

OPINION 6

THE CANNONBALLS OF POLITICAL WARFARE

WORLD 8

UK PM CONDEMNS IRAN'S MISSILE ATTACKS ON ISRAEL

MONEY 10

AIR INDIA UPDATES CABIN CREW POLICIES, ALLOWANCES

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WIN CHINA OPEN
11 SPORTS



500 kg cocaine worth ₹5,000 crore bust in Delhi

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

Delhi Police has made one of the biggest drug busts ever seen in the city, seize over 562 kilograms of cocaine and 40 kg of Hydroponic Marijuana, estimated to be worth around Rs 5640 crore, transported to the national capital by an international module. According to the Delhi Police, four people have been arrested from South Delhi's Mahipalpur Extension area by the Special Cell on Tuesday and the consignment was confiscated. "The busted drugs are worth Rs 5640 crore in the international market," a police officer said, adding this seizure is one of the largest drug busts in the national capital. The price of recovered Cocaine in international market is

10 crore per kg and Hydroponic Marijuana is 50 lakh per kg. Authorities suspect an international drug syndicate reportedly run by Afghan nationals stands behind the trafficking. Special Cell team had been working for over two months based on a tip-off which led to the bust as the drug was supposed to be distributed in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR) as their demand is high during the festive season. Delhi Police Special Cell is probing the Narco-terror angle. Additional Commissioner (Special Cell) Pramod Singh Kushwaha said that Tushar Goyal (40) of Vasant Enclave and his associates Himanshu (40), of Suleiman Nagar, Kirari,

Aurangzeb Siddiqui (23) of Vasant Gaon (He is originally from village Choti Rar, Deoria UP) and their receiver Bharat Kumar Jain (48) (from Kurla West, Mumbai) were apprehended from Mahipalpur Extension in South West Delhi by the Special Cell of Delhi Police after working on a tip off. According to police, main kingpin and handler of Tushar of this drug cartel identified so far is operating from a Middle East country. He was the main distributor in Delhi. The true extent and reach of the nexus is still being probed. Police said Tushar is the Indian handler who used to receive and store the consignment, and Aurangzeb and Himanshu distributed the drugs. Aurangzeb, who hails from Uttar Pradesh, was



Tushar's long-time driver who joined the syndicate. The fourth person, Bharat Jain, came from Kurla, Mumbai, to receive a consignment of 15 kg cocaine and distribute it in Mumbai, said the Delhi Police.

The remaining drugs were seized inside the godown in the publication factory owned by the main accused Tushar Goyal. The raid was conducted at his publishing factory by the Special Cell of Delhi police on Tuesday

night, with all four accused present at the location. Kushwaha revealed that 15 kg of the seized cocaine was found in the personal possession of Goyal, Himanshu and Aurangzeb. He said the seizure is one of the biggest by the force in the national capital. Though he did not give a cumulative figure for the drugs seized, he claimed the cost of cocaine is Rs 10 crore per kg and Thai marijuana around Rs 40-50 lakh per kg. If one goes by this calculation, the seized cocaine is worth Rs 5,620 crore. He said there was no angle of narco-terror at this moment but they were investigating all angles. According to police, the drugs came from South America, via the Middle East, and the marijuana came from Thailand to India.

They were then transported from various states to Delhi. The incident follows the recent arrest of two Afghan men, Hashimi Mohammad Waris and Abdul Nayib, who were apprehended in Tilak Nagar with 400 grams of heroin and 160 grams of cocaine. Waris has been living in India on refugee status since January 2020. He was previously employed at a chemist shop in Vikaspuri. Waris allegedly got involved in drug trafficking after a friend approached him to assist with deliveries for various consignments in Delhi and the National Capital Region (NCR). As per reports, the compensation was approximately \$100 per delivery for Waris.



PM raises concern over Adivasi, Hindu decimation in Jharkhand

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ HAZARIBAG

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday cautioned that the population of Hindus and Adivasis in Jharkhand is declining and accused the JMM-led coalition Government of engaging in dangerous "vote bank politics" by supporting infiltrators at the expense of the state's identity, culture, and heritage. He asserted that it was time to "throw such forces out" to protect "mati, beti, roti" (land, daughter, bread).

"The time is ripe for 'Parivartan' (change) in Jharkhand to safeguard 'beti, mati, roti' and combat corruption. The JMM-led coalition is playing a dangerous game, jeopardising the identity, culture, and traditions of the people while patronising infiltrators," Modi said. He was addressing the concluding programme of the BJP's Parivartan Yatra, which covered approximately 5,400 km across all 81 Assembly segments of Jharkhand where the Assembly elections are due later this year.

Modi alleged that the JMM-led coalition is being run by people who want to wipe out Jharkhand's identity, culture and heritage. "JMM and their masters in Congress want to turn the tribal community in Jharkhand into a minority. They have always betrayed tribal society and can never see them progressing," the PM said. He charged the ruling coalition with creating a new vote bank in the State in order to continue being in power. Modi said, "They want to sacrifice Jharkhand to gain power. Santhal Pargana is testimony to this dangerous gameplan where tribal population is on the decline while that of Bangladeshi infiltrators is on the rise. Do you accept this change in Jharkhand's demography and decline in population of Hindus and tribals?" He alleged that infiltrators are grabbing the land of the tribal people and targeting their daughters.

"The situation has come to such a pass that while the High Court is expressing concerns over this, the government is filing an affidavit to deny infiltration," the Prime Minister said. He also criticised the coalition for allegedly being insensitive, citing the deaths of several aspirants during recruitment drives for excise constables. Modi also attacked the Congress and the RJD, allies of the JMM.

"Tribal icons in the country were ignored. Congress wiped out the identity of tribals to protect the identity of one family. Congress never gave any importance to tribal communities which contributed significantly to the fight for Independence," he said. Training his guns at Congress, Modi said it named all schemes, roads and buildings after members of a single family. Such dynastic thinking has caused much harm to the nation, he said.

The PM said that the BJP has restored the dignity of the tribal heroes and declared tribal icon Birsu Munda's birth anniversary as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' besides taking a plethora of steps for their welfare. Describing the Congress as anti-Dalit, anti-tribal and anti-deprived, Modi alleged that it framed policies to prevent SC/ST and OBC communities from making progress.

"Congress wants to snatch SC, ST, OBC reservations to handover it to its vote bank but I assure you no one can snatch your rights. BJP will protect it," he said. Hitting out at RJD, he claimed that its anti-Jharkhand stance was clear from the very beginning as it was opposed to creation of a separate State.

सभी प्रदेशवासियों को नवरात्रि की हार्दिक शुभकामनाएं

“ श्रद्धा, भक्ति, विश्वास और नारी शक्ति का प्रतीक नवरात्रि का पावन पर्व, प्रदेश की मातृशक्ति के जीवन में प्रसन्नता, आरोग्य व समृद्धि लाए। राज्य सरकार अपनी विभिन्न महिला हितकारी योजनाओं के माध्यम से देवभूमि की समस्त मातृशक्ति की प्रगति, खुशहाली, कल्याण व सशक्तिकरण को निरंतर बढ़ावा देने के लिए कटिबद्ध है। शुभ नवरात्रि! ”

पुष्कर सिंह धामी
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

महिला सशक्तिकरण हेतु प्रतिबद्ध राज्य सरकार

- को-ऑपरेटिव बैंकों तथा सहकारी समितियों में महिलाओं के लिए 33% आरक्षण
- मुख्यमंत्री सशक्त बहना उत्सव योजना के जटिए मात्र 1 वर्ष में स्वयं सहायता समूहों की बहनों ने स्थानीय उत्पादों के विपणन से ₹3.18 करोड़ से अधिक की आय की। प्रदेश में 20,067 से अधिक आंगनबाड़ी केंद्र संचालित हैं।
- महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने के लिए सरकारी नौकरियों में 30% क्षैतिज आरक्षण।
- महिलाओं को आर्थिक रूप से सशक्त बनाने हेतु लक्ष्मि दीदी योजना के तहत महिला स्वयं सहायता समूहों को बिना ब्याज के ₹ 5 लाख तक का ऋण।
- समान नागरिक संहिता के जटिए विवाह, तलाक, भरण-पोषण, विरासत एवं जमीन-जायदाद के बंटवारे, आदि में महिलाओं को समान अधिकार दिया जाएगा।
- महिलाओं की सुरक्षा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए उत्तराखण्ड पुलिस एप के अंतर्गत 'गौरा शक्ति मॉड्यूल' एप की शुरुआत।
- दुर्व्यवहार, अपराध, घरेलू हिंसा, आदि से पीड़ित महिलाओं की सहायता के लिए

- एकल खिड़की प्रणाली की सुविधा।
- महिला समानता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए बजट 2024-25 में लगभग ₹14538.05 करोड़ का प्रावधान।
- अनुपूरक पोषाहार कार्यक्रम के तहत 56,561 गर्भवती महिलाओं एवं 54,347 धात्री माताओं को निरंतर अनुपूरक पोषाहार।
- मुख्यमंत्री महालक्ष्मी योजना के तहत प्रथम दो बालिकाओं के जन्म पर माता/नवजात कन्या शिशु को मुख्यमंत्री महालक्ष्मी किट।
- गर्भवती महिला को प्रसव हेतु अस्पताल लाने के लिए 108 आपातकालीन सेवा तथा प्रसव बाद जच्चा-बच्चा को घर तक छोड़ने के लिए खुशियों की सवारी एम्बुलेंस की निःशुल्क सुविधा।
- प्रदेश की 12वीं पास बेटियों को उच्च शिक्षा के लिए ₹51,000 की प्रोत्साहन राशि।

सूचना एवं लोक सम्पर्क विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड द्वारा जनहित में जारी | www.uttarainformation.gov.in | [DIPR_UK](#) | [UttarakhandDIPR](#) | [UttarakhandDIPR](#)



BJP committed to implement stringent land laws: Bhatt

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party expressed its determination to honour the Statehood martyrs by implementing stringent land laws on the 30th anniversary of the Rampur Tiraha incident on Wednesday. The State BJP president Mahendra Bhatt paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on Wednesday while remembering the martyrs of Uttarakhand's statehood movement. Speaking to the media, Bhatt stated that the people of Uttarakhand are observing the 30th anniversary of the Rampur Tiraha incident on Gandhi Jayanti. He expressed the BJP's eternal gratitude to the activists who sacrificed their lives for the creation of Uttarakhand, acknowledging that their

struggle and martyrdom led to the State's formation. He said that under the leadership of chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami, the government is working towards building Uttarakhand in accordance with the dreams of these activists. He emphasised that the State has made significant developmental achievements over the past 24 years. The BJP is committed to development while preserving the State's cultural heritage and the government is advancing towards its vision of making Uttarakhand a developed state. Addressing media questions on Congress's accusations, Bhatt stated that whenever BJP has been in power, it has worked relentlessly to preserve the State's land and re-

sources while ensuring unprecedented development. He criticised the Congress for looting the State and added that it was unfortunate to hear Congress, which had always opposed the State's formation, now making tall claims on land laws and domicile issues. Bhatt said that BJP graciously accepted the Congress's challenge regarding the implementation of strong land laws and the resolution of the domicile issue. He assured that the BJP has overcome every hurdle related to the State's development and will similarly implement stringent land laws and resolve the domicile issue. Bhatt also urged Congress not to politicise these serious and sensitive issues.

Trading scammers dupe US Nagar resident of Rs 29 lakhs

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The cyber crime police station of Uttarakhand Special Task Force (STF) arrested two men for duping an Udhampur Nagar resident of Rs 29 lakh via online trading scam. They have allegedly duped several people across the country of crores of rupees and were in touch with cyber criminals of other countries too, the senior superintendent of police of STF Navneet Singh said. He informed that the victim from Udhampur Nagar stated in the complaint in September that he saw an advertisement of an online trading business on Facebook in the month of July 2024 through which he joined an unknown WhatsApp group. He was then added to a group named Pimco Stock.win-win community through a link and was told to open an FPI account. The victim then fraudulently deposited an amount of about Rs 29 lakh in various bank accounts provided by the accused through WhatsApp under the pretext of online trading. The cyber crime police team started the investigation and finally arrested two accused Mohit Sharma and Sunil Kumar Nagar from Delhi on Wednesday. The SSP said that it was revealed that the accused used commission-

based bank accounts to collect the fraudulent amounts. They opened current accounts to carry out their cyber fraud under other people's names, activated internet banking, and gained full control over the online banking kits. The investigation revealed transactions amounting to Rs 1.5 crore between July 8, 2024 and September 4, 2024 in one of the accused's bank accounts. The STF seized four mobile phones and five SIM cards from the accused. It was also found that Sharma had travelled to Cambodia, where he established contact with foreign cybercriminals. The SSP urged citizens to avoid sharing sensitive personal or financial information online and to report any suspicious



activities immediately to the nearest police station or the cybercrime helpline at 1930.

Junk food consumption & delayed marriages increase infertility cases

MANSI BHAMBRI ■ DEHRADUN

A combination of factors, including delayed marriages, consumption of unhealthy food and obesity, is contributing to the rising rates of infertility among women, the experts said. They have noted a significant increase in infertility cases, averaging around 10 to 15 per cent.



Infertility is defined as the inability to conceive after a year or more of regular unprotected sexual intercourse. To address this issue, experts recommend individuals, particularly women, to avoid regular consumption of junk food and to increase physical activities as much as possible.

Sanjay underscored the importance of improving dietary habits, avoiding junk food and meals high in carbohydrates and increasing physical activities to prevent infertility in females. She also stressed the need for females experiencing menstrual cycle to consult a gynaecologist promptly to avoid future fertility problems.

Talking to The Pioneer, a gynaecologist Dr Sujata Sanjay said that she has been noting a steady rise in infertility. "One thing must be understood. Infertility is not solely a female issue as males are also affected. What is worrisome is that around 90 per cent of the young people are experiencing Polycystic Ovary Syndrome (PCOS) which can eventually lead to infertility," she said.

Speaking on the same matter, another gynaecologist Dr Manisha Singh said that infertility cases among females have been on the rise for the past five to 10 years. She attributed this increase to various factors, including late marriages, consumption of junk food, obesity, long-distance relationships and others.

She stressed on early marriages, citing the fact that women under 26 years can ideally conceive while those over 26 years often face fertility challenges.

She further warned that the consumption of unhealthy food can lead to an increase in obesity which in turn can cause hormonal imbalances. "As the body mass index rises, while the ovaries remain the same size as before, infertility risks also increase. Sedentary jobs and lack of physical activity are contributing factors to infertility. To prevent this, it is important for women to refrain from consuming junk food, engage in more physical activities, reduce the use of electronic devices and most importantly, take a three-year break between their first and second pregnancies. Additionally, planning pregnancies in a timely manner can help reduce the risk of infertility," she said.

Homestay business booming in Nainital district

AFZAL HUSSAIN FAUJI ■ NAINITAL

The homestay scheme of the State government is boosting self employment and mitigating migration of youth who are now earning from tourism activities. The Tourism department is also providing a subsidy under the homestay scheme, which is boosting this activity. Officials informed that there are about 6,000 homestays registered in the State. In addition to financial assistance, the government is also facilitating training in hospitality skills and marketing to homestay owners. This is boosting the income of residents while at the same time tourists are getting cheap accommodation in mountainous regions while also enjoying the culture and traditional foods of Uttarakhand. Homestays have become a popular means of income in the State. The Nainital district tourism officer Atul Bhandari said that a total of 909 homestays are registered in the district in addition to 995 units of registered hotels, resorts and tent colonies. A number of new homestay and hotel units have been established in the district during the past five years. According to official figures, Nainital district has the highest number of homestays in the State, he added. Bhandari further informed that the government is executing various schemes to generate employment. As part of the Veer Chandra Singh Garhwali scheme, a 33 per cent subsidy is being provided for operating homestay, resort, café, restaurant and adventure activity, among other tourist related activities. Under the Pandit Deendayal homestay scheme, the government provides a loan of upto Rs 15 lakh and 50 per cent subsidy for construction of a homestay, Bhandari informed.

IN BRIEF

Patanjali University runs cleanliness campaign on Gandhi Jayanti

HARIDWAR: Under the special Swachhata Abhiyan 4.0 programme as directed by the University Grants Commission, Patanjali University organised a Swachhata Abhiyan to mark Gandhi Jayanti on Wednesday. The vice-chancellor of Patanjali University, Professor Mayank Agarwal along with senior officers, faculty and students were present when the drive was started. The VC in his address said that the people, particularly the youth, should adopt cleanliness as a mission towards the Developed India dream. With the cleanliness drive divided into two parts, the girl students led by Sadhvi Devpratishta made the common people aware of the importance of cleanliness and health along the stretch from Patanjali Yogpeeth to Shantarshah while the boy students led by Swami Paramarthdev and Swami Arshadev took the rally till Patanjali Wellness.



Swachhata Hi Seva closes at Municipal Corporation Rishikesh

RISHIKESH: To mark the closing of the Swachhata Hi Seva fortnight launched by the Municipal Corporation Rishikesh, a programme was held in the municipal corporation golden jubilee premises on Wednesday. The senior cabinet minister Premchand Aggarwal was present on the occasion. During the programme, several people engaged in environment protection works including sanitation supervisors and inspectors, were felicitated. In his address, Aggarwal congratulated all who have contributed to cleanliness and hygiene under the Swachh Bharat Mission launched ten years ago. The commissioner, Municipal Corporation Rishikesh Shailendra Singh Negi said that the civic body has organised three cleanliness camps in the past nine months, adding that hygiene kits and medical kits have been distributed.



Swachhata Hi Seva closing programmes held in Kashipur

KASHIPUR: To mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and the second Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri, the Municipal Corporation of Kashipur organised several important programmes as part of the conclusion of the Swachhata Hi Seva campaign. This day was dedicated to the achievements of this campaign, run under the Swachh Bharat Mission, the civic body officials said. Motorcycle rally and rangoli were among the programmes organised on the occasion. Principals, teachers and students of several schools aside from members of social organisations and self-help groups participated in these programmes.



Directorate of Information celebrates anniversaries of Mahatma & Shastri

DEHRADUN: The director general of Information Banshidhar Tiwari paid tribute to the father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi and the former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on the occasion of their birth anniversaries by offering floral tributes to their portraits at the Directorate of Information. He stressed on all following the path of non-violence shown by Mahatma Gandhi in life and dedicating themselves to working towards peace, prosperity and harmony. Referring to Lal Bahadur Shastri, he said that the former Prime Minister embodied value-based life.

56 years after aircraft crash, mortal remains of a sepoy to reach native village today

PNS ■ JYOTIRMATH

After a long wait of 56 years, the body of Sepoy Narayan Singh, who had gone missing in a 1968 aircraft crash at the snow-covered mountains of Rohtang in Himachal Pradesh, will arrive at his home at Kolpudi village in Tharali of Chamoli district on Thursday. His mortal remains were airlifted from Himachal Pradesh by an Indian Army aircraft to Gauchar, Chamoli on Wednesday.

Singh, were found at Rohtang Pass. A joint team of Dogra Scouts of the Indian Army and Tricolour Mountain Rescue recovered these remains.

