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PRIZE IN CHEMISTRY

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SENSEX, NIFTY DECLINES AS RBI

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KUSH MAINI EYES FOR F1 1 SPORTS

BHUBANESWAR, THURSDAY OCTOBER 10, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹4 Established 1865

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MOODS SWING, **TONES CHANGE**



Congress practises politics of hate: PM

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI:

Presh from the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) record third consecutive win in the Assembly polls, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday went hammers and tongs at the Opposition Congress, accusing it of practising "politics of hatred" in its desperate bid to return to power. Dubbing the Congress as the "most irresponsible" party, Modi charged that the grand old party devised its winning formula by dividing the Hindu community and spreading seeds of poison in the society to consolidate its voter banks.

Inaugurating 10 government medical colleges across the state and laying foundation stone for Rs 7600- crore projects through video-conferencing from New Delhi, Modi said that the Congress practised divisive politics to win elections and it had become a most "irresponsible party" which was coming up with 'new narratives to divide



Congress 'analysing' Haryana disaster

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

ongress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday said the party was analysing the "unexpected" results in Haryana and will apprise the Election Commission about complaints received from various constituencies of the state.

In his first reaction after the defeat in Haryana, the former Congress president also thanked the people of Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir for their support. "My heartfelt thanks to the people of Jammu and Kashmir - INDIA's victory in the state is a victory of the Constitution, a victory of democratic self-

The BJP on Tuesday clinched a stunning hat-trick win in Haryana overcoming antiincumbency and dashing Congress' hopes of a comeback while the National Conference-Congress combine pulled off a spectacular victory in maiden elections in Jammu and Kashmir after abrogation of

respect," he said.



Who will be Haryana CM?

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Aday after the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) retained power for the third time in Haryana Assembly elections, Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini met Prime Minister Narendra Modi at his 7, Lok Kalyan Marg residence in Delhi and top leadership of the party on Wednesday. Saini also met Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and BJP president JP Nadda.

After meeting with Saini, Modi said on X that he congratulated Saini on the party's historic win and expressed confidence that the role of Haryana will become more important in the resolve of building 'viksit Bharat'.

People aware of the developments said that while it was a courtesy call made to the Prime Minister by Saini, the formation of the next government in the state would have also been discussed. The meeting came amid the possibility of Nayab Singh Saini being asked to continue in his post after the BJP's success in Haryana, where it won a majority with 48 of 90 Assembly seats.

Subhadra Yojana beneficia-

ries in Odisha on Wednesday

got Rs 5,000 credited to their

bank accounts each in the sec-

ond phase of the first instal-

ment of the State

Chief Minister Mohan

Charan Majhi, in the pres-

ence Deputy Chief Minister

Government's

programme.

Subhadra Yojana •

The BJP had indicated during the elections that Saini, who replaced Manohar Lal Khattar in March and hails from the Other Backward Classes, will be its choice for the top post if it wins. Senior BJP leader Anil Vij is also eying for the chief ministerial post.

Sources in the Haryana BJP said that important issues, including the date and venue for the swearing-in ceremony of the new government, had to be discussed. The BJP leaders had earlier indicated that it would take place on Dussehra on Saturday. Later they indicated that the grand victory ceremony would take place after Dussehra. The venue is yet to be decided.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Saini credited Modi's policies for the party's success. Terming his meeting with the PM as a courtesy call, Saini said, "I have told Pradhan Mantri ji about the landslide victory of BJP in Haryana. I told him that the people of Haryana have a lot of affection for you which resulted in the formation of the double-engine government in Haryana for the third time.

Will demand restoration of statehood: Omar Abdullah

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

fter winning a historic mandate in After willing a mistoric manner than the first Assembly polls, held after the Abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-National Conference Vice-President Omar Abdullah Wednesday set the agenda of the incoming government by announcing that the alliance government will pass a resolution demanding the restoration of Jammu and Kashmir's statehood in its first Cabinet meeting. Omar also claimed his party would

keep the issue of restoration of Article 370 alive and continue to raise it. He shared his thoughts with the media, assembled at his residence, where a large number of party workers and elected public representatives converged on Wednesday to celebrate their party's big victory in the assembly elections.

A delegation of the Congress party leaders led by Jammu and Kashmir Pradesh Congress Committee (JKPCC) Chief Tariq Hamid Karra and All India Congress Committee (AICC) incharge Bhartsinh Solanki also visited the residence of Dr Farooq Abdullah and greeted him. Listing out the priorities of the

incoming government in office, Omar told reporters, "My suggestion to the incoming government will be that the first business of the cabinet should be to pass a resolution asking for statehood to be restored to J&K and the CM should travel to New Delhi with that resolution. Call on the senior leadership of the country and ask them to fulfil their promise. It is the Prime Minister, Home Minister and others who have promised the people of J&K statehood. Nowhere did they say that statehood would be restored



after the victory of JKNC-Congress alliance in the J&K Assembly elections at their residence, in

government or a government that has BJP members. They said the statehood would be restored to J&K and that is what we hope will be done".

Responding to a question related to his party's stand on the issue of Article 370 Omar said, "Our political stand will not change. We have never said that we will remain silent on Article 370 or that Article 370 is not an issue for us now. I have said this many times before the elections that hoping for the restoration of Article 370 from the people who snatched it will be foolish."

"But we will keep this issue alive. We will continue to talk on this and hope that tomorrow there will be a change of government in the country, there will be a new setup with whom we can discuss this and get something for J&K," he added.

sion of over 1 crore women

under a scheme had never

happened before. This is his-

toric. More than 1.6 crore

Subhadra Yojana registra-

tion forms have been distrib-

uted so far, out of which 1.5

"I will utilise the money to

start a small business and

make me self-sufficient," said

a beneficiary after getting the

Fraud alleged in Utkal Varsity admissions



Student Cong submits memo to Guv

BHUBANESWAR

Members of the Pradesh Student Congress on Wednesday went in a procession and held a demonstration near the Raj Bhavan alleging fraud in the admission process in the Utkal Univer-

president Udit Pradhan alleged that the glory of the Utkal University is being destroyed. University Vice-Chancellor Sabita Acharya, PG Council Chairman Nabanita Rath and Library and Information Department Coordinator Rudra Naryan Mahapata are involved in the admission irregularities.

Pradhan said one Bijay Kumar Sahu who stood 13th

admission, but Mitra Prakash Bal who had 15th position was given admission in the Library and Information Department. This shows how transparent the admission process is in the other government educational institutions Later, a delegation of the

Student Congress submitted a memorandum to the Gover-

For amassing assets 123% more than income PNS CUTTACK

I he Vigilance police on Wednesday arrested Ramesh Chandra Jena, Senior Private Secretary of Panchayat Raj and Drinking Water Department, for allegedly possession huge assets disproportionate to his known sources of in-



The Vigilance said Jena was arrested after it conducted simultaneous raids at eight places linked to him and detected the assets, including

three buildings and five highvalue plots, which were disproportionate to the tune of 123% of his known sources of income

Rs 5K goes to 35L beneficiaries' accounts each

The official was arrested and forwarded to the Vigilance Special Court as he could not account for these satisfactorily, the Vigilance said in a statement.

During house searches, the following movable and immovable assets in the names of Jena and his family members were unearthed;

assistance money to as many

as 35 lakh beneficiaries dur-

ing a special programme

organised at the Chau

Majhi said, "Subhadra

scheme in Odisha. So far, Rs

3,000 crore, including Rs

1,750 crore today, has been

distributed under the

Pravati Parida said, "Inclu-

scheme."

Yojana is the biggest welfare crore forms have been regis-

Ground in Baripada.

1) A triple-storied building at Gothapatna, Bhubaneswar worth about Rs 1.02 crore. 2) A double-storied build-

ing at Kalinga Nagar, Bhubaneswar.

3) A building at Nirakarpur, Khordha.

4) Five high-value plots including four in upscale areas

of Bhubaneswar and one in Kanasa, Puri. 5) Deposits Rs 5.50 lakh.

6) One four-wheeler

(Honda Amaze) and three

two-wheelers.

7) Cash, gold and household articles worth around Rs 9 lakh.

After a thorough search, inventory and further enquiry, the income, expenditure and assets of Jena were calculated and he was found in possession of disproportionate assets which were 123% in excess of his known sources of income. Investigation of the case was in progress.

Naveen takes a dig at BJP

Saffron party hits back

NALINI SAHU BHUBANESWAR

While inaugurating a membership drive of the BJD here on Wednesday, party supremo Naveen Patnaik took a dig at the BJP by saying that unlike the BJP the BJD is not collecting membership by missed calls.

Leader of the Opposition further said the BJD is in the hearts of the people of Odisha.

"You know that some parties are doing membership drive through missed calls. But service and self-respect are our ideology," Patnaik

said. Hitting back at Patnaik, BJP State vice-president Golak Mohapatra said the BJP has already got the result of its

"People of Odisha discarded Naveenbabu. Whichever party will work, they will decide whether to do a missed call or call. Their party governed Odisha for 25 years. They should review why people decided to vote them out of power if they were reaching people by calling

them," remarked Mohapatra. "Our party workers are visiting people at their doorsteps and collecting their data. The BJP is doing what the BJD can't

do," he added. BJP leader Babu Singh said, "Whether we are collecting members through missed calls or by meeting people physically is our party affair. I think Naveenbabu is eager to be a member of the BJP, but he has proceeded halfway. The missed call was a matter before 2019. Now, apart from the missed call, data processing is being made and the photo of the person wishing to be a member of the BJP is also getting attached. If he wants, I will visit Naveen Niwas and help him become a member of BJP as many leaders of BJD are

desperately waiting to be mem-

bers of BJP," he said.

'Gramodaya' to promote dev of 10 LWE-hit dists PNS BHUBANESWAR New Delhi on Monday.

In Odisha

The Odisha Government has launched 'Gramodaya', a special programme for promoting overall development of the people in 10 Left Wing Extremism (LWE)-affected districts in the State. The initiative will cover 583

villages of 10-LWE affected districts of Bargarh, Balangir, Kalahandi, Kandhamal, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur,

Nuapada and Rayagada. Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi announced the move during a meeting of the Chief Ministers of LWE-af-

fected States chaired by Union

Home Minister Amit Shah in

Under the initiative, the government has constituted a 17-member State-level monitoring committee. While Chief Secretary Manoj Ahuja is its chairman, secretaries of other departments will be the members of the committee which will ensure proper execution of the programme.

At the district level, the committee will be headed by the Collector with districtlevel officials as its members. At the block level, the committee will consist of block-level officials and will be headed by the BDO. The initiative was notified by the Panchayati Raj and Drinking Water Depart-

ment on Tuesday.

Black tiger safari in Baripada soon

PNS BHUBANESWAR

Udisha is all set to have a melanistic (black) tiger safari in Baripada in Mayurbhanj district very soon, preparations for which have already started, informed Principal Chief Conservator of Forest (PCCF) Susanta Nanda on Wednesday.

gene will be kept in this black

Nanda said the Central Zoo Authority of India (CZAOI) has already given its nod in this regard and permission from the Supreme Court is awaited. "As many as four melanistic tigers from the Nandankanan Zoo and another tiger with a melanism



any melanistic tiger from the wild in the safari. A target has been set to increase the number of melanistic tigers in this way," said Nanda.

"Some work relating to the safari has already started. Work for setting up a treatment to wild animals has also started. We have already got permission from the CZAOI in this regard and permission from the Supreme Court is awaited. We are hopeful that it will start very soon," he added.

Ramps, barricades to come up at Srimandir UNNOVATIONS'24 held at XIM Varsity

To ensure smooth darshan for devotees

PNS PURI

Ramps and barricades would soon be installed at the Srimandir to facilitate smooth darshan for the devotees, informed Shree Jagannath Temple Administration (SJTA) Chief Administrator Arabinda Padhee following a Chhatisa Nijog meeting on Tuesday.

The Odisha Bridge &

Construction Corporation (OBCC) will install the barricades and ramps under the Augmentation of Basic Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture (ABADHA) scheme.

The construction work would commence after the completion of the holy month of Kartik.

Padhee said, "A collapsible wooden barricading system will come up for disciplined darshan at the Srimandir. There will be separate lines for men, women, children, elderly persons and divyang devo-

The devotees would enter through the Sata Pahacha and exit through the Ghanti Dwara, he added.

"We have already received the prototypes. After the completion of the tender process, the work will begin. Inputs will be taken from the servitors so that the rituals of the holy Trinity are not affected due to the work," Puri Collector Siddharth

HabituX, the student association of the School of Human Settlements (SHS), XIM University, Bhubaneswar, hosted its annual student fest UNNOVATIONS'24.

The annual urban ideas fest invites college students to engage and ideate on urban sustainability challenges through a variety of academic and cultural competitions.

The event was inaugurated by Dr Kajri Misra, Dean of the School of Human Settlements,



who explained the central role of cities in achieving global sustainability and the need for youths to consider the ways in

which they could contribute to resolving urban resilience and sustainability issues. Dr Misra also lauded the XIM ing expertise for a sustainable urban future through its unique MBA-Urban Management and Governance Programme.

Over 200 students across the country registered in the various competitions, including 'The Mayor's Discourse', 'Quizzite' and 'Dream City, developing ideas for greener and sustainable habitats. Competitions like urban theme and issue-based photography in 'Shutterbug', face painting in 'Face it On' and

'Rhythm' are other creative ways of stimulating urban thinking among the participants in the event.

The fest was organised by the HabituX Organising Committee comprising of Sarita Routray, Debasmita Kar, G Abhaya, Pratyusha Krishnaswamy, Manasini Sahoo, Sangeeta Dash, Mrinali Solankee, Parama Sen and Jagnnath Mohapatra. Prof Annam Sai Kiran, Prof Shraddha Kumar and Prof Tiyali Bose were the faculty advisors.

'Pandian not ruling us now'

Purohit pulls up JE over delay in work

PNS BARGARH

During a Nuakhai gathering at Kurlupali village on Tuesday, Bargarh MP Pradip Purohit criticised a Junior Engineer (JE) for delays in development work in Bargarh district's Jharbandh block. He asserted that the BJP is now ruling Odisha, and corrupt practices from the previous BJD government would not be

Purohit was caught on cam-

era pulling up the JE and warning him that there is no "Pandian rule" in Odisha now.

"As a representative of the people, I'm telling you to keep in mind that the government has changed. Mohan Majhi's government is for the people, by the people and of the people," he said. Purohit said, "Some corrupt officers think that Pandian is still ruling Odisha. So, this was my warning to all the corrupt officers who have not changed till now and who are still demanding PC. If needed, we should punish them like our legendary and visionary Bijubabu."

Bharat Raksha Mancha performs Shastra Pujan

Display selfdefence skill

PNS BHUBANESWAR

The Bharat Raksha Mancha (BRM), a prominent forum of intellectuals, saints, and seers working to protect the rights of Hindus in India, on Wednesday observed Shastra Pujan (worship of weapons of self-defence) coinciding with the Sasthi Puja of Devi Durga at Ram Mandir Square here.

Hundreds of youths, wearing saffron clothes and wielding traditional weapons like lathis and swords, participated in the programme. Accompanied by members of martial arts groups and cultural troupes, they marched in a rally led by Suryakant Kelkar, founder and national coordi-



BRM national general secretary Dr Ashok Acharya said the objective behind the Shastra Pujan and rally was to create awareness among the Hindus about their glorious military past so as to protect themselves against aggression by anti-national forces.

"BRM believes that Hindus are now insecure in some States of India like Kerala and West Bengal. Even when Hincal parties do not care to express their solidarity with them just because they are concerned about their own minority vote banks," said he.

BRM Odisha general secretary Puranjan Padhi said that a few international Islamic fundamentalist organisations are sending Rohingya and Bangladeshi Muslims to increase the Muslim population

BRM Odisha president Subrat Mishra, vice-president Arun Kumar Nayak, associate organising secretary Sneha Ranjan Das Jayasingh, working president Padmanabh Das, legal cell president Sudam Satpathy, youth relations representative Rajesh Prusty, women wing chief Pravasini Prusty and students wing chief Smarak Panda were among others who attended the joint **In Jajpur**

Jatra actress attacked for obscene dance

Controversial Jatra actress Nisha Maharana was attacked for allegedly performing an obscene dance number during a programme in the Ragadi area under the Korei police station in Jajpur district on Tuesday night.

According to sources, Maharana was performing the item number during a melody programme when a person among the audience allegedly hurled a chair at her in which she sustained injuries in her head.

Soon after the incident, tension prevailed in the area. Maharana was rushed to the Korei Community Health



stated to be stable.

"Someone from the crowd attacked me. As an actress, I can expect praise and criticism," said Maharana.

"As a Jatra party, we are responsible to host the show peacefully. We apologise for what happened," said Kalakar Barik, a member of the Jatra committee.

In Khordha 1 killed, 2 hurt in air pressure tank blast



 ${f A}$ mechanic died while two others sustained critical injuries in the blast of an air pressure tank in a garage at Daleiput Chhak under the Sadar police station in Khordha district on Wednesday. The deceased was identified as Naba Kishore Baral. Two truck drivers were also critically hurt in the explosion.

The mishap took place when Baral was checking the pressure of a tyre of a truck at his garage along NH-16. Suddenly, the air pressure tank

exploded causing death of Baral on the spot. The intensity of the explosion was so powerful that Baral's body parts got shattered into pieces. The injured were rushed to

Hospital. The Sadar police reached the spot and sent the body for postmortem. Further investi-

gation into the matter was on.

the District Headquarters

"I was inside when Baral was checking tyre pressure of truck. Suddenly, a loud sound was heard. When I came out, I found Baral's body scattered in pieces," said an eyewitness.

Will Mohan govt accord long-harassed teachers their place of pride? **BHUBANESWAR**

Lt's soothing to find that Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has appealed to the State Government to do whatever possible to accord over 3.5 lakh teachers in Odisha their place of pride and allow them to live with dignity with a decent sal-

It makes amply clear that the Union Minister is well aware of the plight and sufferings of the teachers in Odisha who did long years of agitation and even fought legal battles for their job and salary with no relief.

Teachers' agitation in Odisha has been unparalleled in the history of the country, especially during the 24 years rule of the BJD Government. Despite coming to power repeatedly for five consecutive times and having had enough time to solve the various issues of the teachers, the erstwhile Naveen Patnaik Government simply ignored the teachers with a stony heart.

For the first time in the history of education in the State it did away with the regular grant-in-aid (GIA) policy and brought in a special grant system called Block Grant in 2004 to give the teachers a paltry and undignified salary with no service conditions and retirement benefits. Of course at the time of bringing the draconian law it promised that it would

replace the same soon the State's economy looked up. But subsequently it maltreated and harassed the teachers' community when they came out to demand their legitimate dues.

What was worse, it weakened the teachers' unity by dividing them through various classifications and subclassifications. Consequently, teachers of various service status and pay scales were found working under the same roof. So, be it primary, UP, high school, higher secondary or college, there was large-scale disquiet and disgruntlement among the teachers which took its toll on the quality of teaching and career of millions of students.

Those who saw teachers getting lathi-charged or lashed with water cannons or doing various theatrics like crying to vent their agony, as a part of their agitation at the MG Marg in Bhubaneswar were virtually shocked. The youth were dissuaded to choose teaching as a profession. In general, the profession lost its importance creating a question mark on the very sanctity of the Guru-Shishya Parampara India prides for since time immemorial.

To make the matter worse, the Naveen Patnaik Government squandered crores of rupees on flimsy grounds under its 5T programmes, whereas it kept ignoring the teachers on the plea of finan-

cial austerity. Even regular appointment of teachers was a passé. While the long continuing grant in aid policy was closed once and for all without minding about those who were appointed under the old Act's guidelines by private managements, those appointed through Government agencies were kept on contractual mode. The so-called band of non-Odia de facto rulers of the State were so powerful that they didn't care to know the deteriorating education scenario in Odisha and even did not respect the orders of the CM whenever he did show a modicum of generosity towards the teachers' community. For example,

while the CM abolished the Block Grant system and contractual system by public announcements, the CMO skewed the orders.

Malice, chicanery and pretension were what the Naveen Patnaik Government doled out to the teachers of the State blindfolded as it was by ego of winning elections repeatedly. During the last few years thousands of teachers have retired, without due salary and pension and post retirement benefits and living quite miserably at their old age. A few of them have died too. And, those who are in the job are still at a crossroads. The change of the Government has ushered in new hope among them, for

HITTING THE BULL'S EYE

Congress committed some BJD blunders in Haryana

rrogant overconfidence, overdependence on Naveen's demigod image, tickets to wrong guys and mismanagement of media for publicity apart from the last-minute promise of fantastic doles, had caused suspicion among voters resulting in a big fall of the BJD in Odisha, which stunned even the beat pollsters and psephologist groups. Invincible Naveen Patnaik had to bite dust, which the ordinary Odia has not been able to digest to this day. Naveen suffered only because of horrible media fellows guided by headless elements including a filmmaker without grey matter in skull. Nearly similar factors too sealed the fate of Congress in Haryana that was confident of ousting the BJP in 2024. The air had seemed pretty much strong against the decade-old BJP that people had begun to hate intensely. Again, like in Odisha, a last-moment change of public opinion occurred and the mood swung in favour of the BJP. In Haryana, the BJP won 48 seats



BISWARAJ PATNAIK

out of 90. The Congress bagged only 37. The Congress, which had rejoiced at its performance in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections with five seats out of ten, turned insanely confident of wresting the State from the BJP believing the Modi-Shah team had lost steam.

Not surprisingly now, a blame game has started and knives and daggers are being pulled out of sheaths and scabbards in the Congress home itself. The party now

has to be back at the drawing board. Some critics say Bhupinder Singh Hooda is to blame squarely. MP Kumari Selja be blamed too as she showed up herself as the Chief Ministerial face. Hooda's detractors keep claiming that he stole a lion's share of the tickets to distribute among unworthy individuals.

Rahul Gandhi, who campaigned extensively across the State in the last week of campaigning, ever imagined his efforts would go waste, particularly when the antiincumbency sentiment was intense. Additionally, farmers' wrath and wrestlers' protests were all so big that people believed that the BJP days were over.

Why the Congress lost:

Overdependence on Jat vote which never happened. Infighting and internal feuds, especially between Dalit leader Selja and Jat leader Hooda. Selja, unhappy about Hooda's candidates, stayed away from the final stages of the campaign. Moreover, she repeatedly staked claim to the CM's chair,

exposing the discord in the party. All this provided advantage to the BJP, which accused the Congress of being anti-Dalit. With Saini belonging to the OBC community, the BJP consolidated the non-Jat vote bank in its favour. The election became a Jat versus non-Jat affair. There was a huge sentiment among the non-Jat sections against a Jat becoming the CM, which was more pronounced in the Ahirwal

Recent Lok Sabha performance made Congress biggies overconfi-

The farmers' protest, wrestlers' protests, the Agnipath scheme and the 15% rise in vote share in the Lok Sabha polls, etc., made the Congress' campaign turn casual. The Congress leaders made no efforts to pacify rebels in many seats. Further, the voters rejected the candidates in Sonipat, Mahendragarh and Samalkha for they were facing corruption charges. Sonipat candidate Surender Panwar had to contest from jail.

Accusing Hooda of 'handpicking' 72 Congress' nominees, rivals stole away loyal workers to defeat Hooda's candidates. In three specific lost seats, Hooda's loyalists, as rebels, destroyed prospects of victory. In Ballabgarh, the rebel candidate was a Hooda loyalist. While Congress candidate Parag Sharma got 8,000-plus votes, rebel Sharda Rathore secured over 44,000 votes to come second. In Tigaon, party candidate Rohit Nagar was pushed to the third spot by Congress rebel Lalit Nagar. Same was the case in Bhawan-Khera.

Since the winter of 2018, the Congress has not won a single Assembly election in northern India barring the hill State of Himachal Pradesh in 2022. A victory in Haryana no doubt would have added spring to its step, allowing it to approach the upcoming elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand on a stronger footing.

Since Narendra Modi's ascent in national politics in 2014, India has seen an unquestioned single-party dominance of the BJP. While the ruling party still retains its dominant position at the centre of Indian politics, the Congress hoped a victory in Harvana. But the Congress appears to have snatched only a shameful defeat from the jaws of victory in Haryana.

