**OPINION 6** 

'INTEGRAL HUMANISM'

BJP STRIVES HARD TO IMBIBE | BOAT CAPSIZES IN CONGO, KILLING |

**WORLD 8** 

AT LEAST 50 PEOPLE: WITNESSES **CONTINUES TO 4TH WEEK** 

**DEHRADUN, FRIDAY** OCTOBER 4, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹3

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# Marital rape not a crime, **Centre tells Supreme Court**

#### **Government says punitive measures in place**

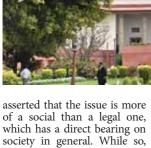
PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

**¬**he Government Thursday filed an affidavit before the Supreme Court opposing petitions that have called for the criminalisation of marital rape in India.

The affidavit filed by the Union Home Ministry said that in a marriage, there is a continuing expectation to have reasonable sexual access from one's spouse. It clarified that such expectations do not entitle a husband to coerce his wife to have sex against her will. However, it may be excessive

and disproportionate to punish a man under anti-rape laws for such an act, the Centre said. affidavit further highlighted that the parliament has already provided different remedies to protect a married woman's consent within marriage.

In the counter-affidavit filed through advocate AK Sharma, the Union Home Ministry backed the existing Indian rape law that carves out an exception for sexual relations between a husband and wife. The Central Government



even if 'marital rape' is to be criminalised, it is not up to the Supreme Court to do so, the Centre argued. "The (issue) cannot be decided without proper consultation with all the stakeholders or

taking the views of all the States into consideration ... the act colloquially referred to as 'marital rape' ought to be illegal and criminalised. The Central Government asserts that a woman's consent is not

obliterated by marriage, and its violation should result in penal consequences. However, the consequences of such violations within marriage differ from those outside it, the affidavit stated.

It added that a breach of consent should be punished differently, depending on whether such an act occurs within or outside a marriage. These remedies include laws punishing cruelty to married women (as it was under Section 498A under the Indian Penal Code then), laws punishing acts against the modesty of women, and remedies under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005.

The Bench of Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud with Iustices IB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra is currently seized of the matter. Marital rape is excluded from the ambit of "rape" by way of Exception 2 to Section 375 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). A similar provision is also present in the newly enacted Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) which replaced the IPC on July 1 this year. In 2022, the

Delhi High Court delivered a split verdict on whether marital rape should be a criminal offence. The matter then reached the Supreme Court in September that year. The sexual aspect is but one of many facets of the relationship between husband and wife, on which the bedrock of their marriage rests ... Given the nature of the marital institution in our socio-legal milieu, if the legislature is of the view that, for preservation of the marital institution, the impugned Exception should be retained, it is submitted that it would not be appropriate for this Hon'ble Court to strike down the Exception," the latest affidavit added.

The counter-affidavit was filed in response to a batch of petitions that have called for the criminalisation of marital rape. The Centre criticised the petitioners' approach of treating the institution of marriage as a private institution, terming this view unidimensional. The case of a married woman and her own husband cannot be treated in the exact same manner as other cases, it said.

# **West Asia war hits Sensex**

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

n escalation in the West Asia conflict had a massive impact on the Indian market on Thursday. The Sensex tanked 1,769 points to slide to a three-week low on Thursday as a spiralling triggered selling in oil, banking and auto shares, wiping out Rs 9.78 lakh crore investor money in a single day.

The NSE Nifty slumped 546.80 points or 2.12 per cent to 25,250.10 with 48 of its constituents ending lower. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) offloaded equities worth Rs 5,579.35 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data. Falling for the fourth day, the

BSE Sensex tumbled 1,769.19 points or 2.10 per cent to settle at 82,497.10, its lowest closing level since September 11. During the day, it plummeted 1,832.27 points or 2.17 per cent to 82,434.02. As many as 29 Sensex scrips closed in the red while only one stock ended in the green.

From the 30 Sensex firms. Larsen & Toubro, Reliance Industries, Axis Bank, Asian Paints, Tata Motors, Bajaj Finance, Maruti, Bajaj Finsery, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Titan, Adani Ports and HDFC Bank were the major laggards. JSW Steel emerged as the only gainer. A total of 2,881 stocks declined while 1,107 advanced and 88 remained unchanged on the BSE.

Market capitalisation of BSElisted companies dropped by around Rs 9.78 lakh crore to Rs



## in southern Lebanon parliament. Hezbollah's

BEIRUT: An Israeli airstrike on an apartment in central Beirut killed seven Hezbollah-affiliated civilian first responders. Israel has been pounding areas of the country where the militant group has a strong presence since late September, but has rarely struck in the heart of the capital. There was no warning

before the strike late Wednesday, which hit an apartment in central Beirut not far from the United Nations headquarters, the prime minister's office and

4,65,07,685.08 crore (USD 5.54 trillion). Continuous foreign fund outflows and rising crude oil prices dented investors' sentiment, analysts said. 'The domestic market took a

sharp downturn following Iran's launch of ballistic missiles at Israel, sparking fears of retaliation and escalation in the war," Vinod

paramedics and killed a Lebanese army soldier as they were evacuating wounded people from the south. It said the convoy near the village of Taybeh, which was accompanied by Lebanese troops, targeted Thursday despite coordinating movements with UN peacekeepers. Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services said. "New SEBI regulations for the F&O

civil defence unit said seven

of its members were killed.

The Lebanese Red Cross

meanwhile, said an Israeli

strike wounded four of its

segment have raised concerns about reduced trading volumes in the broader market. Lastly, with attractive valuations in China, FIIs have redirected their funds, adding pressure on Indian stocks," Nair added.

## **Delhi Police summons Elvish** Yadav, Bharti

**STAFF REPORTER** NEW DELHI



Delhi Police has s u m m o n e d YouTuber Elvish Bharti Singh and three others in an alleged app-based scam involving a

fraud of Rs 500 crore, an officer said on Thursday. Police received over 500 complaints

alleging that many social media influencers and YouTubers promoted the HIBOX mobile application on their pages and lured people into investing through the app, the officer added. The main accused in the scam, Sivaram (30), a resident of Chennai, has been arrested, police said. As per the complaint, social media influencers and YouTubers including Saurav Joshi, Abhishek Malhan, Purav Jha, Elvish

Yadav, Bharti Singh, Harsh Limbachiya, Lakshay Choudhary, Adarsh Singh, Amit, and Dilraj Singh Rawat promoted the application and lured people into investing through the app.



# **Drug mastermind has Congress link, says BJP**



STAFF REPORTER ■ NEW DELHI

Tushar Goyal, the mastermind behind Delhi's biggest drug bust worth over Rs 5,640 crore allegedly has Congress connections. Sources in Delhi Police's Special Cell said that he admitted to having held office in the Congress's IT

Later, a war of words broke out between the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and Congress. The BJP claimed that the kingpin arrested in the case of seizure of drugs worth Rs 5,600 crore is the chairman of the Delhi Youth Congress' RTI cell. It asked if the money was brought in for the October 5 Haryana elections while a claim refuted by the opposition party as baseless.

According to sources, Goyal claimed during interrogation that he has been the chairman of the RTI cell of Delhi Pradesh Congress till 2022, Delhi Police sources said. Photos of the accused with many Congress leaders have also

Delhi police special cell has arrested recovery of more than 500 kg of cocaine and 40 kg of hydroponic marijuana worth over Rs 5,600 crore in a raid conducted in south Delhi on Wednesday.

Later, a war of words erupted between BJP and Congress on this issue. "Drugs worth Rs 5,600 crore have been recovered from Delhi. The main accused in this case is Tushar Goval, who is the chief of the RTI cell of the Indian Youth Congress," BJP spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi said addressing a press conference in the national capital on Thursday.

Trivedi sought explanation from the Congress, questioning if the party used drug money in its election campaign and if its association with Goyal extended to Was there an business as well. arrangement between the drug dealers and the Congress that they will be given a free run in Haryana if the party comes to power, he asked, alleging that the neighbouring state of Punjab is already in the grip of drugs.

# Revolving door in Haryana, Tanwar back in Congress

DEEPAK KUMAR JHA MAHENDRAGARH (HARYANA)/

he high-voltage campaign for a cut throat finish in Haryana for the October 5 Assembly polls evening. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) suffered a major blow as its senior leader and former Member of Parliament Ashok Tanwar, who was the party's candidate from Sirsa for the Lok Sabha elections a few months ago, rejoined Congress at a rally of Rahul Gandhi in Mahendragarh district in

Haryana on Thursday. Interestingly, shortly before joining the grand old party, the former Sirsa MP, who represented it as a Congress member, was campaigning for the BJP candidate in Safidon Assembly constituency. As Rahul Gandhi finished his speech, an announcement was made from the stage asking the audience to wait for a few minutes. To their surprise Tanwar walked on to the stage and greeted Rahul.



BJP leader Ashok Tanwar as the latter joins Congress during a public meeting ahead of Haryana Assembly elections, in Mahendragarh district

Tanwar, a former Haryana Congress president, shook hands with Rahul and greeted senior party leader and former Haryana Chief Minister Bhupinder Singh Hooda.

Tanwar, who was considered close to Rahul and had left the Congress in 2019 following differences with senior party leader former Hooda and in between he had his stint with Trinamool Congress (TMC) as well as Aam Aadmi Party (AAP).

Leading the campaign for BJP Prime Minister Narendra Modi said the Congress stands for the "guarantee of corruption, casteism,

communalism and nepotism". The PM exhorted people to vote for the BJP, saying it is important that they elect a government strengthens India at a time when the entire world is looking at the country with

hope and expectations.

In his last speech for the campaign in Haryana, Rahul said his party will not let the "hatred" being spread by the BIP on the basis of religion. language, and caste win and appealed to the people of Haryana to oust the ruling party in the Assembly polls. More than two crore voters are eligible to exercise

their franchise in Haryana for 90 assembly seats. The key parties in fray are BJP, Congress, AAP, Indian National Lok Da-Bahujan Samaj Party (INLD-BSP) and Jannayak Janta Party-Azad Samaj Party.

campaign on the works and performance of the "doubleengine" government, while it targeted the Congress on reservation, corruption, appeasement and dynastic politics, Congress wooed by announcing seven guarantees, including the promises of a legal guarantee for MSP, a caste survey, and Rs 2,000 per month to women, if voted to

power.

on the last day of campaigning, Congress's Rahul Gandhi and Bhupinder Singh Hooda, BJP's Yogi Adityanath and Nayab Singh Saini, JJP's Dushyant Chautala and INLD's Abhay Singh Chautala were among the prominent leaders who canvassed for their respective parties. AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal also campaigned in Haryana for his party.

# Delhi's traffic needs divine intervention

#### Navratri begins, and so does road congestion

New roads, fancy flyovers, route expansion but the traffic situation in the national Capital remains horrific. Due to the exponential

growth of vehicular population, or poor traffic management, commuters are spending more time in their vehicles, including both private and public. Traffic comes to a standstill when a 'VIP movement' takes place. Major roads such as those in Lutyens' Zone, Sardar Patel Marg, Dhaula Kuan, RTR, Mathura Road, Tilak Marg, Bahadur Shah Marg, have remained a traffic nightmare for the past three decades. The festive season sees the highest number of traffic jams in the national Capital. The Pioneer begins a campaign on

#### BY RAJESH KUMAR

From Mehrauli-Badarpur road to Vikas Marg and Jhandewalan, Najafgarh to Peeragarhi, commuters in Delhi had harrowing experiences during the peak hours on the first day of the Navratri festival in the national Capital. However, according to frequent road users, this traffic stagnation is a routine affair. Wrecked roads, potholes, breakdown of vehicles, high volume of traffic and maintenance of major stretches result in massive

On Thursday, the first day the crisis that unfolds on the city of the Navratri festivities, roads with a deep dive into the heavy traffic exacerbated traffic around the temples in the congestion on all roads city on the first day of Navratri, and Durga Puja festivities. leading prominent

temples including Jhandewalan, Kalkaji, Maa temples Katyani Devi mandir in the national capital. situation worsens each year as according to experts, while road size and capacity remains the same, the number of vehicles has grown exponentially.

The vehicle movement was also badly affected on Vikas Marg in the carriageway from Karkari Mor towards Preet Vihar and vice-versa, due to ongoing work being carried out by Delhi Jal Board (DJB) at Preet Vihar Red Light and Najafgarh Road and Old Pankha Road in both the carriageways due to ongoing work being carried out by DJB at Old Pankha Road.



Commuters had a harrowing



experience on GTK Road on both the carriageways from Jahangirpuri to Azadpur flyover as the entire traffic advisory, traffic was affected came to standstill for twothree hours due to heavy

Azadpur Mandi. According to a traffic police on Maa Anandmai Marg in the carriageway from ESI

Puri due to breakdown of a bus at Crown Plaza Red Light. Traffic was affected on Ring Road in the carriageway from DND

to breakdown of a water tanker on Maharani Bagh Flyover. loaded truck near

Peeragarhi flyover broke down which led to massive jam on the Main Outer Ring Road in the carriageway from Madhuban Chowk

towards Peeragarhi.
Traffic was also affected on
Rohtak Road in the
carriageway from Nangloi
towards Tikri Border and

vice versa due to potholes and water logging.
There was a traffic jam on the SSN Marg in the carriageway from Satbari towards Mehrauli due to drain work being carried out by civic agency. Commuters were advised to plan their journey accordingly. "Traffic

Dwarka Palam Road in the carriageway from Palam Flyover towards IOC Red light due to breakdown of a bus on Palam flyover. Kindly plan your journey

towards Ashram Chowk due remained affected on

accordingly. Traffic was affected on Mathura Road in the carriageway from Badarpur towards Sarita Vihar due to breakdown of a truck near Aali Village", traffic police advisory stated. According to traffic police, breakdown of vehicles during peak hours on major roads is also an issue that leads to traffic jams. Roads leading to the

Ihandewalan temple and Shri Adhya Katyayani Shaktipeeth temple witnessed heavy traffic flow on the first day of Navratri festival



# **Raturi tells WECD Dept to** conduct campaign for U'khand pregnant women

PNS DEHRADUN

The chief secretary Radha ■ Raturi has instructed the Women Empowerment and Child Development (WECD) department to conduct a 15-day campaign across the state from October 4 to register pregnant women working in the unorganised sector under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY). She made this announcement during a meeting with the officials of the WECD on Thursday.

Raturi emphasised the need for 100 per cent coverage of PMMVY for all pregnant women in the unorganised sector, particularly those from low-income groups. Additionally, she directed the Labour Department to review the Employees State Insurance (ESI) and instructed WECD officials to ensure the compulsory conduct of three Antenatal Care check-ups for all pregnant women by Auxiliary Nurse Midwives (ANM) and to conduct Maternal death audits. Raturi also highlighted the impor-



tance of mapping Anganwadis in urban areas, especially near slums and construction sites, to address the issues of malnutrition and low weight in children under the age of five and to ensure that pregnant women have access to necessary health facilities and various schemes.

Further, she instructed the development of an ac-

tion plan to promote millet under the take-home ration distributed to pregnant women by the WECD Department. Raturi also called for the rationalisation of schemes related to the WECD Department to improve performance indicators. She emphasised the need for a coordinated strategy among departments to reduce maternal mortality

nant women and adolescents and malnutrition among children in the state. Additionally, she directed the secretary of Urban Development to hold a review meeting to ensure ESI coverage for personnel working in urban bodies, especially low-income group employees and sanitation workers and to submit a report on the same.

#### Health Dept commences dengue | Union Govt increases larvae inspection within residential properties

PNS DEHRADUN

In response to the rising number of dengue cases in the Dehradun district, the health department has commenced inspections to identify and eradicate larvae within residential properties. The occurrence of dengue cases has notably increased as September has progressed. Currently, there have been 19 reported cases of dengue in Dehradun, with four cases remaining active. Three individuals are receiving treatment at the Government Doon Medical College (GDMC), while the other one is hospitalised at the Deen Dayal Upadhyay district hospital (Coronation). The growing number of cases has raised concerns about dengue in the area. In light of this, the health department is actively working to prevent further instances of dengue in the Dehradun district. Informing about this, District surveillance officer Dr CS Rawat stated that the number of dengue cases has risen in the Dehradun district due to changes in climatic conditions. In response to this increase, officials have been instructed to be more vigilant during the ongoing dengue awareness campaign initiated by the health department since July one. To prevent future cases, they have started inspecting for dengue larvae within domestic properties within domestic properties. During these inspections, dengue larvae were discovered behind refrigerators, indicating

a lack of awareness about dengue prevention measures, he said. He further added that they will intensify inspections within domestic properties by working closely with ASHA workers. Additionally, the district magistrate has approved the health department's proposal to conduct larvicide and fogging activities themselves. Considering this, the department has requested the Municipal Corporation of Dehradun for fogging machines and labourers. Additionally, they have instructed government hospitals to ensure cleanliness and mosquito traps in the dengue isolation ward, he added. It can be recalled that since July 1, ASHA workers have been diligently conducting a dengue awareness campaign aimed at educating individuals on preventive measures and conducting household inspections for larvae. This initiative involves the participation of 550 ASHA workers, each visiting approximately 40 to 50 houses daily. Further, 100 volunteers in Dehradun and 40 in Rishikesh have been allocated tasks to enhance dengue prevention awareness in their designated wards. Considering this, the department till now has conducted a total of 1,468,073 house surveys, resulting in 27,810 positive cases, and inspected 7,097,386 containers. with 75,457 containers testing

# additional quota of electricity for U'khand

The Union government ▲ has increased the additional quota of electricity allotted to Uttarakhand by 180 MW. The Union government has also increased the duration for the usage of the additional allocation till June 30, 2025. Notably, 300 MW of additional electricity was allotted to the State by the union government on September 26 which means that Uttarakhand will now get 480 MW of additional electricity from the central pool.

Expressing happiness at the development, chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has expressed gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and union minister of Power, Manohar Lal Khattar.

The CM had recently met the Union minister Khattar and requested him to provide additional power to the State from the central pool. He had informed Khattar that the gap between availability and demand is consistently increasing in Uttarak-hand and the State gov-

ernment is working on a long term plan on solar, hydro power and thermal power to increase its production. The CM said that due to decrease in production of hydro power units and snowfall in the mountains the production decreases in winters which affect the supply situation. He said that additional allocation from the central pool will ensure uninterrupted power supplies during winters in the

#### THE PIONEER CLASSIFIEDS **PUBLIC NOTICE**

My daughter Ojjasvi Garg is studying in class IX in St. Patricks Academy. In her school records her name is wrongly mentioned as Ojjaswi Garg whereas her correct name is Ojjasvi Garg. It should be updated. Mayank Garg, R/o 37, Park Road, Dehradun, Uttarakhand-248001

In my Army records my wife's name Anjana has been mistakenly recorded whereas her correct name is Anjana Rayal and it should be updated for all future purposes. Army No. JC-813161H Rank Nb Sub Manohari Lal S/o Ram Parsad R/o Khadari Road Battery Farm Shyampur Dehradun

I,Army No- 2807099X F/o SOHAM (son) and ANVI (daughter), VILL-Kerli, POST-Kerli, TÉH- Karveer,DIST-Karveer, Maharashtra-416229. I have changed my son and daughter's name from SOHAM and ANVI to SOHAM SANGRAM PATHARE, ANVI SANGRAM as per their Aadhar Nos 516907386463 and 444106618812 vide affidavit sworn before notary and advocate Sanjeev Kumar dated 04.10.2024.

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम ए अर्जुन राव दर्ज है,सही नाम अल्लेबॉयइना अर्जुनराव आधार नं. 835309767510 F/o आर्मी नं.18015226X सैपर ए महेश, ग्राम चांदूर, पोस्ट चांदूर, तह. चांदूर, जिला नलगोंडा, तेलंगाना

मेरे पत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोनसार, मेरा गलत नाम ए उमा दर्ज है,सही नाम अल्लेबॉयइना उमा आधार नं 226409127839 M/o आर्मी 18015226X सैपर ए महेश,ग्राम चांदूर, पोस्ट चांदूर, तह.चांदूर, जिला नलगोंडा, तेलंगाना

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम सुकुमार मांडल दर्ज है, सही नाम सुकुमार मंडल आधार नं. 903116090946 F/o आर्मी नं. 15343859X हवलदार श्यामल मंडल, ग्राम रानी नगर,पोस्ट गोपीनाथपुर, तह.तेहत्ता, जिला

नादिया, पश्चिम बंगाल – 741155

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम कल्पना मांडल दर्ज है,सही नाम कल्पना मंडल आधार नं. 872690598550 M/o आर्मी नं 15343859X हवलदार श्यामल मंडल, ग्राम रानी नगर,पोस्ट गोपीनाथपुर, तह.तेहत्ता, जिला नादिया, पश्चिम बंगाल – 741155

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

That my client Rajiv Kumar S/o Jarnail Singh is the owner of land bearing Khasra 513ka Sewla Kalan Ddun. In previous title of said land one sale deed in favour of Sh. Khem Singh which is duly regd in the office of SR, in Bk 1 Vol 4687 Page 323 to 338 no 7246 dt 27.08.2012 was actually lost by client. If anybody found or having any claim on the said land, inform to undersigned within 15 days from this notice.

Neeraj Chawla Advocate Mob-941234682 7 Regt.No.3316/2004

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For advertisement booking 9045057787, 8909212518 Email: pioneerdoon@gmail.com

contents on their own.

# CM to inaugurate Kisan Mela in Pantnagar today

 ${
m T}$ he four-day 116th All -India Farmers Fair and Agricultural Industry Exhibition is commencing on Friday with 210 big and 190 small stalls, said the director, Extension Education, GB Pant University of Agri-

culture and Technology, Ji-tendra Kwatra while addressing a media conference in the presence of the university's vice chancellor Manmohan Singh Chauhan on Thursday. The chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami

will inaugurate the fair at 11:00 am. After the inauguration, he along with the VC and other dignitaries will visit the stalls set up by various colleges and other in-

The VC said that over 400 stall holders had registered themselves and added that the farmers would get detailed information about the new varieties and new techniques adopted by the university. He further said that with organic farming being given a special place in the fair, the exlighten the farmers on the advantages of switching to organic



## Devotees commence first day of Navratri with religious fervour

PNS DEHRADUN

With the commencement of the Sharadiya Navratri, a significant number of devotees were seen at city temples on Thursday. The Shardiya Navratri began nationwide on October 3 and will continue until October

11. Throughout this period,

worshippers pay homage to the goddess. On the first day

of Navratri, a large crowd of

devotees gathered at temples

to pray, sing Bhajan Kirtan

and engage in other religious

Considering this, a priest of

the temple at Dalanwala Jag-

mohan Dimri noted that

devotees visit temples early in

practices.

the morning to offer prayers, flowers, Chuni and other offerings to the goddess on the first day of Navratri. Many also fast for the nine days of Navratri. Additionally, Bhajan Kirtan ceremonies will take place regularly at their temple

until the end of Navratri, he

In addition, she disclosed that

breaks her fast in the evening while offering prayers to the goddess at her residence temple and underscores the significance of purchasing various items to mark the religious significance of Navra-"I have patiently waited in line for two hours just to offer my prayers to

she adorned her home shrine,

the goddess on the first day of Navratri. Navratri is a primary festival celebrated by all individuals following the Hindu religion. Further, l have committed to fasting for all nine days and plan to distribute holy offerings on the concluding day of Navratri," shared another devotee,

Many devotees have been witnessed visiting the famous Further, a devotee Manju Bhatt said that it is a tradition temple of Dehradun district, in her family to pay a visit to Daat Kali, to offer prayers on the temple early in the morning on the initial day of Navratri. She added that she the first day of Navratri. Additionally, it has been reported that during these nine days, observes a nine-day fast durmany city temples will also oring Navratri and kicks off the ganise Jagran to offer prayers to the goddess. festivities by visiting temples.

# **Badri- Kedar- Kartik Swami Express departs from** Mumbai on its maiden run

The long-awaited Badri- Kedar and Sree Kartik ■ Swami Express departed from Mumbai on Thursday and will reach the Yognagri Rishikesh station on Saturday. According to railway officials,



the train departed Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus at 1525 hrs with 270 people- hailing from Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh- on board. The State tourism department officers said that an initiative of Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board in association with IRCTC, the package offers pilgrims a comprehensive journey to these revered religious destinations in 11 days and 10 nights.

Hailing the launching of this special train, the chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami said that his government is committed to facilitate tourists from different parts of the country to visit the thriving centres of faith and hidden gems that Uttarakhand houses. "The Sree Kartik Swami temple is slowly becoming a popular pilgrim destination and the government is planning to enhance tourist facilities in the adjoining villages," he added.

The 3AC train adorned with 14 coaches, including 10 guest coaches, one electricity operated modern AC kitchen car, one staff coach and two generator coaches serves Uttarakhandi cuisine to passengers along with other popular dishes.

The State tourism minister Satpal Maharaj said that the train's exterior is a kaleidoscope of Uttarakhand with its places of pilgrimage, cuisine, natural bounty and cultural heritage depicted on the exterior of the train's coaches. "The tourist train is a first of kind initiative in the country by any

State government to promote its lesser known destinations along with the cuisine and culture of Uttarakhand," he added.

