

Prime Minister will clean the air for Delhi this winter

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA NEW DELHI

oncerned over the perennial problem of deadly pollution with the onset of winters in Delhi NCR, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) on Friday set the degree of engagement of stakeholders, including the NCT Government of Delhi, to combat the air pollution particularly augmented due to stubble burning in neighbouring States.

The meeting comes a few days after the Supreme Court came down heavily on the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), for not taking any action on local officers amid a rise in crop burning in north Indian states, which leads to air pollution in Delhi. The SC said not a single committee was formed to tackle the stubble burning issue.

"Every year we see stubble burning. There has been total non-compliance of the Have CAQM Act. committees been constituted? Please show us a single step taken. Which directions have you used under the Act? You are silent spectators. You are doing nothing," the Supreme Court said on September 27, 2024.

File Photo: The Pionee

Mishra convened a High clearance of landfill sites in Level Task Force meeting for the purpose where he reviewed short term and long measures being undertaken to prevent, and abate, air pollution in Delhi, and Principal Secretary to the simultaneously expressed pollution in Delhi and Prime Minister, Dr. PK concern over slow pace of neighbouring states was

Maa Kali decrowned in Bangladesh



the national Capital and delays in implementation of waste to energy plans by the civic bodies. Agriculture stubble burning, a major source of seasonal air

addressed. Although Delhi has a relatively small paddy area, Mishra called for the complete elimination of stubble burning in the city as a model for surrounding

regions. According to a senior official, the meeting focused on assessing the readiness of the Delhi Government and other stakeholders in both implementing immediate and long-term measures to mitigate air pollution in Delhi. The Task Force, comprising senior officials from Central officials from Central Ministries and the Delhi administration, reviewed current strategies and discussed additional innovative steps to tackle the pollution challenge. Task Force, consisting of representatives from the Delhi Government, Central Ministries including

Secretary MoHUA, Secretary MoHUA, Secretary MoEFCC, Delhi Police, the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD), the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), the New Delhi Municipal Council Authority and (NDMC), the Commission for Air Quality Management (CAQM), reaffirmed their collective resolve to abate air pollution in Delhi, especially during the ensuing winter season.

RAJESH KUMAR MEW DELHI/ CHANDIGARH

A fter Bharatiya Janata Party's spectacular performance winning a third consecutive tenure, Haryana's incumbent Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini is likely to take oath as the Chief Minister of Haryana on Tuesday, in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Union ministers, and CMs of BJP-ruled states, are also expected to attend the swearing-in ceremony.

According to BJP leaders, Haryana may follow the precedent set by other states like Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha by introducing two Deputy Chief Ministers.

This dual-leadership model is anticipated to balance party seniority, and caste representation within the Cabinet. The senior-most leader, former Home Minister Anil Vij, is tipped to be one of the Deputy CMs, while the other position may go to a Brahmin MLA, potentially offering a more inclusive leadership structure. In another development, Rajya Sabha MP Kartikeya Sharma met Saini in Delhi, as his mother, Shakti Rani Sharma, had secured a win from the Kalka constituency.

In another strategic meeting, Rajya Sabha MP Kiran Chaudhary and her

Omar returns to Jammu and Kashmir

MOHIT KANDHARI 📕 JAMMU

Leader of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference Legislative party Omar Abdullah Friday evening staked claim to form the government, the first since the Centre scrapped J&K's special status in 2019. Ōmar, dressed in a traditional salwar suit, drove to the Raj Bhawan to meet Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha. During the meeting, he formally presented his claim to form the government in Jammu & Kashmir, following the support from Congress. Omar also presented letters of support from the alliance partners and independent candidates.

daughter Shruti Chaudhary, the newly elected MLA from Tosham, met with Union Minister Khattar, indicating a broader coalition-

building process within the BJP. A 10-member committee headed by the Panchkula district commissioner has been set up by the state chief secretary to oversee the arrangements for the ceremony.

The ceremony was initially scheduled for October 12, but was postponed to accommodate the Prime Minister's schedule. According to sources, the Parade Ground had been chosen as the venue as it was adjoining Indradhanush Auditorium Complex, which had a huge secured parking space for VVIPs.



Mahadev app kingpin arrested

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Sourabh Chandrakar, one of the main promoters of the Mahadev betting app, is expected to be brought to India soon, following his recent formal arrest in Dubai on the basis of an Interpol issued arrest warrant in a money laundering and fraud case, official sources said Friday.

Chandrakar along with another promoter of the app, Ravi Uppal was detained and put under "house arrest" in that country late last year following theEnforcement Directorate (ED) request for issuance of a Redeorner Netice (RN) against them. The Redcorner Notice (RN) against them. The RN is issued by Interpol.

Sources said Chandrakar is expected to be either extradited or deported to India over the next few days after he was formally placed under arrest in Dubai recently. The ED is in the process of sending relevant documents for his extradition to Dubai authorities following which a competent court there will be approached, they said.

Chandrakar is stated to have left for Dubai in 2019 and before that he used to run a juice shop named "Juice Factory" with his brother in Bhilai town of Durg district in Chhattisgarh. The ED has alleged that its probe in the Mahadev Online Book (MOB) gaming and betting app has shown involvement of various high-ranking politicians and bureaucrats from Chhattisgarh, the state where Chandrakar and Uppal hail from.

From Ratan to Naval,

deeply disturbed by the reported incident of theft. Indian High The Commission in Dhaka is in with Bangladesh touch authorities on the issue, they said. Bangladesh The law

enforcement authorities have been urged to investigate the incident, recover the stolen ring the guilty to

the Tata legacy moves on

various Trusts that constitute the Tata Trusts and also designate him as Chairman, Tata Trusts," Tata Trusts said in a statement issued here in the afternoon.

Sixty-seven-year-old Noel Tata's appointment came into place with immediate effect. ing appointe







PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Tndia has urged Bangladesh L to investigate the reported theft of a religious article that was gifted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Jeshoreshwari Kali temple during his visit in 2021.

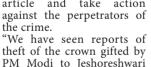
In a social media post, the Indian High Commission in Dhaka expressed deep concern over the theft and called

the authorities to recover the article and take action the crime.

PM Modi to Jeshoreshwari Kali Temple (Satkhira) in 2021 during his visit to Bangladesh," it said, adding We express deep concern and urge Govt of Bangladesh

to investigate theft, recover the crown and take action against the perpetrators." Indian Separately,

upon



book, sources said. As per reports, the goldplated crown of goddess Kali

at the temple in Satkhira's Shyamnagar was stolen on Thursday afternoon. The absence of the crown from the deity's head was noticed by the cleaning staff after temple priest Dilip Mukherjee left around two

of

Prime Minister Modi had visited the Jeshoreshwari Temple on March 27, 2021, as part of his tour to Bangladesh. The visit coincided with the celebrations of Bangladesh's Golden Jubilee Independence and the birth centenary of its founding Sheikh Mujibur leader,

Rahman. The temple is considered among the 52 'Shakti Peethas (seats of the Goddess) and is believed to have been government sources constructed in the late 12th said New Delhi is Century.



T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

n a succession that came two days after the death of Ratan Naval Tata, his half-brother Noel Naval Tata was on Friday appointed new Chairman of Tata Trusts, the philanthropic arm of Tata Group.

A formal announcement about Noel Tata's appointment as the head of the Tata Trusts came after the Trustees of various Trusts that come under the Tata Trusts held a joint meeting, condoled Ratan Tata's demise and noted his yeoman services not only to the Tata Group but also to nation building.

"In separate meetings held immediately, thereafter, it was unanimously decided to appoint Mr. Noel Naval Tata as the Chairman of the

new chairman of the Tata Trusts, India's oldest philanthropic institution, Noel Tata said that he was institution, "deeply honoured humbled" by and by the responsibility cast on me by my fellow Trustees"and he looked "forward to carrying on the legacy of Ratan N Tata and the founders of the Tata Group".

CUTTACK : Chief Minister "I am deeply honoured and humbled by the responsibility Mohan Charan Majhi on Frithat has been cast on me by my day announced that no fellow Trustees. I look forward ground rent would be colto carrying on the legacy of lected from the puja commit-Ratan N Tata and the founders tees holding community puja of the Tata Group. Founded more than a century ago, the Tata Trusts are a unique vehicle for undertaking social good. On this solemn occasion, we rededicate ourselves to carrying on our developmental and philanthropic initiatives and

on government land during this year's festive season. The CM, who went round several puja Mandaps in Bhubaneswar, also extended

Majhi

PNS

good wishes to the people of the State on the occasion of continuing to play our part in Maha Astami. nation building," Noel Tata

In response, several puja

BHUBANESWAR /

Announces CM committees across the State Debendra Sahu.

have expressed their gratitude to the CM.

"Earlier we had requested the Cuttack Municipal Corporation to make the Durga Puja mandaps tax-free. Our request was not accepted and we had to pay around Rs 24,000 as ground rent for setting up decorative gates and organising programmes. However, the Chief Minister has now announced that all the puja mandaps across the State will be rent-free. We express our gratitude to the CM for this," said Chhatra Bazaar puja committee president

"Several other committees have also paid rent like us. We request the administration to make necessary arrangements for refund of the amount," he added.

Holiday notice

The Pioneer wishes its readers a Happy Durga Puja

The offices of The Pioneer Bhubaneswar edition will remain closed on October 12 and 13 on account of Durga Puja. The next issue of the paper will appear on October 15, 2024.



BY SANJAY RAI

¬hat there are traffic jams in and round major markets of the national Capital is now old news for the locals. However, not many talk about what causes these jams in those busy commercial areas.

It is also interesting to see that the market associations have not objected to these illegal parkings as the shop owners also park all their vehicles on the road side, even before the market opens. And customers prefer to park on the roads outside the shops as the charges are lower in comparison to the official parking. These vehicles park for a short

time but block the oncoming traffic as they enter and leave the illegal parking bays constantly. The attendants stand on the road and stop the traffic flow to facilitate that.

The problem is especially severe near big market places where people park their vehicles on the roadside. Regular commuters are left with no choice but to stoplook-and-go every few metres.

They say that complaints to the authorities go unanswered. Visitors park their cars and twowheelers on the roadside and go shopping, and prefer to pay a 'token' parking fee of just Rs 10-20, seldom do they have to pay more even if they park for more than five hours. Usually they

Illegal parkings gobble up market roads at peak hours Commuters leave their vehicles on the roadside, to avoid paying parking fees



said

leave within an hour or so after shopping. It is this frequent 'side-movement' that then clogs

the oncoming traffic. For example an underground parking lot has been made by Delhi Municipal Corporation near Subhash Nagar Market, where about 600 vehicles can be parked. But more than 30 percent of the area remains vacant here. The reason behind this is parking charges. An employee working here told The Pioneer that the car parking fee is Rs 20 for every hour. The bike parking fee is Rs 10 per hour while the monthly pass costs Rs 2,000. But people living here or coming to the market always park their cars on the road,

which makes it difficult for pedestrians, and other commuters.

This results in the parking lot incurring losses every month. Apart from this, the condition of market areas such as Kamla Market, Rani Bagh Market, Karol Bagh, Lajpat Nagar, Avantika Market, Tilak Nagar, Rajouri Garden, and Uttam Nagar is the same.

The Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) has made underground parking on Asaf Ali Road at Delhi Gate, where vehicles gather dust and dirt. The monthly fee here is less compared to other parking lots, however roadside parking is also the norm here too.



Most-wanted realtor Niranjan Rana arrested | Youth found dead near Khandagiri caves "He maintained a lavish

Duped crores in guise of providing flats, plots PNS BHUBANESWAR

Builder and film producer Niranjan Rana (53), a resident of Balianta, has been arrested on the charges of cheating over 100 plot and flat buyers in the twin cities of Bhubaneswar and Cuttack to the tune of crores of rupees.

Rana is the managing director of Maa Tarini Estcon Private Limited and allegedly involved in fraudulent activities for more than two decades. He was earlier arrested by the Saheed Nagar police on similar charges. He was booked in 21 cases registered in various police stations across the capital city under the Odisha Protection of Interests of Depositors (OPID) Act 2011 and seven non-bailable warrants



(NBWs) are pending against him.

According to police sources, Rana shifted his office, which he had first opened at Saheed Nagar, to Pahal and fled to Mumbai after being released from jail. He had hired some people to run his office and was operating the busi-

Bhubaneswar DCP Pinak Mishra said. In June 2016, police had arrested him on the charges of swindling around Rs 9 crore from gullible customers by

Fortuner

swindled

promising to provide them flats. He had floated Sai Enclave Project at Balianta on the outskirts of the city, for he returned to Bhubaneswar which he had allegedly collected money from at least 86 Rana had diverted the people. Those who had invested their money tried to get investors into the film indusin touch with Rana but in vain, following which they turned try. He is known for making to police for help.

lifestyle in Mumbai. A Toyota

Maharashtra registration

number and other incriminat-

ing articles were seized from

him. Investigation is under-

way to ascertain the exact

number of buyers whom he

duped and the total money

by him,"

bearing

Murder

suspected; cops launch probe PNS BHUBANESWAR

In yet another example of the surging crimes in the State capital, a mutilated body of a youth was recovered from near the Khandagiri caves under the Khandagiri police station on Friday.

Dressed in sportswear, the youth's body was found near a tree. The identity of the deceased was yet to be ascertained. While no exact reason for

the death was ascertained, it was suspected that the youth had been killed and later the assailants dumped his body at the secluded place. However, the Khandagiri police were yet to confirm the suspected murder.



The matter came to the fore after some locals spotted the body and informed the police. On the other hand, a few suspected that

the youth might have died due to electrocution after coming in contact with a live wire.

lice officer rushed to the spot and recovered the body. The body was sent for postmortem while an investigation

the SC and ST Development

Department, a good number of

tribal students are getting en-

rolled at the elementary level.

However, high dropouts are

also being noticed among them

after Classes-VIII and X caus-

ing less enrolment in secondary

and higher secondary levels, re-

spectively. The department also

noted that the ST students get-

ting benefits under any other

scholarship schemes are also

eligible to avail the incentive

amount under the Sahid

Madho Singh scheme.

capital 02

On being informed, a powas underway. Guidelines for Madho Singh Haath Kharcha

304-yr-old Odia inscriptions found in Jatni temple plastering and are unreadable.

'Epigraphists decipher 304 years old stone inscription in Khurda' PNS BHUBANESWAR

Epigraphists from 'Kalinga Epigraphical Research Society' (KERS) have deciphered a 304 years' old stone inscription in

Jatani block of Khordha district. The inscription was found engraved on a stone panel over the southern entrance into the Mukhasala of Kedareswara Mahadev temple in Uparabasta village near Jatani town.

Members of KERS Bishnu Mohan Adhikari, Bikram Kumar Nayak, Mihir Bahinipati and Deepak Kumar Nayak have jointly deciphered the inscription having significant historical imprtance.

According to history researcher Deepak Kumar Nayak, the writing in the inscription is in Odia script and language. There are total four lines of writings found in the inscription, out of which few characters in the fourth line remain under colour

As per the inscription, the Kedareswara Mahadev temple of Uparabasta village was constructed by one Madhusudana Samantarai in the 5th regnal year of Harekrushna Deva. The Mukhasala of the temple was constructed by Madhu Harichandana in the 3rd regnal year of Gopinath Deva, said

Nayak. Bishnu Mohana Adhikari, an epigraphist and member of KERS suggested that the kings mentioned in the inscription belonged to the Bhoi dynasty of Khurda. Historian Kedarnath Mahapatra had given details on the anka year used by these Kings. From his work 'Khurda Itihasa' it is known that the 5th anka of King Harekrushna Deva fell in the year 1718 CE and 3rd anka of King Gopinath Deva corresponds to year 1720 CE. So, it can be said that the temple of Kedareswara is 306 years old whereas the Mukhasala was built 2 years later. From this inscription the structure and usage of Odia language 300 years back is known to us, said Adhikari.

7 cops injured while rescuing kidnapped minor girl

PNS 📕

ness from Maharashtra.

and apprehended him.

high-budget Odia films.

Police raided his house as

on Wednesday for Durga Puja

money he duped from gullible

As many as seven policemen sustained injuries after they were attacked while rescuing a kidnapped minor girl in the Barchana area in Jajpur district. The cops were thrashed by the miscreants who have been accused of 'kidnapping' the girl.

According to sources, a girl from the Delang area in Puri district was allegedly kid-

napped and kept captive in the Barchana area. Based on a complaint by the girl's parents, a team of the Delang police s arrived in Barchana to rescue the girl.

With the help of their Barchana counterparts, the Delang police reached the village to rescue the victim when the miscreants attacked the cops. Seven police personnel, including the Delang PS IIC, were seriously injured.

Four cops from Barchana who had accompanied the Delang police in the rescue operation were also beaten up.

The Barchana police registered a case in this connection and a special team has been formed to apprehend the miscreants, who are on the run

Pipili SDPO Biranchi Narayan Pati said, "A minor girl was allegedly kidnapped

from Delang. A team from the Delang police station had gone to Barchana to rescue the girl. They were returning after rescuing the girl when the accused and other villag-

"Our staffs have suffered injuries. The police personnel of Barchana have also been injured. We have registered a case in this connection and a special team is formed to nab the miscreants," he added.

ers attacked the police team."

PNS BHUBANESWAR

 $T_{
m he\ Odisha\ Government}$ has issued operational guidelines for implementation of the Shahid Madho Singh Haath Kharcha Yojana aimed at checking the dropout rate among students belonging to the Scheduled Tribes studying in Classes-IX and X in government and aided schools.

The students will be provided with one-time financial assistance of Rs 5,000 each. As per a resolution issued by

Anushka's Telugu movie shooting in Koraput As Tollywood is

increasingly focussing Odisha for film shooting PNS BHUBANESWAR

Lady superstar Anushka Shetty is filming her upcoming movie 'Ghaati' in the scenic locales of Lamtaput, Machakund, and Anakadeli town in Koraput district. Directed by Krish, the Telugu action-revenge drama is ated from the social mainnearly complete with its final

first experience here in Odisha. There are so many amazing things here. From the food, people, dams, ambience and great waterfalls you can explore a lot here," he added.

"We have seen several Odia movies like Bhaunri, Swayamsidha and others being shot here. But, this is the first time a Telugu movie of Anushka Shetty, the lady superstar of Tollywood, is being shot here. We are super excited that such a big scale movie is being shot in our area. Hopefully, this will pave the path for

Activists concerned as PVTG nutrition prog stopped

Thousands of kids may be deprived of food security

BIJAY MISHRA BHUBANESWAR

 \mathbf{A} ffected guardians and concerned social activists have expressed grave concern as the Government has unilaterally stopped the three-year -long PVTG (Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group) nutri-

ment of Odisha launched a special programme called "PVTG Nutrition Improvement Programme" (OPNIP) in Odisha to improve health and nutrition among the 13 PVTG communities in the State as part of its ongoing OPLIP (Odisha PVTG Livelihood Improvement Programme). The OPNIP was implemented in 89 gram panchayats of 17 micro project agencies in 12 districts of Odisha. The three

of 3 years in PVTG villages, with special focus on feeding, regular growth monitoring, early childhood care, early stimulation and programme management etc. These centres provided basic daycare facilities (for 7-8 hours per day) to children between the ages of six months and three years of age, six days a week, as well as provided two snacks with one hot cooked meal every day at the centres. Similarly, in inaccessible areas, pregnant mothers and 3 to 6-year-old babies were given hot cooked food. For this, along with the State Government, there was direct and indirect support from the IFAD, Ministry of Tribal Affairs of the Central Government and the Azim Premji Foundation, an all India resource organisation for providing technical support on health and nutrition.

trapped into the vicious circle society in the field of education, health, R&D and the overall socio-economic development. They will be alien-

of malnutrition, causing irreversible damage to their physical, emotional, intellectual and mental development. By this, children will not be able to be at par with the children of other sections of our

tive tribes are going to get

BHUBANESWAR PNS

For the first time, Bali Yatra will be celebrated in London to promote Odisha's culture and heritage on November 30. It will be hosted by the Odisha Society of the United Kingdom (OSUK) in support with the Odisha Government.

OSUK director Partha Sarathi Panda met Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi and Culture Minister Suryabanshi Suraj recently and discussed details of the event. "Both have expressed their commitment to support this celebration. This year, we are organising two major

events in London, and Bali

Odias to celebrate Bali Yatra In London

was quoted to have said.

would not just showcase Odisha's heritage but would also promote the bilateral trade relations. Shweta Mohanty, a member of OSUK, reportedly said this event would help highlight the potentials for investment in sectors like livestock and food

The OSUK has been working to preserve and promote Odia language, literature, culture and tradition in London for over 40 years.

Durga Puja 'Shakti Vahini' to provide security to women

In a bid to provide security to women devotees during Durga Puja celebrations, the Commissionerate police on Thursday constituted a team of 40 women cops in the name of 'Shakti Bahini'.

Devdatta Singh flagged off the team

The 40 policewomen would be deployed around the mandaps to keep an eye on miscreants and would respond immediately. They would also help unite a missYatra is one of them," Panda Panda believed that the Odia community in London

processing.

tion development programme (A community based creche programme) for children between 0 to 3 years of age since September 30. Before shutting it down, the

Government did not consult any elected people's representatives, groups of tribal communities, any statutory/advisory body, individuals or organisations involved in policy making in areas of health and nutrition focusing children under-3 of the PVTG

communities. The ST/SC Development Department of the Govern-

main component of OPNIP are community-based crèche (Sishu Gruha) for children under the age of 3 years (Total no of creches. 61), maternal spot feeding centre (MSFC) for pregnant and lactating women (Total No. of centre 161) and spot feeding centres for children in remote villages (for children between 3 to 6 years) (SFC) (Total No. centres111). Sishu Gruha The

programme, commonly known as Matru Sishu Poshan Kendra-MSPK, provides childcare services during daytime for children under the age

But the noble initiative has recently been stopped by the Government of Odisha as a result of which thousands of children belonging to primi-

stream and facing the conven tional process of

marginalisation. Social activists Prafulla Samantara, Manas Pattanaik, Pushpa Das, Gourang Mahapatra, Dr Biswajit, Samit Panda and Mihir Pratap Das on behalf of Odisha Right to Food Campaign, Jana Swasthya Abhiyan and Lok Shakti Abhiyan called upon the Government to immediately intervene in the issue and immediately reopen the crèche programme to secure the rights of the PVTG children and maintain the development trend of the State.

schedule underway

After the stupendous success of stylish star Allu Arjun's 'Pushpa' and 'Arya', filmmakers from Telugu film industry are flocking to Odisha to shoot more movies.

"Everybody talks about Kerala, Goa, Tamil Nadu or Himachal Pradesh; please come to Odisha, they have amazing places. Here you can explore a lot, feel free and enjoy yourself with a little cash," said popular south Indian actor-director, John Vijay. "All the youngsters need to

be here. This is very close to Arch Valley, one of the most beautiful places in Odisha. I'm glad to be talking about this amazing place. This is also my

more movie shoots and subsequently bring development to our area," said a local Amar Panigrahy.

This is also a message to the government that many more movies can be shot in our picturesque location if our area is being developed," he added.

mentioning, Worth Anushka Shetty's highly anticipated film 'Ghaati' directed by Krish is nearing completion and is already 90% complete with the final schedule taking place in Odisha. The film is an action-revenge drama and will feature Anushka in a never-beforeseen role with a mafia touch.

