minor support for the rupee was further aided by a reduction in FII selling activity with in recent days, expectations that sell-off pressure will remain limited

due to the upcoming state elections in Maharashtra.

"The rupee is expected to find support in the 84.45-84.52 range, while resistance is projected around 84.25-84.30," said Jateen Trivedi, VP Research Analyst -Commodity and Currency, LKP Securities.

LKP Securities.
Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading lower by 0.06 per cent at 106.55.
Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, rose by 0.79 per cent to USD 71.60 per barrel in futures trade

futures trade. In the domestic equity market, the 30-share BSE Sensex declined 241.30 points, or 0.31 per cent, to close at 77,339.01 points, while Nifty fell 78.90 points, or 0.34 per cent, to

settle at 23,453.80 points. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) were net sellers in the capital markets on Thursday, as they offloaded shares worth Rs 1,849.87 crore, according to exchange data. On the macroeconomic front, India's merchandise exports in October rose by an impressive 17.25 per cent yearon-year, highest in over two years, to USD 39.2 billion, while the trade deficit widened to USD 27.14 billion on a sequential basis, according to the latest government data Meanwhile, the country's forex reserves dropped by USD 6.477 billion to USD 675.653 billion for the week ended November 8, the Reserve Bank of India said on Friday.

SBI to open 500 more branches in FY25, take overall network to 23,000: Finance Minister

Bank of India (IBI).

The government passed an

IBI, and what was a network opened in FY25. 23,00 branches,"

The finance minister said this growth of SBI should be a the context of India being repeatedly "taunted" for income disparities.

She said SBI commands a 22.4 per cent share in the overall deposits in the country, nearly one-fifth in advance and over

This is a long way from the objective of the merger of

Gold and silver prices rebound because of ongoing wedding season buying, global cues December delivery jumped

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Gold and silver prices rebounded on Monday in the national capital mainly on the back of ongoing wedding season buying by jewellers and retailers as well as strong global trend, according to the All India Sarafa Association.

Snapping a four-day losing streak, gold of 99.9 per cent purity rose by Rs 400 to Rs 77.450 per 10 cm. 77,450 per 10 grams in the local markets. The precious metal had

closed at Rs 77,050 per 10 grame on Thursday Šilver also climbed Rs 1,810 to reclaim the Rs 92,000 per kg-mark against previous close of Rs 90,190

per kg on Thursday. Price of gold of 99.5 per cent



at Rs 76,650 per 10 grams. said Traders

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

Bajaj Finance Ltd (BFL), part of Bajaj Finserv Ltd, has reported a growth of 21 per cent in its Fixed Deposit (FD) book to Rs 66,131 crore as on September 30, 2024, a senior

The company's total customer

franchise stood at 92.09

million as of September 30,

2024 and net users on its App platform stood at 61.67

"The Bajaj Group's century-

old legacy of trust resonates across generations of Indian

company official has said.

purity jumped Rs 400 to Rs gold influenced the precious

The yellow metal had settled On Friday, the local bullion Currency, LKP Securities,

Rs 621 or 0.84 per cent to trade at Rs 74,567 per 10 During the day, the precious

metal had climbed Rs 732 or 0.99 per cent to Rs 74,678 per 10 grams on the exchange.

traded strongly positive due to heightened geopolitical tensions Russia between Ukraine.

This geopolitical risk bolstered gold prices as investors turned to safehaven assets, Jateen Research ്റ**ന**്

contracts

Bajaj Finance FD book rises 21 per cent to ₹ 66,131 Crore

on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX). In the Asian trading hours,

Comex gold futures rose USD 25.20 per ounce or 0.98 per cent to USD 2,595.30 per "Geopolitical developments over the weekend fuelled some haven flows, allowing the precious metal to start trading on a positive note," Saumil Gandhi, Senior

- Commodities, Analyst HDFC Securities, said. Meanwhile, retail demand in India is likely to improve due to the ongoing wedding season, Gandhi said.

Kalantri, VP Commodities, Mehta Equities Ltd, last week, gold and silver prices extended their decline, reaching two-month lows in international markets.

This sharp drop was primarily driven by the strong performance of Bitcoin and the US dollar following Donald Trump's presidential reducing the safe-haven appeal of precious metals,

Kalantri said. Silver traded 1.23 per cent higher at USD 30.81 per ounce in the international markets.

Focus this week will be on preliminary Manufacturing and Services PMI data from major economies along with Fed Modi, analyst, Commodity Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd, said. The commentary from the officials will chart a path for the policy interest rates.

Sensex down 241 points, Nifty falls for seventh day as FPI selling spree



PTI MUMBA

Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty continued their decline on Monday owing to unabated foreign fund outflows, selling in IT stocks and weak leads from the US markets.

dropped by 241.30 points or 0.31 per cent to settle at 77,339.01 and registering its fourth day of decline.