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Department of Health nand Family Welfare
Nirman Bhawan, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi-110011

#### Corrigendum

In reference to the newspaper advertisement number CBC 17102/11/0011/2425 dated 31/08/2024, published in prominent English and Hindi Daily newspapers, it is hereby informed that the last date of receipt of applications for the posts of Secretary, Member of the National Medical Commission (NMC) and President and Members of the Autonomous Boards of the NMC has been extended to 15th October, 2024.

CBC-17102/11/0014/2425

र्विक ऑफ़ बड़ीदा Bank of Baroda

NOTICE

**Government of India** 

**BRANCH: BAHADRABAD HARIDWAR** 

The under mentioned persons are hereby informed that they have failed to pay off the liability in the loan accounts. Notices sent to them by Registered Post dated (02.07.2024, 09.07.2024 30.07.2024,31.07.2024,03.09.2024.) They are therefore requested to pay off the liability and other charges and redeem the pledged securities on or before 18.10.2024 failing which the said securities will be sold by the Bank in public auction at the cost of the borrower at the Bank's premises at 04.00 P.M. on 19.10.2024 or on any other convenient date thereafter without further notice at the absolute discretion of the Bank.

SI. No.	Date of Loan	Laon No.	Name & Address of the Borrower
1.	29.09.2023	58230600000917 Mamkesh Devi W/o Bhupendra Kumar.	<ol> <li>99, Rajpur Dareda, Haridwar, Uttarakhand-249402</li> <li>Village Sahdevpur Shahwazpur, Haridwar, Uttarakhand-249402</li> <li>H.No. 141, Mahmudpur Pahpur Aano, Thana Rehsil Deoband, Saharanpur Uttar Pradesh- 24755</li> </ol>
Da	te: 03.10.202	24	Branch Manage

कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, यांत्रिक शाखा उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम, हरिद्वार ई-मेल- eeyantrik.hw@gmail.com

/ / निविदा सुचना / /

अध्यक्ष, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम की ओर से निम्नलिखित कार्यों हेतु उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम में अर्ह श्रेणी में पंजीकृत फर्मों से मोहरबन्द निविदाए दिनांक 18.10.2024 को अपराहन 15:00 बजे तक कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियंता, यांत्रिक शाखा, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, हरिद्वार में आमंत्रित की जाती है, जोकि उसी दिनांक को (अवकाश होने की स्थिति में अगले कार्य दिवस) अपराह्न 15:30 बजे अधिशासी अभियन्ता अथवा उनके द्वारा अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि द्वारा इच्छुक निविदादाताओं के समक्ष खोली जायेगी।

क0 सं0	कार्य का नाम	निविदा प्रपत्रो की लागत (रू० में)	धरोहर राशि (रू0 में)	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि
1.	लाडपुर खुर्द जनपद हरिद्वार में 25 के०वी०ए० सर्वो वोल्टेज स्टेवलाइजर एवं तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य।		5000.00	3 माह
2.	इब्राहिमपुर मसाई पार्ट—2 (हरजोला इनायतपुर) जनपद हरिद्वार में 25 के०वी०ए० सर्वो वोल्टेज स्टेवलाइजर एवं तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य।	590.00	5000.00	3 माह

. किसी अथवा समस्त निविदा को बिना कारण बताये निरस्त किया जा सकता है।

2. निविदा प्रपत्रों को दिनांक 16.10.2024 तक किसी भी कार्य दिवस में कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियंता, यांत्रिक शाखा उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, हरिद्वार / देहरादून / कोटद्वार के कार्यालय से निविदा मूल्य की धनराशि नगद जमा कर प्राप्त किया जा सकता है।

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# **BJP** poised to return to power in Haryana: Dhami

PNS DEHRADUN

on the last day of election campaign in Haryana, chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami participated in a massive road show in Ballabhgarh on Wednesday in support of the BJP candidate from the constituency Moolchand Sharma. Addressing the public meeting, Dhami said the double engine government has ble engine government has taken Haryana to new heights of development. He said under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP government of Haryana has enriched the State both socially and economically. Underlining the policies and achievements of the BJP government, the CM said that new records on the development front have been created in Haryana. Dhami said that the railway budget share of Harvana has increased from Rs 300 crore to Rs 3,000 crore in an attack on the Congress the last 10 years. He said that the BJP has a clear vision for development of Haryana and in the last 10 years not even a single case of corruption has come to light in the State. Launching



party the CM said that the party has always deceived the youngsters and had promoted corruption in governance. He said that the people should recall the corrupt rule of the

crimes are perpetrated by

Indians who are lured abroad

with job offers to countries like Thailand and Dubai, only

to be forced into scamming

Those who refuse are often

subjected to torture. Once involved, it becomes difficult

for individuals to escape this

highly organised criminal net-

work. Some people from

Uttarakhand have also been

requested External Affairs

Minister S. Jaishankar to facil-

itate the return of 24 people

from the State who were

allegedly coerced into working

in fraudulent call centres in

Myanmar. Mishra further

added that there have been

some cases in which some individuals start enjoying the

act of conning people and continue in the illegal work, often sending large sums of

money back to their families,

who in turn hardly question

The DSP urged the public to be cautious and vigilant to

combat this growing menace. He emphasised that any

demand for money during an

investigation should be an

immediate red flag, as no

legitimate inquiry can be con-

cluded by paying off an investigator. Mishra reiterated that

there is no provision in Indian law for a digital arrest and no

one can be forced to keep their

video or microphone on at all

He encouraged people to report any suspicious calls or scams to the police helpline or

the cybercrime helpline 1930.

As the number of digital arrest

scams continues to rise,

authorities are pushing for

greater public awareness and

vigilance. By staying informed

and reporting suspicious

activities, the public can play

a crucial role in helping law

enforcement tackle this grow-

them about the situation.

Singh Dhami

people back home.

Pushkar

Congress party in the State when open game of transfer posting was played. The BJP government has stopped corruption and brought in transparency in the governance of Haryana, Dhami said. He expressed confidence that the people of Haryana will put their stamp of approval on the development oriented policies of the BJP government on October 5 and bring BJP back to power in

# Digital arrest scam wave sweeps Uttarakhand

### Authorities urge public vigilance as 15 cases surface in 9 months

PURNIMA BISHT ■ DEHRADUN

 $U_{\text{a troubling rise in digital}}^{\text{ttarakhand is witnessing}} \quad \text{under investigation. Mishra} \\ \text{said that many of these cyber-}$ arrest scams. While only one case was registered last year, 15 such cases have already surfaced this year, highlighting a significant increase in a short period. The scams are predominantly conducted by cybercriminals operating from countries like Thailand, Dubai, Myanmar and Cambodia, as per the deputy superintendent of police (DSP) Ankush Mishra of the Dehradun Cyber Crime Police Station, Special Task Force trapped in such operations. In currently 180 ongoing investigations in financial frauds, with 170 of them linked to Chinese scams involving fraudulent stock marketing schemes and digital arrests. Victims in the State have collectively lost around Rs13 crores only in digital arrest scams. Despite repeated advisories from the police, highly educated individuals, including teachers, businessmen and army personnel, have fallen victim to these scams.

The reported losses range from minimum Rs 15 lakh to as much as Rs three crores. Mishra explained the method behind these scams, pointing out that there is no legal concept of a 'digital arrest' or 'online investigation' in Indian law enforcement. Yet, scammers create a convincing illusion, making their targets believe they are under investigation for serious crimes.

The victims are often led to believe that failure to comply with the scammers' instruc-tions could result in lengthy imprisonment. A strategic technique used by the scammers is constant surveillance. Victims are forced to stay on video calls via platforms like Skype or Zoom, even switching devices as they move from room to room. These scammers go as far as threatening victims with legal consequences if they discuss the matter with anyone else. Mishra said that to enhance the illusion of authenticity, the ing cyber threat.

scammers create fake backdrops, using names of enforcement agencies like the Crime Branch Bureau or the Enforcement Directorate. They employ props such as uniforms, identity cards and back-ground noises to simulate a real investigation environment, making the victims believe they are genuinely

# Mahara bats for restoration of old pension scheme

PNS DEHRADUN

The Pradesh Congress their dearness allowance.

Committee (PCC) president Karan Mahara has demanded immediate restoration of the old pension scheme (OPS) for the State government employees. In a letter to the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the PCC president said that the government employees have been demanding restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for a long time and some States including Rajasthan, Himachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Punjab have accepted their demand. Mahara said that after agriculture sector business enterprises, a large section of the population is dependent on government jobs for livelihood and after retirement, most employees prefer a monthly pension instead of a lump sum for better living. He said that under the OPS, 50 percent salary received by the employees at the time of retirement was given as pension. Apart from the pension the employees also get the benefit of regular increase in

Mahara said that the Union government has implemented a unified pension scheme (UPS) against the wishes of the employees. He said that under the UPS the employees are required to give their contribution in this scheme, whereas the pension in OPS was completely dependent on the social secu-

rity scheme provided by the gov-ernment. "The employees believe that if the government can give the option of New Pension Scheme and Unified and Pension Scheme (UPS), then what is the government in giving the option of Old Pension Scheme (OPS)? We demand that the OPS should be restored in the larger public interest," he said.

## Pink booth to save women in **Paltan Bazaar**

PNS DEHRADUN

A pink booth was offi-cially inaugurated at Paltan Bazaar in Dehradun on Thursday, with the initiative aimed at enhancing women's safety in the area. The booth was established under the directives of district magistrate Savin Bansal, who had instructed the police to implement measures for the safety and security of



women. He had also sanctioned approximately Rs 1.36 lakh from the untied funds for the installation of the booth to support the initiative. The booth will serve as a dedicated point for women to seek help and assistance in case of emergencies or safety concerns, as per the DM. Besides this, he has also requested a proposal from the police for the installation of CCTV cameras in Paltan Bazaar, ensuring increased surveillance in the area. The installation of the cameras is expected to take place soon, further bolstering security measures in one of the busiest markets in the region.

#### बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ीदा Bank of Baroda **BRANCH: SIDCUL** JEWELLERY AUCTION NOTICE **HARIDWAR**

Offers are invited for the public auction of the gold ornaments, pledged in favour of the Bank, for the purposes of recovering the dues owed by the Borrower(s) to the Bank, as detailed below. Auction will be conducted at premises of **Bank of Baroda**, **Sidcul Branch**, **Haridwar**, auction date **09.10.2024at 11.00 AM** Onwards.

prei	Terrises of Bark of Baroua, Sideur Branch, Haridwar, adelion date 05. 10.2024 at 11.00 Am Onwards.									
SI. No.	Name & Address of the Borrower	Account No.	Date of NPA	Outstanding Amt.	Auction Date, Time & Place	Security	Remarks			
1.	Mrs.Sunita Devi	30910600001529	09.04.2024	Rs. 48,000/- + int & Other Charges	09.10.2024 11.00 AM & Bank of Baroda Sidcul Branch	Jewellery	Interested person may contact Branch for further details			

The auction shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the sale by the Bank. A bidder participating in the auction shall be deemed to have full knowledge of the aforesaid terms and conditions of sale. submission of the Bid is Physical

## **MCD** imposes Rs five lakh challan on two shops for illegal boozing and dirt

PNS DEHRADUN

The Municipal checks. Taking immediate action, the authorities imposed a fine of Rs one lakh on the Opal Lounge for violations, he said.

He said that a further penalty of Rs two lakh unauthorised alcohol consumption in the basement and other sanitation related violations. The chief municipal health officer Dr Avinash Khanna said that the district administration and MCD conducted a joint inspection of two establishments, Opal Bar & Restaurant and Liquor Hub Wine & Beer on Thursday.

that unauthorised alcohol

penalty of Rs two lakh was imposed after it was discovered that the complex was not managing its waste disposal in accordance with the regulations. Sewage was found leaking and waste was scattered across the premises, Khanna said. Besides this, the MCD imposed Rs two lakh penalty on Liquor Hub Wine & Beer establish-The inspection revealed ment on charges of improper waste manage-



consumption was reportedly taking place in the basement of Opal Bar & Restaurant during the evening hours, with people recklessly disposing of waste in the parking area located there, Khanna claimed. It was also observed that single-use plastic was being used extensively on the canteen premises without any

ment around the premises and extensive use of single use plastic against the rules, he said.

"The corporation will continue more such inspections in future, especially during festival season, to ensure all establishments comply with rules," Khanna



## **CANDID NOTES** Gajendra Singh Negi

By asserting that a stringent land law will be tabled during next year's budget session, chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has not only sensed the public sentiment in the Himalayan State but has also silenced his critics, both outside and within the ruling BJP, who were contemplating to use the strong sentiments of the State's people to save their cultural heritage and the agricultural land which their ancestors had carved out in the harsh mountains by sheer labour against the incumbent CM. Further, by his candid admission that the amendments incorporated in year 2017 in the Uttar Pradesh (Uttarakhand) Zamindari Abolition and Land Management Act 1950 have not yielded positive results, Dhami has tried to score political points over his predecessor, the formidable Trivendra Singh Rawat. However, by announcing that the bill on strict land laws will be tabled during the budget session of 2025, Dhami seems to have inadvertently given a window of four to five months to the land sharks eyeing precious properties in the State. It is advis-able that the State government should either order an immediate moratorium on sale- purchase of land in the mountainous districts or promulgate an effective ordinance for the pur-

#### Hospital hassle

When he planned a late night visit to CHC Thalisain recently, the Pauri district magistrate Ashish Chauhan probably wanted to surprise the staff deployed there but the young DM was shocked to find that there was not even a single employee in the hospital, though it was open for the convenience of the patients. Sadly, most of the hospitals and health centres located in remote and mountainous areas of the State present a picture which is more or less similar to Thalisain CHC. These health centres are not only suffering from shortage of doctors, other staff members and necessary infrastructure but also lack tremendously in administration, professional approach and suffer from reluctance of the staff members towards discharging their duties. Ironically, the conditions in the government hospitals in towns and cities are also not encouraging. It is high time for the PMHS, the powerful association of government doctors which always tries to armtwist the government to increase their salaries and allowances and other employee associations, to make an intervention to establish a work culture in the government hospitals and inculcate professionalism in the workers.

#### Overrating menace

Notwithstanding large scale raids, sudden inspections by excise commissioner and district magistrates and others officers of administration, the menace of overrating in the liquor shops across the State is going on unabatedly. The salesmen of the authorised liquor shops demand Rs five to Rs 50 more on different brands of liquor and beer in the State. Interestingly, the economics of the overrating is such that it prompts the liquor shop owners to demand additional money from the customers despite the raids and subsequent penalty imposed by the administration. The experts point out discrepancies in the present excise policy, which has done away with the system of seizure of the liquor shops, found involved in the overrating and other irregularities as the reason behind the audacity of the liquor shops to continue illegally burdening liquor aficionados of the State.

#### शोविन्द बल्लभ पंत कृषि पुवं प्रौद्योशिक विश्वविद्यालय, पंतनशर द्वारा आयोजित

#### 116वाँ अखिल भारतीय किसान मेला एवं कृषि उद्योग प्रदर्शनी अक्टूबर 04-07, 2024







०४ अक्टूबर

०५ अक्टूबर

०५ अक्टूबर

०६ अक्टूबर

04-06 अक्टूबर

04-06 अक्टूबर

04-06 अक्टूबर

०७ अक्टूबर

04-05 अक्टूबर

#### प्रमुख आकर्षण

- अनुसंधान केन्द्रों पर प्रदर्शनों का अवलोकन
- कृषि सूचना केन्द्र का अवलोकन
- आधुनिक कृषि यंत्रों का प्रदर्शन
- उन्नतशील बीज और पौधों की बिक्री
- कृषि उद्योग प्रदर्शनी
- व्याख्यानमाला एवं कृषक गोष्ठी

#### विशेष कार्यक्रम एवं प्रतियोगितायें

- 1. उद्घाटन समारोह:- गाँधी हॉल (पूर्वाहन 11:00 बजे)
- 2. फल-फूल, शाक-भाजी एवं परिरक्षित पदार्थों की प्रदर्शनी व प्रतियोगिता:- मेला प्रांगण
- 3. संकर बिछयों की नीलामी:- शैक्षणिक डेरी फार्म, नगला (अपराहन 2:00 बजे)
- 4. मत्स्य उत्पादन प्रदर्शनी व प्रतियोगिता (अपराहन 3:00 बजे)
- पशु प्रदर्शनी एवं प्रतियोगिता— पशुचिकित्सा एवं पशुपालन महाविद्यालय (पूर्वाहन 10:00 बजे)
- 6. विशेष व्याख्यानमाला (अपराहन 2:30 से 3:30 बजे) गाँधी हॉल
- 7. किसान गोष्ठी (अपराहन 3:30 से 6:30 बजे) गाँधी हॉल
- 8. सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम:- (सायंकाल 7:00 से 8:30 बजे) गाँधी हॉल
- 9. समापन एवं पुरस्कार वितरण:- गाँधी हॉल (अपराहन 3:00 बजे)



डा. मनमोहन सिंह चौहान कुलपति गो.ब.प.कृ. एवं प्रौ.वि.वि., पंतनगर

सम्पर्क सूत्र:- डा. जितेन्द्र क्वात्रा, निदेशक प्रसार शिक्षा, गो.ब. पंत कृषि एवं प्रौद्योगिक विश्वविद्यालय, पंतनगर, ऊधम सिंह नगर (उत्तराखण्ड), दूरभाष : 05944-233336

# India rejects USCIRF report as political bias J and K Assembly polls show

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

ndia on Thursday took strong exception to a US Commission International Religious

Freedom report claiming worsening religious freedom in the country and said it is a biased organization with a

organization with a political agenda. Giving this stern reaction here, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said "Our views on the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) are well known. It is a biased organisation with a political agenda. It continues to misrepresent facts and peddles a motivated narrative about India. We reject this malicious report, which only serves to discredit USCIRF

We would urge USCIRF to



driven efforts. The USCIRF would also be well advised to productively on addressing human rights issues in the flagged the alleged worsening of religious freedom in India

"Newagency PTI reported from Washington a US federal government commission has flagged the alleged worsening

and called for it to be designated as a "Country of Particular Concern". Authored by senior policy analyst Sema Hasan, the

section on India describes the

disinformation -- including hate speech by government officials -- to incite violent attacks against religious minorities and their places of worship, the US Commission for International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) said in a statement. In its annual report, the

use of misinformation and

USCIRF also recommended that the US Department of State designate India as a "Country of Particular Concern" for engaging in systematic, ongoing and egregious violations of religious freedom. The state department has so far refrained from accepting the recommendations.

This report highlights how, throughout 2024, individuals have been killed, beaten, and lynched by vigilante groups, religious leaders have been arbitrarily arrested, and homes and places of worship

These events constitute particularly severe violations of religious freedom," the

USCIRF said.

Beginning with the previous Manmohan Singh-led Singh-led government, India has consistently denied visas to USCIRF members to visit the country, citing "interference" in its internal affairs, it added. India and several Indian-American groups have in the past accused the USCIRF of biased, unscientific and agenda-driven reporting to malign the country.

"It (the report) further describes changes to and enforcement of India's legal framework to target and disenfranchise religious minorities, including the Citizenship Amendment Act, a uniform civil code, and several state-level conversion and cow slaughter

# 69.69 per cent turnout: ECI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

Voter turnout of 69.69 per cent has been recorded in third phase of the Jammu and Kashmir Assembly polls, with women outnumbering men in casting votes, the Election Commission said Thursday.

Overall, 63.88 per cent turnout has been recorded at polling stations, as against 58.58 per cent in the Lok Sabha polls, the poll panel noted.

In phase-three of the polls on October one, when 40 seats went for voting in the Union Territory, the turnout of male voters was recorded at 69.37 per cent as compared to 70.02 per cent of women, the Election Commission (EC) said. Nearly 44 per cent of voters from the third gender

votes in this phase. Referring to the overall turnout, the Commission said it stood at

category came to cast their

63.88 per cent with male participation recorded at 64.68 per cent. The overall women turnout was recorded at 63.04 per cent and that of the third gender at 38.24 per

The final votes polled will be available post-counting with counting of postal ballots. Postal ballots include postal ballots given to service voters,

absentee voters (those above 85 years of age, persons with disabilities, those part of essential services) and voters on election duty, the EC

Daily account of such postal ballots received, as per established guidelines, are given to all candidates, it said.

# Modi greets people on Navaratri festival

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

 $P^{\text{rime Minister Narendra}}_{\text{Modi on Thursday greeted}}$ people at the start of the auspicious Navaratri festival. "It is my wish that this sacred festival devoted worshipping shakti is auspicious for everyone," he said in a social media post. The festival is marked by festivities in many parts of the country, while the devout themselves religious practices, including fasting, during the period.

# Indian researchers develop road safety sensor prototype

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

A prototype of a road safety sensor that can be implanted at high-risk turning points where accidents are frequent, has been developed by Indian researchers from a new polymer nanocomposite with pressure sensing and energy harvesting properties.

The prototype may be implanted in the movable ramp and secured to the road just 100 meters before acute and fatal turning points. Thus, any vehicle approaching from the opposite side will see the signal on a screen and be alerted, according to from Department of Science and Technology which has funded the project under INSPIRE

programme.
This prototype works on the principle of piezoelectric effect so it can generate energy that can be stored and used further to power electronic gadgets as well, Developed by the scientists from the Centre for Nano and Soft matter Sciences (CeNS), Bengluru, the novel polymer nanocomposite, from which the prototype has been crafted, has been made of transition dichalcogenide,

Scientists, Ankur Verma, Dr. Arjun Hari Madhu, Dr. Subash Cherumannil Karumuthil synthesised vanadium disulfide (VS2) with a very high surface charge which has the capacity of improving the piezoelectric characteristics of polymers. Polymer nanocomposite films

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Air Marshal S P Dharkar, an accomplished fighter pilot with 3,600 hours of

were prepared by integrating these nanoparticles at various concentrations into a wellknown piezoelectric polymer, poly (vinylidene difluoride)

Further they investigated how

the surface charge of nanoparticles will affect the piezoelectric properties of polymer nanocomposite. In addition, a laboratory-scale demonstration of a road safety sensor and smart door

was established, with the prototype as a pressure

This study demonstrates that PVDF-VŚ2 nanocomposites will provide significant value to flexible, long-term energy

generating and pressure sensing applications. This work was recently published in the Journal of Material Chemistry A and an Indian patent application filed.
This study is part of an

ongoing project "Materials for self powered powered energy generating and pressure sensing devices".

Scientists are constantly trying to develop new materials for self-powered energy generating pressure sensing devices and using them for several applications. Flexible, applications. portable, long-lasting, and wearable sensors and energy harvesting devices can play an essential part in today's artificial intelligence era. Polymers and nanoparticles serve critical roles in today's flexible electronic systems,

#### Modi to address Kautilya economic conclave in Delhi PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

**D**rime Minister Narendra

PModi will address the

Kautilya Economic Conclave here on Friday, his office has said. The third edition of the conclave will be held from October four to six, the PMO said. The conclave will focus on themes such as financing green transition, geoeconomic fragmentation and

implications for growth, and principles for policy action to preserve resilience.

Both Indian and international scholars are slated to discuss some of the most important issues confronting the Indian economy and economies of the Global South, the PMO



# India joins IMDRF as affiliate member, enhancing global collaboration

discussions by the IMDRF

Management Committee (MC) with the senior officers

of CDSCO during the 26th Session of IMDRF held in

September 2024 at Seattle, Washington, USA, the CDSCO has received approval from IMDRF as an

affiliate member of the

Becoming an affiliate member of the IMDRF will

open doors to invaluable opportunities for reliance and

collaboration with regulatory

authorities worldwide, it said.

The membership helps to

harmonise regulatory requirements across the globe, which reduces

complexities for manufacturers and helps safeguard public health by

promoting collaboration, harmonising regulations and

As an affiliate member, India

will participate in IMDRF

open sessions for information

exchange on technical topics

with other regulators, to

discuss the latest medical

device regulatory strategies and trends, provide feedback

on its experience and

perspectives and use IMDRF

documents in part or in

whole as the basis for its

regulatory framework for medical devices, said the

This membership will also

enable Indian medical device

manufacturers to meet the

regulatory requirements of

IMDRF member countries,

thereby strengthening the

"Brand India" in the global

statement.

market, it said.

promoting convergence.

affiliate

forum," it said.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI** 

India has become an affiliate member of the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF), a development that will open invaluable opportunities for reliance and collaboration with regulatory authorities worldwide while strengthening the "Brand India" in the global market. The Union Health Ministry

said on Thursday, the IMDRF, which was established in 2011, is a group of global medical device regulators whose aim is to speed up the adoption of international medical device regulatory harmonisation convergence.

Its members include national regulatory authorities of the JŠ, Australia, Canada, the European Union, Japan, the UK, Brazil, Russia, China, South Korea, Singapore and World Health Organisation (WHO).

