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SPORTS VIVAAN WINS SILVER MEDAL IN SHOOTING **WORLD CUP FINAL**



Extradite Bishnoi gangsters: India to Canada

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

Amid ongoing diplomatic tension between the two countries, India on Thursday said it had sought extradition of Lawrence Bishnoi members from Canada a few years back but it has not yet responded.

Making this assertion here, Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson Randhir also said similar extradition requests of syndicates linked to the Bishnoi gang were made recently as well,

but did not get any response

from Canada. He also informed there are 26 extradition requests from India pending with the Canadian side for a decade or so. The MEA gave names of Gurjit Singh, Gurjinder Singh, Arshdeep Singh Gill, Lakhbir Singh Landa, Gurpreet Singh for extradition, saying that the members of the Bishnoi gang were among them.

"We informed Canada about the Lawrence Bishnoi gang and its syndicates and requested their provisional arrest and extradition some years back, and also recently. However, there has been no response from Canada so far", he said during a media

"We had shared some requests with the Canadian side for the arrest of those from Lawrence Bishnoi's gang. They haven't taken any action on our core concerns. There is a political motive also behind this," Jaiswal He also reiterated that Canada

did not share any evidence in connection with the killing of Khalistani terrorist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. "We have made our position

very clear on this particular matter. You would have seen that several press releases have been issued in the last two days



putting out our position. Since September 2023, the Canadian government has not shared any shred of information with us", he

The Ministry also said Canada always brought forth 'freedom of speech' as their argument whenever India sought action against anti-India and separatist elements

The government's statement came a day after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau named gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, who was earlier mentioned by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) for being allegedly involved in Nijjar's murder in September last year.

Trudeau alleged that Indian collecting diplomats were

information on Canadians and passing it to the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. Trudeau, who testified before the country's Bishnoi foreign interference inquiry, claimed that the Canadian agencies tried to work behind the scenes with India before he went public with the allegations in the Nijjar killing.

Jaiswal also said the current diplomatic row with Canada has been precipitated by the Trudeau government's "baseless' allegations, and reiterated that "no evidence" has been shared in support of Ottawa's serious allegations against New Delhi.



15 bomb hoax threats received in a day

RAJESH KUMAR ■ NEW DELHI

The pattern of domestic airlines receiving bomb threats to their flights continued for the fourth consecutive day as Air India got a threat for five flights -Mumbai-London (AI 129), Delhi - New York JFK (AI 119), a Chennai-Singapore and two domestic - IndiGo and Vistara threats for two flights each, were targeted in the similar manner on Thursday. Air India Express is also learnt to have got similar messages for six flights but a confirmation is awaited from the airline. Four of these flights were still on the ground, while three were airborne at the time when the threats were received. The number of flights that have received such threats is now close to around three dozen since Monday, forcing flight diversions and delays, piling up massive operational

On Thursday a Mumbai-bound Vistara flight from Frankfurt with 147 persons on board was immediately taken to security checks on its arrival from Frankfurt following the Boeing 787 aircraft receiving a bomb threat. The flight, UK 28, was over Pakistan when it transmitted the code 7700, having 134 passengers and 13 crew onboard indicating a general emergency at around 6 am (IST) on Thursday, landed in Mumbai at approximately 7.45 am.

At the same time, an IndiGo flight operating from Istanbul in Turkiye for Mumbai also received a bomb threat and was taken to an isolation bay here for the security agencies to carry out a comprehensive security check. "The Vistara flight UK 028 operating from Frankfurt to Mumbai on October 16, 2024 was subject to a security threat received on social media," the airline said.



Police shoot at, arrest Bahraich prime accused

BISWAJEET BANERJEE LUCKNOW

 $S_{\text{prime accused in the murder of 22-year-old Ram}}$ Mishra, reportedly injured in a police encounter near the Nepal border. Alongside Sarfaraz, another suspect, Talib, sustained bullet during injuries exchange of fire.

Both suspects were shot in the legs and were admitted to a State-run hospital for treatment. No fatalities have been reported as of now. They were among the five suspects arrested in this

Additional director general (ADG) Law and Order, Amitabh Yash, confirmed the encounter, stating, "The police have arrested five suspects. Two were injured in an encounter." Yash, who also leads the Special Task Force (STF) of the Uttar Pradesh Police, said that the Bahraich police, which is investigating the murder and subsequent violence, has established a link involving one of the accused in Nepal.

Bahraich Superintendent of Police Vrinda Shukla said suspects attempting to flee to Nepal when the Special Task Force (STF) and Bahraich police received a tip-off regarding whereabouts. Acting on this information, the police intercepted the suspects near the Handa Basehari canal in the Nanpara

Kotwali area.

Hooch returns to haunt Bihar, leaves 25 dead in its wake

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

In one of the biggest hooch tragedies in Bihar since the state went dry in 2016, at least 25 people have died after consuming spurious liquor in the adjoining districts of Siven and Sampa a ton efficer. Siwan and Saran, a top officer said on Thursday.
Director General of Police

Alok Raj said that while Siwan accounted for 20 fatalities, five deaths have been reported from Saran even as 12 people have been arrested for allegedly selling spurious liquor and they were likely to be "tried under the most stringent laws and punished by the court".

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar chaired a high-level meeting to review the situation where instructed officials concerned to visit the site and ensure strongest possible



action against those found guilty. Kumar, who is the state's longest-serving CM, also made an impassioned appeal to the people of the state to "be on guard against elements who are trying to encourage consumption of liquor which plays havoc with people's lives and disrupts peace in families".

Notably, the state government had confirmed more than 150 deaths on account of hooch since the ban on liquor came into force. Police said two special investigating teams have also been set up in the aftermath of the incident.

Team India gifts match to NZ



(L-R) Virat Kohli, Sarfaraz Khan, KL Rahul, Ravindra Jadeja and R Ashwin walking off the ground after being dismissed for a duck during the second day of the first Test cricket match between India and New Zealand, at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, in Bengaluru, Thursday

RISHABH MALIK NEW DELHI

Taking the sparkle out of the Diwali mood, team India was bowled out for just 46 runs in a span of the first session of day's play on Thursday. India after winning the toss missed the opportunity to give their bowlers a crack against New Zealand in overcast conditions after day one got washed out due to rain, which bamboozled their batting strength on day two in Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru.

India's total of 46 has now become unfriendly conditions for batters, the lowest team score at home after 75 all out against West Indies in Delhi (1987). India who were riding sky high in ICC world Test Championship (2023-2025) got stunned by Kiwi bowlers. Matt Henry and William ORourke were the star performers under the grey

Indian Skipper Rohit Sharma was the first wicket down by Tim Southee, Virat Kohli who came after one down which usually is not his position to bat on test matches on

this move shifted KL Rahul to number six. However both Virat and Rahul went scoreless and were dismissed by William ORourke. Matt Henry who achieved a five wicket haul against India's batting

lineup dismissed Sarfaraz Khan, R.Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja on ducks and William ORourke took four wickets. India's scorecard includes five ducks which were the talking point of debaters in India's

Work for national development: PM to NDA allies

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE CHANDIGARH/NEW DEI HI

ll the 13 Chief Ministers and 16 An the 15 cane 1 Janata Party (BJP) and its allies such as Telugu Desam Party (TDP), Janata Dal (United), Shiv Sena viz chief ministers of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Sikkim, Nagaland, and Meghalaya vowed to nationa development during the meeting of the National Democratic Alliance Chief Ministers' Council in Chandigarh, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The meeting was called to discuss national development issues. The meeting schedule holds significance as it has come ahead of the Maharashtra and Jharkhand Assembly polls, and soon after the historic victory in Haryana and formation of a new government in Jammu and Kashmir.

Twenty CMs of the NDA, and their deputies engaged in the half-day conclave, the first of its kind after many years. "Chaired a meeting of NDA Chief Ministers and Dogs for the NDA chief Ministers a NDA Chief Ministers and Deputy Chief Ministers. We had extensive discussions on aspects of good governance and ways to improve people's lives. Our



Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Defence Minister Rainath Singh. Health Minister JP Nadda with NDA Chief Ministers during National Democratic Alliance Chief Ministers' Council Meeting, in

alliance is committed to furthering national progress and empowering the poor and downtrodden," Modi said on his social media handle soon after the meeting.

The proceedings of conclave commenced immediately after the swearing-in ceremony of newly-elected Haryana CM Nayab Singh Saini. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, BJP National President J P Nadda, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu were present in the meeting.

According to sources, deliberations in this meeting covered a structured agenda covering all aspects of national development. "It also discussed subjects like observance of Sanvidhan Ka Amrut Mahotsav and the Year of 50th anniversary of the attempt to murder democracy," sources said. Sources added that the PM also

emphasised that people should find solutions to their problems from governance, and administration's basic concept depends on how we address the grievances of the people. "This is why there should be an attempt to focus on P2G2 - pro-people, proactive, good governance. Today, 17 CMs and 18 Deputy CMs of the NDA attended the meeting," BJP chief JP Nadda said at a press conference on NDA Chief Ministers' council meeting.

"Six proposals were discussed upon in today's meeting and all six proposals were unanimously passed..." Nadda added.



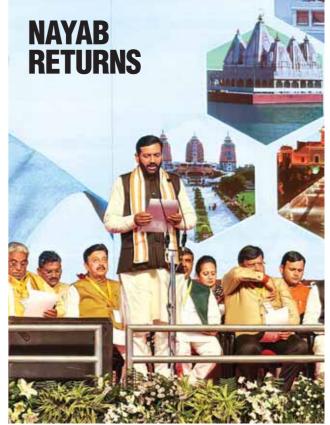
J and K politics in peace, terror groups to target forces

MOHIT KANDHARI JAMMU

With the peaceful culmination of the Assembly polls in Jammu and Kashmir, Pakistan-based terrorist groups, operating in the Pir Panjal region, are once again planning to target security forces in the area.

Late Wednesday night, alert troops after observing suspicious movement of a group of heavily armed terrorists challenged them in the thickly forested area of Gursai top in Poonch. Taking advantage of the pitch-dark conditions and undulating hostile terrain the group of terrorists may have managed to flee the area. To track down their footprints, the

security forces swiftly launched a massive search operation at Mohri Shahstar in the Gursai top area of Poonch district.



Navab Singh Saini takes oath as the Chief Minister of Harvana for the second time during the swearing-in ceremony, in Panchkula, Thursday



New flyovers, underpasses are pretty, but useless

Central Road Research Institute report suggests these add to the problem

BY RAJESH KUMAR

As Delhi is grapples with congested roads and the increasing volume of traffic, the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) in one of its report had suggested that construction of flyovers and underpasses, and widening roads or right of way are not better approaches and solutions to deal with congestion and heavy road traffic. The report found that infrastructure projects like flyovers and underpasses can actually increase the number of cars on the road and worsen sustainability.

The report, titled: "Gradual sustainability approach for urban transport through subtle measures", highlights that within a few years of construction, such approaches have increased the number of personal vehicles on worsened and sustainability without reducing

congestion. The report was based on a study conducted at five key

Metro stations in Delhi. understand the traffic situation on the ground, the CRRI selected five key Metro stations - Karol Bagh, Laxmi Nagar, Kailash Colony, Lajpat Nagar and Inderlok - in the most crowded locations in the city that always see heavy traffic outside the premises. These are also stations where not only vehicle users face problems, but Metro users as well as pedestrians complain of discomfort in movement and safety issues.

The study has demonstrated that parking related policies (including segregated parking lanes for cycle rickshaws and electricrickshaws) can result in improvement in vehicular speed by two to six km/h in the influence zone of the selected metro stations for all categories of motorised vehicles





sustainable

(equivalent) reduction of 3.5 segregation/shifting of on-street tonne/day in all the five metro scenarios

improving facilities for sustainable modes, no new construction for vehicle users, implementing on-street parking, lane and segregated parking for cycles and e-rickshaws and better crossing facilities for pedestrians can reduce congestion. Further, it is also suggested that for effective improvement measures (covered through

significant reduction in fuel

consumption and corresponding

This report also shows that minor

corrections on roads like improving facilities for

CO2e (equivalent) emissions.

alternate scenarios), the following areas need to be addressed while preparing traffic circulation plans: (i) On-street parking needs to be channelised and preferably on minor roads. (ii) Segregated parking lanes for cycle rickshaws and e-rickshaws. (iii) Redesign of signals, including 'no free left' turn and 'all red' phase around metro stations. (iv) Pedestrian crossing at-grade as

well as through metro stations. (v) Alternative bus stops locations suited to traffic and road users. (vi) Providing bus stops with bus bays' only for roads with less than two-lane carriageway. (vii) Possibility to provide segregated pick-up/drop off zones underneath metro stations for taxis, private vehicles and autos. (viii) Explore potential spaces for utilisation of different road users, metro commuters. The Unified Traffic and

Transportation Infrastructure (Planning & Engineering) Centre, the nodal agency for traffic planning for the National Capital has specific guidelines for road construction including desirable aspects such as drainage and pedestrian and cycling tracks. But frequently, footpaths, where they exist, turn into parking lots or are encroached upon, while the roads themselves have no consistency in terms of lanes, width or signage.

This is expected to result in total daily savings of 593 litres of petrol, 103 litres diesel and 643 kg CNG, and total CO2e

stations. It is evident that the

parking, signal design, etc.) or similar to those that have been suggested, would result in



LBSNAA employee found dead in quarters, police suspect suicide

Ayoung man, Anukool Rawat (22), who (22), who worked in the Multi-Tasking Staff (MTS) department at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) in Mussoorie, was found dead in his government quarters on Thursday. The officials informed that Rawat was discovered hanging inside the room which was locked

They said that the police had to break open the door

with the help of a carpenter to enter the premises. Rawat was reportedly dressed in women's attire when the police found his body. The police brought down the body from the ceiling fan and the scene was documented through videography before an investigation began, as per the officials. They informed that Rawat, a native of Ufalda village in Pauri, had been living alone in the government accommodation. His family was notified soon after the recovery of

his body. They reached Mussoorie by the evening. The officials said that it appeared during initial investigation that the deceased had committed suicide. However, the cause of death and the reasons behind the apparent suicide will be determined following a detailed investigation and post mortem report, the officials said. The body will be handed over to the family after completing all the re-

quired procedures as per the protocol, they added.

PNS DEHRADUN

The Dehradun chief devel-I opment officer Abhinav Shah checked final preparations for Saras Mela which will commence on October 18. It

time. He emphasised the goal of making the fair a grand and divine experience for attendees. Shah directed officials to enhance essential facilities inwill be a 10-day festival that cluding drinking water, sani-

Saras Mela to start on October 18

will be held at Rangers Ground and will run till October 27. Shah inspected the Rangers Ground on Thursday and reviewed all arrangements and issued necessary instructions to ensure that all preparations are completed on tation, parking, fire safety and electrical arrangements to ensure a smooth and enjoyable experience for visitors. Security measures, including entry and exit protocols, will be tightened to maintain a safe environment throughout the

fair, Shah said. He informed that the Saras Mela will feature a blend of folk culture and diverse traditions, with stalls showcasing the culinary delights and traditional attire of

Uttarakhand, along with displays by self-help groups from various states. A total of 186 stalls will be set up, including 136 from Uttarakhand and 50 from other states. He said that cultural performances will also be held every evening that will offer visitors a taste of regional and national artistic talent. The line up of cultural programmes includes a performance by Pirates of Varanasi and Team Tornado followed by singer Pritam Bhartwan. It will also feature artists such as Kundan

Chauhan presenting Jaun-sari folk music, Kishan Mahipal and Kulanand Ghansala and his team performing Ramleela followed by Gajendra Rana and Poonam Sati, among others.

Multipurpose legal awareness camp held in Almora

PNS DEHRADUN

With an aim to raise awareness among local residents, a comprehensive multipurpose legal awareness and literacy camp was organised in Álmora under the guidance of the Uttarakhand State Legal Services Authority (USLSA) and the chairman of the District Legal Services Authority (DLSA) on Thursday. Secretary of the DLSA, Sachi Sharma along with many other officials, was present during the programme.

The event educated the general public and students about the establishment and functions of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), State Legal Serv-

ices Authority (SALSA) and the District Legal Services Authority. Topics discussed included various NALSA schemes, the rights of women, children, transgenders and senior citizens. Speakers in the programme also highlighted citizens' rights and responsibilities as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, as well as NALSA's toll-free helpline number 15100, the child helpline number 1098, women's empowerment, special legal rights of women, the adverse effects of narcotics, free legal aid and an anti-drug campaign.

Additionally, during the programme Mahalakshmi

kits were distributed to women while walking sticks and wheelchairs were given to other beneficiaries. The SDRF team conducted disaster management training. Additionally, the Health department conducted free health check-ups, distributed medicines and issued disability certificates. The Haidakhan Charitable Trust from Chiliyanaula, Ranikhet conducted free eye tests.

Apart from this, various stalls were also set up. The secretary of the DLSA inspected the stalls set up by different departments to raise awareness on the assistance and benefits provided to the public.

Bageshwar

PNS ■ BAGESHWAR

A three-year-old child was killed by a leopard at a village in Bageshwar Thursday district on evening. According to local sources, the child Yogita Upreti was playing in the courtyard of her home in Aulani Danga village on Kanda Tehsil during the evening. A leopard reportedly attacked her at about 5 PM in the courtyard. Hearing the commotion, the family members raised the alarm and the big cat ran

information about the incident. It is pertinent to mention here that incidents of leopards attacking humans have increased at an alarming frequency in the rural mountainous areas of the State in recent years. The locals in places like the villages in Bageshwar district have repeatedly approached the authorities seeking a so lution to this situation. Experts point out that the big cats alone cannot be blamed for the rise in human-



away from the spot on hearing their shouts. The district disaster management officer Shikha Suyal said that the girl's body had been recovered from the spot. Forest ranger Pradeep Kandpal informed that a team of the Forest department departed for the vilreceiving

wildlife conflict. Expansion of human settlements, indiscriminate exploitation of forest resources on which the herbivores preyed upon by the big cats feed and other factors have led to an increase in the incidents of leopards nearing human settlements and attacking people at times.

Leopard kills three-year old child in HC seeks detailed report on steps taken for protect on steps taken for protection of transgenders

PNS NAINITAL

The Uttarakhand High L Court has directed the State government to submit a detailed report by November 18 on the steps taken in the State for protection of transgenders.

issued directions for preparing rules and an Act for the transgenders.

According to the case details, Dehradun based transgender



The bench of acting chief justice Manoj Kumar Tiwari and justice Vivek Bharti Sharma issued this direction while hearing a petition regarding legal provisions in the State for protection and safety of transgenders.

During the hearing on Thursday, the counsel representing the State government informed the court that an Act has been made for the rights and protection of transgenders. In addition to this, transgender protection cells have also been formed at the State and district levels. In the past, the High Court had Chauhan had filed this petition seeking safety for transgenders. The petitioner has contended that she is under threat from transgender Rajni Rawat and her followers. She has stated that she was assaulted by Rawat's followers in 2018, 2023 and this year too. They also snatched money from her. Considering this, the petitioner has sought protection for herself in addition to seeking legal provisions for protection and safety of transgenders. Chauhan has stressed that transgenders too are a part of soci-

my son Parth Routela Roll No 25104515 Class 10, Year 2021 my name has been mistakenly recorded as Deepika whereas my correct name is DURGA ROUTELA as mentioned in my Aadhar Card No 652842246892 and all other documents. Durga Routela G 219 Nehru Colony Dehradun

In the high school certificate of my daughter Pavani Routela Class 9, year 2024 my name has been mistakenly recorded as Deepika whereas my correct name is DURGA ROUTELA as mentioned in my Aadhar Card No 652842246892 and all other documents. Durga Routela G 219 Nehru Colony Dehradun

मेरे सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरा पुत्री गलत नाम रिया कुमारी के रूप में दर्ज है, सही नाम रिया यादव आधार नं. 67644506426 D/o आर्मी नंबर JC-344496Y नायब सुबेदार हरेंद्र कुमार यादव, गांव-धाबी, पोस्ट-बरकी नैनीजोर, तह-बक्सर, जिला – बक्सर, बिहार–202112 है।

मेरे पुत्र के सैन्य अभिलेखोंनुसार, मेरा गलत नाम लक्ष्मी दर्ज है, सही नाम डोड्डी लक्ष्मी है आधार नं. 516117655276 M/o आर्मी नं.-JC 333329H सूबेदार मेजर प्रसाद डोड्डी, गांव, पोस्ट और तह-4 / 164 / 18 गणेशनगर ताडेपल्लीगुडेम, जिला-पश्चिम गोदावरी, आंध्र प्रदेश-534101 है।

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FORM NO. 14 [See Regulation 32(2)] DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL DEHRADUN Paras Tower, 2nd Floor, Majra Niranjanpur, Saharanpur Road, Dehradun

R.C. No. 196/2024 Date: 03.10.2024 ICICI Bank Ltd. ... Certificate Holder

Uttaranchal Packaging Pvt. Ltd. & Ors. ...Certificate Debtor DEMAND NOTICE

DEMAND NOTICE
To,
CD No. 1. Uttaranchal Packaging
Private Limited having its
registered office at Sector 7, Plot
No. 36 IIE, SIDCUL, Pantnagar,
Udham Singh Nagar, Rudrapur,
Uttarakhand- 263145 through its
Directors Defendant No. 2 to 5.
CD No. 2. Harish Bhatt, R/o. C/o.
Plot No. 5. Omaxe Riviera, Nagar
Metropolis City, IIE Pantnagar,
Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar263153, Uttarakhand.
CD No. 3. Bhagwati Devi P Bhatt,
R/o. Jaynagar No. 04. Chhatatpur,
Udham Singh Nagar- 263153,
Uttarakhand.
CD No. 4. Puran Chand Bhatt R/o
Jaynagar No. 04, Chhatatpur,
Udham Singh Nagar- 263153,
Uttarakhand.
CD No. 5. Rajendra Prasad Bhatt,
R/o. Divine City, Jaynagar,
Rudrapur, Udham Singh Nagar263153, Uttarakhand.
In view of the Recovery Certificate

In view of the Recovery Certificate issued in O.A. No. 424 of 2023 passed by the Presiding Officer, DRT, Dehradun an amount of Rs. 1,88,53,122/- (Rupees One Crore Eighty Eight Lakhs Fifty Three Thousands One Hundred Twenty Thousands One Hundred Twenty Two Only) along with pendente-lite and future interest @ 11.00% simple interest @ 11.00% simple interest yearly w.e.f. 30.09.2023 till realization and costs of Rs. 1,80,000 (Rupees One Lakh Eighty Thousands Only) has become due against you (jointly and severally). Whereas it has been shown to the satisfaction of the undersigned that it is not possible to serve you demand notice in ordinary course, therefore, this notice is given by

therefore, this notice is given by way of this publication directing you to pay the above sum within 15 days of the publication of this notice, failing which the recovery shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 and Rules there under.

