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ALEX FERGUSON TO STEP DOWN AS CLUB AMBASSADOR 11 SPORTS

## November's poll results will decide politicians festive mood

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

With the Election Commission's announcement of another round of Assembly elections in the crucial states of Maharashtra and Jharkhand, and bypolls to several Assemblies and Lok Sabha seats across the States, the decks are now cleared for Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi to plunge into active politics by contesting from Wayanad in Kerala on November 13. The election in Wayanad has been necessitated after Congress Member of Parliament Rahul Gandhi vacated the seat for Rae Bareilly, the other seat he had won during the Lok Sabha elections earlier this year. With Priyanka's potential entry into active politics, the Congress' first family will be looking to solidify its influence in the Parliament. Additionally, with Priyanka's presence in Wayanad, the party hopes to send a strategic message to the public, signalling the Congress's presence in both northern and southern regions. Election Commission (EC) announced single phase Assembly polls in Maharashtra for on November 20, while Jharkhand to vote in two phases on November 13 and 20. The votes for both the polling states and bypolls will be counted on November 23. Keeping in view of the several upcoming festivals, including Diwali from October 29 to November 1, Chhath and Dev Deepawali on November 15,

### Priyanka Gandhi will make LS debut from Wayanad



Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar with Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu

### CEC punctures Exit Poll balloon

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday said a huge distortion was created due to exit polls, and called for introspection by pollsters. The EC also questioned the practice of showing winning/losing trends five to ten minutes after the official beginning of counting at 8 am on election result days. "Showing winning/losing trends at 8.05 am or 8.10am, which is just five or ten minutes after the start of counting at 8 am is nonsense. Political parties felt there was a huge distortion due to exit polls. Need self-introspection by pollsters," Chief Election

Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi, Kumar also said exit polls create a huge distraction by raising expectations and it was a matter for self-introspection for the media, particularly electronic media. "We do not govern exit polls, but there is a need for self-introspection. What was the sample size, where was the survey done, how did the result come and what is my responsibility if I did not match to that result, are there disclosures - all of these need to be seen," Kumar said, flanked by two Election Commissioners Gyanesh Kumar and SS Sandhu.

the dates were decided and this will allow voters, particularly those temporarily migrating for the festivals, ample time to return to their registered voting locations. The term of Maharashtra Assembly will end on November 26, while the term of Jharkhand Assembly will end on January 5, 2025. Maharashtra has 288 seats while Jharkhand has 81 seats. Bye-elections to 47 Assembly seats and the Wayanad Lok Sabha seat will be held on November 1. Announcing the schedules Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar said the date of issue of Gazette notification for the Maharashtra Assembly election is October 22, last date of filing nominations is October 29, the date for scrutiny of nominations will be October 30 and the last date for withdrawal of candidatures is

November 4. "There are 9.63 crore eligible voters in Maharashtra while the number of eligible voters in Jharkhand is 2.6 crore," Kumar said. Expressing concern over urban apathy affecting voter turnout, Chief Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar on Tuesday said that polling days in Maharashtra and Jharkhand have been kept mid-week so that more people vote. The EC has been flagging the issue of low polling in urban centres including those like Mumbai and Pune in Maharashtra, and has been taking a number of steps to increase voter awareness. In Maharashtra, turnouts in 62 of 64 urban Assembly constituencies were less than the state average in 2019, as was the case in Lok Sabha elections, he said, adding "We will have a special drive for urban areas". He said in the recent Haryana election, there were booths in the "poshest" areas where voting was less than 20 per cent. After the Haryana and Jammu and Kashmir polls, the BJP hopes to make a return to power in Maharashtra, where it has an alliance with Eknath Shinde's Shiv Sena. The Maharashtra election is expected to witness a two-way fight between the ruling Mahayuti Alliance of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Shiv Sena-Eknath Shinde and NCP-Ajit Pawar and Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) coalition, of the Shiv Sena (UBT), NCP-Sharad Pawar and the Congress.



## Omar to be CM today... Nayab's turn tomorrow

MOHIT KANDHARI ■ JAMMU

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI

Fifty four-year-old Omar Abdullah is all set to take oath as the first chief minister of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday. His party, Jammu and Kashmir National Conference recorded a historic victory winning 42 Assembly seats in the maiden assembly elections held after the abrogation of Articles 370 and 35-A in 2019. This will be Omar Abdullah's second term in office. However, this time, he will be governing a Union Territory without the special status that Jammu and Kashmir once held. He remained Chief Minister from January 2009 till October 2014. The oath-taking ceremony will take place at the Sher-e-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) on the banks of Dal Lake in Srinagar, where elaborate security and other arrangements have been made. The swearing-in ceremony is expected to witness several prominent leaders from the INDIA bloc, a coalition of opposition parties, in attendance. Samajwadi Party leader Akhilesh Yadav and Supriya Sule from the NCP have already reached Srinagar to attend the swearing-in ceremony. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of the opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi are also expected to attend the oath ceremony. The National Conference has also extended invitations to the top brass of the DMK, Shiromani Akali Dal, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, MK Stalin, Uddhav Thackeray, Sharad Pawar, Lalu Prasad Yadav, Arvind Kejriwal, and D Raja. Meanwhile, speculations were rife about the list of probable members of the Council of Ministers. The NC is expected to induct a congress nominee in the council along with Independent legislators from the Jammu region to balance the regional aspirations.

The meeting of the Haryana Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLAs to elect the State legislature party leader of the State will be held on Wednesday. Nayab Singh Saini, who replaced Manohar Lal Khattar as the Chief Minister of Haryana in March is likely to be the CM choice. He was the BJP's chief ministerial face in the state Assembly polls, and Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav are the central observers for the election of the state legislature party leader in Haryana. It is learnt that Shah and Yadav were named central observers after reports of rebellion by Union minister Rao Inderjit Singh and nine of his Ahirwal loyalist MLAs. The minister, however, clarified that he was "solidly" behind the BJP. BJP experimented by naming one of the senior-most party members Union Minister Rajnath Singh to iron out the heavy factional differences in Rajasthan after the Assembly elections. The meeting, which will be held in Panchkula, will elect the state legislature party leader, Haryana BJP president Mohan Lal Badoli said. The state legislature party leader will be the next chief minister. On Tuesday, Saini held meetings with senior officers making preparations for the BJP's big event. Hectic lobbying for ministerial berths have been doing the rounds and names of probable members shall be shared to shared party high command on Wednesday. The oath-taking ceremony of the new Haryana Cabinet will take place at Panchkula's Parade Ground in Sector 5 on Thursday and Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to attend. The BJP secured a third term in the Assembly polls in Haryana, results of which were declared on October 8. It won 48 seats against the Congress' 37 in the 90-member Assembly in the state.

## Delhi AQI dips to 'severe' category

SAUMYA SHUKLA ■ NEW DELHI

The Air Quality Index (AQI) in certain parts of Delhi dipped to severe, a day after GRAP-1 rules kicked in with the national Capital's AQI falling under 'poor' category on Monday. The Anand Vihar pollution control monitoring centre recorded an AQI of 461 at 12:30 pm on Tuesday, data from the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) showed. Amid the air becoming increasingly hazardous, Chief Minister Atishi announced that 99 teams will inspect private and government construction sites in Delhi to ensure compliance with dust mitigation measures. The average AQI for Delhi stands at 198 in the 'moderate' category at 4 pm, according to the CPCB. With GRAP Stage 1 implemented along with other related measures in the national Capital, the Delhi government convened a high-level meeting to review the implementation of the first stage of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP). The meeting was chaired by Atishi and included representatives from various departments such as the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPPC), Public Works Department (PWD), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and the revenue department among others.

## National Capital Region's second airport almost ready for operations



RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The National Capital Region's second airport, Noida International Airport has successfully completed the calibration of the instrument landing system and precision approach path indicator to assess navigation systems. The calibration, carried out by Airports Authority of India (AAI) with support from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA), represents a crucial milestone in the airport's journey towards operational readiness. The airport plans to apply for an aerodrome licence in December, this year. The airport is strategically

located at about 72 km from Indira Gandhi International Airport, about 52 kilometres from Noida, about 130 kilometres from Agra and about 90 kilometres from Multi-Modal Logistics Hub at Dadri. The Instrument Landing System (ILS) is a radio navigation system that provides precise guidance to pilots during approach and landing, particularly in low visibility conditions. The Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI) is a system of lights positioned beside the runway to provide visual indication to pilots regarding their correct descent angle during the final approach.

"A Beech King Air 360ER from the Airports Authority of India (AAI) began the calibration process on Thursday, 10th October, with the process concluding on 14th October 2024," a media release stated on Tuesday. Yamuna International Airport Pvt Ltd (YIAPL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Zurich Airport International AG, is developing the airport. The foundation stone for the project was laid in November 2021. The concession period for Noida International Airport commenced on October 1 2021 and will run for 40 years. The airport, which aims to start commercial operations in April 2025, is expected to submit the application for aerodrome licence in December after completing the validation flights. In the first phase, the airport will have one terminal, one runway, 10 aerobridges and 25 parking stands. Once all four development phases are completed, the airport will have a capacity to handle 70 million passengers per year.

## 26 arrested, Bagraich tense, but under control

BISWAJEET BANERJEE ■ LUCKNOW

In a significant development, Uttar Pradesh police have arrested 26 individuals in connection with the recent violence in Bagraich. The arrests were made earlier today, and the accused were sent to jail following medical examinations, according to SP's Public Relations Officer (PRO) Shivesh Shukla. To prevent the spread of misinformation, internet services in the district have been suspended until October 16. Normalcy is returning in the area as shops in the affected area opened on Tuesday afternoon. "The situation in Bagraich remains tense but under control", District Magistrate Monika Rani said.

## More bomb hoaxes keep airports on edge

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Airport staffers and security agencies on Tuesday went into a tizzy to undertake specific counter-terrorist drills at various airports after five planes, including one bound for the United States, received bomb-threat messages through a social media handle on Tuesday. The threats via microblogging platform X came a day after five hoax bomb threat messages to three international flights, a mail train and a university on Monday, caused trouble to hundreds of passengers and airline crew. According to sources, an X handle issued threats on Tuesday to five flights, an Air India Express flight from Jaipur to Bengaluru via Ayodhya (IX765), a SpiceJet flight from Darbhanga to Mumbai (SG116), an Akasa Air flight from Bagdogra to Bengaluru (QP 1373), an Air India flight from Delhi to Chicago (AI 127) and an Indigo flight from Dammam (Saudi Arabia) to Lucknow (6E 98). The Air India Express aircraft underwent a security check at the Ayodhya airport. The SpiceJet and Akasa Air planes have landed, according to flight-tracking websites. An Air India flight from Delhi to Chicago was diverted to Iqaluit Airport in Canada following a bomb



threat. "Flight AI127 operating from Delhi to Chicago on October 15, 2024, was the subject of a security threat posted online and, as a precautionary measure, has landed at Iqaluit Airport in Canada," the airline said. It further said, "Air India notes that it, and other local airlines, have been subject to a number of threats in recent days. Though all have subsequently been found to be hoaxes, as a responsible airline operator all threats are taken seriously." An Ayodhya-bound Air India Express flight also received a bomb threat, which was sent via phone call for the IX 765 flight that flew from Jaipur at 12.25 pm. The Boeing 737 Max8 aircraft with call sign AXB765 landed at Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya airport by 1.59 pm. The aircraft is currently parked in an isolated bay area of Ayodhya airport, while passengers have been alighted from the aircraft.



## Weekly markets offer bargains, and traffic jams as a bonus!

Large carts piled with clothes, fruits, vegetables, household items, take up road space

BY ABHI SINGHAL

Festive season in Delhi is also shopping and gifting season, this intumescence is a major factor that contributes to the severe traffic jams that are taking a toll on daily commuters. The glittering lights of the bustling streets bring little cheer to the stagnant long lines of traffic that make navigating the city a daunting experience, especially in the North-West areas, during evening hours. The traffic congestion in the North West Delhi starts intensifying at Britannia Chowk, a crucial crossroad connecting Punjabi Bagh, Netaji Subhash Palace and Rani Bagh. Commuters heading towards Rani Bagh from the crossroad, face long red lights due to excessive rush.

When travelling to the Shakurpur Basti Railway Station one will find sweet shops and small roadside markets in between. The condition becomes disastrous every Wednesday due to the 'Buddh Bazaar' (the ubiquitous Wednesday market) choking the two way road. Large heavy carts piled high with clothes, fruits, vegetables, household items, toys and more for sale take up road space. This leads to bumper-to-bumper traffic, exacerbated by many traffic signals on the road. The traffic situation is further complicated on Mahatma Gandhi Road, as major thoroughfares of car modification shops and fruit vendors occupy the sidewalks, leaving little space for vehicles to manoeuvre. The stretch from Shri Ram Mandir crossroads to Mahindra Park Red Light is a notorious bottleneck. The narrow



Photo: Ranjan Dimri/Pioneer

road bends towards Madhuban Chowk, creating a choke point that disrupts traffic flow for buses and other vehicles. Punjabi Zaika, a restaurant on the Mahindra Park crossroad seems to have earmarked its own parking in the service lane and the road itself. The main road is more difficult to travel on, due to the movement of DTC buses and crowded bus stands. The buses line up one behind the other, and this affects the complete stretch. Illegal parking along these routes adds to the chaos, affecting connectivity to Chandra Shekhar Azad Marg and M2K Rohini. Delhi's traffic woes are not new, the traffic but the festive season has made matters worse. "As soon as I leave home, I'm stuck in a jam. The whole of Delhi is gridlocked," Varun Singh, who was on his way to meet friends, said. Another

commuter, Sanyam, lamented, "What used to be a 10-minute ride now takes at least 30 minutes." Meanwhile Traffic volunteers, and police do what they can to manage the situation. "We took illegally parked vehicles and try to keep things moving, but during the festive season, it's nearly impossible to control," a traffic volunteer stationed at Ashok Vihar Circle, said. Another volunteer explained the challenge of this job, "khade hona asaan nhi hai, aur logo ko samjhana mushkil hai" (It is not easy to stand for so long and make people understand the traffic rules and curate the traffic.) As the peak office hours wear on, the congestion extends to other areas, with heavy traffic beginning at the Punjabi Bagh flyover, leaving Delhiites hoping for a smoother ride amidst the festivities.







# Violence, firing, allegations of irregularities made in Punjab Panchayat Polls

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

The panchayat elections in Punjab, held on Tuesday, concluded amidst a tense atmosphere marked by sporadic violence, allegations of irregularities, and instances of bogus voting. While polling occurred across over 13,000-gram panchayats, the day was overshadowed by several clashes, including incidents of firing and physical altercations that left multiple people injured.

Polling began at 8 am and continued until 4 pm, with voters casting their ballots to elect both sarpanches and panches. In total, 1.33 crore registered voters, including 70.51 lakh men and 63.46 lakh women, participated in the election process. Approximately 1.05 lakh candidates contested for the posts of panch and sarpanch, with 3,798 sarpanches and 48,861 panches elected unopposed.

However, elections for 28-gram panchayats were canceled or postponed for various reasons, and the State Election Commission halted polling in Dalla and Pona villages in Ludhiana due to technical issues.

Despite extensive security arrangements, violence erupted in several districts. In Patiala, two people were injured following a clash at a

polling booth in the Khunda village, where firing and stone-pelting ensued. According to the police, the violence began when a group of outsiders confronted local polling agents, leading to a heated altercation that culminated in the firing of eight rounds. The injured individuals were rushed to the hospital, with one victim, identified as Soni alias Teja Singh, sustaining a gunshot wound.

Similarly, a violent incident occurred in Tarn Taran district, where four people were injured during a clash outside a polling station in Sohail Sain village. The altercation, reportedly between two rival factions, escalated into a full-fledged fight involving firearms and sharp-edged weapons. Police quickly intervened to restore order, and the injured were hospitalized. Authorities later resumed polling after stabilizing the situation.

Tragically, two government employees died while on duty during the elections. Lakha Singh, a 53-year-old senior Sub-Inspector with Punjab Police, passed away while stationed at a polling booth in Barnala district. Another incident occurred in Jalandhar, where Amarinder Singh, a 36-year-old school teacher from Fazilka, succumbed to a heart attack on Monday night while preparing for poll duty.