"To achieve global alignment in its medical device regulatory system, enhance the competitiveness of the domestic industry and boost transnational prominence, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), under the Union Health Ministry, applied for Affiliate Membership in the International Medical Device Regulators Forum (IMDRF) in 2024," the Ministry said in

a statement. "After review of India's application for affiliate membership and meeting

flying experience, on Thursday assumed charge as Vice Chief of the Air Staff. He P Singh who became the September 30. Air Marshal Dharkar has

flown various types of fighter jets and trainer aircraft and commanded a MiG-27 He is an experienced qualified

of Air Staff on

flying instructor, fighter strike leader and instrument rating instructor. Commissioned in the fighter

stream in 1985, he is an alumnus of Rashtriya Indian Military College (RIMC),



National Defence Academy (NDA), Defence Services Staff College and the US Air College. He has commanded a frontline fighter unit and served as the first Director General of the Defence Space Agency.

Air Marshal Dharkar was serving as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Eastern Air Command prior to taking over as Vice Chief of Air Staff. He has also served

as the assistant Chief of the Air Staff (Training) at the air headquarters.

As the Director General of the Defence Space Agency (DSA), he was responsible for handling all aspects related to setting up of the new organisation.

The DSA would control and oversee all aspects of space exploitation in the military domain by the Indian defence

# Air Marshal SP Dharkar appointed Congress demands urgent relief for Bihar flood victims

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $E^{\rm xpressing\ concern\ over\ the}_{\rm flood\ situation\ in\ Bihar,}$ Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Thursday demanded that the should expedite the relief and rescue operations. According to the disaster management department, the number of people affected by flood has

reached 14.62 lakh. "The flood situation in Bihar is becoming terrible. Nearly 15 lakh people in 17 districts are affected by the floods and the news of many deaths in the last few days is extremely painful," Kharge said in a social media post in Hindi. The Congress president said the bridges have collapsed

life expectancy: Study



have been destroyed due to the disaster, especially in north Bihar.

"We demand from the Centre and state government that the relief and rescue operations should be expedited so that the victims can get immediate help," Kharge said.

"We thank the Indian Air Force, NDRF and SDRF teams wholeheartedly for the

help they are providing in these difficult circumstances. But we still need all possible help from the state government agencies," he Kharge also urged the Centre

provide victim and help the state government.

The Congress president said the farmers, whose crops have been destroyed should also get compensation. The Congress workers are expected to be ready to serve the victims, he added.

According to the state disaster management department, packets of food and other relief materials are being airdropped by the IAF helicopters in the 17 flood-

# Climate change fuels gender-based violence in Bangladesh

Vice Chief of Air Staff

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

¬hirty-two-year-old I Srestha, a mother of three from southern Bangladesh, has long relied on agriculture, cultivating rice and vegetables. However, the increasing frequency of floods due to climate change has dramatically impacted her family's livelihood. With no income, Srestha's

husband, Shabbir, became increasingly stressed and frustrated. As months passed without financial relief, Shabbir's mood worsened. He began to lash out at Srestha, blaming her for their situation. What started as verbal

arguments escalated into physical violence. Srestha found herself trapped in a cycle of fear and helplessness, often trying to placate Shabbir to avoid further conflict. However, Srestha's precarious situation is not an isolated

case. She represents many

climate

gender-

women facing

change-induced

based violence which is set to aggravate in near future as impacts of global warming intensifies, as per a new

analysis published in the

PLOS Climate.

A first of its kind analysis based on the data from 156 countries including India between 1993 and 2019 has shown that climate shockssuch as floods, storms, and landslides—are linked to higher rates of intimate partner violence in the two years following such events, particularly in patriarchal societies where violence against women is normalised. The study led by UCL researchers in collaboration with Exeter also shows that

violence rates were found to

higher Gross

Product (GDP).



Ljust five per cent of current levels by 2050, men could expect an increase in life expectancy by about one year, while women might see an increase of 0.2 years, a recent study published in The Lancet Public Health has said. Achieving the five per cent

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

NEW DELHI

smoking target could prevent 876 million years of life lost due to premature death, highlighting the profound impact of reducing tobacco

The study suggests that banning the sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products could prevent an estimated 1.2 million lung cancer deaths across 185 countries by 2095. Notably, about two-thirds of these preventable deaths would occur in low- and middle-income countries, where younger populations may be more vulnerable to the effects of tobacco.

be low in countries having a The researchers analysed the Institute for Health Metrics Domestic potential benefits of a



Reducing smoking could boost

tobacco-free generation policy, which aims to restrict tobacco sales to those born after a specific year. This approach, however, has not yet been fully implemented in any country.

For instance, noted the study, New Zealand had enacted a law to prohibit the sale of tobacco to individuals born on or after January 1, 2009, but this legislation was repealed earlier this year.

Stein Emil Vollset, a senior author of the study from the and Evaluation (IHME) at the between 2006 and 2010.



emphasised the critical need to sustain and enhance efforts to reduce smoking rates worldwide. He noted that the potential

for avoiding millions of premature deaths underscores importance comprehensive control policies.

The study's estimates regarding preventable deaths were derived from analysing the implications of banning tobacco sales on lung cancer mortality among people born

must not lose momentum in efforts to reduce, and ultimately eliminate smoking around the world. Our findings highlight that millions of premature deaths could be avoided by bringing an end to smoking, said Vollset.

Commenting on the study's observation, a representative from Mothers Against Vaping, a united front of concerned mothers combating the escalating vaping crisis asserted that there is a need to highlight health hazards of New-Age Gateway devices like ecigarettes, vapes, and heatnot-burn devices for India to meet its tobacco control goals for the youth.

In fact, the authors of the Lancet study have advocated for not only maintaining existing tobacco control measures but implementing new strategies to address the ongoing risks associated with smoking which are major reasons for many preventable diseases including cancers.

# BJP proposes renaming Sealdah station | Indian Army aims to crack terrorists' after Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee

SAUGAR SENGUPTA

There are credible reports that a section of Bengal BJP has started lobbying for rechristening Sealdah Railway Station as Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Railway Station a la Deen Dayal Upadhyay Railway Station.

The proposal to change the name of the country's sixth oldest railway station after Mumbai VT, Howrah, Chennai, Kanpur and Vadodara was given by BJP Rajya Sabha MP Samik Bhattacharya before Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnav during his visit to Kolkata on Wednesday.

"But what is in a name?" asked Trinamool Congress' Kunal Ghosh who wondered why the name of only Mukherjee and why not Swami Vivekananda who lived nearby, barely a mile or two away from the Station at Shimla Street should be considered.

"Why the station should not be named after Swami Vivekananda because after returning from his glorious trip to Chicago his ship came to Budge Budge from where he took a train to Sealdah It is from this place where thou-



sands of young people assembled and dragged his cart by hand," Ghosh said.

However according to Bhattacharya, "When lakhs of beaten and uprooted refugees from the erstwhile East Pakistan thronged Sealdah Station post Partition it was Dr Mukherjee who stood by them and their cause I will request the honourable Railway Minister to consider renaming Sealdah Station after Shyama Prasad Mukherjee.

Historically speaking: British architect Walter Glanville in 1869 designed the Sealdah Main Railway Station as it stands today pursuing a Victorian-Gothic form. Sealdah which has 20 plat-

forms today had only four in 1862 standing out amidst muddy, marshy and potholed

vicinity. It was a part of the East Bengal Railway and then Assam Bengal Railway set up in 1857 for the sake of establishing connectivity with northern and southern Bengal

present North East. Incidentally there was a tram terminus located just outside Sealdah Station before the year 1978 from where the concept of horse tram carriage started. Historically speaking Sealdah owes its name to Sealdihi or a village infested by jackals.

which then comprised a large

province including Bihar,

Odisha and portions of the

In fact the station itself was built clearing a huge Pipal tree surrounded with bushes, swamps and marshes and heavily colonized by jackals on two sides of the great Maratha Ditch (a canal) that surrounded the city and where today runs the Upper and Lower Circular Roads more lately called the Acharya Prafulla Chandra (APC) Road and Acharya Jagadish Chandra (AJC) Road. The Maratha Ditch was dug up to prevent Maratha invasions in those days. So historically today's Sealdah Station stands by the Maratha Ditch so to say.

The Maratha Ditch could not Nawab Siraj ud Daulah from invading Kolkata in 1756 when he crossed the mighty canal and attacked the British garrison "causing a great loss to the white men's families by bundling about 64 of them including women inside an underground chamber leading to 43 deaths?

Others however, put the figure to 146 captured and 123 dead. Sealdah stood witness to the brief but cruel battle between the Nawab and the British who avenged the cruelty post Battle of Plassey by allowing Siraj to be cut into pieces and ferried about the Murshidabad town on a bullock cart.

Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that his ministry was contemplating a Rs 60,000-crore investment schemes in Bengal and was awaiting the cooperation of the

# encrypted communication networks

MOHIT KANDHARI

The outgoing General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the Srinagar-based 15 Corps, Lieutenant General Rajiv Ghai on Thursday said that the Indian Army is working hard to crack the highly encrypted communication network of the terrorists to dismantle their ecosystem in the

Briefing media persons in Srinagar Lt Gen Rajiv Ghai said, "We are aware that terrorists operating in the valley are using ultra communication networks, which have layers of encryption. While presently it is affording them the secrecy that they want I assure you that work is happening in this direction and soon we will be able to crack that encryption and I am hoping that will further dent their ecosystem and net-

The senior Army officer also claimed that the active number of terrorists in the region has also come down to 80 and no fresh recruitment has taken place in recent months in the

"There are around 80 active terrorists in Kashmir. The figure has gone down. Their number will be further down by midnext year" he said

He estimated that between 25 and 30 foreign terrorists remain



active, and the army is determined to neutralize them soon. We foiled infiltration attempts by terrorists from across the border. This summer there were fewer attempts of infiltration," he said.

He further stated that successful infiltration attempts were not mostly made in Kashmir but at other places.

Referring to the frequent attacks in Pir Pranjal range, Rajiv Ghai said that there were chances that the terrorists may attempt to take shelter in Kashmir. "Terrorists keep moving as they cannot survive in one place," he said.

Sharing his assessment of the prevailing security scenario Lt Gen Ghai said Kashmir has

troop cut was possible at this juncture, the GoC said: "We are in a consolidation phase and no dilution of counter insurgency and counter terrorism grid is recommended. Both the grids need to be maintained. I defi-nitely won't advocate any dilu-tion to these grids at this stage," the GoC said the GoC said. Earlier, in his opening remarks, the GoC said that during the past year-and-a-half, numerous

attempts counter infiltration steps were taken while simultaneously prosecuting a very robust and successful counterterrorist campaign within Kashmir. "While doing this, we have been very conscious of our responsibility and nationbuilding. So we have maintained our connection with the people of Kashmir," the army officer said.

He said that the region is seeing a new beginning as numerous significant events are taking place besides development.

"This is because of the efforts put in by (Chinar corps) 15 Corps, police, CAPF, police and numerous other security agencies," the GoC said. While he praised the improv-

ing security situation over the last two years, Lt. Gen. Ghai cautioned that maintaining peace remains the primary challenge, and vigilance must be maintained, particularly in counter-terrorism efforts at the LoC and within the valley.

# claims on gold smuggling allegations



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN ■ KOCHI

¬hief Minister Vijayan on Thursday made a quick volte-face from his earlier stance that Malappuram district topped the table in gold flow. Addressing the media after the cabinet meeting on Thursday, the chief minister said that he never blamed Malappuram district or the Muslim community for gold smuggling and hawala cash flow to the State.

But this is in stark contrast to his stance during the 21st September press meet when he had said that out of the 147 kg smuggled gold seized in the State during the last three years, Malappuram accounted for 124.47 kg of yellow metal and Rs 87.22 crore of hawala cash out of Rs 122.5 crore

seized during the period. It is widely believed that the chief minister retracted his statement on smuggled gold and hawala cash under pressure from leaders of a minority community who were offended by his disclosures. The chief minister had also said during the media meeting that the money generated out of smuggling and hawala cash transactions were being pumped into the State for anti-national activ-

While Vijayan did not disclose the reasons behind the sudden change in his stance, he gave a clean chit to the Chennai based English newspaper for carrying in its column an apology for publishing a statement attributed to him which he said he had not told the journalist who had interviewed him in New Delhi. The said interview which was carried in the 30th September edition of the paper had featured the chief minister's allegation that large scale gold smuggling and hawala cash was taking place in Malappuram district. "I did not tell this reporter anything on this issue. When I was asked about Anvar and gold smuggling, my reply was that I had made it clear in the press meet held on 21st September itself and do not have much time to elaborate further on the topic," said Vijayan who patted the Chennai newspaper for its decision to run a public apol-

# Vijayan retracts | CPI(M) demands 12 seats in MVA alliance



T N RAGHUNATHA MUMBAI

Ahead of the formalisation of the seat-sharing tie-up among the Opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) for the Maharashtra Assembly polls, its smaller ally the Communist Party of India (Marxist) – has staked claim

for 12 seats.

Confirming the development, CPI (M)'s Maharashtra State Committee Dr Uday Narkar said on Thursday: "We have attended a couple of meetings of the MVA....We have asked the MVA leadership to allocate us 12 seats".

Maharashtra Assembly, the CPI (M) represents one seat-Dahanu (ŠT) in Palghar district, from where its party man Vinod Nikole was elected in the 2019 polls. Apart from Dahanu (ST) seat,

the other Assembly con-stituencies from where the CPI (M) wants to contest areL Vikramgad in Palghar dis-trict, Shahpur in Thane dis-trict, Kalwan, Dindori, Nashik West and Igatpuri in Nashik district, Kinwat in Nanded district, Majalgaon in Beed district, Pathari in Parbhani district, Solapur City Central in Solapur district and Akole in Ahmednagar district.

'For the past several years, we have been very active in the constituencies where we would field our candidates. We are part of the INDIA block at the national level. We expect the MVS to allocate the seats we have asked for," Dr Narkar said.

The All India

(AKIS) had in the PAST led several farmers' movements in Maharashtra, while several Left unions are active in urban

The three major constituents of the MVA are Congress, NCP (Sharad Pawar) and the Shiv Sena (UBT). The Samajwadi Party, CPI, CPI (M), Peasants and Workers Party (PWP) are the smaller constituents of the MVA. It is doubtful whether the

MVA will allocate 12 seats. If anything, the MVA may con-sider allocating 3 to 4 four seats to the CPI (M), as against 12 seats demanded by the latter. Because, the MVA's three major constituents will have to accommodate its other small allies like the SP, CPI and PWP.

On their part, the Congress, NCP (SP) and Shiv Sena (UBT) have so far not yet commented on the demand for 12 seats made by the CPI

# **SC** halts Isha Foundation probe

seen a good year so far like last year. "We need a few more

good years to make peace a

permanent feature here. I

believe maintaining this peace-

ful atmosphere is the biggest challenge for the security forces," the GoC 15 Corps said.

Lt Gen Ghai said that there has-

n't been any active recruit-

ment of terrorists this year.

"The numbers were down to a

dozen last year and this year it is next to nil," the GoC said.

He said as far as the terrorist-

initiated incidents in Kashmir,

they are between far and few.

"Some incidents were reported

where soft targets were made

by even an untrained person

using a pistol," the army officer said. To a query whether any

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Thursday stayed the police probe into the alleged illegal confinement of two women at spiritual leader Jaggi Vasudev's Isha Foundation ashram at Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu. Transferring to itself a habeas corpus petition of a man alleging that his two daughters were held captive inside the premises of the Foundation, a bench headed by Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud directed the Tamil Nadu Police to not take any further action in pursuance of the Madras High Court's direction asking it to inquire into the alleged illegal confinement of the

'You can't let in the Army or the police into an establishment like this," the bench observed during the hearing. The bench, also comprising Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra, said the police shall file the status report, as directed by the high court in its September 30 order, before the top court. The top court passed the order after the Isha Foundation approached it challenging Madras High Court's order directing the Coimbatore Police to collect all case details registered against the Foundation and produce them before the court for further consideration. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for the Foundation, sought a stay of the high court order, and said around 150 police offic

the Foundation's ashram and are probing every corner. The bench, which interacted with the two women in-chambers through video-conferencing, noted they have stated that both of them are residing at the ashram voluntarily and without any coercion. "As regards the presence of police, in pursuance to the order of the High Court, it has been stated by the two individuals that the police left the premises last night, though they were there... In pursuance of the order of the high court," the bench noted. While taking up the habeas corpus petition, the

bench permitted the father of the two women to appear before it through video-conferencing if he wishes to interact with the court in person or through counsel. The court said text of the high court's order indicated that they are presently 42 and 39 years old respectively. The bench noted the two women have stated that they are free to travel outside the ashram, which they had done from time to time and their parents have also visited there to meet them. The court noted it was submitted before it that a similar petition was filed by the mother of the two individual about eight years ago, in which the father had also appeared. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the Centre, said the high court should have been "very circumspect". Madras High Court had on September 30 passed an interim order on a corpus petition filed by Dr S

# Bengal doctors divided over protest strategies



SAUGAR SENGUPTA

There seems to have developed differences of opinion among the doctors of Bengal agitating in demand of justice for their woman colleague who was on August 9 raped and murdered inside the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital with the seniors opposing the juniors' decision to resume indefinite "cease work" for the second time within a span of ten days following repeated attacks on their colleagues at various medical college hospitals.

According to the senior doctors the protestors who had been getting full support from the general public should not take recourse to actions that could impede people's interest. "About 35,000 patients come to the five medical colleges in Kolkata alone for treatment most of them have supported our cause throughout the movement so we should also take their plight into consideration particularly during the festive season when many private doctors would go vacationing and the poor patients would be left in lurch," said one of the senior doctors while expressing his views in a general convention of doctors called in RGKMCH on Thursday. Another senior doctor said

that "we have been by the side of these junior doctors and will continue to support their cause but without imposing our views on them we will just like to advice them that this is not right time to resume cease work impeding the interests of thousands of common people who have been by us all these days we cannot alienate the common man from this movement," said another senior paediatrician.

The doctors who had gone on an indefinite cease work post the RGKMCH incident had resumed duty breaking their 42-days' cease work after Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee assured foolproof security inside hospital premises besides conceding to their demand of removing Kolkata Police Commissioner Vineet Goyal and two directors of Health.

But the Government which had given us assurance on other demands would not fulfill them forcing us to resume our movement," said Dr Aniket one of the leaders.

Another doctor, a cardiologist suggested alternative mode of movement saying, "we can think about partial cease work or regular rallies and even dharnas or even go to the districts setting special medical care camps so as to make people aware about the plights of the doctors?

The junior doctors had not presented their views when reports last came in. However some of them said

that they would take the advice of the senior doctors and hold general body meeting of joint platform of junior doctors before taking a final decision.

It is clear that this Government is trying to create a rift between the common people who have supported us and the doctors but we will not fall in its trap if we withdraw our cease work then it will not be because of the government pressure but because of the needs of the people but still we will continue to agitate until attacks on doctors stop and until the Government takes some concrete steps to ensure safety and security inside the hospitals," said Dr Kinjal Nanda one of the agi-

tating doctors.

# Bombay HC orders to expedite inquiry into custodial death

T N RAGHUNATHA 
MUMBAI

fter the BJP-led MahaYuti Agovernment set up a Commission of Inquiry into the "encounter killing" of Badlapur children sexusal assault case Akshay Shinde, the Bombay High Court on Thursday directed the Magistrate looking into Shinde' death to expedite its inquiry and submit the site of the state of th to it at the next hearing on November 18.

November 18.
Hearing a PIL filed by the father of Shinde on the suspicious circumstances leading to the death of Shinde, a HC bench of Justices Revati Mohite Dere and Prithviraj Chavan asked the Thane Magistrate and the police to collect, preserve and get all the evidence relating to Shinde's death in police custody.

Earlier, Advocate General Birendra Saraf told the court that all relevant documents have been forwarded to the magistrate for inquiry. While asking the Magistrate to

start the inquiry proceedings quickly and submit its report quickly after hearing all parties in the case. "Law requires that when there

is a custodial death, the investigation be conducted by the Magistrate. Let the investigation be conducted. We will wait for the report of the magistrate," the HC bench said. 'The Magistrate should expedite the inquiry and submit its report to the court by

November 18. Akshay Shinde -- key accused in the sensational Badlapur child sexual assault --was shot dead at a point blank range while he was being taken from Badlapur to Thane in a van for investigation in another case. It may be recalled that two



were sexually abused allegedly by sweeper Shinde when they in the washroom of the kindergarten school run by Adarsh Vidya Prasarak Sanstha (AVPS) on August 13 for using the toilet there. A Special Investigation Team (SIT) of the Thane police that investigated the case has filed a charge-sheet in the case before the special Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act court in Kalyan.

The incident caused a major public uproar in the state and always as other parts of the state. The Opposition MVA comprising Congress, Uddhav Thackeray-headed Shiv Sena (UBT) and Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP) - had demanded a judicial probe into the suspicious circumstances leading to the accused Shinde's death in a police can

Directing the prosecution to collect strong forensic evidence in the case, the HC asked the prosecution if the police had collected forensic evidence from the body of the deceased. "Every firearm has a peculiar pattern and the nursery girls - aged four and residue it leaves is also differ-

ent. The residue left on the deceased's head where he was shot, his hands when he opened fire from the police's pistol needs to be collected, preserved and analysed forensically, "the HC bench said "Dead body is the most silent

and honest witness,.. There is a need to collect and preserve all evidence. Bullets were fired from two different firearms in the incident. Empty shells found were of two different arms. The firing pin of every gun is different. This can be a conclusive proof which firing arm will have which firing pin," the HC bench aid.

We want to see a report showing this conclusively," the HC bench said, while wanting to know from the police State CID police who are investigating the case if the bullet had pierced through the accused. Advocate General Saraf replied in the affirmative.

Expressing its displeasure over the failure to recover a bottle of water that was given to the accused when he asked for water in the vehicle. "The police's case is that the handcuffs of the accused were removed after he asked for

water after which he forcibly snatched the pistol of one of the police officers and opened fire. "It (bottle) is an important piece of evidence," the bench said.

Seeking the medical report of the police officer who sustained injury in the firing opened by the deceased accused, the HC bench said: 'The police officer who sustained gunshot injury...Has he been examined properly? Was there any residue or blackening at the spot?

We need to see that. Was there an entry and exit wound on the thigh of the police officer who got hurt?'

At a hearing held on September 25, a HC bench of Justice Revati Mohite Dere and Prithviraj Chavan had questioned the version put out by the police Shinde was shot by the police in self defence. Justice Chavan said "it is hard to believe" that a man of slight build as Akshay Shinde could be overpowered by the four policemen when he turned violent and pulled the slide back on a 9 mm pistol for firing which "requires firing which strength".

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

# The caste contest

Haryana elections will be a tight contest. The BJP-JJP alliance breakup and Congress rebels have added uncertainty to it

s Haryana heads to the polls on October 5, 2024, the political landscape is marked by intense competition and shifting alliances. This election holds importance as the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which had formed a government in 2019 with the support of Dushyant Chautala's Jannayak Janata Party (JJP), is now contesting alone. The breakup of the BJP-JJP alliance has left the BJP in a precarious position, governing as a minority until the upcoming elections. The ruling party, which is contesting without its former ally, the JJP, is focusing on its development agenda, highlighting its work on infrastructure, education and women's safety. However, the party faces challenges, especially in rural areas, where discontent over issues like agricultural reforms remains strong. The Congress is positioning itself as the main alternative to the BJP. Led by Bhupinder Singh Hooda, the party is banking on strong support in rural areas, especially among Jat voters and hopes to capitalise on dissatisfaction with the BJP government. Dushyant

> Chautala is attempting to redefine his party's narrative, distancing himself from the BJP's policies and advocating for farmer-friendly reforms.

Another unpredictable player is Aam Aadmi Party which is contesting in Haryana with renewed vigour. AAP is aiming to replicate its success in neighbouring Punjab. The party is focusing on issues such as healthcare, education and anti-corruption measures, appealing primarily to urban voters. A strong contender of yesteryears, Indian National Lok DaL (INLD) led by Abhay Singh Chautala has joined hands with Bahujan Samaj Party. But the agrarian sector remains a pivotal issue in Haryana, especially after the farmers'

protests against the now-repealed agricultural laws. Farmers' resentment towards the government has not entirely subsided, and the opposition parties, particularly Congress and JJP, are using this to mobilise rural voters. Besides, Haryana has one of the highest unemployment rates in India. Both the BJP and Congress have promised to address the issue, with the BJP touting its industrial initiatives and the Congress proposing new employment schemes. But all said and done, it is the caste politics which decides who rules the State. The traditional Jat-non-Jat divide continues to shape Haryana's political landscape. The BJP, which has traditionally garnered support from non-Jat communities, faces the challenge of consolidating this base while the JJP and Congress focus on winning over Jat voters. Caste dynamics have always been a significant factor in Haryana's political landscape, deeply influencing voter behaviour and electoral outcomes. Jats, who make up approximately 25-30 per cent of Haryana's population, are the state's most politically influential caste group. The Congress, under Hooda, is attempting to bridge the gap between Jats and non-Jats by emphasising its rural-urban development plans but is plagued by rebels. The outcome of the elections will be favourable to the party which manages the complex caste matrix of the state well.



man makes red handprints on a wall as part of a tradition on the first day of the 'Navratri' festival, in Ahmedabad

# BJP strives hard to imbibe 'integral humanism'



As the BJP marks Deendayal Upadhyaya's 108th birth anniversary, it faces the challenge of aligning his "Integral Humanism" ideals with modern governance

n the occasion of the 108th birth anniversary of Deendáyal Upadhyaya, founding figure of the Bharatiya Jana Sangh and the proponent of "Integral Humanism," the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) finds itself reflecting on how closely it has adhered to his visionary ideals. Upadhyaya's philosophy focused on a holistic approach to human well-being, emphasising decentralisation, indigenous culture, self-reliance, and ethical governance. Though the BJP has embraced these principles rhetorically, transforming them into practical realities remains a formidable challenge.