Organisational mismanagement was at its peak. Hooda handpicked 72 of the party nominees. So, rivals, after complaining to the high command in vain, looked away. Loyal workers and supporters felt betrayed and did not care if loss came their way. In three seats that the party lost, there were rebels who were Hooda's loyalists. In Ballabgarh, the rebel candidate was a Hooda loyalist.

The Congress, along with the Opposition INDIA bloc, was hoping to send out several political messages. It hoped a victory in Haryana would have strengthened the narrative that the BJP was losing its grip in parts of North India, the first glimpse of which was seen in the Lok Sabha elections six months ago when it lost

seats in states such as Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana and Bihar while retaining its ground in Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh Uttarakhand. Consequently, the BJP's tally came down from a dominant 303 to 240.

The Congress, which had got 28.08% vote share in 2019, managed to garner 39.09% votes. The BJP, which had got 36.49% vote-share and 40 seats in 2019, just scraped through with only 00.94% extra votes in 2024. The partym which was relegated to the third position in the 2014 Assembly polls winning 15 seats with a 20.7% vote share, bounced back in 2019 bagging 31 seats. In the recent Lok Sabha elections, the party further improved its position. Extrapolated to the Assembly seats, that meant the Congress leading in 42 as against the BJP's 46. The hope in the Congress camp was for further improvement.

Thus the BJP managed to bag a

default victory like in Odisha.

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2 get 7-yr RI for withdrawing pension of dead persons

1 wo persons were on Tuesday sentenced to rigorous imprisonment (RI) for seven years by an OPID court in Baleswar for committing bank fraud of Rs 1.32 crore by using forged documents to withdraw pension money of dead pen-

The order was pronounced by a designated court under Odisha Protection of Interests of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) Act in a case of the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of the Odisha Police.

The EOW had registered a

case on the allegation of Swaraj Mohanty, Senior Branch Manager of Bank of India, Remuna Branch, Baleswar, against Pravat Das, former Business Correspondent of the bank for dishonestly falsifying/forging the pension accounts of two dead persons, Parsuram Giri and Sabitri Behera. A total of Rs 1.32 crore was misappropriated by using their pension accounts, the EOW,

It was revealed on investigation that Pravat Das was rendering assistance to the bank employees in the matter of preparation of pension payment figure of pensioners and

uploading the files for receiving the pension from the State Government.

He dishonestly and in conspiracy with others had entered wrong and excessive amount of pension in the pension account of Parsuram Giri and Sabitri Behera, knowing well that the pensioners are dead since 27.12.2014 and 22.03.2014 respectively. Pravat Das falsified two pension accounts and committed forgery by adding higher amount of pension in the pension ac-

He illegally enhanced the figure of pension and withdrew cards those he managed to obtain even after the death of the pension holders. As found, Pravat Kumar Das misappropriated Rs 65 lakh in the pension account of deceased Parsuram Giri and Rs 67 lakh in the pension account of deceased Sabitri Behera. Thus, the total amount of misappropriation in the bank fraud

the same by using the ATM

Further, it was revealed on investigation that Brahmajyoti Behera, son of deceased Sabitri Behera and a friend of Pravat Das, in connivance with Pravat Das and

was Rs 1.32 crore.

Ex-Branch Manager Durga Charan Panda, managed to obtain ATM card in the name of her deceased mother on 26.04.2014 whereas his mother has died on 22.03.2014.

He withdrew about Rs 66,35,793 from the pension account by using the ATM card. Some amount has been transferred from the personal account of Brahmajyoti Behera to Pravat Das. Durga Charan Panda, the then Branch Manager of BOI, Remuna Branch in connivance with BC Pravat Das and Brahmajyoti Behera had issued the ATM cards in the name of Sabitri Behera and

Parsuram Giri knowing well that they are dead.

The ATM card has been received by Brahmajyoti Behera. The ATM cards issued deliberately after the death of the pensioners were used to withdraw the pension amount that has been falsely enhanced by the trio pursuant to the conspiracy.

The Designated Court under OPID Act, held the accused persons Pravat Das and Brahmajyoti Behera guilty and sentenced them to undergo rigorous imprisonment (RI) for seven years and to pay fine of Rs 3.75 lakh each.

president Dillip Dashsharma coordinated it. Among others, Sammilani vice-president Surendra Mishra, Subrat Mhapatra and Sital Chandra Mohanty were present.

said Gopabandhu was a perfect example of service and hu-

manity. Smmilani president Ananta Prasad Jena presided over

the function and general secretary and Mancheswar branch

Utkal Sammilani holds Gopabandhu Jayanti

Bhubaneswar: The Utkal Sammilani on Wednesday paid floral tribute to the statue of Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das. Bhubaneswar Mayor Sulochana Da, former Minister Debi

Prasad Mishra and MLA Susant Rout, attending as guests,

Sammilani Central Committee holds Gopabandh anniv Bhubaneswar: The Utkal Commitee on Wednesday paid floral tribute to the statue of Utkalmani Gopabandhu as on his birth anniversary. President Basant Kumar Tripathy and

INBRIEF

secretary Radhanath Praharaj spoke at a function held at Nuagaon. Among others, Kashinath Rath, Bijay Tripathy, Pitabash Tripathy, Trinath Smantray,

Giriajashankar Mahapatra, Bharat Kumar Jena, Jugal Kishore Nayak and Debadata Mahapatra were present.

Bhubaneswar: Chandrasekharpur, Bhubaneswar observed the 147th birth anniversary of Utkalmani Pandit

Gopabandhu Das in the school premises on Wednesday. An online quiz and portrait making competitions along with life

sketch displays were organised to mark the occasion. |Two sisters drown in pond in Baleswar Baleswar: In a tragic incident on Wednesday, two sisters

drowned while taking bath in a pond in Baleswar district. The incident took place at Kharasahapur village under the Soro police limits. The deceased were identified as Rajalaxmi and Bhagyalaxmi, daughters of Manas Behera of Kharasahapur. **Immunity booster Dabur Chyawanprash**

since it offers a rejuvenating break from the sizzling heat of summers. But with the refreshing properties, it may bring a plethora of diseases which may be manifested more if immunity levels are low, especially in children. The warm, wet and



Local-outsider bias in N'rangpur 195 newly-appointed teachers not allowed to join duty

Villagers lock up schools

PNS ■ NABARANGPUR

As many as 195 newly appointed junior teachers failed to report for duty after villagers and members of a Joint Action Committee locked up the concerned schools in various villages in Nabarangpur district, Monday.

The protesters warned the headmasters of respective schools to intensify their protest if teachers hailing from other districts came to join for duty in the schools of their

postings. As a result, 195 teachers failed to report for duty where they have been given postings.

The appointed junior teachers arriving to join their respective schools were opposed by the villagers in Dangara, Biriguda, Laharakani and Gopiguda villages at Jatabal panchayat under Papdahandi block while similar scenes were witnessed in Jharigaon block where 44 teachers were debarred from joining their duty. Around 29 teachers were stopped from joining duty in Dabugaon

In Ganjam

Family boycotted by villagers over land row

Harassment plaint filed

RAJEEV RATHAN ■ BRAHMAPUR

In yet another incident of social harassment, a family from Loodi village under the Golandhara police station under Brahmapur police district is facing severe social boycott. The dispute reportedly stems from a disagreement between the family and the villagers over the allocation of a piece of village land.

According to sources, the dispute began after a portion of land belonging to a village clan was transferred to a man from Sampabi village who had four daughters. Upon his death, two of the daughters agreed to donate the land to the village, but the other two refused, leading to the ongoing conflict.

The disagreement resulted in social exclusion, with local items to the affected family tention to the incident. The family has also lodged a complaint with the police, alleging harassment.

coming frequent in Ganjam district, there has been no immediate response from the police or the local administration. Many in the area are calling for the authorities to take a firm stance against these social boycotts to prevent further escalation.

This follows a recent inciblock where a body could not be removed from a house for cremation due to caste boycott. There is rising concern that such actions, if not adto more severe social and legal ramifications.

shopkeepers refusing to sell goods to the family. A video of a shopkeeper denying has gone viral, bringing at-

Despite such incidents be-

dent in Kabisurjyanagar dressed promptly, could lead

'We're quite successful in curbing Maoist activities'

Arun Sarangi reflects on 33 years in IPS

PNS BHUBANESWAR

A career spanning 33 years and a half in the Indian Police Service has been challenging yet very satisfying and eventful, senior Odisha-cadre IPS officer and outgoing Director of Biju Patnaik State Police Academy (BPSPA) Arun Kumar Sarangi said here on Monday.

Sarangi, who was granted voluntary retirement by the State Government 10 months ahead of his superannuation said, "I have spent more than seven years at the academy (BPSPA) and trained 15 batches (more than 2,500 police personnel). Happy to have been able to inculcate values and make them competent



Operations and IG Intelligence in Odisha police. "I have been associated with anti-Maoist operations since 2000 when left wing extremism in Odisha was at its peak. We were quite successful in curbing the Maoist activities and laying a foundation for the future (especially in Malkangiri district), during my tenure as DIG Talcher from 2005 to 2008 and as IG Police from 2012 to 2016," said Sarangi.

He thanked colleagues in Odisha police with whom he has worked for their "support, service and sacrifice". The top cop paid an emotional tribute to brave-hearts of Odisha police who laid down their lives in the line of

It may be noted that Odisha government has appointed Sarangi as the Chairman of Odisha Public Service Commission (OPSC) and senior IPS officer Sanjib Panda has been appointed as Director, BPSPA.

Sarangi will remain Chairman of the OPSC for a term of six years from the date he enters office or until he attains the age of sixty-two years, whichever is earlier.

In Koraput —

Ultrasound centres asked to install CCTVs

To curb illegal gender identification

NISHAN PATTANAIK ■ KORAPUT

To curb illegal gender identification during ultrasound sonography (USG) tests of pregnant women, the Koraput district administration has introduced a series of measures to ensure compliance with regulations.

The steps were outlined in a recent district health advisory meeting chaired by Collector Keerthi Vasan V.

The administration has di-

tres in the district, including seven private clinics, to install CCTV cameras. The cameras will be placed outside the USG rooms to monitor the flow of pregnant women and the timing of doctors. This initiative aims to prevent any under-reporting of pregnancy cases and to ensure that doctors activities at the centres are

rected all 15 ultrasound cen-

"With the installation of CCTV cameras, we can monitor both the pregnant women visiting the centres and the doctors' attendance. This will ensure that all pregnancy

cases are properly recorded," the collector said. "The administration has also planned regular inspections of ultrasound centres to detect any illegal gender determination activities," he

pectant mothers, the administration has tagged specific health blocks - Kunduli, Sunabeda and Semiliguda with Hospital of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) at Sunabeda and Mathalput health block with Nalco Hospital at Damanjodi.

"These hospitals will now

provide free ultrasound services under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana scheme, further easing the financial burden on pregnant women in these health blocks," the collector said.

"The administration is de-To extend support to ex- termined to enforce strict regulations to prevent illegal activities related to gender identification while improving healthcare accessibility for expectant mothers," he added.

Officials said that over 2,500 ultrasounds of pregnant women are conducted in the district per month.



|Gopabandhu birth anniv observed by DAVians

Bhubaneswar: Monsoon is the most-awaited season in India



humid climate results in significant increase in germ breeding leading to various infections which may be more prevalent if the immunity is weak. While allopathic science has a solution to treat diseases, ancient Indian herbs and compound formulations explained in Ayurveda are the answer for maintaining healthy and energetic lifestyle. Rasayana Tantra is one of the eight specialties of Ayurveda. It concerns rejuvenating recipes, dietary regimens and special health promoting behavior. One way to include Rasayana Tantra in daily diet is to consume two spoons of Chyawanprash daily.

Oct 9 Word Post Day Postal systems worldwide striving hard to stay relevant Note 1 Stay 1 St

Union (UPU) celebrated 150 years of its establishment on October 9 (World Post Day), postal networks across the world find themselves at a crucial juncture. The rapid rise of digital communication and e-commerce has forced traditional postal services to redefine their roles to stay

In his World Post Day message, UPU director general Masahiko Metoki highlighted the importance of adaptation in maintaining the relevance of postal services in today's fast-changing world. He remarked that even as postal services celebrate their long-standing legacy, they must now evolve to address the needs of a digitally driven society.

"The need for reliable and accessible postal services is ever growing, but the way we deliver these services must evolve with the times. Innovation, digitalization, and sustainability will be key to ensuring the longevity of the postal system," said Metoki, emphasizing the critical role technology and modernisation will play in the sur-

vival of postal networks worldwide. The digital age has fundamen-



BRUHASPATI SAMAL

tally transformed how people communicate. Over the past two decades, the rise of email, instant messaging, and social media platforms has led to a sharp decline in the volume of physical mail. According to the UPU, global letter post volumes dropped by 30% between 2005 and 2020. At the same time, the explosive growth of e-commerce has driven a surge in parcel deliveries, which saw a staggering 150% increase in global parcel volumes between 2014 and 2020.

Recognizing this shift, postal networks have been compelled to reorient their services toward parcel deliveries, focusing on enhancing efficiency, improving logistics, and meeting the increasing de-

India Post, the world's largest postal network with more than 1.65 lakh post offices, has been proactive in responding to the challenges posed by the digital era. The Digital India initiative has been instrumental in this transformation. One of the major achievements of India Post in recent years has been the establishment of the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), which has greatly expanded banking services to millions of unbanked citizens across the country. In response to the rise of e-commerce, India Post has introduced the Parcel Management System (PMS), which aims to enhance the efficiency and transparency of parcel deliveries.

Collaborations with major ecommerce companies like Amazon and Flipkart have enabled India Post to play a pivotal role in delivering goods, especially in remote and rural regions. Digital services, such as e-Post and online tracking systems, have also allowed India Post to modernize its operations, offering citizens the convenience of accessing postal services online. The introduction of the DARPAN Project (Digital Advancement of Rural Post Office for a New India)

tend its reach, particularly in rural

Globally, postal networks have similarly embraced digitalization to adapt to the changing landscape. The United States Postal Service (USPS), despite facing financial difficulties, has taken steps to remain competitive. USPS's Informed Delivery service, introduced in 2017, has become immensely popular, offering more than 50 million users the ability to preview their mail and manage parcel deliveries

Additionally, USPS has focused heavily on parcel deliveries, which now constitute more than 70% of its revenue. In its efforts to promote sustainability, USPS has announced plans to electrify 75% of its fleet by 2028, contributing to the reduction of carbon emissions and aligning with global environmen-

The Royal Mail in the United Kingdom, too, has experienced a significant shift from letter deliveries to parcel services, largely driven by the growth of e-commerce. In 2022, Royal Mail handled over 1.5 billion parcels, up from 1 billion in 2015. To cater to the in-

creasing demand, the company has introduced services like Tracked 24 and Tracked 48, offering faster and more reliable parcel delivery options for e-commerce businesses. Royal Mail's Click & Drop platform allows customers to purchase postage, track parcels, and manage deliveries online, streamlining the entire process. Moreover, data analytics has been adopted to optimize delivery routes, improving overall efficiency.

Germany's Deutsche Post, through its DHL division, has become a leader in the global logistics space, handling more than 1.8 billion parcels in 2023. With a focus on automation, Deutsche Post has invested heavily in self-service kiosks and parcel lockers, offering greater convenience to customers. The company has also taken notable steps toward environmental sustainability, reducing its carbon footprint by 30% by 2022. With ambitious goals of achieving carbon-neutral deliveries by 2050, Deutsche Post is at the forefront of green logistics, deploying electric vehicles and exploring alternative fuel options to reduce emissions.

In China, the rise of e-commerce platforms like Alibaba and JD.com

country's postal sector. China Post, which now handles more than 75 billion parcels annually, has invested heavily in logistics infrastructure, including automated sorting centers and drone deliveries to rural areas. Additionally, China Post's Postal Savings Bank has expanded financial services, contributing to the company's growth and diversification.

As postal networks evolve to remain relevant in the digital age, they are increasingly focusing on diversification, offering services that go beyond traditional mail delivery. Many are expanding into financial services, e-commerce logistics, and digital identity verification to broaden their revenue streams. E-commerce will continue to be a major driver of growth for the postal sector, but the adoption of sustainable practices is equally important for their long-term success. Postal networks are also taking steps to address environmental concerns. As global awareness of climate change intensifies, postal services are under increasing pressure to reduce their carbon footprint. Many operators, like Deutsche Post and USPS, have already begun investing in electric vehicles and renewable energy sources. By embracing sustainable practices, postal networks can contribute to global environmental goals while improving their operational efficiency.

The 150th anniversary of the UPU is an opportunity to reflect on the legacy of postal services and their crucial role in connecting people and businesses worldwide. As postal services confront the challenges of the digital age, they are reimagining their role in society. By embracing innovation, fostering financial inclusion, and committing to sustainability, postal networks are ensuring that they remain relevant for the future. As Director General Metoki noted, "The postal sector has always been a pillar of communication and commerce. By adapting to the times and staying true to our mission, we can continue to serve as a bridge that connects people, businesses, and nations."

(General secretary, Confederation of Central Govt. Employees and Workers, Odisha State Coordination Committee; (M) 9437022669; e samalbruhaspati@gmail.com)

Congress demands EVM probe in Haryana polls

NEW DELHI

¬he Congress on Wednesday demanded a thorough probe into "discrepancies" found in some Electronic Voting Machines (EVMs) during the counting of votes of the Haryana assembly polls and demanded that such EVMs should be sealed and secured pending the inquiry. Earlier, Election Commission, in a letter addressed to the Congress Chief Mallikarjun Kharge, noted the statements of Congress leaders and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, who called the results of the Haryana polls "unexpected" and proposed to analyse the polls. "Proceeding on a fair assumption that the statement of the Party President is the formal party position on the electoral outcome, the ECI has agreed to meet the delegation today at 6 PM," the letter reads. A delegation of top Congress leaders comprising former chief ministers Bhupinder Singh Hooda and Ashok Gehlot and AICC leaders K C Venugopal, Jairam



Ramesh, Ajay Maken and battery capacity during count-Pawan Khera, besides Haryana ing. The party has alleged "glar-Congress chief Udai Bhan, met with top Election Commission officials in the evening. The delegation handed over a memorandum to the officials along with specific complaints from various constituencies in Haryana. Senior party leader Abhishek Singhvi joined the meeting online. The Congress leaders alleged that there are at least 20 such complaints, including seven in writing, from as many assembly constituencies, with many referring to EVMs functioning at 99 per cent battery capacity whereas the average EVMs were found to be operating at 60 to 70 per cent

ing discrepancies" related to some EVMs in the Haryana polls and urged the EC to conduct a probe. "There are doubts about vote counting as Haryana results are surprising. Everyone believed that the Congress would be forming the next government in Haryana. When the counting of postal ballots took place, the Congress was winning, but when the counting of EVMs started, the opposite happened," former chief minister Hooda told reporters after the meeting. He said the Congress will submit more complaints to the EC in the next few days. "The EC has assured

us of looking into the matter," Hooda said after meeting the "All the machines for which CEC and other election comcomplaints have been made missioners. Bhan also said that should be sealed and secured till the inquiry is completed. The EC has told us that they doubts have been created about the veracity of the counting exercise in Haryana and they will give a written reply to us on all constituencies after should be cleared by the EC. Khera said party leaders Maken and Singhvi have urged consulting the respective returning officers," Khera the EC to conduct a thorough added."Counting of votes in a probe, pending which it should ensure that the EVMs transparent and accountable manner is the hallmark of any electoral with discrepancies are sealed and secured till then. "We process that claims to be in apprised the Election consonance with about principles of free and fair Commission complaints that have come to elections and the doctrine of us, including seven written the level-playing field as envisaged by Constitution," the complaints from constituencies with some memorandum to the EC said. EVM machines functioning at 99 per cent battery capacity, "Considering that the said while some EVM Machines issue could potentially alter were functioning below 60-70 the results for some Assembly per cent battery capacity," he constituencies, we request that said aken and Singhvi have this Hon'ble Commission take demanded that the EVMs for urgent measures and order for which complaints have been an enquiry on this issue. In fact, subject to the enquiry made be sealed and secured till the inquiry into the whole the Commission should issue matter is completed. We also told the EC that in the next 48 requisite directions regarding the counting of polls and final hours, we will make available to them other complaints that

Mayawati criticises Jat votes shift in Haryana polls

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Bahujan Samaj Party(BSP)leader Mayawati on Wednesday rued that the Jat community in Haryana did not vote for her party in the assembly polls and felt there was a need to change their mindset about Dalits.

In the national capital to observe the death anniversary of party founder Kanshi Ram, she lamented that the BSP's alliance with the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) did not bear fruits for her party.

Mayawati said in a bid to defeat the BJP and to keep it out of power, the Jat community in Haryana voted for the Congress but in the process ditched the BSP. While the Dalit votes shifted to the INLD, the Jat votes did not come to her party.

BSP candidates got only Dalit votes. Had we got even two to three per cent Jat votes, we would have managed a few seats," she told reporters. She said while the mindset of the Jat community about Dalits has undergone a

change in Uttar Pradesh, it is

yet to happen in Haryana. While the INLD won two seats in the state, the BSP drew a blank. Bucking antiincumbency, the ruling BJP pulled off a hat-trick of wins in Haryana to retain power and halt Congress' comeback attempt in the assembly

While the BJP ended up with its best-ever haul of 48 seats, 11 more than the Congress, parties like the JJP and the AAP were decimated

and the INLD managed to win just two seats. The AAP had contested on its own. Referring to the assembly polls in Delhi expected in February next year, Mayawati hoped that her

party would do well. She said a triangular contest among the ruling AAP, and BJP and Congress will help the BSP do better.

She admitted that the BSP suffers losses in direct fights, apparently in states beyond İttar Pradesh. The former UP chief minister also said the BSP would also contest polls in Maharashtra and harkhand likely next

Army Commanders' Conference to address key security issues

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Army top brass will review issues including the prevailing situation at the Line of Actual Control (LAC) facing China, security scenario in Jammu and Kashmir and ongoing conflicts between Russia and Ukraine and Israel and Hezbollah during two-day conference starting Thursday.

Giving details, army officials said here on Wednesday the second Army Commanders' Conference for this year will be organised in a hybrid mode, with the first Phase planned on October 10-11 in a forward location at Gangtok, Sikkim. In the second phase, the senior

hierarchy of Indian Army will congregate at Delhi on October28-29. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh will deliver a keynote address to



the senior leadership at Gangtok and will be briefed on emerging security challenges and the response of the Army in the security

As the nation faces numerous regional security challenges, upcoming Commanders' Conference scheduled to commence in Sikkim on Thursday, assumes significance.

Conducting the conference of Indian Army's war fighting Senior Commanders at a forward location underlines Indian Army's focus on

ground realities. conference will serve as a Senior forum Commanders to review current operational preparedness, deliberate on critical strategies and outline

future directives. During the first phase of the conference, discussions will focus on critical national security issues and strategic aspects aimed at sharpening capabilities.

Major issues to be deliberated during the two-day session will include the growing importance of a multipronged national security strategy that incorporates integration of Civil Military Fusion and the Diplomatic, Information, Military, and Economic (DIME) pillars to counter contemporary threats besides the need for developing technologies and alternate strategies to counter the rapidly evolving character of warfare. Aligned to Indian Army's goal

of Technological Absorption, the senior hierarchy will deliberate on various issues including infusion technology in Professional Military Education and explore the possibilities of recruiting domain specialists in niche domains. He will also celebrate Dusshera with

Other issues deliberation will focus on enhancing the organisational health and easing the processes of the Field Army to make them more resilient and responsive. The second phase of the conference will feature a discussion evolving geopolitical landscape followed by brainstorming on operational matters and meetings of various Boards of Governors. They will deliberate measures and schemes for financial security of serving soldiers, veterans and their families. The senior hierarchy of the Army will also be addressed by the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan, Navy chief Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi and Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal A P Singh.

Congress hits back at Modi over political speech

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The Congress on Wednesday hit back at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his attack on the party while virtually inaugurating development projects for Maharashtra, saying taxpayers' money cannot and should not be used to indulge in a "political speech".

A day after the Congress' defeat in the Haryana polls, Modi called the opposition party irresponsible and a factory to "spread hatred". He said the Congress wanted to divide Hindus and pit one community against another. The opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) wants to weaken Maharashtra to gain power, but the ruling Mahayuti will strengthen the state, he said after virtually inaugurating various projects



worth more than Rs 7,600 crore for the state.