You are hereby ordered to appear before the undersigned on 11.12.2024 at 10:30 a.m. forfurther

proceedings. In additions to the sum aforesaid you will be liable to pay:a. Such interest as is payable for the period commencing immediately after this notice of the

execution proceedings. b. All costs, charges and expenses incurred in respect of the service of this notice and other process that may be taken for recovering the

visitors on third day of Virasat PNS PANTNAGAR

Cultural activities, music enthral

 $M_{
m and\ various\ cultural}^{
m usical\ performances}$ activities enthralled visitors on the third day of the Virasat Festival 2024 here on Thursday. The day began with a craft work-shop in which school students learned to create hand bracelets, pottery and various items from waste. The evening programme started with the lighting of the lamp and chief guests including Dehradun Cantt MLA Savita Kapoor, ONGC director (Exploration) Sushma Rawat and

In the first cultural performance, artists from Goa captivated the audience. Multilingual Goan singer, Elvis Goes, performed along with his music group, international artists from Goa's Kepemchim Kirnam, and Shri Guru Kala Mandal led by Mahesh Gaude from Ponda, Goa, gave enthralling performances. A sitar recital by Avanindra Shiolikar also captivated the audi-



ence. Shiolikar was accompanied by Shubh Maharaj

The final performance of the evening featured Malini Awasthi, who performed Hindustani music forms such as Dadra, Thumri, Kajri and Chaiti.

Shubh Maharaj on tabla, Dharmnath Mishra on harmonium and Vinayak Sahai on sarangi. Malini Awasthi is a renowned Indian singer known for her folk music. Trained in classical music, she is equally

adept in Hindustani music

forms like Dadra, Thumri, She was accompanied by Kajri, and Chaiti.

Apart from the cultural activities and musical performances, stalls with varied products from across India and beyond also attracted crowds at the

taken place with NCPCR

officials, who directed

Labour departments na-

tionwide to conduct a child-

labour-free campaign from

October 1 to 31 in anticipa-

tion of Diwali. Following

these instructions, the

Labour department in

Dehradun district is pre-

pared to eradicate child

labour.

added.

Viral infections rise along with changes in weather conditions

PNS DEHRADUN

Cudden changes Oweather patterns have led to a rise in viral infections and upper respiratory ailments among the residents of Dehradun district, the doctors said. In just a week, the locals have noticed a considerable shift in the weather, resulting in a surge of viral infections including coughs, colds, fevers and throat infections. Regarding this, doctors said that they have noted the entire OPD is currently filled with cases of viral illnesses. Talking to The Pioneer, senior physician at the district hospital Dr Praveen Panwar said that the comparatively cold weather during mornings and evenings has contributed to the rise in viral infections. He has been treating numerous cases of viral fever, throat infections and respiratory issues on a regular basis in recent days. In more severe cases, the virus has also been known to cause lung infections. To pre-



vent viral infections, individuals should take precautions such as avoiding cold water and wearing warmer clothing as the winter approaches. He further added that it is important to seek treatment promptly if experiencing symptoms of a viral infection, as delaying treatment can also lead to pneumonia. It is especially important for those with diabetes or elderly individuals to take extra precautions during this time, he added.

"The drop in temperature

and evening hours has led to an increase in cases of viral infection lasting three to four days among the population. Typically, the elderly and those with pre-existing conditions are more susceptible to these infections. I have been

regularly treating three to five patients with symptoms such as cold, cough and throat infections." said another physician Dr Anshika Jain.

She added that severe viral infections can also make it difficult for individuals to breathe. It is important for individuals to avoid eating meals or food from outside sources and to make sure to wear clothing that covers their bodies and avoid consuming cold water.

Labour department joins hands with police to rid Dehradun district of child labour

PNS DEHRADUN

In an effort to eradicate child labour in the Dehradun district, Labour department has joined forces with the Police department to conduct operations aimed at rescuing children from exploitative labour situations. Informing about this, assistant labour commissioner Deepak Kumar revealed that, under the guidance of district magistrate Savin Bansal, the Labour department is fully committed to eliminating child labour in Dehradun. Recently, a targeted operation has been launched, focusing on Fridays and Saturdays, to locate and rescue children engaged in labour. The initiative is structured in three phasesraising awareness, enforcing regulations and providing support for rehabilitation. It has been observed that many individuals, including children, employers and parents, lack awareness about the issue of child labour. Considering this, a comprehensive



awareness campaign has been about the causes and consequences of child labour, he

Kumar emphasised on the importance of being vigilant against child labour and informed that the department has recently collaborated with the Police department to address the issue. The Police department, under the guidance of the DM, has initiated a gary. In order to support this effort, the department has coordinated with them to rescue children from engaging in child labour during the drive. This initiative will continue till the Dehradun district is free from child labour,

Regarding the special campaign against child labour before Deepawali, Kumar noted that a virtual meeting had

In this special campaign for Deepwali, no instances of children working with fireworks have been identified and no children have been found engaging in child labour so far. Further, it has been recently decided that this initiative will now focus on addressing children being used to sell lights and other items under the influence of the products' owners or parents. If any cases of child labour are discovered in this regard, appropriate action will be taken, he

amount due. Recovery Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Dehradun

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Lies of opposition rejected, BJP to win in Kedarnath bypoll: Bhatt

PNS DEHRADUN

Voters in the Kedarnath Vidhan Sabha constituency do not yet have candidates either from the Bharatiya Janata Party or the Congress to choose from. However, both the national parties claim to be confident of a victory. The BJP State president and Rajya Sabha member Mahendra Bhatt has said that the people will elect the BJP candidate based on the unprecedented works done by the State government in the constituency. Talking to the media persons at the party's State office on Thursday, he said that chief minister Pushkar Singh Dhami has fulfilled all promises made to the local public as a representative of the late MLA Shaila Rani Rawat. Stating that the fog of casteist and religious politics has been cleared, he said that the BJP will win on the basis of development and heritage, which the people are focusing on. Appreciating the Dhami government for its stance on 'spit Jihad', Bhatt said that members of the Muslim com-



The BJP had initiated its efforts

about two months ago with the

formation of election manage-

ment groups in the con-

Bhatt said, "The Dhami gov-

ernment did unprecedented

work in the disaster-affected

Kedar valley. The CM had

promised the people of

Kedarnath that he will work as

their MLA till a new represen-

tative is elected in place of the

late Shaila Rani Rawat. It is a

stituency, he added.

munity should also come forward and expose elements indulging in such acts.

Bhatt said that the BJP's State unit has sent the panel of potential candidates to its central parliamentary board and the central leadership of the party will soon declare the name of its Kedarnath candidate. Final touches are being given to the list of star campaigners and the party's strategy for the election campaign.

stituency which would otherwise have taken decades. Despite the disaster, there is no work which the locals may find lacking," Bhatt claimed. Targetting the rivals of the BJP, he said that the opposition

matter of happiness for the locals and the party that the

CM did work in the con-

coalition had used lies and confusion to spread a political fog during the Lok Sabha elections but this has been cleared now. "The people of Haryana and Jammu have rejected the politics played by the opposition on casteism, communal issues and aspects of reservation and the constitution. They approved the developmental politics under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and today, the BJP along with its partners is governing 18 States in the nation. Based on this positive trust of the public, we will win not only the Kedarnath Assembly bypoll but also the 2027 Vidhan Sabha elections," the BJP State president said.

Congress leaders afraid of losing Kedarnath bypoll to factionalism, claims BJP

PNS DEHRADUN

The Bharatiya Janata Party has claimed that the Congress leaders are apprehensive of their chances of victory in the Kedarnath Assembly bypoll due to factionalism in the party. The BJP State media in-charge Manveer Singh Chauhan said that contrary to the claims of impending victory being made by the Congress, most of its claimants for the party ticket in Kedarnath are afraid of losing due to factionalism before even posing a challenge to the BJP. Chauhan claimed that those wanting to contest the Kedarnath bypoll on the Congress ticket are currently trying to tackle each other and will later try to avert a defeat due to factionalism in the party. "The Congress lacks any concrete issues and the people are asking about its achievements after it was

given a chance once in the given a chance once in the past. The BJP is approaching the people on the basis of the development works executed by its government while the Congress is depending on baseless allegations to boost its electoral gations to boost its electoral prospects. The statements being made by Congress leaders are laughable. Factionalism has come to the fore again within the Congress even before the electoral contest. The Pradesh Congress Committee president announces two observers and later the party's State incharge announces observers above the earlier two. The Congress State executive has not been formed for two years due to factionalism and in such a situation, the Kedarnath bypoll will be another difficult challenge



CANDID NOTES Gajendra Singh Negi

BJP's dilemma

 B^{JP} seems to be facing the problem of plenty in choosing lits candidate for the crucial Assembly bypoll of Kedarnath. There is section of the party which believes that Aishwarya Rawat, the daughter of late Shaila Rani Rawat should be fielded by the party to garner sympathy votes while another is backing candidature of formidable former MLA and president of State Mahila Morcha, Asha Nautiyal. The AAP's chief ministerial face in 2022 Vidhan Sabha election Col (retd) Ajay Kothiyal and Kuldeep Rawat, who secured more votes than BJP and Congress candidates in the elections of 2017 and 2022 respectively as an independent candidate, are also vying for saffron party's ticket from the constituency. The BJP leaders were ecstatic when Kothiyal, Kuldeep Rawat and a couple of other leaders, who had unsuccessfully contested from the constituency in the past, joined the bandwagon of the saffron party but their bliss seems to have turned into a dilemma now when more than half a dozen leaders have thrown their hats in the ring for party's ticket. It is almost certain that at least a couple of these leaders can turn rebels if denied ticket by the party.

Factional fight

While BJP is facing the problem of plenty, factionalism is continuing to become an Achilles heel for the Congress in the Himalayan State. The factional fight in the grand old party became apparent in the flip flop committed by the incharge of the State unit of the party Kumari Selja in selection of observers for the Kedarnath Assembly by-election. She first appointed deputy leader of Congress legislature party Bhuwan Kapdi and MLA Virendra Jaati as observers on the recommendation of the State unit. However four days later, apparently under pressure from the leaders anathematic to Mahara she appointed former PCC president Ganesh Godiyal as senior observer and Badrinath MLA Lakhpat Butola as observer in addition to Kapdi and Jaati. Mahara is reportedly furious for not keeping him into the loop in the selection of Godiyal and Butola and is learnt to have conveyed his displeasure to the party high command on the issue which seems to have handed over the colossal task of registering victory in Kedarnath bypoll to Ganesh Godiyal.

Cyber aware

Skeletons have started tumbling out from the closet of the Information Technology Development Agency (ITDA), the nodal agency for IT related activities of Uttarakhand government after the recent ransomware attack on the State Data Centre which crippled the IT infrastructure of Uttarakhand and halted the operation of government websites. Questions are now being asked about the competency of the experts deployed by the ITDA and the process of their selection in the SDC. It has also come into fore that the ITDA is bereft of necessary manpower to accomplish the task assigned to it. It is now imperative for the State government to work on strengthening the data centre and rectify the vulnerabilities exposed by the cyber bullies in the IT infrastructure. The cyber attackers have also given a wakeup call to the authorities to upgrade the IT infrastructure to prevent repetition of such attacks in future.

Congress observers to hold discussion on Kedarnath candidate on Oct 19

PNS DEHRADUN

The observers appointed by the All India Congress Committee (AICC) for the Kedarnath Assembly by- election will visit the constituency on October 19. The party has appointed former Pradesh Congress Committee (PCC) president Ganesh Godiyal as senior observer and deputy leader of Congress Legislature Party (CLP) in State Assembly Bhuwan Kapdi and MLAs Virendra Jaati and Lakpat Singh Butola as observers for Kedarnath. As per the programme released by the AICC, all these leaders will visit Agastyamuni on Saturday, where they will meet the leaders of the district unit of the party. They will also hold one to one meetings with the leaders who have expressed their willingness to contest the send it to the party high com-

for the constituency comes a



ership of the BJP will now make the final decision on the name of the candidate.

The chief spokesperson of Uttarakhand Congress Garima Dasauni has said that the observers will prepare a panel of candidates for the bypoll and mand. She said the image, commitment and contribu-The Congress' move on selection of the party candidate ability will play an important role in the selection of the can-

area had sent the Congress candidate to the assembly in 2012 and in the tsunami of BIP in the year 2017 again selected Congress candidate. The Congress leader said that in view of an adverse public response the BJP has come into

bonus before Deepawali PNS DEHRADUN $F^{\text{ollowing the declaration}}_{\text{of the Union government}} \ \ \overset{\text{ernment to announce the}}{\text{increase in the DA.}} \ \ \overset{\text{The Pioneer that the State}}{\text{government should also}}$ government should also increase the DA of to increase the Dearness Allowance its employees before the festival

Employees want DA hike,

(DA) of employees by three per cent, the employee organisations

are also demanding a similar increase in DA in the State. The State government employees are receiving DA which is 50 per cent of their basic salary and they are now expecting that

the Pushkar Singh Dhami government will follow the footsteps of the union gov-

The president of State employees is also demanding Employees Joint Federation, Arun Kumar Pandey told

of Deepawali. He said that since Deepawali is on October 31, which is the last day of the month, the State government should release the salary

before the festival. The federation of payment of Deepawali bonus

day after the State parliamentary board of BJP prepared a panel of six candidates for the didate. Dasauni added that the people of Kedarnath are enlightened and intelligent. constituency. The central lead- She said that the people of the Massive awareness campaign needed for

PNS ■ DEHRADUN

has said that reducing road accidents in Uttarakhand is a big challenge and there is a need to initiate a massive public awareness campaign in this regard.

He was addressing a pro-gramme organised by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Rishikesh on the occasion of World Trauma Day at the Raj

Governor lieutenant gendepartment, SDRF, NCC confidence that the heli and Red Cross should coordambulance and telemediand Red Cross should coordinate to deal with cases of

trauma care: Governor

Appreciating the public awareness programmes being organised by AIIMS Rishikesh, the Governor said that training around 5,000 students in the last six years is one of the most impressive efforts undertaken by the institute and this initiative is an important step towards



not only the doctors but the ernment has successfully entire society has a responsibility towards a person suffering from trauma. He opined that the Health

Bhawan auditorium on building a strong and safe community. He said that AIIMS Rishikesh in collab-The governor said that oration with the State govevacuated more than 250 patients by helicopter.

The governor expressed

a panic mode and it is now spreading rumours of discord and factionalism in the State unit. She said that the BJP has deployed five of its cabinet ministers in Kedarnath which shows its desperation. Dasauni

ambulance and telemedi-cine facility of AIIMS Rishikesh will help in deal-

ing with health related chal-

lenges in the mountainous

state. He said that on the

Day, everyone

should take a pledge to make

our communities

safer and more

capable. Singh

said that soon project Sanjeevani will start evacuating patients by helicopter free of

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Madhur Uniyal from the Trauma department of AIĪMS Rishikesh informed about

the activities and achievements of the department.

The executive director of AIIMS Rishikesh Dr

Meenu Singh, Dean Dr Jaya

Chaturvedi, head

of department of

Qamar Azam and

others attended

the programme.

Trauma

Government issues comprehensive food safety guidelines, violations to elicit heavy fine

PNS DEHRADUN

mid a series of alarming the alleged presence of human waste in consumables, the Food Safety and Drug Administration (FDA) has issued comprehensive guidelines aimed at ensuring high-er standards of food safety across Uttarakhand. Under the new regulations, violators will face hefty penalties ranging from Rs 25,000 to Rs one lakh, the FDA commissioner R Rajesh Kumar said. He stated that the new measures require food businesses across the State to adopt strict hygiene and safety protocols. Mandatory steps include issuing photo identification cards to all employees, installing CCTV cameras to monitor activities and ensuring clear

labelling for meat products served at restaurants, hotels and roadside eateries, with a mandatory disclosure of whether the meat is Halal or Jhatka. Food handlers will have to wear protective gear such as face masks, gloves and headgear while preparing or serving food. Kumar stated that these measures are crucial for upholding hygiene and preventing contamination. Kumar said that FDA has issued detailed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) that include severe penalties for non-compliance. Recently reported incidents of food contamination constitute a direct violation of the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and the FDA has reiterated that all food business operators must strictly adhere to licens-

lations aim to ensure that establishments uphold the cleanliness and quality expected under the law, he added. The FDA's enforcement measures extend to barring employees with contagious diseases from working in food preparation, storage or distrioution. Business operators are mandated to keep records of their employees' health status, supported by medical certificates. In an effort to maintain hygiene at the workplace, practices like smoking, spitting or engaging in other unhy-gienic activities are strictly prohibited. The guidelines stress that food businesses must issue photo ID cards to all workers, which must be displayed prominently, helping ensure that all staff members are easily identifiable. Also, all

standards. The updated regu-

licensed businesses must display a readable copy of their license in a prominent place within the premises. The installation of CCTV cameras is now a mandatory requirement for all food businesses, including roadside eateries, to enhance monitoring and ensure compliance with safety standards. Kumar said that these comprehensive guidelines aim to protect public health in Uttarakhand, fostering an environment where food safety is prioritised and hygiene standards are strictly enforced. As the festive season draws near, the administration is determined to ensure that food served across the State meets the highest levels of safety and quality, providing residents with peace of mind about the food they consume, he added.



Tableaux pass through the city as party of a procession held to mark Valmiki Jayanti in Dehradun on Pioneer photo

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Date: 11.09.2024

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Uttarakhand.

In view of the Recovery Certificate issued in T.A. No. 21 of 2019 passed by the Presiding Officer, DRT, Dehradun an amount of Rs. 14,06,933.67/-(Rupees Fourteen Lakhs Six Thousand Nine Hundred Thirty Three And Paise Sixty Seven Only) along with pendente-lite and future interest @ 11.00 % simple interest yearly w.e.f. 05.08.2016 till realization and costs of Rs 17,000 (Rupees Seventeen Thousands Only) has become due against you (Jointly and severally).

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Recovery Officer, Debts Recovery Tribunal, Dehradun

PM criticises Congress for neglecting India's culture, urges embracing of Buddha's teachings

Days after India recognised Pali as a classical language, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday criticised past Congress Governments for neglecting the country's cul-tural legacy after Independence and urged the global community to embrace Buddha's teachings to promote peace amidst current geopolitical ten-

In his address at an event held here to mark the International Abhidhamma Divas, he also referred to the current geopolitical scenario and called upon the whole world, "to learn from Buddha, keep the war away, and forge a path for

Modi said conferring the status of a classical language on Pali by the government recently, makes this occasion even more special.

The prime minister said while every nation associates its heritage with its identity, India was left far behind.



before Independence, and those suf-

fering from "slave mindset" did so afterwards, he said, adding that an ecosystem captured the country which took it in a direction opposite to its her-

Modi said his government's policies and programmes have been guided by the teachings of Lord Buddha, reiterating that the world plagued by instability and insecurity can find solutions to its problems in his teachings.

The entire world can find solutions not in "yuddh" (war) but in Buddha, and it should learn from his teachings to pave the way for peace, he said.

Buddha is not only relevant but also a necessity, he said, referring to the current geopolitical situations.

"I am happy that we have had the privilege of giving the sta-tus of a classical language to the Pali language in which the With a lot of faith, I call upon teachings of Lord Buddha have the whole world to learn from Buddha, keep the war away, and forge a path for peace," been inherited by the world," Modi said, adding, the honour

accorded to Pali "honours the great heritage of Lord Buddha". In his address, he also quoted He lamented that this ancient some lines from the teachings of Lord Buddha, and said, language is not in use today, strife and discord do not lead and said to preserve Pali is "the to peace, and that there is no responsibility of all of us". bigger happiness than peace.

Languages are the soul of a civilisation and culture and this step for honouring Pali is a "humble endeavour" of the government.

Modi rued that Pali language took seven decades after Independence to get this status. Lord Buddha, he said, resides in India's soul, and his teachings will "guide us in this Amrit Kaal'

He also said that "every language of ours, including Pali, has played an important role in nation building. Our new National Education Policy is becoming a medium for their

Modi also paid tributes to B R Ambedkar, an iconic figure who hailed from Dalit community and converted to Buddhism later, noting that his government has been developing places associated with him and Buddhism.

SC upholds Section 6A of Citizenship Act



PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

In a majority verdict, the Supreme Court on Thursday upheld the constitutional validity of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act which grants Indian citizenship to immigrants who came to Assam between January 1, 1966 and March 25, 1971. Section 6A was inserted into the Citizenship Act as a special provision to deal with the citizenship of people covered under the Assam Accord.

A five-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud said the Assam Accord was a political

solution to the problem of illegal migration. The CJI, writing for himself, upheld the validity and said the magnitude of influx of migrants in Assam is higher as compared to other states considering the smaller land size and the detection of foreigner is an elaborate

Besides, Justice Surya Kant, who wrote for himself and Justices MM Sundresh and Manoj Misra, concurred with the CJI and held that Parliament had the legislative competence to enact such a provision. Justice J B Pardiwala, however, dissented and held Section 6A as unconstitution-

The majority verdict held that cut off date of March 25, 1971 for entry into Assam and granting citizenship is correct. Mere presence of different ethnic groups in a state does not mean infringement of Article 29(1), it added. The bench rejected the petitions questioning the constitutional validity of Section 6A.

Section 6A of the Citizenship Act grants Indian citizenship benefits to illegal immigrants -mostly from Bangladesh, who entered Assam between January 1, 1966, and March 25, 1971. The provision was incorporated in 1985 following the signing of the Assam Accord between the Rajiv Gandhi gov-ernment at the Centre and the All Assam Students' Union

It says those who came to Assam on or after January 1, 1966, but before March 25, 1971, from specified territories, including Bangladesh, in accordance with the Citizenship Act amended in 1985, and since then are residents of the northeastern state, must register themselves under Section 18 for acquiring Indian citizenship. As a result, the provision fixes March 25, 1971, as the cut-off date for granting citizenship to migrants, particularly those from Bangladesh, residing in Assam.

CDS launches framework for trustworthy AI in defence

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) General Anil Chauhan on Thursday here artificial intelligence(AI)is revolutionising warfare and stressed the need to ensure trustworthy AI defence systems are resilient to adversary attacks. He made this assertion while

launching Trustworthy Intelligence (ÉTAI) Framework and Guidelines for the Armed Forces alongwith Defence Research and Development Organisation(DRDO)chief Samir V Kamat.

The ETAI Framework and Guidelines mark a pivotal role in the country's approach to integrate Trustworthy AI into critical defence operations. In his address, the Chief of

Defence Staff underscored the urgent need to incorporate trustworthy AI, pointing out The DRDO Chairman pointed Varughese stated that the ETAI

that recent global conflicts have demonstrated how AI is revolutionising modern warfare. He stressed that it is essential to ensure these systems not only work as intended but are also resilient to attacks from adversaries. He congratulated Scientific Analysis Group for developing the ETAI Framework and praised their efforts in advancing the trustworthiness of AI in defence

out that reliability and robustness are no longer optional, but are essential to prevent mission failures and unintended consequences. He highlighted that AI applications are required to be reliable, robust, transparent and safe for the success of

Distinguished Scientist & Director General, Micro Electronic Devices, Computational Systems &

future operations.