Economic Ideals vs Modern Policies: Deendayal Upadhyaya's vision of economic self-reliance and decentralisation stands in contrast to India's current globalised and capital-driven economic policies, particularly those introduced since the liberalisation reforms of the 1990s.

Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the BJP has focused on economic growth through increased foreign direct investment (FDI), free-market reforms, and privatisation. Critics argue that this approach clashes with Upadhyaya's idea of a self-reliant economy, which emphasises supporting rural and local industries, creating jobs at the grassroots level, and minimising dependence on foreign capital.

Balancing Indigenous Culture

and Globalisation: Deendayal Upadhyaya advocated for the preservation and promotion of India's indigenous culture, even as the nation embraced modern advancements. Striking this balance has been a delicate task for the BJP. On one hand, the party emphasises cultural pride, nationalism, and traditional values, promoting initiatives like Ayurveda and yoga on the global stage. On the other hand, India's integration into the global economy, alongside the rise of modern lifestyle trends and technology, risks alluting the deeper cultural roots Upadhyaya sought

veering toward an exclusionary Last Person: One of

cultural nationalism, which may diverge from Upadhyaya's more inclusive vision.

Ethical Governance vs Corruption: A key tenet of Upadhyaya's philosophy was the need for ethical governance, marked by integrity, honesty, and service to the people.

While BJP leaders, including Modi, have presented themselves as champions of clean governance, the party has faced allegations of corruption, crony capitalism, and favouritism toward large corporations. Such accusations, particularly regarding land acquisition policies and privatisation, have cast doubt on the party's commitment to Upadhyaya's ethical standards. Inclusive Society Polarisation

Upadhyaya's vision of an inclusive society focused on addressing the needs of all communities, ensuring harmony across social and religious divides. However, the BJP has often been criticised for promoting divisive politics, particularly along religious lines. Reconciling Hindutvadriven politics with the ideals of inclusion and social harmony remains a central challenge for the BJP as it seeks to bridge the gap between rhetoric and reality

The BJP has been critiqued for Antyodaya - Uplifting the



**UNDER PRIME MINISTER** NARENDRA MODI, THE BJP HAS FOCUSED ON **ECONOMIC** GROWTH THROUGH

**INCREASED** FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI), FREE-MARKET REFORMS, AND PRIVATISATION. THIS APPROACH **CLASHES WITH UPADHYAYA'S** IDEA OF A SELF-RELIANT ECONOMY Upadhyaya's most important principles, Antyodaya, focuses on uplifting the most marginalised in society. The BJP has made significant strides in this area through its welfare schemes such as the PM Ujjwala Yojana (providing LPG to rural households), the PM Awas Yojana (affordable housing), and the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (improving sanitation).

The BJP has adopted this principle through various campaigns, such as the global celebration of Yoga Day, the promotion of Indian languages, and the reassertion of India's historical achievements.

**Political Decentralisation** A core aspect of Upadhyaya's

philosophy was decentralising power, ensuring governance was closer to the people. The BJP's emphasis on cooperative federalism and policies such as GST and the creation of NITI Aayog are steps in this direction. Moreover, the Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) system and the Jan Dhan Yojana have empowered citizens by reducing middlemen and ensuring that subsidies and welfare benefits reach the people directly. Self-Reliance through Atmanirbhar Bharat; The Atmanirbhar Bharat (Self-Reliant India) initiative, a better India. launched during the COVID-19 pandemic, resonates with strategic affairs columnist based

reliance. The promotion of local manufacturing, domestic industries, and efforts to reduce dependence on foreign goods align with his philosophy. The "Make in India" initiative, a key aspect of this vision, has made strides in boosting domestic production and job creation. However, the globalised nature of modern economics makes it challenging to fully realize a self-reliant economy.

Striving toward Upadhyaya's **Vision:** As the ruling party, the BJP's journey in adopting and implementing Deendayal Upadhyaya's ideals has been a mixture of successes and challenges. While considerable progress has been made in promoting nationalism, selfreliance, and Antyodaya, the party faces significant hurdles in achieving true economic decentralisation, upholding ethical governance, and foster-

ing social harmony. The complexities of modern governance, global economic integration, and political strategies often pull the BJP away from Upadhyaya's pure vision. However, the ideals of Integral Humanism remain a guiding light, challenging the party to strike a balance between philosophical ideals and contemporary realities in their pursuit of

(Writer is a political analyst and Upadhyaya's emphasis on self- in Shimla; views are personal)

#### THE EDITOR

# Online gaming industry needs regulation and govt support



A balanced, collaborative approach between the government and the online gaming industry is essential for responsible and sustainable growth

dhe online gaming industry in India is experiencing rapid growth but is often misinterpreted as being synonymous with gambling. This misconception fuels concerns about problem gambling and social harm, leading to a negative narrative surrounding the sector. In reality, much of the harm stems from illegal offshore betting and gambling platforms, which further exacerbate this misrepresen-

Every industry influences society in various ways, and it is the responsibility of regulatory frameworks to strike a balance— supporting legitimate enterprises while effectively curbing illegal activities. Conflating online gaming with gambling risks undermining an industry that is growing at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 15.68 per cent on a base of USD 3.49 billion. This sector contributes significantly to job creation and tax revenues in India. With 83 per cent of the world's gamers, India boasts 568 million users and registered over 9.5 billion gaming app downloads in ment challenges cannot be an not only help clear the nega-2023. Real Money Games excuse for inaction, as the tive perceptions but also sup-



of their revenues to the Indian exchequer in FY 2023-24. Misunderstanding the online gaming industry as gambling could jeopardize its potential for economic growth and its contributions to national

development. Regulators must prioritise cracking down on offshore and illegal businesses and apps that operate in violation of Indian law. Measures such as whitelisting legitimate platforms, and initiating legal actions against those facilitating illegal activities are crucial. Steps like freezing the bank accounts of operators and intermediaries, and working with financial institutions to block transactions tied to illegal gambling, are urgently needed. Practical enforcerisks are significant. A coordinated effort involving the Ministry of Finance, Information Technology, Home Affairs, and Consumer Affairs is essential, with each department playing a critical role in enforcement and raising public awareness about the legal implications of sup-

porting illegal operations. Without robust enforcement and heightened awareness, illegal gambling platforms will not only make Indian citizens vulnerable to gambling addiction but also siphon their hard-earned money into criminal networks. The profits from illegal gambling often fund organised crime, money laundering, and terrorism, with global examples linking gambling profits to drug trafficking and terrorist financing. This not only destabilises local economies but poses a serious threat to national security. As the government takes strict action against illegal gambling, it must also work closely with the legitimate gaming industry to differentiate between legal online gaming and illegal gambling. Such a partnership would

port the industry's growth. This collaboration could further enhance the crackdown on illegal gambling through combined awareness campaigns and enforcement efforts.Finally, the government and the gaming industry must work together to dévelop a responsible gaming framework.

This should include selfexclusion tools, age verification systems, game time monitoring, and partnerships with mental health experts. By promoting responsible gaming, the industry can ensure ethical practices, protect consumers from addiction, and foster a sustainable, well-regulated gaming ecosystem in India. A balanced approach that differentiates legitimate online gaming from illegal gambling, alongside stronger enforcement measures, is vital for the sustainable growth of online gaming industry. With govt and industry collaboration, responsible gaming practices can be promoted, ensuring the sector's positive contributions to economic growth and job creation.

(The writer is a partner at AP & Partners; views are

#### **DECLINE OF GANDHIAN IDEALS** Madam — Since the Mahatma was an

epitome of confidence and possessed an international mindset, he didn't treat the hymns of the Scottish gem "Abide with me" as threat enough to get blown off his feat! Rather, he allowed the window of his mind to let in the breeze of all possible cultures around the globe, including the evergreen Henry Francis Lyte classic. It is indeed a matter of utmost disgrace to notice the closure of minds in the country of Mahatma Gandhi-the epitome of liberal values and humanitarian thoughts with an all-embracing

Not to forget Gandhi's cardinal call: "Recall the face of the weakest man whom you may have seen and ask yourself if the step you contemplate is going to be of any use to him. Will he gain anything from it? Will it restore him to control over his own life and destiny? Will it lead to 'swaraj' for the hungry and spiritually starving millions?" Do the faces of any weak man get recalled today amidst the zealous trumpet of India being 'Viswaguru' (fast marching towards the status of "world's third largest economy") being beaten like a maniac! When none other than the Gandhians find themselves cornered and marginalised in the very state and den of Mahatma Gandhi itself (Sabarmati Ashram, Gujarat), rest assured about the fate of his values, ethics and humanitarian thoughts in the rest of the country!

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

#### **FLOODS HITS BIHAR**

Madam— The rain in Nepal is wreaking havoc in Bihar. While 170 people have died in Nepal due to continuous heavy rains, floods and landslides, the terrible form of flooding is being seen in Bihar. In view of the flood, all 56 gates of Birpur Vairaj of the Kosi River and all 36 gates of Balmiki Nagar Vairaj of the Gandak River have been opened.

# **India's triumph in Kanpur**



eam India creates Test history on October

1. Kudos to Team India for defeating Bangladesh by 7 wickets on the fifth day of Kanpur Test and winning the Test series by is repeated every year. Bihar floods are writing the story of new misery and devastation every year; it is a serious

humanitarian crisis. But no permanent

solution has been found so far. How

long will people continue to bear this

pain? People are losing their homes,

land, and loved ones. How many more lives will be lost, and how many more dreams will be shat-tered? However, Bihar CM Nitish Kumar said that full attention is being paid to the flood at every level. All kinds of relief and rescue operations are being arranged. To stop this, the government should make immediate arrangements on a war footing. For which a permanent solution is needed so that this disaster is not faced in the

Anshu Bharti | Begusarai

#### KARNATAKA LAND SCANDAL

Madam - Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's wife, BM Parvathi, said she would return the 14 plots she received in This is not a disaster. It is a tragedy that exchange for her undeveloped land.

2-0. Team India has set a record of never losing to Bangladesh so far and has created a record on home ground by achieving a thrilling victory in the 18th series. With this extremely brilliant and powerful performance of Team India, India has reached the top position in the ICC World Test Championship table

Yashasvi Jaiswal scored his second half-century with great skill and scored 51 runs to win the title of 'Player of the Match'. Bangladesh's so-called opening batsman Shadman Islam and former captain Mushfigur Rahim were forced to kneel in front of Indian bowlers. India's next match with Bangladesh will be in the 3 T20 match series from October 6. It is hoped that Team India will be successful in maintaining its magical status.

Yugal Kishore Sharma | Faridabad

However, the return policy, seen as Siddaramiah flipping, might actually be counter-productive. The Muda case pertains to allegations that compensatory sites were allotted to BM Parvathi in an upmarket area in Mysuru that had a higher property value as compared to the location of her land that had been "acquired" by the authority.

Siddaramaiah, BM Parvathi, Mallikarjuna Swamy, and one Devaraju were named in an FIR registered by the Mysuru-based Lokayukta police on September 27. This came after the Enforcement Directorate (ED) initiated a probe against her, Siddaramiah, and her brother, Mallikarjuna Swamy, in what has now become popular as the Muda scam. Parvathi, the wife of Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, has returned 14 plots of land to Muda. Thus, Siddaramaiah shot himself in the foot for gaining more wealth using power pol-

CK Subramania | Bengaluru

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# **FIRST COLUMN**

#### REBALANCING THE **GLOBAL ORDER**

The escalating missile strikes between Israel and Iran threaten regional stability in West Asia



KUMARDEEP BANERJEE

he escalating situation in India's extended neighbourhood is threatening internal security for the region. The recent elimination of several top Hezbollah commanders, especially the killing of its top leader Hassan Nasrallah, by Israel, and Iranian missiles raining on Israeli territory is likely to widen the crisis in West Asia. PM Modi realised the sensitivity of the situation and immediately made a phone call to their Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu. Indian PM's message to Israel was "the crucial need for preventing regional escalation and the safe release of all hostages, terrorism has no place in any form and manifestation and India stands ready to support early restoration of peace and stability." Last month on the sidelines of the Summit of Future in New York, the PM met the President of Palestine Mahmoud Abbas. A press statement released after the meeting read "The Prime Minister reiterated India's time-tested principled position on the Israel-Palestine issue, and called for ceasefire, release of hostages and return to the path of dialogue and diplomacy. He stressed that only a two State solution will deliver enduring peace and stability in the region. Recalling that India was one of the first countries to recognise Palestine, he conveyed India's continued support to Palestine membership of the UN." Even as the Indian PM was holding bilateral with several global leaders in the US, the newly appointed head of the interim government of Bangladesh Muhammad Yunus was getting a much-needed pat on his back from Western leaders. Yunus during his US trip met the US President Joe Biden, former President Bill Clinton, US Secretary of State, Canadian PM, President of the European Union, heads of the World

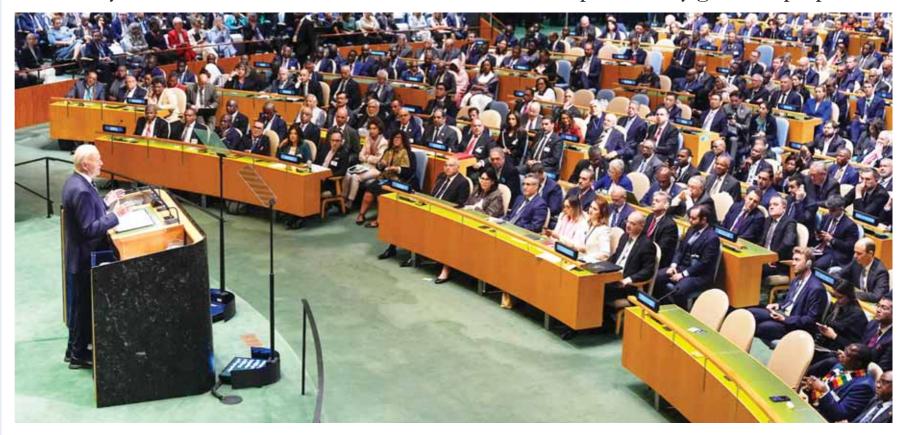


Bank and ADB. He topped it up by having an unusually warm meeting with Pakistan's PM, where he expressed the desire to deepen their bilateral ties and revive the regional body SAARC. For India, these ties could potentially lead Pakistan and China to use this newfound bonhomie with Bangladesh to push its subversive agenda against India. Almost on cue External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar in his remarks at the Asia Society Policy Institute in New York spoke on rebalancing the global order. He said "Rebalancing a global order which started with 51 founding members of the United Nations, which has quadrupled in the last eight decades, where you not only have more independent countries in the world, but the economic, political and even demographic weight of individual members of the global order has shifted, shifted to a point where many of us believe that today we are actu-

The minister carefully brought multipolarity and plurilateralism in same address while trying to define the evolving global order. He said "Today, we are looking really at a global landscape which is much more regional, which is, as I said, much more characterised by countries who have their strong interests and which have the ability to pursue that interest. And so a lot of what we see in terms of the world is really how does the politics of convergence of the world is really how does the politics of convergence play out. And a third word which would occur to me is 'plurilateralism'. It's a very ugly word, but it in a sense describes a world beyond bilateral relations but which are short of multilateral. That where countries form combinations based on these convergences and overlaps that I've talked about. And you have really this phenomenon of groups of countries coming together for often a limited agenda, sometimes in an agreed theatre to pursue their interests." The recent global events and India's measured stance on several of these reflect what the EAM spoke about in New York, and a rebalance is underway. (The writer is a policy analyst; views are personal)

# How global powers exploit democratic ideals VK BAHUGUNA

From the overthrow of governments to the double standards in addressing terrorism, democracy has been reduced to a fashionable tool of manipulation by global superpowers



ne of the remarkable characteristics of the modern era is reflected in the progress of democracy, and the rise of nation-states. The modern era in the real sense started after the end of the Second World War with the establishment of the United Nations (UN) on October 25, 1945 at the end of the San Francisco conference which was attended by 50 countries and the UN Charter was adopted. The United Nations is the global diplomatic and political platform for ensuring international peace, progress and security. The democratic form of governance, freedom, equality and dignity of humanity is the cornerstone of the modern era. Ín this regard, world leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Martin Luther King played a very vital role in ending colonial rule in Asia, Africa and other such

Since then world leaders swear by the power of the masses in democracy and the rule of the elected leaders. The UN Security Council assumes the role of overseeing the peace and security of the world, especially the five Veto yielding countries China, Britain, France, Russia and the United States yield enormous clout in the Security Council. However, the Veto power in practice and particularly is used by these powers for thwarting any issue if one of them does not like it due to their geo-political interests and international

More than 80 years after the establishment of the UN, the world is still in the grip of intense conflicts and the noble objectives of the UN for ensuring world peace and security are lost in the realpolitik of big powers which smacks of hypocrisy and inherent bias. There are several examples of the derailing of the true democratic edifice of the world's governments, especially in third-world countries by the United States and Western powers. A recent example is dethroning of Sheikh Hasina Wazed's government in Bangladesh a classical example of hypocrisy by America and its allies.

Similarly, in dealing with terrorism the white race has double standards. I can kill



MORE THAN 80 **ESTABLISHMENT** OF THE UN, THE WORLD IS STILL IN THE GRIP OF INTENSE **CONFLICTS AND** THE NOBLE **OBJECTIVES OF** THE UN FOR **ENSURING WORLD PEACE** AND SECURITY ARE LOST IN THE REALPOLITIK OF **BIG POWERS** WHICH SMACKS OF HYPOCRISY

AND INHERENT

my terrorist anywhere in the world like America did to Osama Bin Laden and Khalistani terrorists and protagonists are provided with a platform to bash up India recently when the American President and Bill Clinton former President hosted and hailed Muhammad Yunus as a savour of democracy and human rights a few weeks ago with the promise of full support. Mr Yunus heads the puppet interim Government of Bangladesh as Chief Advisor. The world is asking America the lone super power is it permissible to oust a government by engineering well-orchestrated violent agitation. When the Indian Prime Minister was in the USA last month the Khalistani leaders were hosted by the white house. Every such thing is done in the name of democracy.

If this is allowed at the international level then any government can be ousted by the frustrated opposition in league with foreign pow-ers. Is it, not neo-colonialism being practised under the nose of the United Nations itself? Though the Hasina government might have committed some blunders after all, it was an elected government and the world should not support such illegal seizure of power by students origin wellplanned violent agitations. United States, China and the Western block have been supporting such regimes routinely in African countries and Pakistan and Bangladesh for the past several decades.

The anger against such hypocrisy of world leaders is growing and if the modern era has to survive the third world war which in any case is undergoing a different pattern in Europe and the West Asia, the people have to junk this system of the United Nations which is becoming a talking machine, a burden on

geo-political undemocratic stance of powerful countries making a mockery of the lofty UN Charter. The democracy Western leaders in UN practice can aptly be termed as 'Fashionable Democracy'. This fashionable democracy is a

tool to perpetuate and support all kind of undemocratic regimes that comes to power in the name of democracy, human rights and liberty. These lofty goals are being pooh-poohed by the powerful countries. There are talks about deep states interfering in the affairs of the countries to upset the ruling regimes that do not fall in line. In this regard, the non-state actors play a significant role though the national governments may not be promoting it directly but in the name of democracy, many outsiders do influence the govern-

The Indo-US relations built steadily after the end of the cold war during the last 25 years are a shining example of two democratic governments ensuring a global alliance of strategic importance to thwart the attempts of Chinese ambitions to browbeat other countries in the Asia-Pacific region. But the Cold War psychology of the white house is still promoting countries inimical to democratic values in the Indian sub-continent especially Pakistan which is ruled by the Army with a proxy govern-

This may derail the India-USA strategic relationship. Even Sheikh Hasina opined that her government was toppled after she refused to part with San Martin Island to the United States. China instead of supporting India, with which it has cultural affinity as well as trade interests, supports and aids Pakistan and has been fomenting trouble in the North-East and Ladakh for a long time with its resources and sub-serving the expansionist vision and is a poten-

tial threat to world peace.

Thus, it is a clear indication that the geopolitics of the world needs a serious rethink. If one analysis the sequence of events over the past 80 years or so the main reason for such behaviour of powerful countries is due to the patently undemocratic nature of assigning the Veto power to winners of the Second World War.

As for democracy, I would appropriately call it fashionable democracy to fool the people around the world in the name of democracy and liberty and this disease is also spreading in most of the countries all over the world including India where democracy has given way to Dynastic Democracy. The state of present day democracies was aptly forecasted by Socrates the ancient Greek Philosopher who said more than 2000 years ago that 'Democracies would elect Demagogues'. India is a glaring example of such leaders in states wno pander to this and skilfully use democracies to perpetuate their family interests in power games and practising vote bank

The Father of Athenian democracy was Cleistheneswho lived from 570 BC to 508 BC and who as Chief Magistrate successfully imposed democracy in the Athens assembly against the nobles hence is appropriately called as Father of World Democracy must be weeping in his grave seeing how democracy is being run by the world leaders and thus people of the modern era in the 21st Century. Is it, not food for thought for all of us who believe in true democracy because there is no alternative to true democracy like the ancient Indian panchayats system? At least India should reform from within and then lead the rest of the world.

(The writer is a former civil servant; views are personal)

# One Nation, One Ration: Revolutionising food security with 24/7 grain ATMs

These grain ATMs are a major step in India's fight against hunger. Biometric authentication and Aadhaar-linked portability ensures streamlined distribution

ince June 1, 2020, under the Modi administration, the 'One Nation, One Ration Card' system has been implemented across India, marking the beginning of a revolutionary scheme. Its purpose is to provide food grains to the poor, particularly those who migrate from one state to another, through a single

ration card. Initially, the system was launched in two clusters comprising four states (Andhra Pradesh-Telangana and Maharashtra-Gujarat). Even then, work was underway on inter-state ration card portability in other states. The government claimed that the common people would benefit most

this



Previously, ration cards were issued by the government to provide food grains and other rations to the poor at subsidised rates. However, when workers moved to another state, they often lost access to these benefits, particularly in more developed

states like Gujarat. With this new system, that issue is resolved, adding another significant chapter

Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food, and Public Distribution, Nimuben Bambhaniya, recently inaugurated Gujarat's first grain ATM in Bhavnagar, facilitating 24/7 ration distribution under the Central Government's Public Distribution System (PDS). The grain ATM, called Annapoorti, was the Karchaliapara area of Bhavnagar city to free the poor from India's outdated, bureaucratic ration distribution system. According to Minister Bambhaniya, the grain ATM represents a

global success story.
She expressed pride in the Annapoorti scheme, a globscheme. to this revolutionary initia- ally awarded solution devel- reach grain shops. For

oped in India, which is set to be operational in multiple states. Based on a year-long program, the Annapoorti technology, developed by WFP India, is an important step toward improving food security and ensuring that people receive their rations efficiently and accurately. The new system allows people to obtain their ration from any PDS shop, reducing dependence on shop owners and minimising corruption. After the One Nation, One

Ration Card' system, the biggest beneficiaries of grain ATMs will be migrant laborers and disadvantaged communities who live outside their home states for extended periods or are unable to



instance, if someone from

els to Delhi or Mumbai for work, they will be able to easily access ration from PDS shops or ATMs in those

The 2011 census reported that about 4.1 crore people had migrated to other states for work. The Aadhaar numbers of family members on over 85 per cent of the country's ration cards are registered, enabling them to use

the ATM system. India runs one of the world's largest food-based safety nets, providing subsidised grains to around 813 million people every month through a network of over 500,000

fair price shops (FPS). This initiative is key to the partnership with the United Nations World Food Bihar or Uttar Pradesh trav- Programme to enhance food

security. ATMs will be installed across the state, offering 24/7 access to food grains under the National Food Security Act. The Annapurna Yojana allows anyone with a valid PDS ration card, regardless of their state or union territory, to access their entitlements. The ATM can deliver up to 50 kg of grain in just five minutes, reducing wait-

ing time by 70 percent. Once biometric authentication with an Aadhaar card is complete, users will have continuous access to their entire ration. The modular design of the ATM allows for easy assembly based on the available space. Additionally, Annapoorti is energy-efficient and can be connected

to solar panels for automat-

The grain ATM is designed to distribute wheat and rice and includes a tank with a capacity to hold 2,500 kg of

grains, according to an official release. Officials explained that individuals covered under the National Food Security Act can visit the grain ATM at

any time, punch in their ration card, authenticate their identity using the fingerprint scanner, and collect their monthly ration. However, there is speculation that the grain ATM in Bhavnagar could also be used to attract migrant voters in the upcoming assembly elections. (The writer is a senior jour-

nalist; views expressed are



# at least 50 people: Witnesses

boat carrying scores of pas-Asengers capsized on Lake Kivu in eastern Congo on Thursday, killing at least 50 people, witnesses told The Associated Press.