In a social media post, media Congress' publicity department head Pawan Khera said, "Why should the @PMOIndia use a government platform and a government programme to make a political speech and attack the opposition?"

"Taxpayers' money cannot and should not be used to indulge in a political speech? For that, he can use the BJP's platform," Khera said. Modi said the BJP winning

the Haryana Assembly

elections shows the mood of the country. He added, "In Maharashtra, we have to get a bigger victory." Elections to the 288-member Maharashtra Assembly are likely to be held

Modi said never before has Maharashtra seen the expeditious development of

next month.

Under the Congress regime, the same speed and scale was witnessed in terms of corruption, he said. "The Congress is an irresponsible party and a factory to spread hatred.

The Congress is concerned development and legacy, we have paid attention to both," he said. "Our goal is Viksit Bharat with the development of poor, farmers, youth and women," the prime minister

PM Modi to attend ASEAN summits, bilateral meetings

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

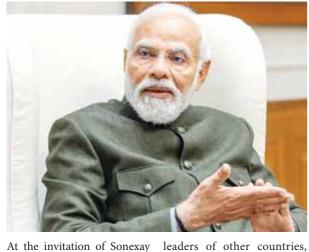
Prime Minister Narendra Modi will hold bilateral meetings with the prime minister of Lao PDR and other leadsummits he is slated to attend in Vientiane on October 10-11 Ministry of External Affairs(MEA)said here on Wednesday. Modi will attend the 21st

Association of Southeast Asian Nations(ASEAN)-India Summit and the 19th East Asia Summit in Lao PDR, the current Chair of the 10nation grouping. "We attach great significance

ASEAN-related mechanisms. This will be PM's tenth attendance at an ASEAN-India Summit," Secretary (East) in the MEA, Jaideep Mazumdar said at a briefing here. In 2023, Modi had made

efforts to be there for the ASEAN-India Summit in Jakarta before the G20 Summit in New Delhi, he added.

The Summit in Vientiane will review the progress in India-ASEAN ties and "chart the future direction of our relationship", Mazumdar said.



Siphandone, Prime Minister Lao People's Democratic Republic, Modi will visit Vientiane on October 10-11, he said. He will have a bilateral meeting with Siphandone, the Secretary (East) said.

India has "close, friendly, historical and civilisational relationship" with Lao PDR, which includes a whole host of different areas, such as restoration of cultural sites, capacity building, and power projects, he added.

When asked if Modi will also have bilateral meeting with

leaders of other countries Mazumdar said, "As is normal and usual, on the margins of international conferences and meeting, the prime minister will have bilateral meetings with a number of leaders. These are all in the works, and you will get to hear of them as they happen."

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) was founded in 1967.

The member States are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, India, Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Cambodia, and Brunei Darussalam.

President Murmu to visit African nations PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

President Droupadi Murmu will undertake a state visit to three African nations Algeria, Mauritania and which is a reflection of India-Africa "growing partnership" Ministry of External Affairs(MEA)said

NEW DELHI

Wednesday. (Economic Secretary Relations) in the MEA, Dammu Ravi, at a briefing here said the visit comes after the African Union became a member of the G20 at its summit last year under the Indian presidency of the

grouping.
"This visit should be seen in the context of Africa as a continent and how India wishes to engage, and is looking at having a stronger partnership with Africa.

Ît's a reflection of India-Africa growing partnership," he said. Africa includes 54 countries and forms the "core of the Global South", Ravi said. The first leg of President

Murmu's three-nation visit

will begin from Algeria, then

onward to Mauritania, and it

will end with Malawi.

the MÉA, Arun Kumar Chatterjee, said President Murmu will visit Algeria at the invitation of Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune, from October 13-"This will be the first-ever

visit by the President of India to Algeria and a visit at the level of a head of state or a head of government after 39 years.

Also, this visit will take place within a month after President Tebboune's swearing-in for his second term in office," he said.



strong bonds of friendship", and the bilateral relations have been "warm and cordial", Chatterjee added. The next leg of her visit would be Mauritania where she will also interact with members of the Indian community, and four MoUs will be signed, the MEA said. She will reach Malawi on October 17, Ravi said, adding this three-nation visit will be an opportunity to "deepen and broaden" relations with Africa and

also bilaterally with these

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

INS Talwar joins IBSAMAR

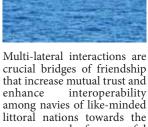
VIII exercise in South Africa

ndian Navy's frontline stealth **I** frigate, INŚ Talwar, arrived at Simon's Town, South Africa, on eighth edition of IBSAMAR, a joint multinational maritime exercise among Indian, Brazilian, and South African Navy scheduled from October six-18, navy said here on Wednesday.

Giving details, officials said the exercise aims to enhance interoperability strengthen cohesion between the three navies.

The broad concept is based on Blue Water Naval Warfare, encompassing the dimensions of Surface and Anti-Air Warfare.

The harbour phase of IBSAMAR VIII will include professional exchanges, Damage Control Firefighting drills, Visit, Board, Search, and Seizure cross-boarding, drills, aviation safety lectures, joint diving operations, an Ocean Governance seminar, sports interactions, cross-decks visits, and interaction among Special Forces and Junior Officers.



common goal of a peaceful maritime domain and maritime positive environment. Defence cooperation between India and South Africa is on

upward trajectory Operational Sea Training and Submarine Rescue Support have been commenced between both navies since the 12th edition of Navy-to-Navy talks held on August 26-28 here.

The visit of INS Talwar aims to further strengthen the ties and reaffirm commitment to constructive collaboration and mutual

CJI DY Chandrachud reflects on legacy before retirement

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Thief Justice D Chandrachud, who is set to demit office next month, turned philosophical, saying he had served the country with "utmost dedication" amid "fears and anxieties" as to how history will judge his tenure.

The 50th Chief Justice of India (CII), his two-vear tenure will end on November 10.

"I find myself pondering over questions -- did I achieve everything I set out to do? How will history judge my tenure? Could I have done things differently? What legacy will I leave for future generations of judges and legal professionals?" he said. The CJI shared his thoughts

while addressing the third

convocation ceremony of Jigme Singye Wangchuk School of Law in Bhutan. "The answers to most of these

questions lie beyond my control, and perhaps, I will never find answers to some of these questions. However, I do know that, over the last two years, I have woken up every morning with a commitment to give the job my fullest and gone to bed with the satisfaction that I served my country with dedication," ad utmost added CJI Chandrachud.

During the event, the CJI sought "pardon" for being "vulnerable" at a time when he was about to demit office and he was "heavily preoccupied" with fears and anxieties for the future and



you

navigate the complexities of your own journeys, do not be afraid to take a step back, reassess, and ask yourself: 'Am I running towards a destination, or am I running towards myself? The difference is subtle, yet profound. After all, the world needs leaders who are driven

by purpose and not just ambition," he said. According to the CJI, once someone has a sense of faith in intentions and

abilities, it is easier not to obsess over outcomes but to value the process and the towards those journey outcomes. The CJI further reflected on an unrelenting passion to make a difference in the world, saying he often pushed himself to the extremes and worked long hours carrying a heavy load, as if the world's problems rested solely on his shoulders.

"However, over the years, I have come to realise that our ability to contribute to our community is deeply rooted in our self-perception and capacity for self-care," he said.

The journey towards the goal should be enjoyed rather than getting caught up in the fear of reaching the destination, the CJI said.

"As someone who is a few decades older than you, I can tell you that these fears are not easy to wish away. However, the personal growth lies in being able to address them and tackling them head-on," he told a crowd also comprising law graduates in the neighbouring country. CJI Chandrachud, known for speaking his mind, has pronounced verdicts on crucial issues affecting public life besides kicking off technological, administrative

and infrastructural reforms to

enhance the efficiency of the

justice delivery system.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI

The Opening Ceremony of Malabar 2024 under the aegis of Eastern Naval Command was held onboard Indian Naval Ship Satpura at Visakhapatnam on October nine. The 28th edition of the multi-national maritime exercise that commenced on October eight and would extend till October 18, navy said here on Wednesday.

The Malabar exercise, which was initiated in 1992 as a bilateral exercise between India and the US, gained further traction as a significant maritime engagement, with Japan and Australia joining subsequently.

The ceremony, hosted by Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar,



Malabar 2024 kicks off in Visakhapatnam

Flag Officer Commandingin-Chief, Eastern Naval Command, was attended by senior naval and military dignitaries from participating nations.

The heads of delegations and other dignitaries participating included General Yoshihide Yoshida, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Japan, Admiral Stephen Koehler, Commander US Pacific Fleet, Vice Admiral Katsushi Omachi, C-in-C, Japan Self Defence Fleet and

Rear Admiral Chris Smith, Commander The crew and planning staff

of participating ships, aircraft and Special Forces from

Australia, India, Japan and the USA were also present. The Commanders of all participating navies acknowledged importance of the exercise in enhancing understanding, collaboration engagement to address common maritime challenges

and to create cooperative

framework. The exercise will be conducted in two distinct phases both at Harbour and at Sea. It will witness live weapon firings, complex surface, anti-air and antisubmarine warfare drills and joint manoeuvres.

SP announces candidates for six UP Assembly bypoll seats amid tensions with Congress

LUCKNOW

A day after the declaration of assembly poll results in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir, the Samajwadi Party (SP) on Wednesday gave a jolt to Congress and announced its candidates for six out of the ten Uttar Pradesh assembly seats where by-elections are due later this year.

The SP is part of the opposition INDIA alliance, which includes the Congress. Despite this, SP's announcement comes amid Congress's demand for five seats in the upcoming bypolls. Congress had not shared any seats with the SP in the Haryana asseming friction between the two

According to the list released by the SP, Tej Pratap Yadav has been fielded from Karhal, while Naseem Solanki, the wife of jailed SP leader Irfan Solanki, has been given a ticket from Sisamau in Kanpur. The Karhal seat was vacated by Akhilesh Yadav after he won Lok Sabha election from Kannauj.

Other candidates include Mustafa Siddiqui from Phulpur (Prayagraj), Ajit Prasad from Milkipur (Ayodhya), Shobhawati Verma from Katehari, and Jyoti Bind from Majhwan. Shobhawati Verma is the wife

was SP MLA from Katehri, while Ajit Prasad is the son of Faizabad (Ayodhya) MP Awadhesh Prasad. Jyoti Bind is the daughter of SP leader Ramesh Bind, who lost the 2024 Lok Sabha elections from Mirzapur.

The ten assembly seats up for by-elections include Katehari (Ambedkar Nagar), Karhal (Mainpuri), Milkipur Meerapur (Ayodhya), (Muzaffarnagar), Ghaziabad, Majhawan (Mirzapur), Sisamau (Kanpur City), Khair (Aligarh), Phulpur (Prayagraj), and Kundarki (Moradabad). Five of these seats were won by SP and other five by BJP and its



Nine of these seats fell vacant after their MLAs were elected as MPs in the recent Lok Sabha elections, while the Sisamau seat is vacant due to the disqualification of Irfan Solanki after his conviction in a criminal case.

Earlier, Uttar Pradesh Congress president Ajay Rai stated that the party had sub-mitted a proposal to its lead-ership to contest five of the bypoll-bound seats: Majhwan, Phulpur, Ghaziabad, Khair,

and Meerapur.
These seats had been won by the BJP in the 2022 assembly elections.Responding to the SP's announcement, Congress has yet to release its final

arrangement. Samajwadi Party spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary said that seatsharing negotiations would ultimately be decided by SP national president Akhilesh Yadav.

The SP's move has sparked reactions, particularly from the BJP, which linked the decision to the recently concluded Haryana polls. Transport Minister in UP

Government Dayashankar Singh said Haryana results have reduced Congress as non-existent political entity in

BJP spokesperson Rakesh Tripathi remarked that the SP's decision to announce

Congress also claimed, reflects the Haryana election results, stating that the SP is "telling Congress its place." Tripathi claimed that the Haryana results, where the BJP secured a third consecutive victory by winning 48 out of 90 seats, have boosted the morale of the BJP, and the party is confident of winning all the by-election seats in Uttar Pradesh.

As the BJP takes confidence from its Haryana victory, the by-elections in Uttar Pradesh are being viewed as a critical litmus test for the opposition INDIA alliance and its cohesion ahead of the 2024 general

Company linked to AAP MP from Punjab generated huge proceeds of crime, says ED

company linked to AAP AMP from Punjab Sanjeev Arora and some other entities caused "loss" to the state government and generated "huge" proceeds of crime by misusing industrial lands for residential projects, the Enforcement Directorate(ED) alleged Wednesday.

The federal agency had raided the premises of Arora, also a businessman, that of a company promoted by him --Hampton Sky Reality (erst-while Ritesh Properties Industries Limited or RPIL) -- and others like Hemant Sood and Chander Shekhar Aggarwal on October 7 in

Chandigarh, Delhi and Jalandhar,

It also raided another company named Royal Industries Ltd (RIL), and its directors Gurmeet Singh and Pardeep Kumar Aggarwal on the same

The federal agency said in a statement that it seized "incriminating" documents, mobile phones and digital devices during these searches.

Arora, on the day the raids took place, had said he was a "law abiding" citizen and he was not sure about the reason for which the searches were conducted. "I will cooperate fully with agencies and make sure all their queries are answered," he had

Aam Aadmi Party's (AAP) national convener and former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal had said the ED action was a "politically motivated attack by the Modi government".

The money laundering case stems from a criminal complaint filed in a Ludhiana court, under various sections of the IPC, against RPIL and an FIR registered by Ludhiana Police against RIL.

The ED claimed its probe found that RPIL and RIL were allotted industrial lands by the Punjab government with an objective to promote industries in the state on certain condi-

TMC mocks Congress for failing to win Haryana

SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

🕇 n what looked like an addi-Ition of insult to injury the Trinamool Congress once again targeted the Congress for failing to provide leader-ship to the Indian National Democratic Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) in the elections after the tri-colour party's loss in the Haryana Assembly elections.

Without naming the Congress senior TMC leader Kunal Ghosh on Wednesday said that "the anti-BJP parties should now introspect as to why they are repeatedly failing to defeat the BJP ... every time tall claims are made and finally they fall flat in elec-



Iterating as to how in Bengal the TMC repeatedly defeats the BJP Ghosh said, "in Bengal we don't make hollow claims ... when our leader Mamata Banerjee said that she will defeat the BJP she did it ... she walked her talk and kept her promise but it is not so in other places ... the parties that are claiming leadership of the INDIA alliance should not start thinking of their failures and decide their next course of action ... they should find out the reason why they are unable the reason why they are unable to defeat a part despite favourable political situations." Saying that "some parties" should stop their arrogant approach of looking down on regional parties the TMC leader said, "before the elections an impression was created that some party was winning and others are losing but final results were different ... this is the result of arrogance and nothing else."

The TMC has for long been claiming the leadership of the INDIA block often saying Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee should be playing a far bigger role in Delhi because she had proved times and again that she is the only leader who can defeat the BJP and no one else.

The party had made its views clear in its mouthpiece Jago Bangla after the Bengal Chief Minister returned to power with thumping majority in 2021 winning 214 seats as against the BJP's 77.

More than 200 senior doctors resign in Bengal

SAUGAR SENGUPTA ■ KOLKATA

 H^{undreds} of senior doctors from various medical colleges including Calcutta Medical College, CNM Medical College, Sagor Dutta Medical, North Bengal Medical College joined their RG Kar Medical College and Hospital colleagues tendering on Wednesday mass resignation in protest against the State Government's "nonchalant approach" towards the eight junior doctors who have been on an indefinite fast for the past 96 hours and whose condition continued to deteriorate.

"The condition of the junior doctors sitting in an indefinite fast is deteriorating by the hour and the Government is so arrogant and nonchalant that they have simply not cared to the senior doctors could not sit Government is not sensitive ed after the brutal rape and back and enjoy the Durga Pujas while our children suffer these junior doctors who are doctor of the RGGKMCH on

like this for a rightful demand ... so we have tendered mass resignation," one of the doctors of Calcutta Medical College

This, whereas scores of members of Junior Doctors' Association from Delhi, Jodhpur and other places started reaching the fasting site at Esplanade in central Kolkata to express their solidarity with their Kolkata brethren

About 50 senior doctors of RGKMCH had on Tuesday resigned en masse to express solidarity with their junior col-

This is almost the same place where our Chief Minister Mamata Baneriee had done a 26-day fast against the setting up of Tata Nano factory at Singur in 2006 ... she knows the pain and risk of such indef-



like our children and who are fighting in the interest of the general health set up of the State... is it not the duty of the Government to come and talk to them," said Dr Tamta a senior doctor.

Members of the civil society including actor Kaushik Sen, acitivist Sujata Bhadra too wrote to the Chief Minister requesting her to "take a sympathetic view towards the doctors' demands.'

enough to come and talk to murder of a postgraduate lady

conducted in all colleges "so August 9 inside the seminar that students nominated by room of the chest medicine department of the hospital. influential people from the Even as the doctors demanded ruling party do not get the justice for the victim they chance to control the system added in their ten-point and perpetrate a threat syndidemand among other things a cate and extort lakhs of rupees centralized referral system, from students and even subsecurity for all the medical staff jecting them sexual exploitainside the hospitals, ending of tion, junior doctors said. the threat syndicate and relat-Meanwhile Bengal Chief ed malpractices that were ram-Secretary Manoj Pant said that pant in most of the Government medical colleges the Government had received no official communication of mass resignation, adding such and hospitals, basic amenities like rest rooms and washrooms mass resignations were any thing but procedural.

"Resignations are tendered individually before they are accepted," he said apparently making the Government's intentions of the control of the contr for doctors, installation of CCTV cameras in all the Government hospitals, real-

intentions clear. Elsewhere, the police on Wednesday stopped the vehiasking for students' body elecwere likely to raise slogans tions --- that had not taken for and sensitize the general peo-

Mumbai cops arrest man for mercilessly beating dog to death

PNS MUMBAI

The Mumbai police have registered an FIR against a man for allegedly beating a dog to death at Juhu in northwest Mumbai.

Acting on a complaint lodged by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India and a concerned citizen, Jay Sarin that the accused man had mercilessly beaten a dog to death using metal rod, the Juhu police registered an FIR against the accused man. An FIR has been registered against the accused under Section 325 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, and Section 11(1) of the cles carrying doctors around | Prevention of Cruelty to

> Those who abuse animals often move on to harming humans. It is imperative that

members of the public report sending a strong message that cases of cruelty to animals

such as this one for everyone's safety," PETA India Cruelty Response Coordinator Sinchana Subramanyan said

"We commend Sub-Inspector Rahul Shinde for his prompt action in registering the FIR

cruelty to animals will not be tolerated," Subramanyan said. The PETA India recommended that perpetrators of animal abuse undergo psyreceive counselling, as abusing animals indicates a deep

Former Kerala DGP joins BJP

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

The faction-ridden BJP in **▲** Kerala got a shot in the arm on Wednesday as R Sreelekha, the first lady IPS officer in the State joined the party as a member. This is the first time Sreelekha, a former director general of police and muti-faceted personality, get-ting associated with a political party. K Surendran, president of

Kerala BJP, called on Sreelekha at Thiruvananthapuram residence and handed over the membership card. "There is no special agenda behind me joining the BJP other than helping the party to grow in Kerala. I am really impressed and awe-struck by the leafdership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the social



and economic development made by the country since 2014," Sreelekha told media persons after becoming a member of the BJP.

She said she had been thinking seriously about joining the party for the last three weeks and Wednesday's decision was the culmination of this introspection. Sreelekha, retired from the IPS in 2020

after 33 years of service and since then she is actively engaged in writing on various issues with special focus on problems encountered by women. Her reminiscences 'Sreelekha, With Love", a video channel in YouTube has a vast viewership among Malayalees spread across the globé.

An alumnus of the elite Institute of English, University of Kerala, Sreelekha has successfully completed post-graduate courses from various international colleges like London Business School, King's College and Scotland Yard. Thomas Jacob, IPS officer and former DGP had joined the BJP in 2019 but he is not active in the party as on date because of the cold shoulder-

ing by the State leadership.

NEW DELHI

time monitoring of bed avail-

ability, and the establishment of

task forces to ensure the prop-

er functioning of essential facil-ities like CCTV cameras, on-

call rooms, and washrooms,

quite some time now --- to be

A mid concerns that the areca nut industry is blatantly roping in Bollywood celebrities to promote paan masala as a mouth freshener, a new Lancet study has highlighted that India has the highest number of oral cancer cases linked to smokeless tobacco (chewed, sucked on or sniffed) and areca nut (also called betel nut) use in South Asia.

In 2022, India accounted for 83,400 out of 120,200 global cases of oral cancer related to these substances, said the study led by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) and published in The Lancet Oncology journal. The consumption of areca nut

(30 per cent) and betel quid with tobacco (28 per cent) were responsible for the most



oral cancer cases among women, followed by gutka (21 per cent) and khaini (21 per

Among men, it was khaini (47 per cent), gutka (43 per cent), betel quid with tobacco (33 per cent), and areca nut (32 per cent). "Smokeless tobacco and areca nut products are available to consumers in many different forms across the world, but consuming smokeless tobacco and areca nut is linked to multiple diseases, including oral cancer," said Dr Harriet Rumgay, a scientist in the Cancer Surveillance Branch at

"We found that more than 120,000 people across the world were diagnosed with oral cancer that could have been caused by using smokeless

mates highlight the burden these products pose on health care and the importance of prevention strategies to reduce consumption of smokeless tobacco and areca nuts," he

The IARC study showed that 120,200 of the 389,800 oral cancer cases in 2022 could be caused by smokeless tobacco and areca nut use. The regions that contributed the largest numbers of oral cancers caused by smokeless tobacco and areca nut use were South-Central Asia (a total of 105,500 cases, with 83,400 in India, 9,700 in Bangladesh, 8,900 in Pakistan and 1,300 in Sri Lanka).

"Free accessibility with intense surrogate marketing of smokeless tobacco and areca nut has meant that India has one of the highest burdens of oral cancer

partner. Approximately 260

ernment is minimal, the health impact and associated healthcare losses are huge. The ban on gutkha was a courageous step that has been circumvented by the tobacco industry," said Dr Pankaj Chaturvedi, Head and Neck Cancer surgeon and Director, Advanced Centre for Treatment, Research and Education in Cancer, Tata Memorial Centre, Kharghar, Navi Mumbai. He is one of the co-authors of the study.

"Areca nuts cause a painful disease called submucous fibrosis apart from mouth cancer that is incurable. Unfortunately that is affecting our younger population and destroying families emotionally and financially. We need to implement the existing laws and regulations effectively for control of smokeless tobacco and areca nuts," he

Taiwan has turned out to be global high-tech powerhouse: TECC representative in India

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA

NEW DELHI

¬aipei Economic and L Cultural Center (TECC) Representative in India Ambassador Baushuan Ger has said that Taiwan has turned to be a global hightech powerhouse and nowadays plays especially a critical role in the world's semiconductor industry and India is a major stakeholder in this growth and success.

"Producing 60 percent of the world's chips and over 90 percent of the most advanced ones, Taiwan ranks No. 1 in semiconductor foundry, packaging and testing; No. 2 in IC

design and ICT product. moved to Taiwan in 1949. Taiwan continues to invest heavily in the areas of high precision manufacturing, artificial intelligence, renewable energy and biotechnology as ship. "Although geographiwell, with the objective of cally distant, our shared ensuring our position at the forefront of global innovation," the Baushuan said addressing a gathering for the celebrations of National Day of Taiwan organised in the national Capital.

The Ambassador informed that this year Taiwan is celebrating the 113th anniversary of the Republic of China (Taiwan), the first Republic established in Asia. The Government of the ROC

On the occasion Baushuan said over the years Taiwan and India have developed a natural and reliable partnercommitment to democracy, freedom, human rights and the rule of law has been instrumental in deepening our bilateral cooperation across many sectors," he said in presence of diplomats, other dignitaries.

He further informed while the Republic of China and the Republic of India maintained brief diplomatic relations from 1947 to 1949, it is not until 1995 when Taiwan and



India re-engaged and established representative offices in Taipei and New Delhi.

"Following our Chennai office set up in 2012, I am pleased to announce that we will inaugurate our third mission, the TECC in Mumbai next week," Baushuan said.