## Minister's wife, 23-yr-old BCom student elected Sarpanch

Counting of votes is underway for the panchayat elections held earlier in the day in Punjab, with results starting to emerge. In a notable victory, 23-year-old B Com student Rajveer Kaur has been elected sarpanch of Basti Bhoota Wali village in Ferozepur. Meanwhile, Urmila Kumari, the wife of Cabinet Minister Lal Chand Katarachak from Katarachak village in Pathankot, has also secured her position as sarpanch, winning by a margin of approximately 350 votes.

As the day unfolded, reports of electoral malpractices and irregularities surfaced from various regions. In Ropar district, bogus votes were detected in the villages of Kotla Nihang and Tappriyan, leading to an immediate investigation by local authorities. Additionally, in Lohke Khurd village in Ferozepur, allegations of booth capturing were raised, with reports of ink being spilled on ballots to invalidate votes. In Amritsar, polling was stopped in two villages due to disputes over missing ballot papers.

The Congress party voiced strong concerns about the election process. A delegation led by Leader of Opposition in Vidhan Sabha Partap Singh Bajwa accused the ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) of manipulating the nomination process, citing widespread irregularities and the wrongful rejection of Opposition-backed candidates. Bajwa further crit-

- ♦ Firing and stone-pelting at a polling booth in Patiala left two people injured, with allegations of outsiders causing the violence
- ♦ Four persons were injured in Tarn Taran after a shooting occurred outside a polling booth during a dispute between voters
- ♦ SC refused to intervene in Punjab's panchayat elections, denying a stay and terming election halting a serious issue
- ♦ A police officer, Lakha Singh (53), died while on duty during panchayat elections in Barnala district
- ♦ A teacher from Fazilka died in Jalandhar after suffering a heart attack while on election duty
- ♦ Voting was paused in Mansa Khurd village after a misprint on the ballot paper was reported
- ♦ Voting was halted in Kothe Ath Chakki village of Jagraon after a dispute
- ♦ Elections were canceled in Pona and Dalla villages

polling stations, further fueling concerns of election misconduct.

# Bypolls for 4 Punjab Assembly seats on Nov 13, counting on Nov 23

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab's four assembly constituencies — Gidderbaha, Barnala, Dera Baba Nanak, and Chabbewal — are all set to go to polls on November 13, followed by counting on November 23.

Election Commission on Tuesday announced the byelection schedule for four assembly constituencies in Punjab. These seats have been vacant following the election of the sitting MLAs to the Parliament during the Lok Sabha elections.

The four constituencies were left without representatives after their respective MLAs were elected as Members of Parliament. Among the seats, three were held by the Congress party, and one by the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

The vacancy in Barnala arose when former Minister Gurmeet Singh Meht Hayer, AAP MLA, was elected MP from Sangrur. Similarly, Punjab Congress president Amarinder Singh Raja Warring vacated the

Gidderbaha seat after securing the Ludhiana Lok Sabha seat for Congress. Dr Rajkumar Chabbewal, Congress' former MLA from Chabbewal segment, now serves as Hoshiarpur MP as AAP representative. Former Deputy Chief Minister Sukhjinder Singh Randhawa, representing the Congress, was also elected to Parliament from Gurdaspur, leaving the Dera Baba Nanak seat vacant.

As the by-elections approach, political activity in Punjab is heating up. The major parties — Congress, AAP, Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), and the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) — are all gearing up for the crucial contests. Each party has appointed in-charges and sub-in-charges for these seats, and high-level meetings are taking place to finalize strategies. The SAD, for instance, held a core committee meeting two days ago, while the Congress has already sketched out its electoral blueprint.

The ruling AAP government, led by Chief Minister

Bhagwant Mann, has also ramped up development works in the respective constituencies to secure voter goodwill. Chief Minister Mann has already toured all four constituencies to assess local issues and promise further reforms.

The district election officers for the four constituencies have also been appointed. Deputy Commissioner Uma Shankar Gupta will oversee the electoral process in Dera Baba Nanak, while Komal Mittal, Hoshiarpur DC, has been appointed for Chabbewal. Rajesh Tripathi, Sri Muktsar Sahib DC, will manage Gidderbaha, and Poonamdeep Kaur, Barnala DC, will be in-charge of Barnala.

With the announcement of the bypolls, the Model Code of Conduct has been enforced in the districts where the four constituencies are located — Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur, Sri Muktsar Sahib, and Barnala. The code will remain in place until the election process concludes on November 25.

## Punjab CM gives nod to construct 13,400 km of link roads

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Tuesday gave nod for the construction of 13,400 kilometers of link roads at a cost of Rs 2,436.49 crore.

Chairing a meeting here, the chief minister said these link roads will give impetus to the state's economic growth. The state government has decided to give a major facelift to the link road infrastructure by widening,

strengthening and upgrading these rural link roads across the state, he said.

In another meeting, Mann also reviewed the work of setting up medical colleges in the state. He asked the officers to ensure the work on medical colleges is completed in a time-bound manner, adding that the work is progressing in full swing for constructing medical colleges at SAS Nagar (Mohali), Kapurthala, Sangrur, Hoshiarpur and Malerkotla.

These medical colleges and hospitals are aimed at making the state a hub of medical education in the country, thereby immensely benefiting the people of Punjab, he said. The chief minister also asked the officers concerned to prepare an elaborate plan for the facilitation of medical colleges in Amritsar, Faridkot and Patiala. He also asked the officers to explore the feasibility of hiring more super specialist doctors in government hospitals.

# Akal Takht Jathedar directs SAD to expel Virsa Singh Valtoha from party

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Head of the new BJP Government's swearing-in ceremony on October 17, the BJP legislature party will hold a meeting on October 16 to elect its leader. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav, who have been appointed by the BJP as the central observers for Haryana, will participate in the BJP legislature party meeting on Wednesday.

The legislators will elect their leader at the meeting, after which

the BJP will stake claim to form the government in Haryana.

The caretaker Chief Minister Nayab Singh Saini was declared the CM face of the BJP in the run-up to the assembly elections in Haryana. The election of Saini, who not only won the Ladwa assembly constituency by defeating Mewa Singh of the Congress by over 16,000 votes but also led the BJP to a stunning victory barely six months after he took charge as chief minister from Manohar Lal Khattar, is seen as a mere formality as both Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah had endorsed his

candidature while campaigning. After being elected as the legislature party leader, Saini is expected to meet Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya and formally stake claim to form the government. The oath-taking ceremony of the new Haryana cabinet will take place at Panchkula's Parade Ground in Sector 5 on October 17 and Prime Minister Modi will attend the ceremony. The event will also be attended by several Chief Ministers from BJP-ruled states. On Tuesday, Saini held meetings with senior officers making preparations for the BJP's big event.

# Haryana BJP legislature party meets today to elect leader

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

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# Himachal CM directs DCs to settle pending cases of revenue corrections by October 31

PNS ■ SHIMLA

Himachal Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, while chairing a review meeting of the Revenue Department on Tuesday, directed divisional and deputy commissioners to settle all pending cases of corrections by October 31. During the meeting, he also directed the officials to start a special campaign to settle the pending revenue cases.

Sukhu said that pending cases were being settled through Revenue Lok Adalats and there was a need to speed it up further. "People should get relief from visiting government offices time and again and the revenue officers should pay special attention to this," he said.

The chief minister said the government is committed to provide facilities to people at their doorstep and it is important to settle pending revenue cases. He asked all the DCs to deploy a nodal officer in their respective districts to review the pending revenue cases and send its report to the government so that they can be settled timely.

Sukhu said that for the settlement of revenue matters, the DCs have been given powers to fill the vacant posts up to naib tehsildar, for which an adequate budget would be made available. He said he would review the matter again in November. The chief minister also reviewed the performance of relief work for the

victims of last year's monsoon disaster. He said the government had released Rs 4500 crore as a special relief package for the disaster-affected people.

**Himachal govt to form umbrella Act encompassing water-related laws**

Chairing a separate high-power committee meeting, CM Sukhu directed officials to make an umbrella act combining all water-related laws. He assured that the present state government will protect the interests of the people and highlighted his government's efforts to improve the financial situation.

He directed the officials to make an umbrella act combining all water-related laws, for which an expert committee will be formed. It is due to the better fiscal reforms which enabled the release of a four per cent Dearness Allowance (DA) instalment for government employees and pensioners. This follows a seven per cent DA given earlier whereas the previous BJP government neglected the interest of the state leading to an investment drain, he said.

Sukhu emphasised that the state's resources will be utilised properly and ongoing court cases will be strongly pursued. Sukhu also acknowledged the challenges posed by global warming and climate change, necessitating studies on increasing cloud bursts.

# Khushwant Singh Lit Fest from Oct 18 in Kasauli

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Indo-Pak relations need a fresh renewal to nourish the bonds of neighbourhood as much as to reignite the spirit of cultural and social affinity, said Rahul Singh, director of the Khushwant Singh Literary Festival here.

Talking to the media persons to deliver his curtain-raiser address for the 13th edition of the Litfest that takes off from Oct 18 in Kasauli, Rahul said there was an urgent need to revive people-to-people contact between the two Punjab. Recalling an epic novel, Train to Pakistan, that his father Khushwant Singh wrote, Rahul said the thaw between India and Pakistan can be broken by rebuilding cultural and social ties. The 13th Edition of the Khushwant Singh Litfest takes off from Oct 18 to 20, 2024 to celebrate the ideas and values that celebrated writer, litterateur and journalist, Khushwant Singh, cherished. This time the theme of the Litfest is 'Resilience and Renewal' which resonates deeply with the times we live in.

The last few years, as we all know, have been a tribute to the enduring human spirit, its ability to adapt, overcome and flourish among challenges, said Rahul Singh. The KSLF is basically a celebration of literature with a niche for Punjab and Punjabi ethos to pay tribute to the values and vision of accomplished writer Khushwant Singh.



Punjab Government greets people of State on the occasion of

**354<sup>th</sup> BIRTH ANNIVERSARY**

of

**The Great Sikh Warrior**

**BABA BANDA SINGH BAHADUR JI**

Founder of first Sikh Raj, who abolished zamindari system by conferring ownership rights on the tillers of land



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Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of Borrower(s)/Co-Borrower(s)/Guarantor(s)/Loan Account No., Details of the Secured Asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any, Amount Outstanding, Reserve Price/Earliest Money Deposit, Date and Time of Property Inspection, Date & Time of E-Auction.

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Corporate Office: 503 & 504, 5th Floor, G-Block, Inspire BKC, BKC Main Road, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (E), Mumbai - 400051.

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE OF 15 DAYS FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE ASSETS UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISION TO RULE 9 (1) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002.

Notice is hereby given to the Public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below listed immovable properties ('Secured Assets') mortgaged / charged to the Secured Creditor, the Possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of SMHFC India Home Finance Co. Ltd.

Table with columns: Sl. No., Name of the Borrower(s) / Guarantor(s) LAN, Description of the Properties, Reserve Price/Earliest Money Deposit, Date & Time of E-Auction, Date of EMD Submission.

Details terms and conditions of the sale are as below and the details are available in our secured creditor's website at the following link website address.

Place: Mohali/ Patiala, Punjab Date: 15.10.2024

Authorized Officer, SMFG INDIA HOME FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

HIND MOTORS LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)

Regd Office: Plot No. 9, Industrial Area, Phase 1, Chandigarh Liquidator: Krishan Vrind Jain, 1139, Sector 82A, IT City, Mohali- 140306

CORRIGENDUM TO SALE NOTICE (E-AUCTION) DATED 09.10.2024

SALE OF ASSETS UNDER INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE, 2016 DATE AND TIME OF AUCTION: SATURDAY, 9th NOVEMBER 2024

From 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH)

Table with columns: ASSETS\*, Description, QUANTITY, LOCATION, RESERVE PRICE, EMD Rs.

Terms and Condition of the E-auction are as under:

1. E-Auction Process Information Sheet containing E- Auction bid form, Declaration by bidders, General terms and conditions of online auction sales will be available from 10th October, 2024 on public announcement page at Website http://hmltd.co.in/ and extract at https://nbd.nesl.co.in/landing-page.

Place: Chandigarh Date: 15.10.2024

CA Krishan Vrind Jain Liquidator

IBBI Reg No. IBBI/PA-001/P-000284/2017-18/10528

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

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.

Table with columns: 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.

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, 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 16, 2024 Place: Ludhiana

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

INDIAN BANK

GOLD AUCTION CUM INVITATION NOTICE

The Pledges, in specific and the public, in general, are hereby notified that auction of the gold ornaments pledged in the below mentioned accounts is proposed to be conducted on 21.10.2024 at 03:00 PM TO 04: 00 PM at respective branches as mentioned below.

Table with columns: Name of the Borrower, Address, O/s Amount and Interest From, Gross Weight (In Grams), Place, Branch Manager Contact No., Earnest Money Deposit.

Terms & Conditions of Auction:- Decision regarding acceptance of an offer for purchase of Jewellery through auction would be that of the Bank and the Bank is not bound to accept the highest offer. Bidders are hereby requested to take note of terms and conditions of auction stipulated hereunder in their own interest: 1. (1) The Bank does not guarantee the weight or purity of the jewellery/coins, either of its gold contents or otherwise. (2) The jewel is available for inspection by the intending bidders on 21.10.2024 between 10:00 am to 2:00 p.m. (3) The intending purchasers shall make an earnest money deposit of 25% of Reserve Price on or before 21.10.2024.

Date:15.10.2024 Place: Chandigarh Branch Manager

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Piyush Goyal S/o Amit Goyal R/o Jharkhand Mandi, Tehsil Tohana, District Fatehabad state that the original documents of a sale deed of record of one of my properties, Vasika No. 520 dated 24-11-2020, has been lost at Railway Road, Jharkhand Mandi on dated 17.09.2024.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Kanchan, W/o Sh. Rajat Kumar, R/o H.No 1686, Ward-14 Kailash Nagar, Thanesar, Kurukshetra, 136118, declare that Sale Deed No 1255 Dated 05.12.2011 (in the name of Kavita Rani W/o Pawan Chand S/o Rishi Ram) And Sale Deed No 8366 Dated 28.11.2005 (in the name of Krishan Singh S/o Phool Singh) have been lost by me somewhere near New Bus Stand, Kurukshetra on 05.01.2012. I have lodged a complaint in Thanesar City Police Station. I am the owner of this property and am taking a loan from SBI RACPC Shakti colony Karnal. If anyone has any objection, then lodge a complaint in the bank Contact no. 01844092001 within 15 days.