Framework is a risk-based assessment framework developed specifically for the defence

"Welfare for everyone this is the message of Lord Buddha," the prime minister told the audi-ence which included a large

number of monks, some diplo-

Union Culture Minister

Gajendra Singh Shekhawat,

Parliamentary Affairs said

Minority Affairs Kiren Rijiju,

besides a few monks were also

Modi underlined that Buddha

is both 'bodh' (consciousness)

and 'shodh' (research) subject,

and his government was laying

emphasis on both academics

and research in this area.

Minister

mats and others.

present on the dais.

Its principles, criteria and measures are equally applicable to other sectors as well. She affirmed that DRDO will play a key role in implementing the framework and assured that all necessary support will be provided to ensure its success. The ETAI Framework focuses

on five broad principles: Reliability & Robustness, Safety & Security, Transparency, Fairness and Privacy. It further defines a comprehensive set of criteria for evaluating trustworthy AI. Complementing the framework, the ETAI Guidelines provide specific measures to be implemented in the AI pipeline to meet these criteria. The framework and guidelines offer developers & evaluators, a structured approach to build and assess Trustworthy AI.

Justice Sanjiv Khanna recommended as next CJI

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud has set in motion the process of appointment of his successor by recommending to the Centre the name of senior-most Supreme Court judge Justice Sanjiv Khanna. CJI Chandrachud had on Wednesday handed over the letter of his recommendation to Justice Khanna. Justice Khanna is set to become the 51st Chief Justice of India on November 11.

Justice Khanna will have a tenure of little over six months. Elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court on January 18, 2019, Justice Khanna will superannuate on May 13,

He was elevated as an additional judge of the Delhi High Court in 2005 and was made a permanent judge in 2006. Born on May 14, 1960, Justice Khanna studied law at the



CJI DY Chandrachud shows Justice Sanjiv Khanna the letter recommending Justice Khanna as next Chief Justice of India, Justice BR Gavai looks on.

Campus Law Centre of Delhi University.

Some of the notable judgments of Justice Khanna in the Supreme Court include upholding the use of EVMs in elections, saying the devices were secure which eliminates booth capturing and bogus voting. He was also part of the five-judge bench which

declared the electoral bond scheme, meant for funding of political parties as unconstitutional

Justice Khanna was also part of the five-judge bench which upheld the Centre's 2019 decision abrogating Article 370 of the Constitution which gave special status to the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.

Youth can register for Yuva Sangam initiative

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■ NEW DELHI

routh from across the Youth from across to country stand a chance to represent their respective states and Union Territories by participating in the "Yuva Sangam", an initiative of the Ministry of Education under the "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat" programme, officials said on Thursday.

Online registration for the fifth edition of Yuva Sangam is open till October 21.

Interested candidates in the age group of 18-30 years, including students, NSS and NYKS volunteers, and employed or self-employed persons, may register through the Yuva Sangam portal before the deadline.

Off campus youth, including those enrolled in online courses in different skilling institutions, can also register

for the event. "It is an exciting opportunity for students and young professionals to learn about the country, its people and through this transformative journey of over 5-7 days," a senior Education Ministry

official said. 'Yuva Sangam allows participants to experience the

US holds meeting with officials | Researchers develop nasal delivery for TB drugs of India Enquiry Committee

PTI WASHINGTON

¬he United States had a "pro-**⊥** ductive meeting" with visiting officials of the India Enquiry Committee, a State Department official said on Wednesday, adding they were satisfied with the cooperation from the Indian side. "We are satisfied with the coop-

eration. It continues to be an ongoing process. We continue to work with them on that, but we do appreciate the cooperation and we appreciate them updating us on their investigation as we update them on ours," State Department Spokesperson Matthew Miller told reporters at his daily news conference.

He was responding to a question on the visit of officials from the India Enquiry Committee, which is investigating the American allegations of



involvement of an Indian official in the assassination plot of a Sikh separatist, who is also an American citizen.
"The meeting that occurred

yesterday we updated we being the US government broadly updated members of the Committee of Inquiry about the investigation that the United States has been conducting.

We've received an update from them on the investigation that they have been conducting. It was a productive meeting and I will leave it at that," Miller said. They did inform us that the individual, who was named in the Justice Department indictment is no longer an employee of the Indian government," he said in response to a question.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

team of Indian researchers Ahave developed a unique way to deliver Tuberculosis (TB) drugs directly to the brain bypassing the challenging blood-brain barrier (BBB) that limits the effectiveness of many brain TB medicines. This innovative drug delivery

method can effectively treat brain TB, a life-threatening condition with a high mortality rate.

TB that affects the brain, called Central Nervous System Tuberculosis (CNS-TB), is one of the most dangerous forms of TB, often leading to severe complications or death. One of the biggest challenges

in treating CNS-TB is that the drugs used to treat TB struggle to reach the brain because of a protective barrier known as the blood-brain barrier (BBB).

This barrier prevents many medicines from entering the



brain, limiting their effective-

Scientists at Institute of Nano Science and Technology Mohali, autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) used tiny particles made of a natural material called chitosan, to deliver TB medicines directly to the brain through the nose, bypassing the BBB.

These tiny particles, known as nanoparticles, were then made into slightly larger clusters called nano-aggregates, designed for easy nasal deliv-

They can hold TB drugs like

isoniazid (INH) and rifampicin (RIF).

The drug delivery technology used was nose-to-brain (N2B) drug delivery, which utilizes the olfactory and trigeminal nerve pathways in the nasal cavity to bypass the BBB. By delivering the drug through the nasal route, the nano-

aggregates can transport the drugs directly into the brain, significantly improving drug bioavailability at the infection site. Besides, chitosan is known

for its mucoadhesive properties, and sticks to the nasal mucosa, which helps the nanoaggregates stay in place and prolongs the time they can therapeutic effectiveness. When tested in the lab, these particles stuck well to the inside of the nose and were able to deliver much more medicine into the cells compared to regular TB drugs. When the new treatment was

tested on mice infected with TB, the nasal delivery of these nano-aggregates reduced the number of bacteria in the brain by nearly 1,000 times more than in untreated mice. The new treatment could be applied to treat other brain infections, neurodegenerative diseases (like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's), brain tumours, and epilepsy by enabling effi-cient drug delivery to the brain.

This study published in the journal Nanoscale (Royal Society of Chemistry), is the first to show that delivering TB drugs through the nose using these advanced particles can effectively treat brain TB.

diversity of India first-hand, recognise the cultural-social similarities and challenges, and develop inclusive solu-tions to address problems or tap opportunities through their professional/academic areas of expertise," the official added. The idea of a sustained and structured cultural connect between people from different regions was mooted by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Rashtriya Ekta Divas held on October 31, 2015, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. To crystallise this idea, the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) programme was launched on October 31,

CBI charges Congress MP Karti Chidambaram in visa bribery case

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

 $T^{
m he\ CBI}$ has filed a charge sheet against Congress MP Karti Chidambaram and others in connection with alleged bribery in facilitating visas of Chinese nationals for a power company in 2011 when his father P Chidambaram was the Union Home Minister. In its charge sheet submitted before a special court here, the CBI named Chidambaram, the Lok Sabha MP from Sivaganga, his close associate S Bhaskararaman,

company Talawandi Sabo Power Ltd (TSPL), a subsidiary of Vedanta and Mumbai-based Bell Tools, through which bribes were routed. The CBI has invoked charges

of criminal conspiracy, cheating, and forgery under the Indian Penal Code and provisions of the Prevention of Corruption Act. Other chargesheeted accused include Viral Mehta, Anup Agarwal, Mansoor Siddiqui and Chetan Shrivastava, said CBI. The agency has filed the charge sheet after two years of probe into its FIR registered in 2022 where it had alleged that the Punjab-based TSPL was setting up a 1980 MW thermal power plant and the work was outsourced to a Chinese company Shandong Electric Power Construction Corp (SEPCO). The project was running behind its schedule and the company was allegedly facing prospects of penalty. "In order to avoid penal actions for the delay, the said private company (TSPL) of Mansa was trying to bring more and more Chinese persons and professionals for their site at district



Mansa (Punjab) and needed project visas over and above the ceiling imposed by the Ministry of Home Affairs," the CBI said in a statement in

The CBI FIR, which contained findings of the investigating officer who probed the preliminary enquiry, alleged that an executive of approached

"close associate/front man" Bhaskararaman. "They devised a back-door way to defeat the purpose of the ceiling (maximum of project visas permissible to the company's plant) by granting permission to re-use 263 project visas allotted to the said Chinese company's officials," the agency had said after the registration of FIR and searches.

Project visas were a special type of visa introduced in 2010 for the power and steel sector for which detailed guidelines were issued during Chidambaram's tenure as home minister but there was no provision for the re-issue of project visas, the FIR had alleged. "As per prevalent guidelines, deviation in rare and exceptional cases could be considered and granted only with the approval of the Home

Secretary. However, in view of the above circumstances, the deviation in terms of re-use of project visas is likely to be approved by the then Home Minister...,"said CBI A TSPL executive allegedly

submitted a letter to the home ministry on July 30, 2011, seeking approval to reuse the project visas allotted to his company, which was approved within a month and permission was issued, the FIR had alleged. "On August 17, 2011, the executive, on being directed by Bhaskararaman, sent a copy of the above a letter dated July 30, 2011 to him through e-mail which was forwarded to Karti... Bhakaskararaman after discussion with P Chidambaram, the then Home Minister, demanded an illegal gratification of Rs 50 lakh for ensuring the approval," said CBI.

The FIR had alleged that the payment of said bribe was routed from TSP to Karti Chidambaram

Bhaskararaman through Mumbai-based Bell Tools Ltd with payments camouflaged under two invoices raised for consultancy and out-of-pocket expenses for Chinese visasrelated works, the CBI FIR said, adding that the TSPL executive had later thanked Karti Chidambaram and Bhaskararaman on email.

Payment against the invoices was made by TSPL to Bell Tools Limited through cheque and then the said amount was paid cash in

Bhaskararaman, it had alleged. ... Whereas the private company based at Mumbai was never in any kind of work relating to visas rather it was in an entirely different business of industrial knives," the

Information exists that Chidambaram had been on the board of Vedanta Group whereas his son Karti had taken financial favour from Sterlite Optical Technologies Limited, Mumbai (a Vedanta Group Company), which had lent Rs 1.5 crore in November 2003 to his company namely Meltraack India Limited, Chennai and the interest thereupon was waived off in August 2004 (when...P Chidambaram sworn as the Finance Minister," said the FIR of CBI.
CBI charged that Karti

Chidambaram and his frontman Bhaskararaman indulged in the collection of undue payments for settling the issues pending with the offices under the influence of P Chidambaram as minister in various Ministries.

Nayab Singh Saini returns as Haryana CM for second time

Senior BJP leader Nayab Singh Saini was sworn in as chief minister of Haryana for a second time on Thursday in a grand ceremony attended by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and a galaxy of NDA leaders.

Thousands of people packed into the Dussehra Ground to watch Governor Bandaru Dattatreya administer the oath of office to the low profile OBC leader and 13 others. For the BJP, the messaging was not just in its show of strength with a power packed dais seating its chief ministers, ministers and NDA partners but also in its choice of the day – Valmiki Jayanti. "For the third time with full majority, the BJP government will work with full energy for good governance, equality and welfare of the poor," Saini said in a social media post after being sworn in for the second time as chief minister. Among those present were Union ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, Nitin Gadkari and BJP president J P Nadda. Chief ministers of several BJP-ruled states, including



Chandrababu Naidu, there too.

The 54-year-old, who was the surprise pick to replace strongman M L Khattar as chief minister ahead of the assembly elections, proved his naysayers wrong by steering the BJP to a win in an election many thought would go to the Congress.

Saini is heading the BJP's third consecutive government in the state, a strategic victory after the Lok Sabha elections that many party leaders hope sets the pace for next month's crucial assembly polls in Maharashtra and Jharkhand. The BJP won 48 seats in the 90-member assembly. Three Independents, including

Hisar MLA Savitri Jindal, also extended support to the party. Haryana can have a maximum of 14 ministers, including the chief minister. The 13-member council of ministers includes the party's most senior leader Anil Vij, Ahir leader Rao Narbir Singh and Jat leader Mahipal Dhanda.

It also has two women former Congress leader Shruti Choudhary, daughter of Rajya Sabha MP Kiran Choudhary, and first time MLA Arti Singh, the daughter of Union minister Rao Inderjit Singh. Rajesh Nagar and Gauray Gautam took oath as state ministers (independent charge)

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

PARVESH SHARMA

After Nayab Singh Saini, Rao Narbir Singh (55), MLA from Haryana's largest assembly seat Badshahpur, assembly seat Badshampur, also took the oath. Rao Narbir Singh has become the state minister for the fourth consecutive time.

Rao Narbir has become MLA from Badshahpur for the second time. In the year 2014, he was the one who made the lotus bloom for the first time in Badshahpur. Singh represented Jatusana,

Sohna and Badshahpur constituencies in Haryana in 1987, 1996 and 2014 respectively. Singh held several ministries, including Public Works, Public Health Engineering, Architecture and Forest in the first Manohar Lal Khattar government from 2014 to 2019. In the 2014 Haryana polls, Narbir Singh won the Badshahpur seat by defeating independent candidate Rakesh Daultabad.

Rao Narbir has inherited politics. His father and grandfather have been MLAs in the past.After Rao Inderjit Rao Narbir is Singh, considered the biggest leader of Ahirwal. He was also a minister in the Manohar Lal Khattar government in 2014.

But in 2019, the party did not give him a ticket. This time too, when there were talks of his ticket being

cut, he announced to contest

the elections. However, later he also met the Union Home Minster Amit Shah and got Singh is one of the big leaders of the Ahirwal belt in Haryana. He is said to have a good hold in the Badshahpur

in the election.

area, which has the highest number of voters. He also has direct links with the high command. The biggest victory in the area is also registered in his name.

BJP top brass present during Nayab's Oath PIONEER NEWS SERVICE chief ministers, NDA

NEWS DELHI

With the top brass of BJP leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi, descending, the oathtaking ceremony of Nayab Singh Saini assumed the air of a grand event. of a grand event.

ground were choc-o-block as thousands of BJP supporters from across Haryana made their way to the ceremony. Saini, 54, an OBC face of the party in the state, on Thursday, took oath as the chief minister of Haryana in Panchkula. A total of 13 ministers also swore beside Elections 2024, Rao Narbir him.

Singh Singh was the only While the BJP formed the leader who got a ticket government for a third time directly from the BJP high in a row, Saini became the command.Singh won the chief minister of Haryana for Badshahpur seat in the the second time.

Haryana Assembly elections. Ahead of the BJP's estimate Singh defeated Congress of over 50,000 people turning candidate Vardhan Yadav by up at the 'Shapath Grahan a huge margin. Rao Narbir Samaroh, arrangements were got a total of 1,45,503 votes made on a grand scale.

After Saini took his oath, his He defeated Vardhan Yadav supporters chanted 'Nayab by 60,705 votes. As soon as Saini ko Jai Shri Ram' and the counting of votes for the 'Bharat Mata ki jai'.

assembly elections started, A huge multicolour 'pandal' Rao Narbir Singh took the lead and then he kept VVIP guests, which included increasing this margin and several Union ministers, third time.

partners and BJP workers. Outside the venue, artists

messages were set up all All roads leading to Dussehra along the road leading to the

venue in Panchkula. Besides Modi, Ministers Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh and J P Nadda attended the event amid heavy

security. Union Ministers Nitin Gadkari, Chirag Paswan,

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Gujarat CM Bhupendra Patel, Goa CM Pramod Sawant, Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, Nagaland CM Neiphiu Rio, Chhattisgarh CM Vishnu Deo Sai, Meghalaya CM Conard Sangma and Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Dhami were also present at the swearingin. BJP leader Tarun Chugh termed the ceremony 'historic".

Hari Ram, a Saini supporter, said he was excited at the BJP forming government for the

Need for new collective quantified goal on climate finance: UN Executive

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

Uttar Pradesh's

Bhupendra Patel

Adityanath, Assam's Himanta

Biswa Sarma, Chhattisgarh's

Vishnu Deo Sai, Gujarat's

Uttarakhand's Pushkar Singh

Dhami. NDA partner, TDP

leader and Andhra Pradesh

Minister

and

At the upcoming UN climate conference in Baku, countries must establish a new international climate finance goal that effectively addresses the needs of developing nations, UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell said on Thursday. He emphasised that COP29

must be a "stand-and-deliver" conference, recognising the critical role of climate finance in protecting both the global economy and the livelihoods of billions affected by climate change.

In a virtual event hosted by the Brookings Institution, Stiell stressed the necessity for a new goal that centers on public finance, with a



preference for grants or concessional funding to ensure accessibility for those in greatest need.

During COP29, nations are expected to agree on the New Historically, high-income Collective Quantified Goal countries (NCQG), which

the district administration and other relief agencies working on the ground to

help the devastated families.

expedite

necessities

to

Briefing media persons,

affected families from the Prime Minister's relief fund.

He assured all help from the

state government to rebuild

Meanwhile, during the inaugural cabinet meeting,

key administrative issues

were discussed, and the

government's immediate

priorities were outlined.

rehabilitation

government

promptly delivered.

compensation for

their lives and homes.

determine the annual amount developed countries need to mobilise starting in 2025 to support climate initiatives in developing nations.

have been will responsible for providing

support under the United Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) adopted

These developed nations, which include the US, UK, Canada, and members of the EU, pledged in 2009 at COP15 to provide USD 100 billion annually by 2020 to assist developing countries. However, this commitment has not been fully realized. While a report from the Organisation for Economic

Cooperation and (OECD) Development indicated that developed countries surpassed the USD 100 billion target in 2022, with nearly 70% of funding coming in the form of loans, concerns remain about the adequacy

and structure of this financial

Stiell pointed out that at COP29, nations will have the opportunity to decide on contributions, but cautioned against renegotiating the Paris Agreement. Some developed nations propose broadening the list of contributors to include emerging economies like China and certain Gulf states, a move that developing countries argue undermines equity principles and shifts responsibility away from those historically responsible for emissions.

"More work also has to be done to rapidly ramp up funding for adaptation and get international carbon markets working for everyone. We must fund a new generation of national climate plans," he



sidelines of 149th Assembly of IPU in Geneva on Thursday.

Omar Abdullah met fire victims families in Kistwar | Intelligence failure and planned conspiracy cited

process,

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE ■

ammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah Thursday flew to the remote area of Marwah in Kishtwar district to meet those families whose houses were ravaged in a massive fire incident on Monday. According to initial reports, over 70 houses were gutted leaving numerous families homeless.

Omar's deputy Surinder Choudhary accompanied him.

Before taking off from Srinagar, Omar chaired the maiden cabinet meeting in civil secretariat complex.

On his arrival in Kishtwar, Omar took stock of the relief and rehabilitation efforts completed so far by



The newly formed cabinet reviewed significant governance challenges, focusing on streamlining processes, addressing public grievances, and promoting transparency within the bureaucracy. The team also evaluated the

progress development projects. The new government's top priorities include bolstering infrastructure, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities in Jammu and

BISWAJEET BANERJEE

preliminary investigation Ainto the recent communal violence in Bahraich, which resulted in one death and significant property damage, has pointed to intelligence failures and evidence of a planned conspiracy as key factors behind the unrest.

The report, now under review at the DGP headquarters, highlights major lapses by the Local Intelligence Unit (LIU) and Mahsi Circle Officer Rupendra Kumar Gaur. As a result, Gaur has been temporarily relieved of his duties, with Ravi Khokhar appointed as the new Circle Officer of Mahsi.

Sources involved in the probe revealed that Gaur was initially unaware of the rising tensions when a group carrying idols for immersion arrived at Maharajganj market, sparking an altercation. By the time he reached the scene, the had already situation escalated into violence.

in Bahraich communal clash: Probe Report

The report further criticizes the Bahraich LIU for failing to anticipate the potential for unrest on both Sunday and Monday. A separate, detailed report on the LIU's shortcomings has been submitted to the state intelligence headquarters. It points out that the LIU lacked connections with key local figures in the affected areas

and was unable to gauge the area's sensitivity.

A senior official noted that

the rapid assembly of sticks, tridents, bricks, and stones indicated a coordinated effort to incite violence and disrupt communal harmony. CCTV footage reviewed so far has shown the presence of certain individuals at the immersion site who were later seen engaging in acts of arson and vandalism. Investigations are also underway into several social media accounts that spread misleading videos and audio clips during the violence, further escalating tensions.

Post-mortem gunshot wound: The police have confirmed

Ramgopal's resulted from a gunshot wound. They emphasized that there is no evidence of him being electrocuted or attacked with a sword before or after being shot. Additionally, there is no indication that his toenails were pulled out or

damaged. According to departmental sources, the post-mortem report reveals that Ramgopal Mishra's body had 30 to 35 pellets embedded, with most found in his face, neck, and chest. This suggests that he was shot with at least three or cartridges. Additionally, a shot was fired below his

country-made shoulders to confirm his

Taiwan inaugrates Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in India

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE

¬aiwan on Wednesday 1 opened its third office in country in Mumbai after having being operated as Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in New Delhi and Chennai.

In his opening remarks TECC Representative Amb Baushuan Ger said this will be third mission in India-Taiwan relations.

"In the 1995, Taiwan and established India representations, India Taipei Association in Taipei and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Center in New Delhi. The two offices have served as platforms for various collaborations between our



and will especially boost as science and technology," cooperation between Taiwan and Maharashtra and the The opening of the third neighboring states in west Mission of Taiwan in India India in the years ahead.

In 2012, Taiwan set up its second mission in southern India TECC in Chennai to benefit Tamil Telangana, Karnataka and Pradesh which attracted huge Taiwanese

investment, especially some key manufacturing industries to their shore. "More more than 60 percent of Taiwanese investment has concentrated in these four States," southern Ambassador said. "Like President Lai Ching-te

of Taiwan emphasized in his National Day Address on October 10th this year, Taiwan is a force for regional stability peace, prosperity. Taiwan will more vigorously develop its five trusted sectors, namely semiconductors, AI, defense, security and surveillance and next generation communications and help expand their global presence," added Baushuan

Ger in an august presence of

top dignitaries in Mumbai.

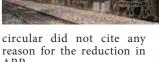
All bookings done up to October 31 under the ARP (Advance Period) of 120 days will remain intact, it added. The

Existing time limit for advance reservation will be reduced: Railway Board

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Railway Board has I reduced the advance reservation period of seats from existing 120 days to 60 days with effect from November 1, 2024. "It has been decided that from 01.11.2024, the existing time limit for advance reservation by trains will be reduced from 120 days to 60 days (excluding the date of journey)," a Railway Board's circular, dated Oct 16, 2024,

permitted. Reservation the case of certain day time



reason for the reduction in

According to the Board, cancellation of the booking made beyond the ARP of 60 days will, however, be

There will be no change in express trains like Taj Express, Gomti Express etc where lower time limits for advance reservation are, at present in force," the Board's circular said. There will also be no change

in the case of a limit of 365 days for foreign tourists, it said.