The Ambassador also shared that given the convergence of Taiwan's "New Southbound Policy" and India's "Act East Policy", on the economic front, the bilateral trade volume has surged from 5 billion USD in 2016 to 8.2 billion USD in 2023, a notable 64%

'Today, India stands as Taiwan's 16th largest trading

in India, with a cumulative investment of 5 billion USD, spanning from footwear, machinery and auto parts to petrochemicals and ICT products. The contributions of Taiwanese enterprises in India have been remarkable. They have collectively created more than 170,000 jobs in India. Not only do they bring advanced technology and

he added. On country's strategic front,

Taiwanese companies operate mentioned in the face of management expertise but also create vast employment opportunities and contribute to the goal of "Atmanirbhar Bharat" (self-reliant India)," sure," Baushuan further said.

China's unceasing cross-Strait military intimidation and gray-zone threats, Taiwan has worked hard to strengthen its self-defense capabilities. "While the international community has increasingly recognized that maintaining peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait is indispensable to international security and prosperity-a position which the G7 leaders' communique in June has re-affirmed for the fourth consecutive year, we will continue to protect our hard-won democratic way of life without bowing to pres-

the TECC Representative

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PAPER WITH PASSION-

Mixed bag

The BJP retains Haryana while the regional parties gain in I and K signalling paradigm shift in the valley

The verdict is out and it is not what was predicted by the exit polls. The BJP retains Haryana and National conference resurges in Jammu and Kashmir. The results once again prove that the people of Jammu and Kashmir want development and peace while the people of Haryana, though have resentment with the farm laws still have faith in the BJP. The election results in Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir have significant implications for national politics. For the BJP, these results serve as a reminder that national leadership may get it votes but its local leaders must also perform. For Congress and other opposition parties, these results offer a glimmer of hope for future contests. At the same time, the resurgence of regional parties, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir, signals the enduring importance of local issues and identity politics in India's diverse political landscape. The outcomes not only redefined local political dynamics but also carried significant impli-



cations for national politics, especially for major players like the BJP, Congress, and regional parties. Moreover, the election results starkly contrasted with exit polls, which had predicted very different scenarios in both states.

The first post-Article 370 election in Jammu and Kashmir was keenly watched, given its symbolic importance in the region. While the BJP aimed to make significant inroads, particularly in the Jammu region, it faced stiff competition from regional parties like the National Conference (NC). The results saw a resurgence of regional parties, with the National Conference, led by Faroog Abdullah,

securing a majority of seats in the Kashmir Valley. The BJP made gains in Jammu but fell short of its ambitious targets of expanding into the Kashmir Valley. The electorate, it seemed, was more aligned with regional issues such as autonomy, identity, and economic distress rather than the BJP's nationalistic agenda. The outcome underscores the challenges the BJP faces in making a deep impact in the region, especially in the aftermath of the abrogation of Article 370. It also highlights the resilience of local political players who continue to dominate the political narrative in the Valley. While Congress failed to reach the majority mark in Haryana, the Haryana elections put it back in the game. Its vote share was almost at par with the BJP at 39.04 per cent. The BJP vote share was 39.94 per cent. Despite the overall success of the BJP, eight out of ten ministers from the Haryana Assembly lost their seats. Of late the BJP though victorious is losing its sheen and needs to put it act together to regain the voters who are drifting away from its fold. It is a good start for the BJP for the upcoming state elections. The party must maintain the momentum into upcoming critical polls in Maharashtra, Jharkhand and Delhi to remain ahead of its opponents.



A pandal themed on 'Three dimemsion of the Universe' during Durga Puja festival, in Kolkata

Revival of democracy amidst calls for statehood



Following the 2019 revocation of Article 370, these elections were a landmark moment, reflecting the people's desire for normalcy and statehood

he Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir conducted its first Assembly elections in a decade. It showcased the peaceful embrace of democracy by its people last week after decades of militancy. These polls were held after the bifurcation of Jammu, Kashmir, and Ladakh on August 5, 2019, following the revocation of Article 370. The BJP claimed that the move was necessary to tackle separatism, enhance economic development and fully integrate the region into the country.

Since 1989, the state has faced militancy, violence and a boycott of polls by separatist elements allegedly sponsored by Pakistan. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said, "The peaceful and participative elections are historic, wherein democracy is taking root more profoundly than ever before, driven by the will of the people of J and K." Intense campaigning, peaceful polling and high voter turnout marked the polls. Those afraid to go to the polling booth were allowed to vote peacefully. These were significant not only for political reasons but also because of developments such as the first Legislative Assembly elections in ten years, the abrogation of Article 370, and the restoration of democracy. This time, the Hindu-dominated Jammu and Muslim-dominated Kashmir were united in the demand to restore statehood, which the Centre had promised earlier. The higher voter turnout showed peoples desire for democ-

They were tired of gun fights and wanted to live a normal life. Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar praised the people of the Union Territory, which recorded 58.46 per cent voter turnout, the highest in 35 years. The security forces ensured a violence-free election. They also stifled the free movement of separatists. These elections differed from the previous polls as the politics of this region is no longer limited to the four traditional political parties NC, PDP, and the political parties inc and the BJP. The new addition was the participation of separatist elements in these polls, which must be addressed, as they had



stability.
The delimitation panel gave Jammu six additional seats and Kashmir one. The Opposition held that the balance was tilting in favour of Hindu-majority Jammu. Scheduled castes and scheduled tribes got nine seats reserved. Kashmir has been under the international scanner. Diplomats from many countries were taken to the state to observe the polls. They got first-hand information from visiting the state. There are several reasons for the peaceful polls this time. The first was the minimal

involvement of Pakistan, as it had its internal problems to sort out. India blames Pakistan for training, funding and pushing islamist militants, targe ting the Hindu-dominated Jammu area more than the Muslim-dominated Kashmir Valley. Pakistan denies the



THE CHIEF ELECTION **COMMISSIONER RAJIV KUMAR PRAISED** THE PEOPLE OF THE UNION TERRITORY, WHICH RECORDED 58.46 PER CENT VOTER TURNOUT, THE HIGHEST IN 35 YEARS

Secondly, Kashmiris were tired of living in violent and disturbed situations. Two generations of Children had lost their normal childhood. Thirdly, militants did not call for the boycott of elections this time. On the contrary, separatists themselves entered the poll fray. Many areas once known as terror hotbeds saw brisk polling. The militants probably realised they needed funds and patrons, which they lacked. So, they decided to go through the election route. BJP chief JP Nadda said people had rejected the ballots and chose the ballot route. The election in Jammu and Kashmir witnessed a multicornered contest for the 90 seats. The National Conference and Congress went for a coalition. At the same time, the BJP and PDP were the other two significant players. The BJP had high stakes but a weak political base in the Valley, while it's strong in Jammu. The party contested only 19 of the 47 seats in the Valley. BJP knew the realistic position in the Valley where it could not hope to get votes. So, the BJP is fighting through proxies. A BJP

party would get support from Engineer Rashid, Sajad Lone, Altaf Bukhari, and Ghulam Nabi Azad - all minor players. Kashmiri pundits are still afraid of returning home. The people in both Jammu and the Valley lament the downgrading of the state to two union territories. There is still unemployment and the drug and narcotic trade menace in the state. The election results are out and the National Conference-Congress coalition has got a clear edge. The BJP, which has no presence in the Valley, propped up some independents and hopes to do well in Jammu.The Centre should take credit for completing the election process, and so should the Election Commission.

But the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve kudos for fearlessly going to the polling booth to vote. They showed the trend in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections too. There is no doubt Jammu and Kashmir want a popular government. But the only worry is that they must vote for a stable government rather than a split verdict.

(The writer is a popular columnist; views are

The strategic role of generative AI in transforming Industries



KASHYAP DALAL

Generative AI is transforming industries by enhancing customer experiences, boosting productivity and automating processes across sectors

enerative AI has evolved from a novel-ty in boardroom discussions to a transformative tool across industries. Extending the capabilities of traditional AI in automation and predictive modeling, it's reshaping business processes, customer experiences, and employee productivity. Sectors such as pharmaceuticals, airlines, healthcare, manufacturing, and banking are seeing tangible benefits, as generative AI unlocks new avenues for value creation. Enhancing Customer

Experience: Improving customer experience is a key priority for businesses today. Companies with both physical and online touchpoints are turning to generative AI, leveraging large language models (LLMs) to provide personalised recommendations that enhance buyer satisfaction and drive revenue growth.

In the airline industry, Alaska Airlines has harnessed AI to offer customised flight and travel suggestions based on customer preferences such as budget and timing, significantly elevating the booking experience. By personalising

interactions, AI is allowing businesses to delight customers in ways that were previously time-intensive and difficult to scale.

Revolutionising Creativity: Generative AI is also making waves in content creation, democratising creativity, and improving productivity. It allows companies to generate high-quality content quickly, reducing manual input and turnaround times. For example, Belk Ecommerce utilises generative AI to craft engaging product descriptions, ensuring consistency across marketing channels. This automation not only boosts operational efficiency but also delivers a cohesive shopping experience. Customer service is another area seeing improvements through generative AI. Firms like Klarna,

a fintech company, use AI-

powered virtual assistants to

handle millions of customer service requests, providing quick resolutions and reducing repetitive inquiries. This Al application results in faster, more accurate service and improved customer satisfac-

Boosting Productivity: Generative AI's ability to enhance employee productivity is becoming increasingly evident, especially in automating routine tasks. By freeing employees from monotonous work, AI enables them to focus on higher-value tasks that require strategic input. This shift is particularly significant for industries where frontline workers are pressed for time. Home Depot's US stores provide a prime example of AI-driven employee enablement. They employ AI-powered apps to assist in decision-making, inventory management, and task prioritisation, resulting in improved store operations and employee satisfaction. Generative AI also enhances documentation processes in sectors requiring high volumes of detailed reports. For instance, Bristol-Myers Squibb has integrated AI into their doc-

umentation workflows,

enabling rapid processing of clinical trial data and transforming complex, time-consuming tasks into streamlined operations. Such innovations are revolutionising sectors where speed and accuracy are paramount.

Leveraging Data: With the increasing digitalisation of the world, businesses are relying more on data-driven insights. Generative AI can sift through vast datasets, extracting valuable insights to support better decision-making in areas such as research and data analysis. This capability is exemplified by Spotify, which uses AI to create personalised podcast previews, improving content discovery and user engagement.

As generative AI transforms industries, businesses are preparing for widespread changes in operations, Al can augment every function. However, with these advancements comes the challenge of upskilling the workforce. Organizations need to ensure their employees are adaptable and equipped to leverage AI

(The writer is co-founder & chief operating officer, Simplilearn; views are personal)

STRENGTHENING BILATERAL RELATIONSMadam — Apropos to the 'Strategic

Balancing Act, October 8. With Maldivian President Muizzu making his first state visit to India, New Delhi-Male ties are clearly on the mend. Contrast this with the situation in the beginning of the year when Muizzu declined to make India his first port of call after assuming the presidency, undertook a state visit to China, inked a defence cooperation pact with Beijing, and demanded that New Delhi pull out its small contingent of troops in the archipelago

The reality is that both countries need each other irrespective of differences of opinion on certain issues. No country can escape geography and this certainly holds true for both India and the Maldives. India will always remain the Maldives's closest, largest Indian Ocean neighbour and first responder in all crises. China simply can't be a replacement here given its physical distance from the region. Therefore, New Delhi, which also needs Male for better strategic depth in the Indian Ocean Region, and Male have no option but to enhance their cooperative relationship. Muizzu had campaigned on an 'India Out' plank during his election.

But fighting elections outside the government and running a country are two different things. Plus, India has always stood by the Maldives. Also, Muizzu has asked Indian tourists to return to the Maldives. something that is vital for that country's economy. Thus, New Delhi-Male relations have once again found equilibrium. That will be a relief for India after the Bangladesh

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Washington

ONE YEAR OF WEST ASIA CRISIS

Madam— It has been a year since Hamas attacked Israel. The way Hamas fighters were successful in attacking Israel by breaking through its entire security system on October 7 last year, it seems that if we leave aside the attacks by rockets, drones and missiles, Israel can be defeated in a ground war. Because Iran, Hamas and

THE EDITOR

candidate admitted that the



he prices of vegetables are going through the roof in the market. During Dussehra and Diwali festivals, the prices of essentials and vegetables are skyrocketing. Almost all the vegetables are approaching the century mark. The common man is getting upset with the increased prices. Recently, the increased prices of essential goods have come into force in the context of the central government increasing the import duty

Hezbollah fired thousands of rockets at Israel, it did not suffer any major damage. But as soon as Israel attacked Lebanon on the ground, more than 10 Israeli security forces were killed within a few hours. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu said during the first anniversary that 'Israel will continue to attack its enemies as long as its security is under threat'.

I[']think Netanyahu was probably talking about his own security, not Israel's. Because the day this war ends, Netanyahu's journey to the political pinnacle will end and the Israeli people will immediately oust him from power. Because three-fourths of Jews are extremely angry with him for the way he has handled this war. The way even today hundreds of hostages are in the custody of Hamas for which Netanyahu has done nothing. Several decisions passed by the United Nations this year and the decision given by the International Court of Justice make it clear that what Israel calls a 'terrorist' attack is actually a 'reaction to

Jang Bahadur Singh | Jamshedpur

Vegetable prices rise in festival season on foreign goods imports. Due to this effect, cooking oil prices have gone up. The prices of palm

Till yesterday, the price of tomato was less than

oil and sunflower oil have gone up.



50 rupees, now it has doubled. Recently, due to weather conditions, crops have been badly damaged in the states of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The situation has changed as the tomato coming from these regions has suddenly decreased.In the absence of tomatoes, hotels and fast food centres are reducing the use of tomatoes. Due to this, the people and the hotel managers are facing severe difficulties. Onion prices also seem to be at that level. Onion price is increasing due to insufficient supply from Maharashtra. In addition to this, some groups are hoarding essential commodities informally and creating artificial scarcity and selling the commodities at high prices, doubling

Appanna Gonapa | Visakhapatnam

the hardships of the common man.

UPHOLDING TRUE SECULARISM Madam —This is in response to the news report titled "India is essentially a Hindu nation: RSS chief" (October 7). Far from being a "Hindu nation," India is historically a nation of all ("None can tell, at whose beckoning, vast waves of humanity/In currents unstoppable, from the unknown here arrived/To merge into the Great Sea" - Rabindranath Tagore), and this is the very reason why "Secularism" is embedded right within the Constitution itself. If Hindus indeed "care for everyone" as their own and "embrace all" so as to live in "harmony," then what compels the RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat to advise his own religious group to unite by transcending all narrow barriers of race, language, state and caste! This directly proves that Hindus are a highly divided lot in demographic terms and this gets proved through caste-based atrocities upon Dalits and torture upon linguistic/racial minorities in different states! Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

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FIRST COLUMN

ACHIEVING WORK LIFE BALANCE

A healthy work-life dynamic not only benefits individuals but also strengthens communities



n recent years, the world has faced unprecedented challenges, from the COVID-19 pandemic to ongoing socio-economic disruptions. These crises have not only claimed lives but have also altered the very fabric of our daily routines and working environments. Amidst these tumultuous times, the concept of work-life balance has emerged as a crucial necessity, emphasising the importance of maintaining mental and physical well-being while fulfilling professional responsibilities. The rising death tolls and widespread fear associated with global crises have taken a toll on mental health. Today, grief, anxiety and uncertainty have become commonplace as people grapple with loss and disruption.

There is no denying the fact that fast-paced technological advancements require constant adaptation and learning, which can be overwhelming and contribute to stress. In many Indian companies, there is a culture of overwork, where taking time off is frowned upon. Many executives even end up working extended hours, sacrificing their time and health, which contributes to physical as well as mental exhaustion.

Moreover, this can even lead to a toxic environment where employees not only feel they have to prove their worth constantly, but the stigma associated with failure may even drive them to push themselves to unhealthy limits to succeed. Poor diet, lack of exercise and high-stress levels have led to lifestyle-related health issues such as heart disease, diabetes and hypertension, which are prevalent among high-level exec-



Economic downturns and market volatility add pressure on executives to perform, leading to increased stress and associated health risks. In such a climate, achieving a balance between work and personal life has become essential for fostering resilience and promoting overall well-being. A healthy work-life balance allows an individual to dedicate time towards self-care, family and community, which are vital for emotional recovery and stability. The shift to remote work and flexible schedules, prompted by the pandemic, has underscored the need for a re-evaluation of traditional work structures. If remote work offers flexibility, at the same time it has also blurred the lines between personal as well as professional life, leading to longer hours and increased stress.

It's the need of the hour for organisations to recognise this and promote policies that encourage employees to set boundaries, take breaks and prioritise personal time. Addressing the high death toll among executives in Indian companies for instance the Pune CA death followed by a reputed Indian working for NBFC and committing suicide on a similar ground- i.e. work pressure and mental distress from the seniors necessitates a multi-faceted approach. Organisations must prioritise mental health support, promote a healthier work-life balance, and create a culture that values employee well-being. By taking these steps, companies can not only help mitigate the risks associated with high-stress environments but also foster a healthier and more sustainable workplace. By fostering an environment that values work-life balance, employers can enhance productivity and employee satisfaction, thereby leading to lower turnover rates and a more engaged workforce

Achieving work-life balance is not solely a personal endeavour but it also has broader implications for society. When individuals can manage their work and personal lives effectively, they are more likely to engage in their communities, volunteer and support local initiatives. This communal engagement will foster social connections and strengthen the fabric of society, thereby making it more resilient in the face of adversity. By prioritising work-life balance, we as citizens of the nation will contribute not only to our well-being but also to the health of our communities.

(The writer is a motivator; views are personal)

The key to a sustainable and low-carbon future



By adopting energy-efficient practices, the country not only cuts emissions but also saves millions of tonnes of oil equivalent, leading to a more sustainable future

nergy efficiency refers to the practice of using less energy to achieve the same level of output or perform the same task. It is one of the most impactful strategies for reducing energy consumption, cutting costs, and mitigating environmental harm. As global energy demand continues to rise, enhancing energy efficiency has become critical in the fight against climate change, resource conservation, and ensuring a sustainable future. According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), the global rate of energy efficiency improvement has averaged around 2 per cent per year, with some variations during the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2023, global energy consumption reached approximately 15,000 million tons of oil equivalent (MTOE), as reported in the Enerdata Yearbook 2024. A 2 per cent improvement in efficiency would save about 300 MTOE—an amount greater than India's entire industrial energy consumption, which stands at around 270 MTOE in 2022-23. In 2022-23, sectors such as industry, buildings, and transport consumed 552 MTOE out of India's total primary energy consumption of 850 MTOE. The industrial sector accounted for 49 per cent of this total, while transport and buildings (residential and commercial) contributed 12 per cent and 13 per cent, respectively. India is one of the few nations with a comprehensive legal and institutional framework for energy conservation. The Energy Conservation Act of 2001 and

the Bureau of Energy Efficiency under the Ministry of Power are pivotal in driving energy efficiency programmes across various sectors. India's flagship programmes include the Perform, Achieve, and Trade (PAT) Scheme for energy-intensive industries, initiatives for energy-efficient buildings, vehicle fuel efficiency standards, and the star rating and labelling scheme for household appliances and industrial equipment. In 2022-23, these programmes collectively saved around 51 MTOE, equivalent to reducing carbon emissions by approximately 306 million tons of CO2. This energy efficiency contribution accounts for about 10 per cent of India's annual emissions, which stands at around 3 billion tons of CO2. Energy efficiency is projected to play a crucial role in global climate action.

It is estimated that nearly 40 per cent of the emissions reductions needed to reach net zero by 2050 must come from energy efficiency measures, many of which offer short payback periods ranging from 3-5 years. Often dubbed the "first fuel," energy efficiency is seen as a vital tool in maintaining a sustainable, low-carbon future. Given the constrained carbon budget outlined in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment, energy efficiency is more important than ever in controlling global temperature rise.

The Importance of Energy Efficiency: It is a cornerstone of sustainable development, offering multiple advantages such as cost savings, environmental protection, energy security and resource conservation.

Energy-efficient technologies reduce consumption, which, in turn, cuts utility bills for individuals, businesses, and governments. Reduced energy use decreases greenhouse gas emissions and helps combat global warming. It also diminishes pollutants that harm air and water quality. Additionally, energy efficiency decreases overall demand, reducing dependence on fossil fuels and



ESTIMATED THAT NEARLY 40 PER CENT OF THE EMISSIONS REDUCTIONS **ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES** MANY OF WHICH OFFER SHORT PAYBACK

PERIODS

RANGING

FROM

cially for countries heavily reliant on imports. It also reduces the need for new power plants and industrial facilities, conserving natural resources and limiting environmental impact. Key Sectors and Strategies indus-

strengthening energy security, espe-

try: The industrial sector is the largest global energy consumer, driven by processes such as manufacturing, mining and machinery use. Enhancing energy efficiency in this sector involves optimising processes, recovering waste energy, and implementing energy management systems. Upgrading equipment, improving production methods, and utilising efficient motors and pumps can significantly reduce energy consumption. The National Mission for Enhanced Energy Efficiency (NMEEE), launched in 2011, targets energy-intensive

industries Under its PAT Scheme, industries are assigned specific energy-saving targets (energy use per unit of product), and the market-based approach allows trading of excess NET ZERO BY resulted in substantial energy savings, leading to a reduction of approximately 110 million tonnes of CO2 emissions. As of August 2024, energy savings. This initiative has the PAT scheme covers 1,333 energy-intensive industries and establishments across 13 sectors, including steel, cement, aluminium, fertilizer, petroleum refineries, thermal power plants, and others. As India develops its carbon market mechanism, many of these sectors will participate as "obligated entities" with specific greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets. The carbon market will facilitate this

transition by implementing a market-based approach to pricing GHG emissions. This mechanism encourages both public and private entities 3-5 YEARS to engage in decarbonisation efforts across various sectors. Entities that reduce emissions below their targets can earn Carbon Credit Certificates, while those that do not must pur-

Additionally, the mechanism will have a voluntary component, allowing non-obligated entities to register projects focused on reducing, removing, or avoiding GHG emissions to obtain carbon credits.

The Standards & Labeling (S&L) Programme: launched in 2006, rates appliances based on their energy efficiency, from 1 to 5 stars. This program covers 38 appliances, with 16 falling under mandatory regulations. As of August 2024, the programme has saved 82 billion units of energy, equivalent to cutting 58 million tons of CO2 emis-The UJALA Scheme and the Street

Light National Program (SLNP) have also been successful in replacing inefficient lighting with LED solutions, leading to significant energy savings and emission reductions. As of September 2024, approximately 370 million LED bulbs and 7.2 million LED tube lights have been distributed through the UJALA scheme. This has resulted in an annual reduction of 39 million tons of CO2 emissions. Buildings: Buildings are another major energy consumer, particularly through heating, cooling, and lighting. Energy-efficient building design, proper insulation, and smart energy management systems can dramatically reduce energy use. The Energy Conservation Building Code (ECBC), introduced in 2007, mandates minimum energy performance standards for commercial and residential buildings. Recent updates, such as the Energy Conservation and Sustainable Building Code (ECSBC) and the Eco Niwas Samhita (ENS) for residential buildings, aim to further reduce energy consumption in large buildings by up to 18 per cent. Transportation: It is a major contributor to global energy use, pri-

are key strategies. The Indian government has implemented fuel efficiency standards for

marily from fossil fuels. Improving

fuel efficiency in vehicles and pro-

moting electric and hybrid vehicles

passenger cars and heavy-duty vehicles and aims to expand the electric vehicle ecosystem including charging infrastructure. As of 2024, India's charging stations are expected to increase to 100,000 by 2030, supporting the growing number of electric vehicles. To create awareness of the benefits of Electric Vehicles (EVs), the "Go electric" Campaign was launched in Feb 2021. This involves radio jingles, poster/leaflets distribution, awareness through social media platforms, street plays,

Electricity Generation and Transmission: Upgrading power plants and incorporating renewable energy sources such as solar and wind are vital for reducing emissions in electricity generation. Under the PAT Scheme, India's thermal power plants have improved their efficiency, contributing to a reduction of 30 million tons of CO2. As of August 2024, 46 per cent of India's installed power capacity comes from nonfossil fuel sources, surpassing the commitment made at the Paris COP 21 summit.