BJP's brouhaha over Haryana win baseless

PNS BHUBANESWAR

Commissioner of Police S

two cops.

ing child with his or her parents

These cops christened as 'Shakti Bahini' have been asked to move from mandaps to mandaps, ensuring the safety of women pandal hoppers. As many as 20 scooties have been provided to them. It means each scooter carries

The Commissionerate potion lice have already made ample arrangements for the safety of pandal hoppers. This women's group is an addition to provide more safety, especially to women.

As it's going to rule State with just 39.9% votes, thanks to faulty FPTP system

ndia is having an unjust, unfair electoral sys tem, technically known as FPTP (fast past the post). Under the system, there is no proportional or fair representa-

In the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, the BJP got 45% of votes in the State of Odisha. The BJD got 37.5% of votes. Out of 21 seats of Odisha in the Lok Sabha,



B RAMCHANDRA CST VOLTAIRE

BJP marched with 20 seats. BJD got no seat. This is the utter absurdity of our electoral system. No Professor of Political Science, no writer of eminence bothers about it.

In the recently held Haryana Assembly elections, the Congress was projected to win the majority of seats. Electoral trends showed it for some time. But, ultimately the "unpredictable" happened. With the same percentage of votes, BJP got 48 seats while the Congress got 37 seats. Prime Minister Modi who

has no mind to study the dark side of the FPTP system of election went into hammering the Congress. He called it a parasite party. He called it anti-national and slammed it in vari-

ous other ways. The crux of the matter is:

Parties are "disproportionately" represented in the Legislature under the FPTP system. With the same percentage of votes one party can be ahead of another party. BJP has got a majority of seats. It could have happened otherwise. The Congress could have 48 seats and BJP 37 or less number seats. So, no leader of sound common sense should get excited about the results of such a poll.

To have fair representation in India - at the Lok Sabha Assembly or local levels, we must go in for the Mixed Proportional Representation

(MPR) System of Election of Germany, or of New Zealand or of Nepal. The beauty of the system has been well exhibited in 94 countries of the world and they are called "free" democracies. Why should India lag behind? Why should not the Indian voters get political justice in full measure?

All parties should be fairly represented. The system of MPR has stamped out Maoist violence from the soil of Nepal since 2008. Why should we go on killing the Maoists in India? PM Modi must visit Germany, New Zealand, Nepal,

South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland and introduce the MPR System of election in India so as to make Indian democracy a "free" one. With 39.9% of votes, no political party captures power in Germany or New Zealand. The combination of parties or a single party must get more than 50% of the votes in order to rule the nation. The absurd democracy that has been exhibited in Haryana on October 8, must be stamped out for all times to come. The BJP has no ethical right to rule the Haryana people with 39.9% of votes.

(General secretary, FPI)

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Printed and published by Sarada Prasanna Nanda for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., 1067, Nayapalli, Bhubaneswar-751012. Tel: 0674-2560355. e-mail: orissapioneer@gmail.com. Printed at WEBLINE, D-2/19, Sector-A, Zone-D, Mancheswar Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar-751010. Editor-in-Chief Shobori Ganguli. Resident Editor: S.P. Nanda. RNI Regn. No. ORIENG/2007/22475. AIR SURCHARGE of Re. 1.00 East: Calcutta, Ranchi, North: Leh West: Mumbai & Ahmedabad South: Bangalore & Chennai. Central : Khajuraho, Delhi Office: 100k Milap Bhawan, 8/A Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg. New Delhi-110 002, Phone: 011-40110455, Corporate Office: - 201-205, 208-210, 2nd Floor, Pratap Bhawan 5, B.S.Z. Marg, New Delhi-110002 Phone: 011-69342500. Lucknow Office: 4th Floor, Sahara Shopping Centre, Faizabad Road, Lucknow 226 016. Telephones: 0522-2346443, 2346444, 2346445



capital 03

Notice issued to HM for coming to school drunk

PNS 🔳 JAJPUR

L he Block Education Officer (BEO) of Dharmasala in Jajpur district on Thursday issued a show-cause notice to a headmaster of a government primary school in Anjira Panchayat for coming to school in an inebriated condition.

The action was taken after the school managing committee and some guardians of students brought the

incident to the notice of the BEO and demanded stringent action against the headmaster. They demanded immediate transfer of the teacher elsewhere as he is

often seen coming to school drunk. They also showed a video of the drunk headmaster to

the committee which has gone viral on social media. In the purported video, the headmaster is seen lying on the road, a few yards away

from the school, in an inebriated state.

"We have issued a showcause notice to the headmaster and asked him to reply in three days. After getting a reply, we will initiate appropriate action based on it," the BEO said.

This is not the first case of a teacher attending school in a drunken condition. Last year, three such cases were reported in the same district.

Improvements in MKCG services sought

Press Club takes up issues with MCH Dean **PNS** ■ BRAHMAPUR

The Brahmapur Press Club demanded for substantial improvements in the healthcare services at the Maharaja Krushna Chandra Gajapati (MKCG) Medical College and Hospital on Wednesday here.

Submitting a memorandum to the MKCG Dean Professor Suchitra Das, the club called for immediate action to address the hospital's ongoing issues, urging the Health Minister's intervention to ensure quality care for patients.

The memorandum raises critical concerns, including the lack of experienced doctors in the casualty ward, leading to compromised patient care. In



a detailed discussion with Dean Das and Registrar Sangram Panda, the Club representatives emphasized the need for urgent reforms. Professor Das responded with a firm commitment to resolving the problems, assuring that necessary steps would be taken promptly.

The key demands included providing dedicated services for journalists, improving emergency care facilities, and ensuring proper functioning of critical units like the ICU and trauma center. The Club forms at the hospital.

also called for better accom modation facilities for pa tients' attendants and roundthe-clock access to essential diagnostic services. Leading the initiative were Club president Ashok Kumar Brahma, secretary Prahallad Sahu, treasurer Siba Narayan Panda and joint secretary Gopal Krishna Reddy, alongside several senior journalists. Dean Das assured the journalists that immediate measures would be taken, with further discussions planned to

fast-track the necessary re-

INBRIEF

Bus runs over lady police constable in Tirtol

Jagatsinghpur: A passenger bus ran over a lady police constable killing her on the spot at Tirtol in Jagatsinghpur district on Friday. The deceased, identified as Suraja Munda, had been posted at the Tirtol police station. The mishap took place at Tirtol Bazaar when Munda was returning home after finishing her duty. Palpable tension prevailed in the area following the accident. A case was registered in this connection and police seized the bus and detained the driver, sources said.

Worker dies at Paradip terminal

Paradip: Tension prevailed at the Paradip International Cargo Terminal (PICT) when a worker was crushed to death under a moving forklift on Friday. Bholanath Swain, a contractual worker and surveyor from Dhanurbellari under the Balikuda police limits, was allegedly run over by the forklift on the jetty, leading to his death on the spot. His family members demanded adequate compensation and a job for a kin.

Croc sighting triggers panic among villagers in Kanas

Puri: A crocodile spotted in the Rajua river near Kanas in Puri district triggered panic among locals on Friday. Villagers, who had gone for bathing, saw the crocodile swimming between the Tirulam and Haladiapada areas. Soon after the news spread, village heads barred people from going near the river

Ganjam Dist Council meet: Several issues discussed

PNS ■ CHHATRAPUR

The sixth council meeting of Ganjam district Zilla Parishad was organised on Wednesday after a long gap of 15 months. The meeting was held under the presidentship

of ZP Chairman Anjali Swain. Mines, Iron and Transport Minister Bibhuti Bhusan Jena attended the meeting as a guest. The Minister asked all local representatives to work together staying above party lines for the development of the district.

The Minister informed about several plans of the new government like sanction of Rs 350 crore for construction of Arjyapalli Jetty, renovation of Haripur and Markandi jetties and construction of Gopalpur-Sambalpur via Phulbani rail tracks.

Fishery and Animal Hus-

bandry Minister Gokulananda Mallik urged for regular meetings of the district council to monitor proper implementation of development programmes. Brahmapur MP Pradeep

Panigrahi raised issues like increasing accident cases in Lanjipalli and Haldiapadar bypass road and suggested the NHAI officials to either construct flyovers or under passes in the locations. He also raised concern for better health services in MKCG Medical College, new rail tracks and water conservation of the

Rushukulya river. Among others, Aska MP Anita Subhadarshini, district Collector Dibya Jyothi Parida and several MLAs of Ganjam and District Council members attended.

In Karanjia Sexual harassment awareness held for girl students

An awareness programme on "Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace" under the aegis of Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) of Panchpir Women's Degree College, Karanjia, Mayurbhanj district was organised on October 8 at the college campus.

Speaking on the occasion, chief guest SDPO Karanja Subrat Kumar urged the students and faculty members to be aware of the scope of the ICC and report things without any hesitation and fear. He also focused on the laws prevailing to give justice to the girl students everywhere in his deliberation.

While president of the Governing Body Jugal Kishore Agarwal was present, guest of

PREVENTION SEXUAL HARASSMENT OF WOMEN AT W

PANCHPIR WOMEN'S DEGREE COLLEGE, KARANJIA, MAYURBHAN.

INTERNAL COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

honour social worker from Indian Grameen Services, currently working as a livelihood expert with Integrated Tribal Development Agency, Karanjia, Bharati Raj, spoke as a resource person and briefed the gathering about the details and the scope of ICC. She also added that women and especially girls must be aware

of their safety and security. Saying that a time has come to open up and act against any victimisation, she urged the girls not to remain silent if anyone suffers from sexual harassment at any place.

Principal-cum-secretary Pranati Barik presided over the session and highlighted the Sexual Harassment Act

2013. Members of the ICC Lecturer in Education Millamani Mohanta and Lecturer in Sanskrit Chinmayee Mohanta also addressed the gathering.

Lecturer NSG Payal gave introduction of the dignitaries and welcomed them to the dais and ICC member Chinmayee Mahanta gave the vote of thanks.

and alerted Forest Department personnel. The reptile was frequenting the riverbank which compounded the locals' fear The villagers urged forest personnel to capture and release it somewhere safe. Forest Department sources said the crocodile would have swum into Rajua from the Daya river. Till last reports came, efforts were on to shift it to a separate location.

Special audit ordered in K'jhar Forest Range Following report Forest Rourkela visited

of irregularities **PNS** KEONJHAR

he Forest and Environment Deputy Secretary has directed the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests to conduct a special audit of the irregularities in the Keonjhar Forest Division Office.

The Forest Department in letter No 19602 dated 9.10.2024 to Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Devidatta Biswal has ordered for the special audit.

Earlier, the department's Additional secretary Umakanta Tripathy and Regional Chief Conservator of

14 and submit a report. Chhatar Jatra celebrated in Kalahandi Animals sacrificed sion of the presiding god-'appease' dess started as early as 4 am. to

As per the tradition, the



BRAHMAPUR

Prof Dr Priyadarsan Patra

and Cloud Computing, and the design of Low-power and Intelligent systems. He has Dist tag to Brahmapur 'Submit new representation to State Govt'

In a pivotal move concerning the long-pending demand for Brahmapur district formation, the Orissa High Court has instructed the

tervention. The ruling has reignited hopes for the formation of Brahmapur district, deemed crucial for balanced regional development.

posal was sidelined after their electoral defeat. The current BJP-led Government is now under pressure to address the demand

Ganjam, presently one of Odisha's largest districts, has seen uneven development, with Brahmapur in particular lagging behind. The formation of a new district would enable the implementation of district-specific projects and infrastructure development. A Detailed Project Report (DPR) could focus on education, healthcare, heritage, tourism, and economic growth.

frastructure, including national highways, the proposed greenfield airport, and the development of Gopalpur Port, could fuel regional growth. Additionally, a military base in the vicinity strengthens prospects for establishing institutions like a Sainik School or an NDA branch

Keonjhar district on September 17 to investigate the complaints of irregularities. After conducting the inquiry, they submitted a report to the gov-

ernment on September 19. Based on the report, Forest, Environment and Climate Change Minister Ganesh Ramsingh Khuntia has ordered a special audit of the for-

est division. As per the order, a threemember team comprising Audit Officer Mohan Raudia, Assistant Audit Officer Ashutosh Kampa and Auditor Sanat Kumar Sahu would conduct the audit in the Keonjhar Forest Division office on October

has been appointed as the Vice-Chancellor of NIST University.

Dr Patra holds a PhD degree in Computer Sciences from the University of Texas at Austin, an MS from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and a B Engg from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

Dr Patra has over 30 years of research, academic and administrative leadership experience.

His research interests include VLSI, applications of Machine Learning, Big Data

ceedings, has authored 80+ indexed scholarly publications, five scientific books, 13 USA and international patents, and other influential articles

Prior to joining NIST University, he served as the Pro Vice Chancellor and Distinguished Professor at DIT University, as Chief Architect and as Principal Scientist of the R&D Divisions of Intel Corp (USA), Dean of Computer Sci-

ences at UPES University and the Dean of Research at Xavier University.

edited multiple technical pro-Milita Kriyanusthan Committee to submit a new written representation to the State Government. The directive came during a hearing on Thursday, in response to a

public interest litigation (PIL) filed by the committee. The case was heard by a division bench comprising Chief Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh and Justice Debabrata Dash.

The court further clarified that if the Government does not take action within a specified timeframe, the committee

Advocates for the ne trict argue that, given Brahmapur's population density and geographical boundaries, it is highly qualified for district status. Previous recommendations from a committee established under the Biju Patnaik Government had included Brahmapur as a prospective district. However, despite creating 30 districts during that period, Brahmapur was not given district status.

Before the last election, the BJD Government had also announced plans for new district formations, but the pro-

Brahmapur has the potential to emerge as a commercial and industrial hub, with opportunities in manufacturing, IT and textile industries. Enhanced transportation in-

Chairman of the committee Sanjiv Kumar Patnaik called on the new Chief Minister Mohan Majhi-led Government to take swift action on the Brahmapur district formation. He cautioned that failure to do so within three months would lead to the committee seeking further judicial intervention. Senior advocate Baijayanti Mahanty represented the case on behalf of the committee.

Manikeswari PNS BHAWANIPATNA

Kalahandi district headquarters town Bhawanipatna on Friday dazzled in lights, decorations, dance and music on the auspicious Chhatar Jatra of Maa Manikeswari, the presiding goddess of Kalahandi, on Maha Astami of Durga Puja.

As part of the centuriesold tradition, hundreds of goats and hens were sacrificed to 'appease' Maa Manikeswari. The proces-

Vijay Chhatar (Umbrella of Victory) was brought out from Jenakhal on the outskirts of the town. The holy Chhattar reached in a procession the to Manikeshwari temple in the Maharaja's palace premises at 12 noon.

The procession witnessed a massive footfall of devotees, both tribals and non-tribals. Thousands of people from neighbouring States like Chhattisgarh and Andhra Pradesh also took part in the festival.

India Post has basketful of financial services

The foundation day of the Universal Postal Union (UPU), October 9, is World Post Day. India Post will observe the National Postal Week from October 7 to 11 this year to raise awareness of its various services that connect people, businesses and the Government for the development of the country. During the National Postal Week, India Post observes October 11 as Vittiya Sashaktikaran Diwas.

The largest postal network in the world i.e. India Post has 1,64,972 Post Offices (POs) out of which 1,49,478 (90.6%) are Rural POs and 15,494(9.4%), Urban POs. It provides services to the last mile through 1,39,891 Branch POs, 24,271 Sub POs and 810 Head POs/ GPOs. On an average, 8,415 people are served by a PO in the country. In a rural area, a PO serves 6,030 people



whereas, in an urban area, a PO serves 31,422 people in an average area of 19.93 sq km.

In addition to core services and premium services, India Post also provides financial services through Post Office Savings Bank (POSB), Postal Life Insurance (PLI), Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB). It provides banking facilities to the remotest corner of the country on behalf of the

Union Finance Ministry, since 1882 through POSB. Presently, the POSB is accessible to its account holders online and anytime anywhere banking using mobile internet banking and ATM. It offers 10 small savings schemes like Post Office Savings Account (SB), National Savings Recurring Deposit Account (RD), National Savings Time Deposit Account (TD), National Savings Monthly Income Account

(MIS), Senior Citizens Savings

Scheme Account (SCSS), Pub-

lic Provident Fund Account

(PPF), Sukanya Samriddhi Ac-

count (SSA), National Savings

Certificates (VIIIth Issue)

NSC, Kisan Vikas Patra (KVP)

and Mahila Samman Savings

Certificate. In some schemes of

the POSB rate of interest is

higher than other banks. New

initiatives like the opening of

MIS, SCSS and MSSC accounts

through internet banking, the

maximum limit for investment in SCSS and MIS and NEFT/ RTGS facility for money transfer from bank account to PPF/ SSA and Post Office Savings Account were undertaken during the last financial year.

India Post offers two types of life insurance schemes namely Postal Life Insurance (PLI) and Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI). The oldest life insurance scheme for the benefit of Govt/Semi Govt employees is PLI which was introduced in the year 1884 and now it has widened its service area to recognized schools, registered professionals like doctors, engineers, consultants, CAs, architects, lawyers, MBAs, all Graduates /Diploma holders, bankers and employees of listed companies with NSE/BSE. PLI covers six types of policies namely Whole Life Assurance (Suraksha), Convertible Whole Life Assurance (Suvidha), Endowment Assurance (Santosh), Anticipated Endowment Assurance (Sumangal), Joint Life Assurance (Yugal Suraksha) and Children Policy (Bal Jiwan Bima). RPLI was introduced in 1995 for the benefit of rural people. It also covers six types of policies namely Whole Life Assurance (Gram Suraksha), Convertible Whole Life Assurance (Gram Suvidha), Endowment Assurance (Gram Santosh), Anticipated Endowment Assurance (Gram Sumangal), 10 Years RPLI (Gram Priya) and Children Policy (Bal Jiwan Bima). The maximum limit of insurance for PLI and RPLI is Rs 50 lakh and Rs10 lakh respectively. India Post has introduced a dedicated sales force like Development Officers (DO), Department Employees (DE), Field Officers (FO-Retd Employees) and Direct Agents (DA) at the

Division level for marketing of PLI/RPLI schemes and established PLI CPC at Head Post Offices to provide after-sale services. For administrative matters the office of Deputy Divisional Manager functions at Circle level under PLI Directorate, New Delhi.

The India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) is a public sector financial institution inaugurated by the Prime Minister of India in 2018 under the Department of Posts to offer affordable and accessible banking services to unbanked and underbanked segments of the population, leveraging a network comprising 1,64,972 Post Offices and its human resource i.e. about 4.17 lakh employees including Gramin Dak Sevaks. "Aapka Bank, Aapke Dwaar" is the tagline of IPPB and it has a clear focus on financial inclusion, particularly for the common man in rural India. It aims to

provide banking services at the doorstep of every citizen in rural and remote areas with a focus on promoting financial literacy, digital payments, and easy access to banking services through a cost-effective, technology-driven system. The IPPB is a game-changer in India's financial landscape, offering banking solutions tailored to the unique challenges of rural and underserved populations.

The IPPB offers services like savings accounts, remittance services, mobile banking, and third-party financial products. As per regulations fixed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the IPPB cannot offer loans or credit cards to its customers. Products and Services offered by IPPB

are Premium Savings Account, Regular Savings Account, Digital Savings Account and Basic Savings Account. Provision of virtual debit cards and mobile banking access are available

with these Accounts. It also provides services like Mobile Banking, SMS Banking, Missed call Banking, Phone Banking, IPPB and Post Office Savings Account linkage and Domestic Money Transfer which are related to banking transactions whereas the Digital Life Certificate service helps pensioners to get a Life Certificate at their doorstep for disbursement of Pension and Child Enrolment Lite Client (CELC) Services help to enrol the children below 5 years by capturing just the photograph and few demographic information in addition to biometric authentication of parents.

(The article was prepared based on data available in Annual Report 2023-24 of Department of Posts)

(The author is Asst Accounts Officer, National Communication Academy -Finance, Ghitorni, New Delhi (M) 9437160036)



nation 04

Defence Minister urges military to be alert amid global uncertainty SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA Both the Federation of Associations

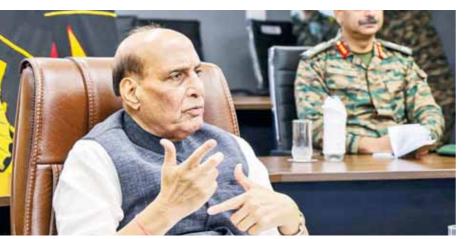
PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday said the present complex and ambiguous world situation affects everyone globally and urged military top brass to be alert, regularly modernise and prepare continuously for various contingencies.

Making this assertion while addressing the Army Commanders' Conference in Sikkim, he said "Unconventional and asymmetric warfare, including hybrid war will be part of the future conventional wars and the same is evident in the recent conflicts happening in various parts of world.

This necessitates that Armed Forces should keep all these facets in consideration while planning and formulating strategies. We must keep learning from the incidents to include the global ones, happened in present as also in past, so as to avert the damage control." Commenting on the current

situation along the Northern



apex leadership borders facing China, the Army's comprehensively deliberated defence minister expressed full confidence in the Army upon all aspects of existing for any contingency though, security scenarios, situation the ongoing talks for peaceful along the borders and in the resolution will continue at all hinterland and challenges for the present security apparatus. levels. The second Army Commanders' Conference In addition, the conference is this year commenced in a also focusing on issues pertaining to organisational hybrid format on Thursday in a forward location at Gangtok. restructuring, administration and human Conduct of the Senior resource management. Owing Commanders Conference at a to the bad weather at Gangtok, forward location underlines Rajnath addressed the commanders in virtual mode Indian Army's focus on ground realities. During the event, Indian from an army location Sukna,

West Bengal.

Referring to the situation along the Western borders Pakistan, with he complimented the Indian Army's response to cross border terrorism, however the proxy war by the adversary continues. "I compliment the excellent synergy between the CAPF/ Police forces and the logistics, Army in tackling the menace of terrorism in Jammu and Kashmir. The synergised operations in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are contributing to

increased stability and peace in the region which was also evident in the recently conducted elections in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, and

of Jammu and Kashmir, and for this I again compliment the Indian Army," he said. The Defence Minister commended the Army for the high standard of operational preparedness and capabilities which he has always been experiencing first hand during experiencing first hand during his visits to forward areas. Rajnath stressed upon the

technological advancement taking place in every sphere of our life and applauded the Armed Forces for aptly incorporating them. He incorporating them. appreciated the Army's efforts to develop niche technologies in collaboration with civil industries, including premier educational institutions and thereby progressing towards the aim of 'Modernisation through Indigenisation' or 'Atmanirbharta'. He stated that modernisation

of weapons for every soldier through Atmanirbharta is the key focus of the government and the government is completely with the Armed Forces in this aspect.

Act or face consequence: FEMA, IMA tell Mamata Banerjee

(FeMA) and the Indian Medical Association have asked Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee to take cognizance of the ongoing indefinite fast of the junior doctors and resolve the impasse by acceding to their 10point demands that include iustice for the lady doctor of RG Kar Medical College and Hospital who was on August 9 raped and murdered while on duty inside her hospital.

In a strongly worded letter to Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee the Federation of Medical Associations (FeMA) has written that if there was a casualty among the doctors who were fasting unto death then the consequence would be uncontrollable.

"We have realised that Mamata Banerjee is least interested in addressing the genuine demands" of the junior doctors who had been on a fast unto death. Threatening a complete cease work of doctors and also a bigger movement the FeMA has warned that "no amount of vote bank or police force will be able to stop the movement. We will make sure that this extreme step that you are



forcing us to take will be supported by every common man and even your own vote bank. It will soon be followed by similar action Pan India. Even central forces will not be sufficient to douse the flames, the FeMa wrote.