Public Notice

I, BAKHTAWAR SINGH S/O BACHAN SINGH R/O VPO MARARI KALAN TEHSIL MAJITHA DISTT AMRITSAR DECLARE THAT MY REGISTRY BANAWALA DATED 17.12.2008 THROUGH VASIKHA NO 3077, JLD NO. 1988, SAFI No. 81-84 THROUGH MANJIT SINGH S/O SADHU SINGH S/O SUNDER SINGH VILLAGE MADH TEHSIL BABA BAKSAL DISTT AMRITSAR IN THE NAME OF KAMLESH KUMARI WIDOW OF BAL KRISHAN & IN FAVOUR OF SMT LEENA KUMARI W/O AJAY KUMAR S/O BAL KRISHAN R/O #95/S, HARDWAL ROAD, JALANDHAR, CANTT, TEHSIL & DISTT JALANDHAR. THE SAID PROPERTY REGISTRY HAS BEEN LOST BY ME. I SEARCHED FO BUT COULD NOT FIND. IF ANYONE FINDS MY ADDRESS OR PHONE NO, CONTACT ON 9898044579.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to general public at large that Sh. Harvir Singh S/o Sh. Harvir Singh and Mrs Rajni W/o Sh. Harvir Singh R/o Village Barhan 83, Tehsil Ludhiana, Distt. Kurukshetra Haryana 136132, has availed Secured Loan on property from Exclusive Leasing And Finance Pvt. Ltd. for Rs. 348844, vide LAP KURUKSHTRA-387-08-2024 having its branch office at Kurukshetra, on their residential house, measuring area 29.7833, MTR U.I.D. No. 58720202100019481, situated in Lal Dora of village Barhan 83, Tehsil Ludhiana, Distt. Kurukshetra Haryana 136132. The said Datta Ram S/o Jangoo Ram is an owner above said land measuring 111.649 Sq MTR, vide register sale certificate no. 6577 Dated: 22/12/2021 executed by Gram Sachiv and Sarpanch issued by SRO Ludhiana. Harvir Singh S/o Sh. Harvir Singh is the sole owner of above property and there is no Co-sharer in this property. If anybody has any right/Title/objection/claim or claiming any prior rights or interest in any manner in above mentioned property as per register in this property, then they may approach the undersigned and submit objection within 7days from the date of this public notice. After the expiry of period of this no claim shall be entertained and such claim shall be deemed to be false, fake, frivolous, fraudulent and baseless claim and shall have no value in the eyes of law. EXCLUSIVE LEASING AND FINANCE PVT.LTD. Branch Office Kurukshetra

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified to general public at large that Sh. Datta Ram S/o Jangoo Ram and Mrs. Renu W/o Sh. Datta Ram R/o village Samala, Tehsil Thanesar, Distt. Kurukshetra Haryana 136131, has availed Secured Loan on property from Exclusive Leasing And Finance Pvt. Ltd. for Rs. 259875, vide LAP KURUKSHTRA - 381-08-2024 having its branch office at Kurukshetra, on their residential house, measuring area 29.7833, MTR U.I.D. No. 5853000100000131A, situated in Lal Dora of village Samala, Tehsil Thanesar, Distt. Kurukshetra Haryana 136131. That the said Datta Ram S/o Jangoo Ram is an owner above said land measuring 29.7833, MTR, vide register sale certificate no. 6224 Dated: 15/09/2021 executed by Gram Sachiv and Sarpanch issued by SRO Thanesar. Datta Ram S/o Jangoo Ram is the sole owner of the above property and there is no Co-sharer in this property. If anybody has any right/Title/objection/claim or claiming any prior rights or interest in any manner in above mentioned property as per register in this property, then they may approach the undersigned and submit objection within 7days from the date of this public notice. After the expiry of period of this no claim shall be entertained and such claim shall be deemed to be false, fake, frivolous, fraudulent and baseless claim and shall have no value in the eyes of law. EXCLUSIVE LEASING AND FINANCE PVT.LTD. Branch Office Kurukshetra

NAME CHANGE

I, Chhatarpal V/O Dharampal R/o Ward No. 09, SPO Ghamroj, Distt Gurgaon declare that I have changed my name from Chhatarpal to Chhatarpal Raghav for all future purposes. Chhatarpal & Chhatarpal Raghav both are one and same person.

PUBLIC NOTICE

We Anil Kumar and Charan Dass s/o Jagir Singh r/o Hanuman Colony Tehsil Barara (Ambala) Haryana that our father Jagir Singh s/o Ghasi Ram r/o Hanuman Colony Tehsil Barara (Ambala) passed away on 16 December 2022 and our mother Pyari Devi passed away on 10 March 2024. We both brothers Anil Kumar and Charan Dass s/o Jagir Singh are heirs of their existing property which is situated in Hanuman Colony Tehsil Barara (Ambala). No case is registered in any police or court on our above property nor is any case going on. If any police or court case is found on the above property, then we brothers will be responsible for it.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Last sale deed bearing number No.21364 dated 11/12/1992 in the name of Sh. Gurdev Singh S/O Sh. Bir Singh, measuring 0B-3B-10B, situated at village Gili No.2, having Kharsa No.1430 Khata No.851/69, jambani and for the year 1995-1996 DDR. No.52597/2024 dated 11/10/2024 lodged against this lost sale deed. Sh.Gurdev Singh died on 28.10.2024. Against the year 1995-1996 DDR, the property transfer to Tarlochan Singh S/O Gurdev Singh, vide mutation on inheritance No.78478. Now Tarlochan Singh S/O Gurdev Singh As Per Sale Deed/Registration of this property in favour of Jasvir Kumar W/O Jasvir Singh, who is taking housing loan from SBI RACPC, LUDHIANA. If and body has lien, charge or Encumbrance on this Sale Deed/Property he/she contact SBI RACPC, LDH or Sh. KGS. Sri Advocate Ch.No.544, Distt. Courts Loh on and behalf of RACPC, Loh, with in 15 days from the date of publication, failing of which bank will not entertain any objection.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Urmila Devi W/o Amarjit Singh R/o H.N.4783, Sector 11, Jind have declared that my property sale deed no. 4194 dated 21.10.2018 and Sale deed No. 7453 dated 20.03.2018 are lost. I have lost sector 11 jind area dated 16.09.2024. Against the said documents already registered police Complaint DDR No. 13230622400851. If anyone found these documents please return above mentioned address. If anyone misuses it, legal action will be taken against him.

The Silvertone Co-Op House Building 1st Society Limited, Plot No. 3, Sector 4B-8, Chandigarh

Tender for Engaging Architect Managing Committee of the society invites tender from the Architect for the completion of society / Occupation certificate from Estate Office Building Branch, U.T Chandigarh complete in all respect. i.e on line filing, revision drawing as per existing layout of the society for 133 flats. Tender should reach to society office on or before 31st Oct 2024 at 03.00 PM.

Conditions: (i) Tender will be opened at 3.00 PM in the presence of Architect or their authorised representative who may like to be present on 31.10.2024 (ii) Rate should be inclusive of all the taxes (iii) Conditional quotation will not be considered (iv) Tender will be opened in the community center of the Society on 31.10.2024 (v) Any Queries regarding this Tender, kindly contact on above address. (vi) Resident of the Society reserves the right to reject any Tender without assigning any reason.

Contact no 9872880737 President

HIND MOTORS INDIA LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)

Regd Office: Plot No. 9, Industrial Area, Phase 1, Chandigarh Liquidator: Krishan Vrind Jain, 1139, Sector 82A, IT City, Mohali- 140306

E-Mail: ipjainkv@gmail.com Mobile No. 9417009490

CORRIGENDUM TO SALE NOTICE (E-AUCTION) DATED 09.10.2024

SALE OF ASSETS UNDER INSOLVENCY AND BANKRUPTCY CODE, 2016 DATE AND TIME OF AUCTION: SATURDAY, 9th NOVEMBER 2024

From 3:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. (WITH UNLIMITED EXTENSION OF 5 MINUTES EACH)

Due to some clerical error, the liquidator is issuing the corrigendum to the sale (e-auction) to be held on 9th November 2024 in accordance with the terms and conditions of the E-auction, the notice for which was published on 09.10.2024 in The Pioneer and Desh Sewak newspapers, and at Websites http://hmltd.co.in/ and https://nbd.nesl.co.in/landing-page

Terms and Condition of the E-auction are as under

1. E-Auction Process Information Sheet containing E- Auction bid form, Declaration by bidders, General terms and conditions of online auction sales will be available from 10th October, 2024 on public announcement page at Website http://hmltd.co.in/ and extract at https://nbd.nesl.co.in/landing-page.

Place: Chandigarh Date: 15.10.2024

CA Krishan Vrind Jain Liquidator

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Satwant Kaur W/o Daulet Ram is owner in respect of property i.e., Hadabst no.27 as per Jamabandi for the Year 2021-22. Sale Deed No.2929 dated 16.10.2005 Kharsa no. 28, 29/8, 12/1/12, 13/1, 28.29/7/3, 14/1, for the Area Measuring 11 Kanal, 14 Marla situated at, Village Daun, Tehsil Mohali District SAS Nagar. I also declare that I have taken loan from Varthana Finance Pvt. Ltd. If anybody have objection regarding this property, please contact C.O.M. Mr. Anil Kumar #9888131918, Advocate Bhupander Kumar #829549981 #1591 sec 16-17 Hisar WITHIN 7 DAY OF THIS PUBLICATION.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

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.

Table with columns: 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.

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, 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 16, 2024 Place: Fatehabad

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

The undersigned being the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13 (12) R/w Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) rules 2002, issued demand notices upon the borrowers mentioned below, (on the underlying pool assigned to ICICI Bank by Dewan Housing Finance Ltd.) in relation to the enforcement of security with respect to a Housing Loan facility granted, pursuant to a loan agreement entered into between DHFL and the borrower, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

As the borrower failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in the exercise of 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 is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of ICICI Bank Limited.

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of the Borrower(s)/ (DHF/ Old LAN & ICICI New LAN), Description of Property/ Date of possession, Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs), Name of Branch.

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/ guarantor(s) is/are hereby given a 30 day notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold on the expiry of 30 days from the date of publication of this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Date : October 16, 2024 Place : Rohtak

Authorized Officer ICICI Bank Limited

HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD LIMITED

"A State Government Undertaking"

DETAILED TENDER NOTICE (E-Tendering Mode Only)

1) Online tender (having two part Bid) are invited for the following work on the prescribed form (Tender Documents). The dates of Sale/Receipt and Opening of Tenders is as per detail given below. The detailed tender notice can also be downloaded from website https://www.htenders.gov.in

Table with columns: Sr. No., Tender No., Name of work, Estimated cost, Earnest money, Price of tender documents, Date of issue of online tender, Last date of online submission of bid, Date of opening of technical & commercial bid, Tender Processing fee.

Price of tender, in advance, shall be deposited online in HPSEBL Account. For other terms and conditions, see tender Documents. Superintendent Engineer (OP), Circle, HPSEB Ltd., Kangra (HP)

"SAVE ENERGY FOR THE BENEFIT OF SELF & NATION"

HIMACHAL PRADESH JAL SHAKTI VIBHAG

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

The Executive Engineer Jal Shakti Division Bilaspur invites tenders on behalf of Governor of Himachal Pradesh from approved eligible contractors for the following work(s) through offline process:-

Table with columns: Sr. No., Name of work, Estimated cost, Earnest Money, Time allowed, Cost of form.

Last date of submission of tender: 25/10/2024 upto 3.00PM

Last date of sale of tender from divisional office 24/10/2024 upto 2.00 PM

The tender forms and other detailed conditions can be downloaded from the website www.jsv.hp.nic.in.

Executive Engineer, Jal Shakti Division, Bilaspur.

RO NO. 2713/2024-2025 Dated: 15-10-2024

SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank

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.

Table with columns: 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.

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantor(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, 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 16, 2024 Place: Amritsar & Tarn Taran

Sincerely Authorised Signatory For ICICI Bank Ltd.





Govt. of Haryana



“ मुझे विश्वास है कि विकसित भारत  
के संकल्प में हरियाणा की भूमिका  
और महत्वपूर्ण होने जा रही है। ”  
- नरेन्द्र मोदी

In the August Presence of  
**Sh. Narendra Modi**  
Prime Minister

# Oath-Taking Ceremony

You are cordially invited

Date: October 17, 2024 | Time: 11 am  
Venue: Dussehra Ground, Sector-5, Panchkula

**फिर एक बार,  
डबल इंजन सरकार**





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PAPER WITH PASSION

## souring relations

New Delhi dismisses the Canadian claims of Indian involvement in the Nijjar case as politically driven

The already tense relations between India and Canada have hit a new low, with both countries expelling each other's diplomats. New Delhi expelled six Canadian diplomats, including Acting High Commissioner Stewart Ross Wheeler after Ottawa's expulsion of 'targeted' Indian diplomats. These diplomats were allegedly involved in 'violent criminal activity in Canada.' The situation deteriorated after Trudeau accused Indian intelligence agents of being linked to the Nijjar's murder in British Columbia in 2023. During a press conference, Trudeau, announced the expulsion of six Indian diplomats from Canadian soil, citing their involvement in a 'targeted campaign' against Canadian citizens. India's Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has responded with forceful rebuttal, describing the allegations as 'preposterous imputations.' The MEA criticised Canada's decision to expel the Indian diplomats, dismissing the accusations as politically motivated and linked to the Trudeau government's domestic challenges. India on its part has expelled six Canadian diplomats to leave the country by October 19, 2024, and announced the withdrawal of its High Commissioner from Canada.



The root cause of the conflict lies in the ongoing issue of Sikh separatism and Canada's handling of the Khalistan movement. Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a prominent Khalistan supporter, was a Canadian citizen who had long advocated for an independent Sikh state. His murder in 2023 remains a contentious issue, with Canadian authorities suspecting the involvement of Indian agents. India, however, has consistently denied any role in the killing and has accused Canada of providing a safe haven for extremist elements that threaten

India's national security. It is rather unfortunate that two friendly countries should snap diplomatic relations with each other. Justin Trudeau's electoral compulsions, with elections just a year away, could be behind his recent actions. Justin Trudeau's perceived support for Sikh separatists, particularly those advocating for a Khalistan, stems from a complex blend of domestic political considerations and Canada's multicultural policies. Trudeau's Liberal Party has historically sought the support of the Sikh diaspora, a significant and politically active community in Canada, which includes a segment advocating for Sikh rights and in some cases, Khalistan. By engaging with Sikh community leaders, including some who may have Khalistani sympathies, Trudeau aims to secure votes in regions with a strong Sikh presence. This standoff could affect many areas where people in both countries could be net sufferers. Trade negotiations, immigration policies, and cultural exchanges between the two countries would indeed be affected. The expulsion of diplomats and withdrawal of ambassadors signifies more than just diplomatic posturing; it represents India's sovereignty, security, and the role of foreign governments in its domestic affairs. With both sides showing no signs of backing down, the road to reconciliation appears to be fraught with challenges.

### PICTALK



An oriental pied hornbill at Ponitora Wild Life Sanctuary, in Morigaon

PTI

# The untold story of Captain Rameshwar Thapa's heroics



ASHOK K MEHTA

Capt Rameshwar Thapa, Nepal's first civilian pilot to command a Russian Mi17 helicopter, played a pivotal role during the country's Maoist insurgency

When you think of rotary wing aircraft in Nepal, some names will crop up: Tula Bahadur Thapa, Narain Singh Pun, Madan KC, all Army Colonels, but among civilians a pioneer is Capt Rameshwar Thapa, the first Russian Mi17 helicopter pilot who trained the then Royal Nepal Army on Mi17 and was later requisitioned by Security Forces during the Maoist People's War. Let's call the Captain, RT who has written the English version of his book in Nepali, Barud Mathi Uddaa titled Into The FIRE, a book 'based on hard facts'. It encapsulates the Maoist insurgency that aimed to capture the state: they came perilously close to doing it. But for RT's heroic efforts, on April 8, 2005 in saving Khara, the epic battle waged by Maoists, by flying in 20 Special Force Rangers after an SOS- 'if no reinforcements in 20-30 minutes, Khara will go'. Despite his helicopter being hit by Maoists on surrounding hills he made a second attempt in a vertical descent to land reinforcements at base camp. Khara was a battle for prestige and honour for both sides, especially Maoists but Rangers saved the day. At the time, I had written reams on the first and second Khara battles, describing Khara II's criticality.

RT rightly calls Khara the turning point, for soon after, their defeat at Khara Maoists sued for peace: choosing ballot over bullet. They signed the 12-point agreement in New Delhi in November 2005 which led to the political transformation of Nepal - restoration of democracy and mainstreaming of Maoists. The rest, of course, is history. Into the Fire essentially covers the personal experiences of a co-pilot elevated to Pilot in Command as Mi17 initially had pilots from Russia and Central Asian Republics. Their mission was rescue, relief, reinforcements, casualty evacuation and acting as morale boosters. The Maoists were terrified of helicopters which were later ingeniously improvised by RNA as armed platforms to drop 81 mm mortar bombs and Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). Many battles in both east and west Nepal are described mainly from



the humanitarian angle of saving lives and security posts at great personal risk. RT turns out to be a cat with nine lives having taken numerous hits and a life-threatening crash landing near Everest Base Camp. Initially, he joined Everest Air which was regularly supplying helicopters to the police as they had none; later, he flew for the Armed Police Force and RNA.

King Gyanendra who had usurped power first in 2002 and done a coup in 2005, did not allow the RNA to aid or assist the police which suffered on account of it. He did not even allow PM GP Koirala to use it to break the siege of the Holleri post when 76 policemen were taken hostage. Koirala had to resign but Holleri was an avoidable blot on police's unprofessional record. The Army was only pressed into service after Maoists during a ceasefire and talks attacked Army barracks in November 2001 at Dang. Flying for the army RT became an 'enemy of the Maoists' and was advised to send his family abroad for their safety.

Major encounters revive memories of fighting, their horror, ferocity and barbarity. Villages and towns have not forgotten



RT HAS NARRATED SEVERAL HUMAN INTEREST STORIES LIKE ONCE EVACUATING A FEMALE MAOIST WHO LATER BECAME A MINISTER AND MARRIED A FELLOW MAOIST MINISTER

the atrocities committed by both sides. RT has narrated several human interest stories like once evacuating a female Maoist who later became a minister and married a fellow Maoist minister. There is a conversation with elders in a village who tell him that they prefer to give their daughters to RNA rather than letting Maoists take them away to join the movement.