Falling for the seventh day in a row, the NSE Nifty per cent to 23,453.80.

laggards. Unilever, Mahindra, The 30-share BSE Sensex

During the day, it fell 615.25 points or 0.79 per cent to 76,965.06.

dipped 78.90 points or 0.34 From the 30-share Sensex pack, the Tata Consultancy HCL Technologies, Axis Bank, Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Sun Pharma, IndusInd Bank and Reliance Industries were the major Steel, Hindustan

Mahindra & Nestle and State Bank of India were among the gainers. Institutional

Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 1,849.87 on Thursday, according to exchange data. Foreign investors have pulled out Rs 22,420 crore from the Indian equity markets so far this month, owing to high domestic stock valuations, increasing allocations to China, and

the rising US dollar as well as Treasury yields With this sell-off, Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) have recorded a total outflow of Rs 15,827 crore

in 2024 so far. Equity markets were closed on Friday for Guru Nanak

Consolidation continued in the market, a slowdown in earnings growth and a weak rupee due to inflation impacted the sentiment.

IT stocks reacted negatively today due to a reduced expectation of a Fed rate cut in December, which may pose a delay in spending in the BFSI segment," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services,

In Asian markets, Seoul and Hong Kong settled higher while Tokyo and Shanghai ended lower.

European markets were trading in the negative territory. The US markets ended lower on Friday.

Global oil benchmark Brent

crude climbed 0.49 per cent to USD 71.39 a barrel. The BSE benchmark Sensex dropped 110.64 points or 0.14 per cent to settle at 77,580.31 on Thursday. The Nifty declined by 26.35

points or 0.11 per cent to 23,532.70.

besides wedding season demand from jewellers and retailers, a strong global trend for

markets were closed on account of Guru Nanak Silver Jayanti. December delivery also bounced by Rs 879 or 0.99 MCX, gold contracts for per cent to Rs 89,300 per kg

Bajaj Finserv is founded on the business philosophy of the Bajaj Group, which has encouraged people across

demographics to choose its FDs," Sachin Sikka, Executive Vice President Deposits, Investments, Rewards and EMI Cards, Bajaj Finance,

Senior citizens can avail FD rates of up to 8.85 per cent and non-senior citizens can take benefit of rates of up to 8.65 per cent, by booking digitally in the 42 months tenure, Sikka

Finance has seen Bajaj deposits growing in Punjab and Haryana, where senior citizens constitute nearly twothirds of its deposits base.

The company's FDs also highlight equal participation by male and female investors, Sikka added.

"This multi-generational trust

is driving us to continuously transform savers' experience through digital journeys, competitive interest rates and a safe investing platform,"

Bajaj Finance has emerged as India's largest deposit-taking

Sikka said.

It presents an opportunity for savers to secure stable and better returns in prevailing market conditions.

Bajaj Finance Ltd maintains the highest domestic credit rating of AAA/Stable from CRISIL and ICRA for its Fixed Deposit program.

Emerging India Focus Funds settles FPIs violation case with Sebi, pays ₹ 64.35 Lakh

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

million.

 $E_{\rm Funds\ on\ Monday\ settled}^{\rm merging\ India\ Focus}$ a case concerning the alleged violations of Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI) rules with markets regulator Sebi on payment of Rs 64.35 lakh towards settlement charges.

This came after the applicant filed an application with Sebi proposing to settle the proceedings initiated against it, "without admitting or denying the findings of facts and conclusions of law" through a settlement order. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) adjudication initiated proceedings against the applicant and issued a



February for the alleged violations of FPI Regulations and Intermediaries Regulations.

Pending proceedings, adjudication Emerging India Focus Funds filed an application with Sebi and shelled out Rs 64.35 lakh on November 13 to settle the said in its order.

"In view of the acceptance of the settlement terms and the receipt of settlement amount Sebi, the adjudication proceedings initiated against applicant vide SCN (showcause notice) dated February 29, 2024, is disposed of," Sebi

INBRIEF

GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY POSTPONES EXAMS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 20

GURUGRAM: Guru Nanak Dev University has announced the postponement of all annual and semester (theory) examinations initially set to take place on Wednesday, November 20, 2024. Prof. Shalini Bahel, Professor Incharge (Examinations) said that the exams will now be rescheduled for Sunday, December 1, 2024, at their originally designated times and examination centers.

SRM INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CELEBRATES 20TH (SPECIAL) CONVOCATION.

KATTANKULATHUR: The 20th (special) Convocation of SRM Institute of Science and Technology (SRMIST) was held on 15th November 2024 at the Kattankulathur campus. A total of 10,848 students including undergraduate (UG), postgraduate (PG), and doctoral (PhD) programaticing medicine. Science and Humanities, Medicine and Health Sciences, Management, Law, and Agricultural Sciences, were awarded their degrees.