The letter barely a few hours before Aniket Mahato a striking doctor was hospitalized in a "critical condition." Nine doctors, seven in Kolkata and two in Siliguri were sitting in fast unto death in support of their demands post the brutal rape and murder of "Abhaya" the victim doctor of RGKMCH. In a ten-point demand the doctors have been asking for a central referral system with real time monitoring so that no patient has to run from hospital to hospital losing vital time of treatment, installation of CCTV cameras, foolproof

security of medical staff, end of threat syndicate inside medical colleges and related "rule of and rule by corruption," and conducting of college elections so as to end the "threat and extortion raj being perpetrated in the

colleges," the doctors said. The Bengal chapter of IMA too wrote to the Chief Minister to end the imbroglio by providing the junior doctors with a written deadline by which their demands would be fulfilled. "It (has) almost (been) a week since the young doctors of Bengal (started their) fast onto death.

The Government is entirely capable of meeting all the demands. Peaceful ambience and security are not a luxury. They are a prerequisite.

We appeal to your good self to settle the issues with the young generation doctors as an elder and the Head of the Government," the letter said adding how "the entire medical fraternity of India is concerned and trust you would be able to save their lives."

Meanwhile, Dr Aniket Mahato, one of the junior doctors participating in the strike, was hospitalized after his condition worsened. "He is presently stable and is responding to treatment but we are keeping watch on other doctors too as their parameters are going down too we hope the Government loves its doctors and it knows how to show that love," Dr Subarna Goswami one of the senior doctors said.

Mortal remains of missing Coast Guard pilot recovered India expresses concern over security in West Asia

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

 $T_{\text{Commandant Rakesh}}^{\text{he mortal remains of}}$ Kumar Rana, the missing pilot of the Advanced Light Helicopter MK-III of Indian Coast Guard (ICG), which made an emergency landing last month, have been retrieved approximately 55 kms south west off the coast of Porbandar, defence ministry said here on Friday.

After over 70 air sorties and involvement of multiple ships, the mortal remains of Commandant were retrieved on Thursday.

The Commandant, who was the helicopter's pilot-incommand, was on a medical evacuation mission along with one pilot and two air crew divers to evacuate a seriously injured crew member from Motor Tanker Hari Leela.

The helicopter had to make an emergency landing on September two, after which along with the Indian search and rescue operation members met with the



for the missing personnel. evacuate an injured man on One crew was rescued, while board motor tanker Hari the mortal remains of three others were recovered on Leela, nearly 30 nautical miles from the Porbandar September three. "Ĥis mortal remains will be coast. While one of the four crew members on the helicopter,

cremated as per service traditions and honour. A warm salute to the three brave souls from Rank and rescued immediately, three File of the Indian Coast

Helic

went missing. Guard who laid down their A day later, the bodies of pilot Vipin Babu and diver lives in the line of duty," it said. The Advanced Light Karan Singh were recovered. But Rana remained missing the Navy launched a massive Coast Guard with four crew prompting a massive search operation

diver Gautam Kumar, was

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NFW DFI HI

ndia on Friday said it was "concerned" at the "deteriorating" security situation in parts of West Asia, amid reports that United Nations peacekeepers have been caught in the intensified fighting in southern Lebanon.

In a statement, Ministry of External Affairs(MEA)also said New Delhi continues to monitor the situation closely. 'We are concerned at the deteriorating security situation along the Blue Line. We continue to monitor the situation closely," the MEA said.

There are about 600 Indian soldiers as part of the UN peacekeeping force, it was learnt.

The 120-km Blue Line is a United Nations-recognised demarcation line to indicate that Israel had withdrawn its military from southern banon Lebanon from Israel and the Golan Heights, but it is not



UN

the

official international border. "Inviolability of UN premises

must be respected by all, and appropriate measures taken to ensure the safety of UN peacekeepers and the sanctity of their mandate," the MEA Lebanon".

"recent escalation along the Blue Line is causing widespread destruction of towns and villages in south

PM Modi pays tribute to Jayaprakash Narayan | Modi invites EAS countries to Nalanda Conclave

peacekeeping other areas. mission in Lebanon, said in a Israel Defense Forces (IDF) statement on October 10 that soldiers have clashed with Hizbullah elements on the

peacekeepers were injured IDF Merkava tank the fo fired its weapon toward an observation tower at added.

UNIFIL's headquarters in Naqoura, directly hitting it and causing them to fall," the UN statement read.

"The injuries are fortunately, this time, not serious, but they remain in hospital," it added.

The situation along the Israel-Lebanon border has escalated rapidly after the killing of former Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah.

The Israel Defence Forces (IDF) have accused Hezbollah of operating in areas near UNIFIL posts. In a statement, the IDF said, "The IDF is operating in southern Lebanon and maintains routine communication with UNIFIL."

This morning (Thursday), IDF troops operated in the area of Naqoura, next to a UNIFIL base.

Accordingly, ground in Lebanon," the IDF it instructed the UN forces in alleged in the statement. "This morning, morning, two the area to remain in protected spaces, following in the area," the statement

(ALH) of pter

The United Nations Interim seen incursions from Israel Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), into Lebanon in Naqoura and

Ghanshyam Tiwari appointed Chairman, Rajya Sabha Ethics Committee

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Bhartiya Janta Party MP from Rajasthan, Rajasthan, Ghanshyam Tiwari, has been appointed as the chairman of the Ethics Committee of Rajya Sabha by Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar.

The Committee has been reconstituted by the Rajya Sabha chairman with effect from October 10.

Among other members appointed as members of the Committee are Pramod Tiwari (Congress), Derek O'Brien (TMC), Tiruchi Siva (DMK), Sanjay Singh (AAP), V Vijayasai Reddy (YSRCP), Sasmit Patra (BJD), Prem Chand Gupta (RJD), Medha



Vishram Kulkarni and Darshana Singh (both BJP). The Rajya Sabha chairman has also changed the nominations of members in the department related to Parliamentary Standing

Committees, with Fauzia Khan changed from Social Justice and Empowerment to Committee to the Committee on Coal, Mines and Steel, V Vijayasai Reddy from Committee on Transport, Tourism and Culture to Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj. Babubhai Jesangbhai Desai has also been nominated by the chairman to the Committee on Health and Family Welfare, from the Committee on Rural Development and Panchavati Raj earlier, and Neeraj Dangi from the Committee on Rural Development and

The chairman has also nominated Seema Dwivedi to the department-related to Parliamentary Standing Committee Water Resources.

The Ethics Committee of the Rajya Sabha has the mandate to oversee the moral and ethical conduct of members and to examine cases referred to it with reference to ethical and other misconduct of members

In respect of procedure and other matters, the rules applicable to the Committee of Privileges apply to the Ethics Committee with such variations and modifications Panchayati Raj to the as the chairman, Rajya Committee on Transport, Sabha, may from time to time make.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday paid tribute to socialist stalwart and anti-Emergency movement icon Jayaprakash Narayan on his birth anniversary.

In a social media, the Prime said Naravan Minister dedicated his life to bringing positive change in the country and society.

His personality and ideals will remain an inspiration for every generation, he said. Modi also paid homage to Nanaji Deshmukh, a leading member of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, on his birth anniversary. Modi said, his dedication and service for the empowerment of villagers,

especially the deprived sections, will always be remembered.

A fierce socialist and freedom fighter, Narayan, fondly called JP, led a popular movement against the Indira Gandhi government's alleged corruption and repressive politics in the 70s before she imposed an Emergency. He then united opposition parties and rallied the masses against Congress in the first election after the Emergency in 1977, scripting a crushing defeat for the ruling party. Associated with the RSS, Deshmukh was an active member of the antiemergency movement and later quit politics to become a social activist who dedicated his life to improving the lives of villagers.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday invited East Asia Summit countries for the first-ever Heads of Higher Education Conclave to be held at Nalanda University in Bihar. He extended the invitation during 19th East Asia Summit (EAS) at Vientiane, the capital of Lao People's Democratic Republic.

"Reiterating the importance of the EAS mechanism and reaffirming India's support to further strengthen it, the PM recalled support received from EAS Participating Countries on the revival of Nalanda University. The PM took this opportunity to invite the EAS countries for a

Indian Navy hosts NIIO Seminar 2024

Heads of Higher Education Conclave to be held at Nalanda University," an official statement said. The statement did not mention the date of the conclave.

The EAS has 18 members the 10 ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand. along Vietnam) with Australia, China, India. Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia and

the United States. Modi had in Iune inaugurated the new campus of Nalanda University at Rajgir in Bihar. The University is conceived as a collaboration between India and the EAS countries.

India's vaccine regulatory system gets WHO approval

Tourism and Culture.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Drug regulator Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation(CDSCO)and the National Regulatory Authority of India have met the standards set up by the World Health Organisation(WHO)for a functional vaccine regulatory system.

A team of international experts from various countries led by WHO Geneva headquarters in reviewed India's vaccine regulatory system from September 16 to 20, the health ministry said in a statement. Safety, efficacy, and quality the three basic were parameters of assessment of vaccines, it said.



The WHO has established benchmarks for assurance of standards and vaccine quality through the global

development of tools and guidelines, benchmarking of National Regulatory the Authorities (NRA) and prequalification programme of vaccines, the statement said. The WHO NRA rebenchmarking was aimed to assess and document the status of the India regulatory system in the area of vaccine regulation, re-benchmark the status of the India vaccine regulatory system against the WHO NRA Global Benchmarking Tool (GBT) and measuring the maturity of the system.

"India has been declared 'functional' against all the core regulatory functions of the WHO Global Benchmarking Tool Version VI. India's vaccine regulatory system was

benchmarked in 2017 against Global benchmarking tool (GBT) version V which is now revised to GBT VI with raised bars and stringency in benchmarking criteria," the statement said.

India retains maturity level 3 with highest marks in several functions. Speaking about the achievement, Punya Salila Srivastava, Union Health Secretary, stated, "The Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation (CDSCO), in collaboration with WHO, has made exemplary efforts towards this achievement.

India is one of the main players in the pharmaceutical industry worldwide and is known for its affordable vaccines and generic medicines?

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

The third edition of the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation (NIIO) Seminar, Swavlamban 2024, will take place for two days starting October 28 at Bharat Mandapam here, navy said on Friday.

Giving details, officials said over the last two editions of Swavlamban, the Indian Navy has received more than 2,000 proposals from the Indian industry that have been converted into 155 challenges to facilitate development of prototypes. This initiative has enabled collaboration with more than 200 MSMEs/ Startups under the iDEX Scheme. 2024,'is

ʻSwavlamban expected to build on the



experiences and insights gained through the conduct of previous editions of the seminar, and provide new and substantial impetus to innovation the and indigenisation endeavour. The event will showcase products of niche technologies such as air and surface surveillance, autonomous systems in surface, aerial and underwater domains, Al and quantum technologies, they said.

Domain specific interactive sessions on October 29 at Bharat Mandapam will provide an opportunity for interaction among policy makers, innovators, startups MSMEs, financial institutions and venture capitalists to discuss and deliberate on issues such as emerging technologies, future warfare, indigenisation, boosting innovation ecosystem and inculcating an innovative culture.



Row erupts over JPNIC as SP, BJP clash

BISWAJEET BANERJEE 📕 LUCKNOW

 $T_{
m International}^{
m he Jayaprakash Narayan}$ (JPNIC) in Lucknow, home to a museum honoring the iconic socialist leader, has become the focal point of a political standoff between Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav and the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) with Akhilesh even asking Nitish Kumar to severe ties with NDA.

The row erupted during Jayaprakash Narayan's birth anniversary, with SP accusing the BJP of preventing their tribute to the revered leader. Late Thursday night, entrances to the JPNIC were barricaded with tin sheets, and security was heightened Friday morning with heavy police presence, a day before Mr. Yadav's planned visit to

garland the statue of Narayan inside the complex. Sharing videos of the barri

cades outside his residence, Mr. Yadav accused the BJP government of obstructing his tribute. "Whether it is the BJP or their government, every action is a symbol of negativity. Barricades have been put up to prevent us from honoring Jayaprakash Narayanji on his birth anniversary, just like last time." Vadav said time," Yadav said.

Responding to the allegations, BJP spokesperson Alok Awasthi defended the government's actions and assert-ed that the BJP holds great respect for Jayaprakash Narayan, hailing him as a "symbol of simplicity." However, Awasthi sharply criticized Yadav, questioning his alignment with Narayan's values

"Mr. Akhilesh Yadav, do you



even possess a single quality of Jai Prakash Narayan? You lead a luxurious life. During your tenure, lawlessness, hooliganism, and corruption were rampant," Awasthi said. He added that Yadav's actions were contrary to the princi-ples upheld by both Jayaprakash Narayan and socialist leader Ram Manohar Lohia.

With his visit to the JPNIC blocked, Mr. Yadav garlanded a bust of Jayaprakash Narayan mounted on a vehicle outside his residence. Photographs of the tribute ware widdly of the tribute were widely shared, accompanied by the defiant message: "Socialists are not afraid of dictatorship.

Yadav also made a political appeal to Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar, a former ally of Narayan, calling on him to sever ties with the BJP over the incident. Nitish Kumar's

Janata Dal (United) party, which is allied with the BJP, plays a significant role in the NDA government.

"What does the government want to hide by blocking the gate with tin sheets?" Yadav questioned late Thursday night. "A museum was built here to honor a great social-ist thinker. Why is the government doing this?"

Birth Anniversary Standoff This marks the second con-secutive year that Yadav has been prevented from paying his respects at the JPNIC. In 2022, he famously scaled a wall to garland the statue, a symbolic act he cited as evidence of the government's hostility towards socialists. "Every year on this day, socialists gathered here to honor Jayaprakashji. He never bowed before the government of his time, and we won't either," Yadav declared.

The JPNIC, inaugurated by Akhilesh Yadav in 2016 during his tenure as Chief Minister, has been mired in controversy since the BJP came to power in Uttar Pradesh in 2017. Yadav has repeatedly alleged that con-struction at the center was deliberately stalled after the BJP's electoral victory and accused the government of planning to sell off the prop-

nation 05

erty. The LDA, responsible for the maintenance of the JPNIC, has stood by its decision to deny Yadav access to the site. In its official statement, the authority reiterated concerns over the ongoing construction and the potential hazards posed by recent heavy rains. The letter also mentioned the heightened security risk posed by Yadav's Z+ security cover, a status shared only by the Prime Minister.

Mayawati rules out future alliances with regional parties Ratan Tata Memorial meeting held at Kasaragod

BISWAJEET BANERJEE LUCKNOW

 $B^{\text{SP}\,(\text{Bahujan Samaj Party})}_{\text{supremo}} \, \overset{\text{Mayawati}}{\underset{\text{announced on Friday that}}} \,$ her party will no longer form alliances with regional forces in Uttar Pradesh or any other state, citing the poor perfor-mance of previous partnerships

This move, she said, is aimed at protecting the morale of her party workers and pre-serving the BSP's political movement. Mayawati also reiterated her stance of maintaining a distance from both the BJP-led NDA and the Congress-led INDIA alliance. The decision was made during a review meeting held to analyze the "bitter experiences" from the Haryana Assembly election results and prior Punjab elections. In a series of posts on X (formerly Twitter), the former fourtime Uttar Pradesh chief minister expressed her dissatisfaction with past alliances.

"The BSP had consistently transferred its votes to alliance partners during elections in Uttar Pradesh and other states, but these partners failed to reciprocate. This led to disappointing results, which demoralized our party workers and hurt the party's movement," Mayawati said. She emphasized the impor-



potentially damage the party's progress. Referring to the recent Haryana elections, where the BSP had partnered with the Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) but failed to win any seats, she highlighted how the lack of reciprocation from allies had cost them.

"In light of the Haryana assembly election results and the previous Punjab elections, today's review meeting for Haryana and Punjab has the

decided that the BSP will no longer form alliances with regional parties. We will also continue to distance ourselves from both the BJP/NDA and Congress/INDIA alliances, as we have done in

the past," Mayawati declared. She reaffirmed that the BSP remains committed to its core ideology of empowering the Bahujan Samaj (the margin-alized sections of society) and upholding Ambedkarite values. She pointed out that, despite efforts by "casteist forces" to weaken the BSP, it remains the only party dedi-cated to this mission.

"The BSP is not a party that merges with others for selfish reasons. Instead, it is a movement aimed at uniting the various sections of the Bahujan Samaj into a powerful political force, based on mutual cooperation and brotherhood, to elevate them to a ruling class status," she added.

In the Haryana elections, the BSP, in alliance with INLD, failed to win any seats. After the results, Mayawati blamed the "casteist people of the Jat community" for not voting for BSP candidates, despite the party's efforts to transfer its vote base to the alliance partner.

KUMAR CHELLAPPAN KOCHI No citizens in Kasaragod have met Ratan Tata, India's leading industrialist. But that did not prevent them from organizing a memorial meeting on Friday in honor of Ratan Tata who breathed his last late Wednesday night. "It is because of the philan-

"It is because of the philanthropy of Tata that we are all alive today. When Covid-19 struck Kasaragod in a major way in 2019, the district was declared a no go area and all boundaries with Karnataka and other districts in the State were shut down. This made Kasaragod a ghost district as hundreds died without getting medical care," said Sukumaran Periyachoor, patron of Saparya, a socio-cultural platform which

organized the meeting. The district was short of hospitals and residents had to depend on hospitals in Karnataka's Mangalore for



medical aid. Since the borders of the district were shut off, there was no means for the locals to commute to Karnataka for treatment. "It was at this juncture Ratan Tata came across our plight and he ordered the immediate setting up of a specialty hospital to treat Covid-19 patients. A fullfledged hospital was set up in record time of three months at Chattanchal. It was a 600-bed hospital and treated more than 6000 Covid-19 patients. The hospital cost the Tata Trusts more than Rs 60 crore," said Sukumaran who expressed his

gratitude to The Pioneer, the only newspaper that high-lighted the concern of the people in the delay associated with the opening of the hospital. "While the media in Kerala ignored the sufferings of the Kasaragod people, The Pioneer was the only newspaper which highlighted the delay in commissioning the hospital because of the lethargy and indecisiveness of the Government," said Sreedevi Ambalapuram, who paid glowing tributes to Rata

Tata in the meeting. The resolution adopted in the meeting described the philanthropy works carried out by the Tata Trusts as proof of value based economy. "Though none of us has seen Rata Tata in person, we were all praying for his recovery and longevity so that more and more people could get the benefits showered by Tata Trusts, of which he was the soul and energy," said Premachandran Chombala.

ED registers money laundering case into recent drug seizure

PNS NEW DELHI

including an Indian-origin

Ashuras too have begun to celebrate Durga Pujas SAUGAR SENGUPTA KOLKATA

The "big breaking news" is: The hedge of stated 'dis-cord' between the "descen-dants of Gods and Ashuras" is oblitanting fact. Unlike their obliterating fast. Unlike their ancestors the Ashuras are

that sort ... we remained confined in our homes in these 10 days of Durga Pujas ... but modern education seems to have broken that barrier," said Rajiv Ashur of Nagrakata in Jalpaiguri.

"We as children would not go though we were

serving her culture. "There is no problem min-gling but why should be done by demeaning of our ancestors. According to her the myth that "the war between Gods and Demons is an eter-

from what you call the traditional Aryan communities ... so it is better to get the cul-

tures to mingle." But he does not reject his sisters' views that the Ashura community and its culture nal battle between good and must not be allowed to be bv the overwhelmed majoritarian culture. According to the 1991 census, the population of Ashurs --one of the 40 scheduled tribes of Bengal --- was about 4864. Of these, the total number is 3108 in Jalpaiguri. There were some Ashurs in Darjeeling and Cooch Behar districts too. Bikash Ashur a private teacher and also member of a Puja club says "the time has come when Ashur or Shur should be identified by the inner quality and not the looks or descent ... after all the Hindu mythology itself says that the Gods and Ashuras were siblings with one being the descendant of Aditi and the other of Diti."

The Entorcement Directorate (ED) on Friday registered a money laundering case into the recent narcotics seizure worth over 7,000 crore in the national Capital and conducted searches in Delhi, Mumbai, Gurugram and some other cities. Delhi police which is probing the city's biggestever seizure of cocaine worth over Rs 7,000 crore, has issued look-out circulars (LOCs) against six people, including an Indian-origin UK national who fled the country before the latest recovery of 208 kg of the drug from west Delhi. The Delhi Police Special Cell on October 2 seized over 560 kg cocaine and 40 kg hydroponic marijuana, estimated to be worth Rs 5,620 crore, from a godown in the Mahipalpur area of south Delhi. According to police, a total of seven persons have been arrested by the police till now in the case.

ED sources said the federal agency raided the premises of various accused and suspects including that of Tushar Goel and his wife in Vasant Enclave and Rajouri Garden areas of Delhi. The residential premises of Himanshu Kumar in Prem Nagar in Delhi and that of Bharat Kumar in Nalasopara, Mumbai, are also being searched.

"The business premises of Tushar Books Publication Private Limited and Tulip Publications Private Limited in the Jhandewalan area of Delhi and ABN Buildtech Private Limited in Gurugram were also raided," a source said. In the second such narcotics haul, the Delhi Police Thursday seized 208 kg of cocaine worth Rs 2,080 crore from a rented shop in west Delhi. The second case is linked to the October 2 case. The ED is probing this drug haul too, they said.

Meanwhile, Delhi police has issued look-out circulars (LOCs) against six people, area

country before the latest recovery of 208 kg of the drug from west Delhi. According to police sources, the UK national, Savinder Singh, came to India last moth to supervise the transportation and delivery of the

kings --- have cast off the age old "stigma" of being the descendents of Mahishasura 208-kg consignment suspected to have been brought from to take part in the festivities. "We are proud of our Ashura South American countries. culture ... when we come to celebrate Durga Pujas it is an The sources said Singh spent around 25 days in three sepassimilation of culture and arate locations in Delhi before fleeing to the United not representation of hostili-Kingdom soon after the arrest ties," says Jamini an amateur of the first four members of artist from the community. the syndicate. These arrests "Till even a few years ago the were effected on October 2. "As of now, we have issued LOCs against half-a-dozen

people, some of them foreign nationals. One of them is the person who kept 208 kg of cocaine hidden in west Delhi's Ramesh Nagar and fled to the UK," a police officer, who is privy to the investigations, said. The officer said a dozen people suspected to be involved in the syndicate are on the radar of the Delhi Police. Earlier, police had

issued an LOC against the syndicate's kingpin, Virender Basoya alias Veeru, who is believed to be staying in Dubai.

Basoya was allegedly run-ning the syndicate with the help of India-based Tushar Goyal and UK-based Jitender Gill alias Jassi and Savinder Singh, police said. Goyal and Gill have been arrested while Basoya and Singh are yet to be nabbed, the officer said. In the second big drugs haul in a week, the Special Cell of the Delhi Police seized 208 kg of cocaine worth Rs 2,080 crore from a rented shop in west Delhi on Thursday.