On March 25, 2015, the Ministry of Railways had increased the ARP from 60 days to 120 days.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Jaishankar holds a mirror

At the SCO Summit, S Jaishankar urges regional powers to tackle terrorism, extremism and separatism

t the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit held in Islamabad, India's External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar took the opportunity to deliver a pointed message to China and Pakistan, highlighting the erosion of trust in the region. His address focused on the principles outlined in the SCO Charter, underscoring the need for genuine cooperation, respect for sovereignty and an uncompromising stance against the 'three evils' of terrorism, extremism and separatism. Jaishankar's remarks came at a time when India's relations with China and Pakistan have reached a nadir. The minister subtly pointed out the prevailing trust deficit, stating, "If trust is lacking or cooperation inadequate, if friendship has fallen short and good neighbourliness is missing somewhere, there are surely reasons to introspect and causes to address." His words alluded to China's unilateral border violations along the Line of Actual Control and Pakistan's use of



cross-border terrorism as state policy. A central theme of Jaishankar's address was the urgent need to combat terrorism, extremism and separatism the 'three evils' that, according to him, have plagued the region. He argued that these threats undermine peace and stability, which are prerequisites for development. Without addressing these issues, the prospects for economic growth, trade, connectivity and people-to-people exchanges remain bleak. Jaishankar's participation at the Islamabad summit marked a significant moment in India's diplomatic strategy. Despite the strained relations, his address indicat-

ed India's willingness to engage in dialogue—provided that the foundational issues of trust and security are addressed. The summit showcased the growing rift between India's expectations for regional conduct and the policies pursued by some of its neighbours. It remains to be seen whether China and Pakistan will introspect on Jaishankar's remarks or continue to pursue policies that hinder regional integration. India's position remains clear: trust must be restored through actions that respect the sovereignty and security of all nations. The ball is now in the court of its neighbours to demonstrate a commitment to peace and stability. In his address, Jaishankar effectively used the SCO platform to hold a mirror up to China's border aggressions and Pakistan's sponsorship of terrorism, laying bare the challenges to regional cooperation. His words served not just as a critique but as a call for renewed commitment to the principles of the SCO Charter, signalling India's firm stance on upholding peace and good neighbourliness. The question now is whether China's and Pakistan's leaders will see the reflection and act accordingly, or if the region will continue to grapple with a status quo marked by distrust and discord.



A Royal Bengal tiger yawns at the National Zoological Park, in New Delhi

AI: Redefining learning in the 21st Century



Teaching methods and workplace demands are evolving rapidly, pushing educational institutions to adopt new paradigms that keep pace with the changing times

t is now being increasingly recognised that artificial intelligence and technology use are going to alter the nature of learning, as few things have in the last 100 years. The fundamental nature of change and its pace is nothing new if one goes back over six or seven decades ago.

The digitisation process altered the nature of learning numerals. The use of calculators rendered memorising multiplication tables substantially irrelevant. There was a sea change that has only increased its reach and depth with each passing decade. From calculators to the computerisation and successive upward scaling of computerisation competencies rendered not only the tables and the algorithms only marginally relevant, but even the log tables became a matter

After some initial reluctance to allow a mechanical instrument into the classroom and the examination hall, the nature of learning was adjusted to the new realities. The machine-added reality became the new paradigm. The nature of learning changed slowly but surely from working through one's memory to getting used to machines and their algorithm. The orientation changed from falling back on mental collaborations to machine-led solutions. Changes in technology also needed learning but of a different order.

The dualism of specialisation was more in demand for staying current in the employment market. Indeed, machines started competing with each other in a manner of speaking and a classical example would be the different technology modes used in the manufacture of a jet plane (Ilyushin) in Russia and the technology used in a Boing aircraft. The new realities required a new approach to what could be termed as 'new learning'. The nature of teaching arith-

metic, mathematics, and more all underwent a change, and a revolution bigger than many had hit the classroom.

was significant because it was a remind oneself that learning



continuing revolution, and today, it confronts the learner through various forms of artificial intelligence, also. The notions of mechanical search have not only revolutionised the search for information but even rendered encyclopedias decoration pieces in fancy drawing rooms.

They have now, perhaps, become a showcase of how learning used to be not so long ago. All this has implications not only for the classroom but also for the workplace. The exact manifestation of this is not clear, but the rumblings go on. Whereas earlier on, learning organisations used to pay equal focus on how to teach. Now the focus is equally on what and how to teach. The pressure in both the classroom and the workplace is equally intense, calling for a paradigm shift.

The real challenge for learning organisations lies in embodying the paradigm The nature of this revolution shift. It will be useful to TODAY, LEARNING

REQUIRES THE **COMPETENCE TO** APPRECIATE THE **NEW AND EMERGING** PATTERNS OF TECHNOLOGY. NOT SO LONG AGO, LITERACY WAS IMPORTANT TO THE **USE OF A MACHINE BECAUSE ONE HAD** TO PUNCH THROUGH THE ALPHABET

As a proposition, the need to keep reinventing oneself has been commonplace. Not so long ago, the focus was on keeping the mind open. Much of that has now metamorphosed into almost a new paradigm: keeping the mind growing. Enhancing of skills and competencies continues to be a defining trait of a learning organisation. It is simply not possible to confine oneself just to 'keeping the mind open'.

organisations is nothing new.

Today, learning requires the competence to appreciate the new and emerging patterns of technology. Not so long ago, literacy was important to the use of a machine because one had to punch through the alphabet.

Now the situation has reached a context where even if one does not have the competence to punch an alphabet, one can speak into a macnine and the machine will comply. At the moment, this process is at an early stage, but the problems that it means to tackle are

THE EDITOR

expanding every day. The change in the gamut of

learning is important because if one can solve problems without being able to write, there indeed is a revolution in the entire paradigm of learning. The proposition, therefore of a learning organisation is undergoing several fundamental reformulations.

There was a time in the 20th century when technology altered the nature of distance, and now there seems to be an emerging approach to technology that can alter the nature of time itself. Time present and time future are ready to merge into each other through technological interventions, allowing one to pass through a time machine, even if only temporarily. These are fundamental postulates and need rethinking far more deeply than what we have been able to do at prese

management consultant of international repute; The views expressed are personal)

family pressures and they don't speak out. The

major enemies are mobile phones and social

media platforms, anxiety of getting too much in

too little time, gaining public attention all the time,

competition with the peers and us, working from

home for longer hours, fear of failures, loss of

family members, sensory issues and marital dis-

cord. The obvious symptoms are anxiety attacks,

anger, depression, anger, misbehaviour and vio-

lence. However, many easily overcome these

symptoms in public posture, delaying the solu-

tion and treatment. The work from home should

be restricted to prescribed working hours only as

scheduled. Yoga is the best option for mental well-

ness. Vacationing, holidaying, playing games,

music, bhajans and romanticism with hobbies and

passion are the self-healing methods to keep us

Priyanka Gandhi Vadra is likely to make

Vinod Johri | Delhi

happy and tranquil, cheerful and bubbly

(The writer is a well-known

CHELLAPPAN

U-turns and controversies CM Pinarayi's U-turn on sensitive data disclosures, coupled with the

BJP's election triumph in Thrissur suggests a shifting balance of power trict are much ado about standing with the Sangh

an, woman and Child was a novel by best-selling author Erich Segal (1937-2010) which has been translated into many languages. It was made into a movie in English as well as in many languages. Our own Shekhar Kapur shot the movie *Masoom* based on the same novel.

Well, Masoom, and "Man, Woman and Child" came to mind after seeing the plight of Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan over the last fortnight. Vijayan, known for his determination, decisiveness and dictatorial tendencies, was a pale shadow of his old self during the last few weeks. Though he was seen laughing at flippant questions put to him by some of the journal-ists "studying to become Kerala's own Lutyens media", it was visible that Vijayan had lost most of his demeanour which in the past had silenced his detractors and rivals alike. The U-turn made by him viza-viz the data about the seizure of smuggled gold and hawala cash Malappuram had shocked even his critics. Various Islamist organisations



Pinarayi Vijayan: A tale of

amount of illegal money seized from Malappuram which houses the Calicut International Airport. Though the Chief Minister had disclosed these figures in the 140-minute long press meet held on September 21 at Thiruvananthapuram, newspapers and TV channels did carry it in their reports.

The present controversy in Kerala had its roots in the meetings held by M R Ajith Kumar, Additional Director General of Police with two senior RSS leaders in 2023 and the fiasco of the 2024 edition of Thrissur Pooram, Kerala's mega cultural extravaganza, the impressive victory scored by the BJP candidate Suresh Gopi in the Lok Sabha poll from Thrissur constituency and the unprecedented increase in gold smuggling and hawala

expressed their displeasure dealings in Malappuram dis-

The ADGP has every authority to meet the people of his choice as part of his policing job is known to one and all. Many IPS officers and intelligence officers with whom this issue was taken up were unanimous in their view that there was nothing wrong with the ADGP calling on RSS leaders.

One of the severe critics of the meeting between Ajit Kumar and RSS bosses is Binoy Viswam, the CPI Kerala secretary, who has been crying for the ADGP's blood for violating the Lakshman Rekha (or is it the Lenin Rekha?).

But what is left unsaid is that Surya Binoy, daughter of Binoy Viswam, is a standing counsel of the BJP Government the Centre, yet another branch of the RSS! Binoy Viswam, who considers himself the global face of Communism and a stickler for propriety should openly admit that his criticism of RSS is with an eye on the minority vote bank.

The Congress, CPI and the Muslim League allege that the CPI(M) had a tacit under-

Parivar to ensure the victory of Suresh Gopi in the Lok Sabha election. How is it possible for the CPI(M) to make Suresh Gopi emerge as a winner in a high pitch election which saw about 11 lakh voters turning out to cast their votes? The internal fights in Congress and the ire among the Christians over the CPI(M) bending backwards to placate the Muslims are seen as the factors that led to Gopi's win.

What made Vijayan disown what he had said on September 21 press meet and which was used by the reporter of the Chennai-based daily on September 30 is yet another proof of the Islamists tightening their control over Kerala. P Jayarajan, a CPI(M) strongman, had told in a TV interview last month that the dreaded IS and Islamist extremists have made Kerala into a hub for recruiting jihadis to fight in Syria and Kashmir. This too was blacked out by the secular and liberal media in the State. Who is calling the kettle black?

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

INDIA-CANADA TENSIONS RISE

Madam — The Indian government has once again officially denied the allegations of the murder of Khalistani supporter Hardeep Singh Nijar levelled by the Canadian government. Not only this, it has also taken diplomatic revenge by ordering the Canadian ambassador in India and other officials to leave the country. Have we reached the lowest point in diplomatic history in our relations with Canada? Is it possible that all diplomatic relations between India and Canada come to an end? In some circles of India, even senior journalists of international affairs believe that Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau is playing all these games to save his chair.

Is it really true that the Canadian Prime Minister, due to his lust for power, is hellbent on ending diplomatic, political and business relations with India? I think this story is not so simple that it will remain just a story of the chair. Because many Sikhs have been murdered in the same way all over the world, for which the governments there have blamed India. For example, in Lahore, Pakistan, on 6 May last year, Paramjeet Panjwar was shot dead, and the Indian government was also blamed for it. Okay, let's assume that Pakistan is our enemy, so it can make false allegations against us. But the United States of America is our friend. It has also made a similar allegation against us. It had alleged that an Indian citizen was involved in the conspiracy to murder Khalistani separatist Gurpatwant Singh Pannun in New York. Therefore, the Canadian government should also present evidence if it has it in the International Court of Justice and not just raise the issue by holding press confer-

Jang Bahadur Singh | Jamshedpur

EMPOWERING INDIA'S YOUTH

Madam— The government in its Budget this year had proposed to launch a scheme to provide internship opportunibeen announced by the Election ties to 10 million youths in the top 500 Commission and the Congress leader

Tackle mental health challenges



he most admirable and analytical article 'The invisible hattle for mental health in India (October 16), encourages us to evaluate and recognise our mental wellness and seek counselling for physical illness. The worst part is that we are vitiating and spoiling our mental health despite warnings of being too much glued to our mobile phones, social media, late-night lifestyle, and orientation of ourselves, isolation and so many

companies over a span of five years. This helps youth to gain exposure to real-life business environments in different areas for a year. Internship schemes are as old as industrialisation as the means to perpetuate skill sets. With rapid mechanisation, it was losing impetus and formali-

A pilot for the scheme in 2024-25 was kicked off last week with internship opportunities in 24 sectors, including energy, hospitality, auto, and banking and financial services. Companies are expected to bear the cost of training and 10 per cent of internship costs from their corporate social responsibility (CSR) funds. Major corporations over the years have been focusing on health, education and women empowerment. This new internship scheme hopefully should not affect their continued funding.

PRIYANKA'S POLITICAL DEBUT

Madam — The bypoll for Wayanad has

R Narayanan | Mumbai

her debut for Lok Sabha.

The seat went vacant while her brother Rahul Gandhi got elected to Lok Sabha also from Raebareli in Uttar Pradesh in the general elections. When the elected members who hail from the same place have not used to visit their constituencies, , where is the question of Priyanka serving the people of Wayanad once she gets elected? One should recall the promise of the Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi that he vowed that the Congress would construct 100 houses for those who lost their dwellings in the landslides at Chooralmala and Mundakkai during his visit on August 2, 2024. Winning elections matters most for the leaders and by consolidating the dynastic politics, the Congress can increase their numbers on the floor by wooing the voters but there is no justification to serve the people of the constituency in a real sense.

Á P Thiruvadi | Chennai

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FIRST COLUMN

UNDERSTANDING THE BIG PICTURE

By living according to dharma, we can strive for a higher quality of life



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

 ¶ hat is this Big Picture, that finds mention in spiritual talks?
 Simply stated, it means to know something in its totality. For example, we wish to know about ourselves in great detail, i.e. who we are; where have we come from; where are we going; and so forth. These and many more questions can be answered if we go to the source of everything, i.e. God, who is everything. (The Bhagavad-Geeta 7.19) We, souls, are His parts (15.15); we exist eternally; we are presently in material bodies. This happened because that is all we qualified for. There are superior planets like Heaven and, of course, the Vaikuntha – God's planet (15.6). How are we judged? It is purely based on 'karmas' (our acts), both material and spiritual. Most of us are engaged mainly in material acts. We may have a slight percentage of spiritual acts like occasional visits to a temple, hearing a spiritual talk, etc. These count but are not enough to go to the highest planet, i.e. the Vaikuntha. We keep on getting born on the earth's planet with an

occasional visit to Heaven. What is the role of God in all these? God is the creator of all that we see; He is its controller also. Logically, God must know the Big Picture. He does; God is omniscient. He knows past, present and future also. Just as our present is the result of our past, our future will be the result of our present. God is aware of how we will use our free will because that is influenced by our nature - part of our fate. As the Creation is to last for a very long time, control must be exercised to ensure its continuity. God does that. He uses the



Divine Authority to assist Him; it works under His superintendence. (9.10) They in turn reward and punish us based on our karma. There is nothing like chance, whatever happens to us is already preordained. In short, there are three levels of control. God is the head. Then comes the Divine Authority and, lastly, it is the material nature, which has been set in motion by God.

That is how we have seasons, rains, etc. We must live in synchronisation with it to have a healthy life. Our all acts must be 'yukta', i.e. appropriate according to the highest principles known as 'dharma'. These rules have been formulated by God Himself. The Big Picture won't be complete without a detailed description of our souls and how we can get help from God to improve our lives. We are many, eight billion plus on the earth planet itself. Surely, we are small and need help all the time, especially from God, who only knows the Big Picture. We are relocated after the present lifespan is over, which is preordained. Quality of life is all-important for all

Unfortunately, we seek it from material objects, which are never satisfied. We must serve other souls to be served in turn by others. How can we improve the quality of our lives? We must begin by accepting the reality. This is where the Big Picture enters our lives, whatever we can know with our limitations.

This includes accepting the Cosmic Design, and having faith in God and His System. We should try to be good in whatever we do; we generally know what that is. We must be useful to others, otherwise the world would not have any use for us. We need to be tolerant, because the earth planet is no heaven, but is not a concentration camp either. One can have a reasonably good life.

(The writer is a spiritual teacher; views are personal)

Empower urban local bodies for climate resilience-



Despite their economic importance, most urban areas are ill-prepared for the growing risks of climate change; these local bodies must be trained to fight climate changes



ities are centres of economic growth, contributing around 63 per cent to India's GDP while housing approximately 36 per cent of its population. This urban population is expected to reach 50 per cent by 2050, further intensifying the challenges cities face from extreme weather events such as heatwaves, floods, and droughts as recently witnessed in Wayanad, Chennai, New Delhi and other cities. According to a study by IIT Gandhinagar, the proportion of urban areas exposed to extreme weather events is set to increase significantly as global temperatures rise beyond 1.5°C above preindustrial levels. While the growing vulnerability is felt across rural and urban centres, the multiplier effect of damage caused to urban infrastructure, lives and livelihood on the larger socio-economic conditions as cities drive national GDP. Moreover, most of the cities are illequipped to tackle these climate risks. A lack of clearly mandated roles in climate CLIMATE RISKS. A response, insufficient financial allocations, and limited institutional capacities exac- LACK OF CLEARLY erbate this challenge. To enable transformative, city-led climate action, it is essenial to align Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the specific needs and capacities of cities. This requires designing enabling frameworks to help urban areas build climate resilience. Without such frameworks, cities may struggle to cope with mounting climate risks. India has played a very proactive role in shaping policy and strategies for climate change mitigation

and adaptation. The country's early adoption of environmental policies can be traced back to the Environmental Protection Act of 1986, a direct result of the United Nations EXACERBATE THIS Conference on Human Environment (Stockholm Conference) in 1972. This laid the foundation for key initiatives such as the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) in 2008 and the National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) in 2015. India has also spearheaded international efforts, including the establishment of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Coalition for

MOST OF THE CITIES ARE ILL-**EQUIPPED TO** TACKLE THESE MANDATED CLIMATE RESPONSE, **INSUFFICIENT FINANCIAL** ALLOCATIONS, AND LIMITED INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES CHALLENGE

Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

At the sub-national level, 34 States and Union Territories have prepared State Action Plans on Climate Change (SAPCC) to address state-specific vulnerabil-ities in line with the NAPCC framework. Although the concept of city-level Climate Action Plans (CAPs) is relatively new in India, cities are developing these plans to address local risks such as heatwaves, water scarcity, and flooding for example, Mumbai, Coimbatore, Rajkot, Siliguri, and Udaipur.

These climate action plans are often in collaboration with international networks like C40 cities supported by global donor agencies. However, a major limitation remains: Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) do not have a clear mandate to respond to climate challenges. While the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act of 1992 assigns ULBs certain responsibilities, such as urban forestry and environmental protection, "climate change" is not explicitly mentioned among the 18 func-tions designated to ULBs. This creates a significant governance gap at the local level. Although the National Mission for Sustainable Habitat (NMSH) 2.0 encourages ULBs to design action plans as one of the key strategies, it falls short of providing concrete guidelines, financial assistance, or incentives to assist city governments in these efforts.

The absence of a designated decision-making authority at the city level further compounds the prob-

While the SAPCC guidelines call for establishing climate cells at the state level, there is no similar provision for cities. Even when ULBs do develop climate action strategies, their implementation is hampered by overlapping mandates across multiple agencies and parastatals, with no centralised body to oversee or coordinate these efforts. Additionally, national climate

policies such as the Net Zero by 2070 target and NDCs do not mandate the collection of city-level greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions data, limiting the ability to undertake data-driven climate actions. As India transitions towards a more urban future, with 50 per cent of the population estimated to live in cities by 2050, amid rising climate risks, the devolution of powers to ULBs for climate governance becomes crucial. Empowering local governments through the principle of "climate subsidiarity"—which ensures that climate action is undertaken at the most appropriate level by adequately resourced and empowered agencies—can be a key step toward achieving climate resilience and national climate goals. One such long-term measure often suggested by experts involves amending the Constitution to include climate action" as one of the functions of

While constitutional amendments may be a long-term goal, an immediate step could involve making a comprehensive central law on climate mitigation and adaptation with the city as a unit of governance. Also, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) could update NMSH 2.0 with detailed guidelines for city-level Climate Action Plans. Such guidelines would ensure a standardised approach across cities while allowing for localized strategies aligned with national goals. Additionally, providing financial incentives—such as climate finance or additional transfers from the State Finance Commission (SFC) or Central Finance Commission (CFC) would encourage ULBs to initiate

ment green mobility projects, and undertake other climate-resilient initiatives.

Institutionalising climate gover-nance at the local level is only the first step. Local governments must also be given clear and measurable targets, necessitating the localisation of NDCs and SDGs. Incorporating cities into future updates of the NAPCC and SAPCC would allow for a more bottom-up approach to planning adaptation and mitigation strate-

Furthermore, establishing a centralised decision-making body at the city level would facilitate better collaboration among city agencies, ensuring a more coordinat-

ed response to climate risks.
As global and national conversations on climate action gain momentum, it is imperative to build a similar focus at the subnational level to ensure tangible results. The dynamism seen at the national level must be replicated in cities, towns, and districts, mate impacts. This will require a realignment of governance structures and a re-evaluation of climate strategies to bring the focus to the smallest units of governance—cities and ULBs.

A blend of long-term strategies and short-term action plans must be developed with sub-national governments to ensure accountability and cohesion in how cities perceive and address climate change. By empowering ULBs with the necessary resources, mandates, and institutional support, India can ensure that its urban centres are not just engines of economic growth but also pillars of climate resilience. This is essential if the country is to meet its ambitious goal of achieving Net Zero emissions by 2070.

(The writer is Research Associate, TERI; views are personal)

Aurangzeb: A contested legacy shaping India's political discourse

The portrayal of Aurangzeb as a ruthless oppressor reflects a blend of folk tales and myth rather than a verified account of his reign

¬he figure of Aurangzeb remains deeply embedded in India's contemporary political and cultural landscape, reflecting a blend of historical memory, myth and modern political rhetoric. His name frequently surfaces in electoral campaigns and public debates, evoking emotions and controversies centuries after his reign.