The pradhan of Kolpudi village and Singh's nephew Javeer Singh said that the mortal remains of the sepoy would arrive at his native village under Tharali tehsil of Chamoli district on Thursday. "The Army officials informed us on Monday that Singh had been identified with the help of a paper found in his pocket. Besides, his name was written on the nameplate of his uniform. His mortal remains will be cremated in accordance with the Hindu rituals a little after these arrive here on Thursday," he added.

State holds great potential in geothermal energy: Sundaram

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The secretary power R Meenakshi Sundaram has said that geo-thermal energy holds great potential in Uttarakhand. He said that a study by Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology shows that Uttarakhand possesses one third of the total geothermal energy production potential of the country. He said that the State would collaborate with Iceland to explore the potential of the geothermal energy in the State. Sundaram informed that the CM solar self employment scheme launched in the year 2018-19 failed to receive good public response but after the changes in the scheme in 2022 it is evoking tremendous response and the project of 174 MW capacity was in various stages of construction. He said that the scheme is receiving very good response in Tehri, Uttarkashi and Champawat districts where many villages have become solar villages in recent times. The secretary further informed that the PM Surya Ghar Yojana has become very popular in the State and the State government is planning to sat-

urate all the government buildings with rooftop solar power plants in two to three years. The secretary claimed that Uttarakhand leads the country in disposal rate of applications under the scheme. He informed that the small hydro power policy has also been revised in the state, under which tenders have been issued for six projects. Apart from this, a total of 19 more projects are in the pipeline, Sundaram said.

PUBLIC NOTICE
Notice is hereby given by 1. Smt. Bhawna Sehgal W/o Sh. Neenu Sehgal, 2. Smt. Richa Sehgal W/o Sh. Avshish Sehgal to public at large that Original sale deed dated 03.08.2007, document no. 7734, executed by 1. Sh. Ravish Kumar Sehgal S/o Late Sh. Ratan Singh Sehgal & Other for sale of property bearing Khaska no. 2336, area 0.0495 Hect., Khaska no. 2337, area 0.0500 Hect., Khaska no. 2338, area 0.0160 Hect., Total Measuring 0.1155 Hect., situated at Mauza Raipur, Fargana, Parwa Doon, Distt. Dehradun in favour of 1. Smt. Bhawna Sehgal 2. Smt. Richa Sehgal, which is duly registered in the office of the Sub Registrar Dehradun in Book no. 1, Vol. 2042, pages no. 77 to 94 as document no. 7734 on 06.08.2007 is lost. If anybody finds the same or has any objection regarding the said Sale deed kindly inform within 7 days from the publication of this notice and intimate to the contact numbers & address mentioned herein below. (BHAWANA SEHGAL), Contact: 9927113004. Shammji Tandon (Advocate) Contact: 9897006975

कार्यालय जिला पंचायत, टिहरी गढवाल

अल्पकालीन निविदा सूचना।

जिला पंचायत टिहरी गढवाल की ओर से जिला पंचायत टिहरी में वर्ष 2024-2025 हेतु पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से दिनांक 15.10.2024 को अपराह्न 1:00 बजे तक सील बन्द निविदा आमंत्रित किये जाते हैं, जो उसी दिन अपराह्न 2:00 बजे उपस्थित निविदादाताओं के सम्मुख समिति द्वारा खोले जायेंगे। निविदा प्रकाशन की तिथि से दिनांक 14.10.2024 को सांय 4:00 बजे तक जिला पंचायत कार्यालय से प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं। निविदा के साथ निर्धारित प्रतिभूति राशि, एन0एस0सी0, टी0डी0आर0, एफ0डी0आर0, सी0डी0आर0 आदि के रूप में जो कि अपर मुख्य अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत के नाम बन्धक हो, संलग्न करना अनिवार्य है। इसके अतिरिक्त रुपये-100/- का नान जुडिशियल स्टाम्प पेपर क्रास किया, रुपये 1:00 का रसीदी टिकट हस्ताक्षर युक्त लगा हो, ठेकेदार का जी0एस0टी0 नम्बर, पैन नम्बर, बैंक पासबुक या कॅप्सिल बैंक, आधार कार्ड, जिला पंचायत की पंजीकरण तथा सामान्य लाइसेंस की फोटोकॉपी, संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा। प्रत्येक कार्य हेतु तीन से कम निविदायें मान्य नहीं होंगी। अन्य शर्तें पूर्ण न करने पर भी निविदा मान्य नहीं होगी। निविदा स्वीकृत/अस्वीकृत करने का अधिकार निविदा समिति की संस्तुति पर माननीय अध्यक्ष, जिला पंचायत में निहित होगा। अन्य शर्तें किसी भी कार्य दिवस में जिला पंचायत कार्यालय नई टिहरी में देखी जा सकती है।

क्र0 सं0	विकास का नाम	खण्ड का नाम	स्वीकृत कार्ययोजनाओं का नाम	प्रतिभूति राशि (2 प्रतिशत रु में)	निविदा का मूल्य रु0 में	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	निविदा की बंधता
1	भिलंगना	ग्राम पंचायत महरगांव (भिलंग)	में मार्ग निर्माण	10000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
2	भिलंगना	ग्राम पंचायत पटागली में	सी0सी0 खड्डिया निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
3	भिलंगना	ग्राम पंचायत इन्द्रोला में	सी0सी0 खड्डिया निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
4	भिलंगना	ग्राम पंचायत धारगांव में	मयाल गदरा से बुद्धी सिंह मकान तक मार्ग नि0	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
5	भिलंगना	ग्राम मथकुड्डी में	मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
6	भिलंगना	ग्राम निवालागांव में	पंचायती भवन मरम्मत कार्य	10000	500+18%GST	3 माह	45 दिन
7	भिलंगना	ग्राम पंचायत कण्डारगांव में	मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
8	प्रतापनगर	ग्राम पंचायत नाग में	पटवारी चौकी से चौरीडी नामे तोक तक सम्पर्क मार्ग निर्माण कार्य	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
9	प्रतापनगर	गरवाणगांव के खादा में	सम्पर्क मार्ग निर्माण	8000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
10	प्रतापनगर	बैल्डोंगी में	सी0सी0 रास्ते का निर्माण कार्य	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
11	प्रतापनगर	ग्रा0पं0 डोडल थापला कारगिल शहीद विजेन्द्र चौहान सामुदायिक	पंचायत भवन मरम्मत	6000	500+18%GST	3 माह	45 दिन
12	प्रतापनगर	ग्रा0पं0 मिश्रवाण गांव के	डेगा में पंचायत भवन मरम्मत	6000	500+18%GST	3 माह	45 दिन
13	प्रतापनगर	ग्रा0पं0 रौलाकोट के	बेरबागी में पंचायत भवन मरम्मत	6000	500+18%GST	3 माह	45 दिन
14	प्रतापनगर	ग्राम पंचायत भरपूर अत्तर्गत	चौरा नामे तोक सी0सी0 सम्पर्क मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
15	प्रतापनगर	ग्राम पंचायत पडिया में	सी0सी0 निर्माण	7000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
16	प्रतापनगर	ग्राम पंचायत ओखला में	सी0सी0 निर्माण	7000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
17	प्रतापनगर	ग्राम पंचायत क्यारी में	ग्राम पंचायत के मध्य सुरक्षा दीवार एवं सी0सी0 खड्डिया निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
18	प्रतापनगर	ग्राम पंचायत क्यारी में	पंचायत भवन के ऊपर टिन सेड निर्माण	8000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
19	जाखणीघार	ग्राम कदुली के बगवान तोक से	परियावन तक सम्पर्क मार्ग	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
20	जाखणीघार	ग्राम सभा नेल्डा के मुन्डोली नामे	तोक में सी0सी0 मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
21	जाखणीघार	ग्राम सभा कफलोग में	सी0सी0 मार्ग एवं रेलिंग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
22	जाखणीघार	कोटचौरी के गलेश्वर महोदय में	सामुदायिक शौड निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
23	जाखणीघार	ग्राम पंचायत स्वाडी के मोलखी	तोक में मार्ग एवं रेलिंग कार्य	8000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
24	जाखणीघार	ग्राम पंचायत मैराब में	सी0सी0 एवं रेलिंग कार्य	10000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
25	जाखणीघार	जूनियर हाईस्कूल मैराब के मुख्य मार्ग पर	कतिग्रस्त दीवार का निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
26	जाखणीघार	ग्राम मटियाली के	थौलाघार में मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
27	कीर्तिनगर	ग्राम सभा कोल्याघार में	सी0सी0 मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
28	कीर्तिनगर	ग्राम सभा दाल्दुग में	सी0सी0 मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
29	कीर्तिनगर	ग्राम खर्क में	पुलिया निर्माण	9000	500+18%GST	3 माह	45 दिन
30	देवप्रयाग	ग्राम भरपुर के घाट मार्ग में	सी0सी0 एवं पुस्ता निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
31	थौलाघार	ग्राम पंचायत मोल्दी में	सी0सी0 मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
32	जौनपुर	ग्राम पंचायत थापला के ओडियाणा में	मार्ग निर्माण	8000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
33	जौनपुर	ग्राम सभा वैट के अनु0 बस्ती में	मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
34	थौलाघार	ग्रा0पं0 दडमाली के अनु0 बस्ती	दोडका में मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
35	थौलाघार	ग्राम पंचायत क्यारी पट्टी गुसाई में	दीवार / सी0सी0 निर्माण	8000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
36	जाखणीघार	ग्राम सभा ननुवां में	सी0सी0 मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
37	जाखणीघार	ग्राम पंचायत सेमा में	राकेश लाल के मकान तक मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
38	चम्बा	ग्राम पंचायत कुल्पी के ग्राम कुर्मोली में	स्व0 मंगल सिंह के मकान से अनु0 जा0 बस्ती तक सी0सी0 मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
39	कीर्तिनगर	ग्राम घारकोट में	मार्ग निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन
40	नरेन्द्रनगर	राजकीय प्राथमिक विद्यालय कसेट में	पुस्ता एवं चतुतरा निर्माण	6000	500+18%GST	2 माह	45 दिन

क्रमांक 1837 / पांच-निर्माण / टेण्डर / 2024-2025
दिनांक 01.10.2024
अपर मुख्य अधिकारी, जिला पंचायत, टिहरी गढवाल



Uttarakhand owes its existence to statehood martyrs: CM Dhama

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhama said that the separate State Uttarakhand was created due to the sacrifice and efforts of the martyrs. He said that the statehood activists had to endure many tortures and atrocities during the statehood movement.

The CM participated in a programme organized in memory of the martyrs of statehood movement at Shaheed Sthal in Rampur Tiraha, Muzaffarnagar, (UP) on Wednesday. Paying glowing tributes to the martyrs, the CM announced that the statues of all the martyrs of the Rampur Tiraha firing incident will be installed at Shaheed Sthal. He also laid the foundation stone of the statue of Mahavir Sharma, who donated land for the Shaheed Sthal.

The CM said that the Rampur Tiraha incident is the most brutal chapter of the statehood movement. No Uttarakhand resident can forget the atrocities on the agi-



tators who were heading to Delhi to register their protest in a peaceful manner, he said.

The CM said that statehood activists had sacrificed their present for the creation of Uttarakhand state and for its better future and the people of the State will always remain indebted to them.

He averred that the women of the State also participated enthusiastically in the state-

hood movement. Dhama said that the state government is making every possible effort to fulfill the ideals and dreams of the statehood martyred. He said that the State government has implemented 10 per cent horizontal reservation in government jobs for the statehood activists and their dependents. The government is also disbursing pension to the families of martyred statehood activists and those who went to jail

and got injured during the movement. The CM the idea of a separate state also includes the concern to preserve the demography of Uttarakhand and the State government dedicated to this. A strict anti-conversion law has been implemented in the state and the State government is removing encroachments from the government land. So far more than 5,000 acres of government land has been freed from encroachment, he said.

Dhama added that the State has implemented Uniform Civil Code (UCC) with the aim of giving equal rights to every citizen and stringent land laws will be enacted soon. Former CM Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank said that the women of Uttarakhand played an active role in the statehood movement. The union minister of state (independent charge) Kapil Dev and others attended the programme.

Uttarakhand economy looks up as GSDP on ascending note

Employment rate, per capita income & PLFS data also present a picture of healthy economy

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

In a significant development on the economic front, the Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Uttarakhand has shown a remarkable growth. The GSDP of the State is currently estimated at Rs 3,46,000 crore. The Secretary, planning, R Meenakshi Sundaram said that in the last 20 months, the GSDP of the State has increased by 1.3 times which shows that the State is on the right track to achieve the target taken by the State government in 2022 to double the GSDP of Uttarakhand in next five years. The increased GSDP is also reflected in the per capita income (PCI) of the State which has shown an increase of 26 per cent in one year. The PCI of the State was 2.05 lakh in the year 2021-22 which increased to Rs 2.60 lakh in the year 2022-23. The PCI of India stood at Rs 1.84 lakh in the year



2022-23. Sundaram said that the periodic labour force survey (PLFS) data which shows people engaged in gainful employment shows that it has increased to 49 per cent in 2023-24 from 47.7 per cent in 2022-23 in the 15-29 years age category and from 60.1 per cent in 2022-23 to 64.4 per cent in 2023-24. Similarly the work-

er population ratio of women in the 15-29 year age category has increased from 24 per cent in 2022-23 to 32.4 per cent in 2023-24 and from 37 per cent in 2022-23 to 43.7 per cent in 2023-24 in the 15-60 years age category. Sundaram said that the increase in GSDP shows that the size of the economy of the State has grown which in turn has created more employment opportunities. He said the recent changes in policies such as amendment in shops and business establishment act and programmes like Lakhpati Didi scheme has contributed to increase in employment rate of women. Sundaram informed that tourism and manufacturing sectors in the State are showing good growth due to which the economic health of the State is increasing and more employment opportunities are getting created.

Union minister Rijiju urges tourists to keep Uttarakhand clean

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

The union Parliamentary and Minority Affairs minister Kiren Rijiju urged tourists to visit Uttarakhand but emphasised the importance of keeping the State clean. "Uttarakhand is very beautiful and we should preserve its natural bounty," he said, calling on visitors not to litter and respect the environment. He stated this in the Swachh Bharat Diwas 2024 event held in Dehradun on Wednesday. The event marked the joint celebration of Mahatma Gandhi and Lal Bahadur Shastri's birth anniversaries. During his address, Rijiju expressed his deep connection with Uttarakhand, likening it to his home. He recalled his visits to remote areas such as Gunji in Pithoragarh district, where

2014, with the goal of making India cleaner. He noted that the campaign now focuses on ensuring every family has access to toilets, solid and liquid waste disposal, clean drinking water, and overall village sanitation. Before the main event at Gandhi Park, Rijiju visited the Khadi Gramodyog centre at Kishannagar Chowk, where he spun the traditional Charkha and inspected local village industries. He then headed to Neshvillia Road, where he inspected a local cleanliness service unit and honoured sanitation workers for their dedication. Rijiju noted the importance of eliminating a 50-year-old garbage site in the area, offering relief to the residents. He also paid floral tributes to Mahatma



residents had once believed that road construction was impossible. Rijiju shared how, with the support of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the region now has better road access, benefiting both locals and tourists. He praised the numerous welfare initiatives launched in Uttarakhand under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. These include the Kedarnath reconstruction, the Badrinath master plan, and the Delhi-Dehradun four-lane highway project and adventure tourism activities at Tehri Lake. Rijiju highlighted the importance of the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, which began on October 2,

Gandhi's statue at Gandhi Park and swept a section of the park to promote cleanliness. He also felicitated individuals for their contributions in various fields. Rijiju also spoke about his visits to various scenic locations in Uttarakhand, including Harsil, Chakrata, Niti, Mana, and Auli, reiterating his love for the state's natural beauty. He encouraged more people to visit but reminded them of the responsibility to keep the surroundings clean. He concluded his visit by paying homage at the Shaheed Smarak, where he honoured the martyrs of the Uttarakhand statehood movement.

Government doctors postpone proposed work boycott plan

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Following the assurance given by the secretary health, R Rajesh Kumar, the Provincial Medical Health Services (PMHS), the powerful association of government doctors has postponed its proposed strike commencing from October 04. The president of the PMHS, Dr Manoj Verma said that the State government has accepted eight of the nine demands of the association. He said that following the assurance given by the health secretary, the PMHS has decided to suspend its work boycott call for 15 days. "We will wait for the

government orders for the agreements reached between us and the secretary for 15 days. However, we will wear black armbands for the next 15 days and continue our agitation. We have convened a meeting of the PMHS on October 18 in which a decision based on the government action will be taken," Dr Verma said.

In the meeting with the representatives of doctors and health secretary, the demands of DPC and SDACP of the PMHS were accepted.

खुले हैं माँ शक्ति के द्वार

आइए उत्तराखण्ड, लेने आशीष अपार

गढ़वाल मण्डल

कुमाऊँ मण्डल

अपने तीर्थ स्थलों को स्वच्छ रखें

☞ सभी तीर्थ यात्रियों से अनुरोध है कि तीर्थ स्थलों की स्वच्छता का विशेष ध्यान रखें।

☞ किसी भी प्रकार का कचरा अथवा कूड़ा नियत स्थान पर ही डालें और परिसर को स्वच्छ रखने में सबका सहयोग करें।

उत्तराखण्ड पर्यटन विकास परिषद्

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पुष्कर सिंह धामी
मुख्यमंत्री, उत्तराखण्ड

सतपाल महाराज
मंत्री - पर्यटन, लोक शिल्प विकास, विभाग, लघु विकासाई युवाीय विकास, पंचायती राज, जलसंधन प्रणालय, रस्मयुक्ति, धर्मिय, भारत-नेपाल अंतरराज्य लगी परियोजनाएं, अंतराज्य सकार

Modi celebrates a decade of Swachh Bharat Mission



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday hailed the Swachh Bharat Mission as the largest and most successful people's movement of the 21st century, emphasising its impact on public health and wellbeing. Addressing an event to mark 10 years of the mission, Modi said that mass participation has transformed the campaign into a new path to prosperity for India. "You all made the Swachh Bharat Mission a success," the prime minister said while noting that over 28 crore people took part in more than 27 lakh events organised in just 15 days during the 'Sewa Pakhwada'. He said chief ministers, ministers, and other representatives played key roles in this national effort and underlined that

"continuous efforts can only lead to a clean India." During the event, the prime minister inaugurated projects worth around Rs 10,000 crore under the Swachh Bharat and AMRUT 2.0 missions which include water and sewage treatment plants across several states. "When people talk about 21st-century India even after 1,000 years, they will definitely remember the Swachh Bharat Mission," Modi said, emphasising the lasting legacy of the cleanliness campaign. The prime minister also criticised previous governments for neglecting basic sanitation. "They never considered dirt and lack of toilets as national issues. It was like they made dirt a part of their lives," he said. He said those who used Mahatma Gandhi for their political benefits and vote bank have now forgotten his

subject of interest. He said that filth and lack of toilets were never considered as a national issue. As a result, said the prime minister, there were no discussions about it in society and lack of cleanliness became a part of life. He also recalled facing criticism after raising this issue from the ramparts of the Red Fort. "The first job of a prime minister is to make the lives of the common man easy. I talked about toilets and sanitary pads, and today, we see the results," he said. The prime minister highlighted that more than 60 per cent of the population was forced to defecate in the open a decade ago, which he called as an insult to Dalits, backward classes and tribal communities, and a major source of inconvenience for women. Modi noted the "sufferings of mothers, sisters and

daughters due to the lack of toilets" and also pointed out the threats to their health and safety. He said that the filth caused by open defecation had endangered the lives of children and was a major cause of child mortality. He also cited studies and reports that underline the positive outcomes of the mission. An international study has shown that the Swachh Bharat Mission is saving the lives of 60,000 to 70,000 children annually, while a UNICEF report indicates that over 90 per cent of women feel safer due to the construction of household toilets, he said. Additionally, the World Health Organization has credited the mission with saving 300,000 lives between 2014 and 2019 by reducing deaths from diarrhoea, Modi added. The prime minister also noted a shift in attitudes toward sanitation workers, stating that the Swachh Bharat Mission has brought them respect and pride. "Cleanliness is not just a one-day task but a lifelong value," he said, urging citizens to pass on the value of cleanliness from generation to generation and treat their surroundings with the same care as places of worship. Modi said steps have been taken to eliminate the problems arising from manual cleaning of septic tanks and informed that the government is working together with private and public sectors in this regard. To mark the landmark day, Modi also went to a school to take part in a cleanliness drive along with girl students.