The drug was kept concealed in plastic packets of snacks with "Tasty Treat" and "Chatpata Mixture" written on those. About 20-25 such packets kept in cartons were seized from the small shop in west Delhi's Ramesh Nagar

ining Durga Puja celebrations in a big way.

attracted by the pomp as people mostly the descendants of Cut to Jalpaiguri in North Bengal where the members of the Aryans would think that we were bad being the Ashura tribe --- many of whom consider themselves descendants of Mahishashur ... but our mythology says the descendents of demon that he was a good king ... however that sense of stigma is diminishing and the people are taking part in the festivities as social beings ... even they come to our festivals," he says. His grandfather Charu Ashur though however refuses to visit the pandal as he thinks

members of our tribe would not go out and mingle with the people in Durga Pujas as our ancestors did nothing of

that Mahishasur --- the demon God who was slain by the Mother Goddess to rid the Universe of evil --- "was a very benevolent king who did great good to his subjects

believed that after the

Congress rule, work would be

done in only one or two dis-

tricts. On the other hand, the

BJP government has worked to

give jobs to deserving youth

without any expenditure or

slip during the last ten years.

"BJP government has worked

state. The result of this is that

the government is being

formed for the third time with



but for the intervention of the Gods who tried to impose their will on the Ashuras taking away their lands and everything leading to a battle in which he was eventually martyred."

Charu however does not come in the way of h is grand-

children mingling with the children of Durga as "past is past ... now time has come when all should live together happily sharing mutual respect for each other."

However Usha Ashur who has done her Masters in sociology is vehement in pre-

alleged epitome of evil that is Mahishasur is finally forgiven by the Goddess, should also be discarded" as "this leads to "continual marginalisation and exclusion of Mahishasur's descendants from the cultural mainstream."

But once again she has no problem joining in the festivities but with a caution "this must not mean white-washing of the Ashura culture." Her own brother who is a member in a Durga Puja community in Jalpaiguri says, "how can you resist the children who get a good opportunity to get new clothes, sweets, and a long drawn off from the schools ... their friends are

Development of Gurugram district Ahead of commissioning, IAF aircraft my priority:, says Badshahpur MLA lands at Mumbai International Airport

PARVESH SHARMA GURUGRAM

Newly elected Badshahpur MLA and senior BJP leader Rao Narbir Singh said that the development of Gurugram district is his priority

In his first instructions after winning the elections, he said the foundation stone would be laid soon for making Gurugram free from garbage and dirt and for the construction of a civil hospital and bus stand. Gurugram district is now going to move towards new changes of development. Singh asserted that along with winning most of the seats in southern Haryana, the BJP government is going to be formed in Haryana for the third time.

a huge majority in Haryana," he added. "BJP government has worked Singh disclosed that the stalled on the principle of Sabka Saath-Sabka Vikas and has development works of Badshahpur as well as brought equal development in the whole of Haryana,' Gurugram district will be Singh said. completed on a priority basis. At the same time, people "In the coming five years, we

want to get so much work done so that in future, the BJP candidate does not have to go to seek votes and people themselves come and give their votes and support to the BJP," he lamented.

Singh said he had instructed the administrative officials to make Gurugram a garbagefree beautiful city. Illegal constructions made in the green belt should also be removed,

the work of which has also started. We want that all types of garbage, polythene and dirt should be disposed of by Diwali.

The construction work of the civil hospital will be started in to change the system in the one to one and a half months and the foundation stone of the bus stand will also be laid within three months, he said. Apart from this, to improve the education system, model schools will be built in Gurugram under the CSR fund. In which better education will be provided. The metro rail project will also be

expanded in Gurugram.

T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBA

> In a significant milestone wit-nessed months ahead of the commissioning of the Navi Mumbai International Airport (NMIA), a C-295 transport aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) landed on its runway on Friday afternoon.

The C-295, a medium tactical transport aircraft, landed around 1215 hrs after which it was accorded a water salute. As the transport aircraft touched the NMIA's runway, there was a stunning flypast by Sukhoi-30 fighter jets of the IAF. The inaugural landing of aircraft marked a new beginning in the country's aviation sector.

The NMIA has been developed by the Navi Mumbai International Airport Pvt Ltd (NMIAL), which is a specialpurpose vehicle formed by the Adani Airports Holdings Ltd (AAHL) and City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra



Ltd (CIDCO). The CIDCO is the nodal agency for the project.

A Greenfield airport, NMIA will serve as the second international airport for the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), to be operated alongside the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport

(CSMIA) of Mumbai. The NMIA is expected to absorb 10 million passengers in its first operational year and 25 million passengers in the two subsequent years and ulti-mately 40 million by 2030 to

The importance of NMIA Director Jeet Ădani wrote on should be realized from the fact micro-blogging site "X".

that the Mumbai airport currently handles 26 million passengers annually and the traffic flow has now increased to 45 million passengers and the fig-ure will go up to 119 million by 2035.

After the landing of the trans-port aircraft, chief minister Eknath Shinde inspected the runway at the airport, and congratulated the IAF officers present. He also sat in the cockpit of the The C-295

"After the successful testing of the runway, it will soon be possible for us to operate domestic and international flights from this airport," Shinde said. "A historic moment for Navi Mumbai as we celebrate the first landing on the new airport with the Indian Air Force's C-295! Grateful for the support of IAF, including a stunning low pass by the Su-30. This marks the dawn of a new era in Indian aviation, where the sky is no longer the limit. Together, we soar higher," AAHL

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

India acts East

PM Modi visits Laos for the 21st India-ASEAN Summit; says the 21st century belongs to India and ASEAN

rime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Laos for the 21st India-ASEAN Summit reestablishes India's diplomatic engagement with Southeast Asian nations. With a focus on enhancing connectivity and resilience. Modi announced a comprehensive 10point action plan aimed at fortifying the India-ASEAN partnership. This initiative not only underscores the importance of regional collaboration in a time of global uncertainty but also highlights the potential for growth within the 21st-century landscape, which PM Modi asserts 'belongs to India and ASEAN.' PM Modi emphasised the critical need for friendship and cooperation among India and ASEAN countries, especially as tensions rise globally, with conflicts affecting various regions. He reiterated that India-ASEAN friendship, coordination dialogue and cooperation are essential at a time when several parts of the world are facing conflicts and tensions. The summit also coincides with the review of a decade of India's Act East Policy, which has significantly contributed to the dou-



bling of India-ASEAN trade to over USD 130 billion in the past ten years.

The Prime Minister's vision for deeper ties with ASEAN encompasses several key areas. One of the important initiatives is the enhancement of connectivity, marked by the establishment of direct flight connections with seven ASEAN nations. This move aims to facilitate easier travel and trade, further integrating the economies of the region. In the realm of technology, PM Modi announced the launch of fintech connectivity with Singapore, setting a precedent for future collaborations across the ASEAN region. This initiative promotes technological advancement and financial inclusion, essen-

tial for emerging economies. Cultural ties are also a focal point, with efforts to restore shared heritage in Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar and Indonesia reflecting India's commitment to preserving regional history and identity. Moreover, Modi stressed the urgency of completing the ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement (AITIGA) review to unlock greater economic potential for both parties. He highlighted the significance of educational exchanges. Over 300 students from ASEAN countries have benefitted from scholarships at Nalanda University, fostering deeper educational ties. As regional tensions persist, especially concerning maritime disputes in the South China Sea and the ongoing crisis in Myanmar, PM Modi's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative underscores the need for collaborative efforts in ensuring regional stability and security. This approach, along with a commitment to humanitarian cooperation, highlights India's readiness to support ASEAN nations in times of natural disasters. India's vision is firmly anchored in a people-centric approach, indicating a commitment to sustainable development that addresses the needs and aspirations of citizens across both regions. Indeed India and ASEAN nations have much in common; they share heritage and values which date backs to centuries. It is time to revive them.



Strengthening RTI Act with practical reforms



SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

As the Right to Information (RTI) Act completes 19 years, it is time to amend the rules and expand its scope to ensure it continues to serve its purpose effectively

RIGHT TO INFOR

he Right to Information (RTI) Act, implemented on October 12, 2005, marked a monumental step toward government transparency and accountability in India. Over the years, the Act has been instrumental in exposing corruption and various scams, empowering citizens to demand information from public authorities. However, while the Act has undeniably brought about significant reform, certain amendments to the RTI rules-not the Act itself-are necessary to prevent misuse, streamline the process, and reduce the burden on the courts.

Addressing Misuse and Unnecessary Litigation

One of the key challenges facing the RTI framework today is the misuse of the system by individuals and groups, often leading to unnecessary appeals and challenges in courts. The Central Information Commission (CIC), tasked with handling RTI appeals, is often burdened by frivolous cases that clog the system and delay the resolution of genuine complaints. Amendments to the RTI rules, particularly in the area of public-private partnerships (PPPs), sports bodies, and cooperatives, could alleviate some of this pressure. By declaring PPPs, sports bodies,

and cooperatives as public authorities under the RTI Act, a significant amount of time and resources could be saved. These entities often handle substantial public funds, and their exclusion from RTI coverage has raised questions about transparency. Including them under the Act would not only enhance accountability but also reduce the number of cases that reach Information Commissions and courts, streamlining the entire RTI process.

Bringing Government Allotments Under RTI

A critical area that requires attention is the issue of government land and accommodation allotments. Many government-owned erties are allotted at sub-

sidised rates, often raising concerns about favouritism or corunder the purview of the RTI Act. Moreover, future allotments should be made conditional upon compliance with the Act, ensuring that beneficiaries are transparent about the process and accountable to the public. This move would further reduce the burden on Information Commissions, as it would discourage non-compliant beneficiaries from evading public scrutiny. It would also provide citizens with a tool to question and monitor how public resources are being allocated, contributing to more

FORMATIONA

transparent governance. Streamlining High Offices' **RTI Applications**

High offices such as those of the President, Prime Minister, and Chief Ministers often receive RTI applications that may not be directly related to their functions. To improve efficiency, these offices should only address RTI applications that pertain specifically to their roles. Any other applications should be returned to the applicant, along with advice on which department or authority they should approach instead. This measure would reduce the workload on these high offices while ensuring that citizens receive the information they seek from the cor-

Bringing Private Sector

rect sources.



dals and issues of financial

mismanagement. While pub-

Standardising RTI Fees and

Another issue that plagues

the current RTI framework is

the inconsistency in applica-

tion fees across states. RTI fees

should be standardised nation-

wide at Rs 50, which would

cover the cost of 20 photo-

copied pages. Furthermore, no fees should be charged for

appeals. These changes would

simplify the process for citizens

and eliminate confusion

regarding varying charges in

different states. However, there

is also a need to address the misuse of free RTI applications

by certain vested interests. For

instance, contractors have been

known to exploit Below

Poverty Line (BPL) workers by

having them file RTI requests

on their behalf, thus avoiding

Preventing Misuse

ONE OF THE KEY CHALLENGES FACING THE RTI FRAMEWORK TODAY IS THE MISUSE OF THE SYSTEM BY INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS, OFTEN LEADING TO UNNECESSARY APPEALS AND CHALLENGES IN

ing that the system is not abused while still providing free access to information for

Digital Integration

process, post offices across the country should accept post-free RTI applications. This would make it easier for citizens, particularly those in rural areas, to file applications without worrying about postage costs. In addition, a mandatory requirement for ID proof, as seen in states like Punjab and Haryana, should be implemented nationwide. This would prevent misuse of the RTI system and ensure that applications are being filed by genuine individuals seeking information. The introduction of online RTI portals has been a positive step in recent years, but there is still room for improvement. All states should adopt the National Informatics Centre (NIC)-designed RTI websites, which allow for greater standardisation and ease of use. These portals should feature auto-emailed responses and alerts, keeping applicants informed of the status of their requests. Moreover, outdated state-specific RTI laws, such as the Delhi RTI Act, should be

genuinely disadvantaged individuals Enhancing Accessibility and To further streamline the RTI

An artist paints effigies of the demon king Ravana on the Dussehra, in Prayagraj

A new era of global opportunities awaits India in higher education



GUPTA SAHIL

With initiatives like 'Study in India' and the recognition of qualifications of other countries, India is positioning itself as a growing hub for international education

ndia offers tremendous opportunities in various sectors, the education is different. no Internationalisation of this sector was envisaged in the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP), and the Government of India has taken effective steps over the last 4 years towards achieving this goal. Initiatives such as Study in India, Foreign Higher Educational Institutions (FHEIs) setting up campuses in India, collaborations between Indian institutions and FHEIs, and mutual recognition of qualifications between governments are already seeing positive results. Enabling FHEIs to set up their campuses in India was allowed through Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) regulations as well as by the University Grants Commission (UGC). These regulations aim to attract top-ranked global universities and institutions to India and offer Indian students a chance to avail global certifications at comparatively affordable costs in their home country. We have already seen Deakin University operationalise its



the University of Wollongong preparing for their launch, both at GIFT City. The University of Southampton (UK), ranked 80th in the 2025 QS World Rankings, became the first university to receive a Letter of Intent (LoI) from the Indian Government to establish its campus in India.

We are also seeing Indian institutions set up campuses overseas as part of the internationalisation initiative. IIT Delhi has set up its first international campus in Abu Dhabi and IIT Madras has located its first overseas campus in Zanzibar. The UGC Institutions of Eminence (IoE) guidelines enable IoEs to set up their campuses over-seas and BITS Pilani and Manipal Academy took advantage of the window to do their forays outside India. While there is a lot of inter-

est from other private universities to set up campuses overseas, promulgating an enabling framework through regulations by the govern-ment would catalyze this interest further. In May 2022, the government revamped the collaboration guidelines to allow for joint degree, dual

degree and twinning pro-grammes between Indian institutions and FHEIs. We have already seen a lot of traction in this space, with Manipal Institute of Technology tying up with Deakin, the University of Australia, and Shoolini University offering dual degrees with the University of Melbourne being some recent

examples. Studying in India is another initiative towards the internationalisation of the Indian education system. It is a flagship programme of the Government of India in line with PM Modi's vision. The website portal acts as a single window system for admission and visa applications for foreign students wanting to pursue higher education in India, with more than 60,000 students already registering through this portal. The

baton of internationalisation of education is also being taken forward through the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs) and the Mutual Recognition of Qualification (MRQ) Agreement between India and other countries, which aims to facilitate student and faculty exchanges.

There are around 50 plus active MoUs (including France, and Germany) with a few under negotiation. MRQs have been signed with a few countries as well and some are under negotiation. A fabulous start to an era of transformation of the Indian education landscape! Is there a need to do more? A more targeted approach, probably through a campaign run with Indian consulates in overseas countries, could further the cause of internationalisation. FHEIs are now rethinking their strategy. Possibly an opportunity for India to tap – open an FHEI campus in India and offer itself as an alternate

education hub in the region. (The writer is Partner, Deloitte India, inputs by Guncha Prakash, Assistant Manager, Deloitte India; views are personal)

Banks Under KII The financial sector has long been an area where greater ruption. To address this, all such transparency is needed, particallotments should be brought ularly in light of recent scan-

ETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COURTS

INDIAN WORKERS ARE OVERBURDENED

Madam — "Work more, take less" is the mantra of the Indian employers of all sectors who are hell-bent on extracting more and more work from their employees while the emolument is not parallel to the labour at all. Consequently, stress tends to percolate through the workplace as shown by two work-related deaths of young employees in private companies. An International Labour Organisation (ILO) report that Indians work 46.7 hours per week, much higher than their American, Japanese, South African and Chinese counterparts, speaks volumes about the workload taken by an average Indian worker.

It is documented in other papers, too, that more than sixty percent of the Indian workers are stressed at work, while in general the Asian countries' workforce is more burdened by work. The primary cause for all this can be traced to the burgeoning unemployment in the country and the dearth of the right job for the right person. Employers' proclivity to recruit less to save their coffers has compounded the problem. Egoistic and haughty employers, fretting and fuming over no real reason, have pushed an already overstressed Indian worker to the edge. There is no time to waste: balancing work with rest should engage everyone's attention including that of the government

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

INDIA-MALDIVES RELATIONS IMPROVE Madam-India and its neighbour Maldives recently concluded a bilateral summit and agreed upon numerous deals. This came after a strain of ties between the two nations for almost one year after Mohamed Muizzu became president of the Island nation. India came forward to help the Maldives recover from its economic distress by signing a currency swap deal of around 385 million dollars. The two nations also agreed to enhance strategic and defence cooperation in the future. This visit has

Sports promote social unity



rom time immemorial, sports have always been more than just games; they are powerful agents of social change, capable of uniting people, breaking down religion and caste barriers, and driving positive transformations in society. From local community

brought positivity amidst reports of the Maldives being closer to China. New Delhi also extended its Rupay card system to the Maldives, which can also improve people-to-people ties among the two nations.

Good relations between the two countries will lead to peaceful South Asia. The partnership between New Delhi and Male will also counter China's aggressive expansion motives in the region. Traditionally, the Maldives has always been a good friend to India, but in the last one year, administrative and peopleto-people ties have become strained between the two nations. Recently, both countries took the initiative to make it better. These steps resulted in this bilateral talk. The deals signed between the two nations will help both countries boost their economies. This will also benefit the region as well. India should also try to change the anti-Indian sentiments in the island nation and push for Indian businesses to expand and invest in a country with a rich tourism industry.

Deba Prasad Nayak | New Delhi

games to international tournaments, sports have a unique way of bringing people togeth-

er, fostering a sense of community, and promoting health and well-being. One of the most compelling aspects of sport is its ability to bridge cultural gaps. Whether it's a small-town soccer match or the grandeur of the Olympic Games, sports create a common ground where individuals can connect and share experiences.

This shared passion fosters mutual respect and understanding, promoting peace and camaraderie among different cultures. The impact of sports on society is profound, touching on aspects of culture, economy, and personal development. As we move forward, embracing the positive aspects of sport while addressing its challenges will ensure that it continues to be a powerful force for good in the world.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

THE BJP WINS HARYANA

Madam — Contrary to all expectations and predictions, the BJP was able to retain Haryana for the third time. All pollsters, analysts and exit polls have been proved wrong. Politics is an unforgiving game and the defeat of the Congress has created ripples in opposition unity as the Congress will have lost

its bargaining power. The victory for BJP will undoubtedly give them a lot of confidence to face assembly elections in Jharkhand and the all important Maharashtra. It is not in the best interests of Indian democracy to use caste equations to try and win elections. All parties are guilty of the practice of pandering to particular castes for gaining their votes. Time and again, it has been seen that in a one-toone fight, the Congress is no match for the well-oiled BJP election fighting machinery

Anthony Henriques | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

fees. To prevent this, the free provision for BPL applicants should be limited to 20 pages. Any additional pages should incur a nominal charge, ensur-

(The writer is a RTI activist; *views are personal)* BHUBANESWAR | SATURDAY | OCTOBER 12, 2024

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the ploneer

FIRSTCOLUMN OVERCOMING ANXIETY: THE RIGHT WAY

Mindfulness, mental resilience and stressrelieving activities are essential to combat anxiety



RAVI VALLURI

ameer was armed with a degree in management from an estimable institute. Having specialised in the field of marketing management, he was well versed in the 4Ps of marketing. At this juncture of his life, the young trainee fantasised about joining an FMCG company, earning an exorbitant salary and over a period acquiring an opulent property in an up-market area of the town. But there was an element of hesitation in his mind about successfully crossing the final hurdle - the interview. As the mind was not in the present moment and instead fixated on the future it remained anxious and continuously agitated. Thus, it was not in a state of equilibrium, equipoise, or equanimity. Meanwhile, Siddhartha, his school mate majored in architecture and apprenticed at a celebrated architectural firm in the city. Siddhartha however, was not content in designing buildings.

He possessed a febrile mind that ached to pursue a greenfield area called entertainment design. The stripling self-taught himself and acquired ultramodern and newfangled skill sets. Fortified with the newly acquired knowledge he prepared a portfolio consisting of visionary and ingenious graphics, sketches and paintings. Yet, mentally he was anxious, tense and strained as to what lay in future. It is a normal human tendency to be apprehensive before anxious situations as it is not in the present moment. Several individuals become splenetic and waspish. Invariably there is a churning in the abdomen region and the mind is subsumed with anxiety. Arjuna, in possession of a lethal arsenal, was benumbed seeing the mammoth army of the Kauravas. This, even though Lord Krishna was his charioteer! At zero hour, before the showdown at Kurukshetra, he lay down his weaponry. The consummate warrior could not distinguish between righteousness and malevolence. The demons in his mind were



eventually dispelled through the Vishwarupa Darshan of Lord Krishna and the song celestial - The Bhagavad Gita. Psychologists have advanced a two-pronged strategy to combat such inhospitable states, firstly by closely monitoring the piquant state and taking prompt and effective action and second, by avoiding and blunting the situation. Monitoring involves taking several proactive steps which help in the preparation of the mind. Advanced and well-rehearsed preparation before a significant event; this is tapasya and no one can relax on this ground.

The mind should be resolute and robust, to practice incessantly like the celebrated archer Arjuna. In the process, the individual de-clutters the mind and gets rid of the baggage of anxiety and fear. The Inoculation Technique is another effective strategy. An individual insulates the self against the perils of stress through constant exposure to rehearsals and role-playing This mentally toughens up the candidate to be prepared for the scrutiny and appraisal with utmost confidence and credence. Further, adopting a positive dispensation is invaluable. In addition, there are blunting tactics and strategies which help to augment the above. It is perspicacious and canny to drown in physical activity. It could be going for long walks, swimming, hitting the gym, taking up a sport or learning vogic techniques to de-stress the mind. These activities release endorphins which assuage the mind. Simultaneously, an individual will appear chiselled and smart. There are other ways to remain happy. For instance, join the Happiness Programme of the Art of Living to learn the unique rhythmic breathing technique of Sudarshan Kriya which calms the body and mind. Learn pranayama and various techniques of meditation to remain in the present moment. Only when a human being is in the present moment is he insulated from anxiety and manages inexpedient and onerous situations?

'Fourth transformation' of Maxico embraces inclusivity



analys \$ 07

Claudia Sheinbaum's leadership promises to reshape the nation's trajectory away from its violent past, embracing inclusive and human-centred policies

laudia Sheinbaum's swearing-in on October 1 as Mexico's first female President marks a transformative moment not only for gender equality but also within the broader historical trajectory shaped by violence, revolution and the ongoing pursuit of justice. In a nation long burdened by colonial legacies and systemic inequality, her presidency signals a paradigm shift towards more inclusive and human-centred governance. Declaring a "fourth transformation," Sheinbaum's leadership reflects the weight of Mexico's tumultuous history and the lives lost in its struggles. Her rise to power disrupts the deeply entrenched male-dominated political sphere, accentuating the resilience of women fighting for representation in a country plagued by gender-based violence and femicide.

Historically, Mexico has undergone signif-icant transformations marked by bloodshed and resistance. The country's struggle for independence from Spanish colonial rule in the early 19th century was fuelled by revolutionary fervour and the desire for self-determination. Statesmen like Miguel Hidalgo and José María Morelos emerged as symbols of resistance, galvanising the population against colonial oppression. The violent conflicts that followed laid the groundwork for a nation striving for autonomy, albeit at a considerable human cost. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the divide between church and state catalysed further revolutions and conflicts. The Liberal Reform, led by figures such as Benito Juárez, sought to dismantle the power of the Catholic Church and establish a secular state.