India look to play to their strength, start as favourites against Japan

confident and unbeaten India Awill back their strategy of attack and defense at appropriate times when they take on Japan in the semifinal of the women's Asian Champions Trophy hockey tournament here Tuesday. Hosts and defending champions India will undoubtedly enter the semifinal as clear favourites against a side which they trounced 3-0 in

their final league game. World number nine India have registered five wins from as many games, including 3-0 victory over Olympic silver medallist and world

number six China. India's chief coach Harendra Singh also emphasised on the need to continue in the same vein in the tournament.

"We know what are their strengths and weaknesses. For us, this tournament is about working on our strengths and build a formidable style of play for Indian women's hockey team. It's a mixture of attacking and defensive," Harendra

"So far the girls have executed really well. I am satisfied with their decision making but semifinal will be a different ball game."

The Indians must guard against complacency, as a single mistake could shatter their dreams of retaining the crown.

The top four sides qualified for the semifinals of the six-team continental tournament. In the other



semifinal China will be up against

Malaysia. The Indians might have defeated Japan hands down in the league stage, but Harendra is in no mood to take their opponents lightly in the knock-out match.

"Of course we are expecting a tough fight from Japan because the training game and pool matches are different. It's a semifinal and every team prepares according to their

We are going to face some resistance from Japan for sure. They have a good side but we have to do our homework. We need to focus on how we want to play rather than focussing on the opponent," he said. After a cagey start, India quickly found their rhythm, elevating their performance dramatically and excelling in every aspect of the

One of the most encouraging aspects of India's success here has been the stellar performance of their backline, led brilliantly by Udita, Sushila Chanu, and Vaishnavi Vitthal Phalke.

The Indian defense has been so solid that goalkeepers Savita Punia and Bichu Devi Karibam have hardly been tested in the tournament thus

the Indians were guilty of rushing the play and failing to identify the right options inside the opposition circle, a shortcoming acknowledged by Harendra

But it seems the hosts have gotten over that bad habit in the last few matches. Not only have they managed to play full press hockey, but they've also displayed improved decision-making inside the circle, resulting in some fine field goals.

Penalty corner conversion was also an area of concern but over the last few games, the likes of Deepika and Manisha Chauhan have risen to the occasion on that front.

India have got a fine striker and a fierce dragflicker in young Deepika. Her exploits in the tournament can be gauged from the fact that she is leading the goal scorers chart with 10 strike which includes four field goals, five penalty corne conversions and one from the spot. corner Other Indian forwards like Sharmila Devi, Sangita Kumari Preeti Dubey and Lalaremsiami have also contributed immensely in the home

team's campaign so far. Skipper Salima Tete has been the centre point of the Indian midfield in the company of Neha Goyal, vice-captain Navneet Kaur and Beauty Dung Dung.

The only concern going into the business end of the tournament for chief coach Harendra would be the lack of action of his goalkeepers Savita and Bichu as they hardly were far. seen in action, given
In the first part of the tournament, performance of the defenders.



Nelly Korda rallies in Florida for her seventh LPGA win of the year

AP ■ BELLEAIR (US)

Nelly Korda was back to competition for the first time in nearly two months and didn't miss a beat. She ran off five straight birdies on the back nine to stage another comeback, closing with a 3-under 67 to win The Annika for her seventh LPGA Tour title this year.

Korda had a rough start and said she didn't have many happy thoughts when she made the turn at 2 over for the day, two shots behind Charley Hull. Starting with a birdie on No. 11, she made five in a row on her way to a three-shot victory.

The only big surprise was seeing her younger brother, Sebastian, who has been charting his own career in tennis that kept him from seeing his sister win until Sunday at Pelican Golf Club. Korda, who earlier this year tied an LPGA record with five straight victories, became the first player to win seven times in a season since Yani Tseng in 2011. No other American had won seven times in a season since Beth Daniel in 1990.

Korda now has won four times this year when trailing going into the final round. Hull, going for a wire-towire win, simply couldn't keep up with Korda's birdie blitz. Coming off her first win worldwide two weeks ago in Saudi Arabia, Hull closed with a 1-over 71 and tied for second with LPGA rookie Jin Hee Im (68) and

Weiwei Zhang (70). Zhang moved up 24 spots to No. 82 in the Race to CME Globe to keep her card for next year. The top 60 advance to the CME Group Tour Championship next week in Naples, where the winner gets \$4 million. Carlota Ciganda moved up three places to secure the final spot.

Korda last played Sept. 22 in Ohio. She was planning to play twice during the Asian swing until a minor neck injury kept her at home. She was eager to get back in time to play Pelican, where she had won two of the previous three years.