When leaders criticise each other with references to Aurangzeb, it signifies how his legacy continues to shape national politics. In the modern narrative, Aurangzeb is often depicted as a ruthless tyrant—a figure equated with notorious symbols of intolerance, such as Hitler or extremist ideologies. This perception paints him as someone who dedicated his life to eradicat-



NIHARIKA DWIVEDI

ing Hinduism and oppressing Hindus. Consequently, there's a prevalent notion that contemporary Indian Muslims are somehow connected, either by ancestry or ideology, to the Mughal emperor's legacy, which is accused of inflicting harm on India's cultural and

religious heritage. This view draws heavily on VS Naipaul's concept of India as a "wounded civilisation," enduring centuries of subjugation by into the Mughal Empire.

foreign invaders, including Muslim rulers who allegedly dismantled the country's glorious past. Yet, the belief in deliberate, systematic destruction by Muslim conquerors is not a continuous historical memory nor entirely grounded in verified historical records. Instead, it reflects deep emotional and cultural wounds, often fueled by present-day anti-Muslim senti-

Historically, Aurangzeb was the last significant Mughal ruler, governing much of the Indian subcontinent for nearly five decades. His reign is marked by controversies, such as imprisoning his father, Shah Jahan, his perceived orthodoxy, and the inability to consolidate the Deccan region Central to the debates on Aurgangzeb is the question of his motivations and policies. Some historians, such as Sir Jadunath Sarkar, argue that his primary aim was to establish an Islamic state in India by enforcing Sharia law and converting the population. Pakistani historian Ishtiaq Husain Qureshi asserts that Aurangzeb's policies were intended to preserve Muslim dominance and to maintain the empire's unity. This included discouraging

religious pluralism that could undermine Muslim hegemony in a state where they were responsible for defence and administration. However, Aurangzeb's actions were not always consistent with the idea of enforcing an Islamic state. For example, while he did



destroy certain Hindu temples, including the Vishwanath temple in Banaras, there is little evidence supporting the claim of a widespread, systematic campaign of temple destruction. Many temples, like those in Vrindavan, continued to receive royal patronage. The destruction of some tem-

ples appeared more politically motivated than religiously

driven, often tied to punitive more liberal policies, which

actions against local rebellions or defiant rulers. Aurangzeb's revival of the jizya tax in 1679, a levy on non-Muslims, further complicates the interpretation of his policies. While some scholars, like Sarkar, view this as an attempt to pressure Hindus into conversion, others argue that the tax was intended more as a political tool to rally support from conservative Muslim factions.Its reinstatement after two decades of the rule suggests it was not a priority-driven solely by religious zeal but rather a measure aimed at consolidating power during times of conflict, particularly against the Rajputs and Marathas. Qureshi contends that Aurangzeb sought to reverse the damages caused by Akbar's

marily politically motivated, aimed at consolidating power in a diverse and vast empire. His policies, while sometimes harsh, were not necessarily born from a deep-seated animosity toward Hindus. Instead, they reflected the complexities of ruling an expansive and multi-ethnic empire where shifting political, social, and military factors required adaptable strategies. Modern scholarship increasingly emphasises the need to

had integrated Hindus into view Aurangzeb beyond simadministrative roles. Ironically, plistic labels of heroism or vilthe number of Hindus in govlainy. His reign is better underernment service increased durstood within the broader coning Aurangzeb's reign, reachtext of socio-economic, culturing 33 per cent by 1689, despite al, and political dynamics of the emperor's reputation for the time. While his orthodox religious intolerance.
Dr RP Tripathi view leanings and authoritarian tendencies shaped some of his Aurangzeb's actions as pripolicies, his actions also mirrored the challenges of ruling a fragmented and turbulent subcontinent. Aurangzeb's legacy, thus, remains a complex and contested chapter in Índian history. It serves as a reminder of the intricate interplay between history and politics, and how the past is continuously invoked to influence the present.

(The author is a freelance writer and a documentary filmmaker; views are personal)

US stealth bombers target underground bunkers of Yemen's Houthi rebels

US long-range B-2 stealth bombers launched airstrikes early Thursday morning targeting underground bunkers used by Yemen's Houthi rebels, officials said. It wasn't immediately clear what damage was done in the strikes.

However, there are no previous reports of the B-2 Spirit being used in the strikes targeting the Houthis, who have been attacking ships for months in the Red Sea corridor over the Israel-Hamas war in the Gaza Strip. The Houthis' al-Masirah satel lite news channel reported airstrikes around Yemen's capital, Sanaa, which the group has held since 2014. They also reported strikes around the Houthi stronghold of Saada. They offered no immediate information on damage or casualties.

US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin said in a statement that the B-2 bombers targeted "five

hardened underground had been killed. weapons storage locations in Houthi-controlled areas of

The strike also appeared to be an indirect warning to Iran, the Houthis' main benefactor, which has targeted Israel with ballistic missile attacks twice over the past year. The B-2 would be used in any American attack on hardened Iranian nuclear facilities like Natanz or Fordo given it is the only aircraft in service that can drop the GBU-57, known as the

"Massive Ordnance Penetrator." 'This was a unique demonstration of the United States' ability to target facilities that our adversaries seek to keep out of reach, no matter how deeply buried underground, hardened, or fortified," Austin said. Austin and the US military's Central Command offered no immediate assessment on the damage done. However, Central Command said in a statement that initial assessments suggested no civilians

The Red Sea has become a bat-tlefield for shippers since the

Houthis began their campaign targeting ships traveling through the waterway, which once saw \$1 trillion of cargo pass through it yearly.

Houthis have targeted more than 80 merchant vessels with missiles and drones since the war in Gaza started in October 2023. They have seized one vessel and sunk two in the campaign that has also killed four sailors. Other missiles and drones have either been intercepted by a US-led coalition in the Red Sea or failed to reach their targets, which have included Western military ves-

The rebels maintain that they target ships linked to Israel, the US or the United Kingdom to force an end to Israel's campaign against Hamas in Gaza. However, many of the ships attacked have little or no connection to the conflict, including some bound for Iran.

The Houthis also continue to launch missiles targeting Israel and have shot down a number of US military MQ-9 Reaper drones. The rebels have threatened new attacks in response to Israel's ground invasion of Lebanon and its killing of

Hezbollah leader Hassan

Nasrallah. The description and locations named by the Houthis on Thursday correspond to known underground bases operated by the rebels, who have been locked into a stalemated war with a Saudi-led coalition since 2015 that's decimated the Arab world's poorest nation.

The Houthis have refurbished tunnels that once held Scud missiles for Yemen when it was ruled by strongman Ali Abdullah Saleh during his 33year reign, according to an analysis in April by the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Those sites include the al-Hafa and Jabal Attan military bases, the former Presidential House and the

Yemen state television compound in Sanaa, analyst Fabian Hinz wrote.

The Houthis have built what appears to be their own large scale tunnel network near Saada as well, Hinz added.

The fact that the Houthis began constructing major new installations after the agreement of the cease-fire with the Saudi-led coalition suggests that the group is focused on entrenching themselves and bolstering their military capabilities," he wrote. Iran similarly relies on a network of under ground missile bases.

The nuclear-capable B-2, which first saw action in 1999 in the Kosovo War, is rarely used by the US military in combat as each aircraft is worth some \$1 billion. It has dropped bombs in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya as well. The aircraft are based at Whiteman Air Base in Missouri and typically conduct long-range strikes from there, though some B-2s were in

Australia in September.

I represent a new generation of leadership: Kamala Harris

US Vice President Kamala Harris on Wednesday said she represents the next generation of leadership and her presidency would be different from that of her boss President Joe Biden and Republican rival Donald Trump.

"My presidency will not be a continuation of Joe Biden's presidency. Like every new president that comes in to office, I will bring my life experiences, my professional experiences, and fresh and new ideas. I represent a new generation of leadership," Harris said in an interview to Fox news channel.

"I, for example, am someone who has not spent the majority of my career in Washington, D.C. I invite ideas, whether it be from the Republicans who are supporting me, who were just on stage with me minutes ago, and the business sector and others, who can contribute to the decisions that I make about," she said.

"You've been vice president for three and a half years. So, what "The strength of an American president which is one who understands that the vast majority of us have more in common than what separates us. That is turning the page on rhetoric that People are frankly

exhausted of," she said. Harris slammed her Republican rival Trump and said

he is unfit to run for presidency. "If he's as bad as you say, that half of this country is now supporting this person who could be the 47th president of the United States? Why is that happening?" she was asked.

"This is an election for president of the United States. It's not supposed to be easy. It is not supposed to be a cakewalk for anyone...If you listen to Donald Trump, if you watch any of his rallies, he's the one who tends to demean and belittle and diminish the American people. He's the one who talks about an enemy within, an enemy within, talking about the American people suggesting he would turn the American military on the American people," Harris said.

Israeli Army says it may have killed Hamas chief Sinwar

¬he Israeli military said Thursday it was looking into whether Hamas' top leader Yahya Sinwar was killed in a military operation in Gaza, while an Israeli airstrike on a school sheltering displaced Palestinians killed at least 15 people, including five children, according to Ğaza's Health Ministry.

The military said in a statement that three militants were killed during operations in Gaza, without specifying where or elaborating further. It said the identities of the three were so far not confirmed, but it was "checking the possibility" that one of the three was Sinwar. Sinwar was one of the chief architects of Hamas' attack on Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, and Israel has vowed to kill him since the beginning of its retaliatory campaign in Gaza. Throughout the war, Sinwar has been in hiding.

For years Hamas' top figure in Hamas, Sinwar was chosen as its top leader following the assassination of Ismael Haniyeh in July in an apparent Israeli strike in the Iranian capital

Tehran. Israel has also claimed to have killed the head of Hamas' military wing Mohammed Deif in an Hamas' airstrike, but the group has said he survived.

The report came as Israeli forces continued a more than week-old major air and ground assault in the Jabaliya refugee camp in northern Gaza, where the Âbu Hussein school was hit Thursday. Fares Abu Hamza, head of Gaza Health Ministry's local emergency unit, confirmed the toll from the strike and said dozens of people were wounded. He said the nearby Kamal Adwan Hospital was struggling to treat the casual-"Many women and children are in critical condition, he said. The Israeli military said it targeted a command center run by Hamas and Islamic lihad inside the school. It provided a list of around a dozen names of people it identified as militants who were present when the strike was called in. It was not immediately possible to verify the names.

Israel has repeatedly struck tent camps and schools sheltering displaced people in Gaza. The Israeli military says it car-

ries out precise strikes on mil itants and tries to avoid harming civilians, but its strikes often kill women and chil-

Israel launched its campaign in Gaza to eliminate Hamas after the militants stormed into southern Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, killing some 1,200 people, mostly civilians, and abducting around 250 others. Some 100 captives are still inside Gaza, about a third of whom are believed to be dead. Israel's offensive has killed over 42,000 Palestinians, according to Gaza's Health Ministry. It does not differentiate between civilians and combatants but says women and children make up a little more than half of the fatalities. Northern Gaza was the first target of Israel's ground invasion nearly a year ago and has suffered the heaviest destruction of the war, with entire neighborhoods in Gaza City and other towns reduced to rubble. Most of the population fled after Israel issued evacuation orders in the open ing days of the war, but about 400,000 are believed to have remained despite the harsh conditions.

China prefers Harris over Trump as US president, says top official

PTI BELIING

China will prefer Kamala Harris to Donald Trump as the next US presidential considering that bilateral ties deteriorated sharply during the latter's presidency leading to serious confrontation, a senior member of the Chinese national advisory body said on Thursday.

The Chinese government prefers not to comment on the US presidential election because it doesn't want to be accused of interfering in American domestic politics, Jia Qingguo, member of the Standing Committee of the national advisory body CPPCC said. The Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) is a key component of the state governance system and a distinctively Chinese political institution.

The views of the Chinese general public are divided over Harris and Trump, but "I would prefer Harris because of the bad experience with Trump. We don't want to have that experience again," he told BBC in a rare comment voicing Beijing's preferred choice in the US presidential elec-

During Trump's presidency, the relations declined sharply and the two countries ended up in seri-

ous confrontation. "From China's point of view, US Vice President Kamala Harris, who has worked under President Biden, represents the continuity," he said.

Trump, during his Presidency was quite emotional and spread a lot of bad information about China, said Jia, who is also the Director of the Institute of Global Cooperation and Understanding

of the Peking University.
"We have problems with the Biden admiration too," but Biden inherited a lot of tough measures initiated by Trump against China for the reasons of domestic politics and perhaps out of his ide-ological conviction, he said, adding, "Under Biden, the US policy towards China is more sta-ble, predictable."

"We are re-engaging with each other. Officials are meeting with each other, talking about issues," which he said is stabilising the

While following a tough policy towards China, including firm-ing up US policy to challenge Beijing's claims over the disputed South China Sea and Taiwan and restricting China's ambitious move to export its electric vehicles, Biden, however, has maintained regular dialogue with President Xi Jinping to keep the tensions under control

'Broken immigration system needs to be repaired'

are you turning the page from?

she was asked.
"Well, first of all, turning the

page from the last decade in

which we have been burdened

with the kind of rhetoric coming

from Donald Trump that has

been designed and implemented

to divide our country and have

Americans literally point fingers

at each other; rhetoric and an

approach to leadership that sug-

gests that the strength of a leader

is based on who you beat down

instead of what we all know. The

strength of leadership is based on

who you lift up," Harris asserted.

The United States has a broken I immigration system that needs to be repaired, Vice President Kamala Harris said on Wednesday in a rare interview with the Republican-leaning news channel during which she sparred with its popular host. Harris made these remarks in an interview with Fox News anchor Bret Baier.

Baier repeatedly pressed the Democratic presidential nominee on illegal immigration, taxpayer support for gender transition surgery and other areas that closely aligned with former President Donald Trump's regular attacks against her. With 20 days before the election,

Harris tried to defend her record on immigration and the economy. On being asked how many undocumented immigrants have illegally entered the US under the Biden-Harris administration. Harris did not give a number. Harris responded: "Bret, let's just get to the point, OK? The point is that we have a broken immigration system that needs to be repaired.

'So, your Homeland Security Secretary said that 85 per cent of

apprehensions," Baier interjected. 'I'm not finished. We have an immigration system," Harris tried to continue with her answer. "It's a rough estimate that 6 million people have been released

anchor interrupted again. "And let me just finish. I'll get to the question. I promise you. I was beginning to answer," the vice president pleaded. When you came into office,

your administration immediately reversed a number of Trump border policies. Most significantly, the policy required illegal immigrants to be detained through deportation, either in the US or in Mexico. And you switched that policy. They were... released from custody awaiting trial. So instead, included in those were a large number of single men, adult men, who went on to commit heinous crimes. So looking back, do you regret the decision to terminate Remain in Mexico at the beginning of your administration?" Baier asked

"At the beginning of our administration, within practically hours of taking the oath, the first bill, practically within hours of taking the oath, was a bill to fix our immigration system," Harris said as Baier kept on interjecting in between. 'We recognised from day one

that this is your first question. It is a priority for us as a nation and for the American people. Our into the country," the Fox News focus has been on fixing a problem. From day one, then, we have done a number of things, includ-

ing addressing our asylum system and putting more resources, getting more judges, what we needed to do to tighten up penalties and increase penalties for illegal crossings, and what we needed to do to deal with points of entry between border, entry points," she "We worked on supporting what was a bipartisan effort, including

some of the most conservative members of the United States Congress, to actually strengthen the border. That border bill would have put 1,500 more border agents at the border, which is why I believe the Border Patrol agents supported the bill. It would have allowed us to stem the flow of fentanyl coming into the United States, which is a scourge affecting people of every background, every geographic location in our country, killing people," she said.

Secret Service needs fundamental reform, says panel probing attack on Trump

n independent panel inves-Aftigating the attempted assassination of Donald Trump at a Pennsylvania campaign rally faulted the Secret Service for poor communications that day and failing to secure the building where the gunman took his shots. The review also found more systemic issues at the agency such as a failure to understand the unique risks facing Trump and a culture of doing "more with less"

The 52-page report issued on Thursday took the Secret Service to task for specific problems leading up to the July 13 rally in Butler as a well as deeper one within the agency's culture. It recommended bringing in new, outside leadership and refocusing on its protective mission.

"The Secret Service as an agency requires fundamental reform to carry out its mission," the authors

Mayorkas of the Homeland Security Department, the Secret Services' parent agency, in a letter accompanying their report. 'Without that reform, the Independent Review Panel believes another Butler can and will happen again."

One rallygoer was killed and two others wounded when Thomas Michael Crooks climbed onto the roof of a nearby building and opened fire as Trump spoke. The former president was wounded in the ear before being rushed off the stage by Secret Service agents. That shooting, along with another incident in Florida when Trump was golfing — a gunman there never got a line of site on the president or fired a shot has led to a crisis in confidence in the agency.

The report by a panel of four former law enforcement officials from national and state government follows investigations by

wrote Secretary Alejandro members of Congress, the agency's own investigators and by Homeland Security's oversight

> The panel echoed previous reports that have zeroed in on the failure to secure the building near the rally that had a clear line of site to where Trump was speaking and the multiple communications problems that hindered the ability of the Secret Service and local and state law enforcement to talk to each other.

> The failure to secure a complex of buildings, portions of which were within approximately 130 yards of the protectee and containing numerous positions carrying high-angle line of sight risk, represents a critical security failure," the report said.

The panel faulted the planning between Secret Service and the local law enforcement, and said the Secret Service failed to ask about what was being done to secure the building: "Relying on a general understanding that the locals have that area covered' is simply not good enough and, in fact, at Butler this attitude contributed to the security failure." The panel also cited the fact that there were two separated command posts at the Butler rally: one with various local law enforcement and another with the Secret Service: "This created at the highest level, a structural divide in the flow of communications.

There were other communica-

tions problems. The Secret Service had to switch radio channels because radio traffic of agents protecting first lady Iill Biden at an event in Pittsburgh was popping up on the channels of agents covering the Butler rally. The panel also noted that all the law enforcement personnel on the ground were using a "chaotic mixture" of radio, cell phone, text, and e-mail throughout the day to communicate.

UN seeks probe into attack on Afghan migrants by Iranian border forces

United Nations expert is Acalling for an investigation into reports that an attack by Iranian security forces on the border with Afghanistan killed and wounded migrants.

Iran has denied any shooting took place Sunday near Sarayan, a town in the country's restive southeastern province of Sistan and Baluchistan, which borders

Taliban-ruled Afghanistan. However, anti-Afghan migrant rhetoric has escalated in Iran in recent months as Western sanctions grind down its economy, with the country's police chief claiming some 2 million migrants would be deported in the next six months. The Taliban said on Thursday they will provide updates once their investigation into the reported attack is complete. Their chief spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid said earlier that rumours were circulating Afghans on the Iran border.

The information has not yet been confirmed. The necessary decision will be taken after clarification of the matter," he said on social media platform X.

HalVash, an advocacy group for the Baluch people that is broadly focused on Iran, has issued a series of reports over the shooting, citing two unnamed witnesses to the attack and others claiming a death toll that ran at least into the dozens, with more wounded. It published images of what appeared to be several corpses and others with gunshot wounds. HalVash alleged Iranian security forces used both firearms and rocket-propelled grenades in the attack.

The Associated Press has been unable to independently confirm the attack. Verifying information remains difficult in Sistan and Baluchistan, which for decades has been home to cross-border

about the deaths and injuries of insurgency and violence involving heroin traffickers. However, Richard Bennett, the United Nations' special rapporteur on human rights in Afghanistan, has called for a

probe into the reports, saying he

was "seriously concerned". "I call for authorities to investigate transparently. Clarity is urgently needed," he wrote on X. 'These reports don't stand in isolation. More dignity and safety is needed for Afghans worldwide." On Wednesday, Iran began to push back on the reports. Gen. Reza Shojaei, a commander of the provincial border guard, called the reports of a shooting "basically false". Hassan Kazemi Ghomi, the Iranian president's special representative for Afghanistan affairs, also called the claims "not true" on X and blaming the story's spread on "the frenzy of the lying media". Large

numbers of Afghans have called

Iran home for decades, from the

Lithuanian President

1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, through the first rule of the Taliban, the 2001 USled invasion and the 2021 Taliban takeover. The United Nations refugee agency estimates 3.8 million displaced people live in Iran, the vast majority of them Afghans. Some in Iran suggest the number of Afghans is even higher. Police and authorities are signalling they want to deport more Afghans. Iranian police chief Ahmad Reza Radan earlier this month signalled the country planned to deport 2 million undocumented migrants in the next six months, though he stopped short of identifying them as Afghans. He said some 500.000

already had been deported. "We cannot allow individuals to enter the country illegally, reside, and work," he said. "Citizens and business owners should know that employing these individuals and housing illegal foreign

Zelenskyy heads to EU, NATO seeking support for his 'victory plan'

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said on Thursday that support from his embattled nation's Western allies is key to his "victory plan" to end the country's devastating war with Russia as he laid out details of the plan to

European Union leaders. He told reporters the plan aims "to strengthen Ukraine" and pave the way for a diplomatic solution to end the con-

flict on Europe's eastern flank. "I think that this plan doesn't depend on Russian will, only on the will of our partners," he said before addressing leaders

at an EU summit. Zelenskyy was later shut-

tling across Brussels to meet and collapse Ukrainian resiswith NATO defence ministers. The EU is a key supporter of Ukraine, a candidate member of the 27-nation bloc, as it fights Russia's invasion that began more than 2 1/2 years

Zelenskyy outlined the five-point plan to Ukraine's parliament on Wednesday without disclosing confidential elements that have been presented in private to key allies, including the United States.

The Institute for the Study of War in Washington said that Russian President Vladimir Putin is seeking to draw out the war and he believes "that Russian forces can outlast tance by winning a war of attri-NATO Secretary-General

Mark Rutte was muted in his response to the plan on Wednesday.

On Thursday he said that Kyiv can rest "absolutely assured that 32 allies are united in making sure that collectively, we will do whatever is needed to make sure that Ukraine can prevail, that (Russian President Vladimir)

Putin will not get his way".
Rutte reiterated that Ukraine's place is among NATO's ranks, but he would not say when it might join. Zelenskyy insists that a mem-Western support for Ukraine bership invitation is central to

his "victory plan" and would provide his country with the ultimate security guarantee to protect it from Russia. 'Ukraine will be a member

of NATO in the future," Rutte said. "The question is exactly about the when.' I cannot answer that now.

However, Rutte said, Putin must understand that "we are in this, if necessary, for the long haul. And obviously we want to be in a place where Zelenskyy and Ukraine, from a position of strength, is able to start talks with Russia"

Major points of the plan include an invitation for Ukraine to join NATO and permission to use Western-supplied longer-range missiles to

strike military targets deep inside Russia, steps that have been met with reluctance by Kyiv's allies so far.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz downplayed the chances of Berlin changing its opposition to the use of long-range weapons against Russian targets. "You know Germany's position on the questions that are touched on here; nothing will change about this," he said.

Zelenskyy said he needs to "move some partners forward" on the issue. "And I think only with the unity in EU we can move and can move not only EU leaders, we can move other

A draft copy of EU summit too slowly.

conclusions — a text that will likely be tweaked before publication at the end of Thursday's meeting — reaffirms the bloc's "unwavering commitment to providing continued political, financial, economic, humanitarian, military and diplomatic support to Ukraine and its people for as long as it takes and as intensely as needed. Russia must not prevail". Thursday's talks in Brussels

come as Ukrainian troops are struggling to hold off betterequipped Russian forces, especially in the eastern Donetsk region where they are gradually being pushed back. Kyiv is surviving with Western help, but Ukraine says it is coming

Gitanas Nauseda criticized slow Western decision-making over Ukraine and said it "would be a great mistake to think that our hesitance is the best way to de-escalation". If Western allies bolstered support to Kyiv, leading to

gains on the ground for Ukrainian forces, "then I think Putin would be pressed to go to negotiations table. Right now, he thinks he is prevailing," he said when entering the EU summit. Finnish Prime Minister Petteri Orpo said EU leaders

tinue to support Ukraine as

much and as long as needed".