His underground life at Oasis Hotel in Nepalgunj is cloak-and-dagger stuff. RT has not shied away from writing about RNA's November 2004 Pandaun, Kailali 'propaganda' attack under the lyricist Divisional Commander, Gen Rajendra Thapa. The Army claimed it had killed 200 to 300 Maoists whereas only 4 to 5 bodies were found (Maoists had an honour code not to leave behind any bodies). One of the Army's self-afflicted disasters was enacted at Pili in August 2004 when an Engineer Regiment was ordered to crash-build a road for King Gyanendra's visit. Their prize was a huge cache of explosives stored at Pili for road construction. Nearly 160 soldiers were killed as RT conducted casualty evacuation flights. Elsewhere he mentions current President Ramchandra Poudel writing an article in Kantipur

daily titled 'Maobadi Paradise: Nirmal Nivas', which was Prince Gyanendra's residence. Having been as 'busy as a bee' in the People's War, as a 24X7 helicopter pilot, his life changed after violence ceased. He mentions India's constructive role in the peace process. In his post-conflict avatar, RT became an aviation company czar, a media mogul - with newspapers, radio and TV - and an interest in politics. His list of awards will fill a page. So will his contribution to corporate social responsibility. Into The Fire: was released in Delhi last month to a packed house. Striking in the book is the note written by Janardhan Sharma who was the architect of the Khara debacle-while recently Nepal's Finance Minister. Sitting next to me on the dais RT was a picture of modesty and humility, few people realised his crucial role in the People's War. Immodestly I could not resist mentioning my book The Royal Nepal Army: Meeting the Maoist Challenge released in 2005. But this is a first-hand account. (The writer, a retired Major General, was Commander, IPKF South, Sri Lanka, and founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff; the views expressed are personal)

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### RTI POWER FADES

Madam - It is really unfortunate that the RTI Act, which came into effect in 2005, promising a new era in transparency in government functioning, has almost died its own death, with the executive not showing any keenness to infuse a fresh life into it. The Act has slowly weakened due to unwarranted amendments, over-reach of the executive and restrictive judicial interpretations. Lack of adequate infrastructure and shortage of staff in government offices to deal with RTI applications is another cause for worry. Ever since its ratification, several attempts have been made to deliberately dilute this law and hamper access to information by the public.

The proposed amendments were dropped due to widespread public defiance. In the administration and functioning of a democratic government, the right to access and seek information is a sine qua non for transparency, openness and accountability. Unless citizens are empowered with the right to ask questions, democracies cannot and will not survive. The need of the hour is to promote the free flow of information to limit tyrannical tendencies and reinforce democratic ideals.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

#### RAILWAY SAFETY NEGLECTED

Madam - Gone are the days when a Railway minister used to apologise for a train accident and even tender his resignation for it. Now, it is too much to expect even an explanation for the snail's pace at which the Train Collision Avoidance System is being installed and the lack of manpower that makes even loco pilots do the extra shifts. In such a scenario, there is no wonder why train accidents have become a regular event in our country. Train Collision Avoidance System, which was later renamed as Kavach, is an automatic train protection system that helps prevent collisions if two trains are on the same tracks. Senior railway officials said that a field trial was

### Peacekeepers under attack



Just a week ago, Israel's Foreign Minister Israel Katz announced that UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has been banned from entering Israel, accusing him of "supporting" Hamas, Hezbollah,

started for Kavach in 2016. But it has been installed only in less than 1,500 km of tracks out of the total 70,000 km covered by the Indian Railways across the country. That means this lifesaving device has so far been placed in only a little over 2 per cent of railway tracks in eight years after its field trials! An RTI reply says that of 1,27,644 sanctioned posts of loco pilots and assistant loco pilots, 18,766-nearly 15 per cent - were vacant as of March 1 this year. Indian Railways have been playing with our lives by not filling up vacant posts and by forcing their personnel, even loco pilots, to overwork. How can a loco pilot remain alert if he has to do extra shifts?

Sujit De | Kolkata

#### LAW AND ORDER CRISIS

Madam - The shooting of Baba Siddiqui could not have come at a worse time for the Mahayuti government in Maharashtra, as elections to the assembly are just around the corner. The opposition has been handed over an issue of

Houthis and Iran. Now a new order has been issued from Tel Aviv, which says that all UN peacekeepers should be removed from Lebanon. Israel is accusing without any proof that Hezbollah is using peacekeepers as human shields.

On the contrary, Israel has been continuously attacking the peacekeepers since last week. Dozens of peacekeepers have been injured so far. UNIFIL, a mission of about 9,500 soldiers of various nationalities, was created after Israel invaded Lebanon in 1978. It is currently tasked with monitoring the ceasefire that ended the 33-day war between Israel and Hezbollah in 2006. Israel's actions have been criticised by the whole world, except the US.

Jang Bahadur Singh | Jamshedpur

law and order in the state which is certainly going to be used as ammunition against the government in the electoral campaigning. There is no doubt this issue will resonate with the people of the state. If important political leaders and ex-ministers are not safe, what hope is there for the common citizen? Another disturbing fact is that the alleged kingpin is overseeing operations from jail.

With the right connections, jails seem to have become a holiday resort with all facilities available, like cell phones and wi-fi. The assailants are said to be in the ages of 19-21, and another one is supposedly said to be a minor. The lack of education and scarcity of jobs play their part in getting the young people sucked into the criminal world. Usually, the criminals come from the Northern Hindi belt. Those in charge of the states must find ways and means to stop the young people from entering the world of crime.

Anthony Henriques | Mumbai

## The invisible battle for mental health in India

Mental health remains an afterthought in our healthcare narrative. The true healing encompasses both body and mind

As a psychologist, I've seen how health in India isn't just a battle of the body—it's a struggle of the mind. Behind every disease is a person dealing with fear, frustration and, at times, loneliness. Whether in rural areas, where diseases like tuberculosis persist or in urban centres where lifestyle illnesses are on the rise, the emotional toll is often invisible but deeply felt.

In rural India, patients face challenges that go beyond medical diagnoses. I remember a man from a small village battling tuberculosis, but what weighed on him most wasn't just his illness—it was the isolation. He felt forgotten and cut off from the world because healthcare facilities were far away, and his family didn't know how to support him. This emotional isolation is something many rural patients experience, and it can be as damaging as their physical symptoms, compounding their sense of hopelessness. In cities like Gurgaon, the struggles are different but equally pro-



found. I think of Anjali, a young woman overwhelmed by anxiety. To the outside world, she seemed to have it all—a great job, a busy social life, and a bright future. But inside, she was spiralling. She hesitated for months before seeking help, afraid that admitting to her struggles would make her appear weak. This fear of judgment keeps many people from asking for help, and it's heartbreaking to see how common this is in urban environments. Mental health remains an afterthought in our healthcare system.

We focus on physical symptoms—treating heart disease, diabetes, and other

conditions—but the emotional weight people carry is often ignored. I've seen people suffer for years in silence, feeling their emotional pain isn't valid because it can't be measured like a physical illness. There's an urgent need for change. India's healthcare system mirrors this divide. In cities, private care offers options, but mental health services are still limited and expensive.

In rural areas, mental health is rarely even discussed. Socioeconomic barriers, especially for women, make it even harder to access mental health care. Women often put their health—both emotional and physical—on the back burner,

prioritising their families' needs over their own. One of my patients, a mother of two, delayed seeking help for her anxiety for years. She was exhausted, overwhelmed, and losing her sense of self. But like so many women, she felt guilty for even considering that her health deserved attention.

This is a common story—too many women in India silently endure mental health struggles, dismissing their needs as unimportant, further isolating themselves in the process.

We need to change this narrative. Mental health is not a luxury or a sign of weakness. It is an integral part of overall well-being. We must make mental health care as important as physical health in our conversations and our healthcare system. Only then can we address the full scope of health challenges in India—because real healing isn't just about the body; it's about the mind too.

(The writer is Psychologist and founder - Kavita Kabira wellness clinic; views are personal)



KAVITA KABIRA





## FIRST COLUMN

## CLEANLINESS AND SPIRITUALITY

The connection between a clean space and a peaceful mind is undeniable



RAVI VALLURI

When I recall our college days, particularly the hostel rooms, it takes me on a nostalgic trip. The days were full of fun and frolic, books scattered around, beer and rum bottles lying randomly, with cigarette butts strewn rather carelessly. The rooms were full of stench.

Most of the guys would ogle, there was no Google back then, at the girls. Posters of Pink Floyd, the Beatles, and Led Zeppelin populated the grubby and unwashed walls of the rooms. The politically inclined would paste large printed pictures of Che Guevara, Marx and Lenin among others, professing their ideological baggage unequivocally.

Some rooms were relatively cleaner and tidily kept. In our hail-fellow-well-met attitude we ended up ostracising such students. But they were our Gurus during examination times, much to their chagrin. A close friend had put up a poster which read: "Cleanliness is the sign of a sick mind." His room was particularly unclean and stained.

Cleanliness is both the abstract state of being clean and free from dirt, and the process of achieving and maintaining that state. However, to my mind cleanliness and spirituality are intertwined like Siamese twins. The human mind normally slips into a state of meditation and involuntarily has a spiritual experience at places which are relatively clean. Cleanliness is positively next to godliness.

India has of late embarked upon a major cleanliness drive where villages, bijou towns, cities, rivers, among others, places of historical importance and important religious places are being refurbished. This is indeed a positive statement made by the government. A gurdwara is the place of worship for Sikhs. People from all faiths and those who do not pro-



fess any faith too, are welcomed in Sikh gurdwaras. To me gurdwaras are among the cleanest spots in the country and it is a lesson in humility to observe how the devout keep it absolutely spick and span. The mind gravitates to the pristine spirit and listens to the soulful and mellifluous Gurubani being sung. The human mind, which is normally canonaded by innumerable thoughts, gradually settles down and is at rest and peace.

It would be interesting to mention that Sri Harmandir Sahib and Sri Darbar Sahib are informally referred to as the Golden Temple. Guru Ram Das constructed the Golden Temple in 1577. He was the fourth Guru in the pantheon of Sikh Gurus. A Sikh friend mentioned that a gurdwara is a community asset and serviced by unpaid and committed volunteers, those who perform seva from the kitchen to the shoe rack.

Mahatma Gandhi, the apostle of peace and non-violence, championed the cause of truth only as he could. His autobiography, *The Story of My Experiments with Truth*, like his life, documents every aspect where he does not dissemble anything. During my days of quotidian drinking, I drank heavily and remained inebriated. In that state of arrogance and hubris, I walked into the holy precincts of the Golden Temple carrying a packet of Wills Navy Cut. The act was certainly sacrilegious. For perpetrating this sinful act, I could have been trolled on social media. Today, I regret the mistake committed and apologise sincerely from the depths of my heart. I am sober today because of Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar and have given up drinking, smoking and eating non-vegetarian fare. The twisted personality in me is making amends and I hope those afflicted with these vices seek the grace of a Guru to extricate themselves from this cesspool of negativity and embark upon the voyage to discover the quintessential quality of cleanliness and spirituality.

(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)

# Migration issue polarises Canada ahead of 2025 election

Canada is struggling to reconcile the benefits of foreign influx with stagnant wages, strained services and a housing crisis; analysis by AMAL CHANDRA and AJAY P KARUVALLY

Canada has recently cut down on international student permits and tightened eligibility for work permits in a bid to cut down on the number of temporary residents. As the federal election approaches in October 2025, immigration remains the most contentious issue in Canadian politics. "Immigration is an advantage for our economy — but when bad actors abuse the system and take advantage of students, we crack down." Said Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, in a post on X. However, things are a little more complicated. Canada presents a unique case of population dynamics, with rapid growth despite record-low birth rates. Between 2023 and 2024, Canada's population surged by 3.2 per cent, outpacing even some African nations known for their high population growth. While the population is increasing rapidly, the total fertility rate (TFR) of 1.33 children per woman in 2022 was the lowest in Canadian history. Canada's population growth, despite a very low TFR, is a testament to the power of immigration. In 2023, 97.6 per cent of the growth in the Canadian population came through immigration.

This reliance on immigrants is a long-standing strategy to offset the country's ageing population. While the COVID-19 pandemic temporarily slowed population growth to just 0.4 per cent in 2021, immigration quickly rebounded, fuelling a rapid recovery in population growth. A significant portion of Canada's immigrants come from India, making up 10.8 per cent of all immigrants in 2023. The proportion of Indians among all the immigrant groups entering the country has increased from 9.6 per cent between 1991 and 2000, to 18.6 per cent between 2016 and 2021. Projections for the period between 2022 and 2026 suggest this trend will continue to accelerate.

**Canada's Immigration Dilemma:** Canada's immigration system comprises four main programs: economic, family, refugee, and temporary work. The first three lead to permanent residency, while temporary workers must follow specific pathways with quotas and criteria to attain permanent residency. The preferred route for international students is the Post-Graduation Work Permit (PGWP), which is issued to foreign students who have completed a diploma or degree at a Canadian institution. This permit allows them to qualify for permanent residency programs. While all immigration programs have grown, the 127 per cent surge in international student permits issued in 2023 compared to 2006 is particularly remarkable. A 2015 study showed that between 20 per cent and 27 per cent of international students transitioned to permanent residency within ten years of receiving their first study permit. This conversion rate is likely even higher in more recent years, reflecting the growing appeal of Canada as a destination for long-term settlement through the student migration route.

**Economic Growth or Illusion?** The influx of immigrants and their economic activity has fuelled Canada's GDP growth (1.8 per cent average from 2000 to 2023), but population growth is masking underlying economic challenges. The GDP per capita rate for the same period from 2000 to 2023 is only



CANADA'S IMMIGRATION SYSTEM COMPRISES FOUR MAIN PROGRAMS: ECONOMIC, FAMILY, REFUGEE, AND TEMPORARY WORK. THE FIRST THREE LEAD TO PERMANENT RESIDENCY, WHILE TEMPORARY WORKERS MUST FOLLOW SPECIFIC PATHWAYS WITH QUOTAS AND CRITERIA TO ATTAIN PERMANENT RESIDENCY

0.7 per cent, among the lowest in the G7. The Canadian economy and the living standards of its population have largely stagnated over the last decade.

While immigrants are contributing to economic growth, the GDP per capita rates are declining. Many new immigrants earn less than the national average, and there are doubts about their ability to achieve upward mobility as rapidly as past generations of immigrants, especially given that the majority are temporary residents.

**The Government's Immigration Gamble:** To course-correct a stagnating economy and compensate for poor growth rates, Canadian policymakers have made a bet on immigration. By letting in massive numbers of permanent and temporary residents, Canada has prioritised short-term growth, in hopes this can translate to a sustainable long-term growth strategy through the upward mobility of the recently introduced immigrant cohorts. While it may be too early to say this is not working, Canadian public opinion against immigration is at an all-time low. Many Canadians feel the rapid influx of immigrants is exacerbating critical issues like the housing shortage and the strain on social services, including healthcare and emergency response. Despite placing their hopes on immigration, the government has failed to make parallel investments in infrastructure to support both immigrants and the existing population.

Wages in Canada have struggled to keep pace with inflation and there is rising concern among Canadians that immigrants are

suppressing wages. Although evidence suggests that immigrants have little to no impact on the average wages of native workers, the perception of such effects tends to fuel stronger anti-immigration sentiments. Corporations, however, have capitalised on this dynamic, employing temporary workers, including international students, in low-wage, precarious jobs. The promise of permanent residency keeps them in the system, even when working conditions are poor.

For corporations, this represents a windfall of cheap labour. Coincidentally, working these low-paying jobs means the immigrants are unlikely to undergo the upward social mobility the government is hoping they would. Rising Hostility and Public Sentiment As frustrations over the government's immigration policies mount, this frustration is being increasingly manifested as resentment toward immigrants themselves. Public sentiment has noticeably shifted in recent years, with more Canadians expressing negative views toward international students and other immigrants. While this is hard to quantify and prove, public sentiment analysis using machine learning models on social media platforms like Reddit provides a useful indication.