"After taking some time off with an injury, it feels great to be back out here," Korda said. "Nothing like being in the hunt, the adrenaline feeling on the back nine, and being in contention. I love it so much."

The victory puts her over \$4 million for the year, and she can nearly match that with a win next week at Tiburon Golf Club. The ranking does not matter for the season finale — all 60 players have the same shot at one of the biggest prizes in women's

Britain knocks out defending champion Canada to advance to Billie Jean King Cup semifinals against Slovakia

AP ■ MALAGA (SPAIN)

Britain kept alive its hopes of winning the Billie Jean King Cup for the first time by defeating defending champion Canada in the quarterfinals in Malaga. Katie Boulter clinched the 2-0 victory with a 6-

2, 6-4 win over Leylah Fernandez after Emma Raducanu defeated Rebecca Marino 6-0, 7-5 in the first singles match of the tie.

"I think we have got a great team. We've always got a great chance," Boulter said. "I think every single day anything can happen. We're just going to keep believing, keep trusting it, and just keep enjoying it. I think that's really important. It's worked so well for us so far." Four-time finalist Britain is yet to win the title. though it's the second time in three years that

it has made it to the last four. Canada clinched its first title last year. "You know what? We can't win them all, and I

think credit to Team Great Britain, because I

think both girls played complete matches today," Canada captain Heidi El Tabakh said. Britain next faces Slovakia in the semifinals.

"It's fantastic. It really is a brilliant achievement for the team," Britain captain Anne Keothavong said. "But like I said on court, you know, the job is far from over." SLOVAKIA KEEPS MOMENTUM

Slovakia followed up its win over the United States with a 2-0 victory against Australia to reach the last four.

Rebecca Sramkova cruised to a 6-1, 6-2 win over Ajla Tomljanovic to clinch Slovakia the victory after Viktoria Hruncakova rallied to defeat Kimberly Birrell 7-5, 6-7 (4), 6-3 for her sixth straight BJK Cup win counting singles and doubles.

Slovakia had beaten the U.S. — the competition's most successful nation — in the first round of the finals in Malaga. Iga Swiatek's Poland, seeking its first title, will face Italy in the other semifinal.

Omkar Salvi named RCB's bowling coach

PTI ■ BENGALURU

 $R_{\text{Bengaluru}}^{\text{oyal}} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{Challengers} \\ \text{on Monday} \end{array}$ Challengers announced the appointment of Omkar Salvi as the IPL franchise's bowling coach, a reward for guiding Mumbai to Ranji Tropy and Irani Trophy titles last season.

A well-known name on the domestic circuit, Omkar has in the past worked as assistant coach with Kolkata Knight Riders.

"Omkar Salvi, current Head Coach of Mumbai, has been

appointed as RCB's Bowling the franchise tweeted

"Omkar, who has won the Ranji Trophy, Irani Trophy and the IPL in the last 8 months, is excited to join us in time for #IPL2025, after completion of his Indian domestic season duties."

He is expected to join RCB after the end of the ongoing Ranji season, which will resume on January 23.

In between, he will also oversee Mumbai's campaign in the Syed Mushtaq Ali T20 2008.

tournament. Omkar, who is the younger

brother of former India player Avishkar Salvi, has played just one List-A game for Railways in 2005. He is contracted with the Mumbai Cricket Association (MCA) until March 2025. This will be Salvi's second

IPL stint after his tenure at

RCB have never won an IPL title despite participating in it since the tournament's inaugural edition way back in

China Masters: Satwik-Chirag return to action in BWF World Tour

PTI SHENZHEN (CHINA)

Tndia's premier men's doubles **⊥**pair of Satwiksairaj will make a highly-anticipated return to action at the China Masters Super 750 badminton tournament, starting here on following Tuesday, disappointing Paris Olympics campaign. The former world number

one duo had been sidelined from competitive action post the Paris Olympics due to Satwik's shoulder injury. Their absence from the circuit

led them to miss several highprofile tournaments. including the Arctic Open, Denmark Open, and China

Fresh off a lengthy recovery, Satwik and his Asian Games gold medal-winning partner Chirag will aim to regain their momentum, despite having



been without a coach since Mathias Boe's departure in

Satwik and Chirag, who finished runner-up in the last editions, will start their campaign against Chinese Taipei's Yang Po-Hsuan and Lee Jhe-Huei in the opening round.

Elsewhere, P V Sindhu and Lakshya Sen will look to overcome their

struggles and aim improved performances as they continue their quest for consistency and form

Both the players, who took a long break after their campaign at the Paris Games ended in early August without a medal, have struggled to regain their best form since the Olympics.