It was not immediately clear exactly how many people were on board or how many perished but witnesses said they saw rescue services recover at least 50 bodies from the water. They said 10 people survived and were taken to the local hospital

The boat, overloaded with passengers, sank while trying to dock just metres (vards) away from the port of Kituku, the wit nesses said. It was going from Minova in South Kivu province to Goma, in North Kivu province.

Local authorities said that the rescue efforts continued and the death toll remained unknown for the moment. In February, the majority of the 50 passengers aboard a wooden boat were presumed dead after

the vessel capsized on Lake Kivu. "This boat was carrying about a hundred people when it had the capacity for about thirty passengers," the governor of the province of South Kivu Jean-Jacques Purusi told a local radio station following the acci-

It was the latest deadly boat accident in the central African country, where overcrowding on vessels is often to blame. Maritime regulations also are often not followed.

Congolese officials have often warned against overloading and vowed to punish those violating safety measures for water transportation. But in remote areas where most passengers come from, many are unable to afford public transport for the few available roads.

In June, an overloaded boat sank near the capital of Kinshasa and 80 passengers lost their lives. In January, 22 people died on Lake Maî-Ndombe and in April 2023, six were killed and 64 went miss-

Witnesses said the boat that capsized on Thursday was visibly overcrowded.

"I was at the port of Kituku when I saw the boat arriving from Minova, full of passen-gers," Francine Munyi told the AP. "It started to lose its balance and sank into the lake. Some people threw themselves into the water.

"Many died, and few were saved," she added. "I couldn't help them because I don't know how to swim."

The victims' families and Goma residents gathered at the port of Kituku, accusing authorities of negligence in the face of growing insecurity in the

Since the fighting between the armed forces and the M23 rebels made the road between the cities of Goma and Minova impassable, forcing the closure of the passage to trucks transporting food, many traders have resorted to maritime transport on Lake Kivu. It's an

alternative considered safer than road traffic, which is threatened by insecurity. But according to Elia Asumani, a shipping agent who works on this line, the situation has become dangerous: "We are afraid," he told the AP. "This shipwreck was predictable." Bienfait Sematumba, 27, said he

"They are all dead. I am alone now," he said, sobbing. "If the authorities had ended the war, this shipwreck would never have happened."

lost four family members.

The survivors, about 10 of them, were taken to Kyeshero hospital for treatment. One of them, Neema Chimanga, said she was still in shock.
"We saw the boat start to fill

with water halfway," she recounted to the AP. "The door of the boat opened, and we tried to close it. But the water was already coming in, and the boat tilted." "I threw myself into the water and started swimming," she said. "I don't know how I got out of the water.

# Boat capsizes in Congo, killing New NATO chief visits Ukraine in his first trip since taking office

before".

New NATO Secretary-General Mark Rutte visited Ukraine on Thursday in his first official trip since taking office and pledging the alliance's continued support for Kyiv in its war with Russia

Rutte met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in Kyiv as air raid sirens twice went off in the Ukrainian cap-The new head of NATO vowed

when he took office on Tuesday to help shore up Western support for Ukraine, which has been fighting Russia's full-scale invasion since February 2022 and has for most of this year been on the defensive due to a relentless Russian army push in the country's eastern regions. Rutte expressed confidence that he can work with whomever is elected president of the United States, the alliance's most powerful member, in November. That could be a key moment for Ukraine's effort to ensure continuing Western support.

with Rutte elements of Ukraine's so-called victory plan, ahead of NATO meeting at the Ramstein Air Base in Germany next week. The gathering draws together defence leaders from the 50-plus partner nations who regularly meet to coordinate weapons aid for the war. The two also discussed the battlefield situation and the specific needs of Ukrainian military units. Zelenskyy reiterated that Ukraine needs more armaments, including long-

Asked whether the war in the Middle East will affect the timeline he had envisioned for the victory plan, Zelenskyy noted that the US and Britain say Iran has supplied missiles and drones to Russia for use against Ukraine.

range weapons it has long

requested.

He also appealed for Western countries to scrap restrictions on Ukraine's use of Westernsupplied long-range weapons to strike deep inside Russia. "Of course, we want Ukraine to not

be forgotten. But the best way not to forget about Ukraine is to provide the appropriate weapons and the necessary permissions," Zelenskyy said. And to help shoot down...the same Iranian missiles or drones, just as they are shot down over Israel, to shoot them down in the same way over Ukraine." Rutte reiterated the alliance's unwavering support for Ukraine, insisting that "Ukraine is closer to NATO than ever

He said recent steps taken by NATO "build a bridge to NATO membership" for Ukraine, including 40 billion euros (\$44 billion) of funding assistance, bilateral security agreements between allies, and the formation of a new NATO command to coordinate assistance and training. Rutte arrived after a Russian glide bomb struck a five-story apartment block in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, injuring at least 12 people, including a 3-year-old girl, local officials said Thursday.

The bomb hit between the third and fourth floors of the building on Wednesday night, igniting a fire, Kharkiv regional Governor Oleh Syniehubov said. Firefighters searched for survivors through smoke and

The city of Kharkiv, around 30 km (18 miles) from the Russian border, has been a frequent target of aerial attacks throughout the war against Russia that is now deep into its third year. Increasingly common in the war, glide bombs have terrorised civilians and bludgeoned the Ukrainian army's front-line defences. Ukraine has no effective countermeasure for glide bombs, which are launched from Russian aircraft inside Russia. They were a key weapon in Russia's capture of the tactically significant town of Vuhledar on Wednesday, as Russian forces wreak destruction on the eastern Donetsk region and force weary Ukrainian troops to withdraw from obliterated towns and vil-

# 12 hurt as Russian bomb hits Ukrainian apartment

A Russian glide bomb struck a five-story apartment block in Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city, injuring at least 12 people including a 3-year-old girl, local officials said Thursday. The bomb hit between the third and fourth floors of the building on Wednesday night, igniting blazes, Kharkiv regional Gov. Oleh Syniehubov said. Firefighters searched for survivors through smoke and rub-

The city of Kharkiv, located around 30 kilometers (18 miles) from the Russian border. has been a frequent target of aerial attacks throughout the war against Russia that is now deep into its third year. Glide bombs have become an



Rescue workers clear the rubble inside a building damaged by a Russian airstrike in Kharkiv, Ukraine, Thursday.

increasingly common weapon in the war. They have terrorized civilians and bludgeoned the

weapon in Russia's capture of the tactically significant town of Vuhledar on Wednesday, as Ukrainian army's front-line Russian forces wreak destruc-defenses. They were a key tion on the eastern Donetsk

region and force weary Ukrainian troops to withdraw from obliterated towns and villages. Ukraine has no effective countermeasure for glide bombs, which are launched from Russian aircraft inside Russia. Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the latest Kharkiv attack highlighted the urgent need for increased support from Ukraine's Western allies.

Zelensky recently held talks with officials in the United States in an effort to ensure further Western military support. Russia has had the battlefield initiative since late last year, when a Ukrainian counteroffensive petered out. Ukraine is grappling with a critical manpower problem on the front line and is straining to hold back Russia's grinding assaults.

Though Russia's battlefield gains have been incremental, its steady forward movement is adding up as the Ukrainians are pushed backward and yield ground. Both sides have kept up regular cross-border aerial attacks, usually at night.

Ukraine's air force said Thursday that 78 out of 105 Shahed drones launched by Russia overnight were destroyed on Thursday as 15 regions of the country came under attack. The Russian military, meanwhile, intercepted Ukrainian drones overnight, according to a statement by the Defense Ministry in Moscow.

The drones were destroyed over four Russian regions on the border with Ukraine -Belgorod, Bryansk, Kursk and Voronezh, it said.

# Votes against party lines can be counted, rules Pak's top court

**PTI** ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's Supreme Court ruled Thursday that the votes cast by lawmakers in parliament against their party directions can be counted, in a major relief to the government seeking support for a constitutional amendment to tweak laws related to the judiciary. The apex court's previous rul ing had stated that the votes of parliamentarians who deviated from their party's directives were to be disregarded and not counted. The Supreme Court Bar Association had filed a review petition against the apex court's verdict related to the defection clause under Article 63-A of the Constitution.

Hearing the plea, a five-member bench led by Chief Justice of Pakistan Qazi Faez Isa announced the unanimous verdict and approved the review petition with the top judge saying the detailed verdict would be issued later.

The bench comprising Chief Justice Isa and justices Naeem Akhtar Afghan, Aminuddin Khan, Jamal Khan Mandokhail and Mazhar Alam Khan Miankhel issued the verdict fter hearing the petition that the bench had started on Monday.

The court in its May 17, 2022 verdict had said that the votes of the lawmakers would not be counted but after granting of review petition, the vote would be counted but the person going against the party line would lose his seat.

The 2022 verdict was given in response to the presidential case filed by then-President Arif Alvi. It was then a 3-2 split decision, with then-chief justice Umar Ata Bandial, Justice Ijazul Ahsan and Justice Munib Akhtar being the majority verdict authors. The development comes as the government is struggling to get support for its planned constitutional amendment to tweak laws related to the top judiciary.

Imran Khan's party claims over 700 supporters held ahead of protests Lahore (PTI): Over 700 sup-

porters of the jailed former Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan were arrested from different parts of Punjab province on Thursday, a day before a major showdown in Islamabad by his party for the independence of the judiciary, release of the party founder and against rising inflation.

"Do or die — October 4th is the battle cry! No more waiting, no more silence. This is the final stand at D Chowk (Islamabad), where the brave gather and the weak fall behind.

We are unstoppable, unbreakable, and ready to fight for the soul of this nation. Either we win or we perish trying," Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) said soon after the arrests started. It said the Punjab police arrested over 700 its workers and leaders in different districts including Bahawa Faisalabad, Mianwali Bahawalpur, Jhangh following its announcement to hold protests on Friday demanding independence of the judiciary, release of party founder Imran Khan and against rising inflation.

Punjab's provincial government had adopted similar measures to prevent PTI's Jalsa the power show – at Lahore last

month. Khan, 71, has been in jail since his arrest on August 5, 2023. Facing dozens of cases, he has been convicted in a few of them. His party has been staging protests demanding his release and claiming that the government should adhere to the constitution and the independence of the judiciary. PTI's central information secretary Sheikh Waqas Akram said the government led by

Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) had sealed the Red Zone in Islamabad and was taking similar measures in other cities to stop PTI workers from holding protests and public meetings.

PTI's call for protests has panicked the government which is why it is sealing the cities," he

The Punjab police have deployed heavy contingents of police and put in place containers at the entry and exit points of all cities to stop the protesters' movement, he said. "The selected districts were turned into no-go areas for the residents of Punjab and those inside the cities were not

allowed to go out." Punjab's provincial government on Thursday also imposed Section 144 in Lahore banning all kinds of political assemblies, gatherings, rallies

and protests. Vednesday despite the restrictions, party workers including women, took to the streets, managed to cross hurdles and survived tear-gas shelling to stage rallies in different cities, the PTI said.

Chief minister Maryam Nawaz, daughter of Khan's arch rival Nawaz Sharif, said political activity is allowed in the province but not terrorism by the PTI. "We will deal with such elements with iron hands," she said. Khan's party held three major political events, including a rally each in Islamabad and Lahore, and a protest in Rawalpindi. The party had called for protests in Mianwali, Bahawalpur and Faisalabad on Wednesday, which would be followed by a power show at D-Chowk in Islamabad on Friday.

# Amid reshuffle, B'desh recalls envoy from India

PTI DHAKA

 $B^{\text{angladesh's interim government has recalled five}}$ envoys, including its high com-missioner in New Delhi, as it carried out a second phase of reshuffle in the diplomatic service alongside the domestic administration, an official said

Case Details

ICICI Bank Ltd Vs GULFISHA CS (COMM) 4395/21

Auction Date : 4-November 2024

The interim government led by Professor Muhammad Yunus as the Chief Adviser has asked Bangladesh's envoys in India, Brussels, Canberra, Lisbon, and the Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York to return immediately said on Thursday, preferring and report to the foreign min-anonymity. Bangladesh High

Asset Details

Make and Model- MARUTI SWIFT, Vehicle No-DL2CAZ4264, Manuf. Yr 2018

istry here as part of the latest reshuffle. "The recalling of the envoys is part of a government decision under which our High Commissioner to India. Mustafizur Rahman, has been asked to return to the foreign ministry in Dhaka," an official

other allotmént done by the builder.

Dated: October 04, 2024 Place : Delhi/NCR

Commissioner in London Sadia Muna Tasneem was asked to return to Dhaka four days ago

The foreign service witnessed a major change in late August, weeks after the ouster of the then prime minister Sheikh Hasina's regime on August 5

For ICICI Bank Limited

Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited Plot
No-23, Shal Tower, 3rd Floor, New Rohtak
Road, Karol Bagh, New Delhi-110005
PUBLIC NOTICE:
Builder Carol Late:

This is to bring to your notice that ANKUR TYAGI/ SHWETA TYAGI (borrower/s) has availed Home loan facility vide facility agreement number LBNOD00003078610 located at FLAT NO 1123, 11TH FLOOR FERRARA MAHAGUN MEZZARIA SIENA, PLOT NO GH-01/A SECTOR

78 GAUTAM RUDDHA NAGAR NOIDA- 201301 The borrower/s has failed to pay the contractual amount to the builder as per the terms an conditions of the agreement.

The Bank had informed the same to the borrower through letter dated

June 02, 2021, informing that MAHAGUN INDIA PVT LTD. has cancelled the allotment of the above mentioned property. You are therefore

requested to resolve this matter with the builder within 7 days from the

date of this publication.

Please take further notice that post cancellation of the allotment of the

said property ICICI Bank shall not be bound and/or responsible for an

APPENDIX IV

[See rule 8(1)]

POSSESSION NOTICE

(For immovable property)

he undersigned being the Authorised officer of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", Head office

at, C-29.Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janak Puri, New Dehi - 110058, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Garij, New Dehi-110055, under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (54 of 2002) and

he borrower Sh. Ganesh Gupta S/o. Sh. Kumar Pal Gupta R/o. RZ-82, Gali No.1, Main Sagarpur New Delhi-110045 and calling upon the Mortgagor/sureties namely: Smt. Sneh Lata, Wio. Sh.Kumar Pal Gupta, R/o. RZ-82, Gali No.1,Main Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046, to repay the

mount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 22.32,298/- (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Thirty Two

Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Eight Only), together with further interest, penal interest and there charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of the notice till

he above mentioned borrower, mortgagor & surely having failed to repay the amount, notice is ereby given to the borrower, mortgagor, surely and the public in general that the Bank has taken

Symbolic Possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (4) of section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with rule [8] of The Security Interest (Enforcement)

The borrower, mortgaged 5 surety in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to feel with the mortgaged property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of

"The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", for an amount of Rs. 22,32,2984 together with further interest, penal interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time,

om the date of notice till the date of realization together with all the costs incurred by the Bank is

The borrower, mortgagor & surety attention is also been invited towards provisions of Sub-Section (8) of Section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of

ecurity Interest Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the below mentioned mortgage

he date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice.

Rules, 2002, on this 27" day of September 2024.

exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule [3] of The Security Interferement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated 27-05-2023 calling

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.

after a massive student-led

mass upheaval. The upsurge installed the Nobel Laureate's interim administration on August 8. Dhaka, at that time. ordered its ambassadors to the United States, Russia, Germany, Japan, the United Arab Emirates & Saudi Arabia and the High Commissioner to the Maldives to return home.

In the matter of M/s Mihurisha Global Marketing Pvt. Ltd

M/s Anil Bhutani Products Notice to: Respondent

hereas the above noted case is listed before Sol

Arbitrator Smt. Kamalakshi Singh Chauhan, The Delhi International Arbitration Centre (DIAC), Delhi High Court, S-Block, New Delhi on 09,10,2024 at 2p.m. Since despite the service, no one has appeared and represented the Respondent (M/s Anil Bhutani) on date fixed i.e. 23.09.2024 onsequently the Ld. Arbitrator has directed th Consequently, the Ld. Arbitrator has directed the Claimant (M/s Mihurisha Global Marketing Pvt. Ltd.) to serve the respondent through publication as a precautionary measure before proceeding ExParte against Respondent.

In pursuance to and compliance with the order dated 23.09.2024, we hereby serve upon you the present notice to appear either in person or through your Authorized Representative before the Ld. Arbitrator, DNI in expiricad matter a no. 91.3.0304

Arbitrator, DIAC in captioned matter on 09.10.2024 at 2p.m. Please note, in case no one appears on the aid date, time and venue before the Ld. Sole orbitrator, the matter will be heard and determined

x-Parte Inyour absence. Smt. Kamlakshi Singh Chauhan (Sole Arbitrator) The Delhi International Arbitration Centre (DIAC) Delhi High Court, S-Block, New Delhi Tel: D11-23386492

PUBLIC NOTICE

(In case of chain title deed is lost/misplaced)
NOTICE is hereby given that one Vinay Jugran is towner of the property situated at Flat No. 1-13, "sa Flat", on 11th Floor, area measuring 133.457 S Mirs., in Tower- J, built on Plot No. GH-07/ "GULSHAN VIVANTE" situated at Sector 13 Flair, on 1th Floor, area measuring 133.457 Sq. Mrs., in Tower- J. built on Plot No. GH-07A, "GULSHAN VIVANTE" situated at Sector 137, Noida, Distl. Gautam Budh Nagar, U.P. (hereinafter reterred to 'said property') vide Transfer Cum Gift Deed dated 24.05.2024 as doc. no. 3474 executed by Sh. Bipul Jugran in favour of Smt. Vinny Jugran in respect of said flat Vinay Jugran in respect of said flat Smy Jugran in respect of said property in favour of mybour clients [DFC FIRST Bank Limited (the Bank) (Branch Address-2nd Floor, Express building, 9-10 Bahadur Shanzafar Marg, Nev Delih 1110022). According to the said Mortgagors/Borrowers, Original documents namely (1) Allotment Letter dated 70.02.2015 issued by M/s Gulshan Homz Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Sh. Gaurav Singh & Smt. Vandana Bhati in respect of said flat. (2) Possession Letter dated 29.03.2016 issued by M/s Gulshan Homz Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Sh. Gaurav Singh & Smt. Vandana Bhati in respect of said flat. (3) Sub Lease Deed executed on 25.03.2016 by N/OIDA & M/s Gulshan Homz Pvt. Ltd. in favour of Sh. Gaurav Singh & Smt. Vandana Bhati in respect of said flat. (3) Sub Lease Deed executed on 25.03.2016 by N/OIDA & M/s Gulshan Homz Pvt. Ltd. through its authorized Signatory Sh. Birnay Bhushan Mallik in favour of Sh. Gaurav Singh & Smt. Vandana Bhati in respect of said flat and same was duly Registered with Sub Registrar I Noida as Doc No. 4715 in Book No. 1 vol No. 5552 on page 201-226 on date 29.03.2016 (4) Transfer Memorandum dated 01.11.2018 issued by N/OIDA in favour of Sh. Gaurav Singh & Gaurav Singh & Smt. Vandana Chantar referred to as "Original Documents") have been lost/misplaced and not traceable if the aforesaid Original Documents, found by any person, the same shall be handed over at the address mentioned herein below. Further, if any person, body, individual, institution h

claim, of such person shall be considered to ha

ciam, or such person shall be considered to been waived and or abandoned. Any objection raised after the completion of the 7 days shall not binding upon the said property or my Client. Place: Noida. Dated this 03rd Oct. day of 2024 Sdr- Law Veritas North, Office No. 11, 1st Floo Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar

# Singapore court jails Indian-origin ex-minister for 12 months

**PTI** SINGAPORE

Singapore's Indian-origin former transport minister S Iswaran has been sentenced to 12 months jail on Thursday by the High Court for obtaining gifts worth about SGD 403,300 over seven years, from two businessmen he considered his friends. The 62-year-old pleaded guilty to four charges relating to receiving gifts and one blocking justice on September 24, the first day of trial proceedings, cutting short what was set to be a protracted trial with 56 prosecution witnesses.

In sentencing, Justice Vincent Hoong said he had considered submissions on sentence from both prosecution and defence but was "ultimately unable to agree with both the positions taken". In his sentencing remarks, Justice Hoong emphasised that trust and confidence in public institutions are the bedrock of effective governance.

The judge added that the former minister abused the position to accept gifts worth about SGD 403,300 (USD313,200).

He said, "This can all too easily be undermined by a public servant who falls below standards

of integrity and accountability." The judge said it was significant that Iswaran had made public statements rejecting the charges as

false. "In a letter to the Prime Minister, Iswaran said he rejected the charges and was innocent, and believed he would be acquitted. Thus, I have difficulty believing that he was remorseful," The Straits Times quoted the Judge as saying. As Justice Hoong addressed the court, Iswaran looked down and took notes. The judge added, "The higher the office held by the offender as a public servant, the higher his level of culpability."

He said such individuals set the tone of public servants in conducting themselves with high standards of integrity, and they must avoid any perception that they are susceptible to influence to financial benefits.

Iswaran's lead lawyer Davinder Singh had argued for no more than eight weeks' jail, while Deputy Attorney-General Tai Wei Shyong

sought a jail term of six to seven months. "I'm of the view it is appropriate to impose a sentence in excess of both parties' positions," said Justice Hoong, adding that taking the submission of either prosecution or defence would

result in a "manifestly inadequate sentence". Justice Hoong noted certain aggravating factors such as the total duration of Iswaran's offending, the high office he occupied and the overall harm to public interest as well as trust in pub-

THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD. APPENDIX IV

SALE NOTICE

The under mentioned Assets will be sold through auction on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS" and "AS IS WHAT IS BASIS" for recovery of dues as per court orders, ir the following cases:-

Venue: Godara Yard, Khewat No:166/1, Near Atul Kataria Chock, Behind Gyan Devi School, Sec-17, Sukhrali, Gurugram Contact Person- Rohit Shrivastava (8657476284)/ Vijay Sharma (9372730494)

Terms of Sale

The particulars of the said asset specified herein above have been stated to the best of the information and knowledge of the undersigned, who shall however not be responsible for any error, misstatement or omission in the said particulars. The interested participant/s are therefore requested, in their own interest, to satisfy himself / themselves/ itself with regard to the said asset and

Successfully approved bidder shall have to deposit sale amount within 5 day: from the approval date by the way of pay order/demand draft/RTGS/NEFT.

The intending bidders may visit at ICICI Bank Ltd, Plot No 23, Shal Tower, Nev Rohtak Road,Karol Bagh,Delhi for details and inspection of the sai

other relevant details pertaining to it before submitting the bids

[See rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)

The undersigned being the Authorised officer of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", Head office at, C-29,Community Centre, Pankha Road, Janak Puri, New Delhi - 110058, having its registered office at 1916, Chuna Mandi, Pahar Ganj, New Delhi-110055, under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, (54 of 2002) and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule [3] of The Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, the Bank had issued a demand notice on dated 27-05-2023 calling upon the borrower Sh. Ganesh Gupta S/o. Sh. Kumar Pal Gupta R/o. RZ-82, Gali No.1, Main Sagarpur New Delhi-110046 and calling upon the Mortgagorisuretes namely. Smt. Sneh Lata, Wio. Sh.Kumar Pal Gupta, Rio. RZ-82, Gali No.1,Main Sagarpur, New Delhi-110046, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being Rs.22,32.2984 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakhs Thirty Two Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Eight Only), together with further interest, penal interest, and other changes as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time, from the date of the notice till the date of payment, with in 60 days from the date of receipt of the notice

The above mentioned borrower, mortgagor & surety having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower, mortgagor, surety and the public in general that the Bank has taken Symbolic Possession of the property described here in below in exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (4) of section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002, read with rule [8] of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules, 2002, on this 27" day of September 2024.

The borrower, mortgagor & surety in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the mortgaged property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of "The Kangra Co-operative Bank Ltd.", for an amount of Rs. 22,32,298/- together with further interest, penal interest and other charges as are applicable to this Loan account from time to time from the date of notice till the date of realization together with all the costs incurred by the Bank in The borrower, mortgagor & surety attention is also been invited towards provisions of Sub-Section (8 of Section 13 of The Securitisation and Reconstruction of the Financial Assets & Enforcement of

Security Interest Act, 2002, in respect of time available, to redeem the below mentioned mortgage

The property under All that part and parcel of the BUILTUP ENTIRE FIRST FLOOR AREA consideration is entire MEASURING 24 SQ.YDS., AND ENTIRE SECOND FLOOR AREA built-up First Floor and MEASURING 24 SQ. YDS. WITH ALL THE ROOF/TERRACE RIGHTS. ENTIRE Second Floor FORMING PART OF PROPERTY NO.RZ-82, ON PLOT NO.82, OUT OF with roof rights/ KHASRA NO.21/24, SITUATED IN REVENUE ESTATE OF VILLAGE area DABRI, DELHI STATE DELHI, ABADI KNOWN AS WEST SAGARPUR NEW DELHI-110046. Falling Under the Registration of Sub-Registra IX. New Delhi/ Delhi.