We analysed all the comments under posts containing the word "international students" in the r/Canada subreddit (community) from 2010 to 2022. While the r/Canada subreddit is not in any way a reflection of Canadian society, it could be a fair representation of a microcosm of Canadian centrist views on immi-

gration. Till 2015, There was minimal discussion or negative sentiments related to international students (see figure below). Starting from around 2015, the number of negative comments saw a sharp rise. This trend peaks significantly after 2020, indicating a growing negative discourse, especially in recent years. The number of positive comments seems to plateaued after 2017. Although positive sentiment persists, sentiment analysis reveals a shift in public discourse toward increasingly negative views on the broader issue of international students in recent years.

**Conclusion: A Broken System** For many international students and temporary immigrants, these growing negative sentiments could lead to increased hostility and more barriers to integration. Instances of food bank usage, cultural misunderstandings, and economic struggles may further inflame these tensions. Canada's immigration system, which lacks a strategic vision, seems to benefit neither Canadian citizens nor immigrants.

Without meaningful reforms, only corporations exploiting cheap labour will see long-term gains, while social unrest and economic stagnation will continue to grow. The future of Canada's immigration policy hinges on the ability of the government and its citizens to address the current challenges and find a path forward that benefits all residents.

(Chandra is an author, policy analyst and columnist and Ajay P Karuvally is a Research Fellow at The International Institute of Migration and Development; views are personal)

# The divisive legacy of British colonialism: A persistent threat to India's unity

Politicians continue to exploit social divisions for electoral gains, while foreign forces seek to undermine India's unity

The legacy of British colonialism in India remains a contentious issue, with far-reaching consequences that continue to impact the country's social fabric. In the contemporary context, this can be seen in the practice of politics by the opposition parties, particularly the Indian National Congress (INC).

The colonial era strategically exploited India's inherent social and cultural diversities, creating fault lines that persist today. These divisions, crafted to serve the interests of the British Empire, have become entrenched in India's societal landscape, posing a significant challenge to national unity. Post-1857, British authorities, scholars, and missionaries collaborated to divide Dalits, tribals and Muslims



SHIV PRAKASH

from the Hindu community. This agenda leveraged scholars and missionaries to separate Dalits and tribals through conversion and social manipulation, as detailed in Arun Shourie's seminal work, "Missionaries in India." By creating artificial distinctions and fueling social conflict, the British successfully fostered alliances and divisions that endured long after

independence. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently highlighted Congress's departure from its founding principles, embracing leftist ideologies instead. Modi cited Congress's original stance on issues like Swadeshi, Swavalamban, and Panchayat Raj, and Mahatma Gandhi's opposition to religious conversion and cow slaughter.

Gandhi's post-1920 emphasis on eradicating untouchability, casteism, alcoholism, and women's oppression, and promoting national unity, has given way to divisive rhetoric. Congress's current leadership, exemplified by Rahul Gandhi, has strayed from these ideals. Gandhi's recent US visit sparked controversy, as he claimed Sikhs face identity crises in India, despite no evi-

dence. His comments fueled separatist sentiments among Khalistani supporters, echoing the tactics employed by British colonialists.

Meanwhile, in Sikh communities, Max Arthur Macauliffe sowed seeds of separation, as detailed in Khushwant Singh's "The Sikh Gurus, Sacred Writings and Authors." These foreign interventions fabricated logic, distorted literature, and spread misinformation to execute their divide-and-rule policy.

Gandhi's stance resonates with the British-era concept that India is not a nation but a union of states. This contradicts the ancient Indian ethos, affirming India's nationhood. The Vedas proclaim, "Vayam Rashtra Jagryam Purahitah" (We are the guardians of the

nation). Even former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru's wish to have his ashes immersed in the Ganges reflects his devotion to Mother India. The British exploited these divisions, nurturing enduring fault lines evident in the Direct Action orchestrated by the Muslim League, resulting in the brutal massacre of 16,000 Hindus in Calcutta alone.

Notable figures like Jaipal Singh Munda and Jogendra Nath Mandal eventually broke away from the Muslim League, recognising the sinister intentions. Mandal resigned from the Pakistan government and returned to India, highlighting the atrocities faced by Dalits and tribals.

Today, India must recognise and learn from this history,

acknowledging the artificial divisions created by British colonialism and guarding against similar tactics employed by contemporary forces seeking to exploit these fault lines for political gain. Citizens and political parties must remain vigilant, prioritising national unity over sectarian interests.

The 1946 Jharkhand, Chota Nagpur Pakistan Conference and Jogendra Nath Mandal's alliance with the Muslim League exemplified this strategy. British authorities fueled fears among Dalits and tribals, claiming the "Hindu Raj" would oppress them. This manipulation ignored the historical social cohesion and shared struggles of India's diverse communities.

Mahatma Gandhi's vision for

a unified India contrasts sharply with the divisive agenda of some contemporary politicians, who seek to resurrect the British-era fault lines. Gandhi's emphasis on eradicating social evils and promoting national unity has given way to identity politics and vote bank manipulation.

India's democratic fabric demands that citizens and leaders recognise and resist these divisive forces, promoting national unity and social cohesion. The country must acknowledge its complex history and address the lingering consequences of colonialism. By doing so, India can overcome the artificial divisions imposed upon it and forge a path toward true unity and progress.

Despite progress, India faces

significant challenges in overcoming the legacy of colonialism. Politicians continue to exploit social divisions for electoral gains, while foreign forces seek to undermine India's unity. The rise of social media has amplified divisive rhetoric, making it easier to spread misinformation and fuel tensions. The divisive legacy of British colonialism remains a pressing concern for India. By acknowledging this history and resisting divisive forces, India can build a more unified future. Citizens must prioritise national interests over sectarian agendas, and leaders must work toward inclusive governance.

(The writer is National Joint General Secretary, Organisation BJP; views are personal)







# Trump's economic plans would worsen inflation: Experts

WASHINGTON ■  
With characteristic bravado, Donald Trump has vowed that if voters return him to the White House, "inflation will vanish completely". It's a message tailored for Americans who are still exasperated by the jump in consumer prices that began 3 1/2 years ago.

plummeted since peaking at 9.1 per cent in 2022 and is nearly back to the Fed's 2 per cent target. Last month, the Peterson Institute for International Economics predicted that Trump's policies would drive consumer prices sharply higher two years into his second term. Peterson's analysis concluded that inflation, which would otherwise register 1.9 per cent in 2026, would instead jump to between 6 per cent and 9.3 per cent if Trump's economic proposals were adopted.

look virtually unchanged, even if she enjoyed a Democratic majority in both chambers of Congress. An unfettered Trump, by contrast, would leave prices higher by 1.1 percentage points in 2025 and 0.8 percentage points in 2026. Taxes on imports — tariffs — are Trump's go-to economic policy. He argues that tariffs protect American factory jobs from foreign competition and deliver a host of other benefits. While in office, Trump started a trade war with China, imposing high tariffs on most Chinese goods. He also raised import taxes on foreign steel and aluminum, washing machines and solar panels. He has grander plans for a second term: Trump wants to impose a 60 per cent tariff on all Chinese goods and a "universal" tariff of 10 per cent or 20 per cent on everything else that enters the United States.

taxing imported goods is absorbed by the foreign countries. The truth is that US importers pay the tariff — and then typically pass along that cost to consumers in the form of higher prices. Americans themselves end up bearing the cost. Kimberly Clousing and Mary Lovely of the Peterson Institute have calculated that Trump's proposed 60 per cent tax on Chinese imports and his high-end 20 per cent tariff on everything else would, in combination, impose an after-tax loss on a typical American household of USD 2,600 a year. The Trump campaign notes that US inflation remained low even as Trump aggressively imposed tariffs as president. But Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Analytics, said that the magnitude of Trump's current tariff proposals has vastly changed the calculations. "The Trump tariffs in 2018-19 didn't have as

large an impact as the tariffs were only just over USD 300 billion in mostly Chinese imports," he said. "The former president is now talking about tariffs on over USD 3 trillion in imported goods." And the inflationary backdrop was different during Trump's first term when the Fed worried that inflation was too low, not too high. Trump, who has invoked incendiary rhetoric about immigrants, has promised the "largest deportation operation" in US history. Many economists think the increased immigration over the past couple years helped tame inflation while avoiding a recession. The surge in foreign-born workers has made it easier for fill vacancies. That helps cool inflation by easing the pressure on employers to sharply raise pay and to pass on their higher labour costs by increasing prices.

minus departures — reached 3.3 million in 2023, more than triple what the government had expected. Employers needed the new arrivals. As the economy roared back from pandemic lockdowns, companies struggled to hire enough workers to keep up with customer orders. Immigrants filled the gap. Over the past four years, the number of people in the United States who either have a job or are looking for one rose by nearly 8.5 million. Roughly 72 per cent of them were foreign born. Wendy Edelberg and Tara Watson of the Brookings Institution found that by raising the supply of workers, the influx of immigrants allowed the United States to generate jobs without overheating the economy. In the past, economists estimated that America's employers could add no more than 100,000 jobs a month without

igniting inflation. But when Edelberg and Watson factored in the immigration surge, they found that monthly job growth could reach 160,000 to 200,000 without exerting upward pressure on prices. Trump's mass deportations, if carried out, would change everything. The Peterson Institute calculates that the US inflation rate would be 3.5 percentage points higher in 2026 if Trump managed to deport all 8.3 million undocumented immigrant workers thought to be working in the United States. Trump alarmed many economists in August by saying he would seek to have "a say" in the Fed's interest rate decisions. The Fed is the government's chief inflation-fighter. It attacks high inflation by raising interest rates to restrain borrowing and spending, slow the economy and cool the rate of price increases.

Economic research has found that the Fed and other central banks can properly manage inflation only if they're kept independent of political pressure. That's because raising rates can cause economic pain — perhaps a recession — so it's anathema to politicians seeking reelection. As president, Trump frequently hounded Jerome Powell, the Fed chair he had chosen, to lower rates to try to juice the economy. For many economists, Trump's public pressure on Powell exceeded even the attempts that Presidents Lyndon Johnson and Richard Nixon made to push previous Fed chairs to keep rates low — moves that were widely blamed for helping spur the chronic inflation of the late 1960s and '70s. The Peterson Institute report found that upending the Fed's independence would increase inflation by 2 percentage points a year.

# Southern Africa enduring worst hunger crisis in decades due to El Nino: UN

CAPETOWN ■  
Months of drought in southern Africa triggered by the El Nino weather phenomenon have had a devastating impact on more than 27 million people and caused the region's worst hunger crisis in decades, the United Nations' food agency said Tuesday.

average rainfall across the region, while its impact has been exacerbated by warming temperatures linked to climate change. "This is the worst food crisis in decades," WFP spokesperson Tomson Phiri said. "October in southern Africa marks the start of the lean season, and each month is expected to be worse than the previous one until harvests next year in March and April. Crops have failed, livestock have perished and children are lucky to receive one meal per day."

helping with food assistance and other critical support at the request of various governments in the region, he said. Phiri said southern Africa's crisis came at a time of "soaring global needs," with humanitarian aid also desperately required in Gaza, Sudan and elsewhere. Other aid agencies have said the drought in southern Africa is especially harsh, with the United States aid agency, USAID, saying in June it was the most severe drought in 100 years during the January to March agricultural season, wiping out swathes of crops and food for millions.

prices have risen sharply in many areas affected by the drought, increasing the hardship. The drought has also had other damaging effects. Zambia has lost much of its electricity and has been plunged into hours and sometimes days of blackouts because it relies heavily on hydroelectric power from the huge Kariba Dam. The water level of the dam is so low that it can hardly generate any power. Zimbabwe shares the dam and is also experiencing power outages. Authorities in Namibia and Zimbabwe have resorted to killing wildlife, including elephants, to provide meat for hungry people. Scientists say sub-Saharan Africa is one of the most vulnerable parts of the world to climate change because of a high dependency on rain-fed agriculture and natural resources. Millions of African livelihoods depend on the climate, while poor countries are unable to finance climate-resilience measures.

# Saudi cartoonist sentenced to 23 years in prison

DUBAI ■  
A Saudi cartoonist who once drew for a Qatari newspaper as a yearslong diplomatic crisis engulfed Doha has been sentenced to 23 years in prison, an activist group says. The sentence for Mohammed al-Ghamdi marks the latest in a widening judicial crackdown on any perceived dissent in Saudi Arabia since the rise of Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, now seen as the kingdom's day-to-day ruler in place of his 88-

year-old father King Salman. Saudi officials did not respond to a request for comment Tuesday from The Associated Press. Al-Ghamdi drew under the pen name Al-Hazza, with some of his cartoons poking fun at challenges during the holy Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, as well as touching occasionally on the politics of the Middle East. But political cartoons, like the content of Arabic-language newspapers in the Gulf states, must carefully thread the needle when discussing the region's autocratic

rulers even in the best of times. But al-Ghamdi had been working for the Qatari newspaper Lusail as a yearslong diplomatic boycott of Qatar by Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Egypt and Bahrain began in 2017. That initially sparked a prison sentence for al-Ghamdi of six years from Saudi Arabia's Specialised Criminal Court over charges denied by the cartoonist including that his work allegedly insulted the kingdom. But in recent months, the case was reopened and al-Ghamdi

received an unappealable 23-year sentence, according to SANAD, a United Kingdom-based human rights organisation focused on Saudi Arabia. "This situation underscores the urgent need for international action to protect artistic freedom and human rights in Saudi Arabia," SANAD said. "Al-Ghamdi's case exemplifies the troubling climate in Saudi Arabia, where no one is truly safe; he became a target simply for being an artist, nothing else."

# Trade deal with India remains 'priority', says UK minister

LONDON ■  
A trade deal with India remains a "priority" for the UK, Business and Trade Secretary Jonathan Reynolds said during the Labour Party-led government's flagship International Investment Summit in London which coincided with the launch of a new Industrial Strategy green paper. "The UK and India are the priority. I think there are clear economic and commercial reasons why we should pursue those," Reynolds said at the Guildhall on Monday.

"Global investors should be in no doubt that under this new government, Britain is truly the best place to do business," added Reynolds. It came as DBT confirmed nearly 38,000 jobs are set to be created across the UK after a total of GBP 63 billion of investment was announced at the International Investment Summit. "Trade and international investment lie at the heart of our plan to drive growth for the whole country. That's because we know the UK has so much potential as one of the largest, most open economies, a legal system that sets global standards, a regulatory environment with some of the strongest safeguards for investment and the greatest incentives for innovation. We benefit from a skilled and diverse workforce, supported by an immigration system that draws talent from around the globe," he said.

### ENGINEERING WORKS AT MALIGAON

Tender Notice No. : 31 of 2024, dttd. 09-10-2024. E-Tender are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **Tender No. : DCESTMLG-22-2024; Name of Work & Location :** At Nambari-Special repairs to staff quarters (95 units Type-II) in Goshala colony under the jurisdiction of SSE/W/Nambari. **Tender Value:** ₹ 1,96,37,300.96/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹ 2,48,200/-; **Date & time of closing/opening of above tender at 13:00 hrs. on 04-11-2024.** The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>.

### SIGNAL AND TELECOM WORK

E-Tender Notice No.: N-2024-K-21; dated. 08-10-2024. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following work: **SL No.1; Tender No. N-2024-K-21; Name of the work:** Signal and telecom work for extension of short CSL lines into full CSL at Singhabad (SOB) station. **Tender Value:** ₹82,24,791.36/-; **Earnest Money:** ₹1,64,500.00/-; **E-tender will be closed at 15:00 hrs. on 30-10-2024.** The complete information with the tender document of above e-tender will be available upto 15:00 hrs of 30-10-2024 in website <http://www.ireps.gov.in>.

### PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD.

(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall Patiala-147001)  
Corporate Identity Number U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: [www.pspcl.in](http://www.pspcl.in) (Contact No. 9646122185)

**Tender Enquiry No. 338/SS(D)-II (under RDSS) Dated: 14.10.2024**  
Dy CE/Substation Design/ TS Organization, PSPCL, C-1, Shakti Vihar, PSPCL, Patiala invites E-tender for Manufacture, Testing, Supply & Delivery of 30 nos. 11kV Residual Voltage Transformers (RVTs). For detailed NIT & Tender Specification, please refer to <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in> from 14-10-2024 onwards.  
**Note:** Corrigendum and amendments, if any, will be published online at <https://eproc.punjab.gov.in>

### NEW OKHLA INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida G.B. Nagar (U.P)  
Website: [www.noidaauthorityonline.com](http://www.noidaauthorityonline.com)

### E-TENDER NOTICE

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

- 08/DGM(E/M)/Sr.M.(E/M)-IV/2024-25**, Annual Operation and maintenance of Light & Facade Light installed at Underpass at Noida to Gr. Noida Expressway Noida. Cost Rs. 45.23 Lac
- 09/GM(E/M)/Sr.M.(E/M)-IV/2024-25**, Maintenance of Street light in Sector-149, 149A, 150, 151, 151A, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157 and related Villages, Noida. Cost Rs. 88.11 Lac
- 10/GM(E/M)/Sr.M.(E/M)-IV/2024-25**, Beautification work of Building, Gate, Trees, Crossing, Parking due to festival of E/M-IV Area's Noida. (For 12 Months). Cost Rs. 94.70 Lac
- 32/DGM/Sr.M.(E/M)-I/IE.T/2024-25**, Renovation of Internal Wiring of New Allotted Staff Quarter in various Sectors Noida. Cost Rs. 37.86 Lac

### STORES E-PROCUREMENT

E-procurement Tender Notice No. S/66/010/24-25 Dated: 09-10-2024. E-tenders are invited by the undersigned for the following works.

**Tender No. KT245453**  
**Closing/Opening date: 31-10-2024**

**Brief Description:** High Availability Single Section Digital Axle Counter system (HASSDAC) with dual track sensors (having in-built feature of trolley suppression) complete set as per RDSO specification RDSO/SPN/177/2012 (Ver.3) with latest amendment or specifications, complete set with redundancy consisting of dual hardware for each track section/block section like Evaluator/ Processors, Vital Relays, Track side unit with Detection point, complete assembly & fixing arrangement for each detection point, clamp deflectors for either side of each detection points & dual display Reset Box with auto resetting facility for each track section/ block section **Consignee:- SSE/SIG/Kathiar, NFR Qty: 03 Set.**

### AWARDING OF VINYL WRAPPING CONTRACT OVER TINSUKIA DIVISION

E-Auction is invited for Awarding vinyl wrapping contract exterior surface at Mail/Rajdhani express trains over Tinsukia Division. **Auction Catalogue No. ADVT-TRAIN-13. Lot Auction Start (All Lots): 11:00 hrs. on 01-11-2024; Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee; Category: Advertising - Train Exterior (Full Face). Days : 1095.**

SL No.	Lot No.	Description
AA1	ADVT-EFF-128593-22-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 20503/20504 and 20505/20506 for 03 years
AA2	ADVT-EFF-130039-22-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 15903/15904 for the period of 03 years
AA3	ADVT-EFF-179116-23-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 22504/22503 for the period of 03 years
AA4	ADVT-EFF-130042-22-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 15960/15959 and 15962/15961 for 03 years
AA5	ADVT-EFF-129361-22-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 15930/15929 for the period of 03 years
AA6	ADVT-EFF-128600-22-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 15968/15967 & 15928/15927 for the period of 03 (Three) years
AA7	ADVT-EFF-130041-22-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 15934/15933 for the period of 03 years
AA8	ADVT-EFF-130502-22-1	Vinyl wrapping contract at 15910/15909 for the period of 03 years

### RAIL DISPLAY NETWORK & COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING CONTRACT OVER TINSUKIA DIVISION

E-Auction for Awarding of Rail Display Network Contract (RDN) over Tinsukia Division & Commercial Advertising contract LCD/LED TVs at Jorhat Town Railway Station has been invited. **Auction Catalogue No. TSK-RDN-2024-2. Auction Start (All Lots): 11:00 hrs. on 28-10-2024; Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee; Days : 1095; Seq No. : AA/1; Lot No./Category: ADVT-TSK-TSK-OSD-209-24-1 (Advertising-On Station Premise (Digital)); Description:** Rail Display Network Contract (RDN) through Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance Rail Display Network Contract (RDN) through Supply, Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Video Wall of (size 6' x 4') 33 stations at Nantliia, Titabar, Amguri, Selenghat, Nakachari, Golaghat, Bhalukarna, Baruabamungaon, Numaligarh Furkating, Kamarbandha Ali, Dulaijan, Naharkatia, Namrup, Borhat, Sapakethi, Bhojo, Lakwa, Simaluguri, Tinsukia, Makum, Digboi, Margherita, Ledo, Chabua, Panitola, Kowang, Dhamalgaon, Dikom, Lahowal, Chaukhowa, Moranhat, Sivasagar Town with scope of display of advertisements along with railway messages in 50:50 Time Slot / Space sharing; **Seq No. : AA/2; Lot No./Category: ADVT-TSK-JTTN-OSD-159-24-1 (Advertising - On Station Premise (Digital)); Description:** Commercial Advertising LCD/LED (7 Nos. of TVs) at Jorhat Town Railway Station. **Auction Close Date/Time : At 11:40 hrs. on 28-10-2024.** Initial Cooling off period is 30 minutes. Successive lots closing interval 10 minutes. Maximum Auto Extensions: 10 Times. For details please visit in website [www.ireps.gov.in](http://www.ireps.gov.in).

### PUBLIC NOTICE

IN RE: ALL THAT IS PART AND PARCEL OF THE SAID LAND IDENTIFIED AS - **KHASRA NO. 419, 420 & 430, VILLAGE SADARPUR, NEAR SECTOR 45, NOIDA, DISTT. GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR- 201301.**

The general public at large and anyone interested therein is hereby informed that our clients **M/S 44 NOIDA INFRA TECH (FIVE) PRIVATE LIMITED** are the sole bonafide and lawful owner having all associated perpetual rights, titles and interest in all the parts and parcel of lands presently identified as **KHASRA NO. 419, 420 & 430, VILLAGE SADARPUR, NOIDA, DISTT. GAUTAM BUDDH NAGAR, 201301** and along-with all that is erected thereupon by virtue of duly Registered deeds of Conveyance since the year 2015. Entire valuable consideration in terms of the said conveyance deeds has been paid by our Clients to the Vendors. It has now come to notice of our Clients that the said Vendors misrepresenting themselves as the owners, acting unlawfully, dishonestly, without any subsisting rights or titles, or authority, whatsoever, and in connivance with certain other third parties are attempting to create certain third party rights and interests in the said property. Our Clients have initiated all lawful and legal steps, both civil and criminal, as prescribed, to protect their rights and titles over the above said properties and as required before competent authorities/courts/tribunals. Any person or persons intending to deal with any part or whole of the said property, in any form or manner whatsoever, are hereby cautioned to immediately cease and desist from any such transaction, acts, or deeds, and not to proceed any further. Our Clients shall assume no liability towards any consequential losses qua the same, nor shall it create any lawful rights in favour of any third party, whomsoever, and the same shall be non-est and void ab initio. Any person or persons claiming or asserting any rights, titles, claims or interests of any nature, whatsoever, in relation to any part or whole of the said Property, are hereby called upon to approach the undersigned with authenticated documentary evidence not later than 7 days from the date of publication of this public notice, failing which it shall be presumed that any and all such claims have been waived in favour of our Clients and they shall stand extinguished forever.

**AAA Legal**  
Advocates & Solicitors  
UGF 70-71 WTC- World Trade Centre, Babar Road New Delhi-110 001  
Tel/Fax: 011-455 00077 & 455 00088 | Email: [newdelhi@aaalegal.co](mailto:newdelhi@aaalegal.co)

### E-AUCTION FOR DISPLAY COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING CONTRACT

E-auction for display commercial Advertising contract over Tinsukia Division. Details are as under: **Auction Catalogue No. : ADVT-TSK-OOH-23; Auction Start Date & Time (All Lots) : 11:00 hrs. on 30-10-2024; Auction Close Date & Time : 13:20 hrs. on 30-10-2024; Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee; Trips/Days: 1095.**

Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Description
AA1	ADVT-TSK-DBRT-OH-8-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial advertisement 05 Railway colonies at Dibrugarh Town.
AA2	ADVT-TSK-DBRG-OH-216-23-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial Advertising Contract at Dibrugarh, New Tinsukia, Digboi, Dulaijan, Simaluguri, Jorhat for a period of 03 years.
AA3	ADVT-TSK-DBRT-OH-4-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial advertisement of 59 LC gates from Dibrugarh to Tinsukia station section.
AA4	ADVT-TSK-GLGT-OH-7-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial advertisement of 14 LC Gates from Furkating Jn. to Mariani Jn. section.
AA5	ADVT-TSK-SLGR-OH-103-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Advertisement Commercial contract for display of 11 Nos of hoarding boards (Total area 2500sqft) located at Simaluguri Railway Colony.
AA6	ADVT-TSK-NTSK-OH-10-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial advertisement at New Tinsukia Colonies.
AA7	ADVT-TSK-DUG-OH-101-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Advertisement Commercial contract for display of 3 Nos of hoarding boards (Total area 2357sqft) located at Dulaijan Railway Colony
AA8	ADVT-TSK-NHK-OH-102-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Advertisement Commercial contract for display of 3 Nos of hoarding boards (Total area 1840 sqft) located at Naharkatia Railway Colony.
AA9	ADVT-TSK-MJN-OH-5-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial advertisement of 18 LC gates from Makum to Dangri section.
AA10	ADVT-TSK-FKG-OH-6-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial advertisement of 40 LC gates from Tinsukia to Furkating section.
AA11	ADVT-TSK-DMGN-OH-145-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Advertisement Commercial contract at Bogibeel approach road ((Total area 1722.23sqft) located at Dhamalgaon - Tangani section.
AA12	ADVT-TSK-MXN-OH-9-22-1 (Advertising - Out of Home)	Commercial advertisement at Mariani Railway Station.

### CHANGE OF D.O.B

**I, Tabassum Sitwat W/o. Syed Mohd. Sitwat, R/o. R-289/1, first floor, Sir Syed Road, Jogabai Extn, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025** have declared that my daughter's (Kashaf) date of birth in Dev Samaj Modern School records has been wrongly submitted as 26.10.2009 instead of 02.06.2010

PD(856)A

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I, Ankita Kala W/o Madhur Dixit, R/o B-15 Sector-71 Noida Uttar Pradesh-201304,** in my passport my name is wrongly mentioned as Ankita, Passport No: W2503399 declare that Ankita Dixit & Ankita Kala both are one and same person.

PD(857)C

### CHANGE OF NAME

**I, Madhur Dixit S/o Rajender Kumar Sharma, R/o B-15, Sector-71, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201304,** in my passport my name is wrongly mentioned as Madhur, Passport No: P6653086 declare that Madhur & Madhur Dixit both are one and same person.

PD(858)C

### CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA

General Manager (E&M) NOIDA



# PM Modi advocates ethical global digital framework

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday made a fervent pitch for framing of a global digital framework, with clear-cut dos and don'ts for ethical use of technology. Speaking at the inauguration of the International Telecommunication Union - WTSA and India Mobile Congress here, he said just like the aviation sector, where the global community has framed a comprehensive framework, the digital world too needs rules and regulations. Global institutions, he said,



should come together to work out dos and don'ts. He went on to emphasise on ethical use of AI with security, dignity, equity being at the centre. Talking of India's experience, he said after the expeditious

roll out, 5G telecom services are now available in most places across the country and work on 6G has already begun. Giving out statistics, the Prime Minister said India has in the last decade become an exporter of mobile phones

from being an importer, and has laid an optic fibre network that is eight-time more than the distance between earth and the moon. India's digital vision that was unveiled in 2014 rests on four pillars making devices cheaper, connectivity reaching all concerns, affordable data and digital-first, he said. "We have made digital connectivity an effective tool for last-mile delivery," he said. Modi said India is willing to share its experience of successful building of digital public infrastructure with the rest of the world.

# India poised to lead global 6G: Scindia

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India is resolved to lead the world in 6G, communications minister Jyotiraditya Scindia said on Tuesday, terming the telecom sector of the country as 'aggressive' and 'ambitious'. Scindia, speaking at the inauguration of India Mobile Congress and World Telecommunication Standardization (WTSA) 2024, said with the Bharat 6G Alliance, India hopes to contribute at least 10 per cent patents to 6G standardisation. "It is our belief and our commitment India followed the world in 4G, we marched with the world in 5G, but we shall lead the world in 6G," the minister asserted. With the fastest 5G rollout in India wherein 98 per cent of districts and 90 per cent of all villages were covered in a



span of just 21 months, Scindia said it is the Prime Minister Narendra Modi's effort of not just embracing, but bracing the country to become the first-mover in 6G technology. "It is noteworthy that the Indian Mobile Congress and the International 6G Symposium demonstrates both local and global advancements in 6G, and also design principles that will shape the future of telecom," he further said.

The recent changes to the Telecommunications Act 2023 have been designed in such a way so as to modernise India's telecom framework, drawing light upon hitherto unaddressed areas such as the high potential sector of satellite communications, addressing the challenges of the digital era, the most important being cyber security, Scindia said. "The telecom sector, much like other growth-critical sectors in India, is aggressive,

is ambitious, and its outlook in our journey from Amrit Kaal to Shatabdi Kaal is to lead the world," he said. India Mobile Congress (IMC) is an annual event organized by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and the Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI). IMC 2024 will see participation from over 400 exhibitors, nearly 900 startups, and participation from 120+ countries. About 3,200 delegates from over 160 countries are part of the WTSA assembly. "We are confident that this (WTSA), along with the Indian Mobile Congress in its 8th edition. Will serve as a breeding ground for innovation, but also showcase India's impending but inevitable emergence as a global hub for telecommunications across the world," Scindia said.

# Government planning development beyond elections: Vaishnav

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government is laying the process of development which is 'beyond the cycle of elections' for India to be able to grow six to seven times the current level to become a developed nation by 2047, Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said on Tuesday. Addressing a symposium by the Indian Foundation for Quality Management (IFQM), the Minister for Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics & IT, said one of the key elements of the government's goal of a developed nation is having "a very inclusive and harmonious society". For India to become a developed nation by 2047, the target for measurable parameters is "USD 18,000 per capita income



and USD 30 trillion nominal GDP", he said. "Today, we are just shy of USD 4 trillion nominal (GDP), just shy of about USD 3,000 nominal per capita.

It means we have a path where we need to grow about '6x' '7x' in the next 25 years," Vaishnav asserted. Sharing the government's approach to meet the

target, the minister said, "It needs a very strong foundation, a very carefully thought through strategy, meticulous execution, and laying the process of development, which is beyond the cycle of elections." He further said that the intent of the government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is to build further on the foundation laid in the past ten years. "What we are going to do in these five years of Prime Minister Modi, his third term, will be beyond the cycle of elections will be beyond the cycle of business cycles," Vaishnav said. Taking a dig at the Opposition without naming anyone, he added it will be beyond "people who can, who have a lot of destructive mindsets. It's beyond the capability

of such destructive mindsets. That's the thought process." Elaborating on what the government meant by becoming a developed nation, the minister said, "First is a very inclusive and harmonious society. First and foremost is a very inclusive and harmonious society, a society which cares for everybody, a society which considers every section of the society as equally important and gives opportunities for everybody to come up." He further said, "The second big element of being a Viksit Bharat is to have the social, physical and digital infra place in place." The third, he said is meeting the measurable parameters of per capita income and GDP to meet the set targets.

# Samsung workers call off strike, to return to work: TN govt

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Over a month-long indefinite strike by the employees of Samsung India Electronics Ltd at its plant near here was called off on Tuesday and the workers have decided to resume work, the Tamil Nadu government said. The state government in a statement said the strike at the factory of the Korean electronics giant in Sriperumbudur has come to an end and all the workers would get back to work. Pressing for various demands, about 1,100 workers of the total 1,750 employees of Samsung India have been on strike since September 9, which includes wage revision, better work conditions, registration of the newly formed Samsung India Workers Union backed by



CITU by the labour department. The decision to call off the strike was taken at the conciliatory meeting which was held at the office of the Department of Labour Welfare here on Tuesday in which representatives from the Samsung India and the

striking workers took part. "All the striking workers will call off the agitation and return to work immediately. On returning to work the management will not victimise the workers for having participated in the protest," an official release said.