Since his semifinal loss in recent Paris, Lakshya has endured Super 500 and Denmark her campaign Open, and the trend Thailand's another first-round exit from the Kumamoto Masters Japan. He will kick off his campaign against seventh-seeded Malaysian Lee Zii Jia.

The 23-year-old possesses the ability to beat any opponent, but his mental toughness has been questioned following his agonising near-miss at the Tokyo Olympics, where he slipped from a medal position in a heartbreaking loss.

Two-time Olympic medallist Sindhu bounced back from her shock opening-round loss to Canada's Michelle Li in Finland. reaching quarterfinals in Odense.

However, Li proved to be a hurdle once again, defeating Sindhu in the round of 16 last

early exits at the Arctic Open The unseeded Indian begins Supanida continued last week, with the Katethong, whom she leads 5competing in the women's singles event will be promising young talents Aakarshi Kashyap and

Malvika Bansod. Aakarsi will face Tomoka Miyazaki of Japan in her opener while Malvika will take on Line Højmark Kjaersfeldt in the first round. The women's doubles team of Treesa Jolly and Gayatri Gopichand, that made a first round exit from the Kumamoto Masters Japan, will also be in action. The Indian duo will square up against the second seeded Chinese combination of Liu Sheng Shu and Tan Ning.

B Sumeeth Reddy will partner Sikki Reddy in the mixed doubles event.

Sinner opens up about his doping case after winning ATP Finals trophy before his home fans

AP ■ TURIN (ITALY)

Sleepless nights. Constant thoughts of what went wrong — and how it could have been prevented.

Jannik Sinner opened up about his ongoing doping case after beating U.S. Open runner-up Taylor Fritz 6-4, 6-4 on Sunday for the ATP Finals trophy before his home

Sinner tested positive in two separate drug tests in March and a decision to clear him of wrongdoing was appealed by the World Anti-Doping Agency in September. A final ruling is expected from the Court of Arbitration for Sport early next year.

Sinner's explanation was that the banned performanceenhancer entered his system unintentionally through a massage from his physiotherapist, who had used a spray containing the steroid to treat his own cut

"I've kept on thinking about where we went wrong and what we could have done

better," Sinner said in Italian. "I had days where I wasn't feeling great; nights when I didn't sleep well.

"But when I put my hat on, I don't think about what's going on beyond the court," Sinner added. "I'm fortunate to have people around me who keep me stable. Thanks to them we've continued to work hard every day like there's no tomorrow and we've even improved in this

SINNER'S PERFORMANCE HAS APPROACHED DOMINATION LATELY

Sinner's victory in Turin was the latest big achievement in a year full of them following his first two Grand Slam titles at the Australian Open and U.S. Open and clinching the

year-end No. 1 ranking. Sinner has won 26 of his last 27 matches and ends the ATP season with eight titles and an overall record of 70-6.

"The work will never stop. We know we still have room for improvement," Sinner said. "But it's been an

no better place to finish the season than here."
SINNER ALSO BEAT FRITZ

IN THE US OPEN FINAL AND THE GROUP STAGE Sinner maintained his recent mastery over Fritz, having also beaten the American in the U.S. Open final in September and in the group stage this week at the elite event for the year's top eight players.

By sweeping all five of his matches en route to the trophy, Sinner earned \$4.8 million — the largest winner's prize on the men's tour. Sinner became the first

Italian to win the finals and he went one step further than last year, when he lost the championship match to Novak Djokovic, who withdrew this time. And he did so without dropping a set which accomplished by Ivan Lendl

in 1986. "I just tried to understand whatever works best for each opponent," Sinner said. "It was a very high-level incredible season and there's tournament from my side. At



times, I couldn't play better."
THE CROWD WAS
DECKED OUT IN ORANGE SINNER'S THEME COLOR

The crowd inside Inalpi Arena included multiple clusters of fans wearing orange — a tribute to Sinner's red- and orange-colored hair, customary chant of "Ole, Ole,

during a match. There were orange carrot costumes, orange wigs, orange hats, jackets and plenty of other orange items, too.

Some fans even had carrots in their mouths. The crowd broke into its

Sinner produced a drop-shot winner to break for a 4-3 lead in the first set.

Sinner faced a break point while serving for the first set but saved it with a big serve out wide that Fritz couldn't return. Then he served an ace — his 10th of the set — to close it out. Another break by Sinner early in the second and the

match was virtually over. SINNER LED 14-8 IN ACES FRITZ GAVE HARDLY ANY CHANCES Sinner served better than he had all week, leading 14-8 in aces without any doublefaults.

"He served absolutely lights out. So many lines," Fritz said. "He placed the serve great. He took a lot of risk on the second serve as well.