This period was marked by violence and civil strife, as conservative factions resisted these changes. The Mexican Revolution of 1910 further exemplified the nation's tumultuous journey, with leaders like Emiliano Zapata and Pancho Villa rallying for agrarian reform and social justice. The revolution, while transformative, came at a heavy price, resulting in the loss of countless lives and widespread suffering. The bloodshed that characterised these early transformations stands in stark contrast to Sheinbaum's vision for the fourth transformation, which she advocates as a path of non-violence and reconciliation. She seeks to distance her administration from the militarised approach that has defined previous efforts to combat crime and violence. In her inaugural speech, she emphasised that "we must turn the page on the cycles of violence that have plagued our country" By framing her presidency as a continuation of a peaceful and humanistic governance model, she aims to redefine Mexico's political structure. The economic model embraced by Sheinbaum's administration marks a significant departure from the neoliberal policies that have dominated Mexico for decades. The neoliberal framework, characterised by deregulation, resource exploitation, privatisation, and an emphasis on unethical free-market principles, has often exacerbated social inequalities and marginalised vulnerable populations. In contrast, Sheinbaum's "Mexican Humanist" approach seeks to prioritise social welfare, equity, and sustainable development. This shift is not merely a matter of policy but represents a broader socio-political transformation in the way governance is conceived. Sheinbaum advocates for a model that empowers communities and fosters inclusivity, stating, "We must build



a Mexico where no one is left behind." This vision reflects a recognition that systemic issues require collective solutions and that the voices of marginalised communities must be heard in the decision-making processes that affect their lives.

Yet, while Sheinbaum's approach has garnered support from many, it also faces criticism and scepti-cism from those who question the feasibility of her proposed reforms. Critics argue that the structural challenges posed by organised crime and entrenched political corruption may undermine her **OF CLAUDIA** SHEINBAUM'S efforts to implement meaningful change. The harsh realities of vio-PRESIDENCY, THE lence and inequality persist, and many Mexicans remain wary of promises that may be difficult to ENDURING LEGACY OF CIA fulfil in the face of overwhelming opposition. The historical backdrop of Mexico's political volatil-ity illuminates the formidable challenges in achieving authentic FOREIGN progress, as the legacies of colo-

lence and social justice aligns with Sheinbaum's vision, navigating the realities of power and governance often demands difficult compromises. The pressing challenge remains: how to dismantle deeply rooted systems of inequality and violence without mirroring the oppressive methods of the past. Sheinbaum's fourth transformation for Mexico calls for a reevaluation of economic policies and a fundamental shift in political culture, emphasising transparency, accountability, and democratic principles that prioritise the needs of the many.

She stresses the importance of restoring faith in institutions and rebuilding the nation's social fabric. However, the ongoing issues of alleged corruption and political machinations, exacerbated by her predecessor López Obrador's concentration of power and undermining of democratic institutions, raise concerns about the sustainability of her reforms. In the context of Claudia Sheinbaums pres idency, the enduring legacy of CIA covert operations and foreign interventions looms large. Historically, the United States has intervened in Latin America to safeguard its interests, often undermining democratic governance and social justice. The repercussions of these interventions have fostered a deep-seated distrust and scepticism toward foreign influence in Mexico's internal affairs. As Sheinbaum endeavours to establish a nation committed to human rights and social justice, she must grapple with the per-vasive effects of these historical injustices and the Western media narratives that distort the actual picture of Mexican society. In terms of international relations, Sheinbaum vehemently opposes foreign intervention, particularly regarding the US blockade against Cuba, which harms ordinary cit-

izens rather than the government. She advocates for cooperation rather than militarisation in addressing drug-related violence, emphasising that the drug market is intricately linked to US con-sumer demand. As she aptly stated, "We must honour our past, learn from our struggles, and build a future that reflects the aspirations of all Mexicans." Yet, the pursuit of a more just and equitable Mexico demands collective action, engagement from diverse communities, and a steadfast commitment to dismantling systemic barriers, as Sheinbaum seeks to embody the hopes of a nation shaped by resilience and struggle. However, the structural challenges, as Enrique Dussel, an Argentine-Mexican philosopher, explained in his writings, continue to haunt Mexico, posing real threats to the stability of political leadership. He emphasises the need for integrating diverse cultural perspectives and fostering dialogue from the Global South, as seen in his concept of transmodernity. Dussel also highlights the colonial-ity of power, illustrating how historical injustices persist in contemporary governance, perpetuating inequality. Furthermore, his ethics of the Other calls for recognising the experiences of marginalised individuals as central to any discourse on justice. Additionally, the aporia of borders illustrates the contradictions communities face at national edges, such as the Mexico-US border, where ideals of freedom and security often clash. Addressing these issues demands a nuanced approach that acknowledges the voices of those usually left unheard, which presents a significant challenge for the historic administration of Dr Sheinbaum. (The writer is a journalist and author; Views expressed are personal)

(The writer is the CEO of Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Ltd. He is a faculty of the Art of *Living; views are personal)*

nialism, imperialism, and sys-temic oppression remain deeply INTERVENTIONS LOOMS LARGE

ingrained. The ongoing struggles for justice and equality have come at a profound cost, with the violence woven into Mexico's history continuing to influence the present and complicate future paths.

The Zapatista movement, which arose in the 1990s in response to neoliberal policies and the marginalisation of Indigenous communities, stands as a powerful testament to the fight for social justice. Led by Subcomandante Marcos, the Zapatistas championed self-determination, autonomy, and the acknowledgement of Indigenous rights, challenging dominant political narratives and inspiring a new generation of activists, including Sheinbaum. Yet, their movement also reveals the challenges inherent in revolutionary politics; while their promise of non-vio-

Half of the world's GDP at risk due to environmental degradation The conservation and restoration of depleted forests are essential steps to combat climate change

IN THE CONTEXT

OPERATIONS AND

COVERT

limate change has become an important challenge for the whole world. Conservation and restoration of depleted forests can become a necessary step to deal with this challenge.

Regarding this, many companies around the world have pledged to plant over 12 billion trees in the next seven years. The report pub-lished by the World Economic Forum on Nature and Biodiversity on January 18, 2024, clarifies that half of the world's GDP, i.e. about \$44 trillion, is in danger. Which is due to the loss of nature. To save it, more than 100

companies have pledged to conserve, restore and plant new trees of over 12 billion comed this resolution by forestry can learn from each



RAJEEV AACHARYA

trees in more than 100 countries. This report states that companies around the world are working together through the World through Economic Forum's 1t.org initiative.

It aims to support the glob-Nature, America. al movement to protect over 12 billion trees by 2030. In January 2024, 1t.org wel-

five new companies Bharat other and flourish. According to the research, Heavy Electricals (BHEL), Burberry China, Go To Group, RPG Enterprises and both systems can be seen as natural solutions. Both sys-Vale. Member companies of tems also have similarities in 1t.org are committed to ownership and management implementing the goal in line with the Paris responsibilities. For example, most of the agricultural land in the Global North is pri-Agreement to save trees and reduce carbon emissions. vately owned, just as a large Tree conservation is not part of the green cover is only important for environseen in cities.

mental sustainability, but it Increasing the density of is also a part of our culturtrees improves air quality. al and religious heritage. The Indian Institute of Trees learn from each other. Science (IISc), Bangalore That research was published conducted a study in 2023 on May 28, 2024 in the on the role of trees in the Current Forestry Reports urban environment. This magazine of Springer study was mainly done in urban areas of Bangalore. It was found that trees in This research is based on the topic that how trees planted urban areas play an imporin agro-forestry and urban tant role in improving air quality as well as controlling



temperature.

trees, the greater the increase In this research, it was told in air quality and the effect that the higher the density of of heat can also be reduced. Vaapi, Dashavaapisamo

This study also found that Hradah. Dashahradasamo the mental and physical health of people living in green areas improves. The density of trees prevents soil erosion.

A study conducted by the University of Sydney, Australia, says that dense cover of trees can control the flow of water and help prevent soil erosion. This study also stated that the conservation of trees helps in reducing the effects of climate change. All these studies confirm how important the conservation of trees is for our future. In Indian culture, importance has been given to the conservation of trees since the beginning. According to Matasya Purana, "Dashakoopasama

Putro, Dashputrasamo Drumah." That is, one tree is equal to ten sons. Similarly, it is said in Vishnu Purana that the person who plants a tree earns virtue not only in his life but also for the coming generations.

Planting and caring for trees has been described as an important religious and social work in Indian scriptures. At present, planting trees is not only to save lives but also to save the earth. Let us take resolve to conserve nature. Each one of us must take a pledge to plant at least 5 trees, only then this disaster of global warming can be dealt with. (The writer is an environmentalist; views *are personal*)



Nobel Peace prize awarded to Japanese organisation for work against N-weapons

AP OSLO

The Nobel Peace Prize was award-ed Friday to Nihon Hidankyo, a Japanese organisation of survivors of the US atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, for its activism against nuclear weapons. Jørgen Watne Frydnes, chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, said the award was made as the "taboo against the use of nuclear weapons is under pressure.

Last month, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced a shift in his country's nuclear doctrine, in a move aimed at discouraging the West from allowing Ukraine to strike Russia with longer-range weapons. It appeared to significantly lower the threshold for the possible use of Russia's nuclear arsenal. Watne Frydnes said the Nobel com-

vivors who, despite physical suffering and painful memories, have chosen to use their costly experience to cultivate hope and engagement for peace." Hidankyo's Hiroshima branch chairperson, Tomoyuki Mimaki, who was standing by at the city hall for the announcement, cheered and teared up when he received the news. "Is it really true? Unbelievable!

mittee "wishes to honour all sur-

Mimaki screamed. Efforts to eradicate nuclear weapons have been honoured before by the

Nobel committee. The International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons won the peace prize in 2017, and in 1995 Joseph Rotblat and the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs won for "their efforts to diminish the part played by nuclear arms in interna-

tional politics and, in the longer run, to eliminate such arms." This year's prize was awarded against a backdrop of devastating

conflicts raging in the Middle East, Ukraine and Sudan. "It is very clear that threats of using nuclear weapons are putting pres-sure on the important international norm, the taboo of using nuclear weapons," Watne Frydnes said in

response to a question on whether the rhetoric from Russia surrounding nuclear weapons in its invasion of Ukraine had influenced this vear's decision.

And therefore it is alarming to see how threats of use is also damaging this norm. To uphold an international strong taboo against the use is crucial for all of humanity," he added. EU Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said on X that

"the spectre of Hiroshima and Nagasaki still looms over humanity. This makes the advocacy of Nihon Hidankyo invaluable. This Nobel Peace Prize sends a powerful message. We have the duty to remember. And an even greater duty to protect the next generations from the horrors of nuclear war." Alfred Nobel stated in his will that the peace prize should be awarded for "the most or the best work for fraternity between nations, for the abolition or reduction of standing armies and for the holding and pro-

motion of peace congresses." Last year's prize went to jailed Iranian activist Narges Mohammadi for her advocacy of women's rights and democracy, and against the death penalty. The Nobel committee said it also was a recognition of "the hundreds of thousands of peo-

ple" who demonstrated against Iran's theocratic regime's policies of discrimination and oppression targeting women." In a year of conflict, there had been some speculation that the Norwegian Nobel Committee that decides on the winner would opt not to award a prize at all. The prize has been withheld 19 times since 1901, including during both world wars. The last time it was not awarded was in 1972. In the Middle East, spiraling levels of violence in the past year have killed tens of thousands of people, including women and children. The war, sparked by a bloody raid into Israel by Hamas-led militants on Oct. 7, 2023, that left about 1,200 people dead, mostly civilians, has

spilled into the wider region. In the past week, Israel sent ground troops into Lebanon to pursue

Hezbollah militants firing rockets into Israel, while Iran -- which backs both Hamas and Hezbollah -- fired ballistic missiles into Israel. Israel has yet to respond, but its defense minister vowed this week that its retaliation would be both devastating and surprising.

The war in Gaza has killed more than 42,000 people, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which doesn't differentiate between civilians and combatants in its count but says more than half are women and children. In Lebanon, more than 1,400 people have been killed, with thousands more injured and around 1 million displaced since mid-September, when the Israeli military dramatically expanded its offensive against Hezbollah. The war in Ukraine, sparked by 11,000 Ukrainian civilian dead, but that doesn't take into account as many as 25.000 Ukrainians believed killed during the Russian capture of the city of Mariupol or unreported deaths in occupied regions. The Nobel prizes carry a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (USD 1 million). Unlike the other prizes

its third winter with a massive loss

The UN has confirmed more than

of human life on both sides.

world 08

that are selected and announced in Stockholm, founder Alfred Nobel decreed the peace prize be decided and awarded in Oslo by the fivemember Norwegian Nobel Committee. The Nobel season ends Monday with the announcement of the winner of the economics prize. formally known as the Bank of

Sweden Prize in Economic Sciences

Russia's invasion, is heading toward in Memory of Alfred Nobel.

Trump says India biggest tariff charger; 22 killed in airstrikes vows to reciprocate if elected to power

PTI WASHINGTON

Vowing to introduce a reciprocal tax if elected to power, former US president Donald Trump on Thursday alleged that India, among all major countries, imposes the highest tariffs on foreign products

"Perhaps the most important element of my plan to make America extraordinarily wealthy again is reciprocity. It's a word that's very important in my plan because we generally don't charge tariffs. I started that process, it was so great, with the vans and the small trucks, etc. We really don't charge. China will charge us a 200 per cent tariff. Brazil is a big charger. The biggest charg-er of all is India," Trump said in a major economic policy speech in Detroit.

"India is a very big charger. We have a great relationship with India. I did. And especially the leader, Modi. He's a great leader. Great man. Really is a great

man. He's brought it together. He's done a great job. But they probably charge as much," he

said. "I mean, I think they probably charge more than, in many ways, China. But they do it with a smile. They do it ... Sort of a nicer charge. They said, thank you so much for purchasing from India. Harley Davidson came to the White House a long time ago during my third year or second year. I met with them. They were based in Wisconsin. I said, how's business? Good, good. What are the bad countries? Well, India is very tough. And they gave me some others. Why? Tariffs. I some others, why farms, i said, what are they? And they said like 150 per cent, some massive amount," Trump told the members of the Detroit Economic Club. 'I said so do you sell many

motorcycles because you think people want to buy a Harley. No, we sell very few in India, but they want us to go there. They said, if you go there and

build your plant there, we're not going to charge you anything. I mean, you can do whatever you want. I said I don't like that. And I see they went, they built the plant, and now they do their business with India. They probably do it outside of India too. They built a very big plant in many countries, they do that. Then all of a sudden, you hear

that they're leaving Milwaukee or they're leaving wherever they may be located," he said. Thursday's remarks by Trump come following his praise for Prime Minister Narendra Modi earlier this week. Trump described Modi as "the nicest human being", saying the Indian leader is "a friend of mine". "Modi, India. He's a friend of mine. He's great. Before him, they were replac-ing them every year. It's very unstable. He came over. He's a friend of mine. But on the out-side, he looks like he's your father. He's the nicest, but he's a total killer," he said. Trump recalled Modi's visit to

Houston in 2019 to attend the 'Howdy Modi' event during his tenure and said: "It was beautiful. It's like 80,000 people going crazy. We were walking around.'

The Republican candidate said he shared a "very good rela-tionship" with Modi. Recalling that there were a

couple of occasions where somebody was threatening India, Trump said: "I told Modi, let me help as I am very good with those people. To which he aggressively responded, 'I will do it. I will do it. And I would do anything necessary. We have defeated them for hundreds of years.' I said 'Whoa, what just happened there," he added.

in central Beirut

AP BEIRUT

Israeli airstrikes on central Beirut on Thursday left two neighbuorhoods smoldering, killed 22 people and wounded dozens, Lebanon's health ministry said, as well as further escalating Israel's bloody conflict with Iran-backed Hezbollah militants in Lebanon. The air raid on central Beirut — the deadliest in over a year of war - apparently targeted two residential buildings in separate neighborhoods simultaneously, according to an AP photographer at the scene. It brought down one eight-story building and wiped out the lower floors of the other.

The Israeli military said it was looking into the reported strikes. Israeli airstrikes have been far more common in Beirut's tightly packed southern suburbs, where Hezbollah bases many of its operations. After the strikes, Hezbollah's Al Manar TV reported that an attempt to kill Wafiq Safa, a top security official with the group, had failed. It said that Safa had The Lebanese Health Ministry said 22 people were killed and not been inside of either of the

117 others wounded, without targeted buildings. Thursday's strikes followed a elaborating on their identities. Recent Israeli airstrikes in year of tit-for-tat exchanges between Hezbollah and Israel neighborhoods adjoining that boiled over into all-out war Beirut, in particular the dense ly populated southern sub-urbs, have killed Hezbollah's in recent weeks, with Israel carrying out waves of heavy airstrikes across Lebanon and leader, Hassan Nasrallah, and launching a ground invasion. Hezbollah has expanded its rocket fire to more populated areas deeper inside Israel, caus-ing few casualties but disruptother senior commanders. Hezbollah began firing rockets into Israel on Oct. 8, 2023, in support of Hamas and the Palestinians, drawing Israeli the same day Israeli forces fired on United Nations peaceairstrikes in retaliation. Hezbollah kept up rocket fire keepers in southern Lebanon and wounded two of them, drawing widespread condemnation and prompting Italy's

into Israel on Thursday, setting off air raid sirens in parts of northern Israel. Several drones heading toward Israel were intercepted, the military said. Iran — which supports Hamas, Hezbollah and other armed groups across the region launched some 180 ballistic missiles at Israel last week in retaliation for the killing of top Hamas and Hezbollah mili tants.

Zelenskyy meets Pope, pushes his 'victory plan'

AP VATICAN CITY

Pope Francis met Volodymyr Zelenskyy at the Vatican on Friday, the latest step on the Ukrainian president's European tour to win support for his proposed "victory plan" aimed at ending the war with Russia. The pope and the Ukrainian leader held private talks for 35 minutes. After their private at th

Cardinal Matteo Maria Zuppi Russia attacks Ukraine's grain-exporting Odesa region

AP KYIV

A nighttime Russian missile strike on Odesa killed at least four people including a 16-yearold girl, regional authorities said Friday, in the latest in a series of attacks this week on the southern Ukrainian region that are likely intended to disrupt the country's grain exports. Four Russian missile and drone attacks on the esa region this weel have killed and wounded around 20, according to local officials. The strikes have hit merchant ships and damaged port infrastructure in the region, which is a vital hub for Ukraine's agricultural exports through the Black Sea. An attack on Odesa late Wednesday killed nine people and hit a container ship sailing under the Panamanian flag — the third attack on a merchant vessel in four days, according to

regional Gov. Oleh Kiper.

The apparent Russian effort to frustrate Ukraine's exports, which bring vital revenue for a national economy battered by more than two years of war, coincided with a renewed push by Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to ensure continuing military and financial sup-port from his country's Western partners.

Russia last year tore up an agreement that allowed Uk aine — one suppliers of grain and other food staples, especially to developing nations - to export produce safely through the Black Sea.

was sent as a special envoy on a mission to ease tensions among the parties at war, meeting with political and ecclesiastical leaders around the world. His mission was, in particular, to encourage exchanges of Russian and Ukrainian prisoners and to find a way to facilitate the return of children forcibly

UN peacekeepers caught in intensified fighting

Defense Ministry to summon

Israel's ambassador in protest.

Witnesses reported a large

number of ambulances and

people gathering in the rubble

of two Beirut sites that were hit,

in the Ras al-Nabaa neighbor-

hood and Burj Abi Haidar

The UN peacekeeping mission in Lebanon, known as UNIFIL, said in a statement that its headquarters and positions "have been repeatedly hit" by Israeli forces.

It said an Israeli tank "directly" fired on an obseration tower at the force's



Biblioteca and the presentation of the Ukrainian delegation, Francis gave Zelenskyy a bronze plaque depicting a flower and an inscription reading: "Peace is a fragile flower." In turn, Zelenskyy gifted the pontiff with an oil painting portraying "The massacre of Bucha. The story of Marichka." Bucha, a suburb northwest of Kyiv, was occupied by Russian troops shortly after the fullscale invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 and witnessed some of Russia's worst atrocities against civilians.

Later Friday, Zelenskyy met the Vatican's secretary of state, Pietro Parolin, accompanied by Archbishop Paul Richard

adding that "some matters Gallagher, secretary for relarelating to the religious life of tions with states and international organizations. the country were also exam-The discussions were dedicatined." Since the first Russian

ed to the state of the war and the humanitarian situation in Ukraine, as well as the ways in which it could be brought to an end, leading to just and stable peace in the country," the Vatican said in a statement,

Months later, and amid successful Ukrainian attacks on Russia's Black Sea fleet which forced its navy to back away from the coast. Ukraine established a shipping corridor that hugs the coast down to Turkey and opens a way to the Mediterranean Sea.

> should have the courage of the "white flag" negotiating an end to the war with Russia, in what was intepreted by many as a call to surrender.

Francis has repeatedly and multiple contacts between Francis and Zelenskyy, through strongly for an end to the war, focusing on prisoner exchanges The pope sparked some critiand on reaching a diplomatic cism from Ukrainian leaders in solution to the Ukrainian con-March when he suggested they flict.

from Uk deported Russia

Zelensky is city-hopping across Europe to promote a plan that he said "aims to create the right conditions for a just end to the war" against Russia, unveiling the proposals to European allies after a summit with President Joe Biden was derailed by Hurricane Milton. On Thursday, Zelenskyy met with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer in London, French President Emmanuel Macron in Paris and Italian Premier Giorgia Meloni in

He is expected to travel to Germany later on Friday to hold talks with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz.

Rome

town of Naqoura, Lebanon, and that soldiers had attacked a bunker near where peacekeepers were sheltering, damaging vehicles and a communi-cation system. It said an Israeli drone was seen flying to the bunker's entrance. The two UNIFIL troops wounded in the attacks and hospitalized are Indonesian, Italy's Foreign Minister Antonio Tajani said. The Israeli military acknowledged opening fire at a UN base in southern Lebanon on Thursday and said it had ordered the peace keepers to "remain in protected spaces."

Later Thursday, the UN peacekeeping chief said 300 peacekeepers in frontline positions on southern Lebanon's border have been temporarily moved to larger bases, and plans to move another 200 will depend on security conditions as the conflict escalates. Jean-Pierre Lacroix told an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council that peacekeepers with UNIFIL are staying in their positions, but because of air and ground attacks they cannot conduct patrols.

UNIFIL, which has more than 10,000 peacekeepers from dozens of countries, was created to over see the withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon after Israel's 1978 invasion. The United Nations expanded its mission following the 2006 war between Israel and Hezbollah, allowing peacekeepers to patrol a buffer zone set up along the border.

Israel accuses Hezbollah of establishing militant infrastructure along the border in violation of the UN Security Council resolution that ended the 2006 war. The European Union's top diplomat, Josep Borrell, sharply condemned Israeli strikes that hit UNIFIL positions as "an inadmissible act, for which there is no justification."

rricane Milton leaves 8 dead, Florida in darkness

AP ST PETERSBURG (FLORI-DA)

Rescue teams plucked Florida residents from the flotsam of Hurricane Milton on Thursday after the storm smashed through coastal communities where it tore homes into pieces, filled streets with mud and spawned a barrage of deadly tornadoes. At least eight people were dead

Arriving just two weeks after the misery wrought by Hurricane Helene, the system also knocked out power to more than 3 million customers, flooded barrier islands, tore the roof off a baseball stadium and toppled a construction crane

Among the most dramatic rescues, Hillsborough County officers found a 14-year-old boy floating on a piece of fence and pulled him onto a boat. A Coast Guard helicopter crew rescued a man who was left clinging to an ice chest in the Gulf of Mexico after his fishing boat was stranded in waters roiled by Hurricane Milton. The agency estimated the man had survived winds of 75 to 90 mph (121 to 145 kph) and

waves up to 25 feet (7.6 metres) high during his night on the water.