Challenges: Despite its benefits, the adoption of energy efficiency measures faces challenges like high upfront costs, limited awareness, and policy gaps. These barriers can be addressed through financial support mechanisms, capacitybuilding initiatives, and the development of comprehensive, flexible policies. Conclusion Energy efficiency is an essential driver of sustainable development, offering sig-nificant economic, environmental, and social benefits.

As technology improves and policies strengthen, energy efficiency will remain crucial in reducing energy demand and mitigating climate change. By adopting energyefficient practices in our homes, industries, and transportation systems, we can contribute to a cleaner, more sustainable future.

(The writer is DDG, Bureau of Energy Efficiency; views

Surya Ghar Yojana: A sustainable alternative to free electricity politics

Unlike conventional freebies, this scheme boosts long-term savings, infrastructure investment and promotes sustainable energy production

n response to the growing trend of political parties Loffering free electricity to secure votes, the Narendra Modi government has introduced the Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Yojana. This initiative aims to promote solar energy adoption by providing homeowners with a subsidy ranging from Rs 30,000 to Rs 78,000 for installing one to three kW solar panels. The scheme is designed to reduce dependence on government subsidies while offering households the benefit of free elec-

tricity for up to 25 years Solar Power for Households Under this scheme, a con-

sumer will spend around Rs 40,000 to Rs 70,000 to install a two to three kW solar panel. This investment allows households to generate up to 300



ASHWANI MAHAJAN

units of electricity per month, covering a significant portion of their energy needs. At the current rate of Rs 8 per unit, this translates to a monthly saving of Rs 2,400. Over 25 years, the total savings per household would amount to approximately Rs 7.20 lakh, ensuring that the initial cost of installation is recovered within one to two years. The government has also made provi-

the remaining amount at a concessional interest rate of 7

Addressing the Politics of **Free Electricity**

In recent years, several political parties have leveraged the promise of free electricity as a means to gain political support. States like Delhi, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh have implemented such schemes, offering free or subsidised electricity to a significant portion of their populations.

In Delhi, for instance, the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) government provides up to 200 units of electricity for free and a 50 per cent subsidy for those consuming between 201 and 400 units. However, the cost of these schemes has placed a significant burden on sions for consumers to finance state budgets. In Delhi, Rs to financial constraints.

electricity subsidies in the 2023-24 budget, out of a total budget of Rs 78,800 crore. Under AAP's rule, the capital expenditure growth rate has declined from 19.6 per cent during the previous Congress government's tenure to 9.2 per cent. Consequently, infrastructure development in Delhi has slowed, with fewer new projects being launched. The situation is similar in other states where free electricity has been promised. Punjab, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, and Himachal Pradesh are all grappling with mounting debts, making it increasingly difficult to sustain free electricity schemes. In some cases, states have had to scale back or abandon these initiatives due

3,250 crore was allocated for



A Viable Alternative

The Pradhan Mantri Surya Ghar Yojana offers a more sustainable solution. By encouraging households to generate their own electricity through rooftop solar panels, the scheme reduces the long-term burden on government finances. The total investment required by households under the scheme is Rs 1.5 lakh,

including the government subsidy. With one crore households expected to participate, this would result in an additional capacity of 30 GW of solar power, significantly boosting India's renewable

energy output. Unlike traditional free electricity schemes, which are funded by annual government subsidies, the Surya Ghar Yojana provides long-term benefits without placing a strain on the budget. By generating their own electricity, households will no longer be dependent on yearly subsidies and will contribute to reducing the country's carbon footprint. This aligns with India's broader goals of increasing renewable energy production and achieving net-zero emissions.

Economic and

Environmental Impact The Surya Ghar Yojana has

far-reaching economic and environmental benefits. First, it provides households with a reliable source of free electricity for 25 years, ensuring significant savings on energy bills. This also reduces the government's reliance on costly subsidies, freeing up funds for essential infrastructure development.

Second, the scheme is expected to generate large-scale employment, with over one lakh people required to be trained to install and maintain solar panels. This will not only create new jobs but also develop a skilled workforce in the renewable energy sector. Third, by increasing solar energy production, the scheme will help India reduce its

contributing to the country's efforts to combat climate change. Rooftop solar panels are an environmentally friendly alternative to coal-based power plants, and their widespread adoption will significantly reduce carbon emissions. By encouraging households to invest in solar energy, the scheme not only reduces the burden on state budgets but also contributes to India's renewable energy goals. The widespread adoption of rooftop solar panels has the potential to transform the energy landscape, providing households while helping India move closer to achieving its environmental objectives. (The writer is Professor,

PGDAV College, University of Delhi; views are personal)

FBI arrests Afghan man for planning Election Day attack in US

≺he FBI has arrested an Afghan man who officials say was inspired by the Islamic State militant organisation and was plotting an Election Day attack targeting large crowds in the US, the Justice Department said on Tuesday.

Nasir Ahmad Tawhedi, 27, of Oklahoma City told investigators after his arrest Monday that he had planned his attack to coincide with Election Day next month and that he and a co-conspirator expected to die as martyrs, according to charging documents. Tawhedi, who arrived in the US in

September 2021, had taken steps in recent weeks to advance his attack plans, including by ordering AK-47 rifles, liquidating his family's assets and buying one-way tickets for his wife and child to travel home to Afghanistan, officials said.

The arrest comes as the FBI confronts heightened concerns over the possibility of extremist violence on US soil, with Director Christopher Wray telling The Associated Press in August that he was "hard pressed to think of a time in my career where so many different kinds of threats are all elevated at once". Terrorism is still the FBI's number one

priority, and we will use every resource to

protect the American people," Wray said in a statement on Tuesday.

An FBI affidavit does not reveal precisely how Tawhedi came onto investigators' radar, but cites what it says is evidence from recent months showing his determination in planning an attack. A photograph from July included in the affidavit depicts a man investigators identified as Tawhedi reading to two young children, including his daughter, "a text that describes the rewards a martyr receives in the afterlife". Officials say Tawhedi also consumed Islamic State propaganda, contributed to person who the FBI determined from a prior investigation was involved in recruitment and indoctrination of people interested in extremism. He also viewed webcams for the White House and the Washington Monument in July.

Tawhedi's alleged co-conspirator was not identified by the Justice Department, which described him only as a juvenile, a fellow Afghan national and the brother of Tawhedi's wife.

After the two advertised the sale of personal property on Facebook, the FBI enlisted an informant last month to respond to the offer and strike up a relationship. The informant later invited them to a gun range, where they ordered weapons from an undercover FBI official who was posing as a business partner of the informant, according to court papers. Tawhedi was arrested Monday after tak-

ing possession of two AK-47 rifles and ammunition he had ordered, officials said. The unidentified co-conspirator was also arrested but the Justice Department did not provide details because he is a juvenile.After he was arrested, the Justice Department said, Tawhedi told investigators he had planned an attack for Election Day that would target large gatherings of

Tawhedi was charged with conspiring and

attempting to provide material support to the Islamic State, which is designated by the US as a foreign terrorist organisation. The charge is punishable by up to 20 years in prison.

He appeared in court Tuesday and was ordered detained. An email to an attorney listed as representing him did not imme-

diately return an email seeking com-

It was not immediately clear if he had a lawyer who could speak on his behalf. A for-sale sign stood in the yard outside a modest, two-story brick home listed as being connected to Tawhedi's family in the Oklahoma City suburb of Moore.

CANARA BANK केनरा बैंक Canara Bank 📣 JANAKPURI, BRANCH

DEMAND NOTICE (SECTION 13(2))

M/S ALBATROSS PARCEL EXPRESS PVT. LTD. (BORROWER) ADD:- 4B/33, 1" FLOOR, TILAK NAGAR NEW DELHI-110018

Mr. TUSHAR GUPTA S/O KAILASH GUPTA (GUARANTOR) ADD:- J-21, GANGA RAM VATIKA TILAK NAGAR, WEST DELHI, DELHI-110018 Mrs. MEENA GUPTA W/O KAIL ASH GUPTA (GUARANTOR)

ADD:- H. NO. RL 26, FIRST FLOOR, GANGA RAM VATIKA TILAK NAGAR, NEW DELHI. DELHI-110018

Dear Sir / Madam Sub: Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financia

Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of Canara Bank, JANAKPURI Branch (hereinafte eferred to as "the secured creditor"), appointed under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (hereinafter referred as the *Act' do hereby issue this notice to you as under

That M/S ALBATROSS PARCEL EXPRESS PVT. LTD. (hereinafter referred to as "the Bor has availed credit facility / facilities stated in the Schedule A hereunder and has entered into the security agreement/s in favour of the secured creditor. While availing the said financial assistance you have expressly undertaken to repay the loan amount's in accordance with the terms an

That Mr. TUSHAR GUPTA AND Mrs. MEENA GUPTA (hereinafter referred to as "the Guaranto has guaranteed the payment on demand of all moneys and discharge all obligations and liabiliti owing or incurred to the secured creditor by the Borrower for credit facilities up to the limit of Rs 2,40,50,000/- (Rupees Two Crore Fourty Lakhs Fifty Thousand Only) with interest thereon. You which are detailed in Schedule B hereunder.

However, From June 2024 the operation and conduct of the said financial assistance / cred acilities have become irregular. The books of account maintained by the secured assets shows th the liability of the Borrower towards the secured creditor as on date amounts to Rs 87,27,930.53 (Rupees: Eighty Seven Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty and Paisa Fifty Schedule C hereunder. It is further stated that the Borrower/Guarantor having failed to keep up will the terms of the above said agreement in clearing the dues of the secured creditor within the tim financial assistance / credit facility/ies having come to a standatill and as a consequence of the default committed in repayment of principal debt/ installment and interest thereon, the secure creditor was constrained to classify the debt as Non Performing Asset (NPA) as on 02.10.2024 in accordance with the directives/guidelines relating to asset classification issued by the Reser-

neglected to repay the said dues/ outstanding liabilities and hence hereby demand you unde Section 13(2) of the Act, by issuing this notice to discharge in full the liabilities of the Borrower as stated in Schedule C hereunder to the secured creditor within 60 days from the date of receipt o this notice. Further, it is brought to your notice that you are also liable to pay future interes at the rate of Interest as mentioned in Schedule C per annum together with all costs, charges expenses and incidental expenses with respect to the proceedings undertaken by the secure

creditor in recovering its dues. Please take note of the fact that if you fail to repay to the secured creditor the aforesaid sum of R 87,27,930.53 (Rupees: Eighty Seven Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty and Paisa Fifty Three Only), logether with further interest and incidental expenses and costs a stated above in terms of this notice under Section 13(2) of the Act, the secured creditor will exercise all or any of the rights detailed under sub-section (4)(a) and (b) of Section 13, the extract of which it

given here below to convey the seriousness of this issue: 13(4)- In case the Borrower/Guarantor fails to discharge liability in full within the period sp

(2), the secured creditor may take recourse to one or more of the following measures to recover h ecured debt, namely

(a) Take possession of the secured assets of the Borrower/Guarantor including the right to by way of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured asset;
(b) Take over the management of the business of the Borrower including the right to transfer by wa

of lease, assignment or sale for realizing the secured asset: Provided that the right to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale shall be exerci

the substantial part of the business of the Borrower is held as security for the debt. Provided further that where the management of whole of the business or part of the business is severable, the secured creditor shall take over the management of such business of the borrowe

which is relatable to the security for the debt; and under other applicable provisions of the said Act.

Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time You are also put on notice that in terms of section 13(13) the Borrower/Guarantor shall no

transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise the said secured assets detailed in Schedule B hereunder without obtaining written consent of the secured creditor. It is further brought to your notice that any contravention of this statutory injunction/ restraint, as provided under the said Act, is an offence and if for any reason, the secured assets are sold or leased out in the ordinary course of business, the sale proceeds or income realized shall be deposited with the secure creditor. In this regard you shall have to render proper accounts of such realization / income. This notice of Demand is without prejudice to and shall not be construed as waiver of any other right or remedies which the secured creditor may have including further demands for the sums found du

This is without prejudice to any other rights available to the secured creditor under the Act and/or an

Please comply with the demand under this notice and avoid all unpleasantness. In case of Non compliance, further needful action will be resorted to, holding you liable for all costs and

SCHEDULE A [Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

SI No	Loan No	Nature of Loan/Limit	Date of sanction	Amount
1.	90541400000212	ODBD LIMIT	31.12.2022	1,48,00,000.00
2.	170002471050	GECL (EXTENSION)	30.11.2021	22,50,000.00
3.	90547830000136	SYND MORTGAGE	11.03.2016	25,00,000.00
4.	90549160000311	GECL	05.09.2020	45,00,000.00
			TOTAL	2,40,50,000.00

SCHEDULE B [Details of security assets]

IMMOVABLES

ı	SI No	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY	NAME OF TITLE HOLDER	CERSAI DETAILS	
	1	All the part & parcel of the Residential Flat, Measuring 138.91 sq. mtr. Entire 1" Floor (Without Roof Rights), Built on Property Bearing Plot no. 39, Block-B, Known As B-39, Pushpanjali Enclave, Pitampura, New Delhi-110034 Boundaries:- East:-9.00 Mtr. Wide West:-Property No. B-38 North:-Service lane South:-9.00 Mtr. Wide		Asset Id- 200013299074 Security Interest Id-400013327106	
	2	All Part & parcel of the Property located at 1" Floor Flat (Duplex Floor). Flat No. RL/26 Chaukhandi Village, Ganga Ram Vatika, Najafgarh Road, Tilak Nagar, New Delhi-110018 Measuring: -125.42 sq mtrs Boundaries: - East: - Service Lane West: - Road/Park North: - Property No. RL-28 South: - Property No. RL-27		Asset Id- 200003667636 Security Interest Id- 100001713202	

MOVABLES

HYPOTHECATION OF BOOK DEBTS M/S ALBATROSS PARCEL EXPRESS PVT. LTD.

200053926934

ODBD LIMIT	58.08.193.15	13.85% P.A. + (Penal Interest)
		13.65% P.A. + (Penal Interest)
GECL (EXTENSION)	18,48,965.72	9.25% P.A. + (Penal Interest)
SYND MORTGAGE	8,50,347.77	11.70% P.A. + (Penal Interest)
GECL	2,20,423.89	9.25% P.A. + (Penal Interest)
TOTAL	87,27,930.53	
	I WE THEN	I TO THE STATE OF

Yours faithfully **AUTHORIZED OFFICEI**

a charity that functions as a front for the militant group and communicated with a Three share Nobel prize

in chemistry

AP STOCKHOLM

The Nobel Prize in chemistry was awarded Wednesday to David Baker, Demis Hassabis and John Jumper for their breakthrough work predicting and designing the structure of proteins, the building blocks of life. Heiner Linke, Chair of the Nobel Committee for Chemistry, said the award honoured research that made connections between amino acid sequence and protein structure.

'That was actually called a grand challenge in chemistry, and in particular in biochemistry, for decades. So, it's that breakthrough that gets awarded today," he said. Baker works at the University of Washington in Seattle, while Hassabis and Jumper both work at Google Deepmind in London. Baker designed a new protein in 2003 and his research group has since produced one imaginative protein creation after another, including proteins that can be used as pharmaceuticals, vaccines, nanomaterials and tiny sensors, the Nobel committee

The number of designs that they have, produced and published, and ... the variety is

absolutely mind blowing. It seems that you can almost construct any type of protein with this technology," said Professor Johan Åqvist of the Nobel committee.

Hassabis and Jumper created an artificial intelligence model that has been able to predict the structure of virtually all the 200 million proteins that researchers have identified, the committee added. Linke said scientists had long dreamt of predicting the three-dimensional structure of proteins.

"Four years ago in 2020, Demis Hassabis and John Jumper managed to crack the code. With skillful use of artificial intelligence, they made it possible to predict the complex structure of essentially any known protein in nature," Linke said.

"Another dream of scientists has been to build new proteins to learn how to use nature's multitool for our own purposes. This is the problem that David Baker solved," he added. "He developed computational tools that now enable scientists to design spectacular new proteins with entirely novel shapes and functions, opening endless possibilities for the greatest benefit to humankind."

INDAG RUBBER LIMITED (CIN: L74899DL1978PLC009038)

Regd. Office: Khemka House ,11, Community Centre Saket, New Delhi-110017. Phone: 011-26963172/73 Fax No.: 011-26856350 E-mail Id:- info@indagrubber.com.Website: www.indagrubber.com NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of Section 201(2)(b) of the Companies Ac 2013 (the "Act"), Indag Rubber Limited (the "Company") intends to make an application to the Central Government under Section 196 read with Schedule V and other applicable provisions o the Act for seeking its approval for re-appointment of Mr. Nand Lal Khemka (DIN: 00211084), Non-resident Indian, as the Chairman cum Managing Director of the Company, for a period of

ears effective from 1st April, 2025. his notice shall also be available on the website of the Compan

he website of Stock Exchange i.e. BSE Limited. By order of the Board Place: New Delhi

For Indag Rubber Limited

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: October 9, 2024

Flat Unit No 12046 Floor 4th Tower - 12 Happy Trails, Greater Noida (West) was booked in the name of Mr. Shashi Bhushan Prasad S/o Late Chandra Bhushan Prasad and Nirmala Devi, S/o Ram Lakhan Sahu. Mrs Nirmala Devi expired on 18/01/2021 Regarding mentioned property the name of Nirmala Devi Who is also co allottee of this property is being noted as Primary allottee in M/s Shridhara Infratech Pvt. Ltd. records in respect of captioned unit. If anybody has any objection to this, he or she may approach M/s Shridhara Infratech Pvt. Ltd. within 21 days of publication of this notice at address, ATS Tower, Plot No. 16. 2nd Floor, Sector-135, Noida 201305 Ph. 91-120-7111500

PUBLIC NOTICE Reg: Entire Second Floor with roof/terrac ights (i.e. the said floor), out of Propert earing No. B-4 and B-5, built on land are measuring 151.56 sq. yds. out of total are measuring 300 sq. yds., situated in the area of the colony known Village Bassai Darapur, in the colony know as Janta Colony, Shivaji Vihar, New Delhi hereinafter referred to as "said property." hereinafter referred to as "said property."

Be it known to all that our clients, Mrs Isha Dudeja, Mr. Manish Dudeja and Mr. Anil Kumar (hereinafter called the "Purchaser") intend to purchase the said floor from Mrs Taranjeet Kaur Batra @ Taranjeet Kaur (hereinafter called the "Seller"). In this connection, the seller has informed the purchaser that she is the sole and absolute owner of the said floor. The seller has further informed the purchaser that the said floor was owned by Mrs Taranjeet Kaur Batra and Mr. Baldev Singh Sachdeva vide Sale Deed registered as Document No. 8825 on 02.05.2011 (SR-II Janakpuri). Later on, Mr. Baldev Singh expired and his share in the said Saldev Singh expired and his share in the said loor devolved on his legal heirs viz., Mr Sukhvinder Singh Sachdev and Mrs Taranjeet Kaur, Subsequently, Mr. Sukhvinder Singh relinquished his share in the said floor in tavour of Mrs Taranjeet Kaur Batra @ Taranjeet Kaur vide Relinquishment Deed registered as Document No. 2024/22/I/12819. 18 Dok No. I, Volume No. 29014, pages 85-96, registered on 27.09.2024. (SRO- West Basai Darapur). Thus, Mrs. Taranjeet Kaur Batra @ Taranjeet Kaur (present seller) became the sole and absolute owner of the said floor. The seller has also informed the purchaser that the said floor is not mortgaged anywhere and there is no charge or dispute or any litigation pending regarding the said floor. Any person including Bank/s, Financial ingh relinguished his share in the said floor Any person including Bank/s. Financi Institution/s. relative/s having any claim, righ title or any interest of any nature whatsoeve into or upon the aforesaid floor is hereby calle into or upon the aforesaid floor is hereby called upon to make the same known, in writing, with documentary evidence, by Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 07 days of publication of this notice and in the event of no response having been received to the notice, the title of the seller to the said floor shall be deemed to be clear of any charge or encumbrance of any nature whatsoever and any subsequent claim shall not bind our clients/Purchaser, in any manner whatsoever. Shivkant Arora, Advocate
Wis Intellective Law Offices
A-74, LGF, Defence Colony,
New Delhi-110024

New Delhi-110024

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE lr. Krishan Sharma Alias Mr. Kishan & Mr. De DADRI, DISTRICT: GAUTAM BUDH NAGA J.P., by virtue of Gift deed dated 30.10.2023, regd. Ooc. No. 45768 & Giff deed dated 26.09.2024, regd. Ooc. No. 5103, respectively, and same to be finan y SMFG India Credit Company Limited Gene bublic hereby informed that if anybody has a

narge/interest/title in the said property or any kind ispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on elow mentioned address within 07 days of the prese below mentioned address within 07 days of the pr Mrs. Prasoon Lata & Rahui Raj Pathak, Ad SG Associates (Law FF 18, Lotus Pond Plaza. Vaibhav Khand, Indirapuram, Ghazi E-mail: sgassociatesp1/g gmail.com, Ph: 7011172764, 0120

Reg: Property bearing No. C-412, adm. 50.16 sq. mtrs. i.e. 60.00 sq. yrds. out of Khasra no. 843 & 838. situated at Village Ghonda Gujran Khadar in the abadi of C-Block, Gandrs. in the abadi of C-Block, Gandrows in the side property be it known to all that our client, Mr. Akhilesh Jha (hereinafter called the said property from Mrs. Archana Gupta W/o Mr. Pawan Gupta(hereinafter called the "Purchaser") in this connection, the seller has informed the purchaser that she is the sole and absolute owner of the said property vide Gift Deed executed by Mr. Pawan in her favour. The said Gift Deed is registered as Document No. 3179, Book No. I, Volume No. 5703, pages 33-47, on 09.10.2023 (SRO-IV). The seller further informed the purchaser that the said property was owned by Mr. Pawan vide Sale Deed executed by Mrs Durga Devi in his favour and registered as Document No. 1551 dated 07.07.2023. The seller has also informed the purchaser that the said property is not mortgaged anywhere and there is no charge or dispute or any litigation pending regarding the said property.

Any person including Bank/s, Financial Institution/s, relative/s having any claim, right, title or any interest of any nature whatsoever into or upon the aforesaid property is hereby called upon to make the same known, writting, with documentary evidence, by

called upon to make the same known, writing, with documentary evidence, Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the same known, writing, with documentary evidence, and the same known with the same known and the same known and the same known with the same known and the same known with the same known and the same known with the same known with the same known, with the same known, which is the same known, which is the same known, writing, with documentary evidence, and the same known, which is the same known, which is the same known with the same known wi Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 07 days of publication of this notice and in the event of no response having been received to the notice, the title of the seller to the said property shall be deemed to be clear o any charge or encumbrance of any nature whatsoever and any subsequent claim shall not bind our client/Purchaser, in any manner whatsoever.

Shivkant Arora, Advocate M/s Intellective Law Offices A-74, LGF, Defence Colony, New Delhi-110024

UK auction house withdraws sale of 'Naga Human Skull' amid outcry

AUK auction house has withdrawn a 'Naga Human Skull' from its lots for a live online sale on Wednesday following outcry in India over the issue.

The Swan auction house at Tetsworth in Oxfordshire had a series of skulls and other remains originating from around the world as part of 'The Curious Collector Sale, Antiquarian Books, Manuscripts & Paintings. The '19th Century Horned Naga Human Skull, Naga Tribe' was slotted as Lot No. 64 and resulted in protests in Nagaland, led by Chief Minister Neiphiu Rio who sought the intervention of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to stop the hurtful sale. "The news of the pro-posed auction of Naga human remains in the UK has been received by all sections in a negative manner as it is a highly emotional and sacred issue for our people. It has been a traditional custom of our people to give the highest respect and honour for

the remains of the demised," said Rio in his letter.

He urged the minister to take up the matter with the High Commission of India in London so that steps are taken to ensure that the auction of the skull can be stopped after the Forum for Naga Reconciliation (FNR) raised concerns over the mat-

This piece would be of particular interest to collectors with a focus on anthropology and tribal cultures," reads the description of the auction lot, listed for an opening bid of GBP 2,100 (Rs 23 lakh approximately) with the auctioneer's estimate expecting it to fetch as much as GBP 4,000 (Rs 43 lakh approximately).