I think that was probably one of his main game plans, to not let me attack his second

FRITZ WILL STILL RISE TO A CAREER-HIGH NO. 4 Fritz was attempting to become the event's first American champion since Pete Sampras beat Andre Agassi in the title match 25

Still, Fritz will rise to a careerhigh No. 4 in the rankings on Monday after beating No. 2 Alexander Zverev in a thirdset tiebreaker in the semifinals on Saturday. That

will make him the highestranked American man since Andy Roddick was No. 4 in August 2007. It's the latest in a series of

achievements for Fritz, whose run in New York made him the first American man to reach a Grand Slam singles final since Roddick lost to Roger Federer at Wimbledon in 2009

"I feel like I've gone up a level and I'm much more confident in my game," Fritz said. At the start of the week, Fritz told The Associated Press

that his "career has always been a very steady progression and just progression improving a little bit each DAVIS CUP AND NADAL'S RETIREMENT ARE NEXT

Both Sinner and Fritz will conclude their seasons representing defending champion Italy and the defending United States, respectively, in the Davis Cup finals, which start Tuesday in Malaga, Spain, and which will also Rafael mark Nadal's retirement.

'Hungry' Virat's record in Australia will give him confidence: Gavaskar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

rirat Kohli will be "very, very hungry" for runs following his lean patch against New Zealand, according to former Indian captain Sunil Gavaskar, who feels the veteran batter's strong track record Down Under will boost his confidence heading into the upcoming Test series against

Kohli has faced a challenging patch in all formats over the past few months. In his last 60 Test innings, he has managed just two centuries and 11 half-centuries. This year, he has averaged only

22.72 across six Tests, and in the three games against New Zealand, he could manage only 93 runs.
"Because he hasn't scored runs against New Zealand, he'll be very, very hungry," Gavaskar told Star

Sports. "Even in that Adelaide Test, where

India was bowled out for 36 in the second innings, Kohli scored 70plus runs in the first innings before being run out," he added.

Despite these recent struggles, Kohli has an outstanding record in Australia. The right-hander, who has been part of four tours Down Under, averages a stellar 54.08.



Gavaskar believes these stats will provide a significant confidence boost as Kohli prepares for the upcoming five-match series,

starting with the first Test in Perth

Before Adelaide, it's Perth, where on Friday. Kohli played one of his finest Test centuries in the 2018-19 series — a terrific hundred.

"Having performed on these grounds, he'll feel an extra bit of confidence. Of course, you need a bit of luck at the start, but if he gets off to a good beginning, he will score big runs," Gavaskar added.

As the series approaches, all eyes will be on Kohli, who will look to bounce back with his trademark resilience and continue his fine record in Australia.

Kohli knows what's coming: Manjrekar

Former India cricketer Sanjay Manjrekar also weighed in on how Australia might target Kohli.

"I think Virat knows exactly what's coming," Manjrekar said.
"They'll start with a line outside the

off stump to assess his mindset. These days, he often leaves balls outside off and looks to drive anything pitched up. Australia may try to cramp him for room and attack his body, especially since he likes to get forward. New Zealand

used this tactic effectively."

Manjrekar continued, "If he's focused on balls outside off stump, bowlers like Josh Hazlewood could target the middle-stump line, much like Vernon Philander used to do. Australia will experiment with different strategies, and Virat Kohli is well aware of that."



Sri Lanka beats New Zealand in 2nd ODI to win another home series

AP ■ PALLEKELE (SRI LANKA)

usal Mendis hit a patient K74 not out as Sri Lanka beat New Zealand by three wickets under the DLS method with six balls remaining in the rain-hit second ODI.

took Sri Lanka unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series with the final game also at Pallekele on Tuesday. Sri Lanka won the first one-day

international by 45 runs — also by DLS — after rain disrupted that game at Dambulla. It was Sri Lanka's fifth ODI

It was Sri Lanka's fifth ODI series win at home in 2024 after it had beaten Zimbabwe, Afghanistan, India and West Indies. Sri Lanka couldn't qualify for next year's Champions Trophy after finishing ninth at last year's 50-over World Cup in India, but has since then lost just one ODI series then lost just one ODI series Bangladesh winning five at home.

"It is really tough for batters to score runs here," Sri Lanka captain Charith Asalanka said. "This is just another series. As a team, we are moving towards a big goal and we have to achieve that, this is a process."

Mendis followed his career-best 143 in the series opener with a determined 102-ball knock as Sri Lanka reached 210-7 in 46 overs.

The match was cut to 47 overs-a-side after two rain interruptions when New Zealand batted and was bowled out for 209 in 45.1 overs. Sri Lanka was set a target of 210.

Off-spinner Michael Bracewell's first four-wicket ODI haul (4-36) gave New Zealand a sniff when Sri Lanka slipped to 163-7 hefore Mah (27 not out) shared a match- took it away, but we also left

Mendis and carried the team

Earlier, Sri Lanka grassed a few hard chances but Avishka Fernando took three spectacular catches after Asalanka won the toss and elected to field.