(HARISH SHARMA) **AUTHORISED OFFICER** THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD. HEAD OFFICE AT, C-29, COMMUNITY CENTRE PANKHA ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58. The property under All that part and parcel of the BUILTUP PROPERTY BEARING NO eration is entire RZ-82, ON PLOT NO.82, LAND AREA MEASURING 24 SQ.YDS., WITH built-up property ALL THE ROOF RIGHTS, OUT OF KHASRA NO.21/24, SITUATED IN

measuring 24 Sq. Yds. Under the Registration of Sub-Registrar IX, New Delhi/ Delhi. EAST: HOUSE OF OTHERS, WEST: HOUSE OF OTHERS, NORTH: NALA ROAD, SOUTH (HARISH SHARMA)

area ABADI KNOWN AS WEST SAGARPUR, NEW DELHI-110046. Falling

**AUTHORISED OFFICER** THE KANGRA CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD HEAD OFFICE AT, C-29, COMMUNITY CENTRE, PANKHA ROAD, JANAKPURI, NEW DELHI-58.

# in Trump election case

**AP** WASHINGTON

Donald Trump laid the groundwork to try to overturn the 2020 election even before he lost, knowingly pushed false claims of voter fraud and "resorted to crimes" in his failed bid to cling to power, according to a newly unsealed court filing from prosecutors that lays out fresh details from the landmark criminal case against the former president.

The filing from special counsel Jack Smith's team offers the most comprehensive view to date of what prosecutors intend to prove if the case charging Trump with conspiring to overturn the election reaches trial.

Though a months-long congressional investigation and the indictment itself have chronicled in stark detail Trump's efforts to undo the election, the new filing cites previously unknown accounts offered by Trump's closest aides to paint a portrait of an "increasingly desperate" president who while losing his grip on the White House "used deceit to target every stage of the electoral process'

So what?" the filing quotes Trump as telling an aide after being alerted that his vice-pres-

ident, Mike Pence, was in potential danger after a crowd of violent supporters stormed the US Capitol on January 6, 2021.

"The details don't matter," Trump said, when told by an advisor that a lawyer who was mounting his legal challenges wouldn't be able to prove the false allegations in court, the filing states.

The filing was submitted, initially under seal, following a Supreme Court opinion that conferred broad immunity on former presidents for official acts they take in office, narrowing the scope of the prosecution charging Trump with conspiring to overturn the results of the election he lost to Democrat Joe

The purpose of the brief is to con-

vince US District Judge Tanya Chutkan that the offences charged in the indictment are private, rather than official, acts and can therefore remain part of the indictment as the case moves forward. Chutkan permitted a redacted version to be made pub-

"Although the defendant was the incumbent president during the charged conspiracies, his scheme was fundamentally a private one," Smith's team wrote, adding, "When the defendant lost the 2020 presidential election, he resorted to crimes to try to stay in office.

Trump campaign spokesman Steven Cheung called the brief "falsehood-ridden" and "unconstitutional" and repeated oftstated allegations that Smith and Democrats were "hell-bent on weaponising the Justice Department in an attempt to cling to power."

"The release of the falsehood-ridden, Unconstitutional J6 brief immediately following Tim Walz's disastrous debate performance is another obvious attempt by the Harris-Biden regime to American undermine Democracy and interfere in this

The filing includes details of

conversations between Trump and Pence, including a private lunch the two had on November 12, 2020, in which Pence "reiterated a face-saving option" for Trump, telling him, "don't concede but recognise the process is over," according to prosecutors. In another private lunch days later, Pence urged Trump to accept the results of the election and run again in 2024.

"I don't know, 2024 is so far off," Trump told him, according to the filing.
But Trump "disregarded" Pence

"in the same way he disregarded dozens of court decisions that unanimously rejected his and his allies' legal claims, and that he disregarded officials in the targeted states — including those in his own party - who stated publicly that he had lost and that his specific fraud allegations were false," prosecutors wrote.

Trump's "steady stream of disinformation" in the weeks after the election culminated in his speech at the Ellipse on the morning of January 6, 2021, in which Trump "used these lies to inflame and motivate the large and angry crowd of his supporters to march to the Capitol and disrupt the certification proceeding", prosecutors wrote.

# Prosecutors lay out new evidence | Kamala Harris surveys Hurricane Helene devastation in Georgia

Augusta (AP): Vice-President Kamala Harris handed out meals, embraced a shaken family and surveyed Hurricane Helene's "extraordinary" path of destruction through Georgia on Wednesday as she left the campaign trail to pledge federal help and personally take in scenes of toppled trees, damaged homes and lives upended.

She visited Augusta, where power lines stretched along the sidewalk and utility poles lay cracked and broken. The vice-president spoke from a lectern erected in front of a house with a fallen tree teetering on its roof, acknowledging those who had died in the disaster while also trying to project a tone of unity and hope for communities now facing long and expensive rebuilds.

Harris and President Joe Biden, who visited the Carolinas on Wednesday, were seeking to demonstrate commitment and competence in helping devastated communities after Republican former president Donald Trump's false claims about their administration's response.

Harris said she wanted to "personally take a look at the devastation, which is extraordinary". She expressed admiration for how "people are coming together. People are helping perfect strangers".

The Democratic presidential nominee said that shows "the vast majority of us have so much more in common than what separates us", an echo of a line she frequently uses on the campaign trail.

Before delivering her remarks, Harris could be seen embracing and huddling with a family of five grappling with the storm's aftermath. "We are here for the long haul," she said. Harris also toured a Red Cross relief centre and received a briefing from local officials, praising those working to "meet the needs of people who must be seen and must be heard". I am now listening," she said.

Brittany Smith, an Augusta resident, walked away from the distribution centre with Styrofoam boxes of food and some fruit cups, beaming that she got a photo with the vicepresident. She said there's a hole in her roof and she had to send her kids elsewhere to live because it wasn't safe.

Harris' visit, she said, "made it better" despite the hardship. Smith said she was encouraged that Harris travelled to the town instead of just appearing on television. "She's a person. She's not just a voice." About 200 miles north in the Carolinas, Biden was also surveying the storm's aftermath. With many of the area's roads inaccessible, he flew by helicopter over toppled trees, twisted metal and towering piles of debris in the normaly tourist-friendly downtown of Asheville. From the air, Biden saw flooded roads, piles of shredded lumber and displaced sandbags, emergency trucks and downed power lines. In one area, homes were partly underwater, and it was hard to distinguish between lake and land. Visits to disaster zones are a familiar responsibility for Biden, who has frequently been called on to survey damage and comfort victims after tornadoes, wildfires and tropical storms. But this was Harris' first visit to a disaster area as vice-president.

Because of the destruction where Biden was on Wednesday, he was unable to walk

around and personally comfort people as Harris did in Georgia

Biden wore a vest and boots and, before his air tour, he hugged and grabbed the hand of Asheville Mayor Esther Manheimer, who was at the airport in Greenville, South Carolina, to meet him. The mayor, with visible emotion, said they could not close down the area's

Biden will be back in the region Thursday to visit Florida and Georgia, and Harris plans her own North Carolina trip in coming days - as Helene's aftermath continues to pose a political and humanitarian test for the administration.

one operable road for Biden's motorcade.

Before leaving Washington, Biden made a point of mentioning how an ongoing dock-workers strike could make getting supplies to hard-hit areas more difficult.

"Natural disasters are incredibly consequential. The last thing we need on top of that is a man-made disaster that's going on at the ports," he said. "We're getting pushback already, we're hearing from the folks regionally that they're having trouble getting product that they need because of the port strike? Harris is being especially watched as her bid for the White House enters its closing stretch, and Helene's path included the battleground states of Georgia and North

The vice-president last visited scenes of natural disasters as a California senator, including when she went to Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria in 2017 and when she walked through charred wreckage in Paradise, California, after the camp fire in 2018.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

M/s MMR SAHA INFRASTRUCTURE PRIVATE LIMITED has been granted

Environmental Clearance (EC)

regarding Revision & Expansion of Mix

land use project at Plot No. E-1, Sector

-52, Noida, District – Gautam Buddha

Nagar, Uttar Pradesh on 03.09.2024.

9023-8935. The copy of the

environmental clearance along with

EC24B3813UP5616165N, File No.

# UK hands over Chagos Islands to Mauritius, holds on to military base

**PTI** LONDON

 $T^{
m he}$  UK on Thursday announced a "historic" agreement that will see Britain hand over sovereignty of the remote Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean to Mauritius while it retains the joint UK-US military base on Diego Garcia. The British Indian Ocean Territory (BIOT) status of the disputed archipelago, made up of around 60 islands, has been in contention for many years and negotiations over its future began under the previous Conservative Party government in 2022. Under the agreement announced this week, the tropical atoll of Diego Garcia which the West says plays a crucial role in the region's stability and international security – will remain under UK and US jurisdiction for at least the next 99 years. "This government inherited a situation where the longterm, secure operation of the Diego Garcia military base was with contested sovereignty and ongoing legal challenges," said UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy.

General Public is hereby informed that I Anand Prakash Gupta, S/o Late Badri Prasa Gupta, R/o B 1/75, Paschim Vihar, Delhi 110063, not residing with daughter-in-lay

"Today's agreement secures this

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

(Smt. Shiveta Gupta), grandson (Maste Dhanesh Gupta) and my Son Sandee Gupta, have severed all my relations wit them due to the bad conduct and bad habits of daughter-in-law (Smt. Shiveta Gupta) grandson (Master Dhanesh Gupta). I have disowned and debarred my said So Sandeep and his family from all my movabl and immovable properties. They have n right, title and interest in my any self acquired properties or ancestral propertie

or even otherwise.

Anand Prakash Gupta

PUBLIC NOTICE Industrial PLOT bearing NO. F-123 measuring 2000 sq mtrs situate e-l, RIICO Industrial Area, Bhiwad area measuring 2000 s mitrs situated Phase-I, RIICO Industrial Area, Bhiwadi Dist-Alwar, Rajasthan ("The Said Property") Notice is hereby given to the general public including Banks, Financial Institutions, etc. that, as informed by our clients, M/s Tasha Exports (P) Ltd., they are the sole and absolute owner of the said property vide Sale Deed dated 05.07.2021 executed by M/s Cap Cab (India) Ltd., in their favour. The said sale deed is registered as Document No. 202103111103165 (SR-Bhiwadi). In this connection, our clients have further informed us that the following original documents namely (1) Lease Agreement dated 28.01.1997, executed by RIICO in favour GITCO Automotive (I) (P) Ltd., (2) Site Map & original endorsement letter from RIICO for merger of RIITCO Automotive (I) (P) Ltd., (2) Site Map & original endorsement letter from RIICO formerger of RIITCO Automotive (I) (P) Ltd., (2) Site Map & original endorsement letter from RIICO formerger of RIITCO Automotive India Private Ltd., with Cap Cab India Ltd., Bhiwadi, forming part of the chain documents have been lost, misplaced and not traceable. An ensire called the "said documents' have been lodged with Delhi Police Crime Branch vide LR No. 508114/2021td 24.07.2021. Now our clients intend to mortgage the said property with, IDFC FIRST Bank Limited, for avoigning loand documents any of them are/is found or have/fass been

f the aforesaid original said documents on any of them are/is found or have/has bee ound by any person, the same may b eturned and delivered to the undersigned a e address mentioned herein below urther, if any person, body, institution i ving any claim and/or objection in respe f the said property, he/she/they may rais inis/her/ their objection/s, in writing, with Jocumentary evidence, by Registered AD Post, to the undersigned at the address mentioned herein below within 07 days of publication of this notice. Otherwise, after province 07.7 days from the date of publication. xpiry of 07 days from the date of publication of this notice, no objection shall be acceptable and the said property shall be nortgaged by our clients in favour of IDFC TRST Bank Limited, and no objection shall e acceptable against such mortgage

Se acceptance against sustrinungage. Seneral Public may also take note that any feal or transaction done by anybody on the pasis of the said documents or any of them shall be illegal and not binding on our clients The person doing so shall be liable to be prosecuted under the law.

HIVKANT ARORA, ADVOCATE OR M/S INTELLECTIVE LAW OFFICES I-74, LOWER GROUND FLOOR, DEFENCE COLONY, NEW DELHI-110024

vital military base for the future. It will strengthen our role in safeguarding global security, shut down any possibility of the Indian Ocean being used as a dangerous illegal migration route to the UK, as well as guaranteeing our long-term relationship with Mauritius, a close Commonwealth partner," he

The Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) said the pact struck with Mauritius demonstrates Britain's commitment to safe-guarding global security and averting threats to peace and prosperity in the Indian Ocean and wider Indo-Pacific. It will see Mauritius assume sovereignty over the islands, with the UK authorised to exercise the sovereign rights of Mauritius on Diego Garcia.

PUBLIC NOTICE PA, ATS & Will dated 16.12.1994, executed Mr. Surender Kumar, and same to be finance SMFG India Credit Company Limited meral public hereby informed that if anyboo has any charge/interest/title in the said proper kind of dispute kindly inform

or any Kind of dispute Kindiy inform the midersigned in writing on the below mentioned iddress within 07 days of the present.

Mrs. Prasoon Lata & Rahul Raj Pathak, Advocate
Mrs. Prasoon Lata & Rahul Raj Pathak, Advocate
Fig. Lotus Pond Plaza/Vabbav Khand, Indirapuram, Chaziabud W.
-mail: sgassociatespl@gmail.com, Hr. 2011/12764, 10204440300

PUBLIC NOTICE General public is hereby informed that Mrs. Sulikha Jindal W/o Mr. Sanjeav Kumar Jindal is the owner of the Entire Freehold Built up Property bearing Nat 4240/2, area measuring 120 Sq. Vds., i.e. 100.33 Sq. Mirs., built on oil Ptor No. 35, stituate in the area of village Chowkri Mubarkabad, Abadi known as Budh Nagar, Jai Mata Market, Tri Nagar, Delhi-110035, by virtue of Sale Deed dated 26. Dr. 2023, regol, at Doc. No. 12222. The abovesaid property is to be financed & mortgaged with my clientie. Axis Finance Limited and She is the absolute owner of the property. one is the assolute owner of the property. I any person(s) have any objection(s) or claim in this iroperty, then contact the undersigned withi? days rorm date of this notice on below address, failing which, it will be assumed that there are nclaims or issues in respect of the aforesaid property.

Raghav Tiwari, Advocat Ch. 830, Patiala House Courts, New Delhi - 11000 urts, New Delhi - 110001 Mob.: +91-8076188328

आमंत्रित की जाती है:-

पार्किंग टू व्हीलर

80 फोर व्हीलर

कार्यालय नगर निगम, देहरादन

नगर निगम क्षेत्रान्तर्गत राजपुर रोड पर विभिन्न 7 स्थलों पर निविदा के माध्यम

से पार्किंग संचालन हेतु अनुबन्ध की तिथि से कुल 02 वर्ष हेतु निविदा प्रकाशन

(2). पंजाब ज्वैलर्स के सामने से होटल पार्क व्यू तक राजपुर रोड तथा गांधी

(3). जे॰जे॰टॉवर से एच॰डी॰एफ॰सी॰ बैंक तक राजपुर रोड-80 फोर व्हील

(4). आनन्दम् स्वीट्स से यूटेन्सिल स्टोर तक, राजपुर रोड– 40 फोर व्हीलर

(5). वन विभाग के गेट से वर्ल्ड ट्रेड सेन्टर तक राजपुर रोड। वर्ड टॉवर सेन्टर

(6). स्कॉलर होम गेट से आई०सी०आई०सी०आई० बैंक तक राजपुर रोड-

(7). पैसेफिक हिल्स के आगे मसूरी डाईवर्जन पर मसूरी रोड पर 50 फोर

निविदा के साथ निविदा सूचना प्रपत्र में निर्धारित धनराशि रू०-4.00 लाख,

डिमांड ड्राफ्ट / एफ०डी०आर० / तथा निविदा शुल्क का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट जो

वरिष्ठ वित्त अधिकारी नगर निगम, देहरादून के नाम प्लेज होगी। निविदायें

ई०निविदा के माध्यम से निर्धारित तिथि एवं समय उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी।

निविदादाता को निविदा हेतू निर्धारित शूल्क का डिमांड ड्राफ्ट / एफ०डी०आर०

को मूल रूप में दिनांक 18.10.2024 की अपरान्ह 4.00 बजे तक निगम कार्यालय

में जमा कराना अनिवार्य होगा जिसका परीक्षण दिनांक 19.10.2024 की सांय 4.00 बजे गठित समिति के समक्ष किया जायेगा। तकनीकी निविदा के परीक्षण

के उपरान्त तकनीकी निविदा में सफल निविदादाताओं की वित्तीय निविदा

समिति द्वारा खोली जायेगी। निविदा प्रपत्र एवं शर्ते विज्ञप्ति प्रकाशन की तिथि से

निविदा के माध्यम सेwww.uktenders.gov.in पर उपलब्ध करायी जायेगी।

नगर आयुक्त, नगर निगम, देहरादून

भी सम्मिलित है। 100-फोर व्हीलर व 100 दूँ व्हीलर

की बाउन्ड्री के अन्दर की तरफ सिंचाई विभाग की नहर के ऊपर का क्षेत्र

पार्क के आगे राजपुर रोड पर-80 टू व्हीलर तथा 35 फोर व्हीलर

<sup>पत्रांक:-54/भूमि-2024-25</sup> सार्वजनिक निविदा सूचना

#### PUBLIC NOTICE E- AUCTION NOTICE

olic is hereby informed that my client Sm W/o Sh. Ashok Kumar Shama R/o GF n Nagar Gali Post Office Wali, Shahdara 2, and her Husband have severed all thei

hesne will be lessed shown or will not responsible for the same.
Rajender Soni, Advocate,
1/222, Shri Ram Nagar,
GT Road, Shahdara, Delhi-32

Informed that my client MRS. PREM CHHABRA wife of Mr. Pawan Kumar Chhabra, R/o 9A, SFS Flats, B-Block, E.O.K., N.D.-65 has debarred and his wife Mrs. Charu Chhabra and (2) Mr. Anshul Chhabra & his Wife Mrs. Payal Maggo and their children from her all types of properties, bank accounts, movable and/or immovable properties. In Future, If any one deals with him/them my client

Dated 4-10-2024 Ch. 83. A. K. Sen Block. 9810002003

shall not be liable and responsible for the same.

My client Mr. Jahangir Alam S/o. Julfan R/o. H.No.A-124, 4th floor, Abul Fazal Enclave Part-II, Shaheen Bagh, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi-110025 and Tasmeem Bano W/o. Jahangir Alam have DISOWNED their son Mohd. Saquib from all his rights and entitlements from his properties since 16-09-2024.

They have also **Disowned** from any rights, title, interest which occurs in succession from his parents and other family members shall not be liable/responsible for any kind of act, deeds, transaction of any nature done by the **Mohd Saquib** with anyone and they shall be personally liable for any kind of

Enroll No.D-8627/2019

#### Old Chamber Block, Supreme Court, New Delhi **PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is to inform to the public at large that Mr. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal had acquired First Floor without roof rights area measuring 90 sq. yrds., Built on property bearing No. XIX/148, situated at Elias Ganj Daya Basti, Old Bohtak Boad, Delhi vide Belease Deed D 30.08.2024 executed by Mrs. Usha Goyal and Mi Vivek Agarwal, Now Mr. Sanjay Kumar Agarwal is the undisputed owner of the said property.

Any person / firm / institution / company having any aim or right in respect of the said Property by way o nheritance, share, sale, agreement, lease, license gift, possession, legal heirs, partners or encumbrance nowscever or otherwise is hereby required to infilmate n writing to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/their share or claim, if any, with all supporting documents at low mentioned address. After expiration of notice period, the claims, if any, of such person shall be treated null and void and also treated as waived and not binding on our client.

Ajay Kumar Giri (Advocate) H. No. 26/161. Rasemen Vikram Vihar, Lajpat Nagar 4, N. Delhi-110024.

#### (Fire Affected/Damaged Tracked Excavator - Make - JCB-JS-205-SC)

for disposal, strictly on "As Is Where Is" basis Damaged Tracked Excavator - Make-JCB-JS-205 SC belonging to M/S Hari Dutt. Salvage of the above materials can be inspected at Village Mirzapur, BPTP, Faridabad, Haryana, betwee 04/10/24 to 11/10/24, after taking prio appointment from Mr. Manoj Nagar 9873370804. E-Auction to be held on 12/10/24 For E-Auction forms, Contact **Mr. Neeraj Sadar** at Mob.: 8434340000 **E-Auction Insights Private** 

Enclave, Near Gurudwara Sahit Tehsil and District Patiala mail to us : info@eauctionbharat.cor Last date for submission of E-auction form is 11/10/24 before 05.00 PM

#### NEW DELHI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL

Palika Kendra : Sansad Marg **Electric Establishment-1, Personnel Department** 

#### **VACANCY CIRCULAR**

The New Delhi Municipal Council proposes to fill up 02 posts of Superintending Engineer (Electric) in the pay level 13 of Rs. 123100 - 215900 under 7th CPC pay matrix on deputation basis. The eligibility criteria and other terms and conditions for the post may be downloaded from NDMC website i.e. https://www.ndmc.gov.in/vacancy\_new.aspx.

The last date of receipt of applications completed in all respect is 31.10.2024 (Thursday).

Director (Personnel - II)

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS' EMPOWERMENT OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (AGRIL.), SOUTHERN ZONE, BRAHMAPUR, RITE CAMPUS, RANGEILUNDA, GANJAM No. 1055 //SE (Agril.) Date. 26.09.24 INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

e-procurement notice

Bid identification number / Tender call notice no - SE (A) S/Z-03/2024-25

The Superintending Engineer (Agril.), Southern Zone, Brahmapur who has been authorized as the procuring officer for the projects of Southern Zone, Brahmapur is directed to invite percentage rate bid on behalf of the Governor of Odisha for the Civil construction works under Southern Zone. The costs of the project is around 133.00 & 56.00 Lakhs (Excluding GST & LC) respectively. Bid document consisting of detailed tender call notice, the schedule of quantities and the set of terms and conditions of the contract and other necessary documents can be downloaded from https://tendersodisha.gov.in from 04.10.2024 at 11:00 hours to 18.10.2024 at 17:30 hours. The bid will be opened on 21.10.2024 at 11:30 hours onwards in the O/o Superintending Engineer (Agril.), Southern Zone, Brahmapur, RITE Campus, Rangeilunda. All other details regarding term and conditions, corrigendum from time to time if any, DTCN etc. can be seen and downloaded from https://tendersodisha.gov.in. Superintending Engineer (Agril.)