Leaders pay tribute to Gandhi, Shastri on their birth anniversaries

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Congress leaders including its president Malliarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and India's second prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on their birth anniversaries. "On behalf of all citizens, I pay my humble tribute to the Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi on his 155th birth anniversary," President Murmu said in a social media post. In another post, she said Shastri presented highest ideals of simplicity, honesty and patriotism throughout his life. "On the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, I pay my humble tribute to him," she said. "Shastri ji presented the highest ideals of simplicity, honesty and patriotism throughout his life. Under his strong leadership, India achieved economic, strategic and other successes. Let us take inspiration from his life and pledge to build a strong India," President Murmu said in the post in Hindi. In his tributes, Prime Minister Modi said in a social media post the revered Babu's life and ideals based on truth, harmony and equality would always be an inspiration for the country's people. Gandhi, hailed as the father of the nation, steadfastly followed the principles of truth and non-violence, inspiring generations of politicians and activists around the world. Modi also paid homage to India's second prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. He dedicated his life to the



country's soldiers, farmers and pride, Modi said of Shastri, who raised the slogan of "Jai Jawan, Jai Kisan" and whose simplicity and honesty earned him wide respect. The prime minister joined President Droupadi Murmu and several other dignitaries in visiting the memorials of Gandhi and Shastri in the national capital this morning to pay homage to them. Later, Modi attended a cleanliness drive along with some school students to mark the 10th anniversary of Swachhata Bharat campaign, which was launched in 2014 on the birth anniversary of Gandhi, who put a great emphasis on cleanliness all his life. The prime minister urged everyone to be part of such a drive in their surroundings, saying such an initiative will strengthen the resolve for a clean India. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and former party chief Rahul Gandhi paid rich tributes to Mahatma Gandhi. While Rahul Gandhi said the Mahatma was not just an individual but a way of living and thinking, Kharge said they are following his ideas as

they are being challenged today. "Bapu has taught me that if we want to live, we should live without fear - we should walk on the path of truth, love, compassion and harmony while uniting everyone," Rahul Gandhi said. "Gandhi ji was not just an individual, he was a way of living and thinking," the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha said in a post in Hindi. He also paid floral tributes at Mahatma Gandhi's memorial at Rajghat in the morning. Former Congress chief Sonia Gandhi and Kharge also attended a function in the central hall of Parliament where they paid floral tributes to Mahatma Gandhi. Speaker Om Birla and other BJP leaders, including union minister and BJP President JP Nadda, were present at the function. Kharge said the thoughts and ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, the Father of the Nation, who showed the path of peace to the entire world with the highest values of truth, non-violence and satyagraha, the architect of the Indian freedom struggle, are always inspiring for us. "Today, we are facing the

challenge to his ideas by following the principles of Bapu. Best wishes to all the countrymen on Gandhi Jayanti," Kharge said in a social media post. The Congress also remembered former prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on his birth anniversary and former Congress leader K Kamaraj on his death anniversary. Rahul Gandhi said Shastri will be remembered for his simplicity and Kamaraj for his humility, dedication, and visionary policies for the upliftment of the marginalised and the empowerment of the underprivileged. Congress leader K C Venugopal and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra also paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi. "Bapu's life and his teachings serve as our lodestar today more than ever. At a time when the forces of hatred, lies and violence are trying their best to destroy India, the message of Satya and Ahimsa is our guiding principle. This Gandhi Jayanti, we renew our pledge to walk in his footsteps," Venugopal said in a social media post.



Global leaders, celebrities worldwide applaud India's sanitation revolution

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Several noted Indian and global personalities, including Ratan Tata and Bill Gates, on Wednesday lauded India's success in improving sanitation with the Swachh Bharat Mission under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership. Actors Saif Ali Khan, Kareena Kapoor Khan and Alia Bhatt also urged citizens to actively participate in the Swachh Bharat campaign as they marked the 10th anniversary of the cleanliness initiative. They noted that the programme, which completed its 10th year on Wednesday, has significantly transformed India through improved sanitation and cleanliness. WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus praised Modi and commended the efforts of his government, highlighting the significant strides made by the country in achieving sustainable development goals through this "transformative" initiative, which mobilises communities to promote a cleaner and healthier nation. Microsoft co-founder and philanthropist Bill Gates said India made huge strides in improving sanitation and hygiene under Modi's leadership. Its approach has served a model in community-driven programmes, he said, highlighting its "amazing" impact especially on the poor and women by mobilising people. The prime minister shared on social media posts by these personalities. World Bank

president Ajay Banga said the programme has significantly transformed India through improved sanitation, achieving a remarkable milestone under Modi's "visionary" leadership. Asian Development Bank president Masatsugu Asakawa commended Modi for spearheading the Mission, lauding it as a transformational campaign. The Asian Development Bank is proud to have partnered with India on this visionary initiative from the very start, he said. Tata Trusts chairman Ratan Tata said the cleanliness campaign has benefited millions, especially in the rural India, and congratulated Modi on its success. Spiritual guru Sri Sri Ravi Shankar said the programme has brought people's focus on cleanliness. "Today, I'm talking to you not as an actor but as a mother, who wants the best for her children. And Swachh Bharat mission is a mission where every family should participate," said Kareena, adding that every Indian should honour Gandhi's dream of a clean India. Saif said, "For us, it is not just about keeping our surroundings clean, it is about showing our kids that a healthy environment is a foundation for a happy life." National Award-winning actor-director R Madhavan said the impact and results of Swachh Bharat have been outstanding. Actors Manushi Chhillar, Tisca Chopra and music composer Shankar Mahadevan also shared messages on the occasion.

Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata to receive urban radar networks for enhanced weather forecasting

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Three metropolitan cities -- Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata -- will soon get urban radar networks for better weather forecast on the lines of a similar network unveiled for Mumbai last month, officials said on Wednesday. The Ministry of Earth Sciences launched four X-band weather radars in Mumbai last month, taking the total number of such monitoring systems in the financial capital to six

covering an area of nearly 50,000 sq km together. "We plan to extend similar coverage in the other three metros -- Delhi, Chennai and Kolkata within the next one year," M Ravichandran, Secretary, Ministry of Earth Sciences, said. Under Mission Mausam, the government plans to install 50 doppler weather radars across the country to strengthen weather forecasting services. The urban radar network will provide real-time data every five minutes by

detecting clouds which bring extreme rainfall as well as thunderstorms. The data from the radars will be integrated, and eventually offer a real-time view of weather systems developing in and around Mumbai. The launch of the urban radar network has made Mumbai the country's most monitored city for understanding evolving weather systems. At present, Mumbai has two doppler weather radars. Last month, the government approved Mission Mausam with a budget outlay

of Rs 2,000 crore to make the country 'weather-ready and climate-smart' by developing cutting edge weather surveillance technologies and systems. The mission aims to establish 50 doppler weather radars, 60 radiosonde/radio wind stations, 100 disdrometers, 10 wind profilers, 25 radiometers, one urban testbed, one process testbed, one ocean research station and 10 marine automatic weather stations with upper air observation.



PM greets on Mahalaya ahead of Durga Puja

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday greeted people on the occasion of Mahalaya, which is observed before the start of Durga Puja. He said in a social media post, "Shubho Mahalaya! As Durga Puja approaches, we pray that hope, goodness and positivity shall always prevail. May Maa Durga always bless us with happiness, strength and good health." The devout believe that Goddess Durga begins her descent from her abode in Mount Kailash to the Earth on this day.

Government allows non forest departments to tackle disaster prevention in forests

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Union Environment Ministry has issued new guidelines allowing other government departments to carry out forestry activities during emergencies such as forest fires, particularly when state forest departments lack the necessary expertise. However, the Union Environment Ministry in the guidelines made it clear that the forest's legal status will remain unchanged, and any structures created will continue to belong to the forest department. The guidelines detail steps that can be taken to prevent or manage natural disasters in



forest areas and are aligned with the Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980. It permits actions such as establishing fire lines and constructing soil and water conservation structures like check dams and pipelines during natural disasters. The aim is to protect wildlife, human lives, and

property. This decision follows a request from Uttarakhand's chief secretary, highlighting the need for effective measures against frequent forest fires. As per the guidelines, under such circumstances, the state forest department may authorize other government departments to undertake

these activities, provided they align with approved plans and receive prior permission. The Divisional Forest Officer (DFO) must oversee and approve the design of any interventions, ensuring no harm comes to the ecosystem, with tree cutting generally prohibited except for necessary pruning. The letter also called for mock drills to prepare forest staff before the fire season and requested permission for government departments to conduct soil and water conservation work in forest areas. The issue was discussed in a meeting of the ministry's Forest Advisory Committee on August 27.

The activities include establishing and maintaining fire lines and building structures for soil and water conservation, such as check dams, water tanks, trenches, and pipelines. However, the ministry said: "Under exceptional circumstances and non-availability of technical expertise, the state forest department, with a view to avert the natural disaster by ensuring efficient and effective preparatory works, may allow the other government departments to undertake the implementation of forestry activities for soil and water conservation activities in the forest area."

Congress calls for urgent peace dialogue amid West Asia tensions

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

With tensions escalating in West Asia, the Congress on Wednesday said there is "fierce urgency" for peace and dialogue in the region engulfed by a deepening cycle of violence. Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the world's conscience needs to be reawakened by the forces of reconciliation amid escalating hostilities in West Asia. "Thanks to an initiative taken by the Congress-led UPA Government, since 2007 the United Nations observes October 2nd as the International Day of Non-Violence," he said in a social



media post. "The Indian National Congress recalls this in the midst of an alarming escalation of remorseless hostilities in West Asia. This is imposing an unacceptable

humanitarian price on thousands upon thousands of innocent men, women and children. There is a fierce urgency for peace and dialogue in the region that is now engulfed by a deepening cycle of violence and counter-violence," he said. "The world's conscience seems to have been dulled by the forces of revenge. It needs to be reawakened by the forces of reconciliation," Ramesh said. Tensions have escalated in West Asia after Iran fired around 200 missiles into Israel in response to Israel's killing of Hezbollah chief Hassan Nasrallah and other commanders of the militant outfit.

Rahul Gandhi: Empower athletes, not politicians

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Wednesday said India cannot achieve its true potential of sports till a system is put in place that directly supports players and makes sportspeople in-charge of various sports bodies instead of politicians. "No money, no game" - this is the reality for most athletes in India today. Met a group of players from Haryana and across the country and listened to their problems," the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha said in a social media post in Hindi. He also shared a seven-minute video of his conversation with



players in poll-bound Haryana. "Unless we bring in a system that directly supports sportspeople, and puts sportspeople in charge instead of politicians in sports associations, India cannot achieve its true potential,"

Gandhi said. "India has immense talent - only transparency, fairness and access to all necessary facilities will ensure that every promising player benefits equally," he said in his post. "Completely disappointed with the system, struggling with lack of basic facilities like diet, rest and training, these youth are also losing hope and confidence - this is a bigger loss for India than missing out on Olympic Glory," he said. In the video he shared, Rahul Gandhi is seen listening to problems of sportspeople from Haryana. He also took a dig at politicians holding positions in sports bodies, including that of cricket and judo.

Costlier products affect household budgets ahead of festive season

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Leading up to the festive season, the higher costs of vegetables, clothing and Pooja items are affecting the finances of the general public. Notably, this year, with the start of the festive season and the beginning of Shardiya Navratri on October 3, there has been an average 20 per cent increase in the prices of Pooja items. In addition, prices of various other goods have also risen. Considering this, numerous customers have voiced their concerns regarding the growing inflation of festival products over time.

Owner of a shop selling Pooja items at Dhamawala,

been a significant price rise in essential items used for Navratri celebrations. The cost of sesame oil, popular for lighting Diyas, has risen from Rs 160 to Rs 500 per litre. Similarly, camphor packets for Pooja have also seen a price hike from Rs 50 to Rs 150, he added.

Along with these items, it has been observed that the cost of fasting essentials like dry fruits which include cashews, has surged from Rs 800 to Rs 1,200 per kilogramme. However, the inflation is not limited to religious items, as prices of vegetables, clothing and even gold have escalated, impacting the



Vijay Sharma said that the prices of Pooja items tend to fluctuate each year as the festive season approaches. He added that this year, the festive season starting with Navratri will see a slight increase in prices of Pooja items. He informed that this year, prices of Pooja items which include oil for lighting lamps and sacred threads have gone up by an average of 20 per cent. Another owner of a Pooja material shop Ujwal Jain stated that this year there has

finances of the general public. Local resident Gauri Kaushik said that inflation has been observed over time, resulting in higher prices of essential domestic items that have impacted their household budget. Kaushik suggested that the government should prioritise providing affordable necessities for the public and act in the public's best interest. Many other residents have also raised similar concerns about rising prices of these items before the festive season.

Anganwadi workers to stop working as BLOs from Oct 3

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

Anganwadi workers across the State have decided to present a letter to the Election Commission of India expressing their intention to step down from their positions as booth level officers. Stating this, the president of the Anganwadi Workers Association Rekha Negi said that she had recently submitted a preliminary letter to the ECI, highlighting the State government's decision to assign the responsibility of BLO to all anganwadi workers in Uttarakhand. "We are engaged in Women's Empowerment and Child Development (WECD) related works. This is challenging work by itself. If the task of overseeing elections is added to our present workload we may do justice to none. We are required to dedicate six hours a day to the WECD work," she said. She further said that they are punished by a cut in their honorarium by the department if they inad-

vertently err in their work. "This is not just. Still, we try to give our maximum output in the larger interest of the society. But foisting additional poll duty on us will definitely impact our efficiency and output. So, we have collectively decided to submit a written resignation on October 3. Subsequently, no Anganwadi worker will be available to serve as a BLO," she said. To recall, Anganwadi workers have been in an agitation mode for a long time with their demand for adequate retirement benefits and wage hike. Currently, these workers receive a retirement amount of Rs 30,000 in the State while they demand it to be raised to Rs 10 lakh. Additionally, they have been consistently demanding higher monthly wages, suggesting an increase to Rs 18,000 per month. They are aggrieved with the officials choosing to sit on their long-term demands.

Uttarakhand adds 2 new govt medical colleges in last 3 years

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

With the approval given by the National Medical Council (NMC) for 100 MBBS seats in the government medical college Haridwar, the number of government medical colleges in the State has increased to five. The State now has 625 seats in the government medical colleges. Interestingly two medical colleges, government medical college Almora and government medical college Haridwar have been set up in the last three years. Both these medical colleges have 100 seats each. It is pertinent to mention here that both these medical colleges started during the tenure of chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami. The State had government medical colleges in Dehradun (150 seats), Haldwani (125 seats) and Srinagar (150 seats) prior to 2022. Immediately after taking charge as the CM of Uttarakhand, Pushkar Singh Dhami directed the officers to set up new medical colleges in the State. Expressing happiness at NMC's consent for a new medical college in Haridwar, CM Dhami said, "Our government is expanding quality health services by establishing new medical colleges in the State, this will also provide bright students with an opportunity to pursue medical studies at affordable rates in their own state. Efforts are now being made to start government medical colleges in Pithoragarh and Rudrapur."

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PAPER WITH PASSION

West Asia on edge

Iran-Israel conflict escalates amid missile strikes and global concerns. It is high time to de-escalate the tension

The fragile peace in West Asia has once again been shattered as Iran launched a missile barrage against Israel, intensifying fears of a broader conflict in the region. On Tuesday night, Iran fired 181 ballistic missiles, forcing nearly 10 million Israelis into bomb shelters as the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) scrambled to intercept the attack. While the Iron Dome and Arrow defence systems managed to neutralise most of the missiles, some projectiles penetrated Israel's defences, causing minor damage. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu immediately condemned the assault, calling it a 'big mistake' by Iran. He warned that Tehran would face severe consequences, though stopping short of declaring a full-scale war. This marked Iran's second missile strike against Israel this year, following a similar offensive in April. Iranian officials claimed that the missile salvo was in retaliation for the recent killings of senior Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh, targeted in Israeli military operations.



The missile strike has drawn immediate international reactions, with the United States issuing a stern warning to Iran. US President Joe Biden has assured military support for a joint response to any further aggression from Iran. However, the involvement of the US in the conflict could further destabilise the already volatile region, raising concerns of potential Iranian retaliation not just against Israel but also against US military interests in the region. Add to this the entry of Russia and China into the conflict. Meanwhile the humanitarian crisis is escalating, with hundreds of thousands displaced across Lebanon

and Gaza. As the death toll rises, regional stability is being tested, with fears that Iraq and Jordan, both geographically close to the conflict, could be drawn into the violence. The global community is urging de-escalation, with United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres leading calls for an immediate ceasefire. While diplomatic efforts continue, the possibility of a long-lasting peace seems distant, with both Israel and Iran preparing for further confrontations. The time is running out for the peace in the region and the world. As it would not be long before both Russia and China also join the war should the US and the West get involved any deeper. The path to de-escalation lies in concerted diplomatic engagement by major global powers, especially the US, Russia, and European nations. In this scenario India could play a crucial role which has a neutral stance and is friends with both Russia and the US and also Israel and Iran. Indeed, the immediate focus should be on creating humanitarian corridors for civilians caught in the conflict zones and ensuring that aid reaches those affected by the violence in Lebanon, Gaza and Israel. Establishing a no-fly zone and enforcing a temporary halt in military operations could create a conducive environment for peace talks.