"have to give a strong signal and unified signal that we con-

Washington in July, the 32 NATO members declared Ukraine on an "irreversible' path to membership.
But for now, NATO is in a

At their summit in

holding pattern. Its biggest and most powerful member, the United States, is facing a presidential election. European allies expect little movement on Ukraine until a new president takes office in January Beyond that, the United

States and European heavyweight Germany remain deeply concerned about being dragged into a wider war with nucleararmed Russia, and they lead a group of countries that oppose allowing Ukraine to join ÑÂTO until the conflict ends.

Mexico's security chief sentenced Saudi Arabia's new initiative for in US for taking cartel bribes

AP MEXICO CITY

The man once heralded as the architect of Mexico's war on drug cartels was sentenced to more than 38 years in a U.S. prison on Wednesday for taking massive bribes to aid drug traffickers.

Genaro García Luna, Mexico's former secretary of public secu-rity, was convicted by a New York jury in 2023 of taking millions of dollars in bribes to protect the violent Sinaloa cartel that he was supposedly combating. He is the highest-level Mexican government official to be convicted in the United

At his sentencing hearing before a federal judge in Brooklyn on Wednesday, García Luna continued to maintain his innocence and said the case against him was based on false information from criminals and the Mexican government.

"I have a firm respect for the law," he said in Spanish. "I have not committed these crimes."

federal police before he served in a cabinet-level position as the top security official from 2006 to 2012 under then-President Felipe Calderón. At the time, García Luna was hailed as an ally by the U.S. in its fight on drug trafficking. But US prosecutors said that in return for millions of dollars, he

provided intelligence about investigations against the cartel, information about rival gangs and the safe passage of massive quantities of drugs. Prosecutors had asked for a life sentence. García Luna's lawyers had argued that he should get

no more than 20 years. US District Judge Brian Cogan said he wasn't moved by past accolades that García Luna received for his work in the war on drugs.

"That was your cover," Cogan said before imposing the sentence. "You are guilty of these crimes, sir. You can't parade these words and say, I'm police officer of the year.

Besides the sentence of 38

During the trial, photos were shown of García Luna shaking hands with former President Barack Obama and speaking with former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and former Sen. John McCain. But prosecutors said García

Luna secretly advanced a drug trafficking conspiracy that resulted in the deaths of thousands of American and Mexican citizens. He ensured that drug traffickers were notified in advance of raids and sabotaged legitimate police operations aimed at appre-hending cartel leaders, they said. Drug traffickers were able to ship over 1 million kilograms of cocaine through Mexico and into the United States using planes, trains, trucks and submarines while García Luna held his posts,

prosecutors said. During former Sinaloa kingpin Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzmán's trial in the same court in 2018,

years and four months, the judge imposed a \$2 million fied that he personally delivfied that he personally delivered at least \$6 million in payoffs to García Luna and that cartel members agreed to pool up to \$50 million to pay for his protection.

"He enabled the cartel. He protected the cartel. He was the cartel," Assistant US Attorney Saritha Komatireddy told the judge Wednesday. García Luna enabled a corrupt

system that allowed violent cartels to thrive and distribute drugs that killed multitudes of

people, she added. "It may not have been the defendant pulling the trigger, but he has blood on his hands," Komatireddy said. Prosecutors also said García

Luna plotted to undo last year's verdict by seeking to bribe or corruptly convince multiple inmates at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn to support false allegations that two government witnesses communicated via contraband cellular phones in advance of the trial.

stronger bonds with Indian, expats

PTI RIYADH

Saudi Arabia has launched a new initiative that aims at promoting quality of life and developing stronger bonds between the local society and the Indian and other expatriate communities through cultural

. Unveiling the Global Harmony initiative here on Wednesday night, Saudi deputy minister for media Khalid bin Abdulqader Al-Ghamdi, said, "This initiative will also showcase the different cultures of the expats and how they are living in harmony." The Global Harmony initiative is a part of Saudi Arabia's Quality of Life programme to attain its 'Vision 2030' objec-

Ambassador of India Suhel Ajaz Khan and top diplomats of many other countries were present on the occasion. After the launch, Al-Ghamdi

said Indians living in Saudi Arabia are contributing in a large way to the greater Saudi

Khan said Indians are the largest expat community in Saudi Arabia with an approximate 2.6 million people. "The Indian community is increasing. Last one year itself, the community has increased by about 2,00,000 people," he added. Khan attributed the increase in the numbers to multiple reasons.

There are big economic opportunities because of Vision 2030. But the most important factor is that there is immense goodwill for Indians in this country and that is something which makes people rely more on the Indian workers.

"Over the years, the profile of Indian workers has also changed. More and more skilled Indian workers are here now," he added.

Khan also said bilateral relations are on an upswing as Prime Minister Narendra Modi has visited the Kingdom twice and the Saudi crown prince was also in India for the G20

There have also been landforce and naval exercises between the two countries, he said. The Global Harmony initiative

is showcasing the diverse lives of residents in the kingdom, from across countries and cultures from October 13-21 at the ongoing Riyadh Season at Al-Suwaidi Park here.

Besides India, the other participating countries are the Philippines, Indonesia, Pakistan, Yemen, Sudan, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Bangladesh and Egypt. The Al-Suwaidi Park venue

has live performances by different dance troupes, music groups and singers from India. Among the participants from India are musician Himesh Reshammiya, rapper Emiway Bantai and cricketers Umran Malik and S Sreesanth, the organisers said.

A separate bazaar area has also been set up with Indian cuisines, clothing items and

aims to showcase the diverse lives of residents in the kingdom, highlight their professional and family life, social and recreational activities, contributions to the economy, success stories, and cultural integration in the Saudi society.

It also highlights the government and the private sector efforts to improve the quality of

life in Saudi cities. Launched in 2016, 'Vision 2030' is a blueprint for diversifying the economy, empowering citizens, creating a vibrant environment for both local and international investors, and establishing Saudi Arabia as a global leader. There are three stages, each lasting five years and building on the last. The Global Harmony event, being held in partnership with the General Entertainment Authority, is part of the 45-day Riyadh Season, considered one of the world's largest winter entertainment events that start-

ed on Sunday.

Over 250 students held as protesters ransack campuses in Pakistan

PTI LAHORE

At least 250 students were arrested on Thursday in Rawalpindi for violence during protests against an alleged oncampus rape in a Lahore college as the agitation spread to other cities of Punjab province in Pakistan.

The protests erupted on Monday in at least four boys' and girls' campuses of the privately-owned Punjab Group of Colleges following social media reports that a female student at the Gulberg girls' cam-pus in Lahore had allegedly been raped by a security guard in the institution's basement. Police claimed they have the suspect in custody, but he has denied the allegation.

Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz has blamed jailed former prime minister Imran Khan's Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party for spreading fake news on social media and said that no such incident had

On Wednesday, a large number of students held demonstrations in Jehlum, Faisalabad, and Gujrat, demanding justice for the alleged rape victim.

On Thursday, protests spread to Lahore, Rawalpindi, Gujrat, Attock, Sargodha, and Vehari districts of Punjab.

The student protesters ransacked a college building in Rawalpindi, forcing police to fire tear gas to disperse them. Later, 250 students were taken into custody, the police said. The police said legal actions were being taken against those involved in disrupting peace. The guilty would be punished, they added.

"Police personnel have been deployed at various locations across the city," Rawalpindi Police said on X, adding that it was fully prepared to deal with any law and order situation. "Parents are requested to keep their children away from ille-

gal activities. The future of children can be ruined in case of tion.

legal action," it added.

Students clashed with security guards of the Punjab College Gujrat and the police, causing critical injury to three students and the death of one security guard yesterday (Wednesday)," a senior police official told PTI on Thursday. He said Azhar Hussain, the security guard, was killed during the violent attack by students.

"A murder case has been registered against about 200 students," he said.

The police have also registered cases against over 400 students for attacking and damaging the chain of Punjab group of colleges owned by Dunya media group in Gujrat.

Maryam has vowed to deal with the protesters with an iron hand and said those spreading fake news on social media would be arrested.

On Thursday, the police arrested a YouTuber in this connec-

'Human-induced climate change behind intense rains in Nepal'

The late September floods that killed more than 240 people in Nepal were driven by rainfall made about 10 per cent more intense by humancaused climate change, a rapid analysis by a team of leading scientists said on Thursday. The analysis by World Weather

Attribution (WWA) also underscored the urgent need for Nepal to limit development in low-lying, riverside areas of Nepali cities to prevent and protect people from future floods. WWA is a collaboration of international scientists that analyses and communicates the possible influence of climate change on extreme weather events, such as storms, extreme rainfall, heat waves, and droughts.

The floods in Nepal followed three days of extreme rainfall starting September 26. As records were broken across central and eastern Nepal, with some weather stations recording more than 320 mm on September 28, massive floods and landslides claimed at least

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is to inform to the public at large that Mrs. Sunits Chauhan who is the owner of Residential House having Plot no. 398, area measuring 60 Sq. Yards Khasra no. 28/3. Situated at Indra Vihar, Gali no.4 Village Khora, pargana Loni, Tehsil 8. Distt Ghaziabad, U.P. owner vide Sale Deed date 09.6.20/3 (Ooc. no. 59/59) executed by Mr. Ajay Singla and Mr. Udayveer Singh and same to be financed by 0.6.20/3 (Ooc. no. 59/59) executed by Mr. Ajay Singla and Mr. Udayveer Singh and same to be financed to you can be seen to be financed by 3.0.00 (Ook of the seed of the seen o

Encumbrances, lien etc. Lucem Legal LLP
B-93B, Second Floor, Opp. SBI Bank
Sector 2,Noida,UP-201301Contact#0120-4269379

loss to the country.

"Climate change was responsible for the extreme three day downpours in Nepal about 10 per cent more intense. Bursts of rainfall will become even more heavier, risking more destructive floods until the world replaces fossil fuels with renewable sources of energy," the WWA analysis said.

The flooding witnessed by Kathmandu valley had never occurred before in the past according to eye-witnesses. More than 50 people were killed and properties worth billions of rupees were damaged due to the heavy rainfall that hit the capital city recently. Highlighting how rapid development greatly worsened the impacts of the flood, the study said, Kathmandu, the largest city in Nepal and amongst the hardest-hit districts by the floods, is built around the Bagmati river in a bowl-shaped valley and has experienced rapid growth in

recent decades.
"Limiting development in flood-prone urban areas will

PUBLIC NOTICE
inform to the public at large that Mrs. Rajo Dev
is intending to purchase the Plot No. D-85
uring 25 Sq. Yds. Khasra No.714 & 715

ituated at New Defense Colony, Village Brahmpi lias Bhoupura, Pargana Loni, Tehsil & Distri ihaziabad from Mrs. Maya who became owner vici lale Deed dated 15.01.2018 (Vide Doc No.31 xecuted by Mr. Rajesh Kumar Tiwari and same to to Colony Review Finance Limite

244 lives and caused a heavy reduce the number of people in harm's way and save lives when floods occur in the future," the researchers said and also suggested scaling up of early warning systems and prompt action to avoid repeat flooding disas-

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client Smt. Deeksha Singh W/o Sh. Amit Kumar Singh Owner of portion of Plot no. 27, Land measuring 72 sq. yards (18 x 36), out of Total Land 200 sq. yards, 72 sq. yards (18 x 36), out of Total Land 200 sq. yards, out of Khasra no. 19/24, situated in the area of Village Hastal, Delhi State Delhi, Colony known as Vikas Nagar Block-F, New Delhi. through Registered Gift Deed Dated 06.05.2024 executed by Sh. Amilt Kumar Singh S/o Sh. Amarjeet Singh in favour of Smt. Deeksha Singh W/o Sh. Amit Kumar Singh Vide Reg. no. 2024/25/I/12193, at SR-IIB DELHI the above-mentioned property is going to be mortrage with Fed Bank Financial Services o be mortgage with Fed Bank Financial Services imited. If any person/bank/financial institution having Limited. If any person/bank/financial institution having any clain/right, lien, any objection whatsoever in regard to the above property, should notified to the undersigned/Adv. Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardooma Court, Delh-11092 along with documentary evidence under address through registered within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which any claim, lien or objection shall be deemed to have been waived. Adv. Vishal Mehan, E-713, Karkardooma Court Delhi-11092. Mohile Ne 9311215181 Court, Delhi-110092; Mobile No. 9811215181

PUBLIC NOTICE Notice is hereby given that my client Himanshu is in process to purchase the Second Floor without roof rights built on Property bearing no. 360, Plot no. 39, area measuring 54 sqyds, out of Khasra no. 1597,624, situated in the area of village Chandrawell 1997/624, structed in the area of village Chandrawal alias Shahdara, in the abadi of R.S. Block, Bhola Nath Nagar, Gali no. 5, Illaca Shahdara Delhi-110032 (availing loan from SHFL) from Mithlesh Sharma, having acquired the said property vide Sale Deed dated 29/6/2016 (Document No. 4608) executed by Kamlesh Kothwal, He confirmed that his seller is not because the beautiful service and the said that the second service is the said that the said tha

Kamlesh Kotlwal , He confirmed that his seller is not having the below documents pertaining to the property in question for that online IFI has already been lodged on dated 17/10/2024 vide LR no. 221 1651/2024 a) Driginal Sale Deed dated 09.11.2012 executed by Ashok Kumar Joshi in favour of Kamlesh Kotlwal (Doc no. 26608) All personis having any claim against or in respect of the said Property, or any part thereof, by way of sale, exchange, mortgage (equitable/registered or otherwise), gift, trust, inheritance, family arrangement, maintenance, bequest, partnership, possession, lease, sublease, tenancy, license, lien, charge, pledge, easement or otherwise howsoever, are hereby requested to notify the same in writing to us with supporting documentary evidence at the address mentioned below within 7 days from the date hereof, falling which the claim or claims, if any, of such person

Unit No. FF-2, First floor, Mahaluxmi Metro Tower Sec-4, Vaishali, Gzb., U.P., Mob. 9810063351

executed by Mr. Rajesh Kumar Tiwari and same to be financed by Grihum Housing Finance Limited, Noida. That, Original Sale Deed dated 27.09.2008 (Vide Doc No.8625) executed by Mrs. Shanti Devi in lavour of Mr. Rajesh Kumar Tiwari & Mr. Ram Kumar Shukkla has Isal. If any Person having any type of claim/righthittle/interest over the said property, may inform in writing, at the address mentioned below, about his objections within 14 days from today, falling which it shall be presumed that the said property is free from all type of Encumbrances, lienete. Lucem Legal LLP B-33B, Second Floor, Opp. SBI Bank Sector 2.Noida,UP-201301Contact#0120-4269379 BSES BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, New Delhi **TENDER NOTICE** Date: 18.10.2024 Sealed tenders under two Bid System (Unpriced & Priced) is invited for following job from all bidders. Estimated Cost | Cost of EMD | (₹) Due Date & Time of Submission Date & Time of Opening **Brief Tender Description** SCHEME NO. ES23SH1021 FOR PROVIDING 33KV CMC/BR/24-25/ 07.11.2024 07.11.2024 1.18 Cr. 2.36 Lakhs DOUBLE BUS BAR ARRANGEMENT AND CONTROL FK/CR/AG/1225 ROOM BUILDING FOR 11KV PANEL EXTENSION A

Cost of each Tender Document: ₹ 1180/- (Including GST)

For details in respect of Equipment/BOM/Services, Qualifying requirements, Terms & conditions, purchase/submission of tender documents etc. please visit our website www.bsesdelhi.com
Head (Co

Head (Contracts & Materials tegd. Off.: BSES Rajdhani Power Limited, BSES Bhawan, Nehru Place, New Delhi-110019 I Corpo Telephone No.: +91 11 4910 7235 I Website: www.bses on No.: U40109DL2001PLC11152

Kamal Kant Gupta (Advocate

INSTITUTE OF SEISMOLOGICAL RESEARCH Knowledge Corridor, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India 382426 www.isr.gujarat.gov.in Phone: 079-66739009

Online global tenders are invited from reputed OEM/Indian suppliers for the supply of

1) Magnetic susceptibility System (MS) with accessories

2) X-Ray Fluorescence Spectrometer (XRF) with accessories 3) Particle Size Analyzer (PSA) with accessories

4) Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometry (ICP- MS) with

Bidders may quote for any one or more tender. The e-tender may be downloaded from https://tender.nprocure.com or www.isr.gujarat.gov.in The last date for submitting the tender form with offer is 00-00-2024 Tender will be opened on the same day at on n-procure

INF/1317/2024-25 Director General

Bangladesh tribunal issues arrest warrant against Hasina India and is currently believed to be living at an undisclosed location there. Hundreds of

 $B_{\text{Crimes}}^{\text{angladesh's International}}$ on Thursday issued arrest warrants against former prime minister Sheikh Hasina, who was ousted after student-led protests in August, and 45 others for alleged crimes against humanity. The warrants against Hasina,

77, and others, including her party Awami League's top leaders, were issued on the first day of the judicial proceedings Public Notice
is is to inform general public that (1) Mr. Sur
mar, (2) Mr. Dimple Kumar Vishwakarma and,
Kimpal Kumar acquired the Property no. 51
ta measuring 55 sq. yds., out of Khasra n
C, situated in the area of village Khyala, Dell
te Delhi colony known as Z-Block, Vishr
den New Delhi – 110018 by way of Registrarden New Delhi – 110018 by way of Registrarse in Darapur, Delhi, as Doc No. 2023/22/16516
barapur, Delhi, as Doc No. 2023/22/16518
o. 1, Vol. No. 27725, Pages 129-138, o
12.2023.

ublication to Mr. Pramod Kumar Singh (Advocate aw Source, Unit No. 52-U, 2nd Floor, bull on Pl 0. 4 and 5. Ansal Utility Commercial Cente aschim Vihar, New Delhi-110063 or contact at +9 360309909 (M).

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLE NOTE IN TO BE ROOM TO BE AND T

terest, having any objection or found

Interest, naving any objection or round in possession of original documents, may write/contact with above named person at above address/phone No.9810430813 within 15 days from the date of, publication of this notice and can personally inform or write to Astt. Director/Housing/DDA, Vikas Sadan, INA, New Delhi-110023.

Public Notice
This is to inform the general public that Sh. Amar Singh is the GPA Holder of Plot No. 232 area measuring 50 sq. yds out of Mu. No. 32 Killa No. 25 situated in village Khayala Delhi Abadi known as Kanchan Park alias Chand Nagar New Delhi. He is in possession through GPA, ATS and Will dated 21.07.1994 executed by Sh. Dharam Pal in favour of Sh. Amar Singh in respect of said Plot.
Sh. Amar Singh intends to transfer the ownership by way of Sale Deed of aforementioned Plot to Smt. Meenu Verma. Subsequently, Smt. Meenu Verma is in the process of mortgaging the said property with SMFG India Home Finance Co. Ltd. (Formerly Fullerton India Home Finance Co. Ltd.). Any objections or concerns regarding this transaction should be raised within a period of 7 days from the date of this public notice. Any objections submitted after the completion of this 7-day period will not be considered binding with respect to the said property or the interests of our client.

client.
If anyone wishes to raise an objection, please do so within the stipulated 7-day period by contacting Law Veritas: North (Advocates & Legal Consultants) at Office No. 11, 1st Floor, Building No. A-44/A, Sector-16, Noida, Uttar Pradesh-201301; Landline(s): +910120-3101683; e-mail: accounts@lvnorth.in

begun by the re-constituted tri-bunal, Dhaka Tribune newspa-per said. The Tribunal, led by its chairman Justice Md Golam Mortuza Majumdar, passed the orders after the prosecution filed two petitions seeking arrest warrants, Chief Prosecutor Muhammad Tajul Islam was quoted as saying by the Daily Star.

The ICT also directed the authorities concerned to produce Hasina and 45 others before it by November 18.

TENDER NO.: NB245764 &

NB245765 DTD.: 15-10-2024

E-Tender are invited by the undersigned

for the following work. Tender No.1:

NB245764; Item Description : Supply of

Additional Water Filling Arrangement in LHB Type Coaches for water Tanks (2 x

685 L) of LHB Coaches to RCF Drg. No-

LE63279 ALT-NIL. Item no.1 to 19 as pe

RCF CAI No. CAI/RCF/MECH/LHB/061

dated-10-5-2024 (Items to be supplied as

per RCF Drg. No- LE63279 ALT-NIL. Item

no.1 to 19)-As per annexure-A. [Warranty

Period: 30 Months after the date of delivery

Quantity: 160 Set. PL Code (Group)

332303510019; Earnest Money

₹61,700/-; Date & time of closing

tenders at 14:30 Hrs. on 05-11-2024

Tender No.2: NB245765; Item

Description : Set of items for pipe laying

for waste water for LHB Type coaches fitte with Bio Tank as per RCF Drg. no.

MI006005, Alt-a, Item no-1 to 10. Materia specification and Quantity are as per

Drawing. [Warranty Period: 30 Months

after the date of delivery]; Quantity: 600 Set PL Code (Group): 334316320030

Earnest Money : ₹55,220/-; Date & time of closing of tenders at 14:30 Hrs. on

05-11-2024, NOTE :- For details pleas

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client intends to purchase Entire Third Floor without roof rights of builtup Property bearing

No. G-1397, measuring 160 Sq. Yards

Chittaranjan park, New Delhi from Mrs. Shikha

Sen and Shri Shomit Sen (present owner) who

lost the Original Lease Deed dated 06.05.1972, Original Will dated 11.01.1989, Original

Relinguishment Deed dated 19.09.2000, Original

elinquishment Deed dated 21.11.2000, Original

Mutation Letter dated 18.09.2001, Original

Agreement to sell with consideration dated

26.12.2001 and Original Conveyance Deed dated

16.03.2005. If anybody including Bank, Financial Institutions, persons, relative has any claim, right,

interest whatsoever in the said property shall

inform within 15 days to the undersigned with

documentary evidence. In the event of no

esponse to this notice, then My client shall pre-

Karnail Singh, (Advocate), K-8, LGF Jangpura Extn, New Delhi-110014

Dy. CMM/D, New Bongaigao

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So far more than 60 complaints of enforced disappearance, murder and mass killings have been filed at the ICT against Hasina, other leaders of her Awami League party and the 14-party alliance, journalists and former top officials of law enforcement agencies. Following unprecedented antigovernment protests over a controversial quota system in government jobs that peaked on August 5, Hasina resigned as prime minister and fled to

people were killed in Bangladesh in the incidents of violence that erupted across the country following the fall of the Hasina government, taking the death toll to more than 1,000 since the massive protest by students against a controversial quota system in government jobs first started in mid-July. After taking over on August 8, Bangladesh's interim govern-

OFFICE THE ROURKELA MUNICIPAL CORPORATION: ROURKELA

INVITATION FOR BIR

NO. 12644 Dated 15.10.2024

Bid Identification No. :- MC/RMC/31/2024

ment had said it would try in the International Crimes Tribunal those involved in the killings during the mass movement of the students against the Hasina-led government. Hasina faces almost 200 cases mostly for murders during the

mass student protests. Advocate Tajul Islam, the chief prosecutor of the tribunal, said on Sunday that Interpol's assistance would be sought to bring back fugitives, including

The Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation on behalf of Rourkela Municipal Corporation invites bids for works on percentage rate basis in Double cover on online Mode. Bid Identification No. MC/RMC/31/2024 for 01 nos. Civil work with value of

Bid documents will be available in website www.tendersorissa.gov.in from 15 .10.2024. Bids must be submitted on "online" on or before 29 .10.2024 by 17.00 hours.