"This man survived in a nightmare scenario for even the most experienced mariner," Coast Guard Lt. Cmdr. Dana Grady said. Despite the destruction, many people expressed relief that Milton wasn't worse. The hurricane spared Tampa a direct hit, and the lethal storm surge that scientists feared never materialised

The storm tracked to the south in the final hours and made landfall late Wednesday as a Category 3 hurricane in Siesta Key, about 70 miles (112 kilometres) south of Tampa. Damage was widespread, and water levels may continue to rise for days, but Gov. Ron DeSantis said it was not "the

worst-case scenario." "You face two hurricanes in a couple of weeks — not easy to go through — but I've seen a lot of resilience throughout this state," the governor told a briefing in Sarasota. He said he was 'very confident that this area is going to bounce back very, very quickly.

Five people were killed in tor-

nadoes in the Spanish Lakes Country Club near Fort Pierce, on Florida's Atlantic Coast,

where homes were destroyed, authorities said. Police also found a woman dead under a fallen tree branch in Tampa. In Volusia County, authorities said two people, a 79-year-old woman in Ormond Beach and a 54-year-old woman in Port Orange, were also killed when trees fell on homes

attack on Kyiv, there have been

visits, letters and phone calls.

Speaking at a White House briefing, Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said there were reports of as many as 10 fatalities from tornadoes, but he cautioned that the number was tentative.

At least 340 people and 49 pets have been rescued in ongoing efforts, DeSantis said Thursday afternoon

South of Tampa, Natasha Shannon and her husband, Terry, felt lucky to be alive after the hurricane peeled the tin roof off their cinder block home in Palmetto. They spent the night in a shelter with their three children and two grandchildren after she pushed them to leave.



survive this," she said. They returned to find the roof torn into sheets across the street, shredded insulation hanging from exposed ceiling beams and their belongings soaked. "It ain't much but it was ours," she said. "What little bit we did have is gone."

"I said, Baby, we got to go. The worst storm surge Because we're not going to appeared to be in Sarasota

County, where it was 8 to 10 feet (2.5 to 3 metres) — lower than in the worst place during Helene. The storm also dumped up to 18 inches (45 centimetres) of rain in some areas.

Officials in the hard-hit Florida counties of Hillsborough, Pinellas, Sarasota and Lee urged people to stay home, ing serious damage. Tom

warning of downed power lines, trees in roads, blocked bridges and flooding.

Among the dozens of tornadoes was a twister that hit the tiny barrier island of Matlacha, just off Fort Myers. The fishingand-tourism village also endured a surge, with many of the colorful buildings sustain-

Reynolds, 90, spent the morn-ing sweeping out 4 feet (1.2 metres) of mud and water and collecting chunks of aluminum siding torn off by a twister that also picked up a car and threw it across the road.

Elsewhere on the island, a house was blown into a street, temporarily blocking it. Some structures caught fire. Reynolds said he planned to repair the home he built three decades ago. "What else am I going to do?" he said.

In contrast, city workers on Anna Maria Island were grateful not to be wading through floodwaters as they picked up debris Thursday morning, two weeks after Helene battered buildings and blew in piles of sand up to 6 feet (1.8 m) high. Those piles may have helped shield homes from further damage, said Jeremi Roberts of the State Emergency Response Team. "I'm shocked it's not more," city worker Kati Sands said as she cleared the streets of siding and broken lights. "We lost so much with Helene, there wasn't much left."

Helene flooded streets and homes in western Florida and left at least 230 people dead

across the South. In many places along the coast, municpalities raced to collect and dispose of debris before Milton's winds and storm surge could toss it around and compound any damage.

Power was knocked out across much of the state. More than 3.4 million homes and businesses were without electricity, according to poweroutage.us, which tracks utility reports. The fabric that serves as the

roof of Tropicana Field home of the Tampa Bay Rays baseball team in St. Petersburg was ripped to shreds by fierce winds. Debris littered the field.

About 80,000 people spent the night in shelters, and thousands of others fled after authorities issued mandatory evacuation orders across 15 Florida counties with a total population of about 7.2 million people.

In Punta Gorda, a 10-foot (3 metre) surge from the Peace River swept into the historic district, damaging homes and depositing six boats along one riverside street. It was the third surge to hit the neighbourhood in three months.



Harris as prepared to be President | US worried about China's actions in disputed sea: Blinken as any nominee in past: Obama AP VIENTIANE (LAOS) tions at sea between China and ruling by a UN-affiliated court support freedom of naviga-US Secretary of State Antony Blinken told Southeast

PTI WASHINGTON

Vice President Kamala Harris is as prepared for this job as any nominee for the president in the past, former president Barack Obama said on Thursday, noting that the November election will be "tight" between her and Republican candidate Donald Trump.

"Kamala is as prepared for the job as any nominee for president has ever been. That's who Kamala is. And in the White House, she will have an outstanding partner in Governor Tim Walz," Obama told a cheering crowd in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, a battleground State, as the former president came out to address his first campaign rally for Harris in this election cycle

"If you elect Kamala and Tim, they won't be focused on their problems, they'll be focused on yours. They understand that too many folks here in Pennsylvania and across the country are struggling to pay the bills. Even though wages are steadily growing and inflation is finally slowing, the price of everything from health care to housing to groceries, it's still too high," he said. "That takes a real bite out of the paycheck. It hurts. The question is, who's really going to do something about it? That's what you should be ask-ing yourself. Now, Donald Trump plans to do what he did last time - give another massive tax cut to billionaires and big corporations," he said.

Addressing thousands of his supporters in this battleground State, Obama said the election is going to be tight. "This election is going to be tight because there are a lot of Americans who are still struggling out there. They're striving to make life better for themselves, for their families, and for their kids," he nothing more than a means to said.

"Let's face it. As a country, we've been through a lot these last few years. We had a historic pandemic wreaking havoc on communities and businesses. Disruptions from the pandemic then caused prices to spike, and that put a strain on family budgets. In many ways, it's felt like the aspirations of working people have taken a backseat to the priorities of the rich and the powerful. So, I get why people are looking to shake things up,"

he said. Obama said he understood people's frustration and their feeling that they (President Joe Biden and Vice President Harris) could do better. "What I cannot understand is why anybody would think that Donald Trump will shake things up in a way that is good for you. I don't understand that. Because there is absolutely no evidence

body but himself," he said. "Donald Trump is a 78-vear-old billionaire who has not stopped whining about his problems since he rode down his golden escalator nine years ago. You've got the tweets in all CAPS, the ranting and the raving about crazy conspiracy theories. You've got the two-hour speeches, word salad ... it's like Fidel Castro, just on and on," he alleged.

"Constant attempts to sell you stuff. Who does that? Selling you gold sneakers and USD 100,000 watch and, most recentlv. a Trump Bible. He wants you to buy the Word of God, Donald Trump edition. Got his name right there next to Matthew and Luke. It's crazy. And the reason he does it is because all he cares about is his ego, money and his

Donald Trump sees power as

Ullah Nasir, the attackers used

hand grenades and rocket

launchers in the attack. He

said that there are ten coal

an end. He wants the middle class to pay the price for another huge tax cut that would mostly help him and his country club buddies. Doesn't care if he costs more women their

> it won't make a difference in his life," he alleged. "Most of all, Donald Trump wants us to think that this country is hopelessly divided between us and them, between real Americans who support him and the outsiders who don't. Because having people divided and angry, he figures, boosts his chances of being elected. He doesn't care who gets

hurt," Obama said. Think about it. Just the other day, we learned that on January 6, a couple of years ago, Donald Trump was told that Mike Pence was in the Capitol about 40 feet from an angry mob chanting, hang Mike Pence. that this man thinks about any-And his response was 'So what?' If Donald Trump does not care that a mob might attack his vice

president, do you think he cares about you? We do not need four more years of that. We don't need four more years of arrogance, bumbling, bluster and division. America's ready to turn the page," Obama said. Eight years out of power, Obama has been one of the Democratic Party's most reliable surrogates to galvanise voters.

As the nation's first Black president, Obama's appearance for Harris underscores the historymaking nature of her own political career. Harris, the first woman, Black person or person of South Asian descent to serve as vice president, would be the first woman to serve as president if elected next month. Harris fundraiser in California

status," Obama said. "He's not thinking about you.

"increasingly dangerous and unlawful" activities in the disputed South China Sea during an annual summit meeting, and pledged the US will continue to uphold freedom of navireproductive freedom, because gation in the vital sea trade route.

The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations' meeting with Blinken followed a series of violent confronta-

Asian leaders Friday that the

US is concerned about China's

ASEAN members Philippines and Vietnam, which have fueled concerns that China's increasingly assertive actions in the waterways could spiral into a full-scale conflict. China, which claims almost the

entire sea, has overlapping claims with ASEAN members Vietnam, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei, as well as Taiwan. About a third of global trade transits through the sea, which is also rich in fishing stocks, gas and oil. Beijing has refused to recognize

a 2016 international arbitration

in the Hague that invalidated its expansive claims, and has built up and militarized islands it controls.

We are very concerned about China's increasingly dangerous and unlawful activities in the South China Sea which have injured people, harm vessels from ASEAN nations and contradict commitments to peaceful resolutions of disputes," said Blinken, who is filling in for President Joe Biden, in his opening speech at the US-ASEAN summit. "The United States will continue to

tion, and freedom of overflight in the Indo Pacific."

The US has no claims in the South China Sea, but has deployed navy ships and fighter jets to patrol the watery in a challenge to China's claims. Chinese and Philippine vessels have clashed repeatedly this year, and Vietnam said last week that Chinese forces assaulted its fishermen in the disputed sea. China has also sent patrol vessels to areas that Indonesia and Malaysia claim as exclusive economic zones. The US has warned repeatedly that it's obligated to defend the Philippines - its oldest treaty ally in Asia — if Filipino forces, ships or aircraft come under armed attack, including in the South China Sea.

Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. complained to summit leaders on Thursday that his country "continues to be subject to harassment and intimidation" by China. He said it was "regrettable that the overall situation in the South China Sea remains tense and unchanged" due to China's actions, which he said violated international law.

Remains of British climber believed found 100 years after Everest ascent

29,032 feet (8,849 metres).

AP LONDON

 $T^{
m he\ partial\ remains\ of\ a}_{
m British\ mountaineer\ who}$ might — or might not — have been one of the first two people to climb Mount Everest are believed to have been found a century after their ascent of the world's highest peak, according to an expedition led by National Geographic.

Ahead of the release of a documentary film, the television channel said Friday that the expedition found a foot encased in a sock embroidered with "AC Irvine" and a boot that could be that of Andrew "Sandy" Irvine, who disappeared at the age of 22 along



CHANGE OF NAME I, Gaurav Batra S/o Shri Ram Batra R/o 8/71, Geeta Colony,

Delhi, inform that Gourav Batra (as mentioned in 10th and spoke at the Democratic class marksheet) and Gaurav Batra both are the one and same person

> PD(847)A I, hitherto known as Sudhanshu S/o Shri Vir Singh R/o H.No-D-257, Street No.4, Pratap Nagar, Saboli, Dist: North East Delhi-110093. have changed my name and shall hereafter be known as Sudhanshu

PD(854)C I, Khushi Gupta, D/o Kanhiya Lal Gupta, R/o Plot No-230 Flat No-309 Gali No-8, Patel Garden Kakrola Dwarka, Dwarka-110078, Delhi, India has changed my name from Khushi to Khushi Gupta and my father name has also with his co-climber, the leg-endary George Mallory, near Everest's peak on June 8, 1924. The pair, who were seeking to become the first people to conquer Everest, were last seen around 800 feet (245 metres) from the summit before they disappeared. Their fate has been debated by climbers and historians alike, with some postulating that they had stood atop of the world before heading down and disappearing. Mallory's body was found in

1999 but there was no evidence that could point to the two having reached Everest's summit at

There is still no such evidence, though the apparent discovery of Irvine's remains could nar row the search for a Kodak Vest Pocket camera lent to the climbers by expedition member Howard Somervell. For mountaineers, it's the equivalent of the Holy Grail whether there is photographic proof on that camera to show that the two did reach the summit before Edmund Hillary and Tenzing Norgay in 1953. The sock and boot were found at a lower altitude than Mallory's remains, on the

Central Rongbuk Glacier below the North Face of Mount Everest.

'This was a monumental and emotional moment for us and our entire team on the ground, and we just hope this can finally bring peace of mind to his relatives and the climbing world at large," said climb team member and National Geographic explorer Jimmy Chin.

Chin did not say exactly where the remains were found because he wants to discourage trophy hunters. But he's confident that other items — and

maybe even the camera — are nearby. "It certainly reduces the search

area," he told National Geographic.

The Irvine family has volunteered to compare DNA test results with the remains to confirm his identity.

His great-niece and biograph er, Julie Summers, said she reacted emotionally when she found out about the discovery. "I have lived with this story since I was a 7-year-old when my father told us about the mystery of Uncle Sandy on Everest," she said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that my client SH. ARUN GUPTA son of late Jai Parkas Gupta, R/o House No. 104, New 10-A, Khasra No. 96561, Ground Floor, Si Ram Road, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054 is the owner and in possession of one shop on the ground floor in property bearing No.VI/4450, Mohalla Daraiwar Nai Sarak, Delhi-110006 (the said property) vide registered sale deed dated 8.8.2012 having purchased the same from Smt. Yas late Sh. Notan Dass Behrani & Others.

That the previous original title documents of the said property i.e. original sale deed dated 28.11.1990 being registration No.6354 book No.1 volume 5377 or pages 144 to 148 registered on 28.11.1990 before Sub Registrar-I, North, Kashmere Gate, Delhi and Relinguishment Deed executed by Smt. Kanchar achwani registered as document No.7697 in additional book No.1 volum 4492 on pages 23 to 26 registered on 25.7.2012 in the office of Sub Registrar-I North, Kashmere Gate, Delhi, are misplaced/lost and are not traceable. An person(s) having any claim, right in to or upon the said property or any par thereof on the strength of the aforesaid misplaced/lost documents or otherwise is hereby required to notify the same in writing along with supporting documents to the undersigned with 15 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which any claim and/or objection, if any, shall be considered as vague and abandoned and should not be binding in law upon my client. M.P. Bansa

Advocate

Delhi High Court Ch. No. 268-269, Civil Wing, District Courts, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi-110054 M.: 9810220752

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

PICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot No-23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.

Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
	Banashree Pattanayak/	Flat No.1535/GC-05, 14th Floor, Tower-E, GC-05/ 5th Avenue, Gaur City, Situated at Plot No.GH- 01, Sector-4, Gautam Budh Nagar, Greater Noida West, Uttar Pradesh- 201307/ October 09, 2024	Rs. 26.66.842/-	Khurda (Orissa)/ Noida/ Ghazia- bad

20 killed in attack on miners in Pakistan

scene.

PTI KARACHI

t least 20 miners, includ-Aing from Afghanistan, were killed and eight others injured on Friday when terrorists attacked a private coal mine with rocket launchers and automatic weapons in Pakistan's restive Balochistan province SSP Muhammad Baloch said

a group of armed men injured so far at the district attacked the Junaid Coal comhospital." group has claimed respon nanv in th • Dukki area of the province and then escaped into the mountains. The attack is the latest in a string of violent incidents in Pakistan. It comes ahead of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation's summit to be held in the national capital. "It was a terror attack and the workers at the mine had no chance as they were just starting to work when they came under fire," Baloch said. There were around 50 workers at the site and some of them escaped unhurt after running into the nearby mountains or remaining hidprits. den deep in the mines, he added. Some of the coal workers belonged to Afghanistan, he said.

mines located in the area. Nasir said that the attackers also set ablaze mining ddress within 07 days of the present. TAPAN RAGHAV (ADVOCATE) machinery before fleeing the Ch. No. G-220, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi-110032. Johar Khan Shadizai, a doctor in Dukki, said: "We have received 20 bodies and six

PUBLIC NOTICE (In case or chain use deeu) NOTICE is hereby given that one Subash Chande Atri was owner of Property Bearing No. G-1/29: area measuring 44.1/2 Sq. yds., Out of Khasra No

Email- raghavtk.legal@gmail.com, M - 8800096522

Obama also appeared at a

National Convention in August

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the General Public that Mr Rajbir Singh Sio Mr Hari Ram through Khatoni Jamabandi is the owner of property bearing address Freehold Residential House No. A95 on Ground Floor & First Floor admeasuring area 30 so, yds. falling under Kharsa No. 306/3, situated at Harsh Vihar, Phase II, Gali No. 5 in Village-Brahmpura @ Bhoora, Pargana-Loni, Tehsil & Dist. Ghazibada (U.P.) A registered General Power of Attomey dated on 40.01 200 uses avecuated by Mr Baibir Sinobi Bhopra, Pargana-Loni, Tehsil & Distt. Ghaziabad (U.P.). A registered General Power of Attorney dated on 10.01.2000 was executed by Mr Rajbir Singh in favour of Mr Vedpal S/o Mr Nyadare & Mrs Sukhbiri favour of Mr Vedpal S/o Mr Nyadare & Mrs Sukhbin Wo Mr Vedpal Further, another General Power of Attorney dated 30.06.2021 was issued by Mr Vedpal and Mrs. Sukhbir in favour of Mr Anuj Sharma S/o Mr Badri Prasad and the property is now being sold to Mr Devashish & Mr Sanjay (Intending borrower) and the same is being financed by SMFG India Home Finance Co, Ltd. General Public hereby informed that if anybody has any charge/ Interest/Title in the said property or any kind of dispute kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 07 days of the present. Chaudhary.

which, the claim as p be treated as null and void

pect of the subject property. Raghav Tiwari, Advocat Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi-11000 Mob:+91-807618832

Notice is hereby given that the share certificates No 310084 for 350 shares

bearing distinctive No(s) 13536087

13536436 standing in the name o

Nandini Vaish in the books of M/s

Dalmia Bharat Limited, has been

ost/misplaced and the advertiser has

applied to the Company for issue of duplicate share certificate(s) in lieu

hereof. Any person(s) who has /have

claim(s) on the said shares should lodge

such claim(s) with the Company's

Registrars and Transfer Agents viz KFin Technologies Ltd., SELENIUM TOWER B, PLOT NO 31 & 32,

GACHIBOWLI, FINANCIAL DISTRICT NANAKRAMGUDA, SERILINGAMPALLY

HYDERABAD - 500032, TELENGANA

Toll Free No: 1800-309-4001 within 15

days from the date of this notice failing

which the Company will proceed to issue

duplicate share certificate(s) in respect of

Name of the shareholder: Nandini Vaish

PUBLIC NOTICE

Date: 11 October. 2024

Place: New Delhi

the said shares.

PUBLIC NOTICE PUBLIC NOTICE neral public is hereby informed that MR IRSHANA GUPTA is the owner of Plot of Land are assuring 149.14 Sq. Yds, i.e., 124.70 Sq. Meters, + ar assuring 50 Sq. Yds, i.e., 42 Sq. Meters, out of Ga 0. 1013, Situated at Kasba Khurja Bahar Chum gana & Tehsil Khurja, District Bulandshehr, U-P, ti innared Capri Global Capital Ltd. The Original Sale ed dated 24:02:2011 Vide Doc. No. 2996 pertaining he aforesaid property has been lost and LAR NO 40000816798 has been registered on 07:10:2024 h Uttar Pradesh Police. / person(s) found in possession of aforesaic inal Sale Deed dated 24:02:201, then kindly tact the undersigned along with original property ument, within 7 days from date of this notice or ow address, failing which, the claim as per scala dsale deed shall be treated as null and void ir

To whomsoever it may concern Our Client HDFC Bank Ltd States That Mr. Satpa Sharma is the Absolute Owners Of Property Bearing Address House No. 480, Sector 19, Dwarka, New Delhi-110045 by Virtue of Sale Deed Duly Registered On 23/05/2018 Vide Reg No. 5210. That the Origina Documents Of the Said Property LE. Sale Deed Duly Registered on 23/05/2018 Vide Reg No. 5210 is misnlead by Our Clients Panel Lawwers of fitte nisplaced by Our Client's Panel Lawyer's Offic lamely Advocate Chandra Kishore Jha While in the Namey AdvOcate Crianida Ansilote Dia Villie in their Custody and is Considered Lost. The Said Property is Absolutely Free From Any Encumbrance Whatsoever It is also Stated That in Gase The Saie Deed Duly Registered On 23/05/2018 Vide Reg No. 5210 is Found by Our Clients Panel Lawyers Office, Same Shall be Kept In The Safe Custody of our Client And Shall be Kept In The Safe Custody of our Client And Returned To The Property Owner. If any Person Finds The Said Sale Deed Registered on 23/05/2018 Vide Reg No. 5210 Or has any Claim or interest Over the said Property, He/She Is Requested to Forward The Information or their Claims along with the relevant Documents to us Within 15 days of this Public Voite. If we do not receive any Information or Claim from any Person Within 15 Days, It Will Be Strictly Presumed that this Property is Absolutely Free From your this Property. Ravi Chanor, Advancet Office No.1 Eirct Floor. PUBLIC NOTICE

this Property. vi Chopra, Advocate, Office No.1, First Floo Dda Market Pocketa-1, Mayur Vihar-III, Delhi-110096, Mobile No. 9811020745

Date: October 11, 2024

Place: Noida & Ghaziabad

According to District Chairman Dukki Haji Khair

One killed in elevator mishap at gold mine in Colorado

AP DENVER

One person was killed and 12 people were rescued after being trapped for about six hours at the bottom of a former Colorado gold mine when an elevator malfunctioned at the tourist site, authorities said The elevator was descending into the Mollie Kathleen Gold Mine near the town of Cripple Creek when it had a mechanical problem around 500 feet (152 metres) beneath the surface, creating a "severe danger for the participants," Teller County Sheriff Jason Mikesell said.

The cause of the visitor's death was not immediately provided. The 12 adults who were trapped about 1,000 feet below ground had access to water and used radios to communicate with authorities, who told them there was an elevator issue, Mikesell said.

sibility for the attack so far. Police, paramilitary Frontier Corps (FC) and rescue teams rushed to the spot after the attack. Police sources said that the death toll may rise as some injured miners were in critical condition.

SHO Dukki Hamanyan Khan said the armed men first gathered the miners in different groups and then sprayed bullets on them.

Heavy contingents of police and FC have cordoned off the area and launched a search operation to arrest the cul-

Pakistan has witnessed a worrying surge in terrorist attacks in the ongoing year with fatalities in the first three quarters surpassing the numbers

Date: 12.10.2024, Place : Ghaziabad

recorded in all of 2023

7715 Situated at Village-Hastsal Abadi known as Uttam Nagar- in G-1, Block- New Delhi-110059 hereinafter referred to "said property") vide Sale Deed dated 09.09.2005 regd. as doc. no. 25085 secuted by Dharam Pal Singh in favour of Subash Chander Atri ar respect of said Property. Later on, bubash Chander Atri expired on 25.05.2020 eaving behind Sh. Nikhil Atri, Smt. Manju Atri & Sh. Jurvesh Atri ar leinquished their shares to Smt. Jurvesh Atri relinquished their shares to Smt. Jurvesh Atri relinquished their shares to Smt. Anju Atri vide Relinquishment deed dated 27.08.2024 as regd. doc. no. 2024/25/1/23252. Smt. Manju Atri intends to transfer the ownership y wag of Sale Deed of aforementioned property to

pr. 100 - 2024 as regg. 00C. no. 2024/25/l/32525. Smt. Manju Atri intends to transfer the ownership by way of Sale Deed of aforementioned property to Sh. Vikas Sharma who has agreed to create mortgage in respect of said property in favour of my/our clients IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (Branch Address: Ptol No. 68, Pusa Road, Rajendar Nagar, New Delhi - 110060) If any person, body, individual, institution having any claim and /or objection in respect of or against or relating to or touching upon said property or part of the property by way of sale, exchange, lease, lien, mortgage, charge, encumbrance, gift, trust, easement, maintenance, inheritance, testamentary deposition or otherwise or having in their custody any title, documents pertaining the said property shall communicate the same to the undersigned at my address within 07 days from the publication of this notice with documentary evidence in support thareof fulling which of the comment.

my address within 07 days from the publication or this notice with documentary evidence in suppor thereof, failing which all the claim, of such persos shall be considered to have been waived and o abandoned. Any objections raised after th completion of the 07 days shall not be binding upo-the said property or my Client. Place: Noida Dated this 11th day of Cdt. 2024 Sd/- Law Veritas: North (Advocates & Legal Consultants)Office No. 11, 1st Floor, Building No. A44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301 Landline(s): +910120-3101683 e-mail: accunts@lynorth.in

3101683 e-mail: accounts@lvr

changed from Kanhiya Lal to Kanhiya Lal Gupta For all Purposes.