PICTALK



Mahatma Gandhi's statue, decorated with flower on his birth anniversary, in New Delhi

The cannonballs of political warfare

Tirupati 'laddu' issue has sparked nationwide outrage, raising questions about the delicate balance between religion, politics and faith



KALYANI SHANKAR

When controversy and suspicion surround an innocuous sweet like Srivari Laddu sold by the Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam, it does not stop there. It has gone much further in the past week and become a political weapon for Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu to beat his predecessor, Jagan Mohan Reddy. Other political parties like the Congress and the BJP use it to their advantage. Some see it as a religious issue. Some others see it as a food quality issue. The spiritual leaders claim that laddu is divine food and that contaminated laddus should not be offered to the deity.

The political row surrounding the laddu highlights the delicate balance between politics, religion, food quality, and the public. The delicious laddus are made in pure ghee with sugar, cardamom, raisins, cashews and gram flour. Fourteen tons of cow ghee were used daily to make laddu prasadam in a modernised kitchen. They are first offered to god and distributed to the devotees as the divine 'prasad'. The laddus also bring Rs 500 crores annually by selling them to the devotees. Naidu seized the laddu controversy to attack Jagan. He accused the Reddy government of allowing contaminated laddu with beef fat in the ghee as prasad.

He raised it at a celebration of the Modi government completing 100 days in his third term. TDP is part of the Coalition government at the Centre. Laddu came into focus in the sixties and seventies also. At that time, there were concerns about adding Dalda vanaspati, a vegetable fat, to the ghee. Shipments with this added fat were rejected, and the suppliers were blocked. In another case, there was a dispute between two Vaishnavite groups about the tilak on Lord Venkateswara. The two groups apply different types of tilaks to Venkateswara's forehead. The top court ruled that both tilaks should be used, fifteen days each in a month. The TDP won the Andhra Pradesh Assembly elections in June. Reddy's YSRCP was



trounced. After winning the Assembly election, TDP used the laddu issue as Naidu, claiming that the Jagan government's cost-cutting measures led to the purchase of low-quality ghee, compromising the quality of the Tirumala Laddu. Naidu accused Jagan of neglect of Hindu religious practices during his regime. Significantly, Jagan and his late father and Chief Minister, Rajashekar Reddy, are Christians. Reddy has refuted the allegations, claiming it was politically motivated. Jagan has complained to Prime Minister Narendra Modi that Chandrababu was trying to settle political scores against him.

The YSRCP also criticised Naidu and performed the purification ceremony. Jagan was denied permission to enter the temple for any penance. The laddu controversy has been blown out of proportion in the past week. Jagan did not find support from the other parties. Even Jagan's sister Sharmila joined the Congress and became the Andhra Pradesh unit chief. She has taken the issue to the Andhra Pradesh governor and seeks a CBI inquiry. Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister, Naidu's



THE LADDU CONTROVERSY HAS ALSO LED TO DEMANDS THAT TEMPLES BE FREED FROM STATE CONTROL. THIS HAS COME UP NOW AND THEN. BUT NO GOVERNMENT WANTS TO LET GO OF THEIR MASSIVE TEMPLES

coalition partner, and a famous movie star, Pavan Kalyan, is taking up the issue on religious grounds.

He has gone on an 11-day penance claiming the corrupted ghee was a grave offence. While Naidu plays the political card, Kalyan plays the religious card, saying Sanathana Dharma should be protected. The laddu controversy has spread widely when the media, public figures and some Political leaders have questioned the quality of laddus. It has sparked nationwide outrage among seers and devotees. Unsurprisingly, other organisations like the VHP, a sister organisation of the BJP, the Ayodhya seers and other religious institutions have demanded a thorough enquiry. The Ayodhya and Puri Jagannath priests have sent their prasad for quality check-up.

The laddu controversy has also led to demands that temples be freed from State control. This has come up now and then. But no government wants to let go of their massive temples for free. On the legal side, Surjit Singh Yadav, President of Hindu Sena Samiti, has taken the issue to the Supreme Court, demand-

ing a special Investigation team to go into the issue.

The State government has also set up a committee. The Centre has asked the State to send a report. Meanwhile, the TTD tried to contain the damage. It conducted a purification ritual and assured the devotees that laddus were not contaminated. The issue is evolving and may take longer to resolve now that it has gone to court. It suits Babu and Modi to keep the issue burning. However, such a sensitive issue could go out of control and become a law and order problem if not checked.

The longer it remains, the more the risk of religious sensitivity looming. The controversy shows the need to balance politics, food and religion. Political and religious leaders must carefully consider how different segments of society will perceive their actions regarding spiritual matters. When faith is politicised, it becomes susceptible. Politicians must be vigilant not to make it an emotional issue. In any case, we must wait to see what the Supreme Court does as it has the final word.

(The writer is a popular columnist; views expressed are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dada Saheb Phalke for Mithun Da



Propos to 'Dadasaheb Phalke finally acknowledge Mrigayaa actor' published on October 1. Gouranga Chakraborty aka Mithun Da was born in Barisal, Bangladesh. He

has had his share of struggle when he had to sleep on Bombay pavements with a hungry stomach in his early life. He even assisted yesteryear's dancing sensation Helen. He is the only actor to be awarded a National award for his debut film and later he won two more National awards. He also holds a black belt in martial arts. Today it is common for chiseled body actors to flaunt their six or eight packs, but it was Mithun Chakraborty who started this trend.

His super hit film 'Disco Dancer' not only became a hit movie in India but has a cult following in the former USSR, Eastern Europe, Africa and the Middle East. A Limca Book of Records in his name, 19 movies released in 1989, is still unbroken. His rise to the top is indeed a testament that one can fulfil his dreams. He truly deserves this esteemed honour.

Bal Govind | Noida

are sunk several feet deep have much affected the groundwater resource.

, the open wells, which tap the top shallow aquifer, can help preserve rainwater. This is a traditional method followed immediately after the rains during winter. The groundwater source is in two discontinuous layers: one, the top or shallow aquifer comprising water-bearing rocks like sandstone, and two, sand and gravel and the deeper aquifer. These two are separated by hard rocks. The top aquifer is fed with water from the rain that percolates. Based on the geology of the area, some of these aquifers could, in fact, have more water than those below, experts say. But how big are the aquifers beneath us, and what is their storage capacity? Well, it is for the respective state water boards to find answers to these complex questions.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

PARENTING IN DIGITAL AGE

Madam — It refers to 'The challenges of parenting in the age of technology' (October 1). The pressures of parenting have become overwhelming in the past two

decades, especially in this new age of technology. While countless resources, both books and online guides, offer seemingly perfect solutions, none can fully deal with each child's unique needs.

The communication barriers of gadgets introduced in this era are disrupting the natural flow of interaction. As Freud proposed social responsibilities, along with the implications of rewards and punishments, this can profoundly impact mental health, particularly in today's highly competitive environment. Not only teens, but parents these days feel compelled to showcase their children on social media as stars of extracurriculars and academics, often succumbing to the added pressure of 'helicopter parenting', which can lead to more harmful methods of discipline. The harsh reality is that the extreme consequences of strict parenting can lead to perilous consequences, proving that striking a balance is the key to avoiding such tragedies.

Shaswat Jena | Ghaziabad

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

The battle over CPI(M) leader M M Lawrence's final journey

The Kerala High Court now holds the fate of his remains as the ideological clash within his family raises larger questions about faith and political ideology

One may apologise for seeing some similarities between the 1983 movie *Jaane Bhi Do Yaaron* (directed by Kundan Shah) and the demise of CPI(M) leader M M Lawrence last month. *Jaane Bhi Do Yaaron* was immortalised by the black humour associated with Indian politics and a splendid show by Satish Shah who perfected his role as the dead body of D'Mello.

It has been more than a fortnight since Lawrence (95) breathed his last.

But his dead body has become a subject of litigation and it is waiting for a verdict from the Kerala High Court as his younger daughter Asha Lawrence challenged the decision of the late leader's son M L Sajeewan to hand over the mortal remains to Government Medical College, Ernakulam, for the MBBS students for studies. Sajeewan, a Kerala Government lawyer, claims that his late father did not believe in any religion and had left word with him to donate the body to the MCH students. But Asha released the wedding pictures of Lawrence which were held in a church and which was being



solemnised by a Catholic priest. She also argues that her elder sister Suja and her husband were evangelists working in West Asia to free the sinners from their sins. When it was time for the relatives, friends and well-wishers of Lawrence to bid 'Lal Salam', a scuffle broke out between the deceased leader's son, daughter, and son-in-law on one side and Asha on the other side. Asha and her son Milan Joseph wanted the mortal remains to be interred as per Catholic rites in a cemetery where they had buried their mother. Following a plea by Asha, the High Court asked the Medical College authorities to take possession of the body, and keep it in the mortuary till a final decision is made on the issue. When it was time for

the body to be removed to the MCH, a sobbing Asha fell on the coffin and started weeping uncontrollably saying that she would not allow her father's body to be left to the students to dissect and mutilate. The relations of Sajeewan physically assaulted Asha and her son Milan alleging them to be RSS agents. Sajeewan alleges that the RSS and other Sangh Parivar 'elements' were behind the showdown. A CPI(M) leader claimed that Communists across the world hand over their bodies to medical colleges as they do not believe in religious rites. But bodies of EMS Namboodiripattu, E K Nayanar, CPI(M) state boss Kodiyeri Balakrishnan and A K Gopalan were consigned to flames as per Hindu rites.

In contrast, the body of T V Thomas was interred at a special cemetery meant for comrades. Even E K Imbichi Bawa, a former Marxist minister, was buried as per Islamic rituals in a grave after the recital of Quranic verses and Janazah. The new age leaders in the CPI(M) like Elamaram Kareem (Kareemikka), A A Rahim MP and K T Jaleel, may have to take immediate



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

decisions regarding their last journey. Archie Brown (author of *The Rise and Fall of Communism*) has stated that the downfall of Communism began with it turning into a religion.

The life sketch of Castro says that his mortal remain was consigned to flames and the ashes were interred in the Santa Ifigenia Cemetery. If the Communist parties make it mandatory that the dead bodies of all comrades be handed over to medical colleges for teaching purposes, our medical students stand to benefit.

Devika, a second-year MBBS student in a famous Government Medical College in Chennai says that only postgraduate and final semester students get the chance to dissect dead bodies because of shortage of bodies. According to George Orwell, the Communist parties have a unique rule: all are equal but some are more equal. Hence the leaders and their close family members may get a reprieve from the scalpel of wannabe doctors.

(The writer is South India bureau chief with the Pioneer; views are personal)

SC SLAMS NAIDU OVER TIRUPATI LADDU

Madam — The Supreme Court not only addressed the Tirupati laddu controversy, asserting that religious matters should remain separate from politics, but also admonished Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu for publicly alleging without basis that adulterated ghee was used to make laddus at Tirumala Tirupati temple, causing distress among devotees. The bench of Justices B R Gavai and K V Viswanathan questioned the State and Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) for proof and discussed the potential transfer of the investigation to an independent agency, seeking assistance from the solicitor general. Though the SC observed that politics should be kept out of the issue of faith, how to keep God out of politics? At the Ram Mandir inauguration, Prime Minister Narendra Modi was doing Aarti. In Chief Justice of India (CJI) D Y Chandrachud's house PM Modi was doing Ganapati Puja while CJI was only standing by. People want to know why PM Modi was invited to the CJI house if God is to be kept out of politics. No doubt Naidu's allegation about animal fat seems to be a simple political allegation. Very rightly, the top court questioned whether there was any material with the CM to conclude definitively that animal fat had been used to prepare laddus at the Hindu shrine in Andhra Pradesh, where Lord Venkateswara is worshipped. However, the fake story by Chandrababu Naidu is nothing but to take revenge against his predecessor YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, because he jailed him? But he did not even think it would hurt crores of Hindu devotees.

Bidyut K Chatterjee | Faridabad

IMPROVING URBAN WATER RESOURCES

Madam — Apropos the article, 'Revive shallow aquifers for urban water woes in India', published on October 1. Aquifers can be a useful and permanent solution to improve groundwater levels across the country during the summer. Bore wells that



FIRST COLUMN

TRAITS OF A TRUE LEADER

The impact of servant leadership on a team or organisation brings about profound transformation



RACHNA LAKHPATRI

The concept of servant leadership is an interesting and refreshing approach to leadership in the competitive corporate environment of the present day. In this style of leadership, the focus is on empowering individuals within the team to grow and excel in their careers, fostering a culture of success and personal development. Servant leadership is a strong force in building teams that are high-performing, loyal, and motivated. At its essence, servant leadership revolves around genuine concern and care for individuals. It's not about seeking popularity or seeking approval. Creating the right atmosphere is crucial for everyone to thrive.

A true leader understands that their success is intertwined with the success of those they serve. Small gestures can have a big impact on the team. Whether it's a thank-you note, lending an ear, or offering a helping hand during tough times, these actions can make a difference. Creating a culture that values humility, acknowledges mistakes, and respects diverse perspectives fosters an atmosphere of respect and openness. When leaders prioritise the well-being of their members in their leadership, they earn loyalty through a genuine concern for their people rather than relying on their authority or instilling fear. Only then will they likely go the extra mile when they sense genuine care and understanding on a deeper level. Loyalty is not something that can be demanded, but rather something that can be earned through consistent and authentic action.

A manager or supervisor who truly appreciates the hard work of their team members goes beyond just words and takes action, offering



growth opportunities, publicly recognising achievements, and providing support during challenging times. This fosters a positive atmosphere, resulting in members who are more motivated and dedicated to the group. Inspiring leaders foster a strong sense of camaraderie and purpose within their teams by instilling a deep sense of belonging to the vision. They create a sense of collective purpose while ensuring that every individual feels included in the task at hand. This will ignite a fire within the team members, driving them to reach new heights of productivity and effectiveness. Leaders who prioritise the success of the team over personal recognition are more effective at inspiring and rallying people.

By doing so, a powerful chain reaction is set in motion: It fosters a spirit of collaboration and cooperation. We thrive on collaboration, celebrating achievements as a team, and fearlessly tackling obstacles together. Contrary to what many believe, the foundation of strong and influential leadership lies in humility and compassion. Leaders who embrace a servant mindset are not afraid to get their hands dirty and collaborate with their team members. They understand that true power comes from empowering others, rather than simply exerting authority.

The impact of servant leadership on a team or organisation runs deep and brings about profound transformation. The servant leader places a high emphasis on the growth and success of their members, using actions that instill a strong sense of loyalty, dedication, and motivation. Acts of kindness, modesty, and generosity are not signs of weakness but powerful tools for creating strong and cohesive teams. In a world where leadership is often seen as a display of power, servant leaders demonstrate that true strength lies in selflessly serving others.

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

Navigating the new safety norms for heavy industry



A S MITTAL

The manufacturing landscape in India is set for a seismic shift as the Ministry of Heavy Industry rolls out the 'Machinery and Electrical Equipment Safety Regulation 2024'

The manufacturing industry is already grappling with a complex web of regulations, and a new stringent regulation has been added to the mix. Recently, The Ministry of Heavy Industry has introduced the 'Machinery and Electrical Equipment Safety Regulation 2024' to ensure that safety practices in India align with global standards. While these new standards aim to enhance safety and compliance, they are expected to significantly impact Indian manufacturers, primarily micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs), which previously also complied with over 400 regulations. The new regulation will impact over 50,000 types of machinery, including industrial equipment like pumps, compressors, cranes, and transformers. Manufacturers must adhere to stringent safety requirements set by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). However, many Indian manufacturers, particularly MSMEs, may struggle to meet these new standards within the given one-year deadline (August 2025), as they often operate with limited resources. Under the new machinery safety standards, all manufacturers must register with the BIS and obtain a BIS standard mark or certificate of conformity. Compliance will be governed by three distinct safety standards: Type A, B, and C. Type A standards are general safety guidelines for all machinery. At the same time, Type B covers generic safety requirements, and Type C standards are machine-specific safety guidelines.

While the regulation does not apply to machinery exclusively manufactured for export, most companies produce goods for domestic and export markets, making BIS certification necessary for their entire product range. The requirement for prior BIS approval for both production and imports could create bottlenecks in production and impact the availability of essential machinery and equipment. Fiscal and Technical Burden: The new machinery safety standards will impose a significant financial burden on MSMEs. Compliance costs vary widely, ranging from Rs 50,000 to Rs 5 lakh, depending on the type and complexity of the machinery. These costs cover certification, safety upgrades, risk assessments, employee training, and the technical requirements to bring machinery up to standard.

Many MSMEs operate within thin margins, and these costs may lead to closure for some businesses. In addition to financial challenges, many smaller firms need help with a technological gap, as they may need access to advanced machinery or technology that complies with the new standards. Retrofitting existing equipment or purchasing new machinery will require a significant investment, which may be out of reach for smaller businesses. Furthermore, MSMEs often need a more skilled workforce to implement the necessary safety measures, which can strain already tight budgets. Another major challenge is the complexity of the regulations themselves. The technical language used in the order is complex for smaller firms to navigate, and the lack of detailed implementation guidelines from BIS has only added to the confusion. MSMEs, which frequently operate with



MANY MSMEs OPERATE WITHIN THIN MARGINS, AND THESE COSTS MAY LEAD TO CLOSURE FOR SOME BUSINESSES. IN ADDITION TO FINANCIAL CHALLENGES, MANY SMALLER FIRMS NEED HELP WITH A TECHNOLOGICAL GAP, AS THEY MAY NEED ADVANCED MACHINERY OR TECHNOLOGY THAT COMPLIES WITH THE NEW STANDARDS

limited administrative resources, struggle to understand how to comply with these multi-layered standards. More precise instructions would enable many firms to proceed with the necessary upgrades. Impact: This regulation will have a significant effect. India's machinery and electrical equipment imports, totalling \$25 billion in FY2024, could face delays as companies await BIS approval. With 39.1 per cent of these imports originating from China, delays could worsen supply chain bottlenecks, further slowing industrial growth.

Domestic manufacturers catering to the local and export markets must successfully navigate the new compliance landscape, which adds to the regulatory burden on an already stressed sector. While machinery intended for export is not subject to the regulation, most manufacturers produce goods for both domestic and international markets. This means that even businesses focused on exports will need BIS certification for their entire product line. Consequently, the exemption offers limited relief, and manufacturers must adhere to the same safety standards. Challenges in Implementation: Adopting a phased approach to implementation is imperative to address these challenges.

The current one-year compliance timeline is unequivocally inadequate, particularly for MSMEs that lack the financial and technical resources to meet stringent safety standards. Extending the deadline to afford MSMEs more time to adapt is not just a preference but a necessity. A three-year timeline for meeting Type A standards and an addi-

tional five years to comply with Type B and C standards is not just a suggestion but a requirement. This approach aligns with the phased regulatory models in other countries, such as the European Union, where industries are routinely allocated five to seven years to transition to new safety standards. Furthermore, implementing the standards in phases based on the machinery's complexity and risk level is not just a recommendation but a mandate. This approach allows firms to prioritise safety upgrades without jeopardising their operations. For example, enforcing horizontal safety standards (Type A) followed by vertical (Type B and C) standards as businesses gain the technical and financial capacity to comply is not just an option but a necessity.

The medical devices industry in India provides a practical example, where voluntary registration was initially encouraged, followed by mandatory standards based on the risk level of the device. This model is not just a suggestion but a blueprint that could be adapted for the machinery sector, providing a more manageable path toward compliance.