Its provenance is traced back to the collection of 19th century Belgian architect Francois Coppens. The FNR asserted that the auction of

the human remains contravenes Article 15 of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), which says: "Indigenous Peoples have a right to the dignity and diversity of their cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations which shall be appropriately reflected in education and public information." FNR then contacted the auction house directly to condemn the sale and to call for the object to be repatriated to Nagaland. The organisation is one of many indigenous groups from across the world that is currently in dialogue with the Pitt Rivers Museum in Oxford about artefacts held in the museum's collection. Laura Van Broekhoven, director of the museum, told the BBC she was "outraged" at some of these items

going up for auction.
"The fact these objects were taken is really painful, and the fact that they were being put on sale is really dis-respectful and inconsiderate," said Broekhoven.

We're conscious that the remains would have been collected in the 19th and 20th centuries, but for them to be on sale in 2024 was quite shock-

45TH ASEAN SUMMITS AND RELATED

9 OCTOBER 2024, VIENTIANE, LAO PDR



(From left to right) Myanmar's Foreign Ministry Permanent Secretary Aung Kyaw Moe, Philippine's President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., Singaporean Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, Prime Minister Paetongtarn Shinawatra, Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh, Laos' President Thongloun soulith, Laos' Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone, Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, Cambodian Prime Ministe Hun Manet, Indonesian Vice President Ma'ruf Amin, and East Timorese Prime Minister Xanana Gusmao hold hands during the opening ceremony of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN) Summit in Vientiane, Laos on Wednesday.

Time to evacuate is running out as hurricane closes in on Florida

AP TAMPA (US)

Hurricane Milton churned Wednesday toward a potentially catastrophic collision along the west coast of Florida, where some residents insisted they would stay after millions were ordered to evacuate and officials warned that stragglers would face grim odds of surviv-

The Tampa Bay area, home to more than 3.3 million people, faced the possibility of widespread destruction after avoiding direct hits from major hurricanes for more than a century. The National Hurricane Center predicted Milton, a Category 5 hurricane during much of its approach, would likely weaken but remain a major hurricane when it makes landfall late Wednesday or early Thursday.

"Milton has the potential to be one of the most destructive hurricanes on record for west-central Florida," the center warned.

Milton was centered about 485 kilometers southwest of Tampa early Wednesday with maximum sustained winds of 260 kph, the hurricane center reported. Ît was moving northeast at 22 kph early Wednesday and was expected to continue moving in that direction with an increase in its forward speed through Wednesday night, with landfall expected late Wednesday or early Thursday morning. It was expected to turn toward the east-northeast and east on Thursday and Friday. Heavy rain was beginning to spread

across parts of southwestern and west-central Florida ahead of Milton early Wednesday, and weather conditions were expected to deteriorate across parts of the Florida Gulf Coast throughout the day, the center said. Six to 12 inches of rain, with localized totals up to 18 inches, were expected across central to



Forecasters predicted the storm will retain hurricane strength as it crosses central Florida on Thursday on a path east toward the Atlantic Ocean. The hurricane's precise track remained uncertain, as forecasters Tuesday evening nudged its projected path slightly south of Tampa. Thousands of fleeing cars clogged Florida's highways ahead of the storm, but time for evacuations was running out Wednesday. Tampa Mayor Jane Castor noted that up to 15 feet of storm surge forecast for her city would be deep enough to swallow an entire house. "So if you're in it, basically that's the coffin that you're

in," Castor said. Milton targets communities still reeling two weeks after Hurricane Helene flooded streets and homes in western Florida along its devastating march that left at least 230 dead across the South.

In the bayside town of Punta Gorda, about 160 kilometers south of

Tampa, streets were still filled Tuesday with 5-foot piles of soggy furniture, clothing, books, appliances and other trash dragged from Many homes sat vacant, but accoun-

tant and art collector Scott Joiner remained on the second floor of the New Orleans-style home he built 17 years ago. Joiner said bull sharks swam in the flooded streets and a neighbor had to be rescued by canoe when Helene passed and flooded the first floor of his home.

Water is a blessing to have," Joiner said, "but it is very deadly." Joiner said he planned to go anoth-

er round and ride out Milton, despite the risk. Authorities have issued mandatory

evacuation orders across 11 Florida counties with a combined population of about 5.9 million people, according to US Census Bureau estimates. Officials have warned that anyone staying behind must fend for themselves, as first responders are not expected to risk their lives attempting rescues at the height of the storm. In Riverview, south of Tampa, several drivers waiting in a long line for fuel Tuesday said they had no plans

North Korea vows to block border with | Ishiba dissolves Japan's lower house South, build defence structures

North Korea said Wednesday it will permanently block its border with South Korea and build frontline defense structures to cope with "confrontational hysteria" by South Korean and US forces, while not announcing an expected constitutional revision to formally designate South Korea its principal enemy and codify new national borders.

While the moves were likely a pressure tactic, it's unclear how they will affect ties with South Korea since cross-border travel and exchanges have been halted for years. North Korea's military said it will "completely cut off roads and railways" linked to South Korea and "fortify the relevant areas of our side with strong defense structures. according to the North's official Korean Čentral News Agency. The North's military called its steps a "self-defensive measure for inhibiting war and defend-ing the security" of North

Korea. It said that "the hostile ing ties on the northern side of forces are getting ever more reckless in their confrontational hysteria." It cited what it called various war exercises in South Korea, the deployment of US strategic assets and its rivals' harsh rhetoric.

South Korea's military said later Wednesday that it won't tolerate any attempt by North Korea to change the status quo. It said South Korea will "overwhelmingly punish" North Korea if it launches provocations. A South Korean military statement said North Korea's nuclear and missile programs have threatened peace on the Korean Peninsula. South Korean officials earlier said North Korea had already been adding anti-tank barriers and reinforcing roads on its side of the border since April in a likely attempt to boost its frontline security posture and prevent its soldiers and citizens from defecting to South Korea. In a report to parliament on Tuesday, South Korea's Unification Ministry said that

cross-border railways and nearby lamps and planting mines along the border.

KCNA earlier Wednesday said the Supreme People's Assembly met for two days this week to amend the legal ages of North Koreans for working and participating in elections. But it didn't say whether the meeting dealt with leader Kim Jong Un's order in January to rewrite the constitution to remove the goal of a peaceful Korean unification, formally designate South Korea as the country's "invariable principal enemy" and define the North's sovereign, territorial

At the centre of outside attention was whether North Korea makes new legal claims on the waters currently controlled by South Korea off their west coast. The poorly marked western sea boundary is where three bloody naval skirmishes and two deadly attacks blamed on North Korea happened in the past 25 years. Some experts say North Korea

might have delayed the constitutional revision but others speculated it amended the constitution without announcing it because of its sensitivity.

Kim's order stunned many North Korea watchers because it was seen as breaking away with his predecessors' longcherished dreams of achieving a unified Korea on the North's terms. Experts say Kim likely aims to diminish South Korea's voice in the regional nuclear standoff and seek direct dealings with the US. They say Kim also likely hopes to diminish South Korean cultural influence and bolster his rule at home.

Tensions on the Korean Peninsula are at their highest point in years, with North Korea continuing a run of provocative weapons tests and South Korea and the US expanding their military drills. KCNA said North Korea on Tuesday tested a longrange artillery system that observers say pose a direct threat to Seoul, the South Korean capital, which is only an hour's drive from the border.

Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba dissolved Japan's lower house of parliament Wednesday to set up an October 27 early election and seek the voters' mandate for his 9-day-old government. Ishiba took office last week as Fumio Kishida resigned after three years leading the governing Liberal Democratic Party as it was corruption scandals. With the early election, Ishiba is seeking to secure his governing party a house majority while he is still fresh and before the congratulatory mood fades. The move has been criticised as prioritising an election rather than policies and for allowing little debate. But opposition has

remained too fractured to

(Bihar), P.L. No.-33500137.

Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.- 6505012.

(Bihar). P.L. No.- 60060517.

P.L. No.- 60060281.

of power. Ishiba announced his plans for an election even before he

won the party leadership vote and became prime minister. His Cabinet planned later Wednesday to formally announce the election date and the start of campaigning next Tuesday. Ishiba and his Cabinet will stay in office until they win the election and are reappointed. The the house, Nukaga, speaker of Fukushiro announced the dissolution of the lower, more powerful of the two parliamentary chambers at a plenary session. All 465 lawmakers stood up, chanted "banzai" and rushed out of the assembly room. Official campaigning begins next Tuesday. "We will act fairly and

push the governing party out squarely in order to win the people's endorsement for the current administration," Ishiba told reporters. "Even while the lower house

is dissolved the Japanese government must fully function" in tackling national security, disaster response and deflation, he said. "We will devote all our body and soul for the people." Ishiba is to explain the

election plans at a news conference late Wednesday, just before heading to Laos to make his diplomatic debut at the Association of Southeast Asian Nations summit.

Opposition leaders have criticized him for rushing to hold an election allowing only three days parliamentary debaté on his policies and before achieving any results. Even though opposition

topple the governing party's almost uninterrupted postwar rule, the first public support ratings for Ishiba as prime minister were around 50% or even lower, the lowest levels for a new leader, according to Japanese media. Ishiba is increasingly seen as backpedaling on a number of proposals he previously advocated so he won't create controversy ahead of the election.

In his first policy speech at parliament Friday, he did not touch on his goal of establishing a stronger regional military framework and a more equal Japan-US security alliance, a dual surname option for married couples, and other issues seen as controversial or opposed by conservatives within the governing party.

STORES E-PROCUREMENT

Tender Notice No.: S/22/2024-25; Dated: 08-10-2024. E-Tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works:

SN. 1; Tender No. 60/23/5049A/OT/178/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 14-10-2024

Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: (1) Combined Airless Centrifugal Shot Blasting and Shot Peening Plant for coil spring and laminated spring coil [Warranty Period: 24 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/ MWS/DBWS, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-654401390010, (2) Cost of concomitant accessories according to tender specifications, [Inspection Agency TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/MWS/DBWS, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-65440140. (3) Cost of any other accessory which in the opinion of supplier is essentially required for making the machine fully functional. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No. Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/MWS/DBWS, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-65440141. (4) Optional accessories with break up of individual items as specified in clause 4.4 of Section-IV. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-1 Set for SSE/ MWS/DBWS, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-65440144. (5) Spares for 2 years normal operation and maintenance as per clause 5 of Section-V. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/MWS/DBWS, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-65440145. (6) Consumables as per clause 6 of Section-V with break up of individual items as applicable. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qtv- 1 Set for SSE/MWS/DBWS, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-65440146. (7) Cost of comprehensive AMC for five years after the warranty as per clause 17. AMC will be started as required by consignee. [Warranty Period: years, AMC Period: 5 years, Rate of Discounting: 10% Start After Year:2] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: AMC]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/MWS/DBWS, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-65440139.

SN. 2; Tender No. 30/24/1329/OT/179/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 15-10-2024

Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qtv: Set for control arm for LHB bogies consisting of (1) Control Arm Lower Left, Drg. no. FIAT 1267716 ver 00R2 of latest. (2) Control arm upper to FIAT Drg No. 1277122 Ver-01R3 or latest Mat Spec:- 17.334 100 06/107/01, Amnd.01, MDTS-166 Rev-02, IS:1865-91 SG 400/18L. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. (i) Qty- 140 Nos for Dibrugarh Town Workshop Depot, NFR, (Assam). (ii) Qty: 60 Nos for Pandu, GSD, NFR (Assam) (iii) Qty:1632 Nos for New Bongaigaon Workshop Depot, NFR (Assam). (iv) Qty: 20 Nos for New Jalpaiguri GSD, NFR (West Bengal). (v) Qty: 13 Nos for Katihar GSD, NFR

SN. 3; Tender No. 60/24/5059/OT/180/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 16-10-2024

Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: (1) Electric Driven Screw Air Compressor (500cfm) 10 Kg/cm2. [Warranty Period: 24 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1 set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam). P.L. No. 650500072377. (2) Cost of Comprehensive AMC for five years after the warranty as per clause 17. [Warranty Period: 2 years, AMC Period: 5 years Rate of Discounting: 10%, Start after year:2] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: AMC]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.- 65050014. (3) Cost of concomitant accessories according to tender specifications. [Inspection Agency: CONSG Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.- 65050007. (4) Cost of any other accessory which in the opinion of supplier is essentially required for making the machine fully functional. [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P.L. No.- 65050008. (5) Cost of turnkey charges viz. foundation, installation 8 commissioning etc. [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Service]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam) P/L/ No.- 65050009. (6) Cost of Preventive Maintenance during 1st and 2nd year of warranty period. [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Service]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam). P.L. No.- 65050010. (7) The power consumption cost for 4400 hrs. of operation (Considering 2200 hrs./year i.e. for 2 years at full rated capacity as per clause 2.2. [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage insp NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Service]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/D/New Guwahati, NFR (Assam). (8) Optional accessories with break up of individual items as specified in clause 4.3 of Section-IV. [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1 Set for SSE/D/New

SN. 4; Tender No. 61/24/5326/OT/181/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 17-10-2024

Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: 1-in-12 BG 60 KG Weldable CMS Crossing (WCMSC) on PSC sleepers in accordance with RDSOs standard drawing No. T-64132 including supply of 6mm thick grooved rubber sole plates (drawing no. RDSO/T-6204 to RDSO/T-6211, RDSO/T-6843 to RDSO/T-6846), excluding standard fish plates, fish bolts and nuts, E.R Clips, insulating liner etc.[Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery, [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage insp: Yes, Stages: 1]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-190 Set for SSE/P. Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.- 60060270.

SN. 5; Tender No. 61/23/5285A/OT/182/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 17-10-2024

Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: Wide Base curve Sleepers RT- 8979 to RT - 8982 (T-8621 to T-8624). [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, I Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 1328 Nos for SSE/P. Way/SOUTH/Katihar, NFR

SN. 6; Tender No. 61/24/5310/OT/183/2024-25;

Closing/ Opening Date: 17-10-2024 Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qtv: "Manufacture & Supply of PSC Mono-Block Concrete Sleeper for 1 in 12 Turn Out (Pre-Tension Type) for BG (1673 mm) FOR Works Station Works Siding as per RDSO Drawing No. T/4218 Alt.8 (for General Layout) and part drawing there of to suit 60 Kg UIC Rail (Fan Shaped) & IRS Specification No. T-45.96 (4th revision March' 21) duly amended in accordance with the recommendations made by Track

insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 4 Set for SSE/P.Way/Buniadpur, NFR (West Bengal), P.L. No.- 600501100101. SN. 7; Tender No. 61/24/5287A/OT/184/2024-25;

Standard Committee as amended from time to time." [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage

Closing/ Opening Date: 18-10-2024 Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: :(1 in 8.5 WCMSC) 1-in-8 ½ BG 60 Kg Weldable CMS Crossing on PSC sleepers in accordance with RDSOs standard drawing No.T-6441 including supply of 6mm thick grooved rubber sole plates (drawing no. RDSO/T-6203, RDSO/T-6800, 6800/1, 6801, 6801/1), excluding standard fish plates, fish bolts and nuts, E.R. Clips, insulating liner etc. [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]

SN. 8; Tender No. 61/24/5225/OT/185/2024-25;

[Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: Yes, Stages: 1], [Item Type: Goods], Qty- 145 Set for SSE/P, Way/TD/Bongaigaon, NFR (Assam),

Closing/ Opening Date: 18-10-2024 Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: T/O 1 IN 1660 KG, RDSO DRG. NO. T-5691. (Fabricated switches [Description -11200mm O/R(Curved) Fan shaped Switch for 1 in 16 T/O for BG 60 KG (UIC) on PSC Sleepers to RDSO Drg. No. T/5692 Alt.03 as per IRS Specification IRS:T-10-2023 complete with stock rails, tongue rails and all parts with fittings including check rails as listed in the RSDO drawing but excluding Liner, Elastic rail Clip, Fish Plate & Fish Bolts, & PSC Sleeper.] and CMS Xing body [Description - CMS Crossing 1 in 16 BG for 60 Kg Rails on PSC Sleepers as per

RDSO Drg.No. T/5693 (Alt.02) complete with fittings as per specification No. IRS T-29 (Revised 2022). List of fittings to be supplied with is enclosed

as Annexure-A.] [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery]. [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. 1)

Qty-6 Set for Sr. Section Engineer/P.Way/New Haflong, NFR (Assam). 2) Qty-7 Set for SSE/P.Way/Hill/Lumding, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.-60220077. SN. 9; Tender No. 61/24/5343/OT/186/2024-25;

Closing/ Opening Date: 21-10-2024 Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qtv: 60 KG 1 IN 12 SLEEPERS T-4218 [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty-1) 35 Set for Sr. DEN/C/Katihar, NFR (Bihar). 2) Qty-78 Set for DRM/W/Alipurduar Jn. NFR (West Bengal), 3) Qty- 19 Set for DRM/W/Tinsukia, NFR (Assam), P.L. No.- 600301340013.

SN. 10; Tender No. 30/24/1281/OT/187/2024-25; Closing/ Opening Date: 22-10-2024

Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: Safety wire Rope Assembly, LHB to Drg. No. LW05105 Alt-Nil Mat. Spec.:-As per Drawing, [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: TPI, Stage Insp: No, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. 1) Qty- 4483 Nos for Dibrugarh town/ Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam), 2) Qty- 226 Nos for Pandu/GSD, NFR (Assam), 3) Qty- 6845 Nos for New Bongaigaon/Workshop/Depot, NFR (Assam). 4) Qty- 44 Nos for New Jalpaiguri/GSD, NFR (West Bengal). 5) Qty- 88 Nos for Katihar/GSD, NFR (Bihar), P.L. No.- 33500277.

SN. 11; Tender No. 61/24/5381/OT/188/2024-25;

Brief Description, P.L. No. & Qty: :Manufacture & Supply of Pre-stressed Mono-Block Concrete Sleeper for 1 in 12 Turn Out (Pre-Tension Type) for BG (1673 mm) FOR Works Station/Works Siding as per RDSO Drawing No. T/4218 Alt.8 (for General Layout) and part drawing thereof to suit 60 Kg UIC Rail (Fan Shaped) & IRS Specification No. T-45 (4th Revision March' 21) duly amended in accordance with the recommendations made by Track Standard Committee as amended from time to time [Warranty Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery] [Inspection Agency: CONSG, Stage Insp: NA, Stages: 0]. [Item Type: Goods]. Qty- 24 Set for SSE/P.Way/East/Katihar, NFR (Bihar), P.L. No.- 600400410017.

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 tenders are required to log in 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.

PCMM/ Maligaon

US plans to end Google monopoly to power its ubiquitous search and

The US Department of Justice is considering asking a federal judge to force Google to sell parts of its business in order to eliminate

its online search monopoly. In a late court filing on Tuesday, federal prosecutors also said the judge could ask the court to open the underlying data Google uses

PARADIP PORT AUTHORITY e-TENDER CALL NOTICE No. EM/PED-29/2024

No. EM/PED/TECH-09/2024/399 Date: 03/10/2026 Name of the Work: Replacement of piping, structure of Tower Monitors and replacement of silencer pipe of Diesel Pumps & DG set at North Oi Jetty. Estimated cost: Rs.1,29,43,109/ Last date & time of submission of bid: dt.27/10/2024 up to 18:00Hrs Refer our website for details https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app Sd/- Executive Engineer (E), PED-I,

Paradip Port Authority

PPA/PR/42/2024-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the General Public on behalf of our client that Mrs. Rajneshis claiming to be owner of Properly bearing No. 215-A, area measuring 270 sq.yds., out of Khasra No.126/132, situated in the area of Village Nangloi, in the abadi of Near Post office, Nangloi, Illaqa Shandara, Delhi State Delhi; vide GPA, ATS & Will dated 18.07.1988 executed by Mr. Lal Singh. All persons are hereby informed that above mentioned owner wants to sell the said property to a person who wants to obtain a loan from our client against the said property. If, any body has any objection/s upon the ownership of above owner over the said property its sale/mort-gage/filtigation, & any other objections, kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days of the present.

address within 7 days of the present Kumar & Associates (Advocates & Consultants 200, Ilad Floor, 23, Shivaji Marg, Moti Nagar, N. Delhi-15

document latest by 20th October 2024

artificial intelligence products to competitors.

North Korea has been remov-

"For more than a decade, Google has controlled the most popular distribution channels, leaving rivals with little-to-no incentive to

CONSTRUCTION OF PCEE

CONFERENCE HALL

Tender No. DYCEE-PS-MLG-

HQ-32-24-25 Dated: 08-10-2024.

E-Tenders are invited by the

undersigned for the following works:

Name of work: At Maligaon (HQ)-

Construction of PCEE Conference

Hall at Ground floor of West Block

Tender Value: ₹7.39.754/-, Earnest

Money: ₹14,800/-. Date & time of

closing of tender: 15.00 hrs. of 30-

10-2024. The complete information

with the tender document of above

e-tender will be available in website

Dy. CEE/PS/MLG/HQ

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

OF HORTICULTURE & FORESTRY BHARSAR, PAURI GARHWAL

VACANCY

Various Posts of Teaching

KVK Scientists &

Supporting staff through

advertised. For details

please visit University

www.ireps.gov.in

compete for users," the antitrust enforcers wrote in the filing. "Fully remedying these harms requires not only ending Google's control of distribution today, but also ensuring Google cannot control the distribution of

tomorrow.

To that end, the department said it is considering asking for structural changes to stop Google from leveraging products such as its Chrome browser, Android operating system, AI products or app store to benefit its search

CHANGE OF NAME

B-102, Street No. 10, Shashi Garden, Mayur Vihar, Phase-1, Delhi-110091, solemnly affirm and declare that 'Rakhi Arora' and 'Rakhi' is one and the same

PD(839)C

SIGNAL & TELECOM WORKS IN LUMDING -Tender No.: SNT-03-LMG-2024-25

vited by the undersigned for the following ork; Name of work : Reliabilit mprovement by means of Repai eplacement and Restoration of Electron Town, Dhansiri Jn.-Shokhuvi hongajan) under the jurisdiction of S DSTE/Lumding. Tender Value ₹1,08,88,332/-; Bid Security: ₹2,04,500/ Date & time of closing of tender at 15:00 ers, and opening at 15:30 hrs, or DSTE, Lumdin

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

E-AUCTION FOR SARUPATHAR PF-2 SIDE PARKING **CONTRACT OVER LUMDING DIVISION**

E-Auction for Sarupathar PF-2 side parking contract over Lumding Division. Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee. Trips/Days. 1095.

Auction Catalogue No. PARK-LMG-SZR-03

Parking Lot for Two Wheelers direct recruitment are Parking-LMG-SZRand Four Wheelers at location SARUPATHAR PF 2 SIDE in MX-32-24-2 (Parking-Mixed) Website i.e. www.uuhf.ac.in

Auction Start Date & Time: 11.00 hrs. of 24-10-2024. Auction Close Date E-Auction Leasing Module on IREPS website www.ireps.gov.in

PPGCL NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Regd Office: Shatabdi Bhawan, B12 & 13, Sector 4, Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301 Plant Adress: PO- Lohgara, Tehsil-Bara, Prayagraj (Allahabad), Uttar Pradesh-212107 Phone: +91-120-6102000/6102009 CIN: U40101UP2007PLC032835

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited invites expression of interest (EOI) from eligible vendors for Project of Supply, Installation and Commissioning of continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring System (CAAQMS) of 3x660 MW Thermal Power Plant a Prayagraj Power Generation Company Limited, Bara, Dist. Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, India. Details of pre-qualification requirements, bid security, purchasing of tender document etc. m ded using the URL- https://www.ppgcl.co.in/tenders.php Eligible vendors wil to participate may submit their expression of interest along with the tender fee for issue of bid

NORTHERN RAILWAY CORRIGENDUM

Stores Tender Notice No. 52/2024-2025 dt. 17.09.2024 at S.No. 01

Sub:-Supply of Metal Cutting Gas.