Mark Chapman ended his struggling batting form with 76 off 81 balls, but his dismissal in the 37th over would see New Zealand lose its last six wickets for 36 runs. Mitchell Hay made a well composed 49 off 62 balls and shared a 75-run stand with Chapman. Hay was the last man to be

dismissed. New Zealand struggled against a four-pronged spin attack with Theekshana (3-31) and Jeffrey Vandersay (3-46) sharing six wickets. Left-arm spinner Dunith Wellalage, the only change Sri Lanka made from the team which won the first game, and Asalanka took one wicket each.

Bracewell mopped up the top order but Mendis stood firm as he completed his half century off 84 balls with four boundaries. He added 39 runs with Janith Liyanage and another 31 with Wellalage, who struck three successive boundaries in his 18-run knock against Nathan Smith before holing out at mid-on to give Bracewell his fourth wicket. But Theekshana showed some aggression against pace, slicing fast bowler Jacob Duffy for the only six in the Sri Lanka chase and also struck two boundaries. "It is always a challenge when you are defending a low score," New Zealand captain Mitchell Santner said. "Kusal played the situation very well ... that partnership (between Kusal chana) at the end winning 47-run stand with a few runs out there.

India name 20-member team for men's Junior Asia Cup

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Defender Amir Ali will lead a 20-member Indian squad in the men's Junior Asia Cup hockey tournament starting in Muscat from November 26. India have won this tournament for a record four times, including 2004, 2008, 2015 and 2023. They beat nemesis Pakistan 2-1 in the final last year to lift the title. This year, the event will have 10 teams from the continent divided into two pools with India, Chinese Taipei, Japan, Korea and Thailand clubbed in pool A.

Bangladesh, Malaysia, China, Oman and Pakistan are in

Pool B. The tournament is also a

qualifying event for next year's FIH Junior World Cup and India have automatically qualified for it by virtue of being hosts. However under the guidance

of coach PR Sreejesh, the team will be looking to build on its recent success at the Sultan of Johor Cup. Rohit will serves as Amir

"The Sultan of Johor Cup was

Ali's deputy. a first-time experience for

many of the players, yet they showed great spirit in doing well and I am quite pleased with how they performed," Sreejesh said in a media release.

The team will be taking confidence from that performance and will be outing in the Junior Asia

Cup.
"The players have been putting in a lot of hard work at the ongoing national camp in SAI, Bengaluru and we have made certain changes to our game to be more effective in defence and efficient in converting goals," he added.

Squad: Goalkeepers: IIII.C. Singh, Bikramjit Singh Defenders: Amir Ali (C), Talem Priyobarta, Shardanand Tiwari. Yogember Rawat, Anmol Ekka, Rohit(VC).

Midfielders: Ankit Pal, Manmeet Singh, Rosan Kujur, Mukesh Toppo, Thokchom Kingson Singh. Forwards: Gurjot Singh, Sourabh Anand Kushwaha. Dilraj Singh, Arshdeep Singh and Araijeet Singh Hundal. lternate Players: Sukhvinder and Chandan Yadav.

Vaughan shocked by India's call to skip warm-up matches ahead of Australia series

Baffled by India's decision to head into the high-profile Border-Gavaskar Trophy against Australia without a proper warm-up game, former England captain Michael Vaughan has raised concerns about how the tourists would get into a "competitive mindset" without match

India decided against playing a match against an Australian domestic side in the run up to the five-match Test series, starting in Perth from November 22, marking a departure from their approach on the previous two tours of Australia.

"I can't get my head around a team like India only wanting to play an intra-squad game leading into a series against Australia in their own backyard," Vaughan told 'Fox Cricket'.

"I just can't see how you get yourself in that competitive mindset of consequence by playing an intra-squad game. Time will

But India have also called off their scheduled three-day intra-squad match with their 'A' team. They have instead opted to focus on centre-wicket training at the WACA in Perth. The Indian thin tank believed that the bounce of the WACA centre strip closely mirrors that of



felt it would be beneficial for all top-order batters to spend more time in the middle. "I'm surprised that this Indian side didn't want at least one game of cricket, and the WACA's the perfect venue because it's a similar pitch to Optus (Stadium), so you get used to the bounce," Vaughan said. Australia had also skipped warm-up matches before last year's Test tours of India and England, citing issues with

curators as contributing factors.

"These players have a different kind of marker down," he added.

mindset to what we had, whereas we probably needed more games," Vaughan continued.

They're playing 12 months of the year and get straight into it, but it'll be intriguing to see how both sets of players settle on that first day when they're playing the longer form.