The Way Forward: Government support is crucial in helping MSMEs meet the new safety standards. Financial assistance, such as subsidies or low-interest loans, must help smaller firms afford the necessary upgrades to their machinery. Additionally, the government must conduct awareness campaigns and training programs to educate businesses on the importance of these regulations. It is imperative to establish a dedicated helpdesk to guide MSMEs through the certification process,

alleviating confusion and streamlining compliance efforts. MSMEs often lack the expertise needed to navigate such complex regulations, and without access to trained consultants, many businesses will struggle to meet compliance requirements. Here, industry associations can and must play a pivotal role. By negotiating bulk certification agreements, conducting training sessions, and providing technical guidance to MSMEs, these associations are ideally placed to bridge the gap between government regulations and industry readiness, ensuring a smoother transition for smaller firms. Certifying technical professionals who can assist in implementing these standards is essential. The Machinery and Electrical Equipment Safety Regulation-2024 represents a necessary step toward improving manufacturing safety in India. However, the challenges facing MSMEs in complying with these new regulations are substantial. Therefore, a phased approach to implementation, combined with targeted government support, is crucial to ensure that the benefits of these new regulations are fully realised without unduly burdening the MSMEs, the backbone of Indian manufacturing.

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

Navigating opportunities and challenges in a shifting energy landscape

The Adani Group finds itself at a critical juncture as Bangladesh gears up to renegotiate the Power Purchase Agreement

The energy market dynamics, particularly in rapidly growing economies like India, present unique opportunities for merchant and untied capacities. For the Adani Group, one of India's largest conglomerates with a substantial footprint in the energy sector, the current Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) with Bangladesh is both an opportunity and a potential challenge. With growing voices within Bangladesh calling for the renegotiation of the PPA, the landscape is shifting, presenting both risks and advantages for Adani. Background of the Agreement The PPA between Adani and Bangladesh was established to enhance energy security for a nation facing persistent power shortages and increas-



SURYA SARATHI RAY

ing electricity demands. Under this agreement, Adani constructed a dedicated 1,600 MW power plant in the Godda district of Jharkhand, specifically to supply electricity to Bangladesh. The \$2 billion project, including essential transmission infrastructure, was fully commissioned in June 2023 and now meets approximately 7-10 per cent of Bangladesh's base load demand, particularly serving

the northern regions of the country.

Current Challenges Recent criticisms from Bangladeshi media allege that Adani is selling power at exorbitant rates. In response, Adani has referenced government data to assert that its electricity is indeed the cheapest compared to other similar fuel-based power plants. However, Bangladesh is facing a significant financial crunch, with over \$800 million owed to Adani for power supplied. Despite this outstanding debt, Adani has continued its supply but finds the situation increasingly untenable, given its obligations to lenders and suppliers. This growing receivable issue threatens to affect Adani's credit profile, potentially raising the cost of funds

across its operations. In a significant policy shift, the Indian government recently allowed power plants exporting electricity to connect to the national grid. This move could be advantageous for Adani Power, as it opens up the domestic market for the Godda plant, which is currently not integrated with the Indian grid. Adani remains committed to honoring its contract with Bangladesh while also requesting the early settlement of outstanding dues. If Bangladesh fails to meet its payment obligations or decides to terminate the PPA, Adani can pivot its focus towards sales within India.

Economic Considerations One of the main economic factors influencing this scenario is the disparity in electricity



rates between India and Bangladesh. The Indian power market has seen a marked increase in electricity prices driven by robust economic growth. By redirecting power supplies to India, Adani could take advantage of these higher rates, thus boosting profitability. Recent trends indicate that peak power prices have reached around Rs 10/kWh for extended periods, a figure

likely to rise due to heightened demand for coal-based power. The cost of coal, crucial for power generation, is influenced by global market fluctuations. While the Godda plant operates on imported coal, its proximity to India's coal reserves allows for reduced logistical costs, further enhancing Adani's operational efficiency.

Given this context, Adani stands to benefit significantly from redirecting its power supply to the Indian market, rather than continuing to fulfill its obligations under the existing PPA with Bangladesh. **Regulatory Environment** The Indian government's focus on self-reliance and energy security has created a favorable environment for domestic power producers. Initiatives

like "Atmanirbhar Bharat" and "Make in India" seek to reduce import dependency and promote local production and consumption. In line with these national priorities, Adani could leverage its resources to address India's escalating energy demands effectively.

The National Electricity Plan forecasts that India's peak power demand will surge from 203 GW in FY22 to 277 GW by FY27, and further to 366 GW by FY32. This growth implies the need for an additional 80 GW of coal-based capacity by FY32. With its existing 1.6 GW capacity at the Godda plant, Adani is well-positioned to play a pivotal role in meeting this demand.

Navigating Future Decisions While the potential benefits of terminating the PPA are com-

pelting, such a move carries inherent risks. Breaking an international agreement could lead to diplomatic consequences and adversely affect Adani's global reputation. Nevertheless, if the Bangladesh government were to initiate a renegotiation or termination of the agreement, Adani would likely find itself in a more advantageous position, allowing it to pivot toward the lucrative Indian market without the constraints of the PPA. The company must balance its commitment to the agreement while remaining agile enough to capitalise on emerging market conditions in India, ensuring its long-term growth and sustainability in the energy sector.

(The writer is a financial journalist; views are personal)

UK PM condemns Iran's missile attacks on Israel

PTI ■ LONDON

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer has condemned Iran's missile attacks against Israel as he embarked on a tour to Brussels on Wednesday, where the issue will feature high on the agenda during his talks with European Union (EU) leaders. Starmer spoke to Israeli leader Benjamin Netanyahu to express the UK's "steadfast commitment" to Israeli security and the protection of civilians, adding that the UK stands with Israel and its "right to self-defence".

He also made phone calls to French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz to discuss the serious risk of regional escalation and the "urgent need for de-escalation, with all parties needing to show restraint".

"I utterly condemn this attempt by the Iranian regime to harm innocent Israelis, to escalate this incredibly dangerous situation and push the region ever closer to the brink," said Starmer in a televised address from 10 Downing Street in London on Tuesday night.

"We stand with Israel, and we recognise her right to self-defence in the face of this aggression," he said. He called on Iran to "stop these attacks," saying it had "menaced the Middle East



Demonstrators celebrate Iran's missile strike against Israel during a gathering in front of the British Embassy in Tehran, Iran, Tuesday. AP/PTI

for far too long." "I am deeply concerned that the region is on the brink, and I'm deeply concerned about the risk of miscalculation," he added. Earlier, Downing Street said that Iran's attack on Israel began

during the leaders' conversation in which Starmer expressed the UK's support for Israeli security. "During the call (with Netanyahu), the Prime Minister also underlined the importance of a ceasefire in Lebanon to

allow space for a political solution in line with UNSC Resolution 1701. The Prime Minister also raised the situation in Gaza and the importance of a ceasefire and action to bring home the hostages," Downing

Street said. On Tuesday, Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps said it had launched missiles in retaliation for recent attacks that killed the leaders of the Hezbollah and Hamas militant groups, as well as a senior Iranian commander. Israel said most of the 180 missiles fired were intercepted. UK forces were also involved in supporting Israel, with Defence Secretary John Healey saying British forces had "played their part in attempts to prevent further escalation", without giving more details. "I completely condemn Iran's attack against Israel. British forces have this evening (Tuesday) played their part in attempts to prevent further escalation in the Middle East," Healey said. "I want to thank all British personnel involved in the operation for their courage and professionalism. The UK stands fully behind Israel's right to defend its country and its people against threats," he said. While Healey will make his way to Cyprus to visit British personnel stationed there, Starmer will be in Brussels for his pre-planned meeting with EU leaders. Besides the escalating situation between Israel and Iran, he is scheduled to continue his drive to improve the UK's relationship with the EU. Downing Street said he wants to set out his determination to move beyond Brexit and make

the UK's relationship with the EU work for the British people, focused on delivering a broad-based security pact, securing our borders and tackling barriers to trade. In a statement ahead of the tour, Starmer said: "The UK is undeniably stronger when it works in lockstep with its closest international partners. This has never been more important - with war, conflict and insecurity all knocking on Europe's door. "We will only be able to tackle these challenges by putting our collective weight behind them, which is why I am so determined to put the Brexit years behind us and establish a more pragmatic and mature relationship with the European Union."

"Better cooperation with the EU will deliver the benefits the British people deserve - securing our borders, keeping us safe and boosting economic growth." He has meetings scheduled with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, European Council President Charles Michel and President of the European Parliament Roberta Metsola. The central message would be to reiterate the importance of like-minded countries cooperating more closely on areas of shared interest at a time of wars in Ukraine and West Asia, as well as the rise of smuggling gangs trafficking people across Europe.

Houthi rebels seek gains from ongoing Middle East conflict

AP ■ CAIRO

In the days since Israel intensified its campaign against Hezbollah in Lebanon, including the strike that killed the militant group's leader Hassan Nasrallah, Yemen's Iran-backed Houthi rebels have been quick to show they are an important player in the complex conflicts convulsing the Middle East.

In a brazen attack on Saturday, the Houthis fired a ballistic missile at Israel's main airport as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was arriving back from New York, where he had addressed the United Nations. On Monday, they threatened "escalating military operations" to target Israel after apparently shooting down a U.S. military drone flying over Yemen. And on Tuesday, an explosive-loaded drone crashed into one ship in the Red Sea as a missile exploded against another, the British military and private security officials said, the latest in the Houthis' assaults on commercial shipping in the key waterway.

The salvo of Houthi attacks has again drawn attention to the Yemeni rebels and raised questions about their goals and strategies.

Who are the Houthis and why are they in this fight? The rebels, armed by Iran, seized most of Yemen's north and its capital, Sanaa, a decade ago, pushing the country's internationally recognized government into exile.

A Saudi-led coalition backing Yemen's government entered the war in 2015 and the Houthis have since been fighting what has become a long-running but now largely stalemated civil war in Yemen. However, when the Israel-Hamas war erupted in the Gaza Strip a year ago, the Houthis began targeting shipping throughout the Red Sea corridor - part of a campaign they say aims at pressuring Israel and the West over the war.

Analysts and observers say a widening conflict could boost the Houthis militarily and expand their already outsized role across the region - despite retaliatory strikes by Israel, the United States and the United Kingdom. Ahmed Nagi, a senior Yemen analyst at the Crisis Group, says that before

the war in Gaza, the Houthis were seen as an often-forgotten and less-prominent faction in an axis that includes Iran, Syria's government forces, Lebanon's Hezbollah, the Palestinian Hamas and other groups in the region.

That changed when the Houthis began hitting ships in the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden making their way to the Suez Canal, suddenly posing a much wider threat. "Over the past year, the Houthis have taken center stage," Nagi said. After Hamas attacked southern Israel on Oct. 7, killing 1,200 people and taking some 250 hostages, Israel responded with a blistering offensive on the Gaza Strip, a coastal enclave run by the Palestinian militant group. Israel's retaliatory invasion of Gaza has killed more than 41,000 Palestinians and wounded more than 95,000, according to Gaza's Health Ministry, which does not differentiate between civilians and militants in its count but says that over half of those killed are women and children. The toll the war has taken and the extent of Gaza's destruction have shocked the world. Meanwhile, the Houthis see the Yemenis' prevailing solidarity with Palestinians as a useful tool for recruiting new fighters and swelling their ranks, Nagi said.

In June, the Houthis unveiled a new, solid-fuel missile in their arsenal that resembles aspects of one earlier one displayed by Iran, which Tehran described as flying at hypersonic speed. The rebels fired their new "Palestine" missile - complete with a war-head painted like a Palestinian keffiyeh checkered scarf - at the southern port of Eilat in Israel, setting off air raid sirens but causing no damage or injuries. The extent of the Houthis' actions was a surprise to some, mainly because of their limited resources and Yemen's own costly civil war. Nagi described their strategy as one of "gradual escalation" towards Israel. As their prominence grows, the Houthis - who have for years relied on portable missile launchers and hit-and-run tactics - will likely be eager to get their hands on more advanced weapons, he added.

After pushing on Israel-Hezbollah cease-fire, Biden admn shifts its message

AP ■ WASHINGTON

The Biden administration says there is a significant difference between Israeli actions that have expanded its war against the Iranian-backed militant groups Hamas and Hezbollah and Iran's retaliatory missile attack against Israel, which it condemned as escalatory. In carefully calibrated remarks, officials across the administration are defending the surge in attacks by Israel against Hezbollah leaders in Lebanon, while still pressing for peace and vowing retribution after Iran fired about 200 ballistic missiles at Israel on Tuesday.

President Joe Biden praised the U.S. and Israel militaries for defeating the barrage and warned, "Make no mistake, the United States is fully, fully supportive of Israel."

Secretary of State Antony Blinken called the Iranian missile attack "totally unacceptable, and the entire world should condemn it."

There was little criticism that Israel may have provoked Iran's assault. "Obviously, this is a significant escalation by Iran," national security adviser Jake Sullivan said. Just a week after calling urgently for an immediate cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah to avoid the possibility of all-out war in the Middle East, the administration has shifted its message as Israel presses ahead with ground incursions in Lebanon following a massive airstrike Friday in Beirut that killed Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and Iranian Revolutionary Guard Gen. Abbas Nilforoushan.

U.S. officials stress that they have repeatedly come out in support of Israel's right to defend itself and that any change in their language only

reflects evolving conditions on the ground. And, officials say the administration's goal - a cease-fire - has remained constant.

The U.S. has been quick to praise and defend Israel for a series of recent strikes killing Hezbollah leaders. In contrast to its repeated criticism of Israel's war in Gaza that has killed civilians, the U.S. has taken a different tack on strikes that targeted Nasrallah and others but also may have killed innocent people.

At the Pentagon, Maj. Gen. Pat Ryder made it clear that while the U.S. is still "laser focused" on preventing a wider conflict in the Middle East, he carved out broad leeway for Israel to keep going after Hezbollah to protect itself.

"We understand and support Israel's right to defend itself against Hezbollah," Ryder said. "We understand that part of that is dismantling some of the attack infrastructure that Hezbollah has built along the border."

He said the U.S. is going to consult with Israel as it conducts limited operations against Hezbollah positions along the border "that can be used to threaten Israeli citizens." The goal, he said, is to allow citizens on both sides of the border to return to their homes.

Part of the ongoing discussions that the U.S. will have with Israel, Ryder said, will focus on making sure there's an understanding about potential "mission creep" that could lead to tensions to escalate even further. State Department spokesman Matthew Miller said Tuesday that Israel's targeting of senior Hamas and Hezbollah leaders as well as its initiation of ground incursions into Lebanon are justified because they were done in self-defence.

2 predawn blasts around Israeli Embassy in Copenhagen, no injuries reported

AP ■ COPENHAGEN

Police in the Danish capital said two predawn explosions took place Wednesday in the vicinity of the Israeli Embassy in Copenhagen, prompting the nearby Jewish school to close for the day.

Police said no one had been injured and they were investigating whether there was a link between the blasts at around 3:20 a.m. (local time) and the Israeli diplomatic mission, which is close to several other embassies.

They declined to say whether anyone had been arrested. Heavily armed officers, search dogs and forensic teams were inspecting the area which had been cordoned off.

Copenhagen's Jewish school, Carolineskolen, which is just down the street from the embassy, was already due to close on Thursday and Friday for the Jewish New Year hol-



idays, Michael Rachlin, a spokesperson for Denmark's Jewish community told The Associated Press.

There will also be extra security around the main synagogue in downtown Copenhagen, the Jewish community said in a statement. Community chairman Henrik Goldstein wrote that he "would like to encourage people to be aware when moving in public spaces."

anything about a motive. On Tuesday night, the area around the Israeli Embassy in Stockholm was also closed off after a loud bang was reported. Police later announced that findings from the scene indicated that the embassy was hit by bullets. No one has been arrested, they said.

Swedish broadcaster TV4 said that a weapon and an empty shell casing had been found at or near the embassy. Sweden's domestic security agency told the AP that it was not conducting a preliminary investigation and referred to the ordinary police.

"It is true that the police have made findings at the Israeli embassy (in Stockholm), but we will not go into detail about what these findings are, police spokeswoman Rebecca Landberg told the AP, citing pre-investigation confidentiality.

Trump, Harris campaigns claim victories after VP debate

PTI ■ WASHINGTON

The Trump and Harris campaigns have claimed victories in the vice-presidential debate as their running mates, Senator J D Vance and Minnesota Governor Tim Walz, battled fiercely in a live televised debate wherein they tried to convince their fellow Americans to support, vote and elect them.

But unlike the presidential debate, this one lacked high-clash moments.

The only vice-presidential debate was hosted by CBS News in New York. As the two vice-presidential candidates concluded the 90-minute debate, Walz patted Vance on the side of his arm, and Vance gave Walz a pat on the back. Usha, wife of the US Senator from Ohio gave Vance a warm hug. Vance then introduced Usha to the moderators. "Thank you guys for hosting," he said. The Walzes also chat-



ted with the moderators. "I think it was a good debate. The public got to see a contrast, and I think the ending sums it up. The democracy issue is important," Walz told reporters after the couple picked pepperoni pizza from Justino's pizza in the city.

"Senator (J D) Vance unequivocally won tonight's debate in dominating fashion. It was the best debate performance from any Vice-Presidential candi-

date in history," Susie Wiles and Chris LaCivita, from the Trump Campaign said soon after the conclusion of the debate in New York.

"Senator Vance spoke the truth, eloquently prosecuted the case against Kamala Harris' failed record, and effectively held Governor Tim Walz accountable for his lies on behalf of the Harris-Biden Administration," they claimed. But the Harris Campaign

thought otherwise. "Tonight, Governor Walz showed exactly why Vice President Harris picked him: he is a leader who cares about the issues that matter most to the American people. In the debate, Americans got to see a real contrast: a straight talker focused on sharing real solutions, and a slick politician who spent the whole night defending Donald Trump's division and failures," Harris-Walz Campaign Chair Jen O'Malley Dillon.

"On every single issue - the economy, health care, foreign policy, reproductive freedom, gun violence - Governor Walz won. He spoke passionately about the Vice President's vision for a new way forward for the country. And in what was the most critical moment of the entire debate, which came in its final exchange, he stood up for our Constitution, while Vance admitted he'd put Trump ahead of the country,"

she said. According to Dillon, Walz showed once again that he would be an experienced governing partner on day one for Vice President Harris as they worked together to deliver for working families. And he showed that he continues to be a powerful force on the campaign trail, holding Vance accountable while sounding the alarm on Trump's Project 2025 agenda, she said.

"The choice facing the American people in November was on full display tonight: between charting a new way forward or going backwards. Vice President Harris believes that the American people deserve to see her and Trump on the debate stage one more time. She will be in Atlanta on October 23 - Donald Trump should step up and face the voters," Dillon said.

However, according to the Trump Campaign, Vance perfectly articulated the Trump-Vance vision to make America

safe again with their plan to launch the largest mass deportation operation in history; to make America strong again with peace through a strong foreign policy agenda; and to make America wealthy again by cutting taxes, unleashing American energy dominance, and ending inflation.