Ref:- Tender No. 14240839 Due on 09.10.2024 published vide tender Notice No. 52/2024-2025 at S.No. 01. The following Amendment is issued against the subject

Due date to be read as 18.10.2024 instead of 09.10.2024 SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE 3117/24

S. Date & time

Short Notice Inviting re-tender

No. SS/CW/RR/78/2023/276 The Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha, Assam re-invites bids for "Supply & installation of chairs for conference hall &VidyaSamiksha Kendra at State Mission Office, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19", from authorized dealers of reputed furniture

Details of the bid may be seen at e-procurement portal www.assamtenders.gov.in from 09-10-2024upto16-10-2024

The bidder must be enrolled in www.assamtenders.gov.in

Sd/-Mission Director, Samagra Shiksha Axom 👬 रामग्र शिवा Samagra Shikaha Kahilipara, Guwahati-19 anasanyog (CFi1802i 24/10-Oct-24

My client Sh. Jatin Chauhan S/o Sh. Manish Chauhan owner of a Residential Two Storey House, area measuring 200 so, yrds. Ie. 167.22 sq. mtr., out of khet no. 235, situated in Village Chhaprauli Bangar, Pargana Dadri, Tehsil & District Gautam Budh Nagar, Noida, U.P. through Registered Gift Deed Dated 25.10.2023 executed by Smt. Geeta Chauhan W/o Sh. Manish Chauhan I rawour of Sh. Jatin Chauhan S/o Sh. Manish Chauhan Vide Reg. no. 27937 at SR-GREATER NOIDA U.P. The above-mentioned property is going to be mortgage with Fed Bank Financial Services Limited. If any person / bank / financial institution having any any person / bank / financial institution having any claim / right, lien, any objection whatsoever in regard t the above property, should notified to the undersigned, Adv. Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardooma Court, Delhi-110092 along with documentary evidence under address through registered within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which any claim, lien or objection shall be deemed to have been waived. **Adv.** Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardooma Court, Delhi

REPAIR OF CLS PANEL OF

DIFFERENT MAKE & CAPACITIES E-Tender Notice No.: EL/29 14_2024/K/808; dated: 07-10-2024. Etenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: Tender No: 14 2024; Name of work: Repair of CLS Panel of different make & capacities at different locations over Katihar Division. Tender Value: ₹8,40,788.00; Earnest Money ₹16,900.00. E-tender will be closed 15:00 hrs.on 30-10-2024 and Opened at 15:30 hrs. on 30-10-2024. The complete information with the tende document of above e-tender will be in website www.ireps.gov.in.

Sr. DEE/G & Chq./Katiha NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

NORTHERN RAILWAY **NOTICE FOR E-AUCTION**

Senior Divisional Commercial Manager/Freight, Delhi Division, Northern Railway, in terms of Railway Board letter no 2022/TC(FM)/ 10/04 dated 13.06.2022, invites bids through e-Auction (www.ireps.gov.in) for leasing of parcel space of SLR compartments and Parcel Vans (on round trip basis) for a period of two years as per detail and schedule given below:

Assets to be auctioned

1.	1110.	or e-Auction			
ff // 00 // rr == 1 ::	1	10.10.2024 at 10:30 am	12005 (F1), 12038 (F1), 12055 (F1), 12057 (F1), 12148 (R1), 12212 (F1), 12418 (F1), 12481 (F1, F2 & F12630 (F1), 12780 (F1), 14006 (F1), 14714 (F1), 22421 (F2 & R1), 22995 (F1)		
	2	11.10.2024 at 10:30 am	01 LVPH (24 tonnes) on round trip basis in each train - 12226/12225, 12236/12235, 12264/12263, 12284/12283, 12425/12426, 12432/12431, 12442/12441, 12445/12446, 12454/12453, 12488/12487 (Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday), 12488/12487 (Monday, Tuesday and Thursday), 20408/2(22429/22430, 22460/22459 & 01 VP (23 tonnes) on round trip basis in train number: 22418/22417		
	3	14.10.2024 at 10:30 am	12060 (F1) (Monday and Tuesday), 12284 (F1), 12428 (F1) (Monday), 14014 (F1), 14303 (F1 & R1), 14305 (F1 & R1), 14301 (F1, F2 & R1), 22168 (R1)		
	4	15.10.2024 at 10:30 am	12011 (F1), 12017 (F1), 12029 (F1), 12040 (F1), 12148 (F1 & F2), 12455 (F1), 14041 (F1), 14053 (22454 (F1, F2 & R1)		
	5	16.10.2024 at 10:30 am	04304 (F1, F2 & R1), 12013 (F1), 12015 (F1), 12031 (F1), 12034 (F1), 12432 (F1), 12448 (F1), 12459 (F1) 14316 (F2), 15035 (F2), 22414 (F1), 22472 (F1, F2 & R1), 22654 (F1)		
	6	17.10.2024 at 10:30 am	12045 (F1), 12265 (F1), 12754 (F1), 14053 (R1), 14152 (F1), 14164 (F1), 14681 (F1), 20938 (F1 & 22401 (F1)		
	7	18.10.2024 at 10:30 am	12190 (F1), 12302 (F1), 12406 (F1), 12463 (F1), 12488 (F1), 12584 (F1), 14018 (F1), 14035 (F1, F2 & R1), 14521 (F1, F2 & R1), 15128 (F1), 18428 (F1), 22210 (F1)		
	8		12191 (F1 & F2), 12457 (F1, F2 & R1), 12918 (F1), 12963 (F1), 14507 (F1, F2 & R1), 15035 (F1 & R1), 19338 (F1), 20914 (F1), 20946 (F1), 22429 (F1), 22463 (F1)		

advised to visit https://www.ireps.gov.in/html/helpdesk/learning_centre.html. (e-Auction leasing section). 2. Earnest Money Deposit (EMD): 5% of the total contractual bid value to be deposited online during the auction. EMD of the successful bidder will be retained as Security Deposit. 3. Railway Administration reserves the full and absolute rights to short terminate these contracts at any point of time and/or for taking any decision regarding the discontinuation/continuation of these contracts with modified/additional terms and conditions depending upon the continuation/discontinuation of these trains or commencemen

22950 (F1), 22986 (F1)

22.10.2024 02564 (F1), 12050 (F1), 12066 (F1), 14041 (R1) (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and

at 10:30 am Salurday), 14041 (R1) (Sunday) 14087 (F1, F2 & R1), 14089 (F1, F2 & R1), 14303 (F2), 14305 (F2), 14731 (F1 & R1), 15060 (F1 & R1), 20473 (F1 & R1), 20488 (F1), 20938 (F2) 22168 (F1 & F2), 22542 (F1)

SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

Not appropriate to speak on rate cut now: RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das

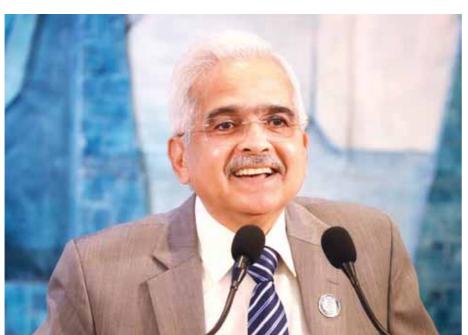
RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Wednesday said the confidence in inflation cooling down in the near future, resulting in a better balance between growth and price rise, led the central bank to change the policy stance to neutral.

He, however, made it clear that there are "significant risks" to inflation like the arising out geopolitical tensions, and it is "not appropriate" to talk about a rate cut for now.

On whether the change in stance to 'neutral' from earlier 'withdrawal of accommodation' should be seen as the RBI's pivoting, he said that it is for others to

"We have changed the stance at the moment because we see that growth and inflation, they are well poised, the balance is well poised. So, the MPC (monetary

committee) considered it appropriate, the timing is appropriate to shift the stance to neutral," he told reporters at the customary post-policy review. "We have now



confidence that inflation is held its interest rates for the moderating, but we are tenth consecutive time but acutely aware that there are changed the stance, igniting significant risks," he said, adding that the change in hopes of a decrease in rates. There was "no point" and "justification" in continuing stance gives greater flexibility with the earlier, as the RBI and optionality to the ratehas achieved what it wanted setting panel to manoeuvre to, Das said, adding that the Earlier in the day, the RBI is

"These uncertainties and the cannot underestimated.

It will be inappropriate, it will not be appropriate to specifically sort of talk in terms of timing of a rate cut," he said. Using the horse bolting out

deployed earlier to illustrate the inflation fight, Das said the RBI needs to be "very careful" about opening the gate of the stable. When asked if we should

look forward to a rate cut at the next policy review in December or even earlier, Deputy Governor Michael Patra said the whole attention is focused on the near-term hump in inflation, wherein the RBI expects the October number to come at

over 5 per cent. The RBI will focus on the near-term hump on the inflation before even thinking of the "next move", Patra said.

The central bank has decreased its estimate on crude oil prices to USD 80 per barrel from USD 85 per barrel earlier because of the softer medium-term outlook

on the commodity.
The DG said the oilproducing countries have committed to continue with supply at higher levels into 2025, expectations of lower demand made by the International Energy Agency and growing reliance on renewable energy sources.

Sensex, Nifty declines as RBI changes stance to neutral

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty pared early gains to settle lower on Wednesday due to late selling in index major Reliance Industries, ITC and HDFC Bank even as the RBI took the first step towards a rate cut in its monetary policy review. Erasing its early gains, the 30-share BSE Sensex fell 167.71 points or 0.21 per cent to close at 81,467.1. During the day, it surged 684.4 points or 0.83 per cent to hit an intraday high of 82,319.21. The NSE Nifty dropped 31.20 points or 0.12 per cent to end at 24,981.95.

In the intraday trade, it jumped 220.9 points or 0.88 per cent to hit a hit of 25,234.05.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept its key interest rate unchanged on Wednesday but took the first step towards a rate cut as it eased its relatively hawkish policy stance to 'neutral'.

The monetary policy committee, which included three RBI officials and an equal number of new external members, voted five-to-one to keep the benchmark repurchase or repo rate which governs the interest rate of home, auto, corporate and other loans - at 6.5 per cent for a 10th straight policy meeting.

Among the 30 Sensex companies, ITC, Nestle India, Hindustan Unilever, Reliance Industries, Larsen & Toubro and HDFC Bank were among

the major laggards. On the contrary, Tata Motors, Tech Mahindra, State Bank of India, Maruti Suzuki India, Bajaj Finance, Axis Bank, Bajaj Finserv and Bharti Airtel were among the

gainers. European markets were trading higher in mid-session deals. "An upward revision in Q3FY25 inflation reiterates that the sticky inflation continues to remain a concern for the RBI and led investors to book profit towards the close. The volatility in input prices and the impact on margin dragged the FMCG stocks,"

Services said. The change in RBI's stance to neutral was favourable and

Vinod Nair, Head of

Research, Geojit Financial

commentary is not pointing for a rate cut in the near term, Nair added.

Foreign Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 5,729.60 crore on Tuesday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought equities worth Rs 7,000.68 crore, according to exchange data.

In Asian markets, Shanghai, Hong Kong, and Seoul settled in negative territory while Tokyo quoted in the positive territory.

Global oil benchmark Brent Crude climbed 0.87 per cent to USD 77.85 a barrel in futures trade.

US markets ended with gains in overnight deals on Tuesday. On Tuesday, the 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 584.81 points or 0.72 per cent to close at 81,634.81. The NSE Nifty jumped 217.40 points or 0.88 per cent to finish at 25,013.15.

New PLI scheme for drones to boost industry

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government plans to come out with a new Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) scheme for the drones sector that will be more effective in terms of implementation, documentation and other

Civil Aviation Secretary Vumlunmang Vualnam on said government is looking at moving to the next PLI scheme for the drones sector. The first PLI scheme for drones, introduced in 2021 with an outlay of Rs 120 crore for three financial years starting from 2021-22, has

While acknowledging that some procedures under the first scheme were onerous on startups and Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the drone sector, the civil aviation secretary said the government will look at a more efficient PLI scheme in terms of implementation, documentation and the processes that are adopted.

According to Vualnam, the drone sector has to be segregated into three segments those for civilian use, security/ defence forces use, and the In a discussion paper, Ficci



in the future on rates.

'We have to be very clear about how we approach the three areas," he said and highlighted that certain rogue drones could become impediments when youngsters, startups and women self-help groups are to use more drones.

"We have to be cognisant of that Counter technologies developed," he said, while speaking at a conference organised by industry body

suggested that the government rogue or unregulated use of should bring counter drone systems and components under the next phase of the

PLI scheme. Rs 1,000 crore to support startups and new entrants to develop drones with more indigenous components and sub-systems.

The civil aviation secretary also said tenders are ready for procuring 3,000 more drones under the Namo Drone Didi Scheme.

The scheme seeks to provide agricultural drones to rural women and 15,000 drones will

be given to women-led self help groups. The first set of 1,000 drones have been acquired and

distributed The outlay under the new The tenders for 3,000 drones and will be issued by the agencies concerned soon

Vualnam said. Additional Director General at the Army Design Bureau Major General C S Mann stressed on the importance of indigenisation.

"We need to have truthfulness in the claims of indigenous capabilities. Only then will we be able to address the challenges.



Mercedes-Benz India sees record sales growth

PTI MUMBAI

luxury Gmanufacturer Mercedes- alone; in India grew over 13 per cent year-on-year to 14,379 units in the first nine months of 2024, registering the best-ever performance in January-September period.

The company further said the September quarter delivered over 21 per cent more cars at 5,117 units, in comparison to the corresponding quarter of the last year.

'With 14,379 new Mercedes-Benz delivered year-to-date in it stated.

January-September (+13 per cent) including 5,117 units (+21 per cent) in Q3 '24 Mercedes-Benz Benz on Wednesday said its continues to buck the he company said in a statement.

Mercedes-Benz India said the battery electric vehicle (BEV) sales logged 84 per cent growth at 800 cars in the January-April period of the year, over the same period of 2023, which was the highest than any other luxury brand in the domestic market.

At the same time, the top-end vehicles grew by 18 per cent,

Karnataka CM offers IT growth support to Maldives



PTI ■ BENGALURU

rarnataka Chief Minister **K**Siddaramaiah offered Wednesday facilitate the growth of the technology information industry in Maldives, and expressed keenness promote the state's handicraft and handloom products to tourists visiting the island Addressing a delegation led

by Maldivian President Mohamed Muizzu, who was accompanied by his wife Bhavan here, he said Karnataka, known as the Silicon Valley of India, has developed an ecosystem for start-ups, Artificial Intelligence, global capacity building centres innovation.

I am given to understand that the government of Maldives is interested in having partnerships with the leading IT industry of Bengaluru," he said. "We will be very happy to facilitate the growth of the IT industry in Maldives," he said.

Siddaramaiah said he was pleased to note that Saiidha Mohamed was a student in Bengaluru. He said the State would be

happy to have trade ties with Maldives to promote the marketing of its handicrafts and handlooms to reach out to a large number of tourists visiting the island nation. Karnataka, the Chief Minister

said, is known for its diversity of nature culture and rick heritage. Siddaramaiah noted that the

state's tourism tagline is: "One State, Many Worlds". "Apart from almost 300 km of coastline, we have the world's second largest 'Shola Forest' hosting Tiger and Bird Sanctuaries. We look forward to a partnership with Maldives to promote educational and cultural

enhances UPI Lite wallet limit to ₹ 5,000

The Reserve Bank on Wednesday announced the increase of the UPI Lite wallet limit to Rs 5,000 and per-transaction limit to Rs 1,000, in order to encourage wider adoption of the popular instant payment system through mobile phones.
A limit of Rs 500 per

transaction and an overall limit of Rs 2,000 per UPI Lite wallet, is presently applicable, with the facility of autoreplenishment. Unveiling the October bi-

monetary policy, Bank Governor Shaktikanta Das also said the per-transaction limit in UPI123Pay will be enhanced to Rs 10,000 from the current

UPI123 was launched in March 2022, with a view to enable feature-phone users to use UPI. This facility is now available in 12 languages.

In another customer-friendly initiative, Das announced a beneficiary account name look-up facility for Real Time Settlement System and National Gross (RTGS)

Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) systems will be introduced.

Payment Systems like UPI and IMPS provide a facility to the remitter to verify the name of the receiver (beneficiary) before initiating a payment transaction.

There have been requests to introduce such a facility for RTGS and NEFT systems, the Governor said.

enable "Accordingly, to enable remitters in RTGS and NEFT to to verify the name of the beneficiary account holder initiating funds

transfer, it is now proposed to introduce a beneficiary account name look-up facility," he said.

Remitters can input the account number and the branch IFSC code of the beneficiary, following which the name of the beneficiary will be displayed.

This facility will increase customer confidence as it would reduce the possibility of wrong credits and frauds, Das

The Central bank will also create 'Reserve Bank Climate Risk Information System (RB-

CRIS)' amid climate change emerging as one of the significant risks to the financial system.

Das said it is crucial for

regulated entities to undertake climate risk assessments for ensuring stability of their balance sheets and that of the financial system.

Such an assessment requires, among other things, high quality data relating to local climate scenarios, climate forecasts, and emissions, he said.

The available climate-related data is characterised by

try/Isa.com

various gaps such as fragmented and varied sources, differing formats, various frequencies and units.

To bridge these gaps, Das said the Reserve Bank proposes to create a data repository RB-CRIS comprising two parts. The first part will be a webbased directory, listing various data sources, (meteorological, geospatial, etc.) which will be publicly accessible in the RBI website.

The second part will be a data portal consisting of datasets (processed standardised formats).

Tata Power-DDL urges citizens for safe festivities

PNS NEW DELHI

Power Delhi Distribution Limited (Tata Power-DDL) has citizens of Delhi to refrain from burning effigies of Ravana, Kumbhakarna, and Meghanada near electrical installations and overhead power lines during Dussehra celebrations. The company highlights that such activities pose serious safety risks, including potential fire hazards, power outages, and disruptions to essential services, which could cause widespread inconvenience.

The discom is conducting a comprehensive safety drive for its consumers and field staff to minimize the electricity-related mishaps during the festive season. Power-DDL

continuously working towards ensuring a safer festive season. In this quest, the discom has checked more than 2.28 Lakh installations including plain cement and concrete (PCC) poles, street light, stray wires, towers, rail poles, fencing of sub stations, feeder & service pillars, PWD Poles, MCD Poles. ATMs and lights installed in parks for any unsafe situation/hazard

DDG of BAI

appointed

exchange," he added.

Deepaknath

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Deepaknath PJ on Wednesday has been appointed as the Deputy Director General of the Brewers Association of India (BAI), the apex body of the beer industry representing India's largest beer makers such as the AB InBev, Carlsberg, and the United Heineken Breweries

out of Bengaluru and would drive public policy advocacy for the beer industry in the South and West regions of India, besides co-ordinating some pre-designated pan-India initiatives. He has a strong background in beer and public policy advocacy. 'With his vast experience in beer, public policy advocacy, and a deep understanding of the regulatory policy on both beer and spirits, I am sure he would add great value to the BAI and play a key role in shaping up public discourse and regulatory policy towards beer, a more responsible and sustainable alcoholic beverage choice," said Mr Vinod Giri, DG,

INBRIEF

NASA SPACE APPS CHALLENGE 2024 CONCLUDES GURGAON: The NASA Space Apps

Challenge 2024, a 48-hour hackathon was successfully conducted on the 5th and 6th of October at the Innovation Incubation Entrepreneurship Cell (IIEC), 2nd floor of CB, VIT AP University.



VIT CHANCELLOR CALLS ON SHRI NARA LOKESH Dr. G. Viswanathan - Hon'ble Chancellor



along with Shri Sankar Viswanathan - Vice President, VIT University called on Shri Nara Lokesh - Hon'ble Minister of Information Technology, Electronics and Communications and HRD of AP to greet him. Dr.S.V.Kota Reddy - Vice Chancellor, VIT-AP University was also present on the

Flyzy to invest ₹ 10 crore in new product international players or small

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

 $F_{\text{announced an investment}}^{\text{lyzy}} \stackrel{\text{on Wednesday}}{\text{an investment}}$ of INR 10 crore in tryvisa, their new product. This platform streamlines online visa applications. Flyzy has already disrupted the traditional B2B travel industry. With this investment, the

brand is expanding in the B2C space and aims to make this product into India's largest 'Made in India' visa solutions provider, at par with global standards. visa processing present, the

dominated

either

scale companies. Tryvisa is a unique, Made in India product which will be a game changer in Indian travel-With this investment, Flyzy will provide a dedicated visa

support team documentation ensuring that the tryvisa users have a hassle free experience. It will offer the best in class

customer support, a service, Flyzy is renowned for. With the launch of this new product, Flyzy is forecasted to disrupt the travel-tech

rectifications thereof.

company). Deepaknath would be based

US Ryder Cup captain Bradley says security will be watching

S Ryder Cup captain Keegan Bradley has offered a warning about Bethpage Black that does not need a special sign by the first tee: Organisers will have security inside the ropes to make sure the New York crowd doesn't get out of control.

Bradley and European captain Luke Donald met in Manhattan for a news conference on Tuesday signally (roughly) a year out from the September 26-28 matches at Bethpage Black, the public course on Long Island with a reputation for rough crowds.
"I have total faith in the fans of

New York to cheer on their team, proudly and loudly," Bradley said. "I don't want them to cross the line, to do anything that would affect the course of play. But it's going to be a tough atmosphere. It's going to be tough for both teams."

Bradley said there would be security "monitoring situation.

"It's really important to us - the US side - that it's a fair place to play for both teams," he said.

"Nobody on either team wants this to get uncomfortable or weird out there. But listen, you come into Yankee Stadium, you come into Madison Square Garden, you come into these places, it's a tough place to play, and Luke and the boys know that.

"The PGA of America is going to do a great job making sure everything's right."

Bethpage State Park has a sign on the first tee that says, "Warning: The Black course is an extremely difficult course which we recommend only for highly skilled

Γhe skill level won't be an issue. Bradley said he is keeping the same criteria for the American team - six qualifiers through the points list, six captain's picks - and he and Donald said they wouldn't hesitate to take players from Saudi-backed LIV Golf if they are eligible. The crowd is as notorious as the difficulty of Bethpage Black, the first truly public golf course

first truly public golf course (excluding high-end resorts) to host the Ryder Cup. It previously held the US Open in 2002 and 2009, and the PGA Championship in 2019, when Brooks Koepka heard it from the crowd as he was letting a big lead slip away before holding on to win.

Sergio Garcia was heckled so badly in the 2002 US Open, when he was constantly regripping the club, that the Spaniard answered with the middle finger. And now there are American and

European flags involved at the most patriotic event in golf. It's tough on the opposing team regardless of which side of the Atlantic Ocean the matches are played, but American crowds



stand out.

Europe at least will have fans, unlike the last time on US soil at Whistling Straits when the COVID-19 pandemic made it almost an entirely US fan base.

"The Ryder Cup is special because it is spirited. Passions are high.

of

of the 14 tallest mountains (over

8,000 meters) in the world with his

Nima and his partner Pasang Nurbu

Sherpa reached the summit of the

Shishapangma, which stands at 8,027 meters above sea level, shortly after 6:00am (China Standard

Time), which is 3.30am in IST, on Wednesday, the youngster announced on his instagram page. "Today, as I stand atop my 14th 8000-meter peak, I dedicate this world record to my project, "Sharpa Power" has poeted.

"This summit is not just the

culmination of my personal journey,

but a tribute to every Sherpa who

has ever dared to dream beyond the

successful summit

Shishapangma in China.

#SherpaPower," he posted.

Energy is high," Donald said.

"You want to see that amongst the players. You certainly don't want to see the spirit of the Ryder Cup endangered in any way.

"But again, the PGA of America have things in place. If there's outbursts or if there's anything

deemed inappropriate, they will deal with that

Bradley, who won the BMW Championship in August and delivered the winning point for the Americans in the Presidents Cup last month, has said he would give up his captaincy to play the Ryder

Cup team only if he made the team on points.

That's so far out that he said it's not on his mind, though he would have assistant captains in place to take over if that's how it plays out. Koepka was the only LIV player on the American team that lost last

Rome. Rahm and Tyrrell Hatton had not yet defected to LIV. Donald said those two, or any other European-born player with LIV, could be considered as long as they met rules for being a European tour member.

As for the US points system, it rewards 1 point for every dollar earned at majors and The Players Championship in 2024, and 1 point on the dollar for every tournament in 2025 (except opposite-field events), and 1.5 points on the dollar at the 2025

Xander Schauffele, a double major winner this year, has a narrow lead over Scottie Scheffler, who won the Masters and The Players Championship. Schauffele Championship. performed better in the other two majors he didn't win.

Europe has won 10 of the last 14 times dating to 1995, though winning on the road is becoming more difficult ever since Paul Azinger persuaded the PGA of America to change its qualifying system to be based off money when he was the winning captain in 2008.

Europe's last road win was in 2012 at Medinah, when it staged a stunning rally.

"The last few times we've played away, the results have been onesided towards the US," Donald



PBG Alaskan Knights one win away from GCL final

PTI ■ LONDON

PBG Alaskan Knights were placed at the top spot with 18 match points and a win away from securing their place in the final of the Global Chess League (GCL) here.