# Coal India digitises fuel supply agreements process

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Coal India Ltd (CIL) on Tuesday said that it has started the online process of signing fuel supply pacts with its various clients including those in the power sector to ensure ease of business. With this move, CIL has discontinued with the earlier practice of physical submission of official papers, while bank guarantees and other required documents can be submitted through digital mode. "Coal India Ltd, in a first ever, introduced online signing of fuel supply agreements (FSA) for power as well as non-regulated sector customers participating under linkage based auctions," the company said in a statement. To ensure ease of business, CIL said, it has also cut down

the number of documents that were required to be submitted. "The online signing of FSAs for linkage auctions...Evades the cumbersome process of voluminous documents. It ushers in greater customer ease as they can conduct the entire process from their place of work without having to visit the coal companies," a senior executive of the company said. Previously, in case of any discrepancy in documents, customers had to visit the company to get them rectified. Now, this can be done online. CIL signs hundreds of FSAs annually necessitating maintenance of bulky documents. The electronic arrangement makes the upkeep much easier.



Since the documents are stored digitally, tracking the status of progress also gets simplified at supplier and customer ends. Among non-regulated sectors so far, nearly 700 FSAs have been formalised online for a total of about 19 million tonnes of coal supply. In case of power sector 262 FSAs have been signed digitally till now for a total quantity of around 24 MT. Coal India accounts for over 80 per cent of domestic coal output.

# Corporate India to maintain 9.5 per cent salary increase in 2025: WTW survey

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Corporate India is expected to offer a salary hike of 9.5 per cent in 2025, similar to the 2024 actual salary increase, as companies are balancing optimism with caution, a report said on Tuesday. According to WTW's latest Salary Budget Planning Report, the median salary increase in India is forecasted to rise by 9.5 per cent in 2025, similar to the 2024 actual salary increase of 9.5 per cent. Salary increases in India continue to be the highest across the region. Markets such as Vietnam (7.6 per cent), Indonesia (6.5 per cent), the Philippines (5.6 per cent), China (5 per cent) and Thailand (5 per cent) are also projected to maintain a strong salary increase for next year. The Salary Budget Planning Report is compiled by WTW's Rewards Data Intelligence practice. The

survey was conducted in April and June 2024. Approximately 32,000 responses were received from companies across 168 countries worldwide. The survey had 709 participants from India. "While companies in India are optimistic about growth, they are balancing optimism with caution. The era of 'Great resignation' is behind us, both employers and employees are now seeking stability and the market sentiment is notably steadier," Rajul Mathur, Consulting Leader, Work and Rewards, WTW India said. In 2025, salary increases across industries such as the Pharmaceuticals (10 per cent), Manufacturing (9.9 per cent), Insurance (9.7 per cent), Captives and SSO sectors (9.7 per cent) and Retail (9.6 per cent) are likely to be above the general industry salary median, whereas software and



Business Services at 9 per cent are projected below the general industry median of 9.5 per cent. "India's captive sector is thriving, with a forecasted jump from around 1,500 captives in 2023 to 2,000 by 2025. As the home to nearly half of the world's global capability centres, the country's rich pool of skilled talent is driving innovation and boosting projected salary increases", Mathur added. In 2025, variable payouts are projected to remain consistent at 12.5 per cent, following 2024's 12.6 per cent. As organisations prioritise performance, they are assigning larger portions

of their variable pay budgets to top and above-average performers, ensuring talent is recognised and suitably rewarded. "Organisations are placing a stronger emphasis on performance-based pay differentiation. This trend sees top performers potentially earning salary increments three times that of average performers, while above-average performers are expected to receive about 1.2 times the increment of an average performer," Mathur said. In terms of hiring, almost 28 per cent of companies plan to add headcount in the next 12 months, while 68 per cent

companies plan to maintain their headcount in 2025 as compared to the previous year. With higher growth rates anticipated, India's voluntary attrition rate continues to be one of the highest in the region. However, it is observed that the voluntary attrition rates in India have reduced slightly from 11 per cent in 2023 to 10.8 per cent in 2024. In addition, around 46 per cent of companies in India expect that their salary increase budgets for 2025 will be similar to 2024, while 28 per cent said that the budgets are likely to be lower than projected. Concerns related to cost management, inflationary pressures, anticipated recession. A tighter labour market are the major factors influencing budget projections for 2025, the report said.

# Government to verify air purifier claims amid pollution

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The government on Tuesday announced plans to conduct market surveillance to verify claims made by air purifier manufacturers, amid rising concerns about pollution in Delhi and other major cities. This move comes in response to Union Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi on Monday accusing some companies of making false assertions about their products. Consumer Affairs Secretary Nidhi Khare, addressing a media briefing on Tuesday, stated, "We will try to see through market surveillance and check if the claims are correct or not." Khare also mentioned that the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has taken note of the issue and will examine compliance with existing quality control orders on air filters. The announcement follows Joshi's remarks at a World Standards Day event, where



he expressed concern over misleading marketing tactics. "Air purifiers make such false claims. We see air purifiers and so much is written but nothing is there in it. There is just a fan in it, yet claims are still made," Joshi had said, highlighting the need for increased consumer awareness. The minister advocated for a collaborative approach involving the BIS, the consumer affairs ministry, and consumers to address the issue. This initiative comes at a time when rising pollution levels in Indian cities have led to increased public interest in air purifiers.

# Soybean output reaches 126 lakh tonnes

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Soybean production in the country has increased by about 6 per cent to nearly 126 lakh tonnes in the current kharif season due to favourable weather conditions, an organisation of the crop processors said on Tuesday. Its acreage remained almost the same as last season, the trade body said. During the last kharif season, the average productivity of soybean per hectare in the country was 1,002 kg, while this time it has increased to 1,063 kg. Soybean Processors Association of India (SOPA) Executive Director D N Pathak told PTI. "This time the distribution of monsoon rains in the major soybean producing areas of the country was good, which boosted the crop yield. The adoption of advanced methods of farming by cultivators and increased the crop yield," he said. After the sowing of soybean during the kharif season of 2023, there was a severe lack of moisture in the fields due to lack of rain for three weeks in the major soybean producing areas in August, as a result the crop productivity



fell, Pathak said. As per the SOPA's estimate, during the kharif season in the country this time, soybean was sown in 118.32 lakh hectares and its yield was 125.82 lakh tonnes. During the kharif season of 2023, soybean was sown in a total of 118.55 lakh hectares in the country and the yield of this oilseed crop was around 118.74 lakh tonnes, as per the association's data. This time in Madhya Pradesh, which is the largest soybean producer in the country, the crop was sown in about 52 lakh hectares and its production stood at the level of 55.40 lakh tonnes, according to the SOPA. In the current kharif season, soybean production is estimated to be 50.17 lakh

tonnes from 45 lakh hectares of area in Maharashtra, while the crop was sown in 11.13 lakh hectares in Rajasthan and its yield was around 10.53 lakh tonnes, as per the organisation. India imports about 60 per cent of its edible oil requirements. In such a situation, experts feel that to achieve the ambitious target of self-sufficiency in the production of edible oils, there is a need to increase the production of major oilseed crops like soybean in the country. The central government has increased the minimum support price (MSP) of soybean for the marketing season 2024-25 to Rs 4,892 per quintal from Rs 4,600 per quintal in the last season.

# ASSOCHAM, Savlon lead handwashing drive in NDMC schools

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Seeking to inculcate the importance of healthy habits among students and encourage widespread behaviour change in hygiene practices through handwashing, ASSOCHAM Foundation for Corporate Social Responsibility (AFCSR), the social arm of ASSOCHAM, organised an awareness drive across New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) schools here on the occasion of 'Global Handwashing Day'. Supported by hygiene brand Savlon and covering nearly 28,000 students across 43 NDMC schools, AFCSR conducted the programme in a hub and spoke model in which a mega activity was organised at Atal Aadarsh Bengali Balika Vidyalaya, Gole Market and parallel activities were carried out in other NDMC schools. Speaking about the initiative, Anil Rajput, Chairperson, ASSOCHAM National CSR Council, said, "There is an old saying that good habits formed at a young age make



all the difference. I believe that on this global handwashing day, the youth have to understand, incorporate and disseminate information on the importance of handwashing. Every year about 1.8 million children under the age of 5 die from diarrheal diseases and pneumonia that are attributed to poor hand hygiene, and therefore, it is my firm conviction that the incorporation of this habit in our daily routine will go a long way in leading a healthy and productive life at an individual level, along with creating a high performing society that will increasingly

contribute towards nation building." Pramod Kumar, Academic Consultant, New Delhi Municipal Council, (NDMC), said, "Awareness and behaviour formation from an early age has a multiplying effect on the potential benefits and impact on human lives. Today's event not only highlights the importance of handwashing, it also delivers valuable lessons on the impact of personal hygiene on public health and betterment. Initiatives such as this will surely have a positive impact on the future of the children and also of the society in general."



# Lakshya, Malvika make first-round exits at Denmark Open

PTI ■ ODENSE

India's Lakshya Sen battled hard against China's Lu Guang Zu but ultimately lost in three games to make an early exit from the Denmark Open Super 750 badminton tournament here on Tuesday. Lakshya, a 2021 World championship bronze medallist, squandered an opening game advantage, losing 21-12 19-21 14-21 to Lu in a men's singles opening round match which lasted 70 minutes.

Malvika Bansod, who had reached the quarterfinals at China Open, also couldn't cross the opening hurdle, going down to Vietnam's Nguyen Thuy Linh 13-21 12-21 in women's singles. Panda sisters Rutaparna and Swetaparna also made a first-round exit after losing 18-21 22-24 against Chinese Taipei's Chang Ching Hui and Yang Ching Tun in women's doubles. Lakshya, competing in his second event since the Olympics, kept pace with his Chinese rival before pulling ahead at 8-8 to take an 11-9 advantage at the break. The Indian kept his nose ahead after resumption and jumped to 20-11 with a



seven-point burst to comfortably pocket the opening game. After the change of sides, Lakshya surged to 8-2 but Lu rallied to narrow the gap to 11-12. The Indian extended his lead to 16-11 but Lu's persistence paid off as he kept troubling Lakshya and reversed the situation, taking 19-18 lead. The Indian drew parity but Lu got the required two points to script a comeback. In the decider, Lu maintained his composure and pulled ahead to 14-9, while the Indian struggled to keep pace. In a jiffy, Lu seized six match points and sealed the victory when Lakshya went long.



## Alex Ferguson to step down as club ambassador

AP ■ MANCHESTER (ENGLAND)

Manchester United great Alex Ferguson will step down from his role as club ambassador at the end of the season, a person with knowledge of the decision told The Associated Press on Tuesday.

The person spoke on the condition of anonymity because the move has not been publicly announced.

Ferguson will be 83 in December and the person said the ending of his ambassadorship was "amicable" and he would "always be welcome at Old Trafford."

Ferguson won 13 Premier League titles with United and is widely regarded as one of the finest managers in the history of soccer. He is United's most successful manager, having won 28 major trophies.

He has been a club ambassador since retiring after leading United to its last league title in 2013. His imminent departure comes at a time when the club is undergoing major change following the partial buyout by British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe in February.

United has undergone an extensive restructuring program following Ratcliffe's investment of \$1.3 billion for a 27.7% stake and implemented cost-saving initiatives that it said included staff redundancies of around 250 roles. United reported losses of 113.2 million pounds (\$148 million) in its latest accounts. Ferguson was hired by United in 1986 at a time when the club had long-since lost its place as the pre-eminent force in English soccer.

He ended its 26-year wait for the league title in 1993 and went on to dominate the Premier League era right up until his retirement when United was crowned champion with an 11-point lead over Abu Dhabi-backed Manchester City.

He also won two Champions League titles and an unprecedented treble of trophies in 1999 when leading United to victory in the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup.

He has been a regular spectator at United games since his retirement, watching the team home and away during a time when the club has been in obvious decline on the field. Ratcliffe assumed control of United's soccer operations as part of his minority investment. The sporting side had previously been under the control of the majority owning American Glazer family.

A new CEO, Omar Berrada, and sporting director, Dan Ashworth, have been installed, while key figures at Ratcliffe's Ineos Sport, Dave Brailsford and Jean-Claude Blanc, have been appointed to the board.

# Udita attracts highest bid in first half of HIL women's auction

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Indian defender Udita Duhan emerged as the costliest buy in the first half of the Hockey India League women's auction after she was acquired by Shraichi Rarh Bengal Tigers for Rs 32 lakh here on Tuesday.

Dutch star drag-flicker Yibbi Janssen was the second most expensive player and was bought by Odisha Warriors for Rs 29 lakh.

Indian players Lalremsiami (for Rs 25 lakh to Shraichi Rarh Bengal Tigers), Sunelita Toppo (for Rs 24 lakh to Delhi SG Pipers), and Sangita Kumari (for Rs 22 lakh to Delhi SG Pipers) attracted significant attention in the first half of the auction.

Several overseas players, including Belgium's Charlotte Englebert (for Rs 16 lakh to Soorma Hockey Club), Germany's Charlotte Stapenhorst (for Rs 16 lakh to Soorma Hockey Club), and Australia's Jocelyn Bartram (for Rs 15 lakh to Odisha Warriors) were the notable buys.

Veteran India striker Vandana Katariya fetched Rs 10.5 lakh from Shraichi Rarh Bengal Tigers.



India captain Salima Tete (Rs 20 lakh), Ishika Chaudhary (Rs 16 lakh) and Neha Goyal (Rs 10 lakh) were picked up by Odisha Warriors. Former India captain Savita (Rs 20 lakh), Sharmila Devi (Rs 10 lakh) and Nikki Pradhan (Rs 12 lakh) are some of the big Indian names bought by Soorma

Hockey Club. Delhi SG Pipers also picked up India internationals Navneet Kaur (Rs 19 lakh), young goalkeeper Bichu Devi Kharibam (Rs 16 lakh) and Deepika (Rs 20 lakh). In the first half of the auction, all four franchises made strategic bids to build their core team.

# I waited for many years for women's HIL: Rani Rampal

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Rani Rampal waited for the women's Hockey India League as a player for years but now that the league will finally see the light of the day, the former India captain will wear a different hat.

Rani, who captained India to a historic fourth place finish at the Tokyo Olympics, will be the mentor and coach of Soorma Hockey Club of Punjab and Haryana in the women's HIL which will make its debut later this year.

"Hockey is my passion and I played my entire career with that. It was always in my mind that I will definitely accept any opportunity to serve Indian hockey. Hockey was always on my mind," Rani said on the sidelines of the HIL women's auction here on Tuesday.

"I tried a lot to make a comeback in the national team but could not do so before the Paris Olympics. I had waited for many years for this women's league and when it started, it felt very good to be a part of the coaching staff and not as a player," said the 30-year-old Padma Shri awardee, who has scored 134 goals in 212 matches for India.

"Asked why she opted out of the



league as she had not officially announced her retirement yet, Rani said: "I am a female player and I have faced a lot of struggles. A player is always a player. The desire to play never ends. "But sometimes you have to make a difficult decision and I decided to join the coaching staff.

"It is difficult to talk about retirement right now. Now I will face a new challenge in the league and after that I will take a final decision." Rani admitted that India's failure to qualify for the Paris Olympics was a setback for women's hockey in the country, but said there is no point in thinking about the

# Bangladesh coach Hathurusingha suspended



Chandika Hathurusingha



Phil Simmons

PTI ■ DHAKA

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has suspended men's team head coach Chandika Hathurusingha due to inappropriate conduct by him during last year's ODI World Cup in India. Hathurusingha, the former Sri Lanka all-rounder under whom Bangladesh recently endured a forgettable tour of

India where they were whitewashed in both the Test and T20I series, will be sacked and replaced by former West Indies player Phil Simmons. "According to ESPNcricinfo, Simmons, who was also an all-rounder and opened the batting for the West Indies in the early and mid 1990s, will be in charge of the Bangladesh team until next year's ICC Champions

Trophy. "Bangladesh head coach Chandika Hathurusingha has been suspended following allegations he slapped a player at last year's ODI World Cup. His contract will be terminated after 48 hours of suspension, with Phil Simmons to take over until next year's Champions Trophy," the website said. "The BCB investigated an

allegation from a player that the coach had slapped him during the World Cup last year.

The contract of the 56-year-old Hathurusingha, who rejoined the Bangladesh team in February last year for a second stint with the Asian side, was to expire after the 2025 Champions Trophy.

'He will therefore not be present with the team for the upcoming two-match Test series at home against South Africa.

'His exit marks an underwhelming end to his brief stint as Bangladesh coach with debacles in the 2023 ODI World Cup and the 2024 T20 World Cup.