#### कार्यालय नगर पालिक निगम, खण्डवा ( म.प्र. )

टाउन हॉल एम.जी. रोड, खण्डवा (म.प्र.) पिन कोड – 450001, टैलीफोन/फैक्स नं. 0733–2223523, Email ID- <u>smokhandwa@mpurban.gov.lr</u> क्रमांक/यांत्रिकी प्रकोष्ठ/या.प्रं./ई-टेण्डरिंग/2024/239,240 खण्डवा, दिनांक 01.10.2024

		निम्नलिखि	-:: द्वितीय ई-निविदा विः त कार्य हेतु ऑनलाईन पोर्टल के माध्यम से निविदा निध		में ऑन	लाईन अ	ामंत्रित की जात	ती है।
9	<b>.</b>	टेण्डर आईडी	कार्य का नाम	अनुमानित लागत ( लाख में )	धरोहर राशि	निविदा प्रपत्र की राशि	विक्रेता/निर्माता की श्रेणी	कार्य पूर्ण की अवधि
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1			SUPPLY OF GARBAGE TIPPER 3.5 CUM ON VEHICLE CHASIS BS-VI ON ASHOK LEYLAND MAHINDRATATA OR ANY OTHER EQUIVALENT MAKE FOUR WHEELER WITH RTO INSURANCE & INCLUDING SOUND SYSTEM (28 No.)	168.00 Lakhs	84,000/-	10,000/-	प्रतिष्ठित निर्माता/कंपनी अधिकृत डीलर	01 माह

निविदा ऑनलाईन क्रय एवं प्रस्तुत करने की अंतिम तिथि निविदा खोलने की दिनांक

2. 2024\_UAD SUPPLY OF GARBAGE TIPPER 2.2 CUM ON VEHICLE

373538 1 CHASIS BS VI ELECTRIC Vehicle (EV) ON ASHOK LEYLAND

MAHINDRA/TATA OR ANY OTHER EQUIVALET MAKE FOUR

WHEELER WITH RTO INSURANCE & INCLUDING SOUND

16.10.2024 ( सायं 5.30 बजे तक ) 18.10.2024 ( सायं 10.30 बजे तक )

84,000/- 10,000/-

निविदा संबंधी समस्त जानकारी वेबसाईट http://www.mptenders.gov.in पर देखी जा सकती है। ई-निविदा में यदि किसी भी प्रकार का संशोधन किया जाता है, तो वह समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित नहीं किया जावेगा।

नगर पालिक निगम, खण्डवा

निर्माता/कंपनी

अधिकत डीलर

01 माह

की तिथि से दिनांक 19.10.2024 की अपरान्ह 2.00 बजे तक ई० निविदायें (1). घन्टाघर में मुख्य डाक घर के सामने पटेल पार्क के आगे-80 वाहन

#### कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण शाखा, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम, चम्पावत

पत्रांक - 1178/निविदा/109

पिन-262523 फोन : कार्यालय : 05965-230044 E-mail: executivechampawat@gmail.com

Lakhs

अल्पकालीन निविदा नोटिस

अध्यक्ष उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल संसाधन विकास एवं निर्माण निगम की ओर से अधोहस्ताक्षरी द्वारा निम्नलिखित कार्यो हेतु निर्दिष्ट श्रेणी में **उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम/ उत्तराखण्ड जल संस्थान** में पंजीकृत ठेकेदारों से मृहरबन्द निविदाय दिनांक 18.10.2024 को अपरान्ह 1.00 बजे तक आमन्त्रित की जाती हैं, जो उसी दिन 2.00 बजे अपरान्ह कार्यालय अधिशासी अभियन्ता, निर्माण शाखा, उत्तराखण्ड पेयजल निगम, चम्पावत में उपस्थित निविदा–दाताओं या उनके मनोनीत प्रतिनिधि के समक्ष अधिशासी अभियन्ता द्वारा या अधिकृत प्रतिनिधि के द्वारा खोली जायेंगी। निविदा प्रपत्र किसी भी कार्य दिवस में प्रातः 10.00 बजे से सायं 5.00 बजे तक प्राप्त किये जा सकते हैं।

क्र0 सं0	कार्य का विवरण	कार्यक्रम का नाम	निविदा प्रपत्र का मूल्य	घरोहर धनराशि	निविदा विक्रय की अन्तिम तिथि	कार्य पूर्ण करने की अवधि	पंजीकृत श्रेणी
1	कउनौली (रेट्रो) पेयजल योजना (पुनरीक्षित) के अन्तर्गत श्रोत कार्य, गुरुत्व प्रणाली, जलाशय, वितरण प्रणाली तथा तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य।	र्य, जीवन	1500.00+ 18% GST	30,000.00	17.10.2024	1.5 माह	"डी" एवं उच्चतर
2	कांडा (रेट्रो) पेयजल योजना (पुनरीक्षित) के अन्तर्गत श्रोत कार्य, गुरूत्व प्रणाली, वितरण प्रणाली तथा तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य।	जल जीवन मिशन	2000.00+ 18% GST	48,000.00	17.10.2024	2 माह	"डी" एवं उच्चतर
3	ढकना बडोला (रेट्रो) पेयजल योजना (पुनरीक्षित) के अन्तर्गत श्रोत कार्य, वितरण प्रणाली तथा तत्सम्बन्धी कार्य।	जल जीवन मिशन	500.00+ 18% GST	10,000.00	17.10.2024	1 माह	"डी" एवं उच्चतर

यू०के० टैन्डर की वेबसाईट से भी डाउनलोड की जा सकती है अथवा किसी भी कार्यदिवस में नगर निगम कार्यालय से प्राप्त की जा सकती है। निविदा ई० के नोटिस बोर्ड में देखी जा सकती हैं।

अधिशासी अभियन्ता

PUBLIC NOTICE

is hereby given on behalf of VINAY Notice is hereby given on behalf of VINAY MODI/who is/are owner of Plot No. 28, having area measuring 50 Sq. Yds., out of Khasra No. 654, situated at Pal Vihar colony at village Dharoti Khurd Pargana Loni Tehsil & District Ghaziabad, (U.P.),; purchased the same from Mamta Sharma vide Sale Deed

elow, about his objections, within **7 days** fr oday, failing which it shall be presumed t ne said property is free from all type Encumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal Lt Plot No.136, (Basement) Uday Par New Delhi-110049,Contact # 011-400463

the conditions to be complied with is available on the website of the SEIAA i.e. http://www.seiaaup.in. New Okhla Industrial Development Authority



Administrative Building, Sector-6, Noida - 201301 (U.P.)

#### **E-TENDER NOTICE**

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

- 27/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, Water Chlorination (Two Year Operation, Running and Maintenance of Chlorination Plant at UGR-20/62, 22/62, UGR-63, UGR-119, UGR-151 and UGR Bahlolpur), Noida. Cost Rs. 96.05 Lacs 24/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, M/o W/s (Two Year Cleaning of OHT/UGR
- in Sector-8, 11, 12, 15 and 15A) Noida. Cost Rs. 32.53 Lacs 3. 17/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2023-24, D/o Village (Two year Repairing,
- Raising, P/F Manhole Cover frame and Cleaning of sewer line Hazratpur, Wazidpur), Noida. Cost Rs. 69.49 Lacs
- 32/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, Strengthening of W/s (Special repair of OHT Sector-70) Noida, Cost Rs. 77,89 Lacs.
- 33/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, Sewerage and W/s of Sector-136 & 137 (P/L Water line Sector-136 to UGR-90), Noida, Cost Rs. 94.44 Lacs. 34/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, Vill. Dev. (P/L of Water and Sewer Line
- for Village- Yakubpur), Noida. (Balance Work). Cost Rs. 59.88 Lacs. 35/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, M/o W/s Labour/Operation (Running & Operation of UGR and TWs for network sector-70 and 73), Noida.

(For Two Years), Cost Rs. 52.22 Lacs.

- 37/S.M.(Jal)-II/E.T./2024-25, M/o W/s (S/F of line shaft for TWs in network Sector-70, 71, 72, 73, 107, 90, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140 and 140A), Noida. (For Two Years). Cost Rs. 99.84 Lacs. 14/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T./2024-25, D/o Village (P/F FRC Cover Frame &
- Cleaning of Sewer line Manhole by Portable Re-cycler Jetting cum Suction Machine De-Silter equipment in Village-Shahpur, Sultanpur & Raypur), Noida. (AMC for Two Year) Cost. Rs. 88.08 Lacs 10. 21/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T./2024-25. D/o Village (Annual R/o PVC water
- lines & R/o Sluice Valve, Reflex Valve at different places in Network Village-Nayagaon, Illabans, Nagla Charandas, Kakrala, Sapera Basti & Bhuda), Noida. (For Two Years). Cost Rs. 66.97 Lacs

11. 22/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T/2024-25, D/o Village (Water line repair, repairing Sluice Valve, Reflex Valve, Repairing of Chamber etc. related Work in Village-Chamber etc. work in Village-Barolla & Raypur) Noida. (AMC for Two Years) Cost. Rs. 79.59 Lacs

Which can be uploaded by date: 17.10.2024 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date:- 18.10.2024

1. 21/S.M.(JAL)-I/E.T./2024-25, M/o W/s (Two Years Maintenance &

R/o V.T Motor and Allied Electrical work in Network Sector-119 and 120, 151 to 154), Noida, Cost Rs. 39,99 Lacs 03/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T./2024-25, D/o Village (P/Laying Sewer/Water

line in Village-Jhatta) Noida. Cost Rs. 64.32 Lacs

07/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T./2024-25, M/o W/s (Annual Repairing of PVC Water line in Sector- 83, 84, 85 & Hosiery Complex) Noida. (For Two Years). Cost. Rs. 69.72 Lacs

08/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T./2024-25, M/o W/s (Annual Repairing of PVC Water line in Sector-46, 47 & 48) Noida. (For. Two Years). Cost. Rs. 54.15 Lacs 09/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T./2024-25, D/o Village (Annual raising, repairing

& cleaning of Sewer Manholes in Village-Nagla Charandas, Kakrala, Bhuda, Sapera Basti, Illabans & Nayagaon), Noida. (For Two Years). Cost. Rs. 66.57 Lacs 6. 13/S.M.(Jal)-III/E.T./2024-25, M/o Sewerage (Annual Two Years

Maintenance of Non clog Submersible at SPS-92) Noida. Cost. Which can be uploaded by date: 10.10.2024 upto 5.00 PM. Pre-qualification shall be opened/downloaded on date:- 11.10.2024

at 11.00 AM. General Manager (Jal)

**CLEAN, GREEN, SAFE & SECURE NOIDA** 

# Samsung workers protest continues to 4th week | Government launches internship programme for youth

Workers of Samsung India Electronics Ltd on Wednesday observed a token fast near the factory in Chennai on Wednesday, as part of intensifying their ongoing protest w entered the fourth week. which

communist Party of India (Marxist) led Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) which is spearheading the protest by the employees said they would be meeting the Director of Factories in a day or two, alleging that the Korean electronics giant has roped in temporary workers to work in the shop floors in view of the strike.

About 1,100 employees of Samsung India Electronics Ltd are on strike since September 9 pressing for various demands including wage revision and better conditions. While several rounds of talks held in the presence of the Labour Department and company



officials failed. another tripartite meeting has been planned for next week, said CITU leaders.

We are observing a token fast today. We want the state government to come forward and resolve the issue fast. Our most important demand is to recognise the Samsung India Workers Union by the labour department at the earliest. "The temporary labourers are not trained like regular employees and this attitude by the management is not acceptable. We will file a complaint with the Director of Factories in a day or two, said the trade union leaders. Samsung's Chennai unit produces consumer durables at the factory including airconditioners, refrigerators and television sets. Recently, Union Labour Minister

the Tamil government urging to resolve the issue amicably. On Tuesday, the CITU members staged a protest in some districts as part of extending their support to the Samsung India workers

They were detained by the police and were released

Samsung India recently said scores of agitating workers have returned to work soon after it issued a show-cause notice. "The management has already indicated that all the issues can be resolved by discussions and has made various harmonious attempts to resolve differences and for your report to duty," Samsung had said. Due to the strike, Samsung India said the impact on the plant operations was minimal and added that the welfare of the employees is of top priority and would engage with them to address any grievances they may have.

PTI NEW DELHI

The government on Thursday rolled out the internship programme that will provide financial assistance of Rs 60,000 per annum to 1 crore youth over a period of five years.

In 2024-25, the total cost of the pilot project will be around Rs 800 crore and will look to provide internship to 1.25 lakh candidates during this fiscal, government sources said on Thursday.

Announced in the Union Budget 2024, the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme in Top Companies will also provide insurance coverage to the interns.

will scheme implemented through an online portal developed by corporate ministry.

Subject to certain conditions, youth aged between 21 and 24 years will be eligible for the scheme, the sources said.



The internship programme will commence on December

The other company/ bank/ financial institution can participate in the scheme with the approval of the ministry, which will take into consideration factors like sectors and areas underrepresented by the top 500 companies.

The interns will be provided a financial assistance of Rs 5,000 per month and out of

the total amount, Rs 4,500 will be disbursed by the government and Rs 500 will be paid by the company from its CSR funds.

Also, a one time grant of Rs 6,000 for incidentals will be disbursed by the ministry to each intern, upon joining the place of internship.

Expenses associated with the training of interns under the scheme will be borne by the company from its CSR funds. Insurance coverage will be provided to each individual intern under insurance schemes of the Union government, PM Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana and PM Suraksha Bima Yojana.

The premium amount in this regard will be offered by the government. As part of the eligibility criteria, sources said, candidates enrolled in online/ distance learning

programmes are eligible to

Candidates who have passed High School, Higher Secondary School, possess a certificate from an ITI, hold a diploma from a Polytechnic Institute, or are graduates with degrees such as BA, B.Sc, B.Com, BCA, BBA, B.Pharma, etc. Are eligible, sources said. Companies will have a dedicated dashboard on the portal where they can post internship opportunities, detailing location, nature, required qualifications, and any facilities provided.





# Kia launches two new MPV

ia India today launched the second-generation of their Kia Carnival Multi-Person Vehicle (MPV) and the EV9 electric MPV for Rs

respectively. The Carnival sold 14,500 units in its first generation and Kia expects the new vehicles to help it climb into the luxury segment

# SEBI lowers InvIT trading lot to ₹ 25 lakh



secondary market trading for

privately placed InvITs is set

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Markets regulator Sebi has drastically reduced the trading lot size of privately investment trusts (InvITs) to Rs 25 lakh in a bid to boost investors' participation and increase liquidity of such investment vehicles. The current trading lot for

at Rs 1 crore. Further, if the InvIT invests at least 80 per cent of its asset value in completed and revenueinfrastructure generating assets, then the

trading lot is Rs 2 crore. 'Trading lot for the purpose of trading of units on the designated stock exchange shall be Rs 25 lakh," Sebi said

in its notification dated September 26. The move came into effect the same day. The move will help increase the liquidity of privately placed InvIT units by permitting a broader base of investors to participate in the market and diversification of investment

portfolios. În separate notifications, Sebi has amended its rules on infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs) and real estate investment trusts (REITs) to reduce compliance burden and facilitate ease of doing

Under this, Sebi has fixed the timeline for undertaking distributions to unitholders by the REIT and InvIT to five working days from the date of declaration. The move is expected to bring efficiency to the distribution process and will aid in making funds available to investors within a relatively shorter period of

The markets regulator has allowed REITs and InvITs to call a unitholders' meeting after giving shorter notice (less than 21 days) if consent is granted by writing or in electronic mode. In case of an annual meeting,

consent by at least 95 per cent of unit holders will be needed and in case of any other meeting, consent by a majority of unit holders will



## Mahindra Thar ROXX sees 1.76 lakh bookings in 60 minutes

PNS NEW DELHI

Mahindra which in September overtook Tata Motors for the third position in India's passenger vehicle market and came extremely close dethroning Hyundai from second position today claimed that their new Thar

ROXX SUV has bookings of 1,76,218 units in the first 60 minutes.

The Mahindra Thar ROXX which is the five door variant of the very popular Thar off-road SUV was launched on August 14 and prices start at Rs 12.99 lakh going up to Rs 22.49 lakh for the fully-

#### Goyal seeks US investments for Indian manufacturing



PTI NEW DELHI

Tommerce and Industry ✓Minister Piyush Goyal has held a series of meetings with US business leaders in New York to seek investments in India.

He met Chief Operating Officer of BlackRock Robert Goldstein, Chairman and CEO of Systems Technology Group Anup Popat, CEO of Tillman Holdings Sanjiv Ahuja, chief executive officer of C4V Shailesh Upreti, and Janus Henderson Investors CEO Ali Dibadj. During the meetings, Goyal discussed

business, development, manufacturing sectors

through

incentive schemes.

collaboration to position India as a global manufacturing hub and invited the investors to increase their commercial and trade footprints in India, the commerce ministry said. In another meeting, the minister emphasised the government's commitment to improving ease of doing infrastructure (intellectual property rights) reforms, and prioritising

opportunities

# Coal production jumps 32 per cent in FY24-25

The coal production from captive and captive commercial coal blocks rose by 32 per cent to 79.72 Million Tonne (MT) in the April-September period of the ongoing fiscal. The coal output from both

captive and commercial coal

blocks was 60.52 MT in the first half of the previous fiscal. The coal dispatch rose by 34 per cent year-over-year, from 65.37 MT in H1 of FY'24 to 87.86 MT in H1 of FY'25. There has been "a significant rise in coal production and dispatch from both captive and commercial coal blocks during the first half of FY 2024-25, from April 1, 2024, to September 30, 2024, compared to the same period

The coal production in September rose by 32 per cent to 13.74 MT from 10.40 MT. Likewise, dispatch in the month of September has

last year," the coal ministry

said in a statement.



grown by 47 per cent year-over-year, from 9.68 MT in FY'24 to 14.27 MT in FY'25. The coal ministry said that it applauds the efforts of all stakeholders, including coal companies and industry partners, for their invaluable

support. The ministry, it said, is dedicated to helping all coal block allottees navigate challenges and optimise their operations

Its primary objective is to significantly increase coal production, ensuring a steady and reliable supply to meet the country's growing energy demands.

collaborative Through initiatives and focused assistance, the ministry aims enhance efficiency, sustainability, and output across the coal sector.

## BPCL signs pact for green fuel ecosystem at Mumbai port

State-owned BPCL has inked an initial pact with Mumbai Port Authority and Mumbai (MPSF) for setting up a green fuel ecosystem at the port.

The MoU is a pivotal step towards driving India's transition to cleaner energy solutions.

By focusing on green fuel innovations, this initiative aims to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to the country's climate change goals, a BPCL statement said.

Additionally, the pact outlines an exploration into the conversion of diesel-powered vessels to cleaner fuel alternatives, further enhancing the port's green infrastructure and reducing its carbon footprint, it said.

The agreement was formalised during the launch of the Cruise Bharat Mission by Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal at Mumbai Port earlier this week, according to BPCL. As part of the initiative, the two partners will jointly set up

EV charging stations at Mumbai Port, promoting green energy adoption for port users and the general public, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) said. "This MoU is consistent with BPCL's plans towards a sustainable tomorrow alongside our own aspiration to achieve net zero emissions in Scope 1 and Scope 2 by 2040. Enabling sustainable energy solutions like LNG and EV for the maritime

sector is part of our endeavour to demonstrate social responsibility and partnering for sustainable growth with that of the communities we serve." said G Krishna Kumar, Managing Chairman Director, BPCL.

The agreement also includes provisions for waste management, as BPCL and

Bharat MPSF will work on systems for source segregation, storage, and handling of recyclable and non-recyclable solid waste at Mumbai Port, it said, adding this initiative

> practices, ensuring a cleaner more sustainable and operational environment. 'Our partnership with MbPA is a testament to BPCL's strategic vision of advancing the sustainable fuels business By leveraging LNG and green energy infrastructure, we aim to reshape the future of maritime operations.

> promotes socially responsible

This collaboration reflects our commitment to driving innovation in fuel solutions that not only reduce carbon emissions but also create long-term value for the environment and the industry," said Rahul Tandon, Business Head (I&C), BPCL.

# Ashok Leyland, Nidec tie up to develop e-drive motors for commercial vehicles

appropriate

PTI MUMBAI

ommercial vehicle maker CAshok Leyland Thursday said it has entered into a partnership with Japanese firm Nidec for developing e-drive motors for commercial vehicles. Under the multi-pronged

collaboration, the two partners will work to establish a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Electric Drive Units (EDUs), which will focus on developing motor technologies and power electronics systems for EVs, along with innovations in gear-shifting mechanisms, Ashok Leyland said in a

statement. "This collaboration allows us

to co-develop, innovative edrive motors specifically designed for the unique demands India's commercial vehicle market, while significantly advancing our electric mobility capabilities," said Shenu Agarwal, Managing Director and CEO at Ashok Leyland.

The collaboration will also involve joint research and development efforts, with both companies contributing to skilling, lab infrastructure, and defining novel, differentiated motor technologies for the EV portfolio of Ashok Leyland and its subsidiary Switch Mobility, the company said. Ashok Levland further said it

will continue to source motors



from Nidec for its existing EV lineup, while collaborating on research and development for future electric solutions.

"Our investment strategy and motor technology are well complemented by Ashok Leyland, who understand the precise and specific demands of the commercial vehicle market," said Michael Briggs, President at Nidec Motion &

The announcement comes days after the government launched the Prime Minister E-Drive Scheme with an outlay of Rs 10,900 crore for faster adoption of electric vehicles, setting up of charging infrastructure and development of manufacturing ecosystem in the country. The scheme has come into effect from October

# Extensive Safety Awareness Drive

Tata Power-DDL conducts

PNS NEW DELHI

Tata Powe Distribution Power Limited organised an extensive safety drive for its consumers and field staff to reduce the chances of electricity-related incidents.

Under this drive, more than Lakh installations including plain cement and concrete (PCC) poles, street lights, stay wires, towers, rail poles, fencing of sub stations, feeder & service pillars, PWD Poles, MCD Poles, ATMs & lights installed in parks were checked for any unsafe situation / hazard and rectifications thereof.

Tata Power-DDL is dedicated to supporting Ramleela, Durga Puja, and other festive

events by providing temporary connections within 24 hours. While the discom is committed to offering tatkal connections during the festive season, the safety of people in mass gatherings remains of utmost priority.

Tata Power-DDL's operations and maintenance teams would remain on high alert to handle any safety-related issues that may arise during this time. Additionally, consumers are advised to take due precautions with their wiring and avoid any loose connections, as these can lead

to accidents. It is also crucial to install an ELCB (Earth Leakage Circuit Breaker)/RCCB to protect both people and equipment from electrical shocks.

#### **INBRIEF**

#### **GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY RELEASES SCHEDULE**

AMRITSAR: The online examination form submission and fee payments for December 2024 exams of Law FYIP/TYP, B.Ed., B.A.-B.Ed., B.Sc.-B.Ed, B.Com-B.Ed and B.Ed-M.Ed Sem-1 for Regular students through online porta

GNDU NSS UNIT ORGANISES WORKSHOP ON E-WASTE MANAGEMENT

AMRITSAR: The NSS unit of Guru Nanak Dev University, successfully organized a comprehensive E-waste management drive under the banner of "Swacchta Hi Sewa." The initiative aimed to raise awareness about the pressing issue of electronic waste



#### **ZONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL OF "GCA ZONE" KICKS OFF**

AMRITSAR: The three-day Zonal Youth Festival of "GCA Zone" of Guru Nanak Dev University began here today with great enthusiasm and energy, marked by an impressive inauguration ceremony presided over by S. Charanjit Singh Sohal, IPS SSP Amritsar (Rural). The festival will be concluded on October 5.



As we observe *World Animal Day* 2024, we embrace the theme, "The World is Their Home Too" This day serves as a powerful reminder that animals share our planet and deserve our care and protection. Let's come together to ensure that every creature feels safe and loved in the world we all inhabit, says **SAKSHI PRIYA** 

Collage: Satish C Jakhmola

Animal Day, we are reminded a simple yet profound truth: animals share our world and in many ways, they reflect the best parts of ourselves. As we go about our lives, it's easy to forget the loyalty, grace and beauty that animals bring to this planet. Whether it's the silent strength of a tiger in the wild or the trusting eyes of a stray dog, animals have a way of touching our hearts. As the author Anthony Douglas Williams once said, "We have more to learn from animals than animals have to learn from us." Their unconditional love, resilience and ability to live

October 4th, *World Animal Day*, is a time to highlight the pressing issues that animals face across the globe. The theme for this year, "The World is Their Home Too," is a powerful call for all of us to recognise the rights of animals, whether they are roaming freely in the wilderness or wandering the streets as strays. This day is a chance to reflect on how we treat the creatures that share our planet and to realise that they, too, deserve safety, respect and love.

harmoniously with nature offer us

lessons in compassion, humility and

From the majestic Royal Bengal Tiger to the critically endangered Indian Rhinoceros, the wildlife in India is under constant threat.

Habitat destruction, poaching and human-wildlife conflict have left these species teetering on the edge of survival. The tiger, once a symbol of untamed power, now roams in small, fragmented patches of forest. The Indian Rhinoceros, whose numbers were once decimated by hunting, faces the constant pressure of habitat loss and illegal poaching for its horn. Similarly, the Asiatic Lion, which now has a population of approximately 600 individuals confined to the Gir Forest, faces an uncertain future in its last remaining natural habitat. This small population survives in a limited area, making them vulnerable to catastrophic events like disease outbreaks or forest fires, which could wipe them out forever. These creatures, emblematic of India's natural heritage, are not merely animals, they are vital parts of ecosystems that sustain life,

including our own. Yet, it's not only the rare and exotic species that require our attention. Animals that live closer to us, whether they are stray dogs, cattle, or even birds, also face significant challenges. Stray dogs, in particular, bear the brunt of urban neglect. But beyond the dogs, there are countless other animals like cows left to fend for themselves on the streets, often injured or malnourished. Birds, too.

# BOOKS TO CELEBRATE WORLD ANIMAL DAY

MOUNTAIN

HAMMALS OF

THE WORLD

The Gopi Diaries is a charming series for children by Sudha Murty, published by Harper Children's. The series follows Gopi, a lovable pup. In Coming Home, Gopi is adopted by a loving family and quickly learns about his new world. In Finding Love, he grows stronger and cheekier, facing new challenges and meeting exciting dog companions. Finally, in Growing Up, Gopi matures and welcomes a new friend, Nova, into his life.

Warrior Queens of Ranthambore by Manish Kalani, is a unique coffee table book that captures the journey of five generations of tigresses in Ranthambore National Park. Featuring over 500 photographs taken over eight years, wildlife

photographer *Manish Kalani* tells the story of the legendary tigress Machhli and her descendants, highlighting their beauty, strength and emotional bonds. The book emphasises the importance of tiger conservation and serves as a significant addition to wildlife literature in India.

Mountain Mammals of the World by M.K. Ranjitsinh, published by Penguin Ebury Press, is a definitive guide that explores the larger mammals inhabiting mountainous regions globally. The book features

detailed profiles of approximately 62 species and 78 subspecies, highlighting their behaviour, ecology and conservation status. This work serves as an essential resource for understanding these majestic animals within their breathtaking mountain habitats.