PD(855)C

LOST & FOUND

I, Jatinder Luthra S/o Des Raj Luthra R/o A 204, Rishabh Paradise, Ahinsa Khand 2, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad. The last paper of the registry of my flat no. A-204, Rishabh Paradise Ahinsa Khand 2, Indirapuram whose book no. 1, volume no. 2856, pages 515 to 564, No. 5510 is lost somewhere. Anyone who finds it please call and inform. Phone No. 7814284177 PD(848)C

his is to inform the general public and of its Excitation OHAN SHARMA is the absolute owner of the built-up at no. 201, Block-C-4, situated in the Layout Plan Of apita Co-operative Group Housing Society Ltd. fnown as Capital Apartmenit at Plot No. 3, Vasundra incalve Delhi (hereinafter referred to as the "said property"). Ownership was acquired through a Jonvegance Deed Dated 04 12 2001, which was duly egistered with the office of Sub Registrar-VII. Delhi, as too no. 18322. Book 1, Volho. 681, Page 90 to 92 on 4. 12.2001 as part the Owner's BonaFide Version, the riginal documents for the entire built-up property, oliding the (i) original conveyance deed dated 4. 12.2001 executed by Delhi Development Authority tavor of Shri Lokesh Sharma (g. Shri Lokesh Mohan harma, which was duly registered with the office of the Registrar-VII. Delhi, as do no. 18322, book 1, vol 0. 681, page 90 to 92 on 04.12.2001 & original ubstitution letter issued by the society in favoror of Irs. S.R.Poonam & Shri Jawahar Lai are currently available for verification, as they have been solumisplaced. A lost report regarding these ranch, vide L.R. NO. 2093791/2024 date solute roperty to Ms. Shruti Banwai, and the owner intends ocreate a charge, VIZ motgage or otherwise, on the roperty for the purpose of availing a housing loan or eotif facility for The State Bank Of India, Home Loan entre, Thapar House, Janpath, New Delhi, new to full reson(s) or financial institution claiming an vinbt or entre, Thapar House, Janpath, New Delhi, callor date with the soling of the solid or the solid of the solid roperty for the purpose of availing a housing loan or entre, Thapar House, Janpath, New Delhi, and vinbt or exon(s) or financial institution claiming an vinbt or son(s) or financial institution claiming an vinbt or son or vinbt or the sale of the sa red to as the ultracting iron the state bank of more, none co-thre, Thapar House, Janpath, New Delhi. ar son(s) or financial institution claiming any right rest or having any objection regarding the sa perty based on the aforementioned lost documen ted to contact the afore nch as well as the undersigned at the em-tress ranjanjha318@gmail.com within 10 day n the date of publication of this notice. failing which such claim shall be deemed null and void, and the rom the date of publication of this notice, failing whic inny such claim shall be deemed null and void, and th tile to the property shall be considered clea narketable, free from defects or encumbrances, ar

en to creating an equitable mortgage. Ranjan Kumar Jha (Advocatt :hamber:231,Western Wing Tis Hazari Cou Delhi-110054, Mobile : 999064790 Chamber:231,We

CLIX HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED Registered Office: Aggarwal Corporate Tower, Plot No. 23, 5th Floor, Govind Lal Sikka Marg, Rajendra Place, New Delhi-110008 E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE "APPENDIX-IV-A" [SEE PROVISO TO RULE 8(6)] SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Notice for Sale of Im novable Assets under the Securitizat n and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provis

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described Immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the **Clix Housing Finance Limited** (CLIX). (Secured Creditors), the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Clix Housing Finance Limited** (CLIX). (Secured Creditors), the constructive possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Clix Housing Finance Limited** (CLIX). (Whatever there is "basis on **13.11.2024**, for recovery of amount as mentioned below, due to the Secured Creditors from following Borrower(s), Guarantor(s) and Corporate Guarantor(s). The reserve price and earnest money to be deposited is me

GALI NO.9, SHAHEED BHAGAT COLONY NORTH DELHI, DELHI-110094, ALSO AT :- D-298, GALI NO.7, MUKUND VIHAR 30 FT	Reserve Price (RP) & EMD Amount 10% of the Reserve Price & Incremental Amount	Recovery Amount as per Demand Notice	Date & Time of On-Site Inspection of Property	Submission of Bid Application	Date & Time of E-Auction with unlimited extensions of 5 Minutes each
ROAD, KARAWAL NAGAR NEW DELHI-110094, ALSO AT :- A-4, GROUND FLOOR-2, LIG FRONT SIDE RAIL VIHAR, LONI, GHAZIABAD UTTARPRADESH, ALSO AT :- HOUSE NO.22 KHASRA NO. 60G/F NEAR SARKAR SCHOOL, NEW SABHAPUR SABAPUR, DELHI-110094 LOAN NO AC2019011136167 (Along with future Interest and charges accruing after 28.03.2024 till the total realization of the loan amount)	12,38,200/- 1,23,820/- 10,000/-	Rs. 9,81,465.97/- as on 28.03.2023	11-11-2024 to 12-11-2024 From 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM	12-11-2024 Till 12.00 PM	13-11-2024 10 Am to 12 Pm
Description & Owner(s) of Properties - ALL THOSE PIECE AND PARCEL OF ONE KITA RESIDENTIAL PLOT NO. A-4 KHASRA NO. 2 29.26 SQUARE METERS SITUATED IN RAIL VIHAR HABDAST VILLAGE SADULLABAD TEHSIL LONI DISTRICT GHAZIABAD (COMPLET DISTANCE OF MORE THAN 200 METERS FROM THE MAIN ROAD, THE SAID FLAT HAS ONE BEDROOM, ONE DRAWING ROOM, ONE KI	E DETAILS OF WHOSE C	INSTRUCTION IS	ATTACHED MAI	P) THE ABOVE FLAT	
1. VIPNANDER PRATAP S/O SURJAN SINGH PLOT NO. 2/9, GROUND FLOOR, RAMA VIHAR, KARNAL VILLAGE DELHI-110086, A NO. FF-2 (FIRST FLOOR) REAR SIDE, LIG PLOT NO. B-138. RESIDENTIAL COLONY RAIL VIHAR VILLAGE SADULABAD PARGANA AN DISTRICT GHAZIABAD, ALSO AT: MALIKA GRAPHICS SHOP NO.11 RISAL COMPLEX SHIVA MARKET-II, PTAMPURA NEW DELHI- AT: PLOT NO.50A, BLOCK-B, BUDH VIHAR, VER SINGH COLONY VILLAGE-POOTH KALAN, SULATANPURI BLOCK, NORTH WEST, DE SHALU W/O VIPNANDER PRATAP PLOT NO.2/9, GROUND FLOOR, RAMA VIHAR, KARNAL VILLAGE DELHI-110086, ALSO AT: (FIRST FLOOR) REAR SIDE, LIG PLOT NO. B-138. RESIDENTIAL COLONY RAIL VIHAR VILLAGE SADULLABAD PARGANA AND TEHSIL GRAZIABAD, ALSO AT: H 14C, SHARMA COLONY, PHASE-2 BUDH VIHAR, SULTANPURI, C-BLOCK NORTH DELHI, DELHI-1108 AC2019041877678 (Along with future Interest and charges accruing after 15.04.2024 till the total realization of the low	ND TEHSIL LONI -110034, ALSO ELHI-110086, 2. FLAT NO. FF-2 LONI DISTRICT 6 LOAN NO	200/- 8,59,7 as	67.3/- 12-1 on From	-2024 to 12-11-2 1-2024 Till 12 n 10.00 PM	.00 10 Am
Description & Owner(s) of Properties - ALL THOSE PIECE AND PARCEL OF ONE KITA RESIDENTIAL FLAT NO. FF- 2 (FIRST FLC 27.87 SQUARE METERS, WHOSE SUPER AREA IS 300 SQUARE FEET, LOCATED IN RESIDENTIAL COLONY RAIL VIHAR VILLAGE SAD EMD amount shall be remitted through NEFT/RTGS/Funds Transfer in favour of "Clix Housing Finance Limited",	ULLABAD PARGANA AN	TEHSIL LONI D	STRICT GHAZIAI	BAD.	8. WHOSE AREA IS
The balance 25% of final purchase price minus EMD Amount shall be deposited by the successful bidder, latest by the next final purchase shall be deposited by way of RGS / NEFT within 30 days from the date of auction in the same E-Auction a account number mentioned by such bidder in the Bid form within 5 working days. Terms and Conditions :- E-Auction i basis and will be conducted "Online". The auction will be conducted through Clix's approved service provider C1 India Pvt. I and Conditions of online auction sale are available in www. bankeauctions.com. To the best of knowledge and information o bidders should make their own independent inquiries regarding the encumbrances, tile of properties put on auction and the a-Auction advertisement does not constitute and will not be deemed to constitute any commitment or any representati of the auction process please contact Mr. Ayush Gupta. (M) 9999916811, Mr. Amit Aggarval (971792407) En 7291981124 / 25 / 26. It may please be noted that in case of any disrepancy/ inconsistency between auctions notices publis The Authorised Officer / Secured Creditor shall not be responsible in any way for any third claims / daims/ rights/ dues Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Att. 2002 STAUTUGNY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDERT II.	working day by way of cocunt as above. The rr is being held on "AS I Ltd. at the web portal w if the Authorized Officer claims/rights / dues/ at anail ID. delhi@.c1ind shed in English and in H s. The sale shall be su	RTGS / NEFT in t fund of EMD to S WHERE IS" a ww.bankeauctic there is no enc fecting the prop s with respect to a.com. for any ndi then the co	he E-Auction ac the unsuccess nd "AS IS WH, uns.com. Bid Do umbrance on th erty/ies, prior t o any help, proo- details regard intents of the no	count of Clix. The ful bidders shall b AT IS" and "WH/ couments, Declarat he properties. How to submitting their cedure and onl1me ing the property p tice published in E	e made only in the TEVER THERE IS " ion, General Terms ever, the intending bid, in this regard, training in respect lease contact +91- nglish shall prevail.

BSES Yamuna Power Limited BSES Yamuna Power Limited, Delhi A joint venture with Govt. of NCT of Delhi						
	NOTICE INVITING	TENDER	6	Date: 1	12.10.2024	
E-tenders under t	E-tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) are invited as per the following details:-					
NIT No.	Tender Description	Estimated Cost (₹)	Cost of EMD (₹)	Due Date & Time of Submission	Date & time of opening	
CMC/BY/24-25/	EMPANELMENT OF VENDORS FOR RATE	₹ 2.25	₹ 4.50	19.10.2024	19.10.2024	
RS/SkS/SS/38	CONTRACT FOR REPLACEMENT OF OLD	Crore	Lakh	16:00 Hrs	16:30 Hrs	
	CEILING FANS OF BYPL CONSUMERS WITH					
	5 STAR RATED SUPER ENERGY EFFICIENT					
	BLDC CEILING FANS (26W & 28W)					
CMC/BY/24-25/	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF THREE	₹ 1.90	₹ 3.81	04.11.2024	04.11.2024	
RS/SkS/APT/39	PHASE ENERGY METERS IN BYPL	Crore	Lakh	16:00 Hrs	16:30 Hrs	
CMC/BY/24-25/	CIVIL WORK REQUIRED FOR ADDITION OF	₹ 1.97	₹ 4.00	04.11.2024	04.11.2024	
RS/SvS/VK/40	ONE NO. 20 MVA POWER TRANSFORMER	Crore	Lakh	15:00 Hrs	16:00 Hrs	
	AT SONIA VIHAR GRID OF BYPL					
CMC/BY/24-25/	RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF POLE	₹ 4.25	₹ 8.50	04.11.2024	04.11.2024	
RS/SkS/SV/41	MOUNTING SINGLE PHASE & THREE PHASE	Crore	Lakh	16:00 Hrs	16:30 Hrs	
	DISTRIBUTION BOXES WITH ACCESSORIES				Ising Cushing	
CMC/BY/24-25/	CIVIL WORK REQUIRED FOR YARD	₹1.09	₹ 2.18	04.11.2024	04.11.2024	
RS/SvS/VK/42	DEVELOPMENT, SHIFTING OF RECORD	Crore	Lakh	15:00 Hrs	15:30 Hrs	
	ROOMS STORE FROM GROUND FLOOR TO					
	FIRST FLOOR AND OTHER RELATED					
	WORKS AT SHASTRI PARK GRID IN BYPL	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·				
Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 1,180/-						
For details in resp	ect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirer	ments, Terms	& condition	s. purchase/submis-	sion of tender	

documents, corrigendum etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com --> BSES YAMUNA POWER LTD--> Tenders-->Oper

una Power Ltd, Shakti Kiran Building, Karkard

Head (Contracts & Materials

na, Delhi-110032 | CIN: U40109DL2001PLC111525



Tenders

egd.Off: BSES Yami

provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002. Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

PHYSICAL POSSESSION NOTICE

Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi- 110005

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation. Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to

The secting interest (Enforcement) whiles Zoog, issued behavior the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice. Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Physical Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
	Sanjay Kapoor/ Airvoice Aviations Pvt Ltd/ Anamika Kapoor/ LBDEL00001801026	Two Servant Quarters on The Terrace as Part of The Mortgaged Property I.e. House No-s 569, Front Portion 3rd Floor, Greater Kailash Part ii, Delhi./ October 09, 2024	June 19, 2021 Rs. 40,48,623/-	Delhi/ NCR
2.	Sanjay Kapoor/ Airvoice Aviations Pvt. Ltd./ Anamika Kapoor/ LBDEL00002447141/ LBDEL00003155923/ LBDEL00002448345	Two Servant Quarters on The Terrace As Part of The Mortgaged Property I.e. House No-s 569, Front Portion 3rd Floor, Greater Kailash Part ii, Delhi./ October 09, 2024	June 23, 2021 Rs. 1,77,98,784/-	Delhi/ NCR

else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: October 11, 2024	Sincerely Authorised Signatory
Place: Delhi/ NCR	For ICICI Bank Ltd.
	/

money 10



RBI asks banks to ensure easier accessibility for persons with disabilities

PTI MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India on Friday asked banks to review their payment systems to persons with disabilities. All sections to ensure easier accessibility sections of the population, including differently-abled persons, are including increasingly adopting digital payment systems, it said in a circular.

"To promote effective access, payment system participants (PSPs, that is, banks and authorised non-bank payment system providers) are advised to review their payment systems/devices in terms of accessibility to Persons with Disabilities," it noted.

and

services on Meta's Llama

firm said in a release.

PTI NEW DELHI

source

models.

enterprises



Based on the review, banks and non-bank payment modifications system providers may carry systems and devices like

necessary in payment

machines, action for achieving the by persons with same.

Life insurers' new premiums rise 14 per cent to ₹ 35,020 crore

PTI 🗖 NEW DELHI

disabilities with ease, the RBI

The RBI also asked them to

refer to the accessibility

standards issued by the

Ministry of Finance in

While selecting potential solutions for the purpose, care should be taken to

ensure that the modifications

or enhancements do not

compromise security aspects

of the systems, the central

PSPs have been asked to

submit to the Reserve Bank,

within one month, details of

their systems/devices that

need to be modified, along

with a time-bound plan of

said.

February.

bank said.

Life insurers recorded a 14 upper cent rise in underwriting new business with a premium collection of Rs 35,020 crore in September. New business premiums stood at Rs 30,716 crore in

same month a year ago. The new business premium collection in the first half of FY25 rose 19 per cent to Rs 1,89,214 crore from Rs 1,58,377 crore in the same period last year, as per the monthly data released by the industry body Life Insurance Council.

Driven by a strong demand for enhanced insurance protection from individual consumers, new policy issuances too increased by 45.49 per cent on a year-onyear basis in the month, resulting in the addition of new 32,17,880 policies vis-àvis 22,11,680 policies in the



year-ago period, it said. According to data released by the Life Insurance Council, the life insurance industry individual saw single premiums growing 13 per cent to close at Rs 5,142 crore for September while year-todate growth stood at 14.99 per cent.

Meanwhile, Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) collected new premium of Rs 20,369 crore as against Rs 18,126 crore in September 2023, recording a growth of 25 per

cent. However, private sector put together grew 12 per cent to Rs 73,664 crore as against Rs 65,734 crore garnered in the

same month a year ago. The life insurance industry in India has been making significant strides by expanding access to insurance and making an effort to reach out to areas and segments of the country's population that

were previously underserved

when it comes to their

According to SEA data, the

overall import of vegetable

oils during the first 11 months of the current 2023-

24 marketing year ending

October declined 6 per cent

to 1,47,75,000 tonnes as

compared to 1,56,73,102

tonnes in the corresponding

Of the total vegetable oil imports so far in 2023-24

marketing year, the imports

of edible oil fell to 1,45,35,955 tonnes from

1,54,68,912 tonnes. Imports

of non-edible oils rose to 2,39,045 tonnes

India imports palm oils from

Indonesia and Malaysia, and

soyabean oils from Brazil and

More than 50 per cent of

India's edible oils demand is

Recently, the government increased import duties on

edible oils to protect farmers

through imports.

2,04,190 tonnes.

Argentina.

met

from

period of the previous year.

insurance needs, it said.

the out

point-of-sale which can be accessed and used

Edible oil imports drop 29 per cent in September

PTI NEW DELHI

India's import of edible oils fell 29 per cent annually in September to 10,64,499 tonnes due to lower inward shipments of crude and refined palm oils, according to industry data.

Import of edible oils stood at 14,94,086 tonnes in the same month last year.

Extractors Solvent Association of India (SEA) on Friday released the import data for vegetable oils (both edible and non-edible) for September.

Imports of non-edible oils fell to 22,990 tonnes in September from 57,940 tonnes in the year-ago period.

September declined 30 per cent to 10,87,489 tonnes compared to 15,52,026



of crude pall oil declined to 4,32,510 tonnes last month from 7,05,643 tonnes in import to higher inward September last year, while refined palm oil shipments were down to 84,279 tonnes from 1,28,954 tonnes. Imports of crude sunflower

tonnes from 3,00,732 tonnes. SEA attributed the fall in shipments during Julyand demand, resulting in stock building at port.

subdued

cautious because of volatility and firmness in prices. Reduction in import was led by palm oil, which is trading above soyabean oil and sunflower oil prices, SEA said, adding that domestic players have reduced their

interest amid harvest of kharif crops. Markets close lower; Sensex drops 230 points In Asian markets, Tokyo and

Hong Kong were closed in green territory, while Shanghai and Seoul ended in

the red. European markets were US mid-session deals. markets ended lower in overnight deals on Thursday. Global oil benchmark Brent Crude fell 0.77 per cent to USD 78.79 a barrel. Institutional Foreign Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 4,926.61 crore on Thursday, while Domestic Institutional Investors (DIIs) bought equities worth Rs 3,878.33 crore, according to exchange data. On Thursday, the 30-share BSE Sensex rose 144.31 points to settle at 81,611.41, while the NSE Nifty climbed 16.50 points to close at 24,998.45.

$P^{\rm wC\,India}_{\rm collaboration}$ with Meta to expand and scale its open-AI solutions to citizen

This collaboration will promote the adoption of the digitally enabled future for Llama open-source platform and help PwC develop our clients and our communities - to create value innovative solutions powered and drive meaningful change by Generative AI (GenAI) on at scale," Sanjeev Krishan, a global scale, the consultancy Chairperson of PwC India, said.

PwC India partners with Meta for AI solutions

The collaboration will help PwC India and Meta to In light of the Indian government's announcement democratise GenAI and make to launch the IndiaAI Mission and its investment in building it more accessible to businesses by jointly building a robust AI ecosystem, the moment is ideal for and deploying enterprisebusinesses to harness the grade and citizen-service GenAI solutions. potential of GenAI, it added.

"With Llama Models, we see a It aims to create an ecosystem unique opportunity to of GenAI solutions that will democratise this technology be built on Meta's technical across industries, and drive expertise and powerful Llama innovation while solving realopen-source platform along world challenges. Together, with PwC India's domain expertise. we aspire to create a more



Sandhva Devanathan, Vice President and Head at Meta India, said Gen AI solutions, including Llama, are poised to revolutionise India's businesses and accelerate the country's digital transformation journey.

language

and

'By harnessing the power of natural understanding generation, Llama can unlock new efficiencies, enhance customer experiences, and drive data-driven decisionmaking. As India strives to

become a leading digital economy, Gen AI will be instrumental in empowering businesses to innovate, scale, and compete on a global stage," Devanathan said.

According to the data, import of vegetable oils in tonnes a year earlier. In the edible oil category, the

SEA data showed that import

August,

Moreover, the association oil also declined to 1,52,803 said importers have become buying.

JioFinance app launches with diverse services

PTI NEW DELHI

io Financial Services on Friday announced the launch of a new and improved Ann that



recurring expenses using their JPBL account. their account. Additionally, it said, features such as seamless UPI payments, mobile recharge, to pav

PTI MUMBAI

 $E_{\text{Sensex_and Nifty ended}}^{\text{quity benchmark indices}}$ lower on Friday, dragged by selling in banking, utility and stor turned cautious ahead of key macro data. Besides, a mixed trend in global equity markets and unabated foreign fund outflows also hit investors' sentiment, traders said. The 30-share BSE Sensex fell 230.05 points or 0.28 per cent to close at 81,381.36. During the day, it declined 307.26 points or 0.37 per cent to a low of 81,304.15. The NSE Nifty slipped 34.20 points or 0.14 per cent to 24,964.25. It hit an intraday low of 24,920.05. From the Sensex pack, Tata Consultancy Mahindra & Services, Mahindra, ICICI Bank, Maruti Suzuki India, Power Grid, Axis Bank

BSE SENSEX day

TOP GAINERS October 11, 2024

range of services, including loans, savings accounts, UPI bill payments, recharges, and digital insurance.

A beta version of the JioFinance App was launched on May 30, 2024. Over six million users have experienced Jio Financial Services Ltd's (JFSL) new-age digital platform, and the valuable customer feedback received was instrumental in improving the app's overall

user experience. "A wide array of financial products and services have been added since the Beta launch, including loans on mutual funds, home loans (including Balance Transfer), and loans against property.





with a wide range of attractive offerings, it said.