# Arsenal Women coach Jonas Eidevall quits less than a month into the new season

AP ■ LONDON

Arsenal Women manager Jonas Eidevall quit on Tuesday, less than a month into the new season. The English team has won just one of its first four matches in the Women's Super League and lost its opening game in the Champions League group stage, 5-2 at Bayern Munich. Eidevall joined in June 2021 from FC Rosengard in his native Sweden and led Arsenal to two League Cup titles as well as the Champions League semifinals in the 2022-23 season. It was the first time in 10 years Arsenal reached that stage in Europe's top club competition.

His last game in charge was a 2-1 home loss to Chelsea in the Super League on Saturday. Arsenal said Eidevall



resigned with immediate effect. "We have great respect for the dedication and commitment he showed to our women's first team," Arsenal sporting director Edu Gaspar said of Eidevall, "and recognize the role he has played in the growth and

development of Arsenal Women." Assistant coach Renée Slegers will take charge of the team on an interim basis, starting with the home match against Valerenga in the Champions League on Wednesday.

# Italy-Israel soccer match is held without incident despite security concerns

AP ■ UDINE

There were snipers on the roof of the stadium and a heavy police presence throughout the city of Udine for Italy's home match against Israel. In the end, both the game and an earlier pro-Palestine demonstration passed without incident as Italy beat Israel 4-1 in the Nations League.

Udine was on high alert, with the game being played against the backdrop of the ongoing conflict in the Middle East which has spread to Lebanon after more than a year-long war in Gaza. It was the first match Israel has played outside neutral Hungary this year. After the Israel-Hamas war

started on Oct. 7 last year, the national soccer team played in Kosovo and Andorra last November.

All Israel matches since then have been in Hungary, including last month's game against Belgium in the Nations League after the Belgian Football Association refused to host the game for security reasons.

"We are going to play this match with the hope of convincing ever more people of the wrongness of war," Italy coach Luciano Spalletti said.

"There are many Israelis who don't want it and we must convince ever more people that this is something that has to stop." When Spalletti's team played its "away" match against



Israel last month in Hungary, a group of about 50 Italy fans clad in all black turned their backs in apparent protest during Israel's national anthem.

There were boos from some fans in Udine when the Israeli anthem was played on Monday but the rest of the stadium tried to drown that out with loud applause - just as they had done when the Israel team was read out. At least one Palestinian flag was held up.

There was a highly visible group of around a dozen Israel fans and they loudly chanted their support. Fewer than 12,000 tickets were sold for Monday's match - less than half the capacity of the 25,000-seater Stadio Friuli - amid stringent

security measures, that also included armed military personnel on the roof of the stadium.

Areas around the stadium were blocked off 48 hours before kickoff and declared a "red zone," and only fans with tickets could pass through the tall metal barriers.

Supporters were strongly advised to arrive early because of rigorous checks. Hundreds of extra police officers were called up from surrounding areas.

Around 1,000 people took part in a pro-Palestine demonstration earlier in the city center. Among the placards, there were several posters calling on soccer's governing bodies to ban Israel.



# 1ST TEST: GILL, JAISWAL CONTINUE GOOD FORM; KOHLI, ROHIT EYE CONSISTENT RUN

PTI ■ BENGALURU

Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill, the torchbearers of India's transition phase, will have to be the team's driving force in its quest to lord over an unsettled New Zealand when the two sides square off in a three-Test series, beginning here on Wednesday. The baton has not been completely passed, but Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma are certainly running their last lap and these two young superstars will have to show that they can carry forward the legacy of the titans. Since a productive series against England earlier this year, Gill is now more familiar and comfortable with the rigours of Test cricket. His last 10 innings contain three hundreds and two fifties, while Jaiswal's last eight outings in Test cricket feature a 214 and five fifties. Those numbers are not to be scoffed at. But at the same time, it is important for them to build on the foundation through this series, a precursor to the much tougher journey to Australia next month. Gill seems to have sorted his issues with the in-coming deliveries from pacers, but a trace of the old failing still remains. In Chennai, Bangladesh pacer Hasan Mahmud troubled him with nip-backers before eventually



grabbing his wicket. Similarly, Jaiswal has a penchant to go for expansive shots against pace bowlers to get dismissed, evidenced by his three dismissals recently against Bangladesh quicks. In all, the left-hander has

fallen to pacers 12 times in 20 innings, and he would want a better record before facing a clutch of top-class Australian pacers. While these concerns are not deeply rooted, they serve as cautionary points against a

New Zealand attack that has capable hands in pacers Matt Henry, William O'Rourke and the experienced Tim Southee, if he gets to play here after a sharp decline in his form. There is another angle to the emergence of

Jaiswal and Gill as the pillars of the Indian line-up, as Kohli and Rohit have not precisely set the field ablaze. Rohit, who has played 15 innings this year, has made two hundreds but managed only one fifty in the

remaining 13, totaling 497 runs in eight Tests at just over 35. Kohli, 53 runs shy of 9000 Test runs, has not made even a fifty in six innings this year, and while Rohit often perishes in his attempt to

grab the momentum, his colleague offers a much more curious case. The 35-year-old Kohli has not been able to convert the two starts he got this year, ending up with 46 (vs SA) and 47 (vs Bangladesh), stirring the uncomfortable memories of that great slump between 2019 and 2023. The master batter will also have to keep an eye on New Zealand left-arm spinners - Ajaz Patel and Rachin Ravindra - the tribe which has been a thorn in his flesh in the past. It has been a while since these two stalwarts embossed their mark across a full series, and a nervy New Zealand could be their golden chance to do so. India has only minor concerns, but New Zealand's troubles across batting and bowling departments are more pronounced. Their batsmen struggled copiously against Sri Lankan spinners recently while losing an away series 0-2, and here they will have to negate two modern-day greats in Ravichandran Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja. They took 20 wickets together against Bangladesh and with the Chinnaaswamy Stadium pitch expected to give some assistance to spinners, the veterans might be itching to have a bowl here. Besides the duo, the Kiwis will have to contend with the genius of Jasprit Bumrah,

who rattled Bangladesh by picking up 11 wickets across two Tests. If they persist with the combination from the last series, Akash Deep will be the third pacer behind Bumrah and Mohammed Siraj. The weather here is expected to be gloomy over the course of the Test match, and there could be some delayed starts and truncated sessions. The management will take into account the fact that New Zealand, who have already lost Kane Williamson to an injury, were put through the wringer by Lankan spinners recently. In another blow, right-arm pacer Ben Sears has been ruled out of the series due to a knee injury. An uncapped Jacob Duffy, who has played six ODIs and 14 T20Is, has been brought into the squad. Teams (from): India: Rohit Sharma (c), Jasprit Bumrah (vc), Yashasvi Jaiswal, Shubman Gill, Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Sarfaraz Khan, Rishabh Pant (wk), Dhruv Jurel (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravindra Jadeja, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, Mohammed Siraj, Akash Deep. New Zealand: Tom Latham (captain), Devon Conway, Kane Williamson, Mark Chapman, Will Young, Daryl Mitchell, Glenn Phillips, Michael Bracewell, Mitchell Santner, Rachin Ravindra, Tom Blundell (wk), Ajaz Patel, Matt Henry, Tim Southee, William O'Rourke, Jacob Duffy.

## Don't want to take undercooked Shami to Australia: Rohit

PTI ■ BENGALURU

India skipper Rohit Sharma has virtually ruled out Mohammed Shami from the upcoming Test tour of Australia, saying that the pacer's recovery from an ankle surgery has been hampered by swelling in knees and it would not be right to take an "undercooked" version of him for the marquee showdown. Shami last played for India during the ODI World Cup final last year and has been recuperating from an ankle surgery after that. "To be honest, right now, it's pretty difficult for us to make a call on him, whether he'll be fit for this series or Australia series. He recently had swelling on his knee, which was quite unusual," Rohit told reporters here on



the eve of the first Test against New Zealand. "He was in the process of getting fit, getting close to 100 per cent, he had swelling in his knee, that put him back a little bit in his recovery. So, he had to start again. Right now, he's at NCA, he's working with the physios and the doctors at NCA," he added. The physios, the trainers, the

doctors have set a roadmap for him. "He is supposed to play a couple of (practice) games before he plays international cricket," he added. Shami has played 64 Tests for India, taking 229 wickets at an impressive average of 27.71. India will play five Tests in Australia starting November 22.

USP

Today builders fraternity led by CREDAI Punjab president Jagjit Singh Majha and Marbella Group MD Deepak Garg called upon the Punjab Urban Housing & Development Minister Hardeep Singh Mundian and was felicitated with a memento. The builders fraternity put forward some pending issues in the presence of Sh Rahul Tiwari, secretary Urban & Housing Development and other GMADA & PUDA officials, to which the minister very firmly assured them that all the issues will be resolved before the next such meeting to be held with builders fraternity.

Babe Ke Ayurvedic Medical College Celebrates Top Achievements

With the blessings of His Holiness Sant Baba Nahar Singh Ji (Sunheran Wale) and under the guardianship of Sant Baba Kapoor Singh Ji, students from Babe Ke Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital have achieved remarkable success. Mr. Rahul, a student from the BAMS 2022 batch, secured the first position and has been recognized as the university topper, while Ms. Akansha achieved the third position among all colleges in Punjab. Chairman Sardar Indermal Singh Kler also shared his views, urging students to contribute to the field of Ayurveda. He emphasized the importance of utilizing their education for the betterment of society.

## Keeping Jasprit Bumrah quiet will go a long way in winning against India: Pat Cummins



Australia will have to find a way to keep Indian pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah quiet if they are to win the Border-Gavaskar Trophy, reckoned captain Pat Cummins on Tuesday as they draw comfort from success in last two ICC finals against their fierce rivals. The world's top two Test teams will clash in a five-match affair starting on November 22 in Perth and India will enter the contest having held the trophy for nearly a decade, which includes winning two consecutive series Down Under. "I'm a big fan of Bumrah. I think he's a fantastic bowler. Hopefully, if we can keep him quiet, that is going to go a long way to winning the series," Cummins said on the Star Sports Press Room. "Alongside him, he has got some other guys who haven't

played a lot over here in Australia (that) we haven't seen a lot of. We'll see how it goes," he added. Cummins said Australia will lean on happy memories of winning the last two ICC finals -- World Test Championship and ODI World Cup -- against Rohit Sharma's India. "The last two series were a long time ago. We have got over it," he said. "I've never played alongside him (Rohit Sharma), so I don't know him super well. But it has looked like they (Indian team) are pretty organised, pretty well-planned. "Fortunately, over the last few years, we've had some success in the World Test Championship final and (in) a different format for the ODI World Cup. We'll be trying to lean on those memories. As I'm sure they're trying to remember some of the previous series over here as well," he said.

Punjab National Bank Special campaign of public safety schemes

To include all eligible citizens in the public security schemes by the Government of India, a special campaign of 3 months of Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana and Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana has been started from 15 October 2024 to 15 January 2025. State Level Bankers Committee Punjab's Deputy General Manager Ram Kishore Meena told that during this special campaign, special camps of security insurance schemes will be organized at the Gram Panchayat level under the leadership of leading district managers and its review will be done by the District Collector at the district level. He further told that under the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, accident insurance up to 2 lakhs is available for the age group of 18 to 70 years by paying an annual premium of twenty rupees and under Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima, death insurance up to 2 lakhs is available for the age group of 18 to 50 years by paying an annual premium of 436. Chief Manager Sumant Kumar told that Kisan Credit Cards of cattle rearers and fishermen will also be made in the said special camps. For more information, the nearest bank branch can be contacted.

**IDFC FIRST Bank Limited**  
(erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited)  
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792  
Registered Office: - KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai- 600031.  
Tel : +91 44 4564 4000 | Fax: +91 44 4564 4022

**Notice under Section 13 (2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002**

The following borrowers and co-borrowers availed the below mentioned secured loans from IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) The loans of the below-mentioned borrowers and co-borrowers have been secured by the mortgage of their respective properties. As they have failed to adhere to the terms and conditions of the respective loan agreements and had become irregular, their loan were classified as NPA as per the RBI guidelines. Amounts due by them to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) are mentioned as per respective notices issued more particularly described in the following table and further interest on the said amounts shall also be applicable and the same will be charged as per contractual rate with effect from their respective dates.

Sr No.	Loan Account No.	Type of Loan	Name of borrowers and co-borrowers	Section 13 (2) Notice Date	Outstanding amount as per Section 13 (2) Notice
1	128103084	LOAN AGAINST PROPERTY	1. NAIBO DEVI 2. VIKRANT CHAUDHARY	27.09.2024	10,72,585.95/-

**PROPERTY ADDRESS :** ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL PLOT/HOUSE BEARING U.I.D. NO. 573636W1S5000R02320, HAVING TOTAL AREA 240.10053869 SQ. MTRS, AND BUILD UP AREA 154.5615001 SQ. MTRS. SITUATED IN LAL DORA OF VILLAGE: KHAJURI, TEHSIL: RADAUR, DISTRICT: YAMUNA NAGAR, HARYANA-135133, BOUNDED AS UNDER:- EAST: HOUSE OF VIRENDRA SINGH, WEST: GALI 18', NORTH: GALI 5', SOUTH: OTHER PLOT

You are hereby called upon to pay the amounts to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited) as per the details shown in the above table with contracted rate of interest thereupon from their respective dates and other costs, charges etc. within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the undersigned shall be constrained to initiate proceedings, under Section 13 (4) and section 14 of the SARFAESI Act, against the mortgaged properties mentioned hereinabove to realize the amount due to IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited). Further you are prohibited under Section 13 (13) of the said Act from transferring the said secured assets either by way of sale/lease or otherwise.

Sd/-  
Authorized Officer  
Date : 16.10.2024  
Place : YAMUNA NAGAR

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited, amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited and presently known as IDFC FIRST Bank Limited)

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Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai - 600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.

**APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)**

Whereas the undersigned being the authorized officer of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the said Act read with [rule 3] of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notices calling upon the Borrower/ Co-borrowers and Guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the demand notice appended below within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization. The Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors and public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of the Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this notice.

LOAN ACCOUNT NUMBER	BORROWER/S CO-BORROWERS/ GUARANTORS NAME	DESCRIPTION OF THE MORTGAGED PROPERTIES	DEMAND NOTICE		DATE AND TYPE OF POSSESSION TAKEN
			DATE	OUTSTANDING AMOUNT (RS.)	
17612084	1. KARMO DEVI, 2. ROOP CHAND	ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF PROPERTY AREA 120 SQ. YDS. (0-4 MARLA), SITUATED AT HADBAST NO. 253, KHEWAT NO. 1204 MIN, KHASRA NO. 9022, KHEWAT NO. 83, KHASRA NO. 90/19/2, VILLAGE: PATTI JHAMBRA, TEHSIL: SHAHABAD MARKANDA, DISTRICT: KURUKSHETRA, HARYANA-136135, AND BOUNDED AS: EAST: PROPERTY OF AJAIB SINGH, WEST: RASTA 20 FT. WIDE, NORTH: OTHER PROPERTY, SOUTH: OTHER PROPERTY	18.11.2023	Rs. 6,39,493.91/-	08-10-2024 Symbolic Possession
88912693	1. SURENDER SINGH, 2. SHAMA DEVI	ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL OF HOUSE, BEARING MUNICIPAL PERMANENT PROPERTY ID NO. 327C1129U22 (AS PER MUNICIPAL NOTICE CUM BILL), MEASURING 26 SQ. YARDS, SITUATED AT NEW ABADI CAMP, YAMUNA NAGAR, TEHSIL: JAGADHRI, DISTRICT: YAMUNA NAGAR, HARYANA-135001, WITHIN MUNICIPAL CORPORATION YAMUNA NAGAR-JAGADHRI, OWNED VIDE REGD. SALE DEED NO. 2368 DATED 02-08-1995, MEASURED AND BOUNDED AS UNDER:- EAST: GALI 5 FT WIDE - 16'-5" W E S T : HOUSE OF RAJKUMAR - 16'-5", NORTH: GALI - 14'-2" SOUTH: HOUSE OF GOVIND RAM - 14'-2"	10.07.2024	Rs. 3,94,312.43/-	09-10-2024 Symbolic Possession

The Borrower/ Co-borrowers/ Guarantors in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) for an amount mentioned in the demand notice together with further interest and other charges from the date of demand notice till payment/realization.

Authorized Officer  
IDFC FIRST Bank Limited  
Date: 08 & 09-OCT. 2024  
Place: HARYANA (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)