The modern player maybe believes that they don't need (tour matches). They think they get enough cricket throughout I just like to see teams win and stick a

IOA gets involved as India host first Kho Kho World Cup from January 13-19 PTI NEW DELHI significance of this event in celebrating our cultural heritage

 $T^{\text{he Indian Olympic Association}}_{\text{(IOA) on Monday confirmed}}$ its partnership with the Kho Kho Federation of India as the country gets to ready to host the first-ever Kho Kho World Cup, to be held here from January 13 to 19.
The IOA has pledged its "unwavering support" for the event

to be organised at the at the IGI Stadium. In a statement to KKFI chief Sudhanshu Mittal, IOA president

Usha expressed the association's strong commitment to elevating indigenous sports like Kho Kho. Usha said, "We recognise the

and promoting traditional sports, and we look forward to collaborating with Kho Kho Federation of India to ensure the success of the tournament.

'Together, we aim to make this event memorable and impactful, encouraging the spirit of sportsmanship among participants and fostering a deeper appreciation for Kho Kho worldwide."

Mittal said the partnership between IOA and KKFI will be a "game-changer" for Kho Kho.
"The support of the IOA, led by
President PT Usha, is a gamechanger for Kho Kho. This



collaboration is pivotal in putting Kho Kho on the global map, and we're thrilled to be hosting the first-ever Kho Kho World Cup, a truly historic event for the sport," Mittal said.

The World Cup will feature both men's and women's teams, with 25 countries from six continents set to compete.

Teams from Asia, including hosts India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka, will face off alongside competitors from Africa, Europe, North America, South America, and Oceania.

Nations like Ghana, Kenya, England, Germany, Brazil and Australia will be among the participants.

Ashwin, an incredibly smart bowler, has taught me a lot: Nathan Lyon

PTI ■ PERTH

Veteran Australian spinner Nathan Lyon believes that rival players often serve as the "best coaches", acknowledging that Indian counterpart Ashwin Ravichandran "taught" him a great deal through

their faceoffs since 2011-12. Having made their Test debuts in the same year, Lyon and Ashwin will face each other for the eighth time in the longest format during the Border-Gavaskar Trophy five-Test series beginning in Perth on

November 22 "Ash (Ashwin) is an incredible bowler. I've gone head-to-head with him for basically my whole career, so I've learned a lot from that you play against are your best Ash," Lyon told Fox Cricket.

"He's an incredibly smart bowler, and he's able to learn and adapt very quickly, and I think the best bowlers in the world are able to do that. He used his skills to benefit himself and his team.

"So, you've got to give credit where credit's due, he was the best bowler (in 2020/21), as he usually is. So, hats off to Ash."

It will be Ashwin's fifth Test tour of Australia, where he has claimed 39 wickets in 10 Tests at an average of 42.15.

Lyon further admitted to having studied Ashwin's bowling closely, especially before Australia toured India in the last few years.

"He's taught me a lot," Lyon said.

"I'm a big believer in the players

coaches that you eventually come

"I've watched a lot of his footage heading over to India, the way he

goes about it here in Australia, see



if I can pick up anything.
"The way I look at cricket is that I've never met anyone who has conquered the game, never played

against or with anyone who's conquered the game. "There's so much to learn in this

great game, and there's so much for me to learn from Ash. He's a world-class bowler. He's taken over 500 Test match wickets, and he should be extremely proud of

Ashwin (21.76) outshines Lyon (30.81) in terms of having the best Test bowling average in Asia. However, the Australian has better bowling figures outside Asia --Lyon: 30.09, Ashwin: 33.14.

Asked if they could face again post this tour, Lyon reckoned, "Spin bowling is a craft that the older you get, the better you get with

'There's definitely no limit for me, and I don't think there should be a

limit for us as well. He's absolutely world-class, and there's a series in a couple of years' time. So, who

Asked the secret of his success on non-spinning tracks, Lyon quipped: "I know Jadeja reads all of this stuff, so I can't really share all my secrets?

"My big thing is spinning up the back of the ball and getting bounce, but it's a hard craft to be able to do that in Australia. Your size for error is extremely small," he said. They may not have won a Test series against India in nearly a decade, but Lyon feels their World Test Championship final triumph last year would give them the edge. "India's got the wood over us in the past few series, but if you're looking at the World Test Championship (final) in England, we were able to beat them there, and I know that should give us a bit of confidence heading into (this summer)," Lyon said.

'We understand that we're coming up against a world-class side, but we can take a lot of confidence out of where we are at as an Australian cricket team.

"I feel like we're on the journey to becoming a great team. We're not there yet. There's a bit of work to do, but we have the opportunity to do something pretty special this

summer." India are reeling from an unprecedented 0-3 home defeat against New Zealand, a result Lyon believes will make the secondranked team even more determined.

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