"Tonight, Senator Vance proved why President Trump chose him as his running mate. Together, they make the strongest and most dynamic presidential ticket ever, and they are going to win on November 5," said Susie Wiles and Chris LaCivita in a statement issued by the Trump Campaign. Following the debate, Nourbese Flint, President of All In Action Fund in a statement alleged that Donald Trump orchestrated the largest rollback of abortion access in 50 years and has continued to promote dangerous, untrue rhetoric about life-saving care.

Trump rallies in Wisconsin's Democratic stronghold ahead of VP debate

Wisconsin (AP): Former president Donald Trump spent more than an hour ahead of Tuesday night's vice-presidential debate campaigning in a Democratic county that is crucial to Kamala Harris' hopes for winning the key battleground state of Wisconsin. Republican Trump appeared at a manufacturing facility in Waukegan, a suburb of Wisconsin's capital city of Madison in the Democratic stronghold of Dane County. Trump had never campaigned in Dane County nor visited as president.

In an event advertised as economic-themed, Trump bounced from subject to subject, also taking on Democratic

nominee Harris on issues, including foreign policy, crime and immigration, while intermittently pivoting to criticism of outgoing President Joe Biden.

"I'm asking every citizen to join me in launching sort of a new golden age for America," Trump told hundreds inside Dane Manufacturing, a metal fabricator that has a long history of hosting Republican candidates and officeholders. Trump also could not pass up a job at former president Jimmy Carter on the Georgia Democrat's 100th birthday.

With hollow praise, Trump declared the one-term Carter "the happiest man" because he "is considered a brilliant pres-

ident" compared to Biden. Trump did not note Carter's birthday, nor his status as the longest-living former president.

Later on Tuesday, Trump was to hold an event at a museum in Milwaukee, Wisconsin's largest city and home to the state's largest number of Democratic voters and second-largest number of Republicans. His appearance there was also meant to give him reach into the city's conservative suburbs, a part of Wisconsin where his support has softened but where he must do well to win.

In Milwaukee, Trump was slated to speak in a small auditorium at a science museum

along Lake Michigan's lakefront. His event was not open to the public and his audience was to consist only of news media. Last Saturday, he held a rally in western Wisconsin where he blamed Harris for crimes committed by people in the country illegally. Both of his planned stops were ahead of Tuesday's debate in New York between Trump's running mate JD Vance, a senator from Ohio, and Democratic vice-presidential nominee Tim Walz, the governor of Minnesota. Dane County, the location of Trump's first stop, is Wisconsin's fastest-growing county and an economic engine for the state, fueled by jobs in the health care and tech industries.

Chinese dancers, children perform during Gandhi Jayanti celebrations

PTI ■ BEIJING

Gandhi Jayanti was celebrated on Wednesday at China's sprawling Chaoyang Park with local school children reciting his teachings in Mandarin and an Odissi dance was performed by Beijing-based dancers on his favourite bhajan. Beijing's picturesque Chaoyang Park where Gandhi's statue, sculpted by famous Chinese sculptor Prof. Yuan Xikun, was installed in 2005 came alive with recitation of his teachings in Mandarin by a group of Chinese school children. It was followed by a graceful

Odissi dance performance on 'Vaishnav Jan To' by noted Beijing-based Odissi dancer Zhang Jinghui and her troupe. The Indian community came together to stage a play, "Ahimsa: The Gandhi Way", directed and written by Ketke Thakar and Ayushi Sugandhi respectively.

Pradeep Kumar Rawat, besides Chinese Ambassador to Maldives, Dr Fazeel Najeed, Beijing-based Indian diaspora and local admirers of Gandhiji paid floral tributes to the widely-admired statue. Rawat in his speech conveyed his deep appreciation to Prof. Yuan Xikun for creating the statue of Mahatma Gandhi, the

first statue in the Chaoyang Park honouring great leaders of the world.

He also recalled Prof Yuan mentioning to him that he is deeply inspired by the vision of Gandhiji. The installation of the Gandhi statue in the Chinese capital has its own political significance as Gandhiji and the founder of the People's Republic of China (PRC) Mao Zedong headed their respective national liberation movements with contrasting ideologies.

While India became independent from British rule in 1947, the People's Republic of China (PRC) headed by Mao was formed in 1949. "Gandhiji was

not just a leader of the Indian independence movement; he was a visionary who championed the values of truth, non-violence, and social justice. It is only fitting that Gandhiji's birthday is observed worldwide as the International Day of Non-Violence," Rawat said in his speech. Prof Yuan could not attend the event as he was unwell. In his speech read in absentia, Prof Yuan said for the last several years the Indian Embassy officials and the members of the Indian community gathered at the statue of Gandhiji Jayanti to pay tribute to the "saint" by laying flowers and reciting his teachings.

Air India updates cabin crew policies, allowances

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Air India is introducing a revised policy for the cabin crew members of domestic and international flights, wherein certain sections of the members will have to share rooms during layovers, according to a source.

The revised policy will also be applicable for Air India Express, which has merged AIX Connect with itself.

Among other changes, the source in the know said the allowances for cabin crew of international flights will be increased from USD 75-125 bracket to USD 85-135 bracket.

There is no change in the allowances for the cabin crew of domestic flights.

An airline spokesperson said that with the merger of Air India and Vistara formalising, there is a need to



harmonise these policies for employees of both the organisations.

"As part of that exercise, we have communicated the changes applicable to Air India employees. The revised compensation and benefits continue to be competitive and benchmarked to industry standards," the spokesperson told PTI in a statement.

Under the revised policy, cabin crew members, excluding in-flight managers and executives, will have to share rooms during layovers, the source said.

In-flight managers and executives are generally senior people with at least 8-9 years of experience. While room sharing for

cabin crew is already there at Air India Express and Vistara, this will be the first time such a practice will be introduced at the Tata Group-owned loss-making Air India.

The changes in the policy also comes against the backdrop of a section of Air India Express cabin crew members seeking redressal of their HR issues under the labour law. The case is in progress before the Central Labour Commissioner.

Meanwhile, the Air India spokesperson also mentioned about the airline introducing a performance-linked compensation and benefits policy for all employees in April 2023.

The merger of AIX Connect with Air India Express was completed on October 1 while the integration of Vistara with Air India will be completed next month.

India plans to promote Made in India

PTI ■ NEW DELHI



The government is discussing a proposal to formulate a scheme for the 'Made in India' label with a view to promote brand India in the global markets, an official said.

The official said that a high-level committee is examining the details of the scheme. The objective is to create a strong brand identity for India, similar to how 'made in Japan' or 'made in Switzerland' evokes about specific images and qualities.

"That we want for India also," the official said, adding for instance, "when we think of Switzerland, we often think of their watches, chocolates, and banking systems."

"We are having discussions on how we can do that. Do we make this scheme for specific sectors like textiles, where we have strength in that. So we are looking into such things," the official added. According to experts, quality consciousness is key to promote Brand India.

The Government at present has India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF) to promote and create international awareness about the 'made in India' label in overseas markets and to facilitate dissemination of knowledge of Indian products and services. It is a trust established by the Department of Commerce.

Think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) suggested that India's branding

strategy should focus on three pillars brand high quality products; improve product quality for less than best products, do not focus on branding; and actions to improve product quality.

"India can take several actions to naturally improve its branding. Consistent product quality and reliability should be a priority. For instance, the Indian pharmaceutical industry has gained global trust through its production of high-quality generic drugs. To protect this reputation, India must enforce strict actions against substandard suppliers. For example, between 1990 and 2010, China quietly became the largest contract manufacturer of electronics like TVs and refrigerators without pushing its firms to focus on branding. Once confident in its product quality, China then aggressively promoted its brands," GTRI Founder Ajay Srivastava said.

He also said that India could establish a unified brand called 'India Quality Product' that signals excellence and reliability.

Conflict in West Asia threatens Indian exports

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The escalation of conflict in the West Asian region is expected to push already high logistics costs besides hurting trade in sectors such as oil, electronics and agriculture, according to exporters.

They said that insurance costs for exports to the countries directly involved in the war could also go up, which will impact Indian exporters' working capital.

Think tank Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) stated that the conflict is already hurting India's trade with countries like Israel, Jordan, and Lebanon.

The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) said the Iran-Israel conflict has the potential to significantly impact world trade and the global economy in several ways.

"Iran is a key player in the oil

market. Any escalation in conflict could disrupt oil supplies, leading to higher prices, which would impact global economies, especially those reliant on oil imports. Oil prices have already moved up by USD 4 per barrel," FIEO DG Ajay Sahai said.

Expressing concerns, he said increased tensions could destabilize the Middle East, affecting trade routes like the Strait of Hormuz, through which a significant portion of the world's oil passes.

"Disruptions could lead to higher shipping costs and delays. Many global supply chains depend on the stability of the Middle East. Conflict could disrupt transportation and logistics, affecting industries ranging from electronics to agriculture," Sahai said.

Further, if the western world would put sanctions or trade restrictions, it would further



complicate the global trade dynamics, he said adding "overall, the conflict could lead to increased volatility in global markets".

Hand Tool Association Chairman S C Ralhan said orders to these countries will be on hold and gradually it will be "very risky and difficult" to do trade in this region.

"Insurance costs will go up or

and Lebanon experienced a 6.8 per cent decrease," GTRI Founder Ajay Srivastava has said.

The Israel-Hamas war, which erupted in October 2023, has now extended to Lebanon, Syria, and is indirectly impacting Jordan and Iran.

Key regional players like Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, and Qatar have thus far remained uninvolved in the conflict.

India's exports to Israel stood at USD 639 million during April-July this fiscal. It was USD 4.52 billion in 2023-24. Imports from Israel were USD 469.44 million during the first four months of this fiscal. It was USD 2 billion in 2023-24.

India's exports to Iran stood at USD 538.57 million during April-July this fiscal. It was USD 1.22 billion in 2023-24. Imports from Iran were USD 140.69 million during the first four months of this fiscal. It

was USD 625.14 million in 2023-24.

Similarly, the country's exports to Jordan stood at USD 228.56 million during April-July this fiscal. It was USD 1.46 billion in 2023-24. Imports from Jordan were USD 699.28 million during the first four months of this fiscal. It was USD 1.4 billion in 2023-24.

India's exports to Lebanon stood at USD 116.86 million during April-July this fiscal. It was USD 344.91 million in 2023-24. Imports from that country were USD 39 million during the first four months of this fiscal. It was USD 113 million in 2023-24.

India's major items of exports to West Asian countries include basmati rice, man-made yarn, fabrics, gems and jewellery, cotton yarn, and fabrics.

India is Israel's second-largest trading partner in Asia.

SBI plans 600 new branches nationwide during FY25



PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State Bank of India (SBI) is planning to open 600 branches across the country in the current financial year in a bid to tap business opportunities in emerging areas including large residential townships.

"We have strong branch expansion plans... This would be mainly focused on emerging areas. A lot of residential colonies are not covered by us. Around 600 branches is something we are planning in the current year," SBI Chairman C S Setty told PTI in an interview.

The country's biggest lender opened 137 branches last fiscal. Of the total, 59 rural branches were inaugurated.

SBI has a network of 22,542 branches across the country as of March 2024.

Apart from branch presence, SBI has 65,000 ATMs and 85,000 business correspondents.

"We serve about 50 crore customers and we take pride in saying that we are the banker to every Indian, and, more importantly, to every Indian family," he said.

He also said it would be his endeavour to transform SBI into the best bank, the most valued bank not only from a shareholder point of view but from the point of view of every stakeholder who deals with SBI.

"It could be my customers, it could be our shareholders, it could be the larger ecosystem -- the society, the institutional framework all the

stakeholders should be saying that this is the best bank to deal with," he added.

In a bid to attract depositors, State Bank of India is contemplating to come out with innovative products including a combo product of recurring deposit and SIP.

With the economy progressing, he said, customers are becoming financially more aware and demanding, and have started looking for innovative investment instruments.

"Obviously, nobody wants to put everything in a risky asset or a speculative asset... Banking products will always be part of the basket. So, we are trying to bring products which will appeal to them," he said.

"We are trying to bring innovation in some of the conventional products like recurring deposit, which is actually a conventional SIP... Maybe, we can combine both fixed deposit/recurring deposit and SIP, a combo product that could be digitally accessible," he said.

Besides, he said, the bank has undertaken a massive outreach programme for the deposit mobilisation.

"As I said, for us, deposit mobilisation is a franchisee job. We have the largest number of physical outlets across the country. We are leveraging our huge physical reach by initiating outreach programmes where customers are contacted. Today, the effort on part of SBI is to reach out to every customer both existing as well as new customers," he said.

Coal India plans to lease old washeries

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Coal India Ltd is exploring options to monetise its four old washeries by leasing out those assets and plans to bundle lease contracts with long-term coal supply agreements. The move aims at optimising asset utilisation.

"We are exploring the monetisation of four old washeries," Coal India Ltd (CIL) said in a report.

The company which accounts for over 80 per cent of domestic coal output is diversifying its portfolio by setting up a non-coking coal washery at Ib Valley, Lakhanpur in Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL) one of the subsidiaries of CIL.

The public sector enterprise commissioned the operation of Madhuband Washery having 5 million tonnes of annual capacity during 2023-24 to further enhance coking coal beneficiation capacity.

The company is also setting up three new washeries in Bharat Coking Coal Ltd

(BCCCL) another arm of CIL with a total throughput capacity of seven million tonnes per annum.

Besides, five coking coal washeries with a total capacity of 14.5 million tonnes per annum are being set up in Central Coalfields Ltd (CCL). CCL is also an arm of CIL.

Currently, CIL operates 12 coal washeries with a combined operable washing capacity of 29.35 million tonnes per annum.

Among these, 10 are dedicated to coking coal, while the remaining two handle non-coking coal, with operable capacities of 18.35 million tonnes per annum and 11 million tonnes per annum, respectively. In 2023-24, the total washed coal production from the existing coking coal washers amounted to approximately 2.26 million tonnes (MT), marking a 4.8 per cent growth year on year.

The company has an ambitious coal production target of one billion tonnes by 2025-26.



Royal Enfield's sales rise

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Motorcycle maker Royal Enfield on Wednesday said its total wholesales increased 11 per cent year-on-year to 86,978 units in September.

The company had dispatched 78,580 units in September 2023.

In the domestic market, dispatches increased 7 per cent year on year to 79,326 units from 74,261 units in the year-ago period, Royal Enfield said in a statement.

Exports increased from 4,319

units in September last year to 7,652 units last month.

"We have registered steady growth in the month of September owing to our recent launches. The 2024 Classic 350 has continued to solidify its iconic status and popularity among riders and has been performing well," Royal Enfield CEO B Govindarajan said.

As the company continues to innovate and deliver pure motorcycling experience, the momentum will only accelerate, he added.

Air India to use 'AI2' prefix for Vistara flights post-merger

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Air India on Wednesday said flights operated with Vistara aircraft will have numbers starting with the prefix 'AI2' after the merger next month while Vistara's planes, crew and service will continue to operate as before.

The Tata Group-owned full service carrier also emphasised that the Vistara experience will remain post merger.

The merger of Vistara -- a joint venture between Tatas and Singapore Airlines -- with Air India is scheduled for November 12 that will mark a major consolidation in the Indian aviation space after the integration of AIX Connect with Air India Express.

There are concerns in certain quarters on whether Vistara passengers will continue to get the same services like now, post merger as Air India, which is in the transformation phase, has been facing certain service issues in recent times.

An Air India spokesperson on Wednesday said the teams of Air India and Vistara have



been working hard for over a year to ensure that the merger of the legal and regulated entities is seamless for both customers and staff.

"Though the legal entities and Air Operator Certificates will become one on 12 November, the Vistara experience will remain.

"Vistara aircraft, crew and service will continue to operate as before, but with AI2XXX flight numbers bookable via airindia.Com," the spokesperson said in a statement to PTI.

Air India's airline code is 'AI' and that of Vistara is 'UK'. The latter will fly into the sunset after the merger.

Among other elements, Vistara's catering is being extended to Air India.

Stock brokers to offer UPI-based fund blocking account to investors

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Starting February 1, qualified stock brokers will have to either offer the facility of trading in the secondary market using the UPI-based block mechanism to their clients, similar to the ASBA facility, or a three-in-one trading account facility, a move that will empower investors.

Qualified Stock Brokers (QSBs) must offer one of these two options, in addition to the current mode of trading.

A three-in-one trading account combines a savings account, a demat account, and a trading account into a single integrated solution. In this case, the clients would have their funds in their bank account, earning interest on the cash balances.

"This initiative will empower and benefit investors with enhanced security, improved



transparency, interest earnings and ease of making payments at a time when UPI payments are witnessing significant growth," Rahul Jain, CFO, NTT DATA Payment Services India, said.

Additionally, the move will improve fund management and further enhance investors' convenience, allowing them to create a payment mandate by blocking funds for trading which will

safeguard their amount from misuse, he added.

On Monday, Sebi's board approved a proposal whereby, in addition to the current mode of trading, the QSBs shall provide either the facility of trading supported by blocked amount in the secondary market (cash segment) using UPI block mechanism (ASBA-like facility for the secondary market) or the 3-in-1 trading

account facility, with effect from February 1, 2025.

In the UPI block mechanism, clients can trade in the secondary market based on blocked funds in their bank accounts, instead of transferring the funds upfront to the trading member.

Clients of the QSBs will have the option, to either continue with the existing facility of trading by transferring funds to trading members or opt for the new facility.

Trading members (TM) are classified as QSBs based on factors such as the size and scale of their operations, including the number of active clients, the total assets held by clients with the TM, the end-of-day margin of all clients, and the trading volume of the TM.

Being designated as a QSB, brings with it enhanced responsibilities and obligations.

Diljit, Coldplay concerts drive travel surge: Report

PTI ■ MUMBAI

Upcoming concerts of British band Coldplay in Mumbai and Indian singer Diljit Dosanjh in Chandigarh and other cities triggered a travel rush by fans, leading to over 300 per cent surge in flight bookings, online travel agency ixigo said in a report on Wednesday.

The Grammy award-winning band Coldplay is scheduled to perform at Mumbai's DY Patil Stadium during January 18-21 as part of its 'Music of the Spheres' world tour.

Punjabi singing sensation Diljit Dosanjh will perform at a live concert in Chandigarh in December this year as part of his DIL-UMINATI India tour.

The country is witnessing a



surge in travel bookings as fans flock to see these two live performances, said the ixigo report, adding that the platform has observed a sharp rise in flight, train, and bus bookings and searches to key concert cities.

Mumbai has experienced a staggering 350 per cent year-on-year (YoY) increase in flight bookings, said the report.

Chandigarh, one of the

destinations for the DIL-UMINATI India tour, has seen a 300 per cent YoY surge in flight bookings, it said.

Other DIL-UMINATI concert cities like Delhi, Ahmedabad, and Indore have also recorded an average 100 per cent YoY growth in flight bookings on their respective event dates.

"We've observed a significant shift in Indian travellers' preferences, with more people willing to spend on experiences like music concerts and festivals. The passion for live performances is driving fans to travel, and this surge in bookings across flights, trains, and buses shows how music tourism is becoming a major force in the country," ixigo Group CEO Alok Bajpai said.