Bids shall be opened at 11.00 hours on 30.10.2024 in the office of the undersigned in the presence of the bidders or their authorized agents.

Other details will be available in the web site tendersorissa.gov.in

OIPR-13131/11/0036/2426

Municipal Commissioner, Rourkela Municipal Corporation

27.10.2024 सायं 3:00 बजे

7.11.2024 सुबह 9:00 बजे से सायं 2:00 बजे

टीका राम एजुकेशन सोसाइटी (रजि.), सोनीपत रजि. कार्यालय- टीका राम मॉडल स्कूल, सोनीपत। रजि. न.-01792

चुनाव कार्यक्रम-2024 निम्न के कोलिजियम सदस्यों के चुनाव हेत् कार्यक्रम

टीका राम एजुकेशन सोसाइटी (रजि.), सोनीपत। 2. छोट राम आर्य (सी.आर.ए.) कॉलेज, सोनीपत। 3. टीका राम शिक्षा (बी.एड.) कॉलेज, सोनीपत। 4. टीका राम कन्या कॉलेज, सोनीपत। इलेक्टोरल कोलिजियम की मतदाता सूची का प्रकाशन 03.10.2024

मतदाता सची की उपलब्धता 03 10 2024 से 17 10 2024 यदि किसी को भी मतदाता सम्बन्धी शिकायत है तो इन 15 दिनों में जिला रजिस्ट्रार, फर्म एवं ोसाइटी को सम्बंधित प्रमाण एवं दस्तावेजों के साथ आवेदन करें। जिस की एक कॉपी व्यक्तिगत या ईमेल (principaltrce1@gmail.com) के माध्यम से निर्वाचन अधिकारी के पास अवश्य दें। स्थान— 1. टीका राम शिक्षा (बी.एड.) कॉलेज, 2. टीका राम मॉडल स्कूल, सोनीपत एवं वेबसाइट: ww.cracollegesonepat.org समयः प्रत्येक कार्यालय दिवसः सुबह 9:00 बजे से सायं 3:00 बजे तक अंतिम मतदाता सूची / इलेक्टोरल कालिजिज का प्रकाशन ामांकन पत्र दाखिल करने की तिथि 19.10.2024 से 23.10.2024 श्यान— हाल, टीका राम शिक्षा (बी.एड.) कॉलेज, सोनीपत मय— सबह 10:00 बजे से सायं 3:00 बजे तक फार्म की उपलब्दता— हाल, टीका राम शिक्षा (बी.एड.) कॉलेज, सोनीपत एवं वेबसाइटः www.cracollegesonepat.org ामांकन पत्रों की जांच 24.10.2024 एवं 25.10.2024 मांकन पत्र वापिस लेने की तिथि एवं समय 26.10.2024 सुबह 11:00 बजे से सायं 2:00 बजे तक चुनाव लड़ने वाले उम्मीदवारों की सूची सायं 4:00 बजे

मतों की गिनती एवं परिणाम की घोषणा 7.11.2024 (मतदान के तुरंत बाद) <u>नोटः</u> 1. नामांकन पत्र दाखिल करने के लिए अनिवार्य फीस 1000/- (केवल एक हजार वापसी नहीं)। 2. चुनाव सम्बंधित सूचना के लिए सोसाइटी की वेबसाइट www.cracollegesonepat.org का अवलोकन करते रहे। दिनांकः 14.10.2024 प्रो. (डा.) दलीप सिंह-निर्वाचन अधिकारी

[See proviso to Rule 8(6)] Notice for sale of immovable asset(s)

E-Auction Sale Notice for the sale of immovable asset(s) under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest

This notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of ICICI Bank Limited will be sold on 'As is where is', 'As is what is'

PICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh. Delhi-110005 OFC interfacing SSNNL Dam/2024/EOI) PUBLIC NOTICE-TENDER CUM E-AUCTION FOR SALE OF SECURED ASSET

INSTITUTE OF SEISMOLOGICAL RESEARCH Knowledge Corridor, Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India 382426 www.isr.gujarat.gov.in Phone: 079-66739009

EOI Notice (ISR/SMA/2024/EOI) & (ISR/

bered and clear

The ISR invites two separate Expression of Interest (EOI) for Supplying, Installation and Commissioning of the Borehole Strong

Motion Accelerographs. 2) Optical Fiber Cable Interfacing at Sardar Sarovar Narmada Nigan Limited (SSNNL) Dam for connecting Strong Motion Accelerographs Bidders may quote for any one or both EOI, and are downloadable from the institute's website www.isr.gujarat.gov.in. The last date for

INF/1070/2024-25

ISR/XRF/GnG/2024/002,

ISR/PSA/GnG/2024/003 & ISR/IPC-

MS/GnG/2024/004)

submitting the both EOI is 14-10-2024 up to 12:00 p.m.

Director General Tender Notice (ISR/MS/GnG/2024/001,

Vandana Sinha Applicant), Kamles (aur Sinha(Co Applicant) Èan No.

(Enforcement) Rules, 2002.

Name of Borrower(s)/ Co-Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Loan Account No.

Along With one Small Car Parking LBDEL00003217779 Space, Out of Khasara No. 88/7 Situated in Revenue Stamp of Village Palam , Mahavir Enclave Delhi- 110045, Area-900sq Ft

and 'Whatever there is' as per the brief particulars given hereunder;

Details of the

Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any

(C)

Property Bearing No. RZ-F-1/49, on

Plot No. 49, Gali No. 1-A, Entire 1st Floor Without Roof Rights And

चुनाव चिन्ह वितरण (उम्मीदवार का उपस्थित होना आवश्यक है)

ततदान की तिथि एवं समय एवं स्थान (टीका राम एजुकेशन सोसाइटी की विभिन्न संस्थाएँ,

The online auction will be conducted on the website (URL Link- https://disposalhub.com) of our auction agency M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited. The Mortgagors/ Noticees are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest by November 11, 2024 before 05:00 PM else the secured asset(s) will be sold as per schedule.

Outstanding

(D)

37,43,188

as on October

11, 2024

(E)

Rs. 45,00,000/

Rs. 4,50,000/-

(F)

02, 2024

From 12:00

to 02:00 PM

(G)

November 12, 2024

11:00 AM

to 12:00

The prospective bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower, New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh. Delhi-110005 on or before November 11, 2024 before 05:00 PM Thereafter, they have to submit their offer through the website mentioned above on or before November 11, 2024 before 05:00 PM along with the scanned image of the Bank acknowledged DD towards proof of payment of EMD. In case the prospective bidder(s) is/ are unable to submit his/ her/ their offer through the website, then the signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Bank Limited, 3rd Floor Shal Tower New Rohtak Road, Karol Bagh. Delhi-110005 on or before November 11, 2024 before 05:00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit DD/PO should be from a Nationalised/ Scheduled Bank in favour of 'ICICI Bank Limited' payable at Delhi For any further clarifications in terms of inspection, Terms and Conditions of the E-Auction or submission of

tenders, contact ICICI Bank Employee Phone No. 8928935040/8584874809 Please note that the Marketing agencies 1.M/s NexXen Solutions Private Limited 2. Augeo Asset Management Pvt Ltd 3. Hecta Proptech Pvt. Ltd. have also been engaged for facilitating the sale of this property. The Authorised Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons. For detailed Terms and Conditions of the sale, please visit www.icicibank.com/n4p4s

Authorized Officer

Date : October 18, 2024 Place: Delhi NCR

India's logistics cost will come down to single-digit in two years: Nitin Gadkari

Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari on Thursday said India's logistics cost will come down to single-digit within the next two years.

Addressing an event organised by NITI Aayog, Gadkari said the ministry is constructing several highways and expressways, which will help reduce India's logistics cost.

"Within two years, we are going to reduce our logistics cost to 9 per cent," he added. According to quick estimates of the economic think tank National Council of Applied Research (NCAER), logistics costs in

India ranged between 7.8 per cent to 8.9 per cent of GDP for the fiscal 2021-22.

Gadkari said there is huge potential for India to export alternative fuels and biofuels. He also pointed out that lowquality coal is useful for making methanol.

The minister added that India is making significant strides in the biofuel sector, especially in methanol.

Further, Gadkari said he aimed to make the Indian automobile industry number one in the world. Last year, India had

overtaken Japan to become the third-largest automobile market in the world, only behind the US and China, he



Γhe size of India's automobile industry rose from Rs 7.5 lakh crore in 2014 to Rs 18 lakh crore in 2024 and this industry is creating a maximum number of jobs,

Gadkari highlighted that materials like recycled tyre powder and plastic are being utilised in road construction, which helps in the reduction of bitumen import. He also emphasised how the

is helping to increase the incomes of farmers across the

Gadkari spoke about the stubble-burning problem in Punjab and Harvana.

He said that right now, "we can process one-fifth of the Parali, but with better planning, we can reduce the seasonal air pollution from stubble-burning by using parali as raw material for alternative fuels. The minister said that India

needs to move ahead with a policy which is cost-effective, indigenous, import substitute and employment-generating to address the major issues of rising pollution and fossil fuel

Hyundai Motor India records ₹27,870 crfully subscribed IPO

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The initial public offer of Hyundai Motor India Ltd, the Indian arm of South Korean automaker Hyundai, got fully subscribed on the third day of the bidding on Thursday. The Rs 27,870 crore initial

share sale got bids for 14,07,68,187 shares against 9,97,69,810 shares on offer, translating into 1.41 times subscription, as per NSE data till 13:21 hours.

The quota for Qualified Institutional Buyers (QIBs) got 3.88 times subscription while the portion meant for Retail Individual Investors (RIIs) received 44 per cent subscription. The non-institutional investors part fetched 39 per cent subscription.

Hyundai Motor India Ltd (HMIL) on Monday raised Rs



8,315 crore from anchor investors

This is the largest IPO in the country, surpassing LIC's initial share sale of Rs 21,000

The IPO has a price band of Rs 1,865-1,960 per share. The IPO is entirely an offer for sale (OFS) of 14,21,94,700 equity shares by promoter Hyundai Motor Company (HMC), with no fresh issue component.

This is the first initial share sale by an automaker in over decades, following two Japanese carmaker Maruti Suzuki's listing in 2003.

completely an OFS, Hyundai Motor India Ltd, the second largest carmaker in India after Maruti Suzuki, will not receive any proceeds from the IPO. HMIL stated that it expects that the listing of the equity shares will enhance its visibility and brand image, and provide liquidity and a public market for the shares. At the upper end of the price band, the IPO size has been pegged at Rs 27,870 crore (USD 3.3 billion), and the company's market valuation at around Rs 1.6 lakh crore (about USD 19 billion) postissue.HMIL commenced operations in India in 1996 and currently, sells 13 models segments.Kotak Mahindra Capital Company Ltd, Citigroup Global Markets India Private Ltd, HSBC Securities and Capital Markets (India) Private Ltd, J P

Andhra eyes Rs 10 lakh cr investment DGCA releases 2024 domestic winter flight schedule in clean energy, net zero by 2047

PTI AMARAVATI

Andhra Pradesh is eyeing Rs 10 lakh crore investment in the clean energy sector in the state as it unveiled a new policy that incentivises investments across solar, wind and roundthe-clock renewable energy projects to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2047. Andhra Pradesh chief minister N Chandrababu

Naidu unveiled the AP Integrated Clean Energy (ICE) Policy that envisages incentives ranging from hassle-free land acquisition at reasonable price to power subsidy to certain sectors.

The IĆE Policy will involve a proposed investment outlay of Rs 10 lakh crore, creating direct and indirect employment for 7,50,000 workers, the policy document

The policy looks to leverage the state's vast renewable energy potential across wind, solar and hybrid sources, storage capabilities through pumped storage projects, a long coastline, six operational ports (with four under development) and skilled manpower availability as it pivots energy transition.

Pradesh

government is committed to promoting generation from renewables by creating a more investment framework to spur competition and private participation in the sector while maintaining a balance in the interests of all stakeholders, it said.

Andhra

The police will aid in setting up of projects that generate electricity from abundant sunlight and wind energy as well from pump-storage projects on water bodies.

Andhra Pradesh is targeting 78.5 gigawatts of solar capacity, 35 GW of wind energy, 22 GW of pumped storage and 1.5 million tonnes per annum of green hydrogen manufacturing capacity. It is also looking to set up 25 GWh of battery energy storage as projects manufacture ethanol and biogas from biomass and 5,000 EV charging stations. It is also looking at 25-30 GW



local population.

To develop relevant skills in our workforce, the University for Green Energy and Circular Economy (UGC) will be established in collaboration with the government of India and industries under PPP (Public-Private Partnership) Mode, it Clean Energy Knowledge &

nment (CEKSDC) will be formed to serve as a knowledge and training hub and enable partnerships with academia, think tanks, and industry.

The incentives in the policy include concessional land lease for all clean energy projects as well as renewable component manufacturing units. Stamp

duty will be waived for minihydro, pump storage projects, battery storage, biofuels and manufacturing units while capital subsidies provided for battery storage, green hydrogen, biofuels and renewable energy

manufacturing projects. Electricity duty and other open access charges will be waived

Other incentives include a capital subsidy for electrolyser and biofuel net state GST for 5 years, waiver of reimbursement/waiver of intra-state transmission charges.

Capital subsidy of up to 25 per cent is being offered for renewable manufacturing projects as also reimbursement of net state GST, off-take guarantee, and power subsidy of Re 1 per unit for 5-10 years.

Development Corporation Of Pradesh (NREDCAP) will be the state nodal agency facilitating access to land parcels, and will support power power evacuation and open access, help in availing central government incentives, facilitate relevant approvals and clearances and support

capacity allocation. The policy will be operational

for five years. The ICE policy is in line with Andhra Pradesh's ambitious target of net zero carbon emission by 2047, the document said, adding with renewed efforts under the policy, Andhra Pradesh will attract investment for the next 5 years, scaling up its renewable energy capacity multifold and claiming its rightful place as a leading of cleantech manufacturing projects, reimbursement of state in the energy transition.

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE **NEW DELHI**

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) on Thursday released Domestic Winter Schedule 2024, in which Indian carriers will operate 25,007 flights every week to and from 124 airports in the winter schedule starting October 27, higher by three per cent, than the flights operated during summer period this year. In comparison to the winter schedule 2023, the number of flights has increased by 5.37 flights has increased by 5.37 per cent. As per Winter Schedule 2024 (effective from 27th October 2024 till 29th March 2025) of the scheduled domestic airlines has been finalized after the slot conference meeting held in September 2024.

"Out of these 124 airports, Pondicherry airport is proposed by the scheduled airlines whereas operations



from Pakyong and Tezpur airport were suspended in the winter schedule 2024," the DGCA said in a release. More than half of the total

25,007 domestic departures per week during the winter schedule will be handled by IndiGo.

Gurugramheadquartered airline will see

13,691 departures per week, up 4.91 per cent from 13,050 departures per week in the on-going summer schedule. Also, Tata Group, which currently has three airlines --Air India, its subsidiary Air India Express and, its JV airline with SIA Vistara -- will have a total of 7,611 departures per week during

this winter, as per the DGCA. Of this, Air India will handle 2,586 departures per week, 13.52 per cent more compared to 2,278 departures per week in the summer schedule of this year, while Air India Express (which saw the merger of AIX connect with it this month) will see 2,832 departures per week during the winter schedule, up 16.21 per cent from 2,437 departures per week in the summer schedule of 2024.

Vistara, however, will see 5.64 per cent less departures per week at 2,193 from 2,324 departures per week in the summer of this year, it said.

Budget carrier SpiceJet will also handle less number of departures at 1,297 per week from 1,657 departures per week in the summer schedule of this year, a drop of 21.73 per cent, according to the DGCA. Akasa Air, as per the DGCA, has filed for 989 departures per week for the winter schedule of 2024, which would be an increase of 9.52 per cent compared to the summer schedule. Out of these 124 airports, Pondicherry airport is proposed by the scheduled

airlines whereas operations from Pakyong and Tezpur airport were suspended in the Winter Schedule 2024.

Nestle India Q2 profit dips on high costs, soft demand

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $F^{\text{MCG major Nestle India}}_{\text{Ltd on Thursday reported a marginal decline of } 0.94~\text{per}}$ cent in its net profit at Rs 899.49 crore for the second quarter that ended September 2024 as some of its key brands demand and high commodity

The company had posted a net profit of Rs 908.08 crore in the July-September period a year ago, according to a regulatory filing from Nestle India.

Nestle India's However, revenue from the sale of products was up 1.3 per cent to Rs 5,074.76 crore in the September quarter. It was at Rs 5,009.52 crore in the corresponding period of last fiscal.

Commenting on the results Chairman and Managing Director Suresh Narayanan said, "Despite a challenging external environment with muted consumer demand and high commodity prices, especially for coffee and cocoa, we remained resilient in our pursuit to deliver growth."

"This quarter, 5 of our top 12 brands grew at double-digit. However, some key brands witnessed pressure due to softer consumer demand and we focus on them and have in place robust action plans," he

Nestle India's domestic sales were up 1.23 per cent to Rs 4,823.72 crore corresponding September period.

In the domestic market, Nestle India delivered growth in organised trade, which includes retail chains, hypermarkets etc "spurred by noodles, beverages and overall premiumisation," according to an earning statement by the company, which owns brands like Maggi, Nescafe, KitKat and Milkmaid etc.

Similarly in the Out of Home (OOH) segment, Nestle India has a "robust growth" helped by portfolio transformation, premiumisation.

customer acquisition and driving reach beyond metros. "Our Out-of-Home business continues to be one of our fastest growing businesses with strong double-digit growth," said Nestle India



adding that while in ecommerce, Nestle India has accelerated growth by almost 38 per cent. This was "primarily driven by Quick Commerce and fueled by brands such as Kitkat, Nescafe, Maggi and Milkmaid."

E-commerce delivered high double-digit growth, which was the highest in the last seven quarters contributing to 8.3 per cent of domestic sales," it said.

Growth on this new age channel was also supported by premiumisation, new user acquisition, festive participation and targeted digital communications.

Its petcare business Purina

also witnessed a strong e-commerce momentum, it added.

"Felix and Friskies cat food continued to receive positive feedback from trade and cat parents. Building on the superpremium pillar, Pro Plan dog food witnessed strong growth," said Nestle India.

Its revenue from exports was also up 3.13 per cent to Rs 191.62 crore in the September quarter.

export continued to expand its" footprint by introducing new SKUs across categories to Canada, Middle East, Maldives and Papua New Guinea," it said.

Infosys Q2 net profit rises 4.7 per cent

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

nfosys Ltd on Thursday profit and raised revenue guidance after broadbased growth.

Net profit of Rs 6,506 crore in July-September was up 4.7 per cent when compared to Rs 6,212 crore earnings in the same period last year. It was 2.2 per cent higher quarteron-year, according to a

company statement. Revenue was up 4.2 per cent at Rs 40,986 crore.

Infosys for the second consecutive quarter raised the 2024-25 fiscal year revenue guidance. It now anticipates a growth of 3.75 to 4.50 per cent in revenue in the fiscal year April 2024 to March 2025, up from 3-4 per cent band it had given in the previous quarter.

The company had in July raised the revenue guidance for the fiscal from 1-3 per cent anticipated previously.

Sarla Aviation, Bengaluru airport launch electric flying taxis

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

 $B^{\text{engaluru's Kempegowda}}_{\text{International Airport is}}$ set to be a key hub for cutting-edge urban mobility solutions with Sarla Aviation joining hands with the Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) to launch electric flying taxis.

Last month, the two entities signed a statement of collaboration to explore sustainable air mobility, specifically electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft.

This initiative, developed in Karnataka, aims revolutionise air travel by introducing seven-seater electric flying taxis, which promise faster, cleaner, and

transportation. While operations may still be two to three years away, Sarla



promise a cleaner, quieter, and more cost-effective alternative to traditional helicopter services previously offered in Bengaluru. Bengaluru-based

company, co-founded by Adrian Schmidt, Rakesh Gaonkar and Shivam Chauhan, is at the forefront of this transformation. Sarla Aviation plans to focus

on four of India's most congested cities-Bengaluru, Mumbai, Delhi, and Pune -bringing affordable electric aerial taxis to the public. The founder and CEO.

company's proposed route from Bengaluru Airport to Electronics City would take just 19 minutes, compared to the 152 minutes required by road, with a fare of Rs 1,700. 'We aim to redefine urban air transport with operational efficiency, reduced carbon emissions, and scalable infrastructure. Our electric flying taxis will set new benchmarks in reliability and performance, aligning with global standards sustainable aviation," said Schmidt, Sarla Aviation co-

Collective responsibility to improve corporate governance, follow global standards: NFRA Chief

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Financial **T**ational Reporting Authority
(NFRA) Chairperson Ajay Bhushan Prasad Pandey on Thursday underscored the need for improving corporate governance and aligning Indian auditing with global standards to attract investors. Observing that there is a need to continue to take cognizance of corporate governance reforms, he said company management, independent directors and audit committee, statutory auditors, shareholders, and regulators constitute five lines of defence to improve

corporate governance. our collective responsibility...We should continue to create trust. Improve the corporate governance, and we should work in that direction," he



by organised industry chamber Assocham here. Adopting global auditing standards would improve the trust of global investors in the Indian economy, which is on its way to becoming the third largest from the present fifth position, he said.

Making a pitch to align Indian audit practices with the global standards, Pandey corporates.

said it is in the interest of Adopting global audit norms standards.

is easier as "we have global precedents", he said. We cannot have Indian accounting standards in

isolation while not adhering to global standards...Some big corporate failures have been due to related party transactions and subsidiaries siphoning off funds...We must take corrective action like new Standard of Quality Management, changes in the auditing standard SA 600 to reduce the probability of frauds via subsidiaries," he said.

These will lead to early detection of frauds, he said, emphasising that India cannot be a developed economy by 2047 without audit reforms.

He expressed confidence that Indian accountants and CAs can dominate the world with adherence

INBRIEF

TATA AUTOCOMP SYSTEMS ACHIEVES DOUBLE DEMING RECOGNITION

NEW DELHI: a leading automotive components conglomerate serving Indian and global OEMs, announced today that two of its entities— Tata AutoComp Composites Division & Tata Ficosa—have been awarded the prestigious Deming Prize for 2024.