Wildlife Chronicles by Adit Jain (Publisher: Rupa) is a travelogue and guide to India's national parks and wildlife sanctuaries. The book showcases the country's diverse landscapes and wildlife, featuring travel tips, must-see places, and captivating photographs. Jain's personal anecdotes aim to inspire interest in conservation while

providing practical advice for travellers. Wildlife India @ 50: Saving the Wild, Securing the Future by Manoj Misra (Publisher: Rupa) commemorates 50 years of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972. The book chronicles India's wildlife conservation journey, reflecting on successes and missed opportunities

through contributions from various experts. With a focus on the impact of colonial hunting practices and the need for wildlife legislation, it highlights the progress made and the challenges ahead in protecting India's biodiversity.

struggle as cities expand, with sparrows and other species losing their nesting grounds due to rapid urbanisation. Even marine life along India's coasts is impacted by pollution and overfishing, with turtles, dolphins, and many fish species facing increasingly hostile

environments. One of the most critical actions we can take for all animals is to reconsider how we interact with them. Whether it's making sustainable choices that protect natural habitats or supporting animal shelters and rehabilitation centres, we each have a role to play. Conservation efforts like Project Tiger, Project Elephant and initiatives to protect the Great Indian Bustard are crucial but they need greater public backing. Beyond government initiatives, we as individuals can contribute by supporting wildlife sanctuaries, participating in reforestation efforts and making more conscious decisions that minimise harm to

animal habitats.
For animals closer to home, adopting stray dogs, cats or even cows from shelters is one of the most compassionate things we can do. These animals, often ignored, deserve a second chance at life.

Rather than purchasing pets, adopting from shelters not only saves lives but helps reduce the suffering caused by overpopulation. We must also push for stronger laws against animal cruelty and promote humane population control measures for stray animals, such as spay and neuter programmes. On this day, let's broaden our

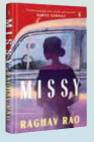
On this day, let's broaden our perspective. Let's not just think about the wild animals in distant forests or the pets in our homes. Let's consider all the creatures that make up our world: the birds, the cattle, the marine life and the strays and how each one plays a vital role in the delicate balance of life on Earth. Every action we take, no matter how small, contributes to creating a better world for them.

As we observe World Animal Day, let's remember that the answer for stray animals begins with a simple yet profound action: adopt, don't shop. Every stray dog on the street is a potential companion, waiting for a family. By adopting a stray, you give an animal a second chance at life and the warmth of a loving home. This small act not only transforms their lives but also enriches yours with unique love and companionship. Every life saved reflects our compassion for these deserving souls. The world is their home too and together, we can ensure that every animal feels safe, loved, and valued.

# ARRIVALS

First Flood
By KALKI, TRANSLATED By GOWRI
RAMNARAYAN
(PRICE: ₹799, PAGES: 544)
Penguin Random House

In First Flood, the first installment of Ponniyin Selvan, Kalki delves into the political intrigue of tenth-century Tamil Nadu. As Emperor Sundara Chozha lies unwell in Tanjavur fort, a sinister plot unfolds to dethrone Crown Prince Aditta Karikalan. Entrusted with a critical message, Vallavaraiyan Vandiyatevan faces perilous challenges as he navigates betrayal and ambition. Beautifully translated by Gowri Ramnarayan, this timeless tale of loyalty and intrigue captivates readers with its rich storytelling and complex characters.



Missy
By RAGHAV RAO
(Price: ₹699, Pages: 312) Vintage Books

In Missy, Raghav Rao follows Savi, a gifted young woman from St. Ursula's Convent in Madras, who dreams of escape. After a night of trauma forces her and her lover, Ananda, to flee to America under new identities, Savi transforms into Missy, a pillar of the South Asian community in Chicago. As she raises her two daughters, Mansi and Shilpa, the arrival of Varun, a charming doctor, threatens to unrave her carefully built life. This extraordinary debut delves into themes of identity, love, and the inescapable nature of the past, showcasing a woman's resilience and courage.

# Hindus and the Modern Struggles of Religious Persecution

Anand Ranganathan's book, *Hindus in Hindu Rashtra*, offers a scathing analysis of the plight of Hindus in modern India, drawing parallels to historical persecution and raising crucial questions about religious dynamics in the country.

#### BY KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

Sufferance is the badge of our tribe," Shylock, the Jewish money lender, says in the Shakespearean play "The Merchant of Venice," Had Shylock been around now, he would certainly have added Hindus too as the victims of hatred and cruelty perpetrated by the Abrahamic religions. History, as well as modern times, substantiate what Shakespeare made Shylock say in this path-breaking play.

In October 2023, the dreaded Hamas organisation let loose one of the most barbaric attacks ever reported in history on the innocent Jewish residents of the Gaza Strip, kidnapping more than 300 of them and subjecting them to vicious torture. The Hamas terrorists were celebrating in style as their colleagues recounted how they raped young girls in front of their parents and tore them apart, a la Nirbhaya incident that shook India in 2012.

It was only when Israel retaliated (like any other nation would) in a bid to release their brethren from the torturing cells of Hamas, that liberals, secularists and pseudo-intellectuals came out extending their open-hearted support to Hamas. The Israeli Defence Force was portrayed as the aggressor while the Hamas terrorists were seen as angels in the eyes of these paid intellectuals.

The history of the Jewish people is packed with stories of persecution faced by them and their struggles for survival. No other community, other than Hindus, has faced the kind of cruelty to which the Jewish were subjected by their tormentors. To lambast Israel and eulogise the Arabs as well as Palestinians became the measure of one's intellectual dexterity.

This is what the Hindus in India face now. Though 80 per cent of the Indian population are Hindus, they face the

same kind of torment and cruelty at the hands of the minorities. In the land of the Sanatana Dharma, the aggressors claim ownership of more than 70 per cent of the land. A cleric was heard claiming the other day that Antilia, the 27-storey personal residence of Mukesh Ambani in Bombay and valued at \$4.6 billion, has been constructed on Waqf land. It is for Mukesh Ambani to give clarification to this claim, while the day is not far off when the same people are likely to come forward claiming that Rashtrapati Bhavan as well as 7 Lok Kalyan Marg belong to them.

Forget about these things. The Hindus have become eighth-class citizens and victims of State-sanctioned apartheid in their own country, according to Dr Anand Ranganathan, scientist, author and political critic who works in the Communist citadel Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU for short). Dr Ranganathan speaks and writes with conviction and articulation. True to his profession as a genetic engineer and biotechnologist, Dr Ranganathan has found out the basic reasons behind the plight of the Hindus in the country, and he has made it unambiguously clear with his latest book Hindus in Hindu Rashtra, published by BluOne Ink. The book of 128 pages is a power-packed punch from this frail professor, which the rivals would not be able to counter. The author has made his intention clear from the word go. "To those who claim we are now living in a totalitarian Hindu Rashtra, one must ask: What kind of a Hindu Rashtra is this where a billionstrong Hindus have been, through our parliament, courts, education system and our Constitution, reduced to not just second-class but rather, eighth-class citizens? What kind of a Hindu Rashtra is this where Durga Puja and Garba celebrations are stoned with impunity,

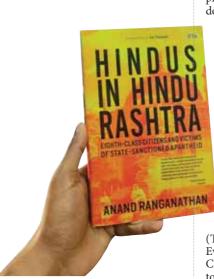
where a sitting Prime Minister claims

minorities have the first right to



#### ABOUT THE BOOK

Book: Hindus in Hindu Rashtra by ANAND RANGANATHAN Publisher: BluOne Ink ₹399



resources?" Even as I write about the book, TV channels scroll news headlines about Ganapati statue immersions in Karnataka and Maharashtra being stoned by a group of

The Marxist-Mullah-Congress axis held State-wide protest rallies in Kerala to express solidarity with the terrorists and extremists of Hamas and Hezbollah. A TV channel and newspaper owned by Jamaat-e-Islami laments 24x7 that there is no freedom of expression and religion in India since 2014. The channel beams anti-India news round the clock, forcing the viewers to complain to the ministries of home and information and broadcasting about the hidden agenda behind the channel and the newspaper. The Supreme Court comes to the help of the channel by blasting the Centre for its high-handedness. This is the kind of privilege enjoyed by the minority communities in India, only in India. A Hindu cannot be blamed for feeling compelled to convert to Islam, but what prevents most of the Sanatanis from doing so is the severe pain it may cause

in the process. *Dr Ranganathan*, I feel, is lenient in his words. He explains through eight chapters the state of abyss the Hindus find themselves in. The powers that be, whether it is the Congress, BJP, or the motley crowd of the Third Front, do not have any answer for the questions posed by him in the opening chapter, "State Control of Hindu Temples". In Kerala, from where I hail, the most coveted post for which politicians who fail to make it to the assembly or parliament vie with each other is for the post of the chairman of

the Devaswom Boards (Travancore, Kochi, and Malabar). Even rationalists and atheists in the CPI(M), CPI, and RSP turn believers to occupy the chairmanship and to

swindle the hundis (treasure boxes in which the devotees make offerings to

the presiding deities). "The Hindus have no right to question the injustice meted out to them in the form of adding pig fat to laddus, a divine offering to God. If you dare to question the act, the Lordships would come down on you like an avalanche with the claim that 'Secularism is in danger'." The term secularism has become the most nauseating one in India, as a jurist was heard asking the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh to keep quiet over the affair with the Tirupati laddu. To those who do not care about the ground realities facing the Hindus, we have to ask, "What happened to the Veda Patasalas and Gurukulas, which were the landmarks along the banks of Krishna, Godavari, Kaveri, Ganga, Yamuna, and Brahmaputra?" It is an unpardonable sin in the Hindu country to ask the questions posed by the likes of Anand Ranganathan, R Vaidyanathan, Rajiv Malhotra, Sandeep Balakrishna and of course Arun Shourie.

India may be the only country in the world that keeps its citizens from the real history (the XI volumes of the History and Culture of the Indian People edited by that wonderful historian Prof R C Majumdar). It is a "crime" in this country to pinpoint the directives given by the one and only Prophet that the idolaters only are unclean (Surah 9, ayat 5) and the disbelievers are an open enemy to you (Surah 4:101) (Quotes from The Calcutta Quran Petition authored by Sita Ram Goel). If the Hindus fail to take note of the observations by Anand Ranganathan, they are doomed to be Pappus and village idiots. In this era of religious hegemony, scholars like Ranganathan, Vaidyanathan, and Rajiv Malhotra are beacons of hope. Please do not miss out on what they speak

# INDIA NEED TOP GUNS FIRING IN UNISON AGAINST NEW ZEALAND

stellar effort by senior stars would be mandatory when India take on New Zealand in their opening Group A match of the women's T20 World Cup here on Friday, aiming for a strong start in their quest to wipe off the memories of past near-misses.

Skipper Harmanpreet Kaur, who in all likelihood, will be appearing in her last T20 World Cup, has been witness to several near misses and disappointing moments from close quarters, including India's capitulation to Australia in the final at Melbourne in 2020.

As a has been in the past, this Indian line-up is rich in talent and, arguably, only Australia have a similarly well-oiled unit.

But the reigning champions have  $\operatorname{six}$ titles in their cabinet, and India's is still dust-laden.

So, what pegs India back in global events? It seems more a case of mental fragility at clutch moments, and the Women in Blue tried to address that during a preparatory camp at the NCA (National Cricket Academy) with a few counselling

But such external measures can only be of limited help in big tournaments, as it boils down entirely to flawless execution of strategies on a given day.

sessions.

In that context, India will not get a

better opponent than New Zealand, which is not a fancied side like its Trans-Tasman neighbour. But the two-time runners-up are as tough

the pioneer

A victory against them could well be counted as a sign of being in fine shape — tactically and mentally and that's a pre-requisite for India in a group that also has Australia, Sri Lanka and Pakistan.

To start with, India will require heavy contributions from their top guns the 35-year-old Harmanpreet, Smriti Mandhana, Jemimah Rodrigues, Shafali Verma and Deepti Sharma.

them, Shafali Among Mandhana have been in excellent touch, making runs in their last international outing in the Asia Cup in Sri Lanka in July even though India lost to the hosts in the final. In fact, Mandhana's last five T20I innings include three fifties.

But Harmanpreet and Shafali have been a tad underwhelming and the duo finding range is imperative for India's charge at the top and middle

It is critical to India's chances as the pitches in the UAE, going through a harsh heat wave, might not be a treasure trove of runs, particularly deep into the tournament.

However, the expected weariness of the track, in one way, will cater to India's strengths in the bowling department — spin.



They have only three pacers in their squad — Renuka Singh, Pooja Vastrakar and Arundhati Reddy.

In all likelihood, India will only play two of them, while depending on a plethora of spinners in their line-up.

In all likelihood, India will only play two of them, while depending on a plethora of spinners in their line-up.

But the Kiwis have a good blend of experienced and young players, who can lift them above such

Their talismanic skipper Sophie Devine, experienced all-rounder Suzie Bates along with veteran pacers Lea Tahuhu and Leigh Kasperek form the crux of this New

Zealand side.

Add the exciting young all-rounder Amelia Kerr to the mix, and they have the wherewithal to spring a surprise or two in this tournament. But beyond them, the Kiwis are a bit green behind the ears and that could be their Achilles Heel.

TEAMS:

India: Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Smriti Mandhana, Shafali Verma, Sharma, Iemimah Deepti Rodrigues, Richa Ghosh, Yastika Bhatia (subject to fitness), Pooja Vastrakar, Arundhati Reddy, Renuka Singh Thakur, Dayalan Hemalatha, Asha Sobhana, Radha Yadav, Shreyanka Patil (subject to fitness), Sajana Sajeevan

Travelling reserves: Uma Chetry (wk), Tanuja Kanwer, Saima Thakor.

New Zealand: Sophie Devine (c), Suzie Bates, Eden Carson, Izzy Gaze, Maddy Green, Brooke Halliday, Fran Jonas, Leigh Kasperek, Melie Kerr, Jess Kerr, Rosemary Mair, Molly Penfold, Georgia Plimmer, Hannah Rowe,



# Biggest challenges for India in Women's T20 WC will be Australia, SL: Harbhajan

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

India's World Cup-winning spinner Harbhajan Singh said the Harmanpreet Kaur-led side will face a tough challenge from Australia and Sri Lanka in the ICC Women's T20

The global showpiece gets underway in the UAE from Thursday, and India are placed in Group A alongside Australia, Sri Lanka, Pakistan and New Zealand.

"I think India needs to be very careful when playing against Australia. Looking at this group, India has Australia, New Zealand, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. But one match that I think will be a little tough is the India-Australia match, Harbhajan told Star Sports.

"Australia is a good team, even though these matches are being played in Dubai, on subcontinent pitches that might not suit them as much as their home conditions. But Australia, no matter where they play, are hard to beat. So, Harbhajan's fears were not entirely misplaced as the Australia have beaten India 23

seven of them. warned India of another potential hazard on its way -

Sri Lanka. The Islanders had recently trumped India in the Asia Cup with Chamari Athapaththu and Harshitha

Samarawickrama producing match-winning efforts. "Sri Lanka, too, after their recent series win against India,

will be confident when they play against India. So, that will also be a good contest." But Harbhajan had little

doubts that India have the skill sets to land their maiden ICC 'Team India will be the team to

beat in this tournament. They have both experience and youth. Harman (captain Harmanpreet Kaur) is in good

the biggest challenge for India may be Australia," he said. good form, and Deepti good form, and Deepti (Sharma) is an unbelievable spinner.

"They are a very capable team times in 32 T20Is with the and have been playing very 'Women in Blue' winning good cricket. The unit looks solid. If India plays good will win this tournament," he noted.

> The off-spinner, who has 711 international wickets, also advised the Indians to take it one match at a time, without succumbing to the bigmoment pressure.

> You have to try to give your best and not take pressure. At this stage, the only thing that matters is to know yourself, and play as a unit. Results will

> "Don't think about the big picture; just take small steps with each match and focus on the process. I hope if they follow these things, our team will perform very well," he added

India open their campiagn against new Zealand on Friday.

# Khushi seals dramatic bronze, takes India's tally to 15 at ISSF Jr Worlds of the first two positions -

PTI ■ LIMA (PERU)

Thushi secured a hard-K fought bronze in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions at the ISSF Junior World Championship here, dramatically qualifying for the final before rallying to claim the third spot.

Her medal on Wednesday took India's tally to 15, including 10 gold, one silver, and four bronze medals, keeping the country at the top of the standings. The youngster shot 447.3 in

the final to finish behind Caroline Lund of Norway who won silver with 458.3. Caroline's compatriot Synnoeve Berg won gold with

However, Khushi's path to the podium was far from easy. She narrowly made it to the medal round, rallying brilliantly in the final standing position in qualifying to clinch the seventh spot with a score of

It got so tight that there were four others on the same score. However, Khushi and Italian Anna Schiavon clinched the final two qualifying spots, scoring 29 inner-10 shots, while two Swiss athletes — Alexa Tela and Emely Jaeggi

managed 27. Khushi finished ahead of Anna on countback.

In the eight-woman final, Khushi was fourth at the end

Kneeling and Prone. A strong finish in the

Standing position allowed her to pip Norwegian Pernille Nor-Woll after the 40th shot to move up to third. Synnoeve and Caroline were

having their own battle for top-two throughout the 45shot final.

Khushi wobbled again on the 41st shot with 9.1 which put her back down to fifth, but a brilliant 10.7 in the 42nd and

10.4 in 43rd ensured the bronze.

In the team competition in junior women's 3P, the trio of Sakshi Padekar, Melvina Joel Gladson and Prachi Gaekwad, finished fifth with a tally of 1757. Anoushka Thakur also shot

585 in qualification, but 26 hits in the inner-10 ring meant she ended 11th. Sakshi, Melvina and Prachi

finished 24th, 32nd and 41st

minister has the knowledge (about the issues) I want to discuss that also," she

Refusing to share her exact concerns, Mary Kom said she would rather discuss them in the meeting with

'The federation has provided all the

coaches. But I have a few doubts as

well. But what is the point in saying

them now, the Olympics are done.

Jow there is no point in saving all that.

but I want to discuss it with them in

the meeting," said the former Rajya

"(The) sports minister is doing

Mandaviya and BFI brass.

Sabha MP.

## Weight management is athlete's responsibility: Mary Kom situation demands. If the sports

No stranger to the physical toll of weight management during a competition, six-time world champion boxer M C Mary Kom Thursday waded into the debate surrounding wrestler Vinesh Phogat's Olympic heartbreak for being 100gm over, saying that to be within the prescribed limit is an individual responsibility.

The 42-year-old mother of four, who is only woman bover with Olympic medal (a bronze in London, 2012), was in the city to promote Utkarsh Small Finance Bank, which named her as its brand ambassador. Speaking for the first time on Phogat,

who was disqualified on the day of her 50kg finals in the Paris Games for being marginally over the prescribed Kom said weight limit, Mary management is an athlete's responsibility.

"I felt so disappointed in the sense that I have also done the same (weight management) for the last so many years. Weight is important, that is my responsibility. I cannot blame anyone, she said.

"I do not want to say this in her case. I am saying this in my case only. If I do not cut the weight properly then how will I play? I am there to win a medal and that is what I think," she continued.

Mary Kom, in the past, has spoken about her weight cut routines and how difficult the process can be. The Manipuri started out as a pin-weight (46kg) category boxer before settling for the flyweight (51kg) division in her amateur career.

Phogat, who was being seen as gold medal contender in Paris, skipped meals and fluids, worked out an entire night and also cut her hair to be within the requisite category but the effort fell She challenged her disqualification,

calling the rules inhumane, but her appeal was rejected by the Court of Arbitration for Sport. The wrestler retired to join politics after the heartbreak and is contesting the Haryana assembly elections on a Congress ticket.

WANT TO DISCUSS
BOXING WITH INDIAN

**SPORTS** MINISTER: Mary Kom was also quizzed about India's boxing campaign in Paris and she was still perplexed by how poor the performance was. She said she wants to have a meeting with the national federation and sports minister Mansukh Mandaviya to understand "what is lacking" and clear her "doubts". The Indian boxing contingent, which

included two reigning world champions in Nikhat Zareen and Lovlina Borgohain, cut a sorry figure



in the Games and failed to win even one medal.

We know what the result was, it was so, so bad. I want to know what is lacking," said the Manipuri, who became the first Indian woman boxer with an Olympic medal when she bronze in the 2012 London Games. One of the most successful athletes in

the history of Indian sports, Mary Kom felt the boxers got all the logistical support they needed but she does have some "doubts" regarding how their training was managed by the Boxing Federation of India. "I will meet the boxers too if the

whatever he can do from his side, infrastructure, facilities or whatever (other) needs are there. But how did the federation handle the training? Was it done systematically or not? What happened exactly, I do not know," she wondered. "If I do not meet them and not discuss,

how will I know about them?'

Mary reiterated that she wants to participate in professional boxing I have not retired yet but I want to compete. I am trying to get

opportunities, waiting for my chance to fight pro. I just want to come back." "I can continue for another three-four years, that is my will. I have the passion and hunger. I want to continue," she

# Lionel Messi, Inter Miami win MLS Supporters Shield with 3-2 win at Crew

AP ■ COLUMBUS (OHIO)

ionel Messi and Inter Miami have Lanother trophy, along with homefield advantage throughout the Major League Soccer playoffs.

Messi scored twice in the final minutes of the first half, goalie Drake Callender stopped a penalty kick in the 84th minute and Inter Miami beat the defending MLS Cup champion Columbus Crew 3-2 on Wednesday, wrapping up the Supporters Shield given annually to the team with the best regular-season record.

It was Messi's 46th major trophy won for club or country, extending his record for the most by any men's soccer player in history. And it is the second he has won with Inter Miami, this Supporters Shield being added to the Leagues Cup trophy the Herons claimed shortly after Messi joined the club in 2023.

"We knew this was a group that could fight for this," Messi said.

Luis Suarez also scored for Inter Miami, which will open a best-ofthree first-round playoff series in the final weekend of October. If the team wins that series, it would have the right to host every match it plays the rest of the season - an Eastern Conference semifinal (scheduled for

Nov. 23 or 24), the East final (Nov. 30 or Dec. 1) and the MLS Cup final on

'We have a nice opportunity to go down in history ... And now we think about what is coming," Messi told Apple TV after the match. "We have a great advantage in that we play all the games at home, which was what we were looking for. I think that we are very, very strong at home?

Also still within reach for Inter Miami: the best MLS regular-season mark ever. Wednesday's win pushed Inter Miami's record to 20-4-8 this season, giving it 68 points. If the club wins its final two matches - Saturday at Toronto and Oct. 19 at home against New England - it would finish with 74

New England has the single-season points record, finishing with 73 in

Messi opened the scoring in the 45th minute, taking a long pass from Jordi Alba - his longtime teammate at Barcelona, the club with which Messi won 35 of his trophies - and splitting two defenders before somehow getting the ball past Columbus goalkeeper Patrick Schulte for a 1-0 lead.

And about five minutes into first-half stoppage time, Messi struck again on a free kick from about 30 yards out.



Schulte seemed fooled, and Messi squeezed the ball between the goalie and the near post for a 2-0 lead.

"Dominant," Inter Miami coach Gerardo "Tata" Martino said. Diego Rossi scored in the first minute

of the second half for Columbus to cut the lead in half, but it didn't take long for Inter Miami to restore the two-goal cushion. Almost immediately after play resumed, Schulte was upended by one of his own defenders and Suarez sent a header into an empty net for a

3-1 edge. Juan "Cucho" Hernández's penalty kick in the 61st minute got Columbus within 3-2. But once again, the momentum didn't last for long. Rudy Camacho was sent off for his second yellow card in the 63rd minute, meaning the Crew had to play with 10 men the rest of the way.

Didn't matter. Columbus still created some big chances down the stretch. A deflected ball in the 76th minute got

across the box and onto the right foot of Mohamed Farsi - but his shot was blocked by Callender, who was perfectly positioned to protect the

Then came more drama, when Inter Miami was called for its second handball inside the box — an automatic penalty kick - of the second half. Hernández picked the left side of the net, but Callender made the save look almost easy.

That save helped finish what Messi started.

It was the fifth two-goal game of the MLS season for Messi, who now has 17 goals in 17 league matches this season. He's missed 15 of Inter Miami's MLS matches in 2024, either because of commitments to Argentina's national team or the twomonth absence that he needed to recover from a badly injured ankle an injury that happened during his nation's run to the Copa America title in July. Inter Miami, in MLS play this season,

is now 10-1-6 with Messi in the lineup. Throughout the year we had many, many injuries, where we couldn't all be together ... But the group was getting the most out of every tough game, Messi said.

The Crew and the LA Galaxy entered Wednesday still with a mathematical hope of passing Inter Miami in the race for the Supporters Shield, and Cincinnati was nine points back with nine points still possible.

But now, they're all playing for second. "Dec. 7 is what we want," Martino said, referring to the date of the MLS Cup final.