On the savings front, the digital savings account from Jio Payments Bank Ltd (JPBL), which can be opened digitally in 5 minutes, offers a secure bank account with biometric authentication and a physical debit card, it said. Over 1.5 million customers their manage routine,

bills are empowering customers to transact digitally with ease. The JioFinance app also offers customers an aggregate view of their holdings across different bank accounts and across their mutual fund holdings, helping them manage their finances better. said, the Moreover, it JioFinance app brings as

many as 24 insurance plans spanning a comprehensive suite of life, health, twowheeler and motor insurance digitally. JFSL, along with its ioint venture partner BlackRock are also working towards bringing world-class and innovative investment solutions

IREDA receives DIPAM approval for new Subsidiary

% POINTS (TOPPOPP) +1.63 HCL Tech 1839.55 Alle Little +1.57 **Tech Mahindra** 1645.75 1 111111 11111111 1017.10 +1.02 JSW Steel HHHH 4115-+0.96 Hindustan Unilever 2780.55 HHH-

and Adani Ports & Special On the other hand, HCL Technologies, Economic Zones were among Mahindra, JSW Steel, Hindustan Unilever, Infosys the laggards.

The government is scheduled to release IIP data later in the and Titan were among the

INBRIEF

NIFTEM-K CELEBRATES XTH FOUNDATION DAY

NEW DELHI: The National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship and Management, Kundli (NIFTEM-K) celebrated its Xth Foundation Dav on 7th October with immense enthusiasm and grandeur.

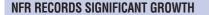
PUNJAB GOVERNMENT APPOINTS PSPCL DIRECTOR



PATIALA: Punjab Government has appointed Er. Harjit Singh as Director/Generation, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd (PSPCL) for two vears. Hailing from Patiala, Harjit Singh an alumnus of Thapar University, has around 30 years of experience in the field of Design/Construction/Operation & Maintenance

SRM UNIVERSITY-AP SENDS AN EXPEDITION TO MT. EVEREST

ANDHRA PRADESH: SRM University-AP flagged off the muchawaited Everest Base Camp Expedition that will take place from October 12 -27, 2024.



MALIGAON: Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) is working relentlessly round the clock to serve its customers and ensure the timely delivery of essential commodities to end users.



PTI NEW DELHI

State-run IREDA has approval from DIPAM to set up a whollyowned subsidiary to undertake retail and B2B business in the renewable energy sector. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency

(IREDA), under the Ministry of new and renewable energy, is a non-banking financial institution.

It has received in-principle from approval the Department of Investment Public and Asset Management (DIPAM) to establish a wholly-owned subsidiary to handle retail business under PM-Suryaghar (Rooftop Solar), PM-KUSUM schemes, and other B2C segments in the renewable energy (RE) sector, IREDA said in a statement on

Thursday. The subsidiary will also focus on emerging RE sectors, including EVs, energy storage, green technologies, sustainability, energy efficiency, etc. engaged in developing and IREDA CMD Pradip Kumar extending financial assistance



Das said, "By extending our expertise in RE finance to retail market, we will provide innovative financing options for both urban and rural consumers, promoting sustainable practices and reducing carbon footprints." The company presently is

for setting up projects relating to new and renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency/conservation. Thursday, IREDA On reported a 36 per cent rise in its profit after tax to Rs 387.75 crore in the September quarter from Rs 284.73 crore PAT in

TCS stock falls two per

(TCS) fell 2 per cent on Friday after its September quarter earnings failed to cheer investors. The scrip of the Mumbaibased company slipped 1.93 per cent to close at Rs

4,146 apiece on the NSE. On the BSE, stock of TCS went down by 1.84 per cent to end at Rs 4,150.60 per piece. In terms of volume, 57.59 lakh equity shares were traded on the National Stock Exchange (NSE) and 2.86 lakh shares exchanged hands

on the BSE during the day. It emerged as the biggest laggard among the BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty firms. TCS, the country's largest IT services firm, on Thursday reported a 4.99 per cent increase in September quarter net profit at Rs 11,909 crore, held back by a narrowing of profit margin.

advocates for Greening Education curriculums

Tech

Steel,

Mobius Foundation

JSW

PNS NEW DELHI

gainers

 $T_{\rm Conference}^{
m he~6th~International}$ on Sustainability Education (ICSE) was organised by the Mobius Foundation in collaboration with prominent global partners, concluded successfully with a resounding call to integrate sustainability into educational curriculums. Held over two days, the conference drew more than 500 experts, educators, policymakers, and environmentalists from over 20 countries, focusing on the theme "Greening Education for a Sustainable Future.' The discussions emphasised

the growing need for sustainability to be a core part of education, promoting eco-conscious living and sustainable lifestyles.



the event was the endorsement of India's National Education Policy 2020 and the National Framework Curriculum 2023.

They both seen as crucial frameworks for advancing sustainable education.

also This year's ICSE highlighted the importance of 'green education' and 'green jobs' as key components of future sustainability efforts both in India and globally.

Since its launch in 2019, ICSE has become a vital platform for addressing sustainability challenges within education

A significant takeaway from systems worldwide.

the same period of the preceding 2023-24 fiscal.

cent PTI 🗖 NEW DELHI $S_{\text{Consultancy}}^{\text{hares of Tata}}$ www.dailypioneer.com/vivacity/

the pioneer

VIVACILY 11

WALKING THROUGH THE OF THE FESTIVAL

In 'Chittaranjan Park', New Delhi, Durga Puja comes alive with families in festive attire, dhol beats echoing, and the aroma of delicious Bengali food, creating a vibrant celebration of community, says SAKSHI PRIYA

Puja come to an end, we celebrate Vijaya Dashami with love and gratitude. Today, we say goodbye to Maa Durga until next year, thanking her for the blessings and protection she has showered upon us. On this special day, may you and your loved ones be blessed with joy, peace, and happiness. Shubho Bijoya Dashami to everyone

SHUBHO

DASHAMI

BIJO

In C.R. Park, located in South East Delhi, Durga Puja isn't just another festival - it's an emotion. Often called the mini Kolkata of Delhi, this bustling neighbourhood truly becomes the heart of the city during these days. Families eagerly wait the whole year for this, preparing for pandal hopping, relishing Bengali delicacies and being part of the vibrant celebrations that make this time so special.

THE MAGIC OF PANDAL HOPPING

For many, Durga Puja is all about pandal hopping, going from one beautifully decorated pandal to another, admiring the stunning idols of Maa Durga. In *C.R. Park*, the streets come alive with people of all ages, dressed in their finest traditional clothes. The women in sarees, the men in kurtas and kids running around in excitement, it's a sight that fills your heart with joy

You can start your pandal journey at the Kali Mandir, where the peaceful

s the festive days of Durga with every new sight. The sound of dhols everyone loves. You can try the famous echoes through the air, and in the evenings, the Sandhya Aarti becomes a beautiful and calming experience for everyone watching. The streets of C.R. Park transforms into a magical world, full of lights, music and devotion, and no matter how many pandals you visit, the excitement never dies down.

A FEAST FOR ALL

No Durga Puja is complete without indulging in the food. The food stalls lining the streets and pandals in C.R. Park offer everything from traditional Bengali dishes to popular street food that

Kolkata-style Puchka that bursts with flavour or enjoy classic rolls stuffed with spicy chicken or mutton.

For those who love fish, Bhetki Paturi - fish marinated in mustard and wrapped in banana leaves is a must-try. Fish Kebab and Chicken Shami Kebab are equally popular among non-vegetarians, while

vegetarians can indulge in dishes like Hara Bhara Kebab or Channar Paturi (paneer wrapped in banana leaves). And for the main course, Golbarin Murgi and Dhakai Mangsho (mutton curry) and Aloo Dum served with soft luchis are pure bliss.

The joy of Durga Puja isn't just in the rituals but also in sharing these meals with family and friends. Sitting down at a table with loved ones, eating delicious food and laughing together under the twinkling lights is a memory that stays in your heart long after the festival is over.

THE STREETS COME ALIVE

The streets of C.R. Park become a celebration in themselves. It's not just about the pandals - it's the whole neighbourhood that transforms. The lanes are filled with people walking from one pandal to another and families taking pictures to capture the beautiful moments. The colourful lights strung across buildings, the sound of *Rabindra Sangeet* floating through the air and the laughter of people enjoying the festival all come together to create a magical atmosphere. Even if you're not Bengali, it's hard not to get swept up in the energy of Durga Puja in C.R. Park. People from all over Delhi come here to experience the festival and there's a sense of community that goes beyond language and culture. It's a time when everyone comes together to



celebrate the victory of good over evil, the peace. It's a time when everyone pauses to triumph of light over darkness.

THE CULTURAL CELEBRATIONS

One of the most beautiful things about Durga Puja is how it brings people together to celebrate not just the goddess, but also the rich cultural heritage of Bengal. During the festival, the pandals host a variety of performances, from Purulia Chou to traditional Bengali folk music. These performances are not just entertaining, they're a way to connect with our roots and pass on our traditions to the next generation.

Whether you're watching a soulful song performance or enjoying a dance recital, there's something about the atmosphere during Durga Puja that makes everything feel a little more special. The connection between the audience and the performers. the shared love for the culture and the joy of being part of something bigger than yourself, it's all part of what makes Durga *Puja* so meaningful.

the goddess, the love of family and friends and the joy of being part of something so special.

SAYING GOODBYE ON BIJOYA DASHAMI

As the festival comes to an end, there's a bittersweet feeling in the air. It's time to say goodbye to Maa Durga as she returns to her heavenly home. The day is marked with rituals like *Sindur Khela*, where married women apply vermillion to each other, symbolising the strength and joy of womanhood.

Then comes the Bijoy Yatra, the immersion procession, where the idols of Maa Durga are carried to the river or pond for their final journey. In C.R. Park, this procession is a deeply emotional experience. People gather to bid farewell, throwing flowers into the water and praying for the goddess's return next year. Though there are tears as we say goodbye, there's also a sense of hope. We know that this isn't a permanent goodbye. Maa Durga will return next year, bringing with her the same joy and blessings. And until then, the memories of this *Durga Puja* will keep our hearts full.

UNTIL NEXT YEAR...

As we celebrate the last day of Durga Puja and look forward to the coming year, let's carry the love, joy and blessings of the festival with us. The laughter, the shared meals, the excitement of pandal hopping, and the spiritual peace of the Sandhya Aarti - these moments are what make Durga Puja so special. So as we say goodbye to Maa Durga on this Bijoya Dashami, let's remember the joy of this festival and look forward to next year when we will once again gather with our loved ones to celebrate. Until then, may Maa Durga's blessings be with you and your family, bringing peace and happiness to your lives. Shubho Bijoya Dashami, Vijaya Dashami or Dussehra to all!

surroundings set the mood for the rest of the day. Then comes the grand Durgotsab in GK II, which attracts thousands of visitors every year. From stunning decorations to cultural performances, the spirit of Durga Puja is alive and thriving here. Another must-visit spot is the Mela Ground, where families gather to enjoy not just the festivities but also the wide variety of food stalls that line the streets.

Children dart between pandals, holding their parents' hands, their faces lighting up Photos: Pankaj Kumar

THE BLESSINGS OF SANDHYA AARTI

As the sun begins to set, one of the most special moments of Durga Puja takes place, the Sandhya Aarti. The rhythmic beating of the drums, the chanting of mantras and the sight of people gathered



reflect and give thanks to Maa Durga. The aarti fills the air with a sense of calm and the glow of the lamps as they're lit adds to the sacredness of the moment. It's in these quiet moments that you feel the in devotion create a moment of pure true spirit of Durga Puja, the blessings of

THE SPIRIT OF NAVRATRI **AVOUR**

Celebrate Navratri with AnnaMaya's special thali, offering a delightful mix of traditional fasting dishes with modern twists, perfect for the festive season, says SHARMILA CHAND

Navratri fasting goes in He explains, "The highlights of harmony with Satvik food. the thali are Falahari N harmony with Satvik food. the thali are 'Falaha Feasting on traditional dishes Shakarkandi Ki Chaat', a completes the celebrations with refreshing blend of joy and happiness. I head to sweet potatoes with indulge in an authentic creamy experience. As the specially curated thali is placed before me, I am on an immersive culinary mix of raw banana, paired journey in the festive spirit.

This year's thali at AnnaMaya is a testament to tradition and innovation, crafted by their tangy and sweet pumpkin renowned Maharaj, Mahendra Jakhar, who has been delighting guests with his unique Navratri offerings for the past nine years. Known for infusing modern twists into traditional fasting dishes, the chef continues to elevate the dining experience, ensuring both authenticity and indulgence during the sacred fasts.

"The Navratri Thali has been thoughtfully curated to honour the spirit of devotion and celebration of Durga Puja and desserts that perfectly Dussehra, offering guests a conclude the meal, such culinary journey that reflects as 'Makhana Kheer' and India's rich heritage. Every dish adheres to Navratri's dietary rich almond barfi infused with requirements while providing a rose petals and milk. Each vibrant and flavourful dining experience," he says.

yoghurt, Kele Ki 'Kacche Shammi', a delectable with potato, cardamom and green chilli, 'Pethe Ki Khati Meethi Sabzi', a preparation with tamarind and ghee, 'Makhana Moongphali Ki Kadhi', fox nuts and peanuts simmered in a lightly spiced yellow curry, and 'Samak Chawal', which is Barnyard cooked millet to perfection.' experience The

doesn't end with the savoury delights the chefs have also curated divine Satvik 'Badam Gulab Ki Barfi', a offering in the thali is crafted

ingredients to ensure both

sacred fast. To complement the time. using high-quality, farm to table

refreshing with beverages like Lassi or Chach - perfect for staying hydrated and health and indulgence during the energised during this auspicious

Navratri Thali offers a harmonious blend of culture, nutrition, and indulgence. Available on all days from 3rd October to 12th October 2024, the Thali is served during both meal, guests can pair their Thali Reflecting on the spirit of lunch and dinner.

and

rituals

flavours

Go ahead and

the

at

celebrate

AnnaMaya, where each dish

tells a story of cultural India

and is prepared with the

utmost care to nourish the body and soul. Priced at INR 2000

plus taxes per person, this

devotion

Navratri, Maharaj Jakhar concludes, "For me, every year is a new opportunity to explore the rich diversity of India's while honouring the purity and devotion of the festival. This year's thali brings together and ingredients that not only nourish the body but also celebrate the cultural heritage we hold."



RECIPE BY MAHARAJ JAKHAR festival of purity SAMAK CHAWAL PULAO

• Preparation and Cook Time:

25-35 minutes **INGREDIENTS** • 60 gm barnyard millet (samak

- chawal)
- 20gm carrots
- 10gm beans • 10gm cauliflower
- 15gm potatoes
- 10 gm fresh green peas
- 1 tbsp ghee
- 1 tbsp sunflower oil • 2 tsp cumin seed

● 1/2 cup yogurt 3gm green chilies 1 tsp fresh coriander

5 gm sendha namak (Himalayan rock salt) METHOD

Soak the barnyard millet in double the amount of water for 10 minutes.

Peel and cut carrots, beans and potatoes into small diagonal

 Boil water in a pan, add Himalayan salt, and blanch potatoes, carrots, peas, and beans, separately for 2-3 minutes. Once they are boiled, rinse them in cold water.

 Heat sunflower oil in a vessel, add cumin seeds, and sauté.

 Add water and cook for a minute. Add the vegetables and salt. Cook for some time.

• Now add yogurt and cook for 5-10 minutes. Add water and boil it for some time.

• Add green chilies and millet • Gently stir and reduce the heat. Cover and cook for some time. • Once the millet is cooked,

finish with the ghee. Serve hot. Sharmila Chand is an Author

and Consulting Editor who writes on Food, Travel, Lifestyle, Art & Culture



BHUBANESWAR | SATURDAY | OCTOBER 12, 2024

INDIA EYE SERIES SWEEP, WITH RUNS FROM OPENERS Slow start for Shubhankar PTI HYDERABAD

espite inconsequential nature, India will be eagerly pursuing the twin goals of a series sweep and monitoring the progress of impressive second-line players during the third and final T20 against Bangladesh here on Saturday. India have already bagged the series 2-0 after wins at Gwalior

and New Delhi. This Indian bunch under Gautam Gambhir has shown an insatiable hunger for victory, and doubters can glance back at its resultoriented approach during the rain-marred Kanpur Test against the same opposition a few days ago.

Hence, they are unlikely to show any laxity here too as a 3-0 sweep will sit nicely along with the 2-0 margin in the preceding Test series.

Beyond the obvious, India will also look to add new pieces to their white ball jigsaw puzzle ahead of some important assignments such as the

Champions Trophy. So, in a season teeming with showpiece events globally as well as bilaterally, it's critical for the team to have multiple backup options.

In that context, it's clear that Gambhir and his colleagues in the backroom have set in motion the process of finding able support cast to frontline players keeping in mind the long-term goals such as the ICC event next year.

Be it pacer Mayank Yadav or spinner Varun Chakravarthy, Gambhir wants to take a closer look at them and assess their readiness for the sterner assays ahead. haven't They been

disappointing either in this series.

Mayank, who missed a lot of action since IPL 2024 due to would want a substantial outing from Abhishek who too an injury, bowled at over 150 clicks while Chakravarthy



returned with a three-wicket haul in his first outing in blue in three years at Gwalior. The team management will

also keep a close eye on the journey of Nitish Kumar Reddy, highly impressive in the Delhi T20 while smashing a 34-ball 74 and returning with a couple of wickets. Opening woes

Among these slivers of positives, the outings of Sanju Samson and Abhishek Sharma stick out like a sore thumb. Samson has given a chance to open the innings in this series and it's a godsend in T20s,

giving the batter a chance to exploit the six power play overs. But the Kerala man has two modest outings to show so far - a 19-ball 29, a missed chance to make a fifty in a small chase of 128, and a 7-ball 10. Samson will have to come up with something special here not to slip away from the eyesight of management, unless they want to give a go to Jitesh Sharma, the second wicketkeeper batter in the squad. Similarly, the backroom staff

has produced lukewarm 15 and 16 in the last two matches. The failure of openers has put a bit of strain on the middleorder, as the hosts were 41 for three inside the power play segment before the middleorder bailed them out in the

second T20I. Apart from that, the team think-tank will decide whether to hand a match to some other worthy names on the bench like leg-spinner Ravi Bishnoi and all-rounder Harshit Rana As for Bangladesh, the visitors

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will strive to taste that elusive victory on this tour. For that, they will need a consistent effort, particularly from seniors like captain Naimul Hossain Shanto, Litton Das and Mustafizur Rahman

who all have been disappointing till now. SQUADS:

India: Suryakumar Yadav (C), Abhishek Sharma, Sanju Samson (wk), Rinku Singh, Hardik Pandya, Riyan Parag, Nitish Kumar Reddy, Washington Sundar, Ravi

Nature of the work: Construction of Additional 05 nos Office Rooms along with 03 nos toilets in GF & FF of RWS&S Division, Baripada in the District of Mayurbhanj in Percentage rate contract. (01 package).

Name and address of the O.I.T. : Executive Engineer, RWS&S Division, Baripada. Date & Time for Opening of Tender: 29.10.2024 at 11.00 A.M. Corrigendum and addendum if any shall only be published in the above website <u>http://www.tenderodisha.gov.in</u>

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement Portal: "<u>https://tendersodisha.gov.in</u>"

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER.

RWS&S DIVISION, BARIPADA.

Tel. No.06792-254029, Fax No.06792-259464, E-Mail : eerwss_bpd@rediffmail.com ,eerwss_bpd@ori.nic.ir

Govt. of Odisha e-procurement Notice.

Bid Identification No. 11 of 2024-25, Date: 01.10.2024.

Estimated Cost: 38.77 lakhs Period of Completion: (180) days. Date and time of availability of bid document in portal : From 11 hour of 15.10.2024 to 28.10.2024 upto 17 hours. Last Date / Time for receipt of bids in the portal : Both Technical & Financial Bid for each Package Upto 17 hours of 28.10.2024.

Bishnoi. Varun Chakaravarthy, JItesh Sharma (wk), Arshdeep Singh, Harshit Rana, Mayank Yadav, Tilak

Varma Bangladesh: Najmul Hossain Shanto (Captain), Tanzid Hasan Tamim, Parvez Hossain Emon, Tawhid Hridoy, Mahmud Ullah, Litton Kumer Das, Jaker Ali Anik, Mehidy Hassan Miraz, Shak Mahedi Rishad Hossain, Hasan, Mustafizur Rahman, Taskin Ahmed, Shoriful Islam, Tanzim Hasan Sakib, Rakibul Hasan.

Executive Engineer

RWS&S Division, Baripada

PTI PARIS

here.

and the sixth.

to two-under.

tied 77th in the standings

Sharma struck four birdies

against five bogeys. He was one of the early

starters and stumbled to a

bogey on the second hole but

quickly made amends with

two fine birdies on the fourth

On the back nine, he had a

good start with a birdie to go

Then came three bogeys on

the trot from 11th to the 13th

and he was not able to recover



from that, managing a birdiebogey finish in the last two holes.

The cut looks likely at even par or better and Sharma will need a solid round to make the cut, after missing out last week. Joe Dean, Thorbjorn Olesen and Jesper Svensson shared the first-round lead after carding identical sixunder 65s

seventh hole.

in French Open golf conditions at Le Golf National Indian golfer Shubhankar Sharma's patchy form continued as he carded a topsy-turvy one-over 72 in the opening round of the FedEx Open de France that left him

after almost 80 millimetres of rain fell on Wednesday, causing the ground staff to work through the night to make the course playable.

sprots 12

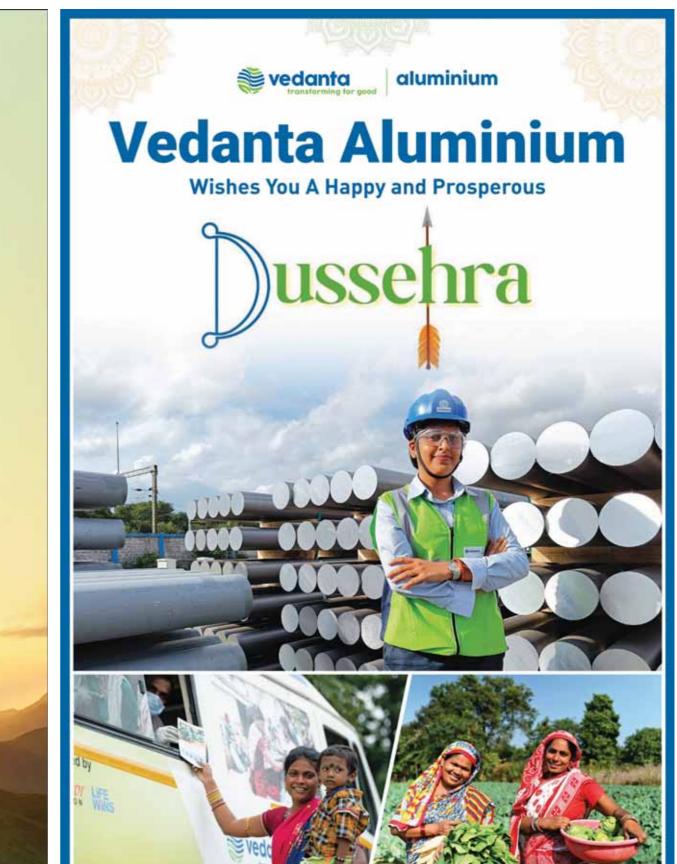
Englishman Dean, making his first appearance at this venue, posted the early clubhouse lead after carding four birdies

and an eagle. He was then joined at the top of the leaderboard by Olesen, who has fond memories of the Albatross Course as a member of Thomas Bjorn's victorious

2018 Ryder Cup side. The Dane was one-under after playing the back-nine, but then reeled off four consecutive birdies from the first before adding a seventh

gain of the day on the par-four The trio made the most of soft







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