BBF appoints Anup Gupta as chairman

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Bombay Stock Exchange Brokers' Forum (BBF) on Wednesday said it has appointed Anup Gupta as the chairman, succeeding Kishor Kansagra.

The appointment has been effected from September 30, the Forum said in a statement. Gupta, who is a director of Sykes & Ray Equities (I) Ltd, brings extensive financial expertise, including M&A, corporate finance, and derivatives.

The Forum represents over 650 securities broking firms in India and actively contributes to regulatory policy. It also engages globally through affiliations with international financial bodies and focuses on professional development and investor education.

INDIA ADD FIVE MORE GOLD MEDALS IN ISSF JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

PTI ■ NEW DELHI
Divanshi and Mukesh Nelavalli clinched gold medals in their respective women's and men's 25m pistol as India added another five gold medals on day four of the ISSF Junior World Championship in Lima, Peru. The added haul took India's overall tally to 14 with the country's shooters claiming 10 gold, one silver and three bronze medals so far in the competition. USA (10) and Italy (8) are placed second and third respectively. Divanshi shot a score of 35 to pip Italian Cristina Magnani by two points in the final as France's Heloise Fourre was third. Divanshi bagged another gold on the fourth day as she teamed up with Tejaswini and Vibhuti Bhatia to win the junior women's 25m pistol team with a combined tally of 1711 ahead of Czechia and Germany. Divanshi had a tough road to winning the gold medal after missing seven of her first 15



targets in the final, which put her in sixth position initially. However, Divanshi staged a fine recovery to hit 16 of her next 20 to move up to second with three more series of five shots remaining in the 10-series final. The silver-winning Magnani, who had led from the beginning, found herself tied

with Divanshi on 31-hits after the ninth series as the Indian nailed a four when it mattered most, while the Italian missed three. France's Heloise Fourre, who had piped Divanshi to second after the eighth series, had to settle for bronze after missing three shots in the ninth series. In the 10th and final series,

Divanshi repeated her four-hits score from the ninth series to seal the deal, as the Italian went down missing three targets yet again. Earlier in the day, Divanshi reached the final by finishing fifth in qualification with a score of 577 over the precision and rapid-fire rounds of 30-shots each.

Tejaswini (569) was 13th, Vibhuti (565) was 22nd and Naamya Kapoor was 40th with 552. Nelavalli also added two more golds to take his tally to three for the championship so far. He picked up the junior men's 25m Pistol gold with a score of 585, putting him two ahead of compatriot Suraj Sharma, who won India's first silver of the competition. Nelavalli, Sharma and Pradhymn Singh (561) combined to snatch the team gold in the event from Poland, whose tally of 1726 fell three short of India's. Italy was third. India's fifth gold of day four came in the junior men's 50m rifle 3 positions (3P) team competition, when Shourya Saini, Vedant Nitin Waghmare and Parikshit Singh Brar tallied 1753 to equal the junior world record in the elimination round to win gold. Norway was five points behind in second while Sweden were a further two behind in third. Shourya then made it to the final, finishing seventh in the qualification round, with a score of 583 over the three positions. He finished seventh eventually.



Alcaraz rallies past Sinner to win China Open

AP ■ BEIJING
Carlos Alcaraz won seven straight points in the decisive tiebreaker to beat top-ranked Jannik Sinner 6-7 (6), 6-4, 7-6 (3) and win the China Open on Wednesday, extending his recent mastery over his biggest rival — who is dealing with an ongoing doping case. The third-ranked Alcaraz has now won all three of his meetings with Sinner this year, having also come out on top in semifinals at Indian Wells and the French Open. Alcaraz also ended Sinner's winning streak at 14 matches and denied the Italian three straight titles after trophies in Cincinnati and at the U.S. Open. Sinner, who was the defending champion in Beijing, had to

refocus after the World Anti-Doping Agency announced on Saturday that it was appealing a decision to clear him of wrongdoing following two positive steroid tests. Alcaraz wasted a 5-2 lead in the first set and also let Sinner get back in the third after leading 4-2 before eventually edging it out after also falling behind 3-0 in the final-set tiebreaker. Sinner and Alcaraz have accounted for all four Grand Slam titles this year between them — evenly split at two each: Sinner won the Australian Open and the U.S. Open while Alcaraz won the French Open and Wimbledon. Alcaraz improved to 6-4 in his career against Sinner after their 10th meeting in what has become tennis' top rivalry following

the 60 matches between Rafael Nadal and Novak Djokovic. WADA is seeking a ban of one to two years for Sinner in a case that might not be resolved before Sinner begins the defense of his Australian Open title in January. Sinner tested positive twice for an anabolic steroid in March but was not banned in a decision by an independent tribunal announced by the International Tennis Integrity Agency in August because the ITIA determined he was not to blame. Sinner's accepted explanation was that the banned performance-enhancer entered his system unintentionally through a massage from his physiotherapist, who had used a spray containing the steroid to treat his own cut finger.



Sergio Lobera hunts 10th win against Kerala Blasters as Tuskers visit Odisha FC

PTI ■ BHUBANESWAR
Odisha FC would look to build a winning momentum after their previous match success when they host Kerala Blasters FC in their Indian Super League outing here on Thursday. OFC is coming after beating Jamshedpur FC 2-1, its opening win of the season, whereas Kerala settled for a 1-1 draw versus NorthEast United FC in Guwahati. Odisha head coach Sergio Lobera has had a great outing against the Tuskers to date, winning nine out of his 11 match against the side, possessing a success rate of 82%. As for Kerala, it has managed only a victory in their eight ISL meetings this year, having conceded goals in all of them, which will indeed be a matter of concern for their head coach Mikael Stahre. Speaking ahead of the match, Lobera



conveyed gratitude towards his side for braving through difficult moments. "I am very happy because finally, we got three very important points. And, also the atmosphere on the ground, in the stadium is amazing," he said. "Every time more supporters come here, they are pushing us in difficult moments. I am happy for these people." Meanwhile, Stahre expressed confidence that his team is heading in the right direction. He said his team will play to its strengths in the upcoming games. "I'm not happy, but I'm not extremely unhappy either. We can do much better. We are still solid and taking points," he noted. "It's just the beginning, and I feel we will become better eventually. I think we are on the right track." The two sides have clashed against each other on 23 occasions in the tournament, with Kerala winning nine times, and Odisha prevailing in seven, while seven outings resulted in a draw. The Blasters' Noah Sadaoui has so far netted four goals versus the Juggernauts — his highest tally versus a single team in the ISL. OFC's duo of Roy Krishna and Diego Maurício have both scored seven goals against the Tuskers — the joint-highest by any player versus the team.

Dortmund scores 7 while Barcelona MAN CITY AND ARSENAL ALL WIN IN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

AP ■ LONDON
Karim Adeyemi starred as Borussia Dortmund ran riot against Celtic while Barcelona and Manchester City claimed their first wins in the restructured Champions League. Adeyemi scored a first-half hat trick as Dortmund routed Celtic 7-1 at home. It was the second big win from a German team in the competition after Bayern Munich's 9-2 bashing of Dinamo Zagreb in the first matchday. Robert Lewandowski got Barcelona off the mark as the Spanish giant eased to a 5-0 home win over Swiss team Young Boys, while his former teammate Ilkay Gundogan got City off to a 4-0 win at Slovan Bratislava. Erling Haaland scored his 42nd goal in his 41st Champions League game. City was held 0-0 by Inter Milan in their opening game, while Barca responded to its 2-1 loss at Monaco, the team's first defeat under new coach Hansi Flick. Mikel Arteta's Arsenal outclassed his former team Paris Saint-Germain in a 2-0 win with Kai Havertz and

Bukayo Saka scoring in the first half for the Gunners. PSG coach Luis Enrique's gamble on leaving Ousmane Dembélé out did not pay off. Arteta enjoyed a successful 18-month loan spell at PSG while still he was still a teenager at Barcelona. Though the Dortmund team appears to have adapted to the new competition format very well - last season's beaten finalist has 10 goals from two games after starting with a 3-0 win over Club Brugge - its fans made their opposition to the reforms clear with a huge tifo slamming UEFA. This season UEFA changed the structure of Europe's premier competition to add four more teams. The group stage was scrapped for a league system with each of the now 36 participating teams playing eight opponents once in a first phase of the competition. UEFA claimed the changes would ensure more evenly matched games, but Tuesday's results - the big wins for Barca, City and Dortmund - appear to belie that claim. There were more big wins Tuesday with Inter Milan defeating Red Star Belgrade 4-

0, and tournament debutant Brest routing Salzburg 4-0 away for its second win in as many games in Europe's premier competition. Iran forward Mehdi Taremi struck a penalty past Israel and Red Star goalkeeper Omri Glazer and set up two more goals for Inter hours after his country launched a barrage of missiles at Israel. Senegalese forward Abdallah Sima netted twice for Brest to take his tally to three goals in two games after he scored in the French team's tournament-opening 2-1 win over Austrian champion Sturm Graz. Also Tuesday, Bayer Leverkusen defeated AC Milan 1-0 in Germany thanks a well-worked move finished by Victor Boniface. Daniel Braganca scored late to earn Sporting Lisbon a 1-1 draw at PSV Eindhoven. Kaan Kairinen's brilliant free kick was enough for Prague to draw 1-1 at Stuttgart. Stuttgart fans displayed a huge choreography saying "Back in Europe" behind one of the goals. It was the German team's first Champions League match at home since a 1-1 draw with Barcelona in February 2010.

Sabalenka beats Keys at China Open and equals her career best win streak

AP ■ BEIJING
Second-ranked Aryna Sabalenka matched her career-best 15 straight wins after beating Madison Keys 6-4, 6-3 to advance to the quarterfinals of the China Open on Wednesday. The three-time Grand Slam winner started her streak with a title at Cincinnati in August and continued with a run to the championship at the U.S. Open last month. She also won the Australian Open earlier in the year. Her previous streak of 15 was achieved across the 2020-21 seasons. "When you're able to sacrifice a lot and you're able to work hard and you're able to get these wins, that's the best feeling," Sabalenka said. "You're just living your best life. You're excited to play your matches. You're excited to face

whatever fight you going to face." The Belarusian has won 30 of 31 sets played during her current streak, dropping only one set to Ekaterina Alexandrova in the third round of the U.S. Open. That form guide quickly played out on Wednesday as Sabalenka broke the No. 24-ranked Keys in the third game of the first set and then dominated on serve throughout an efficient 65-minute outing, which improved her head-to-head record against the American to 4-1. The 26-year-old Belarusian only lost five points on her first serve in the match and was able to save both break points against her, despite Keys making 22 winners against 10 unforced errors. Sabalenka will play Karolina



Muchova in the quarterfinals after the Czech player routed Cristina Bucsa 6-2, 6-0. Paris Olympics gold medalist Zheng Qinwen played a night match against Amanda Anisimova. Later Wednesday, top-ranked Jannik Sinner will play rival Carlos Alcaraz in the men's final. Sinner and Alcaraz have

accounted for all four Grand Slam titles this year between them. Alcaraz leads the head-to-head series 5-4 - including wins at both their meetings this year in semifinals at Indian Wells and the French Open. The 23-year-old Italian hasn't appeared distracted by the World Anti-Doping Agency announcing Saturday it was seeking a ban of one to two years for the U.S. Open champion, who tested positive twice for an anabolic steroid in March. SHANGHAI MASTERS: French veteran Gael Monfils eased through to the second round of the Shanghai Masters with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Damir Dzumhur. The 38-year-old Monfils will play the 22nd-seeded Argentine Sebastian Baez next. Arthur Rinderknech also advanced with a 6-4, 7-6 (5) win over American Reilly Opelka, while Botian van de Zandschulp of the Netherlands defeated Pablo Carreno Busta 7-6 (5), 6-2. Also, Alexandre Muller rallied from a set down for a 4-6, 6-1, 6-1 victory over Italian Luca Nardi.

Kartik buoyed by SAI and IGU's encouragement for young golfers

PTI ■ GOTEEMBA (JAPAN)
"It is like a reunion with a lot of friends," says Kartik Singh, who is just 14 years old but is ready to battle it out for the title with several of his pals in his second start at the Asia-Pacific Amateur Championships. The 2024 Asia-Pacific Amateur Championships (AAC) gets underway on Thursday at the Taiheiyu Club here with the amazing Mount Fuji in the backdrop. In the year since he became the youngest ever to make the cut in the 2023 AAC in Melbourne, Kartik is ready to contend for one of the biggest amateur events in the world. In the last 12 months, he has played almost 12-15 international events in a dozen countries. "I have played in a lot of places, learnt

a lot in golf and made many friends all over the world," he says. "I have learnt a lot in the last one year. I have been playing with most of the top juniors in the world and have seen a lot of events and courses," said Kartik ahead of the 2024 AAC. Kartik is one of the four Indian players who have been sent by the Indian Golf Union for the event. He is the highest-ranked Indian amateur at 171. Earlier this year, Kartik was invited for a special week-long camp at the AAC Academy at the Taiheiyu Club here. However, he had to miss it because he was in the middle of his busiest season. He is also aware of the opportunities that can come his way with the inclusion of golf at the Olympics in 2016.

"The Indian Golf Union helped me get into TOPS (Target Olympic Podium Scheme). The government is keen on sports and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been supportive. Now, with their support and IGU's backing I can go to more events. They are now willing to give all we want. The President of the IGU (Brijinder Singh) walked with us even during practice round," said Kartik. "That encourages us a lot." "Since I came here (Gotemba), I have played the course twice." He has scoped out the course well and is ready to show that his growth chart in golf is rising exponentially. The players feel the driveways are tighter here and fairways are going to be important. The greens look great but could be



soft. Then there are a lot of undulations... It is up-and-down at places and downhill putts will be fast. "I have played some of the best events like the AAC last year, won once in Asia (Singapore Juniors), the R&A Junior Open — where I was sixth —, the Junior PGA, the Junior Players — where I was third —, and recently I played on the Internationals Team in the Junior Presidents Cup," added a confident Kartik. "Playing such big events and seeing the world's top junior players, I have learnt a lot." Kartik is one of the six players, who played at the Junior Presidents Cup in Canada last month. "They (six players) are all very good. I have played many events with them. We talk and learn," he said and then with a smile adds, "Now, I have

friends all over the world." Kartik, who made the cut and finished T-57 last year, leads the Indian challenge, which includes debutant Rakshit Dahiya, Krishnav Nikhil Chopra — playing his third AAC — and Vedant Sirohi, who is making a second appearance. In the first round on Thursday, Sirohi will be the first among Indians to start as he plays with Bowen Chai of China and Ingtawan Wangrungruchaisri of Thailand. Dahiya is grouped with Qawi Aslimon of Brunei and Junee Choi of Korea. On the other side of the course, Chopra plays from the 10th tee with Zaqian Fang of China and Robby Turnbull of New Zealand, while Kartik Singh goes out with Rayhan Latief of Indonesia and Ryan Ang of Singapore.

RIVALS AIM TO END AUSTRALIA'S DOMINANCE IN T20 WORLD CUP

PTI ■ DUBAI
The likes of India, England and South Africa will strive to end Australia's unrivalled dominance in the Women's T20 World Cup, beginning with a double header in Sharjah on Thursday. Bangladesh will take on Scotland in the tournament opener in an afternoon fixture followed by a clash between Asian teams Pakistan and Sri Lanka later in the day at Sharjah. Political unrest in Bangladesh forced the International Cricket Council to shift the 10-team event to the UAE back in August.

AUSTRALIA THE TEAM TO BEAT AGAIN: Australia will be the team to beat once again, having won the last three editions and overall six out of the nine editions staged thus far. England, India and South Africa have repeatedly shown that the

Australian fortress can be breached but when it comes to World Cup events, the team from Down Under remains invincible. With Meg Lanning walking into the sunset following the triumph in South Africa about 18 months ago, Alyssa Healy has been handed captaincy to maintain Australia's supremacy in global events. Healy would like to lead from the front but if she is not able to, she can rely on the squad full of match winners including Ellyse Perry, Ashleigh Gardner and Grace Harris.

Witnessing the pace duo of Tayla Vlaeminck and Darci Brown in operation will also be exciting. Australia have been clubbed in Group A alongside India, Pakistan, New Zealand and Sri Lanka while Group B has England, South Africa, West Indies, Bangladesh and Scotland. Top two teams from each group



qualify for the semifinals.

ENGLAND SHOW OMINOUS FORM AHEAD OF WORLD CUP: England, who won the inaugural edition in 2009 before losing three finals to Australia, will take a lot of confidence from the series win against their main rival during the Women's Ashes last year. The pitches in the UAE are expected to favour the spinners, bringing England's trump card Sophie Ecclestone into play. She will be supported by Sarah Glenn and Charlie Dean. Veteran Nat-Sciver Brunt will provide the X-factor in the batting department. Opener Maia Bouchier will be one of the World Cup debutants to watch out for.

England will be supremely confident about their chances this time around, having white-washed Pakistan and New Zealand in the summer.

CAN INDIA GO ALL THE WAY THIS TIME?: Another team who always challenges Australia but has hitherto not been able to cross the final hurdle is India. The Harmanpreet-Kaur led side has lost two big T20 finals to Australia - the Commonwealth Games in 2022 and T20 World Cup in 2020. India go into the event having not got a lot of game time following their surprising loss to Sri Lanka in the Asia Cup final. The team has worked extensively on its fitness and fielding, hoping it will make a big difference to its World Cup campaign. The conditions could favour a spin-heavy India. In the batting department, the onus will be on openers Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana while Harmanpreet and Richa Ghosh will be expected to hit the sixes in the middle and death overs. Harmanpreet, who has led the

team since the 2018 T20 World Cup, will be under tremendous pressure this time around as another loss could bring an end to her captaincy tenure.

SOUTH AFRICA LOOK TO GO ONE BETTER AFTER MEMORABLE RUN AT HOME: South Africa rode a wave of home support to make their maiden World Cup final last year. Tasting defeat to Australia in the showpiece in Cape Town, the Proteas have been busy in their preparations to do one better. The side, now led by Laura Wolvaardt, got its revenge over the reigning champions in Canberra at the beginning of the year. However, South Africa lost that series and also went on to lose to Sri Lanka. The South African women have drawn series with Bangladesh, India, New Zealand before victory came over Pakistan earlier this month.



With Australia, you can't afford to make mistakes: Mandhana

PTI ■ DUBAI
There are no shortcuts to beating Australia and every team has to give its best if it aspires to overcome the six-time world champions, said India vice-captain Smriti Mandhana ahead of the Women's T20 World Cup which begins here on Thursday. Australia's dominance in the global showpiece has been unrivalled with the team winning the last three editions of the tournament.

With charismatic former skipper Meg Lanning calling it a day following the victory in South Africa about 18 months ago, Alyssa Healy has taken over the captaincy as Australia aim to maintain their dominance in global events. "Every game in the World Cup is important, and you have to give your 100 per cent in each one. New Zealand and Sri Lanka are strong

teams, but with Australia, you know you can't afford to make mistakes," said Mandhana as India gear up to take on New Zealand in a Group A match here on Friday. "You have to bring your best game on that particular day to get the better of them. There's always excitement when facing Australia because they're such a good team, and beating them is a great challenge," added the India vice-captain.