The Knights have so far registered six victories in seven matches and are six points ahead of Triveni and Alpine SG Pipers.

the knockout stage, the Knights are in the pole position to seal a spot in the final.

Despite their comfortable standing, the Knights' Anish Giri, on top board, was cautious about his team's position. "It's not done yet, we still need to get to the final and win. But so far it's going well and I'm happy with everything, that's for sure," he

In a stunning upset earlier on Tuesday, the Mumba Masters defeated the favourites Alpine SG Pipers.

On board one, Magnus Carlsen was left reeling after a blunder in a combination allowed Maxime Vachier-Lagrave to claim victory. Visibly upset, Carlsen stormed out of the venue.

Masters Mumba capitalised on this momentum to secure a dominant 14-5 win and deliver a major blow to the Pipers' chances of closing in on the league's leaders.

day, the winners of season Triveni Continental Kings were defeated by American Gambits 14-5.

The match saw Alireza Firouzja lose the first game in the tournament - blundering in an even rook endgame against the world No 2 Hikaru Nakamura.

The day closed with the Knights confidently defeating Ganges Grandmasters 15-4. Playing as Black, the Knights started with a defeat but quickly took control of the match, winning on three Nepal's Nima Rinji Sherpa becomes youngest to scale 14 tallest peaks PTI KATHMANDU traditional boundaries set for us. Mountaineering is more than labor; Nepal's 18-year-old Nima Rinji Sherpa has become the youngest climber ever to scale each it is a testament to our strength,

resilience, and passion. Nima said he wants to show the younger generation of Sherpas that they can rise above the "stereotype of being only support climbers".

"We are not just guides; we are trailblazers. Let this be a call to every Sherpa to see the dignity in our work, the power in our heritage, and the limitless possibilities in our future," he said

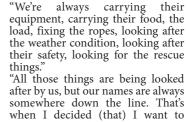
Hailing from a family of mountaineers, Nima began his quest to scale each of the 14 tallest peaks in the world at the age of 16 and 162 days when he reached the top of Mt Manaslu (8163m) in September

It was his passion for photography of the mountains that brought Nima into climbing but it soon turned out to be a passion for him to tell the



story of the Sherpa community. "Slowly, I realised, the Sherpas, my community, we have always been in

the shadows and all the international athletes that you see, no one is from Sherpa community (in the front), but we are always the ones backing them up," he told PTI in an interview in May this year.



first 7,000 metres. Perhaps the biggest achievement for the young mountaineer came when he scaled Mt Everest (8848.86m) and Mt Lhotse (8516) in a span of a mere 10 hours when he was a little over 17

climb more for this, for my

community more, rather than for

myself," said Nima, who prefers to

go without oxygen support for the

years, in May 2023. Like he did when he scaled Mt Manaslu, Nima became the youngest to climb the Nanga Parbat (8125m) In his bid to become the youngest ever, Nima went on to climb Mt Gasherbrum I (8068m), Mt Gasherbrum II (8035m), Mt Broad Peak (8047m) and Mt K2 (8,611m) in July 2023 while he reached the peak of Mt Cho-Oyu (8188m) in October 2023.

Nima had a successful year 2023 scaling the Mt Dhaulagiri (8167m) in September but took a break after four climbers died an avalanche at

Shishapangma.
"One of them was very close to me, we had climbed five mountains together in Pakistan. He was like a hero to me and a very strong Sherpa. But to know that he got caught in the avalanche and passed away, that was very tough for me," he said.

Nima returned to scaling the peaks earlier this year reaching the top of Mt Annapurna I (8091m) in April and the top of Mt Makalu (8485m) in May 4.

Lakshya Sen enters second round of Arctic Open after opponent concedes match

PTI ■ VANTAA (FINLAND)

Tndia's star shuttler Lakshya Sen I progressed to the men's singles round of 16 at the Arctic Open Super 500 tournament after his opponent Rasmus Gemke withdrew from the opening round match here on Wednesday.

Sen, who lost out on a maiden Olympic medal in Paris after defeat in the bronze medal play-off contest, will be up against the winner between seventh seed Chou Tien Chen of Chinese Taipei and qualifier Arnaud Merkle of France in the next round.

Qualifier Kiran George is the only other Indian in action on Wednesday. He will take on Tzu Wei Wang of Chinese Taipei later in the day.

Earlier on Tuesday, rising Indian shuttler



Malvika Bansod continued impressive form this year, pulling off a stunning upset against world No 23 Sung Shuo Yun of Chinese Taipei to advance to the women's singles pre-quarterfinals. The 23-year-old southpaw, who clinched

PTI NEW DELHI

ticketing system will be introduced. Fans will need to

visit the official ticketing link

and register their details to

receive a virtual ticket for

her first title in over two years at the showed her resilience in a hard-fought match, winning 21-19, 24-22 in 57

However, the challenge will intensify in the next round as the Nagpur shuttler prepares to face a former world champion in Ratchanok Intanon of Thailand in the second round.

Another promising Indian shuttler Unnati Hooda defeated Brazil's Juliana Viana Viera 21-16, 23-25, 21-17 to set up an encounter against Michelle Li of Canada.

Rising Aakarshi Kashyap had also progressed to the round of 16 on Tuesday night, beating Germany's Yvonne Li 21-19, 21-14. She will be next be up against second seed Yue Han of China.

HI ropes in PFC as title

sponsor for India versus



Kush Maini eyes for F1

RISHABH MALIK ■ NEW DELHI

 $I^{\text{ndian racer Kush Maini, a}}_{\text{rising talent in the}}$ motorsport world, continues to make headlines with his impressive performances in the 2024 FIA Formula 2 Championship. Driving for Campos Racing, Maini has shown remarkable consistency throughout the season, cementing his place as a strong contender in the highly competitive racing

series. In an event IAMGAME CONCLAVE 2024, Maini shared the future Motorsports in India what challenges one can faces if anyone wants to pursue a career in Motorsports talking about himself he shared "he was 12 when he left the country to pursue his career in Motorsports World and his family was supportive enough to make his dreams come

Currently He is contesting the competition in F2 and a member of the Alpine Academy and also prominent as a reserve driver for Mahindra Racing in Formula E. He started his season off by getting a pole position and qualifying in third place in Bahrain. In a conversation with Maini

on asking about preparation before the racing event maini shared about tackling the climate when it comes it hot race it requires cardio, lot of cycling, sauna, and do neck flexion and extension to counter the G-Force, Personal trainers are there to update the daily training patterns and look after the racers physical condition events after events. Talking about F2 to F1 future Maini stated He'll be in England next week to practicing in F1 simulator hopefully in some way we'll be able to see him in F1 grand prix not on grid but in some way, talks are going well let's see what's going to happen. Kush Maini's journey

continues to inspire aspiring racers in India, and his ongoing success in Formula 2 marks him as a driver to watch in the coming years. dedication consistent performances, he is well on his way to carving out a place for himself in the upper echelons motorsport.

Surprised at your decision to retire: Sports minister Mansukh Mandaviya writes to Karmakar

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Sports Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Thursday wrote to Dipa Karmakar conveying his surprise at her decision to retire, a couple of days after the trailblazing Indian gymnast called time on her career.

The 31-year-old Karmakar. who became the first Indian woman gymnast to represent the country at the Games in the 2016 Rio Olympics and finished fourth, announced her retirement on Monday. "I got to know about your

retirement from gymnastics. While your decision surprised me, I have full faith that you have taken this decision keeping in mind your priorities in life and the experiences that you have had. I completely respect your decision," Mandaviya wrote in a letter to Karmakar.

"Your journey in gymnastics, which began at the age of six, has been inspirational. You have scaled the highs in the sport and made the country proud despite facing so many difficulties.'

"Being awarded with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel

Ratna Award and the Padma Shri is the indication of your contribution," he Mandaviya said the whole

country is proud of Karmakar, who routinely performed the highlydifficult Produnova vault. "You added a new chapter in Indian gymnastics by

Olympics, which was not only the outcome of our hard work but it is a great matter of pride for the entire country," he added.

participating

Mandaviya said Karmakar's journey, who missed a medal at the Rio Games by 0.15 points, has inspired many young girls in the country.

sports but especially our daughters, who have got the strength to fulfill their dreams," said the union hoping minister, Karmakar would be available to share her knowledge with the young athletes sometime

in the future.

"Your achievements have not only inspired those who love Germany bilateral series accessing the Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium. HI president Dilip Tirkey said,

Hockey India on Wednesday roped in Power Finance Corporation "We are delighted to welcome Power Finance Corporation (PFC), a state-owned company that provides financial assistance to India's power sector, as the tile sponsor for the upcoming two-match (PFC) as the title sponsor for the highly-anticipated PFC India vs Germany bilateral hockey series 2024.

"This series, being played in New Delhi after a decade, is a bilateral series against Germany on October 23 and 24 in New Delhi. significant milestone, not just for the city but for Hockey India as we promote the sport This series marks the return of across the country. With the support of PFC, we look men's international hockey to the national capital after a decade. The last international forward to creating a thrilling match played at the Major Dhyan Chand Stadium was the Hero Hockey World League Final - men's round 4, back in January 2014. Under the administrative control of the leading Ministry of Power, PFC, a public sector undertaking, plays a crucial role in driving growth in the energy sector.
The two matches will be free for spectators and a free digital

atmosphere at the iconic Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium." HI secretary general Bhola Nath Singh added, "We are thrilled to have one of the state-owned companies, Power Finance Corporation (PFC), as the title sponsor for the PFC India vs Germany bilateral hockey series 2024." "Their support will strengthen Hockey India's

true". vision to grow hockey's presence in India. With PFC, we look forward to providing a top-notch experience for all hockey fans."

ROOT SURPASSES COOK AS LEADING ENGLAND RUN-SCORER IN TEST CRICKET

AP ■ MULTAN (PAKISTAN)

straight drive for four, Joe Root took another of Alastair Cook's records by becoming England's highest run-scorer in test

Root surpassed the retired Cook's total of 12,472 runs by reaching 71 during England's first incines on Day 2 of the first innings on Day 3 of the first test against Pakistan on Wednesday.

The 33-year-old Root moved to fifth place on the all-time list of test run-scorers, behind Sachin Tendulkar (15,921), Australia's Ricky (13,378),South Ponting Africa's Jacques Kallis (13,289) and India's Rahul Dravid (13,288). All four above Root are retired and within reach of a batter who said ahead of the tour to Pakistan that he had plenty left in the tank.

'The only reason it (Cook's record) is on my mind is because people keep asking me about it, to be honest," Root said. "I see myself playing test cricket for a lot longer. It's not

like I'm going to get to a certain mark or a number and say, Right, I'm done now.' I just want to keep enjoying the game, keep playing.

game, keep playing."
Root, who is technically excellent and owns pretty much all the shots, overtook Cook's record of 33 test centuries by an England batter last month when he made hundreds in both innings against Sri Lanka at Lord's against Sri Lanka at Lord's.

Ben Stokes, the England test captain who is sitting out the first match of the series because of injury, praised character and achievement in a video released by the England and Wales Cricket Board.
"The selflessness that he has is

an incredible attribute for him," Stokes said. "He always puts the team first, and the fact that he's got so many runs is just a bonus for us. He's an incredible player. It's going to take a long, long time for someone to come in and break that record. Just a great bloke. And an unbelievable feat to

score that many runs.
"But the non-selfishness that



think sets him above or sets him apart from anybody else who is going to play for England for a long time." Root waved to his teammates

soon after reaching the milestone before he raised his bat in acknowledgement. He shook hands with Stokes and bowling mentor Anderson as he walked off the field at the lunch break, with a 35th test century - and a first in Pakistan - in his sights.
Root is playing in his 147th test and came into the Pakistan

series averaging more than 50, whereas Cook made 161 test appearances and batted in 291 innings, averaging 45.35. They are England's third and

fourth most-capped players, behind now-retired fast bowlers Anderson and Stuart Broad.

Root has more runs against India than any other opposition - 2,846 in 30 tests. Next is Australia, against whom he has 2,428 in 34 tests, while his best average is against Sri Lanka at 62.54.

Root was England captain

52.80 before the captaincy, 46.45 during it, and he is back to his prior level since standing

down. The most prolific year of his test career was in 2021, when he scored 1,708 runs. He has passed 1,000 runs in a year five

times. He has settled at No. 4 in England's batting order and demonstrated during the recent summer tests against the West Indies and Sri Lanka that he has slightly reined in the bold and occasionally reckless approach he and his England teammates adopted early in the so-called "Bazball" era under coach Brendon era under coach Brendon McCullum and captain Ben Stokes. Those risky ramp shots are mostly gone — though he still got himself out attempting one against the Sri Lankans at Lord's — and he is harder to dismise for it.

Root's next big target is displacing Tendulkar — the "Little Master" — atop the all-time list and, injury permitting, he has a good

dismiss for it.



NZ batter Williamson to miss initial part of Test series against India

Senior batter Kane Williamson is set to miss the initial part of the upcoming three-Test series in India starting on October 16 due to groin strain, with New Zealand naming Mark Chapman as his cover in the 17-man squad here on Wednesday.

with a groin strain, will delay his departure to India where New Zealand will play three Tests at Bengaluru, Pune and Mumbai.

While senior batting allrounder Michael Bracewell has been roped in only for the first Test in Bengaluru, spinner Ish Sodhi will be available only for the second and third Tests.

Tom Latham will be leading the Kiwis after Tim Southee stepped aside from the leadership role a few days ago. "Williamson experienced groin discomfort during the second Test against Sri Lanka in Galle and will require a period of rehabilitation before joining the Blackcaps Test squad in India," New Zealand

Cricket said on their website. New Zealand selector Sam Wells said the decision to delay Williamson's departure to India was to give the former skipper more time to rest.

'The advice we've received is that the best course of action is Kane to rest and rehabilitate now rather than risk aggravating the injury," "We're hopeful that if the

rehabilitation goes to plan Kane will be available for the latter part of the tour. While it's obviously disappointing to not have Kane available from the start of the tour, it provides an opportunity for someone else to play a role in an important series," he added.

Chapman averages above 42 in first-class cricket in 44 matches but is yet to make his Test

"We believe Mark (Chapman) is one of our best players of spin and has a proven trackrecord in the sub-continent," said Wells. "Mark has displayed an ability

to play spin proactively in the international arena, and

combined with his excellent first-class record, we see him as someone who can succeed in the type of conditions we expect to encounter in India,"

he added.

Bracewell will return home after the first Test for the birth of his second child and will be replaced by Sodhi.

While the opening Test will be Stadium from October 16-20, the second will be held at the Maharashtra Cricket Association (MCA) Stadium in Gahunje, Pune from October

24-28 The third and final Test will be

held at the iconic Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai from November 1-5. New Zealand squad for Test series in India: Tom Latham

(c), Tom Blundell (wk), Michael Bracewell (1st Test only), Mark Chapman, Devon Conway, Matt Henry, Daryl Mitchell, Will O'Rourke, Ajaz Patel, Glenn Phillips, Rachin Ravindra, Mitchell Santner, Ben Sears, Ish Sodhi (2nd & 3rd Test only), Tim Southee, Kane Williamson, Will Young.

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Two-time Olympic gold-winning American discus thrower Valerie Allman was on Wednesday named the international ambassador of the Vedanta Delhi Half Marathon to be held here on October 20.

Allman threw 69.50 meters in the Paris Games this year to set a new American record and win the gold medal. In the previous Tokyo Games, she had finished at the top of the podium with a throw of 68.98

Her feat ended USA's wait for a gold in discus throw which they had last won in 2008. Allman, whose personal best is of 71.46 meters, is also a twoValarie Allman named Delhi Half Marathon's international event ambassador

medallist, clinching the silver in 2023 and a bronze in 2022. "The start line is not just a race; it's a celebration of camaraderie, determination,

and resilience, and a showcase of our ability to push limits and achieve achieve new personal milestones," she said in a release issued by the organisers. Paris Olympic 10,000m champion Uganda's Joshua Cheptegai and Kenya's former world record holder Peres Jepchirchir will headline



a strong elite field in the men's and women's events of the Delhi Half Marathon, which is into its 19th year. Cheptegai is the reigning world

record holder in 5000m and 10,000m events. He also holds the world's best time over the 15km distance.

A three-time world champion in 10,000m, he made his international debut in India at the TCS World 10K Bengaluru 2014, finishing second.

The event carries a prize purse of USD 260,000.

Tennis star France's Tiafoe aims tirade of expletives at umpire after loss at Shanghai Masters

US Open seminimal Frances Tiafoe aimed a torrent of expletives at the chair umpire after losing a match at the Shanghai Masters.

Tiafoe targeted umpire Jimmy Pinoargote with about 10 expletives in a minute-long tirade after his 5-7 7-5 7-6(5) loss against 61st-ranked Roman Safiullin in a third-

The ATP rule book calls for fines of \$60,000 at Masters 1000 tournaments

A tour spokesman said no decision has yet been made on the matter.

The 17th-ranked Tiafoe was angered by being docked his first serve for a time violation at 5-5 in the decisive tiebreaker.

Pinoargote judged that Tiafoe was not making a genuine attempt to serve when he tossed the ball in the air at the baseline. Tiafoe at first protested before continuing to play.

Two points later, the match was over and he congratulated Safiullin at the net before turning toward the umpire's

A-406



the case could also be sent to

Safiullin advanced to face

Novak Djokovic in the round

Tiafoe had a stellar run of

form in the summer reaching

the final of the Cincinnati

Open, where he lost to

Jannick Sinner, then reaching

the semifinals at the US Open

where he lost in five sets to

fellow American Taylor Fritz.

1. Name of the work

Total No. of Work Approximate Estimated Cost

Period of Completion

the portal for bidding

Phone-06842-253708

Date and time of opening of Tender

E-mail: rw_phulbani@yahoo.co.in

Date & Time of availability of

Last Date/ Time for receipt of

Bid documents in the Portal

for

further

Period and time of availability of bid document in

Name and address of the officer inviting bid

(1) Other details can be seen from detailed notice

Committee

investigation.

O-352

chair and shouting the first expletives. the ATP Member Fines

Tiafoe passed to the other side of the net toward his chair and shouted that the umpire had messed up the match.

The 26-year-old American said he had been battling on court for thee hours for his livelihood, peppering his words with more expletives. Before leaving the court, Tiafoe added: "Never again." Tiafoe could face fines for verbal abuse of an official and for using obscenities. The tournament can take away

eight spots with 642 rating bowler in the top 10. England's Adil Rashid continues as the top-ranked bowler in the shortest format followed by Akeal Hossain of the West Indies and Afghanistan's Rashid Khan at the second and

in the latest rankings update, with the left-arm pacer rising eight places to equal eighth on the updated list for T20I bowlers and reaching a new career-high rating following his three-wicket haul against Bangladesh," the ICC said on its website Hardik Pandya, who blasted a

16-ball 39 with five fours and two sixes, moved up seven places to reach the 60th spot

Livingstone with Nepal's Dipendra Singh Airee at the second position.

Yashasvi Jaiswal, who is not a three T20Is against Bangladesh, dropped one position to fifth and was

Anmolieet takes 9 on 'debut' as India U19 complete clean sweep vs Australia



PTI CHENNAI

Debutant off-spinner Anmoljeet Singh and legspinner Mohamed Enaan picked 16 out of 20 Australian wickets as India U-19 comfortably won by an innings and 120 runs in the second Youth Test to complete a 2-0 series sweep here on Wednesday. Australia colts lost as many as 17 wickets on the third day after commencing on their overnight score of 142 for 3 in reply to India's massive first-innings total of 492. The visitors were all out for 277

in their first essay with skipper Oliver Peake (117 off 143 balls) and keeper Alex Lee Young (66) adding 166 for the fourth wicket. After Lee Young was dismissed, the last six wickets fell for 59 runs.

Kerala boy Enaan (4/60 in 22.2 overs), who had once attended Saqlain Mushtaq's clinic in Ludhiana's and Anmoljeet (4/72 in 24 overs), who hero worships Harbhajan Singh, were the wreckers-in-

In four-day cricket, the followon can be enforced if the team batting second is trailing by show for his efforts.

more than 150 runs. India U 19 had a lead of 115 runs.

After being enforced to followon, Anmoljeet, who had taken an astounding 65 wickets in the Vijay Merchant (U-16) Trophy in the 2023 season, came back to get 5 for 32 in 13.3 overs as Australia were skittled out for 95 in 31.3 overs. Eight Aussie players failed to reach double digits and four of them didn't bother to trouble the scorers.

While Anmoljeet had match figures of 9/104, Enaan wasn't left far behind with 7/97 to

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES INVITATION OR BIDS (IFB) OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER BOUDH IRRIGATION DIVISION, BOUDH, Pin-762014 e-mail i.d—eebidboudh@gmail.com -procurement Notice No. -07/2024-25 Bid Identification No. EE BOD-07/24-25 gineer, Boudh Irrigation Division, Boudh, on behalf of Governo

of Odisha invites online Percentage rate tenders in Single cover system to be ceived in online mode only for the works as detailed below. Bid documents consisting of work, estimated cost, cost of tender paper, EMD, time of completion, Class of contractor, the se

portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in.		
1	Name of the work .	Critical Major, Bank Restoration, Bank Protection work
2	No of Works	18 Nos
3	Class of Contractor	"B", "C"& "D" Class (Odisha PWD or relevant class of other licensing Authority.)
4	Bid Identification No.	EEBOD-07/2024-25
5	Estimated Cost	Varies Approximately from 8.53 lakhs to 38.85lakhs
6	Period of Completion	4(Four) Calendar Months.
7	Date & time of availability of bid documents in the Portal.	From 9.10.2024 (11.00 AM) to 22.10. 2024 (05.00 P.M).
8	Last date/time for receipt of bids through online.	22.10.2024 upto 05.00 P.M.
9	Date of Opening of Bid through online	23.10.2024 (11.00 AM onwards in the Office of the undersigned.)
10	Name of the Officer inviting Bid	Executive Engineer, Boudh Irrigation Division,

Further details can be seen from the e-Procurement portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Any

Arshdeep Singh enters top 10 among bowlers in ICC T201 rankings

Riding on a string of impressive performances, Indian seamer Arshdeep Singh entered the top 10 among bowlers and was placed eighth in the ICC T20I rankings issued here on Wednesday. The left-arm seamer, who returned 3/14 in the opening T20I against Bangladesh in T20I against Bangladesh in Gwalior last Sunday, jumped

position. He is the only Indian third spots respectively. "Arshdeep is also a big winner

The ace Indian all-rounder also returned 4-0-26-1 and moved to the third spot as he rose four positions in the list of top all-rounders, which is headed by England's Liam

part of the India squad for the leapfrogged by Pakistan's Babar Azam. Washington Sundar also

improved his ranking as he got to 35th among T20I bowlers, moving up four positions.

Letter No_F3410 Dated, 07.10.2024 Government of Odisha "e" procurement Notice Bid Identification No. TENDER ONLINE SNPR- 03 OF 2024-25 Building Works as per DTCN available in the website.

www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Vary from Rs. 8.40 lakh to Rs. 21.01 lakh 4 (Four) to 6 (Six) Calendar months 15.10.2024 at 11.00AM to 29.10.2024 up to 5.00 PM

30.10.2024 at 11.00AM (Technical Bid) & (Financial Bid will be intimated later on) S.E.R.W.Division. Sonepur

(2) inviting tenders, available in website www.tendersodishagov.in (3) Corrigendum if any shall only be published in the website: www.tenderodisha.gov.in

Additional Chief Engineer

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER RURAL WORKS DIVISION, PHULBANIRWDP, Dated the 26.09.2024 Government of Odisha e-Procurement Notice

Bid Identification No. Online Tender/06/EERWD PHULBANI/ 2024-25 Name of the work :: Building Work (09Nos.)

Estimated cost

Rs. 24.05 Lakhs to Rs.35.28 lakhs

Three & Six Calendar month From 15.10.2024 10.00 AM.to 29.10.2024 Up to 5.00 PM

:: 29.10.2024 up to 5.00 PM

Name and address of the Officer :: Executive Engineer, Rural Works Division, Phulbani Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal website www.tendersodisha.gov.in

Executive Engineer Rural Works Division

Phulbani

OIPR-25077/11/0006/2425

Bids in the Portal