GNDU A-ZONE YOUTH FESTIVAL INAUGURATED



District Colleges) Youth Festival of Guru Nanak Dev University was inaugurated here today in the Dasmesh Auditorium of the UniversityMonday to Saturday, 8

POWERGRID ACQUIRES THREE ISTS PROJECTS

HARYANA: - a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power has on 15 th October 2024 acquired three (03) Project Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) to execute Inter-State TransmissionProjects related to transmission of renewable energy













A PHOTO JOURNALIST'S JOURNEY LIFE BEHIND THE LENS



and novices. By establishing this foundation, Yadav encourages a deeper appreciation for the medium that conveys emotions and narratives that words alone cannot capture.

The personal narrative work with professional insights makes Viewfinder particularly impactful. Yadav candidly recounts his rural upbringing in Uttar Pradesh, revealing the stark contrast between his humble beginnings and his eventual success in journalism. He details the struggles he faced, including language barriers and educational hurdles, creating a relatable picture for readers who may have encountered similar challenges. His resilience in the face of adversity serves as a source of inspiration, proving that determination can lead to remarkable outcomes.

The author also provides a timely commentary on the evolution of journalism, particularly the impact of digital media. He argues that, in today's fast-paced world, where attention spans are fleeting, the importance of powerful imagery has never been greater. A striking photograph, he asserts, can convey emotions and narratives that text alone fails to articulate. This reflection on contemporary relevance makes Viewfinder not only a recounting of the past but a significant contribution to

of photojournalism.

discussions about the future



ABOUT THE BOOK **Book**: VIEWFINDER by JAGDISH YADAV **Publication:** IIP ACADEMY in association with MANAK Publication ₹1200.00

photographs elevate the authenticity and impact of a story. He recalls the famous image of senior BJP leaders L.K. Advani and M.M. Joshi, their forced smiles concealing disappointment as they welcomed Narendra Modi as Minister. Prime photograph captured an emotional truth that no article could fully convey, proving Yadav's assertion that a picture can expose hidden realities.

Yadav's writing underlines that while journalism is text-driven, photographs are indispensable for adding depth and immediacy. They can affirm the A standout point truthfulness of a story, serving Yadav makes is as a form of attestation. The

establishing a connection that pure text might struggle to

The book explores the technical and ethical responsibilities of photojournalists. Yadav highlights the importance of

collaboration between reporters and photographers to ensure that images not only match the narrative but also enhance it. The photojournalist, he argues, must make real-time decisions about how to frame a story visually, often needing to act independently of the editorial team. Yadav offers a technical breakdown of how photo composition, whether

horizontal or vertical, parallels the structure of a well-crafted article, ensuring that the image tells a complete and coherent Through a mix of anecdotal

for photojournalists to remain vigilant, especially in today's fast-paced media environment where the public's attention span has shrunk. In this context, a well-timed, well-composed photograph can convey the news in a fraction of

the time required to read an article. Viewfinder thoughtful reflection on the role of photography in

journalism. Yadav shows how photojournalists not only document events but also interpret them, alignment of a powerful image offering the public a lens with a catchy caption can act as through which to see the

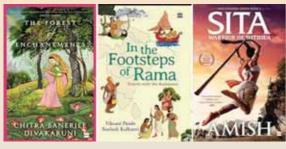
a gateway for readers to dive unfiltered reality. His accounts, deeper into the article, often humorous and always candid, bring to light the challenges and triumphs of a profession that is crucial but often overlooked.

Jagdish Yadav's Viewfinder is a must-read for anyone interested in the power of images in media. For those interested in photojournalism or seeking an inspiring life story, this book offers a window into the experiences of someone who has spent decades capturing the world through their lens. Yadav's reflections on the evolving landscape photography create compelling narrative that resonates long after the final page is turned.



Festive Reads!

HarperCollins Picks for Your Festive Reads!



The Forest of Enchantments By CHITRA BANERJEE DIVAKARUNI (PRICE: ₹799, PAGES: 372)

n The Forest of Enchantments, Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni offers a captivating retelling of the Ramayana, centering the narrative around Sita and other often-overlooked women of the epic, such as Kaikeyi Surpanakha, and Mandodari. This powerful novel explores themes of duty, betrayal and the quest for autonomy in a patriarchal society. Through Sita's eyes, Divakaruni poses vital questions about women's rights and treatment in relationships, transforming an ancient story into a contemporary tale of resilience and empowerment.

In The Footsteps Of Rama: Travels with the Ramayana By VIKRANT PANDE and NEELESH KULKARNI (Price: ₹599, Pages: 272)

In In The Footsteps Of Rama, Vikrant Pande and Neelesh Kulkarni lembark on an enlightening journey to retrace Rama's travels during his exile. Beginning with their quest to locate Chitrakoot, they explore significant sites mentioned in the Ramayana, traveling from Ayodhya through the Dandakaranya forest, Panchavati, Kishkindhya, Rameshwaram, and even Sri Lanka. Along their adventure, they uncover the deep connections between the epic's narrative and local folklore, revealing how the stories of the Ramayana continue to resonate with the people of the land. This book is a delightful read for both armchair travelers and enthusiasts of epic tales.

Sita: Warrior of Mithila (Ram Chandra Series Book 2) By AMISH TRIPATHI (PRICE: ₹399, PAGES: 376)

In Sita: Warrior of Mithila, set in 3400 BCE India, chaos reigns as the Ination grapples with division, resentment, and corruption. The demon king Raavan of Lanka grows ever more powerful, exploiting the vulnerabilities of the Sapt Sindhu. In this tumultuous time, two tribes seek a savior and discover an abandoned baby, protected by a vulture from a pack of wolves. Adopted by the ruler of Mithila, this seemingly ordinary child is destined for greatness. This thrilling sequel in the Ram Chandra Series chronicles the rise of Sita, an orphan who evolves into a prime minister and ultimately becomes a goddess.

Faith and Morals of Hinduism

A Clear Path for the Curious Mind

In 'Quintessence of Hinduism' by Girdhari Lal Chaturvedi explores the core beliefs and moral principles of Hinduism, providing an insightful guide for young readers to rediscover and understand their faith.

ABHISHEK SONKAR

→he Book offers a concise, comprehensive and insightful exploration of the core beliefs and moral principles that define Hinduism. The book, authored by Girdhari Lal Chaturvedi, is divided into 14 chapters, beginning with a historical overview of Hinduism and delving into the significance of the Bhagavad Gita as a philosophical text on faith. The author's aim is to create a guide for Hindu youth, who are often misinformed about their own faith, while also making the book a valuable resource for beginners and those familiar with Hinduism who wish to deepen understanding.

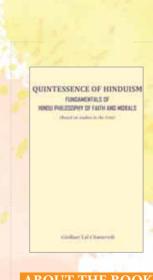
However, the book struggles to fully achieve its purpose. The author emphasises that Hinduism, unlike many other religions, does not have a single founder or a rigid doctrinal structure. Instead, he describes it as a "bipolar This term is problematic, as it can be misinterpreted to suggest conflicting or mutually exclusive aspects within Hinduism. In reality, Hinduism is a pluralistic tradition that has evolved through diverse paths and perspectives. Describing it as bipolar oversimplifies its inherently multifaceted

The book extensively addresses of Hinduism, particularly from other religious backgrounds, who present Hinduism as a religion lacking in moral values. Yet, Hinduism is unique in that it has a long history of self-reflection and reform, with many philosophers movements challenging established norms. This quality of self-critique is one of the aspects that sets Hinduism apart from other world religions.

HINDUISM, **UNLIKE MANY OTHER** RELIGIONS, DOES NOT HAVE A SINGLE FOUNDER OR A RIGID DOCTRINAL STRUCTURE. INSTEAD, HE DESCRIBES IT AS A "BIPOLAR FAITH"

Chaturvedi provides readers with a deeper understanding of the fundamental aspects of Hindu philosophy, including faith, morality and spirituality, and explains how these elements shape the daily lives of Hindus. The book also explores central texts such as the Bhagavad Gita, Vedas and Upanishads, offering summaries interpretations of these works. The author does an admirable job of breaking down complex Sanskrit verses and ideas from the Bhagavad Gita into simple, relatable language without diluting essence. This is one of the book's major strengths.

The author also discusses key Hindu concepts such as dharma (moral duty), karma (the law of cause and effect), and the nature of the atma (soul) and Brahman (universal consciousness), illustrating how these concepts are interconnected and central to Hindu philosophy. One of the book's main strengths is its ability to explain complex philosophical ideas in



ABOUT THE BOOK

Book: Quintessence of Hinduism: Fundamentals of Hindu Philosophy of Faith and Morals by GIRDHARI LAL **CHATURVEDI**

Pages: 383 ₹600.00 Availability: Amazon an accessible manner while retaining their depth and significance. The clear and wellresearched writing style makes the book a valuable resource for readers with little prior knowledge of

Hinduism. Chaturvedi highlights accommodating nature of Hinduism, which encompasses a wide variety of beliefs, practices, and paths to spiritual realisation. Whether one follows a path of devotion (bhakti), knowledge (jnana), or selfless service (karma), all are considered valid approaches within the Hindu framework.

However, there are limitations. Readers without prior knowledge of Sanskrit may find some sections challenging and those seeking a more detailed and nuanced exploration of specific texts or schools of thought may not find the depth they are looking for. These aspects could be viewed as potential shortcomings of the book.

'Quintessence of Hinduism' provides a useful introduction to Hindu philosophy and its moral framework. While it may not satisfy those looking for an in-depth scholarly analysis, it serves as a helpful starting point for anyone interested in exploring Hindu philosophy and is particularly recommended for readers who already have some familiarity with Hinduism.

BUOYANT NEW ZEALAND FACE UPBEAT WEST INDIES IN T20 WORLD CUP SEMIFIN

Buoyant New Zealand will seek to continue their inspirational run in the women's T20 World Cup when they face the West Indies in the second semifinal here on

New Zealand has undoubtedly been the story of the tournament so far in which they got the better of Asian sides India and Sri Lanka to make the final four from Group A, putting behind their 10-match losing streak before the competition.

With her towering presence, Sophie Devine has rallied the Kiwis troops impressively. Their success story features solid contributions at the top from Georgia Plimmer and veteran Suzie Bates, along with the all-round threat posed by Amelia Kerr further down the

Kerr has been at the forefront of the Kiwis attack with 10 wickets and 85 runs in what has been a largely low-scoring tournament, providing New Zealand with a lot of impetus. Rosemary Mair has also been

at the helm of New Zealand's success in this World Cup with

seven wickets on slow pitches of the UAE. Eden Carson set up the tone for New Zealand's high profile clash against India and the

Kiwis will hope that the right-

game against the West Indies, who are coming off a huge win over England. Hayley Matthews' West Indies

topped Group B and like New Zealand they also lost one game in the group stage, but overall the winners of the 2016 edition have put together robust performances.

The West Indies have qualified for their first semifinal since hosting the tournament in their back yard in 2018, while the biggest moment for the

Caribbean side arrived in this edition when they pipped England in their last group stage match.

The West Indies had lost 13 matches in a row against England before the two teams met in their last Group B

142 showed no signs of mental fatigue against this opponent. ratigue against this opponent. Matthews teamed up with the young Qiana Joseph to shut England out of the tournament with a rapid 102-run stand in which both the batters brought up their respective half-centuries centuries.

While Matthews is the only Caribbean batter to have crossed the 100-run mark in the competition, Sarah Taylor and Deandra Dottin remain

vital cogs in their batting. Spinners Afy Fletcher (8 wickets) and Karishma Ramharack (5 wickets) have been the most successful bowlers for the Caribbean side. New Zealand hold upperhand against the West Indies when it comes to bilateral record, having won 15 out of 23 matches so far with two tied games and one without a result.

The winner of this contest will take on the triumphant team from the first semifinal, to be played in Dubai on Thursday between the six-time winner and defending champions Australia and South Africa.



Vivaan wins silver medal, Naruka claims bronze in Shooting World Cup Final

Vivaan Kapoor claimed silver in men's trap event after compatriot Anant Jeet Singh Naruka's bronze in the men's skeet competition, taking India's tally to four medals at the ISSF World Cup

Final here on Thursday.
Vivaan shot 44 in the final to finish behind gold medal winner Ying Qi of China.
Turkey's Tolga N Tuncer won the bronze medal with a score the bronze medal with a score

Vivaan had come up with a score of 120 out of 125 in the qualification round to enter the six-man finals.

Earlier, Naruka, the 26-yearold from Rajasthan, shot 43 in

Tammaro Cassandro and Gabriele Rossetti took home the gold and silver with scores of 57 and 56, respectively. Naruka made it to the finals by scoring 121 out of 125 in the qualification round. Sonam Maskar had won a silver in the women's 10m air

the six-man final, earning third place, while Italy's

rifle on Tuesday and Akhil Sheoran clinched a bronze in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions on Wednesday.

Naruka and Maheshwari Chauhan had settled for a fourth-place finish in the skeet mixed team event at the Paris Olympics after losing the bronze medal match to



Ganguly named director of cricket at JSW Sports **ROLE TO COVER IPL, WPL AND SA20**

PTI NEW DELHI

 $F_{\text{Ganguly was on Thursday}}^{\text{ormer India captain Sourav}}$ appointed Director of Cricket for JSW Sports, his role covering all its cricketing Delĥi team in the IPL and the WPL along with the Pretoria Capitals franchise in

JSW Sports and GMR Group co-own Delhi Capitals in the IPL and WPL (Women's League) Premier Pretoria Capitals is owned solely by JSW Sports.

"In his role, Ganguly will spearhead all cricketing properties owned by JSW Sports, including the Delhi Capitals men's IPL and women's WPL teams, and the Pretoria Capitals that plays in Pretoria Capitals that plays in the SA20 League in South

Africa," said JSW Sports in a

Ganguly joined Delhi Capitals in 2019 as an advisor, where he worked alongside coach Ricky Ponting, and later returned to president.

Ganguly's appointment came soon after it was decided that the management of cricket operations for Delhi Capitals' teams in the IPL and the WPL will be handled in a two-year rotation policy between GMR

Group and JSW Group.
The GMR Group will handle the operations of the Delhi Capitals in the IPL for the next two years, while JSW Sports will handle the franchise's team in the WPL. Former India batter Hemang

Badani is expected to be named head coach ahead of

IPL 2025.

Speaking on the appointment, JSW Sports founder Parth Jindal said, "Dada has always had a special place at JSW Sports. For us, he is family first the franchise as Director of Cricket after his stint as BCCI that he is.

"I've said this in the past and it stands true even today - he is one of the sharpest brains in cricket and we will always stand to benefit from his guidance and wisdom of the sport."

Ganguly added, "I've had the pleasure of knowing the JSW Group and the Jindal family personally and professionally which made this an easy decision.

"JSW Sports has been doing visionary work across the board, and I am pleased to be able to lend my experience to all its cricketing projects.

Nadal-Alcaraz and Djokovic-Sinner are the Six Kings Slam exhibition matches in Saudi Arabia there raised by Hall of Famers

Rafael Nadal starts his pre-retirement farewell tour against Carlos Alcaraz on Thursday at the Six Kings Slam, and Novak Djokovic faces Jannik Sinner at an exhibition event that awards money but no ATP ranking points and is Saudi Arabia's latest foray into tennis. Riyadh will host the WTA

Finals next month to open a three-year deal as the kingdom continues to invest in various sports, despite concerns about LGBTQ+ and women's rights

Chris Evert and Martina Navratilova and others.

In Wednesday's matches at the Six Kings Slam, the top-ranked Sinner — who was cleared in a doping case shortly before winning the U.S. Open last month, although the World Anti-Doping Agency has appealed that exoneration beat Daniil Medvedev 6-0, 6-3, and Alcaraz defeated Holger Rune 6-4, 6-2.

Nadal, an ambassador for the Saudi Tennis Federation, and Djokovic were given byes into the semifinals



The matchup against Alcaraz will be the first contest for Nadal since his exit at the Paris Olympics in July — and his first match since he announced last week that he and could team up again for

would be retiring after playing for Spain in the Davis Cup next month. Nadal and Alcaraz played doubles together at the Paris Games

Looking ahead to Thursday's exhibition, Alcaraz called Nadal a "legend" and "a really important person for my life, for my career.

Davis Cup.

Djokovic and Sinner met for real on Sunday: Sinner won in straight sets to earn the trophy at the Shanghai Masters.

After a day off on Friday, the winners of Thursday's two matches in Rivadh will meet in the event's final on Saturday. Nadal, 38, owns 22 Grand Slam titles; Djokovic, 37, has won 24, a record for the Open

Pogba ready to give up money to play Juventus again after doping

though, or need him.

Pogba recently had his four-year ban for doping reduced to 18 months after appealing to the Court of Arbitration for Sport, meaning the France World Cup winner will be free to resume his career in March 2025.

Juventus has not been overly enthusiastic about welcoming him back but Pogba says that is the only club he is thinking about playing for. "I am ready to even give up money so that I can still play for Juve," he said in an interview with Italian sports daily Gazzetta dello Sport. "I want to return."

Juventus sporting director Cristiano Giuntoli and new coach Thiago Motta

are dubious about whether Pogba can return to the top level after being out Paul Pogba says he's ready to give up money to play for Juventus again. for so long since testing positive for testosterone in August last year. But the 31-year-o

> year, has been training hard on his own and is ready to prove them "I am a Juve player now. That is all I have in my mind today," he said. "I don't have to talk. What I do on the

he "felt like a caged lion" for the past

pitch will do my talking and then Thiago Motta will judge with his own eyes, based on what he sees. Talk is nice, but I want to play and I want to be the best one at Juve and in

the France team." But not only has Juventus changed coach since Pogba was banned, it has

also changed strategy. It has brought in fresh new faces, including bright talents who



progressed through its youth team, and got rid of the - costly - old guard with the offseason departures of Federico Chiesa, Wojciech Szczesny, Alex Sandro and Adrien Rabiot.

Pogba, who was the most expensive soccer player in history when he joined Manchester United from Juventus for 105 million euros (\$113 million) in 2016, returned to the Bianconeri as a free agent in 2022. He signed a contract worth eight euros (\$8.7 million) plus two million (\$2.2 million) in bonuses - but injuries limited him to just eight Serie A appearances in his second spell at the club before his ban. The judges who cut Pogba's ban acknowledged the lack of intent but suggested the 2018 World Cup winner

treatment in Florida. 'What I did wrong was not looking at what a professional gave me. I repeat, a professional," Pogba said. "Like a lot of soccer players, I have a cook, a trainer

should have taken more care about his

and a personal physiotherapist. 'It's not a matter of reading the leaflet better, a professional outside the club had given it to me. But I won't do the same thing again, that's certain."

Nationality matters less than it used to in international

AP ■ LONDON

The question was inevitable.

At his first news conference as England's newly appointed head coach, Thomas Tuchel a German — was asked on Wednesday what message he had for fans who would have preferred an Englishman in charge of their beloved national team.

"I'm sorry, I just have a German passport," he said, laughing, and went on to profess his love for English football and the country itself. "I will do everything to show respect to this role and to this country."

The soccer rivalry between England and Germany runs deep and it's likely Tuchel's passport will be used against him if he doesn't deliver results for a nation that hasn't lifted a men's trophy since 1966. But his appointment as England's third foreign coach shows that, increasingly, even the top countries in the sport are abandoning the long-held belief that the national team must be led by one of their

Four of the top nine teams in the FIFA world rankings now have foreign coaches. Even in

Germany, a four-time World Cup winner which has never had a foreign coach, candidates such as Dutchman Louis van Gaal and Austrian Oliver Glasner were considered serious contenders for the top job before the country's soccer federation last year settled on Julian Nagelsmann, who is German.

"The coaching methods are universal and there for everyone to apply," said German soccer researcher and author Christoph Wagner, whose recent book "Crossing the Line?" historically addresses Anglo-German rivalry. "It's more the personality that counts and not the nationality. You could be a great coach, and work with a group of players who aren't perceptive enough to get your methods."

Not everyone agrees.

English soccer author and journalist Jonathan Wilson said it was "an admission of failure" for a major soccer nation to have a coach from a different country.

"Personally, I think it should be the best of one country versus the best of another country, and that would probably extend to coaches as well as players," said Wilson, whose

books include "Inverting The Pyramid: The History of Football Tactics.

'To say we can't find anyone in our country who is good enough to coach our players," he said, "I think there is slightly something embarrassing, slightly distasteful about that."

That sentiment was echoed by British tabloid The Daily Mail, which reported on Tuchel's appointment with provocative headline "A Dark Day for England."

While foreign coaches are found in smaller often countries and those further down the world rankings, they are still a rarity among the traditional powers of the game Italy, another four-time world champion, has only had Italians in charge. All of Spain's coaches in its modern-day history have been Spanish nationals. Five-time World Cup winner Brazil has had only Brazilians in charge since 1965, and two-time world champion France only Frenchmen since 1975.

And it remains the case that World Cup-winning team, since the first tournament in 1930, has been coached by a native of that country. The situation is



similar for the women's World Cup, which has never been won by a team with a foreign coach, though Jill Ellis, who led the U.S. To two trophies, is a naturalized U.S. Citizen born in England.

Some coaches have made a career out of jumping from one national team to the next. Lars Lagerbäck, 76, coached his native Sweden between 2000-09 and went on to lead the

"I couldn't say I felt any big difference," Lagerbäck told The Associated Press. "I felt they were my teams and the people's teams.

national teams of Nigeria, For Lagerbäck, the obvious

foreign country were any language difficulties and having to adapt to a new culture, which he particularly felt during his brief time with Nigeria in 2010 when he led the African country at the World Cup.

disadvantages of coaching a

Otherwise, he said, "it depends on the results" — and Lagerbäck is remembered with fondness in Iceland, especially, after leading the country to Euro 2016 for its first ever international tournament, where it knocked out England in the round of 16.

Lagerbäck pointed to the strong education and sheer number of coaches available in soccer powers like Spain and Italy to explain why they haven't needed to turn to an overseas coach. At this year's European Championship, five of the coaches were from Italy and the winning coach was Luis de la Fuente, who was promoted to Spain's senior team after being in charge of the youth teams.

Portugal for the first time looked outside its own borders or Brazil, with which it has historical ties, when it appointed Spaniard Roberto Martinez as national team coach last year. Also last year, Brazil tried - and ultimately failed - to court Real Madrid's Italian coach Carlo Ancelotti, with Brazilian soccer federation president Ednaldo Rodrigues saying: "It doesn't matter if it's a foreigner or a Brazilian, there's no prejudice about the nationality."
The United States has had a

long list of foreign coaches before Mauricio Pochettino, the Argentine former Chelsea manager who took over as the men's head coach this year. The English Football Association certainly had no

qualms making Tuchel the national team's third foreignborn coach, after Swede Sven-Goran Eriksson (2001-06) and Italian Fabio Capello (2008-12), simply believing he was the best available coach on the market. Unlike Eriksson and Capello, Tuchel at least had previous experience of working in English soccer he won the Champions League in an 18-month spell with Chelsea — and he also speaks better English.

That won't satisfy all the nay-sayers, though. "Hopefully I can convince

them and show them and prove to them that I'm proud to be the English manager," Tuchel said.