She added that the clash against Pakistan always brings out a lot of passionate response from the players. The arch-rival will lock horns here on October 6. "I think the India-Pakistan rivalry is more about the emotions of the fans than anything else. It's not like the players don't talk to each other; it's the emotions from both nations that make it so intense," Mandhana said.

"For me, every World Cup match is special, and we put the same amount of effort into each game. But there's definitely a lot of emotion attached to the India-Pakistan games," said the veteran of 141 T20Is. Mandhana said that playing Pakistan in the afternoon heat of Dubai would be a challenge and that her team had a couple of sessions lined up to acclimatise to the conditions. "The afternoon game is going to be a challenge due to the heat, but when you play for India, there are no excuses. You have to prepare well, and I think we have a couple of afternoon sessions lined up to help us get used to the conditions. "By the time we face Pakistan, I'm sure we'll be ready. Mentally, we need to stay strong and keep pushing, staying hydrated is key," she said.

Bumrah regains top spot in ICC Test rankings, Jaiswal jumps to spot 3



PTI ■ DUBAI
India's pace spearhead Jasprit Bumrah is back at the summit of the ICC Test bowling rankings following his match haul of six wickets in the second Test against Bangladesh in Kanpur. The 30-year-old replaced his India team-mate Ravichandran Ashwin - Player of the Series against Bangladesh - at the top of the chart.

Spinner Ravindra Jadeja maintained his sixth place, while fellow spinner Kuldeep Yadav stayed in 16th. In batting, Player of the Match from the Kanpur Test, Yashasvi Jaiswal, moved to a career-high third position after just 11 Tests. Jaiswal played scintillating knocks of 72 and 51 and helped India win the rain-marred match by seven wickets.

With 792 rating points, the 22-year-old is behind second-placed Kane Williamson (829) and Joe Root (899).

Also, veteran Indian batter Virat Kohli is back in the top 10, gaining six places to rise to the sixth position after knocks of 47 and 29 in Kanpur. Rishabh Pant, too, remained in the top 10, dropping three spots to ninth, with skipper Rohit Sharma and Shubman Gill on 15th and 16th, respectively. As for the all-rounders, there has been no significant change in the rankings, with Jadeja holding the top spot, followed by Ashwin at second and Axar Patel at seventh. In team rankings, India were in the second spot with 120 rating points, separated from leader Australia by four points, while England remained in the third place with 108 points. Meanwhile, the Indians continued to rule the World Test Championship (WTC) table, having a point percentage of 74.24% after 11 fixtures, above second-placed Australia (62.50% in 12 Tests).

Sumit Nagal crashes out in first round of Shanghai Masters

PTI ■ SHANGHAI
Indian tennis ace Sumit Nagal's campaign in the Shanghai Masters ended in a first-round exit after he suffered a 6-3, 6-3 defeat to China's Wu Yibing here on Wednesday. The 27-year-old, who has been in the news recently due to his dispute with the All India Tennis Association (AITA) regarding his participation in the Davis Cup fixture against Sweden, went down in straight sets leading to his second straight first-round elimination.

In August, he had crashed out of the US Open in the first round after losing to Tallon Griekspoor of the Netherlands. Nagal, who had been battling a back injury, was accused of demanding an annual fee of USD 50,000 by the AITA to represent India in the Davis Cup tie but the country's top singles player defended himself, saying it is "standard practice" for athletes across the world to be paid for their services. Nagal had opted out of the recent Davis Cup tie against Sweden, citing a back strain that also forced him out of the US Open men's doubles competition last month.

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E-Auction Sale Notice

E-Auction Sale Notice 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 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the constructive/physical/symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised officer of the Bank/ Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on the date as mentioned in the table herein below, for recovery of dues due to the Bank/Secured creditor from the respective borrower(s), and Guarantor (s). The Reserve price and the earnest money deposit will be mentioned in the table below against the respective properties.

Sl. No.	Name of The Branch Name of the Account Name & Addresses of The Borrower/Guarantor/Mortgager	Description of the Immovable Properties Mortgaged/Owner's Name (Mortgagers of Property (ies))	(A) Dt. of Demand Notice u/s 13(2) of SARFAESI Act 2002	(A) Reserve Price	DATE & TIME OF AUCTION	Details of The Encumbrances Known To The Secured Creditors
			(B) Outstanding Amount as on (C) Possession Date u/s 13(4) of SARFAESI Act, 2002	(B) EMD (C) Last Date of deposit of EMD (D) Bid Increase Amount		
SCHEDULE OF THE SECURED ASSETS						
This notice is also treated as 15 days statutory notice to under Rule 8(6) Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002						
1	Branch: Yamuna Colony, Dehradun Borrower: 1. M/s Sai Construction & Builders; Partner/Mortgager: Sh. Rajeev Tyagi Add: 152 B, Jakhn, Rajpur Road Dehradun, Partner: Sh. Vikas Tyagi, Add: 2066, Sector 16A- Vasundhra Ghaziabad, 201012, Guarantor/Mortgager: Sh. Suraj Bhan, Add: E16, 17E Block, 3rd Floor Gandhi Vihar, New Delhi and Corporate Guarantor: M/s Marx Infra Homes Pvt. Ltd., Dehradun, Add: 2066, Sector 16A, Vasundhra, Ghaziabad.	Property No. 1- All that Property Bearing Municipal No. 152 B, Rajpur road, Dehradun and forming part of Khasra No. 54M and 55M, Measuring 628.20 Sq.Mtrs.out of which covered area is 296.60 sq. Mtrs., situated at Mauza Jakhn, Pargana Central Doon, District Dehradun, Boundaries: North- Property of Brig. Vyas measuring 133 Ft., South- 30 feet wide Road, Side measuring 128 Ft., East- Property of Sh. Juneja and Sh. Durga Verma, Side Measuring 79 Ft. 6 inches, West- 25 feet wide Road, Side measuring 22 Ft. 6 inches. Registered At Bahi No. 1 Zild No. 1420, Pages 1 To 20, S.No. 5927, on 21.10.2014, in SRO Dehradun. Owner-ship by Sh. Rajeev Tyagi Add: 152 B, Jakhn, Rajpur Road Dehradun. Property No. 2- All that Flat No. A-305 on the Third Floor of Tower A Having an super area of 2747 Sq. Ft. or 266.53 Sq.Mtrs. Having carpet Area of 1552.58 Sq.Ft. or 144.24 Sq. Mtrs. and Balcony area 197.63 Sq. Ft. or 18.36 Sq. Mtrs., Comprising of three Bedroom, Four Toilet One kitchen, one Drawing room, one Dining room and Balcony alongwith One car parking space marked A-305, forming part of property bearing Khasra No. 90 Da, Khasra No. 90 Cha, Khasra No. 90 Gha, Khasra No. 90 Ka, and Khasra No. 90 Chha, Situated in Mauza Kishanpur, Pargana Central Doon, District Dehradun and Now Bearing Municipal No. 281 (New No. 174), Rajpur road, Dehradun and known as Whispering willows. Boundaries: North: Open to Sky, South: Corridor, East: Corridor, West: Open to Sky. Registered in Book No. 1, Volume 4073, Pages 233 To 292, S.No., 4428 Dated 08.05.2018 at SRO Dehradun IV Ownership Sh. Rajeev Tyagi., 152 B, Jakhn, Rajpur, Road Dehradun. Property No. 3. All that Flat No. A-305 on the Third Floor of Tower-A Having an Super Area of 3019 Sq. Ft. or 280.47 Sq.Mtrs, having carpet Area of 1564.65 Sq.Ft. or 145.36 Sq.Mtrs and Balcony Area 595.25 Sq. Ft. or 55.30 Sq.Mtrs Comprising of Four Bedroom, Four Toilet, One Kitchen, One Drawing room, One Dining room and Balcony along with one car parking space marked A- 306, forming part of property bearing Khasra No. 90 Da and Khasra No. 90 Cha, Khasra No. 33, Khasra No. 90 Gha, Khasra No. 90 Ka, Khasra No. 90 Ga, Khasra No. 90 Ka, Khasra No. 90 Chha, situated at Mauza Kishanpur, Pargana Central Doon, District Dehradun and now bearing municipal No. 281, (New No. 174) Rajpur Road, Dehradun and known as whispering willows. Boundaries: North: Open to sky, South: Open to sky, East: Corridor, West: Open to Sky Registered in Book No. 1, Zild 4073, Pages 293 to 352, S.No. 4428, Dated 08.05.2048 at SRO Dehradun IV, Ownership Sh. Rajeev Tyagi., 152 B, Jakhn, Rajpur, Road Dehradun.	(A) 16.10.2023 (B) Rs. 3,84,69,312.32 © 12.02.2024 (D) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 8,29,00,000/- (B) Rs. 82,90,000/- © 23.10.2024 (D) Rs. 1.00 Lakh	23.10.2024 From 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Not Known
2	Branch: Selauqi, Dehradun Borrower: 1. M/s Nabh Construction and Developers Pvt.Ltd., Through its Directors Sh. Neeraj Prasad Dangwal (Director) and Mrs. Savita Dangwal (Director) Address: Shop No. 4, Thalwal Complex Dhalwala Muni Ki Reti Rishikesh, Dehradun 2. Sh. Neeraj Prasad Dangwal (Mortgager) S/o Murlidhar Dhar Dangwal Address: Bachan Niwas, Lane 8, Dharampur Danda, Upper Badrish Colony, Dehradun, 3. Mrs. Savita Dangwal (Director) W/o Neeraj Prasad Dangwal Address: Bachan Niwas, Lane 8, Dharampur Danda, Upper Badrish Colony, Dehradun.	(Full) Title Residential property bearing Khata No. 719 (Fasli Year 1414-1419) Khasra No. 592, Min Rakba 0.095 acre or 385 Sq. Mtrs situated at Mauza Dharampur Danda, Pargana Central Doon, Tehsil & District Dehradun. Bounded and Butted as under: East: Land of Sh. Satish Chandra Devrani, West: Land of Sh. Uniyal, North: Land of Sh. Sijaram & Almaram, South: Road. Sale Deed Regd. On Bahi No. 1, Zild 3852, Pages 103 to 134, SR No. 7445 on 12.10.2011 at SRO Dehradun-II (As per Sale Deed Dated 12.10.2011) Ownership: Sh. Neeraj Prasad Dangwal S/o Late Murlidhar Dangwal.	(A) 28.02.2024 (B) Rs. 71,95,393.75 © 13.05.2024 (D) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 1,74,10,000/- (B) Rs. 17,41,000/- © 23.10.2024 (D) Rs. 1.00 Lakh	23.10.2024 From 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Not know
3	Branch: Clock Tower Dehradun Borrower: M/s Vallabh Creation, Add.1. Shop Name Dove, Shop No. 10/11 Meedo Plaza Complex, Rajpur Road, Dehradun. Add.2. H.No. 4737, Jain Mandir Road, Near Sunder Nagar, Police Station, in Front of Sunder Nagar Field, Ludhiana, Punjab. 2. Prop. Shri Naman Jain S/o Ashu Jain, Add.1. H.No. 4737, Jain Mandir Road, Near Sunder Nagar Police Station, in front of Sunder Nagar field, Ludhiana Punjab. Add.2. Sharaman Vatiak, Hanbarn Road, Ludhiana Punjab. Guarantor: Shri Neeraj Jain, Add. 1. H.No. 4737, Jain Mandir Road, Near Sunder Nagar, Police Station, in Front of Sunder Nagar Field, Ludhiana, Punjab. Add.2. C/o Manisha Jain, Sharaman Vatiak, Hanbarn Road, Ludhiana Punjab. Add.3. H.No. 59, Poorvi Jyoti Nagar, Loni road, Delhi.	All that residential property bearing M.C No. B-XXIV-4736/1 measuring 200 sq. yards comprised in Khasra No.144 Khata No. 874/943, as per jamabandi for the year 2007-08 situated at Mauja Taraf Saidan Hadbast No. 172 situated at Sunder Nagar, Tehsil & District Ludhiana. Bounded & Butted as under: North: Property of Mr. Ranjeet side measuring 60ft, South: Property of Manisha Jain, Side measuring 60 ft., East: Road Side measuring 30 ft, West: House cum Plot No. 10 side measuring 30ft.	(A) 25.04.2019 (B) Rs. 2,02,19,681.68 © 21.09.2022 (D) Physical Possession	(A) Rs. 1,11,50,000/- (B) Rs. 11,15,000/- © 23.10.2024 (D) Rs. 1.00 Lakh	23.10.2024 From 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	
4	Branch: Bhanjwala Dehradun Borrower: 1. Mr. Deveshwar Prasad Kala S/o late Salikram Kala and 2. Mrs. Sunita Kala W/o Mr. Deveshwar Kala, Both resident Add.1. 259 Jogiwala Mafi, Raiwala Dehradun, Add.2. Chakjogiwala, Chhiddanwala, Rishikesh, Dehradun.	All that property of Land of Building including right bearing Khasra No. 102 area 0.15 Acre, situated at Mauza Jogiwala Mafi Pargana Panwadoon, Distt. Dehradun. Sale deed regd at Bahi no 1, Zild no 3, pg 144, ADF Book No. 1, Zild 70, Pg 757 to 766 at No. 216 on 30.10.2001. Bounded as under: East: Property of Mr. Kirji Singh, Bishan Singh and others, West: Property of Mr. Ram Kumar, Dharamdas and others, North: Nala, South: 12ft. wide passage and then property Mr. Chandan Singh. Ownership: Mr. Deveshwar Prasad Kala S/o late Salikram Kala and 2. Mrs. Sunita Kala W/o Mr. Deveshwar Kala, Both resident Add.1. 259 Jogiwala Mafi, Raiwala Dehradun, Add.2. Chakjogiwala, Chhiddanwala, Rishikesh, Dehradun.	(A) 19.06.2021 (B) Rs. 47,58,957.12 (C) 17.09.2021 (D) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 1,06,25,000/- (B) Rs. 10,62,500/- © 23.10.2024 (D) Rs. 0.50 Lakh	23.10.2024 From 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Not know
5	Branch: Rajpur, Dehradun Borrower: M/s Akshay Industries Prop. Shri Arun Kumar Bhanot, Address 1: 53 K, Rajpur Road, Dehradun Address 2: Industrial Area, Langha Road, Dehradun. Shri Arjun Kumar Bhanot S/o Late Shri N P Bhanot, Address- 53 K, Rajpur Road, Dehradun. Smt. Poonam Bhanot W/o Shri Arjun Kumar Bhanot, Address- 53 K, Rajpur Road, Dehradun.	All that property bearing Nagar Nigam property no. 130 (Old property no. 53-K) Rajpur Road, Dehradun land measuring area 167.22 sq. mtrs. Butted and bounded as under: East: Property Windlass, S.M. 60 ft., West: Property of Sh. Arun Kumar & Others, S.M. 60 ft., North: 10 ft. wide road and Property of Sh. Arun Kumar & Ors., S.M. 30 ft., South: Property Windlass, S.M. 30 ft.	(A) 19.09.2011 (B) Rs. 65,59,626.00 (C) 18.02.2012 (D) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 74,00,000/- (B) Rs. 7,40,000/- © 23.10.2024 (D) Rs. 0.50 Lakh	23.10.2024 From 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Not know
6	Branch: Clock Tower Race Course Dehradun. Borrower/Mortgager: Smt.Sunita Negi Vasudev W/o Sh. Praveen Vasudev, Add.1.100 Nalapani Road, Dehradun 248001, Add 2. 36 Gurudwara Road, Karanpur, Dehradun-248001. Shri. Praveen Vasudev S/o Shri Ram Gopal Vasudev (Co-Borrower/Mortgager) Add.1. 100 Nalapani Road, Dehradun 248001. Add 2. 36 Gurudwara Road, Karanpur, Dehradun-248001, Add 3. Gali No.1, Block D, Aman Vihar, Sahasradhra Road, Dehradun-248001.	All the residential property at Ground Floor part of property comprised in Land Forming part of Khasra no. 16 (Old Khasra No. 1/1) area 111.52 sq. mtrs (Total Covered) Situated at Mauza Kandoli Pargana Central Doon Distt Dehradun with rights of common parking stairs from ground floor to second floor common passage etc. with proportionate share in whole land bounded and butted as under:- East: Property of Others, West: Property of Mr. Mohan Kandpal, North: 22 ft wide Road, South: Property of Shri uniyal j. Sale deed Registered at Bahi no. 1, Zild 3796, Pages 393 to 414 at Sr No. 10167, Dated 27.12.2017 at SRO Dehradun IV (As per sale deed) Ownership: Smt. Sunita Negi Vasudev W/o Shri Praveen Vasudev (Co-Borrower/Mortgager) Sh. Praveen Vasudev S/o Sh. Ram Gopal Vasudev, (Co-Borrower/Mortgager)	(A) 19.04.2024 (B) Rs. 51,47,852.75 © 25.06.2024 (D) Symbolic Possession	(A) Rs. 52,70,000/- (B) Rs. 5,27,000/- © 23.10.2024 (D) Rs. 0.50 Lakh	23.10.2024 From 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Not Known
7	Branch: Sahasradhra Road Dehradun Borrower: M/s Soniya Communication C/o Prop: Sh. Kamal Nagpal, Add: BA, Chakratta Road, near RGM Plaza Dehradun.	Extension of Charge over EEM of residential Apartment No. B-103, First Floor, Hill View Apartment, Mauza Chaik Danda Lakhound, Pargana Panwadoon, Tehsil & Distt Dehradun having total area 125.415 sq. mtrs registered at bahi No. 1 Zild No. 6192 pages 287 to 322 Sr. No. 32 on 07.01.2015 at SRO-1 Dehradun in the name of Mr. Kamal Nagpal S/o Late Sh. Bal Kishan Nagpal & Mrs. Rekha Nagpal W/o Sh. Kamal Nagpal. Bounded and Butted as under: East: Open Space, West: Stairs and thereafter Apartment No. B-101, North: Apartment No. B-104, South: Open Space	(A) 16.06.2021 (B) Rs. 52,34,528.37 © 22.08.2024 (D) Physical Possession	(A) Rs. 48,00,000/- (B) Rs. 4,80,000/- © 23.10.2024 (D) Rs. 0.50 Lakh	23.10.2024 From 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM	Not Known

The sale shall be subject to the Terms & Conditions prescribed in the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 and to the following further conditions: 1. The properties are being sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" and "WHATEVER THERE IS BASIS" 2. The particulars of Secured Assets specified in the Schedule herein above have been stated to the best of the information of the Authorised Officer, but the Authorised Officer shall not be answerable for any error, misstatement or omission in this proclamation. 3. The Sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the Website <https://bids.pnbcray.in> on 23.10.2024 @ 11.00 AM to 04.00 PM. 4. For detailed term and conditions of the sale, please refer www.bnai.in, www.msraeconmerce.com, https://eprocure.gov.in/epublish/app/www.pnbindia.in. **Note: For more information, Contact Authorised Officer Mobile Number: 8193024024.**

Date: 01.10.2024 Place: Dehradun Authorised Officer